The National Republican.

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The Kaiser Dead

The Venerable Monarch Passes Peacefully Away.

Beloved of the German People.

All Nations Mourn His Death.

Sorrow in European Courts.

HIS SON PROCLAIMED EMPEROR FREDERICK III.

Like the Passing from the Brightness of Day to the Darkness of Night—The Life Spark of the Great Emperor Extinguished—How the News was Received in Official Circles and by the People.

BERLIN, Mar. 9.—Emperor William died at 8:30 o'clock this morning.

Eye-witnesses of the scenes at the death of the emperor state that during the last few hours of his life he suffered no pain. Shortly after 8 o'clock all the members of the family staying at the palace, the court dignitaries, generals, and ministers of state [illegible] the chamber in which were summoned to the death bed. He was the emperor lay dying. The emperor [illegible] in a half sitting position on a camp bedstead. All the members of the royal family took places at the bedside. The room was crowded. Prince William stood nearest the emperor, half bending over the couch. He earnestly watched the face of the dying monarch until he expired.

The emperor died holding the empress by the hand. He had been in a stupor since 3 o'clock. He was delirious for a brief period at 5 o'clock, during which he is reported to have exclaimed: "I am a man of peace, but if Russia forces me to war I shall faithfully side with my ally, Austria."

The emperor will be buried in the mausoleum at Charlottenberg.

The emperor's remains lie covered with a white cloth on the bedstead on which he died in the imperial chamber. The body is surrounded with candles. The expression of the face is extremely peaceful and placid. The members of the royal family left the palace at 10 o'clock.

Divine service will be held in the mortuary chamber to-night. The cathedral choir will perform the choral parts of the service.

When Prince Bismarck entered the reichstag at 12:35 o'clock this afternoon he deposited the imperial order closing the session. The order was the last official document signed by the late emperor.

Prince Bismarck informed the reichstag that Emperor Frederick will leave San Remo to-morrow, and that he will arrive at Berlin in due course of time.

The house received the communication with evident satisfaction, the more so because Herr von Puttkamer, in announcing the death of the emperor to the lower house of the diet, had not alluded to the new emperor. This omission had created a painful impression. Prince Bismarck declared that from what he had observed during the last few days Emperor William had found consolation in those trying hours in the sympathy the whole world showed in the sufferings of his son, and in his consciousness of the consolidation of national unity which found expression in the unanimous passage of the military bill.

The reichstag then adjourned for an indefinite period. After the adjournment Prince Bismarck descended from the elevated seats occupied by the members of the bundesrath into the body of the house, and greeted Count Von Moltke. The members crowded around him as he showed the order dissolving the reichstag, all being anxious to see the last signature of the emperor.

Frederick William was proclaimed by the reichstag Frederick III.

At the opening of the lower house of the Prussian diet to day Herr von Puttkamer, vice president of the Prussian ministerial council, arose and said:

I have the sad duty to make a most painful communication to the house. It has pleased God to call his majesty the emperor, in the seventy-eighth year of his glorious reign, from his earthly existence by a peaceful death at 8:30 o'clock this morning. You will not expect me at this most solemn moment, when sorrow and care so deeply stir our hearts, to attempt to depict the feelings with which the whole nation is filled through the loss of our most beloved, exalted, and venerable ruler. I may, however, safely and confidently say on this day of sore trial that the Prussian people and their representatives will now more than ever be penetrated by the consciousness that the sorrows of our exalted sovereign's house are theirs, and that the deeper the universal pain at the decease of our ever-remembered king the stronger and more indissoluble will be the link uniting Prussia's sovereigns house and Prussia's people in good and evil days. I leave it to yourselves to take such resolutions as are suitable to the gravity of the situation.

Herr Von Koeller, the president of the house, closed the sitting with the words:

God protect the royal house and the fatherland.

The death of the emperor was announced to the populace by the lowering to half-mast of the standard over the palace. Flags at half-mast are displayed on all the public buildings. An immense concourse of people is gathered outside the palace. The multitude is silent and sorrowful.

The *Staats-Anzeiger* publishes the following proclamation:

It has pleased God to call his majesty the emperor and king, our most gracious master, from life after a short illness and after a richly blessed reign. The whole nation mourns with the royal house the decease of the deeply beloved and venerable monarch, whose wisdom has ruled so long and gloriously over its fortunes in war and in peace.

THE MINISTER OF STATE.

The reichstag assembled at 12:30 p. m. amid unusual excitement in the lobbies. It had been agreed that the ringing of the bell, the customary signal for the assembling of the members, should be stopped, and that the deputies should enter the hall quietly and without ceremony. Alijah benches in the house were speedily filled, and the galleries were crowded. Profound silence reigned. A large number of federal commissaries were in their places at the federal councillors' table from an early hour. Meanwhile the plenipotentiaries awaited Prince Bismarck in the lobby, and as soon as he arrived they went with him to the hall of the federal council, where they held a private conference. At 12:30 the members of the council entered the reichstag and took positions to the left of the presidential chair. Immediately afterwards the president was called away for an interview with Prince Bismarck.

