

STORIES ABOUT BISMARCK

Events, Incidents and Anecdotes Illustrating Phases of His Life.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A NATION BUILDER

How He Shocked Conservative, Shattered Customs, Tamed Nations and Precipitated Wars—Beauty of His Home Life.

The story of the career of Prince Bismarck occupied during the past week a large space in the public prints—a space commensurate with his share in the world's activities during the last half of the nineteenth century. The various epochs of his life, the national and individual destinies he fashioned, the events he foresaw and prepared for, his triumphs and defeats, and the magnificent fruits of his labors for German nationhood have been related in detail. But there was much in his career necessarily omitted by ordinary writers. Occupying as he did the center of the world's stage for more than a quarter of a century, his public acts commanded attention and more or less obscured incidents which best illustrate the character of the man.

One of the personal traits of Bismarck conspicuous throughout his life was his domineering temper. In his younger days he was notorious as a rolicking student, a rough riding squire, an incorrigible cadet, and later on a brow-beating diplomat and demagogue. Of his student days there are tales of his duels, his brow-beating of shopkeepers, his insolence to professors. Of his brief years as a squire there are legends with a medieval smack to them—orgies at Kniephof, his country seat; midnight rides on horseback, drinking bouts in which champagne was the sole beverage for prolonged debauches, and the firing of pistols at the most unearthly hours. The peasants thereabouts used to say that the "Demon-Hunter" of old wine stories had come back into his own again, and in view of the shaly goings on at Kniephof they thought the spelling of the word—which as it stood had no instant significance—to Kniephof, which means "rollicker's farm."

Shocked the Professors. Before the first twenty-four hours of his student life in Göttingen were up he had swung himself, attired in a long dressing gown and accompanied by his big dog, into the presence of the university rector to answer a charge of misconduct. The enormity of appearing in a dressing gown with a dog before the rector, a member of the German university, can hardly be exaggerated, for a German rector is an authority of unsurpassed dignity. Installed in office with all the medieval pomp of scarlet robes and gilded staves and possessed of a golden chain which in an "open sesame" he uses to open the local princeling's audience chamber. Even today a German student could do few things more reckless than to call in a dressing gown on a rector magnificent, and official dignity in Germany today is nothing compared with official dignity in Germany sixty-six years ago.

Somehow Bismarck managed to escape the penalty which the heinousness of his offense merited, and was allowed perfect liberty to make himself generally obnoxious as only a German student can. He bullied and brow-beat and swaggered, and insulted people, and quarreled with them for being insulted, and challenged them and fought with them, and beat them. He trod on other students' toes,uffed their dogs, stared them out of countenance and called them "ruffid boys"—all of which performance constituted formal and unpardonable insults, which, according to university etiquette, had to be atoned for on the field of honor. Very few students got any real satisfaction out of crossing swords with the dashing young aristocrat, however, for he was an expert fencer and knew how to make the best of his long, wiry arms and his tall figure. Most German students then, as now, came out of their first duels with cheeks like Hamburg steaks. In twenty-eight duels, he received but one wound, and that only through the breaking of his opponent's sword. A scar on his left cheek marked for life the spot where the flying steel struck him. What with keeping himself in hot water and parading the streets in the saucer hat of his corps, big boots and a cut-off jacket, young Bismarck found little time for hearing professors' lectures. One famous professor spoke for many others when he said that, although he had young Bismarck's name on his list of hearers, he had never had the pleasure of seeing the young man in the lecture room.

After five years of carousing and desultory reading Bismarck left the university, a doctor "without high praise." As clerk in a court, or assessor, he made some pretense of continuing his studies for the civil service, but he still distinguished himself only for effrontery and ready wit.

"Sir!" he once shouted to an obstinate witness, "take care or I will kick you out!" "Mr. Assessor," remonstrated the judge, "discipline is my business in this court." "Sir," said Bismarck, turning back to the witness, "take care or I will get the judge to kick you out."

