

or fragment of a *mesa*, about 4 m high, on the route. It was in the form of a pyramid together that it had resisted the storms of centuries. The marks of axes were plainly visible on the surface. It marked a fair-sized road, whose course had been marked by similar sign-posts to east and west of it. Perhaps it had gone by the house we had seen here.

The morning of May 6th, with a biting E. wind, was uninviting. We went on board wrapped in furs.

The river showed a pronounced tendency to flow right against the prevailing winds and parallel to the shore. The water naturally found its way into the crevices. We had noted this tendency ever since leaving the coast.

For long spells we glided between *yardangs*. From the easterly we had them broadside on to right and left. They were short, resembling sarcophagi; but seen end-on, they were quite narrow — often only a few feet wide and flat tops. Then they looked like cubes, and their courses were sometimes so regular that we could not help but think that we were not looking at an old watch-tower. It might be worth our while to investigate.

We landed again on a small island, to which

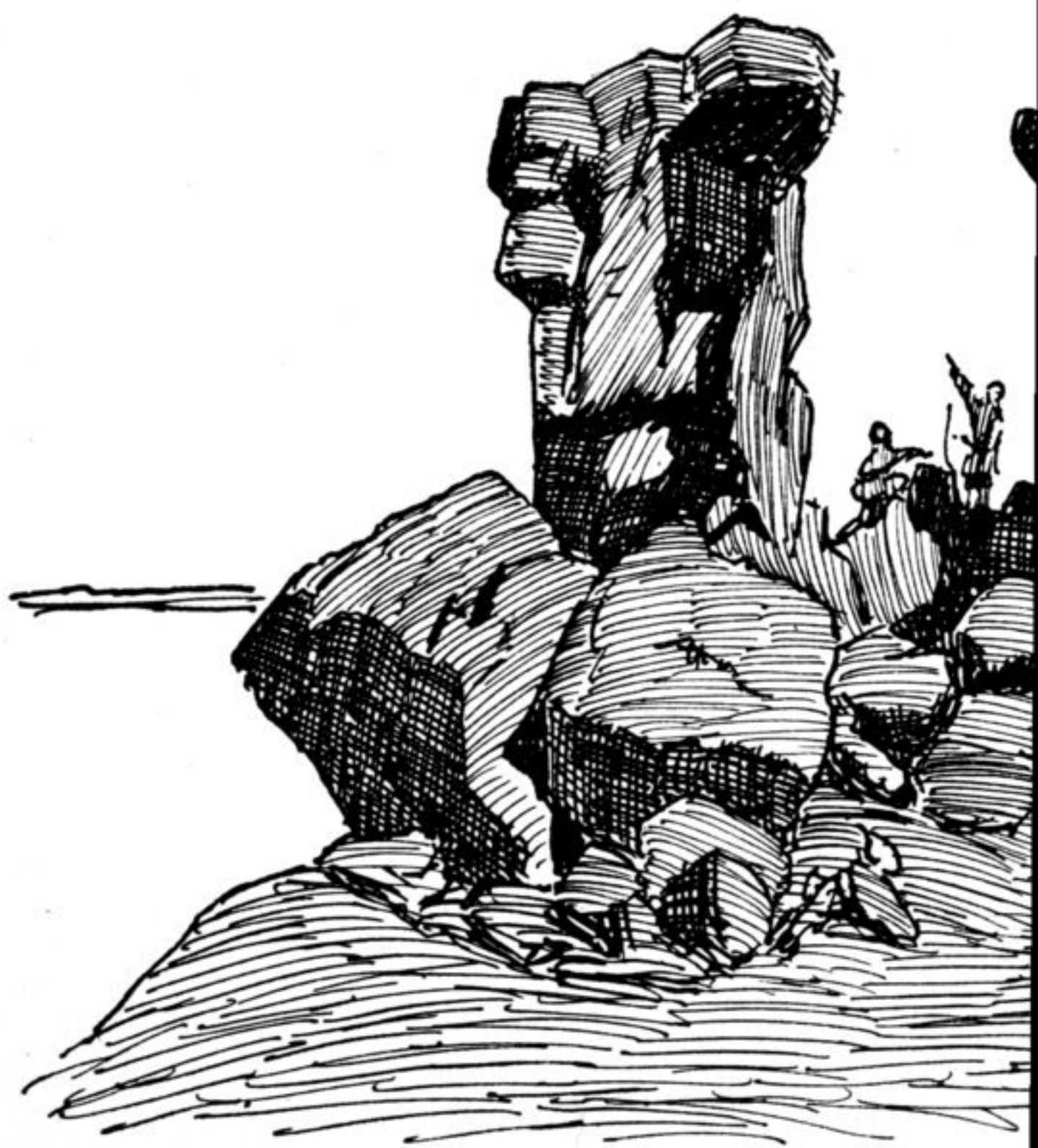


Fig. 13. *Mesa* fragments on the right.