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DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1904.



this so keenly, why does he not abdibrought Ireland to the verge of revo-(Written for the Deseret News.)

Noted Britisher Describes the Ruler of all the Russias Who Generously Says

America and England but is flandicapped by a Clique.

He "Would Not Inflict His Position on His Worst Enemy"-A Victim of a

System, he Finds Himself Powerless to do the Good he Desires-Likes

(ICHOLAS THE SECOND, Isar of of contradictions. In the fam-

ous law suit about the Free Church of-Scotland, Mr. Haldane bothered the behates, and pursue is policy most re-judges no little by his constant use purpoint to his temperament, so he of the blessed word anthomy, when referring to the mustery in which was the administration of an inhumane sys. wrapped the reconciliation between the | tem doctrines of predestination and free will. At last one of the judges begged the learned counsel to explain, in plain English, what he meant by autinomy Whereupon Mr. Haidane replied that It meant an apparent contradiction.

The tear is a crewned and anointed

He is the sworn champlon of universal peace, and yet he wages a sanguinary war.

He is one of the most humanitarian of men, yet he is tradipling on Finland, and his ministers, with his approval. or at least without bis interferen or at teast without ris interpretere, his oppressing Armenians, Jews, and hearly all the other races within his dominions. What can we make of him? Is he a man or a monster? is he the leader in

the van of progress, or is he a tyrant who is the representative of the forevs of reaction?

People decide according to their pre-dilections, thinking the worst or the best of him as their prejudice and their temperament rather than their judgment advises. But it is impossible to explain him by any one formula, unless it be that of a crowned and conseerated antinomy.

The writer who recently painted him In the blackest colors in the Quarteriy Review, may be taken as an exponent of those who think the worst of him. It has been my lot to think the best of him, and to hope the most. The truth, as usual, lies between the two extremes, Nothing can ever make me believe that the genial kindly, sympathetic man who received me at Livadia and at Tsarskoe Selo has the instincts of a despot. That he is a good hearted man, who wishes sincerely to do tight. I have no more doubt than I have of my own existence. That he is an intelligent and well informed man, I know from personal conversation

I interviewed his fathar, I have met ment of the leading propie of the world, and I have met few who were more keenly alive than Nicholas II to the events of their time or better informed about men and affairs. It is not infor-mation that is lacking, nor good will nor a kindly sympathy with human suffering. That he is a charming and sympathetic human being, a man of all the domestic virtues, devoted to his wife, and never so happy as when his wife, and never so happy as when he is with his children, everyone knows who has been privileged to meet him in his own home. And yet it is impos-sthic to deny the fact that his reign has been characterized by acts of impolicy and of repression which to the outsider seem to be as lunatic from the point of view of the statement as they are he view of the statesman as they are in-defensible from that of the moralist. What is the explanation of this paradox? the A VICTIM OF A SYSTEM. The explanation is probably to be sought in the hopeless incongruity that exists between the man and the situation. He would do good, but the evil is present with him. The phenomenon is not so unfamiliar as to be Incomprehensible For instance, the tsar is in the po sition occupied by every Liberal Brit-ish minister who resorts to coercion in Ireland. When I think of him I cannot prevent myself recalling tha memory of the wonderful Mr. Forster. But when he was confronted with the Land League Agitation, he became ekshor Forster," who crammed the English prisons with untried men and

What English Liberals are when they all the Russias, like the rest govern Ireland under coercion, that is government in Russia. He has not the saving grace of liberty to save him from perdition. He has to do the things stumbles on from bad to worse. He is a humane man charged with

He is an honest man at the head of yast bureaucracy honeycombed with

He is an intelligent man, who is the

A HUMANE MAN-IN INHUMAN SYSTEM,

UNHAPPY NICHOLAS II. Czar. of All The Russias, Who Confesses Himself the Victim of a "System."

sovereign of an empire steeped in ig- | ism, and the results of The Hague con-To crown everything else, he is a ference stand to his credit against all the errors and crimes of his internal religious man, who is profoundly con-vinced that the domination assumed administration. But in internal affairs

EMPRESS DOWAGER OF RUSSIA.