Taming Austria. Among the first things Bismarck did after shaping his plans for humbling the pride of Austria was to fracture one of the rules of the diet of Frankfurt in 1851. How he tamed Austria and at the same time opened the struggle which ended at Koenigsgratz is best illustrated by his most famous cigar story.

"At the sittings of the military committee, when Rochow was the Prussian representative at the Diet, Austria alone smoked. Rochow, who was a furious smoker, certainly would have liked to do it, but did not venture. When I succeeded him I, too, hankered after a cigar and a good one, too, which I should not have it I asked the power in the president's chair for a light, which seemed to cause him and the other gentlemen both astonishment and displeasure. It was evidently an event for them. That time only Austria and Prussia smoked. But the other gentlemen thought the matter so serious that they reported it to their respective courts. The matter required careful deliberation and for half a year only the two great powers smoked. Then Schrenck, the Bavarian envoy, asserted the dignity of his position by smoking. Next, the Baron von Puttkamer. Her parents objected to her union with such a wild young fellow of no apparent future, but Bismarck went before the family circle, folded the girl in his arms, and with his eyes on Herr von Puttkamer, sternly spoke the words: 'What God has brought together let no man put asunder.' To the end he loved his wife with such earnestness, devotion, and absolute fidelity as have few parallels in the lives of great men. Directly after Sedan he wrote her generous details of the battle and the results, addressing her as 'My dear heart,' and closing with 'Good-by, darling. Kiss the children for me.'

sign their names. The next day, when the weak-headed ones got sober again, they could not imagine how their signatures had got on paper."

The events leading up to the war with France, and particularly the manner in which Bismarck mutilated a dispatch which precipitated hostilities, is best told by a biographer in the master's own words: "When the uproar broke loose in Paris concerning the candidacy of Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern for the Spanish throne, the king was in Ems and I was in Varzin. The French behaved as recklessly as possible. For us the situation was extremely favorable. In fact, the injured party, and, as the necessity of a final settlement with France had long been apparent to us all, the moment seemed to have come to strike out. Therefore I left Varzin for Berlin to discuss the important questions of the day with Moltke and Roon. On the way I received this dispatch from Paris: "Prince Anton of Hohenzollern has, for the sake of peace, withdrawn the candidacy of his son, Leopold. Everything is now all right."

I was dumfounded by this dispatch, and I kept asking myself: "When will we have another opportunity as favorable as this?" In a dispatch to Ems I communicated to his majesty my resignation as minister president and federal chancellor. In reply I received a dispatch to the effect that I should come to Ems. I had already got a clear view of the situation and I knew that if I go to Ems the whole game will be up; at best, we will come to a rotten compromise, and the only honorable and adequate solution will be impossible. I must do all my power to bring his majesty to Berlin, where he can feel the pulse of the German people better than in Ems; that I leave Berlin at this time is not to be thought of.

"As good luck would have it, the French did meantime all possible to push matters to a crisis. They would have the king sign a letter—in fact, would humiliate him. The king, by telegraph, asked my advice, and answered with a clear conscience, 'Signature is impossible.' On the evening of July 14 I had invited Moltke and Roon to dine with me, and we discussed at table all the possibilities of the situation. We all knew that France's foolish behavior in making the unprecedented request for his signature to the letter would not be allowed to pass. As we were speaking on this point a despatch from Ems came. It began with the words: "After the news of the declaration of the hereditary prince of Hohenzollern had been communicated officially by the royal Spanish government to the imperial French government, the French envoy at Ems made the demand upon his majesty for authority to telegraph to Paris that his majesty the king pledges himself for all the future never again to give his consent in case the Hohenzollern should return to his candidacy."

"Then came a long explanation. The substance of it was that the king directed attention to what he had already told Benedetti. Count Benedetti accepted this answer thankfully and stated that he would communicate it to his government. Meantime Benedetti requested another meeting with his majesty, not only again, but verbally the statements which his majesty had made to him on the promenade. Then the dispatch proceeded: "His majesty declined to receive the French envoy again, and had him informed through an adjutant that his majesty had nothing more to communicate to him."

