

WAR PICTURES.

Major Seaman's Adventures in Manchuria.

FROM TOKIO THROUGH MANCHURIA WITH THE JAPANESE. By Louis Livingston Seaman, M. D., Lt. J. G. Major and Surgeon U. S. Army.

Although Major Seaman saw only what he went to the Far East hoping to see, he saw so many things that he did not expect to see, and had so many lively experiences, that the reader of his adventures suffers nothing of the author's disappointment in failing to get an opportunity of studying the work of the Russian surgeons and hospital corps.

Sharing one of the national traits of the Chinese, he was inordinately curious to know what was inside of that mine. With eight or ten of his friends he instituted an investigation. The mine was of thin boiler iron and about two feet in diameter. The Chinese skipper attacked it with a single hammer, and he and all his companions are no more.

The anchored contact mine which Major Seaman photographed was moored directly in the path of traffic between Che-Foo and New-Chwang. Efforts to explode it by means of rifle shots failed, and the captain of the steamer on which the author was a passenger left it where it was.

These robbers are secretly offered by Japanese, and their guerilla warfare had caused serious embarrassment to Kurofatskin's army, robbing his supply trains and causing him to double the guards on lines of communication.

While Major Seaman's sympathies were plainly with the Japanese, he confesses to some little difficulty in reconciling some of their actions, such as their association with the Chun Chuzes and their conduct in the Rishitely air-fir, with the canons of modern warfare.

Most within sight of Consul Hill stood a huge building, the headquarters of the wireless telegraph station established and used by Russia. I have heard of the wireless telegraph station, but the dynamo whereby electrical communication was maintained between Port Arthur and the Russian Consulate at Chefoo, that building was less than ten miles from Chefoo.

Major Seaman met Lieutenant Rostchavovskii, the Rishitely's commander, and prints in full his version of the affair. No satisfactory explanation, he admits, has been given by the Japanese of their disregard of the Chinese Admiral Sah's orders not to attack the Russians or of the apparent duplicity practiced upon him.

All these incidents, despite the interest they impart to the book and the sidelights they throw on many little known and less understood phases of the war, were quite apart from the author's main purpose in going to Japan and Manchuria. This was to visit the military hospitals, and then to reach the zone of military action, so as to be in actual touch with the wounded on the field of battle.

System and preparedness are the keynotes of Japanese military success, which were everywhere apparent, even in the minutest details. At Sasebo he actually attended a school for stokers, who were shoveling coals in order to learn how to distribute coal evenly and regularly and economically in the great furnaces under the boilers of warships.

LITERARY NOTES.

The Longmans are going to reprint "The Earthly Paradise" in a new form. They will issue it in parts, to form ultimately twelve volumes. They will use the Golden type, and will bring the volumes out in gray boards with linen backs.

Books about William Blake are in the air. It is only a few weeks since the Macmillans published a study of his art by Miss Isobel Langridge. Two more publications on the subject are announced, one by Mr. Archibald Russell, another an elaborate analysis by Mr. Laurence Binyon.

One of the chief publishing houses in St. Petersburg is bringing out a luxurious edition of the Koran. It is a reproduction of the Kuphtschek Koran, signed by the Caliph Osman and issued in the years 644-656 A. D.

We alluded last week to the difficulty of producing a good biography, and suggested that when the conventional two volumes were put in shape one should contain a purely biographical narrative and the other a critical monograph.

The late Lady Dilke left an estate of \$130,000. Her executors, following her wishes, have handed over to her husband, Sir Charles Dilke, her books, jewelry, lace, and so on, and he has undertaken to select certain of the books to bequeath to the South Kensington Museum.

Mr. Kenyon Cox made the rhymes and pictures of his "Mixed Beasts" (Fox, Duffield & Co.) for "three small people," presumably his own youngsters, but we are glad that he has put them into a book, and thereby made them accessible to many other children.

A letter reflecting a noted author's appreciation of this country is printed in "Fifty Years of Fleet Street," the memoirs of Sir John R. Robinson, of "The London Daily News," which has just been published by the Macmillans.

I have been five weeks here, and "It's a great country, sir," I came, as you know, with high expectations, but all the while I have been talking to myself, and I have only seen the pleasant side of life, but still I have already traveled many thousands of miles, and I have only seen the pleasant side of life.

