



THE RETURN FROM SIBERIA!

1873—JULY—31 days.

THE MOON'S CHANGES.

First Quar. moon, 11-10 at. | Last Quar. 16th, 8-58 at.
Full Moon, 10th, 6-33 mn. | New Moon, 24th, 10-34 mn.

		Sun Rises & Sets.	Moon Rises & Sets.	☉
1	Tu	3 49r	Sets P.M. 11 55	7
2	W	8 18s	11 55	8
3	Th	3 50r	After Mid-night A.M.	9
4	F	8 17s	0 20	10
5	S	3 51r	0 20	11
6	S	8 16s	0 37	12
7	M	3 54r	0 58	13
8	Tu	8 15s	1 30	14
9	W	3 56r	2 15	15
10	Th	8 14s	Rises P.M. 9 52	17
11	F	3 57r	9 52	17
12	S	8 12s	10 18	18
13	S	3 59r	10 37	19
14	M	8 10s	10 53	20
15	Tu	4 2r	11 8	21
16	W	8 9s	11 23	23
17	Th	4 4r	11 40	23
18	F	8 6s	11 58	24
19	S	4 7r	Mid- 25	25
20	S	8 3s	night 26	26
21	M	4 10r	A.M. 0 57	27
22	Tu	8 0s	1 31	28
23	W	4 13r	2 07	29
24	Th	7 58s	Sets P.M. 9 4	1
25	F	4 16r	9 4	1
26	S	7 55s	9 2	2
27	S	4 18r	9 37	3
28	M	7 52s	9 50	4
29	Tu	4 21r	10 1	5
30	W	7 49s	10 13	6
31	Th	4 24r	10 26	7

however, which had hitherto shone in meridian splendour upon Alexander Menschikoff, was now fast sinking into the darkest gloom. The Dolgoroukis, a noble family who hated him, were artful, pliable, and insinuating; Peter was young, unsuspecting, and easily misled, so little was he of the frank and apparently disinterested friendship of the younger branches of the family. The ruin of the man who had placed him on the throne was now, at the instigation of the Dolgoroukis, revealed on, and a charge of pecuniating large sums of money was brought against him—when the fall of Menschikoff was even more rapid than his rise: As he had seldom shown mercy, so little was shown him, and he and his family were sentenced to banishment to Siberia—the mandate being attended with every aggravation that could be imagined. Previous to this dreadful sentence, he had been deprived of his dignities, his pension, and his employments. This blow was quickly followed by another—he was banished the court, and requested to confine himself to his country house. On his way thither he was overtaken by a messenger, accompanied by a party of dragoons, who brought the fatal mandate of banishment, to Siberia, and Berezof was the place named for his abode—where, during six months in the year there is no actual daylight, and the earth is covered with frost and snow. The Princess Menschikoff had always been afflicted with weak eyes, and they were so affected by the cold and her excessive weeping, that she lost her sight before the half of her journey was completed; but death mercifully ended her sufferings, and she was buried on the banks of the Volga. Menschikoff, with his son and one of his daughters, lived to reach Berezof, that fearful place of solitude, where, in two years after, Menschikoff died.

When Menschikoff found his death approaching, he called his children to his wretched bedside, and thus pathetically addressed them: "My children, I drive near to my last hour; death, the thoughts of which have been familiar to me since I have been here, would have nothing terrible in it, if I had only to account to the Supreme Judge for the time I have passed in misfortune. Hitherto your hearts have been free from corruption. You will preserve your innocence better in these deserts than at court; but should you return to it, recollect the example which your father has given you here." When he was banished, Menschikoff's confiscated jewels were worth half a million of money, and on his vast estates there were no less than 100,000 acres; yet in his exile he lived in such great frugality, that out of his allowance of thirty-three shillings a day he managed to save enough to erect a church. He also supported the hardships of his situation with great courage. On the accession of the Emperor Alexander, he was recalled them from their cruel captivity, and Menschikoff's youngest daughter and his son returned to Russia. The Emperor never was banished, and felt, in their turn, all the horrors they had contributed to inflict on the Menschikoffs—with this aggravation, that his youngest son, who condescended them to Berezof, carried with him the recall of Menschikoff and his family!

It was the grandson of the above Menschikoff who was in command at Sebastopol when besieged by the allies in 1854; and the duty devolved upon him of striking the Russian fleet at the entrance of the port.

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