



The Trans-Siberian railway is not the complete piece of equipment which it is popularly supposed to be. It is not even actually continuous, for at Lake Baikal passengers and goods must be trans-shipped across the lake. In winter this, of course, has to be done on the ice. The illustration shows troops being hurried across Lake Baikal on men at work laying tracks across the lake.

# THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

**C**OLONEL SIR HOWARD VINCENT, the English writer on military subjects, seems to have a high opinion of the Russian Army as a fighting machine. In an article in the United Service Magazine he intimates that the Russians had little to learn about the value of mounted infantry from the Boer War, because it was a branch of the service to which they paid particular attention before the war with Turkey. At that time Colonel Vincent made this prediction: "The dragoon will render special service. They are really mounted rifles, and for their employment the Turkish campaign is peculiarly adapted. Alone of all the powers in Europe the Russians have recognized the great utility of mounted infantry. They move in threes; the centre file holds the horse of his comrades on either side when the order to act on foot is given. The horse detachment remains under the command of the senior subaltern. He is directed to keep under cover, yet near at hand,

cent, he escapes "many constitutional dangers of extreme youth." But one cannot help doubting whether the Russians will be able to



A RUSSIAN SOLDIER. A member of the Eighty-eighth Regiment of Infantry, the "Petrofsky Regiment," in marching costume.



FREE LODGING HOUSE AT PORT ARTHUR.

that the word "to horse" may be immediately put into execution to charge disheartened infantry, to meet cavalry face to face, to seize a position or to retire swiftly before superior numbers. Of these dragons, says Colonel Vincent, there are now fifty-six regiments in the service, "wholly apart from the sixteen regiments of Cossacks, the finest mounted infantry in the world, equally good on horse or on foot, dare-devils, to whom riding and horsemanship is as much second nature as to the old Boers of the Transvaal." What of the infantry soldier? If Colonel Vincent is not a Russian partisan, Ivan is the stuff of which a hardy fighting man is made. "In marching the Russian infantry," says the English specialist, "has absolutely no equal." But we remember that the Japanese were the most nimble of all the foot soldiers who took part in the China campaign, and it is well known that the Japanese peasant walks like a horse. We cannot believe that the Russian is so quick on his feet, although he may endure longer than the rice-eating Japanese. The Russian foot soldier, Colonel Vincent tells us, is the son of good nature and is full of fun. "The Russian," he says, "does not yield to the Italian in his love for song or to the Spaniard in his love for dancing

transport over the; single track Siberian railway enough horses to keep their mounted infantry properly supplied. "The horse provision for such an enormous mounted force," says Colonel Vincent, speaking of the whole or early months of the campaign, "New organization, each regiment of six squadrons requiring 1000 horses, necessarily entails the most elaborate arrangements." But there are the field and horse batteries to be supplied, as well as the Cossack and dragoon regiments. For each field battery attached to an infantry division 207 horses are required, and the horse battery, which accompanies cavalry, must have 250. This problem of furnishing mounts and draught animals at a front several thousand miles from the home base would severely tax the energy of a transportation department that had a



THE RUSSIAN "HUNTER SCOUTS." They are known as "Ochotnikoi-kou-mauidi." The corps never unfurls bayonets, and is composed of picked shots, sixteen men being taken from each battalion to reconnoitre by night.

well ballasted four-track railway at its service. It is more than probable that whole regiments of cavalry will have to fight as dismounted men during the York Evening Sun.

**Renovating Old Paper.** With the growing scarcity of good material for the making of paper on which to print the enormous editions of the daily newspapers of the world and for all the various other uses to which paper is applied, it is encouraging to learn that a process has been discovered by which old newspapers, magazines, etc., can be rejuvenated and converted into paper suitable for publishing purposes once more. The old paper is put through a heating process and then treated with a preparation costing from \$1.25 to \$1.50 a ton, which lifts the ink from the paper, leaving it as white as when it was delivered from the mills the first time. Enough paper has already been run off to be used in several newspaper offices, so the enterprise seems destined to succeed.—Salem (Mass.) Observer.

