

October 13th. In its lowest part the valley of Toghri-saj is fairly broad, the breadth being uniform; but finally it widens out trumpet-fashion and merges into the flat, open expanse of the Tschimen valley. By this the stream had shrunk considerably and it still continued to shrink as it approached the end of the valley. At one spot, where it creeps past a small granite buttness on the right side of the valley, it had contracted to a couple of small frozen rivulets. Hence to get down thus far and join the main stream of the Tschimen valley, which has its origin on the flat saddle of Kosuk-kakti and no doubt picks up a good many tributaries on its way down, was as much as the Toghri-saj rivulet was able to accomplish.

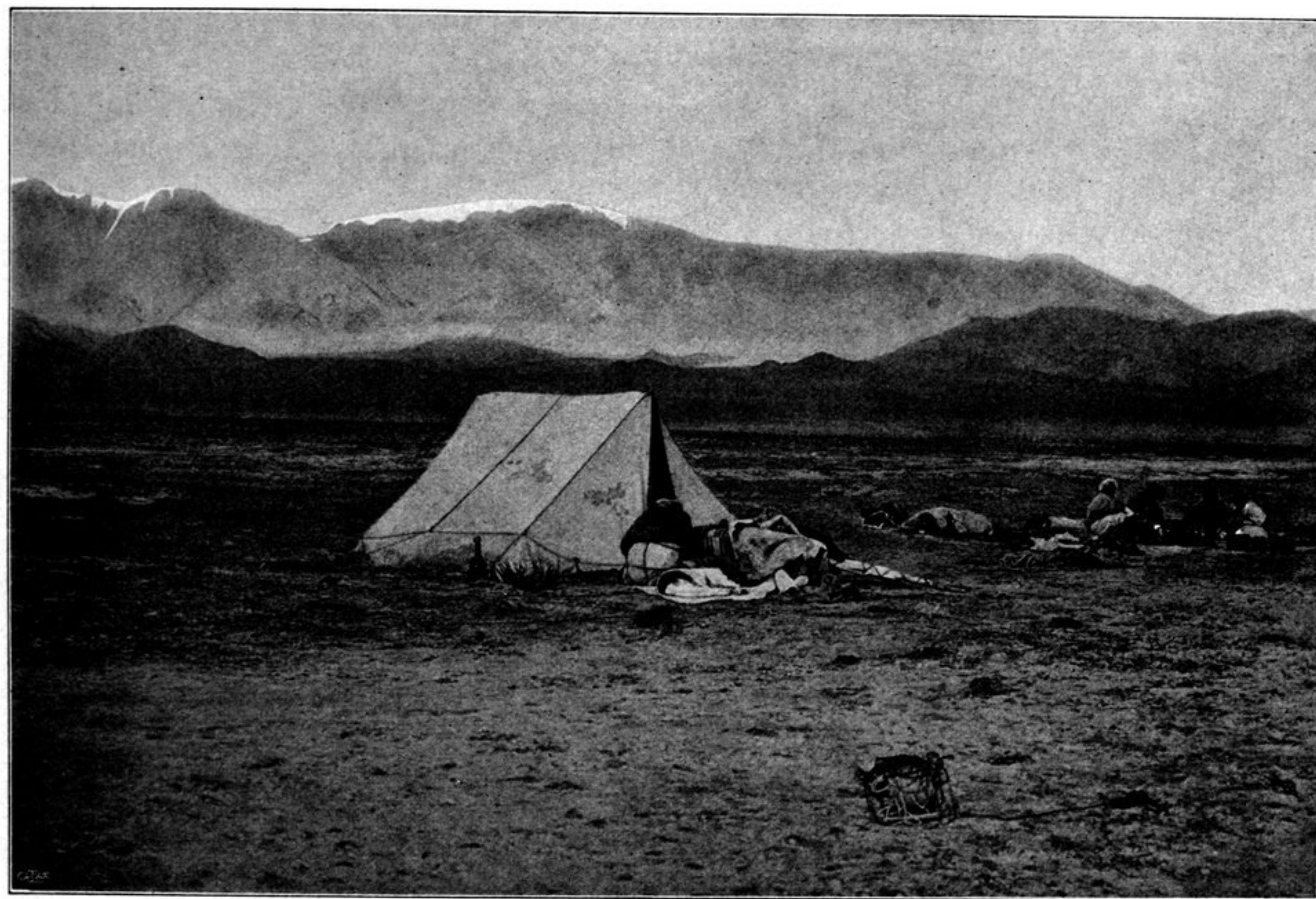


Fig. 159. ILVE-TSCHIMEN FROM CAMP LXXIII (CONTINUATION ON THE RIGHT OF FIG. 158).

Upon emerging from the valley of Toghri-saj, we had to the west-south-west an extensive view across the large Kakir valley (Tschimen), the horizon in the far off distance appearing to be as level as the sea. From that point of view the mountains on the south were very much more imposing than those on the north owing to their numerous large snowy peaks. We now marched straight ahead towards the north-east, brushing against one successive rocky promontory after another. These were the extreme northerly outliers of the Piaslik-tagh, a range that is not of especially great magnitude and does not possess a single snowy summit. Its offshoots and spurs are however fairly massive and craggy, and between them appear small glen-openings, with faintly outlined watercourses, some of which, to judge from their shallow, rounded forms, never, or at any rate extremely seldom, would appear to