

VON MOLTKE'S BOOK.

Lord Wolsey Is Not at All Complimentary in His Review of It.

CALLS IT A BOLL-DOWN

Of the Elaborate Staff History of the Franco-German War.

NOT A BELIEVER IN PEACE.

The Field Marshal's Opinion of Standing Armies for Europe.

INTERESTING POINTS OF THE WORK

THE DISPATCH has been able to secure from Lord Wolsey, the great English military authority, his review of Field Marshal Count Von Moltke's posthumous work on the Franco-German War of 1870-1.

The review is as follows: In the preface, written by his nephew, who edited the work in German, we are told that when pressed to write an account of the Franco-German War, Von Moltke said: "You have the history of the campaign, published by the general staff. Everything is contained in it. To be sure," he added afterwards, "it is for the greater number of readers too detailed, and written in a technical style. An abstract of it must be made some day."

That great military work, the German official staff book of the Franco-German war, with its enormous length and ponderous detail, has weariness of the death to many. Few, I think, have ever read it through without some long break in the task, not even those who most feel the need of material for sound, useful study and genuine criticism. A short, light book on the war, by the great soldier who planned its operation and daily directed them, might be a delightful reading for the student, warrior, or the general and detail of the official history.

Disappointed With the Work.

But I confess to a feeling of disappointment with this book by Count Von Moltke. The military student, who will pick up in the German staff history will find nothing here he did not know before. That official history is, throughout every chapter, so impressed with Moltke's supervising genius, and was put together so immediately under his direct superintendence, that it would indeed be strange if anything he had to tell about the war had not been inserted in that most comprehensive work. It is, therefore, not natural there should be a strong family likeness between the two—a close similarity, not only in style, but in matter.

To me, the Field Marshal's book is little if anything more than the popular "abstract" which he said—quoted above—must sooner or later be made of the great staff history. It is, I think, to be much regretted he should have written a more complete epitome of a book that was compiled and written so immediately under his close personal supervision. Throughout the work he writes with the clearness, directness and simplicity of diction, for which he is famous among the German literary men of the day. His narrative has at places, I admit, a special character of its own. In other parts the very words of the official history are reproduced. I strive to regard it, not so much as a history, as the special contribution of the great soldier, the directing genius of the war, to that history.

It is Merely an Abstract.

Those who, like myself, revere the memory of this great patriot soldier, and who prize his military writings beyond measure, feel a twinge of regret that in his very old age he should have been induced to devote himself to this "abstract"—a work scarcely worthy of so great a man. The fact that he did write it, however, will lend it a special interest as being the last words of a high authority upon a subject of which he knew more than any other living man. It is essentially his own view of the war, as presented to him in the field when he was the guiding spirit of the King's Headquarters. Or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that it contains so much of his views as he considers it desirable for public reasons to make generally known.

It wants brightness, and this dreary translation serves to make it seem duller than it really is. Let anyone follow the Moltke campaign in this translation, or compare General Werder's Southeastern campaign with the same story as told in the official history, and I think he will turn with a yearn from the dry skeleton now presented to him, in this cold, spiritless summary of great events and of famous victories. It was only Von Moltke and a very few others carefully educated in the details of the war, who have had down, as it were, the mass of reports received from generals and other officers of what they daily saw and did into the staff history of the war. But there are any number of educated officers in every regular army who could equally well have written this piece of it.

What Von Moltke Might Have Told.

He gives us very little that is based upon a comparison of the evidence collected and published since the appearance of the official account with that account itself. He does not tell us what views he entertains regarding the various curious incidents which officials have asserted to be unimportant in many parts of the staff history. We do not know if he accepts or rejects those corrections, and he throws no light upon many of the most points we should like to have questioned him about.

