PREACHERS TO FIGHT.

Bismarck Refuses to Exempt the Theological Students From

SERVICE IN THE GERMAN ARMY.

The Strikes Have Increased the Activity of the Societies.

PORTUGAL MONARCHISTS ARE SCARED.

Dom Pedro Will Issue a Manifesto Exactly Stating His Position.

The Reichstag passed a bill exempting theological students from military service, but the German Government has refused to accept it. The reason given for its passage is that many members were absent fixing their fences on the American plan. The Socialists are taking a very active part in politics.

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BERLIN, December 14.—The success of the Center party in the vote in the Reichstag relieving all theological students of the obligation to military service has stirred up a good deal of a breeze in the upper world of politics, and Prince Bismarck complains in regard to it that the highest interests of the Government service are neglected for personal interests of individual Deputies.

The vote was, it appears, rather a snap victory for the Centerists, and does not imply that they have been able to make any political combination which would give them the controlling voice in legislation, which that vote seemed to imply they had secured. Many of the Cartel party were absent and the Centerists seized the advantage due to that happy chance.

BISMARCK IS FIRM.

The *National Zeitung* announces that the Government will not accept the decision, and thus the accident of absence of Cartel deputies will not change the fixed policy of the Government on this very important subject. It was indeed not to be expected that so grave an infringement of the principle of the May laws should pass unchallenged before these laws themselves shall become totally obsolete.

Prince Bismarck, in a natural explosion of dissatisfaction with this vote, wired Herr Boetticher for an explanation, hauling him over the coals as the man who should have prevented it. Herr Boetticher promptly threw the blame on everybody involved in the Cartel combination, and explained that since the reopening of the Reichstag they have not been in their places, but have been away doing what in the United States you call "taking care of their fences."

THE AMERICAN PLAN.

They were attending to their electoral interests at home, and letting the May laws and other things in the Reichstag take care of themselves. Thereupon Jupiter has thundered a little, and his answer to Herr Boetticher is to the effect that he himself will return to his official residence in the first week in January; that important measures of government must be settled in the Reichstag before the middle of February, when he desires to dissolve that body, and he instructs the Minister to keep the Government groups together more effectively in spite of the electoral preoccupations of the members. From which it will be noted that in the Bismarckian understanding of these things only Boetticher is to blame for that astonishing vote. In fact, your Congressional cattle will always go as you want them to if your driver is of the right sort. Herr Boetticher's labor will not be an easy one. Every day has its caucuses and conventions in every populous center of the Empire, and satrapys are continued from day to day of organizing committees of Conservatives, national Liberals, Progressists, Socialists and the rest. There is, indeed, an exceedingly great political activity.

SOCIALISTS AT WORK.

Though all are active, the Socialists are pushing things more energetically than the others. They have already brought forward 205 candidates. Their National Committee is a strong one—Bebel, Grillenberger, Leibeknecht and Meistersinger. It assumes absolutely authority for the party and announces that all questions relating to the elections must be addressed to the committee and be decided by it.

In districts where the party is too poor to face the expenses of election the faithful must make their appeal to the committee, before the 1st of January, and must name the sum required to make up the deficiency. All Socialists are instructed to attend the general electoral assemblies to vindicate their principles, but to abstain from interfering with purely party reunions. They must not, that is to say, introduce any elements of friction to embarrass the smooth working of the party machine.

The manifesto concludes with a few earnest and eloquent words on the importance of ardor and energy in the great electoral conflict and on the importance of the fact that all men brought to the front should be men of unblemished reputation.

THE GOVERNMENT FEARFUL.

The comments of the journals of the Cartel party upon all this disclose an apprehension in the Government groups that the very admirable organization of the Socialists and their party discipline will make them troublesome customers and may enable them to carry many seats. The Socialists believe they will have 35 members in the next Reichstag.

It is certain that the strikes are a fact of great moment in the electoral game, and Prince Bismarck may have his innings, as the Socialists are having theirs—and, indeed, have had them in the fomentation of the trouble. The strike giant gains in proportions constantly, like the vapory figure that arose from the Arabian fisherman's jar and seems likely to fill the political heavens.

In spite of the supposition that Westphalia had been appeased that strike is extending. In the Saar mines 30,000 men are employed, and 7,000 of these are now out, while a strike of the whole number is threatened and is daily looked for. In Lower Silesia it is decided there shall be a general turnout upon January 1 unless there is an advance of 10 per cent in the wages and the concession that eight hours is a day's work.

COMPLAINTS FROM ALL SIDES.

Employers declare that it is impossible to meet these demands. Complaints have reached the Government that the Socialist agitators are taking great part in the strike movement and have been addressing meeting of the strikers at Dortmund, Saar and other places. Two Belgian Anarchists were arrested at Chemnitz while propagating their doctrines among the strikers there.

