

(From London Society.)
HAROLD VON MOLTKE.

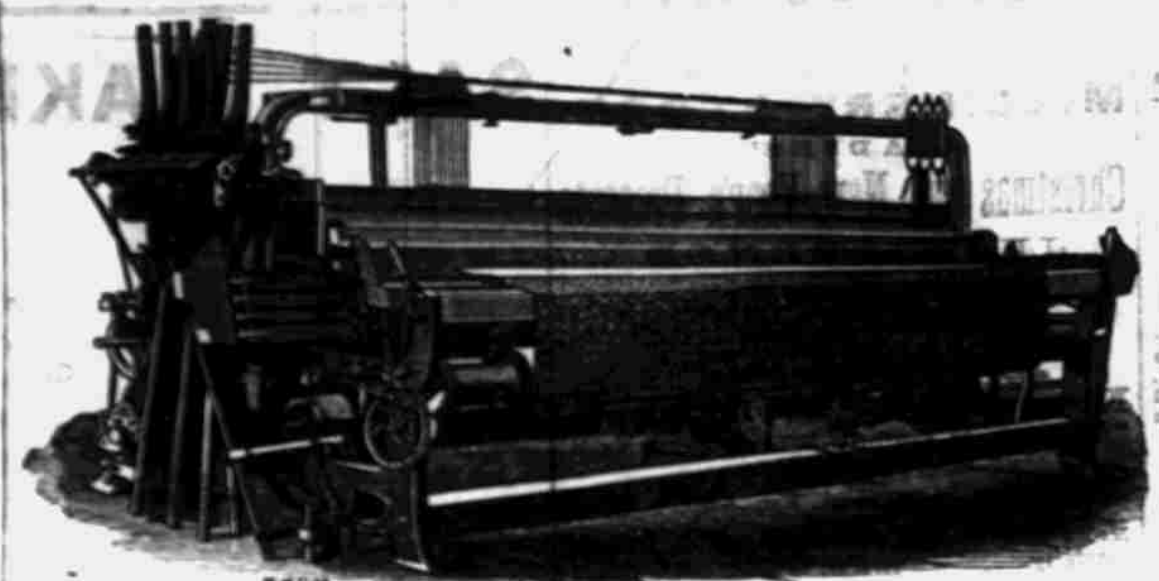
(CONCLUDED.)

The commencement of the war was made by advancing the armies of Prussia and Berlin through the enemy's country, and effecting their combination by forcing the enemy back. Moltke's character as a tactician was shown on the field of Sedan. His army had a front of four miles—so wide a front that he could not withstand an attack, but he turned this disadvantage to his advantage by making his army's rearward movement by which he was able to concentrate all his divisions on the battle field and surround the enemy. Only once did Moltke appear in the front of Sedan. He had fully mastered the lessons afforded the staff by the Austrian war, of combining the most distant field operations by the means of the electric telegraph. Seated at his desk in the rear, he received through the field telegraph a stream of intelligence from all the corps, followed their movements on the map, transmitted his orders through the wires with such masterly strategic power that not a movement failed, and all the combinations were made at the right moment.

At the conclusion of the war Von Moltke was appointed, together with Count Bismarck, a Minister Plenipotentiary of Prussia for negotiations with the South German States. After the preliminary of peace with the states signed, he was decorated with the highest honor which the King of Prussia has to bestow, the Order of the Black Eagle. Nothing during the war had been more remarkable, getting many helpful to the Prussian troops than the absolute quiescence of the French during the deathful struggle with Austria. For the time being the banks of the Rhine had been almost completely deserted of troops. Such a situation as M. Thiers, who with an immortal patriotism thinks every gain lawful for his country, would have seized the opportunity afforded by Prussia's position to strike a blow for "les frontières naturelles." Napoleon was not, perhaps, ill-placed to see the two German Powers were tearing at their strength. He thought, probably, that he would have that compensating slice of territory, or at least, convenience in raising Belgium. But the astute Bismarck had over-reached him. Not an inch of German soil was to be ceded to the Frenchman. A great Prussian power was now on the flank of France. A collision was almost unavoidable. The whole political horizon was changed with electricity. It was evident that Von Moltke was studying the whole possible campaign of the future; all the defenses, fortresses, all the resources, but by facts all the territory, mile by mile. The triumph over Austria was only a point in the field of political vision. There were demands for funds in the face of possible emergencies. Von Moltke's vision projected the demand for reducing the terms of service from three years to two years. He said in the Chambers in 1867: "During the last year we made some 50,000 prisoners. Our own loss in missing amounted on the other hand, only to 3,000 men, of whom probably but a small proportion were taken prisoners. How are we to account for the enormous difference? One only answer is to the duration of the service."

