

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR.

AN OMAHA IN FATHERLAND

Mr. Ernest Benninghoven's Description of His Vacation Experiences in Germany.

Berlin Rivals Paris for Pleasure

How an American Received Prince Bismarck at Kissingen and Gave the Germans a Lesson in Enthusiasm.

Mr. Ernest Benninghoven, representing the German life insurance company, has just returned from the old country where he spent a fond month's vacation.

Asked as to how the result of the United States election was received in the fatherland Mr. Benninghoven replied:

"The people of Germany are taking a great deal of interest just now in two American bills, the McKinley bill and Buffalo bill, the latter being thought the best of the two. But this money out of their pocket to take any active interest in either of the bills.

"Referring to the trip itself, I must relate that I reached New York, bound for Hamburg, on July 1, calling with a letter of introduction from an Omaha friend on Mr. Carl Schurz, the general director of the Hamburg steamship line, whose office is located on Broadway. Mr. Schurz was found behind a desk stacked with letters, apparently very busy.

"While looking over the list of our fellow-cabin passengers I noticed the name of Chauncey M. Depew, who made a very nice after dinner Fourth of July oration and soon conquered the hearts of the passengers by his courteous manners. We also had some of the prominent Senators of the United States army on board—Mrs. Booth, jr., and General Field Marshal Tucker of India. The commander of the Hamburg line, a very creditable manner, so that Mr. Depew took occasion to ask for the address of their headquarters in London.

A prominent preacher of the Hamburg church to the peace congress, declared in a speech that he till of late had thought them to be ripe for a new era of social reform, but was convinced after careful study that they were great benefactors to a class which could not be reached by the church and were bound to play an important part in solving the social problem. Be that as it may, they at least took very good care of our souls, which were out of reach of any church for the time being.

"On July 11 we landed at Cuxhaven on the Elbe, where a special train stood in waiting to take us to Hamburg in two hours. We found the German masses of people as comfortable as shaly as the ship but not near as comfortable in many respects. In this country you travel slower in comparison to Europe, but with much more interest.

"In Hamburg we had to exercise extreme patience, especially a fellow passenger who had waited an hour for the inspector, who finally levied a duty of 16 pennies (4c) upon his luggage. The American soon finds that it is all red tape and clock work, when he compares it with German officials. But it is a great mistake to expect that a traveler is molested in any way by the police of Germany. Nobody ever asked for my passport or my identification. From Hamburg to Berlin I traveled in a German sleeper. For once and never more did I have to get up to change things. When driving from the depot into the city I was at once struck with the solidity and elegance of all the buildings lining the streets, while in America they are all shabby, although or because it had been raining for weeks in succession and was still at it. As the parks have a dreary appearance in such weather, even in summer, I concluded to visit the royal museums, art galleries, etc., which are the grandest I ever saw.

"Berlin is certainly the most interesting and one of the most beautiful cities in the world today. The surrounding country is magnificent, especially Charlottenburg and Potsdam. In every part of the city you can find a museum, and the finest music rendered by military and private bands, of which there are very many in the capital of the empire. The people of Berlin are especially interested in life on an economic basis. It is often said by German-Americans that they had a visit to the old country that its people look more vigorous and healthy than ours. If we would take life as easy as they do, we would be blessed with their temperate climate, we would perhaps not be as stout as they are on the average, but at least as healthy or more so.

"There are few countries on this globe where diseases are so widespread as in Germany, which find their origin in over-eating and drinking. Anybody who knows how to take care of his health, and who does not let the mind of the European be so active and his future therefore not so attractive as that of the American. This is especially true of the ballies, who by the way are noted for displaying so much absence of "chic" and taste in regard to dress. Concerning their manners, the American is especially interested in his European sisters, as the poet did to lay bashfulness, that rustic virtue by.

"My main confidence thy thoughts apply. On a very fine afternoon and evening attended a concert in the city of Berlin at Kroll's Garden, one of the coziest little parks in the city. The opera was given in a large commodious hall, well ventilated. Between the acts on a minute the whole audience would leave the theatre to promenade in the adjoining park and enjoy the fresh air.