Herr Boetticher, in a conference with the detective of Westphalia mines, referred to the importance of the speediest possible settlement.

He pointed out that discontented men, and especially men for whose discontent there was any good reason, were a source of strength to the Socialist party, which naturally helped to make it dangerous, and he urged that concessions be made to the men.

Immediately after this conference the Minister ordered the municipal authorities to fill all conspicuous places in the strike district bearing the recent decision of the Supreme Court for discouraging the eloquence of agittaers. This decision is to the effect that any person exciting others to any act contrary to their contracts violates the law, and is punishable for the offense.

A CONCEALED MENACE.

The Stettin Politico-Economical Society adopted to address to the authorities, saying that though the encouragement of Chinese immigration was not at present advisable or opportune, it might be at the near future a desirable and necessary measure, a quaint menace on account of which the miners will not lie awake at night.

The Portuguese Government has applied to the Frankfort and Berlin banks to negotiate a loan of 5,000,000 milreis, ostensibly for use in adjustment of the floating debt and for the execution of various public works. At the very moment almost when the contract was about to be completed the bankers withdrew and refused to sign. They were alarmed by advices from Lisbon touching the negotiations there for their objective point the declaration of a Portuguese Republic.

The Monarchist press in Lisbon continues to deny that there is any danger in the agitations, yet in the same breath almost they urge the suppression of Liberal papers.

Thus does a course that may be only a little stroke of business throw doubt upon the value of their opinions as to the political agitation.

AFRAID OF A REPUBLIC.

But they not only want the Republican papers suppressed, they want also to have the Republican clubs shut up, the Republican leaders all imprisoned and all suspected military men transported. The official *News* stoutly denies that the Republican party has any strength. It states that while disturbance is always possible, yet the country is strongly conservative and the Monarchy is safe.

Dom Pedro is preparing a manifesto to the Brazilians, defending the acts of his Ministers and explaining the overthrow of the Empire. He says he will await tranquilly the expression of the will of the people, hopeful that in the coming elections the people will pronounce freely in favor of his Government. In all allusions to Dom Pedro, the semi-official press here continues to treat his return to Brazil as improbable.

ASSESSORS MAKE A KICK.

They Sue the County to Establish the Validity of the 50-Cents-a-Day Penalty—An Interesting Case.

J. W. Smart and William A. Kessler, Assessors respectively of the First and Second wards of Homestead, yesterday entered suits against Allegheny county. They stated that a rule has been made by the County Controller, enforcing a penalty of 50 cents per day for failure of Assessors to return their books to the County Commissioners on or before January 15.

Last January, they claim, they returned their books to the Commissioners on the 15th, but they declined to receive them on account of a lack of assistants to make the necessary examination of the books. They were told to return the next day, and did so, but the penalty was imposed on them. It was a reduction of 50 cents per day for every day they had served, and amounted to $36 each. They each claim $100 damages.

A WILL IN DISPUTE.

A Petition to Set Aside the Testament of Mary Fisher.

A petition was filed in the Orphans' Court yesterday by John Fisher, Sr., and seven of his children, appealing from the probate of the will of his wife, Mary Fisher. Mrs. Fisher died on August 14, 1889. She left a will leaving to her husband two houses and lots on Forty-sixth street and to her son John and daughter Elizabeth three houses and lots on the same street. There are six other children to whom she left $5 each, and the balance of her estate, aside from this, was left to her son John.

The petitioners allege that at the time of the execution of the will, February 22, 1888, she was of unsound mind and incapable of making a will. Also that at the time she was under the influence of alcohol and was addicted to its use for a long time previous.

They also aver that the will was procured by fraud and undue influences on the part of her son John. It is further stated that all the real estate devised in the will was given her by her husband in trust for the use of both during her lifetime, and at her death it was to go to their children share and share alike. The appeal was allowed and a citation issued to show cause why the issue should not be awarded.

BISHOP TUIGG'S WILL FILED.

A Codicil to the Original Will Leaving Everything to His Successor.

The will of the late Bishop Tuigg was filed for probate yesterday. It is dated July 9, 1883, and is supplemented by a codicil of date the 18th of March, 1888. By his will he names as executors, Rt. Rev. Tobias Mullen, Bishop of Erie, Rt. Rev. J. F. Shanahan, Bishop of Harrisburg, and Rt. Rev. John Joseph Kain, Bishop of Wheeling. The witnesses are C. F. McKenna, Esq., and E. S. Newlin, Esq.

The will states that he has no property or effects to be accounted for, and the will is made for the purpose of transmitting all right and title vested in the testator in the office of Bishop, to his executors, that the powers vested in the office may be faithfully executed and performed in all respects. The executors are given everything in trust to be held by them until the appointment of a successor as Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburg.

The codicil revokes that part appointing the executors, and instead devises all the estates mentioned to Rt. Rev. Richard Phelan, D. D., of Allegheny City, to be held by him absolutely and unconditionally, and directs they be held under the same conditions as those held by the testator. The codicil is witnessed by Chas. F. McKenna, Esq., and F. P. Smith.

