THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH.

PITTSBURG. SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 1890.

He Refused a Million Cash for

the Use of His Name.

Interecepted Telegrams That Might Have Saved Conkling.

A PURELY PATRIOTIC TRIP.

ATTITUDE ON THE THIRD TERM.

How the General Worked on His Book Up to the Last Moment.

HIS RELATIONS TO LI HUNG CHANG

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.] WASHINGTON, April 26. N March, 1881, the following correspondence passed between the War Department and General Grant: NEW YORK.

March 25, 1881. Hon, Robert T. Lincoln Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.: DEAR SIR-May I ask the great favor of you for Mr. N. E. Dawson, of your Department, to accompany me to Mexico as secretary and stenographer. His knowledge of Spanish will make him especially useful. I ask this favor with more confidence because I believe

my business to Mexico is of greater importance to the nation at large than to me or any other person individually. If Mr. Dawson comes he should meet me in St. Louis in time to take the morning train, Iron Mountain road, for Galveston; or else come on here in time to leave with me en Monday morning. Would like very much to see him in New York before we start. Very truly yours,

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25, 1881. General U. S. Grant, Fifth Avenue Hotel, New

DEAR GENERAL-It will give me pleasure to grant Mr. Dawson leave until June 1 to accompany you to Mexico. He will report to you on day morning in New York.

Very respectfully yours. ROBERT T. LINCOLN,

Secretary. The Mr. Dawson referred to in these letters is perhaps the most remarkable stenographer in the United States. He does not look to be 40, but he has had the experiences of half a dozen ordinary life times. Tall, slender and retiring, he is thoroughly modest and unassuming, yet he sustains the closest of confidential relations with the most prominent men of the country, and many of them have dictated to him their reminiscences with his simple promise that they are not to be used until they consent or until after their death. It was he who acted as Grant's stenographer in the prepar-ation of his memoirs, and he sustained a closer relation with the great General Curing his last days than any other man out-side of the family.

HIS ARMY RECORD.

Mr. Dawson's connection with Grant came about indirectly through his service in the war. He enlisted in the army at the age of 18, and while serving as a private soldier was taken prisoner. His prison was in Texas, and he improved his leisure time in studying the Spanish language. He escaped from prison, and after hiding around in the swamps for a couple of weeks, during which he was ted by the negroes, he made his way to General Banks' headquarters. General Banks offered him a clerkship, but he preferred to go back into the army, and he remained there until the war closed. After it he became a reporter on the Bur-lington Hawkeye and took down in shorthand a speech made by Senator Allison. Allison liked the report so well that he took him to Washington and made him a clerk to his committee. When McCreary became Secretary of War Dawson was given the place of stenographer and confi-dential secretary, and he remained in the War Department until the above correspondence took place.

He had served undr Grant at Vicksburg,

but had not become acquainted with him.
When General Grant was about to start for thoroughly acquainted with the Spanish language. General Dodge, of Iowa, who

I hope the Sycalature will suplain, its senters. The treatment they have received is grandain and ought to be reproduced by the offer first problems without her york the preduct administration could not have been just have the come into power. Without the active support of the present allerators how york could not have been carried republicans

Fac Simile of Grant's Dispatch (1881).

had won Grant's admiration by his splendid qualities at the battles of Atlanta and Pea Ridge, recommended Mr. Dawson, and he made his recommendation so strong that Grant gave Dawson all the funds for the trip at his first meeting, and trusted him from that time on implicitly. I talked with Mr. Dawson about this tour to-day. A PATRIOTIC PURPOSE. Mr. Dawson said: "General Grant's trip

to Mexico was purely a patriotic one and he hoped through it to bring the two countries eloser together. He was a great enthusiast on Mexico. He had been there as a boy in the Mexican War and had served in every battle except that of Buena Vista. At the close of the war in 1865 he had impelled our army in the direction of Mexico and had thereby made Maximilian leave the country. He was indirectly instrumental in forming the republic and he had a somewhat sentimental interest in it. When he went to Mexico in 1881 it was in the interest of all sorts of American investments. He wanted to see railroad relations established between the countries, wanted to push the submarine telegraph, and, in short, was de-

sirons of bringing the countries together.
"He was not interested in any investment, and he had no financial prospects present or future in the trip. He was offered a big salary by several companies to act as their official in making the trip, but he refused all such ofters. He finally consented to be the president of a nominal company, and in this he only took enough in the way of pay to cover his expenses. As a proof of his non-mercenary motives, an incident oc-curred while we were in the City of Mexico which established this beyond doubt and which established this beyond doubt and evidenced a courage and probity quite as great as Grant ever evinced in his life. The Real del Moute is one of the largest gold mines in the world. It had been operated for more than a century, and it is said to have produced more gold than any other mine in the world. This mine was being mine in the world. This mine was being doubt and series of the know it was great as Grant ever evinced in his life. The bedien to understand and failed to receive telegrams he did not understand and failed to receive telegrams which he had not understand and failed to receive telegrams which he had not understand and failed to receive telegrams which he had not understand and failed to receive telegrams which he had not understand and failed to receive telegrams which he had to fit a hundred who furnished as clean to the hands of the family. It was not sent to the hands of the family and the f evidenced a courage and probity quite as great as Grant ever evinced in his life. The Real del Monte is one of the largest gold

were still great.

