

RUSSIA'S CZAROWITZ.

the widest breach between the Russian Czar and his father is on the Jewish question. The young man does not believe in persecuting the Jews or in driving them out of Russia. There are other points of difference between the opinions of the Czar and those of his son, but these are the ones, and to a man of the Czar's temper, which will not brook opposition, they are sufficient to cause him to regard his son as a wilful, fractious, and not fit to rule any people.

That Grand Duke Nicholas would be able to put his advanced ideas into force should he come into power to-morrow, there is all reason to believe. He has absorbed the liberal ideas from his tutors, but he is not in any way a forceful or a strong man. He is not resourceful, has no special talent for affairs, and would be a weak figure in the hands of the strong body strategists who now surround Alexander and largely shape his reactionary policy.

Take it all in all, the young heir to the Russian throne occupies a peculiar position. The heir of his father, he is yet distanced by him. The Czar is not at the best of times a very amiable man, save toward his wife. Lately he has been a victim of insomnia, and then there come reports that the hereditary taint of insanity, which has shown itself in the Romanovs, has marked him in an open manner. Under these circumstances his conduct toward his son, in whom he places little faith, may be highly important in its results.

Those who have come into contact with the Czarowitz—and they are not numerous—all concur in the opinion that, while not very bright, he is fairly intelligent and very amiable.

This latter quality has made him popular with all parties in the Russian court, even including those who look upon him as a very weak figure indeed to support the weight of the Russian crown—as he may some day. He has a certain grace and tact that come to him from his clever Danish mother and not from his cross-grained father. He is more of a scholar than most of the Russian men of rank are, but is both modest and simple of manner. Tutors, whom he has had from time to time, have reported of him that the amiability he shows in public is not assumed.

In the schoolroom he was the same. He always met his tutors half way in their efforts to improve him. He was never churlish, nor did he display any of the "spoiled child" qualities that might have been looked for in a young man of his position. Not especially quick to learn, he was willing and patient. It was from one of these tutors that the Grand Duke imbibed the ideas which made him German rather than French in his tastes and sympathies, contrary to what would have been the wishes of his father, had the latter known anything of the matter.

Still, the young man is fairly well versed in French literature as well as German, and, unlike his father, he is an admirer of Tolstoi and of the younger writers of the modern Russian period who are pushing to the front. He is said to care little for heavy reading of a political or historical character. He has a taste for poetry and fiction, and in this again he is like his mother, for Alexander III. has no liking for that sort of reading, or indeed for any other.

Newspaper literature is served on him sparingly. The Czar's press censors are a zealous lot, and must do something to earn their wages. When they come across an English newspaper, for instance, of an outspoken character they give it a queer overhauling before it goes to the future

Czar. The result is that he knows only in a fragmentary way of a good deal that is going on in the world outside his father's palace.

If he could follow his own bent he would undoubtedly go about freely and learn something of the people whom he may be called upon to govern. But the fear that the anarchists will insist on taking shots at him with dynamite bombs prevents his doing any genteel slumming in St. Petersburg or Moscow.

There is one thing to be said of the young man that cannot be said of other knights of his age. His life has been clean. His name is unsmirched by scandal. He has lived quietly with his books and studies. His habits have been and are of the simplest. He is tenderly attached to his mother and if his affection for his rough bear of a father is less strong, he has at least given him respect and obedience while disagreeing with him on many points. He really wishes to improve the condition of the people of Russia and on no narrow lines. He is no apostle of war or bloodshed and no persecutor of race or religion.

Such a young man, with even moderate brains, might rule sensibly.

The marriage of this young man to the daughter of the Prince of Wales and his accession to the Russian throne before the next great European struggle, which statesmen say cannot long be delayed, would have an important effect upon the turn of events. His known and openly avowed friendship for Germany and its Emperor would lead him to treat the Triple Alliance neutrally, if not with downright open friendship, and would leave France isolated and almost alone in Continental Europe, while his connection by marriage to a daughter of the Prince of Wales would certainly tend to promote amity between Russia and England.

About Tea.

The ordinary Oolong tea, costing 60 or 70 cents a pound, has a capacity of about 110 half-pint cups to the pound, while the same amount of Ceylon silver-tipped tea, costing \$32 a pound, will supply over 1500 half pint cups, and in addition the beverage is vastly superior to that of common brands. None of the imported teas are worth more than that intrinsically, but on occasions, when the tea market has been cornered, \$175 a pound has been paid.

Snow and Ice a Mile Thick.

Greenland's interior is estimated to be covered by a shield-shape cap of snow and ice not less than 5000 feet or one mile in thickness.

A Strong Test of Faith.



"Here I've been a-standin' nigh onter tew hours and that tooth ain't aout o' my head yet."

Gems of Thought.

The action of this life shall be the fate of the next.

Well arranged time is a sign of well-ordered mind.

When you bury an evil habit do not visit the grave too often.

"Pessimism," says Archbishop Ireland, "is the faith of cowards."

There is no social problem capable of being solved at a single blow.

Childhood itself is scarcely more lovely than a cheerful, kind, sunshiny old age.

Men of earnest thought and quiet contemplation exercise a wonderful influence over men or action.

Duty is carrying on promptly and faithfully the affairs now before you. It is to fulfill the claims of to-day.

Nothing is beneath you if it is in the direction of your life; nothing is great or desirable, if it is off from that.

When you tell a secret to a friend, remember your friend has a friend, and your friend's friend has a friend.

Much in Little.

There is aluminium in bullets.
England has 120,090 barmaids.
A machine makes sandwiches.
Alligators are becoming scarce.
Paper is made from waste hops.
Thread is made from old leather.
Gas engines are increasing in size.
California uses peach stones as fuel.
Buckingham palace cost \$3,000,000.
The States contain 500,000 windmills.
Aluminium visiting cards grow in favor.
Germany published 23,000 books in 1893.

Novel, Indeed.

A funeral on reformed principles was recently conducted in Sweden. After the death of a popular cyclist his remains were placed on a tricycle, which was painted black and heavily draped. Three bicyclists guarded the coffin on either side, and immediately following were his five daughters and three sons, mounted on tandems, and blowing a mournful requiem on their horns.

Alcohol in Potatoes.

Alcohol is distilled from sweet potatoes a bushel of potatoes yielding a gallon of the fluid.

In the Chinese Army.

Recruits for the Chinese army are not accepted unless they can jump a ditch six feet wide.

Needed Assistance.



Bill Baredues—I've made a bet of a hundred dollars with Jack Chummies that if I propose to you, you'll refuse me. Now, if you do refuse me, I'll divide with you.

Miss Bondstock—And supposing I should accept you?

Bill Baredues—Then I'm afraid I shall have to call on you to help me pay the bet.