sisted for the greater part of broken sand. We pitched Camp XXXIX between two small basins of bright spring water, in which there was actually a species of small fish. The altitude was 5124 m., so that since leaving our last camp we had climbed up almost 200 m.

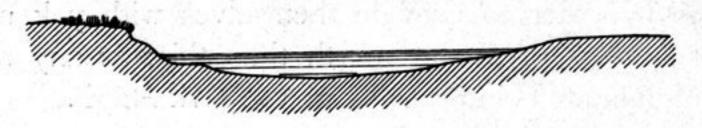


Fig. 367.

At the spot where we forded the stream for the first time there was a black or dark-green fine-grained schist dipping 68° towards the S. 22° W.; higher up the schist assumed a more reddish tinge.

Yak-dung and yak-bones were both very common in this locality. We saw a flock of eleven kökmeks. Besides these there were kulans, hares, partridges, ravens, and gulls (hangeit). The weather was unusually favourable, neither wind nor rain nor hail. The air was filled with swarms of inquisitive little flies and the gad-flies were more numerous than usual.

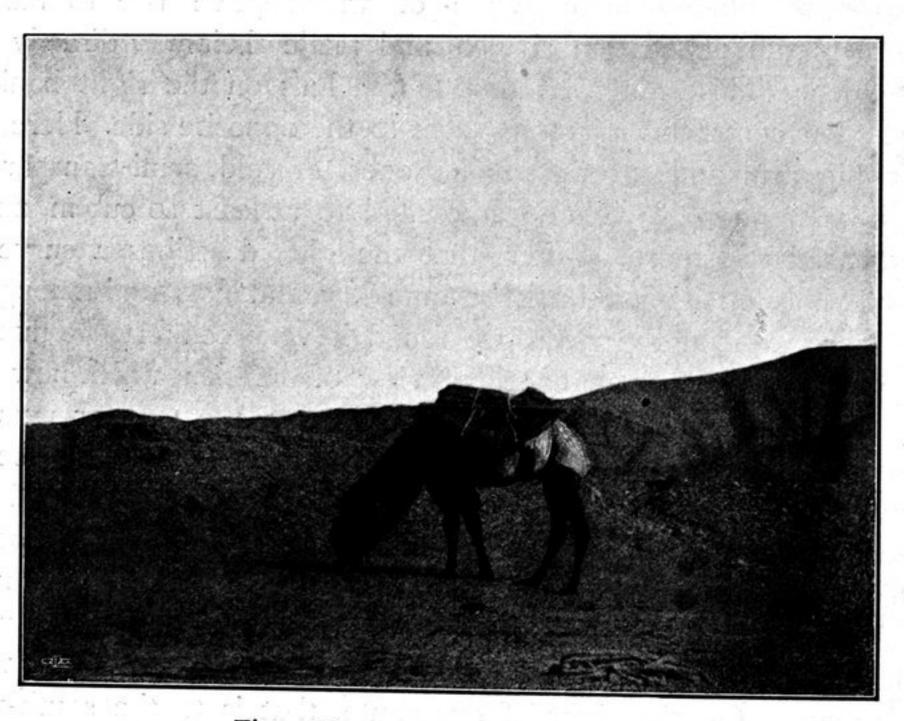


Fig. 368. SEARCHING FOR GRASS.

July 19th. During the night there occurred one of those abrupt and sudden changes of weather which are so characteristic of high Tibet. The difference between winter and summer cannot exceed that which showed itself between these two days. On the 18th warmth, sunshine, light, and swarms of flies: on the 19th the sky was everywhere covered with impenetrable clouds, heavy and louring, hanging like dirty tufts of cotton above the crests of the mountains, which they entirely hid from sight.