

RUSSESS

LAWLESS MEN WHO COMPOSE THE CZAR'S BODY GUARD.

Devoted and Unprincipled Without Dread or Appreciation of Danger—Granted Immunity from Punishment for All Crimes Except Cold Blooded Murder.

I see here and at St. Petersburg only a few soldiers in the streets, and the dashing Cossacks riding like mad on horseback are the life of the military for the winter. The Cossacks are the life guards of the czar, and are the most interesting of the many characters in this strange country.

A genuine Cossack has no more appreciation or dread of danger than he has of his vodka, a terrible rum, which he drinks like water and which makes intoxication at sight. He was the original soldier of Russia, the patrol detective and the prime spirit in making republican institutions what they are. He is devoted to the czar, and for his devotion has been knighted in the highest degree. The acme of the Russian soldier is to become associated with the service of the crown and to be located about the palace. When a soldier is stationed in the vicinity of the palace and it becomes known that he has been recognized by the czar, his reputation has reached the zenith, and he instantly becomes the admiration of the entire people. To get a promotion en suite—that is, into the direct service of the czar—is to acquire the highest honor a million Russian soldiers aspire to.

In all the wars Russia has fought from her organization the Cossacks have figured most conspicuously. They especially did the bloody work when Napoleon came over from France in 1812 and attempted to conquer the empire. The great French general found his men falling like hail when he was unable to strike back, the enemy always being under shelter. It was continuous bushwhacking till the retreat began, when the Cossacks rode out 40,000 on horseback and shot down in cold blood almost twice their number in Napoleon's ranks. For centuries these people have been the predominant inhabitants on both sides of the Volga, and the first to take up arms in all the Crimea against intruders. Nearly half a century ago the czar rewarded the tribe by making all Cossacks in his service his special life guard. Altogether the most brutal and ignorant, the Cossack is thus given the most conspicuous position in all this great army. Whenever you see Alexander III you see a swarm of Cossacks about him, riding over pedestrians, slashing their sabers in the air, and holding high and arbitrary authority. They have complete privilege and exercise it to the fullest extent.

IMMUNITY AGAINST PUNISHMENT.

A Cossack soldier is granted complete immunity against punishment for all but the highest crime, which is murder in cold blood. If he wantonly murders an innocent and unoffending citizen or companion he is court-martialed and probably imprisoned for three or six months, but it is extremely difficult to convict him when once arrested. He is furnished a horse, clothing and rations when stationed in a city, but he is given no salary, and rations only when he cannot forage. About one-fourth of them are supplied by the hands of the czar, while nearly 100,000 of them are privileged to go about the country and in the name of the czar pillage and plunder. They hold up strangers, commit burglary sometimes and demand at the hands of the people the best there is to live upon. It is useless to make complaints of their depredations, as they are legalized. The people have to keep the czar and guard his life; they must protect him and all his interests, and he holds that they may just as well do some of their acts for the empire's preservation directly, by maintaining a band of marauders, as to do it indirectly through the channel of the treasury.

It does not follow that because a soldier is a life guard he must be at the side of the one he is employed to protect. His field is in any spot he can locate effort to injure the empire or its czar. He is a secret or public detective, or a soldier, according to his purposes or desires. He goes about, when not under direct orders, in the uniform of a soldier or the dress of a civilian. At St. Petersburg, not many days ago, I saw a Cossack in private citizen's dress on the street, walking in hot haste. He wore a long ulster, buttoned up to the chin. He was in the role of a detective. In a little group of men he espied his game—a slender youth. Hastily unbuckling his great coat he drew forth a bugle. A single, short call, and at his side were three or four of the fiercest looking Cossack soldiers I ever saw. They came in a twinkling, wore coats of mail, caps, and at their sides and in their belts were pistols, knives and maces sufficient to start a band of Texas highwaymen. The arrest was not resisted, and the display seemed entirely unnecessary. —Moscow Cor. Kansas City Times.

