

A RICH PRIZE TO BE WON
Manchuria Coveted by Both Japan and Russia.

LAND OF MANY TONGUES

It is a Vast Fertile Country, Whose Mountains Are Full of Mineral Wealth.—Splendid Harbors.—The Present Chinese Imperial Dynasty is Manchurian.

Manchuria, the scene of the greater battles in the Eastern war as at present planned, is a mountainous province of the Chinese Empire as large as all our New England and Middle States, with Colorado thrown in.

The original Manchurians were not Chinese. They were a part of the "outside barbarian" world against which the Chinese built their great wall.

The Manchurian language is employed in the Chinese court, but is not understood by the Chinese proper.

Newchwang, at the apex of the Gulf of Liaoning, is in about the latitude of New York City.

Russia has in Manchuria two claims—one good, the other good enough to bluff upon until it is "called."

The people of China proper and of Manchuria have to a considerable extent swapped places.

Of late Russia has had its wanting eye upon Corea for a curious reason.

Minute vegetation which grows on the surface of the ocean is called "grass of the sea" by most unscientific persons.

Total Length Submarine Cable. There are 290,000 miles of submarine cables, enough to go eight times around the globe.

A curious phenomenon has been noticed in the tropics that can never be seen in higher latitudes.

WORLD'S LONGEST RAILWAY.

Difficulties Encountered in Building Trans-Siberian R.R.

The Siberian Railway is at once the longest and best known railroad in the world. Russia commenced to build her great railway early in the seventies.

By the year 1877 the great line had been constructed as far as Orenburg. It was not until 1880, however, that the great bridge was completed over the Volga.

The section connecting the Volga and the Obi River basins was then begun. The first work on the real Trans-Siberian Railway was commenced May 9, 1891.

The difficulties encountered in building the great line have been enormous. There have been a number of rivers to be bridged each offering a problem of its own to the engineers.

Several of these streams have been a mile or more in width, with shores of shifting sand in the summer season and ice fields in the winter.

In addition there have been miles of hills which could only be passed by tunnelling.

The depth of the lake, moreover, is so great that bridging is impossible.

This road in places has been cut through rock at enormous expense.

The cost of this section alone is nearly \$20,000,000. It will, besides, take four or five years to complete the line.

Mahometans and Dogs. In Egypt dogs are never permitted to enter the dwelling of a Mahometan; and if one is found in a mosque he is immediately put to death.

In consequence of this excommunication from the society which this animal seems so instinctively disposed to cultivate, Egyptian dogs live, for the most part, in the open air, feeding upon garbage and any other filth that chance throws in their way.

As a singular contrast for their dislike for dogs, the Egyptians have ever held cats in greatest veneration, and in ancient times even worshiped them.

Subastis and Atribes, two towns in Egypt, the former a votary of cats and the latter of mice, contracted on that account so strong an antipathy to each other that the inhabitants were never known to intermarry.

In some parts of India, too, we are told, they have a similar reverence for Grimalkin, as the only crimes punished capitally there are the murder of a man and a cat.

Everybody knows the fondness of the adult Chinese for kite flying.

Each new year season there are contests in kite flying, the object being to cut the enemy's string and let his kite go.

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PLANS FOR NEW REPUBLIC

Panama Official Opinion Favors Abolishment Monopolies.

INCOME OF THE LOTTERY

Starts without Debt Burden, and with Revenue from Canal Funds, from Canal Rental, and from Gambling and Lottery Concessions, Hopes to Accumulate a Surplus.

Among the policies which have been practically settled upon for the new republic of Panama is that concerning monopolies.

Optium, held by Capp Kon King; two years to run; yearly rental, \$10,000.

Tobacco, held by Isaac Brandon & Bro.; two years to run; yearly rental, \$25,000.

Cigarettes, held by Piza Piza; two years to run; rental, \$45,000.

Beef; one year to run; revenue at \$10 per male head and \$8 per female head, amounts to \$150,000.

Pork; one year to run; revenue at \$4 per head amounts to \$47,000.

Gambling, held by Pratt & Seymour; one year to run; rental \$50,000 yearly for Panama, \$26,000 for Colon; total \$82,000 yearly.

Salt, held by an Agudaluce contractor; ends in May. Cost of production, fifty cents a hundredweight; sold to Government at \$1.80; sold by Government to consumers at \$4.

Ice; concessionaire unable to pay, so Government is running plant with J. G. Duque in charge as receiver; normal yield of revenue \$24,000 yearly.

Lottery, held by J. G. Duque and stock company; seventeen years to run; yields Government 5 per cent. on total value of prizes, which meant in old canal times \$200,000 revenue yearly, but now amounts to only \$50,000.

Public and official opinion seems to favor the abolition of all these concessions except those for the gambling and the lottery.

Ireland's Lost Population. Ireland is a country which still loses thousands of its natural increase of population by emigration.

How Lord Wolseley Went. When going about officially Lord Wolseley was very particular about appearing in uniform and expected all officers invited to meet him to come similarly attired.

Love's Dream No Nightmare. A brave St. Louis couple were married the other day under the following adverse conditions.

A Library for Wine Merchants. The wine merchants of Zurich have decided to form a museum and library "du vin," in which every phase of wine culture will be represented.

The Last of Sibyl Sanderson. The last age in the history of a popular singer or actress is usually the sale of her jewels and dresses.

All Pegged. If men are the salt of the earth, women are undoubtedly the sugar, salt is a necessity, sugar a luxury.

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RAILROAD DISCIPLINE.

How the "Brown" Method of Enforcing Regulations Works.

Sixty railroad lines in the United States, embracing one-third of the total mileage, have adopted a single system of disciplinary rules for employees.

The "Brown system" has for its foundation a "record book" in which is kept a personal record of every employe of the road.

For every item entered against the employe a bulletin is posted in a conspicuous place, telling what the fault is, how it could have been avoided, and how it affects the company's interests.

The objects sought have been summarized in reports—the most important are: "Avoiding loss of time and wages of employes, resulting in possible suffering to those dependent on their earnings, as well as demoralization of employes by enforced idleness."

"Avoiding unnecessary severity in the dismissal of an employe, or requiring him to serve an actual suspension for a single offense that does not injuriously reflect upon its reputation, conduct, capacity or future usefulness in the service."

The causes for instant dismissal have been greatly reduced by the adoption of the general rule of the "Brown system." The rules, however, are not intended to operate in cases of disloyalty, dishonesty, desertion, habitual intemperance, insubordination, immorality or avoidable violation of rules whereby the company's property is endangered or destroyed.

NO BENEFIT FROM DOCTORS. William Floeter, Esq., of Red Oak, Montgomery Co., Pa., writes: "I consider your Golden Medical Discovery one of the best medicines the face of the earth."

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YOU CAN SCRATCH

Out the blot which defiles the clean, white page of a ledger, but you can't scratch out the poisons that defile the blood.

People who have suffered from diseases caused by impure blood, or blood poisoning, have found in Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery a certain and enduring cure.

The cures effected by "Golden Medical Discovery" are positive and permanent. In many cases of disease, such as eczema, tetter, pimples, eruptions and rheumatism, an effectual cure has been found in Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

SUFFERED HORRORS. William Floeter, Esq., of Red Oak, Montgomery Co., Pa., writes: "I consider your Golden Medical Discovery one of the best medicines the face of the earth."

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Deposits in the Paris post office banks at the end of 1902 amounted to \$221,850,590, including \$222,395 interest.