THE KAISER IS DEAD.

SKETCH OF THE DEAD EMPEROR'S LIFE.

The Succession.

The heir apparent to the German throne is the now dying Crown Prince, Frederick William. He is 57 years old, and some of the events of his life have more than ordinary interest. In 1858 he was married to the Princess Victoria, daughter of the Queen of England. She made him a model husband and father, which is not always the case with his family. In 1883 they celebrated their silver wedding. He has taken part in the Danish, Austrian and French wars, and in the last one he showed great bravery and military skill. He was a great traveller before his illness and in good favor with the people and the army. His son, the young Prince William, who is empowered by the dead Emperor's proclamation to sign royal decrees and transact some affairs of State, is 28 years old, was trained in the military schools at Wiesbaden, after his father had apprenticed him to a glover, for, like all the Crown Prince's children, he had to learn a trade. While at school he showed himself to be a pretty sensible fellow, not above association with his poorer fellows, with whom he used to swap lunches for the sake of getting German peasant's black bread. His left hand is deformed, and has to be kept gloved constantly, much to the Prince's mortification. He is an accomplished army officer.

THE LATE EMPEROR.

The late Emperor, had he survived till the 22nd inst., would have attained his 91st year, having been born on March 22nd, 1797, at a moment when the French revolution had begun to triumph over its many enemies, including the King of Prussia. The Emperor's grandfather, Frederick William II., nephew of Frederick the Great, was still upon the throne, but died soon after, leaving his kingdom to the Emperor's father, Frederick William III. The first nine years of William's life were among his happiest. His mother, the beautiful and accomplished Queen Louise, daughter of the Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, took personal charge of the lad's education.

DAYS OF SORROW.

The year 1806, with its cruel changes, destroyed this lovely idyl. Through his vacillating course in dealing with the Emperor Napoleon, King Frederick William found himself suddenly isolated from the rest of Europe and a prey to the conqueror. The battles of Jena, Auerstadt and Saalfeld decided the fate of his kingdom, from which Napoleon sliced off 2,700 square miles with a population of 5,000,000 souls. On no one did this blow fall more heavily than on the Queen. Her flight after the Prussian defeats was attended with much misery and suffering, and her poignant sorrow failed not to awaken a responsive echo in her children's hearts. Nor were her exhortations unheaded.

"Children," cried the great-hearted, patriotic woman, "upon you will fall the duty some day of retrieving this terrible disaster to our beloved country. Be men, and let not the degeneracy of the present day make you its victims. Be the worthy successors of the great Frederick, and if it is beyond your power to re-establish the country's independence die in defence of her honor as did Prince Louis Earnest at the battle of Saalfeld."

William first "smelled powder" in the campaigns of 1813 and 1815 against France. In 1840 he was appointed Governor of Pomerania, and held that post until the revolution of 1848 broke out, when he sought refuge in Engl nd. In May, 1848, he was elected a member of the Constituent Assembly, returned to Berlin and took his seat in that body June 8th, 1848. He was made Commander-in-Chief of the Prussian Army acting against the revolutionary forces of Baden in June, 1849, and when his brother's mind gave way in 1858 Prince William, as he was then ter ied, was created Regent, immediately dismissed the aristocratic party and adopted liberal policy.

KING OF PRUSSIA.

Frederick William IV., his brother, dying without issue Jan. 2nd 1861, he succeeded to the throne under the title of William I., placing the crown on his own head at Konigsberg, Oct. 18th, at the same time emphatically asserting the doctrine of the "right divine of kings." Immediately upon his accession to the throne he began a contest with the Chamber of Deputies, which became more and more critical until after Count Bismarck-Schoenhausen had been appointed Prime Minister in 1862, a civil war threatening to convulse the country. But the aggressive war on Denmark, in which Prussia and Austria were jointly engaged, served to divert the attention of the people from internal troubles, and since the close of that war the firm attitude of the sovereign has endeared him to his loyal subjects and made him dreaded by his enemies.