Cruelty to Children in London.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts has written an introduction to a report of the third year's work of the London society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The variety of cruelty which the committee has punished and tried to punish is as follows: Immersing a dying boy in a tub of cold water for nearly an hour "to get this dying done"; breaking a girl's arm while beating her with a broom stick, then setting her to scrub the floor with the broken arm folded to her breast and whipping her for being so long about it; laughing so hard over the defeat of prohibition in that city as to permanently dislocate his jaw.

Two New Alloys of Aluminum.

M. Bourbouze has, says Revue Scientifique, formed an alloy of forty-five parts of tin and fifty-five of aluminum, which answers for soldering aluminum. This alloy possesses almost the same lightness as the pure aluminum and can be easily soldered. M. Bourbouze has invented another alloy containing only 10 per cent of tin. This second alloy, which can replace aluminum in all its applications, can be soldered to tin, while it preserves all the principal qualities of the pure metal.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

The Detroit Young Men's Christian association building, recently dedicated, cost \$118,744.

There are en route for various Baptist mission fields of the world at present twenty-two missionaries.

The agents of the Bible society in Tokio, Japan, can scarcely meet the demand for the Bible in that city.

Missionary Secretary J. M. Reid will visit Mexico this season at the request of the board of managers.

There are Young Men's Christian associations at Jerusalem, Beyrout, Damascus, Jaffa and Nazareth.

Rev. Arthur M. Knapp, who is to introduce Unitarianism into Japan, was graduated first in the Boston Latin school, class of 1859.

It has been finally decided that the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church shall be held in New York, beginning on the 1st of next May.

Toward the \$20,000 which the United Presbyterian church is raising as a special foreign mission fund, the sum of \$7,438 has been contributed.

The Church Missionary society has received an anonymous donation of \$25,000, to be devoted to strengthening the work in Japan and the Punjab.

The Carmelite monks on Mount Carmel offered their 20,000 acres in Galilee to the Roman Catholic Palestine society, which already has established a colony on Lake Tiberias.

It is estimated that there are over 700,000 Poles in the United States. They are almost universally Romanists, are very clannish, and can be reached only by a native ministry. Mission work in their behalf is but just now receiving the attention of Christian societies.

The Indian Right association has protested against the Indian commissioner's order, which excludes the Bible printed in Dakota and other Indian tongues from the schools, and precludes the teachers from giving instruction to Indian pupils in their own tongue.

Missionaries from Japan now visiting in this country say that never before has the outlook for Christian missions been so encouraging as it is now. The Japanese are favorably disposed to Christianity largely because they regard it as an integral part of the western civilization which they are so anxious to introduce.

BASEBALL TALK.

Jack Gleason will return to the diamond next year.

Clarkson says that he will not play in Chicago next season.

Dunlap asked the Pittsburg club \$7,000 for next year's salary.

Ewing will do the bulk of the catching for the New Yorks next season.

There was not such a rush for southern players this year as was the case last season. Kansas City captured one of the best players of the Southern league.

Eugene Van Court, of California, formerly a league umpire, will renounce baseball and go into training as a jockey. He will ride for "flaggins" stable next year.

There will be any number of complications among scorers over the rule giving an error for a base on balls and at the same time allowing the runner to be earned.

During the five years' existence of the Brooklyn Baseball association their club teams played 700 games; won 368, lost 318 and had 19 drawn games. Of these 274 championship games were won and 286 were lost.

CREATION'S LOWER ORDERS.

A bear at Carter's ranch, near Mangus, N. M., has killed more than 100 goats, and slates all pursuers.

Twenty thousand pigeons were started at once on an aerial flight at Liege the other day. The experiment is to be repeated at Brussels.

The young sons of John Burdick, of Alledo, Ill., found thirty snake eggs and hatched them in the sun. They now have thirty little spotted adders, all as tame as kittens, which they feed on milk.

George Tarey, of Moscow, Idaho, took aim at a small black bear, but his gun would not go off. He threw it aside, and grappling with the bear, held on to it until another man shot it. The shooter was not a cross-eyed man.

