

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S CAREER

Twenty-seven years ago on Jan. 2, 1861, Prince William, the second son of Frederick William III. and the beautiful and accomplished Louisa of Hesse-Darmstadt, upon the death of his brother, Frederick William IV., ascended the throne as King of Prussia, under the title of William I. He had served as Regent for nearly four years, so that this public investiture with kingly powers was but a matter of form.

Prince William was born in the palace of the Crown Prince in Berlin, March 22, 1817. When in 1836 the news reached Berlin that the Prussian armies had been defeated in the two great battles of Jena and Auerstadt, Prince William was but 9 years old. Although unable to fully comprehend the scope of Prussia's defeat, in regard to his words, "The King was mistaken in his march; we have been defeated, and must flee," made a profound impression upon his young mind.

THE HOHENZOLLERN TRADITIONS

is that the princes shall enter the army at the age of ten years; but the events of 1806 threatening the destruction of the Prussian monarchy, the 22nd of March, his tenth birthday, was anticipated by his appointment as first lieutenant of the Royal Guards on the 1st of January of that year; so that King William could count his 81 years' service in the army. Koenigsberg, in which city the Royal family had taken refuge, soon after being threatened by the French, Queen Louise, with her two sons, hurried away to Memel, near the Russian frontier, where young William was attacked with a nervous fever, while his elder brother was seriously ill with scarlatina. These were trying times for the Queen. On the 15th of June, 1807, Prussia's Russian ally was utterly routed near Friedland and nothing but a treaty of peace under the most humiliating terms could avert the complete annihilation of the Prussian monarchy. It was even a question with Napoleon I. whether Frederick William III. should be permitted to take part in the peace negotiations, the Emperor being in favor of stripping Prussia from the roll of States. Not even the tears of the beautiful Louise, who had been prevailed upon to appeal to the Emperor in person, was able to persuade him to modify or withdraw a single point of his hard conditions.

Finally, the Treaty of Tilsit was concluded, by the terms of which Russia lost half her territory, and loaded down with heavy war indemnities, she was reduced to the rank of a second or third power in Europe. The old maxim that early hardships are necessary to the development of a full manhood should have been in the mind of the Queen when, in a letter to her father, the Grand Duke Mecklenburg-Sterlitz, in 1808, she wrote:—"Circumstances and his surroundings educate the man, and therefore it may be well that our children are compelled to learn

LIFE'S STERNEST REALITIES

in their youth. Had they been permitted to grow up in luxury and leisure, they would think life must always be so. That it can be otherwise they can now see from the sad countenance of their father and the abundant tears of their mother. We have, indeed, gone to sleep under the laurels of Frederick the Great, who mastered his country." The Royal family continued to experience the bitterness of unsuccessful wars. Their country remained occupied by French troops, and the small revenue that could be collected from the people hardly sufficed to cover the necessary expenses of State and the support of the army; so that it often happened that in their asylum at Memel there was barely sufficient means left to defray the most urgent demands of the Royal household.

A change for the better occurred only upon the withdrawal of the French troops on Dec. 23, 1810—the sixteenth anniversary of Queen Louisa's entry into Berlin as the bride of Frederick William III.—when she returned again to the capital amid the enthusiastic greetings of her subjects.

On Jan. 1, 1814, Prince William is found at the side of his father in the Battle of La Rothiere, between the allied armies and France, and on the 27th of February at Bar-sur-Aube and Fere Champoise, which battle resulted in the total defeat of the French under Field Marshals Marmont and Mortier. He was also present at the entrance of the victorious allied troops into Paris, March 31, 1814.

Prince William was appointed by Emperor Alexander of Russia colonel of the regiment Kaluga. The following twelve years of his routine life were spent in the reorganization of the Prussian army.

In 1829, at the age of 32, he married the Princess Augusta, second daughter of the Grand Duke Carl Frederick of Saxe-Weimar. From this time on until the death of his father, which occurred on June 7, 1840, Prince William's energies were devoted principally to military affairs.

