

## BISMARCK AND THE EMPEROR.

BERLIN, April 18.—(Copyright, 1891, by New York Associated Press.)—Prince Bismarck has tacitly consented to stand for a re-bailot in Geestemunde. He also consents to become a candidate in Lehe district, where he is certain of return. With the exception of the socialists, who are radiant over the poll in favor of their man, no party is without a share in the sense of humiliation resulting from the election. Reports state that the progressists, on the re-bailot, will vote for Bismarck or abstain from voting. Half-repentant expressions from opponents of Bismarck are accompanied in several papers with the suggestion that now that he has got a lesson to tone his pride, the electors ought to recognize his services to the nation by giving him an overwhelming majority.

## THE SATISFACTION IN COURT

circles over the check of the Prince has been allayed by the revelation of the strength of the socialists. It is known that state officials actively interfered in the contest, especially in the rural parts of the constituency, using the severest pressure against Bismarck. If this had not been done Geestemunde would not have been dishonored by an event which is regretted throughout the country.

The Emperor is credited with an intention of dissolving the Reichstag should Bismarck succeed in forming a conservative national liberal coalition against the government. As a general election, however, would certainly imperil the seats of a number of Bismarckians and greatly reinforce the socialist's part of the house, the Emperor may pause.

## THE REICHSTAG

continued the debate on the trades regulation bill. Minister Von Berlepsch opposed the socialist motion fixing the maximum day for women at ten hours. Finally the bill was amended by securing for women a prolonged rest hour during the working day and a shorter day for adult males. The progressists and socialists, however, vigorously denounce the amendment that workmen breaking contracts by leaving work without due notice, etc., must pay an indemnity, based on the ratio of their salary. There is no reciprocal clause providing for protection of workmen against unfair treatment by employers. The papers say this accentuates the antagonism between capital and labor.

## THE CEREMONY

of delivering the new colors of several regiments to staffs occurred today before the royal Schloss. All the Imperial family and many notables were present. The Emperor handed over the colors to the various divisions. The men afterward massed in front of the Emperor and he expressed confidence that the honor of the German flag would always be upheld, securing the safety of the fatherland and the glory of the army.

ACCORDING TO VIENNA ADVICES, the old scheme of a European Zollverein, having among its leading aims retaliation upon the American, French and Russian tariffs, will shortly be the subject of a conference at Vienna, at which Germany, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland and Belgium will

send delegates. The officials here deny all knowledge of any such negotiations, and it is stated that the Frankfort treaty, which secures to France any tariff conceded to Austria, Belgium or Switzerland, blocks Germany from entering such a union.

## EMPEROR WILLIAM

interfered in a quarrel between Prince Henry of Rouss, German ambassador to Austria, and Vacaresco, late Roumanian minister at Vienna. His Majesty expressed disapproval of the affront offered by the wife of the Prince to the son of Vacaresco, and advised the Prince to make reparation for the insult. Young Vacaresco will marry, the 28th inst., a rich heiress. The King of Roumania will attend the wedding. The Austrian Archbishop, leading diplomatists and other persons of note made a demonstration in honor of Vacaresco. This was bitterly felt by the Princess of Rouss, who ceased to give receptions.

## WOMEN PHYSICIANS.

"You are aware, my dear sir," says Clifford, in Hawthorne's 'House of the Seven Gables,' "that all human progress is in a circle; or, to use a more accurate and beautiful figure, in the ascending spiral curve. While we fancy ourselves going straight forward and attaining at every step an entirely new position of affairs, we do actually return to something long ago tried and abandoned, but which we now find etherialized, refined and perfected to its ideal. The past is but a coarse and sensual prophesy of the present and the future."

It is hardly necessary to say that we find exemplification of these striking words on almost every page of the world's history. The dizzy flight of time, bearing us ever onward, we can scarce tell whither, does not, as we are apt to imagine, carry us quite away from every memory of the past. Again and again we are forced back upon the experiences of our fathers; again and again we find ourselves taking up their traditions; again and again some sudden swirl of circumstances sweep us around to an ancient landmark which as we had supposed had long been left behind. The more we study the course of human development the more we learn to realize the truth of the wise man's saying that "there is no new thing under the sun;" paraphrased by the modern Frenchman in the characteristic aphorism that "there is nothing new but that which has been forgotten."

We are led into observations of this kind when, with the modern movement for the free admission of women into the medical profession gaining ever increasing favor we turn back and read what the annals of our race have to tell us of the women physicians of by-gone days. The lady doctor, so far from being, as many imagine, a unique product of our revolutionizing age, is a figure which has been sufficiently familiar during many epochs of the world's history.

The mythology of ancient Greece, so far as it throws any light at all upon the matter, seems to imply that medicine was occasionally practiced by women in the very earliest days. Special powers of healing were assigned

to Juno and Ocyrae, the daughter of the centaur Chelron; and Medea and Circe were said to possess a knowledge of medicinal herbs. We are generally safe in assuming that the Pantheon reflected the actual condition of things on earth, and it is therefore probable that the immoral beings thus mentioned had their counterpart in this respect among the mortal females of the time.

But when we enter the historic period we find that for a long time women, along with slaves, were specifically prohibited by the laws of Athens from studying medicine. Why and when this prohibition was finally abolished is a matter of dispute, though a pretty story is told in connection with the matter, which, if true, would seem to set it at rest. A young woman of the city, Agnodice by name, was while quite young seized with an uncontrollable desire for knowledge, and, by disguising herself in male attire, found means to attend the lectures of a physician named Hicophilus. Subsequently, still retaining her disguise, she devoted herself to a physician's career with such remarkable success that the other doctors of the city became jealous of her and did their best to ruin her professional reputation by trumping up ridiculous charges against her personal character. Cited before the Areopagus in consequence, Agnodice found it needful, in the assertion of her innocence, to make public the secret of sex. Upon this she was at once put on trial for infringing the statute excluding women from the profession, and would doubtless have suffered punishment accordingly, had not the wives of the leading citizens been unanimously in her favor, obtaining not only her acquittal, but also the instant alteration of the obnoxious law. Unfortunately, it has to be admitted that, charming as the story is, it rests—alas, like most of the very charming stories in history!—upon very insecure foundations; and its main value here is to show—as, true or false, it certainly does—that women physicians were not unknown among the ancient Greeks.

## ROMAN RESTRICTION.

In Rome, too, there were laws which aimed at closing the profession to women, but they were not always entirely successful in their operation. Some few names of female practitioners have been handed down to us, notably that of Fabiola, a splendid forerunner of that long line of brave and self-sacrificing women who, in hospital or on battle-field, have devoted themselves to the alleviation of the sufferings of their kind. She may be particularly remembered today for her connection with the hospitals founded by the Emperor Julian, called the Apostate.

But the part played by women as surgeons and doctors during classic times was small indeed compared with that which they filled during the middle ages. Throughout the long ages of feudalism and chivalry the exercise of the healing art was, indeed, left largely in their hands. Nuns as well as monks were accustomed to tend the sick and care for the wounded as a part of the ordinary duties of their pious calling; and thus, when we find mention made of the fact that at the instigation of Abelard, the nuns of the