

wonder that the Sovereign is loved and venerated by the people of Germany, and that they rejoice that he has lived to see the fruition of his most sanguine hopes.

THE ALLIANCE between Germany, Austria and Italy seems to have taken Europe by surprise. The negotiations were conducted with the utmost secrecy. None of the other Powers appear to have had the least hint of what was going on. No one seems to have thought that while the whole world believed that the leading nations of Europe were on the verge of war, Bismarck was silently and effectively working to secure the peace of the continent. The combination is no doubt a strong one. Neither Russia on the one hand, nor France on the other, will feel disposed to test its strength. The tone of the Russian Government is already peaceful. The news of the new alliance immediately following a Nihilist outbreak has evidently convinced the Czar that the time is not favorable for carrying out his ambitious designs on the territory of foreign nations.

GENERAL WOLSELEY, as reported in *The Evening Post*, says:—I see, with the greatest satisfaction and gratitude, the beginning in English life of something like a national party, in which Liberal, Conservative, and Radical will drop their differences on the questions of empire, looking to a *pax Britannica*, and indeed an ultimate federation of all English-speaking peoples. When every man who speaks English is in the same empire or federation, or whatever it may be called, an international millennium will be reached. For we should then be able to impose peace and freedom upon all the world."

On this the *N. Y. Independent* remarks editorially:—

"That is a glorious hope, but not an immediate one. But a *pax Britannica* which should enlarge itself to be a *pax Anglice loquentium*, and should then attempt to impose a *pax universa orbis terrarum*, might have to do it through war. This imposing peace is a dangerous matter. People don't like to have peace imposed on them. The best thing England and America could now do, looking toward universal peace, would be to adopt a treaty under which all disputes shall be referred to arbitration. That example, pressed upon other nations, might be followed. There are just three nations now that stand in the way of peace: Russia, first and worst, then France, and perhaps Germany. There is no evident prospect of reduced armaments and quiet until Russia ceases to be an irresponsible tyranny."

PRINCE BISMARCK'S Septennate bill was read the third time in the Reichstag, and was passed without debate by a vote of 227 to 31. Eighty-four members abstained from voting. The announcement of the passage of the bill

was received with applause. All the Conservatives and National Liberals and a few Centrists voted with the majority. The minority was composed of new German Liberals, Socialists and Alsations.

THE CZAR OF RUSSIA has escaped several attempts on his life lately.

THE disloyal parts of Ireland not only attack loyal men, but even women; and a "Coercion Act" is introduced in Parliament to prevent such outrages. The cowardly mutilation of cattle is bad enough, but it is too bad that the Irish should offer personal violence of a degrading character to women, and their own countrywomen. With the single exception of the murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish, all the outrages have been committed by the Irish on their own countrymen or countrywomen. What are nicknamed Coercion Acts are simply provisions for preventing Irishmen from butchering, maiming, torturing, and pillaging each other.

THE negotiations between Gladstone and the Unionists have failed. The Unionists insist on the following eight essentials: That Ireland be represented in the Imperial Parliament, that Ulster be separated from the jurisdiction of the Dublin Parliament, that the Irish Parliament be subordinate to and not co-ordinate with the Imperial body, that the subordinate powers of the Irish Parliament be strictly defined and limited, that the maintenance of law and order remain under the control of the Imperial authority, that Mr. Gladstone's financial proposals be abandoned, that his proposition that the Irish Parliament be composed of two orders be abandoned, and that British credit be not pledged for the benefit of Irish landlords. The Parnellites and Gladstonians scout these demands as unworthy of consideration. Mr. Gladstone has been asked to state explicitly his position.

BULGARIA is in much trouble. The Russian minister is said to be at the head of the recent alarming conspiracy. Much pluck and firmness have been displayed by the Government. It certainly has the sympathy of Europe excepting Russia and France.

Tennyson's jubilee ode is published. It is entitled "Carmen Saeculare," and is in alternate three and eight line blank verse stanzas.

The Queen has commanded all members of the Royal Family to come to London to celebrate her jubilee.

The Czar has appointed the Grand Duke Michael to represent him at Queen Victoria's jubilee.