

resembling the flesh of a large capon more than that of any game bird I have ever seen in the Himalayas.

On the plains of Sin-Chiang, now and then a gazelle may be found, and in winter a few wild duck, but, on the whole, both ground and winged game are remarkably scarce.

In Western Tibet, on the other hand, it is unusual to travel for a day without seeing antelope and kyang (a sort of wild donkey). The former of these animals is a valuable friend to travellers, and is seldom found at elevations under 15,000 feet. He is in many places remarkably tame, remaining close to the caravan and watching it with evident curiosity. The flesh is almost destitute of fat, even when the animal is well nourished. The antelopes shot by Pike and me in 1896 were all in good condition, but those I found in 1899 were thin, probably because of an unusually severe winter.

In a few places on lofty ground in Tibet we found yak in herds numbering from ten to thirty, and sometimes more. Most of the animals were black, brown specimens being very rare. These roving herds move with great agility over the steep and stony ground, apparently enjoying the snow and frost and wind which seldom fail. At about the distance of two marches east of Charol Cho I observed a very large herd resting on the top of a high ridge covered with snow, where it was evident that a strong cold wind was blowing. They sought no shelter, not even that which they could easily have found on the lee side of the ridge. Yaks are capable of offering formidable resistance to the sportsman, as Pike found in an adventure which has already been recorded. One day I stalked a solitary bull yak, and, after a long round, got within range. Some bullets from my .303 carbine brought him to the ground, and I stepped towards the animal thinking he was as good as dead. It was lucky that I