

LAND OF THE CZAR.

WHAT RUSSIA IS DOING TO PREVENT A FAMINE IN 1893.

The Famine Sufferers Have Received \$350,000,000—Wonderful Private Gifts of the Nobles—Peculiarities of the People.

HE reports which are received daily here from the famine districts, says Frank G. Carpenter in a St. Petersburg letter to the Washington Star, are very encouraging, and though the famine is still raging, the backbone of the demon of Russian starvation will, it is believed, be broken by the first of September, when the harvest will have been gathered. Great want and much suffering, however, must continue to exist for the next year or so in many of the States, and the drought may precipitate a second famine equally as terrible as the present one. Notwithstanding all that has been published concerning the famine, we in the United States have but little idea of its terrible extent and of the wonderful manner in which the Russians have hauled it. No country in the world, with perhaps the exception of the United States, could withstand such a strain as Russia is now undergoing, and there is no Nation in the world, except



RUSSIAN FARMERS.

perhaps one, that would rise to the emergency and do so much for its people as Russia is doing. The contributions America has made have been of great good, and they are most thankfully, and I might also say, tearfully received, but they are only a drop in the bucket to what Russia herself is doing. Our and other outside gifts amount, all told, to perhaps three-quarters of a million dollars. The donations of the Government and the people represent in the neighborhood of \$350,000,000, and the Czar himself has given about ten million dollars out of his private fund. The Government loans to the famine villages amount to more than one hundred million dollars, and these loans no one ever expects that the peasants will repay. It is a physical impossibility for them to do so, and, as one of the chief officials of the Government said to me lately, the Czar does not expect repayment. He always gives a present to the people upon certain occasions, such as the coronation of a grand duke, and at the next event one of his presents will probably be the forgiving of this debt. This one hundred million dollars was given almost outright by the Government, but in addition to it numerous schemes have been favored and authorized by the Czar to get money for the sufferers, and the bulk of the gifts have come from the people.

Consul General Crawford estimates that the gifts of private citizens in Russia to this famine have been not less than 350,000,000 roubles or the enormous sum of \$175,000,000. The gifts almost surpass comprehension, and all told, notwithstanding the vast population of Russia, they amount, including those of



PEASANT WOMAN.

the Government, to \$3 for each man, woman and child in the whole Russian Empire, or to \$15 per family. When you remember that of the twenty odd million

families that make up the Russian people not many more than one million of them probably has ever had \$15 at one time in its possession you get some idea of the mighty strain this has been on those who could give and have given. The nobility have in all cases led the list, and hundreds of well-educated girls and women of the best families of this and other Russian cities are now in the famine districts fighting the demons of starvation, typhus fever and the smallpox in behalf of the peasants. A number of these ladies have caught the diseases of the peasants, and a Russian countess who went from St. Petersburg was among those who took the smallpox. Almost all of the great landed proprietors in the famine districts are doing what they can to help their people. I hear of men who have been feeding and caring for five, ten and in some cases even twenty and twenty-five thousand peasants, and Count Bobrinsky, who is at the head of the transportation of famine relief here, is, in connection with his family, supporting nearly thirty thousand people out of his own means, and at the same time aiding in the distribution of the foreign and Government relief fund among the people outside of his estates.

This relief work is not done spasmodically nor without system. There is a thorough organization, and as good brains as you will find anywhere in the world are managing it. The peasants themselves are like children, and they require the advice and the care of children. These people of Russia of the highest classes go and stay with them. They visit them in their huts, take care of the sick—for there are but few doctors—and nurse them. With them is the Russian Red Cross which has raised about \$35,000,000 for the sufferers, and

