

to the N. E. Farther on a greater bed is crossed directed to the N. N. W. From this the ground rises extremely slowly to the base of the eastern hills. As it appeared to be hopeless to look for water in the direction we had followed, we turned to the west where the ground was green. On the way westwards the plain was furrowed by some great erosion beds proving that sometimes a considerable amount of water comes down from the western mountains. At *Camp VII* grass, yapkak and water was to be found.

During the day's march two fragmentary and one complete panorama were sketched from the points which on Pl. 1 are marked P¹, P² and P³. Though the country is rather monotonous in our neighbourhood, the views at a greater distance belong to the most magnificent in the world. To the north we have the ranges where *Kara-kash* and *Yurung-kash* take their origin, to the south and S. E. the continuation of the *Kara-korum* which here no more is a water-parting between the Indian Ocean and the self-contained plateau-land of Tibet, but a mountain system, the direction of which becomes more and more E. S. E., just as the *Himalaya* farther south. Between the two gigantic systems, *Kwen-lun* and *Kara-korum*, extends the high plateau-land which we are crossing. To the east and west we have comparatively low red ranges and ridges rising on the plateau. Beyond those to the west, and at no great distance the *Kara-kash* River has its sources north of which I would pass in January 1908. The most interesting feature of Pan. 19.1, Tab. 4, is the mighty range visible from S. 78° E. to S. 11° E., consisting of a series of cupola-formed and pyramidal peaks in light pink colours and covered with dazzling white fields of eternal snow. Pan. 19.2 shows only the mountains to the S. W., west and N. W. On Pan. 19.3 we see between N. 15° W. and N. 15° E., at a considerable distance, the mountains beyond which the *Yurung-kash* is streaming in its deep-cut latitudinal valley, and where the *Kara-kash* turns its sharp bend towards the east. The high peak to the S. 54° E. is marked on Pan. 19.1, and thus belongs to the *Kara-korum*. It should, as always, be remembered that Pan. 19.3 has to be imagined as a closed ring, which altogether changes the perspective. The panoramas stretched out horizontally give the impression of a continuity which does not exist in nature. Only when the drawing is imagined as a circle, one will realise that the high mountains north and south are two different systems more or less parallel with each other.

The march of *September 8th* takes us 12 km. N. N. E. The ground falls, though extremely slowly, in this direction. *Camp VIII* is at 4,916 m., or 37 m. below *Camp VII*, giving a fall of only 1:324.

As water is very rare, one has to take a supply along in the water-skins. The plain consists of fine, yellow dust as before with sparse yapkak plants and innumerable rabbits' holes. Kyangs and antelopes are often seen, and sometimes the wild yak's dung. Erosion furrows carved out by running water are very rare.