Upon the accession of the eldest son, Frederick William IV., it was expected the new king would keep peace with the people, who, under the fostering care of his father, had had extended to them a new system of popular education and the extension of municipal liberties, but he proved not to have been formed of the same alloy as Frederick William I., Frederick the Great, or Frederick William III. Until 1847 the only reform of a representative character in Prussia was the "Provincialstands" (Councils of the Provinces), which, however, were closed with very limited powers. In this year the rumblings of the approaching revolution of 1848 began to reach the ear of the king, which induced him to call together the representatives of the eight provinces composing the kingdom of Prussia into one body at Berlin. But this measure proved too late to avert the storm. The successful revolution of February, 1848, in Paris, and the flight of Louis Philippe were the signal for action at Naples, Milan, Vienna and Berlin. Emperor William stands charged with having issued the order at this time—the 18th of March, 1848—to fire upon

THE DEFENCELESS PEOPLE

in the streets of the City of Berlin, but, as he was appointed Governor-General of the Rhenish Provinces on the 10th of the same month, his personal engagement in these bloody conflicts is seriously doubted by his admirers. On the other hand, his enemies assert that his departure was delayed until the day following the order, and that the massacre was due to his advice.

The revolutions throughout Germany and Austria of 1848 had shattered what remained of the "Holy Alliance"; the "German

Bund" had been dissolved, and in order to appease the popular demand in a measure, a Parliament, composed of representatives from all the German States, Austria and Prussia included, was elected by popular vote, was ordered to assemble at Frankfurt. The history of this representative body may be comprised in the term of derision which was then applied to it, and with which to this day it is spoken of, "The Pappelerment" (chatter gathering). The only sentiment upon which all the representatives agreed was that of German unity.

At this Parliament were assembled patriots, statesmen, authors and historians, who for many years had labored and struggled for a principle—the rights of the people as against those of kings. Their names were dear to every German heart. But the single-mindedness of such men as Arndt, Auerswald, Beckerath, Camphausen, Dahlmann, Heinrich von Gagern, von Rodowitz, von Rommer and many others, weighed little against those having great personal interests to promote. It soon became evident that Austria was manipulating this Parliament with a view to acquiring the ascendancy in Germany, and thus to gradually restore the old German Empire under the Hapsburg suzerainty. The suspicion was confirmed when on the 29th of June, 1848, Archduke John of Austria was elected Reichsverweser over Germany, he having once, in the exuberance of his enthusiasm, given vent to the sentiment, "No Austria! No Prussia! Only a united Germany!" This office, however, was of short continuance, for on the 3rd of April, 1849, a deputation from this Parliament proceeded to Berlin and offered the Imperial crown of the States of Germany to Frederick William IV., which, however, was refused.

Prince William, during the latter part of the revolutionary days of March, 1848, had considered it beneficial to take

A TRIP TO ENGLAND,

where he remained for six weeks, returning to Brussels May 30, from which city he wrote his brother, the King of Prussia, as follows:—

"I hope that the free institutions which are to be consolidated by the representatives of the people will, for Prussia's welfare, develop themselves more and more.

Upon his arrival in Berlin he repaired to the Prussian Assembly, to which he had been elected. In his first speech Prince William assured the members of his loyalty to the principles of a Constitutional Monarchy, but notified the President that, it being impossible for him to always be present at their meetings, on such occasions the President should take the liberty of calling upon his alternate.

It was not, however, until 1849 that William was called upon to perform special public duties. Austria having dissolved connection with the Frankfurt Parliament, declaring against the choice of any other German prince over Germany, and Prussia refusing to sanction their confederate Constitution, and some objections having been raised against its provisions by the smaller States, notably Wurtemberg, which refused to accede to Prussia's suzerainty, the dissatisfaction of the people over these abortive results began to make itself felt all over Germany.

This dissatisfaction culminated in May, when an open revolt occurred in several of the principal cities of central Germany. In the grand duchy of Baden the king's army made common cause with the citizens, and established a provisional Government, with Lorenz Bretano, the present educated citizen of Chicago and former representative of Congress from the North Side as chief executive officer. Lieut. Franz Sigel—Gen. Sigel of the Union army—was put in command of the revolutionary forces. On the 8th of June Prince William (at the request of the Grand Duke of Baden and the Princess of Baden, who had been expelled from the grand duchy of Baden the king's army) with an army of 10,000 men, marched into Southwest Germany, and before the expiration of a month had so effectually quelled all disturbances that Gen. Sigel and the other revolutionary leaders were forced to flee to the neutral ground of Switzerland, while others took the first ship across the Atlantic for America. Thus were the last efforts and aspirations of Republicanism in Germany crushed and extinguished.