At 12:32 Prince Bismarck appeared, and the members rose in a body. The chancellor, after a pause, said:

The sad duty devolves upon me of making to you an official communication of what you know already—that since 8:30 o'clock his majesty, Emperor William, has been at rest with his fathers. In consequence of this event the Prussian throne, and with this, according to article 11 of the imperial constitution, the imperial dignity has fallen upon his majesty, Frederick III, king of Prussia. The telegraphic intelligence received by me allows of the assumption that his majesty, the reigning emperor and king, will leave San Remo to-morrow, arriving in due course in Berlin.

During the last days of his life I received from the much lamented king a confirmation of the power for work, which only left him with his life, the signature which lies before me, and which empowers me to close the reichstag at the usual time when its labors are finished. I addressed to the emperor the request that he should sign only with the first letters of his name. His majesty replied that he believed himself still able to write his name in full. In consequence of this the historical document with the last signature of

his majesty lies before me. Under the circumstances I assume that it would be in accordance with the wish of the reichstag, as well as of the representatives of the federal governments, not to separate just now, but to remain in session until after the arrival of his majesty the emperor.

I, therefore, do not make any use of the imperial authorization beyond depositing in the archives as an historical document, and requesting your president to induce the adoption of resolutions which will reflect the feeling and conviction of the reichstag. It does not become me to give from this official place expression to the personal feelings with which the decease of my master, the departure of the first German emperor from our midst, fills me. There is, in fact, no need of it, for the feelings which animate us live in the heart of every German. But there is one thing which I believe I should not conceal from you. It does not concern my sentiments, but my experience. It is the fact that, amid the [illegible] which the ruler just departed lived to see his house attacked there were two circumstances which filled him with satisfaction and comfort. One of them was the effect that the sufferings of his only son and successor, our present sovereign lord, had produced throughout the world—not only in Germany, but in every part of the world. I received this very day from New York a telegram of sympathy, showing what confidence the dynasty of the imperial house has acquired among all nations. This is the legacy which the emperor-king-hero reign bequeaths to the German people. The confidence which his dynasty has won will be transferred to the nation despite anything that has happened.

The *Reichsanzeiger* gives the following details of the last hours of Emperor William:

On Wednesday, when his strength began to fail, the emperor spoke repeatedly to Prince William about the condition of the Crown Prince, and about political and military affairs. On Thursday he talked with his daughter, the Grand Duchess of Baden, about the death of her son, Prince Louis. At noon he asked for Prince Bismarck, who came and conversed with him on the political situation. The emperor spoke clearly, and thanked the chancellor for his services to the country. Increased feeblenessoon followed, attended with delirium. His voice became feebler and feebler, finally sinking to a whisper. At 5 o'clock he was awakened by the members of the family, Prince Bismarck, and Count Von Moltke, and the servants of the household gathered around the bed. The emperor, supported by the doctors, held the hand of his wife on one side and his daughter's hand on the other. Prince William stood alone at the head of the couch. Chapain Koegel spoke a few words of consolation, to which the emperor whispered occasional responses.

At 5:30 o'clock the patient manifested extreme weakness, and death seemed imminent. Suddenly the emperor rallied and asked for Count Wilhelm Bismarck, Prince William, with both of whom he talked about the state of the army and the Prussian people, entering into minute particulars when speaking of military matters, to the astonishment of both his listeners. He then referred to Germany's alliances with various countries and the possibility of war. But the latter portion of his remarks the fantasies of delirium were mingled with coherent utterances.

This temporary recovery of strength lasted till 10 o'clock. At frequent intervals he conversed in a touching, earnest manner with those about him. Between 10 and 2 o'clock he appeared to sleep. At about 2 o'clock it was observed that a serious change was beginning to take place in the emperor's face, although there was again a slight improvement in his condition. But at 7 o'clock it was seen that the emperor's last moments were near: the members of his family were again summoned to his bedside, and at 8:30 the doctors declared that he was dead. During the last few hours the emperor was partially conscious.

During the last thirty-six hours the emperor was drowsy, delirious, and conscious, alternately, starting at times excitedly to make remarks relative to family or political matters. Once he mistook Prince Bismarck for the Crown Prince, and, taking his hand, pleaded that he would always be kind to the czar. He afterward recognized Prince Bismarck and expressed in broken sentences his satisfaction with the Austro-German alliance. About 5 o'clock in the morning he talked so much that the Grand Duchess of Baden said that he would tire himself. The emperor replied, "I have no time to be tired." Prince William stood at the foot of the bed. During the last moments the emperor did not suffer. His face wore a tranquil, almost smiling, expression. A few minutes before his death the emperor exclaimed, "Fritz," "Dear Fritz." Emperor William left 3,000,000 marks in cash. It is expected that the funeral will take place next Thursday.

