

# The Dalles Chronicle.

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## A STARTLING STORY

The Czar of Russia is Being Slowly Poisoned.

### THE CLASH OF CHURCH AND STATE

They Succeed in Subduing a Powerful Hottentot Chief—Result of Belgium Elections—Ameer of Afghanistan Sick.

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 15.—Dr. George F. Schmidt, a German traveler, now in Minneapolis, has received secret dispatches from St. Petersburg, which throw a strong light on the crisis in European politics caused by the impending death of the czar. These dispatches came written in sympathetic ink on apparently a blank piece of paper. An application of heat brought out strange stenographic characters, which the doctor readily translated for the Associated Press, as follows:

"The czar is lying at the point of death. The excitement in the highest circles of Russia is tremendous. It is understood in wide circles in Russia that the czar's sickness was brought about by systematic means, and that his death will not be a natural one. It is on account of that journals contradict the fact of the czar's sickness. There is a party that wants the czarowitz on the throne. The czarowitz is of a cranky, melancholy nature, and will institute the most radical reforms throughout Russia, and has already made plans for such action. He is much hated by the clergy. The patriarch of Moscow, who is at the head of the Greek church, has traveled about with the czar in order to persuade him to put his second son on the throne instead of the czarowitz. The Greek Catholic church of Russia is feverishly excited. The Richarath, or council of the empire, is daily holding a secret council. The Pan-Slavic party is with the church and against the czarowitz, who is a great friend of Germany. Should the czar decide to place his second son upon the throne this would be looked upon as a direct insult to Germany, and would be attended with most serious results. The second son of the czar is very inimical to Germany and friendly to France. He is dreadfully despotic, and in the highest degree headstrong, and a strong autocrat. It is feared on the deathbed of the czar the church influence will succeed in inducing him to call his second son as successor. As this second son is very hotheaded, he is not sure to remain on the throne without becoming seriously involved in state troubles. The 88-year-old patriarch of Moscow has had two conferences with the czar at his deathbed, but no one knows the purport of this talk. The second son of the czar is very despotic, and opposed to the liberty of the people, and of an envious nature. He is a fine soldier, fond of fight, a martial fellow and very ambitious. He is the enemy of England, Germany, and above all, America. He not only intends to increase the size of Asiatic Russia, but will attempt the tremendous task of bringing Behring straits under Russian control and extending the empire in the direction of America. This prince is by all odds one of the greatest generals in Russia, having been with Gourka and Timaschiff, and having studied with the latter. All the cabinets of Europe are alarmed. It is rumored that the entrance of England into the dreibund, that is the triple alliance, is about to take place. Already between Russia and France secret relations have been entered into."

Dr. Schmidt is a second lieutenant to the Russian army, traveling on leave. He is bound for Japan and the Orient.

### The German Forces Victorious.

BERLIN, Oct. 15.—A dispatch from Major Lentwein, imperial commissioner of Southwest Africa, in command of the expedition operating against the powerful Hottentot chief, Henrik Witboi, announces the latter has yielded to the Germans, who have occupied his stronghold. Advice from Wilfish bay, September 25, announce that Major Lentwein August 12 stormed Chief Witboi's camp. Witboi escaped and subsequently sent messages with offerings of peace to

the German commander. During the engagement Lieutenant Diestel and eight German troopers were killed and Ederoff and 10 troopers were wounded. Witboi has been giving the Germans trouble for a long time.

### Bound to Have a Bullfight.

PARIS, Oct. 15.—During a bullfight in Dax, south of France, yesterday, an officer escorted by policemen went to the arena to stop the sport. He laid before the directors a legal paper forbidding the fight, but was ignored by them. The toreadors continued their work until they killed the bull, amid the cheers and applause of the spectators. After the fight the crowd hustled the policemen and jeered the officer. The town is much excited this evening, but no violence has been reported. The government order prohibiting bullfighting was proclaimed late in September.

### Fight With Mexican Employees.

TUXPAN, Mexico, Oct. 15.—At the vanilla plantation of G. B. Baskin, an Englishman, 80 miles distant, a desperate fight took place Saturday. The Mexican employees were not satisfied with the superintendent, who was an American, and a number assailed him. The superintendent had a few friends among the laborers, who stood by him. The foreman was badly wounded, and four Mexicans killed.

