

Prime Minister, a coincidence which marked the beginning of an antagonism that continued throughout the political careers of the two men. Virchow speedily became the leader of the Radical party, and by his advanced views and cogent reasoning, and by his courageous insistence upon them, he speedily earned for his policy the opprobrious designation of "Professorismus," applied by the Iron Chancellor. While these debates were going on the duties at the Institute, at the Charité and in the editorial office were not neglected, although there is ample testimony that Virchow was often tardy in keeping his appointments. The famous Schleswig-Holstein episode diverted for a time the attention of the Legislature from internal to external affairs, and culminated in the war with Denmark in 1865. In this war Bismarck against Virchow's opposition used Austria as the cat with which to pull the chestnuts from the fire, and then, three years later, again over Virchow's opposition, he proceeded to kill the cat. As a result of this war with Austria in 1866, the Germanic Confederation of 1815 was terminated and the North German Confederation took its place. It may be premised that Virchow, who, with all his democracy, was always a Unionist and Nationalist, deprecated this segregation of the Germanic people. It was in the course of this long sustained opposition to the policy of the Government that he, as chairman of the Finance Committee, a position which he held for many years, succeeded in defeating an appropriation for naval purposes that had been demanded by Bismarck, who thereupon challenged his successful antagonist to mortal combat. Virchow, with no disposition, whatever, to give the Herculean warrior an opportunity to exercise his professional skill, and with moral courage to stem the tide of sentiment in favor of duelling that still disgraces Germany—a courage vastly excelling mere physical bravery—declined the cartel, but continued his opposition. This opposition was carried along through the days of the Franco-Prussian war, but when the first shot had been fired Virchow, always a patriot, and always the physician, took his son and joined the army, the two serving in the capacity of surgeon in the field. These men, father and son, did their full measure of duty, conspicuously upon the field of Metz, in alleviating the sufferings of their wounded compatriots. No sooner, however, had peace been concluded with the proclamation of William I. as Emperor of Versailles, than Virchow resumed his wonted activities in science, in literature, in politics at Berlin. It was then that probably for the first time in his political career he found himself *en rapport* with the leading features of Bismarck's policy, namely, the policy that involved the construction of the present German Empire. It may have been this particular fact, quite