The French Get Possession of This Strategic Place.

In More May Interfere With the British in India-Caprivi and the Emperor Quarrel-Other Important Events in European Lands.

BERLIN, Nov. 27.—This city Is treated wanother sensation today. Yesterday t was rumored that Chancellor Von aprivi intended to resign (a rumor, it should be added, which has not been officially denied up to the present), and this morning the good people at Berlin are startled by the announcement made by the Kreuz Zeitung (conservative), an influential daily paper, that by a secret agreement with France ressels. This would give France a depot and possible landing place for troops not far north of the British possessions in India, and might, under certain circumstances, enable France to co-operate with Russia should the latter country's troops invade Persian territory and possibly continue an on-ward march towards India itself. Turkey, according to the Kreuz Zeitung, is said to have taken this step owing to the uneasiness felt by the sultan and his advisers at the actions of Engand Turkey indirectly against such a course. It is concluded that in fortifying Sheik Shaib, of Busheab, France threaten's Great Britian's hold on the Red Sea, made practically a British lake by the fact that England holds leading into the Red Sea.

A German Quarrel.

Berlin, Nov. 27 .- It is now known beyond a doubt that differences of a serious nature have existed between the emperor and chancellor for some body, as matters now stand, would be astonished to hear that it was an actual fact that the chancellor insists his hasty action and to be ready to make all amends in his power. This it is understood, is about the state of affairs existing between the emperor and chancellor. In conclusion it should be said that consensus of opinion is that the Wachenbatt's sensational news of yesterday was a conservative balloon, or in other words "a feeler" sent out to test nubconservative balloon, or in other words "a feeler" sent out to test public opinion upon the effect the chancellor's resignation would have upon this country and in foreign countries.

A British Whitewashing.

LONDON, Nov. 27 .- A verdiet of the naval court of inquiry into the disaster have to determine. All that we urge which occurred off Plymouth on the now is the legitimate consideration of 30th of October, when two fishing the new problems that may present boats were sunk and one man drowned by shots from her majesty's gunboat Plucky, during target practice, is published today by the admiralty office. The court acquitted Lieutenant Freementle who was in Lieutenant Fremantle, who was in are precipitated on us unawares and charge of the Plucky at the time of unforseen." the accident, of any negligence in sinking the boat, and stated that the disaster was due to an error in estimating distance, owing to the peculiar condition of the peculiar conditions of the peculiar conditio tion of the atmosphere. The officers and crew of the Plucky claim the dam age was done by ricochet shots. The finding of the court is severely criticised by fishermen and their friends who claim the whole proceeding of the court plainly indicate Lieutenant Fremantle was to be exonerated from any blame in the matter. Vice admiral, the Hon. Sir E. R. Fremantle, K. C. B., father of Lieutenant Fremantle, attended regularly the sessions of court, all officers of which being a lower grade were believed to be susceptible to his influence.

THEY ACHED FOR BLOOD.

Southernors Come to Jersey City on Gram Search for Green Goods Men. New York, Nov. 27.-James R. Smith, of Polk county, Florida, and William R. Collins, of Fort Meade, Fla., both armed to the teeth with ordnance and utlery, arrived in Jersey City last night. Each wore a big sombrero. An officer questioned them. They had come to New York to meet some green goods men, and intended to seize the goods bait the crooks would show and get away with it by force of arms. The nephew of Smith has been fleeced here and these new arrivals believed there was a "system" that would beat the game and their armory was part of the "system." They were locked up.

WAS NOT THE WIDOW.

A Female Claimant Receives a Bad Shak LANCASTER, Pa., Nov. 27.—The winding up of Hon. Thaddens Stevens estate, which remained unsettled twenty-three years after his death, has given rise to sensational features. A claim against the estate. The auditor heard the testimony today. Edward McPherson, the surviving executor, presented testimony showing that the oman, whose maiden name was Mary J. Prim, was never married to Captain

Found Frozen to Denth. FERGUS FALLS, Minn., Nov. 27.-John started for his home last night drunk. This morning he was found dead by

Stevens, and had no claim.