"The theatre is a profession it must be said that the so-called "star system" as it flourishes here is not tolerated or practiced in any of the many first-class theaters of the empire. The attention of the audience and the critic is never solely fixed upon the talented doings of the "star" of the troupe, but only those of the "tout ensemble" are considered.

"Another example given by the Germans worth imitating in the larger cities of this land is the regulation of street car traffic. Every street car has seats and standing room for a certain number only. Nobody is permitted to stand on the platform. Five persons may stand on the rear and seven on the front platform. That's why they have no crowded cars. In Germany you may not offer your seat to a lady who is standing and still remain a gentleman. By adhering to this American custom or galantry, gentlemen here will be greatly appreciated and prevent corporations from putting on more cars, which concern does not feel obliged to do so, as long as the men are contented with the room and with being pressed like sardines.

"From Berlin I proceeded to Hanover, also a very fine modern city with a splendid park—Herrenhausen—having a fountain which throws a heavy stream of water 150 feet high and a palm house surpassing that of Frankfurt. I also took a look at the famous six white stables—Isabellen—belonging to the duke of Cossau. Leaving Hanover and surrounding table lands, I visited relatives near Tyrol, Lippe-Detmold, a country more charming even than Thuringen, its shapely hills covered with the finest of timber, while the narrow, lovely valleys were fragrant with the odor of a bounteous crop of hay which was maturing at the hands of many rustic maidens whose comely countenances were very ready to smile quite picturesque. Half a day's

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travel on the cars brought me through the industrial centers of Germany into the Rhine valley to Cologne, with its grand dome, and to Bonn with its far-famed university and cathedral. In the latter city I visited the old home of Beethoven's old home, a two-story house on one of the principal streets. It has been renovated lately, the rooms having a very nice and cozy appearance. There is a grand old piano which responded to the last, to his wonderful touch. Back of the house is a small garden enclosed by a high wall, where he spent much of his time when composing, so we were told by the boy who shows us through. Next day we cross the Rhine landing at Koenigswinter at the foot of the romantic seven hills (Siebenbirge), where we have the choice of either going up to the top of the Drachenfels on the back of our jolly, sure-footed donkeys, or taking the most modern convenience for climbing steep hills—the dented-wheel railroad. Arriving on the small platform of this renowned rock we sit down to a table and enjoy ice cream, wine, music, songs and a superb view over the Rhine valley all at the same time. The Germans were not quick enough to find the right word at the right time, but joined in lustily when I began an American rhapsody and swung his hat, saying that he had shaken hands with the maker of history, hip, hip, hurrah!

"When Bismarck acknowledged the cheers by lifting his broad, ruffled, slouch hat, we all endeavored to see the three hairs on the platen of his bald head, but failed to discover any. He was apparently in the best of health, his whole bearing and quick elastic step proving it. It was rumored that Bismarck, when Emperor William insisted upon his acceptance of the dukedom of Lauenburg, had answered in angry tones: "Your majesty cannot make me any greater than I am." After he had finally consented to this new title, he is credited with having said that he intended to make use of it whenever he wished to travel incognito. The same American who had electrified the Germans to cheer the ex-chancellor, approached Bismarck a few days later on the promenade in the park in a rather obtrusive way, by boldly walking up to him, stretching out his hand, which the prince grasped reluctantly, whereupon our countryman bowed with thanks, saying to Bismarck that he felt very proud to go home to America and be able to say that he had shaken hands with the greatest man of Europe."

A Reflection on Man. It is a curious reflection on the intelligence of mankind that while animals easily learn our language, we make no advance at all in learning theirs. One cannot help hoping that some future generation of men may be sufficiently kind and patient and large-hearted to believe that what these dependent creatures have to say to us may sometimes be as important as what we have to say to them, and to act accordingly.

The Longest Cable. The wire roped used in the tunnel at Glasgow, Scotland, is the largest and longest wire cable in the world. It was made at Cardiff, Wales, in 1885 and is 2,400 fathoms in length, or about two miles and 108 yards. It weighs twenty-one and one-half tons and has nearly one hundred thousand fathoms of wire in its makeup.

