THEY MIX RELIGION AND BUSINESS

A GLANCE AT THE RUSSIAN WHERE THE AMERICAN INVASION HAS NOT YET REACHED



THEY HALFSOLE YOUR BOOTS WHILE YOU WAIT,

T. PETERSBURG, May 14.—(Special does business. I was here ten years ago. ST, PETERSBURG, May 14.—(Special Correspondence)—I have come from Berlin to St. Petersburg as an advance scout of the American invasion. I went across North Germany to Stettin on the Oder and there got a German steamer which took me over the Baltic to Kronstadt and landed me in St. Petersburg. The trip cost 115 and lasted three days. Our ship was so heavily inden with German goods for Russia that we could not move about upon deck, and the cabins were so filled with commercial drumther. The town already has about 1,500,000

ins were so filled with commercial drummers that we had to sleep three in a Everything about the steamer was German. The beds were too short and the bedding was shorter. It is cold on the Baltic at this time of the year, and the fat feather tick which was my only covering reached but to my chest. When I covered my neck I had an attack of cold feet, and if I saved my feet I was in danger of bronchitis. The food was German. We had coffee and bread and but-

at 7. There was plenty of light and dark beer with each meal, and cheese of all kinds, from Schweizer to Limburger. I talked with the German drummers as to their trade with Rossia. They claim that they have the foreign trade of the whole empire with the exception of agricultureal machinery in their inside vest pocket, and as far as I can judge at this early writing they are not far from correct I find Germans everywhere. They have their stores in every city and their agents on every road. They do so much of the business that German is generally understood by the larger merchants. There are more than 18,000 of them in St. Petersburg alone, to about 2000 French, 2000 English and less than 50 Americans.

ter at 8 o'clock in the morning, pork chops or veal cutlets or hamburger steak long about 10, a dinner at 2 and supper

at 7. There was plenty of light and dark

2000 English and less than 50 Americans. The Big Russian Market.

worth of goods here every year, but our experters have not begun to tap the trade. enormous possibilities of its trade. It is already one of the greatest markels of the world, and in the future it will be a

hundred times greater.

Have you ever thought of the size of Russia? You know it is big, but do you know how big it is? From the top of Russia in Europe to the bottom is about as far as from New York to Salt Lake as far as from New York to Salt Lake City, and across it from west to east is almost as far as from New York to Den-ver. It comprises about two-thirds of the European confinent, and it is about two-thirds as large as the United States without Alaska or our outlying colonies. A large part of the country has some of the best soil on the globe, but it is not half cultivated. The better farmers are introducing our agricultural machinery, and year by year the crops increase.

But Russia in Europe is less than one-fourth of the Russian empire. It has more than 6,000,000 square miles of land in Asia, the most of it in great blocks, uding west tracts which will raise wheat, cotton, dairy products and every-thing under the sun. The land contains minerals of all kinds, and is on the whole the greatest undeveloped property in the world today. Altogether the Russian empire contains more than one-sixth of all the land on the earth's surface, or about two and one-half times as much as is cwned by the United States.

Our Russian Customers.

This vast extent of territory is thinly populated. It will probably support 100 men where it now supports one, but, nev-ertheless, it has a vast population. The Caur rules almost 130,000,000 people, or just about one-twelfth of the population of the globe. That means if you could put all the people on this big, round earth into one place one lu every dozen would

These people are not like the savages of Central Africa, who have but few wants. More than one hundred million of them are white people who spend money like water if they have it. The peasantry of Russia are very poor, but when they get rich they scatter their money around more extravagantly than any other people on earth. They want the best, and will pay big prices for it. The great market of the future will be in their increased wealth and increased wanth. As it is now, the average Russian is not worth one-lifth as much as the Average American. There are yast territories where the earn-ings of the inhabitants are not more than II cents a day, and altogether the foreign trade is now worth only \$5 or \$6 per per-

The people live upon almost nothing, a few cents a day supplying them with their black bread and cabbage soup, and their ricthes being the cheapest of the cheap. Most of these Russians are farmers, but there are a million and a half who are now working in the factories, and there are at least four millions who carry on village industries in addition to tilling the



OUR RUSSIAN CUSTOMERS.





