

THE RUSSIAN PEASANT.

Stupid and Poor, a Good Fellow Who Merely Exists.

The Russian peasant does not live; he merely exists. "Nitchev" ("It is nothing"), he merely says when anything happens to him. Nothing matters, nothing could be worse, and "Nitchev" is his panacea for all evils. And yet the Russian moujik is really a fine fellow. Ordinarily, H. P. Kennard tells us in his book, "The Russian Peasant," he is a splendid, well built man, large limbed, large headed and healthy. He is equally unaffected by 20 degrees of frost or twenty glasses of vodka. He is clothed in uncut sheepskins and carries in winter more clothes than the average Englishman could stand up in.

He is unspeakably stupid, however, and his dream of happiness is to gorge, to sleep as much as possible through the winter and dance and sing in the summer. But the stranger's first objection to the moujik is that he smells—not because he does not wash himself. As a matter of fact, in every village there are public baths—baza—and the peasants wash themselves there unfailingly every Saturday in order to be allowed to go to church on Sunday, for the Orthodox church eschews cleanliness.

The Russian peasant is always poor and generally in debt. He plows the land in the same way that his father plowed it and gets as little for his labor. His main worry in life is how to pay the government's taxes. If he says he cannot pay he is flogged, or perhaps he will sell part of his next year's power of work—i. e., work for nothing for several months—to raise a loan, and of course he is worse off than ever the following year.

On Christmas night at dusk the marriageable village girls go out into the streets and meet their young men, and one says, "What is your name?" The young man answers "Foma," and she replies, "My husband's name is Foma." Some days later at the girl's home relations are gathered together. There comes a knock at the door. The starosta and the young man enter, carrying loaves of bread. The starosta says something like this:

"We are German people, come from Turkey. We are hunters, good fellows. There was a time once in our country when we saw strange footprints in the snow, and my friend and the prince here saw them, and we thought they might be a fox's or marten's footprints or it might be those of a beautiful girl. We hunters, we good fellows, are determined not to rest till we have found the animal. We have been in all cities from Germany to Turkey and have sought for this fox, this marten or this princess, and at last we have seen the same strange footprints in the snow again, here by your court. And we have come in. Come, let us take her, the beautiful princess, for we see her in front of us, or can it be that you would keep her till she grows a little older?"

Thus does the moujik ask for a wife.

Inventor Davy and Love.
Sir Humphry Davy, the inventor of the Davy lamp, found love something of a delusion. It not a snare. Writing to his mother, he said, "I am the happiest of men in the hope of a union with a woman equally distinguished for virtues, talents and accomplishments." And in a letter to his brother he expresses his rapture thus: "Mrs. Apreece has consented to marry me, and when the event takes place I shall not envy kings, princes or potentates." The widow must have been a person possessed of great powers of fascination, for Sir Henry Holland makes mention of her as a lady who made such a sensation in Edinburgh society that even a regius professor did not think it beneath his scholarship to go down on his knees in the street to fasten her shoe. The sequel need not be dwelt upon further than to add that the marriage turned out to be alto gether a mistake.

Ferguson and the Rabbits.
Robert Ferguson, the poet, was first matriculated at St. Andrew's university in the session of 1764-5. It was the custom at this time for each bursar to take his turn in invoking "blessing" at the meals. The college table having been surfeited with an unbroken diet of rabbits in various forms of cookery, Ferguson, on being called to say grace, repeated what are now celebrated lines:

For rabbits young and for rabbits old,
For rabbits hot and for rabbits cold,
For rabbits tender and for rabbits tough
Our thanks we render, for we've had enough!

It may be added Ferguson was not sent down, but the rabbits were "rescued."

The Quipus.
The quipus, upon which the ancient Peruvians kept their records and accounts, consisted of a thick main cord, with smaller cords tied to it at certain distances. Upon these smaller cords the knots were tied by means of which the reckoning was kept. The length of the main rope varied from a foot to several yards. The cords were of various colors, each with its own proper meaning—as red for soldiers, yellow for gold, white for silver, green for corn, and so on. The reckoning seems to have been largely regulated by the distances of the knots from the main cord and the sequence of the branches.—New York American.

Same Effect.
"Cyril," said his mother as they sat down to the breakfast table, "did you wash your face this morning?"
"Well, no, mamma," said he slowly, evidently casting in his mind for an excuse, "but," he added reassuringly, "I cried a little before I came down stairs!"—Delineator.

It is safe to say that Mehmed V has already put Colonel Osman's sword back in its scabbard and fastened down the lid.

