

grass, few and far between though they were, show themselves than we arranged Camp XLI, the altitude being 5375. Here we found a small herd of wild yaks and some mountain partridges. We were fortunate enough to cross this pass without the loss of a single animal, whereas when we crossed over the pass of the Arka-tagh we lost five camels, notwithstanding that the latter pass was 300 m. lower. This was in an essential degree due to the fact that my present caravan consisted exclusively of picked and proved veterans, while the animals which succumbed on the Arka-tagh pass were the feebler members of the caravan, moreover we had ascended from a far more favourable region than that which we left on the north side of the Nameless range. And then again the Arka-tagh was buried under snow and had steeper acclivities, while we had now for three days been climbing slowly and steadily towards higher regions. Although this camp was the highest we reached during this present expedition, no serious case of mountain sickness occurred amongst the men; though we had two men with us who had been unwell for a long time, and two of our hunters over-exerted themselves by pursuing wild yaks on foot.

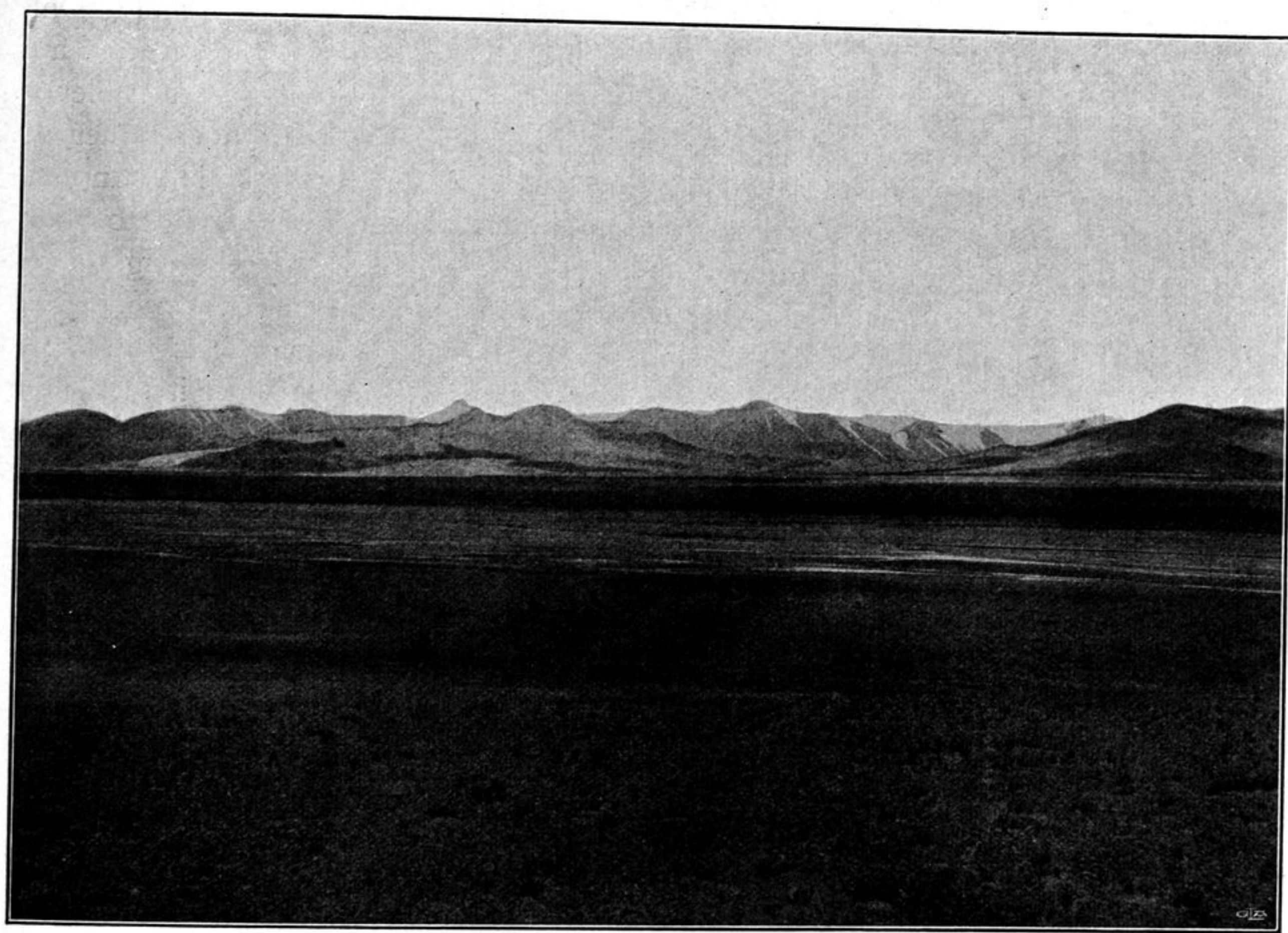


Fig. 374. LOOKING W FROM CAMP XLI.

Neither whilst crossing over the pass nor yet at the camp had I any opportunity to obtain a general view of the region of the *firns* and glaciers which rose to the east of our course. For on the morning of the 21st July we were greeted by a blinding snow-storm, though it failed to make the ground white, and then,