# A Titled "Venus," Cousin of the Czar, Creates Sensation.

Special Correspondence.

ONDON, Dec. 5 .- Seven turns had rapidly followed one another upon the stage. The audience of the music hall was expectant. The lights went out. Suddenly the orchestra crashed out a lively galop. A shaft of dazzling white shot out from the gallery and focussed on a single figure standing in the center of the inkyblackness of the stage.

It was the figure of a woman representing Venus. For 20 full minutes the act went on. Classical statues followed each other in a stately procession. It was well done. Each picture was beautiful. The audience was enthusisytic. And yet, for the last two months Londoners almost have had a surfeit of classical posing by women. Every music hall has had an act of sorts.

ONLY ONE TITLED VENUS.

But only one has had as its Venus a woman of title, a woman who has royal blood in her veins. This woman is the Countess Olga Romanow or-to opell it as it is pronounced-Romanoff. She claims to be a cousin of the czar of all the Russias, Nicholas II.

I saw the countess in her apartments. She is very tall, dark and strikingly handsome in the cold superb Russian way. Her figure is her great asset. It is exquisite.

I asked her how it came about that a countess, the cousin of an emperor, had condescended to grace the London stage.

She threw out her hands in mute destair. Then she said; "One must live. I am young. I am here a refugee. In Russia I would die. There is a price on my head. They killed my husband. I escaped to England. For weeks I lived for what my jewelry sold. Then friendless and almost penniless sought work. At the house where I had a room there lived an actress. She took pity on me. I learned to pose from her. I got an engagement through her. Now I have succeeded. I have many offers at large salarles. Yes, some have been from America. But I shall stay here for a long time. In two, three years I may go to America. I like this new life. It is strange but wonderful. My comrades are kind. I am no longer afraid to go about, to be known." More questions I asked and so the countess offered to herself write the little story of her life. Here it is:

HER OWN NARATIVE.

"It is just 23 years ago since I was born and searcely four months since I arrived in London.

"I saw the light in St. Petersburg. my mother being the late Countess Flodorevna and my father the late Grand Duke Sergius. I was the duke's eldest daughter, but by a morganatic marriage.

"Up to the time of my father's death I was constantly in his company and ty. Nichoias II.

BERLIN, Dec. 5.—If he were not supported by the strong are not the kaiser p the banker who has been appointed to cleanse the Augean stables of colonial corruption and maladministration, probably would find his task an utterly hopeless one. He has made a good beginning by discharging most of the incompetent underlings of the colonial department and replacing them with

young business men. By this action he has aroused the hitterest hostility of the bureaucrats. German officialdom looks down on the business man as a distinctly inferior order of creation. That a man of this lass, and a Hebrew to boot, should be placed at the head of an important branch of the government was a bitter pill for German officialdom to swallow. But that he should mark his accession to power by wholesale dismissals of men of their own caste and the bestowal of their places on mere counting room clerks and tradesmen was still mixed freely with the members of the | worse. It would have caused open reroyal family. Even as I write I am wearing a brooch that was given me by my cousin, on my father's side, his im-writet me text Nicholas I given him a free hand. without reaping any returns. But with all his energy, executive ability and business capacity, it is loubtful if he will succeed in his colossal task even with the support of the mailed fist. Germany has experienced nothing but failure in her colonial en-terprises. The Germans in their efforts to colonize distant countries have revealed surprising weakness, and the Teutonic possessions, although enor-Teutonic possessions, although chor-mous in extent, are little more than vast areas of desert, producing no profit to the fatherland, but burdening the home country with heavy costs.

first glance an absolute breakdown of German colonial enterprise,

NOT ALL TOLD. But the whole truth about the Ger-But the whole truth about the Ger-man colonies is by no means contained in these revelations. The German col-onies have not only been a failure, but have involved enormous financial losses to the fatherland. Insetted of provid-ing markets for German products and bringing in welcome additions to the impoverished treasury of the German empire, millions upon millions of money have been spent in the value endeavoor ave been spent in the valu endcavor transform them into profitable aniertakings.

