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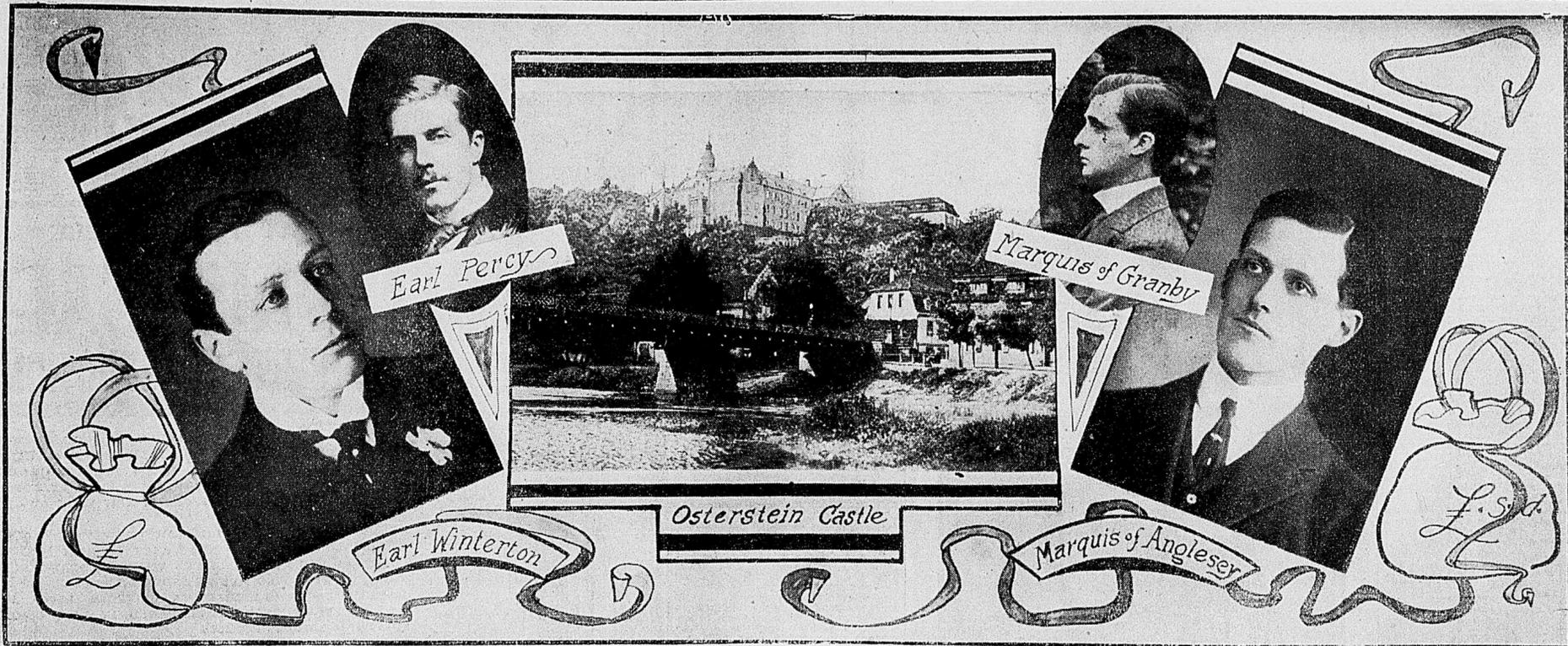
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PART TWO

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FIFTY-EIGHTH YEAR

The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.



Famous Mad Princes Who May Soon Cease to Reign

Special Correspondence.
LEIPSIK, Nov. 13.—Although insanity frequently has been the lot of royalty, very remarkable features distinguish the case of the ruling dynasties of the two principalities of Reuss, the picturesque German states tucked away in a corner of the Kaiser's empire. For the country has been ruled for generations by princes about whose mental state the most charitable thing that can be said is that it was unbalanced. Many of them have been famous the world over for their eccentricities and several of them have developed into open madmen.

The attention of the outside world was drawn to these little states lately by the marriage of the self-appointed "czar," Ferdinand of Bulgaria, at Osterstein castle, the residence of the reigning family, to the sister of Prince Henry XXIV. But for some time previous to that event, and since the German people have been discussing the world over the mental state of mind of the princes is the cause of a more than usual middle condition of affairs. The first ruler of the Reuss family, the late Prince Henry XIV, but recently, in his seventy-seventh year, he was compelled to leave his capital because of a ridiculous love affair with a young actress (whom he once married), and he since has been declared "mentally irresponsible." The real ruler in his absence is his son, Prince Henry XXVII, who is as unpopular as his father was popular with the people over whom he rules. Unfortunately for the regent and the hopes of his race, he is in poor health, and moreover, there is the inevitable taint of insanity, which seems to have pursued his line like a veritable Nemesis. In his family, his heir and son is a hopeless lunatic and one of his daughters is mentally and physically paralyzed.