A RUSSIAN MERCHANT AT HOME.

and the fur stores are engelially line, and the fur stores are magnificent, for Russia is the chief fur market of the world. The skins of tigers, wolves, jackals and foxes are beautifully mounted with heads of the animals intact, so that they grin out at you as you walk along the corridor. Go within and you find shelves piled high with furs, and upstairs are bales and bags of them, some of the skins being worth almost their weight in

tmage. Some of these things cost enromous sums.

The jewelry stores are especially fine, and the fur stores are magnificent, for Russia is the chief fur market of the world. The skins of tigers, wolves, jackals and foxes are beautifully mounted with heads of the animals intact, so that they store, and they all say prayers before they leave.

invaders should come here and study the situation. They will find many things the same as in the Middle Ages. There are open-air markets, where all sorts of things are sold and peddlers go through the streets with every kind of ware, even to caps, trousers and boots. A man will have half a dozen pairs of pants on his back and sell them as he goes. Of course, there is no trying on. The police would not permit that, but as nine-tenths of the Russians wear their trousers in their boots, the fit is more a waist measure than anything else. The shoe peddler carries his wares from house to house, and the itinerant shoemaker may be found in every other street half-soling boots while the customers wait.

boots while the customers wait. Retaliate Against the Americans. At present most American goods pay an extra duty because the United States discriminates against Russian sugar. The discrimination came from the influence of our sugar trust; but it would have paid us better to have admitted Russian sugar

our sugar trust; but it would have paid us better to have admitted Russian sugar free than to have our trade hampered by the present restrictions. All customs matters here are in the hands of the Finance Minister, and when we put our duty on augar he at once put duties on almost all American imports. We still sell plenty of machinery because the American machinery is better than any other, but many of our goods are kept out.

I chatted with Mr. Hernando De Sota, our Vice-Consul-General here, as to this tariff. During the talk he told me how he had been forced to pay \$17.56 for bringing an old American bicycle into Russia. "I was," said he, "connected with the Consulate at Dreaden, and was ordered to St. Petersburg. I had a letter from the Russian Ambassador at Berlin asking the frontier customs officers to treat me leninatly, and also papers showing that I was connected with the United States Government. Nevertheless, when the customs officers saw my bicycle they said it was classed as machinery and that I must pay a duty of is rubles, or \$1. But, said I, 'this is my personal property. You can see that it is an old machine, for I have ridden it \$600 miles. I bought it in America some years ago." 'Ah!' was the reply. 'American, is it? We have a new rule as to American machinery, and will have to charge you almost double the duty. According to that the tariff is \$5 rubles.' This amounted to \$17.50, and that amount I paid."

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look into its essential nature, must see that such a surrender by the people of the control of their municipal affairs must necessarily be followed by the mischiev ous effects to which I have alluded, and yet but few, comparatively, are really persuaded of this. Many people have thought that the trouble was in repuban government is isadequate to the prop-er government of our cities, and we are powerless, therefore, to relieve it unless we abandon republican government and adopt some other." Others have said that it was the enormous influx of ignorant foreigners into the country-ignorant of our institutions, not understanding our language, nor our customs, naturally the tools and instrumentalities of the politi-cians; as soon as that immigration is di-minished, or as soon as that element became amalgamated with the general population of the country, we should have a better state of things. Others, again

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but all over the country some \$390,000,000 or \$750,000,000 are annually collected by taxation for municipal purposes, and the control and management of that vast sum constitute means by which those who may be able to gain control of it may enrich themselves, eurith their associates, advance themselves on the road to political fortune, and in a multitude of ways, mostly corrupt and improper, pervert those funds from their true and proper purpose. Now, that is the great prize those finds from their true and proper purpose. Now, that is the great prize constantly offered at every election to the people of this country—a prize which, of course, has approached its present magnitude only within recent years, which in the early history of the country did not exist at all or not exist to such an extent as to terror persons exclusive.

did not exist at all or not exist to such an extent as to tempt persons seriously. Now, however, the temptation is enormous; it is prodigious, the force of it we can hardly measure; and this is the price which is dangled before the politician at every municipal election.

On the other hand, what are the inducements to honest men to take office? They must abandon their business; they must give up their regular pursuit, and they must devote themselves disinterestedly to the public good for little or no compensation. I need not say, that constituted as human nature is, here is a very great danger always present. Knowing, as we do, the weakness of human laws were insufficient; that we must have better laws—laws to punish offenses in reference to the transaction of municipal affairs—and that our remedy was to go to the Legislature and have a lot of new laws enacted.

