

soft sand with some fine gravel, and here we cross two or three erosion beds from the southern and S. E. valleys. A little farther on, we enter the valley coming from S. E. Just at its mouth, there is good grass at the base of the hills to the right, together with *yapchan* and snow. And here *Camp CCCIV* was pitched. The panorama that unfolded itself from this place is seen on 394^A and B, Tab. 69. To the S. 58° E. is the pass, from which this valley begins and which we had to traverse. To the N. W. and N. N. W., are some of the mountains at the north side of the large latitudinal valley.

On *January 15th*, the road continues for 11.0 km. between E. S. E. and S. E., up the valley, the ground rising 113 m. or at a rate of 1:98, as *Camp CCCV* has a height of 5,058 m. After a temperature of -39.8° in the night, the sky was clear and blue, and there was no wind in the morning. We follow the broad, open valley, the soil of which still consists of soft, reddish brown sand and very fine gravel. The mountains at both sides are rather low. About half the ground is snow-covered, in deeper furrows the snow is sometimes two feet deep. *Yapchan* grows the whole way, grass is sparse. To our right, a picturesque snow-group becomes more and more hidden as we proceed. We camped at the right terrace of the principal watercourse of the valley, as the grass was not bad and snow plentiful. The surrounding mountains are seen on Pan. 395^A and B, Tab. 70 with the pass to the S. E. Thrice in the course of the day, antelopes had been seen; no other animals, but numerous tracks.

On *January 16th*, our march goes 10.3 km. E. S. E. The first 4.2 km. lead us to the pass, the altitude of which is 5,161 m., being a rise of 103 m. and a rate of 1:41. From the pass to *Camp CCCVI* at 5,095 m., we have 6 km. and a descent of 66 m., at a rate of 1:91. The minimum temperature was -34.4°; the day clear and without wind. The severe cold and calm weather accompany each other. The features of the valley are the same as the day before. It is broad with irregular mountains of moderate height and a reddish colour on the sides, the soil is soft sand and fine gravel; sometimes there is grass in patches, most of the ground is snow-covered, and in ravines and furrows, it may be one or two feet deep. The pass is flat and open. To the south and S. W. there is a plain or depression bounded, on the west, by mountains, and with a small lake in our neighbourhood. To the S. E., the slope is comparatively steep to begin with, but soon the ground of the valley we now follow to the east, seems to rise very slowly in the direction of our march; probably this valley drains to the little lake we left to our right. The soil is soft sand with patches of good grass. To our right is the picturesque snow-group we had seen before, now quite near to our route. To the east, the valley is comfortable for a long way. To the south it would have been difficult to proceed, as we had here the continuous range to which the high snow-group