

the prosecution of original research, the instructor must have a certain amount of time free from other occupation, and such instruments supplied as will be most serviceable in the specific lines of investigation attempted.

Prof. Safford himself affords no mean instance of the way in which such work should be carried on; and a score of our colleges would be highly benefited had they alumni to follow the generous example of Mr. D. D. Field at Williams, and provide instrumental equipment where there is fair indication that it will not lie idle.

### THE GETTYSBURG CELEBRATION.

GETTYSBURG, July 4.

THE reunion of veterans at Gettysburg in the interest of peace and reconciliation between the blues and grays has not been the success in point of numbers which it was expected to be. The promoters appear to have relied all along on an appropriation of \$25,000, or thereabouts, from Congress, to provide subsistence and lodging for those who came on. This expectation was disappointed, and only a very small sum was voted at the last moment, which was expended in tents. The consequence of this was that the work of preparation was postponed from day to day until it was too late to give the necessary notice to men scattered so widely over the continent as the veterans of the two armies are, or to make any suitable arrangements for their reception. Of course there are not many veterans so situated with regard to this world's goods as to make it easy for them to take a long journey at this season, and live even for three days at the costly abodes into which the Gettysburg hotels managed to turn themselves for three days. If even one-half the number which was looked for had actually come, they would have had to live out in the fields and beg their bread in the streets. As a matter of fact, I think 2,000 or 3,000 Union veterans, and 200 or 300 Confederates made their appearance. Many more of the latter would undoubtedly have come if they had had notice or any reasonable expectation of finding board and lodging during their stay.

Moreover, there is no indiscretion in saying that a good many Northern officers were kept away by the belief that the celebration this year was an unnecessary duplication of the reunion of last summer, at which the blues of the Army of the Potomac did all that need be done, or can be done, to assure the grays of cordial appreciation and good will; and that it was got up largely to support Gen. Sickles in his controversy with the friends of Gen. Meade, touching his (Sickles's) conduct on the left wing, on the second day of the battle. As a matter of fact, Gen. Sickles was the most prominent figure on the Union side in the proceedings on last Sunday and Monday, and after him came Gen. Butterfield, who was Meade's chief of staff, and contends that he gave Meade advice on the third day, which he did not take, but which, had he taken it, would have ended the war. Of course, if Meade made a huge mistake in not listening to Butterfield, it strengthens the theory that Sickles was right in disregarding Meade's orders in the selection of his second position in the battle.

Anyhow, the proceedings this week centred in these two gentlemen, but only brought very few other distinguished Unionist officers on the ground. Governor Beaver of Pennsylvania was there, so was Gen. Barlow, and Gens. Hunt and Robinson, and Slocum and Doubleday

and Crawford; but if there were any others known to fame, they escaped my observation. On the Confederate side the only two men of mark present were Longstreet and Gordon, but they were probably the two of all the Southern survivors of the great contest whom Northerners are most eager to see. On Longstreet years are beginning to tell; his hair and beard are almost white, but the lines of vigor in his face are still nearly as visible as they can ever have been, in spite of the air of great serenity which has settled in his eyes, and the stiffness which has begun to mark his gait. Gordon, on the other hand, who, with his lithe figure and alert movements, his eagle face, and flashing eye, does not look over fifty, is still, as he has always been in both appearance and manner, the type of the dashing Southern soldier. His speech was both eloquent and earnest and gracefully delivered, and was listened to with visible pride and pleasure by his wife, whose expression of mingled gentleness and dignity was just what the occasion called for in any one who represented Southern women to an audience assembled to hear of peace and reconciliation.

Mr. George William Curtis's address, it must be said, was worthy of what the celebration was originally intended to be—that is, a larger and more representative assemblage than that which listened to him. His tribute to Confederate valor and the purity of Confederate motives, delivered with great vehemence, was all that any Southerner could have desired, and brought a genuine glow of pleasure over Longstreet's tranquil face, and won vigorous applause from his sinewy hands, and it prepared the way well for the subsequent plea for the establishment of the suffrage at the South on a better and more republican basis. The whole speech, in fact, is, I think, pretty sure to circulate widely at the South and be pondered fruitfully. None of its own orators has paid a more splendid tribute to Pickett and his column who delivered the final charge on the last day of the fight, or has done greater justice to the efforts the South is making to recover from all her misfortunes and mistakes.

