

steam to escape, but run it off into pipes up the mountain. As the steam strikes the cold pipe it condenses and flows back so that it can be used again.

An enormous amount of the gold of the world is locked up in India. During a visit to that country a few years ago I found that gold had gone out of circulation. The people seemed miserably poor, but they had quantities of jewelry. Girls dressed in cotton often wore gold and silver bracelets and anklets, and many a barefooted girl had gold rings and gold bells on her toes. Forages the East Indians have been oppressed. They have not dared to loan their money for fear they would lose it, and they have preferred to put it into ornaments. This custom prevails today, even though there is now under the English security of property. Among the chief hoarders are the Indian rajahs, who wear the most expensive of jewelry. I saw many gold rings set with precious stones worth a thousand dollars and upward, and I found gold chains for sale everywhere. Sir David Harbour estimated the amount of the gold hoarded in India during the half century previous to 1885 at \$650,000,000. This was the accumulation of only fifty years. He estimated that \$800,000,000 worth of silver was hoarded in this time, and states that nearly all of the gold and silver which came into India in return for its exports was thus kept. The Hindoo buys but little from other countries. He lives on rice or coarse grains. A cotton rag in most cases forms his clothing. All the money he gets he keeps, and if this hoarding is to continue it is certain that a great part of the gold will eventually be absorbed by the East Indians. The English have realized this for a long time. They have attempted to remedy it, but in vain. About ten years ago they tried to get the hoarded gold and silver into circulation by offering high rates of interest for money, but the natives would not respond. There are about 300,000 native bankers in India, who lead to the peasants, but the most of their business is done in kind, the money lender advancing so much grain with the understanding that he shall receive so much back when the crop is harvested.

The wealth of the native princes of India is known only to themselves. A recent report from an English officer in the Indian post office shows that one native prince has been storing away gold at the rate of from two hundred to three hundred thousand dollars a year. He buys gold mohurs, a coin worth about \$5, with his silver rupees, and puts the gold in a strong vault in his palace. Once there it stays and is lost to circulation. Not long ago two native princes died in Indiana, each leaving, it is supposed, about \$20,000,000 worth of gold. One of these princes, who had his twenty millions stored up in his vaults, borrowed from the government of India something like \$2,000,000 to carry on his establishment. He preferred to pay interest to going back on his pile, and when he was asked if he could pay his loan on demand he replied yes, and that they might call for it at any time.

Another gold hoard was discovered not long ago upon the death of the Maharajah of Burdwan. This was opened upon the death of the maharajah. It consisted of seven rooms filled with gold and silver and precious stones.

Three of the rooms were locked and the doors bricked up. One room, 48 feet long, 14 feet wide and 13 feet high, was filled with gold plates and caps, gold and silver ornaments and precious stones. In nearly all of the rooms vaults were found containing money, and in one vault there were ten thousand gold mohurs. All of the vaults were so protected that it was not possible for the government to find out exactly how much they held, and even the exact number of the vaults is not known. This treasure is now in the hands of the maharajah's descendants.

There is undoubtedly a vast amount of gold in China. There are mines in different parts of the empire, and a great deal of gold is brought down every year from Siberia. It comes to Peking and is there melted down into small bars of about the size of the little cakes known as lady fingers. It is almost pure, often running over twenty karats in fineness. It is cast in this small shape in order that it may be hoarded and easily passed from hand to hand. The officials, who in many cases make fortunes out of their offices, buy these gold bars and secret them. They do not dare to put their money into the banks for fear that their brother officials may discover their wealth and confiscate it. The result is that such gold bars will bring two per cent more in Peking than they will in Shanghai. There are said to be more than 100 places in China where gold is found. In Mongolia there are a number of mines, and in the southwestern part of the empire there are gold workings which are 100 feet deep. The Chinese cannot understand the fall of silver. I was often asked as to it during my stay in the country two years ago—the Chinese many times putting to me this question in their queer pigeon English: "What for makee gold so dear?" They did not speak of the fall of silver, but of the rise of gold. At that time silver was just about as low as it is now. I carried my money in drafts on New York, and usually received about \$190 in silver for each \$100 of American money I cashed.

I see from the Japanese newspapers that there is some possibility of that country establishing a gold basis. If this scheme is carried out Japan will have to get its gold from other countries, as its own production is less than a million of dollars a year. Its gold mines are worked by Japanese laborers who wear shoes or sandals of straw, the soles of which are about as thick as your little fingers. These sandals wear out very quickly, and the laborers then throw them away. During my stay in Japan I heard of a queer gold speculation in connection with these old shoes. A man living near the mines had for years collected all the old shoes he could find and stored them away. After a long time he burned them to ashes and panned the result, getting a large amount of gold from them. The story was told for truth, but, like many oriental statements, it sounds rather fishy.

A great part of the gold of both Japan and China comes from Corea. The Corean mines are said to be very rich. Corea is mountainous, and nearly all of its mountains contain minerals. During my visit to the country eight years ago our American minister told me that he believed the gold product amounted to

\$3,000,000 a year. General Clarence Greathouse, the American foreign adviser to the king, described the mines as very valuable, and foreign merchants showed me quills of gold dust and little nuggets which had been brought to them by the people. So far nearly all of the gold gotten out of Corea has come from placer washings. There are a few quartz mines, but these are worked in the crudest of ways. The loose rock is pried out with picks or crowbars. When such means fail a fire is built upon the rock, and when it is hot cold water is thrown upon it to crack it. After the ore is gotten out it is crushed between two stones, the under stone being flat and the upper one somewhat round, so that it can be rolled backward and forward over the ore crushing it. After it is crushed, the metal is saved by hand panning. No pumps are used, and blasting powder and dynamite are practically unknown. There is no quicksilver to gather the gold, and in all probability the most of it goes to waste. The mines are the property of the king, but those who work them undoubtedly steal a great part of the product. A number of foreigners are now trying to get possession of the mines, and within a few years they will probably be owned by English, Americans and Russians.

Frank G. Carpenter

IN GREAT ST. LOUIS.

Concerning the rise of the City of St. Louis, a writer says:

It is not going too far to say that the most valuable part of Napoleon's cession to America lay far beyond the locality that he had been most accustomed to look upon as his new world possessions. To the French mind the territory adjacent to New Orleans was about all of Louisiana that was valuable or desirable. In a vague indefinite way it was known that the country acquired from the Spaniards stretched far to the north, but nine-tenths of it was believed to be an irreclaimable wilderness. American diplomacy was undoubtedly diluted with a fair share of Yankee shrewdness, too, while negotiations were pending between the two governments, else the trifling sum for which Louisiana was purchased would have been multiplied many fold.

St. Louis was the capital of this magnificent territorial acquisition. Under the old Spanish governors the nucleus of a State had been created, and under the French the town became the most flourishing trading post north of New Orleans. Hence, the idea entertained by some persons that St. Louis is a comparatively new town, simply because it is situated on the sundown side of the Father of Waters, is absurd. Nine years before Philadelphia was founded white men trod the soil where St. Louis now stands; twelve years before the Declaration of Independence was adopted the French were prosecuting a splendid fur trade with the Indians, this being their headquarters, under the name which the city bears today. Now there are within the corporate limits 611,268 souls.

Pierre La Clede Liguest, a merchant of New Orleans, was the founder of St. Louis. In 1762 he secured from Louisiana's Governor General a charter which gave him control of the fur trade with the Indians of this region. He came up the river and blazed the trees to mark the location, then returned home and sent back a colony under Auguste Chouteau, who found the marked trees, built cabins and a storehouse on the spot—and thus St. Louis was founded. The city grew and in 1804 became a part of the United