

comforts and fresh interests were near at hand.

As we now ascended the range the slopes were covered with rich green turf, most delightful to look upon after the bare hills of the Gobi; while here and there through an opening in the hills we could catch a glimpse of the snowy peaks above. There were, however, no trees nor even bushes, either on the hills or in the valleys. By the roadside we passed several horns of the *Ovis argali*, and two other kinds of wild sheep or goat, *Ovis argali* being the most common. One of these measured 56 inches and another 62 inches in length. The latter, the guide said, was as big a one as was to be got.

All the *Ovis argali* horns I saw on the Tian-shan were different from those which I saw on the Altai Mountains. The latter were thicker at the base (nineteen inches round as against sixteen), and they were more rounded, and not so much twisted. The Mongol says the sheep are the same.

We crossed the Tian-shan at a height of eight thousand feet. Except the last half-mile the ascent was not steep, but led gradually up