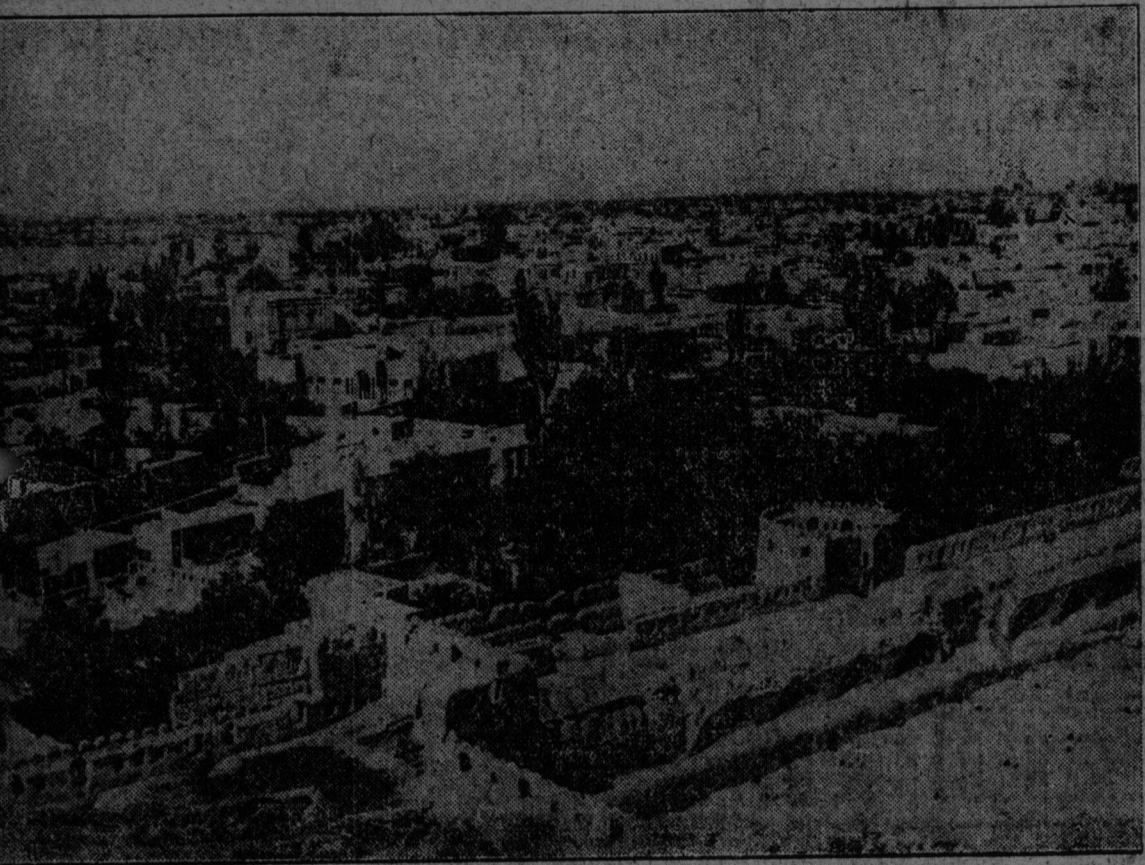


PERSIAN CITY SWEEP BY RUSSIAN ARTILLERY



Bird's eye view of the city of Tabriz, where the Russian Cossacks ran amok among the natives, slaying the Persians right and left, slaughtering the innocent with the guilty, and hanging the leaders up in the open market square.

NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF LETTERS

French Feminine Jury Caught By Pierre Loti's Well Laid Plot

WRITING A 'COMIC FAUST'

Alleged Plot to Ruin Russian Premier Behind Opposition to Purchase of Tolstoy Estates—Duel Threatens to Thin Out Line of Authors

(Times Special Correspondence) Paris, Dec. 29.—Pierre Loti, the celebrated author-post-accident, laid a clever plot the other day in Paris which ended just as he hoped it would do. The "Civis Merveilleux," a Parisian weekly, has just published an article which was intended to award an annual prize of \$1,000 for a new book the prize which was won last year by Louis de Robert's "Marie Claire."

This jury is a feminine one, and the object of Loti's plot was to capture them by writing to each of them a charmingly worded appeal on his well-known yellow notepaper praying the recipient to vote in favor of "Roman d'una Malade" by Louis de Robert. Each jury-woman found that she alone out of the whole lot had been singled out by him for his appeal.

Could any French feminine heart resist a request from one of France's idols? Obviously not, for the result of the poll was that every woman voted for one book—"Roman d'una Malade" by Louis de Robert. Neither was it to be expected that the charming creature—jury-woman through they could keep the secret to themselves. When they were refreshing their "inner vision" with tea and cakes, they were told that the award, one of them earnestly allowed the corner of a yellow envelope to stick out of her muff, an act which instantly produced a shower of similar yellow envelopes all round the table.

