

instant three packs with their beehive saddles had slid down, dragging two of the horses after them. The »burkhun» was in such a precarious position that straps and ropes, though of inestimable value on such journeys, had to be cut away at once. To make him rise we had to roll him over on his back on the other side of the opening of the saddle. Unfortunately, however, he slipped in rising and fell down the almost perpendicular ledge. It was a miracle that he was not killed, and it was only the quantities of bushes growing on the slope that saved him. He was badly scratched by the sand and prickly bushes, but was not seriously hurt.

On the top of the slope there is a large Kirghiz mazar with many tombstones made of boulders of larger size than I have seen so far among the Kirghiz. In one of the tombstones a tree grows, protected by walls of planks. Slightly to the NE we again reached the bank of the Tekes and the road ran for a time halfway up the steep slope. The river is quite $1/3$ of a mile wide here and surrounds a great number of small wooded islands. As far as we could see it rolled its dirty yellow foaming waves through a green band of leaf-trees in an ENE direction, forming a wide curve, open to the north. After descending the high bank we rode for a considerable time over a very marshy meadow, Tsagan etc, that extends for about a mile in width between the high ground in the S and the edge of the Tekes woods. The hoarse piping of pheasants tempted me from the bushes, but, as so often before, my mapping presented an obstacle to shooting. Not far off our camp had been pitched on the edge of the Tekes woods. We had scarcely reached it, when a storm broke again and the rain prevented our enjoying the beauty of our camping place.

The Tsagan etc meadow grew narrower again as we rode on in an ENE direction. We crossed a broad, stony river bed, Tsagan tsäy, on the way that leads from a wide southward opening in the ledge of the bank northward to the Tekes. During this stretch the Tekes flows in a wide bed, surrounding many small islands. A strip of woodland runs along the north bank, crossing in a few places to the south bank. In places, where the road is intersected by some small stream, the ground shows a disposition to be marshy. The hills on the north bank and the high ground on our bank draw closer to each other round the river bed. When the meadow comes to an end, the road leads up the ledge of the bank to a plain going in mounds and waves, across which we rode for about an hour and a half until we reached the valley of the Kök Terek, a mile or two in width. Here, too, a steep, high ledge runs along the E bank of the river quite close to the latter. The foaming little river flows embedded in a long and narrow belt of leaf-trees. We crossed the river quite near its junction with the Tekes at a place where it runs in two arms of about 35 feet in width. The water is no higher than the horses' knees. The current is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ metres per second. The bottom is covered with large stones. The ledge of the Kök Terek's bank does not extend as far as the Tekes, but turns eastward and goes in a series of hills, very frequently broken by clefts or river beds in a S—N direction, or rather SE—NW. Between it and the Tekes there is a large meadow or plain, intersected here and there by small water-courses. A belt of leaf-trees runs on the left a mile to a mile and a half from the road, marking the course of the Tekes. Approximately in the centre of

June 2nd.
Camp at
Tchulak
Terek.