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There has been considerable discussion of the different kinds of beer since so much attention has been given to the discussion of pure food products, and many are found to give bad after-effects. The United States Trade Reports has always fearlessly discussed such topics as are of general interest to its readers, and we have received several letters from our readers, especially from the principal cities, who feel justified in saying that the beer which we find to surpass all others in purity and cleanliness is made by the Dettmerweich Brewing Co., of Olean, N. Y.

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It has been a custom of this paper to furnish its subscribers with reliable information on any desired subject free of charge, that they may designate by letter of inquiry addressed to this office. The United States Trade Reports has the largest circulation of any trade paper of its class, and no other publication could afford to maintain such a large staff of experienced editors to make these investigations, and depend solely upon its subscription list for support.

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A BAS TOY MONARCHS

GERMAN EMPEROR SAID TO BE JEALOUS OF PETTY RULERS.

They Cost the Country Considerable Money—A Score of Them—Require Courts and Prime Ministers and Palaces.

The German emperor very much wants to be the whole thing; or, in more Chesterfieldian phrase, Kaiser Wilhelm's latest and most startling ambition is said to be that of forming himself into an imperial unity by gradually wiping out the expensive toy monarchs of the other German states who try to compete with him in royal dignity thus transferring Germany into one united country with one centralized administrative system. Surely, "one centralized administrative system" has about it more a suggestion of nobility, of kingly dignity than the first form used—but we doubt if it so accurately expresses the fact.

Almost the world has forgotten Germany's many monarchs in the dominant personality of the young man that has made things hum since taking the reins in his hands. But those monarchs exist, they are thorns in the flesh of the sensitive and ambitious ruler.

How many of them are there, with whom does William II have to divide honors and emoluments? Germany is burdened with a full score of petty monarchs, each independent in his way. Some of the states are infinitesimal, but the dignitaries and expenses are not so to be despised. Among the "toy monarchs" are three kings, six grand dukes, four dukes and seven reigning princes.

The monarchies are ornamental, useful in the one respect that they furnish suitable wives for the reigning princes of Europe, the daughters of the reigning families being of royal rank and dignity. But these ornamental, spouse providing courts cost the German taxpayer goodly sums of money. Let us look at the incomes received by the petty rulers. The king of Bavaria yearly is given the tidy sum of \$1,500,000 and the ruler of Saxony has an income of \$1,000,000; the king of Wurtemberg enjoys an annual income of \$600,000; the ruler of the grand duchy of Baden, of Hesse, of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, of Saxe-Weimar and of Anhalt each has an income somewhere between \$250,000 and \$300,000 a year; incomes varying from \$150,000 to \$200,000 fall to the lot of Saxe-Altenburg. The toy monarchs cost Germany over \$6,000,000 a year; and, as the foreign correspondent of the Chicago Tribune calls to our attention: "In addition to the monarchs it must be remembered that there are 20 prime ministers and over a hundred cabinet ministers, all drawing salaries from the public revenues for their services to the different states. There are 20 royal households, with several hundred highly salaried ornamental officials, and 18 parliaments, the members of which receive payment from the public exchequer."

These independent monarchies which to-day seem so absurd, date back to



GRAND DUKE OF MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.

the period when central Europe was dotted with small feudal states each under its own petty monarch. We moderns smile at anyone being "king" of a people numbering but a couple of million, like the king of Wurtemberg, or even of so small a number of subjects as the king of Bavaria, he the proud ruler of some 6,000,000 souls. The smallest German state is the principality of Schaumburg-Lippe whose whole population is but 40,000. Think of a prime minister and a council of state for this toy realm!

The kingdom of Saxony is sizeable, has a population of over 4,000,000. Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the principality whence came the bride for the crown prince, has a population of 600,000; the grand duchy of Hesse numbers more than a million people. In addition to the states we have mentioned, we may name the principality of Reuss (elder line), principality of Reuss (younger line), Waldeck-Schwarzburg-Sonderhausen, Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, and Oldenburg.

To the casual observer it would seem that the public generally never hears of the lesser German monarchs save when one of them goes mad or gets married, or some member of the royal family runs away with her hairdresser, or tutor, or somebody of low degree. And if the truth be told, these many German courts have been the hot-bed of scandals and intrigues few there are but there hangs over them unsavory stories, stories of human follies and frailties that have not escaped the glare of the limelight.

ALFRED WHITEHOUSE.

Inventor of Bombshell. A grandson of Gen. Shrapnel, who invented in 1844 the missile that has cut such a figure in the Russo-Japanese war, is endeavoring to obtain from the British government a part of the \$30,000 spent by him for the benefit of his country.

FOOLING GENERAL SHERMAN

How the Georgia Farmer Brought Bitter Disappointment to the Union Officer.

