

"Not by birth; not in the sense I mean. The Tremaynes were nobodies. I think the family must have been very low indeed, for he likes no allusion to the subject. He shuns the very mention of his own real name; you know Berkeley is only assumed. It seems to me," Therese continued very gravely, "that there must be something hidden in that early life of his. Did your father ever speak of the time before he and papa came to Canada, Hilda?"

"Sometimes he spoke of their early life. The family was respectable, but poor. It is a foolish idea of yours thinking there is something concealed, Therese."

"Well, it may be; but I cannot get rid of it, and lately the thought has troubled me."

"Have not Mr. and Mrs. Grant Berkeley been invited to the dinner party?" Hilda asked, wishing to change the subject.

"Yes, Grant and his wife are coming of course. I did not mention them, as they belong to the family."

"Sir Gervase Montague admires Pauline exceedingly, but that is not surprising. Everyone thinks her so handsome."

"She is handsome—remarkably handsome for a woman of her age. She must be near forty," remarked Hilda, a little ill-naturedly. The information that Sir Gervase Montague admired Mrs. Grant Berkeley was not pleasing, it excited something like jealousy.

"Oh, not quite so old; only thirty-five," said Therese, laughing. "Was it not a strange fancy of Grant's choosing a wife some years older than himself?" she continued. "But there is no accounting for taste. Pauline is so fascinating too!"

"Yes; besides Pauline was a widow, and a widow handsome and fascinating is irresistible," remarked Hilda, laughing.

"Then Pauline looks so young," resumed Therese, "no one would ever think she was Frank Mordaunt's mother. He is a year older than I am, and so tall!"

To be continued.

GEN. GRANT ON THE WAR

The views of General Grant on the conduct of the European war are something which all the world has an interest in knowing. The enterprise of the *Times* was exhibited, during the late visit of his Excellency, by obtaining, at some length, the General's opinion of matters on the Rhenish frontier.

The General, in response to a question as to his opinion of matters between France and Prussia, said that neither party understands war as he understands it.

Here the reporter of the *Times* ventured to assert a cordial endorsement of the remark of his Excellency.

"Permit me, General," said Mr. Scammon, "to ask you to point out what you consider to be the chief blunders of the campaign thus far?"

"France," said the General, as he lighted a fresh cigar, "made a blunder in commencing war upon a people of equal size and strength. The true way to make war is to always have three to your enemy's one. An illustration of the fact was given at Shiloh. The enemy there was within a third as large as my own force. Hence the disaster which befell me."

"But, General," said the reporter, "have you no faith in manœuvring or in strategy, whereby inferiority in point of numbers can be equalized by superiority of brains?"

"None whatever," Sherman played that out in his march to the sea. You see, the Confederacy was only a shell, and that is why he met with such success. He had no opposition. My own experience proves this. In all cases where I attempted any of these new-fangled operations, I was beaten."

Here Mr. Colfax, with a very sweet smile, inquired as to what the General thought should be done by Napoleon.

"My idea," said the General, "is that he should get Butler and Banks to command army corps in the Prussian forces. Then he should conscript every Frenchman that can carry a musket, and send him in. Prussia has only 30,000,000 inhabitants, while France has 40,000,000. This is a clear difference in favour of France of 10,000,000. Now let Napoleon keep hammering away at the Prussians, if it takes all summer. I am of the opinion that the superior activity of the French, aided by their chasseur, their *clan*, their traditions, and their superior navy, will enable them to kill a Prussian as often as they can a Frenchman. Hence it is a clear case that if Napoleon hammers away till all the Prussians are killed off, he will have 10,000,000 left. In other words, his cat's tail is the longest."

"What is your opinion of Napoleon personally?" asked Mr. Joseph Medill.

"He is a great man. He smokes always and never says anything. He was once in humble circumstances. He was never, however, in the hide business, except perhaps so far as hiding himself is concerned."

Here General Dent broke into uproarious laughter. He afterwards remarked to our reporter that he was hired to laugh at Grant's jokes; and, he added, he flattered himself he was doing a very extensive business on a very limited capital.

General Grant puffed stolidly until Dent had finished laughing, and then he resumed:

"Napoleon is my model. I have stood before his portrait by the hour, trying to mould my countenance into the stony inexpressiveness that characterizes his. I am not certain but that I shall imitate his *coup d'etat*. He rose from obscurity to be a president. So did I. He rose from president to emperor; and if I don't follow suit it will be because Congress took the trump out of my hand when it reduced the army."

"Well, now, General, tell us what you think of the Prussians," said Mr. Greenbaum.

"Don't like 'em," he responded, sententiously.

"Why not, your Excellency?"

"Well, I don't. They want office too much. Why, I had more than a hundred thousand applications from Dutchmen for office, whose only recommendation was that they 'fought mit Sigel.' As voters, I have no objection to them. During the war they stole everything, so that a native had no chance."

The General proceeded to comment on Prussian strategy. He did not like it, he said. They were in too much of a hurry. Here, now, in less than a month, they have hardly a million of men in the field, which was a shorter time, he said, than he required to move his army from Fort Henry to Donelson—a distance of only thirty miles. This celerity, he remarked, is destructive of all precedent. The Prussians have gone farther in ten days than he went in ten months when moving on Richmond.

He further thought the Prussian move a blunder. In place of going toward Paris by way of Metz, they ought to cross the James river and go round by way of Petersburg. There is neither dignity nor sense in this way of rushing straight at Paris with a big army. The Prussian leaders ought to hold on and see who is going to be next President. This making war for war's sake was not, in his opinion, the true principle of warfare. All wars should have the high and beautiful object of returning the men of one's party to Congress, and the election of one's candidate to the Presidency.

At this moment it was announced that lunch was ready, and the party broke up.—*Chicago Times*.

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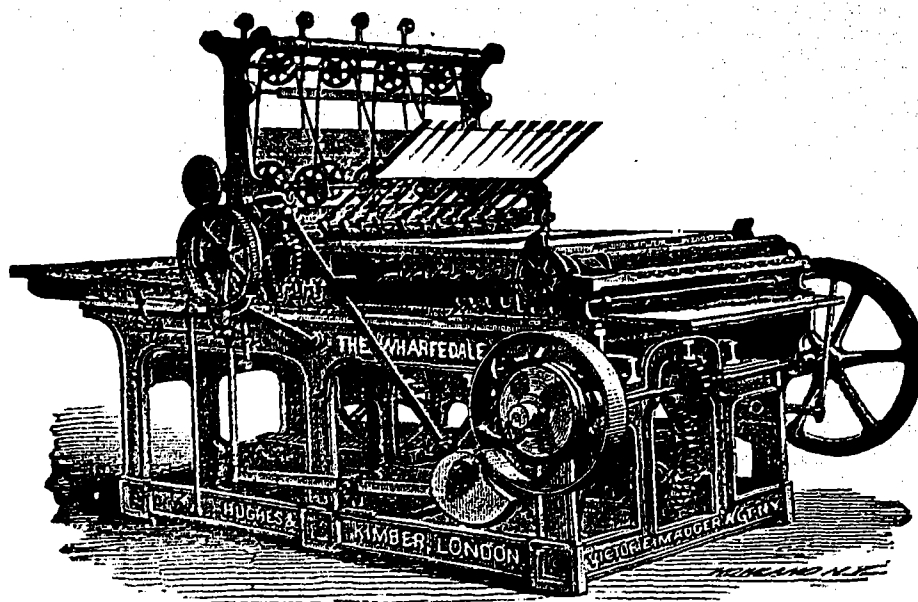
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