TOY KINGDOM.
 Reuss' only claim, almost, to the attention of the world for many years has been this affliction of the members of its ruling family. The two principalities together, forming part of that complex of small German states known by the common name of Thuringia, are not more than one-third the size of the state of Rhode Island. Translated into figures, their area covers less than 450 square miles. Were its rulers normally constituted, there would be no reason for the world at large outside of the numerous American and German textile manufacturers who are in the habit of buying their raw material from Gera, Greiz, Zeulenroda, and Triebes to take the slightest interest in the "Reussen" and their toy country.

PERPLEXING HISTORY.
 The two principalities have a history full of curves and zigzags. Originally they were a loose bundle of two dozen small "Grafschaften," or counties. They were then united; they were torn asunder again and patched together anew; until in 1663 the final division between an "elder" and a "younger line" of the ancient principality took place.

Ever since this division the male members of both branches have adopted the perplexing custom of bearing the name "Heinrich," the individual being distinguished by numerals. In the older line the enumeration begins again when the number 100 is reached while in the younger house it opens and closes with the century. A number of German princely houses favor the use of a few Christian names, as, for instance, the Hohenzollerns, where the names Frederick, William and Henry frequently recur; but the Reuss mode of numbering their male offspring like many cattle is absolutely unique. To the specialist of German history and to the learned profession of heraldry,

Riches, Titles and Honors for American Girls Who Win These Noble British Bachelors.

Members of the Aristocracy with Money Enough to Place Them Above Suspicion of Fortune Hunting, and Titles Exalted Enough to Admit Them to Circle of Royalty, Who Await the Coming of Conquering Fair Ones.

Special Correspondence.
LONDON, Nov. 12.—It was not because of any lack of old-fashioned peers or peers-to-be in the British matrimonial market that Gladys Vanderbilt married a Hungarian nobleman, and Anna Gould said "yes" to a French prince. Considered either socially, financially, or personally there are better aristocratic fish to be caught here than any of the American heiresses have yet succeeded in hooking and landing.

With an unsympathetic Congress brandishing a big stick over the heads of rich and ambitious American girls in the shape of a bill imposing a heavy tax on the money they may exchange for titles, the suggestion may be made that there is occasion for at least a mild nudge among those who may desire to become peeresses. It is for the benefit of them and their match-making mothers that the following up-to-date abbreviated "who's who" of the most desirable of noble British bachelors has been prepared. There have been such lists before, no doubt, but this catalogue is amended to date, and supersedes all others. Most of the men included in the list are rich enough to be placed above the suspicion of fortune hunting, and all of them possess titles so exalted that their wives will have no difficulty in penetrating to the holy of holies of British society, that charmed circle of royalty which is to be enjoyed the ineffable felicity of hob-nobbing with the king and queen.

DESTINED TO BE A DUCHESS.
 The American girl who chooses for her husband the Marquis of Granby, and wins him, will in all probability some day be a duchess. For John Henry Montagu Manners is the heir of the Duke of Rutland. She will have to go to Oxford to find this scion of a great family, for he is still an undergraduate and occupies one of the finest rooms in the great court of the oldest university in the world. A few weeks ago his family celebrated his coming of age in Fourth of July style, with fireworks and feasting.

The marquis will eventually have 62,000 acres, which bring in about \$3,000 a year. One of his greatest possessions when he succeeds to the dukedom, will be Haddon Hall, famous the world over as the scene of Dorothy Vernon's love affair with Sir John Manners, the second son of the first Earl of Rutland. Another property will be Belvoir castle, one of the finest country seats in England, which dates back to the restoration. Today it contains a very fine art collection with over 500 examples of Reynolds, Gainsborough, Romney, Lily and Lawrence. Personally the marquis is a quiet, unassuming young man, clever and cultivated. He inherits from his mother an aptitude for drawing. He is handsome, with fine, delicate, clear-cut features and is very popular among his classmates at college.

ANOTHER "FAT CATCH."
 Earl Percy, heir of the Duke of Northumberland, although 37 years of age, is still considered one of the most desirable "eligibles" in English society. In worldly expectations he would be a fat "catch" even for the daughter of an American "millionaire." The Duke of Northumberland, whom he will succeed, is the largest landowner in England. His possessions in the county from which he takes his name extend from sea to sea and it is said that he can ride 100 miles in a straight line without crossing the borders of his estate. However that may be he has upwards of 200,000 acres.

