

UNITED AUSTRALIA.

THE SIX COLONIES FORM A NEW COMMONWEALTH ON JANUARY 1.

The institution of the Commonwealth of Australia will take place on January 1, 1901, and the first Parliament will be opened on that day by the Duke of York, who made the trip to the far away country expressly for that purpose.

The country, which measures about two thousand miles east and west and 1,970 miles from north to south, having an area of the many islands comprising the geographical division known as Australasia, and is nearly equal in area to the United States, exclusive of Alaska and the newly acquired possessions.

THE COLONIAL GOVERNMENTS.

Each of the six colonies constituting the Commonwealth is in many respects a distinct and separate State. Each has its Parliament and responsible Cabinet, with a Governor appointed by the British Crown, who is also, by virtue of his office, commander-in-chief of the military and naval forces.

Education is compulsory, and for higher education there are universities at Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide. There is no State Church, but the Episcopalians are the dominant body with Roman Catholics second, Presbyterians third and Methodists fourth.

The first steps toward federation were taken in 1852, when a proposal was made to form a general assembly for the purpose of framing laws relating to intercolonial affairs. Nothing was done, however, until permission was obtained from the British Government to establish a federal council, the first meeting of which was held at Hobart, Tasmania, in January, 1886.

Under the new act the executive power is vested in a Governor-General appointed by the Queen, assisted by a Federal Executive Council. The Federal Parliament will consist of two houses, the Senate and the House of Representatives, both to be elected by the people on the basis of "one man, one vote."

tional, and not from a provincial point of view. There are many anti-Federalists in the Commonwealth, and of these many predict endless difficulties for the new government, but the majority of the inhabitants are patriotic and feel assured that by the united strength of the colonies a commonwealth of great importance may be built up in the southern world.

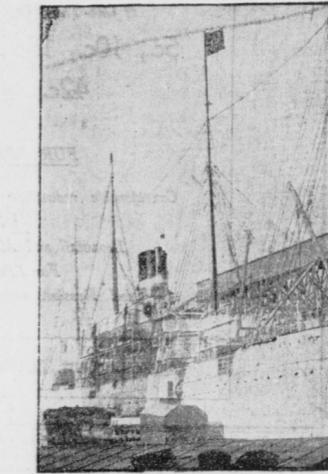
Best Performances in All Sports. Tribune Almanac, 1901.

AUSTRALIANS TO DINE.

NEW-YORK SOCIETY TO COMMEMORATE FOUNDING OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

The recently organized Australian Society of New-York is making elaborate preparations for a dinner at Sherry's next Saturday night in commemoration of the establishment of the Australian Commonwealth.

The society hopes to have Mark Twain as one of its guests, and is trying to secure Mme. Melba to sing. At the dinner cable messages will be dispatched to the Queen and to Lord Hopetoun, the British Consul-General of Australia.



THE M'PHERSON LOADING FOR CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

treasurer: B. B. Valentine, C. B. Richards and D. McLean.

FIRST NAVAL BATTALION REVIEW.

PRIZES AND DUTY MEDALS TO BE DISTRIBUTED—ARMORY RIFLE PRACTICE TO BEGIN.

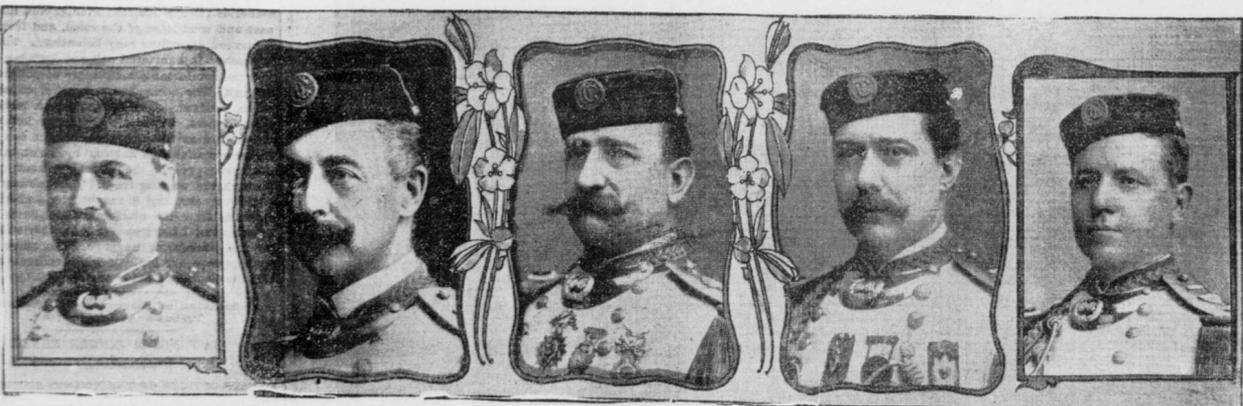
Howard H. Kipp, formerly a member of the 1st Division, and who served on the United States steamship Yankee in the Spanish-American War, has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps.