To those who find their historic sense gratified or stimulated by the sight of fields on which great human controversies have been settled by the sword, the field of Gettysburg must for ever remain one of the most interesting spots in the world. What it needs now of all things is a respectable guide-book. The Century Co. has issued one by Gen. Doubleday—good as far it goes—but it is a mere military summary of the events of the three days. The others, which attempt to give detailed narratives, are beneath contempt. What with balderdash, cheap sentiment, and attempts at lurid description, they may fairly be called a discredit to the country. One of them seriously maintains that God Almighty created Little Round Top expressly to furnish a position in which Meade's army might save the Union. No stranger who took up this rubbish would suppose that the army which won the battle had stood higher in point of intelligence than any the world has seen except the German. Of the kind of material which was to be found in the ranks, I met with a striking illustration in walking with Gen. Barlow over the ground on which he received his wound on the first day of the fight. We found a gentleman there examining the spot, who told us he was a private in a Connecticut regiment on that unlucky day, and had been wounded and carried to a house hard by. He is now a professor in a prominent college. The whole field of the operations in the three days is being covered with

monuments indicating the various positions held by the different regiments and batteries on different days, the losses they sustained, the spots in which distinguished officers were killed and wounded, and so forth. They are, of course, of varying degrees of taste, and I heard of some which were assailed for inaccuracy or pretence; but, on the whole, they express a happy thought, and future generations will be grateful for them. I think they are the first attempt in the history of war to preserve the memory of the rank and file on the very spot which their valor and endurance has made famous. When all that are proposed have been erected, there will be about 600 of them, but we trust they will not justify the cant phrase by making Gettysburg a "Mecca." The guide-books and more talkative veterans have got hold of this "Mecca" idea now, and one hears it at every turn; and to any one who has seen the squalid crowd who go to the original "Mecca," and thinks what that "Mecca" is, it suggests sad poverty in terms of reverence.

The field will, however, never be illustrated and marked as it ought to be until the heroic deeds of the Confederates are also commemorated in stone or brass, like those of their Northern foemen. Without this—even the Northern record will not be complete, for the full measure of Northern pluck and bottom cannot be presented without some account of the force by which the Northern positions were assailed in the last two days of the battle. It is to be hoped this defect will be supplied by the South before long, both as a tribute to its gallant dead, and as a final acknowledgment that all bitterness has passed away from the memory of the struggle. Something towards this end was done at the blue meeting last year, when it was voted to erect a monument to "American Valor" on the spot where Armistead fell, within the Union lines, at the head of Pickett's charge. I doubt much whether any Northern man or woman now visits and studies the field without wishing to share in the glory of that splendid feat of arms—that is, to claim as countrymen the soldiers who made up Pickett's column. One easily sees that it is this which takes most hold of every visitor's imagination after he has become familiarized with all the varying features of the fight. I do not recall anything in military history which can quite match it, among even such exploits as the march of the English column at Fontenoy, the rush of Macdonald's column across the plain at Wagram, the crowning of the heights of Albuera by the British in Spain, or the attack on St.-Privat by the Prussian Guards in 1870. No cavalry exploit can be compared to it—neither the charge of the Light Brigade nor that of the French Cuirassiers at Reichshofen. In a cavalry charge there is exhilaration in the swift motion through the air, and no strain of exertion on heart or lungs, and the excitement or agony of expectation is sure to be brief. But Pickett's men, laden with arms and ammunition, had to make their way under a burning July sun, across fields heavy with grass or grain, over 1,200 yards—fully equal to a mile on the high road—under the shells and grape shot of 120 guns, and towards the end the pitiless pelting of 20,000 rifles, leaving heaps of dead at every step, without shrinking, and they carried their flag into the enemy's lines. No American who admires human courage and endurance can walk over the ground they covered with their dead without feeling proud that this continent has produced such men.

E. L. G.

## MINISTERS AND SOVEREIGN IN GERMANY.

BERLIN, June 20, 1888.

