



Courtyard of a sarai with animals at Maral Bashi.

In the SW corner is a Government building with mud walls. Next to it the granary and quite close to the latter a water reservoir. Opposite the yamen behind (south of) the bazaar buildings a temple with mud walls. — The Maral Bashi district has 6 Beggars, one of them for the Dolans and 1 for the Sarts in the bazaar and town. There are said to be only about 700 houses belonging to Dolans, while the Sarts, who only immigrated during the last few years, have as many as 8000 houses.

During the day I made some more anthropological measurements and took photographs. The Dolans are fairer than the Sarts and have much smaller beards. — The village of Nov contains 50 houses with 3,000 mou of land, about 60 horses, 300 cows and oxen, 3,000 sheep. A mou is sown with 10 dsj of 1 tch of wheat and yields 5—6 tcheraks; 5 dsj. of maize yield 10 tcheraks. — Another Dolan village near Maral Bashi has 25 houses, about 25 horses, 10 cows and oxen and 1,000 sheep.

*February 9th.
Maral Bashi.*

Wishing to avoid the well-known road from Maral Bashi to Aqsu, I decided to take a caravan route, on which there is little traffic, northward through the village of Achal to Kelpin and thence to Uch Turfan. The absence of water on the way from Maral Bashi to Achal was no serious obstacle, as the horses could go without water for a day and a half and the snow that still lay in places gave us hope that we could mix some snow with their hay. Ljo was sent with the arbah and all the things we did not require by the highroad to Aqsu, and with the others, loading the kitchen and tent on to 3 pack-horses, I started to-day at 7 a.m. accompanied by Rakhimjanoff, the cook and the so-called laot'rr. The sky was grey and cloudy and a fresh N wind made us turn up our fur collars over our ears. The road turns north from the

*February 10th.
Camp at
Duvantagan
ajage djungal.*