Some ponderous wisecracks were observing the other day, evidently to his own great satisfaction, that the fairy tale as a literary form for the delectation of the young was played out. We have already dwelt upon this gentleman's absurdity. We wonder what he would say to the group of volumes now before us, all of them, in our opinion, pretty certain to find popularity.

There are some good fairy tales in Frances Browne's book, "Granny's Wonderful Chair," which is published, with an introduction by Frances Hodgson Burnett, by McClure, Phillips & Co. The book is quite interesting in color, and is unusually attractive as regards typography and binding.

What might have been Napoleon's later life, if it had developed under different circumstances—if he had stopped short at his most prosperous period and set himself to consolidate what he had won? This is the question Lord Rosebery asks in an introductory chapter prepared for the new edition of his "Napoleon." Says the Englishman:

It is good news that the late John Addington Symonds's "Sonnets of Michael Angelo Buonarroti" is presently appearing in a new and inexpensive edition. This piece of translation is one of the best things ever produced by the author of "The Renaissance in Italy," and it has not hitherto been made conveniently accessible to the wide audience it deserves.

Lewis Carroll's masterpiece has of course not been forgotten this Christmas. "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" is reprinted by the Frederick A. Stokes Company in a pretty volume with Tenniel's enchanting illustrations.

Preliminary steps for the formation on the West Side of an organization similar to F. Norton Goddard's Civic Club were taken at a dinner given at the Hotel St. Andrew, Broadway and Seventy-second-st., last night, at which Willis B. Dowd presided.

"TOO MANY LAWS"—GOFF. Speeches at Meeting of West Side Civic Club Promoters.

He spoke encouragingly on the prospects of the new civic club, and said that such organizations were necessary all over the city. Captain Goddard was warmly greeted by his hearers. "It is remarkable how our system of government has failed to enforce the laws and defeat the will of the people," said Recorder Goff.

What needs to be awakened is a public sentiment for the enforcement of law. Our public spirit seems to end when we have passed a law. We have too many laws now. There is need for such an organization as you contemplate starting so that the authorities may know that there is an eye on them.

Percy D. Elliott was elected chairman of a committee of five to draft a constitution and by-laws for the proposed organization. The Civic Club should be organized as a corporation and each member should be required to exhibit a certain amount of property.

BAD DAY FOR "SKEETERS." Hit by Exterminators—Won't Dare Come Back Till Spring.

The National Mosquito Extermination Society at its second annual convention, which opened yesterday in the Aquarium, changed its name to the American Extermination Society, and listened to Frank Moss's report on the progress of the work.

"The Grand Jury of Terra Orbis," ran the indictment, "do accuse all mosquitoes, to wit: First count, the defendant mosquitoes, Culex, not having the fear of God and man before their eyes, on numerous occasions from time when the mosquito first appeared to the contrary, have deserted the neighborhood when the meeting was adjourned."

A constitution and by-laws were adopted. The following officers were re-elected: William J. McGee, president; Charles E. Bennett, secretary; Henry Clark Weeks, secretary; Frederick C. Beach, treasurer. These facts are to be submitted to the advisory board of entomologists.

Books and Publications.

Mr. Maurice Hewlett's "The Road in Tuscany" is one of the best gift books of the season. "The Road in Tuscany" would be the one on which our hand would fall. —The Sun, Baltimore.

Mr. Lafcadio Hearn's "Japan: An Attempt at Interpretation" is in brilliancy and depth of color, in autumnal ripeness of thought, Mr. Hearn's 'interpretation' will take its place among the best books of the opening century. —The Dial.

Miss A. C. Laut's "Pathfinders of the West" is not only one of value as history, but is one of deep interest, especially to those who find pleasure in tales of hardy adventures. —Boston Transcript.

Mr. Clifton Johnson's "Highways and Byways of the South" is in many respects the best book produced on the subject in recent years. —Baltimore News.

Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie's "Backgrounds of Literature" is a holiday edition with a chapter on the Hawthorne country added to his descriptions of the scenes which helped shape the lives of Wordsworth, Emerson, Goethe, Scott, Whitman, etc.

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Published by THE MACMILLAN COMPANY 66 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

The PRODIGAL SON. A Novel By HALL CAINE. Nine Different Languages. 225,000 Copies. D. APPLETON & COMPANY, Publishers, NEW YORK.

POPE'S BONES IN VALISE. One Way to Circumvent Roman Mobs—Apathy Toward King.