WAITINGFORTHEQUEEN'SDEATH

A London Newspaper Creates a Sensation

By Reference to Her Demise New York, Nov. 27.-A dispatch from London says that hitherto it has been an unwritten law among the newspapers of the United Kingdom that no speculations should be indulged in regarding the possibilities of the death of Queen Victoria, or the po-litical exigences which might follow such an event. A profound sensation has therefore been created by the appearance in the current issue of the "Weekly Times and Echo," a paper which circulated nearly 1,000,000 copies among middle and working classes, of a leading editorial over the caption "When the Queen Diese" and caption, "When the Queen Dies?" and which deals in pronounced language with such a possibility. It says that the recent rumors in the United States and elsewhere of the death of Queen Victoria, has had the effect of bringing English people to realize that such an event is bound to take place sooner that by a secret agreement with France
Turkey has ceded Cape Sheik Shaib, in
the Persian gulf, to France. Cape
Sheik Shaib is on the Island of Bushir,
of Busheab, eleven miles north from
the coast of Persia, and it might
be strongly fortified and otherwise made use of as a harbor
for a French fleet. Between the main
land and the island of Sheik Shaib of
Busheab is said to be water affording
good anchorage for the largest war
good Edward VII with as much enthusiasm as their regrets for his mother permitted. But after the days of mourning had passed and the great mass of the people-the electors by right of house hold suffrage, who have never had part or lot in the bargain made by parliament with a new sovereign—would have had time to think out the situation, what would have followed? The question is difficult to answer, but it is certain that there would be an irresistible demand for a full land in continuing the occupance of prompt revision of the terms on which the civil list of the new king was to be settled. For thirty years England has been spared the glittering absurdities of regal pomp, but for thirty years the people have had to pay for them all the same. In the next reign England lake by the fact that England holds
Aden (Gibraltar of the east) as the entrance of the straits of Babel Mandeb

will neither endure nor pay for them. There will be no disposition to feel meanly with the figurehead of the country, but the English people will see to it that in the next reign the immense sums squandered on needless palaces, on idiotically barbaric court splendor, are not granted. The time has arrived, says the Times, to think about and discuss these matters, and there is no disloyalty or disrespect to time past, and that these differences of the lady who fills the throne in disopinion have required considerable cussing them. Whatever party is in smoothing over on both sides, and nowill suffer lest they make their voices heard. Probably if the queen lives for ten or twenty years more the peo-ple will formulate their demands in a upon retiring from office. The emperor, however, though prone to take offense easily and speak thoughtlessly, is also given to repenting as rapidly of tion of life. If she lives another decade, the relatives of royalty-all parasites of the nation-will have multi plied to an extent that is appalling to contemplate. "There is after all," concluses the editorial, "an instinct

the weight and cost of the menagerie of royalties which will have accumulated

the queen should live so long, and

should not-will bend meekly between

THE JURY DISAGREED. The Lumpy Jaw Case Will Go Through Another Trial. PEORIA, Nov. 27 .- A very important

case to the cattle interests of the west has been on trial for the past two weeks under the title of Greenhut vs. the Illinois live stock commissioners. The case grew out of the condemning of a number of cattle affected with lumpy jaw belonging to the Distillers and Cattle Feeders company. Presi-dent Greenhut, of the distilleries company, brought suit to recover damages from the live stock commissioners, with a view to determining whether lumpy jaw is a contagious disease or not. Much expert testimony was given by witnesses on both sides of the case,

the men of practical experience generolly testifying that the disease was

not contagious.

