



ONCE A GREAT CITY.

Samara Rivalled Bagdad Before Revolt Against Turks.

The ancient town of Samara, lying on the Tigris, some hundred miles up the river from Bagdad, enjoys a curious distinction. For about fifty years, in the ninth century, it was one of the first cities in the world. Before that time it had hardly even existed, and after its short-lived greatness, it steadily fell into decay.

It was in the heyday of the power of the Kalfis of Bagdad that the story of Samara began. The reign of the famous Mamun, one of the greatest of the Abbassides, after the Kalif Mansur, had just come to a close, and the succession was sought by one Abu Ishak al Motasim. Motasim, as he has come to be known, had for a long time been preparing himself for this project. Every year he had bought Turkish slaves, and when he accompanied Mamun on his last expedition, he had with him a formidable body-guard composed of some 3,000 Turks.

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tions, however, were not greeted with favor by the army, which insisted that Abbas, Mamun's son, should take his father's place. Abbas, however, publicly renounced all claims to the kalfate, and in the end the army, with that rapid change of front so common in those days, accepted Motasim, who hastened to Bagdad and made his public entry into the city as kalif on September 20, 833.

The people, apparently, received him well, but the new kalif was determined to have more than one string to his bow for the purpose of making his position secure. The approval of the army and the people was well on its way, but he had secured the first steps of his progress with aid of his Turkish bodyguard, and he had every intention of strengthening this arm of his service, rather than doing away with it. One of his first acts, therefore, on coming to Bagdad was to procure officers for his guard, and for this purpose he bought up all the Turkish slaves in Bagdad, who had in any way distinguished themselves, and many of them afterwards became famous. The Turks, however, were unruly and undisciplined, and they not only outraged the good people of Bagdad by their excesses, but scandalized them by the open contempt they displayed for the religious precepts of Islam. At last the people could stand it no longer, and they rose against the guard and slew as many as they could.

Motasim was in a serious difficulty. He dared not act with severity towards the city, so he decided to solve the problem by moving his capital. Proceeding up the Tigris, along much the same course as General Maude's forces have been following, he came to the little town of Samara, close to the edge of the great Mesopotamian plateau. There he built himself a new residence, changing the name of the place from Samara, which could be interpreted to "unhappy is he who sees it," to Sarras-man-tas, "Rejoicing is he who sees it." Motasim undertook the building of his new capital with energy, and within less than ten years, Samara rivalled Bagdad with splendor. Palaces quickly rose on either side of the Tigris, and the minaret of the great mosque was visible for many miles around. Then, Motasim's immediate successors continued to make the city their capital, and great sums were expended on it. Pleasure grounds were laid out on a large scale, and planted with palms from Basra; whilst exotic plants were imported from Seria and Khorassan. Canals were made in all directions, and the desert was transferred into a garden; whilst workmen were collected from every part of the empire, and teakwood, together with marble from Antioch, was imported on a colossal scale. As has been said however, the days of Samara's greatness were

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CAPT. F. R. DESJARDIN. Schr. Steaks, St. Andre Kamouraska.

short. Within fifty years the kalfis had returned to Bagdad, and with the decay of the kalfate, which quickly followed, Samara lost altogether that glory, the shadow of which, at any rate, Bagdad retained so long.—"Christian Science Monitor."

Suggestive Title. "China From Within," a new book advertised, may have been written by one of those old-time side-show fakery who ate cups and saucers and dinner plates for the edification of a gaping crowd of yokels.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows.

Sea Otters. "Some of the habits of the sea-otter are very interesting. For example, an otter always swims on his back his tail serving as a rudder and his head slightly raised so that by looking over his shoulder he can shape his course. When about to dive, however, he turns on his stomach, remaining in that position while under water, but changing again on coming to the top. Swimming a few feet below the surface, an otter very much resembles a sailor in his oil skins. An amusing story is told of a tourist fisherman, who, seeing one of these animals swimming in this manner, hurried ashore and related a wonderful tale about having seen a sailor man, apparently drowned, yet swimming with all the vigor of life six or seven feet under water; and who, when he, thinking the man might be alive, rowed to his assistance, went down and stayed down. The fisherman would not believe it when told that it was probably a sea-otter, and he returned immediately to his Eastern home convinced he had received a supernatural warning of some dire calamity about to happen."—Edward T. Martin, in St. Nicholas.