The secret was out; every one had been warned, and all had fallen a victim to the widespread plot. To their credit, however, it must be said, that their choice was a good one and thoroughly deserving the prize it won.

The jury possesses a most striking characteristic in its president, Mme. Deshayes, who is permitted by the French police and French society to adopt masculine attire. She is a great traveler and first adopted this form of dress when riding over the plains of Mesopotamia and exploring the ruins of Nineveh.

Mme. Deshayes presided over the meeting with gentlemanly grace in an absolute manner.

It was a great sufferer FOR FIVE YEARS FROM DYSPEPSIA.

Dyspepsia is one of the most prevalent troubles of civilized life, and thousands of people suffer untold agony after every meal, less nearly everything that enters a weak dyspeptic stomach acts as an irritant.

"The long train of distressing symptoms, which render life a burden to the victim of dyspepsia, may be promptly cured by the use of Burdock Blood Bitters. Mrs. Wm. J. Boyce, Lepesus, N.B., writes:—'I thought I would write and tell you of the good Burdock Blood Bitters has done me and also tell you how thankful I am.'

"For five years I had been a great sufferer from dyspepsia, and tried different doctors and proprietary medicines, but could get no relief. One day a friend told me to try Burdock Blood Bitters. I did not have much faith in it, but I thought I would give it a trial. To-day I am completely cured, and I will always recommend it."

Burdock-Blood Bitters has been on the market for about thirty-five years and is manufactured only by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

ly fashions frock coats; but top hat would have served as an excellent mirror for her feminine coaquators, and her tie and gloves were perfection. Her trousers also showed that well defined crease down the middle which denotes great ease in wearing them under the mattress every night directly they are taken off.

Tolstoy's Estate From Manili comes the news that Ludwig Ganghofer, Germany's famous romance writer and playwright, is elaborating the project to write a "Comic Faust," which will give a lively characterization to South German society. Ganghofer has just produced at Stuttgart two plays called "The Last Will" and "Death and Life," both have had great success. They are genre plays which handle the German peasant existence touched on by Ganghofer in many novels.

"The Last Will" revolves around the malicious joy which an old peasant feels in reflecting on the disappointment and disillusionment which the distribution of his property will cause to his expectant heirs.

The incident of "Death and Life" is the chance meeting in a restaurant of two parties, one of whom is celebrating the christening of a baby, while the other is "waiting" a dead woman. The parties end by combining their resentment. The traveled widower shows signs of budding copulation in a pretty waitress, while the christening party in the exuberance of their joviality go off and forget the baby altogether. Ganghofer's humor is of the healthy, sunny type and his plays have great success with German audiences.

The long awaited letters from Count Tolstoy as last published, and, moreover, they are to be copyrighted in England and America, contrary to the usual procedure with the proceeds of Tolstoy's pen. Most of the correspondents are with an aim of the count's, who was wealthy and had a high position at court, which enabled her to extricate the Tolstoy's more than one from the troubles in which the great novelist's cabinet and political views were always involving the family.

The letters are said to contain some of the most intimate and striking revelations of Tolstoy's inner self, and to make extraordinary interesting reading. Although they are to be published at once in Russia, they will not appear for some months in the English language, as great pains are to be taken with the translations.

A Comic Faust The intervention of M. Sabler, procurator of the Holy Synod, in the negotiations between the Russian government and the Tolstoy family for the purchase of the Yasna Polyana, has aroused great indignation. Sabler was chief assistant to the late Russian minister, to whom he succeeded in the Social Ministry for life.

Sabler's objection to the purchase of the house and the estate is that Tolstoy was an avowed Christian, and that the step contemplated will give the impression that the Russian government is compromising with Tolstoy's heresies. The council of ministers is divided in opinion as to the matter. The procurator's aim is known to be to brand his colleague Kokotoff as promoter, when he bought it, practically rebuilt the place, she went to the various stores of the world, in Italy, in Greece, in France, and acquired marbles and

the Russia critic Kurnetoff has just published a weird characterization of "Bohemian Russian geniuses." "Heretics, heretics," Nabokov believes in Sabler's good, unselfish ambition, and quarrelsomeness. All our great young men, drink, quarrel and defend one another, and to be 'respectable' is universally voted the sign of mediocrity.

That there is some truth in what he writes is shown by the extraordinary quarrels in which M. Kuprin and M. Leonid Andreiev have been mixed up. Since the decline in Maxim Gorky's talents, these two are unquestionably the ablest of living Russian writers.

