

handsome girls since his arrival in Canada, but none with that noble bearing, that graceful pose of the head. If the Hon. Mr. Cavenish had known that Miss Tremayne could boast of a long line of ancestry on the maternal side he would have accounted for it in that way; yet such stately grace comes naturally to those who are not of noble blood, neither does it always accompany rank or station.

Sir David and Lady Brown and the Misses Brown were the latest arrivals. However, they came in time enough to prevent the dinner being spoiled. Sir David's tastes were epicurean, and to spoil a good dinner from want of punctuality was an error of which he was never guilty, and one which he never forgave in others. The guest who erred in this way was never honoured with another invitation to the knight's hospitable mansion.

When dinner was announced, Mr. Cavenish offered his arm to Miss Tremayne. Pauline contrived to secure the English Baronet's, leaving the portly Sir David to lead to the dining-room the mistress of the mansion; while Mr. Berkeley followed with Lady Brown, whose very stout figure seemed a moving mass of moiré antique, velvet and jewellery.

To be continued.

THE CAPTIVE EMPEROR'S HOME.

A correspondent writes:—The good people of Cassel display no animosity towards the Emperor Napoleon, and, indeed, why should they? His arrival has been quite a godsend for them, for his servants and retinue number about 130 persons, and strangers are likely to be attracted to the place in the hope of seeing the distinguished prisoner. All this is good for trade, and in fact some of the inhabitants believe King William selected Wilhelmshöhe as the captive's residence in order to compensate Cassel for the premature closing of its industrial exhibition. As for the Emperor, he appears by no means dissatisfied with his present quarters, and he is far from being so broken in health as has been alleged in some quarters. He is frequently to be seen of a morning promenading up and down the walk in front of the castle, smoking as usual, and conversing placidly with some of his generals. Occasionally he takes a longer walk in the park, and he is at liberty to go where he pleases, within range of some dozen miles, without fear of being interfered with by any of the five and thirty soldiers who are supposed to be his keepers.

His retinue are perfectly "jolly." They laugh, talk, and smoke as complacently as though they were still at the Tuileries, and as though the Emperor's misfortunes were nothing but a dream.

In the castle garden this morning I met an officer of the Emperor's household, who, judging by his uniform and demeanour, holds a somewhat dignified position. He had just made a cigarette, and, with a polite bow, he asked me in German for a light. On my answering him in French, he appeared pleased, and immediately opened a conversation.

"This is a delightful spot," said he. I assented, but added that I regretted the event which had made him acquainted with it. "Ah, well!" he rejoined, shrugging his shoulders; "the Emperor was deceived; but never mind, it is only a slight misfortune."

The sacrifice of so many thousands of lives a slight misfortune! thought I; but I said nothing.

"There is no doubt," he continued, "that we have met some trifling reverses, but we shall make up for them."

"How?" I ventured to ask. "Do you really think you can put together an army which can offer any substantial resistance to the Prussians?"

"Why not?" enquired the officer. "France has inexhaustible resources. You do not mean to say we are conquered?"

I pointed him to the smoke which was pouring out of the kitchen chimney. "Surely," said I, "you are not waited upon here as conquerors. How can you possibly expect France to drive back the invading hosts when the Emperor, with an entire army, has capitulated, and when another is shut up in Metz?"

"No doubt," he admitted, "we had ill luck at Sedan, but you don't say a word about Phalsburg, Bitsche, and Strasburg, and for very good reason. Metz, too, is that taken?"

"Have you conquered there?" I asked. "Not exactly conquered, but the Germans have not taken it."

I saw it was useless to discuss the military point, so I turned to politics. "What do you say," I asked, "to the Republic?"

"Perfectly absurd!" he replied. "Can any man in his senses believe in the Government of M. Rochefort? There is no more Republic in France than there is here."

"But the newspapers—"

"One must not believe everything the newspapers say. They said Faillly was killed, but I saw him speak to the Emperor after the battle, and the Emperor turned away his head,

as well he might, for Faillly acted as if he were on the side of the Prussians."

"How do you think," I asked, "the war will end? Do you believe the Emperor will ever return to Paris?"

"If we had not believed that we should never have submitted, Prussia will restore order, and take care that peace is concluded with a durable government. If we give the Germans Alsace and Lorraine, the smallest return they can make will be the restoration of the Emperor."

I assured him that Germany considered the Emperor's downfall one of the most gratifying results of the war; but the officer shook his head and, bidding me good morning, walked back into the castle.

I may mention that a post-office and telegraph station have been opened at the castle, and the former at least is quite necessary, for more than a hundred letters actually came to the Emperor the very first day of his residence here. As a matter of form, they are opened before being handed to the Emperor, but they contain no secrets. Half of them are letters from Germans, giving him "a bit of their mind," in other words, they are outpourings of abuse; and the other half are begging letters, for there is a general impression that the Emperor has a "mint of money" in the Bank of England.

A gentleman from Alyth, who was lately enjoying a fishing excursion in Glenshee, met with a countryman, and asked how the folks in that quarter were affected by the war. "Whatna war?" said the rustic. "Oh, the war between France and Prussia, to be sure." "I never heard of it," says the man; "but I was wonderin' whaur they were gaun wi' their guns an' gibbles when I was in Alyth the ither day." He referred to the volunteers.

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