

CHAPTER XXI.

THE WESTERN PANGGONG-TSO.

The configuration of the shore west of the pass is more irregular than usual, and the scenery wild and fascinating owing to the capricious relief. Here occurs a circular bay, with a relatively narrow opening towards the lake. On the east it is bordered by the spur which we had just crossed over. From this a pointed cape projects west, the sides of which go sheer down into the lake. Then follows a flat expanse of shore, which seems to owe its origin for the most part to the fact, that the sediment washed down from the mountains has been carried to the leeward side of a smaller cape and has there accumulated. This inclosed bay sweeps round for a great part of the way in a regular curve, while the usual strand-ramparts, marking the lake's subsidence, are visible on its flat expanse. On the west the bay is bordered by a cape of a more unusual shape, namely a naze projecting southwards and bearing a solitary knoll at its extreme tip.

The flat ground in the outlet of the eastern glen has something of the appearance shown in fig. 246. The darker lines indicate the outline of the base of the hard rock; the outlets of the side-glens are occupied with yellow gravelly screes, descending steeply towards the principal glen. The flat scree of the latter is furrowed by a number of watercourses more or less deeply incised. The deepest is only $\frac{1}{2}$ m. down, but its sides are vertical, a proof of the energy of the erosion. This watercourse reaches down to the lowest strand-rampart, but is not now able to break through it. As however this rampart is low, it is fair to assume that it is occasionally broken through when the torrent is especially big, but that the action of the waves builds it up again.

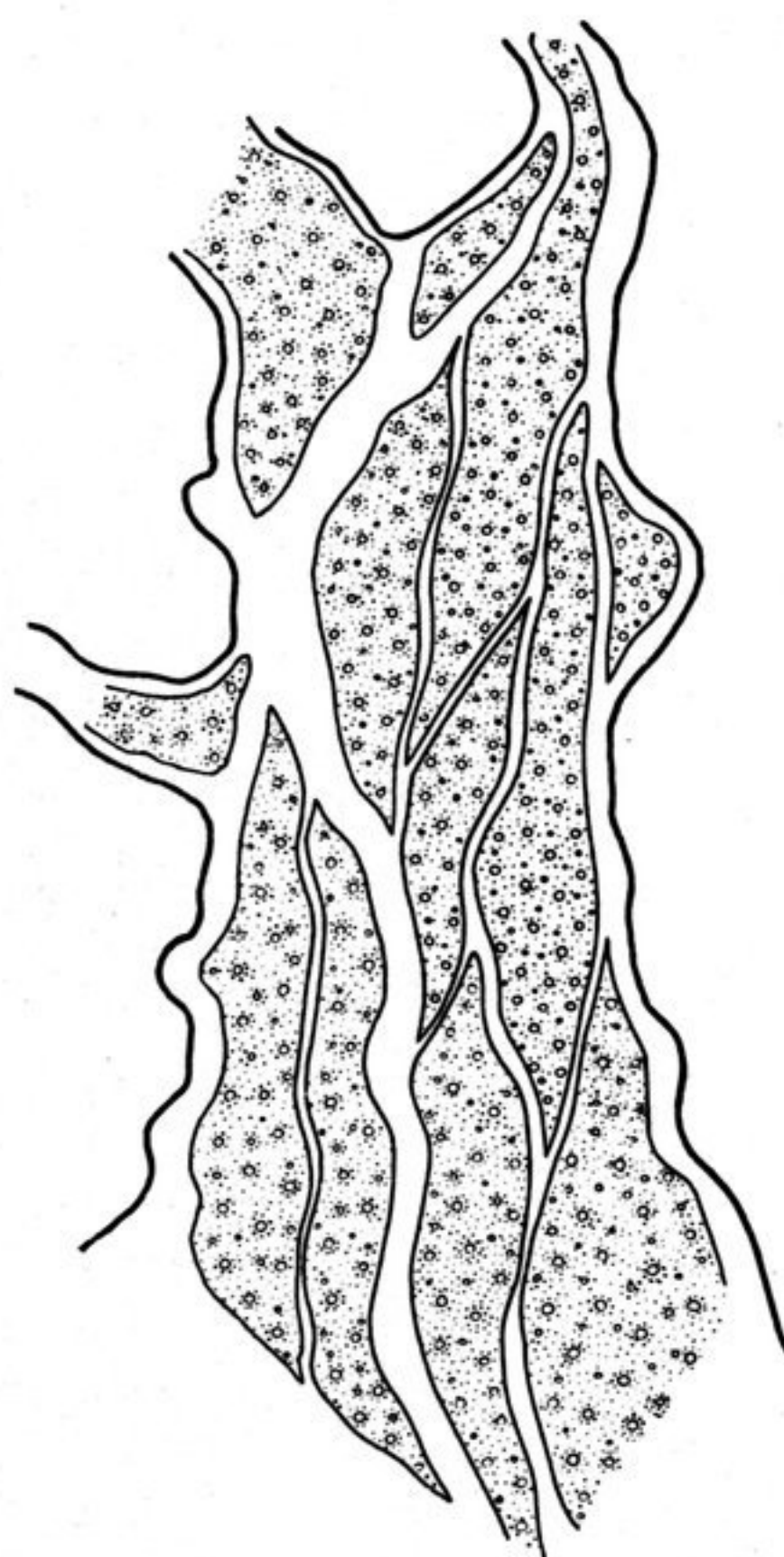


Fig. 246.