"When I had read this despatch Roon and Moltke let fall knife and fork and pushed back from the table. There was a long pause. All of us were deeply discouraged. We had the feeling that the whole affair would come to nothing. Then I asked Moltke: "Is our army really so capable that we can begin war with the greatest probability of success?" "Yes, as far as a rock in his confidence in the army," he answered, "and a better instrument," he said, "than at this moment." Roon confirmed the exactness of Moltke's statement.

"Then go on with your dinner," I replied. "I sat down at a little marble-top table, near the dining table, read the dispatch carefully through and then took my pencil and struck out all the intermediate part of Benedetti's request for a further audience, etc. I left it on the table. Now the dispatch was something different, and in this new edition I read it to Moltke and Roon. Both cried out: "Splendid! That must do the business." "We went on eating with improved appetite. I at once gave orders for the engraving of the dispatch to all newspapers and foreign missions and we were still together when we learned of the effect which the dispatch had had in Paris. It had fallen like a bomb. While in fact an insulting letter had been made to our king, the dispatch worked upon the French people exactly as if their chief representative had been rudely repelled by our king. The whole Boulevard gang was of the opinion that this could not be endured. The cry, "Down with the king!" was raised by the yelling mob. The proper temper was there. "And in Germany the effect was the same as in France. The king, at my pressing request, terminated his visit in Ems and came to Berlin, dumfounded everywhere by the hostile demonstrations shown by the people. The indescribable demonstration received in Berlin touched the old gentleman to his heart's core. His eyes were wet with tears. He realized then that it was a national war, a people's war, which the people desired, which the people wanted. "Already, before his arrival in Berlin, had received the king's consent to the mobilization of part of the army. As the crown prince stepped from the royal train he spoke purposely in a very loud tone of the approaching mobilization, and the king's ringing broke again. By the time we had reached the castle the king was all ready to command the mobilization of the whole army. What followed everybody knows. But the point I have been making is the one concern which Gramont in his memoirs expresses unaffected astonishment. He could not understand how, after affairs had taken such a pacific turn, the warlike spirit all at once got the upper hand. "An apparition saintlike survit. Tout d'un coup tout est change. Qu'est-ce qui arrive? Monsieur de Bismarck a Berlin." That is about the language of Gramont, as I remember it. At all events I was the saintlike apparition."

Domestic Fidelity. "One of the most admirable traits of Bismarck was his devotion to his wife, Johanna von Puttkamer. Her parents objected to her union with such a wild young fellow of no apparent future, but Bismarck went before the family circle, folded the girl in his arms, and with his eyes on Herr von Puttkamer, sternly spoke the words: "What God has brought together let no man put asunder." To the end he loved his wife with such earnestness, devotion, and absolute fidelity as have few parallels in the lives of great men. Directly after Sedan he wrote her generous details of the battle and the results, addressing her as "My dear heart," and closing with "Good-by, darling. Kiss the children for me."

Speaking of the princess he sometimes would say, "And you have no idea what this lady has made of me." Several pleasing anecdotes illustrative of his wit are related by a friend. After the new order of things came about in the consolidation of the empire, a delegation from some of the provinces visited the capital to recite their tale of woe to Bismarck. He waited patiently until they had finished, and then replied, "Well, well, gentlemen! You complain of universal military service, and the severity of taxation. Do you expect to become Prussians for nothing?"

On one occasion, at a dinner party given at his house, a politician noted for indiscretion on public questions made a statement that was characteristic, and aroused a gentleman present to respond rather warmly. "You are a fine fellow," said the speaker to his excited guest, "do not worry yourself, our friend will tangle himself up, and refute that very statement in a couple of minutes," and the roar of laughter which followed put every one again in an excellent humor.

