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PETER THE GREAT.

In Count Segur's "History of Russia," he gives a most entertaining account of this queer monarch. We find the following intempt for historical truth; -.

at eleven, the abode of the consipirators the great Frederick, by a favourite log should be closely surrounded. Soon after, he went alone and without gears's to thinking the hour was come, he went sing- min le among the the people-prefering equal the majesty of this monument; seen ly to the bount of these ruffians; he enter- the society of foreign and Russian triders ed boldly, certain he should find nothing and sailors, especially the Dutch, rom but trembling criminals, already fenered whom he could scarcely be distinguished unshackled, daring, well-armed band, at them continuity, & gaining great knowledge the instant when they were vociferating from heir replies. the last words of an oath that they would achieve his destruction.

sed nevertheless the violence of his emotion. nourable. him, could not avoid putting the glass about he, "I, at that rate, have curned eight aland drinking his health.

signs, and to grow more daring; one of them for biniself a pair of shoes, of which he was A man was despatched to the city for a ter, for what reason is unknown, hesitated, and had scarcely replied "not yet," when in wearing. "See what I earned by the Peter who heard him, and who also heard sweat of my brow,' said he to his courtiers at last the footsteps of his guards-started in the face, and exclaimed 'if it is not yell time for you, scoundrel, it is for me.' This indolence with which they were imbueil.' blow and the sight of the guards, threw the assassins into consternation, they fell on their knees and emplored forgiveness .-*Chain them,' replied the terrible Tzar .his mistake, clasped him in his arms, kissed rits and defects of his idel in these wordshim on the forehead, and proclaimed his dy of the traitors.

"His vengeance was terrible; the punishsummit of a column, the members being did for that welfare, or in other words, for their punch amid the cheers of the astonsymmetrically arranged around them as or- the glory, the instruction, and the prosperi- ished multitude. To the eye below, the each other, and whose only God was fear."

fian, who is our author's lead-star, are thus more for liberty than all the dreams of lib-

"His ways and his manners, it is true, frank and natural; like those of every man who has regreatend in view, whomps was attain it, rise above the pompous littleness of pride and of vanity.

In his humble abode at Petersburg, an

a ship, the floor of a hut, or the bareground which still remained in himself-the fault to have appeared of a man's proportions at served him as a bed; now and then straw, must be attributed to his education, to the when he could get it; if not, he leaned his age in which he lived, and to the circumhead on the officer who attended on him, stance of a degree of power being requisite who lay across under it, and whose business there, which has never been found to exist it was to remain in that position as motion- in man without being pushed to excess.

less as the bolster which he represented. "Every thing in him was hostile to luxury, and looked to the useful; his clothes were plain, and even of a coarse cloth calculated to wear well-his shoes, which were solid and clumsy, were frequently men-

"At his table, which was usually a freigal one, nothing came amiss to him, except fish thich this naval prince could not bear,-His habitual food, that which he preferred, was such as was eaten by the people. He ite little, but often, wherever he might chance to be, and no matter with whom.

"He drank however, to excess, from haby, from taste, perhaps even from vanity. lorable orgies, but less frequent than are supposed to have been where he so aften seen overcome by a shame-

patiently bore the rash language which temperance prompted to his convival ca

"His court, at common times, consisted only of a few officers to convey his orders; luxury was banished from it by sumplingy hws; no plate was seen there. He wared on himself, rose at four in the morning, and lighted his fire with his own hands."

amended when he went out of doors.

went out, it was generally on foot, or "At midnight the blow was to have been the Senate, but particularly at the Admital-struck; and Peter gave orders that, exactly ty; after which, and always followed, ike

his own hands in the manufactories which "At his unexpected appearance, however he had established. It is known that he er, they all arose in confusion. Peter, on often offered himself to pilot the European his side, comprehending the full extent of vessels which came to Cronstadt, and that his danger, exasperated at the supposed he received, like other pilots the pay of a disobedience of his guards, and furious at service which he considered as an honour, having thrown himself into peril, suppres- and which he was desirous to reader ho-

Having gone too far to recede, he did not "Another time, having been compelled lose his presence of mind, he unhesitating- by the state of his health, to stop at'h forge, y advanced among this throng of traitors, he for some hours became a smith. Nor greeted them familiarly, and, in a calm and let it be supposed that there was any thing natural tone, said, that 'as he was passing puerile in this, for in him, every thing even by their house, he saw a light in it; that to the major part of his most triding actions, supposing they were amusing themselves tended to a great purpose. For this reahe had entered in order to share their plea- son, on his return to Mescow, he went to sures." He thenseated himself, and drank the master of the forge, and inquired what to his assassins, who standing up around he pand his workmen. 'Well, they,' said kins, (about thereen pence) and I am come other by their looks, to make numerous added, that, with this sum he would buy means of performing it. low voice, 'brother, it is time.' The lat- then hastened to the market to make his pur- time apprised of what was going forw chase, which he afterwards felt a pleasure -thus miding himself on the fruits of his

