

country, and had crossed five passes, one of which was about 16,550 feet high. Our camp (137) was pleasantly situated at an open part of the valley, where we found abundance of good dry driftwood and, not far off, a little kamish grass. It was necessary to halt for a day to rest the tired yaks and to await the arrival of some fresh ones. In my sunny quarters I spent the time mainly in checking



LOOKING DOWN THE VALLEY OF THE YARKAND RIVER FROM THE MOUTH OF THE MISGAN JILGA.

the errors of the chronometers by means of a system of latitudes and an azimuth of about 180° to the pillar erected in the previous winter close to the Topa Dawan. Ram Singh spent the day profitably in sketching, and the yak-men roughly repaired the much-injured baggage.

To determine the thickness of the ice on the Yarkand River, which, under the high vertical bank close to the mouth of the Misgan Jilga, was nearly frozen across, I