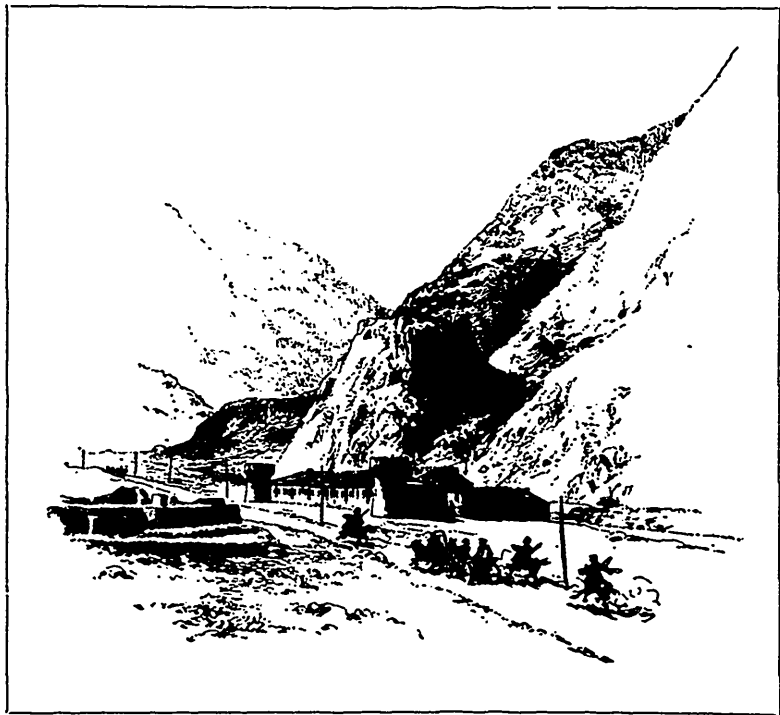


firing exercises introduce features which only clever riders with clever animals could perform. On the first day of the Russo-Turkish war of 1877, a Cossack regiment covered seventy miles in twenty-four hours to secure an important bridge. The latest reports from Korea show that Cossack scouts have made daring dashes to the south, in spite of the immense superiority of the Japanese

of the soldiers in a redoubt at Sebastopol, who were about to partake of the usual soup from the usual pail. A shell fell in their midst, but a cool-headed Russ ran, and dropping it into the pail, cried, "Welcome, Maria Ivanovna ; taste our soup."

But let us not imagine that the fierce rider and his steed represent the whole of Cossack life. There



RUINS OF CASTLE OF TAMARA.

forces in the triangle of Seoul, Pyeng-Yang, and Wensan.

A remarkable feature of the Russian and Cossack soldier is his insensibility to pain. In the Balkan struggle men suffering from incredible wounds used to march stolidly to the ambulance, so that soldiers left in the fighting line should not have to be detached to carry them away. A good story, though not strictly Cossack, is told

of several tribes of these Cossacks, as the Don Cossacks, the Cossacks of the Ural, of Siberia, and various other districts. The Don Cossacks have given their name to a whole province with a population of over a million people.

Generally speaking, the Cossacks have been represented to the Western world as being little better than savages, but those who have dwelt among them entertain much more