

THE BUILDER OF AN EMPIRE

Outline of the Remarkable Career of Germany's Grand Old Man.

THE FRUITS OF AN AGGRESSIVE LIFE

Statesman, Diplomat and Guardian of Kings—The Wars He Provoked and Won—Celebrating the Eighteenth Anniversary of His Birth.

United Germany will celebrate tomorrow the eighteenth anniversary of the birth of Prince Bismarck. Few men of this century have made more modern history, and to him more than any other German, is due the credit of uniting in bond and brotherhood a confederation of warring principalities and founding on their ruins the mighty German empire.

The declining years of this great statesman, diplomat and hero of many wars are spent quietly with his family. He is now 80 years of age and his health is excellent. Bismarck has been an incessant smoker since his early youth, and at 80 his mind is vigorous and his body almost as strong as in his youth.

No one is dearer to the German heart than is Bismarck. His completion of fourscore years, after a career that would have been a half dozen of ordinary men and boys, will be an event. The German residents of New York have subscribed for a massive silver loving cup, to be presented to him on the anniversary of this day. This is a trivial fact to relate, but it illustrates how he is revered, honored and loved by his separated sons and daughters of his mutual country.

The birthday celebration this year will be a national affair in Germany. It is being passed by individuals of all the component states of the German empire for the erection in Berlin of a monument in honor of the civil achievements of Bismarck. The work is completed, and this has largely increased the general interest in the day about to be celebrated. Another grand banquet will be given by the royal household to be given by the Emperor William in Berlin in honor of the day.

His EARLY LIFE. Prince Otto Edward Leopold von Bismarck is the son of Karl von Bismarck, a member of an old Prussian family, long settled at Pomerania and the Mark of Brandenburg, and of Louisa Wilhelmina von Mecklenburg, daughter of the late King of Prussia. Bismarck was born on the estate of Schonhausen, on April 1, 1815. To distinguish himself from other branches of his numerous family he called himself (after 1845) "Bismarck-Schonhausen."

In 1827 he entered the University of Gottingen, where it was intended that he should study jurisprudence. But neither at school nor at the university did he display much aptitude for study but that of history. For the rest he was chiefly remarkable in these early years for his good temper, his delight in amusements of all kinds and his physical strength and courage. He was a member of the Prussian Landtag. He had been suspected of some leaning toward "liberalism" in earlier years, but he speedily came into prominence as an opponent of the parliamentary liberals, who were seeking to transform the Prussian monarchy into a strict constitutional regime.

The Berlin revolution of 1848 awakened in Bismarck sentiments of extreme indignation, and during this eventful year he was one of the most active leaders of the conservative party, which was seeking by means of the press, public meetings and representations to the king to put an end to the progress of the revolutionists. In 1849 he took his seat in the parliament, summoned by the king on the dissolution of the "National Assembly" of 1848. The boldness with which he denounced the "rebels" and the ability he displayed in supporting the crown in the struggle with the liberals soon made him one of the most conspicuous figures in Prussian politics.

In Bismarck's view the contest was one between the principles of order and disorder—the contest which was to be decided by debates and majorities. "Sooner or later the God of battles must cast the die." The principles he announced at this stage of his career are substantially those which have guided him throughout. Prussia was to be strengthened by a good administration conducted on the traditional lines of religious and military discipline. The center of the state was the Hohenzollern monarchy, which represented the people more truly than a newly created and artificial parliament. The royal prerogative must therefore be held intact. A free and united Germany under the presidency of the great German state, Prussia, instead of the half alien and wholly anomalous empire of Austria, was Bismarck's ideal. The feeble and cumbersome confederation was to be dissolved, an end put to the constant interference of foreign states in German affairs, and Germany was to be placed in a military and commercial position that it could be thoroughly independent. Holding these opinions, he was altogether opposed to the projects for a new German constitution brought forward in the Frankfurt assembly of 1849 and the so-called "German" Parliament of 1850, seeing in them nothing but an attempt to deprive Prussia of her rightful position among the German states.

