

favoured with much kind attention by Generals Tchaikowsky and Medinsky, the respective governors, and offered special opportunities for examining the antiquities collected in the local museums. I may add here that, though my knowledge of Russian is as scanty as it could be, I met nowhere with anything but courtesy and goodwill among Russian fellow-passengers and local officials. The impressions of the delightful days I spent at Samarkand, mainly in



AT SAMARKAND: MARKET WITH RUINED MOSQUES IN BACKGROUND.

visits to the incomparable monuments of architecture of Timur's period which mark the height of Muhammadan power and art in Central Asia, could not be surpassed even by the combined reminiscences of Lahore, Delhi, and Agra. It was, in truth, another exhibition of Moghul grandeur, but under a sky and in a climate that even in June recalled Kashmir.

A brief stay at Merv allowed me to touch ground full of great