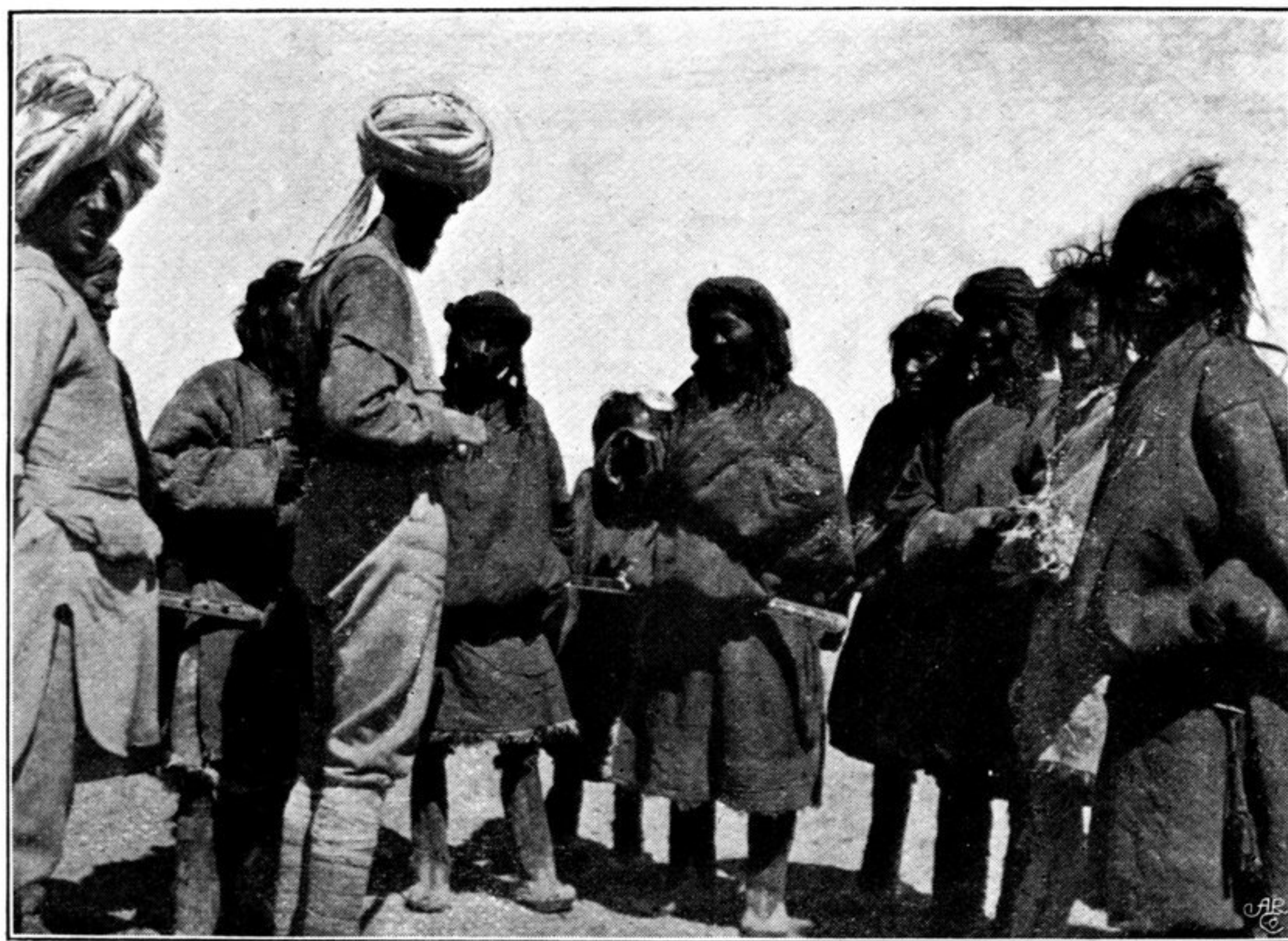


commonly practised by Asiatics, or merely to intellectual stagnation. Nothing could surprise them. Arms were of importance to them and they had never before seen a magazine carbine, but our carbines excited no interest nor curiosity. A fine blue rock pigeon having alighted to rest and drink at a spot within range, Pike took the opportunity of showing the precision of his weapon, and shot the pigeon, but not one of the Tibetans evinced



THE AUTHOR RECEIVING TIBETAN VISITORS.

the slightest concern in any way. Our negotiations for guides and transport were quite abortive, but Ramzan induced three of the nomads to return with us to our camp. Hoping to obtain some advantage from these visitors, we enjoined Ramzan to see that they were hospitably entertained.

The three were fed, and were supplied with the weed honoured by Ladakis with the name of tobacco, but they