The instinct of hanging together under all circumstances cannot be drilled into a man; it must be the habit of his life. Of course, Von Moltke carried the point, especially since he had the King's opinion on his side. The war broke out. Von Moltke only prayed for a fortnight, and everything would be ready. He declared that if the Emperor did not see the Rhine by the 31st of July he would never see it at all. The plan was grand. In four or five days he had put 300,000 men on the field of battle. According to the *Pantheist*, on the night of the battle of Gravelotte the King of Prussia was sitting on a ladder near a garden wall at Sedan. "Around him were Bismarck, Von Roon, princes and grand dukes; all very silent, and waiting for news. The hour was come for decisive tidings. Presently Moltke, much heated, came to him. He said: "Your Majesty, we have conquered. The enemy is driven from all his positions." A vigorous shout was raised and the whole party plied each other with champagne. The King drank from a broken tulip glass, and Bismarck snatched a bit of ammunition bread. It is evident, on looking over the history of the campaign, that when after the battle of Sedan, with the exception of a few divisions of each plan, and from resolution in its execution. The first plan was how to resist the French in their supposed onset into Sedan; then the plan of forcing their retreat; then the plan of campaign and of invading march. The great strategist is no rigid theorist, but ever adapts a new idea, proves himself equal to a new emergency, and adapts his plan to a new combination. It is also reasonable to expect that when this war is ended there will be imposed on Von Moltke a heavy duty of peace. To settle the conditions of a permanent and honorable peace will doubtless be a glorious termination to his labors which he will highly value. Nothing has been a happier feature in the German mind than the new combination. But it is truly felt that Imperial France need never fear any unprovoked aggression; she is only suffering now, by a sort of poetic justice, the invasion which she sought to force on the belt of fortresses on her western frontier was never truly necessary for her protection, but was always an iron threat to Rhineland. So to reorganize the frontier that these fortresses may cease to be engines of terror and unrest, and form fortresses in the Vosges to command the wide western plains of France, will be, we may reasonably expect, the strategic feature of the future peace. That, probably, will be the final good service which Von Moltke will render to the Fatherland.

A writer in the Boston *Advertiser* says of the editor of the *London Evening News*: "The successor of George D. Bennett is a hardly less extraordinary man, though in a different way. Mr. Waterson is quite as blind as Bennett, and does all his work, an incredible amount, by the aid of an amanuensis, writing leaders, hitting news, and other matter that enters into newspaper work at the rate of three or four columns a day. Like Mr. Bennett, he is his own managing editor and does his own paper in prose. He is, perhaps, the best newspaper editor in the country, playing the music of Schumann and Chopin, equally, but he got his musical education, like the rest, by ear, having the music read to him, committing it to memory, and then going to the piano and playing it off. He is about 30 years old."



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7:45 AM

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4:15 AM

Sacramento

Ly

7:30 AM

4:25 PM

4:10 AM

Marysville

Ly

7:15 AM

4:15 PM

4:00 AM

Colfax

Ly

7:00 AM

4:10 PM

3:55 AM

Winnemucca

Ly

6:45 AM

4:05 PM

3:50 AM

Battle Mountain

Ly

6:30 AM

4:00 PM

3:45 AM

Elko

Ly

6:15 AM

3:55 PM

3:40 AM

Ogden

Ly

6:00 AM

3:50 PM

3:35 AM