

BISMARCK'S HOME LIFE

INCIDENTS RECALLED BY THE DEATH OF HIS FAITHFUL WIFE.

How the Impetuous Junker Won the Fair Puttkammer Maiden—A Pathetic Birthday Incident—A Memory of the Blind Incident.

Princess Bismarck, who died November 27 at Varzin, was Johanna, only daughter of Jacob von Puttkammer and Lady Luitgarde von Glesener, at Rheinfeld. She was betrothed to Bismarck before he appeared upon the political stage of the world. The marriage took place in 1847, under such strange circumstances that a narration of them cannot fail to be interesting at this time.

In the course of the summer of 1846 Bismarck took a journey in the Harz country, in company of the Blankenburg family, which was very intimately connected with his own. This family took with them Fraulein Johanna von Puttkammer, with whom Bismarck had fallen in love a long time previously. But he had never made her acquainted with his antecedents in this direction. He had seen her for the first time at the wedding of his friend von Blankenburg with Fraulein von Thadden-Trigloff, whose bridegroom was Thadden Puttkammer. On his return from this famous voyage in Harz, Bismarck, who has always favored energetic measures, wrote direct to the young lady's parents, with whom he was not acquainted, and demanded the hand of their fair daughter in marriage. The good people were naturally very much surprised at a direct attack like this; they were very simple folk, leading a very quiet life, as they were rather frightened at the reputation for high living which the candidate for their daughter's hand enjoyed at the time. As, however, the young woman herself intimated in discreet terms that she did not look up on the young man with an unfavorable eye, and as there was no doubt that Bismarck's parents had a reputation as good as their sons, Herr von Puttkammer decided not to hurry matters, either in one direction or the other. Consequently, he wrote to young Bismarck inviting him to come and see them.

Everyone did his best at Rheinfeld to give the visitor a suitable reception; Fraulein von Puttkammer's parents assumed an air of grave solemnity, and the young lady stood with eyes bent upon the ground, when Bismarck, on alighting, threw his arms around his sweetheart's neck and



THE LATE PRINCESS BISMARCK.

embraced her vigorously before anybody had time to tell him that his conduct was hardly proper and correct. The result was, however, what the young people both desired—an immediate betrothal.

By his marriage with Fraulein Puttkammer Princess Bismarck had three children—Count Herbert, who came to be secretary of state for foreign affairs; Count William, who is now the late Emperor William, and Countess Marie, who since 1878, has been the wife of Count von Tautzen.

The Bismarck home life has always been a very happy and contented one. On the occasion of the celebration of the prince's seventieth birthday, April 1, 1885, he gave a great dinner at his residence. After dinner an endless string of toasts followed each other, but the best conceived was certainly that of a Wurtemberg guest, who, after a wandering speech, turned to Frau von Bismarck and overwhelmed her with compliments. The lady was much confused, and cast suppliant glances at her husband in the hope that he would release her from her critical situation; but he did not stir, and contented himself with giving the orator frequent approving nods. The sturdy Wurtemberger told her, among other things, that in her the German people honored the princess much less than the modest and devoted wife, the support and consolation of her husband and the model German wife.

While this was going on Bismarck gradually edged nearer his wife, and when the toast was at an end he kissed her affectionately on both cheeks. All this had passed so rapidly that the company was not prepared for a moment; but they recovered themselves and offered the chancellor their warmest congratulations.

When on Unter den Linden in Berlin, on May 6, 1886, a fanatic named Blind fired at Prince Bismarck, the latter personally captured his assailant, turned him over to the police and walked quietly home, where he found a rather numerous and distinguished company. He took his seat among them and joined in the conversation, without making the slightest allusion to what had happened. It was only on going to the dining room that he took his wife aside and whispered in her ear:

"My dear, I have been fired upon, but I am not hurt."

Princess Bismarck was nine years younger than her husband. She proved a model wife, domestic and wise, of whom he was both proud and fond. Their marriage produced in Bismarck that freshness of heart and mind he had so long and so ardently desired to obtain, and furnished him with new materials to meet the necessities the time required from his patriotic

ism.

