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Experience on Lake Baikal, the Great Obstacle to Russian Army

the great Siberian line in two, is indeed in type. They were no longer young rea remarkable body of water. In length it would stretch from London to Edinburgh, aged men, who behaved themselves as vetyet its breadth is only twenty to fifty-three les. From where I stood to the town of Balkal, on the other side, was a little over forty miles; but it is this distance, over the frozen floor of which stores and men have to be transported to the front, that will cause the Russian government more trouble and anxiety than the entire route from the Ural mountains to Port Arthur-

The track has not yet been completed around the end of the lake. As an engi- The peasants had long ceased to bring in tinued day after day, notwithstanding the lake, which is the only possible route for the line, is imbedded in mountains. Sheer granite cliffs rise from the surface of the water to a height of 1,500 feet. Through these cliffs tunnels to the number of twenty-seven are being laboriously cut. but in my engineer friend's opinion it will be long before this strip of rails will be

During the summer two great steamers cross the lake with the trains on board, but in the winter the ice is far too thick for the Baikal or its consort, which I saw firmly anchored in the ice.

There was a great rush for the sledges secured a place in one, and with all the wraps which I possessed about me started on my ride. Once out on the lake, however, there came upon us a steady, piercing blast that seemed to penetrate my furs as if they were so much paper.

cold in my life before; indeed, for five minutes I was almost insensible. And yet the cruel gale was at my back, and the long lines of troops packed in their sledges met it face to face.

It was a curious spectacle, this endless advance of the Russian reinforcements across this arctic sea. The route was staked out by telegraph posts placed about good eight miles an hour, our drivers crooning to the horses an odd chant, the advancing sleighs seemed to mount into hundreds and even thousands.

In those carrying troops, six men were crowded into a sleigh built for three. How they were able to endure that terrible of them did not reach this city until Janweather passed my understanding. They wore their greatcoats, it is true, but other wraps were few among them.

Sometimes I met an empty sleigh with its soldier passengers tramping along by its side striving to warm their frozen limbs. Blue with cold and utterly miserable they seemed, and when a Russian with whom were left in storage. I traveled assured me that many of them must be badly frostbitten or even die from exposure before they reached the other side the difference between what he received I could not but believe him.

On the outside tracks moved the provision and store sleighs, the majority with five He won, and his judgment was affirmed. horses aplece, dragging slowly forward in long lines. I saw several sledges with rails sticking out behind them, but at that time (February 15) there was no sign of any railway track being laid across the ice. If such a feat has been accomplished, it must have been at a later date than was announced in the Russian press.

The surface of the ice was very irregular and uneven. In places there were foot wide crevases and fissures, while here and there the ice had risen into hummocks, which nearly jarred me out of my sleigh. Despite the wind there was around us a curious driving mist that hid the distances.

After two and a half hours we sighted the great rest house, of wood and fett and brick, that is built yearly in the middle of the lake. A very palace it seemed to us weary travelers. Not until after two plates soup and some atsaming coffee could I find my legs and feet again. Yet the poor soldiers passed it by, making no break in their journey from shore to shore.

the hospitable rest house and again disapplay the biggest game of bluff imaginable.

peared beneath my wraps. But even the lif the Japanese were exclusive, he would CROSSING RUSSIA'S FROZEN SEA | the hospitable rest house and again disapcrossing of Lake Balkal comes to an end be equally haughty. If they told him to up the bay,

Lake Balkal, the frozen warrier that cuts day the soldiers that they carried changed cruits, but the reserves-well built, middleerans should

> For the first time I noticed cannon, each In the whole course of my journey I saw

> no horses being hurried forward, though I understood that there were several thousand expected. War prices were beginning to be felt at

the buffets where we halted for our meals. fresh supplies, and the cost of necessaries demonstrations more or less threatening steadily rose. Bread doubled, sugar and by the government officials and soldiers. coffee trebled. At the same time I noticed But, as I have said, no attention whatin sidings the ordinary trains of commerce lying half hidden in snowdrifts.

Several Russians on the train who came from the east of Baikal were talking very degrees came to visit the ships, but were gravely about the situation. The native tribes grind their own corn, but the Europeans in the towns send their grain to Moscow, from which it returns as flour.

If these flour trains are stopped prices will soon be rising famine high in eastern Siberia. Peculation and the bribery of officials will give the civilians supplies taken which awaited us. With some difficulty I from the war stores, but I can well under stand why Russia has sent her convicts into the army. She wants no spare mouths to feed.-London Express.

