

BY THE DOVE-COT,

The place around her is enchanted;  
Sweetly she pauses, troubled, haunted,  
For all the air seems full of love,—  
Music of billing and of cooling,  
Music of little winged things wooing  
Around her, under and above.

With rosy ears and tingling fingers,  
Like Venus mid her doves she lingers,  
Her bosom rich with honied things,—  
The gladness round her has no measure,  
The warm air palpitates for pleasure,  
Trobled by white and waving wings.

What fitter time to creep and woo her,  
When light and sound and love thrill through her,  
Stirring her gentle blood like wine,—  
All gentle things that round her hover  
Conspire, O happy, happy, lover,  
To honey her sweet mouth for thine.

OLD AND NEW RUSSIA.

A Brief History of its Political and Social Growth, in Connection With the Rise of the Romanoffs.

[Written for the River Press.]  
NUMBER IV.

Ivan the III., when he assumed the Greek arms, which he did after his union with the imperial family a Constantinople, also assumed the title of Czar of all the Russias. He introduced commerce and manufactures into Russia, bringing architects and artisans from Constantinople and from Italy, and borrowing from everywhere; in fact the reign of this Prince was a continued effort to civilize and instruct his people and restore the exhausted energies of the empire. He was the first to formulate the laws of the several Russian principalities into one code; and although his acts, when measured by modern standards, were barbaric and relentless, they were in perfect keeping with his times and surroundings; his best justification is his success and the far-reaching effects of his policy. His son, Vassili III. continued his father's policy, although he was not so aggressive, and his only conquest was the department of Smolensk, taken from the Lithuanians.

Ivan IV. (Terrible) succeeded, and, being only three years of age, the country was governed by a sort of regency or council, under which Russia was partially disorganized, and again became a prey to internal dissensions. On reaching his majority, however, Ivan displayed splendid ability and proved himself eminently capable of governing the anarchical elements of his extended empire. He first reformed the code introduced by his grandfather, and then created the first Russian standing army, that for a time was to do good service, but which afterwards became a sort of praetorian guard, that became the master of the Czarism instead of its servant, and was the direct cause of many revolutions. He married Anastasia Romanoff, the daughter of a Russian Noble, whose Territories lay in the principality of Valdimir.

The family of Andrew Kobyla, which takes its name (Romanoff) from the father of Anastasia, Roman Jurevitch, originally came from the little county of Holstein, in Prussia, and the disposition and capacity for government which has been characteristic of this family seems borrowed from this Prussian line.

Under Ivan the Terrible Russia was much enlarged, and the power remaining to the Tartars in Europe broken in the subjugation of Astrakhan and Kazan, only the Crimea remained, from which Moscow was to suffer once more. Western Siberia was added to Russia by a peculiar accident. A Cossack, Temak, who was in the employ of Ivan, was disgraced and in exile for insubordination, and this adventurer gathered together a band of malcontents and formed quite an army, which went out on an errand of plunder of its own, having no other errand or purpose in the world. Turning his face Eastward, Yermak crossed the Ural into Siberia and soon conquered the entire western half of that vast empire. Roaming and plundering for some years and constantly adding to his conquests, he at last became tired, and making an overture for pardon to Ivan, it was accepted, and the devoted Yermak laid the whole of his conquests at the feet of the Emperor as the price of peace. Thus was a vast dominion added to the Russian possessions without an effort on the part of the government retaining it.

The brother of Anastasia, Nitka Romonovitch, intermarried with the royal family of Rurick (making a double alliance), and his son was made metropolitan, or head of the Greek Church of Russia. At this time the Czarina Anastasia died, supposed to have been poisoned, to further some court intrigue with which the Czarism at this time was permeated. This inflamed and unsettled Ivan who began that season of proscription, murder and terror which has left him the name "Terrible." Large numbers of the nobility were murdered, and others fled to foreign countries, and thousands of people were put to death in the principal cities; in fact whoever was suspected by the insane Czar to have any connection with the intriguing nobles: and this suspicious disposition had become so chronic that at last he murdered his eldest son. Russia, now being thoroughly disorganized, was a prey to famine, rapine, and foreign invasion. The Tartars of the Crimea made an eruption and burned Moscow, while the King of Poland made war upon him and detached the province of Livonia, and this same king, through the power of arms and intrigue, came near capturing the Imperial sceptre of the Czars. Ivan at last died and left his empire to his son. This son, Feodor, left the government

in charge of an able counsellor, Boris Goudouloff, who consolidated the empire once more, but this man had an ambition of his own to seize the sceptre, and after the death of the childless Feodor, the house of Rurick was extinguished by the murder of his only brother by an order of Boris.

