

BISMARCK'S PROPHECIES OF DOOM

In the April number of the Nineteenth Century there is a very remarkable compilation made by Mr. J. Ellis Barker from what Bismarck wrote on foreign policy after his dismissal by the German Emperor in 1890. Many of these extracts have never yet been placed before Englishmen. Mr. Barker has dug them out of Bismarck's contributions to newspapers—principally to the Hamburger Nachrichten. The purport of them all is that if Germany fell foul of Russia she would be on the high road to ruin, and that in particular she must not allow herself to be embroiled with Russia in the interests of Austria's Balkan policy. Of course Germany has not become the unconscious victim of Austria's Balkan policy—she has done something much worse than that. Her madnes has far exceeded the forebodings of Bismarck. So far as the Balkans are concerned, Germany has been the unconscious victor of her alliance with Austria, she has used Austria's Balkan policy as an excuse for deliberate making war on the world. She was not driven on by Austria's needs, but drove Austria on to her ruin. However, we must say that Bismarck's prophecies of what would happen if his warnings were disregarded are one of the most notable examples of political prediction which modern history contains. His foresight was almost uncanny in its clearness. If we changed the conditional present for present tenses, nearly all that he said might be written by a highly competent student of foreign affairs to-day, and would be a credit to his clairvoyance. We shall quote from these singular warnings presently, but before we do so we must say a few words about Bismarck's conception of Bismarck's character. In his desire to present Bismarck's policy in starting contrast to that of the German Emperor, he writes of it as though it were the natural product of a mind temperate, scrupulous, and on the whole pacific. We cannot accept this view of Bismarck. We remember too well his manipulation of the press, his excellent attributing of private sentiments which he had never expressed in order to direct public opinion through a particular channel, his wholesale inventions, his diabolical cleverness in making an evil cause war, his appearance, and above all his deliberate mistaking of war for the advancement of his country and not because her supposed grievances had any real existence. Mr. Barker says that Bismarck's war against Denmark, Austria, and France were necessary for the creation of modern Germany, and that Bismarck behaved in accordance with his instincts when after he had obtained his object he preached peace and encouraged the revival of the old German Empire. We can only say that it was then, too late, Bismarck could not restore what he had himself destroyed. He had taught the German people to associate military success with absolutism, and to depend upon the sword of blood and iron for their material expansion. It was impossible suddenly to call a halt, and to say that these things were right and necessary up to a certain point but not beyond it. The fact is that Bismarck degraded Germany by the recent policy of Germany was contrary to all his wishes, her present plight is none the less the Nemesis of his teaching. Of course, though he stood for evil statecraft, he was also supremely prudent, shrewd, and a statesman, who stands for evil statecraft, which is also reckless, clumsy, and foolishly superficial. We would much rather have to deal with a man like Bismarck than with an incalculable personality like the Emperor. None the less it is necessary to warn Mr. Barker's readers against accepting the idea that Bismarck's standards, on the whole, high and honourable. After Bismarck, the great "pilot," had been "dropped" in 1890, he asserted again and again to the people themselves in the Reichstag against the bureaucracy. His other sources of blustering. He also tried to hear the smaller German States to demand a more important position in the Federal Council—all in vain, or perhaps we should rather say too late. But by far the most interesting extracts given by Mr. Barker contain Bismarck's warnings against Chauvinism, against a split with Russia, and his identification of Germany with Austria's Balkan policy. In May, 1892, he wrote in the Munchener Allgemeine Zeitung: "Prince Bismarck had created Germany on a broad national basis. When the task had been fulfilled, he had to turn his mind only to preserve Germany's position, the creation of which had demanded such heavy sacrifices. This being his fundamental maxim, it was necessary for Germany to be as strong as possible. At the same time, it was necessary to be as long as possible in peace, to arm in such a way that Germany could win nothing, but could only lose. His leading view was that every extension of territory beyond the limits of 1871 would be a misfortune. Bismarck's entire foreign policy culminated in the idea of isolating France and of placing the new frontiers which he had given to Europe under the protection of all the other Powers. Germany's position and activity will always largely depend upon her Allies. On the day when the leading German statesmen have to decide on peace or war they should inquire conscientiously whether the price is worthy the sacrifice, and whether the desired result cannot be equally well obtained without a war, the issue of which no one can guarantee. War is made only for the sake of peace. It is made only in order to obtain those conditions in which we wish to live with our opponent when he war is over. It is really necessary to pursue a new course? The new pilot is perhaps, not able to steer the German ship of State with the knowledge and determination of his predecessor, but is it therefore necessary to abandon altogether the course that had been steered in the past? In order to prevent Germany from being drawn into a purely Austrian quarrel with Russia Bismarck had concluded a secret treaty with Russia which assured her of Germany's immediate help in the event of an attack on Russia by Austria. This treaty, of course, kept Russia and France apart, for so long as it existed there was no need for Russia to seek outside help. The treaty was really the