GERMANY has been passing through a political crisis which will, directly or indirectly, affect the interpretation of the sovereign's position towards the Ministry, and the responsibility of the Ministers to the Crown. In periods of intense political feeling there is a rapid development, if not of institutions, at least of the interpretation of relations already existing.

The two factors which brought about the present political issues were the death of the Emperor William, and the accession of the liberal-minded and progressive Frederick III. to the throne. Since the dissolution of the Parliament of 1878, a conservative reaction has set in, having its source in the overmastering will and absolute authority of the Imperial Chancellor. His ascendancy over the mind of the Emperor William in all political questions, whether of external or internal policy, cannot be questioned. There has been the gradual growth of ministerial independence, but subordinate to the controlling mind of the Minister President. Twenty-four colleagues in office have risen to power and fallen during his sway, and it is not strange that any interference with a rule exercised so long should be resisted as a violation of his prerogatives. Frederick the Third's accession to the throne was marked by the issue of two significant documents—his imperial rescript to the people and his letter to Prince Bismarck, in which he announced the principles that would characterize his reign. They indicated the possession of distinct views and a royal will to rule. The publication of the latter document inspired hope in the minds of all who desired to see Germany a constitutional State in which the rights of the people and the prerogatives of the Crown should be found consistent. The letter to Prince Bismarck seemed to indicate a new era: The past was not criticised, but the reform and simplification of the administrative system were stated to be necessary.

It cannot be supposed that Prince Bismarck, proud of the absolute system that had grown up under his rule, looked with pleasure upon the introduction of new forces which should disturb the old. English parliamentary government and ministerial responsibility are alike odious in conservative circles in Germany. It is necessary to take these views into consideration in order to understand the successive outbursts of feeling which swept over Germany during the reign of Frederick III. To this must be added the chauvinism, which is in part the product of German victories in the last war, which in popular belief causes German greatness to tower above that of all other lands. Hence foreign influence is regarded with aversion. This will explain the national indignation which flamed out fiercely at the proposed marriage of the Princess Victoria and Prince Alexander of Battenberg. One not familiar with the tone of the German press at that time can form no conception of the national self-consciousness and childish folly to which expression was given. The Empress Victoria was the object against which shafts dimly disguised were directed. The *Cologne Gazette*, the ablest and usually one of the most judicious of the press, spoke of the influence in politics of certain ladies of high rank; the "English influence" at court was bitterly attacked, and the visit of the Queen of England was deprecated as adding her royal influence in favor of an unpopular marriage. The marriage was characterized as a marriage of interest on the part of Prince Alexander to

which he was otherwise indifferent. The respect for the Emperor was impaired by representing him as having so weak a will as to be ruled by the Empress. "The German people desires to be ruled by kings, not women." The marriage would result in a double war with France and Russia. On this feverish state of the public mind the resignation of the Chancellor, the creator of German unity, whose love for his fatherland would not permit him to be responsible for the unpatriotic course which was determined on at court, was reported. He alone loved his country better than all else. Why should a maiden's heart stand in the way of the national good? Public meetings were called and addresses prepared to avert the threatened resignation of Prince Bismarck.

It can now hardly be believed that the issue raised at the time of the Battenberg affair was never a real one, but was used by the Chancellor for political effect, with the design of making his position impregnable and his authority dominant in the national mind, in order to discredit in advance the liberal programme of the Emperor, and any court influence which he might not be able to combat directly. It is the misfortune of Germany at the present time that opposition to any measure of the Government is regarded as unpatriotic and subversive of the peace of the State. Upon authority which I cannot doubt, I believe that at the first discussion of the proposed marriage between the Emperor and Prince Bismarck, the matter as a political question was settled, and that the Emperor accepted the views of the Chancellor, and the question ceased to be one of Government concern. There is reason to believe that the Emperor proposed at first to raise Prince Alexander of Battenberg to the rank of prince in Prussia, and assign him to a high military command—an action which, in connection with his union with the Princess Victoria, would have made his subsequent acceptance of the throne of Bulgaria impossible. The whole machinery of the Government press was set in motion to discredit the marriage. The ruthless criticism of the imperial family was a severe blow at the dignity of the Crown. Perhaps never before in Prussian history have the views of a sovereign been depicted in so unfavorable a light, with so little cause. Prince Bismarck, in maintaining his own position, was ready to sacrifice the dignity of his imperial master and his family. Such an offence cannot be easily atoned for. The anti-English sentiments of the Crown Prince—the present Emperor—were thrown into the scale to contrast with the supposed liberal sentiments of his father. The result of this first crisis was to establish Prince Bismarck more firmly than ever as the support and "standard bearer" of German nationality, as he was called by the Crown Prince Wilhelm in his unlucky after-dinner speech.