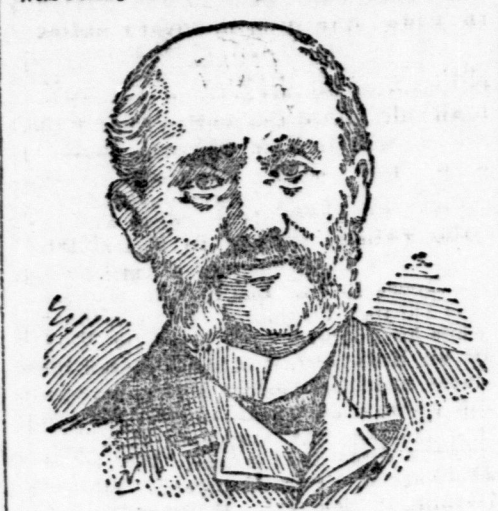
Tunneling the Caucasus.

There has been talk of tunneling the Caucasus for a long time past, and there seems to be some prospect of the tunnel being commenced at last. A St. Petersburg correspondent writes that Government engineers have investigated and reported favorably, and the construction of the tunnel is not only considered possible, but promises to be satisfactory from scientific and economic points of view. Its magnitude, however, is such that it will take seven years to complete. The company who have undertaken the work have, it is stated, been furnished with a complete inventory of the machinery and appliances used in building the Suez tunnel. That this new tunnel is of paramount importance to Russia from a military point of view is sufficiently obvious.

DE GIERS' GREATNESS

The Famous Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs and His Work.

No man has had more to do with shaping the policy of Russia in important matters than Nicholas Carlovitch de Giers, "the Finlander," for many years imperial minister of foreign affairs. Suave and apparently very yielding, he gained a great influence over his imperial master, the czar, and was able to guide him in all matters of foreign policy. As a result, he became a power not only in Russia, but in the world of nations. He is a diplomat by nature and by education, none the less powerful in that he made no theatrical exhibition of the power he exercised. He was really second only to the czar, but his



NICHOLAS CARLOVITCH DE GIERS.

victories were of peace rather than of war. He was born May 21, 1820, and was the son of a colonel who came from a great Swedish family which settled in Finland ages before the Russians conquered it. He was educated in the Imperial lyceum, at Zarvkoje-Selo, and when eighteen years old entered the Asiatic department of the ministry of foreign affairs. In 1848 he was sent as diplomatic agent to the headquarters of Gen. Lueders, who was commander in chief during the Hungarian campaign, to help Russia get her grip on the Danubian provinces. After that he went to Constantinople as first secretary of the Russian embassy, and there he kept close watch on the events of the Crimean war. Then his hand appeared in Moldavia and Wallachia. In 1859 he went to Egypt as consul general. Then he appeared again in the Danube principalities. Everywhere he made his story, almost imperceptibly, without trumpet or sword, except, perhaps, as incidental and minor aids. He went to Teheran as Russian minister in 1863, and succeeded in breaking England's influence. He virtually won Asia for the czar, and then was sent to Bern and afterward to Stockholm. He became chief assistant to Prince Gortschakof, minister of foreign affairs, in 1873, whose favorite niece, Princess Kantakuzene, he married. He also re-organized the whole diplomatic service of Russia before Czar Alexander II. was assassinated. Alexander III. sent De Giers to all foreign courts to bear the famous friendly message on the programme to be adopted, and then came the great conference between Alexander III. and Emperor William I. at Dantzig, September 9, 1881, at which De Giers and Bismarck renewed the compact which had existed between the late czar and the German emperor. In 1882 De Giers became minister of foreign affairs, and since that time he has been one of the most powerful men in Europe.

DR. FRANCES HELENA GRAY.

A Modern Portia Who Recently Won the Magic Title LL. D.

One of the two women in the British Isles entitled to add the letters LL. D. to their names is Frances Helena Gray, who recently had that title conferred upon her by Lord Elmy, vice chancellor of the Royal University of Ireland. Miss Gray was born in Belfast, her father, William Gray, of Mount Charles, being a member of the Royal Irish Academy. As a young girl she carried off numerous educational honors. Having a taste for languages which she desired to cultivate, Miss Gray spent a year studying German in the quaint old town of Trier.



