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Are Many Indications That He Was Workthe sacred images. Respectfully yours,

"S. M. TROUFANOFF, formerly the monk Illiodore." ment.

After Several Futile Attempts To Be Granted out of this letter one can infer that the influence of the latter was Which Gave Her the Opportunity She Long Desired-She Found the "Monk" Surrounded by a Host of Admiring Lackeys. .

CHAPTER III.—Continued.

I have reproduced this tale because it seems to me that it helps one to understand the personalty of Rasputin, and because it describes to perfection the manner in which he used to treat the people with whom he dealt. Personally, when I interviewed the "Prophet," I had the opportunity to convince myself that the impression which he had produced on Prince Lvoff was absolutely a correct one, and I made the same remark which the latter had done in regard to the total absence of this magnetic strength which Rasputin was supposed to possess over those with whom he entered into conversation. The man was a fraud and nothing else. He had been deified by the group of foolish people whom he had persuaded that he was a messenger from Heaven, come to announce to Holy Russia that a new Christ had arisen. But his pretended fascination existed only in the imagination of the persons who asserted its existence. To the impartial observer he appeared what he was-an arrogant and insolent peasant, who, knowing admirably on which side his bread was buttered, exploited with considerable ability to his personal advantage the stupidity of his neighbors.

Rasputin "a Fraud and Nothing Else"

I have already related that his house had become a kind of where the most disgusting bargaining for places and appointments have accompanied his sudden rise and fall, and that there must confidants, has been proved to the satisfaction of all imperial upon him, which he pretended that he distributed to the poor, but light. But all of them point out to some dark intrigue in which he understanding between the Czar and the kaiser is another fact ant, who when he had arrived in St. Petersburg for the first time principal actor. One must not forget that the Czar himself is did so intentionally or whether he was the unconscious instrument had hardly possessed a shirt to his back, had become a very rich most liberal in his ideas and opinions, and that it was entirely due of others cleverer and more cultivated than he ever was or would securities, and had contrived to accumulate a banking account Russia possesses at the present day was promulgated. This was eral satisfaction. But that his so-called influence only existed which, if one is to believe all that has been related, amounted to not done without arousing terrible animosities, provoking awful over certain weak people, and that the Czar himself never knowseveral millions. From time to time, however, he used to come discontent. From the first hour that its contents were published ingly allowed it to be exercised in matters of state, is a fact about out with some munificent offering to some charity or other with there were found persons who began to work against it, and who which there can exist no doubt for those who know the rare qualin this manner that he employed all the money which was showed and the ered upon him by his numerous admirers. It was in this way that absolute government, when every public functionary was a small absolute government, when every public functionary was a small absolute government, when every public functionary was a small absolute government. he built in St. Petersburg, not far from the spot where by a strange coincidence his murdered body was found, a church which was called the Salvation Church, which adjoined a school for girls. There he used to go often. Whenever he went he was always met by the clergy in charge with great pomp, as if he had was met by the clergy in charge with great pomp, as if he had been a bishop or some great ecclesiastical dignitary, and was rapacious crocodiles who up to that day had administered the course of the winter of 1913-14 left me with feelings akin to those rapacious crocodiles who up to that day had administered the awaited at the door with the cross and holy water. This church was placed under the special protection of the metropolitan of take their revenge for this noble and disinterested step of their following circumstances: I had been asked by a big American take their revenge for this noble and disinterested step of their Petrograd, Pitirim, who often celebrated divine service in it, at sovereign. which Rasputin always made it a point to be present. But instead of awaiting the metropolitan, as he ought to have done, he had the habit of arriving after him. Mgr. Pitirim, however, awaited his which he, in his turn, contrived to make instrumental in carrying Russian state affairs. This, however, was by no means an easy arrival just as he would have waited for the emperor. Indeed the out his own views and aims. His head had been turned by the submission which the official head of the clergy of the capital unexpected position in which he had found himself.. It is not suraffected in regard to Rasputin is one of the most extraordinary prising that he lost his balance and that he ended by considering episodes in the latter's wonderful career.

