

parliament. His strong will soon came into conflict with that of the old Chancellor, who blurted out his oft-repeated threat to resign office. In two hours came an aide-de-camp to receive the resignation. Bismarck tried to hark back, but could obtain no audience with his sovereign, and the aide-de-camp remained till the fallen Prince signed his own dismissal. Thus was dropped the pilot who had guided the ship of state through the period of storm and stress into the safe harbour of peace.

For three years the cynical old Chancellor sulked in his den, spurning his monarch's messages of grace and the title of honour which was offered him. In his serious illness the Emperor graciously invited him to a state function at Berlin, and subject and sovereign were reconciled.

The extraordinary vigour and versatility of the Emperor are well described. No monarch in Europe, save King Edward, knows the Continent so well by personal travel, and his pilgrimage to Palestine was a truly imperial pageant. He is of good Protestant lineage, as shown by a document which traces his ancestry to Gaspar de Coligny and William the Silent. Another genealogical tree traces it back through his English ancestor to David, King of Israel!

No other sovereign is so many sided. The author thus sums up his many accomplishments: "He is a splendid soldier, an equally good sailor, a successful sportsman, a musician of no mean talent, an excellent painter and draughtsman, a first-class writer and poet, too—a *ses heures*—an engineer, and architect of considerable ability, besides being a scholar of repute and a thorough statesman, without mentioning the fact that he speaks nine or ten languages fluently, and is one of the most eloquent orators of modern times"—an all-accomplished man!

His domestic life is one of ideal happiness. The Empress shares his counsels, rising at six in the morning to partake an early breakfast alone with her liege lord. His six boys are manly fellows, trained, like their father, in almost Spartan austerity. The spoiled child of the family is the little baby princess, who sways the household with a fairy spell. On Christmas Day the Emperor is his very bestest best. Every member of the household, no matter how lowly, is remembered with appropriate gifts—from "papachen" and "mama-

chen" to little "prinzesschen," and the humblest servant.

Instead of being the war lord of Europe, our author claims that he has been the guardian of peace, of which the strong army and great navy he has created are a guarantee. He has taken the wind out of the sails of the Socialists by the provision for old age and injury of workingmen, and their widows or orphans, and other economic reforms.

This may all be true, but we Britishers prefer the parliamentary methods and constitutional safeguards of liberty which we enjoy under the British institutions. This is a book of such importance that it will be made the subject of a special article in this Magazine.

"By Nile and Euphrates. A Record of Discovery and Adventure."  
By H. Valentine Geere. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. Toronto: William Briggs. 8vo. Pp. 355. Price, \$2.50.

The spade is the best commentator. It has brought to life many confirmations of Holy Writ, and refuted many arguments of scepticism founded on only partial knowledge. It is greatly to the credit of American enterprise that the University of Pennsylvania has been for years conducting the most important explorations on the Euphrates, where the British explorers, Layard and Rawlinson, first laid bare to modern eyes the long buried past of Nineveh and Babylon. The splendid museum at Pennsylvania already rivals in its exhibits those of the British Museum of London. It is a compliment to British enterprise and energy that the chief work described in this book has been conducted by those British explorers, Dr. Flinders Petrie and the author of this book. It is cause for patriotic pride, too, that a clever young Canadian, Mr. Currelley, a graduate of Victoria University, has accomplished very important work under the direction of Mr. Petrie, both in Cyprus and Egypt, and has enriched our college museum with many valuable finds.

There is a romance and fascination about this work, which as one reads this well-written book captures one's imagination. The sharp contrast of the squalid Coptic or Arab present and the splendours of the ancient Egyptian or Babylonian past is very striking. The blight of