A Royal Salute. After the famous German victories in the war of 1866, when Bismarck was the hero of the hour, his real greatness of character was finely illustrated. Thousands of people crowded to the palace of the king and cheered ceaselessly. At 2 o'clock the afternoon, when Bismarck started from the palace to the street, he was almost overwhelmed by the public enthusiasm. He felt humble, and was not disposed to take undue credit to himself, but joined in the general rejoicing, though his members have not been slow to avail themselves of these privileges. The headquarters at the exposition grounds have also proven to be a favorite meeting place for lodge men. The first place members of fraternal organizations go when they enter the grounds is to the headquarters of the lodge they belong to, and the register affords them an opportunity to know all the brothers who are on the grounds. In many cases this has been the means of bringing together men who could not have found each other in any other way. No matter the time the grounds are so homelike as the secret society headquarters, and in no other places do visitors take as much comfort.

Ante Room Echoes

The fraternal organizations of Omaha have proven themselves a great help to the exposition visitors who arrive in Omaha total strangers and without friends. Information bureaus have been established about the city where members of fraternal organizations and nearly everyone belongs to some order nowadays, may have reliable information about all matters pertaining to accommodations in the city. The feeling of fellowship which exists between members of the same order removes all hesitancy that there may be about approaching a stranger. The lodge rooms of most of the fraternal organizations are kept open all the time for the accommodation of visiting brothers, and since the opening of the exposition the visiting lists of the different lodges show that members have not been slow to avail themselves of these privileges. The headquarters at the exposition grounds have also proven to be a favorite meeting place for lodge men. The first place members of fraternal organizations go when they enter the grounds is to the headquarters of the lodge they belong to, and the register affords them an opportunity to know all the brothers who are on the grounds. In many cases this has been the means of bringing together men who could not have found each other in any other way. No matter the time the grounds are so homelike as the secret society headquarters, and in no other places do visitors take as much comfort.

Secret Society Notes. The supreme lodge of the National Reserve association will hold its annual convention in Omaha on August 23. About fifty delegates will be in attendance. High Chief Baner, J. M. Aikin of Omaha made Judge John Reese of Broken Bow a Forester at sight during the last week and commissioned him as general Tupper high chief in Iowa and Nebraska. Meetings of courts and in drill. A court will be established in Broken Bow in a short time. August 15 has been set aside as Fraternal and Business Association day at the exposition, and August 16 has been chosen as the day on which the delegates from the lodge in Iowa and Nebraska will meet in Omaha. An excellent band has been secured to furnish music for both days and on the night of the 16th Omaha lodge No. 11 will entertain the visiting delegates at a banquet.

The Knights of the Macabees are making extensive preparations for a large convention on September 20, Macabees day, at the exposition. On Wednesday night, July 20, Ivy camp No. 20, Royal Neighbors of America, held a meeting at which the following officers were installed: Mrs. A. A. Smith, R.; Mrs. Sargent, I. S.; Mrs. Vanoller, O.; Mrs. Hester, J. The meetings of this camp are to be held on the first and third Wednesday nights of the month. Cincinnati is making extensive preparation for the centennial of the grand army of the Republic, which is to be held there September 5 to 10. President McKinley is to be in attendance and will be entertained by Commander-in-Chief Gobin.

Odd Fellows. Beacon lodge No. 20 worked the third degree on one candidate on Thursday night. Judge W. W. Paddock was the candidate. D. C. who was formerly a member of Omaha lodge No. 2, has been visiting the Omaha lodge during the last week. A. N. Jay of Osceola, Neb., visited the Information bureau during the last week. He has been an Odd Fellow for fifty-six years. Mrs. Laura Tending of Peoria, Ill., a former member of Ruth lodge No. 1 of Omaha, is in Omaha visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Harton. State lodge No. 4 worked the second degree on one candidate last week. Hesperian Encampment No. 1 put one candidate through the mysteries of the first degree last week. Mrs. Charles Mulford of Martha Washington lodge, Daughters of Rebekah, St. Louis, visited Omaha during the last week. Mrs. Mulford has been a member of the order for a number of years, being the next to the oldest member in the world. The Odd Fellows of Omaha are striving to make Odd Fellows' day at the exposition, October 17, a memorable one among the many fraternal days that have been announced and are hopeful of swelling the attendance of Odd Fellows to 20,000.

