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CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN.

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RUSSIA'S AWAKENING.

The assassination of Von Plehve and the appointment of the more liberal Prince Minsky as his successor in the Russian Ministry of the Interior seems likely to be fruitful of reform in the Czar's dominions. Much greater liberty has been given to the press than ever before and leading Russian journals are now calling for the creation of a national parliament. Such advocacy would a few years ago have been repaid by banishment to Siberia. That it is now tolerated affords evidence of a great change impending in the internal affairs of Russia. There is little doubt that the series of humiliating defeats to which the Russians have been subjected have to a large extent discredited the bureaucracy which as so long dominated the country and which led to the war.

Hitherto Russia as an absolute hereditary monarchy has had nothing approaching a national parliament. There has been, however, a considerable measure of local self government, but within narrow limits and largely dominated by officialdom. The existing machinery for local government has hitherto been the commune, the cantonal assembly and the zemstvo. The village commune is made up of all the householders, and elects its own chief or "elder", appoints the tax-gatherer, the village doctor and midwife, may open schools and provide roads and bridges. Several communes compose a canton, and the cantonal assembly is composed of one delegate for each ten householders. This assembly elects its own elder and appoints from ten to twelve judges who have power to settle disputes among peasants. This far the people have a voice in their local affairs. The nobility and gentry have representative assemblies of their own, the zemstvo, one for each province, which is presided over by a marshal of the nobility. These assemblies have certain general powers, and although the peasants have nominally some voice in their election the representatives are always nobles or church dignitaries.

The zemstvos have long desired the creation of a national representative body in which delegates from the various pro-



EN GRANDE TOILETTE.

With the decollete gown the low style of dressing the hair is the one most preferred. Where the pompadour style is most becoming this is arranged in flowers, natural or artificial. In the latter a spray of mauve velvet orchids is combined with velvet and tulle hair fern in pale green tints. The riviere of diamonds around the neck heralds the revival of neck dresses with the evening gown. The handsome pendant that is posed on the decollete is a concentric knot of diamonds, relieved with large pearls.

vincial assemblies might meet. This had always been denied and in 1880 the power of the zemstvos was greatly curtailed. Recently an assembly of some hundreds of delegates from the various zemstvos was authorized, but they were not permitted to deliberate in open session. Still the assembly was a great step in advance and has raised the hopes of the Russian people. The convention included men of great influence and large landed estates. What is more important is that this first national assembly from all parts of the empire including Finland, boldly protested against the continuance of Government by irresponsible officials, and asked the Czar for "national representation in the form of a specially elective body to participate in legislation," declaring this to be "unquestionably necessary." Let us hope that this may lead on to the creation of national representative institutions in Russia.

We must confess surprise that some leading Canadian journals which ought to be and usually are well informed, make the statement that Sir John Macdonald carried the country in 1878 by a majority of 86 as several state it, and by 80 as others have it. Sir John's largest majorities in any of the elections he contested were 68 in 1878 and the same number in 1882. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's majority in the House of Commons easily breaks all records. In both 1878 and 1882 Sir John carried six out of the seven Provinces, while Sir Wilfrid has now a majority in five Provinces only. In that respect the old Conservative Chieftain's record remains unequalled.

The First English Newspaper.
The earliest English newspapers were not printed, but simply written. For the benefit of those who wished to consult them they were exhibited in a public place, each reader being called upon to pay a small coin called a gazette; hence the word "gazette." The earliest English newspaper was the Weekly News, first published in 1622. In the seventeenth century several newspapers were established, and in the eighteenth century we had the famous Spectator and allied publications of the sort. The first daily appeared in 1702. It is also interesting to note that the first serial story was "Robinson Crusoe," which began to run in the London Post on Oct. 7, 1719, and concluded on Oct. 19, 1720.

COULD NOT LIE DOWN

Wm. Doeg's Rheumatism Made Him Sit Night and Day in a Chair—Dodd's Kidney Pills Cured it.

SUNDRIDGE, Ont., Nov. 21.—(Special).—For four years Mr. Wm. Doeg, of this place, suffered tortures from Rheumatism. For months he could not lie down, but had to sit night and day in a chair. Doctors treated him but he only got worse. He used Dodd's Kidney Pills and now he is a well man. Mr. Doeg says: "Yes, I am able to attend to my daily duties on the farm, and feel strong and able for work. I verily believe this great work, this remarkable cure, has been effected by the use of Dodd's Kidney Pills. It makes me shudder to look back on those awful four years, and I think it my duty to let others, afflicted as I was, know that Dodd's Kidney Pills will cure them."

LINENS.

These linens are our own importation and include some of the most exquisite pieces that ever came from Ireland. Their lustre is like satin and their finish will appeal to every woman who loves beautiful table linens.—James Paton & Co.

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If you are Afflicted With Foul, Offensive Disgusting Catarrh, Your Progress Will be Slow.

Catarrh is a terrible handicap in the business and social world. The extreme offensive nature of the disease, the foul and sickening breath, the everlasting hawking and spitting, the fetid discharge at the nose, the watery eyes and catarrhal effluvia all combine to make the unfortunate victim one of the most avoided and despised of mankind.

Many first-class, competent men have lost good positions on account of their unbearable prosepence due to catarrh. The catarrh victim is tabooed socially and his appearance is secretly dreaded. What makes the matter worse is that he does not know himself how offensive he is as his sense of smell, and frequently taste, is destroyed. Leaving out of consideration the suffering, annoyance and danger of the disease, no man can afford, from a business or social standpoint, to have catarrh for one minute if he can possibly avoid it.

Stuart's Catarrh Tablets have done more to stamp out this disease than any known remedy. They strike at the root of the malady and completely expel it from the system. Catarrh is a deep-seated disease and will not yield to local applications, such as sprays, ointments, inhalations, etc. Stuart's Catarrh Tablets cleanse the system and renovate it thoroughly of all impurities. Under their influence all catarrhal poisons are carried off and the blood becomes pure, the eye bright, the breath sweet, discharges cease, the head clears up, the sense of smell and taste are restored and the sufferer becomes sound and well and fit to associate with his fellow-man.

Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are for sale by all druggists at 50 cents a box. The drug list no more thinks of getting along without Stuart's Tablets than he would without his prescription case. The demand for them is so universal and their popularity is so great and they have cured so many thousands of people that he would not be considered an up-to-date druggist if he did not keep them and his customers would lose confidence in him and go to some other store to buy their other drugs as well as their Stuart's Catarrh Tablets.

The King's Cock Crower.
"The king's cock crower" was a quaint old English institution not abolished until the reign of George I. During the season of Lent the officer known officially as the "king's cock crower" crowed the hour every night within the precincts of the palace instead of proclaiming it in the ordinary manner. On the first Ash Wednesday after the accession of the house of Hanover, as the Prince of Wales, afterward George II., was sitting down to supper, this officer suddenly entered the apartment and proclaimed in a sound resembling the crowing of a cock that it was past 10 o'clock. Taken thus by surprise and very imperfectly acquainted with the English language, the prince mistook the crow for an insult and rose instantly to resent the affront, nor was it without the utmost difficulty that his interpreter could make him understand the nature of the custom and assure him that a compliment was intended according to the court etiquette of the times. From that period, however, the custom was discontinued.

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