

# POOR DOCUMENT

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1904.

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**Semi-Weekly Telegraph**  
ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 23, 1904.

### A STORY THAT IS NEVER OLD

Colonel Denison's address Tuesday—  
the words of a Loyalist to Loyalists—  
re-echoed, in its main features, a familiar story;  
yet it is a story which never can lose its  
charm and its importance in St. John.  
Colonel Denison's narrative was at once  
thorough and instinct with life—a moving  
story, and yet one that dealt with causes  
and effects. Something of the fire and  
feeling of the olden days marked the de-  
liverance, and even a less sympathetic audi-  
ence than that which listened last evening  
with marked pleasure.

A soldier of experience, the speaker fol-  
lowed with unerring eye the influence of  
the Loyalist element in all the crises since  
the rebellion of the American Colonies,  
dwelling deeply upon the sterling services  
to the Empire and to Canada rendered by  
the men of 1783 in 1812, 1838, at the time  
of the Fenian raid, and at different times  
in later years when devotion to King and  
country preserved the integrity of this col-  
ony or confederation. Under Colonel Deni-  
son's treatment the value of these loyal  
men assumed its true proportion, which  
is very great; but it was in no way ex-  
aggerated.

To men the descendants of the Loyalists  
the tale could not but appeal with power.  
Here, and throughout Canada, the force  
which leavened the whole population in  
many an hour of doubt and hesitation and  
danger, has spread until its sentiments and  
ambitions are those which rule the Con-  
federation in this hour of its confi-  
dence and prosperity. They fought for no  
empty words, the Loyalists of old. They  
were stubborn and steadfast men whose  
faith has been abundantly justified, and  
whose high example remains a heritage and  
an inspiration to those who have come  
after. The tale of their self-denial, their  
struggles, their serene faith and their un-  
flinching loyalty is never an old story here  
in the city they build upon a rock.

### THE REPUBLICANS.

When the Dutch bought Manhattan Isl-  
and from the Indians for \$24, a Roosevelt  
was among the thrifty purchasers. The  
principal and strenuous descendant of that  
Dutchman, made president of the United  
States by a series of curious and tragic  
mishaps, is now about to be nominated  
to succeed himself as first of the Ameri-  
cans. The well-oiled machinery of the  
Republican national convention at Chicago  
gives out, no jarring sound, Roosevelt's  
first choice for presidential nominee. There  
is no second. Senator Fairbanks, of In-  
diana, is apparently to be the candidate  
for vice-president; but whether it be he  
or another is of little moment as affecting  
the result of the battle in November. There  
never was a convention much more out and  
dried than this one. Figures which fo-  
mented trouble or bred presidential booms  
are absent. Hanna, the hard-headed fa-  
vorite son of Ohio, is dead. Reed, the great  
man from Maine, is dead. Quay, who plot-  
ted with Platt to side-track Roosevelt by  
making him vice-president and succeeded  
only to have an assassin promote the sec-  
ond man into the empty chair of the first,  
is dead, leaving no fragment of memory. Platt  
himself has lived to see his power slip  
away from his grasp to that of a younger  
man, Odell, governor of New York, who  
is one of Roosevelt's lieutenants. The  
machine is for Roosevelt, absolutely. To-  
day or tomorrow ex-Governor Frank Bick-  
el, of New York, will nominate the strenuous  
one in a speech so clean-cut and eloquent  
one would almost ignore its dominant note  
which will be—peace-peace-peace.

After that the main question relates to  
the sinews of war, Morgan, and all Wall  
street save only the Rockefeller interests,  
are said to be reconciled to Roosevelt and  
committed to a Republican triumph. The  
Goulds, the Pennsylvania railroad mag-  
nates, and all the coal carrying interests  
which shied at Roosevelt for his action in  
the anthracite coal strike, are reported to  
be in line again. Rockefeller, and James  
J. Hill, and the great City National Bank,  
are said to be allied with the Democrats,  
but the indications are that in the matter  
of corporation campaign contributions the  
Republican national treasurer will be in  
the tallest clover. Mr. Roosevelt, who  
used to boast that his state administration  
would be kept "as clean as a hound's  
tooth," will have behind him in his bid  
for the first office "a fund for legitimate  
expenses" without equal in Republican  
history.