Kuprin's "dual" at once made him famous; and Andreiev's wonderful short story, "The new movement in our literature" attracted a long drawn out quarrel decided to visit Kuprin at Gatchina, and make peace with him. The pair spent the day together, and in the evening returned to St. Petersburg and visited a friend. While crossing the room Andreiev brushed against his fellow-author to the ground and beat him ferociously. A duellist was arranged but did not come off; and at present various authors' societies are drawing up protests against Kuprin.

The deplorable manners and customs in Young Russia literary circles are shown by another pending quarrel in which Kuprin is engaged. In this case the artist Bailyas, editor of the magazine "Proiv Techesny" is Kuprin's opponent. Bailyas reported in his magazine that when he went to Kuprin's house to ask for a promised short story, the door was opened by a well known actress, who said she also pending. But Russian authors seldom get further than challenging to duels.

CARLTON HOUSE AS EMBASSY

Uncle Sam Has Chance to Buy Permanent London Home

MARSHALL FIELD'S WIDOW OWNS IT

Giving up City Life for Country—Half Million Will Buy House Which is Gorgeously Furnished and is Rich in Historic Association

(Times Special Correspondence) London, Dec. 28.—Carlton House Terrace, in the days of George IV., the centre of the political and court life of England, will, perhaps, in those days of George V., be the centre of American life in London, for the embassy of the United States will have a magnificent permanent home in the building at No. 7, Carlton House Terrace.

Mrs. Malvina Drummond, once Mrs. Marshall Field, is the owner of the house. She has just offered it at a great financial sacrifice, to the United States government as the residence of the American ambassador at the Court of St. James.

A half million of Uncle Sam's money will buy it just as it stands, but if the government wants to do its own furnishing, a mere \$300,000 will satisfy the former Chicago woman.

Mrs. Drummond has decided to retire from London society, and to live in the country, and she has been in the habit of spending her winters in the rural beauties of Hampshire. When she became a widow and decided to make her home in England, she sent her son, Gordon, and then to Cambridge. With her invited daughter she lived alternately in rented houses in the country and in London, or traveled abroad, searching for health for Gwendoline Field. After her marriage she retired to Malvina Drummond, a cousin of the Earl of Perth, came the purchase of No. 7, Carlton House Terrace and the planning of a social campaign in town. The house had been owned by a famous architect, Gladstone and the Earl of Derby, as prime minister, lived there, and Charles Dickens, who dined sumptuously in the house, made it historical by his description.

Spent Millions on it The architect ever spent \$250,000 which he thought were improvements. Mrs. Drummond, when she bought it, practically rebuilt the place, she went to the various stores of the world, in Italy, in Greece, in France, and acquired marbles and

rights of London and every visitor must long, these great houses, standing on an eminence looking down into St. James' Park, across to Buckingham Palace, and down by the Duke of York's monument and steps.

His history is fascinating. Carlton House, the palace of Frederick, Prince of Wales, and after him of the Prince Regent, later George IV., stood there until 1828. There is in evidence a secret volume of memoranda of Carlton House and its inmates. It was written by a general officer in the royal household, and dated by the Duke of York's monument and steps. Carlton House, the prince regent held their court, their cabinet councils and military and political conferences there.

The visits of the prince lived under the same roof as their liegemen, but in separate wings, Prince Frederick's, but Lady Archibald Hamilton, had a pavilion built in the garden on the present site of Mrs. Drummond's house. This was an ornate, two-story, brick residence with windows overlooking Carlton House and a secret passage communicating.

When the prince regent came to live at Carlton House he made things worse. At a supper party given just a century ago, there were 2,000 guests, and a stream with gold and silver fountains, and a fountain of fire, and a fountain of music in the centre table. It was the young prince, Mrs. Mary Robinson, an actress known as "Ferdia." Then, finally, across his path came Mrs. Fitzherbert, whom he married marginally.

Between times the prince peopled his house with the liveliest ladies of the court and some of the best known men in the history. Here he gave the next breakfast from the Princess of Wales' arm and gave them to Lady Jersey. It was here that Russ Drummond flattered, where Marshall Blucher came to visit, where the proclamation of accession was first read.

The chief feature of Mrs. Drummond's house is the ceiling, beautifully painted by old masters. They were bought from Venetian and Florentine palaces. Mrs. Drummond has utilized the roof by constructing a luxurious roof garden covered with glass. Here one can play tennis or badminton or lounge among palm trees in a hammock. There is a lake and swimming pool up there and also a specially built glass bedroom for Gwendoline Field, whose lungs are affected. She has been ordered plenty of fresh air and sunshine by her physician and this room was built specially for her.

Key Hidden in Golden Peanut On the first floor is the principal suite of reception rooms, consisting of a saloon, ballroom, the golden drawing-room, crumpled drawing-room, and picture gallery. All these communicate and can be thrown open for a big or state entertainment. The ground floor is reached by a grand staircase of marble with marble and bronze pillars and leads into a marble reception hall. Off this are the library, a reception room, smoking room, billiard room, secretary's room, little and great dining-room.