When the case was given to the jury it wrestled with the question for fortyfive hours, and then reported a disagreement, the last vote standing 7 to 4 in favor of Greenhut. All but one man held that the disease was not cantag-ious and three were in favor of a c m. promise verdict. The attorney for Greenhut at once gave notice of a new trial, and says that there will be no compromise unless the state board will desist from the slaughter of lumpy-jaw cattle. The case has given rise to much bitter feeling among the cattle men, as the condemning of lumpy-jaw cattle means the loss of millions of dollars to the cattle interests. The cattle men insist that the disease is harmless and that the Ilinois board has overstepped the bounds of its

authority. Excited Factory Girls.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.-Goodwin's cigarette factory. at Grand and Cherry streets, was damaged to the extent of woman who claims to be the widow of \$40,000 by fire this morning. Three Captain Alonzo Stevens, Thaddeus Stevens' nephew, has filed a large stricken and were with difficulty reclaim of the control of the windows of the windows of the control of the windows of the windows of the control of the windows of t strained from jumping out of the windows. As it was, some of them leaped from the windows of the first story after rushing down stairs and finding egress from the building slow on account of the crowding of the doors, but no one was hurt.

A Fire at Sheldon.

SHELDON, Ia., Nov. 27 .- The large Osander, living in the town of Orwell, barn of E. A. Bishops, east of town, was destroyed by fire early yesterday the road. The team arrived home with a portion of the sled. It is supposed that he fell off and froze to death. was destroyed by me early yesterday the early yesterday morning. Three yearling colts and several hundred dollars worth of small grain were burned. No cause is known.

BROLIL'S REVOLUTION OVER President Pledatto is Doing Much to Bring

About Peace. Rio Janeiro, Nov. 28. - President Peidotto has issued another wanifesto in which he appeals to the people of Rio Grande Do Sul to cease all further revolutionary proceedings. He assures them and all other Brazilians that the resignation of Dictator Fonseca will result in benefit to the country, as it avoided the shedding of blood. The

president also promises to reduce the national expenses and to re-establish the credit of Brazil. Army and navy officials conferred yesterday for the purpose of devising means for the preservation of order throughout the republic. The sd to his ankles. Military Tribune issued a proclamation in which it guarantees to protect the life of Fonseca. An enraged mob attacked and sacked the offices of the newspapers that supported Fonseca. Dr. Brazil, president of the late pro-visional junta of Rio Grande do Sul, has been appointed governor of that state. Mis appointment is a most pop-ular one. It can be safely said that the revolution of Brazil is at an end.

A BET COST HIM HIS LIFE.

McKinley's Victory and a Rainstorm Causes

a Good Democrat's Death. WAYNESBURG, Pa., Nov. 28 .- John Wednesday night from pneumonia. Dougherty was a democrat, and he which had be made a bet with a republican that Campbell would defeat McKinley for "I am thi governor of Ohio. The loser was to climb to the top of an oil derrick sev-enty-two feet high and remain there from 6 in the morning until 6 in the evening. Dougherty mounted the derrick last Saturday morning, and although the rain poured down all day he did not flinch. When he came down he was cramped and weak. On the following day violent pneumonia, brought on by exposure, set in and his death resulted.

PRETTY COLD WEATHER.

News From Various Points Do Not Men tion Any Cases of Sunstroke. MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Nov. 28 .-Weather clear and cold.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Nov. 28.-Weather clear and cold; 10 degrees below zero; strong north wind.

DULUTH, Minn., Nov. 28.—This is the coldest day of the season. Weather clear and still, with thermometer reg-

istering 13 degrees below.

Washington, Nov. 28.—For Iowa—
Continued cold, northerly winds; gen-

erally fair weather.
For Nehraska—Cloudiness and occas ional light flurries of snow; slightly warmer Sunday.

A Union at Victory. LONDON, Nov. 28. - The election for a member of parliament to represent East Dorset to succeed the late C. H. Bond, conservative, has resulted in the unionist victory. The yote was as follows: The Hon. Humphrey Surt, unionist, 4,421; the Hon. Pascoe C. Glyn, Gladstone liberal, 4,074; unionist majority, 347. At the last election Mr. Bond, conservative received 4,317 to 3,662 votes received by the Hon. P. C. the England of 1900 or 1910—supposing Glyn, home ruler. The liberals have been very successful in recent bye elections in constituences in which changes occurred at the last general election. On that occsaion the liberals lost seventy-nine seats. Of these apart from East Dorset, eight have ince become vacant and the liberals have recovered six, North St. Pancras North Bucks, Carlarvon districts, North Wich, Loughborough and Stowmarket, in the seventh, South Dorset, the liberals were beaten by only forty votes in addition. Three of these at which the liberals gained at the general election, have since become vacant and the liberals have retained them all, namely, the exchange division of Liv erpool, Leith, Elgin and Nairn.

