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Great Is Siberia

Eastern Russia a Land of Wonderful Possibilities.

Robert Lebaudy, who is one of the largest landowners in France and who has investments in industries in various parts of the world, has returned from a trip on the new Trans-Siberian railway across Siberia, where he went for the purpose of familiarizing himself with conditions in the far east.

He said in part that all of the Trans-Siberian railway is now finished with the exception of the East Chinese road, which will carry the line through Manchuria, with branches to Port Arthur and Pekin. This part of the road is being built under a separate concession.

Siberia is a magnificent country, full of resources and possibilities. Naturally one would think that there is much snow in Siberia, but, although the cold is intense, there is little snow.

Many immigrants are settling in that country, but Siberia is so vast that it will be many years before it becomes settled. The immigrants consist mainly of the poorest Russian classes, who lack to a great degree that energy which is characteristic of a successful people, and in consequence it will be a long while before Siberia's resources of coal, iron and marble will be developed.

Some persons are talking of revolution in Japan because of the great increase in taxes, due to the cost of maintaining the army and the navy. Japan is borrowing money at the rate of seven and a half per cent. Her

bonds are held mostly at home. The Japanese are the best agriculturists in the world and every available inch of their soil is cultivated, but they have very little capital. The fact that foreigners cannot own land in Japan discourages foreign capital from coming in, and this must be changed. For instance, as the law now stands the bondholders of a railroad could not foreclose in case of default. Just now new taxes have been levied on sugar and certain other articles, and enormous quantities of sugar were brought in before the tax went into effect. This is lying in the custom houses because the importer cannot raise money to get it out.

There is great fear of a revolt in China because the people, of whom there are 350,000,000 contained in 20 provinces, have lost faith in their rulers, and one should not be surprised by hearing that the Emperor or Empress had been assassinated. Notwithstanding these deplorable circumstances, China offers a large field for enterprise and investment.

With all the ground possibilities of the far East, nothing would induce a quicker and more satisfactory development of its resources than the adoption of American methods of transportation, banking facilities, hotels and houses.

What costs nothing is worth nothing.

FEROCIOUS WOLVES

Make Life on the Plains Extremely Hazardous.

Lib Vincent, one of Wyoming's old-time cow punchers and now riding on the Powder river ranges, says that the gray wolves of his section are legion in number and as fearless as they are ferocious. These gray and greedy scourges of the Powder river stock areas do their raiding in bands ranging in numbers of from six to thirty, each band being organized and disciplined under the leadership of an old dog wolf especially chosen for his wisdom, speed and endurance. To this captain these gaunt and grizzled marauders yield an implicit and unswerving obedience—a statement evidenced from the fact that if one of these wolf leaders is slain or crippled his band at once amalgamates with some other troop possessing a leader of like capacity. The age or size of their quarry is of little moment with these wolves, as they pull down and devour alike cows, calves, steers, mares, colts, and geldings. Their attack is always strategical and systematic, one portion of the band assaulting from the front and fastening on to shoulder, ear or muzzle, and thus giving the big, wild gray dogs who are ever closing in from the rear the objective opportunity of hamstringing the victim. Once hamstrung it is all over with the quarry and the entire band feasts at leisure. Mr. Vincent has often seen on the Powder river ranges the mere empty hide and polished bones of what was one a lusty steer or polished gelding as sad souvenirs of the raid of a gray wolf band. The cattle herds are open and easy prey to the bold canine bandits, the cattle fleeing from the pursuers and thus rendering individual attack easy and successful. The horses, however, with their superior intelligence, very frequently beat off the wolves by forming on the open ground an equine square, with the mares and colts in the center, the gallant stallions on the corners and the best and bravest geldings distributed in the outer lines of defense. Not only do these equine squares frequently beat off their assailants, but they sometimes rout the wild dogs entirely, slaying numbers of them by striking, kicking and

trampling. This is an especial result when the horse herd has with it a stallion experienced in range life. He can smell a wolf farther than he can see him, and at his shrill and warning neigh the herd rushes together and quickly forms the protecting square. The wolves fully appreciate this fact and instances have been known of a gray band numbering scores of raiders trotting leisurely around one of these embattled squares and then seeking other and easier prey. The gray wolf reaches a weight of 125 pounds and boasts alike brain, brawn, a noiseless, tireless foot, a savage ferocity and an insatiable appetite. It is said of him that he can run longer and easier, eat oftener and more and display more cunning and ferocity in a given length of time than any other known animal. He is a prolific breeder, eight or ten pups being a not uncommon litter, while there is a Powder river instance of thirty-five pups being slain as the progeny of three wolf dams. Up to 6 months old the gray wolf pup is awkward and unweildy, and it is a favorite cowboy practice of the Powder river ranges to locate a gray wolf litter on the prairie and shoot the pups from horseback as they skulkingly roll and tumble from their covers in the grass and sagebrush. Crack shots with the pistol have been known to get a pup with every bullet from their six-shooters.—Rocky Mountain News.

