HAMBURG-AMERICAN FLEET.

Contracts for Twenty-two Steamships Let—Total Cost About $11,000,000.

The Hamburg-American Line, which increased its capital stock a few months ago, is now engaged in the construction of twenty-two new steamships. Some of these new ships are already on the stocks, and for others the contracts have only just been let. The total cost of these vessels will be about $11,000,000, and they will add 150,000 tons to the tonnage of the company, which at the end of last year was 418,812 tons, represented by 76 vessels, of which 23 are twin-screw passenger steamers.

The new steamers are also to have twin-screws. Some of the boats are to run between Hamburg and Philadelphia and Baltimore.

The largest of these steamers will be the Deutschland and the Kiautschou of 10,200 tons, which are to enter the express and the mail service. Then there is the Prinzessin Victoria Luise of 4,000 tons, which is to leave Hamburg on a trip around the world next Fall. Other ships of the new fleet that have been named are the Stiria, Sambia, and the Segovia.

E. Brandt, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hamburg-American Line, yesterday confirmed this announcement, that the addition of these new vessels would give the Hamburg-American Line the largest fleet of any of the big ocean lines, and that with the Deutschland and the Kiautschou the company expected to break some more records, and add them to those already held by the company's steamers.

CUBAN ORPHANS' FAIR.

Proposed Opening Features—Ltter from President McKinley.

It is the intention of the management of the great fair that is to be held in the armory of the Seventy-first Regiment during the two weeks beginning Easter Monday to make the opening night a gala one. Special attractions will be offered, and the scene in the armory on the night of April 16 will be a beautiful one. Specially engraved tickets, costing $5, have been prepared. The fair will be open to the general public on Tuesday, and the season tickets will then be honored.

Invitations to attend the festival have been sent to President McKinley, Admiral Dewey, Gen. Miles, and many other army and navy officer. The President sent the following reply to the invitation:

Executive Mansion.
Washington, March 14, 1900.

Dear Madam: I write to thank you for tho kind invitation extended to me to be present at the Children's National Easter Festival of the Cuban Orphan Society, to be held in New York City. The date set, however, is so far advanced that I cannot determine definitely at present whether I shall be able to attend, although I fear that public engagements will prevent me from doing so.

What has been stated of the character of the work of your society has interested me, and it would appear to be eminently praiseworthy and likely to enlist sympathy and support.

Assuring you of my good wishes for the success of your undertaking, believe me, very sincerely yours, WILLIAM McKINLEY.

Prof. Sloane on French Revolution.

Prof. William Milligan Sloane of Columbia University will deliver eight public lectures in the Adams Chapel of the Union Theological Seminary, beginning Tuesday afternoon, March 27. "Church and State During the French Revolution" is the subject for the course, which is known as "The Morse Foundation." The lectures will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, the opening subject being "Reform and Resolution." On the following day the topic is to be "The 'Infamy' of Voltaire."

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