

"No Bill," like a certain Grand Jury we knew.

Now, to have such people as the Turks for neighbours can scarcely be a good and pleasant thing, and so the Russians have always had more or less of trouble,—oftener more than less. Let me tell you a little of the Russian Empire and people. As to the area and the population of Russia we cannot speak precisely; what they are exactly no one knows. Some writers have put the population at one-sixth of the whole world. Any how, it is more than twice that of the United States or the Chinese Empire, and nearly twice as many as that of Great Britain. We can reckon them at nearly eighty-three millions. The area is immense, almost incalculable. Some of it a wild waste, but for the most part fertile and pleasant. There is, in fact, more land than there are people to occupy, and for long periods to come they will have more than ample scope for all their industries within their own borders. But Russia is comparatively a young country, and has only of late years begun to understand and to develop her resources and form a compact and progressive nationality. I am not altogether pro-Russian, although I am altogether anti-Turk. I do not hold up Russia as being good or very grand; but I do say this, that in the Russian people you have a people anxious to be peaceable and prosperous. The gigantic administrative machine, which has to hold together the various parts of the vast Empire even now secures a certain amount of order and tranquility and complete freedom. And that machine is of quite recent construction. It may be said to have been designed and thrown into rough form by Peter the Great. Before his time the country was governed in a rude and primitive fashion. The Grand Princes of Moscow, in subduing their rivals and annexing the surrounding principalities, merely cleared the ground for a great homogeneous State, and made no effort to build a political edifice. In fact, the Muscovite Tsars pursued a tentative, hand-to-mouth policy, destroying whatever caused temporary inconvenience with no thought for the future. And upon that entered Peter. But Peter was a doctrinaire, and had a logical mind, and a great ambition. He conceived the design of sweeping the old order away, and putting in its place a bureaucratic machine, constructed according to the newest principles of political science. Imagine a man without skilled workmen, without technical knowledge, and without good tools,—with no better material than sandstone that is soft and crumbling trying to build a palace on a marsh! It seems absurd—and yet Peter attempted just that. He had no technical knowledge; he had not the right material; he had not a firm foundation; and yet, with magnificent courage, he demolished the old structure and set to work to build up a new. He failed often, he may almost be said to have failed always, but he tried with indomitable perseverance, with unwavering energy, with masterly skill; when it came crashing down only half broke his heart, and went to the work of build-

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(To be continued.)

If "the results of Trade lie *too long concealed* in stock and store and fruits of the soil till the waiters for a return from the investments which are sown broadcast over the country grow weary and heartsick," then these waiters must