-A petrified elephant has been un-earthed near Jasper, Flu.

THE MARKETS.

SIOUX CITY. Nov. 30. Hogs-Light, \$3 40@3.55; mixed, \$3.50@ 3.60; heavy, 3.70@3.80. Cattle—Steers, 1,100 to 1,300 pounds, \$3.00@3.50; feeders, \$2.30@3.00; stockers, \$2.00@2.50; cows. common to good, \$1.00@ 2.00; yearlings, \$2.00@2.25; bulls, \$1.50@ 2.00; yearlings, \$2.50@3.00.

CHICAGO, Nov. 30. CHICAGO, Nov. 30.

Hogs—Light, \$3.35@3.75; mixed. \$3.60@4.00; heavy, \$3.65@4.10.

Cattle—Extra and native beeves. \$4.90@6.10; stockers and feeders, \$1.75@3.25; mixed cows and buils, \$1.00@0.75; Texans, \$3.00@4.40.

Sheen Natives \$4.75@5.10.

Sheep — Natives, \$4.75@5.10; westerns \$4.10@4.60; Texans, \$3.65@4.50. SOUTH OMAHA, Nov. 30. Cattle—Choice beeves, \$5.00@5.25; cows 1.00@2.30; feeders, \$2.30@3.60; bulls 1.20@2.00.

Hogs-Light, \$3.50@3.70; mixed. \$3.60@ 3.75; heavy, \$3.70@3.85. KANSAS CITY, Nov. 30. Cattle—Steers, \$3.39@5.95; cows, \$2.35@ 2.55; stockers and feeders, \$2.20@3.75. Hogs—All grades, \$2.75@3.85.

Produce and Provisions.

CHICAGO, Nov. 30. Flour-Spring patents, \$4.60@5.00; win

ter patents, \$4.50@4.60. Wheat - Cash, 92ck; December, May, 90%c. Corn—Cash, 70c; November, 74c;

Corn—Cash, 70c; November, 74c; May, 43%c.
Oats—Cash, 3:%c; December, 32c
May. 32%@33c.
Rye—94%c.
Burley—59c.
Flax—95@95%c.
Timothy—\$1.22
Whissy—\$1.18.
Pork — Cash, \$8.50; January, \$1.27%.
Lard—Cash, \$8.15; January, \$6.27%.
Shoulders—\$4.12%@4.25; short clear. Shoulders-\$1.12%@4.25; short clear.

Butter-Creamery, 20@28c; dairy, 20@ Cheese - Full cream cheddars, 11@11½c; flats, 11@11½c; Young Americas.

1:@13c.
Eggs—Fresh :4@25c.
Hides—Heavy and light green salted.
2c; salted bull, 4/@4/c; green salted calf, 0/@6/c; dry flint, 8c; dry salted chides, 6@7c; dry calf, 8@9c; deacons, each, 25c.
Tallow—No. 1 solid, 4c; packed, 2@

Tallow—No. 2%c; cake, 4%c. MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 30. Wheat—No. 1 Northern, close 871/4c No. 1 hard, 871/4c; No. 1 northern, 871/4c No. 2 northern, 84@85c.

THE EXILES. A RUSSIAN STORY.

CHAPTER I.—THE INSULT IN THE MINE. It is a terrible augmentation of punishment for exiles in Siberia to be sent to the mines of Nertchinsk.

On a cold October morning, several years ago, a small vehicle deposited a young Russian about twenty-five, in front of the wooden house of the inspector of one of these

mines—that of Oukboul.