Broad-minded Premier.

Dr. A. Kuyper, the new premier of Holland, is one of the broadest minded and strongest intellectual forces of Queen Wilhelmina's domain. He was made an LL. D. of Princeton university in 1898 and it was through his influence that a free university, uncontrolled by the state, was founded in Amsterdam some years ago.

The Governor of Ceylon.

Lord Lamington, who has been chosen as the new governor of Ceylon, gets the blue ribbon of British colonial appointments. The duties are light, the salary is large and there is a capital residence.

SAW A SEA SERPENT

Brownish Green Monster About Thirty Feet Long.

In Maine the penalty for selling a glass of liquor is \$100 fine and sixty days in jail. The bad quality of whisky sold in the state and especially in the city of Bangor, makes the punishment less severe than it seems. Considering the quality of the liquor there must be a specially tough brand on sale this season, as the following story sent out by wire fully attests: The sea serpent has been seen in Maine waters, at such close quarters that those who saw it are in no doubt whatever as to its size. For years the fishermen of Grand Manan have been telling of a strange monster that has frequently been seen in those waters, but it has always appeared in foggy weather, and at some distance from shore or ships.

Now a complete and circumstantial account of a meeting with the sea monster is furnished by the captain and crew of the schooner Madagascar, which arrived at Lubec from New York. Two of the crew of the vessel vouch for the truth of this narrative: Recently, during the morning watch, at about 6:30 o'clock, while the Madagascar was making four knots an hour, an object was made out on the starboard bow which the lookout at first thought to be a big log. Suddenly, when the schooner was close on it, all hands on deck were startled to see the "log" raise a snake-like head from the water, turn a pair of shining, glassy eyes on them and then glide off with an undulating motion. His mouth was full of sardines, and he was in the middle of a school of the small fish. The creature resembled a snake about thirty feet long. Its body was of a brownish green color, covered with glistening scales, while extending along its back, from head to tip of tail, was a spinal ridge studded with sharp points. Near the head was a fin, nearly black in color, and about the size of a man's hand.

The creature's body seemed to be about two feet in diameter at the middle, tapering slightly toward the head and very noticeably at the tail. The serpent remained in sight for about

forty minutes, resting on the surface near the vessel, and seemingly not at all alarmed nor startled at the appearance of the schooner. The sailors watched it, and one of them threw over some sea biscuit, which the monster ate with his sardines. Sailor Ray, who first told the story, is a sober man.

They Thought He Meant It.

In the Massachusetts state campaign of 1878 John D. Long was making his first run for governor against Gen. Butler, who had captured the Democratic nomination, and Judge Josiah G. Abbott, who was the candidate of the old line Democrats, related the Boston Journal. Thompson was making a speech for Abbott before a big Democratic audience, and, after praising his candidate as a jurist and a statesman, asked sarcastically: "And now who is John L-L-Long?" No one answering, he proceeded: "They s-s-say he has made a translation of Homer's 'Iliad'! What g-g-good is that to us? All D-D-Democrats read Homer in the original." At this the person to whom the judge was telling the story laughed, but the judge continued: "That's that's not the real joke at all! The real joke is that not a m-m-man in the audience so m-m-much as smiled!"

Worshippers at St. Paul's.

Archdeacon Sinclair, of London, recently gave some particulars with regard to the number who flock to St. Paul's cathedral daily, and on occasions of special importance. The Sunday morning congregation is, from first to last, perhaps some 2,500, not all being present at once; the average afternoon congregation is a little under 2,000, and the evening congregation upwards of 3,000, so that nearly 8,000 people worship there during the day. On weekdays the morning service at ten has a congregation of about 100, the afternoon at four some 400, and on Saturdays something like 700 or 800. The seating capacity of the cathedral is 5,000.

The Mosquito's Deadly Foe

Petroleum will kill mosquitoes, but it is not the most practical method of destroying the pest, as is stated by many persons, says a New Yorker. Besides, the cure is worse than the ailment. Petroleum destroys foliage, ruins water and is disagreeable in odor. I would rather suffer mosquitoes than have our beautiful salt meadow lands, tide creeks and bays and fresh ponds and streams filled with kerosene. The real practical method of destroying mosquitoes is to encourage nature's remedy—the breeding of mosquito-eating species of bird life. The nighthawk (whip-poor-will) and swallow live wholly upon mosquitoes, and in districts where these birds are abundant the human natives are never annoyed with mosquitoes. The salt meadow lands of the Great South bay of Long Island probably breed more mosquitoes than any other quarter in the world, yet the neighboring inhabitants, the occupants of beautiful mansions on the Merrick road, overlooking the bay and ocean—are not troubled to any annoying extent, because of the abundance of swallows. The purple martin is bred by every gentleman's household along the great highway, and hundreds of them circle the homes and keep the grounds free of them throughout the summer. A half-dozen bird houses are maintained in the orchards

The Purple Martin Should be Propagated to Destroy the Pest.

and upon the lawns. Propagate the purple martin and the mosquito pest will disappear.—Utica Globe.