The family is one of the oldest and proudest in England. Earl Percy's mother, the present duchess, shares with the Duchess of Buccleugh the reputation of being the most exclusive society hostess in the land. Intrusions into her entertainments at her house in Grosvenor Place, London, are highly prized, and are said to have been

signified in vain, upon occasions, by royalty itself.

EXEMPLARY AND BRILLIANT.
 The general idea of a duke's son is a rare young rake who goes the pace with the swiftest. This would hardly serve as a description of the earl. As a matter of fact, he is a very sober minded and exemplary bachelor. He has a brilliant career at Oxford to look back upon. There he won several prizes for English verse, and since his graduation he has butted into the realm of literature as an author of no mean merit. Earl Percy has political as well as literary aspirations. And what is more important, he has political promise. He is one of the most brilliant of the younger members of the house of commons, for although he bears the title of duke, it is only in his capacity as the son of a duke. Dukes have so many superfluous honors that they are permitted to bestow some of them on their sons. So Earl Percy sits in the house of commons, instead of in the higher house, until he succeeds his father. And the house of commons is genuinely glad of it. If he does not go far, it will not be through a lack of ability, for he has an overflowing intellect. He is a man of great force of personal magnetism, in which he is sadly wanting. He has already held office, for under the Balfour ministry he was, first, under-secretary for India, and later, under-secretary of foreign affairs.

GREAT SPENDTHRIFT.
 It is to be sincerely hoped that the present Marquis of Anglesey will resemble his predecessor only in name. For the latter was one of the greatest spendthrifts in the world. He spent a princely fortune in a few years of wild extravagance that started and at the same time amused the world. The present Marquis of Anglesey, at three years old, tall and handsome, and he is known that several anxious English "mamas," with marriageable daughters on their hands, are already angling for him.—He has, but twenty acres to his name, a mere deer park when compared with some of the larger English estates. This lucky young man, when he reaches the age of twenty-five, will have an income of no less than \$550,000 a year to do with as he will.

Rank and riches came to him in a dramatic and unexpected way, for although he was the heir of his cousin, the late marquis, the latter died unexpectedly. The present holder of the title went to bed one evening in 1903 plain Charles Henry Alexander Paget, a comparatively poor boy. The following morning he woke up the sixth Marquis of Anglesey, wealthy beyond the dreams of most men.

KNOWN AS "IMPUDENT PUPPY."
 The girl who gets Earl Winterton will secure a husband who is expected to go a long way in politics. Although he is only 25 years of age, at the time of his election to the house of commons four years ago, was the youngest member of that body, he has already forced himself into the public limelight more than once. Since a certain memorable occasion not many months ago he has been known as the "Impudent Puppy" of the house, an excitable Irish member so describing him in the heat of debate. Earl Winterton is absolutely irrepressible and if, when he is married, he talks as much at home as he does in the house, his wife will have to have an unusually long tongue to get a word in edgewise. Remarkable is the day in the house when this young Irish peer does not speak half-a-dozen times. It is fortunate for Earl Winterton that the peerage to which he has just succeeded is an Irish one. That enables him to retain his seat in the house of commons where a man has much greater opportunities to attain political distinction than in the somewhat atmosphere of the hereditary chamber. Only 30 Irish peers sit in the house of lords and they are elected by their fellow member of the Irish peerage.

TAKES HIMSELF SERIOUSLY.
 Earl Winterton stands 5 feet 3 inches in his stocking feet and makes himself and his political work very, very seri-

Strange Story of a Serf Who Became Valet to an Emperor

Special Correspondence.
ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 10.—Full as Russian history is of romance, of drummer-boys who rise, at a bound, to be rulers of provinces as large as France; of cigarette-vendors who die ministers; of cooks who are made university professors; and of career girls who become queens, the career of Alexis Lomoff impresses even Russians with its rapid change and its sordid ending. First a humble servant in the imperial palace, then a favorite of the czar, Alexander II, he became a beggar—such is the life-story told to the police who arrested him for asking alms in the streets of St. Petersburg—and what is more—found to be true.

Alexis Lomoff began life in a characteristically miserable village where the inhabitants live on black bread for one part of the year and on roots during the other. Being a handy sort of boy, however, the administrator of the neighboring palace, which formed part of the imperial domain, took him as a servant. He remained for some years there when at last the czar, then Alexander II, visited it for shooting. Lomoff attracted his attention by his bright eyes and deft manner, and when the visit was over, he followed in the emperor's suite to the capital. For some time it seemed as though the young peasant had been quite forgotten by his royal master, for he was set to sweep and dust in some parts of the palace that, as far as any notice of the emperor took of them, was as far removed from the imperial family as Lomoff's native village. One day, however, chance threw him into the emperor's way. It was walking down one of the corridors when his foot slipped and he would have fallen had not Lomoff, who had been sent on a message, one courtier to the other, caught his arm and prevented the fall. Alexander II, who happened to be alone, looked keenly at him.

