

a latitudinal valley, at the beginning of which a low red mountain is seen. At its base grew some hard *yapchan* plants which could be used as fuel. Already at 9 o'clock p. m., the temperature was at -27.1° . In the night it went down to -38.6° , very near the freezing point of mercury. From *Camp CCLXXXVII*, Pan. 374^A and B, Tab. 66, was taken from E. N. E. to W. S. W., the rest of the circle being hidden by the little red mountain. It shows a very irregular morphology, a mountainous country where the denudation and the destructive activity has gone very far.

Already the first day's march in the latitudinal valley, proved that we were on the plateau-land of *Chang-tang* with its even ground and insignificant gradients. *Camp CCLXXXVIII*, on *December 25th*, was at 5,208 m. or only 19 m. below the previous camp. The distance being 12 km., the fall was, therefore, at a rate of 1:632, perfectly imperceptible to the eye.

Our march goes E. N. E. between comparatively low, irregular hills of a red colour. The ground consists of yellowish red dust sometimes uneven and furrowed with small watercourses, here and there with ice. Large parts of the valley are covered with snow, which becomes thinner the farther eastwards we proceed. Only in beds it still has a depth of two feet. The northern range is somewhat higher than the southern; only on slopes looking north, there is snow. In the northern part of the valley was a large sheet of ice formed by a spring with running water. Eastwards from this place, the valley becomes narrower and the snow is again deep on its floor. On the lower slope of the northern mountains, which were free from snow and were overgrown with abundant *yapchan* plants, we stopped for the night. From *Camp CCLXXXVIII*, an incomplete panorama, 377, Tab. 66, was drawn, showing to the W. S. W. the road up to *Dapsang*, and to the S. E. and E. S. E., irregular peaks and ridges. Unfortunately the southern quadrant of this panorama is missing, including the N. E. side of the *Kara-korum Range*. Pan. 379, Tab. 66, taken from *Camp CCLXXXV*, gives an idea of the appearance of the same range from its S. W. side.

On *December 26th*, our march continues eastwards through the latitudinal valley for 18.6 km. to *Camp CCLXXXIX*, rising to 5,383 m. or 175 m. above the previous camp, which gives a rate of 1:106. The minimum temperature was -31.7° , and the sky was covered with clouds. In the morning the wind came from the east, but turned at noon, over south to S. W. The march was very monotonous. Ascending to the east, the valley becomes narrower and is, as a rule, 1 km. broad. The ground is very even and comfortable. Here and there watercourses, filled with snow, are crossed. The valley is straight and regular, bounded on both sides by black mountains of no great height and with patches of snow. Through the openings of two or three side valleys from the south, higher ridges and peaks are visible, completely covered with snow, but not forming continuous ranges.