Should and Would.

The verb "should" expresses duty, supposition; as "You should answer the letter"; "If it should rain tomorrow, I shall not be able to keep my promise." It is also used to express an opinion doubtfully or modestly, as, "I should think so." "Would" properly implies volition, but, like should, is frequently used as a simple future, dependent on a verb of past time, as "He said it would rain today." There is the same difference between would and should, as there is between will and shall when used with the past tenses. Would promises or threatens in the first person and simply foretells in the others. Should simply foretells in the first person, and promises or threatens in the other persons. When the second and third persons are represented as the subjects of their own expressions shall foretells, as in the first person; as, "He says he shall be a loser by the bargain." Will in such instances promises as in the first person; "You say that you will be present."—Montreal Herald and Star.

An ounce of patience is worth a pound of brains.

A REMARKABLE CAVE

A NATURAL WONDER RECENTLY DISCOVERED IN ARKANSAS.

The largest cave in the United States, not barring the mammoth cave in Kentucky, is in Searcy county, Ark., according to a traveler, who says: "From some of the natives I understand the opening in the earth has been traced back for 10 miles, and it shows no end. When I left last week the owner of the land was organizing a party of neighbors to make further explorations. The cave is entered from the top like the Marble cave, in Stone county, which I have visited. You go down a rough ladder made of a tree to which slats have been nailed. The descent is perpendicular for 30 feet or more. When you reach that level a slant at an angle of 75 degrees confronts you. This is made by means of footholes in the soft rock. At the bottom the cave opens into a vast chamber. It is probably 200 feet in length, and of an elliptical shape. The crown rises 50 or more feet above the floor at its highest point. In this room it is perfectly dry. The dust lies at least two inches over the floor. Bats are found here by the thousands. It is almost impossible to carry a light through this room. The winged creatures fly so thickly about that their wings extin-

guish any torch. It's an uncanny place and in striking contrast with other portions of the cave. After you pass through this room it is necessary to crawl on hands and knees for quite a distance. Probably 100 feet farther on is another chamber, which is as clean as the other is dirty. This room is damp, and is filled with stalactites and stalagmites in abundance. I broke off an almost perfect specimen, which is without the usual brown coloring matter. It is almost pure white. For a hundred yards or so the passage is rough, and at certain places seems as if it had been hewn out of the solid rock. For a mile or more comes a succession of rooms opening off from the corridor. In several of these rooms we knocked off chunks of perfect lead ore. It glistened on the sides of the room: from the reflection of our torches. At that point I turned back, but from what the guide said the end has never been found, and the place has been traced for ten miles. The man that owns the land has a fortune if he can get that mineral out of there. I attempted to purchase an interest in the mineral, but I couldn't touch it with a 10-foot pole."

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If you have sour stomach, indigestion, biliousness, constipation, bad breath, dizziness, inactive liver, heartburn, kidney troubles, backache, loss of appetite, insomnia, lack of energy, bad blood, blotched or muddy skin, or any symptoms and disorders which tell the story of bad bowels and an impaired digestive system, Laxakola Will Cure You.

It will clean out the bowels, stimulate the liver and kidneys, strengthen the mucous membranes of the stomach, purify your blood and put you "on your feet" again. Your appetite will return, your bowels move regularly, your liver and kidneys cease to trouble you, your skin will clear and freshen and you will feel the old time energy and buoyancy.

Mothers seeking the proper medicine to give their little ones for constipation, diarrhea, colic and similar troubles, will find Laxakola an ideal medicine for children. It keeps their bowels regular without pain or griping, acts as a general tonic, assists nature, aids digestion, relieves restlessness, clears the coated tongue, reduces fever, causes refreshing, restful sleep and makes them well, happy and hearty. Children like it and ask for it.

For Sale by Druggists Generally.

Laxakola is not only the most efficient of family remedies, but the most economical, because it combines two medicines, viz: laxative and tonic, and at one price, 25c. or 50c. At druggists. Send for free sample to THE LAXAKOLA CO., 128 Nassau Street, N. Y., and mention the name of your druggist. We will express to any address on receipt of 50c. in stamps or post note, all charges prepaid. A family size bottle of Laxakola, sufficient to last for a long time.

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