Profound gloom prevails in Berlin. Rain is falling in torrents.

The *Reichsanzeiger* announces that the chancellor has received the following telegram from Emperor Frederick:

SAN REMO, Mar. 9.—At this moment of deepest sorrow at the decease of the emperor and king, my beloved father, I must express my thanks to you and to the ministers of state for the devotion and loyalty with which you all served him. I rely upon the assistance of you all in the arduous charge which has devolved upon me. I leave here to-morrow.

FREDERICK.

The emperor has also forwarded the following ordinance to the ministers of state on the subject of public mourning:

With regard to the national mourning which has heretofore been customary, we will not order any prevision, but will rather leave it to every German to determine how he will give expression to his affection at the death of such a monarch, and how long he will deem it appropriate to restrict participation in public entertainments.

The regiments of the guards will not take the oath of allegiance to the new emperor until his commands are received. Preparations for the reception of the new sovereign are actively going on at the palace. He will travel to Berlin by a special train, which will reach Turin on Saturday night and Munich at 8 o'clock Sunday morning. It is expected that one of his majesty's first steps will be the granting of amnesty of political offenders.

The evening papers contain what are reported to be the last words spoken by the emperor, they are: "Alexander has promised me that he will not make war against us." It is reported that the emperor also said: "I am convinced that we ought not to go to war with Russia, toward whom the most friendly attitude ought to be adopted."

Regarding the funeral and other ceremonies nothing has been settled yet, as all depends upon the orders of the new emperor. The will will not be opened before the emperor's arrival here.

ENGLAND IN MOURNING.

LONDON, Mar. 9.—Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales were informed of the death of the emperor at 9:30 o'clock this morning.

The news reached the clubs before the members assembled. Special messengers informed the ministers, the Prince of Wales, the foreign ambassadors, various members of the house of lords, and persons prominent in political circles.

The excitement of yesterday has been renewed, and the German embassy is besieged with callers. In consequence of yesterday evening's conflicting rumors the definite news of the emperor's death was at first received cautiously. The flags on the public buildings were placed at half mast, and the notice of the emperor's decease was posted on the bulletin boards of the newspapers.

Large crowds gathered about the newspaper offices, and many were the expressions of sorrow and regret, mingled with sympathetic remarks as to how the death of the emperor would affect the new emperor (Frederick William.)

The queen was dressed in deep black when she took her carriage exercise in the gardens of Buckingham palace to-day. Her face bore a very sad expression. All the officials of the palace and the servants are dressed in mourning.

The Prince of Wales, in deep mourning, visited the queen at 10 o'clock this morning and again at noon. The court has been ordered to wear mourning for a month. All state ceremonies have been canceled. The Prince of Wales, Prince Christian, and Prince Henry of Battenberg, who will represent the queen, will attend the emperor's funeral.

The lord mayor has postponed two banquets which he was to have given shortly in consequence of the death of the emperor.

The queen has sent telegrams of condolence to Berlin and to San Remo.

General surprise is expressed that the house of commons did not adjourn in consequence of Emperor William's death.

The general impression is that there will be no change in the political situation so long as Prince Bismarck lives.

UNIVERSAL SORROW.

VIENNA, Mar. 9.—The reichsrath has adjourned because of the death of the German emperor. The Archduke Rudolph will attend the funeral. The subsidized theaters have been closed.

VIENNA, Mar. 9.—Emperor Francis Joseph paid a personal visit to the German ambassador to-day.

PARIS, Mar. 9.—President Carnot has sent a telegraphic message of condolence to Frederick William at San Remo. He also charged Col. Lichtenstein, of his military household, to convey his condolences to Count von Munster, the German ambassador to France.

M. Flourens, minister of foreign affairs, went to the German embassy and telegraphed to M. Herbette, the French ambassador at Berlin, to present his condolences to Prince Bismarck.

All the members of the French cabinet called and inscribed their names at the German embassy.

The police have seized a number of scandalous placards of the late emperor of Germany, which were being sold on the boulevards this afternoon. The newspapers unanimously denounce the sellers of the placards.

The newspapers are dignified in their comments on the death of Emperor William.

The ministers have taken appropriate action with reference to the death of Emperor William. The chambers this afternoon adopted an expression of sorrow, but did not adjourn.

ST. PETERSBURG, Mar. 9.—The imperial theaters have been ordered closed out of respect for the memory of Emperor William. The newspapers generally express the greatest respect for the late emperor. Some uneasiness is felt regarding possible political consequences of his death.

BUCHAREST, Mar. 9.—King Charles will go to Berlin to attend the funeral of Emperor William.

It is stated that the chamber of deputies will elect a temporary ministry, with Gen. Lecca as premier.

NEW YORK, Mar. 9.—The following cablegram was sent to-day to Empress Augusta:

The German Society of the city of New York beg leave to express to your majesty, the Empress Dowager, their deepest feelings of condolence. Although oceans separate us from Germany, yet the feeling of reverence and the sympathy with everything left concerning the members of the imperial house are, and remain, with us lively, heartfelt, and deeply seated.