He had the military history of all ages at his fingers' ends, and no one ever knew more thoroughly the details of all campaigns of Frederick the Great and of Napoleon. It would have been of the deepest interest to know if he thought his method of strategy differed from that of those two great conquerors, and if so, in what respect; to have had from his pen a comparison between the strategy of Frederick the Great in his invasion of Bohemia in the last century, and that adopted in 1805 which so closely resembled it; to learn what he thought of Napoleon's severe criticism of Frederick's operations then, and why it was that with such an adverse opinion from such a master before him, he ventured upon that invasion on almost identical lines? The Staff History is necessarily very guarded in the care with which criticism is avoided of the conduct and proceedings of the chief actors in the war. But in this abridgment, Von Moltke from time to time, in his very quiet way, allows the reader to see that he does see that he thinks certain definite mistakes were upon occasions made by the commanders of armies. The careful student of the papers can be in no doubt as to his meaning. On one occasion he most frankly admits that he himself might have acted better than he did. I propose to pick out now some of the bearing points in the work other than his minor criticisms. Until a better translation of his work is given us, or until the present one is thoroughly revised throughout by some soldier well acquainted with the events and several phases of the Franco-German War, his criticisms are the only points worth the attention of the English reader.

Von Moltke was no believer in a reign of universal peace in this world of ours as it is still constituted. At one time there were many good people who devoted time and money to the duty of warning England that the end of the world was close at hand. That mania has been replaced by a craze to make all civilized nations believe that war will very soon cease forever to trouble the world. This craze is by no means new. Occasionally forgotten for long periods, it reappears and reasserts itself as an old

friend in some new guise. Now and then the earth is convulsed by the dire struggle between contending kingdoms; but though it may cause a few to fall from this innocent and childlike faith, the religion—for such it is—does not die out. No amount of war can eradicate it, though all nature is ever at war, and the greater part of animal life is fed by slaughter.

The Preparation for War.

The practical influence of the faith upon the world generally can best be gauged by a review of the military preparations increasing in amount—which are devoted annually to the maintenance of great armies. It is because the soldier knows best what war means, especially in the modern era, that he urges his countrymen to be always strong and thoroughly prepared for whatever may be the species of war to which his country can be exposed. For the country exposed to the constant possibility of war, the readiness to resist it is the most likely way to escape that fearful contingency. Even if strength does not entirely protect you from the risk of war, it does at least protect you by some neighboring swashbuckler potentate, it at least enables you to push back the war from your own frontiers, and to transfer the ghastly miseries, the dire woe and desolation of that unpeopled source.

If Prussia and its allied provinces had been prepared for war in 1870, the miseries which overtook the French villages and farmers and peasants, wherever the hostile forces were engaged, would have fallen upon Germany, not upon France. Although the Prussian army did not save Germany from war, it at least saved her lands and her people from its devastating horrors. Upon this question Von Moltke writes:

We Are Not Done With War.

"As long as nations continue to lead separate and independent existences there will be disputes, which an appeal to arms can settle; but in the interest of mankind it is to be hoped that wars will be less frequent now they have become terrible. It is no longer the ambition of princes, but the sentiments and the dissatisfaction of the people with their surroundings, the life of parties, and especially of party leaders, which endanger peace. Peace will be more commonly urged by one leader than by a council of wise men. It is easier for a large assembly to declare war (for then no person is responsible) than for one person to do so, no matter how high may be his position."

So writes the great and experienced Von Moltke in that memoir which can confidently be recommended to those two first pages of his work to the serious study of those who believe in the possibility of universal peace under the present dispensation. In doing so, I would beg all who seek for peace, and wish to secure it, to believe that no man wishes to avoid war more than the patriot-soldier, and that those who most heartily and logically, for he knows better than others how truly horrible it is. I would ask them to believe in the peace-loving sincerity of the soldier, and to believe that his countrymen the urgency of being strong, if they would be safe from war and its attendant misery.

It Was a Disinterested Advice.

Moltke knew this better than most men. He had no political end to serve in the advice he gave his countrymen. In what he said he was influenced by no desire to catch votes or extend his popularity. His mind was entirely free from the palmying, patting and flattery of party. He thought of the Germany he had so materially helped to create, of her greatness, and of her safety. Her readiness for war, which he had planned and perfected, has secured her the most honorable immunity from war for the last 20 years. Peace, complete peace for so long! what a blessing to the nation which has written with the blood of its heroes, though in some respects high, procures for every German the most manly and effective sort of physical and mental training.

Moltke knew that no form of constitution or system of government, no political party or any other country from war, if it was to hold its own amongst the great nations of the world. A people can only hope to avoid the disease of war by constant readiness for it, as we defend ourselves against small-pox by vaccination. The longest and most deadly and costly of modern wars was that which raged some 27 years ago, in the island of Cuba. It was the most terrible and most flourishing Republic the world has ever known. WOLSELEY.

CALIFORNIA.

The Country of Delightful Winters. California is the most attractive and delightful section of the United States, if not of the world, and its many beautiful resorts will be crowded with the best families of the East during the entire winter. It offers to the investor the best open opportunity for safe and large returns from its fruit lands. It offers the kindest climate in the world to the people and debilitated; and it reached in the most comfortable manner over the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. Pullman vestibule sleeping cars leave Chicago by this line for San Francisco, San Diego, Los Angeles and San Jose, and go without change or transfer through to San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego. This is a feature not offered by any other line. Write to Charles T. Appleby, Traveling Passenger Agent, Room 300, Bank of Commerce Building, Pittsburg, Pa., if you desire any further information as to the country and the accommodations for reaching it.

That Great Clothing Sale.

It will pay you to come 100 miles to attend our great overcoat and suit sale. Each day the crowds grow bigger and bigger. Every dollar spent at this sale will positively do the duty of two. We got a grand bargain when we bought the entire stock of a leading New York manufacturer and are giving the public still greater bargains. Men's heavy working suits, worth \$10, at \$4 90; men's extra durable pants, worth \$3, at \$1 20; men's winter overcoats, including chinchillas, kerseys and meltons, at \$4 00; men's heavy storm ulsters, with big collar, at \$4 90, worth \$12; men's extra fine fall and winter overcoats at \$10 and \$12. Come Monday. We'll surprise you with the great values we offer. F. C. C. Co., Pittsburg Combination Clothing Company, corner Grant and Diamond streets.

Banjo-J Banjo!

Banjo players should call at H. Kleber & Bro's, No. 506 Wood street, and examine the finest stock of banjos ever exhibited here. Following are some of the bargains to be had at Kleber Bros': Nickel shell—brackets and frets, \$3 00; Maple shell—bracketed, 13 nickel brackets, 4 00; Nickel shell—wood lined, wired edge and frets, 6 00; The Mystic—nickel shell, 31 nickel brackets, 10 00; Kleber's specialty banjos—piccolo, 12 00; Kleber's specialty banjos—ladies' size, 15 00; Kleber's specialty banjos—ladies' size, put keys, 18 00; Kleber's specialty banjos—standard, 16 00; Kleber's specialty banjos—concert, 13 in., 20 00. Our specialty banjos are guaranteed the equal of any of the older and better known makes, and are sold from 20 to 25 per cent cheaper than those. Also a full line of Fairbanks & Cole and S. S. Stewart banjos in stock. Store open every Saturday till 9 P. M.

A Nearly New Upright Piano at a Sacrifice.

A very fine upright piano, used only a short time, will be sold for \$220. The owner wishes to leave the city, hence the low price. For parties who call, write to Henrietta Music Company, Ltd., 101 and 103 Fifth ave.

How Colds Are Cured in the South.

W. J. Flowers, of Demopolis, Ga., says: "Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best I can get for coughs, colds and croup," and many others who have used it are of the same opinion. Its promptness in loosening and relieving severe colds has made it deservedly popular. For sale by druggists. W. S. W.

ESTIMATES furnished by samples at residence on furniture reupholstery.

HAYGH & KEENAN, 25 and 24 Water street.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

Eccentricity of the Famous Austrian Songstress, Marie Witt.

NEW HONOR TO EXPLORER TASMAN.

Political Troubles of the Republics of Colombia and Brazil.

THE LAST OF THE GREAT ANIMALS

WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.

But meager details have reached us of the suicide, while insane, of Marie Witt, the famous Austrian singer. Americans may possibly remember her as the operatic star whom Max Strakosch engaged some years ago, and for that purpose visited her in the Austrian capital.

There he found a big, lusty woman engaged in scrubbing the floor, who proved to be the wonderful vocalist he was in quest of. A coarse-looking creature she was, and all the intercourse with educated and refined people failed to improve either her looks or her manners. Her appearance was always against her. Even with all the rich trappings of stage queen or princess she never looked anything but a common looking haus-frau. All the same, she was one of the grandest singers that ever lived. Her voice was of tremendous volume, power and compass. A critic once compared her tones to those of a superb church organ, and said if the eyes were closed it would seem as if an unknown instrument was leading and overmastering the orchestra.

Marie Witt.

The King, who is now 44 years of age, has had no sons by either wife and as the Sallie law prevails in the kingdom, it is the same, she was one of the grandest singers that ever lived. Her voice was of tremendous volume, power and compass. A critic once compared her tones to those of a superb church organ, and said if the eyes were closed it would seem as if an unknown instrument was leading and overmastering the orchestra.

Most Degraded Race on Earth.

The better part of the Solomon Islands belong to the German Government, but that does not prevent the English from inflicting summary punishment on the natives whenever guilty of outrages on anyone claiming to be a British subject. On such occasions they are handled with as much freedom and severity as if the Germans had never been heard of in the vicinity. At the present time the English war ship, Royalist, is visiting the different islands from which crimes have been reported.

A New Sea on the Map.

The Tasman Sea is a new name that will shortly be found in our geographicals. It will mark a part of the Pacific Ocean that waters the east coast of Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand and the western islands of the Polynesian group. The Australian Association for the Advancement of Science holds the opinion that the body of water referred to forms a sort of basin, and as such should have a distinctive title, hence the name above, which was given to it recently by this organization, with the sanction of the British Admiralty which has already ordered it to be inserted in their charts. Thus again is the modest Dutch navigator, Abel Janssen Tasman, honored. Tasman discovered in 1642 a coast which he named Van Diemen's Land, out of thankfulness to the man who had fitted out his expedition, but posterity would not have it that way. The people who read and heard of the aerial perils and hardships experienced by the brave seaman insisted that he was more entitled to distinction than the man who had given him the means of accomplishing his ambition. So in time the big South Pacific island became known as Tasmania. The explorer subsequently found parts of New Zealand and the Fiji Islands, and returned home in 1643. The following year he set forth again to explore the coasts of Australia and New Zealand, and that was the last heard of him.

The Crisis in Colombia.

Dr. Rafael Nunez was a Cartagena lawyer of distinction before being elected President of Colombia by the Liberals in 1884. Immediately after being inducted into office he lost the people's confidence by his conservative tendencies. The blood revolution of 1884 followed, and he was driven into exile. He returned to the country and was well received, but Nunez still held on and continued his unpopular methods. President Nunez, the official name of the country, which up to 1861 was "The Republic of New Grenada," and then until 1886 "The United States of Colombia," was changed on Nunez's authority to "The Republic of Colombia," and his powers as the Chief Executive almost doubled.

But now the struggle became so fierce that even this iron-wreathed man could endure it no longer; so one evening in December, 1887, he and his family suddenly departed from the capital and the next day his resignation was in the hands of the government. Elias Payer was then called upon to take his place. The latter proved to be too liberal for even the Liberals, and Nunez was recalled, only to resume his dictatorial mode of transacting business, and again the struggle between State and people went on, although Nunez was time and again triumphantly elected. Newspaper reports now say the Colombian situation is so strained that Nunez cannot possibly retain his office. Readers of such reports should be careful not to accept them as gospel immediately. A man who has held his own against the most violent opposition for seven years and been recalled to office in the face of it, even after voluntarily resigning, is likely—I do not say certain—to continue in power.

Extinction of African Animals.

Investigation proves that our American bison is not the only animal that is approaching extinction, thanks to the rapacity of pot-hunters. Where a few years ago, herds of 70 or 80 giraffes were to be seen, now a score is considered a large herd, and Dr. Henry Schlichter in a paper read before the British Association a few weeks since says that the lions, antelopes, buffaloes, rhinoceroses and other large animals to be found in many districts of "the dark continent" are disappearing with equal rapidity. According to Anderson, one of the earlier explorers of Africa, 1,200 pounds of ivory could be bought in the neighborhood of Lake Tanganyika for a musk, while the present output of the same commodity from Wallah Day, the chief port of the ivory trade of that section, amounts annually to only 1,800 pounds where 15 years ago it ran as high as 27,000 pounds.

Too Young to Be President.

A number of the successful candidates are having the usual after-election booms for the Presidential nomination next year. Among those mentioned is the youthful Governor of Massachusetts, some of the leading newspapers of the country, not including The Dispatch, which stated the facts Thursday, composedly making the announcement. Reference to Article II, Section 1, of the Constitution of the United States, will open the information that to be eligible to that honor, one must be at least 35 years of age. Governor Russell is, I believe, about 30 or 31, if my source of information are correct. WILLIAMS.

Impish Franks.

Are those of a disordered liver? But when they are probably directed to the Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the life is suddenly secured, diverted from the blood into its proper channel, digestion resumes, the skin and eye balls lose their dullness, the pain in the vicinity of the liver ceases, sick headache and nausea depart. The bitters is an incomparable preventive of malaria, rheumatism and kidney complaint.

G. CONOMOS, the Greek-American confectioner, at 232 Fifth avenue, Pittsburg, has commenced the manufacture of a new confection, Turkish Halvah.

What England Gave to Science.

Last week 1 spoke of the parliamentary of the United States Government in scientific mat-

ters. Below are given the amounts of the last appropriation devoted to scientific studies in England. It is extremely interesting to compare them with those of this country. The following figures do not represent all the money spent by the English Government on science during the year; merely the amounts given to the more important museums and colleges: British Museum, \$754,994 80; South Kensington Museum, \$536,775 36; Natural History Museum, \$204,485 16; Dublin Museum of Science and Art, \$81,103 80; Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art, \$55,062 52; Royal College of Science, \$40,849 08; Dublin Royal College of Science, \$38,855 16; various institutions of lesser note, \$197,312 28. The total aggregates nearly \$2,000,000.

We ought, in this country, to be as liberal as the British. We are as well able to put that amount of money, but we don't, and I suppose that is all there is about it.

Beligion and Wurtemberg's Crown.

The Queen of Wurtemberg is 27 years of age and the second wife of the new King of that country, William II. She was Prince Charlotte, the eldest daughter of Prince William of Schaumburg-Lippe, only brother to the reigning Duke of that principality. Queen Charlotte is a highly educated woman. She is well read in general history and literature; a talented amateur artist; highly accomplished as a linguist and musician; a splendid horsewoman and best of all is very handsome.

Queen Charlotte.

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When we call this "a daisy ad." Each price is "a daisy" FOR YOU, and you will find on inspection that each and every one of our Merchant Tailor-made Garments are "daisies."

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- Suits for \$12 that were originally made for \$25. Overcoats at \$10 that were originally made for \$20. Suits for \$15 that were originally made for \$30. Overcoats at \$13 50 that were originally made for \$27. Suits for \$20 that were originally made for \$40. Overcoats at \$16 50 that were originally made for \$33. Suits for \$25 that were originally made for \$50. Overcoats at \$22 50 that were originally made for \$45. Suits for \$30 that were originally made for \$60. Overcoats at \$27 50 that were originally made for \$55. Suits for \$40 that were originally made for \$80. Overcoats at \$37 50 that were originally made for \$75.

Pantalons at \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50, \$4, \$5, \$6, \$7, \$8, \$9 and \$10 that were originally made to order for double the amount of our prices. No garment allowed to leave our house unless it is a perfect fit in every particular. Alterations made free of charge.

Misfit Clothing Tailors 56 MITHFIELD ST. Next Mellon's Bank. Opposite City Hall.

NEVER IN YOUR EXPERIENCE HAVE YOU HAD A BETTER OPPORTUNITY

GREAT SACRIFICE SALE OF CHAMBER SUITES! CARPETS, KEEGH'S FURNITURE

Stores have been thronged during the past week, and no wonder. Those 500 Chamber Suites that were bought at Receiver's Sale and are being closed out at less than manufacturers' price, have caught the popular fancy, and are selling fast. It's a great opportunity, for they are the best value offered for the money.

\$18 \$18 \$20 \$20. Finished in Antique, Sixteenth Century and Imitation Walnut. Full size and guaranteed. BRING THIS CUT WITH YOU. Finished in Antique and Sixteenth Century; finely polished; large bevel plate mirror, and worth twice as much as the selling price.

Our line of Carpets and Curtains is the finest selection we have ever shown. The patterns are all new and stylish and of the most reliable makes. We have all grades, from Moquettes, Brussels and Tapestries down. Stock is carefully selected and guaranteed as to quality and price. In Curtains our assortment is the most complete in the city. Special patterns that cannot be duplicated elsewhere, and fully 25 per cent cheaper than other dealers.

SPECIAL SALE Antique Oak Rockers \$3.50 each! Special bargain in Hassocks 50c each! Fine new stock Queensware very cheap! Unsurpassed bargains in every department.

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