

black schists; though by far the greater part of the range constitutes merely a ruin of these two rocks, an inextricable chaos of heaps of *débris*, of slabs of sandstone and schist. It is very rarely however that the hard rock crops out in a recognisable form, and then only in the crests and at the bases of the terraces of the more deeply excavated watercourses. It is nevertheless difficult to point out the provenance of the blocks of schist which lie in the middle of the latitudinal valley, seeing that its floor is perfectly level and composed of nothing but very finely comminuted material. They are either erratic blocks, surviving from some long vanished glaciers, or the remains of a ridge which has otherwise totally disappeared underneath the gathering disintegrated material with which the valley is filling up.



Fig. 125. A CAPTIVE »DAVAGHAN».

September 26th. We marched north-north-east between two chains of hills, having on the left three pools of fresh water, partly frozen over, and on the right a larger pool of the like character. After surmounting a col, only a few meters higher than Camp LVIII, we descended into a self-contained basin, going down beside a minor watercourse that led to a small lake. Several similar watercourses, some with water, others without, but all with marshy bottoms, come down from the north-west and enter the same lake. When we reached the farther side of a pool, on the southern slope of a minor crest extending from east to west, the grazing showed some improvement over what it had hitherto been. The altitude of Camp LIX was 4964 m.

September 27th. The usual pretty stiff westerly wind now prevailed again, and blew all day with a velocity of at least 10 m. in the second. The rainfall was however so slight that the ground was generally quite dry, and the sand and dust blew off the hills in clouds. It was only in the hollows and depressions that the surface still remained moist and marshy. From the little pass just north of our