ROME, Mar. 9.—The chamber of deputies will adjourn as a mark of respect for the dead emperor.

In the chamber of deputies to-day Prime Minister Crispi said that the ties connecting the Italian and German dynasties and peoples, the identity of the interests they defended and the objects they had achieved, caused Italians to feel deeply the death of Emperor William. He proposed that the president interpret the sentiments of the nation, and that the chamber give expression to their sympathy with stricken Germany and their good wishes for the new emperor. The president said that the German ambassador had just visited him, and had requested him to thank the chamber for the recent votes of sympathy with the Crown Prince. The chamber, he said, shared Germany's grief, and greeted the new emperor, trusting that the ties that bound the two nations would never be dissolved.

The chamber adjourned until Monday.

The Prince of Naples and Gen. Viale, the minister of war, will go to Berlin to attend the funeral.

The pope sent dispatches last evening and early to-day asking for news of the emperor. When the death of the emperor was announced his holiness sent a message of condolence to Berlin.

King Humbert and Premier Crispi have started for Genoa, where they will meet the German emperor to morrow.

EMPEROR FREDERICK DEPRESSED.

SAN REMO, Mar. 9.—The emperor of Germany (Frederick William) passed a fairly good night. During the early part of the night he was restless, but he slept better afterward. He was greatly disturbed on hearing the news of his father's death, but is now much more tranquil. He has received hundreds of telegrams of condolence. His wife received many ladies and gentlemen who have been in Frederick's service, and who called to express their sympathy. The emperor and his wife will leave for Berlin at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Upon receiving the news of the emperor's death the Crown Princess rushed in the villa garden, weeping bitterly. She afterward informed her husband, who immediately dispatched Dr. Krause to Berlin to make arrangements for their return.

A GREAT MONARCH.

Sketch of the Life of the Venerable Emperor.

Born the 22d of March, 1797, Frederick William Louis von Hohenzollern was from his cradle destined to become a soldier, and when old enough he diligently applied himself to learn the military profession, and, by his solicitude for the interests of the Prussian army, to merit the honor of commanding those who had bought commission with their blood. Never during the whole of his long career has his tenacity of purpose been found wanting in anything that touched the army; in such matters he has always shown himself inflexible, while in all other things he has, when necessary, been ready to yield to the force of circumstances. It was on the 1st of January, 1807, when crushed at Jena, Prussia had almost ceased to exist as an independent nation, that Frederick William III, who with his family was living in the poorly-furnished half-ruined castle of Koenigsburg, gave his third son, Wilhelm, then 10 years of age, the commission of a subaltern in the Royal Grenadiers, with the remark, "I give you this to-day in order that you may have a new suit of clothes to wear on your next birthday."

Three months later the little prince was so seriously ill that he was not expected to recover. At Christmas of 1807 he was commissioned as second lieutenant, and at once began to learn the rudiments of his military duties under the instruction of Maj von Pirch. In 1809, when the royal family returned to Berlin, the prince entered the city at the head of his company, and from that time he lived the same life as other officers of the regiment. Delicate health prevented his going into the field with his father and brother in 1813, and in June of that year he was promoted to a first lieutenancy. Then, in the following November, after the battle of Leipsic, he was commissioned captain, and ordered to the front to join his regiment. On the 1st of January, 1814, seven years after his entry into the service, and at the age of 17, he rode alongside of Marshal Blucher when the Prussian army crossed the Rhine to invade fair France. At the battle of Bar sur-Aube, where he came under fire for the first time, he was intrusted with the reconnoissance of the battle field, and he did this with so much coolness that his father gave him the Iron Cross (this decoration is only bestowed for military service in campaigns against France), while the czar of Russia bestowed on him the Cross of St. George an order of which, up to the time of his death, he was the oldest living member. Soon after this he was transferred from the Grenadiers to the guards, and entered with the allies into Paris, an enterprise that he has since twice repeated. The second time was in 1815, after the Belgian campaign, in which he took active part, winning a major's commission at Waterloo. He did not remain long in Paris, as his regiment was ordered to Berlin to participate in the solemn festivals of victory celebrated in honor of the successes of the Prussian armies.