59 PEOPLE GOUGED.

The Commonwealth Files a Bill of Particulars in the Porter Case.

District Attorney Porter and Clarence Burleigh, Esq., yesterday filed the bill of particulars demanded in the case of Alderman Porter and Officers Carney, Sheppard and Packer, charged with conspiracy.

The bill recites the charges that the defendants entered into a conspiracy to patch up criminal prosecution for the purpose of extorting money. The names of 59 persons alleged to have been so prosecuted are given.

Chat of the Court Corridor.

WILKINSBURG is now divided into three wards, with three Councilmen from each ward.

A RULE was issued yesterday upon C. C. Bishop to show cause why he failed to pay alimony to his wife, Mrs. Louisa Bishop.

C. H. WOODWARD, arrested here on Friday, will be sent to Washington, D. C., to be tried in the United States Court on a charge of running a bogus employment agency.

SUIT was entered yesterday against the West End Passenger Railway Company to recover $2,000 damages for injuries sustained by 8-year-old Darwin H. Stork, who jumped on the front platform and fell off again while the driver was inside collecting fares.

ATTORNEY YOST yesterday obtained an execution on the property of John A. Martin for $87 for an unpaid fine and costs imposed on him in a Sunday selling case. If there is no property upon which to levy, Martin can be arrested and made to serve in jail for the amount.

In the Criminal Court yesterday Judge Slagle imposed the following sentences: Jack McCurdy, robbery, two years and six months to the penitentiary; James Crawford, ten days to the workhouse; H. E. Stickford, forgery, one year to the workhouse; George Bowden, larceny, one year to the workhouse.

Clerk of Courts McGunnegle, yesterday received the acknowledgement of Governor Beaver of the receipt of the certified copy of the record sent him in the case of William H. Smith convicted of murder in the first degree. It is required by law that the record be sent to the governor within ten days after sentence, for his official action in the case. The next step in the case now is the issuing of the death warrant.

LOCAL ITEMS, LIMITED.

Incidents of a Day in Two Cities Condensed for Ready Reading.

DR. JENNINGS held a post mortem examination yesterday on the horse that was killed by electricity in Allegheny on Friday. The horse's heart was contracted into a small lump, as a result of the shock. The owner, George K. Schmidt, threatens to bring suit for damages. Owners of horses are afraid the Second avenue electric road will be a dangerous one for animals.

MRS. SCHNIANSER, wife of Dr. Schnianser, Allegheny, made an information before Mayor Pearson, charging Charles Spahn with assault and battery and surety of the peace. The charge grew out of some misunderstanding between the Doctor and the defendant. The latter struck the Doctor a violent blow.

JOHN CALPNEYER, a traveling salesman for a Philadelphia business firm, fell on the pavement of Wabash avenue, Thirty-sixth ward, yesterday afternoon and had his arm broken. Dr. Gangloff attended him.

THE building inspectors find that the cause of the sinking of the foundation under the Charles Erle building, at No. 6009 Penn avenue, was the digging of a ditch for a sewer pipe under one of the walls.

S. K. MCKEE, the general secretary of the McKeesport Y. M. C. A., is likely to resign. It is stated that unless he receives an advance over his salary of last year he will accept a better offer elsewhere.

OFFERING PARTY RATES.

The Pennsylvania Company and Lake Erie Resume—The Trunk Lines Agree on Holiday Rates.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission seems to have lost its terrors for the railroad men of this vicinity, and is practically a dead letter so far as the passenger business is concerned. The Pittsburg and Lake Erie Railroad is the latest to bid the commission defiance by issuing orders to the effect that on and after Monday, December 16, a rate of 2 cents per mile locally will be made for parties of ten or more in one direction on a solid ticket.

General Passenger Agent A. E. Clark said that other roads were making the same rate, and had been for some time. "I don't think that they will put us in the penitentiary," said Mr. Clark, "but if they do they had better enlarge the buildings, for there are a great many of us."

The Baltimore and Ohio road always maintained its right to make a 2-cent rate if it saw fit. The other roads abolished the party rate for a time, but are now restoring them. General Passenger Agent A. E. Ford, of the Pennsylvania Company, restored the rate a short time ago. About one year since Mr. Ford discontinued making the rate on the advice of the company's counsel that it was against the inter-State law. It could not be learned whether the counsel had come to a different conclusion, or whether Mr. Ford was willing any longer to see other roads capture the theatrical business.

General Passenger Agent Charles O. Scull, of the Baltimore and Ohio road, was in the city yesterday. Mr. Scull said he was glad to state that excursion rates would be sold on his road during the holidays. He explained why the Trunk Line Association on the first vote failed to pass the motion. The New York roads in the association receive only 2 cents per mile from passengers, and when the proposition was made to issue the usual holiday excursion rates the New York passenger men received it, not with opposition, but indifference. When the Baltimore and Ohio and Pennsylvania asked for a reconsideration it was granted, and then it was agreed to make the one-third reduction or thereabouts.