EGGS STRICTLY FRESH-NIT I had never suffered so intensely from Littgation Brings Out New York's Source of Supply and the Age

> of the Article. Few people are aware of the venerable

age of the average egg that reaches the New York market. In some litigation between an egg commission house and a wholesale egg company in lows, interest-200 yards apart. As we swung along at a ing facts are disclosed. The case has just been decided by the appellate division in this county.

On April 30, 1830, the plaintiff bought five carloads of eggs from the lowa company. These were kept in storage in Sloux Ciry until the following winter, and the last DRFY 8, 3900.

But even then they did not reach the market, for there was a dispute as to their condition and quality. The purchaser maintained that they were not of the quality ordered, and the seller replied that any deterioration was due to the time they

Then the purchaser sold them for what he could get and sued the Iowa folks for and what he could have received had the eggs been up to the standard demanded. And the public ate the eggs.

A prominent egg dealer says that hardly a dozen eggs reach the wholesale markets here until they are from three to nine months old. The bulk of the supply comes from the valleys of the Ohio and the Misminnippi

They are brought to the steamboat landings by the farmers, who, of course, wait until they have a crats or a barrel before driving to the dock. Perhaps then the boat is missed or cannot make the landing, and another week passes before collection Finally the boat deposits its shelly cargo with a cold storage warehouse, whence it is sent by freight to New York as de-

manded. The Long Island and New Jersey production and delivery here are so small as to be wholly insignificant in comparison. New York Sun.

Dentist with well established practice in an excellent location in Bee building deit was with lingering regret that I left physician. Address, E 35, Dec office.

OPENING THE DOOR TO JAPAN

Commodore Perry's Fart in Starting the Empire as a World Power.

PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF HISTORIC EVENTS

What Was Done and How it Was Done, and the Atmosphere of Oriental Diplomacy and Color Enveloping Proceedings.

navy (retired), describes in Harper's Weekly the events leading to the pening officer of Commodore Matthew C. Perry's purpose. flagship. He says, in part:

Bay of Yeddo, many of the scenes and incidents of our visit are still vivid in my of defenses which might have been deemed above mentioned. to the minds of the Japanese-and thus would take it to the city of Yeddo. they falled to terrify us to any great ex-

The Bay of Yeddo is an immense sheet of water, and we thought the scenery very of Fujivama. Japan's sacred mountain, towering in the distance, its summit clad in snow, and the landscape dotted with weather, in the month of July, 1852, and on the water were floating innumerable trading junks and other craft, including a great many government boats, some of them carrying soldiers, which flocked about our ships rather menacingly. They wanted to come aboard, to parley with us and doubtless to spy, but the commodore had given orders that this was not to be allowed, and, to convince the Japs that the prohibition was to be taken in earnest, we made a brave show of pikes and cutlasses, with sentinels at the gangways and guns and ammunition in readiness for use. One official, I remember, came alongside and held ip a big piece of paper, on which were orinted some words in large letters, in French, ordering us to go away imme-

The Unexpected Happened.

The Japanese had known that we were would dare to enter the Bay of Yeddo. They supposed, as a matter of course, that we would go to Nagasaki, to which port the Dutch and Russian traders were admitted under various humiliating restrictions. But the commodore, who was an exceedingly shrewd man, perceived that, if he adopted such a program, he would be likely to be treated on the same basis as the other foreigners-a thing not to be endured, inasmuch as he came on a diplomatic mission, as an ambassador and the personal representative of the president of the United States.

Accordingly, we went direct to Yeddo, the capital of the country, prepared to he was to insist on being treated by the train having two trucks containing one gun body who did not hold credentials as the personal representative of the monarch. What seemed to annoy the Japanese

more than anything else was the surveying which, in a rough way, we conducted in the Bay of Yeddo. The commodore sent out boats to map the shores and take ever was paid to protests on this or any other subject, and meanwhile negotiations were beginning. Dignituries of various not permitted in most instances to board us-until finally the governor of the province arrived in much magnificence, seated on mats in a state barge. He was treated

ore a letter from the president of the United States to the emperor, and that it sould be delivered only into the hands of a person duly authorized by the latter

Impressing the Governor.