whole expression of Bismarck's policy after 1871. Bismarck saw how easily Austria might collide with Russia in trying to rule her South Slav population after her own methods, and he determined that Germany should not be dragged into that quarrel. In the Hamburger Nachrichten of April 26th, 1890, he wrote: "Austria cannot hope to obtain Germany's support for promoting her ambitious plans in the Balkan Peninsula. These Austrian plans have never been encouraged by Germany as long as Germany's foreign policy was directed by Prince Bismarck. On the contrary, the Prince has, at every opportunity, particularly at the time of the Bulgarian incident, shown with the utmost clearness that he is very far from wishing to promote Austria's special interests in the Balkans in antagonism with Russia. Such a policy would not be in harmony with the stipulations of the Triple Alliance. The Alliance views only the dominum emergens, not the lacus cessans, of the signatory Powers. Least of all is Germany's business to support Austria's ambitions in the Balkan Peninsula. If such ambitions exist, and are to be supported with the assistance of other nations, Austria-Hungary will have to address herself not to Germany, but to the nations interested in Balkan politics. These are all the Great Powers except Germany. They are apart from Russia, England, France, and Italy. Austria can always arrive at an understanding with these Powers if she wishes to further her interests in the Balkans, and Germany need not concern herself about them. Germany's point of view is this: that she has no interests in Balkan affairs." Again in September of the same year Bismarck wrote in the Hamburger Nachrichten: "We attach the greatest value to the preservation of good and cordial relations between Germany and Russia. If Austria and Russia should differ, Germany can mediate most successfully if she is trusted in St. Petersburg. Besides, a breach with Russia would, according to our present conviction, make Germany dependent upon Austria. No one can object if Austria succeeds in her Balkan policy without a war with Russia which would demand enormous sacrifices in blood and treasure. When the German Emperor took to piloting his own ship of State on his well-known principle of sic volo, sic jubeo (which may be paraphrased: "No charta no rock, no rocks ought to exist in the waters which I sail"), the secret treaty with Russia was not renewed. The Emperor, Prince Hohenzollern, and Caprivi apparently failed to see the point of it. The publication of the article which Bismarck revealed the fact that that treaty had been in existence is still a well-remembered incident in German diplomatic history. In January, 1892, Bismarck wrote in the Hamburger Nachrichten: "The change of the great danger to the Triple Alliance, for he knew that Austrian ambitions backed by Germany must provoke the suspicions of Italy." "It is a mistake to believe that the strength of the Alliance has not increased. A crisis in Italy, a change of sovereignty in Austria or the like may shake its foundations so greatly that in spite of all written engagements it will be impossible to maintain it. In that case Germany's position would become extremely serious, for in order not to become entirely isolated she would be compelled to follow Austria's policy in the Balkans without reserve. Germany might get into the leading strings of another Power, which, it is true, has accepted the new position of Germany. However, no one can tell whether Austria's historic resentment will not re-awaken and endeavour to find satisfaction at Germany's cost. It is a fortune of war should no longer favour Germany or if the pressure of European events should weigh upon us." "With France we shall never have peace; with Russia never the necessary war unless Liberal stupidities or dynamic blunders falsify the situation. We know now that dynamic blunders needed no aid from any other sources of blustering. Bismarck never hesitated to point to Italy as the stumbling member of the Triple Alliance. Germany and Austria might ruin themselves by a foolish use of the Alliance, but Italy might lead it altogether. This he saw, was the ticklish task for diplomacy—to keep Italy in the Alliance. It is almost incredible that in spite of these warnings the German rulers should have gone out of their way to try to drive Italy out of the Alliance, and should then express their astonishment at her conduct. In June, 1890, Bismarck wrote in the Hamburger Nachrichten: "In view of France's aspirations, Italy must be able to rely on the assistance of the English Fleet, for the Triple Alliance cannot protect the Italian coasts. Hence, Italy has to think of England, and consequently of England's policy towards Italy's freedom of action. The maintenance of the present relations between Austria and Italy must be the principal care of the diplomats, especially as, if Italy for some reason or other should abandon the Triple Alliance, the Austrian Army would be compelled to protect the Dual Monarchy against Italy. Hence it would no longer be able to fulfil Article I of its Alliance with Germany, according to which it should assist Germany with its entire armed power. By the detachment of Italy, the Austro-German Alliance would militarily lose so much that its value would become very problematical." "Still more succinctly Bismarck wrote in the Hamburger Nachrichten in May, 1892: "If England is opposed to Germany we can never reckon upon Italy's help. And he added: "Only moderate diplomatic skill is required to avoid a war with Russia for generations." It was largely his insight into the needs and feelings of Italy which made Bismarck, formally at all events, Anglophile. He spoke of all Germany and Britain as "undividable." Bismarck once said that he had learned the art of patience from contemplating a fish. He would have his country at still and wait now that she had become a unit and an Empire. He looked upon the Kiau-chau adventure as a foolish running of risks, just as he had thought it foolish in Germany immediately before to join with France and Russia in depriving Japan of the fruits of her victory over China. Japan might some day be a powerful

