

the south-west, and had then a volume of fully 2 cub.m. of clear water we climbed over two ridges, of which the more northerly one sends out a tongue into the lake, and so reached a small secondary pass (5002 m.). We still continued to have the Ullugh-Mus-tagh in sight to the N. 54° W.; it did not appear to be exceeded in altitude by any other peak then visible. At a considerable distance to the east we saw yet another lake; but it was frozen over, so that its water was no doubt fresh, or at all events only slightly salt.

From the little pass we made our way down to an especially deeply excavated glen, with a brook flowing along it, and shut in by steep, scarped terraces, consisting for the most part of gypsum, partly as crystals, partly as white powder. Otherwise the predominant tint was red. The grass was wretched, and continued to decrease in quantity. Thus we had three parallel ridges between this glen and the last one. The former glen, which is by far the larger of the two, comes from the south-west or west-south-west and terminates at the lake in the direction N. 30° E. The second and smaller glen comes from the S. 70° W., and proceeds towards the N. 78° E., and likewise terminates at the lake, in what is apparently a broad, round-ended bay projecting southwards.

From the next secondary pass we perceived in the west-south-west two small lakes or large pools, one frozen, the other with open water, an indication that the former drains into the latter, so that this forms presumably the lowest depression in the self-contained drainage-basin. Then, after crossing over yet another secondary pass, situated in a minor chain, we at length reached the highest pass in this mountain-system, which, fairly low though it was, was nevertheless broken and wearying. Its altitude is 5125 m., consequently a little higher than the highest pass of the day before. It is situated in a soft, flat chain, strewn with gravel and chips of the usual sandstone. Except for a little moss, it is quite barren. On both sides of the pass there are some quite small self-contained drainage-basins, though in only one of them was there any water, namely a small pool. From the summit of the pass we again saw the Ullugh-Mus-tagh to the N. 49° W.

The surface descends pretty steeply towards a river flowing towards the north-west. This stream had about the same dimensions as the river at Camp XXVI, and its water was equally clear; hence it is extremely probable, that they are one and the same. This is also conceivable because of its situation and of its relation to the lake. Thus it only describes a bend towards the west before emptying itself into the last-named, though in doing so it has to cut a passage through all the ridges and crests which we had climbed over by several tiring passes during the course of the day, and climbed over unnecessarily; for if we had only followed the river upwards from Camp XXVI we might have avoided them all. The upper part of the glen appeared to descend from the south and south-south-east, and if we had only travelled up it, partly in the bed of the stream, partly on the scantily grassed slopes at the side, we should have won a passage over the next main range. Upon coming to a spot where the grass gave signs of dying out, though there was still a little japkak, we made Camp XXVII, on the left side of the glen, at an altitude of 5070 m. Animal life was represented by orongo antelopes and partridges.