The betting will favor the Republicans.

The manufacturers will be told that the  
next administration will have it in its  
power to avert their revenues or lessen  
them. The platform to be adopted now  
will deal with the tariff, but platform  
guarantee no performances. The manufac-  
turers will be asked to contribute as never  
before. Many of them will do the bidding  
of the men at whose hands they expect to  
seek favors a year hence.

The calm at Chicago, which means unani-  
mity, is in strong contrast with the dis-  
order prevalent in the Democratic ranks,  
which disorder can scarcely subside before  
the St. Louis convention. Indeed it bids  
fair to reach a climax there. Mr. Bryan  
has just visited New York, where he ad-  
dressed an anti-Parker convention of radi-  
cal Democrats. He denounced Judge Par-  
ker as the candidate of the plutocracy,  
standing on a platform of cowardly com-  
promise, and sold body and bones to Wall  
street in advance. He stormed against Mr.  
Cleveland as a traitor who delivered the  
democracy to the trusts and whose sin-  
gle to Democratic defeat in 1896 and 1900.  
Judge Parker, however, is generally ac-  
cepted today by leading Democratic in-  
fluences as the man who will be chosen.  
Conservative newspapers like the New  
York Evening Post and Brooklyn Eagle  
will support him if the platform is suitable  
and the influence of ex-Senator David B.  
Hill is not offensively apparent. There will  
be at St. Louis enough un instructed dele-  
gates to choose another man, but it is  
unlikely that these can be united to  
stampede the convention away from the  
New Yorker. The scene of 1896, when  
the convention swung from Bland to  
Bryan is not likely to be repeated. There  
is little against Judge Parker beyond the  
sinister influence of Hill. There is, on  
the other hand, not a great deal in his  
favor in that his position on some of the  
leading issues is unknown. It will be a  
great fight, with the chances in Roose-  
velt's favor. Should the president win  
the development of his strenuous char-  
acteristics will be well worth watching.

### WHAT WILL THEY DO?

Sydney is hoping for the end of the  
strike which has paralyzed its business  
and which is already beginning to cause  
distress, Tuesday President Plummer,  
of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company,  
issued a statement. He says the company  
will resume operations if the city guar-  
antees to protect those who go to work  
and if men sufficient to man the plant are  
obtainable. The company is willing to en-  
ploy any or all of the strikers if they  
play a work without asking any ques-  
tions. The company will grant no increas-  
ed wages at present, asserting that it pays  
what is fair. Citizens of Sydney, like the  
strikers, had hoped for something more  
promising than this, something in the na-  
ture of a compromise; but evidently they  
did not know the company. Mr. Plum-  
mer's ultimatum is not calculated to make  
peace, unless he has reason to believe that  
the strikers are willing to capitulate. On  
the face of it, the president's statement is  
not that of a man anxious to patch up a  
modus vivendi. He insists that the strik-  
ers abandon the claims to enforce which  
1,800 men left work. If the men can live  
without any such complete acknowledg-  
ment of failure they may be expected to  
remain out.

But the company's stand raises several  
awkward questions. It imposes a plain  
duty upon Sydney. The city is asked if it  
will guarantee to protect such men as go  
to work, strikers or outsiders. Sydney  
will undertake to afford this protection.  
It cannot do anything else. Its citizens  
strongly desire to see work resumed, since  
the mill is the life of the city. Sydney  
also has much sympathy for the strikers.  
But the city dare not say that it cannot  
and will not protect any and all men who  
desire to accept the wages which the com-  
pany offers. The city's duty in these cir-  
cumstances is not determined by the  
justice or injustice of the strikers' cause.  
The preservation of order and the enjoy-  
ment of liberty are more important than  
the company and its employes or the cause  
of either.

The strikers have won friends in many  
directions because as a body they have  
been orderly from the first. A more severe  
test is before them. They need money.  
Their strike pay is not enough to live upon  
very long. They may accept their former  
wages or refuse to accept them. No one  
can quarrel with them if they do not re-  
turn to work. That is their business. But  
if others desire to accept the wages they  
refuse, these others must be permitted to  
earn them without molestation. It would  
be bitter to the more determined to see  
the strike fall because outsiders, suppli-  
mented by some of the union men, went  
to work and to broke the strike, but it  
must be clear that interference of any  
kind which amounts to intimidation or  
violence can only make matters worse.

