

Shaves and Tea on the Firing Line.

Paris, Oct. 8.—A Frenchman, who seems to have been attached to a Scottish regiment as interpreter, tells several stories of his comradeship in arms with the British.

"Their courage," he writes, "is admirable. These fellows go into action as if they were going to a picnic, with laughing eyes, and whenever possible with a cigarette between their lips."

"Our British Allies," he observes "have two main preoccupations—to be able to shave and have tea. No danger deters them from their allegiance to the razor and teapot."

"At—I heard a British officer of high rank declare with delicious calm between two attacks on the town. 'Gentlemen, it was nothing. Let's go and have tea.'"

"Meanwhile, his men took advantage of the brief respite to crowd round the pump, where, producing soap and sponges, they proceeded to shave conscientiously, little bits of broken glass serving as mirrors."

One day while the interpreter's regiment lay in trenches under fire two private suddenly noticed that he was awkwardly placed at a spot where the trench was not wide enough to enable him to make proper use of his rifle.

"The Frenchman isn't comfortable," said one. Both then left the trench spade in hand, knowing well that they were serving the enemy as targets dug out the trench in front of their French comrade and returned with unbroken calm to their own places."

The writer was associated with the British troops in Belgium.

"I have seen a crack cavalry regiment," he writes, "almost annihilated in a desperate charge against artillery. I have seen the heroic Scots mown down."

"But when in my presence British soldiers were told of disasters to their best regiments they never flinched. 'Never mind. We'll have the best of it one day,' was the invariable answer."

"That imperturbable conviction that they will get the best of it," the interpreter concludes, "is the secret which with fatal certainty will give them the victory."

Roumania's King Dead. Ferdinand Succeeds

London, Oct. 11.—The death at Bucharest of King Charles of Roumania, which was announced in despatches yesterday, has given rise to a crop of rumors, chiefly to the effect that he was assassinated owing to his pro-German attitude. There is nothing to confirm these rumors. The King had been seriously ill for some time, and had indeed suffered from a serious ailment for years. Owing to recent disagreements with his Cabinet as to his attitude in regard to the war it had been reported that he intended to abdicate.

Death has come to King Charles of Roumania just when the nation he has ruled with more or less success for forty-eight years is on the verge of war. A member of the Hohenzollern family, he is alleged to have endeavored to place his troops at the disposal of the German Kaiser, but dissension in his Cabinet, combined with the strong anti-German sentiments of the populace, forced him into declaring that his kingdom would remain neutral. His death may be followed by a declaration of war by Roumania, but the troops will probably fight on the side of the allies. This, of course, depends upon the grip the new King of Roumania, a nephew of the late King, also decidedly pro-German, has on the reins of government.

Not particularly as the Roumanian Monarch was the late King Charles known in Canada, but rather as the husband of "Carmen Sylva," the beautiful poetess, the writer of fairy tales and dramas. Her "Thoughts of a Queen," "Edleen Vaughan," "Shadows on Life's Dial," "A Real Queen's Fairy Book," etc., have given her a world-wide reputation. Her interests in peasant life have endeared her to her subjects.

The late King Charles was a brilliant diplomat as well as a great soldier. The part his army played during the Russo-Turkish war in 1877 secured for him the permanent kingship of Roumania and emancipated the Roumanians from any semblance or suspicion of their earlier vassalage to Constantinople. From 1866 to 1881 he was known as "Prince of Roumania." In 1881 he assumed the title of King. His country had suffered severe losses both in men and money, and his decision to wear a crown made of steel from a Turkish gun

captured at Plevna; rather than spend a large sum of money on a costly regalia and many other little acts of diplomacy gave him a stronger hold upon his poverty-stricken subject.