**Publication Suppressed.** A young lady explained to a printer the difference in printing and publishing and in conclusion said: "Now you may print a kiss on my cheek, but you must not publish it." With that he locked the fair form in his arms and went to press.—New England Grocer.

While London is steadily growing, the population of the "city" is constantly decreasing. In 1871 it was 477,000; to-day it is 30,000. Nearly 500,000 of its buildings are not inhabited at night.

## How They Worked It.

"Is there much shooting in your district now?" asked the stag from the East of the stag from the West, who he happened to meet at the lake, where both had gone to quench their thirst. "Not as much as there used to be," replied the stag from out of the West. "Now and then one of our number is shot, but not often. You see, we have fixed the gunners so that they are satisfied, and we get a chance to enjoy our old age with our children." "How do you work it?" asked the deer from the East, becoming at once interested in so vital a question. "Well, we are quite proud of our scheme," said the Westerner. "We hired a woodsman to help us out in our scheme. When one of our number dies we have his head mounted on a board. Now, you must know that these hunters care not for our carcasses, but only long to carry home a trophy of their adventure to hang upon the wall at home and brag about. So we get our friend the woodsman to tie one of these mounted stag's heads to a tree in the forest, and when the bold hunter comes along that way he sees it. Instantly he levels his gun and fires. Of course he hits it every time, carries it home in triumph, hangs it upon his



OF COURSE HE HITS IT.

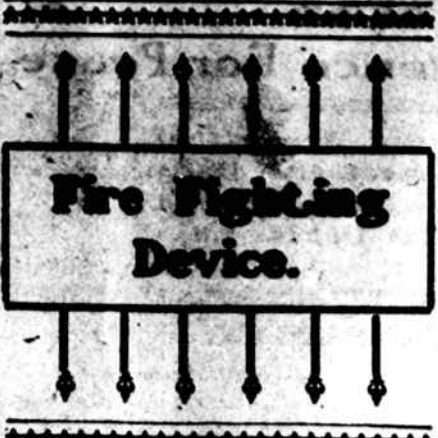
wall, and points with pride to the hole his bullet made. You see, it saves our lives. Good scheme, hey?" "Capital," said the other. "I shall try it myself."—Hunter Knott, in the Mirror and Farmer.

**Dawa in Chile.** "There has not been a particle of rain or snow in certain parts of Chile since 1823," said Reinhold Dudorf, a young man from that country, who has come to America to study the trade conditions. He is stopping at the Pfister. "If it should rain now, there would be millions of dollars' worth of salt-peter destroyed in a single night. The American Ambassador to Chile, I see by the press dispatches, is urging Americans to invest in the salt-peter mines there. I meet thousands of persons who do not know what the chinchilla is. It is the fur from the animal of the same name which is found only in the salt-peter mines. The fur is wonderfully soft and fine. The animal greatly resembles a rat in appearance, and is found nowhere else except in the salt-peter mines."—Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin.

**Ginseng in Manchuria.** The finest ginseng in Asia grows in Manchuria. That fact may in a measure account for the preparations making by China for checking Russia. The gentlemen of the Flowery Kingdom not only worship the plants that look like "legs and thighs," but eat it as well, and if the Manchurian crop is lost to them China will decay.

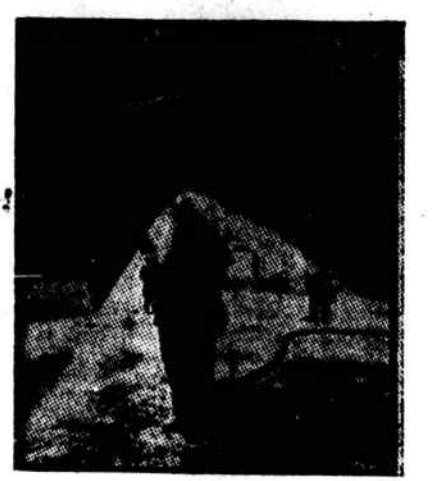


**ADMIRAL ALEXIEFF.** This officer, Aide-de-Camp-General to the Czar, was last autumn appointed "Viceroy of the Far East." Intrusted with the civil administration of the Amur District and adjacent dependencies, he was also given command of Russia's military and naval forces in Eastern Asia.



