

PRINCE BISMARCK IN THE CIRCLE OF HIS FAMILY AT FRIEDRICHSRUHE.



MAN WHO MADE GERMANY.

Prince Otto Edward Leopold Von Bismarck Was the Greatest Statesman of the Present Century.

THE death of Prince Bismarck has removed the greatest personality that Europe has seen since the days of Napoleon I. Indeed, it may be doubted if even Napoleon was his equal, measuring the two men by their deeds; for the work achieved by Napoleon has crumbled away, while that of the unifier of the German empire remains.

Prince Bismarck was one of the monumental figures of the nineteenth century. Before his time Germany was merely a geographical nation, her unity consisting alone in her language and her literature.



BISMARCK IN 1869.

True, she had aspirations to political unity and others there were before Bismarck who saw in the Prussian state the possible nucleus around which German unity might crystallize. But it was Bismarck who passed from theory to action; who cut the Gordian tangle of Prussian-Austrian relations in the affairs of the German States; who so guided events that destroyed the hegemony of Austria on the one hand and the grasping power and ambition of Napoleon on the other; who cemented the political unity of the various and hitherto discordant German states; fashioning the empire as it is to-day and crowning in the palace of Versailles the King of Prussia as the Emperor of a new Germany. Bismarck's name, naturally, is synonymous with German national unity—the dream and hope of hundreds of years—and, through him, now the possession and privilege of the people.

Bismarck's Career.
Otto Edward Leopold von Bismarck was born at Schonhausen April 1, 1815. His family was an important one in the affairs of Prussia and its descent can be traced to medieval times. When a year old Bismarck's parents moved to Pomerania, where they had inherited knightly estates, the leading one being Knipphof. Here Bismarck passed five years of his childhood, but on account of a somewhat mischievous disposition he was sent at the age of 6 years to a boarding school in Berlin, the principal of which had the reputation of being a strict disciplinarian. He proved an intelligent and earnest student, and at the age of 17 was ready to enter a university. The wild student life of the University of Heidelberg attracted him and he begged to be allowed to enter that institution, but his mother refused, sending him instead to Gottingen, where she foolishly thought he might not contract the beer habit. At Gottingen Bismarck led a wild and reckless life.

Already, before entering it, he had fought his first duel, and during his university life he fought twenty-eight more, being wounded only once. According to his own account he only attended lectures twice before he passed his examination. After leaving the university he held subordinate government offices, but growing weary of the dull routine of business he retired to the estate of Knipphof, where for a time he devoted himself to its careful management. They he plunged into the excesses that had marked his student career. With gay companions he gave himself to jolly carousals and in the old mansion none could vie with him in drinking. Owing to his recklessness he became known as "mad Bismarck," and terrible tales were told of his mad adventures. But he had periods of profound disgust with himself owing to these excesses, and often he retired into the forest, with his dog, where he plunged into meditation. Suddenly he gave up his wild courses and took up the study of history, theology and philosophy.

Enters the Prussian Diet.
After the death of his father, in 1845, the family estates were divided and Knipphof and Schonhausen fell to the possession of Bismarck. Two years later Bismarck married Johanna von Puttkamer, and in the same year he appeared as a delegate in the United Diet, summoned by King Frederick William IV.

The Prussian King was then at loggerheads with his subjects, the latter demanding greater rights and a constitution. Bismarck opposed the granting of any concessions by the King and made a bitter attack on liberalism and democ-

cracy. He was especially roused by a bill for the removal of the civil disabilities of the Jews and he characterized a constitution as a paper government. His services to royalty during the revolution of 1848 earned for him the position of a trusted adviser of King Frederick William. In 1851 Bismarck was appointed representative from the Prussian court to the diet in Frankfurt-on-the-Main, which met as the monthpiece of the forty-odd states of the German confederation, and here he became intimate with the crown prince, later King William of Prussia, and the first Emperor of United Germany. Prussia and Austria were then rivals in the affairs of Germany, Austria striving to retain her preponderance and Prussia endeavoring to destroy it and oust her from any position in the confederation. To this purpose Bismarck closely devoted himself.

From Frankfurt Bismarck was sent as ambassador to St. Petersburg in 1859, and here he remained three years. During this time occurred the Franco-Austrian war in Italy. The Prussian army was mobilized as a matter of defense, but took no part in the contest, yet its mobilization was enough to check Napoleon. The mobilization, also, revealed defects in the army, and these were consequently remedied. In 1862 William, who had succeeded Frederick William IV, in January, 1861, recalled Bismarck and sent him as minister to Paris. Bismarck had before this time become convinced that Prussia would have to fight with Austria for supremacy in Germany and with France for the ownership of the Rhine, something to which Napoleon's wild ambition aspired, and in Paris Bismarck had opportunity to spy into French affairs. Within a few months, however, he was recalled to take the position of premier and minister of foreign affairs. Bismarck at once got into hot conflicts with the House of Deputies, which had refused to vote an increased military budget, and he carried everything with a high hand. His haught-

THE LATE PRINCE BISMARCK.