BE SURE AND ATTEND,

For We Are Going to Make

Things hum this week at our popular stores. We've had the biggest season's business since we are established and we are going to dispose of the balance of our heavy weight suits and overcoats. Store is open till 9 o'clock evenings, starting on Wednesday, Dec. 18. Prices on men's overcoats and suits will be cut in 3 parts. Men's suits, all wool, $7 50 worth $16. Men's overcoats at $6, worth $15. Genuine chinchilla overcoats, $8, worth $18. Men's cutaways and sack suits in foreign diagonals and broadwales at $10, usually sold at $23 and $25. Remember Christmas week at the P. C. C. C., cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the new Court House.

New Ivory Ware.

An entirely new decoration, which, judging from sales of the last few days, will become very popular. It comes in bon-bon trays, rose bowls and other small pieces. We have only a small supply. So if you want it come early on Monday.

FRENCH, KENDRICK & CO.,
Opposite City Hall.

Will Surprise Everybody.

The men's fine chinchilla, melton and beaver overcoats, in Prince Charles and long ulster styles, which Kaufmanns' will sell this week at $7 50.

ALE and porter are the correct drinks for December, January and February. Frauenheim & Vilsack's brews are the favorites with connoisseurs.

To-Morrow, You

Can buy an all-wool overcoat, a cassimere suit and a pair of suspenders for $12 at the P. C. C. C., cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the new Court House.

TARTAN and novelty plaid surah silks, beautiful effects and colorings, $1.50 a yard, worth regularly $2. HUGUS & HACKE.
TTSSu

GREAT unloading sale of goods suitable for the holidays, commences to-morrow morning. Presents for everybody, the young and the old. Prices at least 25 per cent under all other dealers. GUSKY'S.

Nobody Can Deny the Fact

That we have always offered the grandest $10 line of men's overcoats and suits seen anywhere, but the garments we will offer at this price this week knock sky-high, for solid value, all our previous offerings.

KAUFMANNS.

Z. WAINWRIGHT & CO.'s ale and porter are unquestionably the most popular winter drinks. Kept by the leading dealers. WSU

Have You Seen Them?

The men's marvelous silk and satin lined English chinchilla and melton custom-made overcoats we have sold all season at $15. Well, beginning to-morrow morning, we shall close them out at $12. Only 245 are left. Come quick if you want one.

KAUFMANNS.

Don't Forget to Bring the Boys.

Gusky's will this week with every purchase in their boys' or children's department amounting to $5 or upward, give away free a large and elegant express wagon.

Dress Goods Bargains.

Dress patterns, dress patterns for holiday presents. KNABLE & SHUSTER,
MWSU 35 Fifth ave.

HAVE you seen "Christmas Morning?" at the stores of The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company.

The Third and Most Eventful

Week of Kaufmanns' great holiday bargain sale will commence to-morrow. Be sure and be "on deck" early.

EXTRA large stock of Howard, Elgin, Waltham, Hampden watches at extra low prices. HENRY TERHEYDEN,
530 Smithfield st.

La Spirite

In her wonderful aerial act, to be seen in Gusky's grand show window this week. The greatest sensation of modern days. Everybody, and especially scientists, invited to see this mysterious performance.

Z. WAINWRIGHT & CO.'s ale and porter are unquestionably the most popular winter drinks. Kept by the leading dealers. WSU

Useful Christmas Goods.

In the following list you will find very useful and ornamental goods, suitable for Christmas presents:

Brass fenders,	Scissors,
Brass fire irons,	Plated knives,
Brass andirons,	Plated forks,
Brass umbrella st'ds,	Plated spoons,
Brass trays,	Plated castors,
Brass novelties,	Plated butter dishes,
Brass Toddy kettles,	Carvers,
Brass jardiniers,	Rice boilers,
Brass cuspidores,	Gas stoves,
Nickel cuspidores,	Gas logs,
Pearl agate ware,	Wringers,
Bird cages,	Call bells,
Vienna coffee pots,	Urns,
Coal vases,	Salt boxes,
Children's trays,	Egg poachers,
Crumb trays,	Curtain stretchers.

The wonderful Pasteur water filters.

A splendid line of the very best moisteners for gas fires.

The excellent Empire roast pans and Boss coffee pots.

The Perfection meat cutter, the most useful and desirable kitchen utensil of the day. No kitchen complete without a Perfection meat cutter. Call and see it work.

DEMMLER BROS.,
526 and 528 Smithfield street.

A FRIENDLY RIVALRY

Among Aspirants for Positions on the Republican State Ticket.

CANDIDATES AND DARK HORSES.

