



Fig. 238. THE FERRY OF TURFAN-KARAU. IN THE BACKGROUND THE KONTSCHE-DARJA. TO THE RIGHT THE STATION-HOUSE, 27 MARCH 1896.

quantities of water. I also ventured to suggest (p. 10), that when all that ice melts in the spring, it must give rise to a considerable flood, in the same way as the breaking up of the ice does in the Tarim. And that this suggestion is sound is proved by a measurement which I made in the Kontsche-darja not far above Tikenlik, and about 70 km. below Dilpar, on 27th March 1896, when I found the volume to be 69.6 cub.m. in the second, or reckoning from Korla a diminution of only 2 cub.m.; at the time I attributed (*Peterm. Mitteil.*, Ergänzht 131, p. 77) that insignificant decrease to the thawing of the ice, which thus took place about the middle of March. Now this imposing flood of thaw-water flows past at a pretty swift rate, and once its maximum has been attained, the river goes on falling all the summer. In the beginning of May 1900 I measured a volume of only 33 cub.m. in this river, namely 19 cub.m. in all the several arms together which in the vicinity of Tikenlik go to feed the Kuntschekisch-tarim, and 14 cub.m. proceeding from the Bos-ilek to the Avullu-köl. Thus the volume in the beginning of May was



Fig. 239. THE TSCHERTSCHEN-DARJA AT AK-ILEK.

*Hedin, Journey in Central Asia. II.*