

WAR CAUSES AND CHARACTERS AND BLITHE ROMANCE IN THE NEW BOOKS

GERMANY'S REASONS FOR MAKING WAR

Latest Book By Gen. Bernhardt, Celebrated Adviser of Kaiser, Frankly Details Germany's Purposes—Plan to Obtain World Supremacy By "the Sword."

"WE NEED to enlarge our colonial possessions so as to afford a home and work to our surplus population," declares General Friedrich von Bernhardt, of the German cavalry. In his latest book, "How Germany Makes War," just published by the George H. Doran Company...

"Partitioned as the surface of the globe among nations at the present time," he continues, "such territorial acquisitions we can only realize at the cost of other states or in conjunction with them; and such results are possible only if we succeed in securing our power in the centre of Europe better than hitherto."

By some General Bernhardt is considered as the voice of imperial and militaristic Germany speaking by others not. Whatever the famous and most able military says, however, is of momentous interest, inasmuch as the plans outlined in his much-discussed book, "Germany and the Next War," have been practically followed by the Germans in their present campaign. Bernhardt writes with an amazing candor. He foresees the necessity and inevitability for war if Germany is to secure the territory needed for her commercial expansion. He anticipates the waging of a war by Germany and Austria if they are confronted by Russia, France and England...

Speaking of Germany's lack of territory, the general says: "This sort of thing is becoming intolerable. The freedom of action of our people is thereby hampered to an extraordinary degree. Such a state of affairs is highly dangerous, not only for the peace of Europe, which, after all, is only a secondary matter for us, but also for the most dangerous to ourselves. It is we whose economical, national and political development is being obstructed and injured. It is we whose position in the world is being threatened after we have purchased it so dearly with the blood of our best. We must, therefore, strive to find out by all means what is to be done in the future. On this depends not only the possibility of carrying into execution the political aims befitting the greatness and the wants of our country, but also the very existence of our people as a civilized nation."

"It is impossible to change the partition of the earth as it now exists in our favor by diplomatic artifices. If we wish to gain the position in the world that is due to us, we must rely on our sword, renounce all weakly visions of peace, and eye the dangers surrounding us with resolute and unflinching courage."

There is no doubt in the general's mind as to Germany's right to carry on a campaign for the possession of the world due to us. "Germany as a 'civilizing' nation has become a factor in the evolution of mankind." Therefore, it is Germany's duty to spread the "idealism" and labor, and, by the sword if necessary, to disseminate her "culture." Germany, asserts Bernhardt, must strive "by every means" to spread her military supremacy. The Germans must become "the dominating race of Europe." Germany "has to accomplish a high calling in the development of mankind."

"But it is not only our duty, but our task to good account if it exerts its military strength to the utmost."

In justifying his contentions that Germany is entitled to more territory "in the sun," Bernhardt points out that on an area about the size of France Germany has a population of 65,000,000 against the 40,000,000 of France. Moreover, the German population is increasing at the rate of 1,000,000 a year.

Bernhardt foresees that in a war Germany will have to fight against England and Russia, and in all probability single handed. Germany is, therefore, "dependent on her own strength."

The general makes no mention of peace treaties. Inasmuch as this country in the last fourteen months made arbitration treaties with twenty-six countries, who he says possesses a certain moral quality.

"It is true the world is dominated today by the idea of war being an antiquated means of policy, unworthy of a civilized nation. The dream of eternal peace has got a hold on vast sections of the community in the Old and particularly in the New World. Whereas, formerly, in addition to Emanuel Kant, only enthusiasts and visionaries were the champions of universal brotherhood, the governments of great and powerful States have now seized this idea as a cloak for cloaking themselves with the mantle of a superior humanity. The arbitration courts, which the contracting powers endeavor to they are meant not only to avert the dangers of war, but to remove them altogether. This is the publicly avowed object of such policy. In reality it is hardly caused by any love of peace, but is evidently meant to serve quite different political purposes."

T. E. H.

LIMERICKS ON LITERATURE
The hero was an editor
Who read submitted gems;
To leave a praising creditor
He jumped into the Thames.
Then love came to his lonely life—
But the girl he didn't wed.
Nor would he take another wife—
Presumably he's dead.
*The Clean Heart, by S. M. Hutchins, Little Brown & Co., Boston.

There was a Miss Ida Tarbell
Who gave one Napoleon just "war";
(She praised Josephine,
"The Emperor's Queen")
And did up the German well.
*Life of Napoleon Bonaparte with a Sketch of Josephine, by Ida M. Tarbell, The Macmillan Co.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?
ARMAGEDDON AND AFTER
By Cloudesley Brereton
16mo, boards, 50 cents.
A monograph by one of the educational leaders of England, which undertakes to show how Prussian tradition, starting with Frederick the Great, has succeeded in corrupting the Germany of to-day. The author takes the ground that the issue of the present struggle may be a great spiritual renaissance or it may be the domination of the Huns.
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FLORENCE L. BARCLAY
Author of "The Wall of Partition," just out—Putnam's.

HAVE PLANTS A SOUL AND INTELLIGENCE?

