

THE METTERNICH MEMOIRS.

A Brilliant Review of Napoleon's Most Able Adversary and a Comparison with Bismarck and Cavour.

[From the American.]

We confess frankly to a great liking for Prince Clement von Metternich, who it is so fashionable to denounce and ridicule. People of the present day, and notably believers in Republican ideas, can have little sympathy with the absolutism of which he is the ablest champion; but it is impossible not to admire the consistency, integrity and ability of the man, and his place in history as the foremost representative of Europe in its death struggle with Napoleon is assured. There were few cooler and more accurate observers of that most fascinating of games, politics; and it may be doubted whether there ever lived a prophet whose predictions were more frequently and strikingly verified by long subsequent events. Even where he was wrong in his appreciations the result was one which at some earlier period he had foreseen. It is the custom to regard his unshrinking and unaccommodating fidelity to principle as an evidence of sterility, but we challenge the accuracy of such a judgment. To be sure, when a man represents an idea, and especially a conservative idea—much of his work is done for him in advance, much of his labor saved, even if it is at the expense of his reputation for fertility and versatility. And we do not rank Metternich with the greatest statesman of modern times—Cavour; nor with the next greatest—Bismarck. The suppleness and brilliancy of the great Italian who

"bore up his Piedmont ten years, 'Till she suddenly smiled and was Italy."

were beyond the Austrian diplomatist; nor had he the audacious inconsistency of the Prussian chancellor. Bismarck's immense luck has blinded the world to the rashness of many of his enterprises. It was the opportune death of the king of Denmark which decided for him the direction of his career. Though it was a sublime accomplishment to force the Austrian war upon an unwilling king and a reluctant people, if the advice of the late M. Drouyn de Lhuys had been followed on the morrow of Sadowa, Prussia would not have reaped the harvest of 1866. The French opposition helped him to prepare for the victory of 1870, but even there he played a risky game; for France had negotiated a secret treaty with Italy and Austria and all was staked on the overwhelming defeat of the French armies within the first month of the campaign. Bismarck's successor—especially now that Alexander III. sits on the Russian throne—will be better able to judge of Bismarck's success than contemporary and superficial critics. Bismarck may be called a devotee of "draw poker" diplomacy. Cavour was rather an accomplished whist player of the modern school, brilliant in *finesse* and able to play the grand coup on occasion. Metternich was like an old fashioned whist-player, steady and safe, rather than dashing, and convinced of the truth of the adage that one must be sure of saving the game before he plays to win it. In patience and practicality, he was unrivalled by any of his contemporaries. Talleyrand's imperturbable temper and chronic aversion to activity always stood him in good stead—he was the most consummate exponent of the policy of Lord Melbourne, whose favorite motto, when confronted by an awkward issue, was, "Can't you do nothing in the matter?" Unlike Talleyrand, but like Cavour, Metternich always acted with a view to the future. He saw in 1805 that Napoleon had overstepped the limits of the possible, and must, ultimately, fall, and prepared to profit by the inevitable catastrophe. By 1810, he had found that Napoleon meditated a supreme war with Russia, and being convinced that it would be an exhausting conflict, prepared Austria to bid the peace at its conclusion. When Napoleon was defeated, and the time was ripe to join the coalition, Metternich was careful to eliminate from the calculation the last chance of failure, or even advantage; and by what Bismarck would call "dilatatory negotiations," after the battle of Bautzen, he gained time to perfect the alliance, and bring Schwartzberg's army safely into the field. But once embarked in the great enterprise, Metternich never turned back. Mme. de Krudner's prophecy of Napoleon's return from Elba made her fortune. Metternich had declared, when reluctantly signing the Treaty of 1814, that it would bring the allies back into the field within two years, and all the other signers, including even the French envoy, agreed with him. It was curious how exactly his estimate of Napoleon agreed with that of Madame Remusat. Metternich's creed will be found in the second chapter of his autobiography, but his system had one defect. There was no man in Europe who could more accurately gauge men or a situation. Given a number of nations, with certain interests and means, he could almost infallibly predict the action each would take, and the ultimate result. But his system was only equal to nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand. The thousandth case is the critical one, and its existence is only admitted and prepared for by the great genius like Cavour or Bismarck. Metternich, as we know from the recently published letters to Count Prokesch-Osten, believed, late in life, that Italy would remain a geographical expression, and that German unity under Prussian headship was not possible. And yet Metternich, while Cavour was a boy in his teens, had observed that Sardinia was a menace and a danger to Austria;

before Bismarck was born, he had noticed the intensity of the national feeling in Germany when it was once aroused, he had pointed out the right road for the Prussian revolutionist to take was to demand German unity, and he predicted that when he died Austria and Prussia would cease to be friends. He could see what might happen, but could not bring himself to believe that it would happen. Cavour and Bismarck saw and believed.