The Roosevelt party is now well supplied with rhinoceros steak, but it is still short of good cuts from a fat hippopotamus.

REV. FRIZELLE AT EBENEZER CONVENTION

Sunday School Workers Addressed by Goldsboro Minister Saturday

DEATH OF MRS. MARY SMITH

Convention Elected Officers and Voted To Meet at Spring Hill Next Year—Other Items of Interest

Mr. Carl Gurley, from Buck Swamp, was a visitor in our section last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Milford Aycock and little daughter, Nell, spent Sunday here with Mrs. Aycock's mother, Mrs. Lou Dall.

Mrs. Ellie Hines, from near Smithfield, was here last week on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Pipkin, near Ebenezer.

Miss Ophelia Carr left Sunday afternoon for a short visit to Fremont after which she will spend the week with her sister, Mrs. Milford Aycock. Messrs. Jim Thompson and George E. Hood, and Rev. J. H. Frizelle, of Goldsboro, attended the Sunday School convention at Ebenezer last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Smith, of Goldsboro, stopped over to dinner at Oak Glen last Wednesday on their return home from their farm above here.

Miss Sallie Williams and Mr. Blaney Cox arrived here from Falling Creek Saturday, where Miss Williams will spend several days visiting in the community, where she is a universal favorite.

Prof. E. N. Thorn spent a few days here the past week, on his return from LaGrange and Kinston. His many friends in this community are always glad to see him, and wish him the fullest measure of success in his life work.

Little Phil Crawford had a bad cut last week, which put one hand out of service (and mischief) for several days. He was standing near the grind rock, where the faithful old dinky, Alex Bryan, was grinding his axe, and in a mischievous way reached for the axe and his finger coming in contact with the edge of it split his finger from the end down to the first joint. The blood flowed freely, but he did not seem to mind it very much, though it was a bad cut.

Sunday School Convention.

The Sunday School convention which convened at Ebenezer Church last Saturday was attended by a large crowd, and the work showed much progress along that line. The address by Rev. J. H. Frizelle, of Goldsboro, was one of the most enjoyable features, every one who heard it saying it was as fine as they had ever heard. His style is captivating, and mingled with a proper amount of humor, held the attention of the crowd, throughout. Dinner was served on the ground and no one left there the least bit hungry, from the looks of the amount of good things which constituted the spread. The afternoon was devoted to the election of new officers for the convention, and it adjourned to meet at Spring Hill next year. The new officers are, Mr. Cyrus Johnson, president; Mr. George W. Hooks, secretary; Miss Sallie Grantham, musical directors.

Death of Mrs. Smith.

Mrs. Mary Smith died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Munroe Brewer, near Plakney, last Thursday night, after a few days illness. She was on a visit to her daughter, and suffered a stroke of paralysis on Monday evening, a second following, which resulted in her death. She was eighty-two years of age, but was active and very healthy, considering her advanced age. She made her home with her son, Mr. Jim Smith, near Princeton, and had been in her usual good health until suddenly taken. She was a consistent member of the Primitive Baptist church and died in the full triumph of faith. She was a most estimable woman, a motherly, kind soul, in whom was no guile and was loved by numbers of friends for her kindly disposition and upright walk, and godly conversation. She leaves five children, Messrs. Dave, Isaac and James Smith, of Princeton, Mrs. Brewer, of Plakney, and Mrs. Daniel Yelverton, of Wilson county, and a number of grandchildren, and great grandchildren, to mourn her death. She was buried on Friday afternoon in the family plot near her home. Truly a mother in Israel has gone to her reward. May the God whom she served for so many long years comfort those she left behind.

HEARING THIS MORNING FOR SPEEDING AUTO

Charged with speeding his automobile, Dr. Williams Spicer was given a hearing this morning before Justice of the Peace A. B. Hollowell. The trial attracted a large number of people. It was alleged that Dr. Spicer exceeded the speed limit of the state law. Judgment was suspended upon payment of costs, which amounted to \$3.55.

WHY NEGRO LABOR IS DECLINING IN EFFICIENCY

SKILLED WORKMEN ARE YEARLY BECOMING RARER AMONG THE BLACKS IN THE SOUTH.

Competition in labor is less keen in the South than in the North. Negroes as skilled mechanics are not sufficiently numerous in the South to get in the white man's way. If they interfered with the white man's bread, the feeling might be different. It is not believed that skilled labor is increasing among the negroes. Manual training schools may report an increase of students and graduates, but almost any Southern contractor will say that they do not enter very conspicuously into his calculation. He looks to the white man for his skilled labor.