Soon after this he began to display that tenacity of purpose where the army is concerned that has marked him ever since, but his willingness to yield to circumstances in other things was early shown. Deeply in love with the Princess Elisa Radziwill, he consented in 1829, after but brief resistance, to marry Augusta, eldest daughter of the duke of Weimar, and in other political matters he has often sacrificed his personal sympathies or repugnances to the exigencies of statecraft. In the meantime his promotion was rapid; in quick succession he became lieutenant colonel, colonel, general, commander of the first division of the guards, commander of the 3d army corps, and lieutenant general. Then, on the death of his father, when his childless brother ascended the throne and he was announced as Crown Prince, he, for the first time, began to take an active part in the domestic politics of Prussia. He placed himself at the head of the conservative party, and became leader of the resistance to the liberal reforms for which Germany had been striving ever since 1815. This rendered him so unpopular that his rights to the crown were endangered. In 1848, when the shock of the February revolution in France was felt in Berlin, and blood flowed in the streets of that town, the successful liberals at once designated the Crown Prince as the person responsible for what had occurred, and, in order to save his brother's tottering throne, Wilhelm went for awhile into voluntary exile. His absence in England did not calm the hostility of his adversaries, and they would only consent to his return after he had given a solemn pledge of adhesion to the constitution which they had wrung from his brother. On his return he was sent with an army corps to put down the insurrection in Baden, and the capitulation of Rastadt won him the Order of Merit, a decoration more eagerly longed for by German warriors and men of science than any other, or even the highest grades of any other.

It was now a serious hour for Prussia. The revolutionary tempest which was sweeping over Europe was nowhere, France alone excepted, more violent than in Germany. In every one of the many states and principalities the people were struggling with their governments for a larger measure of liberty. The idea of German unity seemed on the point of being realized when the parliament of Frankfort offered Frederick William IV of Prussia the imperial crown, and which, from fear of Austria and the rest of Europe, he refused to accept. His brother Wilhelm approved of this refusal for other reasons—he considered it humiliating that his family should be offered the imperial crown by a popular assembly. He held that kings either received their authority from God or won it for themselves by victory, and it was as the conqueror of France that he himself consented to receive the crown of united Germany in 1871, his coronation in the Palace of Versailles being equivalent to such a ceremony on the battle field.

Frederick William IV, the crowned romantic, as he was called, did not take much interest in military matters and left the entire care of the reorganization of the army to his brother, a task which Wilhelm managed so successfully that his promotion to field marshal was fully merited. It was about this time when Austria, irritated by the offer of the Frankfort parliament, seized the first occasion that had presented itself to manifest her determination not to allow Prussia any longer to predominate in German affairs. The haughty conduct of Austria in the Hessian question, as well as at Olmutz, was a bitter pill for Prussia to swallow, but the lesson was not lost, and she at once began to prepare a military organization which would enable her to face with safety any new complication that might arise. In the west a threatening cloud had made its appearance in the establishment of the Napoleonic empire. When the war in the east broke out Prussia repelled the advances of France and England and thus allowed Austria to take the place in the Europ an concert which of right belonged to herself. All this was contrary to the views of Prince Wilhelm, as it was also contrary to those of the man who was to be his principal coadjutor in causing these views to triumph later on. But liberalism was then too strong in Prussia to be resisted, although the hour was near at hand when the Crown Prince would have it in his power to check its progress.

In 1857 the fiftieth anniversary of his entrance into the army was duly celebrated, but long as had been his connection with the service he did not become its commander-in chief until five months later. Then the mental condition of Frederick William IV forced Wilhelm to accept the regency, and three years afterwards he was king of Prussia. Those three years were the turning point in the military history of Germany. Almost on the day when he became regent Prince William called to his side a staff of skilful soldiers to aid him in creating the most perfect military organization that perhaps the world has ever known. Manteuffel was made head of the military cabinet, van Roon was summoned to Berlin, and von Moltke, he who resigned from the Danish army, was placed at the head of the general staff. He still occupies his position, and is the sole survivor of the three great men who were then Wilhelm's principal collaborators.

For a while the Prince Regent followed closely the policy of the king whose place he had taken, seeming to consider himself as a mere depository of power, who might at any moment be called on to restore it to the man who had been compelled by accidental circumstances to lay it temporarily down. He, however, soon grew tired of this, and commenced to show a determination to use the royal right he held in all its plenitude. At this juncture war broke out between Italy and Austria, and France drew her sword in favor of the former nation. Prussia was placed in a dangerous dilemma. If she allowed Austria to be crushed by France the chances were that she, too, would eventually share the same fate, and if Austria triumphed then that nation would obtain an influence in Germany that Prussia would be powerless to resist. As long as the war remained confined to Italy then Prussia remained quiet, but the moment the successful French armies approached the Alps she threatened to join her forces to the defeated nation, and thus Napoleon III was forced to sign the treaty of Villafranca. This political move of Prussia secured great advantages to that country. Austria had been weakened, her prestige in Germany was largely decreased, and by this timely interference Prussia placed herself in the position of a peacemaker. This skillful policy had also the effect of giving satisfaction to patriotic spirits and of causing them to turn their eyes toward the prince regent, who at once became popular not only in Prussia, but throughout Germany. Such was the situation of things when, toward the end of 1860, Frederick William IV departed this life and the regency came to and end.