A great man who thus exposed the weak points of his character, should be content to be thought vain of his greatness, since he considered it able to afford he struck him, and reproached him with de Segar, whose capacity for est mating the his want of punctuality; but the latter show- qualities of a civil and military governor is ed him his order; and his Tzar, perceiving not very largely developed, sums up the me-

"Historians of the nineteenth century, fidelity, and entrusted hint with the casto- while we detest the violent dets of this the other side, the string longed upon the ment was more ferocious than the crime, then teach him, that to be truly liberal or end of the string, and drawn over the Pil-First, the rack, then the successive mutila- moral is the same thing. - But of what contion of each member; the death, when not sequence is it, that he was ignorant that led. By this rouge one of the seamen asenough of blood and life was left to allow merality calls for the establishment of liberof the sense of suffering. To close the tv, as being the best possible means of sewhole, the heads were exposed upon the curing the general welfaret. All that he the whole company went up, and drank naments; a scene well worthy of a governator of his empire, was it not beneficial to Pillar does not appear capable of holding ment of slaves, reciprocally benetifying that liberty, of which neither himself nor more than one man upon it; but our seahis people were yet worthy? Thus, with-"The domestic habits of the imperial ruf- out being aware of it, Peter the Great did eralism have since fancied that he ought to have done. His people are indebted to were unpolished, but they were simple, him for their great and most difficult step his abhorrence of the word, when he labourspirit, and all whose faculties, in order to was necessary there, how could be better land by one of the captains, as a present to employ it?

"If he carried matters too far-if he oft-"When he was not at home, the deck of rous manners, by dint of he barbarism

> "It was in this hyperborean land, where a freezing temperature is adverse to social intercourse, by confining each individual within his own limits; in these humid and cold regions, where every kind of strength and superiority seems as though it ought to exert itself only to escape from them, to conquera milder climate, under a distant sky, it was here that this citizen despot so familiar, so accessible, so enamoured of truth, tall of the pride of noble actionsand endowed with admirable sagacity, with boundless zeal, and with sleepless activity. devoted himself in order to transform this harbarous and desolating nature into an enlightened and productive nature,"

If one sentiment in this estimate be true -that he contributed to liberty without he-

Brief description of Pompey's Pillar. In visiting Alexandria, what most engaes the attention of travellers, is the Pillar of Pompey, as it is commonly called, situated at a quarter of a league from the southern gate. It is composed of red grantic .-The capital is Corinthian, with polin leaves and not indented. It is nine feet high. The shaft and the upper member of the These private singularities of the first base are of one piece of ninety feet long, enlightened Russian Emperor were lot and nine in dameter. The base is a square of about fifteen feet on each side. This Such were his liabits at home; when he block of marble, sixty feet in circumference, a rests on two layers of stone bound togethcident which we think we remember to have | backney coach, and he sometimes borriw- et with lead; which, however, has not preseen dramatized with a remarkable con- ed of the first passer by the money to lay vented the Arabs from forcing out several his fare. He daily spent several hours at of them, to search for an imaginary treas-

The whole column is 114 feet high. I is perfectly well polished, and only in little shivered on the Eastern side. Authing can from a distance, it overtops the town and were men pushing them from belied. The will feel as much interest in the event as serves as a signal for vessels. Approaching it nearer, it produces an astonishment to some, whilst others say only two. It by his guards. But his impatience had an- by his dress. There, without cerepiony mixed with awe. One can never be tired ticinated the time, and he found himself, he took a part in their business, their plea- with admiring the beauty of the capital, the single and unarmed, in the midst of their sures, and their conversation, questioning length of the shaft, or the extraordinary simplicity of the pedesta'. This last has been somewhat damaged by the instruments "Many a time was he seen working with of travellers, who are curious to possess a relic of this antiquity; and one of the volutes of the column was immaturely brought down twelve years ago, by a prank of some English captains.

These jolly sons of Neptune had been pushing about the can on board one of the ships in the harbor, until a strange freak entered into one of heir brains. The eccentricity of the thought occasioned it immediately to be adopted; and the apparent impossibility was but a spor for putting it into execution. The boat was ordered; and with proper implements for the attempt, these enterprising heroes pushed ashore to drink a how! of punch on the top of Pompey's Pillar! At the spot they arrived; and many contrivances were proposed to accomplish the desired point. But their labor was vain; and they began to despair of success, when the genius, who "But soon they began to consult each for the money." Having received it, he struck out the frolic, happily suggested the

even leaned over to Sakanim, and said in in great want. This was very true and he paper kite. The inhabitants were by this and flocked in crowds to be witnesses of the address and beldness of the English.-The governor of Alexandria was told that left them to themselves, and politely answered, that the English were too great patriots to injure the remains of Pompey. He knew little, however, of the dispositions. Then, turning to the officer of the guards, such concessions to his puerilities. Count of the people who were engaged in this undertaking. Had the Torkish empire risen in opposition, if would not at that 'moment have deterred them.