Before the war, practically every negro was a trained man; he was a farmer of cotton, sugar or tobacco; he could make a shoe, forge a nail, or build a fence. His master had taught him some particular thing. The negro had some training in almost every simple branch of industry. Some were good farmers, carpenters, blacksmiths, tanners, bricklayers or stone masons. In those days the best work of the South was done by negroes. Plantation discipline could place the black boy under control of the black bricklayer and hold him to his apprenticeship.

Nowadays no negro boy in the towns will submit to the regular hours and steady work of a long apprenticeship. That's not his idea of town. He came to town to escape work.

When young George Washington Johnson turns loose the plow and struggles away from the plantation, he's not hunting for a trade. His system doesn't hanker after a confining occupation. The delicate constitution of Wash Johnson craves short hours and long rests—with a swag and a dash of sport on the side. He loves to sit in the shade and superintend the tolling masses. What's the use o' workin' when blackberries will soon be ripe? He wants to be passpicker at the crap game, preacher at the protracted meeting, or a jackleg lawyer loafing around the justice courts. For a nice, clean, easy job Wash would prefer to be a bishop.

Says an old negro bricklayer, an intelligent and competent ante-bellum mechanic: "When us ole men is dead, dey won't be no nigger masons no mo'. Dese here boys won't work; dey wants ter gamble an' loaf aroun' de saloons. De 'prentice what I got now is a young white boy; his pa put him wid me 'cause he knowed I'd learn 'im 'is trade. We gits along fine. He does everything I tell 'im—ad sho' is one smart boy. I couldn't git no cullud boy ter work wid me." This in a town of twenty-five thousand people, half of them negroes; the streets and jails crowded with negro vagrants. The same is true of other trades. A self-respecting white father places his son with a negro mechanic for training—yet the white apprentice and the negro master thoroughly understand their respective social relations.—Judge Dickson in Hampton's Magazine.

LIEUT. POPE WASHINGTON HOME FROM FAMOUS TRIP

Ordinance Officer on Georgia Visiting His Parents, Col. and Mrs. J. A. Washington.

Lieut. Pope Washington, who made the trip around the world as ordinance officer on the battleship Georgia in that famous world-encircling tour which was completed a few months ago at Hampton Roads, arrived in this city Monday to visit his parents, Col. and Mrs. J. A. Washington. Lieutenant Washington is here on leave, having been detached from the Georgia and ordered home. He will remain in Goldsboro until further orders are issued.

Lieutenant Washington, in speaking of the famous trip of the flower of our navy, stated that there was not anything eventful in the cruise except now and then some sailor fell overboard. He left the Georgia at Philadelphia.

When asked concerning the new towers for the battleships, Lieutenant Washington said that this new mast would be far superior in protection to the former ones. He expects to be with the Atlantic fleet when it goes to Hampton Roads in June.

Streets Gay With Bunting.

Petersburg, Va., May 18.—The Petersburg people are making great preparations for the reception of President Taft, when he comes tomorrow to attend the dedication of the \$50,000 Pennsylvania monument near Fort Mahone. The main streets are gay with bunting and the indications are that the crowd will be the largest ever entertained in Petersburg.

The Presidential train will arrive here from Washington shortly after nine o'clock tomorrow morning. A detachment of military will escort the President and Mrs. Taft to Center Hill Mansion, where President Lincoln held his last conference with General Grant, April 3, 1865. After taking luncheon at Center Hill the President will inspect the Petersburg battlefields.

Power Trust Case.

Wilmington, Del., May 17.—The taking of testimony on behalf of the defence in the suit brought by the government to dissolve the so-called powder trust, was begun here today.

The new Sultan has girded on the sword of Osman, but he should put it alongside his snowshovel.

PRESIDENT TAFT AT PETERSBURG

Monument Erected by Keystone State Unveiled Near Fort Mahone Today.

A LARGE CROWD ATTENDED

The President Leaves Tonight For Charlotte—Historic Battlefields Traversed By Presidential Party.

Petersburg, Va., May 19.—With elaborate military display and appropriate exercises, the monument erected by the State of Pennsylvania near Fort Mahone in memory of the Pennsylvania soldiers who fell in the ten months' siege of Petersburg in 1864 was dedicated today. In addition to regular troops from Fort Monroe and a part of the National Guard of Virginia, President Taft, Governor Stuart, of Pennsylvania, and his staff; Governor Swanson, of Virginia, and his staff and a large number of war veterans participated in the ceremonies.

