

The German Empire.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—G. W. Smalley's cable special to the Tribune, from London of January 15th, says: The defeat of the Army bill by twenty nine majority, and the dissolution of the Reichstag, was not the end beginning of a struggle between the opposing forces bound up in the German Constitution. Good judges think it is doubtful whether the Government is likely to win the elections, but a gain of fifteen members would give them a majority. Taxation grievances, socialism, particularism and many other influences will be invoked against Prince Bismarck, but the German people know that Prince Bismarck means to have his own way on the measure, which he deems vital to the empire, and will dissolve the next Reichstag if it proves intractable, as he has dissolved this one. The talk about France seizing the occasion to attack Germany is idle. What France will do is to vote the larger credits which Boulanger asks for the army. The situation, on the whole, is better, not worse, as regards the question of immediate war.

BERLIN, Jan. 15.—The dissolution of the German Reichstag attracts but little attention, having been foreseen from the first. Bismarck is charged by members of the majority, who defeated his Army bill, with conspiring to arouse a war feeling throughout the country and drive the nation into a ruinous struggle, and they are preparing to go into the campaign as champions of the working and middle classes, who would be the first to suffer from a war, as a part of peace.

The Landtag opened to-day. In the speech from the throne it was shown that the financial surplus in 1885-86 was 7,000,000 marks. This had been applied to redeem the railway debt. A similar result is expected in the revenues of 1886-87. A loan of 25,500,000 marks would be required in 1888, chiefly owing to an increase in the matricular contribution of 19,000,000 marks. The adverse attitude of the Reichstag had frustrated the proposed modification of the mode of expending the public resources, especially the development of indirect taxation. The speech announced that bills would be introduced to extend the railway system, to regulate the Government of the Rhine provinces, to subdivide the Government districts in Posen and Western Prussia with a view to promoting the Germanization of the Polish provinces, and for the further revision of the ecclesiastical law. The relations between Prussia and the Vatican are becoming more friendly. The powers of the local governments would be enlarged in the direction of fixing taxes to maintain communal schools, and help to organize farm laborers and accident insurance associations. The estimated deficit in the budget for 1887-88 is 28,459,000 marks.

The dissolution of the Reichstag has taken no party unawares. Preparations for the new election have been actively proceeding ever since the decisions of the Military Commission showed that the defeat of the Government was inevitable. The number of seats likely to be severely contested is estimated at fifty. Of these thirty-six are held by Progressives and fourteen by the Center party. All the other seats are considered to be firmly held. The fourteen seats of the Center party which are imperiled are situated in Southern Germany and were formerly held by National Liberals. The Government may win them back under the pressure of the patriotic excitement which is running high in the Southern States, but the general opinion continues to be against chances of the Government's obtaining a majority. Whatever may be the result the Government will adhere to its original demands. If the coming Reichstag confirms the decisions of the last, Prince Bismarck may ignore that body and apply to the separate Legislature to sanction an increase of the army. This course is indicated in a passage of his speech, in which he reminded the Reichstag that the Emperor is always able, as King of Prussia, to appeal, with confidence, to the Prussian Parliament or means for guarding the fatherland. He may try for a period to rule without a budget, trusting in the aid to a vote of indemnity. The elections will be watched with the most intense interest where contests are expected to turn on narrow majorities. Professor Klein of Gottingen succeeds Professor Webster in the chair of Mineralogy of the Vienna University.

The Berlin police authorities have forbidden the sale of a pamphlet issued by the Chicago Socialists' Society protesting against the sentences pronounced upon the anarchists in that city.

Henry Watterson in '64.

An interesting story is told about Henry Watterson's connection with the Cincinnati Times, which during war times and just afterward, prided itself on being the most extreme Union paper in the West. One day in 1864, so the story goes, Watterson went through the lines and Cincinnati on business, connected with a cotton claim. He also went to the office of the Cincinnati Times. Mr. Francisco, the business manager, was sitting at his desk in the printing-room on Third street, when a medium sized gentleman stepped up to the counter and asked to see the business manager. He was dressed in a suit of rebel gray with cavalry cut that was decidedly the worse for wear, being out at the elbows, and a close observer noticed the northern portion as he went south a bag of truce could have been seen. He was as brown as a berry from exposure to the Southern sun during the campaign, and possibly thirty years of age at that time. Substan-

tially the following conversation took place:

"I would like to speak to the business manager if he is in."

"I am the person you are inquiring for," replied Mr. Francisco; "what can I do for you?"

"I was informed that you wanted an editor, and I would like to have the position."

"What kind of a position do you desire?"

"I would prefer the leading writer," was the reply of Mr. Watterson.

"Do you know the tone of the Times?"

"Yes, sir; rank Union."

"Would that be consistent with the uniform you are now wearing?" referring to the rebel gray clothing.

"Perfectly so. I write to please you; if you like it you adopt it; if it coincides with your views you adopt, publish, and become responsible for its utterances, and if not you consign it to the waste-basket. There is no reason why a man should not be employed to do brain work the same as he is to do manual labor. No one pretends that manual laborers should not receive instructions from their employers as to how certain work should be done and it is a vagary to assume that brain labor should not be placed on the same grounds."

"With this understanding you can write a couple of editorials and if they are suitable you shall have employment."

Mr. Watterson left the office and in a couple of hours returned with two editorials that were gems. He was employed and held the position for more than a year, giving general satisfaction.—Atlanta Constitution.

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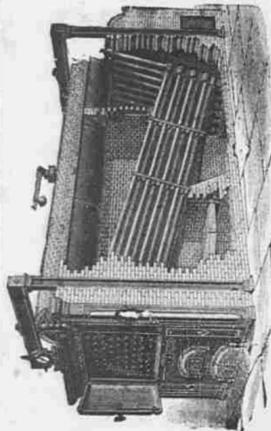
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