### The Czar's Condition.

LONDON, Oct. 15.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg to the Times says the reports that the czar is better are confirmed by advices from the best circles near his majesty. On the other hand, the Vienna correspondent of the Times hears that the czar's condition is extremely unfavorable.

### May Prevent Diphtheria.

BERLIN, Oct. 15.—Professor Virechow has expressed his opinion that the blood serum discovered by Dr. Behring has the effect to protect the person taking it from diphtheria for weeks, but says it has not been demonstrated that it is a positive cure.

### The Belgian Elections.

BRUSSELS, Oct. 15.—As far as can now be judged in the elections for parliament, to socialists. The Catholics lost seven seats. Owing to the number of rebalots necessary, it is impossible to predict the exact composition of the new chamber.

### WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our regular correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12, 1894.

That the democratic party should be traveling under false colors is nothing new—it has never made any other sort of a campaign—but the hypocrisy of Mr. Cleveland's order, that prominent member of the administration should not take the stump, is under existing circumstances extremely farcical to people in Washington, who know the part that the administration is taking in this campaign. It is about as consistent as it would be for the devil to take the road as an evangelist, and comes with poor grace just after Secretary Hoke Smith has returned from bossing the state campaign in Georgia, which he came so near losing as to give the democrats a scare that they have not yet recovered from. And it certainly does not gee with the action of the pension office officials, who are using all the machinery of that office to make votes for democratic candidates for congress; nor with the recent exposure of the efforts of the negro officials composing the negro democratic league to compel all negroes holding federal offices to be assessed for the benefit of the democratic campaign fund.

Speaking of campaign assessments, a few remarks of Civil Service Commissioner Roosevelt, who is never afraid to tell the truth, are in striking contrast with the position that Mr. Cleveland would like to have the country believe his administration occupies. He said: "We are having trouble with the treasury department, but just now we are having most trouble over this matter of political assessments. I don't recall any non-presidential election year in which we have had half so much. The recent decision of the department of justice, that a letter sent to a government employee requesting him to contribute money for campaign purposes did not come within the law prohibiting the asking of funds for political reasons from the clerks, has militated against the civil service commission in its efforts to stop the foul business. The law, to my

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mind, plainly covers cases where demands for contributions are made by letter; but the attorney general thinks differently. The commission is very anxious to get a decision by the courts, and it sometime ago requested the attorney general to bring a test case, in order to get a decision, but he has not done so. Investigations have just been ordered by the commission into two big offices, outside of Washington, where the employees are being called upon to subscribe to campaign funds. If we can get no other satisfaction we can at least warn the clerks and employees that their official positions will not be in any way jeopardized by a refusal to accede to the demands for contributions, and we shall lay the matter as strongly as possible before the president and congress."

Mr. Cleveland must think the people are easy to gull indeed, if he thinks he can make them believe that the administration is taking no part in the campaign, in the face of the gathering at Batavia, N. Y., of Secretaries Gresham, Carlisle, Lamont and Herbert, and Postmaster General Bissell. It is all very well to say that they went to hear Secretary Carlisle deliver his address on Robert Morris, an early secretary of the treasury; but everybody knows that their principle object was to give the New York campaign a boost. It is very clear that Mr. Cleveland's order is merely a bit of democratic hypocrisy.

The Washington Statistical Association has no connection whatever with politics, and for that very reason the address of Judge Lawrence, condemning the recent changes in the treasury department, delivered at a meeting held by the association this week, has attracted general attention. It is gratifying to your correspondent to have what he said on this subject in last week's letter endorsed by such high authority as Judge Lawrence, who said in his address: "During the five years that I was first comptroller of the treasury department, I had some opportunity to study and observe the operation of the system established by Alexander Hamilton, and in successful operation ever since. Under it frauds have been substantially impossible. The system in its practical operation has been as nearly a perfect safeguard against fraud and error as human ingenuity could devise. The recent act of congress based on the report of the Dockery commission revolutionizes the whole of this system and opens a wide door for fraud and mistakes. I regard the change as a most dangerous and vicious innovation, fruitful of mistakes and fraud."

Senator Gallinger, of New Hampshire, passed through Washington this week, on his way home from South Dakota, where he has been making republican speeches. He expressed confidence that the republicans would carry South Dakota by an increased majority, and said he was satisfied that the populists were rapidly decreasing in the west. Speaking of the general result Senator Gallinger said: "I expect every northern state to go republican this fall, resulting in a republican house of representatives."

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