

of suitable spurs small dunes, 1 m. at the highest, have not infrequently been formed. They owe their origin to the prevailing westerly wind, but never get an opportunity to grow to a considerable height. The existing circumstances of conformation and relief point to the fact, that they have now certainly reached their greatest possible

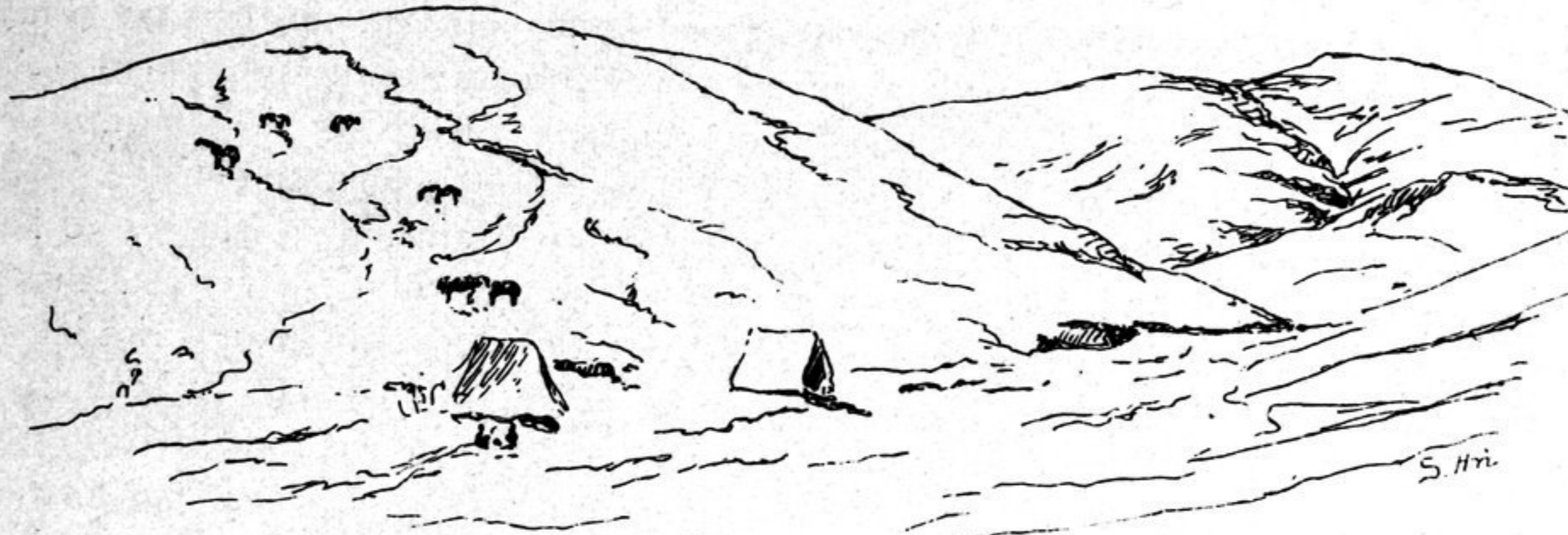


Fig. 405. LOOKING NW FROM CAMP III.



Fig. 406. LOOKING SE FROM CAMP III.



Fig. 407. LOOKING SSE FROM CAMP IV.

dimensions. If by any chance they do succeed in rising above their present altitude, the next hard wind will certainly reduce them to their normal size. The sand-accumulations would appear to be characteristic of the transitional country between the peripheral regions and the plateau-land both in Tibet and in Pamir; for I observed a similar phenomenon in the eastern Pamir at Naghara-kum, west of the Sarik-kol range.