SILKS.

Our holiday silks are in; satin effects are very popular & we offer for Monday

50 pieces

Black Satin Duchesse.

Black Satin Mervilleux

Black Gros Grain Silks

BLACK SATIN Mervilleux \$1.12

Worth and never sold before less than \$1.35.

BLACK SATIN Mervilleux \$1.50

Worth and never sold before less than \$2 a yard.

BLACK SATIN Duchesse \$1.75

Extra quality, regular price heretofore \$2.25.

BLACK SATIN Duchesse \$2.00

This is as good as we have ever secured before to sell for \$2.50

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THE INDIAN MESSIAH ORGIES.

A Chapter of Fable-History on Indian Ghost Dances.

HOW THE WILD CRAZE ORIGINATED.

The Dance is Not New Nor Modern. Only Modified to Suit the Demands of the Age and Occasion.

Nebraska, Neb., Nov. 26.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The coming of the Indian Messiah is no new thing among Indians. It has only taken new shape. His whole religious idea is based on the most ridiculous superstitions; and while he has over this recent voodoo become more than usually crazed, it is after all little worse than the ceremonies of the Sun dances as they were performed in the early days.

Catlin, in his "Eight Years Among the Sioux," describes Nu-Mohk-Muck-a-Nah (the first or only man) in the Mandan ceremony as follows: "Groups of women and children were gathered on the tops of their earth-covered wigwams, and were screaming and doing every preparation made as if for instant combat.

"During the deafening din and confusion, the figure discovered on the prairie continued to approach with a dignified step and in a cordial manner by shaking hands with him, recognizing him as an old acquaintance, and pronouncing his name 'Nu-Mohk-Muck-a-Nah (the first or only man). The body of this strange personage, which was almost naked, was painted with white clay, so as to resemble at a little distance a white man. He wore a robe of white wolf skins falling back over his shoulders. On his head he had a splendid head-dress made of two ravens' skins, and in his left hand he cautiously carried a large pipe which he seemed to watch and guard as something of great importance."

Catlin then gives a very explicit description of the four-day ceremony of torture and fasting. The "first or only man" is the "big medicine" of the occasion, and is the representative of the original, keeping up the semblance of reality.

The traditions say that at a very ancient period such a man as is described in the foregoing did actually appear from the west. He claimed that he had at one time the only man, and told them of the destruction of every-

Dress Goods

We shall place on sale Monday some very choice styles in Paris dress patterns that were imported for our opening and will offer:

Dress Patterns \$10

Actual value \$18.

Dress Patterns \$15

Actual value \$20

Dress Patterns \$20

Actual value \$30

Colored Satins 50c

NEW SHADES Buys the Best.

Reduced from 60c and 65c, all the best colors in our best colored satins; for any fancy work or for any kind of dress materials. These are a bargain.

SEND FOR OUR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.

BLACK SILK

\$1.03

A special bargain, bought for the holidays, at \$1.03. 22 inches wide, worth exactly \$1.50 a yard.

TOWELS

25c

Largest and best quality 50c huck towels on sale Monday at 25c.

Bargain Counter

Notion department; visit the bargain baskets that we have placed in the aisles between our book and notion counters.

Morse Dry Goods Co.

HOUSE FURNISHINGS.

New Basement department—Our Monday leader:

WHITE GRANITE SPECIAL WARE, LEADER.

These prices are for Monday Tuesday and Wednesday only. If you expect to secure choice from a full assortment, come Monday.

Scalloped Nappies, 4c, 5c, 6c, 7c, 9c, 11c, 15c.

Bakers, 6c, 7c, 8c, 10c, 12c, 16c.

Plates, per set of six, 18c, 24c, 30c, 36c.

Cups and Saucers, per set of six, 35c.

Ewers and Basins, 29c and 39c each.

Jugs, from 9c each, And all other pieces equally low. You will find our prices

40 Per Cent Less

than the goods were ever offered before.