RECOGNIZED BY THE CZAR.
 "Where have I seen thee before?" he asked, for his memory for faces was said to be marvellous. "At Xmas, your majesty," Lomoff answered, "I was a serf of the emperor's." "Your Most Brilliant and Imperial Highness," deigned to take me into your service?" "And why, then, do I never see thee?" the emperor asked, probably again attracted by the bright young face and ready answer. "Where do you serve now?" "I am a valet," Lomoff answered. "The boy mentioned the name of the courtier and was told to leave him and go immediately to the imperial apartments."

This was not all. Alexander's personal valet, who had been under a cloud for some time, was dismissed at once and replaced by Alexis Lomoff. He remained in this dangerous, though envied, place for over 20 years. Such a man's fortune is made. Few boys have had any connection with the imperial palace, can greet at the number of applicants who present themselves to his personal valet and pay large sums of money to come into his service. Lomoff, however, Alexis Lomoff did not waste his opportunities. The czar, always inclined to talk to him, soon made him his confidant. Lomoff knew what was going to happen in the imperial offices before the ministers themselves; the consequence was that he was able to secure a long time for himself in order to learn who was to be the favored and who not. Warned beforehand, many high officials had when he found himself without employment.

FREEDOM OF SERFS.
 It was Alexander II who freed the serfs and abolished slavery. Though he first formed the project and would probably have carried it out in any case, many of his ministers dissuaded him and the ukase lay awaiting his signature for a long time. It is said that Alexis Lomoff—himself a peasant and, therefore, a serf—did much to hasten the completion of this plan, not only by advocating it, but by stories of the way in which serfs were treated, the starved condition so many of them lived in, and their misery, filth and ignorance.

"Why did nobody tell me this before," the emperor once exclaimed when Lomoff had told him some details of serf life.

"Because they are afraid to," was the answer, "and the serfs are too far off, though they say that you and God are their only friends."

After then Alexander turned to one of his ministers, saying, "I will be their real friend! Nobody shall dissuade me from delivering such unhappy subjects from bondage."

RISES TO POPULARITY.

Alexander was a man who, when he gave, gave largely. Lomoff received many magnificent presents from him, which, together with the money given by those who wanted the emperor's favor, soon made him a rich man. His apartments were in a crowded with suitors as a minister's ante-room. The news of his influence spread all over the empire, and, as usual, got very much exaggerated. Probably he did not bring about one-tenth part of the changes that were put down to him by successful officials, but when his influence failed, his tact came in, and, even today, he has that gift of "blatney," which is all that remains of his old life.

Little by little the wives and daughters of high officials were to be seen in his apartments; his wife, a simple woman, had but little to say and played a very inferior, ready money was never wanted. But Alexis gave good suppers and gambled high, so that little notice was taken of his wife's want of refinement. His only child, a girl, was sent away to school, and finally to Paris. When she came out, her mother retired into obscurity and was never seen. Cards and parties became more frequent than ever at the Lomoffs and the court. But this only made him more popular, and, as his influence and favor in the imperial dressingroom were unimpaired, ready money was never wanting. The zenith of his career was reached when, a short time before his master's tragic end, he married his daughter to the heir of a noble family, giving her \$50,000 as a dowry. This lady still holds a good position in St. Petersburg, though her husband is dead.

LOMOFF FALLS FROM FAVOR.

Soon after her marriage the blow to Lomoff's career was dealt. Alexander II, who shared the love of his subjects by a stroke of his pen, was blown up by a bomb thrown by a man of the very class he had so benefited a few years before. Lomoff, and all the other subjects of his chief source of his income with his master's death. Alexander III, a stern, morose man, declared that the emperor's death was a national calamity, and that the emperor's death was due to over-confidence. Lomoff, whose advocacy for the abolition of serfdom was well known, fell from favor at once. His post was offered to him about the court. He was, however, allowed to retire with the fortune he had amassed. Only his nearest friends knew how much he had gained. The change in his position galled Lomoff.

"Was I to see men who had favored me yesterday turn their backs on me today?" he exclaimed when telling his story. "I knew that money would do much and determined to make it. I began to gamble more than ever. For some time, luck was with me. My daughter arranged parties for me and I still had a certain number of houses where I was received."

But this did not last long. The man not only gambled, but drank. His fortune dwindled away till he was glad to become a croupier in one of the Moscow gaming houses, for he grew old and people would not employ him in the bigger establishments and he went from one den to another till the day came when he found himself without employment.

POLICE CONVINCED.
 When the police heard the daughter's name, they refused to go to her, saying that he could not be the father of a fashionable lady. But, as luck would have it, an old inspector of the police, who had heard her story, decided it was true that she was born Lomoff and

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