

would amount for the whole length of the 1,775 wersts of land line to 900,000 rubles (3,250,000fr. or £130,000).

But as regards a submarine telegraph to China, the first connecting point with the Siberian line would have to be at Shanghae, the port most frequented by China-European commerce, from which place alone, the messages transmitted to Europe would be so numerous that the expense of such a cable would in a short time be covered by the traffic.

From Shanghae a branch aerial line to Peking could be constructed, but the erection of such a line in the present disturbed political state of China would scarcely be practicable; and as regards the length of a submarine line thence to the shores of the Bay of Petshelig, it would, according to the indication of the map (to which we can only refer), be about 1,100 wersts (630 miles), the expense of which would be about 1,375,000rs.

If, on investigation, it should be found that a submarine line in this direction offers no difficulty, the expense of the whole telegraph line from Kiachta, in Siberia, to Shanghae, and thence to Peking, would amount to 2,300,000rs. (8,300,000fr., or £330,000).

If on the other hand any political obstacle should prevent the carrying out of this line, it could be connected with the Russian ports at Shanghae.

From the future telegraph termini of the Siberian line at the ports of St. Olga or Novgorodsky, towards Shanghae there are several small islands which could be used as resting-points for the cable, and as stations; they lie, besides, near Japan, so that a branch telegraph line would connect Japan with the main one. The length of this cable line between the Russian shores and the Sea of Japan would be as follows:—