Take the case of German Southwest Africa. Germany has already thrown away \$50,000,000 on this country, and it is estimated that a further sum of the open entry barrier sum of \$100,000,000 will have to be spent as an irreducible minimum within the next ten years. German Southwest Africa yields nothing in return. The native inhabitants have been in open above innovative have been in open apart from moncy the lives of thous-ands of German soldiers have been sac-rificed in the suppression of the rebei-lion. The cultivated land has been devastated and the little enterprises stared by Germany have been des-troyed by the losurgents. German Southwest Africa shows no prospects of future improvement; on the contra-ry, there is every reason to believe that Germany will go on sinking money

These plain facts and figures reveal at irst glance an absolute breakdown of ferman colonial enterprise. I derman state officials.

by narrow minded and incompetent German state officials. Having laid the foundations of a model state from the German bureau-cratic viewpoint the German novern-meant then proceeded to invite German rubjects to go and inhabit the new coloney. The figures quoted above show that very few Germans felt in-cluded to place themselves under bu-reaucratic rule in the German colonies. A German contrives to bear the bur-den of militarism, police tyraning and bureaucratic administration at home, but he always desires to turn his back on these abuses when he quits the Patherland. Thousands upon thousands of Ger-

Tatherland. Thousands upon thousands of Ger-mins emigrate to England and Amer-ica and other free countries in order to evade compulsory military service and to enjoy the political liberty which they cannot find at home. Political liberty and freedom of action is more necessary in a virgin country than anywhere else, because enterprise is killed by any other conditions. The grandmetherly system of bureaucratic supervision introduced in the German colonies has killed all private enter-prise and made it impossible for healthy commercial development to healthy commercial development to

OFFICIALS TOO NUMEROUS,

In some of the German possessions in the Pacific ocean there are actually more government officials than ordin-ary white inhabitants. In other posment of the German authorities. Simi- | appear to have been open to cross-ex

The electical member of the reich-stag Herr Erzberger, who has taken the most prominent part in dragging the scandalous conditions in the ad-ministration of the German colonies into public notice, announces that the truth about the worst scandals of all still remains unpublished. He de-clares that he is prepared to make new revealations, and that the next colonial scandai will surpass all the fecent abuses discovered and exposed by the press. Herr Erzberger's forthcoming revelations are awaited with keen in-The clerical member of the reich. evelations are awaited with keen in-

Meanwhile details of another colonial scandal have been made pub-lic. Herr van Puttkamer, who has been degrived of the governorship of the German Cameroon for perpetrat-ing various abuses of official power, once appointed a personal friend nam-ed Leuschner to be chief of police in the district of Buea. In this position Herr Leuschner not only commanded

 ment of the German authorities. Similarly, in German East Africa the natives have been goaded into rebellion by the intolerable tyranny of their native governors. The German newspapers publish day after day details of imnumerable colonial scandals to such an extent, indeed, that newspaper readers in Germany have ceased to pay much attention to these neveranding disclosures.
SCANDALOUS CONDITION. The truth about the matter would probably never have been revealed if the German consul of Monrovia, in Li-berla, had not reported to his governor that it was extremely difficult to recruit Liberian natives for Cameroon since Herr Leuschter had caused the since Herr Leuschner had caused the members of the pollee corps to be shot down at Bues. This consul reported all the unsavory details which have now been published. Outbreaks of this kind have been fre-qent. Nor have the abuses stopped the outbreaks. There have been outrages added to graft of the worst kind

added to graft of the worst kind, whereby large sums of public money have been unlawfully appropriated by corrupt colonial officials. The scum of the Gorman aristocracy, the young hloods who were good for nothing in their own country, have been sent out to the colonies to rule the unfortunate natives, who were placed in their absolute power,

CASES OF GRAFT.

aree years n



unhappy victim.

At this m

at the door

net with a

sistance. The men fell. The

out till their victing

KING EDWARD

Special Correspondence.

door, shouting for help. But one against eight, and, after an

t, to kie

other cells he

WRS dead.

SEEKS INVITATION.

HANGING FOLLOWS.

