

of these were sunk in the North Kurgan, 3 at the South Kurgan, and 4 in the city of Anau. Of the remaining 15 some were placed to determine the later relations of culture-strata to natural and irrigation sediments, while others pierced the plain at what were thought to be desirable points. R. W. Pumpelly undertook the study of the details of structure shown in these shafts, as he had also assisted in deciding as to where they should be placed, and in his report in this publication is given the full description of his observations. He also treats at length the subject of oases in connection with the general physiography of Turkestan. The information obtained from these shafts is of the greatest interest, and it was a cause of much regret that we were not able to sink more of them. The intense and increasing heat made work very difficult; and added to this was the vast quantity of grasshoppers, which accumulated in the pits so rapidly that they at last forced the abandonment of work.



Fig. 8.—The Mosque at Anau.

The shafts sunk within the North Kurgan ("east" and "west galleries," as well as north digging II) penetrated the underlying natural alluvial formation at a depth of 20 feet below the level of the plain. But North Kurgan west shaft I, over 200 feet west of the kurgan, after sinking through 7 feet of irrigation sediments, passed through culture in place, with standing walls and pottery of the earliest strata of the kurgan, to the depth of 28 feet below the surface of the plain. It was, therefore, clear that the settlement had started on an eminence raised somewhat above the surrounding country. It was found that the North Kurgan stood on a loess-like formation with interbedded alluvial strata characteristic of the delta structure. The indications were clear that the delta-plain had been dissected before the kurgan settlements were started. At the South Kurgan, shafts A and C, sunk through the culture-strata and into the underlying natural formation, found the base of