

the *Sor-kul* or WOOD'S lake. No other of the tributaries opening to the lake has a road. In the upper parts of some of the south-eastern there are small glaciers.

Between our camp and the lake there were some small hills of sand and gravel only a few meters high, surrounded by soft, swampy ground with springs. At 4 o'clock p. m. the temperature of the air was 10.1° , of the lake 14.3° and of a spring near the shore 13.6° . In the *Ak-sai* brook 3 km. from the shore we found 7.3° . The water of the lake was found to be perfectly clear and as fresh as spring water; it contains algæ. In the winter the lake is covered with very thick ice, from which the snow is quickly swept away by the hard, regular S. W. wind. The Kirgiz ride across the lake on yaks and camels. As early as the middle or end of October the lake freezes and remains frozen for seven months. During the summer the wind comes from all sides; rain is rare, the precipitation falls as snow.

The next day we had a rest. Hard W. S. W. wind was blowing, but the sky remained perfectly clear and blue and the mountains of *Kisil-rabat* and *Ak-tash* were visible in every detail.

The *aul* of *Ak-sai* remains here the whole year round. In the district of Upper *Ak-su* 100 tents were estimated. During the winter several tents are pitched in the small valleys round the lake. The inhabitants were said to be Teit Kirgizes of the *uroks*: Durbölen-orus, Alapa, and Kochkor. On *Great Pamir* there were 100 more tents of the same tribe and especially of the *urok* Gader-shah.
