

OPINION IN GERMANY.

The Emperor Has Needlessly Plunged the Country Into the Cretan Question

April 1 Chosen for Making Big Additions to the Imperial Army

BERLIN, Feb. 27.—The opinion in German political circles is that the Emperor and the government have needlessly plunged Germany in the Cretan question and its embarrassing developments. The reichstag Conservative leader speaking on the subject to-day said:

"The admission of Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, that Germany's interests are in wise involved in the Orient argues plainly against the recent course

This opinion is shared by nine of the ten members of the Reichstag, the legislative body of party, and it is generally said that this new departure in foreign policy is the only one which will save the German marckian policy. Even the Centrist press, although anti-Bismarckian, recognizes the necessity of a change in the regime. The Hamburger Nachrichten strongly protests against policy in articles, evidently from Prince Bismarck's satisfaction with His Majesty's proceedings are the colonial enthusiasts, who also are in the majority in the Reichstag.

The government has already begun an agitation of the measures it desires to introduce, and it is not without the aid of the Reichstag. The most important is an increase of the German army on a footing of equality with the big new army projects, an increase in the navy amounts to 21,000 men, mainly to form three new divisions added to the new forty-two divisions of the army.

The abcess on the Emperor's knee gave him excessive pain and he had to have fomentations night and day in order to reduce the swelling. The pain commenced a fortnight ago and His Majesty was unable to stand upright for three days.

The Leipzig University buildings, which have been thoroughly renovated and rebuilt during several years, will be re-dedicated with great ceremony in the presence of the King of Saxony and a number of princes on June 15.

There has been an epidemic of influenza in the military barracks of Prenzlau, 250 men being prostrated. The same

On the occasion of the centenary of March 22 the Emperor will issue an amnesty decree, the provisions of which only exclude murderers and lese majeste offenders.

Robt. F. Kneeb, the American horseman who is undergoing imprisonment for racing the mare Bethel on the German turf under the name of Nellie Kneeb, will probably be included in the list of pardons.

Countess von Griebelow, formerly Miss Ada Rhodes, of Savannab, Ga., is the first lady in Germany to enter her trotters for this year's races.

SOLDIERING DID NOT SUIT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 26.—What seems to be a new chapter in the history of Richard Ashe (alias Butler), the Australian murderer, has come to light. It is declared on good authority that the many countries and many aliases, is a deserter from the United States army. So far as the police have made public the information in their possession, and so far as the murderer has been concerned, the man's adventures are limited, the man's wanderings no further back than September 1, 1891, when he shipped on the City of Russia at Newcastle, N.S.W., and enlisted for this port. If it is true of his enlistment in the United States army and his desertion be true, light is thrown on another three years of his life which he declared, that he enlisted in the 10th Cavalry, at Fort Leavenworth, Ogdenburg, N.Y., in 1888, and was assigned to the fourth infantry from where he soon afterwards deserted.

KRUGER'S LITTLE GAME.
LONDON, Feb. 27.—The action of the Volksraad, as advised by Johannes Kruger yesterday in adopting a new high court law, by which any judgment of the high court can be annulled by the Volksraad rendering all contracts and concessions null and void, has created great alarm in the British newspapers loudly demanding that the law as intended to enable President Kruger to "put the screws" on the Transvaal government, should be vetoed by the British government to pay the indemnity demanded by the Transvaal for the Jameson raid. The papers point out as follows:—The law is a violation of the Rand law violates the London convention, that a battalion of the Suffolk regiments be sent to the Transvaal and ordered to leave England for the Cape

immediately.

TOTTENHAM, Feb. 27. — The general store and dwelling of Elliott & Milligan was burned to-day; the loss is \$7,500.

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