

carry water still some 18 days before it became bound by the autumn cold. Sparse tussocks called *yapkak* and also *teresken* in Turki, the *Eurotia ceratoides*, so common all over the Tibetan highlands, are still to be seen on the slopes, and sometimes there is some dung of the wild yak. None of the very small side valleys have water. The guides of the previous day take us up in a second side valley from the right, from which, however, most of the brook came down. A little higher up in this valley we found the last vegetation which consisted only of the hard *yapkak* plants. On the slopes of some of the soft hills one sees what we use to call »floating earth» or mud-flows with vertical crevices, showing that the base of the hills is undermined by running water. The picturesque landscapes have now disappeared, the morphology is uninteresting, the denudation is very advanced, everything appears on a smaller scale than before; no vertical lines are to be seen.

On *September 1st*, the *Chang-lung-yogma* Pass was crossed after a new, light snowfall during the night. From *Camp I* it is 10.8 km. to the pass where the absolute height amounts to 5,780 m. This means an ascent of 610 m., or a rise of 1:17.7. On the north side of the pass we have 7.3 km. to *Camp II*, where the height is 5,552 m., a fall of 228 m. or 1:32. From these figures it is easy to conceive how very flat the water-parting range of the *Kara-korum* is, though not quite as flat as in the part of it where the famous *Kara-korum* Pass is situated some 150 km. to the N. W. The direction of the day's march is chiefly N. E.

Above *Camp I* the terraces are only 2 or 3 meters high, and deformed by the continual falling down of débris. There is not so much gravel as before, the ground chiefly being covered by fine soft dust, partly wet from the melting of the last snow. The fine decomposed material, the result of very advanced weathering, is crossed, even in the bottom of the valley, by innumerable crevices as is usual in mud-flows. The living rock is grey fine-grained sandstone-schist. The valley is winding and narrow. On Panorama 10, Tab. 2, we get an idea of the entrance to this valley in the direction N. 63° E. from *Chuta*. Already at this camp the valley looked rather small, but now it has still diminished, and it is winding N. E., E. N. E., and again N. E. between these soft, rounded, relatively low hills with their fissures at the base often arranged in the same way as the lateral crevasses of a glacier snout. One gets the impression that these hills, on account of their own weight, are floating and sliding downwards, according to the laws of gravity. There is no vegetation, except very seldom some *yapkak* plants or some moss, the roots of which could bind the loose, wet earth.

The men of my caravan here and there erected small pyramids or cairns of stone, especially at *Chuta*, at *Camp I* and at places where our expected mail-runners could be in doubt which valley they had to follow. These pyramids will be found by future travellers.