personage one is tempted to ask the question whether his appear- say whatever he liked, to calumniate whom he liked, to make ance in St. Petersburg had not brought along with it an epidemic use of whatever means he found at hand to eliminate from his like a sovereign would have done, and before any one was allowed of madness among all those who had come in contact with him. path any obstacles he might have found intruding upon it. His to enter his presence that person had to be subjected to a course It hardly seems possible that bishops, priests, ministers, high name became synonymous with that of this ultra-conservative of cross-examination so as to make quite sure that no malicious or dignitaries, statesmen, even, or at least men having the pretension party which was leading Russia towards its ruin, and which alto be considered as such, should have thought it necessary to go ways contrived to reduce to nothing all the good intentions of the ful stories were being repeated everywhere, and whose presence made so far to forget himself as to prostrate himself before Ras- weight. putin in his eagerness to become entitled to the latter's good Illiodore wrote from his exile on the fifth of May; 1914, to a per- and the leniency which has been shown to them is but the reward pockets, so as to make sure that I was not carrying any murdersonage very well known in the political circles of St. Petersburg. for an act of daring which, though unjustifiable from the moral ous instruments hidden in their depths.

that the letter in which I called Sabler and Damansky the instru- that its patriotic aim was so great that it was worth while risking lutely false and untrue one.

It is difficult to say, of course, how much reliance can be placed Germany rejoiced at every tale which reached its ears in regard three women belonging to the lower classes, one of whom seemed on those assertions of Illiodore, and whether Mr. Sabler really to Rasputin is evident if one reads its newspapers. That it was to be in great trouble, and a typical Russian merchant in high thought it necessary to fall on the ground before Rasputin. But considered to be important enough for people to trouble theman Audience by the "Prophet," the Prin- selves about relating stories of the kind to show it up. Altogether,



'How dare you disobey my orders!" cried out an angry voice. "Thou pig and son of a pig. I have said I wish to see this person, and no one else! Thou idle creature! Chuck him out of the room—that pig who dares to contradict me and that comes

where all kinds of shady transactions used to take place, and we have not yet heard the whole truth about circumstances which with some of those who were his immediate friends and habitual was perpetually going on. Gifts innumerable were showered have been in both events things which perhaps will never come to persons. And that he worked continually towards establishing an which in reality he carefully put into his own pocket. This peas- was but one of the pawns whilst believing himself to be the of which more than one man in Russia is aware. Whether he let this lady in first." which he threw dust in people's eyes. They thought that it was by their efforts brought about the revolution of the year 1905, ities of heart and of intellect of the sovereign. ways met by the clergy in charge with great pomp, as if he had This determination, of course, was not forgiven by the crew of affairs of the Russian Empire, and they it was who determined to experienced by the prince. This interview took place under the

himself as being what he had been told by so many different In fact, when one reviews all one has heard concerning this people that he was—a prophet of the Lord, having the right to never knew in which one he could be found, as he used to go

Stock Exchange in which everything could be bought or sold, far has come to light in regard to the activity of Rasputin, that in understanding and accord, if not directly with him, at least

newspaper to see the "Prophet," whose renown had already spread beyond the Russian frontier, and who was beginning to be Rasputin became the instrument of the reactionary party, considered as a factor of no mean importance in the conduct of matter. For one thing, he was seldom in St. Petersburg. He spent most of his time at Tsarskoie Selo, where his headquarters were the apartments of Mme. W. He used to make only brief and flying visits to the capital, where he possessed several dwellings. One from one to another, according to his fancy. He gave audiences

CHAPTER IV.