But there soon arose a serious conflict between the new king and the Prussian parliament. Wilhelm looked on the army as his personal property, and would not admit that parliament had any right to even debate the appropriations asked for to keep it up. The difference of opinion between the king and his ministers on this subject led him, in September, 1862, to dismiss them and to intrust his government to Count von Bismarck. The new president of the council had also formerly belonged to the feudal or conservative party; while at Frankfort he had learned to dislike Austria, and while at Paris he had seen through the aims and ambitions of Louis Napoleon. He resolved to turn those emotions to the advantage of his sovereign, and commenced his plans by getting the attention of his own people drawn away from domestic politics by centering them on foreign affairs. The conflict, however, lasted four years, and was exceedingly violent, and then the trouble with Denmark about Schleswig Holstein arose in the very nick of time to give the king and his minister the excuse they needed for governing without a parliament. The king, however, did not go into the field during that campaign, although after the capture of Duppel he went out to headquarters, reviewed the troops at Sunderuit, and finally re entered Berlin at their head. About this time the Polish insurrection had brought Russia into a dispute with France and England, both of whom were backed up by Austria, but Bismarck, by a master stroke of diplomacy, entered into a defensive and offensive alliance with the czar, and it was this point of departure which afterward enabled Prussia to successfully crush Austria and France and to unite Germany under one sovereign scepter without any interference on the part of Russia.

But before the final struggle for supremacy began between Austria and Prussia it was necessary for the latter country to secure the neutrality of France, and this was accomplished by taking Italy as an ally and by partly promising Louis Napoleon that France should not be forgotten when the division of spoils took place. Before Napoleon III had made up his mind how much of the left bank of the Rhine he would accept as a natural frontier to his empire the battle of Sadowa was fought and Austria gladly and quickly made terms as best she could.

King William took an active part in this six days' campaign. He was present at Gitchen on the 2d of July, and was also at Sadowa the next day. Three times on the eventful 3d of July his officers begged him to permit them to give orders to retreat, and finally von Moltke said the Prussian troops could hold their own for half an hour more, but not another moment. Before the thirty minutes had elapsed an army corps commanded by the present Crown Prince had debouched on the heights of Chlum, and the fate of Europe underwent a change. The Austrians lost the battle, and on the 50th of November the king reentered his capital at the head of his victorious army. The 1st of January, 1867, when he celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of his entrance into the army, he was the chief of the confederacy of northern Germany, and had annexed Hanover, Hesse, Frankfort, and Schleswig to the Prussian kingdom. No wonder, then, when France asked what she was to have as the price of her neutrality in the Austrian affair that the king replied that he had an invincible repugnance to yielding an inch of German soil, but he saw no serious objections to her taking possession of Belgium. This Louis Napoleon was about doing when the king changed his mind, and Bismarck informed Benedetti, the emperor's ambassador at Berlin, that perhaps France had better go [illegible] upon Napoleon III opened negotiations with Holland on the subject. The king of that country needed money and readily consented to sell, but when the purchase funds were partly paid Bismarck sent word to Holland that the king of Prussia would consider any cession of the Grand Duchy a *casus belli*.

All this pleased the German people immensely and proportionately annoyed Frenchmen, but neither government dared as yet to take a bolder step. The policy which the Prussian king and his prime minister were pursuing was so much in accordance with national aspirations that the reichstag not only did everything that was asked of it, but now urged on the government in the very policy which hitherto it had refused to follow. The king, however, had Bismarck refused to be hurried. They were preparing for the absorption of Germany into a single homogeneous whole, but they knew very well that there still existed an obstacle to that unity which must be got rid of. That obstacle was France, and it was necessary to force her to act just as soon as it was sure no other nation would interfere in the struggle. Bismarck began by proposing an alliance with Austria, which was declined; in Italy he was more successful. Then he brought about diplomatic incidents calculated to irritate France. The candidacy of Prince Hohenzollern for the Spanish throne was the final one that left Napoleon III no alternative but to declare war or face a revolution.

The result of the war of 1870-'71 is too well known for it to be necessary to dwell on it now. Suffice it to say that for the third time Wilhelm entered Paris as a conqueror; and when he re-entered Berlin at the head of the army on the 16th of June, 1871, it was no longer as king of Prussia, but as emperor of the United Germany. That was the last campaign in which the man who had been eighty years a soldier took part. Since then he devoted himself to the perfection of the military force of his empire. The most trifling detail of its armament, or of a uniform, was as interesting to him as the general maneuvers in autumn or the mobilization of an army corps. He was always fond of company inspection and other minor garrison duties, but old age forced him two years ago to give up this favorite occupation. To-day the German soldiers are the finest in existence, and the venerable monarch, dying, knew, as did Frederick the Great, "The world does not rest more securely on the shoulders of Atlas than does Prussia on its army."

