

nearest crests bigger and greater ones towered up still higher, proving that the former were only offshoots of the latter. The spring of Toghrak-bulak is now waterless, though a clump of fresh, deliciously green toghraks were growing beside it. The bed of the watercourse at the bottom of the glen was still moist after the last rain that fell, and in some of the hollows there were still pools of water. We were now marching towards the east-north-east and north-east, so that we were virtually travelling parallel with the northern foot of the mountains. The acclivity up to the little pass of Toghrak-bulakning-davan is pretty steep, though not difficult. The altitude at the entrance to the Korumluk-saj is 1503 m.; at the little secondary pass, it was 1956 m.; and at Camp II, at Tscharklik-su, on the other side of the pass, 1644 m. Thus the pass lies in the spur which overhangs the left side of the Tscharklik-su, and the Korumluk-saj is a rather unimportant glen on the west side of the same spur. The glen by which you descend from the pass likewise runs towards the east-north-east and forms a side-glen to the principal glen of the Tscharklik-su. At Asghan-bulak, or the Spring of the Wild Brier, we found a little pool containing water and encircled by tamarisks, wild briers, and other bushes. Below it the glen itself is so narrow and so choked with stones that the track has had to be carried along the slopes on its right side, and from them one descends by a steep brae to the bottom of the side-glen. At the point where the side-glen joins the principal glen some poplars were growing, and the grass was relatively good. The country there is picturesque; the little expansion lies ensconced amid majestic mountain-masses. The Tscharklik-su, which appeared to have been swollen by the last rain, but was then subsiding, nevertheless filled the glen with its rush and its roar. Here too the river makes a sharp bend, in that it turns from the north-east to the north-west and then effects its passage through the lower Astin-tagh. In the short distance from this point to the mouth of this glen, that is to its actual exit from the mountains, the fall is 150 m. At 7 a.m. on the 19th May the stream had the following dimensions: breadth, 10.9 m.; mean depth, 0.51 m.; maximum depth, 0.65 m.; mean velocity, 1.274 m. in the second; and volume, 7.08 cub.m. in the second. In a little mountain torrent such as this the volume naturally varies a good deal, not only from day to day in dependence upon the rainfall, but also during the course of a single day. Even in the photographs of Camp II, herewith appended, the higher water-marks can be distinguished. During the 19th May the rain came down two or three times pretty smartly, and the stream rose somewhat in consequence.

On the 20th May we only travelled 4 km. to the east-north-east up the glen of the Tscharklik-su; but short though the stage was, it proved more difficult than most. For one thing, we had to cross over the stream no less than seventeen times, and this was rather dangerous for our baggage; for owing to the bottom being so full of stones, our horses and mules ran great risk of falling. Add to this the fact that the stream had in the morning perceptibly swollen in consequence of the latest rainfall. The narrow watercourse is not only deeply cut in the greenstone, but also winds backwards and forwards a good deal. The stream is for the most part embraced between semi-peninsular terraces of gravel-and-shingle, though the projecting buttresses are generally covered with earth and overgrown with grass, bushes, and an occasional toghrak. The bottom of the glen is one confused mass