Delamater and Hastings Each Shadowed by One of the Latter.

AN ARMY OF MINOR MEN IN THE FIELD.

The Chairman Doesn't Wish To be Thought Committed to Delamater.

The candid announcement of Adjutant General Hastings that he is a candidate for Governor has aroused Philadelphia politicians to work to set up delegates to the next State convention. The possible and probable candidates for minor State offices are also being more talked of now. A little army of them is said to be in the field.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

PHILADELPHIA, December 14.—General Hastings' declaration of intentions regarding his candidacy for the Republican nomination for Governor, has stirred the politicians of this city into thought upon the subject, and many of the local leaders, it is believed, will now go quietly to work to "set up" their districts, in order to secure control of the delegates to the coming State Convention.

The State Convention will be called upon to name a candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of Internal Affairs. As the Governor and Lieutenent Governor are ineligible for re-election, there will be successors chosen to the present incumbents of those offices.

In the matter of Secretary of Internal Affairs, the present incumbent, Thomas J. Stewart, having declared himself a candidate for re-election, the general belief is that he will have no opposition, unless the complications of the Gubernatorial fight force such a condition of things as to make it a necessity for the candidate winning the nomination for Governor to throw his strength to some other person than the present Secretary of Internal Affairs.

THE CONCEDED CANDIDATES.

It is generally conceded that there are only two real candidates in the fight for the nomination for Governor, with two strong "dark horses" bringing up the rear. Senator Delamater, of Crawford county, and Adjutant General Hastings, of Center county, are classed as the real candidates, with Major E. A. Montooth, of Allegheny, and Secretary of the Commonwealth Charles W. Stone, of Warren county, as the "marked dark horses."

Little can be said at this time regarding the chances for winning, as from present appearances it looks as though each candidate was to be allowed to make a full showing of strength before receiving the Senatorial nod which will eventually decide the race. General Hastings declares that Senator Quay will not interfere in the contest, while Senator Delamater's friends go on fighting as though they were sure of their ground, and without assistance from either of the United States Senators.

MR. ANDREWS' STATEMENT.

Chairman Andrews, of the Republican State Committee, says he is steering clear of both sides, and giving his attention to the details of the party machinery, getting things into shape to make a winning fight, if possible, for whichever of the candidates succeeds in winning the nomination. He resolutely refuses to express a preference for either of the candidates, but as he is a friend and neighbor of Senator Delamater, it is likely to suppose that he would, if it were advisable, be found working in the Delamater ranks.

It is expected that in addition to E. K. Martin, of Lancaster county, and Senator Watres, of Lackawanna county, who are at present most prominently mentioned for the Republican nomination for Lieutenant Governor, there will be a little army of other candidates, whose ambitions would be satisfied were they to secure the nomination for the second place on the ticket. Senator Watres is well known in his section of the State, and will no doubt be strongly supported. He has a large number of friends who have expressed themselves in sympathy with him, and he will rally to his support a number of delegations from the surrounding counties.

A FRIENDLY RIVALRY.

E. K. Martin, of Lancaster, is also well thought of, and on account of the friendly relations existing between the present leading candidates and Senator Quay, it is believed that the contest for the Republican nomination for Lieutenant Governor will be somewhat in the shape of a friendly rivalry for higher political honors.

In the matter of the nomination of a candidate for Lieutenant Governor much will hinge upon the outcome of the contest for the first place on the ticket. As is usually the case when big fights are going on, combinations and counter-combinations are continually being made, and it may be that in the end the candidate for Lieutenant Governor on the Republican ticket will be a man whose name has not yet been mentioned in connection.

The St. Agnes Parade.

Joseph Rosinski, Grand Marshal of the St. Agnes Church parade, which takes place this morning, issued an order yesterday in which he revoked his general order No. 2 and placed the divisions as assigned in the first order.

LADIES, BE ON HAND.—To-morrow we give valuable presents with purchases of $1 and over, with big bargains in holiday goods. Pure silk mufflers, 48c to $2; initial handkerchiefs, 9c to 35c; Foster hook kid gloves 59c, worth $1; lambrequins complete, 75c up; braided pillow shams, 19c to 75c; comforts, 49c to $2; blankets, 59c to $5; bedspreads, 39c to $2, with special bargains in ladies' muslin and wool underwear and infants' goods. Busy Bee Hive, Sixth and Liberty.

THE nicest and most elegant Christmas gift that can be made to any man is undoubtedly an overcoat. Anyone contemplating making a holiday gift should really consider this thing well. Gusky's is the place where beautiful overcoats, suitable for everybody, are obtainable. This week is on the great unloading sale, and everyone should attend it.

Something For Your Imagination to Picture.

If, as every lady well knows, we have all along undersold every cloak house in the city, to what extent, think you, will we now, since having made our recent big reductions, cut under the prices of our rivals?