The condemned man, who was pale and weak, seemed worn out by the journey from Kieff to Nertchinsk, which had been made, without stopping, in an open kibitka. For more than two months, he had worn outside of his boots the iron rings of his chain rivet-The gendarme in a blue blouse and brass

helmet, who had accompanied him, entered the inspector's office to deliver into his hands the papers concerning the exile confided to his care.

On the threshold he ran against and was almost overthrown by a hideous-looking

man with a swollen face, who came out with his hands tied behind his back, and was with great difficulty managed by the gendarme

in charge of him. He was a convict who had attempted to escape from the shipyards of Okhotsk, and had been brought a long distance to be imprisoned in the mysterious fortress of Akatouia, situated on the outskirts of Nertchinsk. The very name of this fortress in spires unspeakable terror throughout all Dougherty, an oil well driller, died Siberia. The wretched being had effaced with sulphuric acid the word vor (thief) which had been branded upon his forehead

> "I am thirsty!" cried he, in a choking voice. "Give me a drink, somebody! I am dving of fever!"

> The gendarme paid no attention to his words, but fastened him to the heavy wheel of a cart under the shed belonging to the inspector's house.

> From the interior of the mansion escaped the sharp sounds of a little violin upon which some one was gayly playing the "Belle Helene" quadrille. A lively voice was giving out the figures and movements to the dancers, whose resounding steps were accom-panied with fresh and youthful laughter.

"A drop of water-something to drink!" yelled the convict, kneeling in the mud and rolling his wicked eyes, while his mouth foamed with rage.

The new comer turned away from this repulsive spectacle, and surveyed the spot where he was to undergo his punishment.

Before him were scattered a hundred cabns and yourtes, shelters of the toilers of the mine, above which rose here and there wooden edifices tenanted by the clerks, the captain, the priest, and the physician. He also saw the barracks of the guards, the chapel and the hospital. Everything had the most miserable aspect.

Beyond, bounding the perspective, were the Sablonoi Mountains, whose snowy summits stretched away to the east as far us the eye could reach. In a ravine, a breach in the perpendicular

walls rising to a height of more than two thonsand feet, was the shaft of the mine Upon the blood red rock, the cold had already congealed the water produced by the melting of the snow, and the hydraulic wheel, which a liquid sheet set in motion in

the summer, was still, rising huge and black like an instrument of punishment. The icy wind from the ravine brought with

it sharp needles of frost which pricked the

He lifted towards heaven a look of sad resignation, but quick as lightning youth and right asserted themselves; his black eyes flashed and his body straightened with a movement of pride, which ennobled the convict's gray cloak and the hideous little hat which concealed the absence of the brown locks shorn off by the prison scissors. He scanned the horizon as if searching for some way of escape.

At this moment, the bound convict gave vent to a series of hollow howls. The music ceased. Two young girls thrust their flaxen heads curiously out of the half-open door, and their dancing master, gently putting them aside, emerged, holding his little pocket violin in his hand.

He was over forty. His bearing was decided and his air jovial, but there was something of the grotesque in his appearance. He looked like neither a native nor a Sla

vonian. He approached the convict and asked him in bad Russian, but in a tone of interest, what he was complaining about so bit-

"These dogs are allowing me to be consumed with thirst!" cried the wretch. "It is like red-hot iron in there!" added he, open-

ing to its full extent a mouth, the lips of which were disfigured by the corrosive action of sulphuric acid The man of the violin had an inspiration.

He drew a small empty flask from his furtrimmed vest, and returned to his pupils to ask them to fill it with water. Then, he once more made his way to the convict and poured the contents of the flask, drop by drop, into his burning and swollen mouth. The sufferer assumed the look of a grateful animal.

"Thank you!" said he. "You allowed yourself to be recaptured, sh?" said the man of the violin. "Did you not know what awaited you?"