OUR NEW

25c SELECTION

of Dishes, Tinware, Woodenware, Fancy Goods, Ironware, Cooking Utensils, will be a revelation to you.

New Goods.

In our Basement Department we have everything that you could ask, for everything that goes to complete a house or furnish your dining room and kitchen is here.

Third Floor

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Some Cloak Bargains for Tomorrow.

Ladies' New-markets. \$5

In this lot we have put garments worth \$7.50 to \$10, a genuine reduction to \$5.

Ladies' New-markets. \$10

In this lot we have garments that are worth \$13 to \$18, a genuine reduction to \$10.

Ladies' New-markets. \$15

A variety of styles that were sold for \$20 to \$25; we feel that we are offering a great bargain in these at \$15.

White Blankets 75c

Gray Blankets PAIR.

2 cases of each for Monday's sale. They are just the thing for ironing boards, for table felting of any kind, are large size and reasonably heavy.

Down Comforts \$5.50

We have sold 20 cases of these this season; they are filled with down, not feathers, and as good as others will offer you for \$8 to \$9.

Muslin Underwear 98c

We have still a large assortment of this lot of underwear left. Gowns, chemise, etc., that are worth \$1.50 to \$1.75; in this lot at 98c.

Third Floor

Morse Dry Goods Co.

upon a "great medicine." She soon after went off secretly to a neighboring village, where the child was born.

Great sorrows were made for her before she was found, as it was expected that the child would also be "great medicine" or "mystery," and of great importance and welfare to the tribe. They were induced to this belief from the very strange manner of its conception and birth, and were soon confirmed in it from the wonderful things which they saw at an early age. They say that among other miracles performed, when they were likely to starve, he gave them four buffalo balls, which filled the whole village, leaving as much meat as there was four buffaloes would supply them forever. The Only Man went out their nation's want to the confessions that they were the first people in the world, and they originally lived inside of the earth.

They raised many graves and one of them had grown up through a hole in the earth overhead. One of their young men climbed up this vine until he came out on top of the ground on the bank of the river, near where the Mandan village stands to this day. He looked around and admired the beautiful country and praised his God, saw many buffaloes, killed one with his bow and arrows, and found that its meat was good to eat. He returned and related what he had seen, which a number of others went up the vine with him and witnessed the same things.

Among those who went up were two very pretty young women, who were favorites of the chiefs because they were virgins. In the number who were trying to get up was a very large, fat woman, who was ordered by the chiefs not to go up, but whose female curiosity led her to try it as soon as she got a secret opportunity. When she got part way up the vine broke under the great weight and let her down. The Indians were very sorry about this and she was disgraced for being the cause of a very great calamity, for no more could ever ascend or descend. But they built the Mandan village and the remainder of the people still live under the ground.

These traditions are told with much gravity by the mystery or medicine men. If they succeed in getting more rations by means of the ghost dance, which is one of the features of the Only Man keeps him from destroying the good. On this point the tradition runs thus:

"At a very ancient period the Evil Spirit came with the Only Man from the west, and sat down by a woman who had only one eye and was hoeing corn. Her daughter, who was very pretty, came up to her and the Evil Spirit desired her to go and bring some water, but wished that before she started she would come to him and eat some buffalo meat. He told her to take a piece out of his side, which she did, and ate it, which proved to be buffalo fat. She then went for the water, which she brought, and met in the village where they had walked. The friends of the girl soon after endeavored to disgrace her by telling her that she was a ghost, which she did not deny. She declared her innocence at the same time and boldly defied any man in the village to come forward and accuse her. This raised a great row, and in the end she was the only man stand forth to accuse her she was looked

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Among those who went up were two very pretty young women, who were favorites of the chiefs because they were virgins. In the number who were trying to get up was a very large, fat woman, who was ordered by the chiefs not to go up, but whose female curiosity led her to try it as soon as she got a secret opportunity. When she got part way up the vine broke under the great weight and let her down. The Indians were very sorry about this and she was disgraced for being the cause of a very great calamity, for no more could ever ascend or descend. But they built the Mandan village and the remainder of the people still live under the ground.

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