The representatives convoked at Moscow to elect a new sovereign elected Goudouloff but he died almost immediately afterwards, supposed to have been poisoned, and the council favored the admission of the Polish Prince Jarsalaf, in which the Romanoff family supported the Polish influence, but the entire clergy were secretly opposed, owing to a hatred of the Catholics, and combined with so much power as to entirely stop negotiations, and the Envoy to the Polish court, who was no other than Feodor Romanoff, the metropolitan, was thrown into prison by the Poles. His son Michael was a youth of feeble health, who was a resident in a convent in Moscow. Very quiet, pious and liberal to the poor, he was regarded by the populace and the soldiers with much popularity, and his youth and weakness secured him from the suspicion of the nobility and the intriguants. After endless division he was elected, and this was due to the influence of the church, and a few of the higher nobility. The selection was extremely popular, and put an end to the pretenders of various sort who had managed to usurp the throne for a short period, among whom the first was Goudouloff, who was soon murdered; then a couple of adventurers, who pretended to the name Dimitri after the latter's mysterious disappearance, and lastly Sigismund of Poland. But the new Czar Michael, the first of the Romanoffs, set to work to reorganize an empire that, from internal dissension, Polish invasion and Tartar revolt, was almost at a point of dissolution. He made peace with the Swedes and Poles, which he accomplished by making both powers important cessions of his territory, and conquered the Cossacks. After relieving himself of outside influence, he turned his attention to internal affairs, which were utterly disorganized, and he convoked a representative assembly, and with their aid recodified the laws, and reduced the church to an official basis on the foundation of the new ritual of the patriarch at Constantinople—with the new ritual he proclaimed himself the head of the Greek church, as metropolitan he already was the head of the Russian church. Ivan died young and left his sceptre to his third son Peter, who did not get power until his half brother and half sister had both usurped it, and both had failed, the brother by an early death; the sister, Sophia, by an attempt to assassinate Peter while acting as regent was compelled to resign all power; and Peter the Great ascended the throne, in 1725, and made the boundary which separates old barbaric Tartar Russia from the new Russia which has become a part of the civilization and policy of enlightened Europe.

[To be continued.]

A Buried Algerian City.

French newspapers report the discovery in Algiers, by the archaeologist M. Tarry, of a city which had been entombed in the sand. M. Tarry's attention had been awakened by the mould-like appearance of the sardy soil, and some digging brought to light the minarets and upper portion of a mosque. Further excavations laid bare a terrace, a tower, and about a dozen houses, all in excellent preservation. He reported his discovery to the Government of Algiers, which has undertaken to have the site thoroughly explored. The place is in the southern part of the province, not far from the town of Ouargia, and exposed to the full blast of the sandy winds from the desert. Probably a succession of siroccos bearing clouds of sand completely filled up the streets and houses, making the town uninhabitable, and so drove out the population. At present there is no ground for conjecture as to the date of the occurrence.

Beaconsfield's Complaint.

Lord Beaconsfield thoroughly understands the charm of indirect compliments. The other day he observed to a friend that he owed the best passage of "Endymion to a conversation that he had had with him. Elated with this, the friend inadvertently mentioned this interesting fact at his club. "That can hardly be," said one of those who heard him, "for Lord Beaconsfield told me only yesterday that he owed the best passage in his novel to me." The next time the elated friend met Lord Beaconsfield, he threw out that the compliment had lost its savor, since he had learned that it had also been made to another. "My dear friend," replied his Lordship, "what you say is true, but observe what a difference there is between—and a man of your acute perceptions; he was deceived, you are not."

Nearly Killed by Flowers.

Two aristocratic beauties of the Spanish Colony in Paris, the Countess Muledo and Senorita Penedo, had a narrow escape from being suffocated by natural flowers in their hair and the trimming of their ball dresses as they were returning home from Queen Isabella's last soiree in a closely shut up carriage. The flowers were profusely employed in garlands. The ladies for some time chatted gaily. One of them then became silent, and then the other. Count Muledo, who was with them grew alarmed when neither of them replied to observations he made and

questions he put, and all the more so that he felt oppressed by the perfume of the flowers. When he caused the carriage to stop, and opened the window he found them insensible, but they soon recovered when taken into the air. They, however, caught a severe cold from the sudden exposure.

Stories of Andrew Jackson.

When Jackson was President, Jimmy O'Neil, the Irish doorkeeper of the White House, was a marked character. He had his foibles, which often offended the fastidiousness of the President's nephew and secretary, Major Donelson, who caused his dismissal on an average of about once a week. But on appeal to the higher court the verdict was always reversed by the good nature of the old General. Once, however, Jimmy was guilty of some flagrant offence, and being summoned before the President himself, was thus addressed. "Jimmy, I have borne with you for years in spite of all complaints; but this goes beyond my powers of endurance." "And do you believe the story?" asked Jimmy. "Certainly," answered the General, "I have just heard it from two Senators." "Faith," retorted Jimmy, "If I believe all that twenty Senators say about you, it's little I'd think you was fit to be President." "Pshaw, Jimmy," concluded the General, clear out, and go back to your duty, but be more careful hereafter." Jimmy not only retained his place to the close of Jackson's Presidential term, but accompanied him back to the Hermitage, and was with him to the day of his death.

General Jackson had very little love or taste for poetry, his favorite author being Dr. Isaac Watts, from whose "Psalms and Hymns" he used to make his selections for the inscriptions in the ladies albums which were once so fashionable, when they were sent him with a request for his autograph.

It is said that while President he never drank any ardent spirits. This was corroborated by his negro servant, who said that "Massa Jackson no drink rum, but den he drink his coffee strong enough to kill de debil."

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