

MR. TAFT "DIETING."

Little, says the New York correspondent of the *Globe*, escapes the ken of the Washington correspondents whose special duty it is to keep an eager public duly informed of all that goes on at White House, and though news from this quarter has been rather scanty lately, there is a genuine tit-bit in the sensational announcement that Mr. Taft has begun a course of dieting. "Little Sunshine," we are told, finds the Tariff Bill insufficient to check his tendency towards adiposity, and has taken the road to reform with a firm step. Hitherto, at lunch, the President has always consumed a good deal of fruit; for the future the fruit allowance is to be strictly limited to a single apple. Further "only" three meals per day are to be served to the Head of the States, in place of the four that he has been accustomed to have.

DEATH OF THE PARIS UNIVERSAL PROVIDER.

M. Chauchard, proprietor of the Grands Magasins du Louvre, died at Paris on Saturday. By the death of M. Chauchard, millionaire, universal provider, art connoisseur, and munificent benefactor, Paris has lost one of her most remarkable citizens. The proprietor of the great emporium known as "The Louvre," began life as a messenger boy, and had risen to the rank of "counter-jumper" at a salary of a pound a week in a haberdashery establishment trading under the name of "Pauvre Jacques," when he threw up that employment to become the architect of his own fortunes. He was in every way a self-made man, if ever there was one. All his enterprises prospered, but he never forgot his humble origin, and was always ready to lend a helping hand to the unemployed and necessitous. When there was not a vacant post in his vast warehouse, he would make one for a deserving case.

As the result of 60 years of incessant labour, M. Chauchard amassed a colossal fortune. One of his principal hobbies was art collecting, and it is understood that his magnificent gallery of modern paintings, including Millet's famous "Angelus," chief-d'œuvres of Meissonier, Corot, Rousseau, Delacroix, Ziem, and Dupré, which he acquired for some £60,000, but have now an immensely enhanced value, have been left to the nation. According to provisions made in his will, M. Chauchard is to have a gorgeous funeral. No less a sum than £8,000 is to be spent on his obsequies. His coffin, an elaborate work of art, was made two years ago under his own supervision at a cost of £800, and between £3,000 and £4,000 have already been expended on the tomb which is to be his last resting-place. His funeral, in short, at which all of the 5,000 or 6,000 employés of the "Louvre" are to be present, is to be a pageant to delight the hearts of the Parisians, who will also, it is expected, benefit through their numerous charities by the lavish benefactions of this heirless millionaire.

Paris, June 7.

The death of the multi-millionaire M. Chauchard, the owner of the Louvre emporium, is treated like the death of a Prince. The newspapers contain long articles on the subject, with many anecdotes of the deceased. The value of the art treasures bequeathed to the State amounts to 20,000,000 francs (£400,000). It is said that M. Leygues, a former Minister, inherits fifteen millions of francs, and M. Calmette, the Editor of the *Figaro*, two millions.

KAISER AND TSAR.

St. Petersburg, June 6.

There is a growing conviction that the approaching meeting of the Tsar and the Emperor William will have far-reaching international consequences. Besides Prince von Bülow, Baron von Schoen, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the Minister of Marine, will accompany the Emperor. M. Stolypin, the Russian Premier, will accompany the Tsar, it is understood, at the Emperor William's express desire.

It has been arranged that the meeting shall take place at eleven o'clock on the morning of the 17th instant. After an exchange of greetings there will be a family lunch on board the Russian Imperial yacht "Standart." Banquets will be given on board the "Standart" on the 17th, and on the German Imperial yacht, "Hohenzollern," on the 18th. The Emperor William will visit several ships of the Russian squadron on the 18th, and will take lunch on one of the vessels. The two Emperors will lunch together on the 19th inst., on board the Russia Imperial yacht, "Polar Star," after which the German Emperor will depart.

The papers do not comment on the meeting inasmuch as no announcement on the subject has yet been made from Russian official sources. Indeed, the *Golos Moskvi* is being prosecuted for publishing news concerning the Tsar's journey.

CHOLERA IN ST. PETERSBURG.

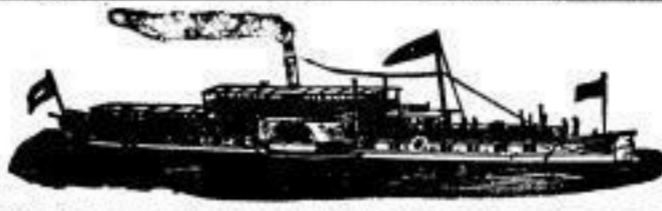
St. Petersburg, June 6.

Nine fresh cases of cholera have occurred since yesterday. The total number of cholera patients is now 19. Two cases have proved fatal.

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LATEST AMERICAN MAIL NEWS.

TO THE UNITED STATES.

June 10.—Cleveland, from Hamburg, mails due in New York June 21. Letters for this steamer must be marked "Via Hamburg," and be posted in Berlin and Dresden not later than 1 o'clock p.m. tomorrow (Wednesday).

June 12.—St. Louis, from Southampton, mails due in New York June 19. Letters for this steamer must be marked "Via England" and with the name of the vessel, and be posted in Berlin and Dresden not later than 1 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, the 10th inst.

June 13.—Campania, from Liverpool, mails due in New York June 19. Letter for this steamer must be marked "Via Colon-Queenstown per Cunard Line," and posted as per above vessel.