Naturally, the governor went away much mpressed. There was some more delay, autograph communication from the em- the ceremony. It was of wood, if I reprince of the realm, one of his high counday, came down from Tokio on a magnifi-Fillmore. A date—two or three days later, freet were employed to make the display on Commodore S. Nicholson, United States I think-was set for the reception of the letter, the place appointed for the ceremony being on shore not far away, where, of Japan to the world's trade-events in the governor explained, a temporary buildwhich he was a participant as navigating ing would be immediately erected for the

Thus was accomplished the first great Though fifty-one years have passed since step in the series of events which culminated the arrival of the American squadron in the in the opening of Japan to modern civilization. It was quite a wonderful thing, indeed, when one comes to think of itmemory. I recall in particular the "colico considering the fact that, up to that time, forts," as the men on board of our ships the Island kingdom had absolutely refused called them, stretching for miles along the to enter into any relations with other nashores, and composing an extensive series tions, save for the scanty trading privileges We had entered the formidable but for the fact that they were Bay of Yeddo in defiance of the laws of only painted scenery. They were, in fact, the country, we were staying there against made of cotton cloth, built acreen fashion, the orders of the authorities, and we had and ornamented with horizontal and ver- persisted in communicating with the emtical stripes which may have been intended peror, notwithstanding the determined opto represent stonework. By the help of our position of the government. The commotelescopes and field glasses we were able dore had even gone so far as to say that, to view them close at hand, as it were-a if sobody would carry his letter to the possibility that could hardly have occurred emperor, he himself, with an armed force,

A Dazzling Ceremony, The ceremony attending the transfer of

the president's letter was a dazzling The day, I remember, nffair. beautiful—the lofty and symmetrical cone lovely, and on shore the scene was made gay by multitudes of flags, while regiments of Japanese soldiers, in their quaint costumes, were drawn up in picturesque picturesque villages. It was charming array. On our side no pains were spared to contribute gorgeousness to the occasion, the commodore, as he landed, being accompanied by a considerable force of marines, and bive jackets, and escorted by most of the officers of the squadron in full uniform. Accompanied by his suite he entered the great wooden house which had been erected for the occasion, where, after going through many forms of oriental politeness, he placed in the hands of Prince Idzu, the emperor's representative, the gold boxes containing the letter and his own credentials, the documents being written on vellum and bound in blue velvet. The boxes were of exquisite workmanship, each of them in a resewood casket, and were carried by two beautifully dressed negro boys.

Having received the letter, the Japanese prince gave in return a communication in writing, stating that the government transcoming, but they never dreamed that we acted all of its foreign business at Nagasaki and requesting the commodore to leave the Bay of Yeddo at once.

Now this might have seemed rather discouraging, but the commodore did not view it in that light. He had accomplished his object, which was to place the president's letter in the hands of the emperor of Japan. The ceremony being completed he left the council hall in state, as he had arrived, and returned to his ships, which had been moved up near to the landing place, in order to command the scene of negotiations with their guns (the decks being cleared for action), in case of attempted go away, however, but to steam further

some time, and about six hours after I had so away he would pay no attention. If The squadron consisted of four vesselscause he could be equally snubby in return. the Japs could have mustered, inasmuch While Joing his best to preserve peace he as their best war vessels were only junks, would make it manifest that he could meet and their few cannon were primitive and of force with force. All through the game amall caliber. Doubtless they were very much relieved to see us sail away, as we emperor on equal terms, and would not did after doing a little more surveying in the upper bay, and it may be that they thought they would never see us again, though the commodere had left word with Prince Idzu that he would come back in the following spring for the emperor's

The Second Visit.

Before the beginning of the next year the Japanese government sent word to Commodore Perry, through the Dutch traders, that the emperor was dead. As it turned out, this was true, but our commander did not feel sure of it, and he was by no means disposed to accept the suggestion, conveyedy with the message, that long time to come. Accordingly, early to February, 1854, we found ourselves once with politeness and condescension, the on this occasion comprising eight vessels, privilege of an interview not with the three of which were steamers—the Pow- sembling tortoise shell.

The Destroyers

commander-in-chief, but with a couple of hatan, Susquehanna and Mississippi. The subordinate officers, being granted to him. others were the Macedonian, Vandalia, Lex-He was informed that the commodore ington, Southampton and Saratoga. The commodore made the Powhatan his flagship and I was his navigating officer.

This time the Japs were convinced that we meant humness. The emperor appointed five high counsellors of state, three of whom were princes, to negotiate the treaty which had been requested by President Fillmore in his letter, and a building was but at length the official returned with an erected to furnish a suitable setting for peror, enclosed in a beautiful sandalwood member correctly, covered with some kind box, stating that he had appointed a of cloth. The dignitaries on the appointed sellors, to receive the missive of President cent barge, and all the resources of the our side as impressive as possible. All told, the Americans numbered something like 500, including officers, sailors and marines, occupying about thirty boats, which advanced toward the shore in line abreast. As we marched up the beach the bands played, and howitzers mounted in the bows of the boats fired in unison a salute of twenty-one guns in honor of the emperor. It was really a wonderful spectacle, and was additionally interesting because it represented the culmination of a great his torical episode. Being only a junior of ficer I was not admitted to the inner apartment of the "Treaty House," as we called it, wherein the negotiations were brought to a final conclusion. The transaction consisted in the delivery to the commodors of the emperor's answer, which expressed his willingness to make a treaty with the United States covering several important points. In the first place, certain ports were to be opened to our trade, and our ships were to be permitted to purchase supplies at prices to be fixed later. As for the rest, the most noteworthy item was that our sailors, when shipwrecked on the shores of Japan, were to receive succor, whereas previously they had been cus tomarily imprisoned. Everything was very satisfactory, and the commodore, having offered to the high commissioners a draft

