

# Will the Kaiser Ever "Come Back"?

How History Shows That William II. Has the Very Slimmest of Chances of Ever Regaining the Power He Once Regarded as Absolutely Secure.

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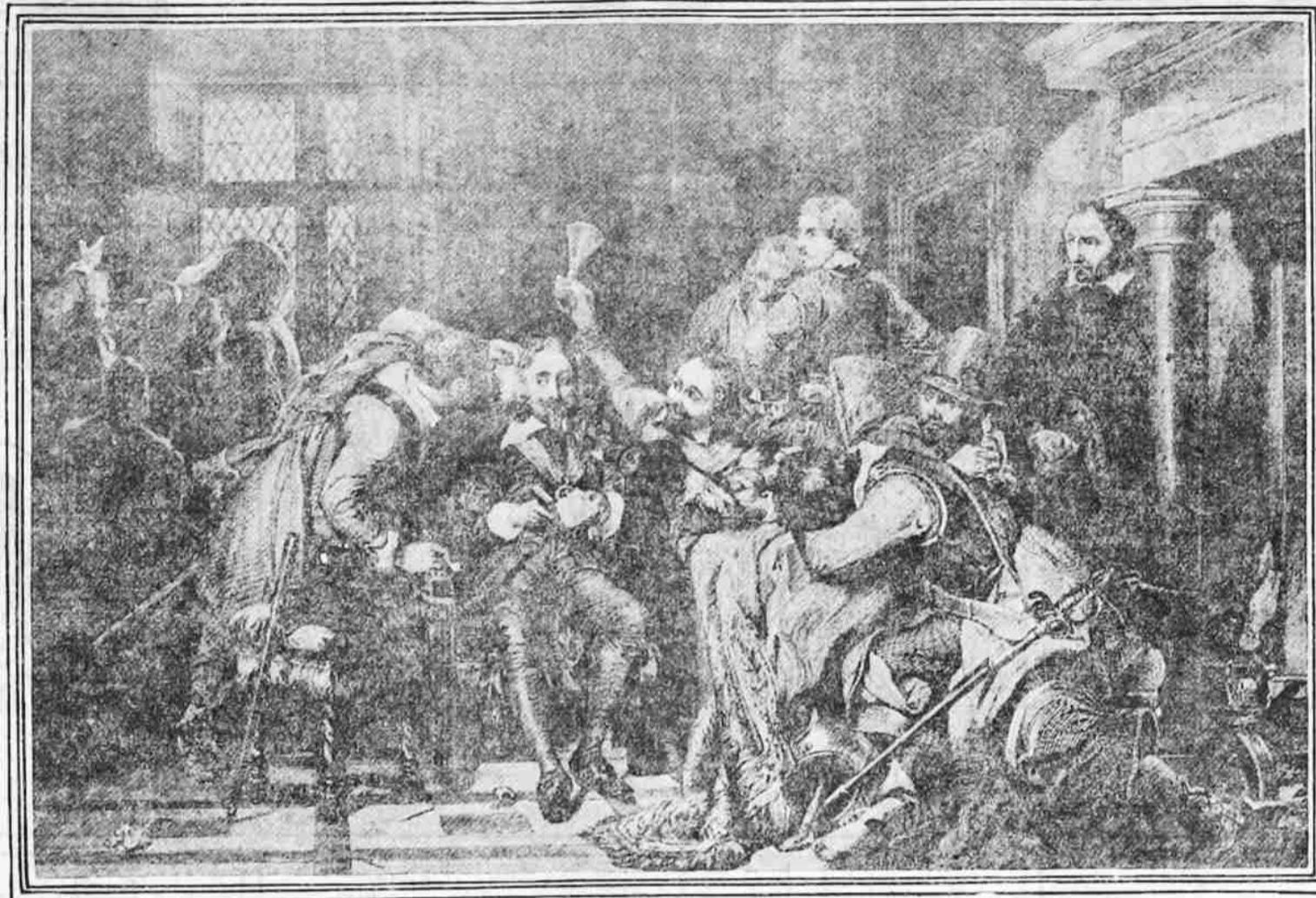


Louis XVI. and His Prison.

By Clive Marshall

THE history of dethroned rulers of the past holds no hope for Mr. William Hohenzollern. In the past 2000 years scores of kings have been ousted from their thrones never to return. Let the tinsel which bedecks a king be torn away and royalty quickly loses its glamor. The trappings and power of royalty are never restored. In all history there are but one or two cases of kings regaining their thrones, but the circumstances are so unusual that these exceptions only prove the rule. According to the law of probabilities the former Emperor William II. is completely down and out.