enemy, he pointed out. And that prophecy, too, has been fulfilled. We hope that Mr. Barker's article will find its way to Germany. No doubt Germans, like other men, have short memories, and they will be able to learn here, if they have forgotten, how clearly every trouble which now afflicts Germany was foreseen, and how joyfully their rulers ran their heads against the brick-wall which Bismarck had plastered with danger-signals.—The Spectator, April 3.

ROLLMENDAM May 1 Stanley McReddick has commenced piling pulp wood. Clarence Maguire and Mrs. Minnie Maguire, Elmville, called on friends in this place recently. Mrs. William Mitchell has been visiting friends in St. Stephen and Calais. Joseph Wrighty has been making repairs on his buildings. Earle Maguire and McCann Brothers are doing good business saving laths and other lumber. Frank Stewart, Pleasant Ridge, has been plastering at Joseph Wrighty's. Rev. M. S. McKay, Presbyterian, held a social service on Wednesday evening, April 24, and has gone to Kirkland, Carlton Co. McCann was on business to St. Andrews and St. Stephen recently. A. B. McCann is improving in health. Mrs. Robert McGowan is quite poorly in St. Andrews. Mrs. William Hannigan, St. Andrews, has been visiting her brother, Robert McGowan. A. G. Stewart, St. George, has rented the shops of Mrs. Ellen Scullin, and is going a thriving business on horse-shoeing and general repair work. Mrs. C. E. McCann's health is improving.

DEER ISLAND May 3 Rev. I. G. Shaw, former pastor of Christian Church congregation at Lord's Cove, left here on the Viking over to Montreal. A host of friends wishing him bon voyage. Quite a good run of fish in Channel weirs, today very full. Capt. Andrew Stewart, "Keystone" had perished blown overboard on Saturday, and had to be towed home by Frank Pendleton's boat "Sachem". Young pigs are selling at \$3.50 each. Postmaster Fisher has completed his new post office building at Richardson, to be called the "Crescent" in honor of the emblem on the ridge pole, of which it is built.

FAIRHAVEN May 3 Quite a number of boats sought shelter in our harbor during the recent storm. The Viking made her first Saturday trip to St. Stephen and back on the 1st, in the presence of a large number of friends. The catch of herring has been small the last few days on this side of the island, due to the bad weather and high tide. The men are getting great trades at the Fairhaven Trading Co.'s store every evening. Miss A. S. Calder continues to do a good business, and keeps a full stock of things needed in a country place.

CUMMINGS' COVE May 3 Herbert Fountain returned on Saturday last from South Hampton, York Co., where he was called by the illness of his father-in-law, Mr. Farnham. Hazen Chaffey returned on Saturday to St. Andrews, where he is employed in the wool building for a period. Several of the weirs are taking quite a number of fish, and a ready market at \$15 upwards per hoghead. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hooper visited Mr. and Mrs. Harry Simpson on Wednesday last. Mr. Cunningham, St. John, has been doing quite a business over the island recently, taking orders for engaging a photographer. Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Cummings visited Mr. and Mrs. J. Seward Welch on Sunday last.

CAMPOBELLO May 3 A sale of refreshment was held in the church hall on Thursday evening for the benefit of the Red Cross Society. The sum of \$8.00 was realized. Rev. C. A. Brown, evangelist, gave a series of lectures on the war in Europe, during the past week, in Merriman's hall, which proved very interesting. Mr. Brown is about to start for the far west to engage in evangelistic work. R. Dibblee of St. John spent the past week in the church hall on Monday evening. The Amateur Club of St. Andrews gave an entertainment entitled "The Fruit of His Belly" in the church hall on Monday evening. They were greeted by a large audience, despite the bad weather. Much credit is due the Club for their splendid achievements. The first thunder and lightning storm for the season occurred here on Wednesday evening, and has been succeeded by a very stormy week, making outdoor employment very dull. The rain has brought a fine green to the fields, showing that vegetation has awakened to the voice of spring. About all of the spring birds have made their appearance, and can daily be heard chattering among the bushes, getting ready their nests for summer. Word was received here on Saturday evening of the death, at St. John of the Rev. William Calder, who was in the city for interment. Mr. Calder is at present at the Magdalen Islands.