The day was a notable one in Petersburg. The city was profusely decorated for the occasion and the crowd of visitors was the largest ever entertained here. The program of the day began with the arrival of President and Mrs. Taft from Washington shortly after nine o'clock this morning. The governors of Virginia and Pennsylvania joined in the official welcome to the nation's chief executive.

A military procession escorted the Presidential party from the station to the site of the Pennsylvania monument near Fort Mahone. The procession comprised, in addition to the regular military troops, many veterans of the 200th, 208th, 209th, 205th, 207th and 211th regiments of the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, all of whom fought under General Hartman around Fort Steadman, Dunn House, Fort Mahone, and the other historic battlefields to the east of Petersburg. The members of A. P. Hill Camp, Unit-

ed Confederate Veterans, also were in line and were among the participants at the unveiling ceremonies. Maj. A. C. Heidekuper, of the Pennsylvania veterans, acted as grand marshal of the procession.

The unveiling ceremonies were of a simple but impressive character. President Taft and Mayor Isaac Brown, of Corry, Pa., delivered the principal addresses. Col. R. H. Q. Goddard, of Providence, R. I., presided and the Rev. R. W. Barnwell, of Petersburg, delivered the invocation. The statue was unveiled by Mrs. Harold A. Gilbert, of Williamsport, Pa., who was assisted by several Pennsylvania and Virginia ladies, among whom was the widow of General Mahone. Governor Stuart turned over the statue to the state of Virginia, and Governor Swanson delivered a speech of acceptance.

On the return to Petersburg, following the conclusion of the ceremonies, President Taft traversed historic fields where were fought in 1864 some of the fiercest struggles that occurred between the armies of Lee and Grant. Riding over the historic Jerusalem plank road, the President viewed the crater, bearing mute evidence of the most sensational and appalling battle during the siege of Petersburg.

Shortly after one o'clock this afternoon the President returned to Petersburg, to remain the guest of the city until his departure for Charlotte tonight. The principal feature of the entertainment program is the luncheon this evening at Centre Hill Mansion. This historic old home, now the residence of Charles Hall Davis, president of the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce, dates from Colonial times, when the white settlers feared the Indians who still roamed the forests. Leading from the house are underground passages to make escape possible in case of attack. It was in this beautiful old mansion that President Lincoln held his last conference with General Grant, April 3, 1865.

Invitations to the luncheon in honor of the President and Mrs. Taft were issued to 1,000 guests, among whom were the official representatives of Pennsylvania and Virginia. Unique floral tables were spread on the spacious lawn for the accommodation of the guests, while the President and other official dignitaries were seated on the veranda. The mansion was decorated with flags and bunting of the national colors, intertwined with the Stars and Bars of the Confederate.

EUREKA HAPPENINGS.

Mr. Sam Martin and sister, Miss Lelia, were visitors at Wilson Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Hill and son Thaddeus, of Fremont, spent Sunday in Eureka.

Misses Mary Minshew and Bertie Bacon were visitors to Goldsboro Saturday and Sunday.

Messrs. Ed. Bardin, of Richmond, Va., and Mr. Hiram Walston were visitors at Eureka Sunday.

Quite a number of our young people attended the Children's Day service at Yelverton's Church on last Sunday.

The many friends of Miss Bettle Bardin will be glad to learn that she has recovered from the severe attack of tonsillitis from which she was suffering last week.

Among those from Eureka who went to hear the Rt. Rev. Bishop Strange preach in Fremont Sunday were Dr. G. R. Benton and Mrs. H. A. Overman.

The girls of the intermediate department of the school, under the auspices of the Woman's Betterment Society, will serve strawberries, cake and cream Wednesday night, May 19, at the old school building. All are cordially invited.

Mr. Nathan Taylor, from near Charleston, S. C., who was born and reared near here, is on a visit to his brother, Mr. David Taylor. This is the first visit Mr. Taylor has made to his old home since he left thirty-five years ago. Mr. Taylor was accompanied here by his niece, Miss Mabel Edmundson, of Nashville, N. C.

The young people of Eureka will present the play "Imogene" or "The Nitch Secret," in the school auditorium soon, the proceeds to be for the parsonage of the Fremont circuit. We trust the play will be liberally patronized. MAGISTER.

Eureka, N. C., May 18.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Register of Deeds W. G. Britt has issued marriage licenses as follows:

May 15.—Mr. Julius C. Norris to Miss Alma V. Sullivan.

