

moderation and discretion. The actions of the convention would be watched by the country, and with kindly eyes of friendship, but with sharp ones of criticism. He suggested that the convention discuss the education of children—the religious education necessary to the life of the Republic. A temporary organization was effected by choosing as President Wm. H. Smith. A committee on permanent organization was also appointed. An adjournment was taken till tomorrow.

Peace Talk.

PESTH, Jan. 1.—Liberal members of the Diet today waited upon Premier Tisza and offered him New Year's congratulations.

Finance Minister Szapary, who acted as spokesman, referred to the services of Herr Tisza, and expressed the absolute confidence of the liberals in him as a leader, assuring him of the full support of the party in his foreign policy.

Herr Tisza in reply said:

"In the foreign political situation the alliance of central European powers offers a most permanent guarantee of peace. I may, without the risk of disappointment, give expression to the hope that, with this alliance, and in view of the fact that there is not a state in Europe absolutely desirous of war, we shall succeed in preserving this year the blessings of peace and thus continue in the work of progress."

Herr Tisza's remark is hailed as the assurance of the year's peace. Nevertheless, Russia is preparing to face the contingency of an immediate conflict. Although the frontier provinces from Bessarabia northward are already swarming with soldiers, more continue to arrive. Reports from Galicia refer to the dreadful sufferings of the Russians on the frontier, who are said to be badly sheltered and ill-fed.

PARIS, Jan. 1.—In replying to the congratulations of the diplomatic corps today, President Carnot referred to the Paris exhibition and said he trusted the year would be one of peace and prosperity.

ROME, Jan. 1.—King Humbert today received the members of the Chamber of Deputies who wished to offer New Year congratulations. In his speech he said: "It is my earnest wish to preserve peace, and it is greatly satisfactory to me to be able to state my belief that for this year peace is assured."

German News.

BERLIN, Jan. 1.—The Emperor's remarks during the reception today were without special interest. He singled out from the personages pass-

ing before him Count Herbert Bismarck, Herr Von Weddell, General Plesdorf, Count Von Schlingendorf, Count Zecheny, the Austrian Ambassador, and several others, speaking a few words to each. The ceremonies of the day were ushered in by trumpeters blowing the reveille outside the palace chapel at 10 o'clock. Divine service in the chapel was attended by the Emperor and Empress, Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia, Prince Albert of Prussia, Prince George of Saxony, Prince Leopold of Bavaria, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Baden, Grand Duke of Hesse, Duke and Duchess of Saxe Meiningen, and a brilliant array of generals commanding various army corps.

After service there was a general reception of court and ministerial officials. A long train defiled before the Emperor and Empress. The ladies were in half mourning, wearing high-necked dresses and bonnets, but no jewels. The congratulations course was held in the white salon of the Schloss and was distinct from the special audience accorded to foreign ambassadors. At a later reception, the Emperor is reported as having addressed each representative of the great powers with the same formula, expressing his desire of the continuance of cordial relations. Prince Bismarck's attack of neuralgic gout is abating, but he is unable to fix a date for his coming to Berlin. He will certainly not be able either to be present at the opening of the Landtag or participate in the colonial debates in the Reichstag. The Emperor and Empress sent Prince Bismarck costly Christmas gifts; the Emperor, in a long autograph letter, expressing gratitude for Bismarck's services, and hopes for his early recovery. The Landtag will be opened by the Emperor. The session will be an interesting one. The government measures include bills dealing with the police administration in the eastern provinces, clerical education in Posen, and the extension of railways on the eastern frontiers. For the last named purpose Minister Maybach wants a credit of 45,000,000 marks.

The public prosecutor today served upon Professor Geffekkin an indictment for high treason. It is a voluminous document, indicating a long trial and the calling of numerous witnesses. The trial will likely begin at Leipzig at the end of January. The indictment traces the entire working life of Geffekkin in trying to prove that he has been a persistent enemy of German unity.

A Chinese Edict.

The Department of State has been informed by the Minister of the United States at Peking of the following edict of the Empress Dowager, published at Peking, Friday, November 9, 1888:

The Emperor having reverently succeeded to his exalted inheritance, and increasing day by day in maturity, it is becoming that he should select a virtuous consort to assist in the administration of the palace to control the Emperor's official household, and to encourage the Emperor himself in upright conduct. Let, therefore, Yeh Ho Na La, a daughter of Deputy Lieutenant-General Kneihai Hang, whom we have selected for her dignified and her virtuous character, become the Emperor's consort.

A special edict of the same date says: Let Ta Ta La, aged 15 years, daughter of Chang, formerly vice-president of the board, become the second consort of the first rank, and let Ta Te La, aged 13, also daughter of Chang Hey, formerly vice-president of the board, become the imperial concubine of the second rank. It is understood the Emperor is between 18 and 19 years of age.

The Eclipse.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 1.—The eclipse was observed here favorably this afternoon. The day was bright, cold and clear. It began at a quarter past two and lasted an hour and a half. The sun was all obscured except a thin crescent at the top. It grew colder and dark. Chickens went to roost and lamps were lighted indoors.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—Prof. Louis Smith, director of Warren Observatory of Rochester, was stationed at Nelson, and telegraphed the following as the result of his observation: "The eclipse, as far as afforded an opportunity to search for intra-mercurial planets, was a failure from the clouds and haze. All four contacts were well made, a chronometer watch, previously set to Lick's Observatory time, being used. Five very small, colorless protuberances were seen, all having pointed apexes. Near the point of one was another, detached from the sun. Bailey's Beads were seen at the second and third contacts, but were entirely unlike those seen at Denver in 1878. No coronosphere was visible, although looked for. Mercury, Venus, Vega and Alpha Cygni were seen. The corona could not be drawn, but as seen through the telescope was not very extensive."