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You can immediately relieve and permanently cure yourself with Dr. Hamilton's Pills. One thousand dollars will be paid for any case that isn't corrected within three days. Dr. Hamilton's Pills contain no injurious drugs; they are composed entirely of soothing, vegetable extracts that strengthen the stomach and bowels at once. It is absolutely impossible for Dr. Hamilton's Pills to fall curing biliousness, sour stomach, indigestion, headache or constipation. Even one box has brought vigor and renewed health to chronic sufferers, so you owe it to yourself to try Dr. Hamilton's Pills at once; 25c. per box at all dealers.

THE MOON PUZZLE.

Solved By the Discovery of U. S. Astronomer.

Prof. T. J. J. See, an eminent Missourian, who is now Government astronomer at Mare Island, Cal., made his visit to his home state the occasion the other day of the announcement of one of the most important astronomical discoveries in 190 years.

Prof. See, who is visiting his mother, Mrs. Mary See, at Montgomery City, wires to the world the cause of the puzzling vibrations in the motions of the moon on its orbit—a matter which has caused students of the lunar theory continuous study for 60 years.

Two years ago he gave out from Missouri the cause of universal gravita-

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tion, the law which was discovered by the illustrious Sir Isaac Newton, but that great man, after years of close scientific investigation, was not able to solve the problem.

In the former announcement Prof. See told that the electro-dynamic waves of the sun are the force of gravitation in the solar system. The existence of gravitation had been known since Newton's time, but the "why" was a problem.

Prof. See now tells the astronomers and the world at large that the passing of these electro-dynamic waves through the earth is the cause of the fluctuations of the moon in its orbit, and that this discovery will enable astronomers to calculate the phases of the moon and its action under certain conditions with twelve times the accuracy heretofore possible.

This interposition of the earth as to the sun and moon, according to Prof. See, causes the electro-dynamic waves of the sun to undergo circular refraction in going through the earth's great mass—to bend out of their course, and, in being so bent, dispersed and somewhat absorbed. The weakening of these waves in this way, he says, causes the fluctuations in the moon's motions in its orbit.

Prof. See's latest discovery not only makes more accurate the calculations of Luna's motions, but confirms the professor's previous discovery of the cause of gravitation.

Prof. See says that no irregularity now remains in the moon's motions large enough to be seen in the transit circles used by astronomers and with the previous mathematical development through the energies of Newton, Laplace, Hill, Newcomb, Brown and others, the lunar theory will be entirely perfected.

These new discoveries have been reported to the Royal Astronomical Society, London, and to scientific societies in Paris, Stockholm and Edinburgh.

Prof. See will soon publish in book form the result of his researches on the cause of gravitation and on the fluctuations of the moon.—St. Louis Republic.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, Etc. CHINESE SERVANTS

At Home Get Small Pay, and Rake-Off.

Many Europeans and Americans of moderate means like to live in China because of the comfort, not to say state, which a person of moderate income by western standards can maintain in the oldest of nations. Merchants, and even clerks, live in a fashion that might tax the resources of a munition manufacturer to keep up in America. Foreign residents agree that the Chinese make the best servants in the world if they are allowed to go at the business in their own way.

The chief servant in the Chinese establishment is not the butler, but the cook. This indispensable functionary draws a wage of about \$1.50 a week. Usually he is a good cook, and takes infinite pains in service, ornamenting the various dishes until they resemble Christmas packages. He uses his own marketing, and invariably "rakes off" a commission from his merchants. If his employer is willing to sacrifice his "face" sufficiently to try and market for himself, he finds that food costs



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him more than the cook pays for it, commissions and all.

It comes as a surprise to most Americans that laundrymen are scarce in China. The Chinese laundryman in the United States learns his trade here, but the foreign resident across the Pacific has no difficulty in finding a "boy" who can learn to do the work. A good laundry boy gets \$1 a week for the work of a household.

With labor as cheap as this, even the most modest and democratic American soon sets in the way of adding additional help to his establishment. Who could not enjoy the services of two or three extra boys around the house, when the whole establishment costs less than a good cook at home?

One unusual feature of the system is the fact that the wages of servants are based somewhat on the income of the employer. If you enjoy \$40,000 a year, you are likely to pay about twice as much as a \$2,000 man for nearly the same service. Such is the custom of the country, calculated to establish accurately your prestige and that of your establishment.—T. S. Exchange.

DEAFNESS

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Tommy's Revenge.

Little Tommy had been naughty. His mother did not know what to do with him. She wanted to confine him somewhere, but he showed signs of breaking everything in any room she put him into, and he threatened revenge at every suggestion. She thought herself of a place where there was nothing to break, and where he could not work any serious revenge. He was borne into the garden and locked up in the chicken-house. He was silent—this was something beyond his capacity to talk about; but as his mother was going away, his head appeared at one of the little openings.