The kite was brought, and flown so directly over the Pillar, that when it fell on prince, why should we be astonished at his capital. The chief obstacle was now overdespotism? Who was there who could come, A two inch rope was tied to the lar by the end to which the kite was affixcended to the top, and in less than an hour a kind of shroud was constructed, by which men found it could contain not less than eight persons very conveniently.

It is astonishing that no accident befel these mad-caps, in a situation so elevated, that it would have turned a landsman giddy in his sober senses. The only detriment the Piltowards emancipation. What matters, then lar received was the loss of the volute before mentioned, which came down with a on to it with a resolute and straight forward ed so much for the thing? - Since despotism thundering noise, and was carried to Enga lady who commissioned him for a piece of the Pillar. The discovery they made en deemed it just to inflict on his enemies amply compensated for this mischief; as shode which a mere artizan would think all the evil which they wished to him, and without their evidence, the world would andly good enough for himself-a bed, a to treat his country like a conquest in or- not have known at this hour, that there chair, a table, a lathe, and some books, der to conquer it to civilization—in a word, was originally a statue on this Pollar, one formed the whole furniture. The statue must have been of gigantic size, so great a height.

There are circumstances in this story which might give it an air of fiction, were it not authenticated beyond all doubt. Besides the testimony of many eve-witnesses, the adventurers themselves have left us a token of the fact, by the initials of their names, which are very legible in paint just beneath the capital.

Earthquake at Manilla .- The following account of an earthquake at Manilla, is extracted from the Singapore Chronicle, of January 1 :- "The Reaper, Captain thousands of persons who had been vaccin-Rind, arrived six days ago, from Manilla, ated took the small-pox in the last epidemthe 12th December. The most interest- ic which reigned at Marseilles, and that ing article of intelligence by her is, that of that disorder proved morral to forty-five a rather violent earthquake, which happen- of them; the greater number of whom

mentions, that he was lighting a segar at | that when persons who have been was the lamp, which suddenly moved away from him; he thought its motion caused by his having touched it with the brim of his hat, but was undeceived at the next undulation, seilles, has published no account of when the chair on which he stood was with himself overset on the floor, upon which the rushed into the street, where he found the Antifles; whence he presented in the inhabitants (according to their custom on such occasions) upon their knees. A by the boats up the Seine, to Paris. on such occasions) upon their knees. A gentleman, passing through the fown in a buggy, observed the water in the goners first running one way and then the other, and, not feeling the earthquake owing to the feature of intelligence—advertisements. motion of the vehicle, was at a loss to ac- news of another kind seems to be count for so strange a phenomenon, until he observed the people falling on their knees, and had himself alighted. The motion caused the massive gates of the Puenta Granda, one of the entrances of the city, to swing upon their hinges, so that a gentleman passing at the time thought that there earthquike lasted three minutes according the advertiser himself. There is great sim to some, whilst others say only two. It plicity and confiding kindheartedness in the caused the bells in the steeples to ring as if they had been tolled by the hands of men. After the earthquake, the river rose to as great a height as in the rainy season, and overflowed the low ground in its vicinity, and the next morning it fell below its usual level in the same proportion as the previons evening it had risen above it. The ships felt the shock severely, as if it was something knocking on their bottoms,-With all this, however, we are happy to learn that not much damage was done to the buildings, and that no lives were lost .-Arches of two of the churches were broken, and some of the buttresses of another thrown down; the prison for debtors received some injury, and a number of dwellinghouses were cracked in different places .-No subterraneous noises were heard; but for two days previous, the weather had been more hot and sultry than usual though perfectly clear, except on the day on which he earthquake happened, when a haze hang upon the horizon throughout the bay, similar to that which preceded the last great enrthquake at Valparaiso, a witness which gives us our present information. It was not known that any volcanic eruption had taken place."

