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STEAM RAILWAYS IN THE STREETS OF NEW YORK.

and the decision, being that of the appellate court of last of a few shrubs for domestic use by families owning garden gratis for every club of five subscribers at \$3,20 each; additional copies at it is reported, will be the construction of an elevated road ally consumed in this country might easily be grown on the same proportionate rate. Postage prepaid.

on the east side of the city similar to that already in exist. Spot without percentibly interfering with present garden ence on Ninth avenue on the west side, together with products or household industries. branches extending along some of the finest cross streets, and the continuation of the Gilbert Elevated Railway, which British India, and elsewhere is evidence that there is nothhas already been begun in West Broadway, over its pro- ing in Chinese soil, climate, or industrial conditions to sejected route. Probably other competing lines will also be cure to that country the monopoly of tea growing. In Jaundertaken.

scarcely a dissenting voice on the part of the press of the 35° north latitude; while the cultivation is most successful metropolis. We desire none the less to record our disapprobetween the 21st and 33d parallels, though the plant thrives bation, and to say, as we have steadily held from the almost anywhere up to the 45° north latitude. The Japan time when the elevated system of city railways was first ese crop has nearly trebled during the past twelve or fifteen broached, that in our opinion this mode of transit is un- years, and large areas of newly planted shrubs are rapidly suited to the wants of the public, unjust to our citizens, coming into bearing.
open to grave objections from an engineering point of view, Next in rank as a tea-producing country is Java. Since and manifestly inferior to other systems, the success of 1860 the industry has advanced so rapidly that the annual which has been demonstrated by the plainest results of crop is now about half that of Japan. The plantations are experience. That rapid transit is an urgent necessity admost successful on the mountain slopes from three to five mits of no question; but the need is not such as to warrant thousand feet above the sea; and the crop is said to pay betthe hasty conclusion that the end will justify any means. ter than coffee. Tea growing has also been begun lately in The business welfare of our cry depends greatly upon the the British Straits Settlements with promising results. important than the securing of quick transit. The Elevated The first sample of Assam tea was sent to market in 1843; the property past which it runs, and it is an unsightly Assam, yielding nineteen or twenty million pounds a year. blemish on the magnificent thoroughfares which now con- In Bengal, Madras, the northwest provinces, and the Punstitute the chief ornament of New York.

We need not go on and multiply objections now that the clevated road has the sanction of law. We simply wish to thus giving India the lead of Japan. The most of the India point out that a project loaded with them has been adopted, tea goes to England, where it is much liked. in preference to a system in which they are absent. The where one was made and has been maintained in the teeth instant advocated their elevation. Rapid transit trains are of Tasmania, New Zealand, Mexico, and Central America. now constantly run over this underground road, and people have had the opportunity to judge of its thorough efficiency. In Baltimore and St. Louis, the underground system has been adopted in decided preference and now exists; in Lonthe most ordinary improvements, the underground railway now furnishes the means of transit.

malous. A project, the feasibility and advantages of which are recognized by the best engineers, which is a demonstrated success and which is objectionable to nobody, is strangely enough deferred in favor of one, the practicability of which is by no means free from doubt, which has afforded only very restricted proof of its benefits, and which meets the strongest disapproval from every one directly affected by it, and numbers its supporters only among those whose property is not likely to be injured by the incursion of its tracks.

THE EXTENSION OF TEA CULTURE,

Audition.

NATURAL HISTORY, GEOLOGY, ETC.—Meeting of the British Association at Plymouth. "The Development of the Forms of Animal Life," address by the irresident. Deep Sea Mollusca, Evolution a Product of Imagination.—New Method of Caleulating the Duration of Geography (and the Aris of the Earth.—Life on Meteoric Stones.—Color of Human Hair.—Deep Sea Soundings.—Stimulants of Savages.—Aztec Ruins of Southwestern Colorado, with 1 page of engravings. On the Rivers La Plata and San Juan.—A Nevaga Sandstorn.—Report of the Close-time Committee.

Addition.

In fact, there is no reason to doubt the capacity perceptibly freshened by the vast volume of fresh water produce all the tea required, certainly for home consumption, and thus keep at home the millions annually paid to the tea-growers of China and Japan. The great obstacle to this extension of home industry appears to trees. great obstacle to this extension of home industry appears to trees. be the prevalent impression that, to be successful, tea-growing must be carried on in large plantations. If that were tain Tuckey, who ascended the river to a considerable distrue it would be hopeless to expect ever to compete with the tance above the cataracts, when he was forced to turn back. tea growers of China, Japan, and other countries, where His belief was that the Congo drained some large lakes north labor is plentiful and cheap. That sort of tea-growing is of the equator, and was a continuation of the Niger. barred out of this country by the high price of labor. But produced; yet the subordinate part allotted to tea-growing the coast by the opposition of the cannibal tribes, through

