

Current Literature.

A MYSTERY.

Life held in her hand a measure, And swung it lightly and low; And she said: I will see if my pleasure Do not outweigh my woe.

BISMARCK AT HOME.

Many books and articles have been written on the political career of Germany's famous "Reichskanzler," but so far no one has undertaken to give a detailed account of his private life.

Prince Bismarck ranks among those great men who differ widely in their family life from that exterior or official life upon which the general public bases its estimate of character.

His mode of living, as is well known, is peculiar. He does not rise earlier than nine o'clock, and then, after taking a cup of coffee, he looks over his mail.

After lunch he devotes several hours to the affairs of State. Then, while giving frequent instructions to his secretary, he either walks up and down the room or sits at his writing desk playing with his quill pen.

Exactly at five o'clock he sits down to dinner, which generally lasts two and often three hours. After the English style, every dinner contains fish, which dish the Prince likes very much and of which he eats heartily.

an excellent humor, and frequently changes the conversation from one subject to another. He has a peculiar habit of gazing at some object and wrinkling his brow before he commences, but when he does speak it is in the most unconventional manner.

From eight till nine o'clock in the evening the Prince remains with his family and then works alone, often until one o'clock at night. During these nightly studies his inseparable companions are a long smoking pipe and a bumper filled with beer, of which he drinks copiously.

His mode of living is almost always the same, even in Berlin or during his usual summer sojourn at Kissingen. Several times during late years, while under care of Dr. Schwenninger, of Munich, he had to make temporary exceptions. Dr. Schwenninger, a young, ambitious physician, has found in the old Chancellor a willing and hopeful patient for his newly discovered system.

Regarding the health of the Prince from time to time the most contradictory rumors are circulated. Some say the once gigantic figure of the man has fallen away, and traces of his many maladies, especially of severe attacks of neuralgia and jaundice, are marked deeply in his countenance.

Although his general appearance is well known through pictures of every kind, we select a few characteristic points for description. His features were never either handsome or ugly, but being very remarkable are not easily forgotten if once seen.

For the safety of his person the Prince is always surrounded by a number of detectives, and besides he keeps a dog, the famous "Reichshund," called Tyras. It is a large, well fed Danish hound of blackish color.

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ought that there are desperate characters who are only waiting for an opportunity to "do away" with him.

Prince Bismarck's immense success as a statesman has not only bestowed upon him high rank and dignities, but it has also made him one of the greatest land owners in Germany. When he commenced his career as the son of a simple country nobleman he was constantly in pecuniary embarrassment.

Prince Bismarck's affection for his wife and children is great, and is repaid by their care and love. They consider everybody a personal enemy who causes him trouble or vexation.

During his whole life the Prince has shown the most impressive evidence of love and gallant tenderness toward his wife, the Princess. Time could not change this feeling.

The Princess, a sister of the Prussian Minister von Puttkamer, is said to have been a beauty in her younger days. She is now in her sixty-second year, but looks much older than she really is.

Of his three children Prince Bismarck pets his daughter most, and he generally calls her "Meine Marie." She resembles him very much, only that her features exhibit kindness and mildness.

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