KAUFMANNS' CLOAK DEPARTMENT.

Pianos and Organs.

New 5-octave parlor organs, $44.
New 7½-octave upright pianos, $175.
Second-hand 7½-octave square pianos, $80, $100, $125.
Second-hand 5-octave organs, $10, $20, $30, $40.
Store open nights till 9 o'clock.

ECHOLS, MCMURRAY & CO.,
123 Sandusky st.,
TUSSU Allegheny, Pa.

Do You Wonder at Our Success?

When we offer such bargains as 24-inch black gros grain silk at 80c, 98c, $1 29 and $1 69 that will match any quality, elsewhere $1 25, $1 50, $1 75 and $2 25. Bring samples for comparison. Black gros grains all reduced for the Xmas trade all next week from 59c up. Fine dress robes $7 50; were $15. Sealskin muffs at $8 49. Black hair muffs, 39c up. THORNTON BROS.

SEE Henry Terheyden's holiday goods; diamonds, watches, clocks and fancy goods.

HENRY TERHEYDEN,
530 Smithfield st.

RUBBER ON THE JUMP.

A Neat Bit of Scheming on the Part of Baron Gondoriz—An Order Issued by Para That Will Keep Prices Up to the Top Notch.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, December 14.—One of the chief things talked about on the down-town Exchanges and among merchants in the South American trade to-day was the order just issued by the Provincial Government of Para, compelling all the rubber houses in Para to pay to the Government, for the credit of the Companhia Mercantil—a small local company in Para—20 reis, or three-eighths of a cent, for every kilogramme of rubber exported. The strange news was first received on Thursday. It was confirmed the day after, and again to-day, but merchants can still scarcely credit it, although another cablegram received to-day from J. C. G. Veanna, Baron Gondoriz, the head of the Companhia Mercantil, is further confirmation. A prominent local rubber merchant said to-day:

This edict of the Para Government seems a strange one to Americans, and it is strange. Nevertheless, to us in the trade it is not exactly unexpected or unaccountable. Baron Gondoriz was here three or four years ago, and he then openly advocated the policy of his company's fighting for and securing this enormous concession. He is a man of remarkable fertility of mind in his business enterprises, and is always advocating bold and original plans. He carries out his ideas, too, with remarkable vigor. For years he has been pressing this thing upon the Para Government. He has argued that the price of rubber in Para was too low, and that it would be to the advantage of all concerned there to have prices raised. The benefit of low prices, he used to say, went to the exporters who were almost entirely foreigners. The commerce of Para is mostly in rubber, of course, and here is where Mr. Veanna wanted the reign of high values to come in. He made representations to the Para Government that if an export rebate of say from one-half to five-eighths of a cent a pound were given to his companions, he could so increase the capital of his company that it could maintain the high prices. Then he guaranteed that prices should not go below 2,500 reis per kilogramme. That is, between 300 and 400 reis more than the present prices. He represented to the Legislature of the province of Para that as export duties were ad valorem, the Treasury would get a pecuniary advantage from the increased price of rubber, much greater than the comparatively small concession granted to his company. Mr. Veanna is a Liberal and a man of great influence. His company is the only native exporting company in Para, with the exception of one or two. The change of Government in Brazil and Para has given Mr. Veanna the chance and power, it seems, to carry out his scheme.

PRICES GOING UP.

Action of the Brazilian Government Won't Affect Local Trade.

A DISPATCH reporter visited several large dealers in this city for the purpose of ascertaining just what effect the action of the Provisional Government would have on local trade. One of the persons visited was Mr. Phillips, of the firm of J. & H. Phillips. Mr. Phillips said:

"The local trade will be very little affected, if any. Rubber is advancing in price; but it is a legitimate movement, based solely on the exigencies of the trade. Since September rubber has advanced 19 cents a pound, or from 60 cents to 79 cents, and will go even higher. There is no crude rubber handled in Pittsburg."

A gentleman in the office of the Revere Rubber Company agreed with Mr. Phillips as to the causes of the advance, and further stated that the scarcity of the trees from which the crude, liquid rubber is obtained was a prime cause of the advance.

"The trees are becoming scarcer every year," he said, "and rubber will continue to advance in price. The business has been very good since the beginning of the year, but we are now passing through our dull month."

An agent of the Goodyear Rubber Company was met by the reporter. The gentleman said that the Brazilian Provisional Government would not let the true facts of the case be known, but he thought that the order would have a disastrous effect on the trade.

Powderly is Not in Politics.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WILKESBARRE, December 14. — Powderly in a card declines being a candidate for Mayor of Scranton. Ex-Representative Callaghan writes an open letter to Powderly requesting the latter to meet him like a man.

CHRISTMAS WEEK AT THE P. C. C. C.

Grand Closing Out Sale of All Heavy-Weight Men's and Boys' Overcoats and Suits.

