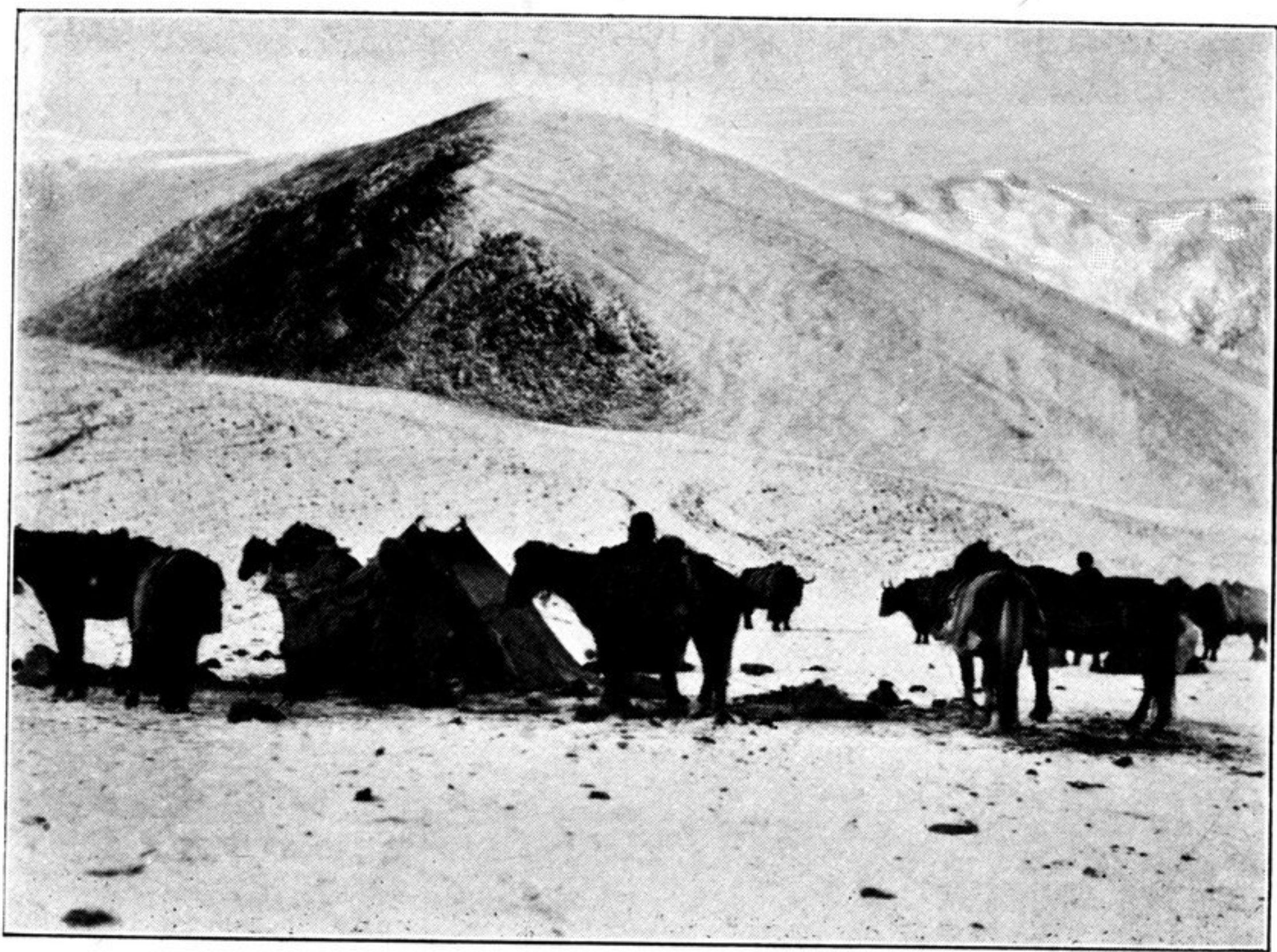


labour the puzzled look on his solemn countenance was the cause of much merriment.

In these trying times our spirits were supported by Rassoula's assurance that a "gurram jugga," or "warm spot," was not far off, but this place of comfort was still too far off for our purpose. At Pagrim, where we found a small nomad encampment, the guide who had been sent with Ramzan to Lutkum returned in the company



CAMP AT PAGRIM.

of two Lutkum men, but without Ramzan who, he informed us, was ill and unable to travel. To arrange for assistance we sent Utam back with one of these newcomers, but fresh difficulties awaited us. The Rundor men were naturally impatient to return to their homes. Winter was closing in upon them; there were two passes behind them, and for all their trouble they did not expect to receive one anna. We offered an increase of pay, but