"Ther wanted Grant's NAME.

"The company which operated it was anxious to stock the mine and float it in Europe, and they wanted to get Grant to take the Presidency of it. An Englishman was the agent selected to influence Grant in this direction, but he evidently understood their purpose and he did not give the man a chance to make his proposition. Finally the agent called upon me and told me that he would make me rich if I could get him an interview with General Grant whereby he could induce him to accept the Presidency interview with General Grant whereby he could induce him to accept the Presidency of the mine. He hung around me for a long time, and I finally told the General of his anxiety for the interview. General Grant told me that he would make no appointment to see the man, but that if he happened to call upon me at some time when he was present I could introduce him and he would settle the agent. As General Grant was in my room at the hotel at certain times every day the appointment was an easy matter. I told the mine representative and he called promptly the following day, and though General Grant had not known of the appointment he was present.

pointment he was present. "I introduced the man when he came in, and he at once began to talk about his mine. He said nothing about the floating of the stock, but he described the value of the mine and bluntly offered General Grant the sum of \$1,000,000 in cash if he would accept the Presidence of it. The General cept the Presidency of it. The General quietly heard him through, and then said quite as quietly that he was sorry he could not oblige him; that his trip to Mexico was without personal interest on his part, and that he could not accept any remuneration for the trip. He said that he could not connect himself in any way with the mine, but that he would be glad to mention it to his friends when he returned to New York. His reply was so decisive that the man accepted it as conclusive and bowed himself out.

A MILLION WITHOUT DISHONOR. "General Grant could have accepted this Presidency without dishonor, for the mine was a good one and there was no doubt of its value. Had he been made President of the company they could have placed the stock in Europe for untold millions, and it is not improbable that improved machinery and methods of working might have even brought in a sair rate of interest upon such an in-

worked with good success while we were in Mexico and its prospects for the future but which was lost because General Grant could get no replies from New York con-cerning it. This stoppage of the telegraph messages got to the ears of the Government of Mexico through General Grant, and it caused considerable governmental correspondence. THEY WANTED GRANT'S NAME.

"General Grant," Mr. Dawson went on, "received several telegrams from Washingreceived several telegrams from Washington asking him to not mix up in the Conkling-Garfield trouble. He received an autograph letter from Garfield at Vera Cruz,
but he did not answer this until he got to
New York. The trouble started him to
talking about Conkling and he told me the
thing that first attracted him to Conkling
was the fact that Coukling did not come to
him while he was in the White House with
advice to do this or that as to reliev or for advice to do this or that as to policy or for the purpose of asking appointments. He said that one of the first things he saw when he got into the White House was that if he wanted Conkling's advice he would have to ask for it. He said that when he did ask, however, he found Senator Coukling very free to give it and told me that he had never known of Senator Conkling coming to him on a question of public policy without first receiving a hint from him that his advice would be acceptable. At the same time General Grant gave me instances of a num-ber of prominent men who were quite the opposite.

THE THIRD TERM QUESTION.

"What was his real position in regard to a third term?" I asked.
"General Grant," replied Mr. Dawson, "went out of his second term perfectly satisfied with his public career. He was glad he was free and he wanted to stay free. He told me while in Mexico that after he came hask form his trip area. back from his trip around the world some moves were made by friends he thought the most of and those who were dearest to him politically and otherwise, to make him again a candidate for the presidency. He said he did not suppose it would amount to anything and for a time did not hing.

"As the movement gained treat he "As the movement gained strength he had more than once thought of writing a

private letter in such a manner that it might be given to the press stating that under no circumstances would be accept the nomina-tion. But in each case the reason for the delay was the argument that these men were his friends and that they were depending upon him. He thus held off until it was too late for him to decline without injuring vestment.

"General Grant sat still for 15 minutes second term he had made it a rule never to after the agent left. The loss of a fortune scheme for anything but to accept any office



GENERAL GRANT AND LI HUNG CHANG.

thoughts toward himself and his family. At as he himself was concerned I know that he the end of this quarter of an hour he got into a talkative mood, and you know he chatted very freely with those he trusted.

The thoughts toward himself and his family. At as he himself was concerned I know that he did not desire a third term and during his second term he wrote a letter objecting to any movement of that kind." He began to talk about his b well they were doing. At this time the financial prospects of the family were very bright, and General Grant proudly told me army and was doing well as the president of a railroad in Texas. He referred to the prosperity of Buck Grant with the firm of making money in his mining operations. With a loving enthusiasm he went over the different enterprises that the boys were in, and then said that as he and Mrs. Grant had enough to keep them in comfort as long as they lived he could see no reason for him to jeopardize the good name that he believed he had by entering into any such scheme as the one proposed to him. After this experience no one could ever make me believe that Grant allowed his name to be used by Grant

& Ward as they did use it. THEY BELIEVED IN WARD.