Startling Revelations of the Habits of Plants That Eat Insects, Keep Standing Armies, Rob, Plunder and Murder.

"Plants are no longer lifeless things, labeled and grouped under ponderous Latin titles—they are highly developed organisms which see, hear, taste, feel, walk, swim, run, fly, jump, skip, hop, roll, tumble, set traps and catch fish, decorate themselves that they may attract attention; powder their faces, imitate birds, animals, serpents, stones; play hide-and-seek; blossom underground; protect their children and send them forth into the world prepared to care for themselves—indeed, do all those things which we ourselves do! We know now that plants have even minds and souls with which to think and to worship."

With this startling introduction Royal Dixon, a botanist of wide experience and one associated with tulip experiments in America, proceeds to tell, in "The Human Side of Plants" (Frederick A. Stokes Company), of his amazing observations of plants and their habits. Mr. Dixon has written an extraordinarily engrossing book—and a book especially designed to fascinate children and familiarize them with the wonders of the world of nature.

Plants, declares Mr. Dixon, actually perform like human beings—eat, sleep, make love, walk and fly in the air. Others again—horrors upon horrors—are cannibals and eat living insects.

"A man-eating plant grows in Nicaragua and is always found in deep swamps. For horror it has no rival. The vampire vine is not unlike the weeping willow denuded of its leaves, but is of a blackish-brown color, covered with a thick, gummy resin that aids it in binding its prey. By means of its finger-like claws it is enabled to catch small animals and envelop them in a network of its diabolical arms. Here they are hopelessly held until the last drop of blood is drawn from their bodies by its infinitesimal sucking mouths."

You may not have known that some plants keep standing armies. Well, listen! "This moral effect of keeping a standing army is as apparent to plants as to men. There are some plants that waste warfare; others being rich, pay blackmail to their enemies; rather than fight against them, some actually hire soldiers and maintain an armed protective system."

Among the most interesting things in nature perhaps none is more striking than many plants which, like human beings and animals, rob and murder. "The murderer Liana is a parasite of the most unscrupulous kind, whose weak stem is unable to support its avaricious and ponderous head, and who, therefore, clings to its upright neighbors for support. It springs up a stalwart tree, sending out clinging arms, wrapping them around the body of its victim until at last it reaches the sunlight. Eventually the sap of the tree is stopped from flowing and the liana waves its leaves in the breeze as if exulting over the dead."

Mr. Dixon tells of an infinite number of plants thus given to crime. Strangely, the majority of them are extraordinarily beautiful. "Lounging on the treetops, having nothing to do, they laugh in their glory—they toll not, neither do they spin."

Anatole France to Serve in War?
Anatole France, whose latest novel, "The Revolt of the Angels," has just been published in an English translation by the John Lane Company, has announced that he has ceased writing, and in a letter written to the French Minister of War, asks to be enlisted as a private.

In seeking to serve his country, M. France is only one of his country's great men who have either asked to go to the front or have actually entered service. Pierre Loti is serving in the fleet, and Marcel Prevost has charge of cannon on the field of battle.

THE POET
By Meredith Nicholson
"While the interest in the story itself will attract the reader, the interest in the picture of The Poet will be greater. It is a rare performance in literature. Everybody knows who the Poet is, but if they want to know him as a kind of Good Samaritan in a different way than they know him in his verses they should read this charming idyll."

"To read 'The Poet' is taking a walk over a good road on a bright morning; you wish the journey would never end."
—St. Louis Globe Democrat
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HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN CO.



LORELI KNIGHT
In Rex Beach's "Auction Block,"—Harper's.

Age of humor to lighten the seriousness of the narrative. H. G. J.

Gay and clever little farcical comedy appears in "Oh, James" by H. M. Edinton (Little, Brown & Co.). The amusing plot hinges on the extraordinary efforts of James, a prosperous English merchant, to spend his ever-increasing income, which to him proves an embarrassment of riches. His wife is entirely unsympathetic, and will not help him, for she cares nothing about money or the luxuries it can give her, so he decides that he will realize his philanthropic ideals by established several pretty young girls in palatial residences with suitable incomes to match. While strictly moral and conventional himself, his unconventional method of reducing his income rouses the suspicions of the young ladies, and before long James is enveloped in a maze of domestic difficulties that for a time threaten to engulf him. His practical wife comes to the rescue, however, and things straighten themselves out in a most amusing way that leaves the unsophisticated James considerably the poorer financially, but richer by far in the experience of worldly life. H. G. J.

Relief from War Horrors
Found in Light Fiction
There is fine quality of youth and vigor in Miss Sheila Kaye-Smith's novel, "The Three Furlongers" (Lippincott) that invests with fresh interest the world-old theme of which she has treated—the misfortunes of a maid who has loved unwisely. The heroine herself, Jane Furlonger, is a finely drawn character, as vital and human as one could wish for, and stands out in splendid contrast to the weak, uninteresting figures with which the author has surrounded her. It is a depressing picture, with something of

ANATOLE FRANCE
Author of "The Revolt of the Angels" (John Lane Company), who will probably enlist as a private.

Mrs. Watts's New Novel
The Rise of Jennie Cushing
By MARY S. WATTS
Author of "Nathan Burke," "The Legacy," "Van Cleve," etc.

The crowning excellence of "Nathan Burke," Mrs. Watts's great story of Ohio life and the Mexican War which captured the literary world at a single assault with a few years ago, was not only the skill and charm with which it was written, but its air of the episodes having actually happened.

In that book Mrs. Watts told with great power the story of a man. In this, her new book, she tells the story of a woman, and adds new characters of fiction to American literature as life-like and entertaining as her previous great successes, "Nathan Burke," "Mrs. Ducey," "Letty Breen," etc.

Thoroughly American in good humor, charm and optimism, sweet, wholesome and true to life, Jennie Cushing will be regarded as the most interesting of the many excellent characters that Mrs. Watts has given us.

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Notes on Novelists
With Some Other Notes
By HENRY JAMES
Here is a book which describes with penetrating analysis and in a thoroughly entertaining manner of telling the work not only of the great modern novelists of the last century, Stevenson, Zola, Balzac, Flaubert and Thackeray, but also takes up in a chapter entitled "The New Novel" the work of Galsworthy, Mrs. Wharton, Conrad, Wells, Walpole Bennett and the other more important contemporary novelists. This chapter gives in a short space as keen and authoritative a criticism of present-day fiction as can be found.
\$1.50 net; postage extra.

Rupert Frank
By SIGURD IBSEN
Henrik Ibsen's only son is the author of this drama, which William Archer, the distinguished English critic, considers convincing proof that he possesses "dramatic faculty in abundance." Mr. Archer defines it as "a powerful and interesting play which claims attention on its own merits," eminently a play of today, or, rather, perhaps, tomorrow. The truth of this last comment is sufficiently used in the fact that its performance is the attempt of a young statesman to end, once and for all, the struggle between capital and labor by dramatically heroic measures.
\$1.25 net; postage extra.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

Kaiser Wilhelm Within His Home as Husband and Father

New Light on Character of the "War Lord" by Governess of Daughter—Engaged in Pranks With Children

CERTAINLY it would be interesting to view the formidable figure of William II, German Emperor, and dominating figure in the present war, through the eyes of his valet. Whether he is hero to this individual or not, Miss Anne Topham, who for many years was governess to Victoria Louise, the Kaiser's daughter, presents him as he is practically unknown—as a husband sitting at breakfast in the midst of his family, as a father, hilariously engaging in the pranks of his children.

Miss Topham's book, "Memoirs of the Kaiser's Court" (New York, Dodd, Mead & Co.), is one of the most illuminating documents revealing the character of the German Emperor that has appeared, and it comes, with the war in progress, with singular timeliness.

You may be partisan in your personal admiration of the man whose genius brought the German Empire to its marvelous state of development, or you may be uncompromisingly bitter against the "war lord," who shook his mailed fist at all Europe; nevertheless, you will be interested in the fascinating personality, as it is delightfully presented by the "little English governess."

Speaking of her first impressions, Miss Topham writes: "It is obvious that in the intervals of inspecting regiments and making warlike speeches, 'Papa' unbends to a considerable extent in the bosom of his family. But I learn with some regret that 'poor mama' seldom has time to get a really proper breakfast, because after she has poured out 'Papa's' coffee, bittered his toast and ministered to his other wants, she has only time to snatch the merest mouthful for herself before she is hurrying away to call the dogs and put on his cloak for a brisk early morning walk. 'Come on, come on,' he says, with cheerful impatience, 'how you do dawdle over your food, to be sure, I've finished long ago.'"

At Christmas the Emperor, says Miss Topham, walks abroad, his pockets and those of his accompanying adjutants filled with coins. These he distributes in a promiscuous manner to whomsoever he meets—gardeners, sentries, school children. The gardens at Christmas eve were of course filled with gardeners busily sweeping invisible leaves. But the Kaiser always took unexpected routes.

"One Christmas the Princess was walking with four of her brothers down the wide drive of the Neuer Garten, when she observed a man who was evidently in a state of distress. He was leaning against a wall, and she saw that he was suffering from the effects of a severe cold. She immediately ordered her attendants to bring her a shawl and a glass of brandy, and she herself went to the man, who was so grateful that he kissed her hand."

As a human as "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," and as appealing.

THE THREE FURLONGERS
BY SHEILA KAYE-SMITH

NEW YORK TIMES:
"Her story is written with such sincerity of feeling and appreciation of moral beauty and contains so much human truth that the author deserves warm commendation. For she has given us also dramatic moments and strong emotional tension. An achievement worth-while."

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"One of the most interesting pieces of serious fiction brought out this Fall is 'The Three Furlongers.' An expert intermingling of incident, dramatic and emotional, with the actual expression of ideals and motives."
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A Review of Their Relations During the Century of Peace Following the Treaty of Ghent
By WILLIAM ARCHIBALD DUNNING
With an Introduction by the Right Honorable Viscount Bryce and a preface by Nicholas Murray Butler.

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\$2.00 net; postage extra.

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