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By MAURICE HEWLETT.

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NEW BOOKS.

Brief Reviews of Important and Interesting New Publications.

The historical novelist who wishes to supply his story with a plenty of vigorous occurrences could hardly do better than to turn himself to Peter the Great, who is a figure of striking originality. In "The Son of the Czar," by James Graham (Frederick A. Stokes Company), there is much to compel the attention and to stir the blood. The Crown Prince Alexis, as he is shown here, will suggest himself to no reader as being anywhere near a "big" man as his father. Few of his time, perhaps, were so considerable in their activities and their accomplishments as Peter. Every body knows how interested he was in shipbuilding, and how rude he was in England, and how considerate he was of the poor young officer who had brought black bread in his pocket, merely tied up in his handkerchief, to serve for luncheon. The war works, too, have familiarized a great many persons with Peter's habit of having offenders brought before him at dinner time and beheaded right there in the dining room. Peter's contemporary and foremost enemy, the Swedish king Charles, was by no means an inert monarch. He used to drench his clothes with perspiration and to change the same several times in the course of an evening of dancing, and this, it is to be remembered, was the merest pastime with him. There was Augustus the Strong of Saxony, too, a monarch who, as a young man, was the father of seven times as many children as history ascribes to King Priam of Troy, a noted father in his day. These were monarchs of interest, and there were more besides; and Peter, to say the least, was great among them, and some of the reasons of his greatness are very impressive. The full knowledge of detail shown by the writer, and his work as stirring as the most daring novel and a "re-creation" of the railroad man." - The Nation.

for this." It seems a pity that Paul Feodoroff should have been obliged to put an end, with torture, to his sister, Euphrosyne. No doubt she deserved to suffer, for she had conspired to bring about the death of Alexis; but nowadays there are limitations to the services in political loyalty that are expected of a brother, and the tragic work of Paul upon his sister quite overthrows the modern sympathy and understanding. Paul compels his sister to take a sleeping draught, and then sees to it that she is buried alive. Some hours after burial her body is recovered. Here is the continuation of the account: The woman's body lay partially sideways. What could be seen of the face was of an emerald black; perhaps, the color of the shroud was heavy with blood. Euphrosyne had not been dead more than six hours. She had awakened at the appointed time from the effects of the draught, had awakened, as warned by her relentless brother, knowing where she was. And in the agony of unutterable despair, had tossed about in her narrow bed and sunk her teeth in her arm, and gnaws the flesh to the bone, and died at last of suffocation. Surely horror enough, and an episode to make us thankful that the times of the great Czar are done with.

"The Man Who Outlived Himself," by Albin W. Tourgeé (Fords, Howard & Hubert), we have the story of a defamee and weak gambler, according to what we have heard of him, a great deal of accepted and admirable fiction, and it may be according to experience and reason, a gambler should be a self-contained person, as cool as ice and as trustworthy and inevitable as the deliberate event of Niagara or the law of gravitation. A good deal is necessary to him in order that he may be able to excuse himself. His first duty, to himself and to those dependent upon him, is that he should not lose his head; and whenever he does lose it we are constrained to think that he ceases from his high distinction as a gambler in the accepted and proper form, and sinks to the level of the ordinary run of us. Of course, at the culminating moment of probation, when the chances have been quite exhausted, and when, in the strong phrase of his kind, he is unreluctably and finally "on his uppers," he may shoot himself, since his last card is played, and a gambler without cards is an inconceivable, illogical and intolerable. But it is contrary to his own interests, and it cannot be said to be a professional recommendation of him, when he does this thing prematurely; and the trouble with the man who outlived himself, professionally considered, is that he lost his self-control at the very moment when fortune was turning his way. Perhaps not everybody would call him a gambler, but he was concerned vitally with what are called "margins," and he had certainly all of the gambler's onus for excitement and all of the gambler's professional of a cool manner. It is to be said, in extenuation of him, however, that he had been entirely proficient in the business in which he was engaged he was never failed to afford occasion for Mr. Tourgeé's story; and that is a contingency which it is not pleasant to contemplate. By losing his mind at the moment when his "margins" began to be have themselves properly, and to roll up for him the fortune that was expected of them, and by recovering it again at the end of twelve years, he was enabled to receive the impressions of an unusual experience. The electric lights, the cable cars, the asphalt roadways, and the fashion of displaying tulips, hyacinths, pansies and water lilies in the public squares had all come to pass during the interval of his mental darkness, and they burst upon him in their perfection, free of the accompanying and modifying sense of slow and ugly preliminaries. He had some doubts as to whether it would be a kindness to his wife and daughter to show himself to them at the end of a period of twelve years, during which, as he believed, they had supposed him to be dead, but the conclusion of the story dispels these doubts very happily. The man who outlived himself is made to say on page 39: "I felt my brain reel, and wondered if reason would again be shaken from my throne." Some readers, impatient of the old and well-established forms of literary expression, will be sure to object to this, but the faithful will welcome it and give it justification. "Foot Joke" and "The Grave of Tante Angélique" are two other stories from Judge Tourgeé's pen that go to make up an entertaining volume.

The Century Company has completed its reference library, which began with the Century Dictionary and continued with the Century Cyclopedia of Names, with the Century Atlas.

Arrivals at Newport. Newport, R. I., May 27.—The Marquis and Marquise de Meriville arrived here today and will spend the summer at their villa on Kay street. The Marquis was formerly Miss Caldwell.

New Publications.

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WAR NUMBER

McClure's Magazine

For JUNE, 1898

The Fighting Leaders

By L. A. Coolidge

Character sketches, anecdotes and portraits of notable men in the army and navy, such as Admiral Dewey, Admiral Sampson, Captain Evans, General Wheeler, General Miles, and others. Many Portraits.

When Johnny Went Marching Out

By W. A. White

Home scenes. Leaving for the war. A moving, stirring poem in prose. Illustrations by Orson Lowell.

In the Field with Gomez

By Grover Flint

Mr. Flint was with Gomez several months and gives a vivid character sketch of the old Cuban leader. Illustrated from Sketches made in Gomez's Camp.

General Nelson A. Miles

The first of three articles containing the General's impressions of Foreign Armies and Leaders as he saw them during his tour of Europe last year. Fully Illustrated.

The Cost of War

By George B. Waldron

A picturesque presentation of statistics, showing what wars have cost in lives and money.

Hymn: In the Time of War and Tumults

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EASTMAN CLAIMS INNOCENCE.

District Attorney Marcan Says Other Indictments Are Likely to Follow.

Comptroller Coler visited District Attorney Marcan yesterday and had a long conference regarding the indictment against Edward Eastman, the clerk in the Department of Water Supply in Brooklyn, who was arrested on Thursday, charged with grand larceny. Mr. Marcan declined to discuss the case after, except to say that it was likely that other indictments would be found in the case.

Edward Eastman appeared at his desk in the municipal building yesterday morning and performed his work as if nothing had happened. He reiterated to his associates his declaration of innocence, and said that when the