Distinguished Statesman, Soldier, Diplomat and Unifier of the German Empire.



ness and contempt for the members was unbounded. "Constitutions," he once said, when taxed with governing without a constitution, "may be decided in other countries by a change of ministers, but this is not the custom in Prussia. With us, if two political bodies, which cannot go to law, are unable to agree, circumstances decide which of the two is the stronger." And circumstances did so decide, and the Prussian chamber found that Bismarck was the stronger.

In 1863, owing to reasons not necessary to discuss here, Austria and Prussia decided on going to war with Denmark. The Prussian Parliament refused to vote a war credit, whereupon Bismarck boldly replied: "If we find it necessary to go to war we shall do so, with your approval or without." And to war Prussia went. Denmark speedily succumbed and part of her territory was transferred to Prussia and Austria. The war, pigny as it was, was sufficient to enable Prussia to complete her almost perfect army organization and avail was almost immediately made of the opportunity. But it did not

remove the hatred which Bismarck's parliamentary course had engendered and an attempt was made to assassinate him. Bismarck was honored by having bestowed upon him the order of the Black Eagle, and he was furthermore made a Prussian count.

He Humbles Austria.
Meantime through Austrian stupidity and Bismarckian diplomacy Austria and Prussia were rapidly drifting into war. It was the opportunity that Bismarck had worked for and waited for, and when Austria ruptured the treaty of Gastein, entered into at the end of the Danish war, the order for the mobilization of the Prussian troops was given. Gen. Moltke, Gen. Roon, Bismarck and King William worked in entire accord, and so well had Bismarck done in his diplomatic work that Italy declared war against Austria at the same moment as Prussia.

While crushing the power of Austria Bismarck diplomatically played with Napoleon, who at first sought to extend the French frontier as it was in 1814, offering for such consideration to let Prussia have her own way with Austria, and who then, when Austrian power was crushed on the field of Sadowa, sought to gain Prussian support for the seizure of Belgium and Luxembourg. Napoleon gained neither of his objects, while he fatally allowed Austria to be crushed and Germany to rise as a powerful and rapidly uniting nation.

In February, 1867, the North German Parliament opened in Berlin, with representatives of twenty-two States north of the Main, and in April a constitution was agreed on and Bismarck was made chancellor of the confederation. The three years preceding 1870 were spent by Bismarck in consolidating the union of North and South Germany and by Napoleon in endeavoring to thwart him. And then came Napoleon's mad declaration of war. There is no need to recapitulate the story of the terrible avalanche of blood and destruction that swept over France during the autumn of 1870. Napoleon surrendered his sword on the battlefield of Sedan and his dynasty was forever ended. On March 1, 1871, the German army entered Paris and the war was over, German unity was an accomplished fact and King William I. was the crowned Emperor of the new German empire. Bismarck received the title of prince and became chancellor.

But Bismarck's work was not ended.

ham II. became Emperor. It was then almost an article of German faith that the Iron Chancellor, as Bismarck was called, would continue to steer the ship of state. It seemed impossible to conceive of a fresh hand at the rudder. But although between Bismarck and the youthful Kaiser there was a bond of admiration and although the latter, at the beginning, learned to lean upon the unifier of the German nation, differences sprang up between them. William issued an order that ministers were to report to him directly instead as heretofore to the chancellor. This was taking power out of the hands of Bismarck and naturally the latter rebelled against the edict and tendered his resignation as chancellor. He had done this so often, when in serious political crises, only to have his resignation rejected by his sovereign, that doubtless



THE NEW PRINCE BISMARCK.

To Herbert, the son of the late Prince, has descended the title of his illustrious father and estate at Friedrichsruhe.

