

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR.

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 18, 1892—TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.

NUMBER 181.

YULETIDE IN BERLIN

Weihnachtsfest Coming a Welcome Guest to the People of Germany's Capital.

WILL HAVE A MILLION CHRISTMAS TREES

Homes High and Low Will Be Happy One Day Even Though Times Be Hard.

GENERAL DEPRESSION IN BUSINESS

Shopkeepers and Commercial Travelers Find That Trade is Very Unprofitable.

POLITICIANS FIND BUT LITTLE RESPIRE

Caprivi's Defeat Still the Subject of Comment and His Future Course Food for Much Speculation—Gaiety Laid Out for the Court.

[Copyrighted 1892 by James Gordon Bennett.] BERLIN, Dec. 17.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—Berlin is a redolent with the refreshing smell of pine and firs, coming from thousands upon thousands of saplings, varying from four to twenty feet high, which have all of a sudden turned the usually bare-looking open squares, which are one of the features of the city, into artistically arranged shrubbery. A million at least of these saplings will find purchasers here on Christmas day, for all must take the Xmas tree. The Kaiser takes the lead in this, and not only has in the palace a beautiful tree already, but there will be fine trees for each child, the soldiers, people and students alike must have a tree. The latter make sport of this, as out of every other event. They decorate the trees with fantastic hangings, such as eels of sausages, wigs of dishonor and such like unlaudy conferees, whilst at the summit is generally placed a luscious looking apple which is drawn for by lot. The winner, after having had the honor of climbing for it, is made to chew a piece of it—not a particularly tasty, as the fruit is generally made of cheap soap.

But Times are Hard. The shops have also assumed the Xmas appearance and the streets are crowded with people, tramping through the slush intent on the purchase of Weihnachts-geschenke, but those who bought these presents at 10 marks in previous years are looking out for them at half price this year, or a quarter. Trade is indeed terribly bad here. A shopkeeper in Friedrichsstrasse said yesterday: "There is no money to be made in Berlin nowadays. I am going to give up my shop."

The same is the cry of thousands of others. A man who should be well able to give an opinion on the subject assured me a few days ago that scarcely any of the big shopkeepers here are making money, many are scarcely making expenses, and others are losing. It runs through nearly all classes. Commercial travelers, for instance, a large class in this country, find their incomes halved, owing to the stagnation of trade. On the bourse the brokers are struggling hard to make two ends meet, and view with blank dismay the extra taxation which the government wishes to impose. Of this I shall have more to say hereafter.

Ended an Epoch. The Reichstag has closed upon one of the most momentous and critical periods in German history since the consolidation of the empire. Out of the mouth of Caprivi himself had come the statement that the military bill was of all vital importance to the efficiency of the army, and yet his request was refused in a manner almost brutal. The chancellor himself thus with two courses open to him: Either to resign or to appeal to the Kaiser. The Kaiser, it is generally understood, was favorable to an appeal to the country, but Caprivi was keenly against this. He knew that the results of an election would be still more fatal. The German people have changed strongly since the days of Bismarck, the iron ruler and William I. They were then like a pair of wild horses, but since then they have been tamed and killed many a time. Twice within a period of a few months has the strength of the German people asserted itself, on the education bill and now in emphatic manner on the military, and each time the people triumphed. They know their power now, and they relish it.

Approximating the Result. I have taken considerable trouble to find out what would be the result of an appeal to the country at the present moment. The socialist party would gain eleven seats, which would bring their number up from thirty-five to forty-six, and senators would gain fifteen seats, bring forces from seven to twenty-two. The frein League, the strongest opponents of the bill, would gain possibly fifteen seats, making their voting power eighty. The national liberal party would probably disappear for the last time, and the center party would remain about the same, from 100 to 130, whilst the extreme conservatives would be divided into two factions, one a small one of ten or so very select, thick and thin in support of Caprivi and the Jews on the principles laid out by Heldorff, the other hostile to it, under the lines traced by Hammerstein.

The fact is the result of the election would be the certain return of a strong, capable and compact opposition.

Such is the difference between the past and present in the feelings of the people, and the difference is one which is widening at each moment. The commission appointed is merely a makeshift to gain time. Caprivi will take what crumbs he can pick up, and now would be content with a vote giving him power to augment the strength of his arsenal.