Knights of Pythias. Iowa Pythian day, August 9, promises to be a successful state day at the exposition. The grand lodge of Iowa will convene in Council Bluffs on August 10 and all of the delegates to the convention as well as the Pythians who attend at the exposition, will be in Omaha the day previous. Not less than 5,000 Pythians will attend the exposition on that day. National Pythian day, October 3, is being extensively advertised and the inquiries which have been received concerning accommodations show that a representative body of Pythians will attend the Transmississippi on that date. Triune lodge No. 56 worked the second rank on two candidates Tuesday evening and will work the third rank on the same candidates next Tuesday evening. After the initiatory services are completed luncheon will be served and any visiting knights are urged to visit the lodge on that night.

Royal Highlanders. Coleridge and the Royal Highlanders was instituted at Coleridge, Neb., on July 30 by W. E. Sharp, H. C. M. Burgess, Floyd Ballen and W. B. Wilson. The following are the officers who were elected and installed for the year: John Y. Ashton, P. I.; A. W. Eddy, I. P.; Charles T. Ingham, C.; Oscar P. Mueller, W. E.; Frank O. Sonnell, S. J.; John A. Hayn, T.; Charles C. Wester, W.; Wilton Hayn, G.; Clark E. Edger, F. W. C.; George Green, S. W. C.; William Veach, C. O. S.; W. H. Gordon, C. A. J. Frank O'Malley, No. 36, was Mueller, S. P. C.; William Veach, T. P. C.; Dr. Charles T. Ingham, P. E.

Fraternal Union of America. The excursion on the Jacob Bichtman conducted by Mondamin lodge No. 111 proved a phenomenal success. The capacity of the boat is 600 and this number was secured before the time to leave the landing, more than 100 excursionists being turned away for lack of room. The ride up the river was very enjoyable and the affair was a success that Mondamin lodge is planning to give a similar excursion in the near future. Banner lodge No. 11 gave a social on Thursday evening, which was well attended. The evening was given to playing cards and light refreshments were served.

Royal Oaks. Council No. 3 of American Loyal Legion will give a box social at Hanson park every evening, August 9. All cordially invited. Grove No. 7 was organized in Omaha on Wednesday, August 3, with more than 100 charter members. The next meeting of the newly organized grove will be held on August 10 at the city hall annex, Douglas and Fifteenth streets. White Oak Grove No. 6 was organized at Plattsmouth on Thursday evening by Chancellor Guivits. A large number of charter members were initiated into the mysteries of the order and the grove began its work under propitious circumstances.

Grand Inchoence Daniel of the Red Men will arrive in Omaha on Monday and will visit Yahaundahs tribe, No. 2, at its rooms in the Continental hotel on Monday evening. He will visit the Rockwell tribe, No. 36, on Tuesday evening, at which time the St. Joseph team will exemptify the team work.

Shelly's Prophecy. "Was Shelly prophet as well as poet? asks a correspondent of an eastern paper. In finds these verses: "There is a people mighty in its youth. A land beyond the sea, where the people are 'Where tho' with ruder rites freedom and truth. Are worshipped; from a glorious mother's breast. Who, since high Athens fell, among the rest. Turns to her chainless child for succor now. And draws the milk of power in wisdom's fullest flow." "This land is like an eagle whose young feeds on the nontide beam, whose golden Plectra moveless on the storm, and in the blaze of sunrise gleams when earth is wrapt in gloom; Great people! As the sands shalt thou become. Thy growth is swift as morn, when night must fade. The multitudinous earth shall sleep beneath thy shade. "Nay! start not at the name—America! Canto II, 2-5.

Buckler's Arctica Salve. The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sore Throat, Sore Gums, Pains, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is the result of a fascinating heres as "My salve refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Kuhn & Co.