But his youthful training for the career of arms prompted him to prepare to draw the sword and assert Prussia's supremacy. Military preparations were made on a large scale, and early in 1866 his trusted lieutenants pronounced the scheme ripe for execution. An alliance was concluded with Italy, an ultimatum sent to the smaller States in Northern Germany, war was declared against Austria June 17th, 1866, and headed by King and Royal Princes a large army was set in motion and the bloody battle of Sadowa compelled Austria to bend to the dust and conclude a humiliating peace. In this campaign the merits of the "needle gun" or breech loader were first fairly tested and the results achieved caused consternation throughout the military world, and set the powers busy at work upon the reorganization of armies. The King of Prussia became the head of the North German Confederation in 1867, comprising twenty-two States and representing a population of about 30,000,000 souls. The part played by King William in the war known as the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 is a matter of history, and it is not necessary to touch upon it at present, but the result attained was the warrior-king's dream—a United Germany.

EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

On January 18th 1871, King William of Prussia was proclaimed Emperor of Germany within the palace of the French Kings of Versailles, in the historical Hall of Mirrors, and surrounded by the stern soldiers composing the army he had led in triumph to the capital of France. That moment was probably the most gratifying point of Emperor William's career, but the grim warrior bore the honors showered upon him with kingly dignity and true soldierly bearing. The meeting of the Emperors of Germany, Russia and Austria took place at Berlin in the autumn of 1872. In October of that year the Emperor William gave a decision adverse to England on the San Juan boundary question, submitted to his arbitration by the British and American Governments. He visited the Czar at St. Petersburg in April, 1873, and in October of the same year visited the Emperor of Austria at Vienna. The correspondence between the Emperor William and the Pope relative to the prosecution of the Church in Prussia was published at Berlin, Oct. 14th, 1873. Since then and within the last year or two, the Emperor has made his peace with His Holiness.

ATTEMPTS ON HIS LIFE.

Two attempts have been made to assassinate the Emperor, one May 11th, 1878, while he was driving in Berlin. A young Socialist named Emil Hoedel fired two shots at him from a revolver, but neither of them hit the mark, the Emperor standing up in his carriage and calmly asking if the shots were fired at him. Hoedel was eventually executed. The second attempt was on June 2nd, 1878. His Majesty was driving in Unter den Linden, when two shots were fired from the window of a house, wounding him in several places. The would-be assassin was a Dr. Nobling, who, after attempting to commit suicide, was secured by the crowd, removed to the hospital and subsequently died there from the effects of the wound he had inflicted upon himself. William I. married June 11th, 1829, the Princess Augusta, daughter of Charles Frederick, Grand Duke of Weimar. They have two children—Prince Frederick William, born Oct. 18th, 1831, and the Princess Louise Mary, Grand Duchess of Baden, born Dec. 3rd, 1838.

Emperor William did not smoke or take snuff. Neither did he wear spectacles. When reading or writing he used an eye-glass, although he never wished to admit that his sight was growing weak. His Majesty, up to a short time since, slept as soundly as the heathiest of youths, and never took a rest during the course of the day. He is survived by the Empress, who as a Princess of Weimar, remembers the glorious epoch when the genius of Goethe illuminated that little capital. She passed much of her time in the presence of the great poet, and from this early education and association the Empress Augusta has preserved a refined literary taste.

BRITAIN'S DEFENCES.

Churchill's Demand for a Royal Commission to Expose the Rottenness of the Army and Navy Management Refused.

A London cable says: The debate on the motion of Sir Walter Barttelot (Conservative) for the appointment of a Royal Commission to ascertain and report upon military measures necessary for the protection of the Empire was resumed in the House of Commons last night by Lord Randolph Churchill. He commenced his speech by reminding the House that no fewer than 178 members were connected with the army and navy services, and that the debate had disclosed their absolute unanimity on one point, namely, that notwithstanding the immense increase in expenditure, the military position of England was deplorably bad. The remedy of those members was the expenditure of more money, but his remedy was reform in the expenditure. Enough had already been paid to maintain both services in a state of splendid efficiency. But the English system was without a parallel in any other country—military men who had been trained in the business of arms being subordinate to civilians who were utterly untrained. It would be just as reasonable for the Premier to nominate Mr. Labouchere as Archbishop of Canterbury, or to make Mr. Chaplin Lord Chancellor. (Laughter.) Military training seemed to disqualify a man from managing the War Offices. That must be altered. The financial control, after the estimates are granted, ought to be placed in the hands of responsible officers. English officers were made spending animals instead of, like the German officers, rivalling one another in economy. Stores for a German regiment could go to the front on twelve hours' notice without prolonged letters from the War Office. That could not be done in England without piles of files passing and repassing for several days. The German *corps d'armee* was maintained upon £1,000,000 as against £7,000,000 for the English corps. This monstrous waste extended to every branch of the services. A right and vigorous inquiry and radical reforms were imperatively necessary. He could not vote confidence in the existing system. It was hopelessly bad. (Cheers.)