### AN IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY.

The passing years bring old foes into  
graceful and friendly relationship. At the  
site of old Fort Anne, Annapolis, Wednes-  
day, where was impressively laid the cor-  
ner stone of a monument to the Sieur de  
Monts, the handmen of the United States  
Ship Tokpa, principal God Save the King.  
Honoring the principal figures represent-  
ing three nations was an escort of Ameri-  
can bluejackets and men from the French  
cruiser, Troude, and from the water the  
guns of French and American cruisers  
roared on a royal salute in unison. To  
commemorate the great work of a French-  
man there gathered the representatives of  
the three nations whose armies met again  
and again in supreme struggles for domi-

on on this new found continent. Today  
these representatives put away the mem-  
ories of red fields and exalt the memory of  
those stout-hearted and far-seeing ad-  
venturers who put into uncharted  
waters to find and consecrate new domains  
overseas.

Over the new regions these seekers  
found the kings they served contended.  
And after the forces, the colonists. Today,  
when these forces which once contended  
dwelt together in peace and amity, they  
thought revert to the great explorer-sea-  
men whose courage held their prow true  
to the unknown and fearful course at the  
end of which lay the New World. Today,  
when there are few secrets of geography  
unexplored, when busy millions people  
are everywhere, it is well to turn aside  
for a day from the imperative and ever  
increasing demands of modern existence  
to read and mark with a fitting moment  
here and there the accomplishments of the  
first white men whose eyes feasted upon  
these rugged but beautiful shores.

That war should follow in their foot-  
steps was inevitable. There was a time  
of dividing the land with the sword, the  
strongest the widest areas. But now,  
so far as the three nations most interest-  
ed in the events of this week are con-  
cerned, they look forward to no strife  
among themselves but rather rejoice in  
friendly understandings, which should grow  
into definite alliances, looking to peace and  
all the mighty benefits which it bestows.

### A CONTEST.

The only considerable success gained by  
the Russians since the war began was  
that of their flying squadron which sank  
three unarmed transports with many hap-  
less Japanese on board. We do not yet  
know whether this triumph was gained  
without violating the common usages of  
war. Without classifying it further we  
may with profit contrast it with the man-  
ner in which the Japanese opened the  
naval campaign.

Admiral Uriu, with six ships of war, dis-  
covered the Russian cruiser Varieg and  
the gunboat Korietz lying in the harbor  
of Chemulpo. He ordered them to sur-  
render or come out and fight. They ac-  
cepted battle, and steamed out to their  
fate with colors flying and bands play-  
ing. The Japanese commander could have  
surrounded them and sunk them with every  
shot on board. But, to quote an account of  
the action which has just been made pub-  
lic, "He detailed the two of his ships  
nearest in fighting strength to the Rus-  
sians to go and do the fighting. The four  
others stood off out of range and saw the  
Russians beaten and put to flight. The  
two Japanese in action exceeded the two  
Russians in strength by one six-inch gun  
and two eight-inch guns only. They were  
much larger vessels than the Russians and  
therefore better targets, but they were  
untouched, while the Varieg was riddled  
and sunk. The Korietz was struck re-  
peatedly and put to flight. She took  
refuge in the harbor, behind a French  
warship. Let us for a moment regard  
Admiral Uriu's victory from his stand-  
point. It was the first battle between a  
European and an Asiatic fleet. Admiral  
Uriu declined to begin the war with  
altruism. With remarkable confidence in  
his men and guns he refused to take ad-  
vantage of a brave foe. He deliberately set  
to work to show the world that on the  
water, at least, man for man, the Japanese  
were equal to the Russians. What a glo-  
rious incentive for the rest of the navy  
and for the troops in the field! How it may  
have increased the confidence and enthu-  
siasm of the people at home!"

The Japanese have treated their many  
prisoners humanely, even handsomely.  
They have spent many tollsome hours  
after hard-fought battles in giving decent  
burial to the Russian dead. These "bar-  
barians" are making a record of which  
all of the European nations might be  
proud.

