

Fig. 100. ROCKY PROMONTORY WITH THREE SHEEP-FOLDS.

left possesses some upstanding peaks, with a little snow on them, and sends out steep offshoots and ramifications towards the north-east. Such snow as there was lay almost exclusively on the west side of the range, whereas the eastern flanks were quite free from it — a circumstance dependent of course upon the prevailing wind. That snow was, I dare say, a survival from the latter half of the rainy season, when the precipitation in that lofty region comes down for the most part in that shape. There is no perpetual snow there, and in the early summer all the mountains in that region will pretty certainly be free from snow.

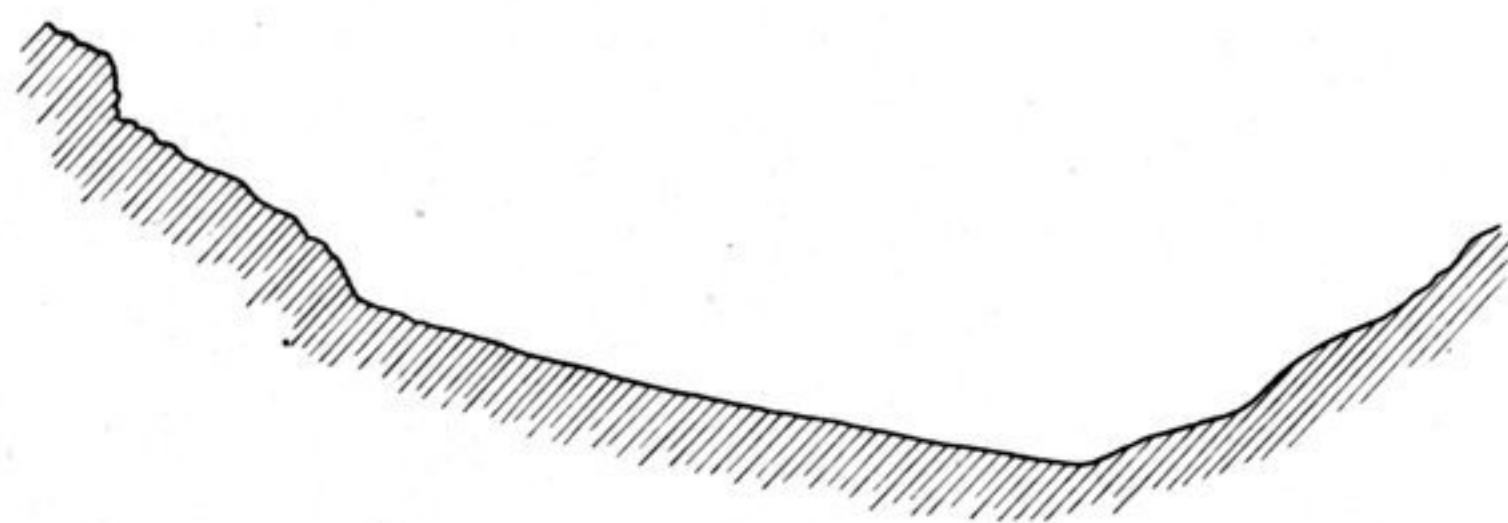


Fig. 101.

After that the latitudinal valley assumes quite a different form from what it had hitherto had, in that its bottom becomes divided into a number of small self-contained basins. We came to a threshold, but so flat was it that we only knew it was such by seeing the erosion watercourses on its western side gathering into a very shallow depression, the bottom of which was then occupied by an expanse of level, dry, yellow clay; this is manifestly converted into a miniature lake after rain. The altitude was 4,751 m. Farther on we passed yet two other similar clay expanses, separated from one another by imperceptible swellings. Otherwise the bottom of