TO CANADA.

Letters destined for Canada—it is advisable to send by one of the New York steamers, as they are likely to reach their destination more quickly than if despatched by one of the direct vessels from Liverpool to Montreal.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Letters for the above steamers should be mailed in the boxes at the station (Berlin, Lehrter Bahnhof; Dresden, Hauptbahnhof) or at the General Post-office at the time mentioned.

Letters bearing a 10-pfennig stamp per weight of 20 grammes are only valid for transit by a German steamer sailing direct from a German port. They will not be sent by an English or French steamer.

NEXT AMERICAN MAILS DUE IN BERLIN AND DRESDEN. Tomorrow (Wednesday), by the S.S. Kaiser Wilhelm II., left New York June 1.

On Friday, the 11th inst., by the S.S. Campania, left New York June 2; and on the same date by the S.S. Majestic, also left New York June 2.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., by the S.S. La Lorraine, left New York June 3.

WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY

of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

North-westerly winds of variable force, cloudy and cool, no heavy showers.

VISIT OF BRITISH CHRISTIANS TO GERMANY.

(DAILY RECORD CORRESPONDENT.)

London, June 5.

The arrangements for about 120 ministers and laymen, drawn from the various Christian Churches in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, to visit Germany are now practically complete. The invitation from Germany came to the joint committee which was formed last year by the Metropolitan Free Church Federation and arranged the visit of the Germans to England. The joint committee delegated to a sub-committee consisting of Mr. J. Allen Baker, M.P. (president), the Rev. George Hooper, the Rev. Thomas Law, Prebendary Wakefield, the Rev. Dr. Newton Marshall, the Rev. Eric Green, the Rev. D. V. Davis, Sir John Kennaway, M.P., Sir Albert Spicer, M.P., Mr. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., Mr. J. E. Ellis, M.P., with the Rev. William Thomas as secretary, the task of making all the arrangements on this side, and of putting the German committee in direct communication with their English guests.

Tomorrow (Monday), the representatives of the English Churches will journey to Dover and go on board the "Meteor," specially chartered by the German committee for conveying them from England to Germany. They will be welcomed on board by the presidents of the German committee, Dr. Spiecker, Baron de Neufville, Konsistorialrat Lahusen and Prelat Kleineidam, and a dinner will be served on board, and it is hoped that the Bishop of London and Dr. Clifford will be among the guests, although they are not able to accompany the party to Germany. The "Meteor" will start on her journey on the Tuesday morning, June 8, and will reach Cuxhaven on Wednesday about midday. A special train will be in waiting to convey the passengers to Hamburg, where they will arrive at 6 o'clock in the evening. The following day will be spent in visiting the various places of interest, and in the evening the Senate of Hamburg will entertain the English representatives at dinner. Next morning a special train will convey the party to Berlin, where on their arrival at 1 p.m. an informal reception will be held at the Lehrter Bahnhof and the guests will be introduced to the hosts who have provided hospitality for them. In the evening at the Philharmonie the official welcome meeting will be held and addressed by both Germans and English. Saturday will be spent in a drive about Berlin, a luncheon given by the town council, and a great meeting at 5 p.m., when addresses will be delivered upon the subject of Home, Foreign, and City Missions.

On Sunday the Protestants will unite in a service at the Dom, when Dr. Dryander, Court Chaplain to the Emperor, will preach the sermon. The Roman Catholics will assemble for worship at St. Hedwig's Church. Afterwards a visit will be paid to the Royal Castle in Berlin. In the evening a liturgical service in English and German will be held in the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche. Monday day will be spent at Potsdam in visiting the Royal Castle and gardens, and lunching with the town council. In the evening the official banquet will be held at the Landes-Austellungs-Park, Berlin; it will be attended by many leading clergy, statesmen, and others of the German friends of peace, and by the whole of the English guests. The following morning will be spent in the University, when Rector Professor Dr. Kahl will deliver an address, and the guests will be favoured by also hearing Professor Dr. Harnack. In the afternoon the party will journey by rail to Eisenach, where on the following morning they will visit the Wartburg, and a drive will be taken round the beautiful hills for which the neighbourhood is distinguished. In the afternoon of the same day the guests will travel from Eisenach to Bielefeld, and the following morning a visit will be paid to the institution of Dr. von Bodelschwing, which has acquired a wide reputation. In the afternoon the guests will journey to Bremen and the Friday will be spent in visiting the churches and other interesting sights of that neighbourhood, while in the evening the Senate of Bremen will entertain the visitors to a banquet. On the Saturday the party will leave Bremerhaven for the homeward journey by the North German Lloyd steamer "Bremen," arriving in Southampton the following day.

AN AEROPLANE NOVEL.

So keen an enthusiast on aviation is Signor D'Annunzio, Italy's greatest living poet, that, in addition to his promised ode on the subject, he is now at work on an "Aëroplane Romance" in the form of a long novel. Some difficulty has been experienced by the poet in finding suitable Italian words to convey properly the many terms peculiar to aviation and aeroplane machinery. Several conferences have recently taken place between Signor D'Annunzio and Lieut. Calderara, the well-known aviator, at which the translation of the more important Anglo-French words in which the science of aviation is so rich, has been discussed at length, and Signor D'Annunzio states that he has already created 140 new Italian words to figure in his new novel.