Anarchy Reigns in Russ Jails – Fail Fight with Guar

Special Correspondence, C T. PETERSBURG, Dec. 5-5-

only does anarchy, with mob-

rule Russian towns, but it

spread into well known pris Accounts come in continually for

different parts of the empire warders killed, governors we

ed and mutinous prisoners escapt

through and sow bloodshed and has

under the Ural mountains, come

story which seems almost incre-

until it is remembered that as bad a

worse things are happening in an

According to the report of the an

ernor, two men, sentenced to a in

term of hard labor, were placed

gether in a cell, awaiting their of

to be taken to the other side of a

Urals. They were friends, and sa made up their minds to escape, 7)

was a third man in the cell and to: they confided their plans. He press

WORKED ALL NIGHT.

They worked hard all night and to

many nights, digging a tunnel and

their cell. All the prisoners is fi

place knew of it; for in these price

where the supervision is inefficient

news travels from cell to cell like and

fire. Every morning, these three n.

filled their pockets with the earth d

up during the night, and also put

behind their shirts. They turnet

out in the prison yard when they ap

for their daily exercise. But one me

ing, when they were nearly at the en

of their task, they discovered that it

were being closely watched and loft

digging for a duy or two. They he

owever, no sooner begun again th

they were searched, the earth in the

pockets discovered and their tanh

as well, All the prisoners head of h

and began to look for the sy who

CRY OF GUILTY.

All declared that only one could be

guilty, and that was the man who

shared the two friends' cell. The pity

oners swore to have the man's up

Delegates from every cell conform

at exercise time and were unanimo

banged. The only one who suspect

nothing was the victim himself, w

belped the friends from good-matar

ness and had never the least intenti-

of spying upon them. At last a fifth

of apping upon them, at not and guard about. At 2 o'clock one ato noon, "six dolegates" entered the o The hook and a race were in rea-ness. They began their "trial." "What shall we do with this is tor?" asked one man pointing to unnarrow victing.

in declaring that their vietla must b

had given noties to the authorities.

ed to help them.

From a prison in east Russia, in

to pillage the neighborhoods they

wherever they go,

districts.

struggle, they pushed him back ped the noose round his nee

The innutes of the other commis-ing the row, pan to their commis-

wounded, a few kliled, and the h

man cut down, still breathing is one of the pictures, out of

freds, which disgrace dusta duly

ONDON, Dec. 5 .- In the endlet

years of his residence is England,

William Waldorr Aster was often

accused of toudying to repulty I

the hope that it might heighin to ob-

tain a peerage some day, Whatever

grounds there may have been for that

opinion, it is certain that in recen

years he has done nothing to justify h

Since that memorable occasion in 1

when he affronted Sir Berkeley Mil

by ordering him to wichdraw from of

of his entertainments, and thereby

fended the king, then Frince of Wald who was a warm friend of Sir Ber

ley's, he has been at no pains to cut

vate royalties. Rather have minor I

alties shown a decided disposition cultivate him. Now it would app

that the king himself is seeking a re

prochement with the expatriated Am

naught and their daughter. Pri

When the Duke and Duchess of Con-

ican multi-millionaire.

Patricia-the duke is

-visited young Aster a Clivedon, the other day,

with them a message fro the effect that his maj

be invited to Hever of

which Mr. Astor has

old feudal pile have, the king's curiosity.

to be on good terms richest-if not actually

his subjects. The kill

has a great weakness

the invitation has be though William Waldo to have little of the m

his composition, he can

accede to a request things are regarded amounts to a command

So far it has not transf

W hic

"You must

is said that with him more than blood.

that, probably, is

dieval retreat for hi with which the work I

of money to make it a

mont-surrounded

on, and the many wondrous transformat Astor has wrought in



perial majesty, Nicholas II. "I was married to Count Romanow, an officer of the Puobraschensky regi-ment of the guards in February. It was a marriage of true love and I was infinitely happy. I have been com-pelled to flee from my home, my own come theorem a tarrible mistake. country, through a terrible mistake. "One evening early in last June-

"One evening early in last June-the fifth to be exact-my husband was entertaining a few friends at our home on the Millionaga--Ulica. A young journalist, Nicholas Kalhavsky, was present. He had been brought by Baron Korffe, one of our guests. Kal-kavsky cherished a bitter hatred against a certain high officer who had been the cause of the arrest and ban-isoment to Siberia of his sweetheart as

13. ment to subern of his solution at a Nihilist. I must add that the young journalist carried his arm in a sling, "We were playing cards when music was heard and we all rushed to the window to see a regiment of mounted solaiery passing by. The officer whom soldiery passing by. The officer whom Kalkavsky hated rode at the head of the regiment.

