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PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH AN ALL-BRITISH RAILWAY.

to Combat Russian Influence-A Writer Proposes a Line From the Mediteropen Ip New Fields of Trade.

With our increasing responsibilities rail." n China comes the great question of with the knowledge of an expert and "The first thing to do is to arouse

we may rest assured that the changes judice and national decline." will be more rapid and comprehensive as soon as traffic is once more opened across the Asiatic continent to Port Arthur. It has already been the means of transferring Manchuria and the greater part of the Liao-Tong Province to the occupation and virtual the actual, grasp of Russia.

TO OUTSTRIP RUSSIA.

the Russian line will for the most part | left traverse her own dominions, as far, at least, as the Chinese frontier, while This much is necessary to explain

authorities.

which will run through the British has been called into operation. East."

position and accessibility to three span. One of the principal reasons is took the case before the magistrate, there is a comparative calm near the the Cape to Cairo and Egypto-Indothe Cape to Cairo and Egypto-Indo-Chinese lines, are destined to regain is ordered on foregin service, the big much of their ancient prestige, and bushies-stirring battle-pictures to the become two of the most important busbies-stirring battle-pictures to the become two of the most important contrary notwithstanding-are returnbecome two of the most important contrary notwithstanding—are return—but as yesterday when it is past to a traveling in threes. thence to Western India traverses the ed to store at the Pimlico Clothing Fac-Chinaman. British sphere. From Kurrachee to so that men get what is called "part Mandlay, the Indian railway systems worn equipment." dalay to Kunlong a line is now unthat the fire resembles an extra bright fice Saving Bank deposite to be 612 considerable disconsists. would be available, and the Indian der construction, and military surveys have demonstrated the practicability of a the months of a the months and blue flames rising from it. The land. Heretofore, it has been in Ireland. Yang Tze from Yang-Chang-Fu, via Mong-Kyang, to Yinchau.

Railway." There appear to be no insuperable difficulties. superable difficulties attached to the of about 93 per cent. of coal dust and overthrown by the banking figures of the banking fig initiation of this Imperial scheme, al- 7 per cent. of a mixture of pyro- various countries.

though it is surrounded by conflicting interests, which will have to be smoothed away and overcome.

"It is worth while bearing in mind that as soon as the proposed line reaches India it will revolutionize the sea route and traffic with Australia. It is about 3,500 miles from Madras to Perth, the capital of western Australia, and, in view of the federation raneau Through Southern Asia - Will of the Australian colonies, Perth will shortly be connected with Sydney by

to be undertaken, it behoves those in effectually protecting and stimulating whose hands lies the future of the our commercial interests in that part British Empire to bestir themselves in than for a child to present to his parour comment of the world. To that end, the consecution of the world. To that end, the consecution of the world. To that end, the consecution of the world. of the world of means of access is one come of procrastination save an active family be assured, by the indisof the most important factors in the having already had a considerable development of British trade. In the start in time and opportunity, it will house, that a respectable burial will current number of The Nineteenth require great exertion to overtake her be his, and one of the greatest anxie-

the pen of an enthusiast on the pos- the public to the strong necessity for ought to be carried out promptly by "The great Siberian Railway is Great Britain, with an eye to her own some way off completion, but is al- priceless interests, rather than by any ready bringing about some far-reach- of Great Britain's rivals, whose en- grave" is quite lost in China. ing changes on the map of Asia, and croachment in our territorial sphere

of the Coldstream, Grenadters and Scots Guards.