FRANCES HELENA GRAY, returning home matriculated with honors at the Royal University of Ireland and took the third prize in modern literature at the ensuing scholarship examination, open to both men and women. In 1887 she took honors in logic, geology and German, won her B. A. degree in 1888 and in 1889 the degree of LL. B., and finally that of LL. D. Dr. Gray is a tall, slender girl with a delicate complexion, gray eyes shaded by long lashes and finely marked eyebrows. She is very quiet and simple in manner, and her speech has the piquancy added by a dash of brogue. There is nothing of the bluestocking about her. Indeed much of her time is devoted to tennis and golf, in both of which athletic games she is an expert.

Hosiery of Metal.

It is said that a system has been devised by which can be made stockings of aluminum, and the same metal is used to heel and toe stockings of the ordinary description, as well as to strengthen knitted gloves and mittens. Aluminum collars and neckties have already been introduced. We are waiting for an aluminum shirt, an aluminum suit of clothes, an aluminum hat and an aluminum pair of boots. When we have these we shall try to be happy.

Stanching a Flow of Blood.

Dr. Zakharin, the late Czar's physician, has lately devised a new method of stanching the flow of blood. Steam is injected into the wound through a catheter for a minute or less. The patient under chloroform, feels neither pain nor any evil effects from the steam. Experiments on animals show that portions of the liver, spleen, kidneys, lungs, and, to a certain extent, of the brain, may be removed without loss of blood and without fatal results.

The Camphor Forests of Japan.

It is said that the Japanese Government own large forests of camphor trees, sufficient to keep up an average supply for a quarter of a century to come. Meanwhile, young plantations are growing up under the care of the Forestry Department. The gum has only been taken from trees seventy or eighty years old; but it is intended to operate on younger trees in the future. The camphor is taken from chips out of the base of the trunks and roots.

A New Style Craft.

The London Engineer contains a few further particulars of the new style of boat which is propelled by rolling over in the water instead of being propelled through it. To this end a number of enormous copper cylinders are fixed to the vessel, the speed depending upon the speed of the metal cylinders, and it is computed that 21 knots an hour can be easily made.

WINTERING BEES.

One Way of Carrying Bees into the Cellar. Placing the Hives.

The time for putting bees into the cellar varies of course with the locality and the season. Whenever it turns cold, with a fair prospect of a continuance, open up the cellar and proceed to action. Better directions cannot be offered than the following plan, which the well known authority, A. I. Root, describes in his



CARRYING BEES WITH HIVE CARRIERS.

A. B. C. of Bee Culture. He says: First with a screwdriver or cold chisel we go around to each hive, puff a little smoke in at the entrance and pry the body loose from the bottom board, as it will always be stuck down with propolis. It may yield with a little snap, and it will be necessary to use a little smoke to make the bees behave. The bottom boards all loosened, with an assistant and a couple of hive carriers we proceed to carry the bees into the cellar.

It is to be observed that our hive carriers are simply a couple of lengths of wire bent in the shape of a letter V, an ordinary wooden pail handle being slipped through to the middle of the wire. Both ends are bent down in the shape shown in the cut in the enlarged view. The ends are then bent in the form of a hook so as to catch on the bottom board.

Now, then, to pick up the hives and carry them into the cellar we lift the front end of the bottom board up a little and slip the hooks of the hive carrier under. In like manner we catch the rear end of the bottom board, when the hive is picked up as shown in the cut, bottom board and all. We then proceed to the cellar and deposit the hives near the place where it is supposed to stay through the winter. Along on two sides of the cellar we have previously laid scantling, say, 14 or 15 inches apart, depending of course upon the length of the hive. We then pick the hives just brought in up by the hand hooks, lift it off its bottom and lay it at one end on top of the scantling and lay the bottom board in one corner of the cellar.

In like manner we bring in another colony, lift it off the bottom board and deposit it by the side of the other colony, leaving 4 inches between, and so on. We bring in other colonies until the scantling are covered with hives 4 inches apart. We are now ready to commence another tier on top. The next hive that is brought is piled on top of two others in such a way that the bottom covers the space between two hives below, and so on we pile the rows of the hives. The next tier is followed up in the same manner, until we have three or more tiers high, each hive placed over the intervening space between the two below.