WILSON'S BEACH May 3 Mr. Tuton of Grand Manan is employed installing engines at the new power plant at Head Harbor. Mr. Christy Mathews, Deer Island, made a business trip here on Wednesday. Rev. Mr. Brown, Deer Island, is the pastor of the church at Head Harbor. Messrs. Devers, Ghies, Anderson and Polley, commercial travellers, visited the merchants here recently. Mr. Lewis, engineer at Head Harbor, left on Tuesday for Philadelphia, where he has been for the past few months. Miss Agatha Van Tassel went on Sunday to Loboc, Me., where she will be employed during the summer months. Mr. and Mrs. John Calder returned on Saturday from St. John, where Mr. Calder has been employed at the winter port for some time. Mr. Paul Enos, who has been ill for some time, is recovering, we are very glad to say. Mr. William Mathews, who has been employed in St. John, during the winter, was called home on Wednesday last to attend the funeral of his aunt, Mrs. Harold Mathews.

BOCACREC April 30 Some of the fishermen have made a fine haul of fish in one day and in the other, one day this week. While playing around James McMillan's boat, some day he was a powerful

WHITE HEAD

April 28 Mr. T. A. Hart, M. P. made a flying visit to White Head one day this week looking over breakwaters and other matters. Capt. Boardman Cheney arrived home from St. John to-day with general cargo. Fish remain scarce, very few pollock on the rippings. Capt. Oscar Outhouse has gone to Nova Scotia to visit his mother, for a few days. Miss Alberta Treacart has gone to Loboc, where she has employment for the summer, and there are several other families going soon. Mrs. Webster Cheney, a resident of White Head, died in Loboc, Me., last week. She is survived by her husband and three sons, all of whom are now in Nova Scotia to bring home his new boat. Mr. Henry Cosobone has gone to Nova Scotia to see his mother, who is now in Castleton, Vermont, eighty-six years ago, but has lived in St. John for more than half a century.—Times-Star, April 28.

USE OF THE CINEMATOGRAPH

In order that the world in general, and the neutral countries in particular, may learn something of the work of the French Army, the French War Office is organizing an expedition of cinematograph operations throughout the whole of the French lines. Many remarkable films have already been taken, and they will be at once multiplied and circulated. The demand for German war films in the United States and other neutral countries grows the great interest attaching to the photographic reporting of the war. It is understood that some of the French films will be exhibited in England in the course of the next few weeks.

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STRIP UNIFORM FROM PRISONER IN CALAIS CELL

Calais, April 30—Jerome Bridges, a private in the third Canadian contingent for overseas service, while on station at St. Stephen, N. B., across the river from this city, was visited by a squad from his command at the Calais lock-up Tuesday, when his uniform was stripped from his back. Bridges has been arrested here on a charge of breaking and entering preferred by City Marshal Follis of Eastport, who holds a warrant for him. Bridges crossed from St. Stephen on Monday night in company with a number of other soldiers in uniform. When accosted by the police here he made no attempt to deny his identity. His comrades in arms accompanied him to the city building, where the lockup is located and for a time the corridor there presented a decidedly martial appearance. Bridges spent the night in a cell and on Tuesday the squad from his command appeared and he was stripped of his uniform and military insignia. City Marshal Follis communicated with City Marshal Follis at Eastport by long distance telephone and the latter officer came to Calais Tuesday and returned home with his prisoner. The break with which Bridges is charged is alleged to have been committed about three weeks ago, and it is claimed that his enlistment with the Canadian troops followed shortly after that time. The officers say that Bridges was a former inmate of the State Industrial School for Boys at Cape Elizabeth. "Without presuming to pass upon

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Table with 2 columns: Day of Month, Sun Rise, Sun Set, etc.

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Table with 2 columns: Day of Month, Sun Rise, Sun Set, etc.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS

Table with 2 columns: Ship Name, Agent, etc.

SHIPPING NEWS

Table with 2 columns: Ship Name, Destination, etc.

CHURCH SERVICES

Table with 2 columns: Church Name, Service Time, etc.

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Over three hundred of the miners are engaged in the mines. "Starboard your helm!" The squat craft of the trawlers are engaged in the mines. The sullen brackish sea. Carefully, slowly, patiently. The men of Grimby. Great their work on the sea. The storm-wear, trawlers. Keeping the destination.

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