

RUSSIAN CONQUEST IN CENTRAL ASIA.

From the time of Yermak Russia has not halted in her career of Asiatic conquest. So rapidly did she push forward that her flag dominated nearly five million square miles of territory in less than seventy years from the founding of the fort on the Ytish. The banner of the Black Eagle was borne northward to the shores of the frozen ocean, along the valleys of the Obi, the Yenisei, and the Lena; it floated where the waters of the Okotok Sea kiss the base of the Stanovoi Mountains, and open their broad gate-way to the Pacific; it waved on the banks of the Amoor, along whose parent streams the Mongol shepherds wander, and was held aloft on the plain where Genghis-Khan, the conqueror of Persia and Cathay, first saw the light, and fancied he heard heavenly voices calling him to conquest and a career of glory. Southward to the Altai Mountains it was carried, and from the summits of those lofty peaks it hung menacingly toward Central Asia, as the northern winds impelled it. The indomitable Russian will sustained it, and wherever it was planted its supporters were determined to remain. Northward there were only scattered tribes, who could offer but a feeble resistance; eastward were the Chinese, and the rulers of the Celestial Empire early saw the impending danger. To expel the Russians from the Amoor they sent a large army, and after an obstinate struggle, in which the Chinese were twice forced to retire, they gained their point by a treaty, and compelled the Russians to depart from the places where they had established forts and planted fields of wheat and corn. For a hundred and fifty years the Russian advance in that direction was stopped, but it was renewed in 1354, when a Russian expedition seized the Amoor and held it by main force until diplomacy, skillfully following the Chinese reverses in the war with France and England, secured by treaty what had been taken without warrant of law. The Russian eye is fixed on Mongolia; portions of it have fallen into Russian hands, and other portions will be taken with each succeeding decade, until the whole, or all that is worth taking, has been seized. Manifest destiny is apparent in the Russian maps of Eastern Siberia. On all those maps, published in the last ten years, Mongolia is delineated with more than ordinary care, and it is evident that the compiler intended to save the expense and trouble of new editions at frequent intervals. His work was performed for the future, not for the present, and judging by the rapid growth of events, the future for which he labored is not a distant one. Russian progress in Central Asia has been even more rapid than in the eastern part of the continent. Central Asia is considered more important than Manchouria and the plains of Gobi, and the Muscovite eye is more firmly set upon it.—THOMAS W. KNOX, in Harper's Magazine for July.

METHODS OF PREPARATION. In the year of our Lord 1872 it seems like wasting words to remind Christians of the necessity of making preparation for their Bible-school duties. Does not the worker in wood and stone prepare himself carefully for his duties? Failure in his art would result in the breaking of a stone, or a piece of wood being rendered useless. Yet it remains as a reproach to the Christian Church that men and women accept positions as teachers of the young, as undersheriffs to lead them to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, without concern, without prayer, and with little or no preparation for this great work where immortal souls are at stake.

The superintendent should be an example to his school. He should be intelligent, apt, prudent, prompt, ready, patient, pious, prayerful, and pleasant. He should seek to supply deficiencies in the qualities named, by wise and persevering efforts. Requisites: Bible, Bible dictionary, and either a commentary or an exposition of the lesson. Read the whole chapter from which the lesson is taken. If the lesson is connected with the previous one, read all the intervening Scripture. It may be wise to read over a second or third time, in order not only to get the subject matter of the lesson, but also the events preceding and following. Carefully notice any difficult words that may need explanation; consult your Bible dictionary.

You are now prepared to take your lesson journal and read the lesson and the explanations there given (remembering that the latter are written by fallible men like yourself), as a help to your better understanding of it. Do not forget to think while you are doing this. Your preparation is now emphatically the scholar's preparation; you know the lesson. The scholar's preparation will not suffice for you; in addition to knowing the lesson you are interested in imparting it, which requires special skill and preparation. Look once more over your lesson and decide what strong point you wish to make prominent in your school. There may be many good things in the lesson, but you have twenty-five minutes only to devote to instruction, and must succeed on one point rather than fail on all.—Sunday School Helper.

METHODS.—The total number of Methodists in Ireland is 19,000. During the past year there has been an increase in England of 2,300 members, and 16,000 on trial. The most decided advance has been in the manufacturing centres. One-third of the whole number of European children in India die under six months old; eighty-five per cent. die before the age of two years; and out of one hundred infants born only eleven attain maturity. It appears from statistics lately published that out of 11,000 soldiers' children in India, a very large proportion were ill every day throughout the year 1871. The Indian empire costs Great Britain much every year in the sacrifice of soldiers in the trenches and on the battle-field, but a far more numerous army are buried in children's graves.

Photographers, W. J. ARMSTRONG'S PHOTOGRAPHY. 53 King Street East, OPPOSITE TORONTO STREET.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL! MACORQUODALE & BROTHERS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS, TORONTO. Having Received to their New Large COMMODIOUS PREMISES, Built expressly under their supervision, claim to have an atelier second to none in the Dominion, for producing PHOTOGRAPHS.

Books. TEMPERANCE From a Bible Standpoint. A LECTURE delivered before the ONTARIO TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITORY LEAGUE, by the REV. R. WALLACE, Of Toronto.

R. MARSHALL, 30 39. Deals respectfully to inform persons at a distance that he sends Books, Stationery and Periodicals, to all parts of the Country; also Parquet Croquet at \$1.00 and \$2.00 a set, sent free on receipt of price.