Descent of the Andes .- At length we came to the Cuesta de Concual. This was a dreadful descent leading down to an awful depth below, with the river runthese seamen were about to pull down ning at the bottom, but a very short disfrom his seat, knocked him down by a blow labour, is the eyes of a nobility whom he Pompey's Pillar. But whether he gave tonce to the right. It was really terriffic wished to cure of the Oriental and haughty them credit for their respect to the Roman to look down; and I am speaking within warrior, or to the Turkish government, he the opinion of many whom I have consulted on the subject, when I say, that it was at least eleven or twelve hundred feet in a direct descent, in all parts so steep, that there was no possibility of standing; many parts were also hard and slippery, and how to get down this, was our task, which I should never have thought it in the power of human beings to accomplish, had I not witnessed it and done it myself; so little are we aware what we are capable of performing till brought to the trial. I stood and gazed with wonder, scarcely believing they would attempt it. However, the loads were cast off, and away they flew tumbling and sliding down like lightning. Our beds went into the river, and were soon swept out of sight. Then the peons prepared, and laving themselves flat on their backs, with their arms and legs extended, to my utter amazement, they flew down one after another with the swiftness of an arrow, guiding themselves clear of the river, although going down with such velocity; one turned, and rolled once or twice head over heels, then round and round like a ball, till he reached the bottom without the slightest injury. Now, I thought this would never do for me, so I waited to see how my companion would manage. He approached the brink, and working a hole first to rest his heel in, thrust his stick ball in the snow, so that it might support him to lower himself down a little, and then dig another hole. In this manner he went down the very steepest part, and then let go and slid the rest in a sitting posture. Now came my turn: I commenced with the plan of my companion, but, finding it so day, "I'll tell you a curious fact rela very steep, and not liking the hanging posture that craft. When old S-, the by one arm, I acted more securely, but was much longer about it, first working a hole with my stick and putting my heel in, thus son and said, "William, I have sent for with my stick and putting my heel in, thus long observed the steadiness of your consening my way clear before me, and having if he overcame in his Russians their barba- foot and ancie of which are still remaining, by one arm, I acted more securely, but was left his breath fast declining he a footing of both feet at a time in a sit- duct; I hope you will continue in the a ting posture, while I worked myself steps with my stick till I passed the steepest part; then let go, lying flat on my back, and went down with anarine walks. and went down with amazing velocity, a distance of five hundred feet. Coming a shilling. Our Bank is rotten, and down this place occupied me nearly two been rotten for years? hours; but I would not have let go on the steepest part for all the gold and silver in the mines of Peru .- Travels in Peru.

ed there on the 9th of last month. It oc-curred at half past six in the evening. The motion seemed to come from the south, and it was undulating, causing a rolling and creaking in the houses, like that experien-ced in a ship at sea, though less in degree it tagion of the small pox diminishes with the

The Press of Holland .- The Dure! following:

"To our friends and acquaimances we, the undersigned, are married."

It reads as if the newly-married couplrelying upon the happiness which the un embellished fact would impart, contented themselves by merely stating it without pomp or flourish. When a birth occurs, the advertisement is uniformly signed by psody upon the virtues of the mother. B the deaths are the most characterist Take a specimen:

"To-day departed, after a sicknes of days, my beloved wife. She has left. and her gray-haired mother in a state despair. Weep with us, all who kne ber-weep with my children. They has yet to learn their loss, which they will learn too soon."

This little history of a sorrow, related i the first person, would be a standing joke England. Yet the Dutch have as lit poetry in their nature as any people and the sun. We dare say, the old Bure master, who framed the above, was del erately smoking a long pipe all the tim and was quite as sincere in his grief as I was zealogs in his tobacco .- Why shoul not a man weep and whill simultan Another specimen.

" My deeply loved wife died vested She has left me a pledge of love only the weeks old. Bitter is my sorrow.

This is less estentations, but to the for as calemitous. Hear the language of an age parent, for a daughter forty seven years

" In my old age, sorrow has overtaken me, Yesterday evening my daughter died aged seven-and-forty years. Those who knew her, will know my grief-and those too, who knew what she was to me. In the comforts of religion I put my trust."

Our English advertisements are r closed by a moral of this exalted kin We paint a picture of Paradise for the ceased, and seldom care to sketch a for the living .- We speak of the departs as having certainly gone to Heaven, and in our care to provide for the dead, se think of ourselves. The Dutchman the lesson of mortality, and profits by There is this difference between ust invest death with a glorious, bereafter clothes life in hope and humiliation. - Exen in the distinctions of belief, the characteristics break out. It app ever that the Dutch ladies exhibit their derness after enother fashion.

" After a sickness of a few days, my loved husband died to-day. Deeply ted with my six children, I rep hope of his resurrection, and I ore commend myself for the sale of col and such matters, to the general tion."

The widow lost no time in advertisi her widowhood and her teas. she had a quick sale and return for both Lon. Atlas.

ANECDOTE ON BANKING .- "Talking bankers," said a friend of ours the o at Doctor's Commons, but I am not

'Good God,' said William, T alway though you very rich-have you not a la sum, sir, in the iron boat Ah. Willie said the old man, that iron box was to filling Vaccination .- It is said that several the Clerks. The iron box William is empty and has been for years. Continu however, my dear boy, to attend to bank ing-some lucky turn may happe hank is all I can leave you, make the mof it, keep the secret, and the secret wheep you for years. Don't put down a gle carriage or horse; a banker is thou nobody unless he lives like a Prince."

William and as his father hid him, particular in the secret with the secre

ved half a million at Doctor