

BOTH SIDES OF IT.

Two steamers are a rigola de bell, Listen to de warin'...

Doom of the Czar.

The Berlin correspondent of the London Daily News has received from St. Petersburg a copy of a proclamation issued by the Revolution Committee on the day that the Czar returned to St. Petersburg. It reads as follows:

On the 9th of this month, on the Moscow and Kursk Railway, by order of the Executive Committee, an attempt was made on the life of Alexander II. by means of an explosion. The attempt failed. We do not find it convenient to publish at the present time the reason of the failure. We are convinced that our agents and our party will not be disheartened at the failure of the attempt, but will gain from it a new experience, a lesson of precaution, and at the same time fresh consciousness of their own power and of the possibility of a successful issue.

Addressing ourselves to all honest Russian citizens who value liberty, to whom the national will and the national interests are sacred, we once again point to Alexander II. as the personification of a despotic despotism of all that is cowardly and sanguinary. The reign of Alexander II. from the beginning to the end is a lie, in which the famous emancipation of the serfs ends with Makoff's circular. From the commencement to the end it has been devoted to the consolidation of the classes hostile to the people, and the destruction of everything by which the people lived and wished to live.

The present reign has supported by violence all those who rob and oppress the people, and at the same time systematically exterminate all who are honest and devoted to the nation. There is not one village that has not supplied martyrs, who have been deported to Siberia for supporting communal interests and for protesting against the administration. From among the intelligent classes tens of thousands drag in an interminable string to Siberia to the mines, exclusively for having served the cause of the people in the cause of liberty and in order to attain a higher level of development. The ruinous process of extermination of every independent element is at last simplified. Alexander II. is the usurper of the nation's right, and the main pillar of reaction, the chief author of the judicial assassination. Fourteen executions weigh on his conscience. Hundreds of sufferers cry for vengeance. He deserves to die for the blood he has spilled, for all the suffering he has caused. He deserves to die, but it is not alone with him that we have to do. Our object is the national welfare. Our task is to emancipate the people and make them masters of their fate. If Alexander II. would recognize what a dreadful calamity he is inflicting on Russia, how unjust and criminal the oppression he creates, and renouncing his authority, would transfer such to an Assembly freely elected by universal suffrage and provided with instructions by its electors, then only would we leave Alexander II. in peace, and forgive him all his offenses. Until then, a struggle, an implacable struggle, while there remains in us a drop of blood, until, over the ruins of despotism, there waves the standard of national liberty, and the will of the people shall become the law of Russian life. We appeal to all Russian citizens to support our party in this struggle. It is no easy task to support the whole pressure of the government forces. The failure of the attempt of the 19th of November is an instance of the many difficulties with which even separate and comparatively unimportant episodes in the struggle are attended. We want general support in order to break up despotism and return to the people its right and authority. We demand and expect such support from Russia. St. Petersburg, Nov. 22, 1879.

Nobody expects any Congressman to distinguish himself for the first two weeks. After that it is expected that they will throw their whole souls into a "here" at roll-call.

A man was standing on a corner the other day, gazing around at nothing in particular, when a friend stepped up and said: "I see you have a mourning band on your hat." "Yes, I have; it's for my mother-in-law," replied the man in mourning. "Why, I did not know she was dead." "Well, she isn't, she's recovered."

A "drummer" for a New York house called on a merchant recently and handed him a picture of his betrothed instead of his business card, saying he represented that establishment. The merchant examined it carefully, remarked that it was a fine establishment, and returned it to the astonished man, with the hope that he would soon be admitted into partnership. The last seen of the drummer and merchant they were talking about the outrages in Maine.

A Literal Application.

Professor H., one of the oldest tutors of one of the oldest colleges in the country, was as eccentric as he was learned. His judgment anywhere in the field of natural science and philosophy was to be taken as law. No one ever thought of questioning it. The mathematical knot was never wrought which he could not sever. On a certain occasion Professor H. wanted a servant. Several applicants presented themselves—were tried and discarded. Finally one came whose looks the pedagogue liked.

"Now, look ye, my man," the savant said, "if you can remember and carry out one course of procedure, I think we may get on. I cannot afford to waste words, nor can I afford to find thoughts for a stupid servant. You must do your own thinking and understand my wants at a hint. For instance, when I say 'Bring me a razor,' you will comprehend that I am going to shave; so you will understand that I want hot water, soap, to wash, comb, brush, and so on. And so with every thing. My initial order you will take as a cue, and of your own thought supply all possible accessories and contingents."

The new servant proved himself equal to the occasion, and his master was more than satisfied.

One day the professor came home pale and shabby. Said he to his servant: "John, I am not feeling well. Go and call the doctor."

The man bowed and departed. An hour passed—two hours—and yet no doctor and no servant. Finally, however, the doctor arrived, and in a moment more in came the servant.

"How is this, John," demanded the professor. "Why have you been so long?"

"You told me to call the doctor, sir."