Turning of the Worm. After having vituperated the Herald for having dared to get the news which they have been unable to obtain, it is amusing now to watch some of the unfortunate sheets which represent journalism here being enclosed in the box of the Herr Reichshof, edited by the Herr pastor Herr Becheler, and which has over and over again offensively attacked your correspondent and the Herald for its opposition to the government, has come out with a long article stigmatizing Caprivi and taking up Althardt. Six copies of this journal reach the court daily and the empress, good wife that she is, reads the leading articles to the Kaiser. The Gazette also prints similar rouds on the chancellor. It may be mentioned that neither of the editors of the above papers were invited to the chancery's party, and curiously enough an invitation or lack of one to the chancellor's parties seems to work wonders with the press here. Other papers follow suit.

The end of the Loewe gun question has not been heard yet. There are still grave disclosures which may come to light. Wait awhile and you will see. The subscriber who was supposed to have stolen the Vessel papers has been shadowed for a week without avail, and for the present it does not look as though the culprit will be found. Several others are under suspicion, but arrests have taken place. Herr Hartwig, the lawyer who defended Althardt, has in the meantime defended directly to the emperor for the release of his client. To this the Kaiser has replied by a refusal to move in the matter.

More Gun Scandal Promised. When I recently telegraphed that Germany had found her Panama in the Althardt trial it resulted in a wave of intense indignation here. The Herald and its correspondents were vilified in all directions. Nevertheless I can guarantee that the scandal is not yet over. The Paris Fiere has thrown a bomb into this camp with disastrous effect. I have now received reliable information that another document of even more serious import will be exploded after the Christmas holidays. At present I am not at liberty to disclose the contents of this document.

Meanwhile, there is a sign of the times in the fact that having a slight paper today will say a word in defense of Loewe or on his side. The chancellor, when asked about his effusive speech in praise of the Loewe guns, replied: "Orders will be given for the future," while the Kaiser declares the guns for the army shall no longer be made by private firms.

Eulenberg was summoned in hot haste last night by the emperor, who wished to talk over the situation with him. He does not like the holidays are now upon us and it is unlikely the scandal will show any further development until they are over.

I have just received the following telegram from Hamburg, signed by the cholera committee of the senate: "The report spread on the Berlin bourse that twenty cases of cholera have broken out here is entirely without foundation. During November and December there have been in all seven cases, each of which was at once publicly reported." A private telegram which reached me at the same time states that two cases of cholera were reported yesterday.

Resources in Prospect. The court is making preparations for a gray winter. A program of imposing fetes has been drawn up. In January there will be several balls and concerts. Of course the marriage of the emperor's sister will be the close of all, and preparations for it are already being commenced. I hear that a royal nuptial dinner is talked of. It will be led by the Kaiser and Kaiserin, including fifteen couples.

In the theatrical world the event of the week has been the presentation of Tasse's "Santa Lucia" before the Kaiser and party at the Royal theater on Thursday. The piece is being placed at Kroll's, but the Kaiser won't go there, firstly because he does not like the house line enough, and secondly because he considers it runs in opposition to the opera house. He wanted to hear the new opera, and Bellini, so he called for a matinee at the Berliner theater. How near that matinee was to being stopped on the question of author's rights it would surprise many to hear. The author Cognetti, had despatched an order of the court to prevent the further performance of the piece until his rights were satisfied, but it only reached Emilie Durier on the evening of the matinee, and this is why a fine dramatic incident was spoilt.

LIKE COMMON CRIMINALS. DeLesseps and His Fellow Prisoners Protest Against Their Treatment. PARIS, Dec. 17.—Charles de Lesseps and his fellow prisoners, arrested for connection with the Panama canal frauds, protested today against the rigid isolation to which they are subjected in the Mazas prison. They said that they were confined like common criminals and subjected to the same treatment as robbers and other offenders of the vilest type, and they demanded the privilege of being allowed to see visitors. The examining magistrate promised to consider the request and he had examined the documents relating to their case.

It is rumored that several of the parliamentary reporters will be arrested as agents in the corruption of legislators. An entry in one of the books of Thiere & Co., the coustise firm, shows that Joseph de Reinach, son-in-law of Baron de Reinach, received 30,000 francs from the firm. Joseph de Reinach says he received the money as a dowry when he was married to the French liquidators of the Panama Canal company. It can be shown that the money came from his friends.

The offices of the newspapers which received money from the Panama canal, will be searched at once, and unless it is found that the money was entirely expended in advertising, the proprietors or others who accepted money will be prosecuted.

A debate going on at Thursday's heated discussion in the Chamber of Deputies, was fought today. Deputy Arena, republican, having challenged Deputy Gabriel Boulanger. Two shots were exchanged, but nobody was hurt.

VIENNA, Dec. 17.—Baron Cottu, one of the accused directors of the Panama Canal company, who fled from Paris to Vienna to escape arrest, left this city tonight.

HERE IN LONDON. LONDON, Dec. 17.—Cornelius Herz, who is well known in connection with the Panama frauds, is in London. He writes to his colleagues in Paris and to the committee saying that he will return presently, but not just now. He is too ill. He is at the Burlington hotel and the doors of his rooms are guarded by personal servants. His family is with him. They take their meals at their rooms and go out very little. Herz made his first money in California, where he practiced as a doctor. He saved \$30,000 and then came to Europe, where he made a fortune through his connection with the lobbyist in promoting electrical enterprises.

ROBBED AND MURDERED. Awful Fate That Befell Two Russian Merchants on a Railway Train. ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 17.—A terrible tragedy is reported to have taken place on the government of that name. When a passenger train on the Volzhskaya railroad arrived at that place, two merchants named Junakov and Katchewitch, were found murdered in a compartment of a first-class car. The compartment bore signs of a frightful struggle. Blood covered the seats and was in pools on the floor. The merchants had evidently made a determined fight for their lives. A thousand roubles which they had in their possession were missed, showing that the object of the crime was robbery. The conductor has been arrested on suspicion.

To Guard Military Secrets. BERLIN, Dec. 17.—A bill will be presented to the Reichstag in January providing for the punishment of persons communicating military secrets to foreign powers. Three years imprisonment and \$12 fine will be the penalty for such offenses.

MIGHT PASS IT YET Brighter Prospect for the Germany Army Bill Becoming a Law.

CONCESSIONS, HOWEVER, MUST BE MADE Von Caprivi Assured of the Emperor's Support in His Efforts to Pass the Measure.

WATCHING THE PANAMA CANAL SCANDAL All Manner of Evil Predicted for France by the Germany Press as Its Result.

GAVE AN IMPETUS TO ANTI-SEMITISM Disclosures in Herr Loewe's Case Have Caused Additional Activity Among the Fanatics—America's Immigration Laws Discussed—Other News.

[Copyrighted 1892 by New York Associated Press.] BERLIN, Dec. 17.—Although the composition of the committee of the Reichstag to which the army bill has been referred at first might appear unpromising for the government, its elements admit of such grouping under the inducements that Chancellor Caprivi may offer, as will enable the ministry to get a majority. The committee, which comprises twenty-eight members, is made up of three social delegates, six members of the frein League party, eight conservatives or clericals, two Poles, three national liberals, one free conservative and five right conservatives. If the chancellor reduces the money vote to \$100,000,000 and modifies the government's demand for an increase in the present peace effective, the bill will have a chance of approval; in its present shape it will stand no chance whatever of becoming a law.

The semi-official papers admit that certain changes are essential to the success of the measure, but they express a confidence that concessions will be offered that will be sufficient to win over a majority of the committee. The support of the bill in a form that will not materially change its scope.

The notions of the conservative party, which are all against opposing the demands of the government so far as the army reforms are concerned, are now set at naught. The implied threat of the chancellor in his speech when the bill was presented to the Reichstag to dissolve the house and have a new election in the event of the measure being rejected has had little effect upon the conservatives. The Kreuz Zeitung, the editor of which is Herr Hammerstein, who is among the conservative representatives on the committee, declares that the bill will not pass.