**HERE** is no fierce fire which does not supply intense heat and blinding smoke in large quantities, and these are the greatest obstacles which the fire fighters have to combat in their efforts to rescue life and property. Numerous expedients have been resorted to for enabling them to do this with comfort and safety; and we take pleasure in placing before our readers the mechanical contrivance recently exhibited by the fire department of Charlottenburg, near Berlin.

To protect the fireman from the wall of flame and dense cloud of smoke, while at the same time enabling him to play water upon the burning building, is the main object of the invention.



A WATER SHIELD.

The Swift nozzle has a simple annular mouthpiece, which is about two centimeters back of the stream exit, and situated behind a collar cast upon the nozzle itself. The walls of the latter are perforated to the interior, and over these perforations, for the purpose of deflecting the issuing water, a beveled sleeve is threaded. The screwing in and out of this sleeve produces the variety of protective screens shown on the cuts. The contrivance is very simple, easily manipulated, and its degree of efficiency is amply demonstrated.

In the picture, a combination of the Swift nozzle with the smoke hood and speaking apparatus is shown. Provided with oxygen to breathe and a veil of water to keep back the heat, the man can enter most dangerous places, and by reason of his ability to communicate with his comrades without, can keep them informed as to the work of progress within. By means of the Swift nozzle he can, as occasion demands, extinguish the flames with a widespread spray or a powerful and well-directed solid stream.

The smoke hood in use here is the invention of Herr Konig. It consists of a sort of diver's hood provided with glass eyes and valves for the exit of air, which is pumped into the hood through a wire bound tube or hose attached to fireman's waist and carried up his back to the entrance into the hood. Konig's mode of speaking to the men outside was effected through the column of air in the tube, but this has been improved by running a fine telephone wire throughout the length of the hose, connecting a microphone speaker opposite the mouth of the operating fireman with a receiver at the engine or pumping station. Three men are necessary for the effective employment of this combination—one to do the work in the face of the danger, one to look after the air tube and life line attached to the first, and one to attend to the phone and the water hose leading likewise to the first.—Scientific American.

## SENATOR HANNA'S SUCCESSOR.



Senator Dick.

General Charles Dick, the successor of Senator Hanna, is known as "one of the Hanna boys" in Buckeye State politics. He has served several terms in Congress, and represents a district overwhelmingly Republican. He was born in Akron in 1858, and is a lawyer by profession. He is a bright and popular member in Washington, and is said to have been the choice of Senator Hanna for the place, in the event of the Senator's death.

**What Constitutes a Gentleman?** A gentleman is always careful to avoid even the appearance of familiarity in addressing a woman. He never forgets the respect due to age. Never makes a woman conspicuous when in his company. Is careful of the way he speaks to young girls. Always considers a woman before himself and never abuses any confidence received from one.

## Black Adventure.

A REAL ROBINSON CRUSOE.

**C**HARLES CARLSEN, the Robinson Crusoe of Clipperton Island, came back a few weeks ago to San Francisco and civilization on the steamer Peru. For fourteen months he lived all alone on the barren rock, his only companion during that time being a dog, besides a dozen chickens, the myriads of sea fowl and the big crabs that make their habitation on the flat island. Except for a rather fierce mustache and a cowboy hat Carlsten looked like anything but an exile as he stood on the Peru's deck.

Carlsten took the position of lone watchman on Clipperton Island from the Pacific Islands Company, which has a concession for the rock and its guano deposits. On February 4 the schooner Una called at Clipperton, and Carlsten, accompanied by his dog, embarked for Champerico, where he caught the Peru and came directly to San Francisco.

