

lake has a brackish taste, as has also the pool, though several of the springs are fresh. After a few kilometers, we cross an old beach-line and go up on the top of a terrace consisting of hard, fine gravel, below which the clay ground continues. West of our route, is a range with ramifications and valleys; from one of the latter a little brook comes down; on its bank is a tent. Along the shore, there are several springs forming small pools surrounded with grass. The greater part of the lake was frozen. In the background of a new valley from the west, there is a dominating, prismatic mountain. Along the base of the hills, the ground is barren, as usual. It is noteworthy that there is more and better grass in northern *Chang-tang* than here, which may to a certain degree, depend upon the consistence of the ground, being more gravelly in the south.

The water in the next little brook was quite red, probably it came from melting snow on some slope of red material. The next brook, like the others, entered the lake which seems to be fed by springs. The even plain along the shore, becomes broader. Near *Camp CCCLXXI*, a brook came out from the valley called *Sninkuk*, forming an ice-sheet some 300 m. broad in the bed outside the valley. Here two tents were pitched and flocks of sheep were grazing on the neighbouring slopes.

From *Camp CCCLXXI*, situated at the mouth of the valley *Sninkuk*, Pan. 452, Tab. 85, was sketched. N. 33° E., the red conical hill is visible and to the N. E. and east, the bulky and dark mountains on the eastern side of the lake. From our route it is impossible to see how broad the plain is along the eastern shore of the lake. It has the appearance of being very narrow, which, however, may be an optical illusion. To the S. 62° E., the country is very flat and open, and here indeed is a latitudinal valley just north of *Karong-tso*. In the background of this valley we had seen, from a point just north of the camp, a range which might be the E. S. E. continuation of the one with the pass of *Nima-lung-la*. North of this latitudinal valley, there is, to the S. 84° E., a culminating peak. S. 35° E. is a conical peak, not very high, but dominating, as it is surrounded by comparatively low ridges. Of the depression of *Karong-tso*, nothing could be seen, nor did the nomads say a word of its existence. It was impossible to get any clear idea of the country to the south. The southern horizon, however, was barred by a mighty dark mountain range with some snow. We were approaching the *Transhimalaya*!

During the last days we had passed many tents and many flocks of sheep, as well as yaks. When leaving *Camp CCCLXX*, we had seen on the hillsides to the east, at least 400 yaks in three flocks. These may perhaps have belonged to merchants bringing salt from *Tabie-tsaka*.

At *Camp CCCLXXI* we have come into connection with my fifth crossing of the *Transhimalaya*, the description of which has been given in Vol. III, p. 314 *et seq.*