Been Remarkable,



he had in him the demoniac energy | No one doubts that the tsar would of Peter the Great, or even the reso-lute courage of the mikado, he might of divine providence the burden of em-

GRAND DU KE MICHAEL.

have averted many of the worst evils pire could be lifted from his shoulders, which are overtaking him. But he and he could lead the simple life of a

tear may do hadly, but who is there

among the grand dukes who would not be immensurably worse?

blomed him for not evacuating Man cate? Russians, however, like Britons. churla, but, as a matter of fact, the have a constitutional horror of run-ning away. The tear may feel that he is anyone dreamed of. is a hopeless position, but the idea o

HE REDUCED THE ARMY,

describing his post never crosses his mind Was he not consecrated and anointed, did he not solemny swear be-The Russians were not asked to evecinte Port Arthur. They had a treaty right to mulntain a garrison along the raliway to defend it from attacks. But fore God to reign over his people? Ab-dictation would be cowardice and trea-sen, not to be thought of under any raliway to defend it from attacks. But when the war broke out, it was dis-covered that the isar had reduced the garrison below the permitted minimum, Vereschagin found to his amazement, when he arrived at the front that the Russians had only 6,000 men in Port Arthur, and not more than 12,000 instead of the 60,009 needed for the railway in the whole of Manchuria. The twar was circumstances. Besides, is there, even among his worst detractors, one who will assert that his disappearance from the throne would mend matters? The the whole of Manchuria. The tear was misled exactly as Lord Salisbury was

misicd by the men on the spot. Admiral Alexieff, like Mr. Rhodes with regard to the Boers, was certain the Japanese were only building. The tsar allowed the negotiations to drag on just as Lord Salsibury did, and in both cases the other side lost patience and precipitated the war.

Once the war began no one but the Stop the War party in England, and the Tolstoyans in Russia, could have been expected to advocate policy of submission to the invader That the tear took the course follows by the whole front opposition bench in the case of the South African wor may be deplored, but it can hardly be dered at. And once they are embarked upon a war, men naturally urge their own side to do its best-peace apostics

The tsar is not a Hercules, either physically or intellectually. Even a Hercules might sink appalled from the task of cleansing the Augean stables of the Russian administration. In this country the comparatively trivial task of reorganizing the army in a time of of reorganizing the army in a time of profound peace seems to overstrain the resources of our ministry. Yet that is a child's play compared with the work that needs to be done in Russia. Not even Peter the Great could overcom-the vis inertia of his Muscovites, and Nicholus the Second is not a Peter. Nicholas the Second is not a Peter.

AMERICA.

Whatever may be said to the discredit of the tsar, Englishmen have at least good cause to be grateful to him for the uniform opposition which he has offered since his accession to all the ef-forts made to embroil Russian in war with this empire. During the South African war, although the tsar personally regarded the conquest of the republics just as everyone else did out-side our frontiers, he resolutely refused to allow any advantage to be taken of our difficulties. A very angry feeling prevailed among some influential Russians at the refusal of the tsar to make trouble for England in those days but he loyally stood by his pledged neutrality.

At the beginning of this war with Ja-pan he had his work cut out for him in restraining his Jingoes from precipitating war with England. During the negotiations occasioned by the seizure of British ships, he was uniformly rea-sonable, peaceable and moderate. He was devoted to Queen Victoria, he is much attached to the Prince of Wales, and he has always used his personal influence to maintain good relations with Grass, Detains

with Great Britain. He is indeed re-

of English newspapers and magazines.

ROYAL PERSONAGES IN WHOSE HANDS REPOSES THE FATE OF ONE OF EARTH'S MIGHTIEST EMPIRES.



though they b

FRIEND TO GREAT BRITAIN AND

European over the Asiatic is viction that he has in him the caharmful to both, and yet he is waging pacity for heroic resolution a war which can only be justified on the theory that that domination is just and beneficial. Never was there any That which tells against him worst in the general estimation is his deplorable man in so false a position. Small won-der if he should cry out with the Apos-

equiescence in the policy of repression a Finland. No one saw more clearly than the tsar the folly of that fats tle, "Oh, miserable man that I am, who departure from the long established policy of his dynasty. He did not like it. He disliked it cordially. He saw shall deliver me from the body of this death?" He is a crowned Hamlet. He disliked it cordially. "The time is out of joint, O cursed only too clearly how hopelessly Bobrioff's polley in Finland compromised That ever I was born to put it right." his policy at The Hague. Yet he could not nerve himself to reverse it. And as it was in Finland, so it has been else ALTOGETHER OUT OF HIS ELE. where. This modern man with his head The natural result follows. He does

full of kindly sympathy has allowed not put it right. He made an heroic ef- himself to be dragged along the dreary fort to stem the millstream of militar- road of repression and retrogression.

he has falled to impress anyone with

MENT.

About Some Sieges Ancient and Modern.

manner manner manner manner manner manner manner the

undertakings on which troops can The employed; one in which the prize can only be gained by complete victory, and where failure is usually attended with severe loss or dire disas-

Success or failure at a slege frequently decides the fate of a campaign. sometimes of an army, and has more than once decided that of a state. The dearest interests of a country are frequently staked on the sure and speedy reduction of a fortress; therefore sleges should be carried on by a due union of science, labor and force, if they are to he rendered not only short but certain and little costly to men. A slege scientifically prosecuted, though it calls for the greatest personal bravery, the greatest exertion and extraordinary labor in all employed, is beautifully certain in its progress and result.