May 18.—Mr. Joshua R. Davis to Miss Lillie D. Crawford, near Fremont.

May 19.—Mr. William Wright Hobbs, of Duplin county, and Miss Carrie Dudley, of Brogden township.

H. H. Rogers Died Suddenly Today.

Standard Oil Magnate and Owner of Virginian Railway Succumbs to Heart Disease.

New York, May 19.—H. H. Rogers, one of the founders of the Standard Oil Company and right hand man of John D. Rockefeller, owner of the Virginian Railway, died suddenly today at his residence, East Seventh street. He had just risen when he was stricken with heart disease, which is believed to be the cause of his death. His wife and son, H. H. Rogers, Jr., and three daughters were with him.

He had been in excellent health and his death came as a great shock. He was vice-president of the Standard Oil Company, and was at his office in Wall street yesterday. He suffered nervous collapse in 1907 and withdrew from business for awhile, but was quite active in more recent months.

Rogers was born at Fair Haven, Mass., in 1840. He began life as a delivery boy in a grocery store at \$2 a week. Dr. Fowler, his family physician, who arrived fifteen minutes after his death, says he died from apoplexy. Only his wife was present when he died.

CAPT. WINCHESTER HERE IN INTEREST OF RESCUE HOME

American Salvation Army Officer Visited Goldsboro Tuesday to Secure Contributions.

Capt. Frank Winchester, who is in charge of the Rescue Home established in Raleigh for fallen women by the American Salvation Army, spent Tuesday in this city securing contributions for this great work.

Capt. and Mrs. Frank Winchester have secured a home at No. 419 South Dawson street, Raleigh, and many citizens throughout the state have contributed liberally to the cause.

Anyone wishing to aid financially in this work may send their contributions, no matter how small, to Captain Winchester.

Mr. Griffin Erecting Garage.

The garage on Centre street, which will be used by the Goldsboro Garage and Motor Transport Company, is being erected by Mr. B. H. Griffin, who will rent the building to the above company.

These Patent Tension Steel Shears

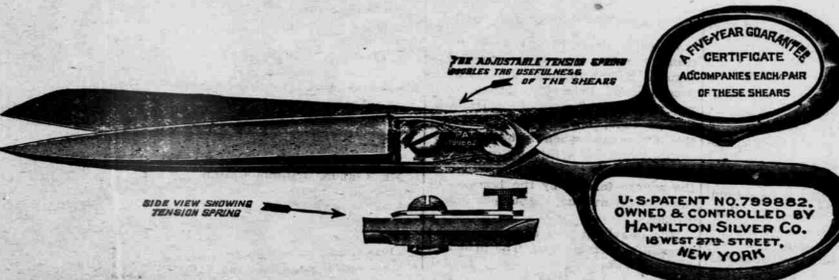
FREE To Argus FREE

Subscribers

The Latest and Most Useful Household Invention.

The cutting edge on these shears is indestructible, and will never wear dull. They will cut anything and everything from Wet Tissue Paper to a Heavy Horse Blanket.

Note the Tension Spring. It does away with re-sharpening entirely. Illustration Shows Exact Size. 8 in. Long.



EIGHT-INCH PATENT TENSION SPRING SHEARS.

The Shears being distributed by the ARGUS are manufactured of the very highest grade steel, perfectly tempered and heavily nickel plated on a highly polished surface. The patent tension spring takes up all the wear on the rivet, so that the cutting edges will never wear dull. A simple turn of the little thumb screw will adjust the blades to cut anything from the thinnest and most delicate fabric to the heaviest material. Every woman who has had the experience of attempting to cut with a dull pair of shears will appreciate this new invention.

READ THIS GUARANTEE—We guarantee the quality of the material and the workmanship in these Shears to be first-class in every respect. That the tension spring doubles the usefulness of the shears, and does away with the necessity of re-sharpening. A printed guarantee certificate accompanies every pair, and contains the following: "If this pair of shears breaks or becomes defective in any way within five years from the date delivered it will be replaced with a new pair free."

How to Get a Pair of These Shears:

To every person who subscribes to the Daily Argus for three months or the Semi-Weekly Argus for one year, cash with subscription, a pair of these Shears, that retail at all hardware stores at \$1.00, will be given ABSOLUTELY FREE. To every old subscriber who renews his subscription the same offer will be made.

The Daily Argus, \$1.25 for 3 Months.
The Semi-Weekly Argus, \$1 for a Year.

FREE--A \$1.00 Pair of Shears--FREE