FASHION, FRIPPERY AND FOLLY.

Long overskirts will be in vogue this spring.

Only one variety of flowers is used on the same hat.

High hair-dressing, in the style of Louis XV., is now a mode.

The shooting jacket will be a favorite style for spring suits.

Dinner cards in the shape of the obelisk are among the novelties.

Flowers and feathers will be about equally used upon spring bonnets.

New walking-boots for ladies are square-toed, with broad, flat heels.

Lace spun of straw will be a novelty on new spring and summer hats.

Twilled Scotch ginghams, such as Lady Macbeth wore, still hold their own.

Most of the new dresses for school-girls are double-breasted, and have large buttons.

To make a belt bow requires a yard and five-eighths of eight-inch ribbon—no more no less.

Cretonnes, for shirting and dresses, show designs of butter-flies, dragon-flies, and horse-shoes.

Black silk skirts are worn with jackets of Persian materials, in which gold is much mixed.

Cream, mauve, pale pink, and moonlight blue combine exquisitely with the fashionable silver lace.

A very handsome finish to sheer white dresses is to have the white muslin edged with black lace.

In evening dresses loops or scarfs of silk or soft satin surah can be twisted with the drapery at the back.

Bernhardt has agreed to prolong her stay in this country. There is naturally more length than breadth in her stays.

Some of the new patterns of cotton goods, both for indoor and outdoor costumes, have the appearance of embroidery.

Very handsome are the fronts of white or colored silks, quilted and let into dresses and covered with a lattice work of pearls.

A number of the new figures on spring cambric are exact copies of wedge-shaped cuneiform figures seen on Assyrian antiquities.

Blue tarlatan with a decoration of lilies make a pretty dress for some young girls, but does not suit all complexions by any means.

Quaint little pongee aprons ornamented with drawn work and embroidery, have pockets in the wide hem for holding crewels, silk and floss.

New York florists are making up floral champagne bottles and horns for dinner table decoration. They also place a growing plant in the center of the table and surround it with cut-flowers.

Lace cuffs, covered with small flowers are dressy additions to simple, dark dresses, and together with lace and flower headdress or frillouse, are used for concerts and the opera.

One of the best models for a cotton dress express the Jersey design, with a low-pointed throat and embellished with a handsome muslin fichu; the "monk" style of sleeve and apron overskirt, with the wrinkled model, and deeply pointed on the left side.

Pale lemon-color and brown, pale and dark royal purple, amethyst and deep violet, seal brown and gold, pale coral and deepest crimson, cream and maroon, myrtle and sea-green, also cinnamon and yellow pottery shades, are all good combinations.

Young ladies often finish dresses at the throat by tacking in a very deep piece of white or black lace inside of the bodice and add a draw string to fasten the whole when put on. For such finishings black Spanish lace or tulle neutelle is much used now, and some of the chemisettes are composed of rows of narrow lace. If gold is on the dress then alternate rows of every delicate gold lace are added. Puffed net is also very fashionable and is sometimes studded over with small pearls. Tiny garlands of delicate or bright-hued flowers serve to give exquisite finish to the tulle or lace neck ornamentations.

First Love.

Here is the danger which lies in first love according to *The Bazar*: Always it is vowed to an ideal. Once in a thousand times, perhaps, the actual person is found so much to resemble the imaginary being that the exalted sentiment may drop, and rest upon that reality without shock or change. But commonly the difference is world-wide. And if it be the unrelenting test of marriage which discloses it, happy is it for those hasty lovers if character and principle maintain the vows which passion took. Yet first love, though oftenest a delusion, is not therefore a folly. That rapt existence in upper air, that losing of self in another, is not ignoble, and leaves behind it something sweeter than it takes away, as when our friend dies, his angel

comes. It is only when the radiant vision of a long past defrauds the honest present that it can harm. Poor faithful Jean Burns, toiling early and late to keep the barns together and her Robin respectable, could not have relished his moonings about under haystacks and wetting his rheumatic feet, in composing to his various first loves. Madame Gemma Donanti Dante doubtless had her own views as to the fuss which her saturnine husband made over his lost Beatrice; and if their conjugal differences grew into a separation, who shall say that the patience of that high-born lady with her shadowy rival had not been exemplary? And though Mistress Laura de Sade was as proper as St. Ursula, we certainly do not hear of her noble husband making himself unpleasant until the handsome Petrarch had built mountains of sonnets to her. If pretty Mrs. Smith fails to make the most of her lord, and of her life with him, because she fancies that Brown alone, discevered but unforgotten, was the true prince, her folly of first love is fatuous. If Jones, having married that nice Miss Robinson, defrauded her of one kind word, courtesy, or attention, because of his early infatuation for the lovely Miss Thompson, he is a deluded and a deluding Jones. The chance is that each has gained profit by losing of his prayer.

Curious Epitaph.

