

THE ZERAFSHAN VALLEY.

On the Northern Pamir and in the Alai valley we found a good field for glaciology, and would, off-hand, expect to find record of corresponding climatic change on outlying ranges, nearby members of the Tian Shan. But although no such extreme difference as the variation of from one to six glacial epochs, found by

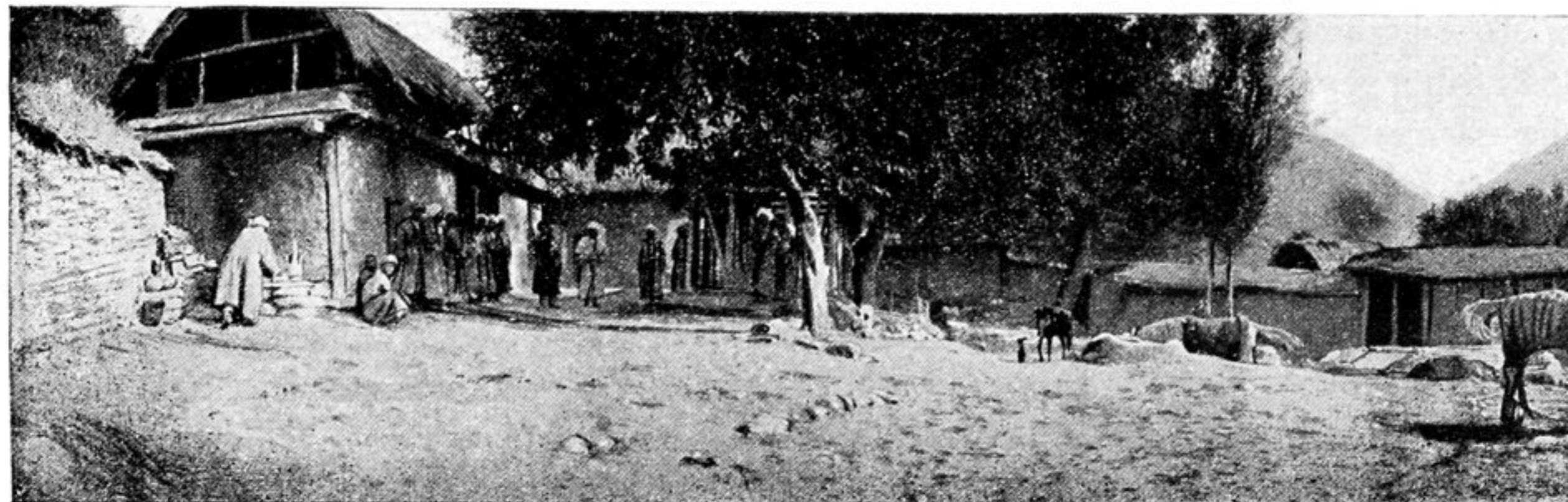


Fig. 452.—Thatched Roofs in the Sardai-miona Gorge.

Mr. Huntington, was met with on my journey, there was an unmistakable discordance between certain valleys. We hope to show that a differential glacial record was inevitable on mountains subjected to the differential uplift such as we find recorded by various degrees of block-faulting and tilting. With the Alai Mountains, we have a region that has been uplifted some thousands of feet, faulted on the north and bordered there by rows of uptilted piedmonts. It is a significant fact that Mr. Huntington found a universal correspondence of variations in climate (by attributing valley terraces to climatic change) and yet no correspondence at all between valley glaciers. We can not, however, believe that the glaciers of Central Asia were independent of Central Asia's climatic change. If it were merely a disagreement between valleys of different elevation, between high valleys now occupied and low ones now glacier empty and between empty valleys of different height, the matter might be argued independent of uplift. But such is not the case. Out of twenty-four valleys scarcely any two of the same height agree; and there are instances of valleys near together and of the same height disagreeing several epochs. It will be understood that most