In the second session of the Prussian Landtag (1850-51) Bismarck was recognized as the leader of the conservatives. At its close he was appointed Prussian minister plenipotentiary in London. There he showed himself the firm opponent of Austrian pretensions. But a brief experience at Frankfurt convinced him that little was to be hoped for under the existing constitution. Already he perceived that the malady of his country could be healed only by fire and sword. The outbreak of his post at Frankfurt was interrupted by diplomatic missions to Vienna and Pesth (1852), to some of the south German courts, and (1853) to the Emperor Napoleon at Paris.

In January, 1859, he was appointed ambassador at St. Petersburg. Here he remained three years, and ingratiated himself with many leading personages in Prussian society. In May, 1862, he went to Paris as ambassador, from which post he was recalled in September. Before the Danes had been driven from these states he asserted that they must be annexed to Prussia and refused to allow the creation of a new neutral-independent principality on the northern frontier of the kingdom. The dispute with Austria over this question became so violent that it was plain must eventually end in war. Bismarck's greatest anxiety during this period was to secure the neutrality of France without buying it by the cession of German territory. In this he was completely successful, chiefly owing to Napoleon's mistaken belief that the war would end in the defeat and humiliation of Prussia.

ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE. On May 7, 1858, an attempt was made on Bismarck's life by a youth named Lionel Cohen, who hoped to avert the coming

MY LADY MOLE.

Princess who refused to Walk on Common Earth Made to Follow.

A very long time ago there lived in the Land of Fable and Fairy a young princess who was famed far and near for her great beauty. It was whispered among the fairy folk that the Goddess Night had given her those silken tresses, black as the raven's wing; her rich, dark skin, soft as velvet to the touch, and her brilliant eyes, that sparkled like the stars at evening.

The princess was proud of her beauty, but still prouder of her pride; and she expressed this in her scornful face to such a degree that the people who came from distant lands to gaze upon her forgot her dark and lustrous brilliancy in their astonished contemplation of her haughty demeanor.

In vain did her father chide; in vain was she shown the picture of her gentle mother, long since dead; in vain did the court eunuchs plead the implacable stars a frightful destiny for her; in vain did the court bishop remonstrate with her; it was all to no purpose. She grew more haughty each day as she grew more beautiful.

Every day a hundred lovers—more or less—sued for her hand, saying that perhaps her pride was a "mere shell covering a tender woman-heart," but they found it shell very hard and enclosing a heart of ice. So they went home with sad faces and broken and battered hopes.

So this proud beauty created great havoc in the adjacent kingdoms and became a by-word among all nations. One summer afternoon the princess was reclining on soft cushions laid in the balcony, to which the south wind brought sweet messages from the rose garden just below. Suddenly she started and sat upright, quite startled by a thought that must take her to her bed. Then, as if charged with a mission of the greatest importance, she leaped to her feet and dashed down seven marble corridors and winding stairways and entered the throne room.

There she declared, as she tossed her head and dropped all unheeded from his hoary head. Then with hot cheeks and quick, broken breath she declared, as she gazed upon the king in magnificent disdain, that she would no longer upon the "ugly, horrid earth like common folk," and then asked the king what he was going to do about it; would he order a palanquin for her, or command slaves to precede her wherever she went with a roll of thick-piled Persian carpet.

"Why, bless my soul," exclaimed the old king, not yet recovered from the shock of surprise, and too amazed to do more than stare at her, "I will do what you bid me, my dear child, but open his eyes and moisten his forehead, 'bless my crown and scepter!'"

He continued to stammer this—his favorite phrase—as he gazed upon the princess in petrified astonishment, until the proud beauty became disgusted and glided haughtily from the throne room. She brought her arched brows close together in a knit, frown trying to recall the important errand that had brought her thither. "Yes, I remember now," she murmured, "I am like that of a swan, and her red lips curled into the shape of a delicate bow. 'How could I have walked upon the common earth and not have felt the degradation of it!'"