### STIRRING UP THE SOUTH.

Points across the line will exhibit a  
perceptible rise in temperature as a re-  
sult of one of the sections of the platform  
adopted at Chicago yesterday by the Re-  
publicans. This section aims a blow at the  
solidly Democratic South. It proposes  
legislation to ascertain whether in any  
state citizens have been improperly dis-  
franchised, and if any states are found to  
have sinned in that direction the propo-  
sal is to reduce their representation in Con-  
gress and in the electoral college.

This means that sovereign states like  
Alabama, which have virtually disfranchised  
the negro by constitutional amend-  
ments requiring a proof of education which  
the mass of colored men cannot show, are  
to be punished for establishing white domi-  
nation and incidentally suffocating a large  
Republican vote.

The South will not take this punishment  
lying down, nor even the threat of it con-  
tained in the Republican platform. The  
idea expressed in the platform is that at  
the South is solidly Democratic it can-  
not effectually resent the Federal inter-  
vention threatened by the ruling party,  
and that in the South the ruling party has  
succeeded to lose and so little to fear. But,  
aside from the justice or injustice of the  
legislation forementioned, the threat will  
go far to check the recent growth of Re-  
publicanism in the Gulf states, and may  
turn to the Democrats a great number of  
Southerners now living in the North who  
will be quick to resent any attempt to  
dispute the Southern dictum that when  
the negro becomes a political power in any  
Southern community the proper step is to  
deprive him of his influence by making  
laws which deprive him of his vote.

The proposed Federal interference would  
be dictated by no unselfish desire to  
guarantee to the negro the enjoyment of  
his constitutional rights. It would be dic-  
tated by the expediency of partisan poli-  
tics. It will give the South another  
chance to talk boldly about state rights,  
and it is very likely to be the cause of  
much perfervid oratory denunciations of  
Northern republicanism between the con-  
ventions and election day. The immedi-  
ate result of this will by no means amelio-  
rate the condition of the colored man.

### NOTE AND COMMENT.

A St. Petersburg despatch represents  
affairs in Port Arthur as simply lovely.  
Business is good and food is plenty. This  
information must have been "wafted by  
the wireless."

The inquest into the Sporn horror al-  
ready shown even more neglect than was  
disclosed in the investigation of the Tro-  
quois disaster. By the way, has anyone  
been punished yet for that?—Boston  
Globe.

No one. Some of the men responsible  
were pilloried by the American newspapers  
for a few days and were forced to spend  
some money in improving their property.  
But no one was really brought to book.

The New York horror grows. The death  
list has reached 845, no less than 112  
bodies having been recovered yesterday.  
The inquest shows frightful criminal  
negligence by the company. The life-pres-  
ervers dragged down those who used  
them. The steamer fire hose was bought  
for sixteen cents a foot. No good hose  
costs less than a dollar a foot. There are  
other revelations calculated to arouse in-  
dignation.

The Russian admiral reports the seizure  
of the British steamer Allanton, coal  
laden, in the Sea of Japan. He is not cer-  
tain that she was violating the laws of  
neutrality, and a prize court at Vlad-  
ivostok is to decide what shall be done  
with her. Her owners may have taken  
some chances forgetting Mr. Kipling's  
warning:

And loss it is that is and as death to lose  
both trip and ship  
And loss it is to rotting contraband on Vlad-  
ivostok ship.

It will not be an army relying only on  
muskets and leather cannon that is to op-  
pose the British advance, and, as the  
Thibetians have shown, unexpensive  
bravery; it is safe to count on their furni-  
shing some stiff fighting before General  
Macdonald can enter the forbidden city.  
That point reached, there will still be the  
serious problem to solve whether, even  
should the Thibetians yield to the British  
on every point, it will be safe to with-  
draw all the troops and what the Thibe-  
tians live up to their promises.—Boston  
Herald.

The British will cross that bridge when  
they come to it—after they have occupied  
Lhasa.

Complaint in Canada after the Alaska  
decision was slight compared with that  
now made by the French newspapers in  
St. Pierre as a result of the Anglo-French  
agreement. Here is a sample:

"By the last mail the official text of the  
Anglo-French convention in relation to the  
surrender of our rights on the French  
Shore, arrived in St. Pierre. From press  
comments culled we were already aware  
that we had been completely deceived.  
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shing some stiff fighting before General  
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draw all the troops and what the Thibe-  
tians live up to their promises.—Boston  
Herald.