Born at Sigmaringen in 1839, and educated at Bonn University, the late King was a "German of the Germans," and represented much that Prussianism has stood and now stands for. From a sub-lieutenancy in a Prussian Dragon regiment, he was raised to the position of Prince of the Roumanians by Prussian influence, with the approval of Napoleon III. of France. A movement to unthrone him was instigated by Russia in 1871, but assistance rendered the Russians during the war with Turkey was acknowledged by the latter, and he was decorated with the Cross of St. George by Alexander II.

The new King, Prince Ferdinand of Hohenzollern, was created Crown Prince in 1889 by letters patent, the succession of the Throne having been refused by other eligible Hohenzollern Princes. Court gossip has it that the new Monarch has never cultivated a liking for the Roumanians and vice versa. His wife, a daughter of the late Duke of Edinburgh, and a direct descendant of Queen Victoria, and, therefore, a niece of the Duke of Connaught is said to possess tastes that are decidedly British. Critics say she is one of the most beautiful women in Europe. She is also said to be entirely out of sympathy with her subjects. Her extravagance has caused the Roumanian Ministry many trouble. The curtailing of her allowance almost created an international scandal.

Six children have been born to the couple. Theodora; Carol, the Crown Prince, Elizabeth, Marie, Nicholas, Ileana and Mircea.

The succession to the Throne of Roumania, in the event of the King remaining childless, was settled by the constitution upon his older brother, Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern Sigmaringen. Leopold renounced his rights in favor of his son, Prince Wilhelm, and Prince Wilhelm, in 1888, renounced his rights in his turn in favor of his brother Prince Ferdinand, who was born in 1865.

The Czar As a Temperance Reformer.

The Czar inaugurated the greatest temperance movement in the history of the world when, two months ago, as a war measure, he issued the edict prohibiting the sale of vodka. It was not intended at the time that the suspension of the traffic in this liquor should be more than a temporary expedient. But so rapid has been the change in the habits of the people and so remarkable the improvement in the condition of the peasantry that by imperial decree the sale of vodka is to be barred indefinitely after the war.

The sale of spirits in Russia is a state monopoly, which has produced nearly 30 percent of the Government's ordinary revenues. In order to meet the needs of the imperial exchequer it has encouraged the growth of the traffic, multiplied the number of dramshops in the rural districts and directly aided in the spread of poverty and drunkenness among the working classes. Being a cheap drink made from grain or potatoes, the Czar's Ministers for revenue purposes have deliberately adhered to the policy of increasing the consumption, regardless of the steady degradation of millions of the Czar's subjects. Only rarely has a statesman like Count Witte ventured to question the wisdom of the Government's course, and even he was not able to offer a satisfactory revenue substitute.

That some of the cruel consequences of war should be unexpectedly offset by a great social and economic reform of which Russia stands in need is one of the ironies of circumstances.—N. Y. "World."

Boasted of Part in German Plots.

Michael Zurstet, a German living at 169 Jarvis street, has to thank his luck and a policeman that he was not lynched in the Ward last night. Primed by a few glasses of beer, the billigerent Michael paraded through the Ward telling all the sundry what he would do for the Kaiser. He got as far as the Armouries and here he told everybody that he intended blowing up several buildings in Toronto, and was mixed up in a plot to destroy the Welland Canal. Fortunately for him a policeman came along and took him in charge or things might have gone badly with him, as the crowd was rapidly losing patience.—Toronto Daily News.

The combat deepens. Can you brave,
Who rush in glory, or the grave.

Thomas Campbell.

German Staff Lost Its Head

Colonel F. N. Maude, writing in the October number of the Contemporary Review on "Napoleon and Moltke," after declaring and explaining what he terms the 'Napoleonic' strategic methods employed by the Allied Army says:

"Up to about the third day of the retreat I believe the German staff still felt confident of victory; but about that time I imagine they began to question whether indeed they had not undervalued the essence of the Napoleonic strategy, and when, putting out all their strength, bringing odds of at least five to one against us, the suspicion must have grown to conviction that Joffre, as Generalissimo, was holding them, and they began to lose their heads; I know them so well."