About six miles out of Savannah I came across a farmer who accepted a plug of tobacco, and was ready to sit down on a log and answer all questions, says a correspondent of the Detroit Free Press. When I asked him about Sherman's approach he burst into a loud laugh and slapped his leg, and was so tickled that he did not calm down for two minutes.

"Excuse me, stranger," he finally said, "but whenever I think of how I fooled General Sherman it tickles me all over."

"Did you fool him?" "Well, I rather reckon."

"How?" "Well, you see, that's my place up there on the rise. When the war broke out I was the most cantankerous rebel you ever saw. I swore I'd fight and fight and fit till we lick the Yanks if it took a hundred years. I reckon General Sherman heard of it."

"Probably he did."

"And after he took Atlanta he made up his mind to gobble me. He knew I'd swear to die before I'd surrender, and he came along down from Atlanta with over 70,000 men, to surround me. Mighty cute old man, that General Sherman."

"Yes."

"Well, they got here one night about ten o'clock. I reckon that night on to 20,000 of them surrounded my house up there and called for me to come out and surrender and end the war."

"And of course you did?" "That's what the fun comes in. I wasn't home at all but was down in Virginia with Lee. They entered the house and searched and searched and went to the barn and called and called, and when the old woman finally told 'em I wasn't home they was the maddest crowd you ever set eyes on. They had hooted it all the way from Atlanta to get their paws on me, and had had their long march for nothing. I expect Sherman was ready to burst with madness, and I reckon he won't never quite forgive me. It tickles the old woman was than it tickles me, and you'd better come up to the house and hear her tell what them 70,000 Yankees said when they got here and found me gone."

PRIZED AS RELIC.

The Original Document That Resulted in the Organization of the Ninety-Third New York Regiment.

Hanging in the office of Col. R. S. Robertson, in Berry street, Fort Wayne, Ind., is a "call to arms" that has a history. It is printed on a sheet of white paper about the size of a page of the Indianapolis News. It was published in Whitehall, N. Y., during the civil war, and was a call for the organization of a regiment to come exclusively from Washington county, of that state. Gen. J. C. Croker, who organized the regiment, which was known as the Ninety-third New York, bore the rank of colonel. It was the first major general and after the war was made warden of the federal prison at Washington. As warden he conducted the hanging of Charles Guiteau, the murderer of President Garfield. Gen. Croker has been dead only a few years.

Col. Robertson came into possession of the call to arms in a singular way. When he enlisted his mother took a copy of the call and folded it, then tucked it away in a drawer containing precious mementoes. Years passed, the war ended and the call to arms was forgotten. Not long ago Col. Robertson happened to be rummaging through the relic drawer and saw a folded sheet lying among the other keepsakes. He unfolded it, imagine his surprise when his old regiment's call unfolded before him. The folds were broken by age, but he carefully pasted the old call on a piece of muslin and then framed it. It now occupies a conspicuous place in his office, and money will not buy it.

BRANDED WITH A HOT IRON

The Fate of Evansville Soldier of Civil War—Marked for Deserting the Army.

Robert McReynolds, formerly of Evansville, Ind., in writing from Colorado Springs, Colo., to the American Tribune, recently, tells of the fate of an Evansville soldier during the civil war that has never before appeared in print.

Alex Jordan was a young man living near that city, the son of Jerry Jordan, a well-known plasterer. The young man enlisted in the union army and after remaining in service a short time became sick, deserted and came home. The news of Jordan's desertion was sent to his regiment, then stationed at Murfreesboro, Tenn., and he was immediately arrested and sent there to be tried by court-martial. He was branded, according to the story of McReynolds. A hot iron was used in the shape of the letter D was made in branding the deserter and he bore the scar until his death, which soon followed.

Jordan came home and pined away in shame for the terrible war in which he had been punished, avoiding everybody and dying in a few months of a broken heart. The branding of deserters never went any further. It was stopped a short time after this on an order from Gen. Grant, as he contended the punishment was too brutal. It is said Jordan was the first deserter in the army to be branded.

Jordan's grave is a few miles from Evansville, and no soldier's mark marks the last resting place of the man who died from grief and shame.

Elands Broken to Harness.

A Rhodesian hunter of the name of Jelliman has been successful in domesticating and training a number of young elands to the yoke. He has had eight of them working in a wagon for some time, and they answer admirably, being faster and more powerful than oxen.

LIGHTNING INSTEAD OF LEAD

One of the Elements Which Helped to Reduce the Fighting Force—The Major's Reminiscence.

"I wonder," said the major, "if any of the Seventy-sixth Ohio men living in Chicago can tell what became of the boys of Company B struck by lightning at or near Young's Point, La., in February, 1863. The story was told me 30 or more years ago, and I have forgotten the details. I remember, however, that a member of Company B said that on the night of February 14, 1863, the tent of the noncommissioned officers was struck by lightning."