A curious fish was pumped out of the water works well at Charlotte, Mich., recently. It was two and a quarter inches long, had keen, bright eyes, but no fins or scales, and its back was fringed with a row of bony spikes.

Eastern sportsmen are advised to go to Whacom, Washington Territory. On the islands opposite deer are so numerous as to be a positive nuisance, destroying orchards and grain crops not protected by high picket or wire fences. Quail, too, are very plentiful. Orcas Island being fairly alive with the little fellows.

CURIOUS THINGS OF LIFE.

A young colored man of Atlanta, Ga., laughed so hard over the defeat of prohibition in that city as to permanently dislocate his jaw.

Canterbury, N. H., isn't a very large town, but it has sixty-eight persons who are over 70 years of age, and thirty-three over 80. One of these is a centenarian.

A California farmer at Pasadena cut open a pumpkin to feed his cow the other day and found within a nice little pumpkin vine growing. One of the seeds had sprouted inside of the mother pumpkin.

A hot weather story that comes rather late in the season from Buffalo Gap, W. T., is that a patch of peanuts growing in a garden there were matured and roasted by the sun's rays one hot day during the latter part of the summer.

A runaway team in Hamilton, Ont., knocked down and ran over John Smith, and three of his ribs were broken. One rib pierced his lung, and the air coming through the hole made by the rib, but confined by the skin which was unbroken, had puffed him up like a balloon from head to feet. It is thought that he will get well.

A PECULIAR CASE.

A DISEASE WHICH HAS ATTRACTED INTEREST AMONG DOCTORS.

Addison's Disease, or "Bronzed Skin." First Appears a Gradual Change in the Color of the Skin—The Last Stages. No Cure.

In Rising Sun, Ind., a short time ago, death brought to a close a case which has attracted keen interest and widespread attention, not only of the medical fraternity of that section, but also of Cincinnati, whither the patient came a short time since for treatment. The name of the man was Stephen E. Seward. He died of Addison's disease. The remarkable feature of Seward's case was the gradual supervention of the discoloration of the skin, which, although originally of fair complexion eventually gave him the appearance of a perfect type of a full blooded African.

The nature of this case was not comprehended until he visited the clinic of Drs. Ranshoff and Whittaker at the Ohio Medical college on Sixth street two months ago, when the case was recognized as one of Addison's disease or "bronzed skin." Seward was a single man, and at the time of his death 28 years old. He came of very healthy stock, both of his parents being still alive and his ancestors having all reached a round old age. He was employed up to six months ago as a laborer on his father's farm. He was a man of fine physique and great strength, and up to the time had been able to perform an immense day's work. About that time—six months ago—he began to notice that even a couple of hours' exertion in the field was followed by an unaccountable sense of weariness. Within two months after the beginning of his disease this inconvenience had increased to such an extent as to unfit him for his work.

A GRADUAL CHANGE.

About this time there was a gradual change in the color of his skin. Before this discoloration began he was a blonde, of fair complexion, light hair and gray eyes. In the beginning his face became the color of ash. He grew darker and darker, until at length he became a pronounced black, large quantities of the coloring matter being deposited on the skin of the face, neck, shoulders, hands, and forearms, and subsequently in all parts of the integument. The mucus membrane of the lips, tongue and of the mouth participated in this discoloration. The physical appearance of the patient did not otherwise indicate the gravity of his disease. The muscles retained their development, and there was but little emaciation. In the last four weeks a rapid change for the worse set in, and death resulted in a little over six months after the inception of the disease. This was an unusually rapid course, for, as a rule, patients who suffer from this disease linger for from two to five years, but always with the grave as the inevitable.