For more than one hundred and thirprotectorate of Russia; it is fast con- ty years "a tall hat of fur," has been verting Port Arthur into one of the a conspicuous article of headgear in strongest and most formidably gar- the British army, and it was with risoned fortresses of the world, and something of a shock that people read is bringing the whole of Northern in the papers the other day that a China, within the influence, if not committee was going to sit to consider the growing scarcity of the bearskins from which are made the The point raised in the article is imposing full-dress hats of the Foot how best to combat, rival, and out- Guards, says the London Telegraph. strip the enterprise of Russia in thus War Office committees on clothing tapping these new fields of trade en- are dreadful things, but those that sit terprise. Mr. Moreing has a very de- on hats are unutterable. All rememfinite reply, and suggests that, as Rus- ber with horror the alleged helmet sia is recasting the map of Asia in such a committee produced a few her own interests by the device of a years ago, It was to be the univergrand trunk line to China, why should sal head-covering of the Britiish arnot Great Britain do the same. His my, and must be serviceable and usescheme, and it is great, far reaching, ful. The committee decided, as a first and Imperial in its importance, is to principle, that an article possessing carry a continuous line from the Med- these two qualities, must be ugly, than the ubiquitous grave is the unitercanean to the Yang-Tze, through Proceeding from this premise, they buried coffin. It is everywhere. Ev-Southern Asia, to counterbalance that gave full expression to their ideas ery village has its houses for storing traversing Siberia, and thus link up of utility, and produced a head-cover- place has been found, and whole hamand develop the British zone in Asia. ing the like of which was never before lets are given over to this ghastly use. Such a line is feasible, from a purely seen on earth, and it is to be hoped The interment depending on the good engineering point of view, though it never will be again. There are mem- will of the Wind-and-Water Devil, would necessarily entail enormous dif- bers of the headquarters staff who to Fong-Shui, and his favor being closely ficulties to be overcome, and a propor- this day have not quite got over the intertwined with that of the priest sight of the experimental helmet de- who is employed to choose the site, it Certain portions of such a railway vised by the committee. Fortunately, sometimes happens that the ancesalready exist. Across India there is only one was made, or, instead of only tral remains occupy a corner of the practically through traffic, and, in having to lament the scarcity of re- dwelling house for fifty years before part, the project would consist in a cruits, the nation would have found the two powers that be can agree upconnecting up of the already exist ing itself without any army whatever. No on a proper resting place. Even aftiaman-a volunteer will wear any- it is by no means certain that they "The inherent point of difference thing-would have put it on, and its are finally disposed of; for if the re-

NO SERVICE TO WEAR IT.

a proportion of the proposed British the alarm felt the other day, when railway should run through regions it was announced that a War Office where, though our influence may be Headress Committee was about to tamparamount, the actual sovereignty per with the Guardsmen's bearskins. Fortunately, the committee has only The new Russian Trans-Asiatic route limited powers. Its only function this entails a journey of twelve days, as time is, so to speak, to haggle with against the 33 days taken by the P. tradesmen. The plain fact is that & O. steamers to Hong Kong and bearskins are growing scarce, and the Shanghai. The estimated cost of the cost of providing the Guards with their respective journeys is about £40 by magnificent 'tall hat of fur," is inrailway or £80 pounds for the sea creasing yearly in a remarkable manvoyage. These are very important con- ner. Only one kind of fur is used siderations, because it will necessarily for this purpose. It is that produced mean the diverting of a large amount by the American black bear, and as of passenger money from the P. & Ursus Americanus, despite the extra-O. Company to the Russian railway ordinary cordiality subsisting between the two great branches of the Mr. Moreing is of opinion that the Anglo-Saxon race, refuses to produce western point of departure must in- well-furred integument in sufficient evitably be Alexandria or Port Said. quantities to cover the heads of our Bearing in mind that our great Guardsmen at a reasonable rate, the object is to secure a British railway, never-failing resource of a committee

zone or sphere, and interfere as lit- It costs on an average, £1 per head tle as possible with the French, Ger- per annum, to maintain the imposing man. Russian or Turkish claims, which appearance imparted by the busby. might attend present attempts to re- The great caps cost the Government vive the old Euphrates Valley project, about £8 each. Those worn by the we naturally turn to Egypt, whose Coldstreams are a little less, but those from the owner of the buffalo. The pearance. Tosition marks her out from every for the Grenadiers and Scots Guards little man protested that it was not "Wind billows" are due to a heavy Gummed, Filed and Set. Cairo and Alexandria, it is predicted, "from their unrivalled central whole lot of other equipment, falls have to pay." Whereupon some on them if properly handled. position and accessibility to three considerably short of the principal reasons is isthmus of Sinai, Northern Arabia, tory. They are not kept there awaitthe Persian Gulf, and Baluchistan, ing the return of the former owners, which are all contained within the but are reissued to newly joined relimits of what may be termed the cruits or to battalions returning home,

SMOKELESS COAL.

