

when they can keep alive in this desolate and niggard country. Near Saindek lead-glance occurs, and some pieces were brought to me.

86.2° at one o'clock! At the same time it was twelve degrees lower in the bungalow. By day we are persecuted by flies, in the night by gnats. Late in the evening the caravan got ready and vanished quietly in the night without the sound of bells. I went out with my shaded light and watched it depart. Then one of the hairy, poisonous spiders came creeping in among our party, and there was a jumping and screaming and a commotion as though fire had broken out. At last a man of the escort stamped the creature to death.

On April 29 we set out at seven o'clock with three dromedaries and water for two days. The road leads between small weathered hills and crests of dark compact fossiliferous limestone called Kuh-i-Saindek, Kuh-i-Amelaf and Malan-kuh. A small saddle had a height of 3678 feet. At the little *tana* or military post of Amelaf, a quadrilateral wall, with towers at the angles, the grazing seemed to be good, and water is found here, though not quite sweet.

We follow for hours a broad, flat, longitudinal valley between two crests, which become lower towards the south-east. A south wind begins to blow and increases after mid-day, driving yellow pillars like smoke before it; but this wind is burning hot as though it came from a baker's oven, and does not cool us like the fine north wind in Seistan, for it comes from heated desert lands, while the north wind comes from cool regions. At one o'clock the thermometer marks 95.9° in the shade. That is a great jump of more than nine degrees from the last previous maximum; but I feel that I can endure several degrees higher before becoming giddy. The worst is that we are riding straight towards the sun, and are exposed to its direct rays. I dismount and walk a little, but this is worse, for the ground is so hot that I cannot put my hand upon it. It is better to be a few feet above it. A few light clouds float across the sun, and I lift my hat to let the south wind blow through my hair.