"Mamma!" His mother stopped. "Mamma, what can I lock me in here if you like, but I won't lay any eggs!"—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

Did You Know—

That clothes sprinkled with a whisk broom dipped in warm water are more evenly sprinkled than by any other method?

That an irregular patch, torn with the white edge on the unused paper, is the best way to conceal wall-paper mishap?

That a strip of adhesive plaster, heated and pressed over the defective spot, will lengthen the life of a laky hot water bottle?

That soap bought in quantity and allowed to dry out will not dissolve so quickly in hot water, so that each cake will last much longer? This is one of the best ways of saving fat.

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Is it magic? No, scientific—a wonderful combination discovered that will shiver up the toughest old corn you ever saw. The name of this remedy is Putnam's Corn Extractor. It's a corker the way it loosens a corn; makes it peel right off in a solid lump without the slightest pain. Results talk. Putnam's gives results and costs but a quarter. Sold everywhere.

Developing the Island of Elba.

A curious transformation has been wrought in the Island of Elba, in the Mediterranean off the Italian coast. Elba's principle title to fame has been the fact that it was the residence of Napoleon Bonaparte after his abdication of Emperor of France in 1814. It was from Elba that Bonaparte escaped in February, 1815, landed in France, rallied an army and began the attempt to recoup his fortunes which constituted the activities of the famous "hundred days," culminating in lasting defeat at Waterloo. The second deposition of the Emperor was followed by exile to St. Helena, where he remained until his death. Elba now comes into notice because of the sudden development of the iron mines on the island. It has long been known that Elba had large deposits of minerals, including iron ore of high grade, but comparatively little had been

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MISCELLANEOUS.

SEND A DOMINION EXPRESS MONEY ORDER. Five dollars costs three cents.

HATCHING EGGS—BABY CHICKS. Cherry laying strains. Eggs \$1.50 per setting. Barred Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, White Leghorns, White Wyandottes, Golden Wyandottes, White Focks, Non-Feared Golden Polish, White Fornice, etc. Satisfaction guaranteed. Day Poultry Farm, Perth, Ont.

YOUNG LADIES TO STUDY NURSING—educational requirement, one year of high school; exceptional opportunity afforded pupils entering at once; probation period reduced to ten weeks. For particulars address Supt. Glenville Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio.

WANTED—PROBATIONERS TO TRAIN for nurses. Apply Welland Hospital, St. Catharines, Ont.

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FOR SALE—GREAT CHANCE FOR doctor; residence and office well located. Particulars from Geo. W. Hall, 22 Colborne street, Brantford, Ont.

done in exploiting this natural wealth. Difficulty in getting iron from other sources has led to mining on a large scale and to the erection of blast furnaces and other works. The island has become a busy place, and with the furnaces in operation and in view from the mainland the spectacle is interesting. The people are having a fresh access of prosperity, and some are shyly expressing the hope that the Kaiser may be dethroned and sent there, as was Napoleon more than a hundred years ago. Should this prove to be the case it is safe to assume that such a watch would be kept as to prevent Wilhelm from making his escape as easily as Napoleon.—Troy Times.

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To Remove Insects.

Insects sometimes crawl into the ear and cause pain. The best way to remove the offender is to pour a few drops of sweet or olive oil into the ear to clog the wings and stop their fluttering; then, with great care, syringe the ear with warm water, holding the bowl under the ear so that it will press the ear gently back, while the sufferer's head should incline a little over the bowl. After the insect is removed, saturate a bit of cotton with the oil and insert in the ear, to remain for a day.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Figures Time of Falling Stone.

The time a stone would require to fall the 4,000 miles to the center of the earth has been calculated for the Paris Academy of Sciences, by M. Sanger. Considering the influence of the varying density of the earth, he finds the time would be 19 minutes 15 seconds, but if the mean density is assumed to be the condition, the time would be 79 seconds greater.

An Arab's Saying.

"It is well that all men are not rich. Riches corrupt the soul, but virtue enlarges the hope." These words were found in the parchment of an Arabic treatise by some ruler, and is no doubt the bitter verdict of many that are rich to-day.

WORDS OF PRAISE FOR BABY'S OWN TABLETS

No medicine receives such great praise from thankful mothers as do Baby's Own Tablets. Once a mother has used them for her little ones she will use nothing else. The Tablets are a mild but thorough laxative. They regulate the bowels and stomach; drive out constipation and indigestion; cure colds and simple fevers; promote healthful sleep and make teething easy. Concerning them Mrs. Omer LeBlanc, Madrigton Falls, Que., writes: "I am well satisfied with Baby's Own Tablets and will always use them for my little ones." The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

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