CHINESE PRIDE IN COFFINS.

Superstitions That May Delay Burials for | Waves Which Look Harmless, But Which Years in China.

A sympathetic foreigner, recently writing to an American newspaper, ly puzzled when a boatman either bewailed the heartlessness of Chinese sons and daughters, who in the parent's lifetime prepare his coffin and shroud, and openly talk with him of his demise. The facts do not justify If this eminently desirable work is the sympathy, for there can be no truer evidence of filial piety in China putable evidence of the coffin in the Century, Mr. C. A. Moreing, writes in the race for opening up new marties of his life is relieved. The coffin is proudly displayed to each guest, the latter never failing to add his sibilities of an all-British railway in losing no more time in grappling with testimony to the filial piety of the a perfectly practical project, which younger generation. The force of the Irish bull that "hopes you may live to eat the hen that scratched on your It is singular to note with what cer-

tainty a Chinaman who is old or ill will prepare for his demise. Premonitions of coming fate seem to enter into his soul, and he sends word to his relatives and friends that he The Regulations About the Big Fur Hats is about to die-what day can they come to his funeral? If he has not been forehanded enough to secure his buria! outfit, there is a great commotion among the households till money is collected for a coffin and also for feasting and music for a funeral is a great social event. The evil spirits must be propitiated with food and paper money, and a supply of paper clothing and furniture must be burned for the use of the departed spirit in the realm of shades. When he is assured that his obsequies will be properly conducted the patient calmly surrenders to the inevitable. When a man has made up his mind to die it is not often that he recovers, en lines, perfectly parallel with each though it sometimes happens that vigorous protests and exhortation on the part of some influential relative will induce him to delay shuffling off this mortal coil.

VASILY MORE SHOCKING regular soldier, or self-respecting mili- ter the bones are laid in the ground between the two enterprises is that adoption into the service would have latives have money the priest is apt one, or perhaps the Fong-Shui has changed his mind, and up comes the ancestors. If the coffin has decayed the fleshless bones are stowed in a covered jar, and these frightful objects awaiting reinterment, dot the

country thickly. additional proof in the fact that not fore it. This also forms into ridges, even her graves remain inviolate. like its pursuer, but of less height Thousands of them have recently been and approximately no depth. incubus to their descendants, must now share in the fate of the old em- surprise of the "trippers." pire for whose blind conservatism they

are so largely responsible. dispute is these same graves. A little with a force of man came running into the compound of the writer some weeks ago, in great distress because his buffalo was ac- the necessity for caution will be recused of exercising its horns upon a cognized. grave belonging to another man. In All waves that come in parallel consequence of such rude disturbance ridges, however, are not dangerous, as of the Fong-Shui the man's wife was there is a "wind billow" that is closevery ill, and he demanded \$6 damages ly allied to the "ground sea" in ap- Separators, Mowers, Reapers.

of various nationalities have been These always break into foam at their rudely attacked in official figures crest, the "white horses" of the marwhich have recently appeared in Eng- Remembering these peculiarities of der construction, and military surveys have demonstrated the coke fire, with addition of long white have demonstrated the practicability of and blue flames rising from it. The and blue flames rising from it. The and blue flames rising from it. The in Ireland. Heretofore, it has been it may keep them from rushing into heat is intense. It is claimed that one popularly supposed that "canny unknown dangers. One other fact is pounds of water in the case of Welsh teen pounds of water, against twelve teen pounds of water, against twelve the qualities of thrift than their more teen pounds of water, against twelve brothers of thrift than their more of advantage should a boat drift out The deductions drawn by the author steam coal. The fuel used for raising easy-going English brethren, and deof this interesting article tend to prove steam is made up in perforated brithat "the circumstances for the conquettes weighing over ten pounds often cited as a harrier to Ireland's ring" cot from mind at case of struction of a thereof the construction of a through line to China apiece, but for domestic fires it takes are far more formation to the control of the cont are far more favorable than they were the shape of small circular cakes. for Russia in the case of the Siberian These can be sold retail in London at Railway? These can be sold retail in London at Book as to economy and savings are comes from the nothwest Dr. Railway? These can be sold retail in London at Book as to economy and savings are comes from the nothwest Dr.

