



## TOQSUN

*Toqsun* is open to the N. In the W and E it is adjoined by bands of closely scattered single houses, in the shadow of clumps of trees. The wall is 3 fathoms and the parapet 1 fathom high. The latter is not crenellated, but has loopholes. Two projections protect the gates. The one to the E is walled up. The other projections are insignificant. The wall is of unbaked bricks and neglected. No rampart, nor any protected space. Inside the wall several insignificant clay walls to divide different detachments. — Drawn by the author

difficult to shorten this part of the road by taking another course (80 li) owing to the roughness of the ground. For three days the road follows the river, either crossing it or receding from it. The bed of the river is not supposed to be very stony and the ascents and descents not particularly steep. This stretch of the road, however, is only possible for horsemen and pack-horses. During the third day, i.e. in reality the fourth (one day to the river), the road goes over the *Ulastai dawan* which is said to be so convenient that it can be traversed in an *arbah*. About 20 li further on another small pass has to be crossed. Water, wood and grass are obtainable. On the other side of the pass you reach *Baga Yulduz* in four days. The road is good. Water and grass are available. Dry droppings serve as fuel. On this stretch the road crosses a couple of small river beds, but does not go along any gorge (*Sagasutai*). It debouches into a wide plain with mountains at a great distance (*Adunkur?*). — According to the statement of a *Khoshut tsasak* in *Urumchi* the road along the *Algoi* is very stony and rough for two days. You reach *Yulduz* along the river *Sagasutai*.

July 21st. The heat in *Toqsun* was very great during the last two days. The maximum temperature in the shade was  $+31.9^{\circ}$  R. There was a high wind, but as it was a hot wind it did not help to reduce the heat. Its usual direction was from the W or WNW. The temperature only dropped slightly at night and the heat made it difficult to sleep. I put up my bed in the middle of the big courtyard of the *sarai* in order to get some air. Whenever I succeeded in falling asleep, I was very soon awakened. Either a dog barked frantically, or came and smelt my face, or else I had to jump up and save myself and my bed from a caravan of *arbahs* which drove in amid the jingling of bells, loud creaking, yells and shouts. When