

A DEAD MAN.

It was just before the opening of the railway from Taganrog to Kharkof in 1868, that I was driving those dreary days and nights in the winter...

I called for tea, and the samovar was brought in by a fine, upright, gray-haired man, whom from his black velvet...

And throwing his legs across a chair, without more ado, he spoke thus: "I was born in 1809, and can remember the return from Paris of my father...

"In 1834, as a young postmaster—for my father was dead—with a good place and a handsome beard, I was the best match in the two church villages round...

"There," said I. "Ah, wait and see! Wait, little lord. Don't be impatient. Olga was as lovely as she was good..."

"We were happy at first, but I was young. I felt the chain. I was faithful to her as far as women went, but not kind. We had no children..."

Harness a troika, said I to the starosta; "I leave at once for Kharkof with dispatches that the courier dropped, and that I've found upon the floor..."

"The Production of Cheese in the United States." The whole amount of cheese made in the United States in 1870 was 162,927,282 pounds...

it fourteen years? "The same." In eighteen hours I was there. I recognized two of the old meek, but they not me...

"But, would you believe it? That wretched government at Petersburg insists that I am dead, and that the Donski station is kept by my widow. Or else they say the cuirassier riding-master must be dead, and with him his pension..."

How Soils and Forests Change. It is a matter of history that Charlemagne hunted in the forest of Gerardmen, then consisting of oak and beech, though now the same forest contains...

Napoleon III. In the "Memoirs of Odilon Barrot" occurs this sketch of the character of Napoleon III: "One of the principal traits of the character of this predestined personage, who was fated to reconstruct the empire, was the knowledge how to yield; that was the quality which chiefly distinguished him from the first Napoleon..."

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