

## THE SPRINGS OF LONG AGO.

I hear in the thicket the brooklet's fall;  
A thrush on the lilac spray  
Sings, as of old, the vesper song  
Of the slowly waning day:  
And the fragrance comes down from the chestnut  
trees

In the meadow where the daisies blow,  
And it came when the tender twilight came,  
In the Springs of long ago.

Far over the dark and shadowy woods,  
Comes floating the church-bell's chime,  
And I wonder and dream in the fading light,  
As I dreamed in the olden time,  
When I lingered under the chestnut boughs,  
Till hushed was the bird's sweet strain,  
And the shimmering light of the moonbeams fell  
On the leaves like a silver rain.

But never again shall I wait and watch,  
In the hush of the sweet Spring night,  
For a step in the depth of the rustling copse,  
And the gleam of a garment white.  
And never again, 'neath the dew-gemmed  
flowers

Shall linger my love and I,  
When the tremulous stars through the fleecy bars  
Look out in the western sky.

Yet a joy which is nameless and strangely sad  
Throbs oft in the heart's deep core.  
As the sweet, sweet love of the days long fled  
Is thrilled into life once more.  
Oh dear was I to the heart that is cold,  
And her love o'ershadows me still;  
And the stars shine down on her grave to-night,  
In the lone churchyard on the hill.

## TRIAL OF MARSHAL BAZAINE

(From Broad Arrow, Oct. 18.)

(Continued from page 552.)

## FOURTH DAY: SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS.

On Thursday, last week (October 9), the trial of Marshal Bazaine was resumed at 1.15 p. m. The names of three witnesses who had not yet appeared were again called. The clerk then commenced reading the documents annexed to General Rivière's report. The first relates to the communications between Metz and Paris, and states that the railways and telegraphs were cut on the 1st of September. Numerous emissaries were sent by Marshal MacMahon and other generals from different places, but all efforts had failed to trace out the greater part of these messages. Lengthy details follow relative to the despatches sent from Thionville to Metz, and *vice versa*, several of which were suppressed. This document strongly censures the conduct of Colonel Turnier, commander of Thionville. It relates to the commission of Commander Magnan, who had been sent by Marshal Bazaine to Chalons, and lays special stress upon the fact that, despite the many opportunities that officer had, he did not succeed in delivering Marshal MacMahon's reply to Marshal Bazaine. It further seeks to prove the suppression of the despatches addressed to Marshal MacMahon, which is alleged, by deceiving the latter, brought about the catastrophe at Sedan. In conclusion, it alludes to the emissaries who at the termination of the siege of Metz proceeded to Tours.

## FIFTH DAY: SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS

On Friday the court opened at 12.40 p. m., when the clerk resumed reading the documents annexed to General Rivière's report. The portion read to-day related to the efforts made to communicate with Metz. More than 300 or 400 messengers were employed in this service, of whom only twenty appear as witnesses in the present trial. The prosecution attaches great importance to the despatch delivered to Marshal Bazaine on the 23rd of August, announcing Marshal MacMahon's movement on the Meuse. Mention is made of the balloons sent from

Metz, of which Marshal Bazaine refused to avail himself.

Details follow respecting the efforts made by the Government of the National Defence to communicate with Metz.

The document seeks to prove that the marshal was informed that a quantity of provisions were collected at Thionville.

With this the reading of the annexed documents, relative to the communications which passed during the siege, was brought to an end.

The clerk of the court then commenced reading the documents relative to the artillery question, giving the number of guns, and the quantity of supplies in Metz, with the object of refuting Marshal Bazaine's assertion that he was obliged to stop the movements of his troops on account of the paucity of ammunition.

The document further shows that the 4 pounders had on the 16th of August 284 shots to fire, and that only thirty nine were fired, and that on the same day 17,500,000 cartridges remained in the arsenal, of which 1,000,000 only were used. It concludes that ammunition was not wanting, and says:—"When it was said that there was no ammunition, the fact was that there was no intention to fight.

The clerk subsequently read the documents relative to the provisions which declare that want of foresight alone delayed the collection of supplies in Metz at the outbreak of the war, and that thereby the food resources were diminished.