The entrance hall is approached by flight of marble steps with massive iron balustrade, which are well worn by the feet of many who, once they have entered the main doors are of old oak, and once be



Oak Hall's Big Mid-Winter Reduction Sale

Starts Friday Morning, Jan. 12. All Kinds of Clothes Are Reduced

Hundreds of suits; hundreds of overcoats; separate trousers; fancy vests; evening dress clothes; fur and fur-lined overcoats; all at a marked reduction from prices that were formerly 25 to 30 per cent. lower than elsewhere.

We have had a remarkable year and a particularly remarkable season. There have been sales to the right of us, sales to the left of us, sales all around us, and yet our business tramped steadily on because the values at full regular prices were greater than any of the much heralded sale values. This is because as manufacturers we sell to you direct at same prices others have to pay at wholesale and to which prices they must add a profit which you pay when buying from them.

But—now our season ends: we reduce prices to jump our whole stock out quickly, which means bargain time for you.

Table listing various clothing items and their reduced prices. Includes Men's Suits, Men's Overcoats, Boys' Two-Piece Suits, and Boys' Three-Piece Suits.

A Special Lot of Chesterfield Overcoats at Half-Prices—Only a Few.

A Special Lot of Men's Ulsters Were \$6.00 Now \$3.95 Now is the Opportunity for a Man Wanting a Coon Coat

Table listing Raccoon Coats and Sheep-Lined Coats and Lumbermen's Jackets with their reduced prices.

These prices tell only part of the story. So many superb styles, so many rich overcoating fabrics are represented that only inspection can make plain the full meaning of these reductions. There's only one thing cut down in our scale—our profit—everything else 100 per cent.

This Sale starts Friday, January 12th. We give you notice now, so that you may arrange your appointments for the week to enable you to include Oak Hall on the list for Friday.

OAK HALL SCOVIL BROS. LIMITED St. John, N. B.

longed to Charles II's Whitehall palace. There are two master keys which open the front doors and every door and cupboard in the place. Mrs. Drummond and her husband, each own one. She wears her husband's, in a golden snuff-box, and she wears his in a golden snuff-box. Mr. Drummond is concealed in a signifying his away, wears a golden snuff-box.

WILL SEND OUT SEED GRAIN AND POTATOES

Distribution to Canadian Farmers From the Dominion Experimental Farms

Ottawa, Jan. 8.—By instructions of the minister of agriculture, a distribution of superior sorts of grain and potatoes will be made during the coming winter and spring to Canadian farmers. The samples for general distribution will consist of wheat (3 lbs.), white oats (4 lbs.), barley (3 lbs.), and seed peas (3 lbs.). These will be sent out from Ottawa, for distribution of potatoes (in 3 lb. samples) will be carried on from several of the experimental farms of the Dominion.

Doan's Kidney Pills

Are the Best Remedy in the World FOR BACKACHE.

Many people fail to understand the significance of a lame, weak, sore or aching back. You overtax the kidneys—they give more work than they can possibly do—then they cry out in protest through the pain in the back.

Backache is simply kidneyache and the best remedy in the world for backache and all kidney troubles is Doan's Kidney Pills.

We have thousands of testimonials from all quarters of the globe to prove this. Here is one from a party who used them in England, but who is now a resident of Canada.

Mr. P. R. Glavin, Weyliffe, B.C., writes:—'When living in the 'Old Country,' three years ago, I suffered severely from pains in the back, and had to give up work. The pain was so bad that when I swooped down to pick anything up, I felt my back must break. I tried all sorts of remedies and several doctors, but all to no purpose. One day I read of Doan's Kidney Pills, and thought I might as well try them, and to my surprise, before I was half through one box the backache had entirely disappeared, and it has not caused me any trouble since. I always keep 'Doan's' in the house and shall always recommend them to all sufferers.

Price 50 cents per box, or 3 boxes for \$1.25, at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

ADVOCATES HOMES FOR NEEDY VICTIMS OF TUBERCULOSIS

Rev. Gordon Dickie, before a crowded house at the Every Day Club, last evening gave an inspiring address appropriate to the opening of the year. He began by pointing out that there is now greater efficiency, greater prosperity, and more of luxury than in former times, but added that there are perils of success as well as of misfortune.

If the strong are stronger and the rich richer, there is by contrast greater weakness of the weak and poverty of the poor. As one illustration he cited the case of the consumptive. Before the disease was regarded as contagious people did not shun the consumptive, but now there is that disposition, and therefore the life of the victim is hard. We should provide homes for the victims of the disease who are in need.

The speaker mentioned the case of the drunkard. When he reaches the stage where he has become a helpless wreck, he should be given such an opportunity as Ontario gives on its farm, to get back if possible his manhood and become again a worthy member of society.