A second crisis, less intense than the first, arose in connection with the bestowal of certain decorations. The first order conferred by the Emperor Frederick, the highest order of the Prussian Crown, that of the Black Eagle, was bestowed upon the Empress and upon Dr. Friedberg, Minister of Justice, his former teacher and an eminent jurist, a man of Jewish descent. This was followed by the bestowal of numerous decorations upon high officials, elevations to the nobility, and by the pardon of numerous political and military offenders which usually accompanies the opening of a new reign. The purpose in the gift of these orders, to recognize eminent men of all shades of political opinion, soon encountered the opposition of the Cabinet. The exercise of personal prerogatives of the Crown which had never been questioned, was suddenly met by the

threatened resignation of the Ministry in case certain orders were conferred. Von Forckenbeck, the chief Bürgermeister of Berlin, a member of the Fortschrittspartei, received a decoration, but accompanied by the statement that it was for services in behalf of the sufferers from the floods, in order to rob it of all political significance, and to show that opponents of the Government, however prominent, must have other claims for recognition. Professor Virchow received the Order of the Red Eagle of the second class, but the bestowal of certain other orders encountered the opposition of the Cabinet. It was proposed to confer a decoration upon a former member of the Reichstag whose sympathies were strongly liberal, although he was not a member of the Extreme Left. He had been once tried for libel against Prince Bismarck and acquitted. On the principle that you never forgive the man you have injured, a crisis arose in which the resignation of the entire Ministry was threatened, and the proposed honor was abandoned.

These ghosts of discord were no sooner laid than a question of less general interest brought about the Cabinet crisis which resulted in the retirement of Herr von Puttkamer, the Minister of the Interior and Vice-President of the Ministry of State. No Minister of the entire Cabinet was personally so obnoxious, but he had held office for nine years, and was apparently superior to every attack. He was also connected by family ties with Prince Bismarck. He had signalized himself when a young man as Landrath, by ordering all office-holders to support actively the Government candidates, and by summoning to trial all whose self-respect did not permit them to obey his unauthorized demands. The effort to reform German spelling which was associated with his name was successful in the schools, but encountered the opposition of the Government, which forbade its use in official documents. Nothing could exceed the superciliousness of the Minister's bearing towards representatives of the people who ventured to criticize his measures in the German Diet or in the Prussian Parliament. The only defeat which the Government suffered during the winter was over Puttkamer's bill accentuating the provisions of the law against the Socialists, adding expatriation to the penalties which the Government could inflict. As this law is administered now, residence in any German State of a suspected person becomes practically impossible. The Socialists were able to show that Puttkamer's secret paid agents in Switzerland were criminal characters, perpetuating their term of office by information secured at Socialist meetings over which they presided, and of which they were the moving spirits, and in one case supporting entirely a Socialistic newspaper for circulation in Germany—in short, they were agents provocateurs of the very movement which they had been sent to aid in suppressing. The sworn evidence of the Zürich official which confirmed these charges produced such a sensation that the National-Liberals and Catholics united to oppose the expatriation clause of the Government bill, for which a simple act continuing the present law for two years was passed. The Minister's position, however, was shaken by a parliamentary investigation of several elections, in one of which his own brother was a candidate, in which he had thrown the Government influence in his brother's favor.

The bill for prolonging the legislative period in Prussia to five years had already passed, and had been for several weeks before the Emperor for his signature. He had signed a similar law which had been passed by the cartel-parties in