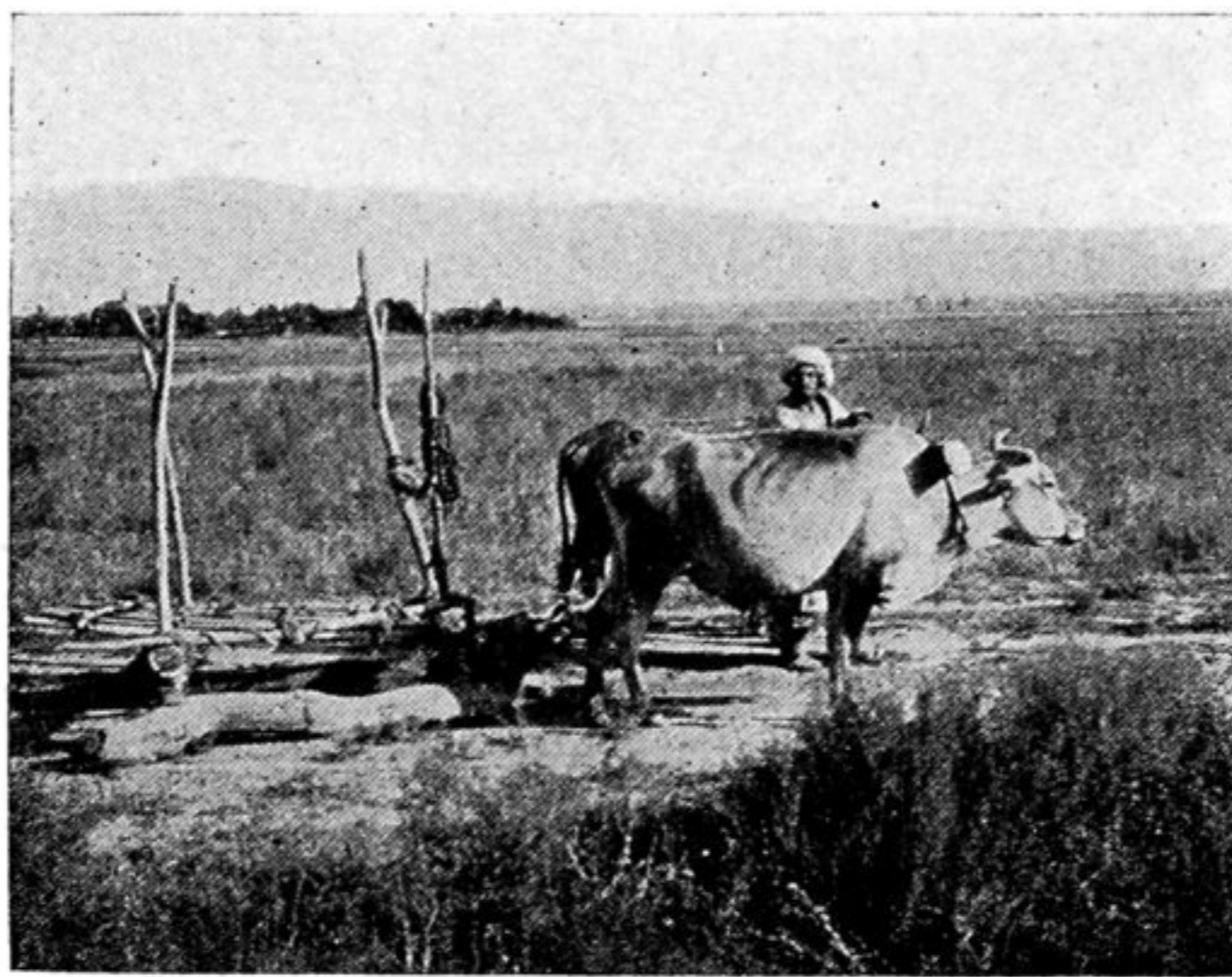


Fig. 453.—A Sled in the Hissar Valley.