It is sometimes said that fortresses exercise a baleful attraction over armies, meaning that strategical are subordinate to political considerations in holding or containing them. This theory was much in evidence after the Franço-Prussian war, in which it was held that the French had fritted away their chances by clinging to fortrosses, only to capitulate them after short sieges. However, so eminent an authority as Sir George Sydenham Clark has disposed of this muchlevous sup-position by pointing out how but for the fortresses in France the German armies would have swept the country clear of all organized bodies of troops within two months of the frontier bat-1108

GREAT VALUE OF PORT ARTHUR.

Those who hold that the Russians have been in error in inviting the slege of Port Arthur and that their proper strategy would have been to retire at once to join forces with Kuropatkin should digest Sir George Clarke's teach-ing. Whatever its fate, Port Arthur has well and nobly served the Bussian

Science has ever played such a prominent role in this branch of warfare and at the present juncture it is interesting to recall the store of its prog-ress as revealed by furnous sieges, and this without mixing it up with such a vast subject as the history of fortifica-tion. According to Voltaire the first tion. use of artillery in sie-- occurred at Romorantin in 1356, but if Edward III employed guns at Creey (a point which has been much debated) it may safely be affirmed that he used them at the slege of Calais in 1347.

However, the guns of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries were of the !

siege is one of the most arduous | any serious damage on stoutly built fortresses. Thereupon, the next step was the invention of an explosive pro-jectile, to wit, the bomb, and also of a special short cannon, the mortar, to

discharge the former vertically. Bombs are said to have been invented in 1495 by a man at Venlo, but for more than 100 years they were only sparingly used in the Dutch and Eng-lish armies alone. In 1543 mortars for bombshells were cast at Buckstead. Sussex, and at the same period two of Henry VIII's "feedmen," namely, Peter Baud, a Frenchman born, and another alien, Peter Van Collen, invented a hol-low castiron shot, "stuffed with wildand set with fire-kiniders. Mr. Malter, an English engineer, first taught the French the art of throwing bombs from mortars, which was first practised on a large scale at the slege of Motte in 1634.

VAUBAN'S GREAT DISCOVERY.

Before the time of Vauban the super fority was on the side of the defense, but his genius so completely reversed the case that the success of an attack, conducted scientifically and with adequate means, has been until the present time a matter of certainty. As the in- | ventor of parallels in seiges, he discov-ered and perfected the irresistible system of attack which has ever been so successfully followed.

Vauban, again, was the father of the art of mining, which he employed with tremendous effect in both the attack and defense of fortresses. The best defense ever drawn from counter mines was that of the cidatel of Tourney. hich he called his masterple All the works belonging to this cidatel were undermined. After the allies had with the utmost difficulty made themselves masters of the outer works the French exploded the mines nd frequently blew up hundreds, if not housands, of the besiegers at a blast. The method of throwing red hot balls was first practised with certainty at the seige of Straisund in 1715 and proved a highly effective weapon against ships till a comparatively re-Probably the last occu ent date. m which red-hot shot was used was at the bombardment of Sebastopol by the atlied fleet on Oct. 17, 1854. The Rus-siana replied with it, and considerable oss was sustained by the British ves-

Ricochet fire was an important branch of slege artillery practice before the perfection of fuses, in which the guns, being loaded with a small charge. and pointed at an elevation rarely ex-ceeding 10 degrees, the round shot was so projected as merely to clear the parapet, whence it bounded along the ramparts, destroying the carriages of the guns and causing a great loss of life to the defenders. Vauban first invented the mode of firing ricochet shots. and experimented with it at the seige of Arth in 1679. It was served in 1723 rudest make and powerless to inflict at the military school of Strasburg, and ent resources of the besiegers, and part- house." F. J. Hill Drug Co.

And

The seige of Schweidnitz by the Russians in 1762 is memorable for the progress it displayed in mining. A French engineer, Le Febre, acted for the beslegers and "sprang blobes of com-pression"-tightly packed mines, con-taining a higher explosive than had been previously used. In 1794 the fortress of Bommel withstood a long siege, thanks to its skilfully planned covered ways. The latter were first described by Tartagia, the Italian en-gineer, in 1554, and adopted by Vauban in his first system, but this defense proved their apotheosis.

The covered way meets the necessity of being able to assemble under cover from the enemy's fire the troops in-tended for a sortie, and to afford them, when repulsed, a place for reforming and checking the enemy's progress. It is a space of 10 yords in breadth, ex-tending all around the work, between the edge of the counterscarp of the ditch and the parapet which covers it. SHRAPNEL THE GREATEST IN-VENTION.

