RUSSIA AND CHINA

A Look at the Mongols and the Manchoos and Their Curious Customs.

Will the Japanese Demand Manchuria—China's Wonderful Tributary Province and Their Vast Resources—Gold and Opium—Adventures With the Mongols—Tartar Caravans and Queer Mongolian Customs—Something About the Oldest Race on the Face of the Globe—Crude Tea and Tradesmen Mutton—A Nation of Buddhists—A Peep Into Thibet and Its Population—How Mongolia is Governed.

Special Correspondence of the NEWS.
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THE settlement of the war between China and Japan is likely to result in a decided change in the geography of Asia. So far neither England nor Russia has made any open claims as to what they want of China, but the ports of Asia are full of all sorts of rumors. It is well known that the Russians are making their surveys of the harbors on the east coast of Corea, with an idea of making one of them the terminus of the Trans-Siberian road, and the latest inside news is that the English have offered the Chinese a large sum of money in exchange for the Islands of Formosa. China can hardly hope to raise money from her own people without a revolution and the consequent establishment of a new government. The empire, in fact, is tottering, and the people neither care for the war nor for the government. In the words of a leading business man of Shanghai, in a letter which I have received during the past week, they consider the trouble with the Japanese the emperor's "pigeon" or business. He has gotten into it, they say, now let him get out of it. There is no land in the world where taxes are so low, nor, strange as it may seem to say so, where the people have so much power, and where the government is to such a large extent republican. The Chinese will not be able to pay the indemnity demanded by Japan except by giving up or mortgaging some of their territory. The result is, the outlying provinces of China will be in the market.

MONGOLIA AND MANCHURIA.

Few people have any idea of the immense extent of territory which China has outside of the empire proper. It is larger than the whole United States, and it is more than all Europe. Manchuria, which lies to the northeast of China, and on the edge of which the Japanese troops have been fighting, is equal to ten states the size of Ohio, or eight the size of New York. Mongolia, further to the westward, is about half as big as the whole United States, and the interior provinces of it is about as large as one-third of our whole territory. Thibet proper is larger than China, and it is about twice twice as big as New York state. The Japanese got into Manchuria when they fought at the mouth of the Yalou river, and they have been marching through the country and pushing their way up to the capital of the city of Mukden. It is by no means impossible that the Japanese may see a view of Manchuria, and it is some wonders to the way of mental which may be exported things are coming up out of the east. The gold mines of Russia are decidedly can show to the inhabitants of Manchuria and Mongolia. There are quite a gold settlement in the Mongolian mountains about four years ago, there was a rush of the world where taxes are so low, nor, strange as it may seem to say so, where the people have so much power, and where the government is to such a large extent republican. The Chinese will not be able to pay the indemnity demanded by Japan except by giving up or mortgaging some of their territory. The result is, the outlying provinces of China will be in the market.

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GOOD CAMELS.

There are no camels in the world like those Mongolian beasts. The camels of Africa are indeed not so good as those of a very well grounded basis. The climate is warm, and they need little protection. These camels of Mongolia are covered with wool which hangs in great locks down from all parts of their bodies. In some places it is two eight to two inches long, and it grows thick as wool, and that they can spend the rigors of a Mongolian winter. The wool is coming into this country to be made. It was shipped to Chicago of the camels during the summer, and it raised in the wagons. Within the past few years, however, it has become all sorts of commodity, and quite large lots of it are shipped to London. I saw some over coats in China which were made from it. They looked like Crocodile coats, but they were wonderfully light and very warm. The natural color of the wool is a rich dark brown. It is now being used by the Chinese in making rugs, and beautiful carpets as soft that you seem to be walking on velvet wherever you go, yet that the wool Mongolian camels is so good to eat you will find in the world, and these fat tails are especially delicious. The Mongols use the fat in making milk-tea soup. They mash up little bricks of tea, and when the water is boiling they put in some of the mutton fat and a little salt and on the whole it is not bad. The Mongols use the tea to make an about ten inches square, seven inches wide and three inches thick. They look like chocolate and are sometimes made in smaller sizes. In boiling water they make a kind of chocolate, cards and whey. They are very fond of intoxicating liquors, and they have a rare mixture of mare's milk spun which they keep themselves about and drink. Their country is dry at the beginning of winter, and the weather is such that it will keep quite spicy. It is sold in Tabiet that mutton can be kept for years. The air is very dry and very cool, and after a few days for fresh meat the mutton, or any thing else, is pounded with the hand and is moved away his flour. The Tabiesen use his mutton without cooking, and it is said not to need salt.

A NATION OF BUDDHISTS.

The Mongols are more religious than the Chinese. They are so called as such a nation of Buddhists, though there are a few Mohammedans among them. They have a number of temples inside of Peking and there are about three thousand of these people who live in the Chinese capital. The biggest monastery in Peking is owned by the Mongols and the Tabiesen. It has hundreds of priests, and they are the most ministerial and representatives of these kind. Foreigners are by no means safe in going through it. They are liable to be insulted, and it is only by bribing that bribing that one can get his way out. There are three living Buddhas in the world. One of these is in Lhasa, another is somewhere in Mongolia and the other is in Peking. I became indirectly acquainted with the leader of the living Buddha in Peking, and I was told that this Buddha was fond of cigars and liquors, and that he now and then went about among the people. I am told that the people of both countries do little but eating prayer wheels, drink whisky and keep their souls in Buddhism. It is much the same in Thibet, and the lamas are a great deal of power. Thibet is said to be a country of temples. I was within ninety miles of Thibet during my stay in Darjeeling, in the Himalaya mountains, and the Tibetans whom I saw both here and in Peking were about the same as the Mongols