"The truth is he knew nothing about Ward's methods. He believed that Ward was a great financier, and the Grant boys thought the same. Ward never let them have any insight into the business. If they made inquiries about it he would say:
"Weil, now, if you think you can run this
business, you can try it. But one head is
enough. I am willing to give up any time
that you want me to leave, but while I am
here I must have the care, here I must have the say.'
"At times, however, Ward's mistakes were

so apparent that they were forced to go to him, but he always turned them off. At one time there was a mistake of \$5,000 in an account which was so plain that Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., went to see him about it. Ward at once saw that he could not explain it, and he gained their confidence more than ever by saying: 'Yes, that is a mistake and the bill is wrong.'
"Buck Grant told me that the family be-

lieved in him after that more thoroughly than ever before. It was not strange that they had taith in him, and at the time of the failure it was forgotten that men of high financial standing were as badly de-ceived as were the sons of General Grant."

GRANT AND CONELING.

The conversation here turned to Grant's relations with Conkling, and Mr. Dawson told me how Grant received the news of the resignations of Conkling and Platt in the Senate. "This happened," said he, "while General Grant was in Mexico. We were came, and General Grant picked up the back of a letter and wrote a telegram upon it to J. H. Work, of New York, the Secretary of the syndicate of which he was the nominal President. He addressed Work common, and he gave me the telegram, telling me to translate it and send it to New

"Here is the telegram as General Grant wrote it," said Mr. Dawson, handing me a sheet half covered with the autographic writing of General Grant in pencil. It read

I hope the Legislature will sustain its Senators. The treatment they have received is scandalous and ought to be reburked. Without New York the present administration could not have come into power. Without the active support of the present Senators New York could not have been carried Republican.

"This telegram," continued Mr. Dawson, "was sent by me in cypher, and had it reached New York it might have changed the whole course of American history. It did not get through, however, and it lodged at Vera Cruz. It would have gone through had it not been sent in cypher, but General Grant was supposed by the leading financier of the United States and the leading financier of Mexico to be interested in Mexican inestments. These two great capitalists controiled the telegraph wires of both countries, and they thought the cypher dispatch was a

ousiness one and stopped it. SPOILED GREAT ENTERPRISES.

"General Grant did not know it was

did not excite him, but it turned his or duty at the call of his country. As far

The talk here turned to General Grant's book and Mr. Dawson went on: "General Grant commenced the book intending to write it all himself. I had left him and was employed with the Inter-State Commerce account of my position. When the com-mittee was sitting in New York I called upon him and he then told me he needed me, but he knew how I was situated and did not want to disappoint others. I replied that I knew that no one of the Senators on

sented, and Mr. Murphy, of the Senate, at my request, sent a stenographer to take my place. At the time I began work with Gen-eral Grant most of the first volume was done. This was written almost entirely with his own hand, and only a few corrections were made by him as to the Vicksburg and Chattanooga campaigus. Very little of the second volume had been written, though he had put the Wilderness campaign into shape in accordance with his arrangements to write four articles for the Century. After I came he began to dictate, and he continued this as long as he was able to do so. As he went on his voice grew weaker and weaker, and toward the last I had to take my seat very close to his, and he whispered his words in my ear while I took them down in shorthand. His last dictation was on the 22d of

GROWING WEAKER AND WEAKER.

"After this he would sit with his pad on his knee near me, and would write down his ideas and hand them over to me to put into shape. He was very weak, and his hand grew more and more trembling as he neared his death. There is quite a difference in his copy, as you will see by the telegram I have shown you, and this sample showing his idea of a flying bridge." Mr. Dawson here handed me a short page

Air. Dawson nere nanced me a short page of General Grant's handwriting in pencil, with a rude drawing of a river and a flying bridge. A flying bridge, he said, is a kind of bridge attached to a rope tied to a tree which, swinging down a river, is made available by pulling one end to the side so that the other end swings around and hits the opposite bank. General Grant's picture explained this, and the writing was as follows: "At Chattanooga there was a fiving bridge at that time. A third bridge was to take the place of this. Do you know what a flying bridge is?" and then followed the

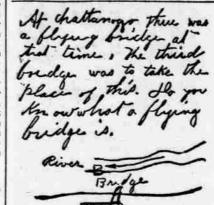
"What were General Grant's working hours?" I asked.
"When I first began, his working hours were from 10 until 12 in the morning. Then in the afternoon Mrs. Jesse Grant or some one else would read to him out of the books to retrest his manner and to refresh his memory, and he would sit with his notebook in hand and make catch notes. He had a good army library and knew where to find things. In the evening he would have more reading, and when the tamily were away he would sit and think and make notes. At this time the most of his dictation was done in the morning from these notes, and he now and then had his papers looked over for certain manuscripts to refresh his mind.

FURNISHED CLEAN COPY.