The following petty officers have passed the Examining Board and have been warranted: Quartermaster L. A. Goldstone, Boatwain's Mate W. C. Shaw, Gun Captain (first class) W. E. Hamlin and Gun Captain (second class) W. B. Watt, Jr.

The next battalion drill of the season will be held on the evening of Wednesday, January 16, instead of Tuesday, January 15, as heretofore ordered. The drill will be held at the 1st Regiment Armory.

The revised score of the last athletic games in the 1st Regiment places Company I far in the lead, with total score of 55 out of a possible 95 points, or 14 points better than the rest of the regiment combined.

OFFICERS OF THE OLD GUARD.



CAPTAIN JOHN QUINCY.

CAPTAIN BELDEN ROGERS.

MAJOR S. BELLS BRIGGS, COMMANDER. (From photographs by Anderson.)

ADJUTANT ROBERT LYONS.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM TRUMAN.

originally included in the Commonwealth is entitled to an equal representation in of six Senators, and the total number of Representatives is to be as nearly as possible twice that of the Senators, each State to be represented in proportion to population, the minimum being fixed at five members.

Immediately on the establishment of the Commonwealth the Federal Government will assume the administration of customs and excise, and as soon as practicable afterward the control of the post and telegraph services, defenses, lighthouses and quarantine. Should the Federal law conflict with any existing State law, the former shall prevail.

large field of entries. All the events will be open except two, which will be reserved for National Guards and 1st Regiment members. Colleges in three States have sent entries for the two mile run, which promises to be the most exciting contest.

Company I is feeling very proud over the fact that within the last year two of its lieutenants have been promoted to majors. They are First Lieutenant Arthur W. Little, now major on the staff of General Smith, and Second Lieutenant Harrison K. Bird, recently appointed military secretary to Governor-elect Odell, with the rank of major.

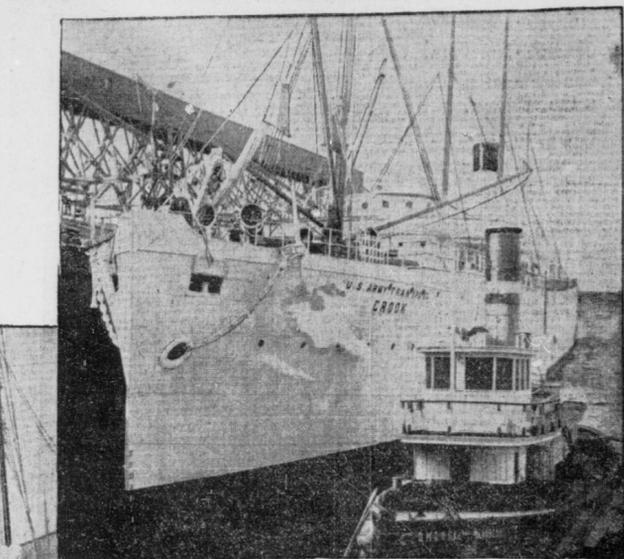
In Company K Private Charles H. Scott has been appointed corporal. Private Charles L. Cherot has been appointed a corporal in Company E.

Officers of the States and Nation. Tribune Almanac, 1901.

TRANSPORT LINE TO STAY.

REPORT THAT GOVERNMENT WILL CHANGE ITS LANDING PLACE FROM BROOKLYN TO MANHATTAN.

Various reports that the Army transport service from Brooklyn was to be discontinued the first of the year seem to be without foundation. Two of the transports are now lying at the Government pier, adjoining the South Ferry, and one of them, at least, is to be continued in the Cuban and Porto Rican service for some time to come, together with two others not now in port. The



THE ARMY TRANSPORT CROOK. To be refitted for the Manila service.

Crook, which recently arrived from West Indian ports, is to be laid up for an overhauling preparatory to going into the Manila service, but the McClellan and the Rawlin will continue to ply between this city and United States military stations in the West Indies for some time to come.

Authority has been received to lay in supplies for a three ship service for three months, it is said at the Government pier, and it is also said that strong pressure by merchants to have at least two ships of the Philippine transport service sail from this port is being brought to bear.

It is not positive, however, that the Brooklyn landing will be retained as long as the transport service is continued. It is said that the War Department has long had its eye on a wharf on the lower East River front of Manhattan, probably Pier No. 2, and it would not create surprise among those in charge to see the transport landing established across the river at almost any time.

Those who are urging the establishment of a Philippine transport service from this city by way of the Mediterranean and the Suez Canal say it is cheaper than the Pacific route from San Francisco, notwithstanding the heavy canal tolls. They argue that the high freight charges from the Atlantic seaboard to San Francisco on an ordinary cargo of Eastern produce considerably exceed the canal tolls, and that time, as well as money, may be saved by the canal route.

OLD GUARD WILL MARCH.