> all requirements, withdrew. Exchanging Gifts.

of a treaty such as he thought would fill

Then followed the presentation of gifts, brought by the squadron, which had been specially prepared for the purpose in the United States. Among them, I remember, were baskets of champagne, casks of whisky, several rifles, a telescope for the emperor, half a dozen clocks, some stoves and a quantity of vegetable seeds. But what delighted the Japanese most was a number of mechanical inventions, among which were lifeboats, telegraph instruments and batteries, and last, but not least, a occomotive and tender, with a passenger car and rails complete.

The Japs went fairly wild over the raffroad, though it was only a miniature affair, with a tiny locomotive that drew a car hardly big enough for one small child to ride in. Engine and car traveled on a circular track, and one high dignitary after another eagerly asked permission to make the trip, seated on top of the vehicle. Another gift that greatly interested them was a photographic apparatus for making daguerreotypes. Next to the rallroad, however, the electric telegraph inspired them with most enthusiasm. We had brought wire enough for about a mile of line, and the Japs, quito naturally, regarded as positively miraculous the sending of instantaneous messages.

A few days later we made another visit to the Treaty House, for the purpose of receiving gifts sent by the emperor. There was a great quantity of them, and my recollection is that they consisted chiefly treachery. In response to the order to of silk stuffs, fans, lacquer boxes, porceleave, he did pull up his anchors-not to lain and swords. Also, there was a collection of specimens of Japanese moneywhich was rather surprising, in view of some time, and about six hours after I had started I arrived at the little town where my journey was to recommence.

More troop trains and ever more met us

**Summary to the would make the susquehanna and Missister the realm had not been allowed to go out himself, politely but firmly, so tiresome sippi, and the sloops-of-war Saratoga and of the kingdom. All of these presents, I was not a very formidable. the fact that up to that time the coin of as we passed westward. After my recond some shape. Snubs would not count, be- fleet, but strong enough to whip any force years in wooden boxes in the national suggested that it might be worth while to place them on exhibition as relics of historical interest.

On March 31 the commodore went again to the Treaty House, and signed drafts of the treaty in Japanese, Dutch and Chinese, receiving at the same time from the commissioners drafts signed by them. It was agreed in these documents that the ports of Simoda and Hakodadi should be opened to American ships, with privilege of buying coal and other supplies; that our shipwrecked sailors should be humanely treated; that exchange of money should be permitted, and that we should be sllowed to have consuls resident at certain places in Japan. The business thus completed, the commodore presented Prince Hayashi, the chief commissioner, with an American flag, and a banquet, at which we were the guests, followed. I wish I could say it would be impossible under the circum- that we found the feast as enjoyable stances to renew the negotiations for a as the Japs did ours; but the fact is that most of their dishes do not appeal to the Yankee palate. I particularly remember more in the Bay of Yeddo, our squadron the clams, which were certainly the most beautiful I have ever seen, their shells re-

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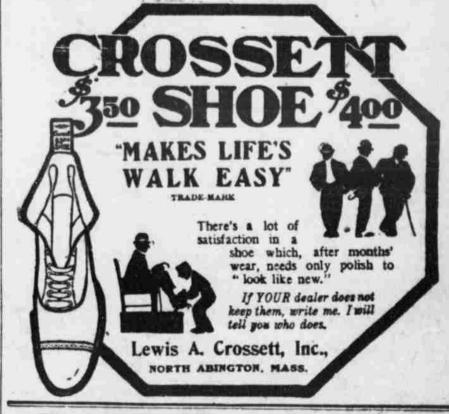
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To the St. Louis exposition. Forty trips have already been awarded as a result of the previous "elections." There are still twenty trips for those who are ambitious to see the exposition and make the journey at the expense of The Bee. The exposition is not open yet, but when your friends come back in the summer and fall and tell you how fine it was, you will be sorry that you did not let people know that you wanted to go and get them to vote for you. A little hustling will result in

A SPLENDID VACATION.

Get your friends interested in the fact that you want to go and they will be glad to prepay their subscriptions and to save their coupons for you. Remember that you get 520 votes on a year's subscription in the city and 600 votes on a year's subscription in the country.

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