SHIPS WRECKED ON CALM DAYS.

Are Terribly Dangerous.

Many visitors to the coast are sorerefuses to put off from shore, or at most, to go far from land, on a day when there is no sign of an approaching storm, and the water is only moved by a long and gently rolling swell, says Pearson's Weekly.

Argument is of no avail, and if the old salt is pushed for a reason he will only reply with some cryptogramic re mark about "the ground sea," the questioner then retiring more bewildered than before.

It is hard to understand how such a gentle swell can presage danger, but to experienced eyes it gives a warning that must be heeded. All along the west and parts of the south coasts of England and Ireland, as well as the west coast of Scotland, uncounted tales are told of ships which on a perfectly calm day have been within a few hours first caught by a gentle roll of water and finally thrown on a rock-bound shore by the dreaded "ground sea."

To understand this curious marine phenomenon it must be borne in mind that out on the Atlantic waves are often formed to a height of forty feet. Driven before a heavy gale these advance at a rate of from thirty to forty miles an hour. Travelling at such Contains a rate, they soon get out of the wind' swept area, but even though, for them, the storm is past, they still roll on in fury, their undulations often being felt 500 miles from the point of their creation.

In the region of the storm, these waves are fierce,

BREAKING BILLOWS,

but as they get further away they settle down into long, rolling ridges, which travel onward in long, unbrok-

Out on the open sea these ridges often stretch out for a distance of over thirty miles, and as they travel in threes, each successive wave being larger than its predecessor, the sight is an imposing one.

The further they progress the smaller they become in height, but this is compensated for by the fact that their motion is communicated to the mass of water below, until the roll can be detected fully fifty feet under the surface. This gives them the name of "ground sea."

In this peculiarity their danger lies, for when a becalmed ship is caught in them her draught, the resisting power that enables her to ride out a storm, becomes the fulcrum which the liquid mass uses to hurl her onward to destruction.

On a calm day any sailing craft caught in the "ground sea," near a rocky shore is as good as lost unless a wind can spring up and enable her to beat out to sea. Many a ship has met this fate. The reason many more do not get lost is due to the gentle swell that so deceives a landsman and warns the sailor.

As the "ground sea" advances it That China is being changed finds pushes a certain amount of water be-

The "false sea," as it is called, is ments. Even the ancestors who for little more than a rolling swell, but centuries have enjoyed undisturbed re- it gives a warning of from twenty Furnace Kettles, Power Staw Cutpose, who in their lifetime opposed all minutes' to two hours' duration, enreform and advancement, and in their abling a ship to either run into death went to swell the long list of Port, get out to sea, or securely anthose who are nothing less than an chor; while at the seaside resorts the Machines, hand or power; Cresting, boatmen run close in shore to the Farmers' Kettles, Columns, Church

One of the most fruitful sources of tained by the "ground sea," strikes Desks, Fanning Mill Castings, ONE TON TO THE SQUARE INCH

point of view as the 'half-way house' cost more than that sum. According to his beast that did the mischief, and wind blowing but a few miles off the on the road from England to the the regulations a busby must last for the writer's teacher, a literary gradu- land, but as they have had but a comeight years, but there are several rea- ate, who was sitting by, made the ap- paratively short distance to travel, good shingles sons why the regulation "life" of a parently axiomatic statement, "Well, they have no depth. Consequently

not break into foam, but occasionally IRISH THRIFTIER THAN SCOTCH. this happens when they are coming in against the tide. Then it is hard Some preconceived notions as to the to detect them from ordinary waves, saving qualities of men and women the product of a local wind storm.

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