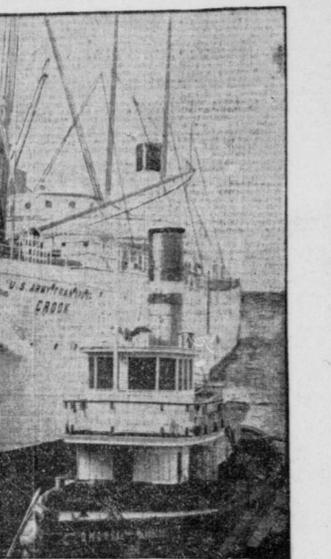
GOVERNORS, OFFICERS OF THE ARMY, NAVY AND NATIONAL GUARD AND MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS TO ATTEND THE BALL.

Shoulder to shoulder, as many of the Old Guard marched and fought in bygone days, they will appear, with officers of the Army and Navy, veteran and military bodies and officers of the National Guard, on the polished floor at the Metropolitan

TOPICS IN CALIFORNIA.

GENERAL PROSPERITY ON THE PACIFIC COAST—A HAPPY DAY FOR SICK SOLDIERS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] San Francisco, Dec. 29.—The general prosperity of San Francisco and of the State was proved by the unusually large Christmas business in all lines of trade. Merchants report of this holiday trade as far in excess of that of any recent years. Cold and dry weather made the day enjoyable, and in many places in the



interior it was warm. One of the features of the holiday week was a big Christmas tree at the Military Hospital at the Presidio, where there are now 840 patients, attendants and employees. The wards were prettily decorated, and in the main dining hall the tree, reaching from the floor to the ceiling, was heavily laden with gifts. All of the convalescents who could leave their beds were grouped here, the helpless one being taken in in wheelchairs. After music, presents were distributed, and it was pathetic to note the pleasure of the men, who received what they had longed for in days of sickness. The women of the Red Cross and others distributed gifts among those who were confined to their beds. The victims of wounds and disease in the Philippines and in China forgot their pains for a few minutes in their pleasure at being remembered.

Colonel A. C. Girard, chief surgeon of the hospital, conceived the idea of the Christmas tree, and was ably seconded in carrying it to such success by Lieutenant Collins, his executive officer.

L. W. Fletcher, the San Francisco agent of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company, in an interview at Denver this week, called attention to the remarkable recent growth of San Francisco, which he said was greater than that of any other large American city. He found it difficult to get offices in the central business district, and he noted the rapid growth of shipping, which has outstripped the wharf facilities. All who have made a study of the conditions of the city are aware of the large increase of residents, which has filled all the desirable houses for rent. This has led to the building of hundreds of residences and flat houses.

A remarkable divorce trial was closed this week with a verdict for Charles H. Smith, the cashier of the Southern Pacific Company. Smith for several years has been dragged into notoriety by attacks on him at his office and his lodgings by his wife, from whom he was separated. The woman seemed to take pleasure in worrying her husband, and recently she employed her grown son to aid her in this work. Finally Smith determined to get relief, and sought the divorce court. His wife, true to her character, appeared as counsel for herself, and badgered Smith on the witness stand for two days. She set at defiance all rules of court, and converted the trial into uproarious farce. The jury promptly returned a verdict for Smith.

John Daniel Soms & Sons

To-morrow (Monday) we will offer a great variety of choice articles suitable for

NEW YEAR'S DAY,

comprising FINE TABLE DAMASK AND NAPKINS TO MATCH, CRYSTAL AND GOLD RICH CUT GLASS, SILVERWARE AND CUTLERY, LAMPS, CLOCKS, TABLES & GOLD CHAIRS, EXQUISITE BRIC-A-BRAC, JARDINIERS, FLOWERS AND PLANTS, for Decorating Purposes, RICH JEWELRY AND FANS, ORNAMENTS FOR THE HAIR, DRESS GARNITURES, RENAISSANCE TABLE COVERS, LOVELY COUCH PILLOWS, DUCHESSE LACE HDKFS, &c. MEN'S FURNISHINGS.

THE LATEST EFFECTS IN DRESS SHIRTS, NECKWEAR, GLOVES, &c.

Broadway 8 and 9 Sts.

New-Jersey Advertisements.

New-Jersey Advertisements.



January Clearing SALE

in Every One of Our 100 Stores

As it will be the Last Winter Clearance in our present building, we shall make it memorable for variety and richness of offerings and the sacrifice of values.

ALSO First presentation of the Advance (1901) Numbers of Dry Goods, Embroideries, Linens and Undermuslins.

CLOSED TO-MORROW NIGHT AND ALL DAY TUESDAY

Goods delivered in Greater New York and at New Jersey Railroad Stations Free of Charge.

HAHNE & CO., Newark

Consul-General will be the guest of honor at the "ladies' jinks" next month.

The alumni and friends of the University of the Pacific, at San José, this week made a united endeavor to relieve the old institution from debt. There was a \$60,000 mortgage on the buildings and grounds, and this was cut down to less than \$6,000. The university is Presbyterian and it has an able faculty, and many prominent California preachers are among its alumni.

"Naughty Anthony," which produced a sensation when first brought out in New-York because of Blanche Bates's acting as a hosiery model, was played this week at the Alcazar. The verdict of the critics was that it was an inane farce which shows clearly that David Belasco is not a comedian.

The report is again in circulation that John W. