DER KAISER VON DEUTSCHLAND. From the London Spectator.

How litt'e the world changes! Hark once again to the shouts of the chiefs of the tribes as they raise Tchengis Khan on their shields on the field of battle, and salute him Emperor of the World ! That is one view of this elevation of King William to the Imperial throne, and a poetical one; but then it is also a cynical and a partially untrue one. It would be far truer to fall back on much more prosaic morality, to repeat a sentence which would do for a copybook, and say, see how far one gets by the aid of even a humble every-day virtue like fidelity to one's work; or to contrast, after Hogarth's fashion, the Haps-burgs and the Hohenzollerns, the Idle and the Industrious Apprentices to the trade of governing mankind. The condition of existence for the Kaisers after the Thirty Years' war ended, was that they should become again what the Roman Casar was supposed to have been-the large-hearted arbiter of mankind, the ultimate judge to whom na-tions when wronged could appeal, a sovereign to whom kings could bow without loss of dignity, or fear that the decision would be sught but a fair award. That was the raison d'etre of that "Roman" Kaisership of which the House of Austria was so proud, of that pretension to such precedence among sovereigns as a sovereign has among his nobles, of that antique and stately ceremonial which conquering kings strove in vain to relax, and which popes could not break through. The Hapsburg Kaisers saw this was their function, always claimed this position as theirs, and persistently refused to perform the work for which this transcendent state was assigned to them. Great or little, Charles V or Charles VI, reformers like Joseph or reactionaries like Francis, they were steadily selfish, perseveringly unjust, unanimously narrow, gov-erned kindly only in their own States, used their semi-divine claims to obedience only to aggrandize themselves; could no more be trusted to arbitrate between States, or creeds, or even men, than the most corrupt of judges or the most fanatic of priests. They could be bribed into injustice by the hope of territory, driven into it by the threat of a bishop, or deluded into it by any worldly-wise and flattering diplomatist. And so, when the first storm came, they saw they had no meaning, and resigned that wonderful "Ro-mische" crown, link of the old and new civilizations, symbol of the claim to the de jure sovergionty of earth and shuk away de jure sovereignty of earth, and slunk away mere Emperors of Austria; and when the second storm came were driven even from German position, flung out of Germany, made to resign even the hope of primacy among their former vassals. The condition of existence for the Hohenzollerns, on the other hand, with their long strips of sandy provinces and four millions of people and absence of all hereditary rights, was that they should work at their trade of ruling like millowners, or traffic-managers, or non-commis-sioned officers; should organise their "hands" so as to get the largest amount of result from the smallest amount of expense, should ac-cumulate and not squander property of all kinds, should actually do the work they were made kings to do. Up to their lights they did it all faithfully, laboriously, persistently. They drilled their hands with such stern steadiness, and yet such justice, so far 15 either of them knew justice, that they were obeyed as if served with machines, and yet with devoted willingness. Their armies, badly paid, cruelly disciplined, little rewarded, fought for them as the soldiers of great monarchs have seldom fought: their greatest leaders, men who had won pitched battles, bore rebuke like children; their half-starved, close-watched civil servants actually governed as few bureaucrats attempt to govern; their diplomatists, unrewarded with rank or wages, or even praise, tricked or threatened, bullied or cajoled, with unrivalled fidelity and success. The line never produced in it a man of geniusfor even Frederick was but a fair general of division and able manager of property-but every man of it save one gave himself to his labor, worked at his trade, would have efficiency, and did have it; would be master, but never took master's ease; if he got a new property, made it a reason not for enjoyment, but for toiling the more on that. Their ideal, a state organized like a camp or a factory, was not perhaps a high one; but it was honestly their ideal, and they realized it by means which, though often utterly bad, were but once bad by the standard of their own age, or of that sturdy "bacon-and-greens conscience" by which the most of them were guided. The one infidel among them died worn out with toil, never having done less than eight hours' work a day. The one dreamy mystic among them rejected the Imperial throne when actually in his hand, because he thought only kings had a moral right to give it him! And now the hour having arrived, the simplest, solidest, perhaps even stolidest of them all-though there must be flashes of deep insight in him too-having reached the reward of all their labor and all the devotion they had secured in their great servants, having used the huge armaments they had amassed, and the credit they had built up, and the property they had gathered, to such purpose that his people searcely lament either lives or treasure, heavily mounts the steps of the Imperial Throne, turns a frowning face to the shouting crowd, and reluctantly seats himself upon the pinnacle of the world. "I had rather be King of Prussia," says King William, as they place on his head the crown which makes him, but seventh from the little Kur-furst of those sandy steppes out there in the far northeast, a king of kings. He is a strange and somewhat dim figure, that old man who has never been a despot in the sense of wishing to secure his will by pure volition, but who said, "I will be pivot of the State," as who should say, "I will be master in my house;" who has been so hated and so loved, whose stubbornness made an army as genius might have done; who seems to have in high measure but one capacity, but that the supreme one for kings, the faculty of recognizing among men far down below the genius he requires, and who stands, an average man among men of the first rank of brain, the heavy, over-weighted, but calm master of them all. He is a dim figure, as we say, to us, that drill sergeant who can recognize and yet use such captains; but it is hard not to fancy that at the bottom of his strange reluctance to grasp the prize is a vague consciousness that the work not only of him, but of his house, is done; that the typical Hozenhollern is not the fit occupant of an Imperial throne; that if the Hohenzollern Emperors are to reign as the Hohenzollern Kings have reigned, if two centuries hence a Kaiser Fritz is to summon all Germany to some mighty task, and find all Germany rise at his call, silent, regimented, and yet burning with inner fire, the Kaisers must be men of larger sympathies, deeper insight, and less selfish nature than the Kings of Prussia have ever been. It is by doing his duty as he saw it that the Elector has become Emperor, but the duty of Emperers is other