There was never any change in the appearance of the venerable monarch's palace home. His sleeping room and office at the corner of the building that stands in the Unter den Linden were lit up every evening at the usual hour, and even when the sovereign was absent these windows were bright with lamps and candles until midnight, just as though he were in the capital. The room is a large one, some 18 by 25 feet square, with wooden wainscoting and heavy brown satin hangings. The bed, although a very simple one, is no longer the iron camp bedstead which most of his biographers have declared to be his nightly couch; it stands with the head to the wall facing a wide, lofty window shaded by thick blinds, and near it on a little table is a collection of family photographs, including that of the emperor himself, who is represented holding on his knees his great-grandson, the next but last born child of Prince William. The emperor's watch hung at the head of the bed, where also a bell rope was within his reach. On the mantelpiece, no matter what might be the season of the year, there was always a huge bouquet of blue corn flowers, the emperor's favorite, in a silver Renaissance vase. On a bracket fastened to the wall is a two branched candlestick with green shade. The whole of one side of the room is filled up with a large mirror. A door opens from this room into the one assigned to the general on duty as aid-de-camp. Another door communicates with the emperor's private office, to which he proceeded as soon as he was up and dressed, and where he always began his daily work by reading the verse of Scripture, the proverb, or the philosophical reflection printed on the ephemeral almanac hanging over his desk. He now and then added an annotation of his own to these daily slips, or made on them a memorandum of how he had employed the day, and as they are all carefully preserved by his granddaughter, the Princess William of Prussia, they will one day form a curious and valuable collection for the examination of future biographers and historians.

For a great many years a cane-bottomed chair was the only seat the room contained, but this has lately been exchanged for a large green-leather upholstered arm one, which stands to the right of three tables placed in a row. On the first of these are placed letters, petitions, and reports as they are received; on the second there are writing materials—a silver inkstand shaped like a Krupp shell, and a pen made out of an eagle's feather, with which the emperor always wrote; on the third table are books, German, English, and French newspapers and reviews, complete files of which are also kept in a large room on the ground floor of the palace. In this office the emperor passed a large portion of his time, and it is there that he received those who had business with him, but no one except the aid-de-camp on duty, who sleeps in the adjoining room, his valet de chambre Walter, whose grandfather long held the same position, his physicians, and Prince Bismarck were ever allowed to enter his bedchamber.

The imperial household was a frugal one, and few were the grand dinners given. Both Wilhelm and his empress love the company of their kind, but naturally they have very few intimate friends. She is not fond of anything but plain German cooking, but he liked French *plats*, well made and seasoned. Every winter they gave three or four state balls in the old chateau at the end of the avenue facing the museum, about five minutes' walk from the palace in which their majesties live, and not far from the various embassies. It is a very plain-looking four story building, somewhat in the eighteenth century style; it is plastered outside, contains about 600 rooms, two courts, a chapel, and is surmounted by a low dome. The courts are paved with the cobblestones which were the fashion in the days when carriages were much heavier and clumsier than they are now.

It is the empress who really keeps up this royal style, never for an instant abandoning her role, and always endeavoring to make it resemble as closely as possible that of the old French monarchy. The Germans and Berliners have never learned to understand her, and she has always been looked on by them rather as a Russian, which she is by descent, than as a German. As a matter of fact she is rather unpopular with her subjects. The dancing did not last long, an hour and a half at the most, and then the chamberlains reformed the court cortege, and everybody went to the supper rooms, about a dozen in number, each of which was assigned to a different category of guests. Foreigners were apt to pronounce the refreshments found in these supper rooms very inferior in arrangement and variety, but the Germans seemed quite satisfied with their sovereign's hospitality.

GOSCHEN'S FINANCIAL SCHEME.

He Outlines it in the House of Commons and it is Adopted.

LONDON, Mar. 9.—In the house of commons to-day Mr. Goschen submitted his proposal to lighten the country's financial burden. He said the time for a bold scheme for the conversion of the debt had arrived. The government was less anxious regarding the political situation in Europe than they were two months ago. He would take 2½ per cent. as an indication of the credit of the country, which the government were bound to utilize to secure advantage to the taxpayers.

A system of gradual reduction of interest, with each stage guaranteed for a certain number of years, would be most successful. Three sorts of stock now existed, which were divided as follows: £232,000,000 of consols, £166,000,000 of new threes, and £69,000,000 of reduced threes. Ten years' notice would be required to pay off the consols and reduced threes. The new threes could be paid off without notice. He proposed to follow the principle that there should be one large stock, not stock of different denominations. He saw no reason why the threes should not be amalgamated into one great stock with quarterly instead of half-yearly dividends. There were strong arguments to offer in favor of the creation of 2½ per cent. stocks. Regarding annuitants and rates of interest, however, the government had decided not to follow the course of a 2½ per cent. stock, but would accept a 2¾ per cent. stock, descending automatically after fifteen years to 2½ per cent., after which a 2½ per cent. stock would be guaranteed for twenty years or more. He also proposed that assent should be presumed unless dissent was expressed by March 20 for the extension of the time for trustees to April 12. A clause would be inserted relieving them from any responsibility connected with the conversion. He offered holders of consols and reduced threes 100 pounds 5 shillings for every 100 pounds of stock if they would forego their right of one year's notice proposed to be converted into 2½ per cent. stock, when the conversion would be at par. Consol holders would be relieved under the new scheme from the constant fear of being paid off. If the scheme were accepted the country would save from Apr. 1 £400,000, and after fourteen years it would save £4,500,000 pounds annually.