Starting Monday morning at 8 o'clock we shall hold our great holiday week and grand closing out sale. All our heavy-weight overcoats and suits must be sold—nothing left over—and prices will be cut in three parts. One dollar does the work of $3. We want this week's trade to be equal to the ordinary business done in an entire month. Prices have no mercy at our hands. We have done a big season's business, and now we are satisfied to lose money on what is left of our overcoats and suit stock. Men's all wool overcoats, $6, worth $15; men's genuine chinchilla overcoats, $8, worth $18; men's imported kersey overcoats, $10, usually sold at $23 to $25; men's cassimere suits, $10 our price. You would pay $23 for the same goods elsewhere. Elegant dress suits in foreign diagonals and broadwales, $12, worth $28 and $30—high grade goods. P. C. C. C., Cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the new Court House.

Starting Wednesday, December 18, our store will be open until 9 o'clock evenings.

The Celebrated Schmer Pianos

Are at present the most popular. They are unequalled in tone, touch and durability. The sweet-toned Colby pianos, guaranteed a thoroughly reliable make and sold at a reasonable price. Also the marvelous Peloubet reed-pipe organ—in action and tone, a pipe organ, and in compactness and cost but little more than a reed organ. We cordially invite you to call and examine our holiday stock of musical instruments, which is now complete. Prices low. Terms reasonable.

J. M. HOFFMANN & CO.,
537 Smithfield street.

LECHNER & SCHOENBERGER,

69 Fifth Avenue.

The policy of this house has always been to sell pianos and organs of the highest grade only. Every instrument fully warranted. No shoddy goods. Prices the lowest in the city for the quality of the goods offered. Terms to suit all. Call and convince yourself. Store open every evening.

LECHNER & SCHOENBERGER,
69 Fifth avenue.

Something For Your Imagination to Picture

If, as every lady well knows, we have all along undersold every cloak house in the city, to what extent, think you, will we now, since having made our recent big reductions, cut under the prices of our rivals?

KAUFMANNS' CLOAK DEPARTMENT.

To-Morrow, You

Can buy an all-wool overcoat, a cassimere suit and a pair of suspenders for $12 at the P. C. C. C., cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the new Court House.

CASHMERES—an elegant line of light colors for evening and fancy costumes, all wool, 40 inches wide, 50 cents a yard.

TTSSu HUGUS & HACKE.

This Week, This Week

For bargains in holiday goods.

KNABLE & SHUSTER, 35 Fifth ave.
MWSU

Competition Ceases to Compete

When confronted with the unequaled and unparalleled holiday bargains that will be offered this week in Kaufmanns' Cloak Department.

Our Old Policy to Slaughter

Prices when a backward season retards the sale of goods is still in force, as our great reductions in ladies' fine cloaks, newmarkets and wraps will show this week.

KAUFMANNS'.

PENNSYLVANIA LEADS.

Even the Empire State Falls Behind Her in Sabbath School Work.

In discussing the question of the results achieved by the evangelical Sabbath school interests of the country yesterday with Controller Morrow, he searched out some very gratifying figures to the people of Pennsylvania. The report of the last National Sabbath School Convention showed the Keystone State to be away ahead, beating New York, both in number of schools and number of attendants. He said some of the accounts given in the Sabbath school statistics of the world did not do justice to the subject, as the full returns had not been made, and in many places no organization had been effected and no report could be made.

In the United States, he said, there were 107,824 evangelical Sabbath schools, with 1,100,104 teachers and 8,345,431 scholars. To show the method by which Pennsylvania was done injustice to, the Controller quoted Pittsburg, which is twenty-third in the list, as only credited with 73 Sabbath schools, 1,840 teachers and 16,560 scholars of all denominations, or 18,400 attendants altogether. The actual fact is that there are 96 schools belonging to the association in Pittsburg and 98 in Allegheny, and the Butler Street M. E. Church alone has from 800 to 1,000 scholars in its enrollment. The State shows up in the report 9,445,535 people engaged in Sabbath school work, but the Controller thinks the estimate could safely be advanced 20 per cent without any error.

OFFICERS ON GUARD.

The Squirrel Hill Railroad Operations Under a Close Espionage.

Officers Maegle and Wachter were placed on guard at the foot of Boquet street, Oakland, last evening, to prevent the laying of the Squirrel Hill Railway through the new park. Yesterday City Engineer Brown received information to the effect that the work of laying the tracks through the park would be undertaken that night.

Mr. Brown took a look over the ground last evening and as a result had the two officers placed on duty at the point where the work would be commenced. The rails and ties, etc., are all on the ground and the work could be put through speedily. At 10 o'clock last night, however, no such move had been made.

THIEVES IN ALLEGHENY.

They Rob Two Stores and Secure a Nice Little Sum in Each.

Burglars entered the store of Charles Reisenstein, Federal street, Allegheny, night before last, and drilled open the safe. The thieves, who were evidently experts, secured about $500. They gained an entrance by jimmying open a rear window.