Throughout the reactionary measures which followed, to which Frederick William IV. acceded willingly, and which were troublesome enough to have turned the head of a stronger monarch, his brother William was living with his family at Coblenz, devoting his time to the improvement of the Prussian army. In the fall of 1857, however, he was called upon for more serious work; in fact, to take charge of the Government. A Royal order had been published, in which it was stated that the King's official affairs advised his abstention from all official affairs connected with the administration, and that the Government of the State would be intrusted to Prince William. His first term of

THE REGENCY

was limited to three months. Three times the power was renewed, but on the 7th of October, 1863, the office was made permanent. He was then 62 years old, at an age when the renewal of physical and intellectual vigor is rarely accomplished, and few people anticipated that William I.'s reign would present so warlike a character, and but for Austria's pretensions to power in Germany and French chauvinism, his days might have passed more peacefully, and today he should hear of Prussians, Swabians, Wurtembergers, Saxons, Hessians, Hanoverians, Badens, Loewensteiners, etc., but no Germans. On the 2nd day of January, 1861, King Frederick William IV. breathed his last, and his brother, Prince William, ascended the throne. On being congratulated by a magistrate of Berlin the king replied:—

"History has shown that the Hohenzollerns have always kept a warm heart for their people. I am known to possess the same feelings. I may have been misunderstood in the past, but I assure you I have ever been animated with the most sympathetic sentiments for the people of Prussia, and it may not be amiss for me to acknowledge, perhaps, that everything has not been done satisfactorily to the people of late years."

On January 9 the king issued a proclamation, in which, among other things, he said:—

"It is not Prussia's destiny to grow great by acquisitions, but in the exertion of her moral and intellectual power, in the earnestness and steadfastness of her religious sentiment, and in the strengthening of her defensive arm will be found the condition of her power and rank among the European States."

It was not until October 18, 1871, that the king was crowned, the coronation ceremonies taking place at Koenigsberg. The

following is a description of the occasion by an eye-witness:—

"The first time I saw the king was when he rode in procession through the ancient city of Koenigsberg, some two or three days before the coronation. He seemed a firm, dignified, handsome, somewhat bluff old man, with grey hair and grey moustache, and an expression which, if it did not denote intellectual power, had much of cheerful strength and the charm of frank manhood about it. No one was just then disposed to be very enthusiastic about him, but every one was inclined to make the

BEST OF THE SOVEREIGN

and the situation. But the manner in which the coronation ceremony was conducted, and the speech which the king delivered soon after, produced a terrible shock of disappointment, for in each the king manifested that he understood the crown to be a gift, not from the people, but from Heaven. To me the ceremony in the chapel, splendid and picturesque as it was, the mise en scene appeared absurd and even ridiculous. The king, bedizened in a regal costume, lifting a crown from the altar and, without intervention of human aid other than his own hands, placing it upon his head, to signify that he had his crown from Heaven, not from man; then putting another crown upon the head of his wife, to show that she derived her dignities from him, and then turning round and brandishing a gigantic sword, as symbolical of his readiness to defend his state and people—all this seemed to me too suggestive of the 'opera comique' to suit the simple dignity of the handsome old soldier. Far better and nobler did he look in his military uniform, and with his spiked helmet, as he sat on his horse in the streets, than when arrayed in crimson velvet cloak and other such stage paraphernalia of conventional royalty."

It is a matter of common notoriety that the acts and words of the king at this coronation ceremony did not impress the people with the deep conviction that his reign would be a constitutional one: but, on the contrary, they were looked upon as new declarations of absolute rule. The next Chamber, which met after the coronation, proved conclusively that these were the prevailing sentiments of the country. A large number of representatives had been elected upon the understanding that they were to give support to government measures only upon condition that the Government would pursue a liberal policy at home and a decided German policy abroad. The

FIRST DEMAND OF THE KING

was an increase of the war budget; this was refused. The monarch, however, was not to be thus thwarted in his favorite projects of increasing the efficiency of the army. He accused the Ministers who represented his wishes in the Assembly with timidity. He looked about for a more decided character to form a Ministry. His choice fell upon Otto von Bismarck von Schoenhausen, then Ambassador at the French Court, whom he recalled Sept. 23, 1862, appointing him Secretary of State and President ad interim of the Ministry. But the people and their representatives were not to be driven from the stand they had taken upon the Constitution. They remained steadfast in their determination to uphold their prerogatives in the matter of money appropriations, and to resist any attempt on the part of the Government to subvert them by diverting any of the funds which had been voted for their original purposes.