"The searching of these papers was done by myself and Colonel Grant. General Grant dictated very freely and easily. He made few changes. During the trouble between the family and Badeau, Mr. Johnson, one of the editors of the Century, was shown the manuscript of his first volume. This was, you know, in Grant's handwriting. Mr. Johnson was astonished when he looked at it and he said there was not one literare.

Grant's sentences rerely had to be revised in any way, and it was only at the last that he did not express himself in full. "The dictation for him was painful. His of a Brooklyn Playhouse.

"The dictation for him was painful. His voice got lower and lower as he went on. At last it was a mere whisper and then it stopped. I shall not forget soon his joy at the completion of the book. He had intended to have had the whole read over to him and to have revised it all. He was in reality only able to revise the first volume, and during his last hours he was afraid that he would not be able to complete it. He used in his writing for his book a yellow manilla legal cap ruled with blue lines and he wrote with a penoil. The work tired



he wrote with a pencil. The work tired him very much, and at last he was only able

Grant's Picture of a Bridge (1885). to scratch down his ideas. There was con-

siderable arranging to be done in the work, and he did not know that it was so near completed as it was. I saw at last that he had reached the end of all he could do, especially if he was able to hear it read, as I had wished.

SURPRISED AT THE END.

"We were then practically at the end and I said to Colonel Grant: 'This matter is all in shape now and I think we had better tell General Grant that the book is done.' We then told him. At first he hardly realized it and then he was very happy for a short time. He told those around him that his book was finished and that it had only to be read over. The next day, however, he was not so well and he never got to that point at which we could read him the second volume. It was only a few days after the finishing of the book that he died. During his lastdays he worked almost constantly on the book. I worked aimost constantly on the book. I saw that he was sinking fast and worked all the time I could. I was stopping at the house all the time and my rest was now and then taking a walk in the woods. The General was much pleased at my action, but he

eral was much pleased at my action, but he said nothing about it.

"After General Grant's death," Mr. Dawson went on, "I hunted up all the slips that the General had written and gave them to the Colonel and Mrs. Grant, with the exception of less than a dozen which were personally written for me. Some of these slips relate to his book. He was very cautious in writing so as not to injure the feelings of anyone and I remember many touching incidents of how he cut out sentences which he thought might hurt. He was even hyperthought might hurt. He was even hyper-critical in this regard and often imagined things might hurt when they might have been left in. Had he been able he would have probably made his memoirs comprise his whole life, but as it was he was glad to e able to finish his military career. READING THE PROOF.

"The proof of the book was all carefully read. We had four slips of proofs and Col-onel Grant, U. S. Grant, Jr., Jesse Grant and myself each held a slip while one of us read. Everything was carefully revised and verified, and this by going through the General's papers, as well as by consulting leading authorities.

"General Grant's papers are very valuthe closest relations to the great men of his day, and he carried on a correspondence with statesmen in different parts of the world. One of his elosest friends was Li Hung Chang, the Viceroy of China. His correspondence with him continued until the time of his death, and he often spoke of correspondence with him continued until committee of the Senate, which was then going about the country taking testimony.

After his illness in April, however, he wanted me, but hesitated to send for me on as to matters of state, and General Grant, you know, called him the Bismarck of China."

I here told Mr. Dawson the high reputation which General Grant sustained in China, and referred to a picture of the Gen that I knew that no one of the Senators on the committee would refuse to let me go if I could be of any use to him and that I would come. I then saw Senator Cullom and he said, "Of course we will let you off if the said." elected President, I doubt not the United States and China would be closer together, and in all probability the American and the Celestial would be kissing each other.

FRANK G. CARPENTER, AN OYSTER IN HIS EYE.

Curious Attachment a Sea Spider Has Been Carrying for Two Years. New York Herald.]

While Captain "Ed" Scudder, one of th best-known oystermen, of Northport, L. I., was dredging near that place one day last week, his rake brought up a medium sized sea spider fitted with a unique attachment in the shape of an oyster that covered his starboard eye.

The sea spider is of the genus mais

and abounds in the waters around New York. His principal food is the oyster, and he spends his life at the bottom of the sea searching for oyster beds.



Just how the oyster attached itself to the eye of the sea spider is more or less a matter of conjecture, but Captain Scudder thinks that the animal while in search of food received the "spat" or spawn of an ovster in his starboard optic, and has carried it ever since. This spat is provided with a mucil-agenous substance that enables it to stick to a rock or anything else it attaches to with all the tenacity of a leach.

The shell of the oyster shows to an experi-enced eve that it is fully two years old, and thus the unfortunate sea spider has been

carrying for all that time a constantly grow-ing burden. If he had not been brought to the surface by Capiain Scudder's rake his tate would have been a sad one, for in two late would have been a sad one, for in two years more the oyster would have increased so considerably in size and weight that he would have been to the spider what the Old Man of the Sea came near being to Sinbad the Sailor. After awhile the spider would have found his weight a serious obstacle to locomotion, and finally the poor animal would have been unable to move at all and would have starwed to death. would have starved to death.