Threatened to Resign. When it became apparent to Chancellor Caprivi that his full demands for an increase of the standing army would not be granted, he informed the emperor that he would gladly resign the cabinet office. His majesty, however, was not disposed to give the chancellor any encouragement in retiring under fire. He expressed his determination to make the army bill a law, even at the risk of an appeal to the country, and he assured Count von Caprivi that he would stand by him under all circumstances. The chancellor gained renewed courage from his interview with the emperor and assumed to remain in office and fighting the battle out by the dissolution of the Reichstag if need be. Nothing in his speeches in the Reichstag showed the slightest sign of the discouragement attributed to him, but he was quicker and more spirited than ever in defense of the attack with the weapon afforded him by the emperor's promise of support. What concessions he may offer to the committee, he showed no intention in the open house of abating one jot or tittle of his proposals.

A notable feature in the debates has been the omission of all allusion to Prince Bismarck or any reference to his opinions. His old adherents avoided introducing his name in the discussions, and also avoided indulging in their old comparison of the chancellor's method and that followed by Prince Bismarck.

Watching the Panama Investigation. The developments in the Panama scandal are watched with the keenest interest and it may be said, with anxiety. The one comfort is that the spectacle of corruption and confusion among the French political leaders lessens the Russian desire to make France an ally. Advice received here from St. Petersburg shows that information recently reached the czar that a certain Russian paper had received from Paris the sum of \$100,000 for advocating a Russo-French alliance. He at once ordered an inquiry to be made, which resulted in the discovery that the report was not only true but that part of the bribes were distributed by the Panama company and had been accepted by prominent persons in Russia. The Russian court party, under the lead of M. Pobedonosoff, are hostile to a French alliance and they seized the opportunity to work on the czar's prejudices against the French republicans. The German foreign office is hopeful that the General Worder, the new German ambassador to Russia, will succeed in detaching the czar from France and so lead a new grouping of the powers.

Another and to Germany a far more important view of the situation is that the chaos in France may produce an adventurer who would hazard war with Germany as the best stroke to carry his party and himself into power.

The North German Gazette says that the strong man who obtained temporary notoriety, might imitate the first Napoleon and seize the opportunity afforded by the present disorder now prevailing in France, to make himself master of her army and of the country itself. The paper commends the French government for refusing to grant dictatorial powers to the Panama committee of inquiry, and recalls the committee's first resolution as rendering very regular government impossible. The end was "Caesarism." A Caesar is not desired by the Boulangerists, who think, with reason, that the right man will soon be found.

Herr Loewe's Case. The admission made by Herr Loewe, the Jewish small arms manufacturer, that he offered to supply France with the machinery necessary for the manufacture of Lebel rifles has caused renewed violence in the Jadenetz. The papers which are making bitter attacks upon Herr Loewe do not ignore the fact that Jewish works continually supply Russia with guns and ammunition and that they executed large orders for that country at the time the nations forming the triple alliance—Germany, Austria and Italy—seemed to be on the verge of war with France and Russia.

The Cologne Gazette, which has hitherto been one of the anti-semitic craze, attacks Herr Loewe's offer as strengthening the assertions of the antisemites that the Jews have no natural feeling; that they never amalgamate with any other people and they are dominated with the idea that we are a privileged nation that they may prey upon, but must not be absorbed by other nations. Judenhetze pamphlets are widely circulated here and in other countries. The most of these are entitled "A Jew Louise in Christian Fur."

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The gold movements have not materially affected finance or business here. The Austrian government is taking gold from London slowly but steadily, and has concluded a gold loan of \$20,000,000 from a Rothschild syndicate. The money market here and in Vienna is, however, uneasy. The prospects after the New Year are said to be unfavorable, especially if the United States government restricts the exportation of gold.

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An attack was made which resulted in the complete defeat of the revolters, many of them being killed and wounded during the fight. More than 200 men who were most active in the outbreak were sent to Fort Santa Catalina and Governor Porcincuala returned to his post. The Herald correspondsent at Montevideo telegraphs that the Castillists have wired to President Peixoto the request mentioned in the dispatches to the Herald yesterday, that he either declare war against Uruguay or take some way to prevent that country from giving aid to the federals in Rio Grande do Sul.

