

SIXTEENTH YEAR.

A LIVELY WEEK IN BERLIN

A Suicidal Mania Strikes the City Owing to the Hard Times.

THE NEWSPAPERS' WORDY WAR.

A Famous Vienna Scientist at Death's Door—Pope and King Favor a Reconciliation—Father Keller's Release.

The Berlin Budget.

[Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett.] BERLIN, May 21.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.]—We have had during the past week a crisis in the world's history. The semi-official government organ, has distinctly threatened France with war if she allows Boulanger to mobilize an army corps. The North German Gazette, the official government paper, has equally distinctly branded the statement of the czar of Russia's personal organ as "being an invention."

A SUICIDAL EPIDEMIC.

The epidemic of suicides which began with the spring has reached startling proportions and attracts general attention. Berliners are slow to confess that the hard times cause all this trouble or that Berlin life is so demoralizing to Germans as such a frightful extent. I see everywhere comments on the number of suicides, but no very plausible explanation.

A WILD NIGHT IN MOSCOW.

The fight between the Moscow Gazette and the North German Gazette, backed by their respective governments, has finally reached the stage which marks the beginnings of unofficial Arizona journalistic disputes. Katkoff has been called a liar. As Katkoff seems to have the ear closely behind him, Berlin waited for a while in some dread lest the sky should fall upon the daring German Gazette. However, it all seems to have ended more peacefully than similar quarrels in less excited newspaper circles. There is still a rumble of "I did, you didn't," but no one seems to be much hurt, not even the Austro-Hungarian officials who were the chief people compromised by the German revelations regarding the Austrian secret treaty with Russia for the partition of Turkey.

A LITTLE RELAXATION.

The spring parades and sham battles continue to form the center of interest, but the wet weather kept away the Kaiser crowd of lookers which his presence always attracts. Wednesday we had a glimpse of the ease with which severe German discipline is thrown aside. The officers of steady rank made the parade ground in the outskirts of Berlin so deep with mud that after hours of drill in the heavy rain the idea of holding the sham battle was abandoned. Then the drizzling wet battalion marched through Berlin singing patriotic songs in decidedly lively voices. The discipline seemed to be none the worse for the treatment of steady rank. Certainly both soldiers and people felt greater confidence in the German army after seeing the regiments march past, dripping and muddy, step and line strictly maintained, not officers and men singing together at the top of their voices.

A NEW TELEGRAPHIC DISEASE.

A well-known medical man states the discovery of a new disease firmly established among telegraph operators, but fortunately confined to them. The continual tapping on the telegraph key causes the operator's finger nails to drop off. Several cases of this new disease have been already noted among the older Berlin operators, but whether it is infectious or likely to spread among non-telegraph people has not yet been determined.

SKIPPING WITH BOODLE.

Frenchmen or Germans wanted to leave the frontiers of their nation by slipping their respective passports by concealing the fact they had police warrants until they borrowed all the money or valuables they were able to get, and crossed the border with the booty. The Germans in the annexed provinces, it is said, suffered so much by this trick that it is supposed to give immediate publicity to the fact when any one is ordered out of German territory.

MODERN HISTORY NOT TAUGHT.

Considerable surprise was created all through Germany by the recent discovery that the schools which educate the bulk of the German children teach German history only up to the year 1819, so that all contemporary history remains unknown to these children practically. It is found that many scholars well informed regarding the former German empire know almost nothing regarding the new united Germany.

A CIRCUMSPECT SILENCE.

Germany awaiting the outcome of the French cabinet crisis. [Copyright 1887, by James Gordon Bennett.] BERLIN, May 21.—[Special to the Bee.]—The cabinet crisis in Paris, official opinion here maintains a circumspect silence. The North German Gazette refrains from giving more than meager dispatches concerning the developments in France. A frank expression of official hopes would have the effect of strengthening General Boulanger's party and weakening the opportunists who are working to oust him. The government receives full advice respecting every phase of the ministry negotiations at Elysee. The latest dispatches indicate that Boulanger's position is unshaken, and that a Rouvier-De Freycinet ministry is likely to be formed, which will adopt Boulanger's plans to attack Germany. Whatever may be the character of the next French ministry, the crisis has strengthened the war party in Germany, and the war spirit of the people.

AT DEATH'S DOOR.

A Famous Physician's Life in Danger—Other Vienna News. [Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett.] VIENNA, May 21.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the Bee.]—The treacherous winds which blow over here have killed a good many people this week. Before this reaches you Professor Billroth may be added to the list of the victims. He has long been suffering from fatty degeneration of the heart, and caught a cold the other day. Bronchitis followed, and for days he has been lying between life and death. Yesterday, when it was said the end was at hand, he took a cold bath and flexed his bowels with his friends and family. One of the physicians attending him tried to cheer him with the hope of recovery, but he only snuggled ineluctably and exclaimed: "You know as well as I do that you can't cure this bronchitis." To-day, however, there is a slight improvement and still a slender chance that the great surgeon may be spared to science.

THE LAWS UNCERTAINTY.

The glorious uncertainty of the law has just been strangely illustrated here in the case of Josef Schaefer, who last December

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