#### THREW A BOMB.

"Blackest villain," shouted the nalist. Releasing his fettered hand he deliberately threw a bomb at the offi-cer. It fell short and did only slight cer, it fell short and the outy snake injury. But immediately the greatest confusion and turnult prevailed. In terror I ran to a small cupboard in an attic room at the top of the house and, hiding, listened.

#### UNDER ARREST.

"I heard the soldiers rush into the house. Mingled with the reports of re-volvers and the clashing of swords were passionate cries for mercy and the groans and shricks of dying men Every one was killed-murdered-my Every one was kined -muldered my husband included, excepting the jour-nalist and myself. He excepted Heav-on only knows how while I was later found and banded over to the polico. After a detention of 24 hours I was released and weat back to my lonely house home.

"I was immediately rearrested by military officials and taken to Gatchina, where I was confined in a villa guarded by soldiers. The military officers said the police could not mete out justice

they would. "I had managed to conceal the more valuable of my jewelry in my bosom. But all the rest of value in my house, including over \$1,060 in gold, was ap-propriated by the pelles or soldiers. "Knowing only too well the reason why I had been sent to a lanely coun-ter house I was hanny heyand mana-

try house, I was happy beyond meas-ure when, by brining a servant with a handsome diamond and sapplific ring, I managed, late one night, to escape,

#### FLED TO TAND.

Slightly disgulard I atole into the dark ought, and with money borrowed from the servant, traveled to Finland. There I sold a piece of jewelry and traveled on to Berlin. Here I met a gentleman-like mysel? a Russian refusee with a price on his head-who nelped me to reach Paris. There I sold a diamond ring and a pearl necklare and came on to London, arriving on Aug. 1.

"I am cruelly and unjustly suspected of complicity is the young journalist's plot to rob the officer of his life."

AND OF WEIRD STORY.

Here ends the countess' weird story as written by herself. She has long ago appealed to the erar, to her own relatives and those of her late husband, but there has been no reply. The countess believes the fetters have been tampered with in Ruysela. During her stay in England the has not been bothered by Russian also has not been bothered by Russian ples at all.

American press agents' mouths will water at the prospect of the countess scing to the United States on an enengement. But it is doubtful whether will long continue in the profes-

## A SINISTER OMEN.

This absolute failure in all colonial enterprises is a sinjster omen for the future of Germany. The inability of the Germans to build up a great coloni-al empire menaces the future of the al empire menaces the future of the German race with disastrous results. It must he remembered that Germany is already packed with as many in-habitants as the country can comfort-ably hold and within a short time the over-crowding will have reached a serious and dangerous limit. The birth rate in Germany is higher than that of any other country in Europe, and the prolific Germans, who now number 60,000,000, will have reached a total of 100,000,000 within a measurable number of years.

f venus. There is no room for this surplus population in Germany and no opportunity of expansion in Europe. The superior diplomacy of England has already crediplomacy of England has already cre-ated a European coalition destined to prevent Germany from carrying out any ambitious plans in Europe. This coalition already exists between Eng-land, France and Spain and can count on the support of such smaller powers as Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Nor-way and Sweden. These countries form an unbroken line along western Europe and in course of time they will undoubtedly be joined by Italy and by Austria and Hungary. Russia, too, will be an early recruit to the anti-German combination. mbination.

combination. These English schemes destroy once and for all the hopes entertained by the Pan-Germans that Germany can swal-low up the greater part of Austria and extend her boundaries into the Balkans and into Asla Minor. English diplo-macy will bring Germany to the point of descention in Europa and thus of desperation in Europe and thus make successful colonizing a matter of life and death to Germany. The colonial failures of Germany must be viewed in this light in order that their full significance may be realized.

