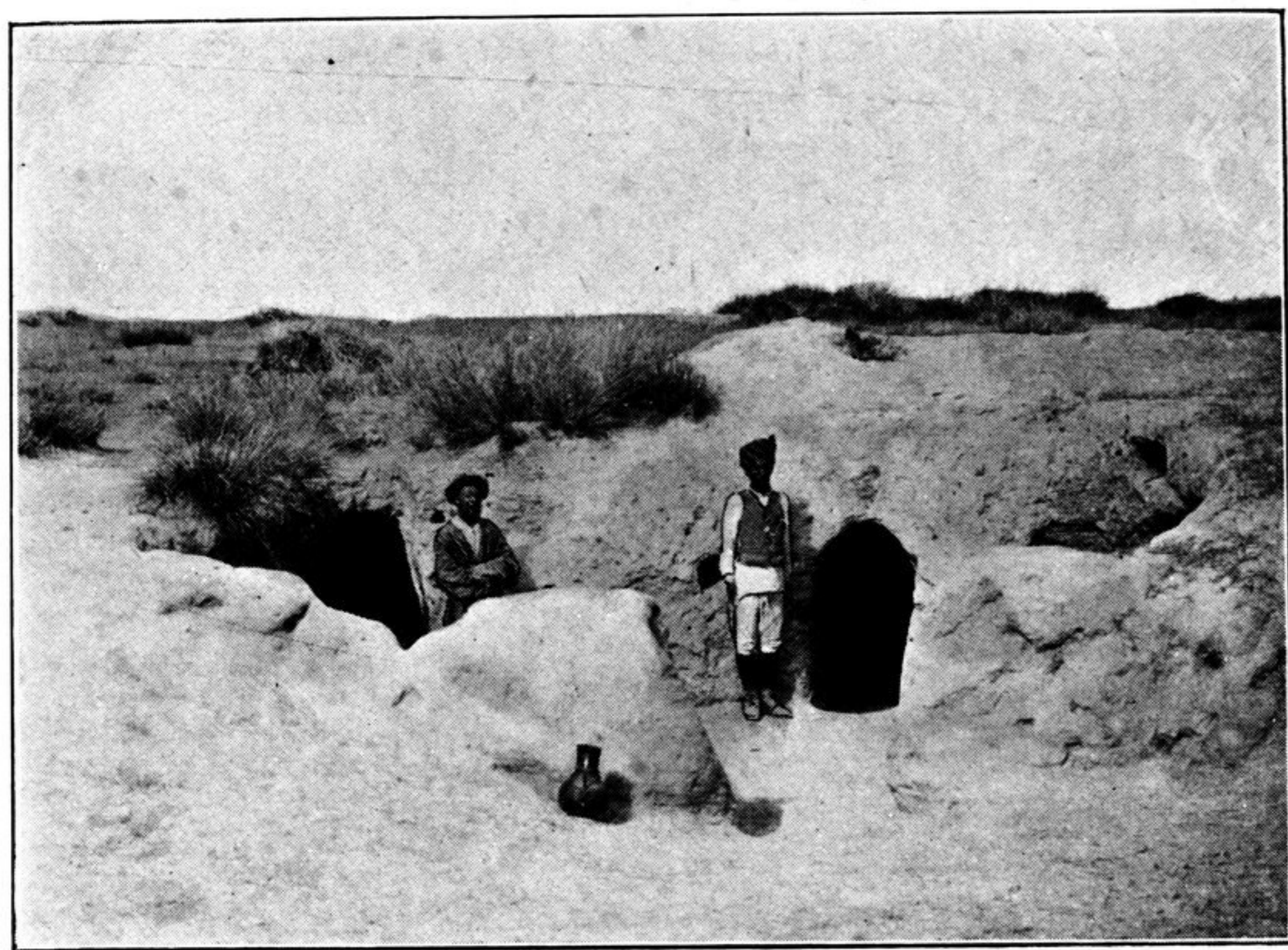


Thenceforth the troublesome member of my company was Raju, who had become lazy. He shirked his work, neglected the necessary inspection of the animals after our marches until remonstrated with, and when we reached Kara Sai he became no better than an agitator and a creator of discontent. Of this, however, I pretended to know nothing.

Kara Sai (Black Water), so far as architectural forma-



MY ABODE AT KARA SAI.

tion is concerned, consists of a few small caves, hollowed out of the loess which forms the eastern bank of a tiny stream at the place where it leaves the hills. Close by are one or two patches of stunted barley; not far off there is good grazing for camels, and on the hills abundance of vegetation for flocks of sheep and goats, which, at night, are regularly tied up in the narrow parts of the valley beside springs of excellent water. The best cave in