

**PRISONERS OF WAR.**

**The Custom of the Nations in Disposing of Them.**

One of the least pleasant incidents for the individual during the war with Spain would be to be taken prisoner. Still, as Spain makes claim to civilization, it would not be so bad as though she were an absolutely savage or even a barbarous country. The usages of civilized nations regarding captives conform in a general way to these principles and rules.

All members of an enemy nation are enemies, though all are not treated alike. The general rule obtains that "no use of force against an enemy is lawful unless it is necessary to accomplish the purposes of war," and the practical application of it, refined through centuries, has led to exempting many classes from capture.

The custom of nations exempts from capture the persons of the sovereign and his family, officers of the civil government, women and children, farmers, mechanics, artisans, laborers, men of science and letters, and generally all those engaged in ordinary civil pursuits, unless actually taken in arms.

Count Bismarck even maintained in 1870 that the crews of merchant vessels could not be made prisoners.

The Geneva or Red Cross convention exempted hospital and ambulance attendants and chaplains attached to hospitals and ambulances from capture as prisoners.

By early custom soldiers, when taken in war, were killed. They may be killed to-day in case of absolute necessity—for example, if prisoners impede the movements of an army necessary to its preservation.

Later, captives were made slaves. After that the custom of holding them for ransom came into vogue.

During the seventeenth century exchanges of prisoners became frequent, but exchanging prisoners is not obligatory if the captors prefer to hold for ransom or to leave their own comrades in the enemy's hands.

Prisoners are frequently allowed to return to their own country on promise not to engage again in hostilities against the captors.

Perhaps the world will some day acknowledge the nobility of the spy, but it is doubtful if contending forces will ever cease to hang or shoot him when he is taken and convicted.

**War Chat.**

The Franco-German war cost \$3,000,000,000.

Santiago bombardment powder cost \$1,000,000.

England's ordnance survey map cost \$20,000,000.

The army of Germany boasts eight women colonels.

Yellow fever killed 11,500 Spanish soldiers in Cuba.

A Red Cross nurse won a husband among her patients.

Spain has sent to Cuba 1,000 tons of medicines, etc., in three years.

Our oldest vessel still in service, the schooner Polly, was built in 1805.

To escape from Ceuta jail a prisoner must swim the Strait of Gibraltar.

The demand for cavalry horses has revived the equine industry in Wyoming.

Our coast signal service system extends all the way from Bar Harbor to Galveston.

Profanity is forbidden by both the army and the navy regulations of the United States.

"By the sword of my father" is one of the most convincing oaths a Frenchman can use.

The Constitution forbids the President leaving the United States while he is President.

The sword of Napoleon was laid unsheathed on the pillow where rested his lifeless head.

During the siege of Paris no fewer than 22,000,000 letters sailed out of the city in the fifty-four balloons.

The breaking of the sword in halves and throwing the weapon at the feet of an enemy is the expression of insubordination, the spirit that admits defeat, but remains unconquered.

Searchlights are such good targets for the enemy's guns that the Germans are arranging to throw the light first on a mirror and thence on the enemy, thereby concealing its real source.

The World's Newspaper Output.

The total number of copies of newspapers printed throughout the world in one year is 12,000,000,000. To print these requires 781,240 tons of paper, or 1,562,480,000 pounds, while it would take the fastest press in London 333 years to print a single year's edition, which would produce a stack of papers nearly fifty miles high.

Using the Same Old Bait.

"Hello, over there! What bait are you fishing with?"

"One minute. A whopper's nibbling at my hook and I'm fishing with 'bated breath' just now."

"Yes, I smell it now. Be over in a minute!"—Sports Afield.

Stone Weighing 150 Tons.

A New Hampshire railway company is struggling with the largest block of stone ever quarried in Concord. Its dimensions are 6, 16 and 20 feet, and it is estimated to weigh 150 tons. It is to be used in a monument now in preparation for a Washington order.

Not Yet at the Angelic Stage.

She—Now that we have been married two years, do you think I am an angel yet?

He (sighingly)—No, not yet.—Boston Post.

Daily Addition to the Sea.

The quantity of water discharged every day into the sea by all the rivers of the world has been estimated to be about thirty-six cubic miles.

It's only a man's heirs who are ever really interested in his ailments.

**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 he 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 Kniephof. 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 Göttingen, where she foolishly thought he might not contract the beer habit. At Göttingen 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 Kniephof, where for a time he devoted himself to its careful management. Then he plunged into the excesses that had marked his student career. With gay companions he gave himself to jolly carousals and 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 Kniephof 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.

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 mouthpiece 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 them, "may be decided in other countries by a change of ministers, but this is not the custom in Prussia. With us, it is 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 so war Prussia went. Denmark speedily succumbed and part of her territory was transferred to Prussia and Austria. The war, pigmy 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 Sadova, sought to gain Prussian support for the seizure of Belgium and Luxemburg. 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.

William 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 built. 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 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 Sorrow.**

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 was he accompanied 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 1866, 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 the throne and the army were regarded by him as the only foundation 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 an ancient colored man at Dalton, Ga., around which are associated memories of many deeds of violence.

In ante-bellum days this 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 base echoes of the old horn flying, and the moonshiners themselves scurrying to their improvised fortresses, around to the teeth and ready to take and risk life for what they considered their rights and in the defense of their hearthstones. In the "revenues" inquiries 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 the 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. 480,000 B. C. The first standing army of modern times was organized 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 coconut 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 go along, you must keep on your feet.

We greatly admire a man who has sense enough not to be a thoroughbred.