"From this time onward it seems to me that the machine, so carefully organized and trained by Moltke, began to take charge of the men. The staff no longer controlled the machine as in telligent thinkers, but became mesmerized by their own phrases, sedulously repeated in every lecture room and textbook for several military generations. The pursuit which was now initiated has not been only masterly in conception and execution, but it has a special interest for us as vindicating once, and for all time, the value of our regular army. For fresh troops to attack and drive before them forces already heavily shaken contains no new lessons, but for an army, hustled and harassed by days of fighting and retreat to spring forward, with ranks filled up with all the zest of fresh arrivals, it something which I believe to be without parallel in military history, and I know that it is hat astonished our Allies quite as much as our opponents."

Italians Have A New Grievance

London, Oct. 16.—A despatch to the Star from Rome says it is officially confirmed in Berlin that the fire in the Austrian dockyard near Trieste resulted in the partial destruction of the dreadnought building there and considerable damage to six torpedo boats.

Rome, Oct. 16.—A measure reported to have been adopted by Prince Hohenzollern, the Governor of Trieste, ordering the expulsion of all Italian subjects working in the Austrian dockyards, as a consequence of the fire at the Monfalcone Dockyard, is causing great ferment here. The Messagero protests against it as an act of hostility to Italians, who, it says, are thus considered responsible for the fire which greatly damaged a number of Austrian warships.

Powerful New Krupp Siege Gun

New York, Oct. 15.—Adolph F. Gaul, mechanical engineer, employed at the Edison laboratories in Orange, N. J., who was a passenger on board the Helig Olav, of the Scandinavian American line, which arrived here yesterday from Copenhagen, described a new 50.2 centimetre siege gun which the German artillery forces are soon to receive from the Krupp factories.

"The destructive force of the 42 centimetre guns, which were used with such far reaching effect at Antwerp and Liege, will be greatly outdone in the new guns, I was told by army engineers," said Mr. Gaul. "The new guns are of the same type, and will have a range, it was reported, of approximately eighteen miles."

"The fortifications at Antwerp and

Liege were of the most modern construction, yet they fell like paper houses before the destructive fire of the 42 centimetre guns, accompanied by the accurate work of the German artillery men. The power which the Kaiser will hold in the palm of his hand with heavier guns of the same type is at once apparent, and I confidently believe that there is not a fort in the world that could withstand their fire."

A Scene from the Pit of Hades

"I saw nothing on the battlefield that stayed with me like the scene of misery and misery in towns that had been fired. Old people rushed shrieking in and out of their homes trying to save some of the relics or furniture, and the condition of women was pitiful. It was worse still when shells began to rain everywhere. One family had left its home, which was in flames, and a sick child was being conveyed on a stretcher. While I was looking a shell burst over it, killing the baby."—Letter from British Soldier.

German Rush Reinforcements

London, Oct. 16.—"Important German reinforcements, especially artillery, have been sent to the west front," cables the Copenhagen correspondent of Reuter's. "My informant, who has just returned here, met at Brandenburg twenty eight trains of reinforcements in one hour, all packed with men and horses. He estimates the number of troops to be between 300,000 and 400,000."

The end of Kaisers

An Antimilitarist German American Sympathies Revealed.

The masses of the kaiser's empire! To them surely the sympathy of the world must go out as to the poor Belgians who have died about Liege without knowing why, realizing only that a hell of shot and shell had burst without warning upon them as lightning from the sky. On the heads of the German masses lies not the blood guilt. They come from smiling homes, from the castled hills of Thuringia, the vine-clad banks of the Rhine, the plains of Prussia, the poppled fields of Bavaria. They and their kind have been rising steadily against fearful odds, helped on by favorable social legislation, held back by the heavy taxes imposed by the military Moloch, and by their three years of army service; hampered in the cities by grinding poverty and checked everywhere by iron casts. Their villages have only just begun to grow, to give signs of a development corresponding to that of the cities; to them have come at last the harbingers of social justice; something of the prosperity of the nation was beginning to be theirs. But now the mother of every son between 19 and 24 years must know her boy upon the firing-line, to destroy the son of some other mother, because the "triple" alliance demanded it. For these solid peasants, the backbone of the country, war can bring nothing save woe and debt.