Mr. Stanhope, Secretary for War, intimated that the Government would sanction an inquiry into any definite matter connected with the estimates, but would resist the appointment of a Royal Commission of a vague general character. The motion for the appointment of a Royal Commission was negatived.

A Defect in the Treaty.

A Canadian has brought suit against a St. Paul lady for breach of promise of marriage. There is nothing in the new fisheries treaty which deals with matters of this sort, and Mr. Chamberlain has already sailed for England, so it may be necessary to appoint a new commission to establish fixed rules governing the two nations while fishing in each other's matrimonial waters. —*Chicago News.*

Special from Paradise.

One of the greatest "surprises in heaven" will be that which certain select little companies of worshippers will feel when entering inside the golden gates and finding that "our church" was never more heard of there than any other church, and that one church is just as good as any other church if its members behave themselves as well. —*Chicago Journal.*

Perhaps the longest account book in the world is that in which Phil Armour, the Chicago pork king, keeps a summary of his varied interests. It is six feet wide when closed and contains the balances taken from a score of ledgers.

DEATH TRAP ON FIRE.

Massachusetts Printing Office Destroyed by Fire—Six Employees Lose Their Lives and Many are Injured—Exciting Scenes.

A Springfield, Mass., despatch says: The new office of the *Evening Union* was burned at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Six of the employees met a terrible death. Most of them jumped from the fifth story and were crushed into a shapeless mass below. Six others were badly injured. The fire was first discovered in the mailing-room, and clouds of smoke were pouring out of the lower story windows before the fifty souls on the upper floor were aware of the danger. The flames shot up an old elevator in rear, cutting off escape by the stairway, and most of the employees who escaped found their way to the ground by way of the roof in the rear. The unfortunate men and women who crowded into the editorial rooms met a horrible fate. Some were cut off in the composing room, and there is still a terrible suspense, as several fell back into the flames. The employees who rushed into the editorial room were cut off from the escape in the rear and had to face the horrible alternative of burning to death or jumping to the sidewalk below, with the probability of receiving frightful injuries The fire department responded promptly, but it seemed an age before the firemen reached the windows in the fifth story. A ladder was placed to reach to the fourth story, and the sight of rescue so near seemed to madden the suffering persons at the two windows above and one by one they dropped to the sidewalks below. Six persons fell in this way. Some of them were forced off and some leaped madly, while the crowd below groaned and turned their heads away as they whirled through the air. The dead are as follows: Henry J. Goulding, foreman of the *Union* composing-room, burned to death; Miss G. Thompson, proofreader, and Mrs. Frederick E. Farley, who was employed in the editorial department, fell from the window; Mr. Lamzon, of Quebec, jumped from the window; W. E. Hovey, of Boston, fell to the sidewalk; Mr. Brown, a compositor. The list of injured is as follows: Thomas Donohue, compositor, left leg broken at the knee and bad cut on the head; Timothy Dunn, compositor, arm and leg broken; Joseph W. Witty, compositor, badly burned; he clung to the window until the fire forced him to drop, but he fell on a ladder and was saved. G. F. Ensworth, compositor, compound fracture of the leg.

It is thought that the fire started among the lumber in the closet on the ground floor. The flames were drawn up the elevator and spread through the composing-room. There were more than thirty compositors, men and women, on the fifth floor. There was no fire escape.

HER SKIN TURNED BLACK.

A Young Lady's Strange Affliction and a Weird Story of a Curse.

