

been flitting step by step towards the west, their last move being three years ago from Abdal to Jurt-tschapghan; and this place they will again have to abandon soon, owing to the origination of fresh marginal lakes where formerly it was dry ground.



Fig. 103. VIEW TO THE NW FROM THE SAME POINT.

With regard to the river at Jurt-tschapghan, I was told, that it was then (13th April) at its highest level, and that it would drop every day after that, at first slowly, then more quickly, until it reached its lowest ebb, in the end of the summer and the beginning of the autumn. At that stage the river is said to be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  kulatsch (2.55 m.) lower than it was in April; and, judging from the following measurement, which I made at the same place on 25th June of the same year, that is not at all improbable. Then the breadth was 37.2 m., the mean depth 3.371 m., the mean velocity 0.3143 m., and the volume 39.41 cub.m. in the second. Thus in the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  months the river had dropped from 85.91 cub.m. to 39.41 cub.m., or a loss of 46.5 cub.m., and supposing the volume continued to decrease at the same rate through July, August, and a part of September, there would not be much water left in the bed when the autumn high water arrived. Unfortunately the two measurements were not made at *precisely* the same spot, for the latter soundings were taken in a deeper part of the bed. The determining factor is however the velocity,



Fig. 104. VIEW TO THE SOUTH FROM THE SAME POINT. IN THE FOREGROUND THE SATMAS OF KUM-TSCHAPGHAN AND BEHIND THEM THE VERY END OF THE TARIM RIVER.