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THE COURIER OF THE CZAR By Jules Verne

letachment set off at a gallop.

themselves alone on the road.

did not even perceive it.

gnawed by him, broke at an unexpect-

ed dash of the horse, and its rider, half

Michael Strogoff and Nadla found

CHAPTER XV.

vehicle, teams often renewed, well pro-

themselves any means of locomotion,

only saw through the eyes of Nadia.

der the most affecting circumstances.

It was 10 o'clock at night. For the

last three hours and a half the sun had

disappeared below the horizon. There.

was not a house, not a hut, in sight.

tance. Michael Strogoff and Nadia

"To what place shall I lead you, Mi-

The last Tartars were lost in the dis

was burned down and was deserted.

must cross this never ending steppe.

And thus they walked on for three

Several times Nadia was obliged to

stop. Michael Strogoff then took her

in his arms, and for the moment, not

having to think of Nadia's fatigue,

while carrying her he marched more

On the 18th of September, at 10

o'clock at night, both reached at length

Kimilteiskoe. From the top of a hill

Nadia perceived a line a little less dark

girl, urged on by some evil foreboding.

"Yes," said Michael, "it is Serko who

Her call remained unanswered. Only

some birds of prey rose up and disap-

peared amid the high clouds of heaven.

"Nicholas!" cried the young girl.

ing up to Nadia. It was Serko.

which was clawing the ground.

searched with his hand.

Nicholas could not be far away

even the strength to call out to him.

cipitated himself upon it, it rose up;

but, returning to the charge, it struck

He again renewed the attack, but he

received a blow on the head from that

It would have struck against their feet

ness that the heavens cast upon the

had it not been for the intense bright-

horizon. It was the Dinka.

quickly and with his untiring pace.

"Do you hear?" said Nadia.

being who is about to die.

down his head.

lent excitement

the open grass field.

that the cry came!"

Nadia stopped.

were indeed alone.

"By the highroad?"
"Yes, Nadia."

ICHAEL STROGOFF and

during the journey from

Perm to the banks of the

(Continued.)

After a reasonable halt they continned their journey once more on the aft-ernoon of the 8th of September. The listance to Irkutsk was not more than 500 versts. Nothing in their rear signaied the advance guard of the Tar-tars. Michael Strogost had therefore settled down to think that his journey would not again be interrupted and that in eight days or in ten at the most he would be in the presence of the

In coming out of Birlousinsk a hard crossed the road about thirty paces in front of the kibitka "Ah!' said Nicholas.

What is the matter, friend?" asked Michael Strogoff eagerly, as a blind man whom the least noise held on the "Did you not see?" said Nicholas,

whose smiling face suddenly became

"Ah, no, you could not see, and it is happy for you, good father!" "But I have seen nothing," said Na-

better! But I-I have seen!" "What was it, then?" asked Michael

"A hare that came across our path!"

In Russia when a hare crosses the path of a traveler popular belief looks upon it as a sign of approaching evil.

Nicholas, superstitious as are the greater part of the Russians, had stopped the kibitka. Michael Strogoff understood the hes-

itation of his companion, although he did not share his credulity regarding hares crossing the path, and he wished to reassure him.

he said to him. "Nothing for you nor for her, I know, good father," answered Nicholas, "but

And, continuing, said he: "It is my destiny." And he again put his horse to the

Meanwhile, in spite of the sad progstications, the day passed by with-

out any accident. Next day, Sept. 9, at noon the kibitka serted as was the surrounding country.

There on the threshold of a house

Nadia found two of those knives with ng, sharp blades used by Siberian inters. She gave one of them to Michael Strogoff, who hid it under his coat and she kept the other for hersixty-five versts from Nijni Oudinsk.

Nicholas during the last two days had not been able to regain his usual good humor. The evil omen had affectd him more than one could have be lieved, and he who up to that time had never remained an hour without talking had now long spells of silence, from which even Nadia could with difficulty

In spite of all his somewhat fatalistic self safe except within the walls of Irkutsk. Many Russians would have thought like Nicholas, and more than one, pulling the bridle of his horse, would have turned back after seeing a

The next day, toward 4 o'clock in the fternoon, Nicholas descried on the horizon the high belfries of the churches of Nijni Oudinsk. They were crown ed with thick columns of vapor which could not be clouds.

Nicholas and Nadia looked and com municated to Michael Strogoff the re sult of their observations. They must ride their course of action at once. If the town had been abandoned, they could pass through it without any risk, but if by a movement that they could not explain the Tartars already occud it they must turn it at any price. "Let us advance prudently," said Michael Strogoff, "but let us advance!"