A Toledo, Ohio, despatch says: Grace Arlie, a beautiful young lady living with her parents in the Fifth Ward, was taken suddenly ill six months ago, and for several weeks she suffered from an apparent attack of typhoid fever. At the end of the third week bright red spots came out over her face and limbs and gradually extended over her entire body. A week later the spots began to grow dark in color. In two months from the time she was first taken Miss Arlie seemed to have recovered from the fever and began to gain in strength, but the condition of her skin grew worse and worse, until her body finally became as black as that of a negro. Meanwhile she regained strength, and is to-day in full mental vigor. A relative of the family tells the remarkable story that five years ago Miss Arlie's father was a prosperous planter in South Carolina, and kept a large number of negroes to work for him. One of them became abusive one day and threatened Arlie, who, blind with passion, drew his revolver and shot the negro dead. The wife of the negro saw her husband fall, and, going up to Arlie, invoked curses upon him. Arlie never recovered from the effects of the tragedy, but in a year or so moved North, locating in this city. He is a man of wealth and largely interested in manufactures. He is preparing to take his daughter to Europe for treatment.

SHE LEFT COLLEGE.

An Incident that Caused Sam Jones' Daughter to Make a Hasty Exit.

A Louisville, Ky., despatch says: Miss Annie Jones, daughter of Sam Jones, the evangelist, has left the female college at Millersburg, Ky., under singular circumstances. Rev. Joe Jones, brother of Sam Jones, is conducting a revival at Millersburg. A few nights ago, at the close of the preaching, he called on J. B. Sheckley, a student in the Wesleyan Theological School at Millersburg, to pray. The young man was sitting a short distance from Miss Jones. He knelt down, and after an invocation of the divine blessing, besought that while Samuel Jones was going about saving sinners, the Master's grace might bring salvation to his daughter, who was going to perdition as fast as she could. Miss Jones arose and went hurriedly out of the church, and later, saying she would not stay in a community where women were not safe from insults, left for her home at Atlanta, Ga.

Edward O'Meagher Condon.

Many of this gentleman's Toronto friends were delighted to grasp his honest hand on Tuesday evening at the residence of his old comrade, Mr. Murtagh Moriarty, Darcy street. We were happy to be one of the large gathering assembled there to bid him welcome once again to the city in which were spent the years of his early manhood; and it afforded us unfeigned pleasure to notice how admirably Colonel Condon preserves his youth and vigor.—*Irish Canadian.*

He Wants to Know.

"Papa, where's atoms?"

"Atoms? I don't know, my boy. You mean Athens, probably."

"No, I mean atoms—the place where everything is blown to."—*Good Housekeeping.*

Willis Allen, a negro who died in Paris, Ky., a few days ago, was undoubtedly 120 years old. He had been a slave in Virginia, and papers in the possession of his owner's family proved the exact year of his birth.

THE DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Sir Charles Tupper presented a message from His Excellency, transmitting copies of the Fishery Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, together with the protocols, offering to make temporary arrangements for a *modus vivendi*, pending a ratification of the treaty. Sir Charles Tupper said he was glad to be able to announce that he had obtained the consent of Mr. Bayard to lay upon the table the proposals made by the British plenipotentiaries and the reply thereto in regard to the greater freedom of commercial intercourse between the two countries.

Sir Richard Cartwright inquired if these comprised all the papers in relation to this question.

Sir Charles Tupper said they comprised everything affecting the trade relations between the two countries that it was in his power to lay before the House.

Mr. Mitchell said he presumed that, in addition to the proposals, considerable discussion took place on the subject. He thought the House would like to know whether the Minister proposed to the Conference merely an interchange of natural products of the two countries, or whether it embraced manufactured articles also.

Sir Charles Tupper said there was a proposal made for greater freedom of commercial intercourse between the two countries. This was met with the categorical refusal on the part of the United States plenipotentiaries to entertain the question at all, because Congress had reserved to itself the uncontrolled power to deal from day to day with the tariff, free from any treaty interference. It was true, however, as Mr. Angell was reported to have said in an interview, that the British plenipotentiaries had pressed the question, but without avail.

