

vegetation. Generally the northern shore of the Tso-ngombo is richer in vegetation than that of the Panggong-tso.

Under the force of the strong southerly wind which was then blowing the waves thundered against the beach, their abrasive energy being quite impressive. All day we failed to observe any mollusc shells, nor did we see any Algæ, though a certain striped appearance of the water a little way out suggested their presence. Of ice there was not now a trace to be seen. We passed the last in the deeply penetrating bay which I have mentioned: there several freshwater springs gush out, and it is their water, spreading out over the salt water, that freezes. Moreover the south wind, which was then blowing, effectually prevented the formation of ice along the northern shore.

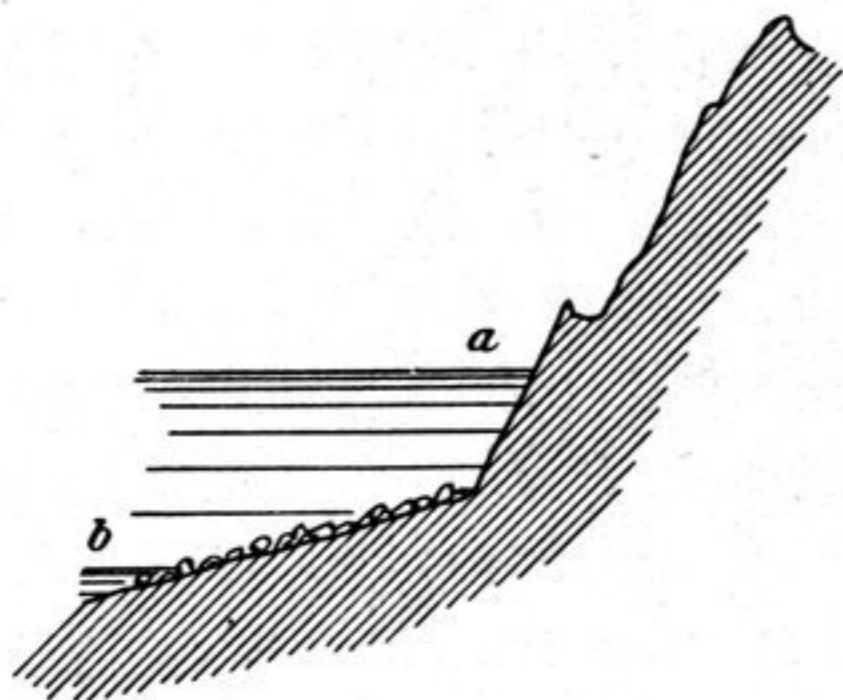


Fig. 239.

After another difficult promontory we came to a large bay, with an excellent, level strand. On its eastern side we found the merest sprinkling of grass, and on its west side four or five bushes, and higher up, near the eroded watercourse that runs down into it, some scrubby japkak. It was on this side of the bay, under the shelter of a rocky headland, that we pitched Camp CXLVI. The locality is called Gar. We did indeed discover a well at the edge of the lake, but its water was very little better than that of the lake itself. The sp. gr. of the latter was 1.0108 or a shade saltier than at the preceding camp. All the way the prevailing rock was crystalline schist, black, dark green, and light green. So far as we were able to judge from the distance, the southern shore has a more abundant vegetation than the northern, partly because its level and soft strip of shore is very much broader, and partly because it is better screened against the wind. Its colour was yellow, and in one place we observed a large herd of yaks.

Along the rocky brow of the promontory at the eastern foot of which we were encamped we perceived distinct traces of an old road, roughly made by utilising

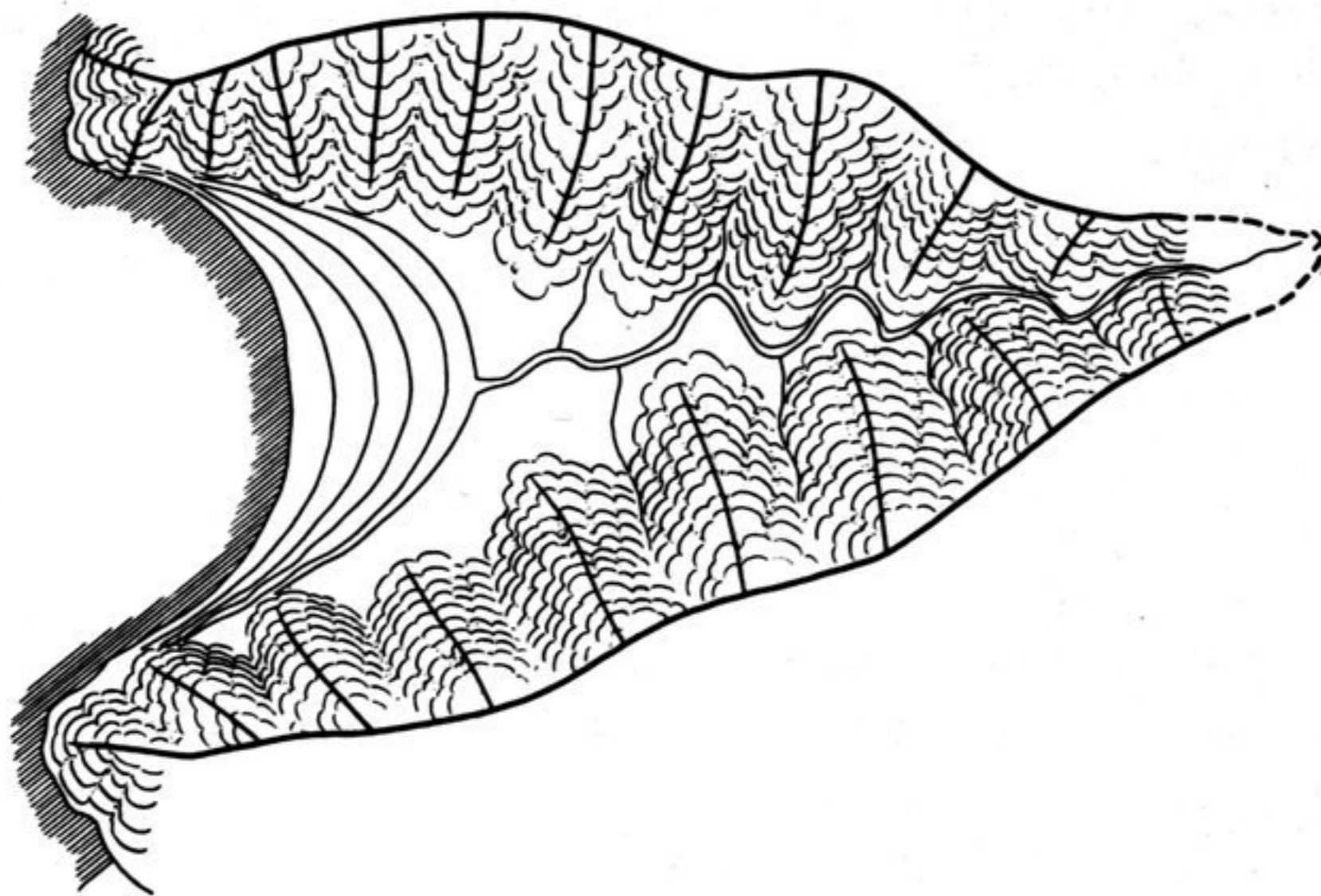


Fig. 240.