In this dilemma the Schleswick-Holstein question, which threatened serious complications on the northern frontier, seemed to come to the relief of the Government. The death of King Frederic of Denmark, which occurred Nov. 15, 1863, opened the question of suzerainty over these Provinces. A Constitution had just been adopted in Denmark, in which these Provinces were declared to be Danish territory, contrary to the stipulations of the London protocol, which had been signed by the great Powers, and Holstein being a member of the German Confederation, the Act was also considered a direct insult to the German Parliament. The consequence was the sending of some sixty thousand federal troops, partly Prussian, partly Austrian, and contingents from some of the other smaller German States, into Schleswick. The Danes were defeated in

SEVERAL BLOODY ENGAGEMENTS

on land and sea, in which the Prussian troops and marines exhibited unexampled courage and intrepidity. But this war, which was but of short duration, and delivered Holstein into the hands of Prussia and Austria, contained the germ for the next conflict between these two Powers of much greater magnitude. The German Parliament declared in reference to these provinces in favor of Austria's demand, which amounted in effect to a declaration of war of all the German States—Austria included—against Prussia. This gave William I. the opportunity to retrieve his popularity with his subjects, and to revive among them the spirit which had made the armies under Frederick the Great invincible.

"If they are then all against me," he said, upon being informed of the action of the Parliament, "I shall place myself at the head of my army and sooner perish with it than to submit to these outrageous demands," and in a proclamation which he at once issued to the people of Prussia, he said, "The country is in danger! Austria and a large portion of Germany are up in arms against us. Wherever our eyes turned over Germany we are confronted by enemies whose watchword it is:—'Humiliation of Prussia'! It is a struggle for our existence. If God gives us victory we shall then be strong enough to renew in a better and more indissoluble form the loose ties which to-day are uniting the German States more in name than in fact."

These sentiments created a deep impression upon the people of Prussia and were favorably received by a large number of Germans beyond the frontier. The war measures received the most enthusiastic support, and in less than a fortnight 265,000 men were ready to cross the line into Bohemia. The war was as short as it resulted gloriously for the Prussian arms. Austria was defeated in every battle, and the last and decisive one at Koenigsgratz laid her at the feet of her conqueror, King William, however, was magnanimous. His sword secured Prussia's supremacy in Germany; that was sufficient. A further humiliation or a dismemberment of Austria was neither politic nor desirable. These

EXTRAORDINARY SUCCESSSES

in the field caused also a revulsion of public sentiment in favor of King William at home, which resulted in the election of a Conservative Chamber thoroughly in sympathy with the Government. This favorable turn of affairs was immediately seized upon

by the king to increase and strengthen the army, which soon assumed enormous proportions and prepared to meet the arch-enemy, who was lurking on the western borders of Germany. Napoleon III. had been watching Prussia's success with unfeigned displeasure, and seeing a unification of the German States under that power, he resorted to the most shameful intrigues to prevent such a consummation. Under various pretexts he sought Austria's alliance in case of a war with Prussia. He proffered his influence and, if need be, his material aid, to the States of Southern Germany in forming a South German Confederation, but he exceeded the ordinary limits of courtesy and prudence in sending the Duke of Grammont on a special mission to Ems, where King William was sojourning, to make the impudent demand of that sovereign to openly declare that none of the Hohenzollern princes should ever occupy the Spanish throne. King William very properly refused to see the French envoy again, sending him word that he had nothing further to communicate. This was the signal for the war between France and Prussia, or rather Germany, which closed with the humiliation of France, the loss of two of her provinces—Alsace and Lorraine—and the destruction of the second Bonapartist dynasty on the one side, and with the establishment of a united Germany and the coronation of King William of Prussia as her emperor on the other.

THE MEETING OF THE EMPERORS.

The meeting of the Emperors of Germany, Russia and Austria took place at Berlin in the autumn of 1872. In October of that year Emperor William gave a decision adverse to England on the San Juan boundary question, submitted to his arbitration by the British and American Governments. In April, 1873, he visited the Czar at St. Petersburg, and in October visited the Emperor of Austria. In 1875 the Czar visited Emperor William. An attempt was made to assassinate Emperor William while he was driving, on the afternoon of May 11, 1878, in Berlin. The crime was committed by a young Socialist named Emil Hoedel, he firing two shots, neither of them hitting the Emperor. He was pursued and finally captured. He said he had no intention of murder; but, being unemployed and dissatisfied, had resolved to commit suicide. He was tried, found guilty and executed. A second attempt upon the Emperor's life was made June 21, 1878, on the avenue "Unter den Linden," whilst he was out driving. Two shots were fired, both of which took effect. The would be assassin was a Dr. Nobiling, who, after an attempt to commit suicide, was captured and removed to the hospital, where he died from his ill-flicted wounds.