"Two of the men in the tent were killed by the bolt and four others were disabled. The lightning, in fact, caused as much commotion in camp as an attack by the enemy, and there were all sorts of rumors as to the sensations of those who recovered from the shock. The question of interest now is, were any of those struck by lightning permanently disabled, and if so, did they have as many queer experiences as men disabled by wounds? The records show that a good many soldiers were injured by lightning during the war. What became of them?"

"Twenty years ago a Twenty-third Illinois man told me the story of a man severely wounded at the battle of Lexington, Mo., which that story of the 'Checkers battery' reminded me of. This comrade of the Twenty-third Illinois was severely wounded, early in the day. He remained in the works, however, and fired as he had strength and opportunity. In the afternoon the confederates opened a furious fire on the union works and the men on the firing line were ordered to move out of the way so that the little six-pounder on the advance line could open on the enemy."

"All got out of the way except the wounded man, who was not able to move far enough to escape the suction of the wind after each discharge. The result was that before the other men realized what was going on the muscles were shredded from the wounded man's arm above the elbow. The poor fellow made no protest or complaint and was not rescued from his trying situation until the gun had been discharged several times. Now I would like to know what became of that man."

"One of the regiments in that battle of Lexington," said the captain, "had been in service not more than a hundred days, but the men fought like veterans. It is true they were informal and irregular at times, but they stood by their guns. For example, there was a little Dutchman of company A. First Illinois cavalry, who on the third day, after all the men who had manned the six-pounder had been shot, swabbed, loaded and fired the gun himself. He was precise and as unexcited as if on drill."

"After the white flag had been ordered up for the third time by the commander of the home guards, and had been taken down as often by indignant men, most of the boys in our part of the works in front of the hospital cut out for the main works around the college. E. A. Jellison, however, remained with the little Dutchman and his six-pounder, firing his old musket as rapidly as circumstances would permit. After firing all his own cartridges and all that he could find in the cartridge boxes of the dead within his reach, Jellison tied a handkerchief to his ramrod and went over to the movable brestwork of Gen. Rains, confederate commander of the investing force."

"Jellison was received by Gen. Rains himself, who asked eagerly if Col. Mulligan had surrendered or was ready to surrender. Jellison replied that he didn't know, he didn't come from Col. Mulligan, and couldn't speak for him. He represented only himself, and as he was out of ammunition and was occupying an exposed position he was ready to surrender. Scarcely noticing the explanation, Rains wrote out a formal demand for the surrender of the union forces and sent it to Col. Mulligan by Jellison."

"The latter delivered the message to Mulligan, secured another gun and more ammunition, and again opened on the Johnnies. In later days Jellison admitted this was very irregular, but he contended that Gen. Rains did not formally accept his surrender, did not take his parole, did not even ask him to return. So he felt free, after he had delivered Rains' message to Mulligan, to resume business at the old stand. He always insisted that Rains didn't know any more about the etiquette of the occasion than the little Dutchman did, or than Jellison himself did."

"Those movable brestworks of hemp bales used by the confederates at Lexington seemed very formidable to most of our men. The confederates pushed them forward, throwing water on them to prevent them taking fire when struck by shells, and there was a belief in the ranks that nothing could stop such an advance. Mulligan himself was depressed by the wet hemp bales more than he was by the enemy's guns. Therefore the coolness of the 30 or 40 men who had charged over the hemp bales and had been driven back was the more remarkable. I have often asked for the name of the little Dutchman who stuck to the six-pounder to the last. Can any of the survivors of Col. Marshall's regiment of 1861 give it?"—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Lucky Passenger.

When the Booth liner Cyril sank in the River Amazon, a wealthy Brazilian banker was the only person who was able to save his personal property which consisted of a small handbag containing \$90,000 in banknotes.

Chauffeurs Pay Fines.

A chauffeur recently fined at Kensington, England, said he had agreed with his employer that he (the chauffeur) should pay all fines. The practice, he added, was almost universal in motor-ing circles.

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| One 112-piece dinner set, plain white, American make | 5 75 4 29 | A brand new lot 22 and 45 cents. Wrappers at 98c, flannellette wrappers 69c. | |
| One stock pattern, not a full set, white, with pink flower decoration. Very pretty. Odd pieces closed out at most any price. | | Granite Ware | |
| One 56-piece tea set, pink and white decoration | 8 00 5 80 | Our beautiful line of blue and white enameled ware. A little too expensive for us to carry, at cost. Writing paper09 Baby bonnets39c, .19 Pictures, picture frames 19c, .39 Jardeners, at cost. Your choice of our 50 and 75 cent perfumes and toilet preparations for 38 cents. Fish globes at cost. | |

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