

and, after remaining for nineteen days, returned to London which was reached after an absence of eighty-four days. Had the vessels not been detained in Siberia, the round trip would have been accomplished in less than sixty days. As the Yenisei River is navigable for over two thousand miles of its course, and light draught vessels can almost reach the border of China, the trade possibilities opened up by this route are simply incalculable. The Obi River, which drains an immense country, is also open to navigation. Recent travellers state that Siberia possesses as healthful a climate as the Northern States of the American Union and a greater extent of fertile grain lands than is contained in the whole continent of North America. This vast country is separated from Russia Proper by a chain of mountains and by a vast wilderness, which renders land transport from the West far more expensive than by the sea route. To the east, another vast wilderness cuts off this country from the Pacific coast. It is not improbable that the trade between Great Britain and Siberia will, if not restricted or prohibited, become very great within a few years. All, however, depends upon the Czar, who, though he has shown some encouragement in the opening up of the route, may be moved by his councillors to close it by edict, if it is found to interfere seriously with Russian trade or with the maintenance of the exile system.—*The Montreal Witness*.

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GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.—The relations existing between geography and history would seem to demand that one should not be taught to the exclusion of the other. Is it not possible that by teaching less of detail in geography, time may be found for training children to read and appre-

ciate history? The two studies are properly complements of each other. The one is a description of the earth and the other a story of the people who have lived on the earth. If either is presented with no reference to the other it often becomes a dry, and uninteresting subject. The teaching of geography for this reason has lacked life and colour. Something is gained when interesting books of travel and adventure are permitted to enliven the lesson, but a still richer benefit is conferred when the teacher, after discussing the physical structure and topography of a country, directs his pupils to some striking events, or epochs, which have marked the history of that country, or to the achievements of its patriots and warriors, its social and industrial progress, and the causes therefor. As a matter of fact, the relief and topography of a country are of no value except as they reveal reasons for what nations have been able to accomplish. There is logic in events. There is still closer logic in the soil and what it produces, or in a given section of country and what the human race has wrought within its borders.—S. T. Dutton, *New Haven (Intelligence)*.

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THE JOHNS HOPKINS 'TRAVELLERS' CLUB.—The Travellers' Club of the University held its first meeting Oct. 10, 1890. Addresses were made by Professor H. F. Reid of the Case School of Science, Cleveland, Ohio, and by Dr. Emil Hausknecht, for several years Professor of Pedagogics in the Imperial University of Tokyo. The following are abstracts of their remarks:—

"The Muir Glacier in Alaska." By Professor H. F. Reid, Ph.D. A party consisting of Messrs. H. P. Cushing, H. M. McBride, R. L. Casement, C. A. Adams, J. F. Morse, and Harry F. Reid, passed last summer