This verdict of history throws a new light on the situation in Germany. We still hear some talk of restoring the dethroned Emperor. At least one party still remains loyal and hopes to restore the old dynasty. Where there is so much unrest as in Germany at present there is always



Charles I. in the Guard Room of the Tower of London Shortly Before His Execution.

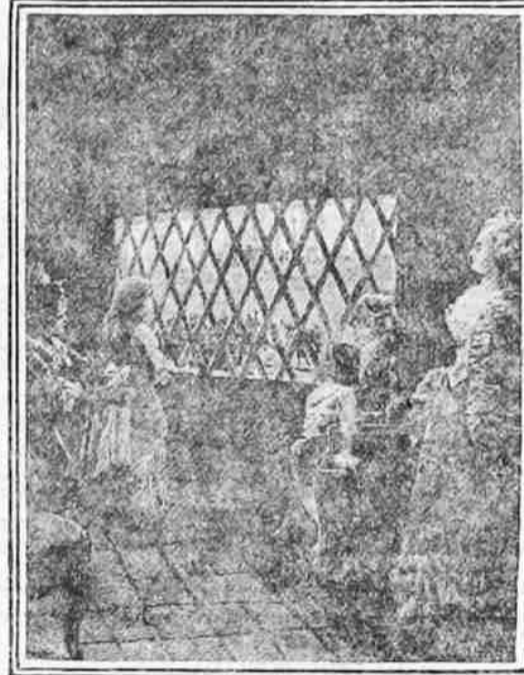
stronger than the German Emperor's. Napoleon received the almost hysterical loyalty of the French army and the French nation, but for all his genius he lasted for exactly one hundred days. The chances were hopelessly against him from the first, and he died an exile at St. Helena. The German Emperor never gained the hold upon the popular imagination enjoyed by Napoleon and cannot hope even for a hundred days of restored power.

### William's Famous German Predecessor

The world has forgotten the fate of the most powerful German ruler before William II., but the parallel is very interesting. Charles V., the Holy Roman Emperor of Germany, Spain, Naples, Sicily and the Low Countries, failed in the religious wars and lost the confidence of his people. He was dethroned in 1557 and was obliged to take refuge in a monastery. Despite all his former power and wealth, his restoration proved a hopeless task and he died almost forgotten.

Still another German Emperor shared the same fate. Frederick II., like William II., lost a war and was deserted by his allies. He fell even lower than the others and was excommunicated by the Pope. He left his throne in 1215 never to return.

But we need not go so far back to witness another German Emperor deprived of power and wealth. Francis II. of Germany lost most of his possessions, was severely beaten by Napoleon,



Louis XVI. with His Family Witnessing His Deposition.

much of his reputation. The case is especially interesting, since it illustrates how the English may treat imprisoned royalty. King John II. of France again was captured at the battle of Poitiers and brought a prisoner to England in 1350.

The tragic end of Louis XVI. of France is, of course, familiar. Even after the first movement of the Revolution Louis seemed secure on his throne and was publicly acclaimed by the populace. After his attempt to escape from Paris he was imprisoned and suffered many indignities before being formally deposed. The point at which he was guillotined is marked today by an Egyptian obelisk on the Place de la Concorde, which has been familiar of late in the photographs of the American troops in the Parisian parades.

### Three Dethroned French Emperors

France has witnessed the dethronement of three emperors almost within the memory of men now living. Charles X. of France, the last of the Bourbon kings, lost his throne in 1830. He never returned. In 1848 King Louis Philippe of France followed him. The case of Napoleon II. is still fresh in the memory of many people. On his removal from the French throne he went to England where he lived many years and finally died in exile. His wife, the Empress Josephine, returned to Paris after many years and was active in relief work during the late war.

England prides herself on being able to trace a long dynasty, but her history contains several instances of dethroned rulers which also help to prove the rule.

Edward II. of England, the first Prince of Wales, was defeated at Bannockburn, imprisoned and finally killed.

The story of Bonnie Prince Charlie of Scotland is, of course, familiar. Driven from Scotland he lived a virtual exile in France, where he died.

The most famous instance in English history is the case of Charles I. On losing his throne he received the treatment of an ordinary prisoner and was tried, condemned and beheaded before his palace at Whitehall.

### A Shining Exception

The case of James II. is the most striking example in all the history where a dethroned monarch has been actually restored. James lived a virtual exile abroad until the death of Cromwell and the circumstances were such that this exception only served to prove the rule.