"But, sir, you told me you were not well. I took your simple order as a cue to all you might need. I found the doctor absent and left word for him. Then I went to call watchers in case you should require attendance through the night. Then I called upon your lawyer, in case you should desire to make your will. And then, sir, I had to buy up the undertaker, that he might have all in readiness in case—"

"Stop, stop, John! That will do. Bless me! you can be literal in your application of a hint."

"Yes, sir. Any further orders, sir?"

"Not now, John. You may go." The professor is still living, and John still serves him.

American Cartridges.

Russia was among the first to make use of the American metallic cartridge, and she attempted in vain to imitate them. After wasting 10,000,000 of cartridges made of inferior material, she wisely concluded to buy here, as do foreign nations have since done. Some of the American cartridges sent to Russia were subjected to the unparalleled test of a five weeks soaking in the waters of New York harbor, the vessel carrying them having sunk off Staten Island on her way out. They were fished up as good as new, and triumphantly passing the ordeal in the best of their firing quality, went on their way again, and have, no doubt, long since added their quota to the return of casualties. For good cartridges American copper is needed, a fact which the Europeans are beginning to learn. Ever so long ago as the days of the mound-builders it was discovered that our Lake Superior region produced a copper ore of uncommon purity. One of the purities is not, it would seem, to be found elsewhere, and perhaps the process of annealing is not so well understood abroad. At all events, the brass made of the foreign copper, abounding in the sulphurets, lacks the necessary strength and ductility, and for some reason the metallic cartridges made abroad are liable to deteriorate in quality. During her war with Turkey, Russia purchased large quantities of brass here, one of the first and largest orders being for 2,000,000 worth of sheet brass. Other governments have, no doubt, been purchasers. Ready-made cartridges have also been sent abroad in such quantities that a million has become a unit of calculation. Three forms of cartridges are given in the illustrations one showing the United States Government cartridge another the Peabody-Martini cartridge, and the largest the Sharp or Remington special long-range cartridge. The Government cartridge contains seventy grains of powder and a hardened bullet, composed of one part of tin and sixteen parts lead, weighing 480 grains. The Peabody-Martini has eighty-five grains of powder and a bullet of the same composition, weighing 480 grains. The long-range bullet has one part of tin to fourteen parts lead, and weighs 590 grains, the charge of powder being 100 grains. The advantages of the heavier cartridge are well known in the experiences of the Turkish war already referred to. Whichever else they may lack, the Turks have certainly shown superior intelligence in the armament of their troops. The English, who use the same gun, had on a smaller scale an experience similar to that of the Turks. The rifles used by the rifle brigade in the campaign against the Afghans were sighted for 2,000 yards, and at 2,100 yards were found effective. The rifles with which our own army is provided are sighted to 1,200 yards, as will be seen from the cut on page 450, showing the military sight. Some of the sights used by riflemen in long-range shooting are also shown. The Vernier sight is a slight combining a spirit-level and a wind-gauge. The ordinary Vernier will register to the thousandth of an inch, and Verniers have been made so as to register the ten-thousandth of an inch, these finer sights being used to regulate the ordinary sights. These very fine sights are not adapted to military service, in which the rifle is subjected to a very different usage from that prevailing at Creedmore, where the long-range rifle-man is able to give his weapon all the care that a musician would take of his precious Stradivarius violin or his Tourne bow.—Scraper's Monthly.

An English paper advertises a book entitled "The Amateur Poacher." Something in the way of "Hints to Young Burglars" and "The Complete Forger" may soon be expected.

Austria and Prussia in European History.

There is nothing more remarkable in history than the simultaneous aggrandizement of the House of Hapsburg, both eastward and westward, at the close of the fifteenth and the commencement of the sixteenth century. Before that date it had indeed occupied a considerable position. On the extinction of the House of Babenberg it had wrested Austria, after a sharp struggle, from the Ottokar of Bohemia, and had given more than the Emperor to Germany. But its position was the reverse of undisputed. It was in reality the fear of the Turks and the French, and the consequent recognition of the necessity of some kind of union among heterogeneous principalities and powers which finally made the Empire of Germany hereditary in the House of Hapsburg and united it to the crowns of Bohemia and Hungary. The union was not altogether willing; the decree of fate was long struggled against. But the fall of Constantinople in 1453, the weak policy of the French Kings and the but successful intrigues of Francis the First to be elected Roman Emperor settled the question. The history of the House of Austria in its broader features for the two centuries which followed is the history of the double struggle against the great enemies east and west. The final defeat of the Turks before Vienna, and the victories of Eugene and Louis of Baden on the Rhine and the Danube at the close of the seventeenth and the commencement of the eighteenth century, altered the situation forever. The huge ever-growing dominion of the House of Hapsburg was no longer a necessity as a defence against the Turks, and the world soon began to find it out. It may sound paradoxical, but the fact is, that the House of Hapsburg was destroyed by its own victories. 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