Another verst was made. He was about to propose to Nicholas to leave the route and in case of necesis barking. He has followed his massity only to regain it after having turn ed Nijni Oudinsk, when the sound of a gun was heard on the right. A ball sed, and the horse in the kibitka, struck in the head, fell dead.

At the same instant, a dozen horse men threw themselves on the road, and the kibitka was surrounded. Michael Strogoff, Nadia and Nicholas, without having had time to recover themselves. were prisoners and being led rapidly toward Nijni Oudinsk. The next day, 11th of September, the detachment passed through the tonn

of Chibarlinskoe. At that time an incident occurred

which was to have very serious conse-The night had come. The Tartar

hersemen, having had a halt, were more or less drunk. They were about to continue their journey. Nadia, who up to that time, as though

by a miracle, had been respected by se soldiers, was insulted by one of

meither the insult nor the insulting per son, but Nicholas had seen for him. Then quietly, without having reflect d. without perhaps having any con-

straight for the soldier, and before the latter could make any movement to stop him, snatching a pistol from the mel of his saddle, he discharged it full at his breast.

The officer who had command of the detachment ran up immediately at the

sound of the pistol. The horsemen were about to cut Nicholas in pieces, but at a sign from the

Nadia fell on her knees near that Nicholas, buried up to the neck, acofficer they bound him fast with cords,

back dead on the ground.

"There, there!" said she.

caped from Nadia.

steppe to there die of hunger and thirst and perhaps to be torn into pieces by the fangs of wolves or the beaks of birds of prey. A most horrible punishment for the victim thus imprisoned in the earth, who presses the earth without being able to cast it off, having his arms tied and fastened to his body like those of a corpse in a coffin! The victim, living in this clay mold, which he is unable to break, can do nothing but implore death, which is too slow in

It was there the Tartars had interred their prisoner for three days. For three days Nicholas had been waiting for succor, which had come at last too

The vultures had perceived that head they flung him across a horse, and the hours the dog defended his master The cord which tied Michael Strogoff, against these ferocious birds.

imprisoned body.

then, once more opened themselves. He recognized Michael and Nadia. Then he murmured: "Adieu, friends. I am happy to have seen you once more. Pray for me."

Nadia were once more And these words were the last. free, as they had been Michael Strogoff continued to dig the soil, which, being strongly trodden down, had the hardness of a rock, and at length he succeeded in drawing from ard. were the circumstances of the journey! Then a comfortable

vided post horses, secured for them a He wished then to bury it, that it quick journey. Now they went on foot, might not remain exposed on the steppe, and that hole in which Niehowith an impossibility of procuring for las had been buried alive he enlarged without resources, not knowing even how to procure the least wants of life, and they had still to make 400 versts: and deepened in such a manner as to be able to lay him there when dead. The faithful Sergo was placed near his And, moreover, Michael Strogoff now

At that moment a great noise was As for the friend whom chance had heard on the road about half a verst given them, they had just lost him un-

> Michael Strogoff listened. By the noise he knew at once that a detachment of cavalry was advancing toward the Dinka. "Nadia, Nadia!" said he in At his voice Nadia, who had remained

in prayer, rose up.
"You see them!" he "The Tartars!" she murmured.

Nadia took the hand of Michael Strogoff, and they once more set out on "They shall not prevent me from in-terring him," said Michael Strogoff.

12 1-2 knots an hour, Next morning, Sept. 12, twenty versts And he continued his work. Soon Nicholas' body, with his hands both halted for a short time. The town

joined on his breast, was laid in the tomb. Michael Strogoff and Nadia. During that day they had to pass the kneeling down, prayed the last time for little stream of the Oka, but it was fordable, and that passage offered no But, contrary to what Michael Strogoff had perhaps hoped, there was not any longer a single beast of burden in "And now," said Michael, throwing

back the earth, "the wolves of the steppe shall not devour him." the country. Every horse, every cam-Then his hand stretched in menace el. had been either killed or taken toward the troop of horsemen which away. It was therefore on foot they

"On our journey, Nadia!" said he.
Michael Strogoff could no longer fol-low the highroad, now occupied by the Tartars. He must throw himself across the steppe and turn Irkutsk. In doing this they would have to cross the Dinka and thus would be relieved from one Nadia could no longer drag herself

along, but she could see for him. He took her in his arms and struck into the southwest of the province. There remained for them to travel more than 200 versts. How could it be done? How could food be found on

Suddenly they stopped, as if their feet had stepped into some crevice in By what superhuman energy would A dog's bark was heard across the they succeed in passing the first slopes of the Sayensk mountains? Neither Nadia nor he could tell. Then came a lamentable cry, a cry of