evil designs were harbored by him in regard to the "Prophet." At last, after a succession of unavailing efforts, I chanced to and seek the favor of this vulgar, ill-bred, dirty Russian moughk. Czar. Rasputin was a symbol and a flag at the same time, the light on a certain Mr. de Bock, with whom Rasputin had business devoid of honesty and of scruples, about whom the most disgrace- symbol of superstition, and the flag of dark reaction. It is im- relations, and for whom he procured when the war broke out an possible to know to this day whether he was not also what every- important contract connected with the supply of meat for the in the houses where he was a daily visitor used to give rise to the thing points to, that is, an agent of the German Government who troops in the field. It was this personage who finally obtained for worst kind of gossip. This gossip was of such a nature that decent had entered into German interests, and who had during the last me the favor of being admitted into the home of Rasputin. The persons hesitated before repeating it, let alone believing it. Like months of his life been working together with Mr. Sturmer and latter was living at the time in a very handsome and expensive an insidious poison it defiled all whom it touched. One fails to the latter's private secretary, the famous Manassewitsch Maniuloff, flat in a house situated on the English Prospekt, a rather distant realize by what kind of magic grave men like Mr. Sabler, for in- towards a separate peace with the central powers, the conclusion street in St. Petersburg, whose proximity to the quarters of the stance, who for some time had occupied the highly responsible of which would have dishonored forever the Czar, together with working population of the capital had appealed to the prophet's and delicate functions of procurator of the holy synod, one of his government, and which would have provoked such discontent tastes. When I arrived the attention, quality. the most important posts in the whole Russian empire, could be in the country that the dynasty might have collapsed under its I was, first of all, stopped by the hall porter, who wanted me to explain to him where and to whom I was going. Upon hearing There exist at least indications that such a thing was within that it was to Rasputin he insisted on my taking off my fur coat graces and protection. And that he did so is at least not a matter the limits of possibility, and, if so, those who put an end to the evil downstairs, and then examined me most carefully and suspiciof doubt, if we are to believe the following letter which the monk career of this dangerous man deserve well from their country, ously, surveying with special attention the size and volume of my

Interview With Rasputin.

ments of 'Gricha' (Rasputin) contained nothing but the solemn everything, even remorse, in order to accomplish it.

Rasputin Became the Instrument of the Reactrum, and I repeat it once more, that according to what Rasputin In a certain sense, Rasputin was the curse of Russia. red kerchief over her head, who, I learned afterward, was one of told to me on the twenty-eighth of June, 1911, at 3 o'clock in the tionary Party, Which He, in Turn, Con-afternoon in my little cell, Sabler really kissed the feet of Gricha, series of base attacks and of vile calumnies. Thanks to him, our askell formits and then the curse of Russia. red kerchief over her head, who, I learned afterward, was one of told to me on the twenty-eighth of June, 1911, at 3 o'clock in the tionary Party, Which He, in Turn, Con-afternoon in my little cell, Sabler really kissed the feet of Gricha, series of base attacks and of vile calumnies. Thanks to him, our askell formits and then the curse of Russia. trived to Make Instrumental in Carrying who, in relating this story to me, showed me with an expressive enemies were given the opportunity to pour out upon us, upon richly furnished. There some half-dozen people were waiting, in pantomime in what way he had done so. I consider as utterly our institutions, our statesmen and even upon our sovereign the what seemed to me to be extreme impatience, for the door of the Out His Own Views and Aims, and There false and as a barefaced his the declaration of Mr. Sabler that poison of their venom and to represent us to food in order to the declaration of the control of the declaration of the declaration of the control of the declaration of the control of the declaration of the declaration of the declaration of the control of the control of the control of the declaration of the control of the con he had never prostrated himself before any one, except before know us in a light which, thanks be rendered to God, is an abso- door angrily discussing something or other. Among the people present I recognized a lady-in-waiting on the Empress, an old Russia is far too great for such things to touch her. That general in possession of an important command, two parish priests, boots and dressed in the long caftan which is still worn by some of those who have kept the traditions of the old school. Then there was a little boy of about ten years old, poorly clad, who was crying bitterly. All these people kept silent, but the eager expression on their faces showed that they were all laboring under an intense agitation and emotion. When I entered the apartment a distant look of disappointment appeared on all their faces. At last the old general approached me and asked me in more or less polite tones whether I had a special card of admission or not. "What do you mean?" I inquired.