Altogether not more than 200 cases of this peculiar disease could be collected from medical literature. The disease is one of comparatively recent recognition, as no well marked case is recorded previous to 1823, when, Leche, of Paris, discovered the first known instance. The name by which it is generally known—Addison's disease—was given it after Dr. Addison, of London, who in 1855 collected eleven cases, only four of which, however, strictly belong to this category. It was Dr. Addison who first recognized the fact that the peculiar discolored condition of the skin is due to a diseased condition of the suprarenal capsules, minute bodies situated above the kidneys, the physiological character of which has not yet been established. In Addison's disease these bodies referred to are invariably found to be the seat of inflammation, of consumption, or of cancer.

ALWAYS PROVES FATAL.

It is for this reason that the disease invariably proves fatal. The patient may, for awhile, improve, but the progress of the case may be compared to that of a man who has an inevitable staircase to descend. He may linger or go back, but the descent is still to be taken, and the best he can hope for is to go down slowly and with long pauses. "Bronze skin" may be said to be a disease of the laboring class. Those who wield the ax and toil with the shovel are almost always its victims. It is for this reason that it attacks the male nearly twice as often as the female. Of the 183 cases recently collected by Greenwood, 119 occurred in males and 64 in females. Associated with the "bronze skin" and the accompanying muscular weakness are other symptoms, which are more or less characteristic of the disease, and which hasten its end. Most prominent among them are severe pains in the abdomen, inveterate attacks of vomiting and diarrhea, great difficulty in breathing and finally convulsions.

So far as the treatment of the disease is concerned there is none worthy of the name. Remedial agents have not yet been discovered that can directly or indirectly affect the diseased condition of the suprarenal capsules, as the surgery of the abdomen does not lay claim to that domain. It is, however, among the probabilities of successful progress that in the near future in these cases, which medicine cannot reach, the knife will be resorted to. Addison's disease must not be confounded with melanosis, which also at times discolors the skin, but in which tumors, black as ink, of rapid growth, and often followed by ulceration, cover the body. In Addison's disease the skin is perfectly smooth. The only resemblance between the two affections is the discoloration. In both diseases those parts which are exposed to the air and light turn darker than the rest of the body.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Feather Beds and Asthma.

It is necessary that the feathers should be taken from geese alive, that is, if we are to study the comfort of people who must have feather beds and pillows. Dead feathers are no better than husks, and are unwholesome. But there isn't one pound of feathers used in beds today where there were twenty two years ago. Asthma and hay fever have done a great deal to lessen the demand for feather beds and pillows, for it was discovered a few years ago that feathers and asthma loved to consort, and that nothing would start an asthmatic to wheezing so quickly and with such volume of sound as a couch of goose feathers. The discovery spread, and the goose owes a great deal of its latter day comfort to the asthma.

EUROPEAN JOTTINGS.

It is seven hours and a quarter now from London to Paris.

Electrical motors are to be introduced on the London undergrounds.

One hundred million cubic feet of gas are used in London in one day of fog.

The international committee for putting down gambling at Monte Carlo is now very active.

A good many have been cut up and built over, but there are still 444 burying grounds in London.

Two hundred and seventy-five thousand tons less of sugar beet root were grown in Europe during 1887 than in 1886.

Rear Admiral Louis Hutton Vesturme recently committed suicide by heating a poker red hot and thrusting it into his bowels.

As a result of John L. Sullivan's British career, a dealer has sold 300 sets of boxing gloves against a dozen the year before.

The Jewish race made their entire entry into the court of Vienna for the first time on Jan. 30 in the person of Baron and Baroness Rothschild.

"Spodobs Volapuk" appears now at the head of German, French and Italian business houses, meaning "We correspond in Volapuk."

Germany has now more than seventy manufacturing of "champagne francais." Of 450,000 bottles imported annually by Russia, Germany provides 300,000.

The stones of Temple Bar, after having been exposed for eleven years, have been built up into a gateway of a brewer's residence. It is now called "Temple Beer."

There is to be a grand international exhibition in Berlin next May of hunting trophies, of all sorts of game, ancient and modern arms, and implements used in hunting.

