

coming from a comparatively open valley among the hills, was rather large and perhaps took its rise from the N. E. continuation of the mountain system we had crossed. Nearly all the snow had disappeared and only in protected ravines, small patches, driven thither by the wind, still kept their ground. The storm, which came from the S. W., made mapping and taking bearings extremely difficult. The great transporting power of the wind could again be studied. Yellow and grey clouds of wind-driven dust were constantly sweeping over the ice of the lake, which itself had a yellowish colour. From the steppe east of the lake also, heaps of dust and sand were removed by this penetrating wind, and sometimes the whole landscape vanished in dust-clouds. The ground seemed to be quite level, though we had reason to expect a very flat, hardly noticeable threshold between the basin of the lake and the area of the next basin. To the S. E. our scouts had found the country open and flat for a long way.

At *Camp XLIX* everything was to be had except water. Snow had, therefore, to be melted, both for the men and the animals. A comparatively large watercourse here crossed the plain in the direction of the lake. Near the camp were found two fireplaces with three stones that had been used as a tripod to support cooking-pots. The soot that once had blackened them had now completely disappeared and there was no sign of ashes left. They, therefore, seemed to be old. At another place an iron ladle of hemispherical form, was found. My Ladaki hunters assured me that it was of the kind which is used in casting lead bullets. It had been exposed to the weather a long time for it had two or three rust holes. Already here at $34^{\circ} 33'$ North lat., we thus came across signs of men, probably hunters, unless these remains were connected in some way or other with the ruins N. W. of the lake.

On *October 29th* the march goes S. E. for 11.2 km. to *Camp L*, where the height is 5,125 m. or 80 m. below the previous camp, giving a fall of 1:140. We crossed the great valley diagonally in the direction of a black promontory on the western side, which had been in sight ever since *Camp XLVIII*. The floor of the valley seemed to be perfectly flat and there was no possibility of telling where the water-parting threshold separating the basins of the two lakes, was situated. There were some watercourses in different directions, but not until we had proceeded some kilometers from the camp, did they seem to turn eastward and to join the principal watercourse that was destined for the next lake. The flat threshold, however, seems to be situated rather near *Camp XLIX*. The black mountain bordering the valley to the west, consists of ridges and peaks, perfectly black, but also of some more rounded hills with grass. The living rock was chlorite-glaucophan-albite schist, as determined by Professor Hennig. Several small erosion furrows come down from these mountains, but also two or three fairly deep-cut ones. At the base of the black promontory could be seen the traces of a path which probably used to be