A HAUNTED THEATER. Spooks Occupy Nearly Every Seat

VICTIMS OF AN AWFUL DISASTER.

Uncanny Reports Compel the Owners to Tear the Structure Down.

FORMS WHICH THE STORIES TOOK

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.] NEW YORK, April 26 .- A house is to h lemolished in Brooklyn because it is be lieved to be haunted. It is a large and handsome theater, but its reputation for ghosts is such that no profit can be made out of it for amusement purposes. So the owners have decided to tear it down. An auction sale of its interior fittings will be held next week. Immediately afterward the walls will be razed, and during the summer a commercial building will be erected on the

This is a delayed and curious consequence of a memorable disaster. About 15 years ago the Brooklyn Theater was burned, with a loss of 800 lives. That event can hardly have faded from the minds of the American newspaper readers anywhere, but to Brooklyn people, so many of whom were bereaved by the loss of relatives, and all of whom were horrified by the catastrophe, it remains a vivid recollection. The fire started on the stage while "The Two Orphans" was being performed, and the flames spread almost instancously through the scenery to the inflammable ceiling of the auditorium. The people in the parquet escaped essily The people in the parquet escaped easily, but for those in the two galleries the exits were so quickly closed by fire that comparatively few got out. The building was uttaken, amid the most shocking scenes, the charred remains of the dead. Only a small number of the bodies could be identified, and the remainder were buried together in Greenwood Cemetery, where a monument is inscribed to their sad memrry.

REBUILT ON THE SAME SPOT.

The theater had been owned by a stock company, composed of half a dozen Brooklyn politicians and office holders, and, strangely enough, they decided to build another playhouse on the same ground. Against this course they were advised by those who believed that, under the awful those who believed that, under the awful circumstances, the site was not any longer suitable for a theater, and that, on business as well as sentimental grounds, the enterprise was ill-advised. The dominant man in the company was the late Judge McCue, a rich and vigorous man, who would not be convinced of any impropriety in rebuilding the theater. So it was done. Although the second structure was entirely different in looks from its predecessor, and had its entrance on another decessor, and had its entrance on anothe street, it occupied the same space. It was

street, it occupied the same space. It was a very handsome house at first, luxuriously fitted up, and valued altogether at \$300,000. At that time its only rival in Brooklyn was the shabby and antiquated theater long identified with the late Conways.

There was no reason—other than the holocaust—why the new Brooklyn Theater should not gain a fashionable and prosperous career. But it did not. Every effort to sustain it as an elegant resort failed. The finest performances did not draw paying audiences. People disliked to go for diversion to the place where the great tragedy sion to the place where the great tragedy had occurred. Next, the house was devoted to a somewhat lower grade of theatricals, and the management endeavored to popularize it; but here the same difficulty encountered, and beside stories of ghosts got

THE GHOST STORIES. It was told that the spirits of the burned 800 haunted the premises, and these tales were sufficient to keep folks away. Two years ago, as a last and desperate recourse, the theater was turned into a ten-to-fifty house, that is, its prices were cheapened to the lowest extent, and it catered to the cheap multitude. The failure has been as decisive as before, and now a demolition, as de-

scribed, has been decided upon by the All through the unfortunate career of the rebuilt theater, the ghost stories concerning that she increased in humber and postere-ness. At first they indefinitely narrated that spooks frequented the auditorium at night after the performances were over, and there were folks who declared that they saw phosphorescent lights through the windows.

A little later a janitor gave up his job because, as he averred, he had encountered several of the dead members of the company which had performed there on the night of the fire. On one occasion, so he said, he entered the house after the departure of the audience, and saw the stage occupied by these ghostly actors, who were going through with a scene of "The Two Orphans."

A SPOOK IN EVERY SEAT. The man was a drunkard, however, and a liar even when sober; so his acquaintances at-tributed his yarns jointly to alcohol and invention. But they got into circulation nevertheless, and are now a part and parcel of Brooklyn tradition. But the crushing and final ruinous belief engendered by superstitious dread arose during the past winter. It was declared, nobody knows by whom at first, but by a great many later on, that every gallery seat was nightly occupied

by the ghost of the person whose life had been lost there in the fire.

These disembodied spirits, according to this conceit, were usually impalpable alike to sight and touch, and did not hinder the living purchaser of the seat from sitting in it; but the ten-centers were not less sensitive than the dollar-and-a-half folks had been, and they found that they really could not enjoy themselves seated in a chair compos-edly with a ghost. Thus it came about that pended upon in cheap-priced theaters, had been very sparsely occupied. That dealt the final blow to the Brooklyn Theater, and will

COLOR TEST IN BEEF.