The famous Goodwin sands in the British channel are disappearing. They have receded toward the Kentish coast half a mile within a short time, and show signs of generally breaking up.

The iron horse crossed the Oxus on Jan. 15. A train carrying Gen. Annenkov and the bag of the district passed over the great bridge, which is 6,975 feet long. The Russians and the gates of India are much nearer than they used to be.

The Vatican is the most polite court in Europe. Replies to all communications are addressed with the titles assumed by the original correspondents, be they counts, dukes, or princes. The pope never stops to ask whether the gentlemen are genuine noblemen or not.

At the canonization of the new saints in Rome, after the pope's speech, the cardinals presented his holiness with the customary gifts for the newly canonized saints, which consisted of a thick wax candle, two bowls, one silver and the other gilt; three cages, one containing pigeons, another doves, and the third canaries and greenfinches. There were also two small barrels, one filled with water and the other with wine.

ANIMALS, WILD AND TAME.

Two lumbermen of Lycoming county, Pa., while driving to their work in a sleigh the other night, were pursued for several miles by six wolves, one of which attempted to jump into the sleigh, but was shot.

A man in Geneseo, Ill., saw two mice in his stable. He hastily ran to a neighbors and borrowed a rat terrier. The terrier was thrown in the barrel, and at the first nab took off the head of one of the mice with a crack like breaking a clay pipe. Both the mice were frozen to death.

The Hollecamp family, of Xenia, O., have a pet coon. They also had a lot of chickens, but woke up the other morning to find thirty-two of them stiff in death, with their throats cut and their blood all gone. The coon was about looking sleek and fat and so innocuous that the family could not make up their minds whether he was the guilty one or not, and even yet they think it might have been the work of a weasel.

Samuel Wright, of Albany, Ga., for want of something better to pet, devoted his attention to a kitten. He afterward acquired an owl, and housed the two together in the same room, in the hopes of having a nucleus for a happy family. One day he went to look in upon his pets, but was surprised to find the coon as silent as the graveyard of some deserted village. Instituting a search, he discovered evidences that the cat had been devoured by the voracious owl, and that his owlishhip had died of too much cat meat.

PLAYS AND ACTORS.

Helen Dauvray's return to the stage is already forecast.

Manager J. H. Haverly again announces his retirement from theatrical affairs.

Mrs. Modjeska has decided to become an American citizen, and will live in California.

Nate Salsbury is rich and says he will never work on the stage again, unless poverty compels him.

The five years' contract between Manager Pitou and W. J. Scanlan has been renewed for another five years.

Ada Dyas says that the silent acting of the letter reading scene in "Jim, the Penman," is a severe strain on her nerves than any other part of the play.

Manchester, England, has burst into unaccounted enterprise. It has a burlesque of "Buffalo Bill" in one theatre and shows the heathen Chinese in another.

Conductor Neundorff says that little Josef Hofmann is in first class condition, that his traveling about seems to brighten him all the more, and that as for his piano playing, that seems to be so natural to him as to be absolutely effortless. Mr. Neundorff says: "He was born to play the piano."

M. Coquelin has started on another tour. He begins with Egypt, where he gives ten performances, and then goes to Nice, Cannes, Mentone, Trieste, Vienna, Prague, Bucharest, Belgrade and London. With the actor went his son Jean and a company of fourteen. The manager is again M. Th. de Gisser.

It is stated that Mrs. Abbey will shortly retire permanently from the stage. Mr. Abbey's laudable preference that his wife should act no longer has something to do with this, and she will probably accompany him shortly after she makes a trip westward to look after some of his numerous interests.

PLACE FOR BAD

WHERE THEY ARE SENT TO PLAY TRUANT TOO

A "Home" for the Boys of Who Habitually Play "Honesty of Study and Play—Disruptive Institution.