And yet twelve days after, at 6 o'clock espair, like the last appeal of a human in the evening, an immense sheet of water rolled at the feet of Michael Stro-"Nicholas! Nicholas!" cried the young

Michael Strogoff, who listened, hung Lake Baikal is situated at a height "Come, Michael, come!" said Nadia. of 1.700 feet above the level of the sea. Its length it about 900 versts, its And she who just before could scarcely drag herself along suddenly recovered her strength under the sway of viobe called "Mrs. Sea." If one calls it "Have we left the road?" said Mi-"Mr. Lake," it at once is in a rage. chael Strogoff, feeling that he was Anyhow, according to a Russian legend.

treading no longer the dusty road, but a Russian is never drowned there. This immense basin of fresh water, "Yes; it is necessary!" answered Nafed by more than 300 rivers, is embosdia. "It is from over there on the right omed in a magnificent circle of volcanic mountains. It has no other out-Some minutes afterward the two were let but the Angara, which, after havonly half a verst from the river. ing passed Irkutsk, throws itself into A second bark was heard, and, althe Yenisel a little above the town of though more feeble, it was certainly

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

INJURED BY TERRORISTS.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 13.-Fur-Michael Strogoff listened. Nadia looked at the plain, lit up with flashes of Lieut. Kouloff of the Volga Cossacks without first submitting it to a ple-has been mortally injured by revolu-biscite of the people; and further lightning in rapid succession, but she tionaries in the courtyard of his And yet a voice came again, which house at Kremenchug, it is supposed, for the city to acquire, as speedily as in revenge for his share in suppressing possible, all franchises now held by this time murmured in a plaintive tone, the disorders in Moscow. M. Hoffer- private corporations. Then a dog, all bleeding, came boundberg, chief of police at Minsk, was attacked by a man armed by a revolver, be present at the club rooms, Breeze's but escaped unhurt. Many officers corner, tonight, and take part in the concerned in the suppression of disor- discussion. alone could murmur that name of Miders have received threatening letters. chael. Where was he? Nadia had not Revolutionary proclamations have been discovered at Cronstadt, inciting Michael Strogoff, lying on the ground, sailors and dockyard workmen to refuse to fit out warships, or, as an al-ternative, damage them so as to pre-charge of the musical committee and Suddenly Serko gave a fresh bark and rushed toward a gigantic bird, vent their sailing. It is rumored that there was an ex- out: It was a vulture. When Serko pre-

the walls of the Kremlin.

THERE'S A REASON.

A rainbow in the sky is a symbol of terrible beak, and this time Serko fell At the same time a cry of horror es-A head rose just above the ground!

Yacht Club squadron, has purchased cores. Henry P. Smith of Boston. The Ad- I increased my advertising immediaterienne was built by Lawley & Son South Boston, in 1883, and is 87.6 feet ly and have been doing so ever since. cording to the atrocious customs of the over all. She was given a new stern in 1897, and a new bow in 1899.

Machine Co., N. Y.

MARLBOROUGH

LODGE AT HOME.

Members Entertained Their Friends

The members of Marlborough Lodge,

Last Evening.

Sons of England, held an at home last evening in the Foresters' Hall. spent a most enjoyable evening. B. Thorne, president, presided, and opened with an address of welcome. Referring to the prosperity of Marlborough, he said last year had exposed to the sun's rays, and for some been the best in its history. The membership was now 132, and they had Michael Strogoff dug the earth with would be doubled during the present his claspknife to release it from that year. The order has now a total membership of 29,000 in the dominion and The eyes of Nicholas, closed until in South Africa. Of this number 5,000 were added last year. The following programme was carried out:

Bennett; reading, Chas. Ledford; song, Geo. Lewis; song, Geo. Oram; recitation, Miss Jackson; song, T. Jones; song, Mr. Phillips; song, Mr. Maurice. yea of Portland Lodge, District Deputy Walker and Rev. W. S. Pritchat length he succeeded in drawing from it the body of the unfortunate man.

He listened if his heart still beat. It beat no more! Rockwell and Wright, after which refreshments were served.

District Deputy Walker in his address referred to the advantages of beboth as a benefit society and as a soclety that emphasized the national idea. He showed that it was desirable that all Englishmen should enter the order both for social and material gains.

A FINE STEAMER.