Mr. Mitchell said he entertained too high an opinion of the ability of the Minister of Finance to believe that after he had received at the outset such an unmistakable answer from the American negotiators to his proposal to consider trade questions, he would continue to press the question for a month or more before the conference, without stating in detail the concessions that Canada would be willing to make. He thought that if any specific offers were made by the Minister of Finance the House should know of them.

The House went into Committee of Supply on the item of $25,462 for the office of Queen's Privy Council for Canada.

Mr. Mills asked who is at present the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

Sir John Macdonald replied Mr. St. Onge Chapleau, formerly of the Public Works Department.

Mr. Mills said he understood that Mr. Chapleau had been dismissed from the Public Works Department for divulging for a consideration secrets in connection with contracts. He did not think that under these circumstances the Government should have appointed Mr. Chapleau to the important office of Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

Sir John Macdonald was not aware that Mr. Chapleau was dismissed.

Mr. Mills said the Government had asked Mr. Chapleau to resign.

Sir John Macdonald said Mr. Chapleau had resigned and been appointed sheriff in the Northwest. On the re-organization of Dominion affairs in the Northwest that office had been abolished, and he was appointed Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

Sir Richard Cartwright said it was degrading to the civil service to have a man who has committed a grave offence promoted over the heads of others who have conscientiously discharged their duty.

Sir John Macdonald said it would be unjust to Mr. Chapleau to continue the discussion without having a proper knowledge of the facts. He suggested that the item stand.

The item stood.

On the item respecting the Department of Agriculture,

Mr. Mills objected to the promotion of Mr. Pope from the position of Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to that of a chief clerk in the patent branch of the Department of Agriculture. This officer had been found guilty of a dereliction of duty amounting to malfeasance in office, in withholding the election returns of nearly all the Opposition members from being gazetted and giving precedence to supporters of the Government. When the matter was brought to the notice of the Government, Mr. Pope, in his defence, made a false statement to the House, thus aggravating his offence. In the face of that wrong done to nearly one-half the members of the House, the Government, instead of dismissing that officer, had undertaken to promote him, giving him the rank of a deputy minister and a far greater degree of responsibility than he had proved himself worthy of.

Sir John Macdonald said Mr. Pope had simply the powers of a chief clerk, as his predecessor had.

The item passed and the committee rose and reported.

Sir Charles Tupper, in answer to the inquiry of Sir Richard Cartwright, said it was not his intention to deliver the budget speeth till after the debate on trade relations is disposed of.

Mr. Boyle, in moving to add to the Monopoly Inquiry Committee power to investigate insurance combinations, thought it was proper the investigation should be extended in that direction. It was known to most of the members of the House that a powerful and tyrannical combination existed in the insurance business. If the inquiry was to be pursued it should embrace that class of monopolies. When the committee met the other day and took stock of its powers, it was discovered these combinations had not been included and he now asked the House to add the power desired.

The motion was carried.

The House went into Committee of Supply.

On the item of $195,250 for departmental contingencies,

Mr. McMullen asked for details. Usually a very large sum was spent for cab hire of Ministers. He thought it would be better to pay them larger salaries and let them provide their own carriages.

Sir John Macdonald said that with their present allowance the Ministers could not provide themselves with carriages unless they drew heavily upon their private means. He could produce particulars of every item. He concurred in the suggestion that the Ministers should be paid larger salary, and no doubt the hon. gentleman from East York would concur in his statement that the salary of Ministers was inadequate.

Mr. Mackenzie—I am quite willing you should get all I got.

The item passed.

On the item of $2,000 for expenses of the High Commissioner's office in England,

Sir Richard Cartwright asked if the Finance Minister is again to be High Commissioner, or will he retain his position in the Cabinet. He cannot attend to the duties of both offices at one time. The present position in the House was enough for any ordinary mortal. A decision on this point must be pressed for. The Finance Minister is very useful here, and he (Sir Richard Cartwright) was bound to say that that gentleman is by far the best Minister of Finance he had ever seen in his time on that side of the House. He thought the Finance Minister was bound to say which office he intended to hold.