The illness of the Crown Prince was a terrible strain upon the vitality of the aged Kaiser. Though always hoping for the best, he grieved over the sorrowful prospect with a suffering that only parents know. At times he completely gave way to his feelings and shed scalding tears over "Our Fritz." His attendants with the greatest difficulty kept him from going to San Remo to see once more his afflicted son. A trifling illness combined with his great mental suffering was more than even his iron constitution could bear, the thread of life snapped, and Germany is today plunged in mourning.

A Dog in the Witness-Box.

Mr. Burton, of Minneapolis, some time ago lost a valuable Gordon setter dog, which was found eventually in the possession of a saloonkeeper, who claimed that he had raised the animal from puppyhood. The evidence in Court was equally strong on both sides, and there appeared to be a case of mistaken identity somewhere. Judge and jury alike were in a terrible quandary. At this juncture Mr. Burton asked the Court if he might be allowed to introduce the evidence of the dog. No objections were made to this novel motion. Mr. Burton, mindful of the accomplishments which his wife had taught Sport in his youth, turned to the dog and said in a careless tone of voice:—

"Come, Sport, go and shut the door."

Without a moment's hesitation the intelligent creature trotted over to the door of the Court-room, which happened to be ajar, shoved it shut, and then trotted back to his master, and looked expectantly up into his face. The latter then took a bone out of his pocket, and laying it on the floor at his feet, said:—

"Well, Sport, was that well done; and now would you like your dinner?"

The dog's head nodded an emphatic affirmation, but he seemed to be in no hurry to take the bone.

"Do you?" said Mr. Burton, "but you must remember that it is necessary for a good orthodox dog to say grace before eating."

Upon the word the dog dropped down on his stomach, extended his head along the floor, and reverently covered his eyes with his paws. In a moment Mr. Burton called out "Amen," and Sport sprang to his feet like a flash and seized the bone without any more ceremony, crunching it between his jaws.

Mr. Burton then had the dog do his famous "gallant" act. In this Sport sat upon his haunches with a hat upon his head. When asked how he saluted a gentleman when meeting him, he deftly touched the edge of the hat with his right paw; but when asked how he saluted a lady under the same circumstances, he brought up his paw and knocked the hat off his head. All concerned were perfectly satisfied, and the jury in a few moments brought in a verdict for Mr. Burton, and Sport followed his triumphant master out of the court-room.

Poor Fellow.

She gently took his passive hand,
And tenderly she placed
Her arm, without a reprimand,
About his willing waist.

She drew him close? a fervent kiss
Upon his brow she pressed,
He yielded, and a new found bliss
Set all her fears at rest.

Then in a wild impassioned way,
Her love for him she told,
And begged of him that he would say
She'd not been over bold.

Without him all her life, she said,
Would be a desert drear;
If he said "No," she'd never wed—
At least till next Leap Year.

Blushing, he heard her bravely through,
And then he cooed; "Oh, la la!
This is so awful sudden, Sue
You'll have to ask my ma."

Their Diamond Wedding.

By the bed the old man, waiting, sat in vigil sad and tender;
Where his aged wife lay dying; and the twilight shadows brown,
Slowly from the wall and window chased the sunset's golden splendour,
Going down,

"Is it night?" she whispered, waking (for her spirit seemed to hover
Lost between the next world's sunrise and the bedtime cars of this),
And the old man, weak and old, trembling: as he bent before her,
Answered "Yes."

"Are the children in?" she asked him. Could he tell her. All the treasures
Of their household lay in silence many years beneath the snow;
But her heart was with them living back among her toys and pleasures,
Long ago.

And again she called, at dawn-father! the sunny Summer weather,
"Where is little Charley, father? Frank and Robert—have they come?"
"They're safe," the old man faltered! "all the children are together.
Safe at home."

Then he murmured gentle soothing, but his grief grew stronger and sadder,
Till it choked and stifled him as he held her wrinkled hand,
For her soul, far out of hearing, could his fondest words no longer
Understand.

