

teachers, but from all who are interested in the next generation.

This is not the time or place to urge the evils arising from the tobacco habit, but I know of no competent authority who does not admit that disastrous results to boys arise from the use of tobacco. Now is a good time for the friends of the future to unite in creating a public sentiment which shall banish the cigarette from Utah, and which shall ultimately attack the giant evils of tobacco and alcohol as a whole.

PRINCE BISMARCK.

Seldom has it fallen to the lot of mortal man to receive such recognition as Prince Bismarck is accorded today, April 1, on the eightieth anniversary of his birthday. Millions of German both in Europe and elsewhere vie with each other in bringing their testimonials of love and admiration, and monarchs join the jubilant multitudes and pay their tributes of respect to the aged statesman. All except the Socialists and the center party of the Reichstag, controlled by the Catholic clergy, are carried away by the general outburst of enthusiasm. The former cannot forget the hostile attitude of the creator of the German empire towards social-democratic ideas, and the latter are equally slow to forgive the "Kulturkampf" waged for the purpose of crushing the fetter-an ecclesiastical power was thought to be forging slowly around the state. But the protests of the representatives of these parties are insignificant. The remark has been made that "united Germany" is so broken up in political and ecclesiastical factions that a general national holiday in the Fatherland is impossible. Whether this be true as a general rule or not, on this occasion the empire certainly is united in honoring its great founder. And all this is the more remarkable because only two years ago the emperor himself forbade all official recognition of the prince and ostracized his friends.

In the various stages of the public career of the ex-chancellor, it is easy to distinguish that from the first he had but one object in view and all his energy was directed toward its accomplishment—the unification of Germany with Prussia at the head of the confederation. In 1862, when the Prussian deputy refused to grant the appropriations asked for military purposes, he found means of raising the required funds in defiance of the representatives of the people. Accused of violation of the constitution, he further proceeded with great severity against newspapers and magistrates that dared to criticize him. A conflict followed which, had the object of it not been an intellectual giant, would certainly have resulted in defeat and ignominy to both the king and his premier. But the latter was equal to the situation. The cabinet threw the country into wars with the surrounding powers. Prussia rounded her boundaries off by adding to her territory Hanover, Hesse-Cassel, Hesse-Nassau, Frankfurt and Schleswig-Holstein, and in the glories of his victories Bismarck's previous sins were forgotten by the nation. By the war of 1866 the death-blow was given to the German confederation and the North German con-

federation with Prussia as the central power was established. Five years later the transformation was completed with the war with France, when the south German states joined the union and the king of Prussia became the emperor of Germany.

The status of the Fatherland in regard to its position in the family of nations now being established, the attention of its chief genius was directed toward its internal affairs. Bismarck's object was undoubtedly to unify the country internally by merging into one, if possible, the various factions and thus lay an unshakable foundation for the imperial throne. At the same time he found it necessary to maintain a military power strong enough to keep the neighbors from retaliation, and also to launch the empire on colonial enterprises in Africa and elsewhere on a large scale. His methods always were remarkable. Without identifying himself with any faction, he effected temporary alliances of a nature calculated to secure success for his proposed measures. His fall at last was undoubtedly due to the personal feelings of a young monarch who was unable to appreciate the ingenious plans of the veteran empire-builder and who was over-jealous of his own prerogatives. The sudden interruption of Bismarck's work for the fortification of Germany against internal dissenting forces may yet prove a disaster to that country. Bismarck today is only a private citizen, but the honors bestowed upon him by his country may well be looked upon as an acknowledgement of the policy that had its origin in his genius.

For an understanding of Bismarck's character the following incident is interesting. Count Ignatieff, once Russian minister to Turkey, a few years ago related an interview he had with the German chancellor. In 1868 Ignatieff passed through Berlin and complimented Bismarck on the campaign against Austria. The "Iron chancellor" replied:

The difficulty was not simply in beating the Austrians. For that we needed only careful preparations. But where the difficulty became really serious was in bringing them to declare war against us, and finally to prove to the emperor, in turn, who is very much opposed to taking up arms, that such a course was necessary for our personal defense.

Of like character was Bismarck's remarkable feat in 1870 with regard to France, and nothing shows better the greatness of his genius than the fact that he was able to force his enemies to carry out his plans.

Bismarck's views on the much dreaded oriental problem were given to Ignatieff in 1877, confidentially it seems. His words were, according to the Russian minister:

Turkey is a property from which all Europe can easily take a slice. For your part you will find there enough territory for your Slav population. Then, after having made the enumeration of the part which could be taken by Austria, Italy and England, as he did not speak of France I asked him: And what would be France's share?

France, replied Bismarck, we will give Syria. That will afford occupation for a long time.

On political treaties Bismarck placed his own estimation. Ignatieff con-

In speaking of the triple alliance, the

count said: "I understand the treaties have but one object. But what does a treaty of peace signify? It is a piece of paper that the powers may destroy at the least alarm. Between Russia and France there is no need of any signature. The treaty between them exists today more as a matter of fact than it had been really signed. It is for Russia's interest to wish France to become rich and powerful, and whatever may happen, she will not permit her to be crushed."

The Russian count further in the interview with a *Figaro* correspondent, from which the above extracts are made and which appeared in that paper about eight years ago, says that Bismarck continued his war on France after the peace was declared by causing continued fear. He would announce new arrangements without carrying them out, in order to excite France to additional expenses and ruinous taxation. But he could go still further than that. "I have in my hand," says Ignatieff, "the proofs that in 1869 and 1870 two French journals were bribed by Bismarck. One received 300,000 francs and the other 200,000 francs to urge France to war with Germany."

It will be seen that a statesman with infinite resources was the German ex-chancellor. As to his condition today, he is said to look well for his age and may for years enjoy the rest he has so well earned.

KEEP THE BALL ROLLING.

In various Sunday schools (March 31) a topic of special instruction was the effects of the use of tobacco. Impressed with the necessity of the hour in this regard, superintendents and teachers took upon themselves the task of explaining some of the evils which follow indulgence in the practice, giving instruction in plain and simple language, so that there could be no lack of comprehension even by the smaller children, and supplementing the work by the kindest exhortations to avoid the path that surely leads to physical, mental and moral injury.

This class of work among the young is most commendable. In the schools of the Latter-day Saints it is frequently given attention. If there were only spasmodic efforts, the good results that have followed Sunday school work in this respect could not have been attained. It is only by much persistent counsel and instruction that people are taught to recognize and overcome temptations pressed upon them, and many times lessons have to receive frequent repetition to be thoroughly learned. None realize this better than those specially engaged in training the young. Hence, as a rule, Sunday school teachers have been diligent in this regard, and their labors have borne much good fruit.

There are none of these workers, however, who do not realize that there is yet a vast field to cover. How to do it successfully is the question. In the coming few weeks there probably will be a sort of craze among some of the boys, resulting beneficially for the time being at least to the tobacco vendors. This is a suggestion itself to Sunday school and other workers among the young as to the necessity of putting a permanent block in the