The str. Lady Elleen, 1,000 tons gross, was launched yesterday in Port sail from that port the first week in April across to this side of the water, where she will run between Campbellton and Gaspe. The new boat is twin screw, and she is capable of carrying 100 first class and 200 second class passengers. She has been built for the Inter-provincial Navigation Co., of which It was indeed the advance guard of Frank S. Blair, Campbellton, is secrethe emir which was defiling quickly on tary. The Richardson Lumber Co. have a considerable interest in the new

that poor being, good and inoffensive, work, assisted by other members of the order. Meetings were held in the order. Meetings were held in fairville and Carleton, with the result that two sections have been in-Frame and Christie, members of Alex- other story. ander Section, and S. E. Taylor, chairinstalled last night: Foster Fowler, hands. W. A.; Stanley Reid, W. V. A.; Wen-Rec.; Leonard Cougle, F. Rec.; Her-Rec.; Leonard Cougle, F. Rec.; Herman Robinson, A. F. Rec.; Bert. Kirk, patrick, W. Usher; Harry Estey, D. Usher; Addison Wayne, I. Watch; Frederick Sherwood, C. P.; Charles Williams, P. W. A.; F. Masson, W. Gov.

After the installation ceremonies the mint an assayer and a master method of the equipment of the Royal Canadian Mint in machinery and appliances for coinage is \$64.

new section was addressed by the in- chanic will probably be sent out from stalling officers and the visiting breth- England. The other officers will be

SOLDIERS FOR QUEBEC.

Sergt. Smith, who has been in the city during the past week recruiting men for military service in Quebec, last list appeared. They are John Quinn, Wm. McDonald, both formerly of Sydney, C. B.; John Baptiste Charist, formerly of Montreal; Clarence E. unknown. Mme. de Bourboulon tells this city. Quinn and McDonald left us that the sailors say that it wishes to for Quebec last Friday, and the others

Other applicants who will be examined by Dr. March tomorrow are Wm. history from official sources, referring not an aggregation of independent na- Plug Tobacco in the pipe is a delight Anderson, Patrick Tierney, George Cody, John Whitehouse, Alexander Carrigan and Fred S. Carey. So far Sergeant Smith has had about

twenty-five applications for the ser-The chief failings of those who were rejected was that they were not up to the standard in height.

The St. John Conservative Club will

tonight discuss the following resolu-

tion, moved by Fred A. Dykeman and seconded by Michael J. Kelly: Resolved, that this meeting is of the opinion that all public utilities should cipality, and that no franchise shall in ther terrorist attempts are reported. future be given to private corporations

The public are cordially invited to

ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD

The meeting of the St. Stephen's the following programme was carried out: Piano duet, Miss Matthew and on at Moscow last night close to Miss Mary Gilchrist; reading, How Ruby Played, Mrs. Patterson; violin solo, Concerto, Mrs. Wicher; vocal duet, I Would That My Love, Miss Florence Drake and H. Dunn: vocal Collins: vocal solo. Miss Florence purity and perfection of color. That is why the name was chosen for Rainbow Cut Plug Smoking Tobacco, which bow Cut Plug Smoking Tobacco, which is a pure and perfect smoke for the McKean; piano solo, Caprice Brilliante, Mrs. Barnes; God Save the King. All the numbers were well ren-David W. Robb of Amherst, N. S., dered and Mrs. Wicher and Mrs. member of the Royal Nova Scotia Barnes were obliged to respond to en-

PARLIAMENT ON **IMPERIALISM**

Sam Hughes' Imperial Federation Resolution Presented

Lively Discussion—Laurier Requests With drawal of Resolution and Mr Hughes Agrees-R. L. Borden in Favor

OTTAWA March 13 .- This being private members' day in the commons there was nothing done of general intimes the debates were spicy. The first hour was given up to the receipt of petitions, mostly against the school eral government supporters took occatheir constituents to say they did not assume any responsibility therefor, as the petitions had reached them under cover at Ottawa and bore the imprin and were probably written by Dr. Sproule of East Grey, Ontario. This charge against the Orange Grand Master of Canada was evidently inspired, as it received the hearty applause of the Quebec grit members took the floor on a question of privianything to do with the petitions exmembers of the constituencies, whom it appeared did not possess the confidence of a large portion of the electors. That any signature or any part absolutely slander.

