

Kraszewski was found guilty, for having delivered to France the work of a "certain Hen sch."

After lingering for some time in the fortress of Magdeburg, the deadly climate of that place affected to such a degree his already shattered health that he was obliged to beg of the Government, if not the remittance of the penalty, at least to allow him to go to some congenial place abroad, in order to recuperate. Bismarck refused this relentlessly. Nevertheless, by dint of great exertion on the part of his numerous friends, even among some prominent Germans, no cover by personal interference by the Emperor himself, Kraszewski was allowed to go to Italy for a certain time, under the bail of 30,000 marks. On his being thus liberated he went at first to Florence, but the climate of that place being, especially at certain periods of the year, very injurious to persons afflicted with asthmatic affections, of which Kraszewski suffered, he went to another place in the interior of the country, which proved to be, if not worse, almost the same as the former. Then his physicians advised him to go to St. Remo (on the Riviera) and remain there for a certain period of time, which he did, and after staying there a couple of weeks he cherished the hope that he was improving. But one morning while getting up that awful earthquake which took place there recently, and shook the very foundations of the whole town, began to tell hard upon the house in which Kraszewski was lodged, and he barely escaped with his life, being obliged to seek refuge on the heights on the outskirts of the town, where he encamped in a tent. From this place he addressed a touching letter to one of the leading papers of Warsaw, in which, after describing graphically the whole scene of the eventful disaster in which many lives were lost, he closed with these pathetic words: "Now, my friends, I am at loss to know where to go. Indeed, for an exile, a poor wanderer, there is no resting place on this earth, save to die somewhere," words which, as it will be seen, proved to be true to the very last word. At last Kraszewski resolved to go to Switzerland, but soon after his arrival at Geneva, overcome with grief, care, trouble, physical and mental afflictions, he expired gently in a lonely cottage, in the arms of his faithful attendant, an old Frenchman, who was his sole companion.

A POLISH PATRIOT.

Death of Kraszewski, Who Was Exiled by Bismarck.

The scanty colony of Poles in this city, usually quiet, was exceedingly stirred up by the announcement of the sudden demise of J. I. Kraszewski, one of the most eminent of Poland's scholars, novelists and poets, which occurred at Geneva, Switzerland, on the 19th of March of this year. He was born at Warsaw on June 26, 1812. Kraszewski was the author of more than 500 works of fiction, history and verse, and sustained the same relation to his countrymen as Walter Scott bore to the English-speaking world. But besides being a great writer and warm patriot, he was, moreover, a philanthropist and promoter of many noble deeds and enterprises with regard to the spread of education among the rustic people of Poland, for which he was very much praised and rewarded with decorations by Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria, and Humbert, King of Italy. Kraszewski celebrated with great solemnity and amidst the unbounded enthusiasm of all classes of the Polish people his jubilee, or the fiftieth anniversary of his literary career, which took place at Cracow, the ancient capital of Poland, in 1875.

Thus adored by his countrymen, loaded with costly presents from all parts of the civilized world and honored by crowned heads, Kraszewski imagined that the best method for passing his declining age would be to settle at some retired place far from the turmoil of the world and close his earthly career in peace and sweet contemplation of the past, the paramount delight of all sages and great men. * * * But alas! destiny pre-ordained it otherwise, and, strange to say, seldom a mortal of his merit has ever been visited by as many vicissitudes and trials as Kraszewski was of late, and the fulfilling of the old saying, "Man proposes, but God disposes," never was so vividly illustrated as in this case.

On a beautiful summer day in 1883, while returning from his last visit to Paris on his way to his charming villa, situated in a secluded place in the environs of Dresden, the capital of Saxony, and stopping for a while at Berlin, he was seized violently by the police of that place, dragged from his lodgings and thrown mercilessly into a dungeon by order of Bismarck. Shortly after that he was transferred under a strong escort to Dresden, and tried there, found guilty of high treason, and on May 20, 1884, sentenced by the high criminal tribunal of the empire to three years and six months' imprisonment in the fortress of Magdeburg, the most dreary and unhealthy place of the whole realm. * * * The offense charged against Kraszewski was briefly related as follows: Seven or eight years ago, during a visit to the Paris Exposition, a Polish friend asked him to find some competent military correspondent in Berlin to supply articles to the French press. Kraszewski, on his return to Dresden, communicated with a newspaper agent named Adler (subsequently proved to be a traitor), who found the correspondent in the person of a retired Captain Hentsch, ex-Captain of Artillery of the Prussian army and specialist on military matters in his employ. Hentsch prepared a couple of pamphlets on the movements of troops in Germany, the German telegraph system and similar matters during 1878, drawing his facts chiefly from the published reports of the Ministry and the counsel of his military friends. Kraszewski forwarded the pamphlets to his friend in Paris, and received the money in return, which he paid to Hentsch, taking no further share in the whole matter. The Presiding Judge of the high criminal tribunal of the empire rendered the sentence, according to which