The Air Soon Darkens the Brightest Red Meat-Overdriving Cattle. Again and again a lady will refuse to take steak which looks dark because she places explicit faith in the color test, and can not imagine that dark meat can be other than ressed beef, says a St. Louis butcher in the Globe-Democrat. This is all nonsense. When meat is first cut it is often a quite bright red, but a brief exposure darkens it. When a beast has been overdriven just prior to slaughtering, the meat is usually dark from the first, but even this test is not infalleges as President to Mr. Miller, of Millerstion home-killed beef except by the way it
is cut, and not one retail buyer out of one
thousand can tell at all.

WARD M'ALLISTER'S BOOK. Metropolitan Society Watting With Bated Breath for Its Appearance. New York World. 1

Ward McAllister, it is understood. busily engaged in writing his book on society, and society people are much interested over the probable contents of it. The speculations as to what he will say and what he will not say, the people whom he will mention and the people whom he will not mention, are endless and diverting. Everybody is anxious to see the chapter of be advice which will, it is taken for granted included in the book, and which will be addressed to those who desire to secure entrance to the most exclusive social circles

A ROMANCE OF RUSSIA AND SIBERIA

BY PRINCE JOSEF LUBOMIRSKI.

Author of "Safer-Hadji, a Story of Turkistan," Etc.

TRANSLATED FROM THE RUSSIAN FOR THE DISPATCH BY META DE YERA.

SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS,

The story opens in St. Petersburg with an interview between Colonel Palkin, aid-de-camp of the head of the gendarmes, and Mr. Onophri Schelm, head of the division of political affairs under the Minister of the Interior, Count Perowski. Both are ambitious and cordially hate each other. Palkin announces a conspiracy that Schelm knows nothing of. Count Lanin, aid-de-camp of the Emperor, enters announcing the order of St. Vladimir for Palkin, in reward for his skill, and a censure upon Schelm for his ignorance of the conspiracy. Jana is the daughter of wealthy Alexander Wernin. Count Vladimir Lanin is in love with her and she accepts him. Previously Schelm has asked Wernin for Jana's hand. She, thinking to humble Schelm, has Count Lanin send to him an invitation to their wedding, as her answer to his request for her hand. Wernin learns of the insult just too late, tries to intercept the invitation, but fails. Schelm receives it, and his anger knows no bounds. Wernin trembles, for Schelm's power is almost absolute. An old schoolmate of Schelm's, Miller, of Millertown, evidently in abject poverty, calls on him and asks a loan to put him in shape to attend a law banquet. Schelm abruptly dismisses him. Miller goes to Vladimir, who accommodates him and goes with him to the banquet. There they meet Schelm, who hides his bitter anger successfully and alludes to the wedding invitation. Because Nicholas Popoff was not at hand just as he wanted him. Schelm discharges him. On Popoff are dependent his aged mother and her child, living in one of the poorest districts of the city. Popoff returns to them desperate. His sweetherst, Helen, and Miller drop in and Miller leaves all that is left of the money Vladimir gave him. Nicholas vows revenge on Schelm. Miller son Schelm, again pennuless and hungry. Schelm gives him 10,000 rubles for which Miller binds himself to his service absolutely, and thus becomes the tool of Schelm accepts, intending to betray Popoff immediately he gets the money, because the discharged soldier has heard

CHAPTER VII.

rder to close the session, when suddenly I move we close the meeting." one of the elderly men rose and asked to be permitted to speak.

same of 'Experience' and not without cause. I am indeed an experienced conspirator. I have, from childhood up, hated that despotism which disgraces our Holy Russia. I

Miller was in the act of seizing the bell in the final orders to other members. To-day

me of the elderly men rose and asked to be the meeting."
He appeared almost great under the influence of his sublime courage. All were carried away, they were ready to explain, to excuse themselves, even Ace of Spades hung his head. All cried unanimously:
"We believe it! We trust our leader!"
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from my lips the name of Ace of Clubs.

"Return, and if the members should insist upon removing Ace of Clubs, I authorize you to give them my name. We shall meet again, I hope, Colonel, and in the fire

Then he beckened to a cab driver. Drove to the Michael Theater and bought tickets for a proscessium box. It was past 8 when

when the entered the restaurant, where Lanin sat waiting for him impatiently.

"Pardon me," said Miller, "but I was engaged until this moment."

And while he unfolded his napkin he handed him the tickets and said : "I thought of you-here are tickets for

"I thank you," said Lannin, and sat down

CHAPTER VIII.

The whole Imperial Court was assembled in the Winter Palace. Thegentlemen in full uniform, the ladies in the national costume, were standing at their places opposite those reserved for the imperial family. The Master of Ceremonies with his marshal's staff was seen hurrying to and fro, seeing that the rules were observed. It was a gala day, and all hoped to see the Czar's family as

they were returning from church. The Winter Garden, separated from the Hall of St. George by the Pompey Gallery, had attracted several higher officials. They were engaged in confidential talk.