There was a run on a bank in South  
Framingham (Mass.) the other day. The  
Boston Post tells that caused it:

"Bridget Mulcahy, domestic, gave it as  
her opinion to Laura Downey, also domes-  
tic, that in her opinion banks, not any  
single one in particular, but speaking of  
them in general, were not safe. Laura Downey  
gave this opinion to Mary Oliver, who  
domestic, who was about to deposit one  
dollar in the Farmers and Merchants  
Bank, and when the opinion came to her  
ears she decided she wouldn't, and told  
her mistress, Miss Harriman, that she  
heard the bank was not safe. Mrs. Harri-  
man talked the matter over with friends.  
Result of it all was that when on Mon-  
day the cashier of the Farmers and Mer-  
chants Bank opened for business he was  
astonished to see a crowd of women de-  
positors waiting for their money. For four  
days they pulled it out steadily, and after  
they had withdrawn \$50,000, common sense  
asserted itself and the run stopped. It  
all came about through Bridget Mulcahy  
having an opinion that Laura Downey con-  
fided in and Mary Oliver believed. It  
all proved to be the most ridiculous bank  
run ever known in Massachusetts."

Professor Goldwin Smith is inclined to  
believe that the bottom may drop out of  
the American republic and that they may  
choose a king. In an article in the Ameri-  
can Monthly Review he writes:

"In annexing Hawaii and in conquering  
the Philippines the American republic has  
departed from its fundamental principles  
and changed its character. Its possession  
of the canal and practically of Panama,  
seems likely to lead to the ultimate an-  
nexation of Mexico and the whole of Cen-  
tral America. There being added to the  
South and West, with their negroes and  
their unrepentant sentiment, the result  
can hardly fail to be either a radical  
change of policy from the Republican form  
to something practically imperial, such as  
is the necessary concomitant of empire, or  
to the disruption of the Union. Jingoes  
is still in full blast. Flag-worship is the  
religion of the day. Language the most  
self-dramatization and anti-humanitarian,  
to use no stronger term, is rife in the  
press. Every day produces something  
foreshadowing an advance upon that line. An  
excellent journal writes the Panama ques-  
tion by saying, 'It was in our line of  
business; we have got it, and we mean to  
keep it.' There are still, undoubtedly,  
forces and powerful forces, on the other  
side. But the balance wavers. It is a  
critical hour in the life of the American  
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### Edward VII. Ambassador.

Let us briefly inquire into those quali-  
ties which make the King successful as a  
diplomatist, which give him his personal  
equipment. It is significant and imagin-  
ary sovereign has made no tactical mis-  
takes, has, as has Prince of Wales and  
King, turned the flank of more than one  
false movement, and has, by his intelli-  
gence and skill, won the admiration of in-  
tellectual men. He has been called  
shrewd, but I prefer to think of him as  
a diplomatist, a tactician, a strategist, and  
with an instinct as keen as that of a dra-  
matist, or painter, and with the impulses  
of the instinct rationalized by wide and  
high experience, and by the best of knowl-  
edge—that directly gained viva voce from  
the ablest men of the world. In such as-  
sociations, in this sort of tuition, he has  
had the best of the thing laid bare, the  
essentials concisely presented for him to  
apply at once in the discharge of his pub-  
lic duties. I believe that the King is natu-  
rally one of the most impulsive men in  
his empire, but his intellectual qualities,  
and his capacity for comparison, historio-  
graphical, and political, have been when  
feeling that "the other man is thinking,"  
he has studied to powerful use that tem-  
perament which, left to flourish unham-  
pered by the convention of duty, neces-  
sity, and high responsibility, might have  
been called genius. In truth, the King  
has a genius, happily for himself. All  
that rare faculty of saying and doing the  
right thing, for remembering faces and  
incidents, and people and places, and the  
equipment of the man of temperment,  
it is the secret of his popularity.