The end of Alexis II., son of Peter the Great of Russia, again shows how quickly royalty may fall from the most exalted position to the low-



The Former Kaiser, Not Looking for Freedom, but at the Flight of One of His Aeroplanes.

est. Alexis was tried for treason and condemned. He was reprieved by his father, but nevertheless died in prison in 1680.

In more recent times Austria lost Emperor Ferdinand, who was deposed in favor of his nephew, King Ludwig of Bavaria.

Victor Emmanuel I. of Sardinia was deposed in 1821.

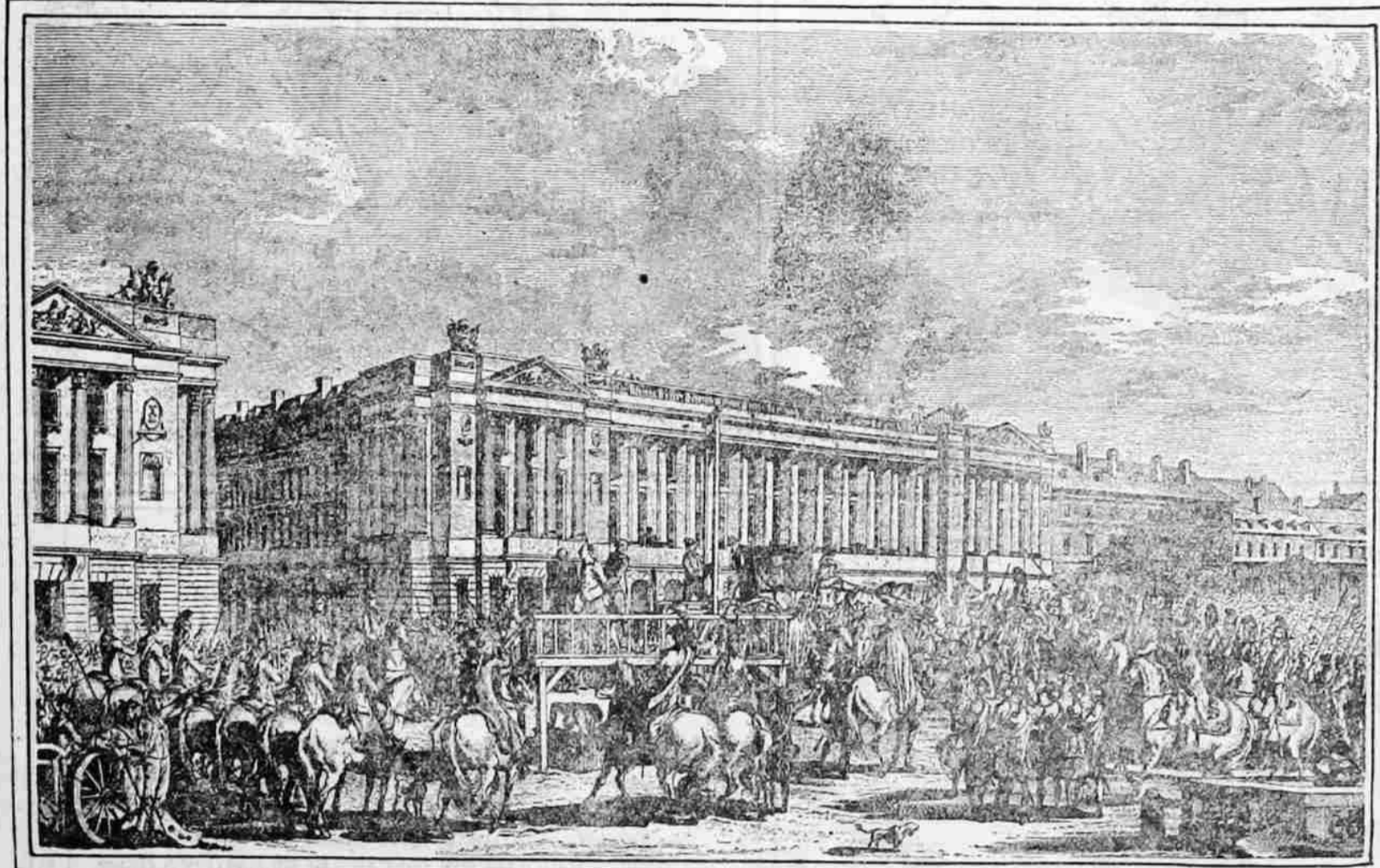
Within the past few years the crop of deposed rulers has been especially large all over the world. Scarcely a year has passed without the news of some ruler, great or small, leaving his throne never to return.