Only in the gallery nobody remained, for here two of the greatest statesmen of Russia were walking up and down. They were Count Orloff, head of the gendarmes, and

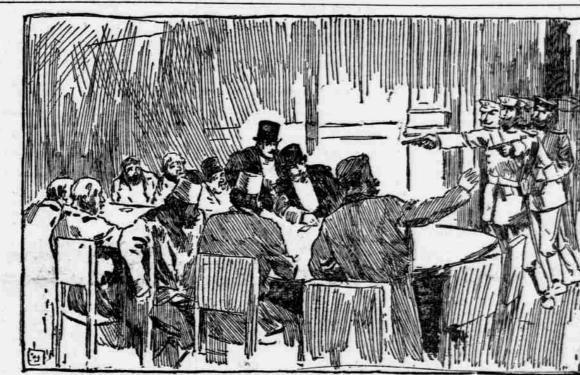
the Emperor's intimate friend, Count Perowski, Minister of the Interior.

A soldier of the Golden Regiment, who stood sentry at the door that opened upon the gallery and the rooms of the mighty rules of the empire, presented arms every time they came near him, and the Arab who was posted on the opposite side never took

his eye from them. "Thus it is," said Count Orloff. "I left His Majesty under the impression of very sad thoughts, nor could I bring him better news, for I have known for two months what you told me but now. My police have been watching a very dangerous conspiracy all this time, but as they often met with Mr. Schelm's emissaries they would not in-terfere with them. Yesterday, however, Colonel Palkin assured me that Schelm was in the dark and that we must root up the whole conspiracy at once or there might be

real danger!"
"Really?" replied the Minister. "Your Palkin is very cunning. Schelm always tells me he is better at fictitious than at real

conspiracies."
"Palkin told me literally the same of Scheim," said Count Orloff, smiling. "One



have conspired against Katherine, Paul and Alexander. In 1826 I was a member of the conspiracy against Nicholas-" "Order!" cailed one of the members.

"Ace of Spades! Tell us what you have to say, without going back into the past!" "I thought," continued the old man, addressing Miller directly. "I ought to preface my words to this extent in order to justify what follows, which otherwise you might interpret as lacking in courage. So far, gentlemen, we have been content with secret meetings and confidential talk. We have listened to eloquent and powerful speeches against tyranny! but now we are to proceed openly; we are, as the President has said, to risk our lives and our fate. I want to know now who is going to lead us and who is virtually at the head of the whole enterprise. Before we proceed I want to know Ace of Clubs!"

Several members showed that they ap-proved the motion. Miller had turned pale. The old man continued:
"We were assured that he was a high personage, who wished to remain unknown. Very well! So far our head may have had his reasons, but now, when we are to appear openly, this want of confidence is offensive to us! To-day, when our lives are demanded of us, we have a right to know who our

"Ace of Spades is right!" cried several voices.

Miller frowned. The Assembly was evidently excited. At last he seized the bell, and said: "Gentlemen, it is you who show a want of confidence in the Acc of Clubs. was set free? Must I recall to you in how many instances Ace of Clubs has shown

you the power he wields. Is idle curiosity

to turn your hearts away from our great work?" "It is not idle curiosity," said Ace of pades. "I have asked no question till the day when we are to proceed to action. We must at least know who is our leader. We are not children to be led blindly. No doubt, we have learned to know the energy, the power and the wisdom of Ace of Clubs—our number has increased from a dozen to forty members, since Ace of Clubs has become the soul of our meetings. But while he knows us, we have never been permitted to know him. And as he always transfers his privileges as President to Mr. Miller, of Millersthat we do not take another step till we learn who leads us!"

The assembly murmured applause. Some

whispering took place and then one of the younger officers said: "We all vote for the tion of Ace of Spades."

Miller was painfully pale; a dark resolve flushed his face and glowed in his eyes. "If you insist upon it you shall have your will. I know Ace of Clubs and am ready to make you acquainted with him, but our President, who has given so often evidence of his self-sacrifice and his courage, can have no confidence in men who mistrust him. Brother Experience has confessed that Ace of Clubs is the soul of our conthat Ace of Clubs is the soul of our conspiracy. He has brought us everything—power, intelligence and material subsidies. He can make himself known only to such as have done the same. I therefore move that you choose nine delegates, who will remain with me in this hall. They shall learn goodby to the Colonel, adding:

general confusion the Secretary named 18 members, with eight corresponding cards. Then each man present drew a card from the pack that was lying on the table and threw it into a basket. The President, to whom the basket was handed, mentioned thereupon the nine names upon which the lot had fallen. Then Miller turned ironically to the conspirators and said:
"As we have no other room and all leave

at the same time to avoid suspicion, I beg you will wait a while in the antercom. In moment you shall be called."

The conspirators lelt humiliated by Miller's haughty manner. All, even Ace of Spades, now regretted their want of confidence. In deep silence they waited.

