

up it is formed by two other glens, of which the one on the south is the larger, having energetically cut its way down into the immense snow-clad mountain-masses. Even the surface of the plain itself was thickly dotted over with thin snow-drifts; but heavy drifts were accumulated against the western escarpment of the river. To judge from the energetic sculpturing, vast quantities of water must make their way down this channel in summer, and the water in the western extremity of the lake will then be a good deal freshened up.

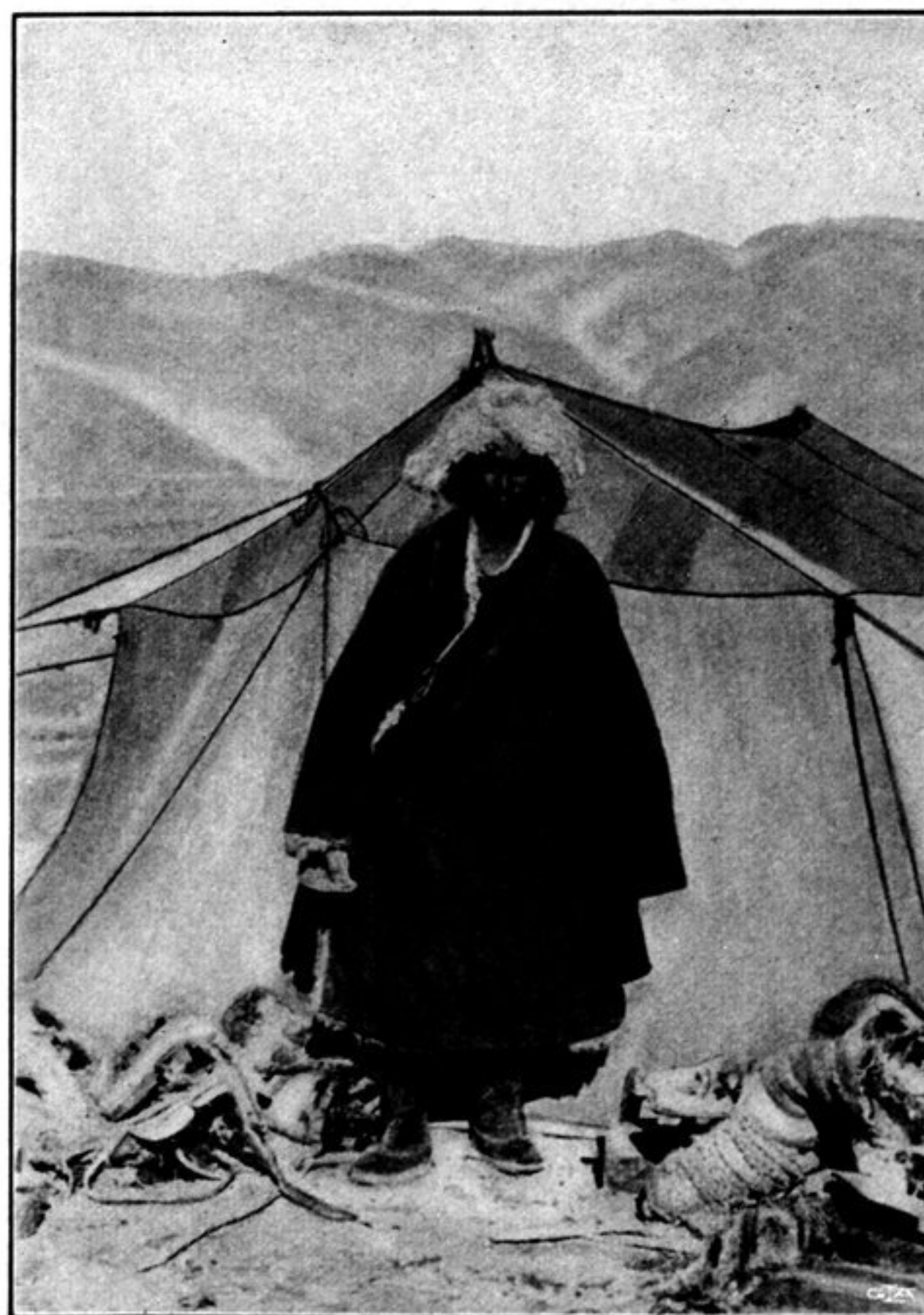


Fig. 267. OUR LAST TIBETAN.

After traversing the remainder of this lacustrine plain, which is known as Lukkong, and on which we came across three tents, we approached the sharply defined edge of a steep terrace or platform built up entirely of detritus. Its eastern margin is in fact so sharply accentuated that it might readily be considered, mistakenly, as a former position of the right bank of the river, the stream having subsequently shifted farther to the east and destroyed its own left bank. However we soon descended from this platform and found that its opposite face, looking upon the outlet of the southern glen, bears precisely the same appearance as the eastern face, which suggests that it has been modelled by the stream that flows down that glen. This however is not the case. The platform terminates in a point running out towards the south-east and it simply consists of the continuation of the rocky headland which rises above it, or rather of the flattened gravelly scree at its foot. The most surprising thing however is that in the southern glen, into the throat of