Now, there is more or less truth in all these views. That is to say, there is this much truth in them: Our monicipal disorders are aggravated; the ability of machine politicians to come that the possession of these gilitering pecuniary prizes, and who know they can be obtained by the practice of unscrupulous means, will get the better of men who do not care to have the possession of them, and who under no circumstances will reserve to unscrupulous means.*

The Republican

the two great National parties, have no concern with municipal politics. They

(which is evidenced, of course, by the extent to which he carries municipal elec-tions for the party)—the man who brings us the greatest number of votes, the or-ganization that brings it, that man and that organization shall be pronounced reg-ular"; and that declaration of course en-ables this municipal organization in the cities where it can carry an election to obtain entire control of the business of the municipality and of all its proceed-

the municipality and of all its proceedings.

I remember a story of a gentleman who had been a member of Congress, and after 20 years was elected again. When he went back he had occasion to go into one of the department offices, and he found there as gentleman, an official, who had been there when he was in Congress 20 years before, and he congratulated him on it. He said: "How is it that you have remained here through so many changes of administration?" There had been a half dozen. Republicans had come and gone and Democrats had come and gone "Well," says he, "If they can change their administrations quicker than I can change my politics, they are pretty smart." Now, these corrupt politicians of the municipal stripe do not care unfor what banner they fight-one le just as good as the other; and if you did attempt to put them out and did succeed in the stempt in one party they would go over into the other and make that party successful by the same means. censful by the same means.

The only remedy is to conquer the evil in its cause—this alliance, this control of municipal affairs by the political parties—to attack the control of the political parties—over municipal affairs, to say to the

political parties: "You have no business or concern with them. You must not nominate candidates; if you do they are

the election of candinates of either of the other two that it would quickly become superior and control the destinies of the city. Why, it is done repeatedly, is it not? We have done it two or three times in New York. It has been done in Chicago. It has been done in 50 of the cities of the country occasionally, sporadically indeed, but what has been done once or twice or three times can it not be done twice or three times, can it not be done always? Why, of course it can. If you can do it once, you can always do it.

I am a party man myself, and I like to I am a party man myself, and I like to see the great National policies which are represented by the two opposing parties presented to the people of the country, and their ascent to this or that measure sought by discussion, by argument, by every fair influence upon the mind. The National political campaigns, with all their accompaniments or most of them—there are some of them I would leave out—are interesting and valuable experiences, instructive to the citizen, necessary to freedom, and they are not to be given up by any manner of means. It is only when National politics undertake to encroach upon a domain with which they have no concern that the mischief arises, and it is at that point that our efforts ought to be directed:

If I should compare, however, the importance of National politics with municipal affairs, I should say that the former were less important, almost like dust in the halance, compared with the latter. In National affairs the moment degeneracy begins it is felt in every corner of your civil and political life. The moment unscrupulous men get possession of your municipal effices and turn them to their own purposes, your schools-begin to suffer degredation, the payement of your for the payement of your four degreedation, the payement of your four degreedation the payement of your

Love, shall we start or stay, Or sail or row?
There's many a wind and way.
And never a May but May:
We are in love's hand today;
Where shall we go?

Our land-wind is the breath Of sorrows kissed to death And joys that were; Our ballast is a rose; Our way lies where God knows, and love knows where. We are in love's land today—

Our seamen are fiedged Loves, Our masts are bills of doves, Our decke fine gold; Our ropes are dead maids' bair, Our stores are love-shafts fair And manifold. We are in love's land today—

Where shall we land you aweet?
On fields of strange men's feet,
Or fields near home?
Or where the five-flowers blow,
Or where the flowers of snow,
Or flowers of foam?
We are in love's hand today—

Land me, she says, where love Show but one shart, one dove, One heart, one hand— A shore like that, my dear, Lies where no man will steer. No maiden land.

Emerson's Fondness for Pie.

Emerson's Fondness for Pie.

Des Moines Register.

Interesting, too, has been the reminiscence of Emerson's love for pie. It has been remarked that he liked his pie baked in deep, square tins, so that like the real estate speculator he could get a good corner. Railled upon his fondness for this piece de resistance of New England cookery, it is fondly recalled how the sage replied: "What is pie made for if not to be caten"—a delightful bit of Emersonian philosophy.