

- 66 The war was begun which ended in the destruction of Jerusalem by Titus.
- 373 Italy invaded by the Huns.
- 451 Gaul and Italy invaded by Attila. Christianity threatened.
- 530 Saxon invaders founded a kingdom in England, with London for its capital.
- 1066 Norman invasion of England.
- 1378 Forty years schism in the Church of Rome begun.
- 1456 The Turks, having taken Constantinople, threatened Europe and were defeated.
- 1531 Fall of the power of Rome in England; the king proclaimed head of the Church. Vienna a second time besieged by the Turks.
- 1607 First settlement of the English colonies in America, strictly an invasion of the Indian domain.
- 1759 The fall of Quebec. French power in the New World brought to a close.
- Although Halley's comet had of course nothing whatever to do either with producing or foretelling any of these events, yet they illustrate very well how easy it is to find curious coincidences between wholly unrelated matters when we are in search of them.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> While this paper was in the hands of the compositors, news came of the discovery, in South Africa, on January 17, of a bright comet, not identified as a previous visitor, which has been registered as "Comet a, 1910." At the time of its discovery it was self-luminous to the extent of being visible in full daylight. Shortly afterward it was generally observed in the United States during the half-hour succeeding sunset, but as it was moving away from the sun, it was not visible to the naked eye for a longer period than about two weeks.—THE EDITOR.



## EASTWARD BOUND

BY CHARLES G. D. ROBERTS

WE mount the arc of ocean's round  
To meet the splendors of the sun;  
Then downward rush into the dark  
When the blue, spacious day is done.

The slow, eternal drift of stars  
Draws over us until the dawn;  
Then the gray steep we mount once more,  
And night is down the void withdrawn.

Space, and interminable hours,  
And moons that rise and sweep and fall,  
On-swinging earth, and orbèd sea,  
And voyaging souls more vast than all!

# IF GERMANY WERE CALLED TO WAR

HOW A MILLION SOLDIERS WOULD BE  
PLACED IN THE FIELD WITHIN A WEEK.  
BY GEORGE VON SKAL



WHEN a German wishes to give an illustration of the instant readiness of the army of the empire for war, he is apt to tell how General von Moltke, then Chief of the General Staff, was awakened one night in July, 1870, by his aide, and informed that war had been declared against France. The General—so goes the story—simply said, "File No. 5," turned over, and fell asleep again. The aide opened the file, and found the complete plans for the mobilization of the army in case of war with France, with all the necessary orders to the commanding officers written out and signed, and only the date left blank. All he had to do was to fill in the date and deliver the orders to the nearest telegraph office.

The little story is of course not true, but may well serve the purpose of illustration; for it is a fact that almost by pressing a button the standing army of the German Empire, comprising in round numbers 616,000 men and 110,000 horses, may be transformed, with the addition of the first reserves, into an immense fighting machine of over one million men, and placed in position at any of the frontiers of the country, ready for battle. All possible contingencies are provided for; and men, horses, guns, ammunition, and sup-

plies of every description are either ready or can be procured at a moment's notice.

Not many years ago the visitor to Berlin could not fail to notice the prevalence of soldiers among the crowds. Scores of officers in uniforms of various colors could always be met in Unter den Linden. This is now all changed. The barracks of nearly all the regiments stationed at the capital have been removed to the outskirts of the city, and the officers have little time for sauntering along the streets and flirting with the pretty Berlin girls. They are working hard—working as they never did before—because the reduction of the term of service in the army from three to two years, and the introduction of improved armament, smokeless powder, and innumerable inventions of one kind and another, have completely changed the comparatively simple tactics employed in former years, and made immensely more difficult and complicated the task of turning into trained soldiers the raw material arriving every year from cities, hamlets, and farms.

In the neighborhood of the Brandenburg Gate, near the Tiergarten, however, every morning and evening may be seen many officers going to or coming from the Generalstabsgebäude, the headquarters of