### TREMENDOUS FAILURE.

The tremendous extent of German The tremendous extent of German colonial possessions renders the failure of all colonization enterprises all the more conspicuous. German East Africa covers 384000 square miles, German Southwest Africa 320,000 square miles and German Capteroon in West Africa. 190,000 square miles. The German pos-sessions in the Southern Pacific ocean cover an area of 185,000 square miles. These colonies, together with other These colonies, together with other smaller foreign possessions, make an aggregate area of approximately 1,200,-500 square miles. These colonies have been in the possession of Germany for periods varying from 15 to 25 years, and they were interded to repride a suit were intended to provide a suit-outlet for the surplus population

able outlet for the surplus population of the mother country. The last cérasus returns, taken six months rago, reveal the astonialing fact-that the total white population of the German colonies amounted in round figures to 12,000 persons. This means that there is one solitary white inhab-tiant to every hundred square miles of territory in the German colonies. About one-fourth of this handful of whites distributed over more than 'a million square miles are Europeans of other nationalities, so that only about 2,000 are Germans. More than bail of these Germans are either soldiers or government officials, so that Ger-many has been able to disgorge her surplus population to the colonies to the extent of just about 4,000 persons. For she is heautiful and-a wi-PAYSON EDWARDS. surplus population to the colonies to the extent of just about 4,000 persons. A CASE IN CHINA.

Take the case of Kiaochao, a litle strip of Chinese territory some 133 square miles in area, which Germany has leased from the emperor of China for a period of ninety years. Germany has already spent \$100,000,000 on Kia-ochao in the course of six years, and the aggregate German experts to Kia-ochao during them six years did schao during these six years did not amount to \$10,000,000. During the last twelve months Ger-

many spent \$35,000,000 on her colonies and received in revenue from the col-onies the sum of \$2,500,600. Moreover, the present state of affairs is not only diastrous, but shows no signs of im-proving. It is this hopeless aspect of German colonial enterprises that has caused a strong revulsion of German bublic feeling against any further dab

Many Germans would like to soil all he German colonies to the highest the German colonies to the highest bidder or to make a Gree glft of them to some other power only to get rid of them at any price. The German em-peror, however, considers it essential to retain the colonies and to go on spending money on them, because any other policy would be inconsistent with his imperial dignity and the prest-

ge of his empire. The failure of the German colonies The failure of the German colonies has been dat partly to incompetence and partly to corruption. Germans always have begun colonizing at the wreng end. They have taken posses-sion of a territory, have holsted the German flag, have occupied it with a German garrison, and made it doubly secure by a force of Prinsian police. These first steps having been accom-plished, they have set about introducing on this virgin soil a complete system

ssions there is a government o every two white inhabitants, There are more government officials in the German colonies than in the English colonies, which comprise one-sixth of the globe and contain many millions

of white inhabitants. The German farmer who desires to till the virgin soll, say, in German southwest Africa, musi first obtain an official license to follow the agricul-tural occupation, then another license to permit him to keep horses, a third to permit him to keep cattle, a fourth permitting him to keep a house, a fifth permitting him to keep dogs and frin permitting him to keep dogs and poultry, a sixth license allowing him to marry a wife, a seventh license al-lowing him to employ the natives as agricultural laborars, an eighth license permitting him to purchase agricul-tural implements and so forth. Such hindrances as these have driven many energetic colonists back to the fath-erland before they have had a fair chance of trying their luck in the new country. Those who overcome the preliminary difficulties created by this preliminary difficulties created by this scheeless system of bureaucratic con-trol find, their lives and carcers dis-turbed at every point by a continuous system of interference and supervision. If this bureaucratic control had al-ways been efficient and honest it would still have been disastrous, but it has been doubly disastrous because in more cases the worst features of

in many cases the worst features o misgovernment have been noticeable misgovernment maye been noticeable. All the reliable evidence available points to the certain conclusion that the rebellion in German Southwest Africa, which has now been proceed-ing for the last three years and has cost many thousands of lives besides devastating the entire colony, was due entired to the two mised relevances. on this virgin soil a complete system I entirely to the tyrannical misgovern. I the affairs and his judicial methods

the native police forces, composed of negroes from Liberia, but also acted as supreme judge and administrator of the district. Herr Leuschner had no claim to this important position be-yond the fact that he was a talented artist whose water-colored pictures strength appended to the strongly appealed to the governor's artistic tastes,