The reading of the documents proceeded as far as the investment. The Prince of Serbia was present at the sitting.

## SIXTH DAY—OCTOBER 11TH: END OF THE INDICTMENT.

The court resumed its sittings on Saturday, when the clerk proceeded to read a general review of the charges against Marshal Bazaine:—

"In relinquishing the chief command under the pressure of public opinion, the Emperor had given a last order to Marshal Bazaine—viz., to bring back the army to Chalons. In consequence of certain circumstances it had been found necessary to send nearly all the regiments to the frontier, and to begin the war simply with the cadres.

"Nothing was more important than to reconstitute the war effective by means of the reserve, for while the cadres were shut up in Metz it was impossible to organize fresh armies on a solid footing. The events which followed but too clearly proved this. This view of the situation weighed especially upon the mind of the Emperor, who, on the 13th and 14th of August, repeatedly insisted upon the marshal taking active measures for effecting a retreat, and who took his departure from the army when he saw the troops commencing their advance in the direction of Verdun.

"With regard to Marshal Bazaine, whose anxieties had often been increased by the by the Emperor's hesitation, he had but one desire—escape from the control of his sovereign—as has already been proved."

Alluding to the military operations, the report summaries them as follows:—

"In presence of the facts we have pointed out, the reporter comes to the conclusion that the marshal, far from having fulfilled his duty towards the Emperor, constantly deceived him, and that, in causing by his false information the advance towards Montmédy, which culminated in the catastrophe of Sedan, he has assumed a great part of the responsibility for that disaster."

General Rivière then alludes to the Reg-

nier incident, and contends that the marshal ought not to have listened to the overtures of an unknown person without credentials. His duty was to fight, and, if he was not in a position to take the field, he should have harassed the enemy's forces by incessant sorties, and taken measures for obtaining provisions, instead of remaining inactive in Metz. General Rivière then says:—

"Why, instead of entering into negotiations with the enemy, did not the marshal seize all possible means of communicating with the Government of the National Defence? The two frivolous despatches which he sent to the Minister of War during the period of the siege, until the eve of the capitulation, cannot be considered as serious attempts.

"At the same moment (September 25) when he disclosed to M. Regnier the state of affairs with regard to the provisions, he did not send the slightest information to the War Minister on the subject. In short, he forgot the duties he owed to his country in so far as he did not order General Bourbaki to communicate the state of his army to the Government, which was struggling against the invasion, in case his mission to Chislehurst should fail. There were numerous opportunities for corresponding with the interior of France, and as the marshal did not think it necessary to avail himself of any, the prosecution has the right to come to the conclusion that the marshal was not desirous of communicating with the Minister of War. His army was the only hope of the nation; so long as it existed nothing was lost, and every day it was expected the marshal would succeed in cutting his way through the enemy's lines and so arrive in the interior of the country, which the new recruits, without cadres, were powerless to protect. In that situation, if the marshal had asked the Government of the National Defence to combine their efforts with his in the Vosges, or in another direction, who can say what might have been the result? At that supreme moment the question of a form of Government was of no importance. We are about to lose Alsace, and perhaps Lorraine, and still the Commander-in-Chief chose to remain idle and to enter into negotiations with the enemy. The Empress was otherwise inspired when, in granting a farewell audience to General Bourbaki, she advised him to proceed to Tours and offer his sword to the cause of national independence. In presence of this spontaneous movement on the part of the Empress; it may be easily understood with what high-mindedness, after having disavowed the Regnier intrigues, she rejected the convention of which the first clause must inevitably be a dismemberment of the territory."

"If, in consequence of Regnier's silence, the marshal resumed negotiations which he knew beforehand must fail, it was not a return to fidelity which animated him. Here is to be found the guiding principle of his conduct, and not in the interests of a cause which he had abandoned, and towards which he was drawn only by the egotistical impulse of his ambition."

The report proceeds to dwell on the duty of a commander-in-chief towards his soldiers, and says:—

"A general is bound to shed the blood of his soldiers without hesitation when the salvation of the country requires it. But while this should render him absolutely deaf to false humanitarian pleadings, he should all the more carefully spare them when a grievous sacrifice would be useless.