"I knew what to expect when I went to Clipperton," said Carlsten. "The men who had been there as keepers before me had always had companions. I was the first to volunteer to stay there alone. Time passed slowly, but I busied myself in working here and there, and I read and wrote a great deal. My dog was companionable, and I grew so attached to my chickens that not one of them served me for a meal. "I saw only one vessel in the fourteen months, and that was the British war-ship Shearwater. She passed close to the island and a boat was lowered. I hailed from the reef, but the boat did not come in. When the Una picked me up I was getting tired of the job. Three men are now on the island to keep each other company. My health was improved by the experience."

"At first I busied myself making repairs to the buildings and implements that were under my charge, and in my brief hours of leisure made friends with my dog and chickens. The crow of the roosters and the bark of the dog were the only sounds that broke the stillness of the long months, except for the strange sound of a shouting of men one day last December, when a boat's crew from the British cruiser approached close to the shore while their vessel was at anchor near by."

"The island is about 700 miles off the Central American shore, and the coasting steamers never pass within sight of it. All over the island, which is only about ten feet above the surface of the sea, thousands of crabs are always crawling, but they are harmless. The sea birds were so tame that I could pick them up from their nests, and I was careful to maintain a close friendship with them. The birds' eggs, with the canned provisions that had been left for me, together with the sea air, made me a healthier man than ever before, though I was a robust sailor before I went there."

"Would I return to solitude of the island again? Yes, I would not mind going back. One gets used to the solitude and comes to look upon his animal friends as though they were almost human. Occasionally I would yearn for the presence of a human companion, but that feeling would soon pass away. Since I have returned I feel out of place in the noise and bustle of civilization."

"Why some men select the existence of a hermit I can not understand. There is certainly a fascination about a hermit life. There is a calm and an absence of worry that makes one dislike taking up the cares of life among his fellow-men again. As to the animals with which I was surrounded, I came to understand them, and they appeared to understand me so well that we were like companions. They almost seemed to know what I was saying when I would talk to them, and I learned that each had a language of its own by which he made himself known to his fellows."

"I believe that one spending his life as I have spent the past fourteen months would live to an enormous age. The absence of care, the healthy surroundings and the prohibition of all forms of dissipation ought to keep a man perennially young."—New York World.

## HUNTING OPHIR'S LIONS.

When Dr. Karl Peters made his famous journey, during which he discovered what he says positively is the Land of Ophir of the Bible, he had some thrilling adventures with lions and leopards. He tells this story about one of these encounters: "A negro came into camp and reported that three lions had been seen entering a thicket near the river. My companion, Bloeker, and I took our stations near it, he being posted down the river and I taking my position near a great tree. "The blacks circled the thicket with howls and yells and fired shots into it. Almost immediately the bushes parted and with a tremendous, thundering roar a magnificent lion bounded out. He came galloping straight toward the tree and I fired without having the opportunity to take careful aim. "My shot was a clean miss. I prepared to give him the second shot in order to get a good chance. But he changed his tactics at the same moment that I gave him my first shot, and sprang at me. "Four blacks stood between me and the beast at this moment, they having rushed into the way at the critical moment. Hardly had they appeared in his line of approach, before they were down, struck low by the terrible fangs, with which he swept through them like a reaper using a scythe. "Barely had they gone down before he leaped straight to my side and fell on a fifth negro, who had stepped from behind the tree. He pulled the man to the ground, ripped his talons into the body, seized his victim by the shoulder with his mighty teeth and shook him as if he were a mouse. "I sprang aside far enough to get into line to shoot; the lion was only three feet from me now. At this short range

## DYING POLYNESIANS.

Degeneracy of South Sea Islanders Overtaken by France.

France has become so alarmed at the high death rate among the native polyneisians in the South Sea that she has taken steps to prevent their total extinction. Reports from these faraway people tell of the ever increasing prevalence among them of leprosy, elephantiasis and other diseases born of ignorance and evil customs. Fields that once produced cotton and coffee are returning to the jungle from the lack of hands to till them. The revenues of these island possessions, which have long only been a fraction of the sums expended upon them, have now decreased still further.