BARNES' NOTES, ON THE NEW TESTAMENT, Complete in 11 Volumes. And for Sale to the Trade on the most liberal terms.

ADAM MILLER, 11 Wellington Street West, TORONTO.

W. DAVIDSON, 26 32. BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, CONVEYANCER, &c. OFFICE—SOUTH SIDE OF COURT STREET Two Doors from Toronto Street TORONTO.

JAMES HUNTER, Coal & Wood Merchant, Jarvis and Queen Streets, TORONTO.

GRAND DESIDERATUM. A New, Beautiful, Light, Durable and Most Desirable Style of SPECTACLE.

W. WILKIN, Jeweller and Optician, King Street West Toronto.

Financial. Blaikie & Alexander, BANKERS, BROKERS AND FINANCIAL AGENTS, 10 KING STREET EAST TORONTO. HAVE TRUST FUNDS ON HAND FOR INVESTMENT on farm security. Interest upon cash Deposits, Mortgages, purchased on very advantageous terms.

Hotel Cards. ST. CLOUD HOTEL, RAND BROTHERS, BROADWAY AND 42nd STREET, NEW YORK. Only three blocks from Grand Central Depot of the New York and Boston Railroad.

REVERE HOUSE, LONDON, ONTARIO. Nearly all of the clergy of different denominations stop at this house when visiting the city. A. W. BARNARD, Proprietor.

ENGRAVING ON WOOD SOCIETY SEALS PRESSES STAMPS BRANDS G. A. SCADDING 85 BAY ST. TORONTO.

YORKSHIRE CATTLE FEEDER. For fattening and bringing into condition Horses, Cows, Calves, Sheep and Pigs—used and recommended by first-class Breeders. Milk Cattle produce more milk and butter.

HUGH MILLER & CO., Agricultural Chemists, 107 King St. East, Toronto. FOR SALE BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.

PIANOS. THE MATHUSHEK. Is endorsed by the most noted pianists of the day as the BEST MADE.

THE FICHE R. Is thoroughly made, and a most delightful Parlour Instrument.

THE BEAUTY, Seven octave, overstrung, rosewood, all round corners, three mouldings, back finished like front, carved legs, at \$325. Engraved by Jules Benoit.

PRINCE ORGANS, The best in the market. All Instruments WHOLESALE AND RETAIL and warranted five years. We are in a position to supply local dealers in every part of the Dominion at manufacturers' lowest wholesale prices.

NORRIS & SOPER, Colborne-street, Toronto.

BLYMYER MANUFACTURING CO'S BELLS. Fire-tough, low priced, warranted; cuculars sent free.

PIANOFORTE. Miss. T. Lucas gives lessons in Instrumental Music, either at 68 Flin Street, or in the houses of the pupils.

MARRIAGE LICENSES. GEORGE THOMAS, F. S. W. OFFICE—40 CHURCH STREET, West side, two doors south of King street. TORONTO.

Unquestionably the best sustained work of the kind in the World. HARPER'S MAGAZINE

Periodicals, &c. NEW-YORK TRIBUNE, 1873.

Now, as before, THE TRIBUNE has to be read of all the people of this country. It is the only paper which has kept its position as the most influential and powerful of the press. It is the only paper which has kept its position as the most influential and powerful of the press. It is the only paper which has kept its position as the most influential and powerful of the press.

THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE, now more than thirty years old, has endeavored to keep up with the progress of the age in its reports and enterprise. It devotes always a large space to the most important news and the most interesting of the day.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE. TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS. One copy, one year—52 issues \$2 00 Five copies, one year—52 issues 7 50

TERMS OF THE DAILY TRIBUNE. TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS. One copy, one year, 104 numbers \$3 00 Five copies, one year, 520 numbers 12 50

HARPER'S WEEKLY. A Complete Pictorial History of the Times. The most interesting and successful Family Paper in the Union.

Subscriptions.—1873. HARPER'S WEEKLY, one year \$4 00 Five copies, one year \$18 00

Write the matter to be printed on only one side of the paper, and in plain letters and figures. Give your directions in plain language, stating whether or not you wish the proof sent to you for correction. Send orders to C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, 102 BAY STREET,

Typography. BOOK AND JOB PRINTING,

BOOK-BINDING OF ALL KINDS. Done at the British American Presbyterian OFFICE, 102 BAY STREET, TORONTO.

Remember the above announcement and favour us with your patronage. ACCURACY, NEATNESS, PROMPTNESS, assured to all.

Proofs carefully read, work done quickly, and your package sent by the first train.

Cards, Tickets, Circulars, Pamphlets, SERMONS,

CATALOGUES, MINUTES OF PRESBYTERIES, SYNODS, AND

BLANKS, LETTER HEADS, BILL HEADS, ILLUSTRATED, EMBELLISHED,

OR PLAIN. Particular attention paid to BOOK WORK ALSO TO PRINTING IN COLOURS.

We ask our friends, far and near, to give us their patronage. Our facilities enable us to do the work on terms as favorable as any parties can give you.

Work sent to any place, however distant. We will pay Express or Freight charges to any place where there is an Express or Railroad Office. Will send to my Post-Office.

Write the matter to be printed on only one side of the paper, and in plain letters and figures. Give your directions in plain language, stating whether or not you wish the proof sent to you for correction.

Send orders to C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, 102 BAY STREET,