ARRANGEMENT OF HIVES IN THE CELLAR.

The reason for this manner of piling up the hives is convenience in the first place, and in the second place to give ample ventilation. You will now see an additional reason for leaving the cover on. If we removed the cover, we could not pile the hives one upon the other so well.

Store Crops in Good Condition.

The loss of fruits and vegetables in storage is of not infrequent occurrence. To lose one's supply of potatoes or apples is a serious matter. Sometimes the loss is due to storing in bad condition. Potatoes and apples, in fact every fruit or vegetable, should not be stored away while damp. Dampness favors rot. Fruits and vegetables are best stored in some dry, airy outbuilding until the imminent approach of freezing weather makes it necessary to put them in the cellar. The building should have rather open sides, and there should be a free circulation of air under and around it. Seed corn should not be put away until it is thoroughly dried. To put it away damp is to give a cordial invitation to disaster, says The American Agriculturist.

Poultry Cleanings.

No "condition powders," no medicines, no patent "egg food," no "nothing" but the same common sense applied to the hen as to the cow.

Steady growth is best secured by regular feeding. A feast today and a famine tomorrow is not good for man or fowl.

A little linseed (oil cake) meal—a tablespoonful of each adult bird three times a week—will help to add gloss to the plumage.

Yellow corn gives a yellow tinge to the flesh of dressed poultry. Wheat and buckwheat whiten it. Feed according to the demands of your market.

A Peking duck lays from 120 to 150 eggs in a year, and it is not hard to make a pair of young Pekings weigh 10 pounds when 10 weeks old. They are a profitable fowl.

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"If I were a fairy—oh, my dear! I Grandmother said, almost in tears, 'On Christmas Eve I would stand and hold A beautiful shining wand of gold; And oh what joys For girls and boys Came showering down in books and toys. Then, as you saw the love gifts fall, How you would shout, you darlings all! How you would dance with glee—oh, how—' 'Why, Grandmother, dear, we do that now.'"

"But, think, my beauties, if you could see A shining, glittering Christmas tree Sprung up from the very ground When Grandmother waved her wand around: As I would be A sight to see Your bonny bright eyes alight with glee. And then—and then—just a little hush— And straight to my arms you all would rush."

"How you would kiss and clasp me tight— Sweet caresses and dear delight Adding to all the Christmas cheer— Loving me so—"

"Why, Grandmother, dear, If you were a fairy Iens times over How could we love you, love you more!"

A new project for the sanitation of the sewers of the City of Mexico, at a cost of about \$25,000, calls for the building of some 25 windmills in different parts of the city, to rotate paddle wheels in the sewers and quicken the current to one metre per second.



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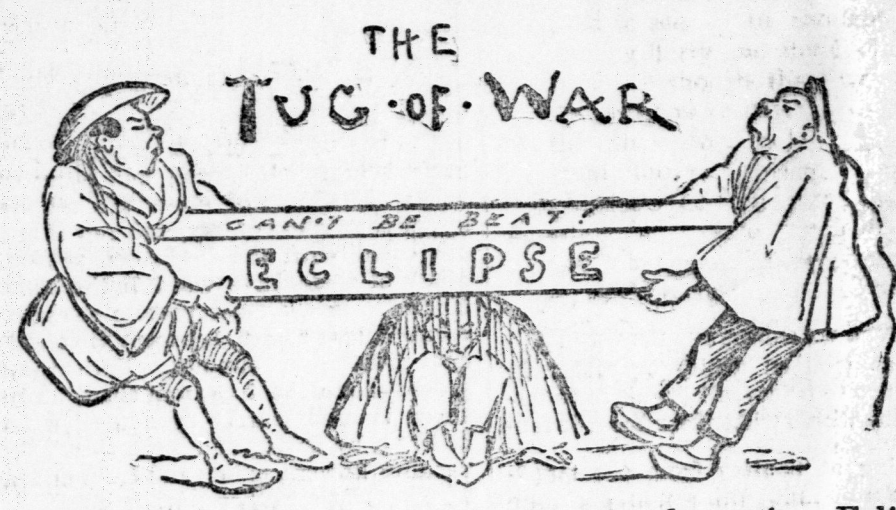
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