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The Cologne Gazette, which has hitherto been one of the anti-semitic craze, attacks Herr Loewe's offer as strengthening the assertions of the antisemites that the Jews have no natural feeling; that they never amalgamate with any other people and they are dominated with the idea that we are a privileged nation that they may prey upon, but must not be absorbed by other nations. Judenhetze pamphlets are widely circulated here and in other countries. The most of these are entitled "A Jew Louise in Christian Fur."

The house was disturbed yesterday by a report that twenty cases of cholera and four deaths from the disease had occurred at Hamburg. Today's official denials of the story was published. The report had it that the authorities were clearing out the people residing in dirty and overcrowded tenements. Some residents were ill with fever and taken to the hospital. This created a suspicion that the dread scourge had again appeared in the city. The authorities of Hamburg have taken extra means to meet a recurrence of the epidemic in the spring.

American Restriction of Immigration. Notwithstanding a rumor has been heard here of the alleged communication charged by the European governments in regard to the American restrictions upon immigration. The report that such communications had passed had its origin in an article published in the Freidenblatt of Vienna, in which the writer railed at America for coupling her invitation to visit the Columbian exposition with insulting methods against Europeans and unworthy of a civilized country. The article in the Freidenblatt seems to have no official sanction.

The gold movements have not materially affected finance or business here. The Austrian government is taking gold from London slowly but steadily, and has concluded a gold loan of \$20,000,000 from a Rothschild syndicate. The money market here and in Vienna is, however, uneasy. The prospects after the New Year are said to be unfavorable, especially if the United States government restricts the exportation of gold.

The emperor is little seen in public now. He is constantly away. Social life at the court will commence on New Year's day with the usual grand reception.

The Hamburg Correspondence, in discussing the proposal that Carl Schurz be appointed American minister to Germany, to succeed William Walter Phelps, says that the German government would not like to have to treat a subject on the footing of a minister of a foreign state, entitled to admission to the German court. It would prefer that a native American should succeed Mr. Phelps.

SCARED THE GOVERNOR. Brazilian Rebels Defy the Authorities and Capture a Palace. [Copyrighted 1892 by James Gordon Bennett.] VALPARAISO, Chile (Via Galveston, Tex.), Dec. 17.—[By Mexican Cable to the New York Herald—Special to THE BEE.]—The Herald correspondsent of Valparaiso telegraphs that the entire regiment of police at Netheroy across the bay from this city revolted, and Governor Porcincuala fled from Rio to escape from the revolters. The rebels marched to the residence of the governor who served under Fonseca, and began cheering and demanding the dismissal of the chief of police. Immediately after the arrival of the fugitive governor, the entire body of infantry was sent to Netheroy. They found some of the rebels in the governor's palace and the others in their barracks.

An attack was made which resulted in the complete defeat of the revolters, many of them being killed and wounded during the fight. More than 200 men who were most active in the outbreak were sent to Fort Santa Catalina and Governor Porcincuala returned to his post. The Herald correspondsent at Montevideo telegraphs that the Castillists have wired to President Peixoto the request mentioned in the dispatches to the Herald yesterday, that he either declare war against Uruguay or take some way to prevent that country from giving aid to the federals in Rio Grande do Sul.

Private advices received here from Rio Grande do Sul complain of the excessive banalities perpetrated by the followers of Governor Castillio. The Herald correspondsent at Montevideo telegraphs that the Castillists have wired to President Peixoto the request mentioned in the dispatches to the Herald yesterday, that he either declare war against Uruguay or take some way to prevent that country from giving aid to the federals in Rio Grande do Sul.

General Garcia of the Uruguayan army has gone to the front with some soldiers to prevent violations of the neutrality law. He has with him several squadrons of cavalry. A battle is feared between the federals and Castillists and Garcia is determined to preserve the neutrality of Uruguay.

The Chilean congress has passed a law suspending the right of habeas corpus and giving the executive power to declare martial law in any part of the country. Everything is quiet now. The feeling of disrespect toward the czar from France and so lead a new grouping of the powers.

Another and to Germany a far more important view of the situation is that the chaos in France may produce an adventurer who would hazard war with Germany as the best stroke to carry his party and himself into power.

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