Geniality is no name for it, for he feels  
that to be genial and to be warm when  
"felicly regular." He is too powerful in  
such a temperament as he possesses, there  
is also dormant in his Majesty a certain  
irascibility, due to his capacity to feel  
strongly, to the sharp decision of his  
mind. He is no waverrer, he does not  
lean on either side, and he has a keen in-  
telligence with the dull or the inane; but  
long ago the native irascibility was  
brought—and kept—under control, and  
the capacity to be well-to-do is impetu-  
ous, to be impulsive—lies at the very root  
of his strength. It all belongs to his in-  
fluence upon men, quite apart from the  
cover in the state which he represents.  
Men who know the things that count  
in intellectual equipment have never un-  
derestimated the King's capacity. Still,  
though he is known to take one side very  
strongly, and that not from natural pre-  
dilection but according to his own judi-  
cious right or wrong.—Sir Gilbert Parker,  
M. P., in July Smart Set.

### Expansive "Covering"

A seller of the market with margin in arrears  
was threatened by his broker, still moved to  
St. John, N. B., and he was watching the  
rallying market as his  
life's coin ebbed away  
And he bent with sorrowing glances o'er the  
ticks on his play  
Then he murmured to his broker as the tear-  
drops came and fell  
On the receipt "buyer's letter" that had  
cautioned him to sell:  
"I've a farm on the edge of cottage and I've  
cattle, horse and swine,  
And they all are bunched at Binigan, fair  
Stages on the Rhine."  
"I've a gold chain and a pocket that I'll  
gladly pledge with you,  
If only you'll guarantee that your house will see  
me through;  
I will give you all the trinkets I have treas-  
ured up for years  
To supply that lacking margin which is so  
near to my ruin."  
And then I got a mortgage on the house  
and horse and swine,  
Which are worth full fifty thousand, at Bin-  
igan on the Rhine."  
But the ticker still was ticking, and the  
ticks on his play were  
As the broker took the margin: "Chain and  
pocket on account!"  
"I'll not give up my life," he sternly argued, "for this  
market will not break."  
"Then cannot more protect you than will  
good collateral make?"  
"You've my bank account and town house,  
You've my salary for a year,  
You've my diamond ring and scarf-pin that  
cost me nearly a year,  
Take my forty thousand interest in the  
bank, and I'll give you my life."  
"I'll let you mortgage Binigan, dear Binigan on  
the Rhine."  
"Have you naught of greater value? Have  
your stock and bonds all gone?  
Have you not a set of Shakespeare that for  
comforting you would be good?  
"All my goods and worldly chattels I have  
given you now."  
"Then cannot more protect you than will  
good collateral make?"  
For the market still is rising, and your  
stocker near out of reach.  
So they "covered" all his shortage, as his  
stock would not decline.  
And thus they saved his household at Binigan  
on the Rhine. F. J. M.  
New York, June 16, 1904.

### My Love and I.

We wandered down the woodland way,  
My love and I, my love and I;  
I'll run behind us dimmed the day  
And in the sky, deep in the sky  
The Pleiads shone with splendid light,  
And brave Orion hung his shield;  
The planets glared and shone  
The planets glared and shone  
No sound disturbed the brooding dark,  
Save for the twitter of a bird;  
I strayed here and there above the award.  
We spoke no word—"was better so";  
Such dreams we had, such dreams we had;  
—Dreams that the saints and angels know—  
They made us glad, they made us glad.  
So shall we two, my love and I,  
Side by side, still side by side,  
Walk on till death's sweet charity  
Shall open wide, shall open wide  
The mystic doors by which we wait,  
My love and I, my love and I;  
And love shall reach his full estate  
Beyond the sky, beyond the sky.

St. John, N. B., June 18, 1904.

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## WHY BOBRIKOFF WAS ASSASSINATED

Warning to the Czar That  
Finland Can Endure  
No More.

## RUSSIAN CRUELTY.

Finns Stripped of All Civil Authority  
and Ordered to Quadruple the  
Strength of Standing Army—  
Emigration Increased Tenfold in  
One Year.

Count Bobrikoff's death at the hand of  
a Finnish patriot is the writing on the  
wall, and it is for the Czar to read. In-  
stead of being a warning, the Russian  
has endeavored to the utmost the  
oppressions which her master has inflicted  
on her with the ability of cattle.  
Have they reached the limit of their en-  
durance, and is the act of Schumann the  
sign by which the world may know? Or  
is it the isolated act of a man of a differ-  
ent mould from his fellows? If the latter  
be true, then Bobrikoff's assassination will  
be the worst thing that has happened Fin-  
land since 1809; if not, the name of Schu-  
mann may rank in history with that of  
John Sobieski.

