

undrinkable; in case of necessity it could perhaps be drunk in spite of its very disagreeable taste. On *December 28th*, the ice was 28 cm. thick at 100 paces from the shore, 26 cm. at 200 and 25.5 cm. at 300 paces. From these data and from the general morphology of the whole basin, the lake being everywhere surrounded by extensive flat plains, except to the south, one could understand that the *Ngangtse-tso* must be very shallow. Travelling between the *Kyaring-tso* and *Dangra-yum-tso* Nain Sing touched the northern shore of *Ngangtse-tso*, between the main lake and *Marku-tso*.

On *December 29th*, I moved down to the shore; 7.8 km. S. S. E. The ground falls 71 m. or to 4,699 m., at a rate of 1:110. From the springs of *Camp XCVII*, an ice ribbon stretches nearly 3 km. down, in the bed of the watercourse from the *Laen* valley. The bed continues winding down to the swampy ground on the shore. From the openings of several other neighbouring valleys, ice beds come out. Our valley opens out on a broad, slightly undulating plain. As the lake now lies before us, it looks rather big. Its eastern end is hardly visible at a distance of 22 km., whereas the western end cannot be seen, being 32 km. away; only the mountains beyond can be seen. To the south the extensive white surface of the lake is bounded by mountains of no great height, as will be seen on Pan. 115A and 115B, Tab. 21, from *Camp XCVIII*. On the same sketch we find the country very open to the S. 65° E., which is explained by the existence of Lake *Marchar-tso* and the open country to the E. S. E. of it. Far away to the S. W. a high mountain mass is visible in the prolongation of the western part of the lake, probably the *Targogangri*. From here it seems rocky, wild and covered with very extensive snow-fields. North of it is the mysterious *Dangra-yum-tso* hidden by the mountains to the west. To the N. N. W., the panorama shows the opening of the *Laen* valley and some other valleys coming from the mountains north of the lake.

The soil on the way to *Camp XCVIII* consists of sand and fine gravel, and there was better grass than we had seen for a long time. As this plain is exposed very much to the continual wind, the nomads prefer the more protected valleys during the winter. Having passed two old beach-lines some 4 m. high and more like walls sloping to both north and south, we reached a belt of swamps, with tussock-grass and ice-sheets between. Heaps of dung of tame yaks lay scattered about, and there were several fireplaces since the visits of nomads last summer. The grazing grounds must be very favourable during the hot season, directly exposed as they are to the sun. Then follows a lagoon covered with ice and six old beach-lines, three and three with an interval between; they are rounded and about 1 m. high. So far as their direction is discernable, they are directed to the S. 70° E. and N. 80° W. Finally we pass several small lagoons on clay ground. At the lee side of the ninth beach wall about 3 m. high, we camped (*Camp XCVIII*) 5 m. above the lake which is at 4,694 m.