stay. The women are of the same character as the men. They are not handsome nor pretty, but they look kind and motherly and what we would call fine looking. They lack taste in dress, have no ideas of the harmony of colors, and wear—I mean the peasants—handkerchiefs of all brightest colors of the rainbow upon their heads. Their dresses are of red, blue or other gay colors, and they are gathered in at the neck and waist, and fall to the feet in ungraceful folds. They are sturdy of frame and rather dull and quiet in manner. They do as much work as the men, and the men and women work in the fields side by side. The men of the lower classes, as I see them here, are more picturesque in their dress than the women. Russia is the land of the cap, the long coat and the top boots, and the peasants wear coats of homespun, with long frocks, and even such as dress in sheepskins, with the fur turned in, have their coats reaching to below the knees. Here in St. Petersburg I see few without overcoats, but further south the peasant man's dress is of red calico, shirt and pantaloons, the shirt coming outside the pants and belted at the waist, and his feet are covered with a sort of coarsely woven straw shoe and his ankles are swathed in rags. The better class of poor people or the ordinarily well-to-do men here wear long coats, with top boots, and the National cap is worn by nearly every one. This is to a large extent the costume of the rich, though the wealthy all over the civilized world dress much the same as we do. The difference here is largely in the quality of goods worn, and St. Petersburg may be said to be a city where the people wear ulsters, caps and high boots the year round, no matter whether it be as hot as Tophet or as cold as Alaska. These Russian boots are worth looking at. They are about the only cheap thing in Russia, and you can get a pair made to order for five dollars. The same leather and the same work in the United States would cost you twenty-five dollars, and the finish of the best leather is as fine at that of a portfolio or pocket book. These boots reach to the knees, and the best of them shine like patent leather. The pantaloons are always tucked inside of them and there is a fancy section about six inches wide above the ankle of every boot, in which the leather lies in wrinkles with the regularity of a washboard. It takes at least twice as much leather to make a pair of Russian boots as it does an American pair, and the same may be said of the Russian overcoat. The droschky drivers wear more cloth than any other cabmen the world over. It takes more of good cloth—for the blue goods they wear seem to be of excellent material—to make a droschky driver's coat than to make a ladies' trained ball dress, and this coat has to be padded and quilted. This coat has long skirts, and it is made very large so that the cabbie can stuff his body out, and especially his back, to give himself the appearance of prosperous fatness. Nineteens of these drivers are padded in this way, and no well-to-do man would own a lean coachman. Lieutenant Allen, the military attaché of our legation here, told me yesterday that his coachman appeared to be of dime-museum fatness when he engaged him, and that he supposed his great frame was that of nature, until one day he met him before he had put in his pads and he was as thin as a rail and looked so different that it was some time before he knew him.

Speaking of Russian caps, the officers whom you see here by the thousand all wear them, and the most of the soldiers have caps as a part of their uniform. Every servant or messenger wears a cap and the boys from the age of four wear long-visored caps and little overcoats just like their fathers. Even the little girls wear caps, and the favorite head covering of the little maidens of from two to six or seven years, whom I see running about with their nurses in the parks, is a jockey cap of the brightest red, blue, yellow or green silk. The colors of the caps of the men are usually dark, though they are trimmed with all shades of borders and bands, and each color denotes something. The policemen, as a rule, have red bands about their caps. Some of the private soldiers wear caps of white. Others wear caps like Tam O'Shaunters, and the cavalry have as many different kinds of headgear as the infantry. Some officers have green bands about their caps and others blue, and in short there is every possible cap combination from the shaggy fur of the peasant from the wilds of north Russia to the brimless astrakhan, which, with its red silk crown, covers the head of the cartridge breasted Cossack soldier. The overcoats of the people from the different parts of the country are also different, and the officers wear coats of different colors and of different



A DROSCHKY DRIVER.

from now on the same organized system that we have constructed will be in force here. Heretofore Russia has had no agricultural statistics and the peasants have lived from hand to mouth. They are not economical or thrifty nor accumulative in our sense of the word, and it requires a study of their character and their condition to understand the situation.