After occupying this position for some time Herr Leuschner, whose brain appears to have been affected by the tropical heat, allowed his wife to per-suade him that the negroes forming his police corps were meditating the massacro of all the Europeans in the district. Herr Leuschner thereupon summoned all the Europeans and served out to them rifles and ammunition of the latest pattern. He then drew up the native police in ranks and ordered them' in harsh tones to lay down their arms. The negroes, not un-derstanding what was required of them and having perfectly clear consciences hesitated for a moment in astonish

Herr Leuschner, regarding their mo mentary hesitation as a proof of their intention to mutiny, ordered without further hesitation the assembled Europeans to fire on the nutives. This order was promptly carried out, with the result that nearly all were killed or with wounded. The uninjured remnant of the police corps broke up and fled precipitately to the adjoining district, where they besought the German chief of police for protection against Herr Putikamer's violence.

TOLD TO HOLD TONGUE.

Privy Councilor Seitz, who has now been appointed Herr Putikamer's suc-cessor as governor of Cameroon, con-ducted an official investigation into

than 48 well established cases of graft have been brought to light In connec-tion with colonial administration. The incompetence and corruption have not been confined to government officials in the colonies, but has permeated to German coloniat ministers in Berlin. Here the officials have been gullty of corrupt practises, have intrigued against one another for personal cods and have systematically falled to dis-charge their output on a promotion harge their duties in a competent

health of Baron Richthofen, The The health of Baron Richthofen, who died early in this year from men-tal breakdown, was undermined by his terrible experiences at the Ger-man colonial office, which he entirely failed to reform. His successor, Herr yon Stuchel, was recently forced to resign in disgrace partly because he himself was suspected of corrupt practises and partly because he tol-evated scraft in his own decoartment. practises and party because he fol-erated graft in his own department. His successor was the hereditary Prince Ernest of Hohentohe, who is a man of royal rank, closely related both to the kalser and to other Euro-pean sovereigns. He was supposed to have sufficient authority to put down the abues in the control offer with the abuses in the colonial office with a firm hand. After six months Prince Ernest of Hohenlohe was asked to resign because his administration had been a total failure. In despair the kaiser appointed Herr Deruburg to the test

Dernburg to the post. The selection of a business man indicates that the German emperor favors American rather than English methods of ad-ministration ministration

RUDOLPH VON ELPBERG.

# LORD SUFFOLK'S DELICATE HEIR CAUSES ANXIETY.

Special Correspondence.

ONDON, Dec. 5 .- Mrs. Leiter's small grandson, Lord Andover,

the little boy of Lord and Lady Suffolk, Is at last showing less signs of being marked out for the special favor of the gods by an early exit from the vale of tcars. He has caused his adoring grandmother and his parents the greatest anxiety over since his birth; but the bracing air around Tulloch castle, in Scotland, Is making him thrive. For weeks his wee lordship was kept in an incubator as was Lily' Duchess of Marlborough's boy, who has now outgrown his deli-

I am told Mrs. Leiter's own health is worrying her family. Since the death of Lady Curzon she has shown signs of breaking up and that is why all her daughters and sons-in-law have mus-tered around her in such force. However much this remarkable woman may be lacking in what passes muster as culture in these days, she has an ex-traordinary power over every member of her family and even her sons-in-law, highly polished representatives of

all highly pollshed representatives of the British aristocracy, have a high re-gard for her and her inituence with them-even with that most difficult man, Lord Curzon-is remarkable. Mrs. Leiter has five of the finest mo-tors in Scotland, two of which have only just arrived from Paris. Lord Curzon has been telling a friend that motoring is a panacea for grief. He no doubt learned this from Queen Mar-gherita of Italy, who has said that the only solace she has realized since the tragic death of her husband has been in her motor car. Lord Curzon while at Tulloch casile used to motor S0 for 100 miles a day slone with the chauf-feur: I hear his little giris are to stay with their grandmother for the present. at rulicen castle used to motor so to 100 miles a day alone with the chauf-four: I hear his little girls are to stay with their grandmother for the present. Someone who recently saw the eldest says she is the fac-simile of her moth-er. The trio make a pathetic sight in their white frocks tied up with black without

ribbon.

land, I don't know, met Mr. Astor for the first the take him for an American. I the him for an American. I the and formal. Yet these

il up, poured the contents in the princess' plate instead of giam. The royal lady isugh naturedly and slad, "You ran

love, Mr. Astor."



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