The fish store of Peters & Wadloe, No. 184 Federal street, was also visited by thieves the same night. The safe was open, and they secured about $35. There is no trace of the perpetrators of either burglary.

A BISHOP'S RECEPTION.

An Afternoon Party for the Western Episcopal Visitors.

Bishop Whitehead, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, yesterday afternoon gave a reception at his residence on Ellsworth avenue to the visiting missionary bishops and the officials of the Pittsburg diocese. About 50 persons were present, and spent a pleasant social season of about three hours, enjoying luncheon at the Episcopal residence. Bishop Paddock, of Washington, Bishop Talbot, of Wyoming, and several of the clergy of this diocese with their wives were present. Bishops Kendrick and Leonard had been compelled to depart for their homes.

We Won't Tell You a Long Tale of Woe

About what you already know—the backward, unseasonable weather and its fearful depression on the sale of winter goods—but will begin with the end by informing you of our peerless mark-down of men's and boys' overcoats. Just read:

Men's overcoats reduced from $26 to $20.
Men's overcoats reduced from $24 to $18.
Men's overcoats reduced from $20 to $15.
Men's overcoats reduced from $16 to $12.
Men's overcoats reduced from $13 to $10.
Boys' overcoats reduced from $3 50 to $2 50.
Boys' overcoats reduced from $4 75 to $3 50.
Boys' overcoats reduced from $7 50 to $5 00.
Boys' overcoats reduced from $10 to $7 00.

These reductions exist, not on paper merely, but on reality, as you can convince yourself by a simple examination of our goods and prices. KAUFMANNS,
Fifth avenue and Smithfield street.

Nothing in the World

Will equal our great holiday week sale. Grand and complete closing out of heavy-weight overcoats and heavy-weight suits in our store. Make the best of it and call during the week. It's a paying investment for you. What makes a better Christmas present than a nice overcoat or a suit of clothes? Men's all-wool overcoats this week only $6, worth $15; men's suits, in cutaways and sacks, at $7 50, worth $18; men's chinchilla overcoats at $8, worth $18; men's elegant dress suits $10, worth $25. Don't miss this chance. Holiday week is a hummer at our store. Clothing will be bundled out at a double quick pace. Remember Christmas week at our big stores, P. C. C. C., Cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the new Court House.

Open until 9 o'clock evenings, starting Wednesday, December 18.

Changes in a Well-Known Firm.

The Michigan Furniture Co., well-known for its fair dealing, has undergone some changes in the personnel of the firm. Mr. A. L. Solomon, who has been connected with this company ever since its location in the city, has now become a member of the firm. His friends will be glad to hear of his good fortune.

Kid Gloves for Presents.

Full lines of the celebrated Premiere, Superieur and Gold Medal kid; also Suede gloves, all lengths, $1 to $3 50. Misses real kid 50c, 75c, $1, at Rosenbaum & Co.'s.
WThFSu

Dress Suits.

For a good fitting dress suit or overcoat go to Pitcairn's, 434 Wood street.

GREAT REDUCTION IN FUR RUGS!

And What Would Make a Nicer Christmas Present?

We have reduced prices on all our fur rugs to close them out.

Large fur rugs at $4, reduced from $7.
Fur rugs at $3 50, reduced from $6 50.
Leopard skin rugs at $3 50, reduced from $6 50.
All colors sheepskin rugs at $2, reduced from $3 50.

These are all special prices for the holiday season. EDWARD GROETZINGER,
627 and 629 Penn avenue.

THE nicest and most elegant Christmas gift that can be made to any man is undoubtedly an overcoat. Anyone contemplating making a holiday gift should really consider this thing well. Gusky's is the place where beautiful overcoats, suitable for everybody, are obtainable. This week is on the great unloading sale, and everyone should attend it.

All Little Girls Made Happy.

We sell dolls and dolls outfits at cost, to our regular patrons; dolls from 3c to $5. Dolls' caps, slippers, hose, parasols, corsets, muffs, aprons, hammocks, 5c to 25c. Busy Bee Hive, Sixth and Liberty.

The Week Before Christmas

Is, of course, the week when buyers of holiday goods usually make their purchases. The news that Gusky's have to-day is that their great unloading sale commences to-morrow morning, and that in anticipation of a huge throng of buyers their selling force has been almost doubled. Now, if you want bargains visit Gusky's this week.

MERELY A FORMAL ACTION.

H. Sellers McKee Says the Birmingham Road is Friendly to the P., V. & C. R. R.

Murray Verner yesterday, in behalf of the Pittsburg and Birmingham Passenger Railway Company, filed exceptions in the matter of the bond given by the Pittsburg, Virginia and Charleston Railroad Company to the street car company to cover damages for land about to be appropriated by the railroad. Mr. Verner claims that the