

### SUPERSTITIOUS IS CZAR OF RUSSIA

#### Regards Omens and Portents Most Seriously.

#### Sees Visions and Foretells Catastrophes That May Occur in the Empire.

#### HIS ANXIETY TO HAVE HEIR

St. Petersburg, Sept. 3.—Curious stories are told about the whims and peculiarities of the emperor of Russia, which would be amusing if they did not involve the happiness and welfare of 140,000,000 of people. He is a mystic; all mysteries appeal to him. He believes in miracles and all sorts of occult things. He is a spiritualist; he believes in clairvoyance, amulets and various other superstitions. For example, he carries a coin in his pocket, which he believes is necessary for the protection of his life, and will go nowhere without it. He is confident of its power as a talisman.

Three years ago or so, Bernhard Tutnauer, a Jewish shoemaker at Radautz, Austria, gave supper and lodging to a mysterious wandering rabbi from the Orient. In the morning the departing guest handed his host two antique coins, saying that they were all he had to give in payment for his entertainment, but they had much greater value than modern currency, because they possessed the power of protecting people who carry them from unseen dangers.

The shoemaker put the coins away with other trinkets and forgot all about them until about a year ago he had a dream in which Alexander III, the late czar, appeared at his bedside and besought him to send the coins to his son, Nicholas II, in order that he might have the benefit of their protection against the terrorists and other perils to which he is exposed. Radautz is nearer to Vienna than to St. Petersburg. Hence Tutnauer sent the coins to the Russian ambassador at the Austrian capital with a detailed account of their history, which was written for him by the Jewish schoolmaster of the town. The ambassador forwarded them to Count Lamdorff, then minister of foreign affairs at St. Petersburg, and the latter, after having them thoroughly washed and tested at the imperial laboratory, in order to remove all danger of poison, presented them to his sovereign. The latter received them with the greatest eagerness and sent a gift of several thousand rubles to the Austrian shoemaker. Since then he has always carried them on his person, with other charms in a little bag that hangs around his neck.

#### Majesty Dreams.

The terrible tumult, which occurred at Moscow on his coronation day when nearly ten thousand people were killed and wounded, was foretold to his majesty in a dream several nights before it occurred, and, in the morning, upon awakening, he described in graphic language the heaps of dead bodies which he had seen on the commons outside of the city, where a free feast was spread for the people. The eagerness of the multitudes to reach the tables caused a struggle and a stampede in which several thousand were trampled to death.

The superstition of the czar, being well known in the empire, naturally attracts to him all sorts of prophets, clairvoyants and other imposters, and he has been imposed upon repeatedly. All prophets are welcome, provided their predictions are favorable, but those who bring bad tidings are often punished.

#### Wanted an Heir.

The anxiety of his majesty to secure an heir caused him to do many ridiculous things. One of them was his incognito pilgrimage to the tomb of a holy priest called Seraphime, where the peasant women who are devoted motherhood, go to pray. The czar and the czarina made the pilgrimage by the advice of Vladimir, the metropolitan patriarch of the Greek church—the highest ecclesiastical authority in the country—who told them that such an act of veneration would undoubtedly be rewarded by the birth of a son. How the czarina, who was brought up sensible, and is regarded as a very sensible woman, could have been induced to go through the performance is difficult to explain. The public were not aware of the facts at the time. The imperial couple were supposed to be resting in one of their country retreats while, disguised in the garb of pilgrims they were actually making their way on foot to the shrine of the holy man, a distance of more than a hundred miles. Both of them remained there for a week or so, praying for a boy baby and receiving the sacrament at mass every morning with other pilgrims.—Wm. E. Curtis in Record-Herald.

The buffeting of fate is nothing compared to life's tiny pin pricks.

### CHARGES OF HAYES WILL BE TAKEN UP

#### Capitol Commission Called to Meet at Frankfort.

#### Another Victory Won in Protest Against Redistricting Bill in Kentucky.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH CONVENES.

Frankfort, Ky., Sept. 3.—A meeting of the board of capitol commissioners was called by Gov. Beckham, as chairman, for next Tuesday, September 4 at 11 o'clock. Secretary Henry B. Ware today sent out notices to the members.

While nothing official has been given out as to just what will be the subject under discussion, or the matter to which the board will turn its attention, it is currently rumored that the charges which Attorney General Hays has been making against the course pursued by the board in the selection of the capitol architect will come in for a share of attention.

It is said that every effort will be made to get Hays to attend the meeting of the board, of which he is a member.

#### Redistricting Invalid.

Williamsburg, Ky., Sept. 3.—Another victory has been won by the Republicans in testing the constitutionality of the redistricting measures passed by the legislature. In all action instituted by Joseph Bosworth and others against Napier Adams, chairman of this senatorial district, which was tried in the Whitley county circuit court, Judge M. J. Moss granted an injunction restraining the defendant from holding a primary in the district created by the legislatures of 1893 and 1899. He held that the legislature had violated sections 6 and 33 of the constitution, and that he act was invalid.

#### Christian Convention.

Louisville, Ky., Sept. 3.—The state convention of the Christian church, which is to be held in Louisville September 24-27, is arousing unusual interest. This church has about 130,000 members in the state and fully 2,000 delegates are expected to attend the convention. President E. Y. Mullins, of the Baptist Theological Seminary, is to be one of the speakers and as a union of the Baptist and Christian churches being agitated, Dr. Mullins will be a welcome speaker. J. W. McGarvey, of Lexington will give his famous Bible reading, "Daniel in the Critics' Den," and Marion Lawrence, the greatest Sunday-school expert in America, is also announced to be present.

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