"Well, you see," he said, "we all who are in this room have got one, but there"-and he pointed with his finger to the adjoining door-"there sit the people who have come here on the chance, just to try whether Gregory Efimitsch will condescend to speak to them. Some have been sitting there since last night," he significantly added. And as he spoke he slightly pushed ajar the door he had mentioned. I could see that a room, if anything smaller than the one we were in, was packed full of persons of different ages and types, all of whom looked tired. They were sitting not only on the few chairs which the apartment contained, but also on the floor. There were women with children hanging at their breast, military men, priests, monks, common peasants and two policemen. The last named were seated by the window leisurely eating a piece of bread and cold meat, which they were cutting into small slices with a pocketknife. They had evidently made themselves at home, regardless of consequences or of the feelings of other people. Suddenly we heard another door slam, and a strong step resounded in the hall. A man began to speak in a loud voice. He said: "You just go to see-" and here the name of one of the most influential officials in the home office was mentioned, "and you tell him that Gricha has said he was to give you a place, and a good one, too. It does not matter whether there is none vacant, he must find one. There, take this paper, and now go, and don't forget to show it when you come to the home office."

The door slammed again, and all remained silent for a few minutes. Then the elderly woman who had admitted me came into the apartment where we were sitting and beckoned me to follow her. But this proved too much for the feelings of the old general who had accosted me on my entrance, and he pushed himself forward in front of me, exclaiming as he did so:

"I have been here a longer time than she has been," pointing at me with his finger, "and I must get in first." 'You cannot do so,' replied the woman. "My orders are to

"Do you know who I am, woman?" screamed the general at the top of his lungs. He was evidently in a towering passion. man. He had bought several houses, gambled in shares and other to his personal initiative that I must see him at

once. I have been waiting here for more than an hour.' "I cannot do so," said the woman. "I must obey the orders that have been given to me.' "Then I shall do it myself," exclaimed the general, and he

rushed toward the door, which he opened, when he was stopped by a whole torrent of invectives coming from the next room. "How dare you disobey my orders?" cried out an angry voice.

hold of the room. He rudely pushed aside the general, and, seizing my hand, pushed me into another apartment, which seemed to be his dining-room.

It was a rather large corner room, with three windows, in which stood a quantity of flowers and green plants. A round table occupied the middle, on which was laid a striped white and red tablecloth. A somovar was standing on it, together with glasses on blue and white saucers, slices of lemon, sugar in a silver sugar basin and quantities of cakes and biscuits. Chairs were placed, on one of which Rasputin sat down, facing the tea urn, after having made me a sign to do likewise. I noticed that there was a large writing table in one corner littered with books

The "prophet" himself did not at all strike me as being the remarkable individual I had been led to expect. He must have been about forty years old, tall and lean, with a long black beard and long hair, falling not quite down to his back, but considerably lower than his ears. The eyes were black, singularly cunning in their expression, but did not produce, at least not on me, the uncanny impression I had been told they generally made on those who saw them for the first time. The hands were the most remarkable thing about the man. They were long and thin, with immense nails, as dirty as dirty could be. He kept moving them in all directions as he spoke, sometimes folding them on his breast and sometimes lifting them high up in the air. He wore the ordinary dress of the Russian peasant, high boots and the caftan, which, however, was made of the best and finest dark blue cloth. What could be seen of his linen was also of the best

(CONTINUED IN MONDAY'S)

CAMPAIGN OF 1917 HAS SHOWN
HOPELESSNESS OF GERMAN CAUSE
DESPITE COLLARSE OF RUSSIA

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