Still the pale lips stammered questions, lullabies and broken verses,
Nursery prattle, all the language of a mother's loving heed,
While the midnight round the mourner, left to sorrow's bitter meditations,
Wrapped its weeds.

There was stillness on the pillow—and the old man listened lonely—
Till they led him from the chamber, with the burden on his breast,
For the wife of sixty years, his manhood's early love and only,
Lay at rest.

"Fare you well!" he sobbed, "my Sarah: you will meet the babes before me;
'Tis a little while, for neither can the parting long abide;
For you will come and call me soon, I know—and Heaven will restore me
To your side."

It was even so. The Spring-time, in steps of Winter tread;
Scarcely dried its orchard blossoms ere the old man closed his eyes,
And they buried him by Sarah, and they had their "diamond wedding"
In the skies.

JOHN STEBBINS' BARN.

Tom Tompkins Relates How the Edifice Was Built.

"Speakin' o' John Stebbin's barn puts me in mind of the time when that barn was planned. John insisted, John did, of erectin' it upon a side hill; an' that side hill wur clay; an' clay is considerable more or less like a March wind—continually on the shift.

"Why, clay, there ain't no more confidence to be placed in clay than there is in a kickin' horse, not a might. When it's wet it'll cling to ye like the cankerash, or else take ye right in for all your worth. When it's dry it'll crackle and slough off an' do everything else that's mean an' inhuman; an' when it's frozen it'll hump up like a camel's back, an' twist everything askew that's on top of it. I allus climb a clay hill by goin' round it, especially in the spring.

"Afore John Stebbins planted his barn he held a consultation ez to how the foundation should be built. John had his own opinion, John did, but afore he expressed it he wanted the opinion of others. One sorter thought that a trench, four foot wide, ten foot deep, filled with stones, an' the sills laid on top, would knock the stuffin' all out of the clay, an' the barn would stand; John didn't. Another thought that in addition to the stones there should be two foot o' sand on each side o' the wall. The sand would sorter hold the sills; the sills would sorter hold the barn; an' the barn would firm as the rock of ages. John didn't think eny such thing. Another said drive spilin' inter the ground an' set the barn on top. John wouldn't. John's oldest boy, Sim, said: 'If they'd build a fire round the barn, and keep the clay thawed out, the pesky thing ud never hist; an' they awarded him a leather medal on the spot.

"John's theory, though speculative, was right to the pint. 'Frost, it nippeth one ear, it nippeth any other also—unless it's kivered up. It's agoin' to freeze that are clay jest ez it would a pond o' water; an' when it heaves, it's agoin' to heave all the way alike. Jest lay them are sills upon nuthin' but clay; an' when the clay elevates, jest let the barn elevate with it. It'll got up in the fall, an' down in the spring, an' allus be on a dead level.' So that are barn was built, an' the foundation was laid upon nuthin' but pure undefined clay.

"Well, you oughter seen that barn travel the fast season. The west side went up an' the east side went down. The south east corner chattered to the left, an' the north end humped itself up like a man with the rheumatics. Squintin' along the ridgepole was like squintin' along a range o' mountains. There was valleys and declivities, an' deep gorges, an' canyons at irregular intervals along the hull line. Why, it seemed the delight of that are clay to see how infernally it could twist that barn an' still leave it standin'. An' stand it did until John had to prop it up with seven by nine joice.

"The west feature of the barn, though, wur the way it affected the cattle. In it wur some twenty head which John wur a winter terin' the fast season. There were Jarseys, an' shorthorns, an' Suffolks, an' Ayrshires, an' some as wasn't neither but a leetle of all. They wur ez straight, plump, well proportioned cattle when they entered that barn ez a man would wish to see; but you'd orter seen them in the spring. So confoundedly did that barn wur up an' double about durin' the winter months, that, when them are cattle were let out in the month of May, I'll be blest if each one of 'em wur n't twisted completely out of shape. Now that's a fact."—[Creston Courier.]

Reverence in Scotland.

The reverence for the Sabbath in Scotland sometimes takes a form one would hardly have anticipated. An old Highlandman said to an English tourist: "They're a God-fearin' set o' folks here, 'deed they are, an' I'll give ye an instance o't. Last Sabbath, this was a drover chiel frae Dumfries along the road, whistlin' o' a lookin' as happy as if it was a middle o' a week. 'Weel, sir, our loads is a God earin set o' loads, an' they yokit upon him an' a most killed him.'—London Chronicle