is one of the most striking facts noticed by travelers in the The Court of Appeals of New York State has rendered a tea-producing districts. Large plantations are few, and six decision covering the cases before it, based on the questions or seven hundred weight is a large annual average for an inarising under the State constitution and laws relative to the dividual farm. But, while few grow tea on a large scale, construction of elevated railways in the city of New York. every one who has a garden has a few tea trees in the corner The sum and substance of the judgment is that existing of it. In this way millions of trees go to make up the bulk companies are at full liberty to go on and complete their of the tea crop without materially affecting the general agriroads in accordance with the plans modified and approved cultural industry of the country. It is rather a domestic inby the Rapid Transit Commission of this city, and that they dustry left to women and children than an integral part of are under no necessity of obtaining the consent of the propagriculture; and though of late years tea plantations are inerty owners to use the streets for their purpose. The creasing in number and importance, no specific enumeration various obstructions placed in the path of these enterprises is yet made of tea lands in the revenue returns of the taxable by courts of inferior jurisdiction are entirely swept away, lands of the empire. In like manner, by the general raising resort, becomes settled law. The immediate consequences, plots, a large portion of the fifty million pounds of tea annuon the east side of the city similar to that already in exist- spot without perceptibly interfering with present garden

The recent rapid extension of tea-growing in Japan, Java, pan tea is cultivated as far north as the 39th parallel, the This result is hailed as "a victory for rapid transit" with most favorable region lying between the parallels of 30° and

condition of its streets, and that these should be maintained The most rapid recent development of the industry, howclear and unobstructed is a measure of public policy even more ever, has occurred in British India, particularly in Assam. Railroad is a serious obstruction, it has proved ruinous to now there are upwards of 100,000 acres of tea plantations in jab, the industry is rapidly spreading and the prospect good. The crop of 1875-6 was estimated at 29,000,000 pounds—

In Ceylon also, tea culture has advanced very rapidly of elevated road and the underground road are now and have late. In Brazil, it has been grown successfully in several been for some time in operation in this city simultaneously, provinces; but for home consumption Paraguay tea is preferred, and for export, coffee growing is more profitable. of the opposition of citizens and property owners, the other, Tea growing is also advancing in Tonkin, Cochin China, which stands as one of the most splendid engineering achieve- Malacca, the Corea, and several of the islands of the Indian ments of recent years, was constructed in accordance with Ocean, formerly devoted to coffee; and efforts are making a most urgent popular demand. Residents along Fourth to introduce it into Australia and Jamaica. France, Spain, avenue held public meetings to insist that the tracks of the Portugal, Algeria, Italy, Turkey, and the Crimea, all have Hudson River and other lines be sunk, and no one for an climates suitable for tea growing; and the same may be said

THE CONGO RIVER.

Thanks to Stanley's pluck and energy, the well founded belief that Livingstone's Lualaba was no other than the Congo don it has been in successful operation for many years, and has now been fully justified; and henceforth the Congo must even in Constantinople, a city destitute in other respects of rank with the three or four great rivers of the globe. It is to Africawhat the Amazon is to South America, the Mississippi to North America, the Yang-tse Kiang to Asia. It The subject must now be regarded as singularly ano- certainly exceeds the Nile in volume, and possibly also in area of drainage. Rising in the upland north of Lake Nyassa, it flows northerly through the great interior basin of Africa, until it reaches a point about the second degree of north latitude (long. 24° E.) when it swerves to the westward, then to the southwestward until it approaches the coast. Where Livingstone was stopped, the Lualaba was a noble stream from 2,000 to 6,000 yards wide; after making the great bend near the equator, it developes into a still broader stream, from two to ten miles wide, choked with islands. At the cataracts, where the river breaks through the coast mountains, the stream narrows to 500 yards or less: then spreads out into a broad stream from two to four miles wide For a number of years the Department of Agriculture at with a current flowing about three miles an hour. The Washington has been trying, without much success, to in- volume of water discharged is enormous; Captain Tuckey's duce the citizens of our warmer States to undertake the cul- estimate-2,000,000 cubic feet a minute-is probably rot far tivation of tea. The plant has been successfully grown in from the truth. At its mouth the Congo is a thousand feet a number of States. In many parts of the South and in Cal- deep, and the water has been found to be perfectly fresh ifornia, the tea plant thrives quite as well as in its native nine miles from the coast. For forty miles out the sea is

The first successful explorer of the lower Congo was Cap-

The next to reach the cataract was Captain Hunt, of the that does not or need not prevent our raising a large, if not British steamer Alecto, in 1857. Six years later Captain the larger, part of the tea we use. Even in China it is the Burton attained the same point. In 1872 Lieutenant Granby's wide and general distribution of the tea plant, not its whole-expedition for the relief of Livingstone ascended still fursale culture, that makes the annual crop so large. The two ther, but was recalled in consequence of Livingstone's death. hundred and fifty million pounds a year sent to foreign Cameron's failure to descend the river is fresh in the memory countries is probably not more than one tenth the amount of all. He was forced to take a more southerly course to