

of the difference lies clearly in the subsidence of the lake. If we suppose that the lake-level is at *a* (see fig. 249), then the erosion terraces will be relatively low. After a time the lake-level will drop to *b*, and as a consequence of that cataracts must be formed in the lowest part of the glen. This again will in a high degree increase the erosive power at that point, and this enhanced erosive activity will advance slowly upstream. At about 200 m. from the existing shore it was quite easy to discern the point to which the brink of the cataract has receded. In proportion as the lake drops, the greater will grow the energy of this retrogressive erosive activity, and the higher will grow the steep erosion terraces which fence in the watercourse. At the bottom, next the lake, they are now 3 m. high. All the indications connected with the outlet of this glen seem to suggest that the lake is shrinking at a fairly rapid rate. In any case the shrinkage is so rapid that the erosive activity is unable to keep pace with it; for were it able to do so, there would be no cataract sill in the channel. At the time we saw it, the channel was perfectly dry.

The next peninsula is formed by a rocky spur with steep sides. This we had to cross over, and at its western foot, that is on the eastern side of a deeply penetrating bay, we pitched Camp CXLVIII. The locality is called Sertse, on the English map Churtse. Here debouches from the north a very broad glen, the outlet of which constitutes the relatively extensive plain of Sertse. It was here that I was met by a relief caravan sent out from Ladak.



Fig. 249.

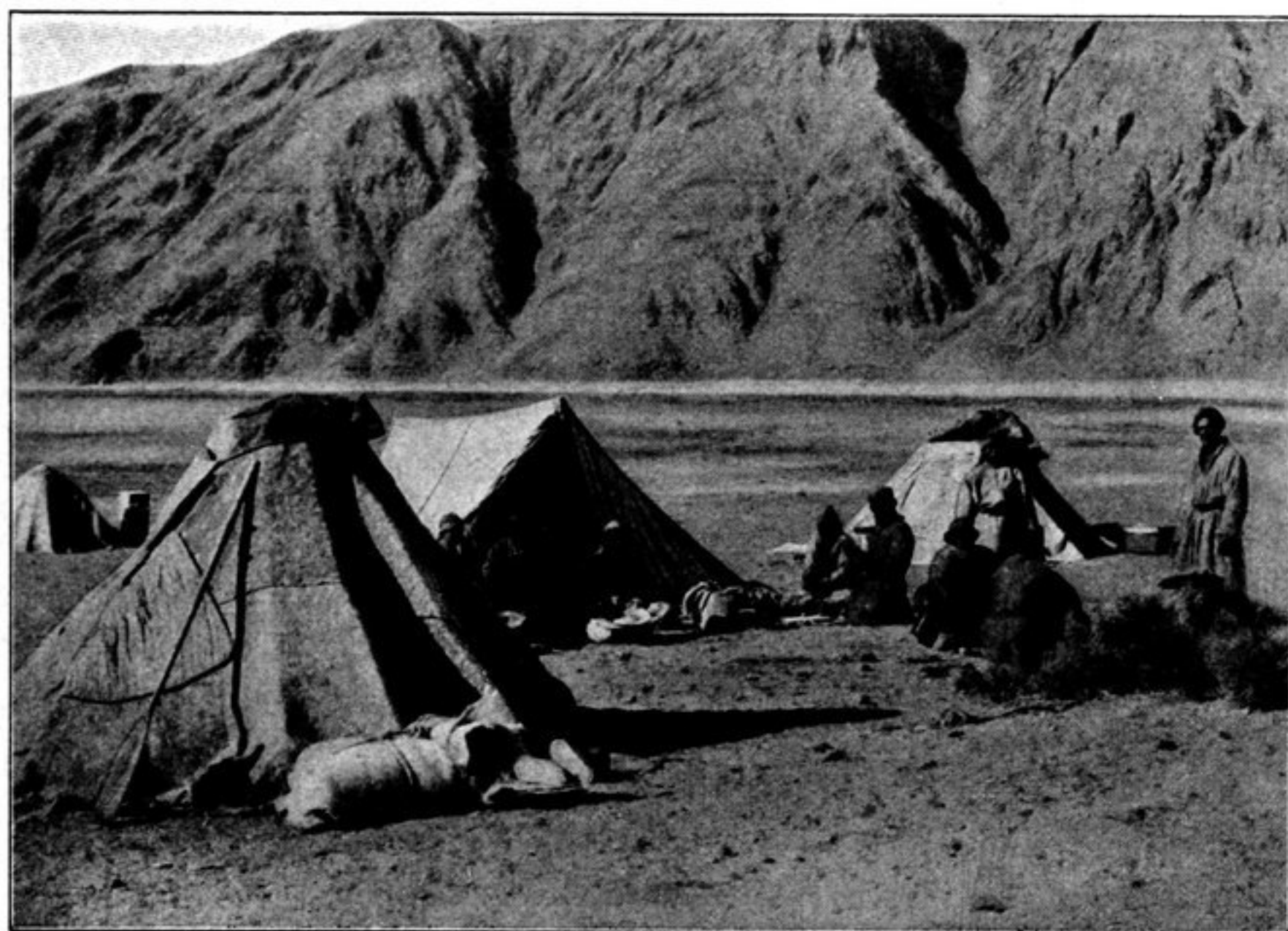


Fig. 250. CAMP CXLVIII.

At last on 14th December we had fine weather, a perfectly clear sky and a gentle breeze from the west. The mountain panorama of the southern shore now stood forth in all its glory, brilliantly white and blue. In its higher regions we could