Spain lost a ruler, Amodeno, in 1873. King Milan of Serbia was dethroned in 1889. A peasant uprising hurled the ruler of Bulgaria from his throne. Alexander of Battenberg, Prince of Bulgaria, was ousted in 1886.

Even here in America we have had a comparatively recent example in Dom Pedro, the last Emperor of Brazil, who was dethroned after a bloodless revolution in 1889.

In 1919 it will be recalled Abdul Hamid II., Sultan of Turkey, was forced to abdicate after a revolt. The Emperor Hsuan Tung of China left his throne in 1912. King Manuel of Portugal was also dethroned and forced to live in England.

In 1917 Nicholas II., Czar of Russia, was forced by a revolution to resign his throne and was shortly afterwards executed. The list might be continued indefinitely by searching the history of other lands and centuries, but the practically unanimous record is everywhere discovered that the deposed ruler never "comes back."



Scene at the Execution of Louis XVI. in the Place de la Concorde, Paris. From an Old Engraving.

the chance that many people will become dissatisfied with conditions and look to the empire as the lesser evil. The only way to obtain the proper perspective in judging the situation is to examine the lesson of history. And history deals a sledge hammer blow to all hopes of restoration.

There is of course the obvious comparison between William II. and Napoleon, but the former Kaiser will find little encouragement in the parallel. Napoleon returned from exile to resume his throne and in many ways his position was

and was finally declared a bankrupt. He laid down his throne in 1806. By a singular coincidence Germany has witnessed the dethronement of four emperors, all with a curious similarity of title. Frederick II., William II. and Francis II. have been dethroned and stayed put, so what chance has the fourth German Emperor, William II.?

France has witnessed the exile of several emperors, all of whom have failed to come back. The case of Charles of Orleans is especially in-

teresting. He was captured by the British at the battle of Agincourt and taken prisoner to England. The records show that he was treated with the respect due his rank, but he was obliged to spend much of his time, nevertheless, in the Tower of London. Later he was allowed to live in a certain English country house and to hunt, but he was kept prisoner for more than twenty years. Charles has been called the father of French poetry and it was during the long period of enforced leisure in England that he gained

## Women of Royal Rank Who Have Become Nuns

IF the rumor is true that the dethroned Grand Duchess of Luxembourg intends to seek a refuge from the world in the cloister, she will only be following in the steps of many another royal lady who has turned her back on the pomp of palaces and the vanity of life to seek the peace of the convent.

The Russian Empress Eudoxia spent twenty years in the nunnery of the "Intercession of the Blessed Virgin," thankful to scrub floors, and to fare as poorly as the meanest of her sister-nuns, to escape from the brutalities of her husband, Peter the Great. And many a Princess of Russia, according to London Answers, followed Eudoxia "behind the veil" before the Grand Duchess Elizabeth entered a Moscow nunnery a few years ago, after the assassination of her husband, the Grand Duke Sergius.

The widow of the ex-King Miguel, who reigned six years over Portugal, became a Benedictine nun at Solesmes a score of years ago; and when the community was banished from France she came with the rest of the Sisters to a convent in the Isle of Wight, where, among other Royal companions, she has one of her sisters, a princess of the House of Lowenstein-Wertheim-Rosenberg. It is said that there are today in various Eu-

ropean convents more than thirty princesses, members of many of the great ruling houses of Europe, who are wearing the veils of nuns, and are spending their lives in prayer and fasting.

And it is not only princesses who thus find an escape from the burden of their royalty. In the very heart of the Black Forest, in an environment of mountains and woods, far remote from the haunts of men, is the Abbey of Seckau, every inmate of which is of royal or noble birth. Among them are Princes Philip and Constantine of Hohenzollern, who a few years ago were cutting splendid figures at the Courts of Europe. Men of brilliant gifts and achievements, they seemed to be the spoiled children of fortune when, to the amazement of the world, they vanished mysteriously to the seclusion of the Black Forest, one to act as cook, and the other as a porter.

Among others who are engaged in the most menial offices of the brotherhood are Prince Edward Schonburg-Hartenstein, once famous as soldier and courtier; Count de Memptinne, Baron von Oer, one of the chief ornaments of the Court of Saxony; Baron von Draus, one of the wealthiest and most high-born of Baden nobles; and many another noble and prince who have sacrificed rank and riches and luxury to lead Spartan lives, completely shut off from the world.