

directly overhanging the stream. The scenery is there picturesque and fascinating, and it appealed to us with all the greater force from our having just come down off the monotonous plateaus with their level horizontal features. Here however the predominant lines of the peripheral region are vertical, and give rise to constantly changing perspectives. Occasionally we came to a little expansion of the glen, with straggling bushes and tamarisks growing on the soft earth. By this the inclination of the glen had increased to such an extent that the river was repeatedly forming rapids and breaking into cataracts.

Two of the side-glens from the left are called Grütsch-karlik and Uj-bek; while on the slopes on the right is the grazing-ground of Abdur Rahman.

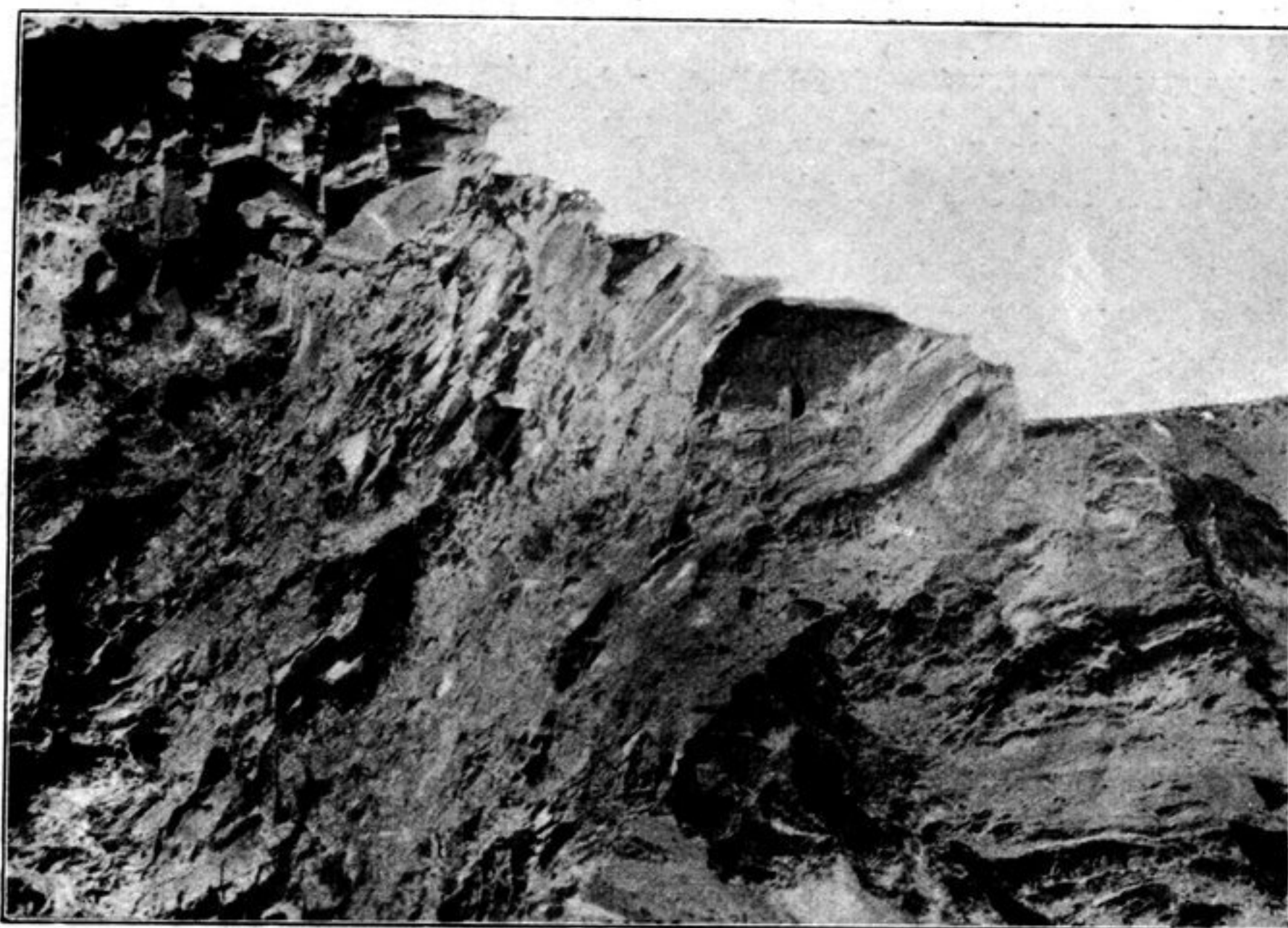


Fig. 343. ICE IN THE GLEN AT BOS-TSCHAT.

Then we came to an expansion known as Toghra-su, where the glen is joined by a large side-glen from the north-west, the brook in which carried about 1 cub.m. in the second. This glen of Toghra-su leads up to the pass of Karlik, on the other side of which is the district of Uschak-basch.

On the 1st May we did a short stage to Er Naser. On the day preceding we had descended 145 m. down to the Toghra-su (alt. 3473 m.), and after that we got down to regions with a more normal atmosphere. By this I had been seized with a most oppressive sense of weariness, so that I was scarce able to hold myself upright in the saddle; this I ascribe to the great changes in the pressure of the atmosphere to which I had been exposed during the last few weeks — from the sea-level up to the Kara-korum, and from that pass down to the lowlands of the interior, where the air is heavier.

The road was now fairly good, and we were mostly able to avoid those parts of the glen-bottom that are encumbered with fragments of granite. We kept entirely to the left side of the glen, not crossing the river once. This had how-