ORCHARD & WILHELM CARPET CO. Monday, August Eighth, We will place on sale all of the Furniture that was in our warehouse at the time of the fire--It is our intention to dispose of every piece during this sale, as we positively will not carry it over and put it with our regular stock--although some of it is so slightly damaged that it could readily be sold as perfect --To do that we realize the prices must be made low --These few hints tell the story of how well we have succeeded. Our first floor and basement is given up to this sale. A Lot of Over 100 Sideboards \$38 for an elegantly upholstered safe that is worth \$125. In as many different designs--some scarcely damaged. \$9 for a \$24 Cutler office desk. An over stuffed Parlor Chair, an easy seller at \$17.50-- on this sale..... 250 \$5 Table only \$2. Mantle Folding Beds, worth \$11, \$12, \$15 and up to \$24, now only \$3.50, \$5, \$8.75, \$10 and \$12.50, according to damage. Dining Room Chairs and 25c and up. Here are some pieces that were made for our exhibit at the Exposition. A very handsome Inlaid Table, finished especially for our exposition exhibit at \$17, reduced to..... 725 Inlaid Parlor Table, was \$12 price now..... 250 A handsome carved 3-piece Parlor Suit solid mahogany, regular price \$73, on this sale..... 450 Rocking Chairs. Great values at \$5 and \$6-- in this sale at only..... 175 Oak Stands 50c at Iron Beds. Just as good as new--enamel only is burned. 3-ft brass trimmed Iron Bed, \$1. 4-ft. 6 brass trimmed Iron Bed, \$1.75 Full size brass head and foot rail, \$3.90 Fancy Iron Beds at \$2.90 A bow foot, brass trimmed rings and spindles, regular \$6.75 bed, now..... 340 ORCHARD & WILHELM CARPET CO., Selling Out the Furniture That Was In Their Warehouse Fire, 1414-16-18 Douglas Street. FIXING THE COUNTY ROADS Commissioners Tell of the Improvements and Repairs Made or Under Way. "The most of our work on the roads this year we expect to devote to the more highly pretentious," said County Surveyor McBride, yesterday afternoon. "The 120,000 yards, or thereabouts, of grading for which the county clerk is now advertising is mostly in Florence, Union, Chicago and Jefferson precincts. There is, I think, about \$75,000 of \$80,000 in the road and bridge funds, combined, and an effort will be made this year to get the roads in as good shape as possible, taking advantage of the present good times to push the contemplated improvements. "Center street is now graded to the Union Pacific tracks, leaving only about 10,000 or 12,000 yards upon which we are now at work. The projected seventy-five foot steel bridge is to be built over the creek there, and we have about 1,300 feet paved from the end of the old paving. Center street will be a fine road, few being better in the entire country. We are about finishing the grading of Dodge street, and intend to do considerable paving on it this year. A job just being completed is the 10,000 yards at the county line at Sappy Mills. I tell you it needs only a trip into Sappy county to appreciate what has been done in Douglas county in the road line." County Commissioner Harie says the rats interfered greatly with the working of the two big road machines in the Elkhorn bottom, as it was hard to work the ground when it was wet. According to the last monthly statement of County Clerk Haverly the county road fund was \$53,356.82, and the bridge fund, \$37,918.16. Since the first of the year there had been paid at that time out of the road fund \$23,696.86, and out of the bridge fund, \$28,937.03. Special Commissioners. E. H. Hall and Fred L. Smith have been appointed special exposition commissioners to work up interest in the mixed white and colored people's day at the exposition and in the convention of the Personal Liberty League. Hall will go to Kansas City, St. Louis, Lawrence, Kan., his territory consisting of Kansas and Southern Missouri. Smith will go to Des Moines, Okaloosa and other points in Iowa and will canvass northern Missouri. Women in the Harvest Field. During these harvest days one sees from the car windows women and children at work in the fields of Iowa and Nebraska. Bring in two bona fide new subscribers, prepaid for two weeks each and get three of The Bee's photographs of the exposition.