Three medical experts have been sent by the French Government to French Polynesia to study the chief causes of disease among the natives and to check its ravages. The men selected for this mission are Dr. H. Louvan, Dr. F. Cassiau and Dr. Grasfelez. They are now on their way from San Francisco to Tahiti, the chief island of the Society group, and the governmental headquarters of all the French establishments in the South Pacific. From Tahiti, the three doctors have planned to go to other groups, including the Marquesas, the Tuamotu and the Tuba Islands. Certain judicial powers will be given the physicians to enable them to enforce whatever sanitary laws they may adopt.

## A TEST OF DISCIPLINE.

English annuals show many fine examples of discipline in disaster at sea, and both the army and the navy share in the credit of them. Most persons remember the magnificent courage and coolness displayed by the men of the ill-fated Victoria, which was rammed by the Camperdown, in 1853. Many remember, too, how the model of the vessel at the World's Fair in Chicago was draped with black when the news came, and how for long afterwards the great crowds of Americans that filed by talked little and gazed gravely, the women often with dim eyes, in tribute to the tragic and noble page newly written in the history of the mother race. Lord Wolsley, in his recent autobiography, tells how he once came near sharing such a fate with his men on board the Transit, bound for India, when she struck a rock in a dead calm. He was a young lieutenant then, but his vivid recollection of the event has not waned in nearly half a century.

"The bugles sounded our regimental call, and we all ran down to our men, who were still below, cleaning up after their breakfast. All the troops were carried on the main deck, except one company, which was on the deck below, and situated well forward. It was a horrible quarter, below the water level, and lit only by one solitary candle lantern. Each company took it for a week in turn, and it was my company's luck to be the unfortunate occupants when the ship struck. Upon reaching that dreadful lower region, I formed the men, half on one side, half on the opposite side of the deck."

"There we stood in deadly silence, and I knew not for how long. The abominable candle in the lantern sputtered and went out. We were in almost absolute darkness, our only glimmer of light coming down through a small hatchway which was reached by a narrow ladder. The ship began to sink by the stern, so it was evident to all that we hung on a rock forward. The angle of our deck with the sea-level became gradually greater, until at last we had to hold on to the sides of our dark submarine prison. My predominant feeling was of horrid repugnance to the possibility, which became the probability, of being drowned in the dark, like a rat in a trap. I should have liked to have a swim for my life at the last, the supreme moment; but that would be impossible, if the abominable ship should slip off the rock. "If Greece must perish, I thy will obey. But let me perish in the face of day."

"The only aperture to the main deck was very small, and most eyes were kept riveted upon it. I am sure every man now alive who was there must shudder as he thinks of what seemed to us the interminable time we were in that pit. Every minute seemed an hour; but at last a face appeared at the aperture, and we were ordered on deck."

All found refuge on a coral island whence in due time another vessel carried them to their destination; and the future field-marshal proceeded with a lighter kit, but the richer for a precious experience in the value of discipline.—Youth's Companion.

## CHASED BY WOLVES.

W. E. Johnson, inspector of the Bell Telephone Company, and J. H. Amey, a traveler, had a terrible experience while traveling in Stony Mountain, writes the Winnipeg correspondent of the Minneapolis Journal.

When about six miles from Winnipeg they noticed a pack of eighteen wolves following behind on the trail. They stopped and the pack took to the bushes, and for some little distance they were not seen again. Johnson happened to glance behind him, and saw a gray form running along in the bush at the side of the road. Another and another crossed an open space, so the men put the whip to the horses. "This was the turning point. With yelps and yells the wolves came out into the open and galloped after the sleigh. It was a race for life, the men being unarmed and practically helpless. All they could do was to lash their horses. "Gradually the wolves gained on the team, and as they came within reach Johnson beat at the wolves, while Amey slashed the horses. For three miles the race continued. Each moment the men thought their end had come, but when the horses had almost fallen with exhaustion they reached a settlement in Stony Mountain and the wolves slunk off into the bush. "Many residents saw the retreating pack, and the torn robes hanging from the back of the sleigh were evidence of the battle which the men had gone through."