Mr. Goschen's proposal was carried.

The first step which Russia has taken regarding Bulgaria appears to satisfy public opinion, but a favorable issue of the crisis is regarded as impossible unless the powers take speedy measures.

George W. Butterfield, who came here from San Francisco to sell California mining properties, has sued the *Financial News* for £1,000,000 libel for attacking the scheme. But £3,000 out of £1,000,000 were disposed of.

AT THE GERMAN LEGATION.

Receiving the Announcement of the Emperor's Death.

The official announcement of the death of Emperor William was received at the German legation early yesterday morning. The telegram was signed by Prince Bismarck, and stated that the emperor passed peacefully away at 8:30 yesterday morning. Baron von Zedtwitz, charge d'affaires, when questioned upon the subject of the succession, said that Crown Prince Frederick William became Emperor of Germany and King of Prussia immediately on the death of his father, adding that there was no doubt of the question of the incapacity of the sovereign being raised, it will be decided by the two chambers of Prussia.

A copy of this despatch was sent by Baron von Zedtwitz to the Secretary of State, who sent the following reply:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Mar. 9—BARON: The melancholy tidings conveyed by your note of this date had already been received by a telegram from Mr. Pendleton, our minister at Berlin. The seal of death has at last rest set upon a long and illustrious career, and the people of the United States will fully sympathize with all Germany at the bier of Emperor William I. Accept, baron, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

T. F. BAYARD.

To BARON VON ZEDTWITZ, Charge d'Affaires.

The Department of State also received a cablegram announcing the emperor's death from Minister Pendleton at Berlin. Secretary Bayard replied as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Mar. 9, 1888.—PENDLETON, BERLIN: The President desires you to make known through the foreign office that the death of the illustrious and venerable emperor of Germany has deeply aroused the sorrow and sympathy of the people of the United States and their government.

BAYARD.

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCES.

Cleveland and Blaine Lead for Their Respective Parties.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., Mar. 9.—The members of the legislature have been polled on their presidential preferences with the following result:

Democrats—Grover Cleveland, 79; David B. Hill, 5; Thomas F. Bayard, 1; Allen G. Thurman, 1.

Republicans—James G. Blaine, 11; John Sherman, 3; Walter Q. Gresham, 3; William M. Evarts, 1; Roscoe Conkling, 1; Chauncey M. Depew, 1.

Collision on the Burlington.

ATCHISON, KAS., Mar. 9.—A local passenger on the Burlington and Missouri, one of the "Q" lines, dashed into the through Denver passenger train yesterday. A brakeman, conductor, and two passengers were seriously injured.

Gov. Hill's Paper Burned Out.

ELMIRA, N. Y., Mar. 9.—The *Gazette*, a paper formerly owned by Gov. Hill, but who, it is said, has no interest in it now, was burned out this evening. Loss, $30,000. The paper is regarded as Gov. Hill's personal organ.

Miss Alcott's Manuscript to be Burned.

BOSTON, Mar. 9.—The will of Louisa M. Alcott was probated to day. It directs that all her manuscripts, of every kind and nature, shall be burned, and no use of any kind shall be made of them by any person.

Sutton Found Guilty of Murder.

WAYNESVILLE, VA., Mar. 9.—Wayman Sutton was to-day found guilty of murder in the second degree for the killing of Peter Harwell from an ambush.

A Blizzard in Minnesota.

DULUTH, MINN., Mar. 9.—A blizzard is raging between here and St. Paul. No trains have arrived since last night.

HOY'S GREAT PLAYING.

The Washingtons Have a Star Player in the Mute.

(Special to the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.)

NEW ORLEANS, Mar. 9.—The Washington team to-day defeated the Crescent city's by a score of 5 to 2. The first inning was rather a dampener for the statesmen, the home team having scored both their runs in that inning. The Washingtons, however, by their superb playing retrieved the ignominious defeat of Wednesday. O'Day was in the box for Washington. He seems to have more control of the ball than last year. Myers, affected by the climate of the far south, has left for home, and Gardner took his place to-day.

The talk of the city this evening is the wonderful fielding and great batting of Washington's latest accession, Hoy, the deaf mute. In the sixth inning he threw a man out at the plate from deep center and set the spectators crazy with delight. His star play was made in the ninth inning. Two men were on bases when Werden, the heavy hitter of the New Orleans nine, cracked a liner to right center. Daly made a good effort to get the ball, but it had passed him. Not a soul on the grounds thought Hoy was in that part of the field, but it seems he had started from center as soon as the ball was struck, and with lightning speed he shot across it, jumped in the air, pulled the ball down, and made the greatest triple play ever seen on any grounds. When the audience saw how the catch ended they could not, for awhile, realize it. The two clubs play their final game Monday. The New Orleans management say the game must be played on Sunday, but Man