When Miller had only the nine delegates before him, he drew himself up proudly and

"Gentlemen, I am happy that the choice has fallen upon you. I, myself, could not have chosen better. Those who are to hear my words must be tried men, ready for everything. Gentlemen, you wished to know Ace of Clubs. I will gratify your wish. I, myself, am Ace of Clubs." All drew back dumbfounded. In the meantime Miller had quickly drawn forth a

black mask with a hood, covered his head and in a changed voice exclaimed: "Do you recognize this mask and this Then casting aside in a somewhat theatri-

cal but dignified manner both mask and hood, he added:
"You need then mysterious influences and important individualities? Genius and mind are enough for the multitude! I knew this. I had in mind a gigantic project which I had invented, prepared and elabora-ted. To carry it out I needed a hand. Then you admitted me to your circle. It counted only 12 members, and all your a want of confidence in the Ace of Clubs.
Has he not given you proof enough of his power and influence? Has he not shown his devotion to our cause? Who freed the bookselier, Schimon, who distributed revolutionary works and restored him to his business and his family? Does not Two of Clubs, who was arrested for having conspired with soldiers, owe it to him that he was set free? Must I recall to you in how your leader you would have thought me inyour leader you would have thought me insane. Then I appeared one day before you, masked, bringing in one hand Schimon's pardon, and in the other 5,000 rubles. The Colonel has introduced me here. Ask him why he did it."

"I had," said the Colonel, "received a

letter from our correspondent in London, who recommended you. Two of our brethren vouched for the masked man. At the sight of the money and the pardon I hesitated no

Miller, "I shall, perhaps, tell you hereafter, but you know how my cunning, my powerful intellect, has overcome every impediment in our way. I do not deny that I was indorsed by a man, an enthusiast for our holy cause, who was ready to support it, and who had opened me up an unlimited credit. This man is still alive, has large means and extensive relations, but he is not a man of great weight in the empire, and need not hide behind a mask. You shall see him Saturday. He gave me the money I spent, he made my task easy for me, but, after all, he was but an instrument in my hands, which I knew how to use profitably. All this I have done alone! Gentlemen, now you know me! Do you acknowledge me as your

"Yes! yes!" they cried with one voice.

They had listened in silence; they could not conceal their surprise their admiration.

Miller opened the door.

is worth as much as the other. But I do not think him capable of inventing a conspiracy. He knows me too well for that; but I tell you frankly that I have authorized him to proceed, as he assures me he is on the point of discovery. I have, however, for your sake, ordered him to wait a whole seed, as he assures me he is on the

The Minister's brow looked dark.
"I thank you, Count. I am sorry I shall have to trouble his Majesty the Emperor, once more, but as my people have unearthed this conspiracy I should, of course, also like to get the reward for the discovery."

"And justly so," said the head of the gendarmes, "that is why I leave the field

At this moment the soldier on duty raised the portiere which concealed the door of the White Hall, and the Admiral General of the Emperor, Count Lanin, entered. When he saw the two statesmen conversing he walked up to them and shook them by the

"I cannot recover from my conversation with the Emperor just now. Count, you cause him constant grief with your continuous reports of new conspiracies

"Unfortunately! What did the Emperor "I wish all could have heard him! 'Dear Lanin, he said to me, rousing himself from profound meditation, 'they have discovered a new conspiracy! The head of the secret police has told Orloff. Why will they not acknowledge me as their father and master? Why do they force me to be the stern judge instead? I am the Emperor and autocrat of all the Russias, but should like to bear that title only for the happiness and the glory of all my subjects! An indescriba-ble emotion was reflected on his manly face and in his voice. When he noticed that I shared his feelings, he continued! 'You, at least, love me, Lanin! But how few such hearts have I around me! Everywhere court intrigues and flattery! I hate revolu-tions—but I despise conspiracies! I can comply with the wishes of my people with-out humiliation, but to be airaid of the threatenings of a few malcontents, that would be madness, vulgarity! You are perfectly right, sire, I said; such people de-serve purishment and severe purishment serve punishment, repeated the Emperor, 'I always hear the same words and it wounds my heart,'"

"Our master is a man of rare nobility." said Orloff, deeply touched. "Why cannot all learn to know him as well as we do, his nearest friends?"

The Minister did not break the ominous silence, and his features grew sharper and harder.

"Then the Emperor," continued Lanin, "Then the Emperor," continued Lanin, "repeated the same words, adding: 'Alasi that punishment should be necessary! The country must be protected against these frequent shocks. If that conspiracy should be real, you, Lanin, will judge the guilty and punish them severely, but, he unexpectedly added, holding me back, 'do not forget, my friend, that I will hear nothing of capital nunishment. During my reign too many punishment. During my reign too many lives have already been sacrificed. However great the crime may be, I swear, I give them their lives!"

A reverential murmur here interrupted A reverential murmur here interrupted Lanin's recital. The Chief Chamberlain appeared in the door of the Hall of St. George, At a sign from him all the doors were suddenly opened wide, so that the eye could range through all the intervening halls and galleries to the end of the Winter Palesa.

The Master of Ceremonies knocked three times with his gold stick and cried aloud:
"His Majesty the Emperor!"
When a tew hours later Count Perowski
sent for Mr. Schelm he received him in an unexpectedly cold and stiff manner. He re-proached him with negligence and repeated his conversation with Count Orloss.