than mere drill, and the justice desired of them not the justice defined in the old sentence, "justice to all men, but to Hohen-zollerns first." 'Let Fritz have it," says the King: and he who chose Bismarck and Von Moltke, who gives to his ablest enemy of 1866 the supreme command northeast of Paris, and trusts to the only Prince of his House who might found an Orleans branch-for Frederick Charles is head of a party-the command of the most active of his armies, may be right once more, though such insight might seem above him, and the Crown Prince may be the man best fitted to wear the new Imperial Crown, and play the part Germany, deep in its heart, expects from the successor of Frederick Barbarossa. If ha is -and all Germany suspects him of hating war and loving liberty-Europe may yet have no reason to repent of the most bizarre, possibly the most important event of our timethe recrowning of the German Emperor in the year which has seen the Pope-King dis-crowned. But if he is not-? B

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The effect of the change of title depends so absolutely on the reign of the first Em-peror who shall bear it for any time that it is scarcely worth discussion. Two points only may be accepted as certain. One is that the Kaisership will make unity slightly easier, by giving Germany a visible head, supported by traditionary reverence as well as popular feeling, and by removing the jealousy of the sub-kings, which, meaningless now, might be full of menace hereafter should Germany ever again be struggling in the grasp of a foe. Men hate or love their admitted superiors, but they are not jealous of them. And the second is, that a German Emperor will in his heart consider all German men his subjects, will sigh for the lost valley of the Danube, and look wistfully northward along the Baltic coast. Whether he will desire to "recover his subjects" by conquest or by attraction-by the sword, as in Holstein, or by the drawing force of a nobler and more massive national life, as in Gotha and Baden -is the doubt with which Europe for years to come will be disturbed; but that he will so desire there is no room for doubt whatever, and it will be well for the freedom and the diversity of Europe if he desires no more. Beaten in Paris or victorious, the Kaiser of Germany reigns from the Baltic to the Italian frontier, from the Silesian plateau to far beyond the Rhine.

ON CHAIRS.

A chair must have been one of the most ancient of inventions. After the use of fire, after the rudest forms of grinding and weaving, something to sit down upon must have presented itself as the next desideratum. But it must not be supposed that a chair was the direct result. As Lord Lytton says:-"Man has only given to him, not the immediate knowledge of the perfect, but the means to strive towards the perfect." And he elsewhere observes:—"Man must build a kut before he can build a Parthenon."

At work in the primeval forest, felling trees and clearing the ground, man may first have experienced the comfort of a raised seat by placing himself on the stump of a tree. But, however eligible this support might be in other respects, it labored under the disadvantage of being immovable. A brilliant thought! no sooner conceived than acted upon; and perhaps several generations passed before some great genius hit upon the idea of obviating the cumbersomeness of these heavy, solid blocks by fastening a piece of plank on three supporters, and producing a three-legged stool. The tradition runs that Tarquin introduced the ivory curule chairs into Rome: be this as it may, they were in use in the time of Brutus, who, though he destroyed the kingly power, and changed the Constitution of Rome from a monarchy into a republic, knew how far he could safely go, and did not care to touch the chairs. The practors and ediles who were permitted to occupy them, esteemed the privilege so highly that they retained the curale chair at home after their term of office had expired, as a proof of the dignity to which they had attained. These Roman officials were so much attached to their seats that they would not part with them when they went abroad, but had chairs placed upon wheels, and in these chariots, often elaborately ornamented with gold and precious stones, they showed themselves to the admiring, unseated multitude. The Romans considered it an honor to ride in these wheeled curules, that were "remarkably high," Pliny tells us-a convenient method of acquainting the spectators with the degree of homage expected from them, equivalent to the method employed by artists of olden times, who always depicted kings and heroes as at least twice the size of ordinary men. FRED. T. MECEE. "There is nothing new under the sun," saith the preacher. At the period known in art language as the Renaissance, the modern European was struck with the idea of going about in chairs. About the year 1581 covered chairs, slung on poles, were invented at Sedan, whence the name of these conveyances. Sir Sanders Duncombe obtained a patent for the Sedan chair in 1634, and by 1649 they were in general use. In 1711 an act was passed limiting the number of licensed Sedan chairs to 200, but in 1726 it was increased to 400. This act, however, did not affect the use of private chairs. When the favorite, Buckingham, used this mode of conveyance, he was hooted at by the public, who cried that he was employing OLD his fellow-creatures to do the service of beasts; but this prejudice soon gave way, and the Sedan chair, often handsomely gilt and painted, became part of the furniture of the hall in the houses of the nobility and the wealthier classes, and the chairmen formed a part of every large establishment. - Temple Bar. NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE BOOK .- The Ohio Statesman relates the following good joke at the expense of two partisan editors:-Soon after Chief Justice Chase, then a Whig, assumed the gubernatorial chair in Ohio, he issued his proclamation appointing a Thanksgiving day. To make sure of being ortho-dox, the Governor composed his proclamation almost exclusively of passages from the Bible, which he did not designate as quotations, presuming that every one would recognize them, and admire the fitness of the words as well as his taste in their selection. The proclamation meeting the eyes of a Democratic editor, he pounced at once upon it-declaring that he had read it beforecouldn't say exactly where-but he would take his oath that it was downright plagiarism from beginning to end. That would have been a pretty fair joke; but the next day the Education. Whig editor came out valiantly in defense of the Governor, pronouncing the charge false and libelions, and challenged any man living to produce one single line of the proclamation that ever had appeared in print before.



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