Most of the time was occupied by Hasgow, Scotland. She is expected to Col, Sam Hughes in a patriotic speech supporting his resolution of Jan. 12th to wit: "That in the opinion of the house the hest interests of Canada and the Empire at large would be advanced, and peace, progress and prosperity of humanity be assured, by full partnership union of Great Britain and her colonies, wherein there would be a united in perial parliament, empowered to deal with inter-imperial, inter-national, commercial, financial and leaving to existing parliaments their present powers, functions, control of tariff and other matters necessary for

Early in February S. E. Logan, D. MacPherson, liberal, of Vancouver, M. W. L., started on a crusade in the replied to Col. Hughes in one of the interests of Junior Temple of Honor most senseless speeches heard in par-

Walter Doherty, P. W. T., and Messrs. right, but its practical working is an-, this way.

man of the propagation committee. tificate declaring Dr. Thompson's electron in the Yukon had just reached his Replying to Mr. Foster this afterdall Gray, Rec.; Earl Stevens, Asst. noon, the minister of finance said the estimated cost of the equipment of

The new section starts out with Canadians. The capacity of the mint will be about 400,000 pieces per week. judgment. There will be three presses, one turning out 200,000 pieces in forty-sevreserve on January 1st, 1905, by the for bullion, not exceeding 500 ounces, amount. Mr. Fielding could not say enough for us how much would be coined for the

Mr. Foster asked, "who authorized to separate schools legislation since tions all owing allegiance to King Ed- to the smoker

N H E D

FOR THE

A hole PUNCHED in a Rubber indicates that it is a Factory Imperfect Out of Style or in some way interior

ed to them as perfect, and up -to-date, are

they are PUNCHED as indicated in illustradon shown herewith. Purchasers of Rubber that goods represent-

Not Punched.

Ir order that these

may be distinguished

from perfect goods

PUNCHED RUBBERS

to all members and senators of the Canadian parliament; if to others, ward. It could not be forced, even by whom generally and in what quantities; how many in all have been print-

and liable to prove

The prime minister replied that the author of the pamphlet was Hon. R.

Mr. Speaker announced that the cer- the government has no official infor-England against the Mutual Reserve furthermore that he did not think an the bill were being complied with.

After recess Cockshutt of Hamilton intinued the debate on Col. Hughes' resolution, not as an academic ques-

Bruneau, liberal, of Richelieu, folthem an auxiliary, each capable of lowed at 9 o'clock, in French, contending that the idea of colonial rement was originated by a French Canheld in specie \$17,617,538, of which a man or a Scot, but putting himself small amount was silver. The charge side by side with Labouchere and Burke against any such proposition. Canadians today had privileges of and 2 cents an ounce for over that British citizenship and that should be

and prepared for distribution the brief He argued that the British empire was

ed, and how many distributed?

OTTAWA, March 13 .- At 10.15 Laurier took the floor and suggested the withdrawal of Col. Hughes' resolution

ward. It could not be forced, even by Borden of Carleton, was glad to know

empire were now satisfactory, although stituted. Last Monday night Latour Section of Carleton was instituted. Last evening Fairville Section, No. 4, was installed by J. G. T. G. B. Blewett, assisted by Harry Black, G. W. C.; Walter Deberty P. W. T. and Wester Section as and a few others who asked for into the dominion. Its object is all them. About 500 were distributed in Two years ago Chamberlain surprised them. the country by inaugurating a union The minister of finance stated that trade movement that was not expect-

result would be no man can foretell. After Col. Hughes had cordially ac-Life Insurance Company of New York, brought by policy holders. He said draw his resolution, Johnston of Cape investigation would assist the Cana-dian policy holders. The bill passed by to Disrupt Canada, tactics he was now parliament last year was designed to continuing and in which he was back-protect the interests of the Canadian ed by radical tories. Johnston hit hard, policy holders and the provisions of but he hit Fielding harder than any man and his venom was received with peals of laughter from the opposition nches. This laughter spread through the house as Dr. Sproule rose to a point which the house should pass its full draw his statement that he (Sproule) had sent out petitions intending to in-

> The speaker ruled against Johnston, charged Sproule with issuing Orange circulars leading to rebellion, as Col Sam Hughes had told the Montreal Gazette, which interview he read to the The debate was continued till 11.30,

when Col. Hughes withdrew his mo tion and the house adjourned.

RAINBOW GIVES PLEASURE.

Just as a rainbow in the heavens is a delight to the artist, so Rainbow Cut

There is a Market-Place Where You May Buy "Peace of Mind."

If You Are "Pinched for Money,"

and yet own something which you would like to turn 'into cash-if you could do it "quietly and privately;'

If Your Tenant is Always in Arrears,

and your house is good enough to attract a desirable tenant; or,

If Your Employees are Careless

of your interests, and too secure of their "pull" with

If Your Wife is Growing Old

through trying to "manage" incompetent or wasteful servants; and these things get on your nerves, then

The "STAR" Want Ad. Columns Afford a Market-Place Where You Can Buy Peace of Mind.