

Office:
Struve Str. 5, I.
Dresden A.
Telephone
1755.

The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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THE FIRST DAILY PAPER IN ENGLISH PUBLISHED IN GERMANY.

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SEASONABLE GREETINGS.

First, we must pay a pleasing tribute to immemorial custom by heartily wishing our readers


A MERRY CHRISTMAS,

even though the majority of those good folk are spending this festive season far from their native hearths and homes. With remorseless exactitude the years roll round, carrying in their train joy and sorrow, disappointment and gratification, changes for the better or the worse, new idols set up, and old ones shattered. But at the Yuletide season we are not concerned with the dark pages of the year's history; the skeleton must not be permitted to mar the feast. When the log is blazing on the hearth—or the coal in the stove, as the case may be—and the Christmas board is groaning beneath a weight of good things, an atmosphere pervades the gathering in which pessimistic forebodings find no place. So deeply ingrained in our natures is the genial spirit of Yuletide, fostered through countless generations until it has become a hereditary instinct in each one of us, that during the season the load of care slips from the back, and we are able to gaze back upon the disappointing past and the uncertain future with courageous eyes, defying the freaks of Fate if only for a few short hours. It is this circumstance which makes the Christmas season peculiarly auspicious for the settling of old feuds, the laying to rest of long-sustained rancour—in fact, an entire revision of the individual's outlook on life. It is the one common season of rejoicing which appeals to all Christendom, exerting its beneficent influence on mankind in all quarters of the globe. The man who cannot present to the world a smiling countenance on Christmas Day, deserves to rank with the freaks. He is putting a slight on his fellow beings. What matter if the smile be somewhat forced, if the laughter has a hollow ring. The genial sprite who enters into possession at the dawn of today will speedily dissipate the last remnants of melancholy, and transmute the spurious pretence into genuine, whole-hearted joviality. The Yuletide spirit has inspired numberless great writers to dilate on the theme, but perhaps none of them succeeded in infusing into their work such a strongly suggestive air of conviviality as that which characterises the narratives of Dickens. "Boz" brings before our eyes the festive gatherings in the ancestral hall with wonderful distinctness. We can hear the logs crackling, the merry laughter of the rubicund squire and his jovial guests, scent the succulent viands, and thoroughly enter into the spirit of the occasion. We are not all of us able to eat our Christmas repast in ancestral halls surrounded by such merry company, but it is incumbent upon us to adapt ourselves to the present situation and to turn our backs on carping care for the nonce. When midnight sounds it will be time enough to resume the everyday garb of sober hue; but until that hour let us give a sympathetic reception to the kind influence which prompts us to entertain sentiments of peace and goodwill to all men.

OUR ANNUAL SURVEY.

Our sole excuse for the following brief review of the *Daily Record's* progress in the past year lies in the fact that numerous readers have been kind enough to enquire from time to time after the welfare of our paper. In answer, we are justified in asserting that the *Daily Record* has made many new friends and the least possible number of enemies during 1908. The fundamental policy of the paper, namely, to supply readers with interesting Anglo-American news items, general information, music and art criticisms, and independent comment on topics of current interest, has been well maintained. Our columns are becoming more and more in demand as a medium for the ventilation of subjects peculiarly interesting to the class of reading public for whom we cater. Like every other independent organ, we have been unable to avoid treading upon some corns now and again, with the result that attempts, as puerile as they were ineffective, have been made to injure us. An honest newspaper, like an honest man, has a right to express its own opinion; and since in this conglomerate world of ours it is beyond human power to please everybody, there are doubtless some to whom our future prosperity is not a matter of concern. To all such we would merely say—"Play the game," and we in turn will endeavour to play in the future, as in the past, strictly according to rules.

We take this opportunity of expressing our cordial thanks to the many friends who have favoured us with advice, encouragement, and active support in the past, and uttering the hope that they will continue to exert their kind offices in the future. Since penning our last annual survey we have introduced several fresh features and innovations; the paper is now prepared, printed, and published by the proprietors, and although this advance has entailed heavy expense, we are sanguine that the outlay will be justified by an increased subscription list. Subscription cards will be sent to all applicants, and we would again draw attention to the remarkably reasonable terms of subscription to the *Daily Record*,—one mark per month for Dresden, and one mark twenty pfennigs for the rest of Germany and Austria. We may also mention that numerous subscribers in all parts of the world figure on our books. English and American people who have at one time or another resided in Dresden or Berlin, and for old association's sake continue to take an interest in local doings, the Royal Opera, social life, etc., renew their subscriptions to the *Daily Record* after they have left the city, and thus many copies of our paper are sent every day to Great Britain, the United States, Canada, Australasia, and several European countries. We trust that readers desirous of maintaining communication with Dresden and Berlin by means of the only daily paper in the English language published in Germany, will remember that our prepaid terms for foreign subscriptions are two marks fifty pfennigs per month.

 **NOTICE:** In consequence of the Christmas Holidays, our next number will appear next Tuesday, December 29th.

VENEZUELAN AFFAIRS.

SETTLEMENT WITH AMERICA.

Washington, December 23.

Vice-President Gomez of Venezuela has informed the United States Government, through the Brazilian Minister at Caracas, that it is the desire of his Government to settle all outstanding differences with America. In consequence of this notification the State Department has appointed a special envoy to treat with Venezuela in the person of Mr. William I. Buchanan, former American Minister to Canada. Mr. Buchanan immediately left for Caracas on board the armoured cruiser "North Carolina," and according to a statement by Secretary of State Root, he has been charged with benevolent instructions. Vice-President Gomez also intimated to the State Department that the presence of an American warship at La Guira was desirable, and the gunboat "Dolphin" has accordingly been despatched to that port. In view of the pacific attitude adopted by the new régime in Venezuela, it has been considered advisable to remove all semblance of naval demonstration in those waters, and orders to this effect will be transmitted to the cruiser "Des Moines," stationed at Curacao, by wireless telegraphy. The "North Carolina" has instructions to at once return after disembarking Mr. Buchanan.

Caracas, December 23.

Reuter reports that Vice-President Gomez has ordered the release of all political prisoners. The Minister of the Interior issued a proclamation to the Governors of the various provinces, calling upon the people to support the Government's endeavours towards improving the general condition of the country, the prosecution of internal reform, and the reinstatement of amicable relations with foreign Powers. The proclamation lays special stress on the desire of the Government to raise Venezuela's credit in the eyes of the world.

The Hague, December 23.

The official Yellow Book just issued explains that the measures undertaken by Holland were not directed against the Venezuelan people, but rather against Ex-President Castro's administration, which is considered to be responsible for the present unsatisfactory state of affairs. The Government expresses its hope that the events of the past few days in Caracas will confirm this impression, and reiterates its confidence in the good sense of the Venezuelan people.

The Marine Department has telegraphed instructions to the commanding officers of Dutch warships in Venezuelan waters to desist from all further naval demonstrations.