CAPRIVI ON WAR.

Germany Abhors Preventable War, But Must be Ready.

THE LIE GIVEN TO BISMARCK.

Lessons Must be Watched as Well as France—Better to Keep an Enviable Away Than to Suffer Defeat.

A Berlin cable says: Chancellor Caprivi said to-day in the Reichstag: "The house is doubtless aware of the public indignation excited by the avowal of Prince Bismarck that he had forged a despatch from Ems in [illegible] between France and Germany. In order that the house and country might judge of the accuracy of the statement the foreign office has furnished to me from the archives a telegram from Privy Councillor Abeken to Prince Bismarck, dated July 13th, 1870, stating that his majesty, King William, complained of the obtrusive behavior of the French ambassador on the promenade, and also a letter of his majesty ordering Privy Councillor Abeken to telegraph to the Baron de Werther that his majesty was indignant at the imputations of Duc de Gramont and of the French ambassador, Benedetti, in regard to his (the King's) conduct, and that his majesty reserved to himself the right to take further steps. These facts," added the chancellor, "prove that his majesty, the late King and Emperor William, was not the old weakling that Prince Bismarck had been lately suggesting, and also prove that Germany, in 1870, did its utmost in the direction of conciliation." This statement of the chancellor caused a decided sensation in the Reichstag, being the first open and official answer on the part of the Government to Prince Bismarck's charges. It is believed that Prince Bismarck will accept the challenge and take his seat in the Reichstag to answer Caprivi. The chancellor also said: "We abhor preventable war. We do not desire the smallest piece of French territory. The next war, should war unfortunately break out, would be much more difficult, because the French army and fortresses, especially Paris, are in much better conditions than in 1870. Germany's condition after such a war, even if followed by 25 years of peace, would be infinitely more intolerable than now."

MUST WATCH RUSSIA.

Referring to Russo-German relations, the chancellor said: "Friendship has existed between Germany and Russia for centuries, and even the Emperor Alexander himself was an important personage in the maintenance of these friendly relations. The present czar is one of the noblest-minded and most peaceful of monarchs, and appreciates the peaceful and loyal policy of Germany. There are in Russia, however, hostile currents working against us, which, since the successful achievement of German arms and diplomacy, have risen above the interests of Russia, yet it must not be concluded because Russia is developing her army that war is imminent. We must assume from her preparations that Russia's next war will be to the west-ward. These preparations arouse no anxiety at present, but they might constitute a danger to us. It must be remembered that Prince Bismarck, during the reign of the late Czar Alexander, spoke of a positive threat of war from Russia. The Government has used every endeavor to maintain communication with Russia, and desires that the current shall not be withdrawn from the connecting lines with Austria and Italy. There is undeniably a rapprochement between Russia and France, in the face of which we cannot yield Alsace-Lorraine nor break off our relations with Austria. The strengthening of our army means constitutes no threat to Russia. We only want to repel a possible attack. We must think of war with the probability of having to present two fronts.

RUSSIA AND FRANCE.

If Russia wished to go to war she would be sure of the alliance of France, but, if France wished to go to war, the alliance of France with Russia would be an open question. In either case Russia must occupy the attention of a portion of our force. We are not prepared for such an exigency. We would have to defend ourselves against superior numbers. If we do not do this the heroes of 1813 would rise up from their graves against us in righteous indignation. Our whole position among the nations depends on our military strength. We have the highest opinion of our allies, and the dreibund is nowhere so popular as in Germany; but even the dreibund is weaker in troops than are France and Russia. Germany must always take the chief burden upon herself, because she must watch two frontiers. Germany has lost her military supremacy since 1870, not by the fault of the Government or of the army, or of the Reichstag, but because the conqueror is less inclined to make sacrifices than the conquered. After Sedan a different feeling existed than after Leipsic. Our neighbors have increased their military strength in an undemonstrative manner, and only after recourse to makeshifts. But, while slow, their course has been steady and sure."

The chancellor then proceeded to explain the proposed reforms in the military service, the regulations of which do not operate so as to effect all equally and caused efforts to be made to evade the service. "In point of numbers," said he, "our army is ahead of any other nation's and we have the best commissioned and non-commissioned officers and men, but we fail in strength of organization. We do not want to summon the landwehr and the landsturm on the eve of battle. The Government disagrees with the recent article in the *Militar Wochenblatt* on the landwehr, which has always held an honorable position."

THE ALTERNATIVE.

Referring to the measures by which it is proposed to meet the increased expenditures, the chancellor stated that the beer tax would scarcely be felt, as it amounted to only two-fifths of a pfenning for a litre. With the exception of Austria, Germany spent less money for armaments than any other of the nations. "We desire," he said, "to force universal service effectually, but considerately, and to adopt a two years' service, except in the case of the cavalry and horse artillery, but a two years' service cannot be introduced without the sacrifices demanded for the strengthening of our forces. We want to assure the people that dismissal from the army will follow regularly after a two years' service. The Bill is perhaps unwelcome, but war, perhaps defeat, would be much worse. In the event of defeat, we would have to pay a thousand millions in money for every million we are now spending. The midst of militarism is required only to preserve every German from the disaster of future defeat. After such a reverse it would no longer be a question of two years' army service. Our national commerce could not then be protected, our industry and sciences would decline, and a political economic struggle would arise, involving our very existence. Germany is destroyed will be replaced by no other nation. It is our duty to preserve Germany in memory of those who created her and died for her, so that it shall not be said that those who have gone before gave their blood while the living are unwilling to give even money. I appeal to the House to enable the nation to say in time of danger we, too, [illegible] *auch du ruhig* [illegible]." The Chancellor's speech was followed by prolonged applause. Herr Richter made a more speech and Herr Bebel followed.

Rosebery and the Princess.

A London cable says: Lord Rosebery is attended at the royal dinner party to be given at Windsor Castle to-night to Grand Duke Sergius, the Grand Duchess and their daughter, Princess Alice. Therefore renewed rumors of a probable alliance between Lord Rosebery and the Princess Victoria, additional weight being given the rumors because of the frequent appearance of the foreign Office Secretary at gatherings of the royal family.

Slightly Scorched.

Lord George Gordon Pitzwigh (who is going his hand)—Ah, it seems to me, Miss Mayfair, I have scorched something. Any [illegible] me, eh?

Miss Mayfair—Your glove, perhaps.

Lord George Gordon Pitzwigh—Oh, no. Only I mean[illegible]. Aw—Will you mawry me?

Sensitive.

The "Servantgirls' Wrongs" [illegible] of the Most sensitive. It is [illegible] Policeman.

Parker—I have a [illegible] who married a Chinaman. [illegible] Parker—Mercy! How [illegible]—She was Chinese [illegible].

Mr. Gibson—You should train up your son in money he would go, my friend. Mr. Brown—[illegible] I have [illegible] money, sir, I tried. Mr. Gibson—Ah, [illegible] money, sir, I tried