Understand the events which have  
led up to Bobrikoff's assassination, it is  
necessary to glance at a few pages in Fin-  
land's history. About the middle of the  
seventeenth century the Swedes conquered  
the Finns, and from that date down to  
the middle of the eighteenth century Fin-  
land was the scene of many fights between  
Russia and Sweden. As a result of one  
of these wars a considerable strip of Fin-  
nish territory was ceded to Russia. Gus-  
tavus III. in 1787, made a determined  
effort to recapture what had been lost,  
but he failed, and 1809 saw a Russian in-  
vasion from which Sweden was glad to  
escape by surrendering the rest of Finland  
to the Bear. Then began modern history  
for Finland. For 70 years this country  
had been part of Sweden, with the result  
that the Finns had become in every re-  
spect Swedes. Sweden's cession of Fin-  
land was not that of a herd of prey which  
yields a victim to a more powerful rob-  
ber, but that of the hawk, which offers its  
young to the eagle as the price of peace.

### Making Finns of Swedes.

Russia at once began the work of Rus-  
sianizing these Swedes, and the first step  
was to make them Finns again. Every in-  
ducement was offered them to study the  
language and revive the customs which  
had been their centuries before, but the  
plan was a failure, and Sweden the Finns  
remained. Russia soon wearied of this  
subtle diplomacy and abandoned it alto-  
gether. If these Swedes would not be-  
come Finns, they should be made Rus-  
sians at once. Under Alexander I. the  
Czar of all the Russias at the time of  
the acquisition of Finland, the Finns were  
guaranteed every liberty they had previ-  
ously enjoyed. How this promise was  
kept may be judged from the fact that be-  
tween 1809 and 1883 the Finnish Diet did  
not meet once. When after fifty-four  
years this parliament did assemble, the  
Emperor of Russia irradicated promises  
for the future. The Diet was to be regu-  
larly convened, and many reforms were  
to be introduced. For some years the  
Diet met more frequently, but as its laws  
could not become operative without im-  
perial sanction, its deliberations were of  
purely academic interest, for St. Peters-  
burg refused to endorse the notes drawn  
by Helsingfors. The most important of  
these ineffectual laws was that passed in  
1872, which declared for the liberty of the  
press. One rather smiles at the sublime  
simplicity of the Diet, which expected  
Russia to encourage a free and outspoken  
press.

### The Strasburg Goose.

The history of Finland, however, offers  
new proof of an astonishing fact, which  
has dumfounded students of political  
economy many times. A country may  
have hardly any liberty; its political affairs  
may be in a wretched condition, and yet  
it may fairly wallow in prosperity. It

may, in effect, be a sort of Strasburg  
goose. So it was with Finland. Despite  
Russian tyranny and unfaithfulness, the  
Finns grew fat. This was the signal for  
their undoing. Other parts of the empire  
became jealous, and in 1899 there began a  
series of attacks on Finland by the semi-  
official press of Russia. These journals  
persisted in regarding the Finns as pam-  
pered favorites, and loudly demanded that  
any remaining privileges which they pos-  
sessed be revoked. So persistent and bitter  
were these assaults became that the Finns  
were alarmed and appealed to the  
Czar, who relieved their apprehension by  
ratifying the ancient constitution. So there  
fell a little quiet on Finland, and the  
stout citizens breathed easier.

### The Mask Off.

Then came the bolt from the blue sky.  
In 1898 the Czar issued his famous de-  
claration, which at a stroke rendered the  
constitution so much waste paper. The  
Diet was deprived of even such slender au-  
thority as it had wielded. The Finns  
were ordered to quadruple the strength of  
their standing army, which hitherto had  
served only for Finnish soil. In the future  
these soldiers were to be like other  
Russian soldiers, liable to duty anywhere.  
The term of enlistment was increased  
from three to five years, and conscription  
was made compulsory for all Russian sub-  
jects in the case of Finns who could  
read and write the Russian language. In  
the midst of the consternation which fol-  
lowed this decree came another, which  
made a knowledge of Russian obligatory  
for all senators, governors, and higher offi-  
cials. As a protest on one of the greatest  
peoples of modern times, signed not only  
by Finns but by famous scientists and  
literary men in England, France and Ger-  
many, was presented at St. Petersburg,  
and coldly ignored.