Every inhabitant of this city remembers the shameful riots on the occasion of the translation of the body of Pius IX from the Vatican to San Lorenzo. Romans saw then the hearse carrying the corpse of a Pope surrounded by a battalion with fixed bayonets, to keep back a furious mob wanting to throw the coffin and body into the Tiber.

Another extraordinary translation of the bones of a celebrated Pope has taken place recently. How it was done is known to very few people indeed, but its absolute truth can be guaranteed. The bones of the Pontiff were taken from one city to another in a simple valise, carefully thrown into a corner of a first class railway carriage.

Leo XIII was so great an admirer of Innocent II that when building the new apse of St. John in Lateran he ordered the erection in it of two monumental tombs, one for himself and another for his predecessor. When the tombs were completed he wanted the body of Innocent II to be buried in the new resting place.

The Vatican could not think of asking for a regular permission from the government for a public translation of the body, the chances being that the people of Perugia would strongly object to the loss of the body of a Pope who had made it famous in history, and so Leo XIII, to cut matters short, sent one of his secretaries to the Archbishop of Perugia with an order to open the tombs and deliver the bones he wanted to be preserved in the Lateran.

He will have the translation of the body officially protected by troops all along the way, but he will exact at the same time that a battalion with a flag be admitted into both St. Peter's and St. John's basilicas.

The little hereditary prince at this time made his first appearance in Rome, and many citizens remarked how different the reception of the royal baby would have been if, instead of having been called Prince of Piedmont, the title of Prince of Rome had been bestowed on him.

SAVES CITY MILLIONS. Court Rules in Its Favor in Campbell Invention Suit.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals yesterday handed down an opinion in the case of Campbell against the City, which has been before the federal courts for more than a quarter of a century. The city is now absolved from paying the sum demanded—\$88,000, with 8 per cent interest.

The suit was brought by the legal heirs and assignees of James Knibbs, the inventor of a fire engine in Troy in 1850, who invented a device to protect fire engines from injury when the pressure was suddenly shut off. The city was charged with infringement of the Knibbs patent.

The court, in its opinion, states that infringement, though not admitted, was not seriously disputed. The principal controversy, says the court, is that the device had been in public use for more than two years prior to the filing of the application for the patent.

At the Quirinal they are cutting down expenses all around. The royal stables have been reduced by half, so that when etiquette demands a large display of carriages the royal liveries are partly to be seen on hired conveyances.

ACTRESS SUES HER MOTHER. Miss Helen Bertram Would Take a Larchmont Villa from Mrs. Carrie Burt.

Miss Helen Bertram, formerly the leading woman of the "Princess of Pilsen" company, has begun an action in the Supreme Court of Westchester County against her mother, Mrs. Carrie Burt, to get a villa and parcel of land, valued at \$10,000, in Larchmont.

Miss Bertram says the property was conveyed to her on agreement that she should support her mother and her mother and also to improve the property. The conveyance, however, was only verbal, and she says that Mrs. Burt has since sold the property and the \$10,000 toward supporting her mother.

SAY VICTIM WAS FROM BROOKLYN. Police Seek Clew to Identity of Woman Murdered in Michigan.

Sheriff J. H. Burton of Pawpaw County, Mich., is in Brooklyn trying to learn the identity of a woman whose body was found on the shore of Lake Michigan, at South Haven, on September 21. The local authorities at that place have come to the conclusion that the woman was murdered.

Among several trinkets is a ring of hair, framed in gold, forming a pair of clasped hands. Inside the band the initials "E. K." are inscribed. Inspector McLaughlin, of the Brooklyn police, has detailed two detectives to assist Sheriff Burton in his search for some one who knew the dead woman.

A PUGILIST: THEY DIDN'T KNOW IT. Conductor and Motorman Tried to Put Passenger Off—Suffered in Attempt.

In attempting to eject a young man of slight build from an Eighth-ave. car near Sixty-third-st. early last night, the car crew made him angry. He was Walter ("Spoke") Robinson, a pugilist, and he thrashed them soundly.

Miss Bertram alleges that she spent \$2,200 on the property and \$1,000 toward supporting her mother. Mrs. Burt alleges that her daughter owes her money and that she has not kept her part of the agreement.

FAST MAIL WRECKED. Chicago, Dec. 15.—Fast mail train No. 11, east bound, on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, was wrecked to-day two miles west of Bristol, Ill.

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