"Oh! oh! I must devise some plan. I think I will go to see the court fortune teller and ask her for some advice and assistance. I'll find out how long it will be before I may become queen," and then her throat swollen at an angle heretofore unheard of, with tip-toeing nose and chin, she walked slowly and stiffly down the long corridor.

BEFORE THE EARTH KING.

"Put on your darkest gown," said Night, "for I am to take you to visit the earth king, and he will not receive you if you wear bright colors."

"I never walk on the earth," said the princess. "I cannot go."

"Yes, I know," replied Night, "I have provided for you. I have rolled in a soft evening mist along the way that we must take, and we will glide upon it until we reach the entrance of the earth king's palace, which is a cave near the gates of sunset."

The princess quaked and trembled as she entered the earth-king's dwelling. Night had left her at the door of the dark cavern. She passed down a rock-hewn pathway, for the princess was so afraid of the earth that she followed some mysterious force that seemed to be drawing her along. With each step she felt less command of herself, and at last she reached the grotto, hardly knowing what to make of herself. The earth-king was seated upon a curious chair, carved out of the stalactites that hung from the roof. Rubies, diamonds, sapphires, emeralds and other precious stones, highly polished and brilliantly cut, were glittering from the gnomes' walls, and a brazier, in which embers were burning in bright purple flames, stood in the center of the floor, that was paved with solid slabs of gold and silver.

"We have heard, proud princess," began the earth-king, and instantly the little gnomes picked up their ears and listened attentively, as if they thought of the princess, how very exciting. Whatever is going to happen?"

"Yes, I have heard," continued the earth-king, "that you scorn the earth—is that true?"

"She scorns the earth," thought the little gnomes and whispered to each other. "How very dreadful!"

"Do you know what my kingdom represents," asked the earth-king very sternly. "The earth, not, neither do I care," replied the princess.

The little gnomes were astonished at any one giving such a saucy answer to their king. "I have heard," said the earth-king, "that you scorn the earth—is that true?"

"The black eyes of the princess gleamed with fire, but she looked steadily before her; the bright lips were pressed together, but she would not be moved. The great arms hung limp and lifeless; only a nervous twitching of her fair hands betokened the agitation of the handsome woman whose proud serenity had never before been disturbed.

THE PRINCESS.

leisure to the gratification of his idle curiosity, he had been very delighted when the youthful page informed him that the princess had announced that she would 'walk no longer on the common earth.'

"Well! well!" said the grand vizier, laughing heartily. "This is delicious! capital! I mean! What a fine story to tell at my 5 o'clock tea! I have never heard of a creature like this before. The lady never had me many times, but I think I have her now," and the malicious grand vizier smiled a cat-like smile, showing all of his teeth as if he could devour the princess with the utmost relish and delight.

"I have her now," he said again, passing under a tall tulip tree and beating the floor of his right hand upon the palm of his left.

"Let me have control of her," said the earth king. "I will subdue her stiff-necked attitude and she shall be such a devoted creature that all present were content to let him assume the responsibility of this difficult task."

Two days afterward, during which the earth king had considered the case and formed his plans, he dispatched a messenger to the princess—and this messenger was none other than the Goddess Night. The princess descended to receive her with pale cordiality.

"What shall we call her?" asked the other little gnomes, who by this time formed a group around their leader.

"Well, for my part," answered the first little gnomie, "I shall call her the Lady Mole."

"That the story is true everyone agrees for himself. If closely observed the mole will be found to have hands and feet quite like a dainty lady's in shape, and of the same delicate shell-pink in color. Then, too, if approached by human beings the little Lady Mole, contrary to her past history with her present circumstances, will scurry into the earth to hide her shame beneath the ground upon which she once scorned to tread."

Captain Crossman of the Alliance has made his home when ashore in Jersey City. He is very much liked by those who know him. His family consists of a wife and six children, two boys and four girls. They are extremely bright and attractive, and very popular in their circle. Captain Crossman has a great reputation among his friends for personal bravery.

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