

nobility. He believes also in force, as if he had the blood of the god Thor. He believes in war, and does not hesitate to throw his 'iron dice,' insisting upon the rigours of the game. As the German question began to lower, his policy was more persistent. 'Not through speeches and votes of the majority,' he said, in 1862, 'are the great questions of the time decided—that was the blunder of 1848 and 1849—but by steel and blood.' Thus explicit was he. Having a policy, he became its representative, and very soon thereafter controlled the counsels of his sovereign, coming swiftly before the world; and yet his elevation was tardy. Born in 1815, he did not enter upon diplomacy until 1851, when 36 years of age, and only in 1862 became Prussian Minister at Paris, whence he was soon transferred to the Cabinet at Berlin as Prime Minister. Down to that time he was little known. But from this time he drew so large a share of public attention, that the contemporary press of the world, became the dictionary where his name was always found. Nobody doubts his intellectual resources, his courage or strength of will; but it is felt that he is naturally hard, and little affected by human sympathy. Therefore he is an excellent war minister. It remains to be seen if he will do as much for peace. His one idea has been the unity of Germany under the primacy of Prussia, and here he encountered Austria, as he now encounters France. But in that larger unity he can do less, so long at least as he is a fanatic for kings, and a cynic toward popular institutions. Such is the King and such his Minister. I have described them that you may see, how little help the great ideas already germinating from bloody fields, will receive from them. In this respect they are as one.

2. DISTRIBUTION OF THE IRON CROSS AT VERSAILLES.

There was a very interesting ceremony yesterday in the courtyard of the Palace, at the base of the statue of Louis XIV. It was arranged that the Crown Prince should here distribute the decoration of the Iron Cross to some fifty officers and men who had distinguished themselves in the war. A grand parade took place at ten o'clock, and the troops were drawn up in close column facing the central point, where stood his Highness surrounded by a brilliant staff. All the open space was glittering with Prussian bayonets and brass-topped helmets. Nothing could be more perfect than the "dressing" of the lines, nor more rigid than the attitude of the soldiers at attention. They seemed almost as immovable as the colossal figures of famous Frenchmen which flank the approach to the statue of King Louis. Each man who was to receive a decoration stepped firmly up to the Crown Prince, stood like a rock whilst the honour was bestowed, and went firmly back to his place, as though he had gone through the same manoeuvre every day of his life. The Prince addressed a few stirring words to those assembled, and proposed a cheer for His Majesty the King. Out flashed his sword, and waved above his head as he led the hearty shout which greeted his father's name. You cannot imagine a better effect, in its way, than this burst of loyal enthusiasm in the hitherto silent mass, with the tall, bearded Prince leading the cheer, sword in hand. The voices rose loud and strong, and the music of the military bands swelled proudly forth in the first few bars of the National Anthem. Then there was silence again, and then the Palace walls echoed for the second time to voices and music when the General commanding the division proposed a cheer for His Highness the Crown Prince. — *Daily News Correspondence.*

3. ETYMOLOGY OF THE WORD "PRUSSIA."

The word Prussia is traced by different authors to *Po Russia*, meaning, in the Slavonian tongue, near or adjacent to Russia; or to *Prusi*, *Pruci*, or *Bourissi*, the name of a Slavonian tribe; but Malte Brun thinks it more probable that the name sprang from some Wendish word allied to *Prusnika*, signifying "hard and clayey land." The kingdom of Prussia owes its name to the province of East Prussia or Prussia proper, but the Electorate of Brandenburg formed the nucleus of the present nation.

4. THE GERMAN SOLDIERS AT DRILL.

"The discipline and daily routine of exercise for the Prussian army is, to all foreigners, a source of never-ending wonder. The early morning is devoted to cleansing the quarters, and correcting any irregularities which may have arisen out of the previous day's duties. Later in the forenoon the hours are given to study—arithmetic, geography, geometry, theory and practice of military science; and even singing is not neglected. Great importance is attached to the studies of the soldiers, and, by attaining a certain advancement in knowledge, each one, after satisfactory examination, can shorten his term of service from one to two years. In the afternoon of each

day the bodily culture is attended to, and this consists not only of purely military drill, but also of every variety of physical exercise, calculated to add either strength or suppleness to the human form—running, leaping, vaulting, balancing, bayonet exercise, lifting, shooting, bending, altogether such an innumerable variety of movements that no muscle of the body is without its daily exercise. These squad drills are followed by company and regimental parades, and at short intervals by grand field movements of brigades and divisions, and these once or twice a year by grand army movements with mock battles. I have not been fortunate enough to witness any of their grand tactics, but the exercises in detail by company, battalion, squadron or battery, and in particular the artillery movements seem to me to be as near perfection as patience and practice can make them."

5. THE BATTLE FIELDS IN FRANCE.

A correspondent of *Notes and Queries* draws attention to the fact that the battle-fields of the present campaign attained early celebrity as the headquarters of typography. Metz was one of the first towns which practised the art of printing, and the ancient works which came from its press are very numerous. Strasbourg is asserted to have been for some years the home of John Gutenberg, although no dated book is extant of an earlier year than 1471. Toul is to be noticed as the place at which one of the first attempts at stereotyping was made. The Sedan editions compete with the Elzevirs in the estimation of book collectors, and are beautiful examples of minute typography. Kehl was the ultimate resting place of Baskerville's type, with which M. Beaumarchais printed an edition of Voltaire's works on blue paper for King Frederick of Prussia, "who labored under weakness of the eyes." At Rheims and Verdun printing was carried on at an early date, and the latter place has a special interest as having been the place where the English prisoners who were detained by Napoleon I. printed, with his permission, an edition of the English Book of Common Prayer.

6. RESTORATION OF STRASBOURG.

The City Council of Berlin has published a manifesto in which all German cities are requested to contribute towards restoring Strasbourg to its original beauty, and towards repairing the damages caused by the bombardment. The Council of Berlin heads the subscription list with a donation of \$25,000. The Queen has sent a letter to the City Council expressing her sympathy with the movement, and signing \$1,000 out of her private purse. The King has signed \$5,000, and the Crown Prince \$1,000.

VI. Educational Intelligence.

— PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION. — At the fourth semi-annual session of the Prince Edward Teachers' Association, the first subject, "A system of Merit Cards," was discussed. Mr. R. B. Mastin explained the system adopted in his school, and testified to the excellent results. It had the effect of waking up the pupils, and creating an interest in study which he could secure by no other means. He used the cards supplied by the Educational Department at Toronto. Of course the cards would do little good without prizes coming after them. Some of those present stated their objection to prizes, after which Dr. Crowle expressed the opinion that, as many things in the world required turning upside down, he thought the same rule would apply to school affairs, and was in favor of giving prizes. He said the world was offering prizes in every department, not to the children alone, but to grown people as well. The next subject taken up, "The Bible in School," was then introduced by Dr. Crowle. He thought the Bible should be used in every school, because we were in a Christian land, and it was important that right impressions should be made on the minds of children. He thought the Bible should be read without comment, and left to explain itself. There should be no sectarian teaching in our schools, but we ought to pay such a tribute to Christianity as to have the Bible read. He instanced Great Britain and France as examples among nations of those who honor and dishonor the Bible, and he thought the present humiliation of the latter country due to her neglect of the sacred Word. Messrs. Witcher, Youmans, A. C. Osborne, Dorland, Ferguson, W. J. Osborne, and others, joined in the discussion. A motion was made for the appointment of a committee to draft a petition to the county council