On the Jamaica plank road, near cemetery, on the outskirts of London stood for forty years a low, old frame building with a spacious veranda running its entire length. In days gone by was a famous road house. It changed. The old road house, however, a more modern three story brick building, is now the Brooklyn boys' school. The home, which is the subject of compulsory education law, is under the control of the Brooklyn board of education and is intended for boys between the ages of 12 and 14 years who habitually play truant. The boys are committed to the school by a magistrate, and always with the consent of their parents, except where the Prevention of Cruelty to Children act that the parents, through drunkenness or some other cause, are unfit to exercise authority over them.

There are also some boys in the institution who have been placed there at the request of their parents. They are generally committed to a term of fourteen weeks, but their parents request that they be released as soon as they are set at liberty. Upon arriving at the institution a boy is taken in hand by Corrigan, the superintendent, and is made to much the same process that all rivals at the penal institutions undergo, pedigree, together with the school records, which is committed, is entered in a book. He is given a bath, his hair and he is arrayed in the uniform of the school, which consists of a coat and trousers of coarse dark gray material. The process completed, the boy's life begins.

EARLY RISING.

At 6 o'clock in the morning he is awakened and after scrambling into his uniform marches downstairs to the wash room. He is given a thorough cleaning, and is then taken into the dining room, where he has a breakfast consisting of bread and butter, tea and coffee. Before he sits down to a concert with the other inmates, he goes to the playground to furnish some of his inclination moves him.

At 9 o'clock he marches into the room and is at first placed in the charge of Mr. Thomas Tasse. He is examined as to his mental condition, and if found to be sufficiently intelligent but purpose he is placed in the "B" room. From 9 until 12 o'clock the time is spent in a short prayer, after which he joins in a short prayer. After the prayer the boys are taken to the dining room. His dinner consists of corned beef and cabbage, pork and beans, and some other wholesome food prepared in excellent manner by the two cooks of the institution.

When dinner is over the playground again resorted to until 1 o'clock. Studies are resumed in the school room at 2 o'clock, and until 3 o'clock in summer and 4:30 o'clock in winter. The playground is the scene of the afternoon's play. All the games and sports of the heart of the average small boy are indulged in, but baseball is the favorite of them all. This is perhaps the reason Mr. Tasse is held in such high esteem by every boy in the institution. He is an expert ball player, and takes interest in the boys' play. He makes many valuable hints as to the science of the game.

OFF TO BED.

When the time arrives for leaving the playground the boys repair to the room and eat their supper of bread, prunes or dried apples and tea. They then go to bed. In reality there is preparation about this. Generally they are tired out with their play, they are in divesting themselves of their clothing and disappearing beneath the covers.

A watchman is constantly on guard there is little opportunity for boys to sleep. The dormitories are on the third and fourth floors of the new brick building, large, airy and well lighted. A system of heating and ventilation keeps the temperature in the rooms at all times on the ground floor are the two washrooms, the bath room and laundry. The room, offices and apartments of the staff and help of the home are in the basement.

The discipline of the institution is lenient, and only on rare occasions is it necessary to resort to extreme measures. A system of rewards and punishments is in operation, which appears to have a salutary result. For good behavior and attendance studies some of the boys are made monitors. They occupy the teachers' seats in the school and exercise a mild sort of supervision over their classmates. A striped "disgrace" worked on its back is proof for certain infringements of the institution has a wholesome effect in maintaining order.

The religious training of the young men is carefully looked after, and on Sunday school services are conducted by both the Protestant and Catholic religions. New York Press.

Object to the Cigarette.

There are old smokers in this town have not acquired the cigarette habit. They have been told by the friends of the weed object loudly and emphatically to the cigarette men. On the front porch of a Broadway car the other night with an unlighted cigarette in his mouth, from a smoker extended the light, from a gray mustached man with a huge cigar between his lips, "You're right," he replied, "as I have my waistcoat pocket a companion to grant Havana, if you will accept this, it will be a great favor." The young man off in front of Niblo's and the driver of a cigar remarked, "I didn't want to give you a young companion, and he wasn't worth the cigar, but I gave him the cigar to keep him from giving his cigarette, but such was the