

GROUNDLESS GOSSIP.

ho Berlin Liberal Press and the Crown Prince.

LITTLE DANGER OF A REGENCY.

Overfearful Liberal Papers Greatly Exaggerate the Facts.

THE CROWN PRINCE'S FIRMNESS.

Ho Will Not Be Persuaded Into Yielding Up His Rights.

CHRISTMAS WEEK IN GERMANY.

Russia and the Allied Powers Still Preparing for War—The Publication of the Forged Letters of Prince Ferdinand.

The Regency Affair.

Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett. BERLIN, Dec. 31.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.]—All week we have had an animated discussion regarding the alleged attempts to induce the crown prince to resign his rights to the German throne.

Upon this various papers formed the absurd theory that the prince's condition had been misrepresented to the general public as well as to himself, the object being, on the part of the conservatives, to induce the appointment of Prince William as regent for the crown prince.

Germany has a crisp, snowy holiday week. Many cars are already on runners. Thiergarten and the suburbs of Berlin have been full of sleighing parties.

The Berlin postage stamp exchange is becoming one of the city's sights. A single foreign purchaser bought 20,000 marks with stamps at the last session.

The goods traffic of the Russian state railways has increased nearly 10 per cent in the past year.

The right to reproduce for the piano the music of Weber's unperformed opera, "The Three Pintos," has been sold to a Leipzig firm for 20,000 marks.

It did not stop the ship traffic on the Rhine until the 28th.

Berlin's American church has been struggling along for thirty years without a regularly installed minister.

There are 163 African students matriculated in Berlin's university this winter.

Mrs. Mary B. Willard sails for America on the 4th of January.

STILL WARLIKE.

Russia and the Allied Powers Actively Preparing for Hostilities.

tion. The situation has become one of the greatest perplexity, which nothing else than some authoritative deliverance from the czar or kaiser can clear up.

It is the opinion of the military authorities that Austria and Germany will agree upon winter as the best time for a campaign in Poland, and if war must be it should either commence in February or be deferred until June.

The text of the forged documents appears in to-night's Reichs Anzeiger, which prints four letters, three of which purport to have been written by Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria to the Countess of Flanders, sister of King Carol I. of Roumania.

The second document is the forged letter to Prince Rous, stating that Ferdinand's taking possession of the Bulgarian throne was a question of personal initiative to which the German government cannot for the time being give official support.

"However unfavorable or hostile," says the letter, "the acts of Germany in the meanwhile may appear, the sentiments secretly cherished by her may one day be made apparent."

The third document is a letter from Prince Ferdinand to the Countess of Flanders, under date of September 16. He says in spite of the open war Germany is urging against him he receives assurances every few days from German agents that Bismarck's policy may change openly in the most favorable manner.

In the fourth letter, Ferdinand informs the countess that, according to a communication he has received from Berlin, the fate of Bulgaria has been discussed at meetings between Bismarck, Kalnoy and Crispi, and that the result was favorable to Bulgaria.

Vienna telegrams report snow in Hungary to a depth of twelve feet. The storms there have been the severest experienced.

A thorough search of the barracks of the garrisons at Mainz, Breslau, Spandau and Frankfurt has resulted in the finding of enormous quantities of socialistic pamphlets.

A number of soldiers have been imprisoned on suspicion of having been implicated in the circulation of the pamphlets.

Kilrain and Smith.

Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett. LONDON, Dec. 31.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.]—The Eilean club well named because leading sporting members from marquises to knights often pluck their own feathers to give them away.

DESTRUCTIVE FLAMES.

The Opera House and Court House at Fremont burned. FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 31.—[Special Telegram to the Bee.]—At 4 o'clock this afternoon the explosion of the furnace under the stage in the opera house set the building on fire.

Want the Council to Explain. NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 31.—[Special Telegram to the Bee.]—The city council have again placed themselves in a huge muddle.

Dying of Trichinae. OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 31.—[Correspondence of the Bee.]—The death of Mrs. Claustra Hart, a German lady living south of town, is momentarily expected.

A "Rebellion" Bullet Causes Death. NORBEX, Neb., Dec. 31.—[Special to the Bee.]—Charles Heath, prominent farmer living north of this place, was found dead in his barn by his son, Tuesday morning.

Pawnee City by Electric Light. PAWNEE CITY, Neb., Dec. 31.—[Special Telegram to the Bee.]—Pawnee City is illuminated to-night for the first time in its history.

Ignominious Misourians. ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 31.—The remains of a woman, a marauder, were buried at Jefferson City, this morning, with ceremony and publicity.

The Lord Gough's Rough Voyage. QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 31.—The steamer Lord Gough, from Philadelphia for Liverpool, which was some days overdue, arrived here at 4 a. m. to-day.