"Well, what?" "Fifty blows with the knout and the rest." "I will bear them and afterwards drink

the health of the Czar, our general father." The dancing master approached the new somer and said to him in a low voice: "All talk! I wager that he will be dead

at the twentieth blow." The young man thought; "This is what would happen to me, if I

tried to escape and was retaken. Between this man and myself, by order of the Czar's judges, there is not the least difference." Then, addressing the dancing master, he said to him, extending his hand:

"Let me thank you, in my turn, for your

generosity to this unfortunate being!" "I grasp your hand with pleasure," said the musician, who had noticed that the new comer bore on his back the square of red cloth indicating a political convict. "As to your thanks, they are superfluous. I am under no restraint, God be praised! I be-long neither to the guards, the police, nor management of the mines. I am a Parisian and a dancing master. Perhaps you are acquainted with Paris, Monsieur! Yes? Well, I was born on the Place de la

Bastille, opposite the column. Vive la lib-erte! I don't conceal my sentiments!" The gendarme, who had brought the exile. eturned and informed the young man that the inspector was waiting for him. "Shake again," said the dancing master.

"Keep up your courage!" added he, in a whisper, grasping the young man's hand. haracter accorded to him for one hundred The latter departed, murmuring to him-

"If he were a friend!" The inspector, a small, clean-shaved man, with an angular profile and impenetrable eyes, ordered the exile to strip himself to the belt and, description in hand, verified

his identity.

A medallion hung upon the young man's breast. He blushed and quickly covered it with his hand, as if to prevent anyone from touching or defiling it

The action was ill-interpreted by the in-

spector.
"Allow me?" said he. "Oh!" cried the exile, "I suppose that there is nothing dangerous to the safety of the state in the portrait of a young girlespecially that of a martyr—the daughter of the poet Davideff, an exile like myself, whom she has followed into banishment."

"I knew Davidoff and his daughter," said the inspector. "He worked in this

"And since?" said the young man, eagerly. "In pity-"

"His lot has been ameliorated. He is at present living in Irkoutsk." After these words the inspector entered the name of the convict on the register opposite the number 1307; then, he ordered him to be taken to the mine.

In a few instants, the exile was handed

over to a corporal of the guards.
"Yermac," said the keeper, "here is a
man to help fill up the void in your squad of miners."

"Three of my men died this week," observed the corporal, as he drew a note-book from his pocket and prepared to write. He looked at the young man.

"Yegor Semenoff," said the latter, think-Ing that the corporal was waiting for his name. "Shall I write it myself!" added he. "Oh! I know how to write!" said the corporal, with a faint smile. "But I need only cipher. Number?"

"Number 1367," answered the keeper. "The inspector directs that he shall lodge in the fifteenth yourte, where there are already

While the keeper was speaking, Yegor Semenoff studied the countenance of the man, armed with a leather whip, under whose control he was placed. He found him possessed of a grave air and bronzed but regular features. He seemed to breathe honesty. There was nothing of the convictguard in his face, which was rather that of a judge incapable of shrinking from his

"To work!" cried Corporal Yermae, striking the air with his lash. "There!" added he, pointing to a spot where a number of miners were drawing from the earth a

basket of ore. "I am behind you!" cried he. The miners, covered with tattered sheepskins, filthy and barefooted, stared gloomily at the companion who had come to them warmly clad and wearing huge scadog leather boots bought at Nertchinsk, where the exile had been able, thanks to the money with which he was furnished, to make some useful purchases.

One of them, going before, showed him

It was a ladder more than twelve hundred feet long. Yegor began to descend, followed by the squad and the corporal. Some smoky lamps, placed in cavities of the wall, served only to show the thickness of the gloom. Halting-places presented themselves

at rare intervals.

Yegor heard at the bottom of the shaft the metallic sound of the hammer blows upon the rock

The sharp noise, the thick darkness, and the sad and ragged groups, which, when suddenly lighted up, threw out huge shadows, together with the air loaded with deleterious dust, made a strange impression upon the young man, who, nevertheless, was accustomed to the mournful episodes of the prison and exile.