Bismarck thought that William would not suffer him to sever his connection with the Government of the nation which he more than any other had builded. But William accepted the resignation and in May, 1890, Bismarck laid down the cares of state and retired to his estate of Friedrichsruhe. He was followed to his retreat by the sympathy of the German people and the admiration of Europe. But it took years to heal the breach between him and William, and it was not until 1894 that the Kaiser and his great subject became reconciled. Bismarck from his Friedrichsruhe retreat had inspired bitter attacks on the Government policy and to the thousands of people from all parts of the empire who visited him had delivered speeches that enraptured political rancor. It was therefore good politics for the Kaiser to seek a reconciliation and, in 1893, he took the first step, when he offered one of his castles to the aged statesman that he might regain his strength, which had been materially impaired. Bismarck gracefully declined the offer. In January, 1894, William invited Bismarck to visit him in Berlin. The visit was paid in January and Bismarck's reception by the people along his way was such as seldom has been accorded to ruler or subject. The Kaiser's greeting was cordial in the extreme and the following month the Emperor paid a return visit to his great and distinguished subject. The entire empire celebrated the reconciliation as an important historical event.

His Domestic Sorrows.
Soon afterward a crushing blow fell on Bismarck—a blow that made all his subsequent years full of loneliness. In November, 1894, his beloved wife died. She was nine years younger than her husband and had ever been to him since their marriage day in 1847 a faithful and devoted helpmate. In his private life Bismarck was happy and was devoted to his home. Over him the princess, in purely domestic affairs, had a great influence, but this did not extend to his political life. Bismarck was fond of nature and music and as a musician his wife was accomplished. During his entire life Bismarck was a lover of horses and seldom



BISMARCK LEAVING EMPEROR'S PALACE AFTER RESIGNING.

since his school days in Berlin he was unaccompanied by one or more large dogs, such as mastiffs or great danes. He was a lover of good eating and drinking and was a heavy smoker until a few years ago, when he began to suffer from its effects.

A sketch of the great life closed would

be incomplete without some reference to the honors heaped upon him by his countrymen. When Bismarck began his political career he was by no means a rich man. He possessed some patrimonial estates, but the domain of Schonhausen, where he was born, had passed out of his control. In 1869, after the successful war with Austria, he purchased the Varzin estate, near Berlin, with the donation that had been accorded him by Prussia in recompense for his diplomatic skill. In 1871 Emperor William presented him with \$300,000 of the indemnity paid by France and with this he purchased the estate of Friedrichsruhe, near Hamburg. It consists of 20,000 acres. Then in 1885, on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, the nation bought back by public subscription the old family domain of Schonhausen and presented it to the prince and princess and their children forever. On his eightieth birthday celebration, in 1895, in which the entire nation took part, he was the recipient of great and resplendent honors.

Nor would a sketch of Bismarck be complete without reference to his colonial policy. Under him Germany branched out as a colonial rival to Great Britain, and where formerly she did not have an acre of soil outside the fatherland, she now ranks as one of the great colonial powers of the world. Her flag floats from the great lakes at the head waters of the Nile to the shores of the Indian ocean. Vast areas in southwestern Africa and back of the Gulf of Guinea acknowledge her sovereignty. She is firmly established on the great island of Papua and has possession of many of the important groups that stretch across the South Pacific ocean.

Summary of His Character.
But whatever the success of Bismarck's political life there is much in it that Anglo-Saxon civilization will not approve. As a statesman Bismarck was arbitrary, self-willed, imperious and unscrupulous. His political ideas were those of a born feudalist. He governed with the strong hand of absolute power and crushed out every attempt to assert the political freedom of the individual or the masses. He was an absolute believer in the "divine right" of kings and by him as the only founder of the state. Sound in his foreign political relations, he made blunders in domestic affairs, cheating the people with a semblance of liberty and self-government. Viewed in the light of history, when time shall have furnished a truer perspective, Bismarck will stand forth as a man who was eminently fitted to realize the ideal hopes and aspirations of the German people, but as a man with many human failings. It remains to be seen how long Germany shall endure along the lines which he established.

A HISTORIC HORN.

Summoned Slaves to Labor and Presaged the Death of "Revenues."

There is an old battered tin horn in the possession of Col. "Ben" Loughridge, a wealthy planter of Murray County. It was originally used to summon his many slaves to work and to meals, and its welcome note at sunset was the signal for them to rest from the day's labors.

In ante-bellum days the horn was the property of Col. "Ben" Loughridge, a wealthy planter of Murray County. It was originally used to summon his many slaves to work and to meals, and its welcome note at sunset was the signal for them to rest from the day's labors. After the war the horn became separated from the Loughridge family, and from that time until a few months ago was the period of its stirring history. Murray County has for years been a stronghold of the "moonshiners." Time after time the revenue officers made desperate raids on the illicit distilleries, killing and being killed, yet never entirely subduing the stubborn mountaineers. The mellow note of the old tin horn would always warn the whisky rebels of the approach of their enemies, and many a good man's death has it presaged.