A Small Pox Scourge. CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—An Inter Ocean special from San Francisco asserts that small pox is rapidly becoming epidemic there.

Left For The Colony. ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Assistant Cashier W. N. Smith, of the German American bank, is \$9,000 short in his accounts and has absconded.

Frightful Explosion of Powder. LONDON, Dec. 31.—Advices from Melbourne say the French protectorate has been proclaimed in Wallis Island.

One of Carnot's Cabinet Ministers. PARIS, Dec. 31.—Mabe, minister of marine, in the cabinet formed December 12, has tendered his resignation.

DROOPING SPIRITS.

The Great English Conservative Party Under a Cloud.

GLADSTONE ANXIOUS FOR GORE.

Ho Will Make An Attempt to Secure Goschen's Scalp.]

DESERTERS SPECIALLY HATED.

Thankless Politicians Who Throw Over Their Best Friends.

MONUMENT TO VALENTINE BAKER

The Prince of Wales Starts a Movement to Perpetuate Licentiousness in Bronze—Receiving Good Encouragement.

A Gloomy New Year.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.]—Members of the great conservative party scarcely have the heart to wish each other a happy new year. Gloom hangs over the hall of the Carlton club.

An effort will be made to induce Governor Baker's death of course put a stop to the proceedings, and it is for this reason that no royal warrant or proclamation has been known the facts I have related.

Parisian Personal Points. PARIS, Dec. 31.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.]—Howell Osborne is in Paris.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hieka are at the Hotel Maurice.

Mr. and Mrs. Livingston, of New York, are at the Bristol.

Mr. and Mrs. Gwince will leave the Hotel Divienne next Tuesday for Benoit.

Consul General and Mrs. Rathbone will receive New Year's callers Monday, at 84 Champs Elysees.

Minister and Mrs. McLane will give a reception to-morrow from 3 to 6 o'clock at 70, Avenue Marceau.

Once more Gladstonians look jubilant. A great man at the reform club said to me to-day: "We shall have them out in less than a year."

What Russia Desires. VIENNA, Dec. 31.—The Neue Freie Presse publishes a letter from St. Petersburg which says Russia only desires an unreserved return to the Berlin treaty.

Does Not Want Bulgaria. ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 31.—Persons in political circles here profess to be astonished at the constantly repeated assertions that Russia intends to cross the frontiers of Austria or Germany.

THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. Chicago Politicians Discussing the Chances of Securing It.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—[Special Telegram to the Bee.]—There has been no cessation of effort in the work of the committee appointed to secure the democratic national convention for Chicago.

Severe Storm at Milwaukee. MILWAUKEE, Dec. 31.—The windstorm of last night and to-day has been the most extensive storm that has occurred in this section for two years.

The Fire Record.

HICKSVILLE, O., Dec. 31.—Fire broke out this morning at the business center and before it could be checked it had wiped out the greater part of the town.

The Irish League and Beecher. NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The New York municipal council of the Irish National league intend soon to present to Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher a set of resolutions expressing sympathy and regret of the society for the death of her husband and its respect for his memory.

Family and Partnership Quarrels. CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—A. C. Koerber, president of the Koerber Manufacturing company, was arrested to-day, charged with the embezzling of \$10,000.

Steamship Arrivals. MOBILE, Dec. 31.—Special Telegram to the Bee.—Arrived—The Devonian, from New York for Glasgow.

The Last Span Finished. MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 31.—The last span of the international bridge over the rapids at Sault St. Marie was completed just before noon to-day amid universal rejoicing.

THE POPE'S JUBILEE.

Catholics in England Preparing to Celebrate It.

A HALF CENTURY OF PRIESTHOOD

Completion of Fifty Years of His Ordination as a Priest.

COURTESIES FROM THE QUEEN.

Victoria Sends Leo Tokens of Her High Regard.

CRITICISM FROM A CRANK.

The Pelican Club of London Arranging a Happy New Year Entertainment For Kilrain and Smith.

Leo's Semi-Centennial.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.]—Great preparations have been made in all the Catholic churches here for coincident participations of the clergy and congregations in the jubilee celebration at Rome to-morrow.

The most notable defense will be in the January number of the Nineteenth Century Review by Bishop Vaughan, entitled "Leo XIII and the Civil Power to An Appeal to Common Sense."

Two Men Killed. NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Two gas exhausting engines in the Equitable gas works exploded to-night, demolishing the engine house and damaging property for blocks around.

A Grocery House Burned. MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 31.—The wholesale grocery house of Porter McCrea and an adjoining store were destroyed by fire to-night. Losses aggregate \$90,000.

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