The following epitaph, on a tombstone in the churchyard at Leighton, has not yet appeared in print. The date is Aug. 18, 1824: "Cease weeping Parents twas my makers will That I should fall by lightning in the field At God's command it struck, & then I fell I had not time to bid my friends farewell My Father ran, though he could scarcely stand When he saw me lay burning on the Land Then with his hands he put the Fire out Saying dear Lord my Son is dead I doubt."

AUGUST C. BECKMAN,

Manufacturer and Dealer in

HARNESS and SADDLES

BRIDLES,

Whips, Spurs, Etc.

The Best Stock always used. Good Workmanship, and Satisfactorily Guaranteed. My Harness and Saddles are all made at home.

REPAIRING NEATLY DONE FOR THE LEAST MONEY IN TOWN.

Carriage Trimming & Upholstering

DONE IF REQUIRED.

A large stock of the Celebrated

MILLS, LEAK & CO.'S GLOVES

Always on hand.

CHARLES BRYER'S

BARBER SHOP,

FRONT STREET,

FORT BENTON, MONTANA.

Shaving, Hair Cutting, Shampooing

And all work in the tonsorial line, done in a neat and satisfactory manner.

AH SING,

Benton Wash House,

COR. MAIN AND ST. JOHN STREETS.

WASHING AND IRONING

Done with neatness and dispatch.

FAMILY WASHING SOLICITED.

CENTRE MARKET,

FRONT STREET,

Fort Benton, M. T.

Beef, Mutton, Pork, Fish,

GAME AND ICE.

JOHN J. KENNEDY, Prop'r.

I will purchase Beef and Stock Cattle, and am prepared to deliver them on board of steamboats at Fort Benton, or at any other point on the Missouri river, either by the head or gross weight, at lowest rates.

Choteau House

NEW HOTEL.

Thoroughly Refitted and Newly Furnished.

SULLIVAN & HILL,

Proprietors.

Conducted on first-class principles. Everything new, neat and attractive. Feeling assured that we can offer the very best of accommodation, we respectfully solicit the patronage of the public.

PRICES REASONABLE.

THE LARGEST AND BEST HOTEL IN CHOTEAU COUNTY.

1881.

ESTABLISHED

1877

L. H. ROSENCRANS,

Cor. Front and Bond Sts.,

Fort Benton, Montana.

—MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN:—

SADDLES, HARNESS

—AND—

SADDLERY HARDWARE,

Hobbles, Halters, Riding Bridles, Side Saddles, Horse Blankets, Surcingles, Horse Collars, Harness Soap.

Feed Bags, Whip Stalks, Tents, Cinches, Plaited Bridle Reins, Picket Swivels, Gloves and Mittens, Harness Oil.

Black Snake Whips, California Lashes, Curry Combs, Horse Brushes, Mexican Spurs, Black Stirrups, Slipper Stirrups, Iron Bound Stirrups

I do not fail to keep everything to be found in a first-class establishment. Always have on hand a good assortment of the noted

MILLS & LEAK GLOVES AND MITTENS.

Repairing Neatly Done, and at Low Rates to Suit the Times

M. A. FLANAGAN,

Wholesale and Retail

DRUGS, NOTIONS,

Druggists' Sundries,

PERFUMERY, TOILET ARTICLES,

BRUSHES, PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES,

Lamps, Chandeliers, Wall Paper, Etc., Etc.

CHOICE CIGARS

Have constantly on hand a full assortment of School Books, and a general variety of Stationery.

PHYSICIANS' PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY COMPOUNDED.

PARK STABLES.

HARRIS & STRONG,

PROPRIETORS.

Livery, Feed and Sale.

LIGHT AND HEAVY TURNOUTS

Furnished on the shortest notice. The vehicles are all new and first-class, having been received late this fall, and are all of the newest and latest make and design. A specialty is made of

Saddle Horses for Ladies and Gentlemen.

THE BEST OF ATTENTION SHOWN TO TRANSIENT STOCK.

OVERLAND HOTEL

Front Street, Fort Benton.

This popular Hotel is situated in the centre of the town, convenient to the business houses, and opposite the steamboat landing. A number of New Rooms have been recently added, and nothing is left undone which will contribute to the comfort and convenience of guests.

JOHN HUNSBERGER,

PROPRIETOR.

ALL COACHES RUNNING INTO FORT BENTON ARRIVE AT AND DEPART FROM THIS HOTEL.

W. C. JONES, Carpenter and Joiner

GENERAL JOBBER.

Saws Filed and Furniture Repaired.

Shop on Main Street, back of T. C. Power & Bro.'s store.

FT. BENTON, - - MONTANA

The Jungle

GEO. FARMER

Proprietor.

This popular Sample Room is stocked with the finest kinds of

Wines, Liquors & Cigars.

None but the Purest Whiskies sold over the Bar.