The moonshiners would station a lusty-lunged sentinel on some prominent mountain rock which commanded a view of the valley below, and the slightest suspicious symptom in the lower defiles was sufficient to send the bass echoes of the old horn flying, and the moonshiners themselves scurrying to their improvised fortresses, armed to the teeth and ready to take and risk life for what they considered their rights and in the defense of their hearthstones. To the "revenues" it always bore the dismal information that from the next crag or bramble they might expect a slaying volley from their hidden foes.

The venerable horn is a special reminder of a notorious gang which terrorized the country up to within a year ago. It was used to rally the forces of this gang and was often the preface to a bloody conflict between them and the law's representatives. When the gang was finally disposed of the horn passed into the possession of old "Uncle" Isaac, a typical "before war" negro, and the old man often brings it out and recounts its interesting history.—Baltimore Sun.

First Standing Army.

The first standing army of which there is any record was organized by King Saul, 1063 B. C. The army of Xerxes, in invading Greece, numbered 1,700,000 foot and 80,000 horses, 480 B. C. The first standing army of modern times was maintained in France by Charles VII, 1445. Standing armies were first established in England by Charles I., 1638.

Remarkable Irrigation.

No fewer than 12,000,000 acres of land have been made fruitful in the Sahara desert, an enterprise representing perhaps the most remarkable example of irrigation by means of artesian wells which can anywhere be found.

Light in the Dark Continent.

The lamp mostly used in Africa is a simple contrivance. In a cocoon shell filled with palm oil, a bit of rag is placed to serve as a wick, and this gives all the light that the natives require.

Too many people are looking for a chance to sit down. If you get along, you must keep on your feet. We greatly admire a man who has sense enough not to be a thoroughbred.

SAWED OFF HIS OWN LEG.

Wonderful Nerve of a Pioneer Gold Prospector.

Few old miners have not heard of the Pegleg mine, located in the vicinity of Death Valley, which has been a legend in mining circles for nearly fifty years. Numerous expeditions have been organized for the rediscovery of this famous lost mine. The originator of the story of a marvelously rich mine located in the terra incognita of which Death Valley is the central point was Pegleg Smith, a famous pioneer long before the discovery of gold in California. In his earlier career his operations were confined mainly to the overland trail on which he was employed as a freighter and guide.

The circumstances which gave rise to the sobriquet by which he was universally known was a most thrilling episode. While hauling a load of freight between the widely separated posts of that early day he was jolted from his wagon, and falling under its wheels had his leg so badly crushed that it was evident that his only hope of life lay in amputation. But he was alone on the trail in the heart of the mountains, and the nearest surgeon was at the military post of Fort Laramie, hundreds of miles away. He was a man of iron nerve, however, and did not hesitate an instant after he had learned the extent of his injuries.

With his jackknife and saw he performed the amputation himself, banded the stump as best he could, and in his crippled condition built himself a shelter and subsisted on the provisions in his wagon until he was found



CUTTING OFF HIS OWN LEG.

by some friendly Indians and taken to a surgeon. The operation was a success, and in a few months he resumed his old calling. When the late Governor Gilpin visited Oregon in 1840-'43 Smith was employed to guide him, and the Governor in his narrative records the incident. After the discovery of gold in the mountains of California, Pegleg turned prospector and traveled through the mountains from Oregon to Arizona until he became noted as the most daring and most thoroughly posted prospector and guide.

NEW BOTTLE FOR POISONS.

Prevents People from Taking a Fatal Dose by Mistake.

A New York City man has succeeded in producing a bottle from which poison cannot easily be taken by mistake.



Its distinctive feature is the anchor safety stopper, which is now in use in many hospitals, and which the accompanying illustration represents. The anchor inside the bottle is of heavy glass and is attached to the cork by an asbestos cord which neither affects nor is affected by acids or chemicals used in medicine. When the cork is withdrawn the anchor catches, and another warning is given by the rattle of the anchor striking the neck of the bottle. The contents of the bottle may be easily poured or dropped out by holding the cork at the side with the finger, as the anchor does not impede the flow.

A Puzzle Picture.



Find the other hunter.

Rain Signs.

Tulips and dandelions close up before rain. If it rains when the sun shines it will rain the next day. A piece of seaweed hung up will become damp previous to rain. When the walls are more than usually damp rain may be expected. Unusual clearness in the atmosphere, objects being seen very distinctly, indicates rain. When the sun appears of a light, pale color, or goes down in a bank of clouds, it indicates the approach or continuance of bad weather.

But few men are wise enough to read one word sufficient.