Nearer, it was, if possible, still more frightful; the majority of these men, with great beards, long, shaggy locks, swarthy complexions, scaly skins and sinister looks. bore upon their forcheads and checks the infamous brand von. They were assassins, robbers, and forgers, and could be recognized by the squares of cloth sewed on the backs of their garments. A red square for the murderers, a black square for the robbers and a yellow square for the incendiaries.

The others, belonging to the category of political convicts, displayed wan visages and lean bodies undermined by fevers and gnawed by the dust of the ore, which sends forth ar enic if it is tin and verdigris if it is

They might be called walking horses. Some were green, with bald pates as white as chalk. Their half-blind eyes let their lids droop as if for the sleep of death.

They arose and disappeared suddenly behind a rock, or plunged like ghosts into dark corridors; and one heard, from time to time, the hiss of a corporal's whip falling upon bony sides and howls caused by

Yegor had been pushed to the extremity of a corridor just opened. Alone in this narrow hole, as in a stone vault, it seemed to him that he was buried alive. He was suffocting. A feeling of terror impossible to describe shook his body with convulsive shivers.

He strove to make use of his hammer, but his arm fell back inert and weak, as if paralyzed.

The keeper under whose charge he was advanced slowly towards him.

"Must I set you in motion?" cried he, raising his whip. "If you touch me," screamed Yegor, whose brain was in a whirl, "I will kill you!" Then, as if a prey to madness, he

added: "If you wish, wait-you can mur-der me with blows!" And he gave the corporal a resounding slap on the cheek.

Yegor expected to be hurled to the ground. to be torn to pieces. But the convict-guard, strange to relate,

stared at him fixedly without a word; then, casting his whip far from him, as if to escape the temptation to use it he answered the exile's insult with these words, uttered in a tone of great calmness:

"I could crush you in my hands, if I wished to do so, but this time I pardon you! I accept the chastisement in expiation of my son's crimes!"

Fearing, doubtless, that he might say more, the singular keeper abruptly departed, leaving Yegor Semenoff to his unspeak-

able amazement. CHAPTER II.—THE DAWN OF HOPE. The little town of Nertchinsk had, a short

time before, been greatly excited by the murder of an engineer called Major Dobson, the grantee of a piece of auriferous ground situated ten or twelve miles from the village. This Englishman lived upon the land he operated. Thanks to modern improvements

in the mining industry, he had succeeded in obtaining large quantities of gold in a spot disdained and abandoned by his pre-The Major attracted the assassins more, perhaps, by the reputation of originality of

miles around, than by his wealth, although that was immense. Every morning he went to the place where the steam-engine was working, wearing

stockings. He examined the machinery tentively; at the least sign of rust, he pulled off one of his stockings and rubbed until he had restored the polish; his three pairs of stockings were used in this way, and the mechanics, in whose faces he hurled thom, were obliged to bring thom back to

him under penalty of dismissal. Contrary to the custom of the majority of the grantees, he lived in niggardly fashion and had but one servant-an old womanand it was asserted that, far from sending to Barnoul the entire amount of gold he mined—for the mines belong to the government, and all the gold of Siberia is smelted at Barnoul on the Obi -he did not fear to purloin large quantities of it which he kept

One morning, he and his servant were found dead, the skulls of both split open

with hatchets.

However, the robbers did not succeed in discovering the Major's supposed hidingplace. They were able to steal only a small amount of silver, Major Dobson being in the habit of sending the most valuable portion

of his profits to England.

Three weeks later, another assassination turned out much better for its authors, and agitated the entire district of Nert chinsk.

A Russian from the Crimes, named Khabaroff, possessed as grantee a piece of land from which he had been unable to get even the smallest morsel of gold, though much of the neighboring territory yielded superb re-turns. Then, this man devised the means of putting his hand upon some of the precious metal, the color of which the gove ment would never see, thus depriving the grantees, his prosperous rivals, of commissions to which the results of their operations

entitled them. In his capacity of life proprietor, he had the right to keep a liquor shop upon his lands for the accommodation of his workmen, but, as he did not employ a single toiler, his spirits were sold to his neighbors' people at the reasonable price of a half pound of gold dust a bottle. Two barrels of brandy, worth at most fifty dollars, brought him in about one hundred and fifty sand dollars. It goes without saying that the purchases were paid for so magnificent ly with the precious ore stolen by the gold-

Khabaroff was despoiled of a portion of his ill-gotten wealth, after having been left for dead upon the public square. But, while he was being cared for, his method of enriching himself at the expense of the State was discovered, and misfortune overtook him.