Will it avail to tell them that the Slavic peril must be combatted; that in this world-war Destiny speaks and that it had to come sooner or later? Are they not inevitably to count the cost when the slaughter is over? Will they not more than ever turn to the "party of treason," which dictates that such things shall not be? Will they not turn to anyone who teaches that it shall be taken out of the hands of one man or a group of men to say whether a nation shall return to barbarism and slay the best that is in it?

For a German-American whose heart goes back to the country that gave him or his fathers birth, there should be no difficulty in deciding where his sympathies should lie, if he be truly an American citizen. Sorrow as he must for the German masses as he places reason above emotion and sympathy, he can but withhold his support from the kaiser who approved in principle the Austrian ultimatum to Serbia and made no better than a dicer's oath the solemn promise of the empire to respect the neutrality of Belgium. If he be loyal to the principles of this republic the German American can only hope that absolutism has brought about its own downfall; that this may mark the end of Kaisers, as of great armaments. If he has owed anything to the great minds of Germany, its men of peace, of knowledge, science and art, let him now pay the debt by being true to their ideals. He might well remember that Goethe himself faced a German army, when it had been beaten by ragged French republicans, to assure it that then and there a new epoch had begun.

The immeasurable sins of the rulers of Europe and their militarists can only be expiated now by the beginning of a



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new epoch which shall mean that the masses shall be the kings of Europe as they are the rulers with us today; that the last vestiges of feudalism shall be swept away to make room for government by and for the peoples.—Oswald Garrison Villard in the Review of Reviews.

German Paper Barred Mails

Ottawa, Oct. 15.—The post office department has prohibited the use of the Canadian mails for the transmitting of a newspaper calling itself the Fatherland. The paper is printed in New York, and is the product of the pro-German element in the United States. It is ostensibly written for the purpose of distributing the truth about the war among the people of the United States, and contains much that is false and misleading. It denies the stories of German atrocities in Belgium, and is calculated to arouse anti-British feeling. Other similar publications are also being stopped from using the mails.

Wants Canadian press Muzzled.

Ottawa, Oct. 16.—An extraordinary petition has been received by Sir Robert Borden from the German Canadian Alliance of Saskatchewan. The petition objects to statements in the Canadian press in regard to Germany, and asks that the Dominion Government impose restriction upon the English speaking press of Canada.

The petition adds:—"These papers are not doing justice to German civilization, but are bound to do harm in this country by stirring up race hatred and ill feeling."

The petition adds that the work of upbuilding Canada will be endangered if the press should continue "to unnecessarily hurt the feelings of a considerable percentage of the total population of Canada."

Complaint is made in the petition that great hardships have overtaken the German population of Western Canada as a result of the war.

NEW ENGLAND OYSTER PIE.

Place a pint of oysters and their liquor in a deep baking dish, and add a tablespoonful and a half of butter, heating the whole until the butter melts. Dissolve a tablespoonful of cornstarch in half a cupful of cold water and mix this in with the oysters together with salt, pepper and cayenne to taste. Add also a tablespoonful of lemon juice, and cover the whole top of the dish with a rich biscuit dough, patted to half an inch thickness. Bake until the crust is done and a light brown in color.

BAKED APPLES WITH CRANBERRY SAUCE.

Core the apples or halve them and hollow out the halves, fill the centers with cranberry sauce or cranberries cooked whole in a rich sirup. Have ready a thick sirup and baste the apples frequently with this. Bake until tender. The sirup should jell when the fruit is done. Serve with whipped cream.