Sir Charles Tupper thanked the hon. gentleman for the compliment. No injury had been done to the country by the saving of $10,000, owing to his performing the duty of Finance Minister and looking after the office of High Commissioner in London during the past year. He ventured to say that greater service had never been done for Canada by the High Commissioner's office than since last session. The hon. gentleman was not half so anxious as he (Sir Charles Tupper) was that he should be relieved of the double duty he had to discharge. He felt his inadequacy to continue for any long period the onerous duties that had been thrown upon him. He hoped his hon. friend the First Minister would, as soon as possible, make arrangements to relieve him of the double duties he has to perform.

Mr. Mills said the Minister of Finance was not obeying the spirit of the law in holding two positions. His absence from the country had prevented him from bringing down the budget speech in proper time.

Mr. Armstrong thought the office of High Commissioner could very well be abolished.

The item passed.

Mr. Mitchell called the attention of the House to the report that the Governor-General had invited Messrs. Greenway and Martin to an interview with reference to the Manitoba difficulty. As he (Mr. Mitchell) understood, the business of this country is carried on by constitutional Ministers who are responsible to the House. If it was true that these gentlemen had been invited to interview the Governor, he would like to know at whose instance it took place. He would regret to hear that His Excellency, after such a good record as he enjoyed, would be guilty of such an unwarrantable interference. He would like to know whether the Governor had acted on behalf of the Government or had assumed a responsibility he had no right to assume.

Sir Hector Langevin said the Government, as responsible advisers of the Crown, are ready at all times to take the responsibility for any action the Governor might take in matters of State. The Governor-General had not to his knowledge or to the knowledge of the House ever been guilty of any interference which was not quite proper.

Mr. Mitchell said there was another matter to which he desired to call the attention of the Government. He read in the Montreal *Gazette* that Newfoundland had been asked to enter Confederation, and that the colony had been requested to send a deputation to Ottawa to negotiate. As this appeared in the Government organ, he presumed it to be correct. While Parliament is in session it should be taken into the confidence of the Government before a communication of that kind is sent to a colony. The Goverument should not have assumed the responsibility without consulting the House.

Sir John Macdonald—It is true that these communications have taken place.

Sir Richard Cartwright said the House had been treated with scant courtesy that a matter of such importance should be first made public through the medium of one of those precious paid organs of the hon. gentlemen. It is not strange, but goes to show that we have got a one-man power here, who does what he pleases. For all practical purposes the people of Canada would be better off by sending a hundred and twenty or a hundred and thirty proxies to the hon. gentleman.

FEARFUL CATASTROPHE.

Disastrous Earthquake in China—Devastation of Property—Thousands of Lives Lost.

A San Francisco despatch says: The Hong Kong *Mail* gives a description of the earthquake in the Province of Yunnan on December 15th, and is indicative of frightful mortality. The *Mail* says: In the interior department of Ching Chan the disturbances were extremely violent, being continued at irregular intervals for four days, when they ceased entirely. The Departmental city is said to have been reduced to a mass of ruins, scarcely a house escaping damage, and over 5,000 persons are reported to have been killed by falling buildings. Many of them were buried under the ruins, while the number of injured is too large for computation. Yamen was destroyed. At the Prefectuenel city of Lamon the effects of the earthquake were scarcely less disastrous. At this place, when the shock was being felt, an enormous chasm opened in the earth and water was thrown out from its depths. At Lo Chau in Chuen a striking change has been caused in the appearance of the country. Large tracts of land were swallowed up and the surface changed into a lake. In Lo Chau more than 10,000 persons are said to have perished.

Not What He Expected.

Bobby—Say—Do you like my sister Belle?

Young Mr. Jones—Why certainly, Robert. Everybody likes Miss Belle, do they not?

Bobby—Dunno. I guess she likes you, too. She told ma you was a perfect—perfect—I most forgot what.

Young Mr. Jones—But try to think Robert. Was it a perfect gentleman?

Bobby—Naw! Oh, I know now. She said you was a perfect nignoramus.

In the Munn divorce suit which is now on trial in Beloit, Wis., the testimony brought out the fact that Mrs Munn's parent's consented to her marriage only on the condition that her future husband deed them a forty-acre farm.