

A PAIR OF BIG FEET.

They Brought Woe to France and Changed the Map of Europe.

The Princess Bismarck changed the political history of France unwittingly, and but for her the Franco-Prussian war might never have been waged.

Bismarck was unfriendly to France, but the Empress Eugenie hoped with her beauty to influence him so that the little trouble with France and Germany might be smoothed over. She therefore invited the German prince and his wife to visit the court of France, and the Prince and Princess Bismarck arrived in great state at the Tuilleries.

That evening there was a grand reception, and Eugenie received the guests in a gown which made her so ravishingly lovely that even Prince Bismarck, German, stolid and in love with his wife, stood and gazed upon her with admiration. And Eugenie was not slow to observe the effect of her beauty upon him. She called him to her side, and Bismarck came with his wife upon his arm.

Now, the Princess Bismarck was tall and gaunt and ugly, and her feet were generous. As she walked she showed a great deal of sole.

While Bismarck stood talking with Eugenie an audible titter was heard along the line of ladies. Bismarck, who was quick as a flash, followed the glance of their eyes and saw them rest upon the feet of his wife.

That settled the matter. The political history of France was altered from that moment.

A year later, when Paris was besieged, Bismarck himself fired a cannon over the ramparts, and those who were near him heard him shout:

"Take that for the feet of the Princess Bismarck!"

The slight was avenged.

THE MYSTERY OF DREAMS.

A Case In Which the Coincidences Were Remarkable.

On an occasion during the civil war I dreamed that I was standing beside a road when there came marching along it a strong column of prisoners, with guards at intervals on the flanks. I asked one of these guards who the prisoners were and where they had been captured. He informed me that they had been taken in an engagement with the enemy on the day before and that there were 1,900 of them. I then asked some bystander what day of the month it was and was told that it was such a day of a certain month, some six weeks later than the date of the dream. The whole dream was extremely distinct, and it made a strong impression on me. I related it to a number of my comrades within the next few days and then thought of it no more.

Six weeks later, on the morning of the very day that had been mentioned in the dream as the date when the column of prisoners had passed before me, I was on picket two miles distant from the point where I had seemed to be when I saw them. It was soon after breakfast, and I was standing by the side of the road at the fire talking to the officer of the picket when an aid to the commanding general came riding down the road. He had been a schoolfellow of our officer's at West Point and reined up when he recognized his friend. He told us that he had good news, that there had been a sharp engagement with the enemy the day before and that our people had captured 1,900 prisoners, who had just passed the headquarters that morning on their way to the rear.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.