No one who visits Russia can be unimpressed with the strength of character seen in the faces of the people. I first saw these Russian peasants at Jerusalem about four years ago. It was at Easter time, and they had come by the thousands on a pilgrimage to the holy sepulcher, and of the polyglot humanity which was gathered there from the four quarters of the world there were none so strong in feature and in frame as these Slavs. I see here every day walking the streets of St. Petersburg with bundles on their backs, driving cabs or droschky's and working on the streets, men whose nobility and strength of features would create remark in the American crowd, and at every corner you meet men whose faces are such that you would be proud to acknowledge them if you found them among your ancestral portraits. Their foreheads are high and broad, their eyes straight, honest and kindly. Their noses

are large and clean cut, and their cheek bones often rather prominent. Nearly all are bearded and many are long-haired and part their hair in the middle. Their frames are as strong as their faces. They are a big-boned, well-joined race, and they look as though they were made to



SOWING THE SEED.

grades of length, ranging from the feet to the top of the boots in size. All told the dress of the men is the most picturesque one of Europe, and the crowds which throng the streets of St. Petersburg are like those of no other capital of the world. The men are naturally large and fine-looking. These long ulsters make them look bigger, and the general effect produced is that of a Nation of giants.

Milking by Machinery.
Numerous arrangements have been suggested for lessening the labor of milking, but the latest product of inventive genius in this direction is shown in the accompanying illustration. The device was shown in operation at the recent Agricultural Show held in England, where it attracted considerable attention on account of its novel features.

In this machine all four of the teats are milked simultaneously by two pairs of elastic and feathering roller segments, having rocking, approaching and receding movements. The teats are squeezed from the upper ends down to the bottom and while one pair of rollers approach each other, squeezing the teats on the right side, the pair on the left side recede.

The machine rests in a self-adjusting frame, suspended on the cow, and is not affected by any movements that may be made by the animal during the milking. The operator turns a handle situated at arm's length from the right side of the cow, and connected with the main shaft by a flat link chain. The milk flows through a funnel into the milk-can, and the operator is thus able to see when the cow is milked clean—that is, when no more milk flows. It is claimed that this machine will make milking a cleaner and easier work, and, as it does not require any special training, any person will be able, after a little practice, to milk a large number of cows quicker and better than trained milkers by hand. From practical experiment, cows appear to like the process, and keep perfectly quiet during the operation.—St. Louis Republic.

A Jelly Palace for the World's Fair.
The women of California are going to build a jelly palace at the fair—not a shivering, unsteady structure like a new custard pie, but a solid building, with sides of glasses full of jelly, says the Chicago Times. These glasses will be of transparent and of rainbow hues. The building will be thirty-one feet high, surmounted by a glass ball, two feet in diameter, full of jelly. The four

arched entrances will form a square twelve feet square. The frame of the structure will be the lightest possible steel. It will carry plate glass shelves its entire height. On these shelves the bottles containing jelly of every color will be arranged. So as of them will be set upright and others horizontally, according to the effects to be produced. In the decoration of this novel palace 2344 glasses, 2 1/2 inches in diameter, will be used; 986 four inches in diameter, and 1048 of assorted sizes, making a total of 4683.

The women estimate that this palace will cost \$2400, of which \$1000 will be for the steel frame.

THE REALM OF FASHION.
WHAT TO WEAR AND HOW THEY MAKE IT.
Fashion is About to Rebel Against the Street Sweeping Trails.

GOOD taste is so strongly in revolt against the nasty style of wearing a train upon street dresses that although women are very submissive to the orders of costume designers, it is quite likely that the decree will soon go forth from social leaders that bell skirts must be the only wear and they must absolutely clear the ground.

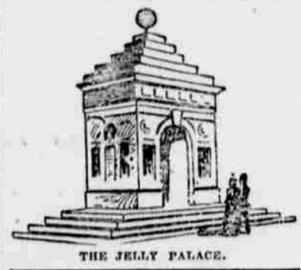
The season is now too far advanced for the introduction of any novelties. The summer girl must be content with the picturesque effects which she can attain by the use of wide folded sashes, Swiss belts and deep corselets. It is usual to have the



AN EXQUISITE INDOOR TOILET.

The wise maiden will be careful how she wears a blouse finished in sailor style with single. Only a very shapely and smooth white neck can stand such a garment. She had better make choice of a style less trying, say corselet, belt and collar to match, covered with lace. For instance, take the charming blouse pictured in my initial, the material being a striped and dotted satin mervelloux, trimmed with crocheted lace of an ecru tone. This blouse should be made up over a fitted lining, the latter being cut away under the lace yoke.