The invention of General Shrapnel still ranks as the greatest artillery dis-covery of modern times. While present at the slege of Gibraltar in 1783 Lieut. Shrapnel realized that the effect of round shot and case or grape against troops in the field was trivial except at short range. He therefore set to work to increase the range of the more The invention of General Shrapnel work to increase the range of the more effective projectile, namely, grape or case, by producing a collected fire at long distances, and invented a shell fill-ed with carbine balls and containing a

small quantity of gunpowder, only sufficient to open 11, at a short distance previous to its execution, by which means the fire would be equally severa at all distances. Shrapnel was first fired at the bomardment of Fort Amsterdam, Surinam, n April, 1804, and had so excellent an

effect as to cause the garrison to sur render after receiving the second shell. The enemy was so astonished at the weapon as not to be able to account for how he apparently suffered from musketry at so great a distance as 2,050 yards. The action of Shrapnel was unknown outside England until 1834

The peninsula sieges form a distinctive group and deserve special notice on coount of the numerous instances of assault and esclade which they present. Assault of the breach and esclade were most unknown in the earlier sleges. Vauban's influence had made the at-tack and defense of fortresses a game of chess, so to speak.

SIEGES NOT SHORTENED.

For example, his idea that the sysematic occupation of a breach justified capitulation in advance was religi-ously observed. This and other rules were defied by the British and French in the peninsula, where, owing to the bad condition in which the fortresses were maintained by the Spaniards, per-manent fortifications could not be expected to show the advantage. Never-theless partly on account of the differ-

close the Russians opposed 952 guns in the first line to about 800 of the allies. The defenders usurped the recognized prerogative of the bealegers as regards trench work, even taking up new ground, and commencing such an important work as the Mamelon six months after the siege had begun. Only one of the works in the main line-namely, the Malakoff, a fort of medi-eval design-was ever taken. However, the length of Sebastopol's resistance was also due to the fact that the re-

sources of the allied army did not suffice for its investment and therefore the Russians could introduce at their pleasme re-enforcements of men, provisions and materials.



Cr interest to Mothers. Thousands of little ones die cvery year of croup. Most of them could have been saved by a few doses of Foley's Honey and Tar, and every fainify with childron should keep it in the house. It contains no opiates and is safe and sure. Mrs. George H. Picket, San Francisco, Cal., writes: "My baby had a dangerous ai-tack of the croup and we thought she would choke to death, but one dose of Foley's Honey and Tar releved her at one after other remedies had failed. We are never a minute without it in the house." F. J. Hill Drug Co.

are overtaking him. But hi was not built on these lines. His inrate modesty and the painful sense of being altogether out of his element In administering a system with which he was out of harmony held him back from taking the steps which his own inclination prompted. It is deplorable. But do not let anyone underrate the cruel difficulties of the situation.

Never can I forget the pathetic earn-extness with which the tsar in replying some observation of mine as to the difficulty which he must experience, he being a modern man in the midst of mediaevalism-"Difficult! No one knows how difficult! I would not inflict my position upon my worst enemy

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country gentleman with wife and bairns for the rost of his days. But nothing short of a divine decree could justify garded as something of an Anglo-phil. He always speaks English with his wife. The children are brought up to his retirement. Where he is, there he must remain. For him there can be no speak our language as their mother tongue. The tsar is a diligent reader retreat. His attitude in relation to the war

And this may be said also to apply to with Japan ought to be easily under-stood by Englishmen who within the America. In all the world there is not at this last few years saw the president of moment a more pathetic and tragic figure than that of the Russian tsar. our Peace society declare in favor of carrying on the war with the Boers. The tsar was absolutely opposed to the driven by an apparent irresistible des tiny to sanction policies which he abwar. He believed that peace was alhors and to wage wars which even if successful will only increase the wellmost assured He gave sufficient proof of the sincerity of his belief in that he had withdrawn almost the whole of nigh intolerable weight of his imperial NO ABDICATION POSSIBLE. the Russian army from Manchuria. It may be said that if the tsar feels .People who knew nothing of the facts

burden. (British rights reserved.)

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by reason of the vigorous defense made by the French, the sieges equaled those of the preceding century in aver-age duration. The French proved that If a breach is well entrenched and pro-vided with obstacles "no conceivable superiority of courage can counterbalance such advantages," to quote Sir

G. Clarke Of 12 assaults 5 were successful, and of 12 attempts to esclade 6 were crowned with victory. Of the latter the most brilliant examples were the castle and St. Vincente bastion, Badajoz, where the efforts of British troops set all calculations at defiance. Sebastopol was the triumph of the soldiers' fortification as opposed to that of the theorist. On the south side, to begin with, there were practically no permanent land defenses save loopholed valls, barricades and a few batteries. All these, however, were developed into a vast system of earthworks.

HOLDS OUT 349 DAYS.

The siege lasted 349 days and at its