In consequence of these outrages, the local authorities zealously set inquiries on foot. Then, it was suddenly discovered that a band of gold-robbers, already famous through edious exploits, had made this double stroke, and that the son of the Ipravsnik, or Justice of the Peace, had fer a long time been associated with this band.

Everybody esteemed the Ipravsnik. He was a proud and honest Russian named Yermac, a descendant, perhaps, of the Cossack who, followed by his gallant companions,

conquered Siberia. Yermac had been at Nertchinsk for a few years only, in disgrace—exiled, in fact. It was said that he had filled an important post in the magistracy in Moscow, acquiring there a reputation for austerity and incorruptibility, and pitliessly denouncing the prevarications of his colleagues. The latter, uniting, had succeeded in undoing him.

Such a man could not remain indifferent to the too well-founded suspicions in regard to his son. He resigned his office, and, as he was not permitted to return to Russin and did not desire to make further efforts to create an independent and honorable situa-tion for himself, he solicited and obtained the position of superintendent among the guards of the Oukboul mine. Yermac was the keeper whom Yegor Semenoff had insulted and struck. No doubt, if he had been acquainted with the rectitude of the man of the whip, Yegor would have repented of his fury, for he was capable of appreciating in others qualities he himself pos-

sessed in common with them. Yegor Semenoff had been exiled for political causes. Acrested at Kieff, where he miversity, ne did n what was his crime. One evening the police making a descent upon his residence, had seized his letters, papers and books and led

him to prison. Two weeks later, he was hurried over the roads leading to Siberia. He had de-parted for "the land from which no one returns."

Being a noble, the law spared him the pain of traveling on foot, a slight amelioration of a punishment inflicted in an entirely arbitrary manner. By dint of reflection and from a few ques

tions which he remembered had been asked him, Yegor felt satisfied that he owed the soverities of the police to the friendship which existed between him and the aged poet, Abel Davidoff, who had been exiled to Siberia three years before. Davidoff had been accompanied in his exile by his only daughter, Nadege, whose portrait, convict number 1367 were upon his

breast. For him, alas! she was no longer of this world, and the little sentimental romance begun between a student in his twentieth year and a young girl of sixteen had had s sad epilogue!
Their destinies, however, seemed to have

this in common; that she and he, in all probability, would end their days far from Kieff. Yegor, who, as soon as he had arrived at Oukboul had studied the country with the

intention of escaping, suddenly renounced every enterprise of that kind on learning that Davidon and his daughter resided at Irkoutsk. Hence he strove to accustom himself to the terrible life of a miner, making superhuman efforts to succeed. Was it not possible that he also might in time receive an amelioration of his lot. He was innocent-

guilty only of sympathy for certain victims of the Czar's inexorable justice. At Omsk, offended by the rough tone of one of the officials charged with fixing the place of his sojourn, he had answered him haughtily, almost arrogantly. whose pride was wounded, had taken a cruel joy, at the close of his consultation with his colleagues, in announcing to him-calling him "Monsieur" this time-that he was destined to work in the verdigris mines at Nertchinsk. Was it not possible that this severe decision might be reconsidered? He felt that he must arm himself

with courage! His squad was working in an interior gallery already commenced in the vein. An excavation was being made. Two miners struck, turn by turn, upon the wedge which a third miner held. In the darkness, the flinty rocks emitted sparks beneath the re-

peated blows of the iron. [TO BE CONTINUED.]

Bread in a good state of preservation has been unearthed in Pompeii recently in the new rooms uncovered by enormous boots drawn over three pairs of the explorers.