You can't get a prettier gown for this time of the year than a crepon. For a young lady, a pink tone, if becoming, may be charmingly set off by the string-colored Irish lace now so much in vogue; the skirt being finished with a silk ruche.



THE DANCING FAD.

It is wonderful what a hold white has on popularity, so much so that many women wear it who should leave it severely alone. White is a most trying color, not only for the complexion, but for the figure; and yet when you do see the best figure for a white gown, name it: tall and slender, wearing white foulards trimmed with fichu and epaulets of lace, you can't help being delighted with it. It makes an ensemble of such charming purity and perfection.

The exquisite indoor toilet shown in the picture is in pomp-dour foulard, made princess. The bottom of the skirt has a flounce of the material box-pleated and covered, with lace headed by a narrow pleated silk band with bows set as indicated, they being trimmed with lace. The bodice is covered with lace which forms very small basques. There is a draped effect in foulard on the corsage and ribbon braces.

Already plans are maturing as to what we shall do this winter. What novelties shall we have. What will be the latest fad, the newest sensation? As you have doubtless heard, we have taken to skirt dancing. I don't mean that skirt dancing has superseded the waltz or even the lancers, but that certain fashionable ladies have discovered that they can do a skirt dance quite as well as the professionals, and they take the opportunity offered by private theatricals and bazaar entertainments to exhibit their gracefulness. I have never, however, seen our young married ladies or even our single ones will take up skirt-dancing seriously. They will most probably let the children have the monopoly. Anyway, it will be a pleasant diversion for little maids, and in some cases quite worth seeing, for children take to dancing very naturally, their slender, lithe figures fitting them particularly well for it. In the illustration is presented a spirited sketch of a skirt dancer. Of course much depends upon the costume and upon the colored lights thrown upon the performer. The accordion skirt has usually been made use of for parlor enter-

tainment, but whatever style of skirt is chosen the greatest care should be taken in the selection and make-up for the underskirts. They should be filmy and delicate and clinging, following the motion of the limbs like white crested waves.

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FOR A GARDEN PARTY.

White is every where and especially with variations in ecru and creamy tones. As for the rage in scarlet and crimson which was predicted early in the season on account of their success in the old world, it has not come, the reason no doubt being that with our almost tropical sun, the glare would be too trying, both to the wearer and the looker-on.

A very piquant toilet for a garden party is the one shown in the picture, the material being white foulard set off with a lace bertha. Above the latter there is a yoke of pleated lace. There is a garniture about the sleeves which would be very becoming

to some young girls. The belt and the bottom of the skirt are trimmed with white velvet ribbon. This make-up could be applied to many other materials; for instance, to a stamped veiling, blue ground with white flowerets, and trimmed with white lace.

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A CALLING COSTUME.

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A PRETTY GOWN.

to herself. There is no telling what width sleeves will attain by the end of the season. It is the only portion of her costume that admits of exaggerated size, and she is determined to make the most of it. Hats, too, will increase their proportions as summer draws to a close, and the dahlias, peonies, hollyhocks and August flowers will come in for their brief day of favor, only to give place to fruit and grain during the supplemental season, which has now become the thing to pass in quiet mountain towns so that the devotee of fashion may recover from the strain and drag of the season before she goes back to town.

The illustration shows a charming calling costume in pink silk or crepon with a guipure plastron, having the form of a yoke-front and back. The crossed ribbons meet at a point in the back. There is a ribbon bracelet at the elbow and deep lace cuffs. The plastron should be gathered on a straight collar.

Retaliation on Canada.
In accordance with the recent act of Congress President Harrison on Saturday issued a proclamation imposing a tax of 20 cents a ton on all freight of whatever kind passing through the Sault Ste. Marie canal. This tax will be continued until the Canadian government makes the tolls for the Welland canal the same on American as upon Canadian freight. The Canadian government had decided that the rebate of 15 cents a ton shall be repaid on Canadian freight until the end of the season.

Life.