

any case the country will advance. Even at the time of our visit, a dozen years ago, the pressure of the Russians had caused the Chinese to construct telegraph lines throughout the country. The establishment of an arsenal at Kirin, for purely military purposes, forced them to search for coal and so open mines. And similar military pressure from the Japanese, as well as the Russians, is now inducing them to extend the railways from north to south. So that military pressure alone has resulted in the adoption of those measures which, of all others, most conduce to industrial development.

And there is other than merely military pressure bearing on Manchuria. Japan, India, America, and all the states of Europe, are by the advance of steam navigation brought alongside, and London is to-day for practical commercial purposes scarcely more distant from the capital of Manchuria than is Peking. Last century not one of these countries wished to trade with Manchuria. To-day all are clamouring for access to what may not inappropriately be called a Land of Promise. All are striving to obtain the means by which they may introduce their own manufactures to sell to the