The winter has been a very severe one, the snow being too deep for wolves to obtain food. They have been forced to settlements where cattle and deer innumerable have been killed by them.

At a recent fashionable wedding in London the hats of the bridesmaids were trimmed with natural flowers, and it is predicted that the style will be popular next summer. It's an easy matter to gauge a man's wisdom. Draw him into a discussion and if he agrees with you he's sensible,

When one considers the characteristics of the South Sea Islands one soon realizes how tremendous are the difficulties of such a task. In spite of the Christian missionary who has labored with him for nearly a century, he still seems unable to tell right from wrong. He has abandoned cannibalism only to revive the secret and still more destructive crime of infanticide. His nature revolts at labor, and his toil is prompted only by hunger and other physical wants. It is impossible for him to regard the marriage bond seriously. Impetuous and of weak will, he is prone to excesses which render him a ready prey to pestilence. The degeneracy of the modern South Sea Islander appears to have begun when his knowledge of deep sea navigation ended. There was a time when the natives of these widely scattered bits of land sailed boldly from one to another, and carried on war or commerce with distant peoples. They had learned that they could trust the stars to guide them, and they built strong ships almost as large as Mississippi steamers.

In the heyday of his civilization the Polynesian erected great temples, many of which contained stones almost as large as the stones of the temples of Baalbec. In the Marquesas Islands to-day the traveler will find great stone platforms and terraces, which show a knowledge of mechanical laws of which the present natives are wholly ignorant. Some of these stones are from ten to fifteen feet long and five and six feet thick. Their sides are smooth, although they show no print of the chisel. On these Cyclopean platforms, or "paepae," as they are called, the natives now erect their bamboo huts and those who still refuse Christianity say the gods put those great stones in place.

That the Polynesian of to-day has degenerated from lack of communication with the outside world is shown by the similar fate of domesticated animals. The horses and cattle that have been introduced sicken and die after a few generations. Dogs are plentiful, but they are of a low, mongrel type. The legions of pigs are said to be indigent, but according to some writers they were taken thither by early navigators. The Polynesian pig, however, is a pitiful specimen when compared with the mighty porker of the American prairie. Although he is treated by his native master as a pet, accompanies his mistress on her wanderings through the village, and sleeps with the rest of the family on a bed of cocoa leaves, yet he shows no outward signs of his proud position.—New York Tribune.

## Incentive to Activity.

Dr. J. L. Strodes, of the county here at Woodville, tells a good story on himself that is worth repeating and shows how it is best always to remember where things are laid away. He was out on a case one night, and having his tools in a case, he had no room for a bottle of chemically pure carbolic acid which he was taking along. So he put it in his hip pocket and promptly forgot it. The operator over, he returned home, and having been away almost all night, he was rather fatigued when he reached his rooms. Rather than wait until he could undress and go to bed, he threw himself down on a lounge. In a second or two he felt that the couch was unusually warm. As he dozed for another second the reason for the heat dawned on him. He remembered the bottle of chemically pure in his pocket. The boy in the fairy tale who wore seven leaguo boots made it no better thing to do the doctor on his way to the bath room, disrobing as he went. He made a foot race record that time, although nobody held a stop watch of his feat. It was some time before he was able to take his meals except from the mantelpiece.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

## Russian Wars.

The war now begun is the fourth upon which Russia has entered within the last three-quarters of a century. Her first was with Turkey. It involved an expenditure of £20,000,000 and a loss of 120,000. That war was in 1828. Twenty-six years later came the Crimean, in which France and England took a hand. It was spread over 1854-4, and cost £305,000,000 and 485,000 men. Then in 1877 followed a further fight with Turkey, in which £190,000,000 was expended and 180,000 men disposed of. Russia is said to have an available war fund of £100,000,000.

## Smallest Painting in the World.

The smallest painting in the world is said to have been painted by a Flemish artist. It is painted on an ordinary sized grain of corn and is of a miller mounting a pair of stairs with a sack of grain on his back. Outside the mill is a horse and cart and a group of peasants. The whole picture does not cover a half-inch square, and can really only be seen through a magnifying glass.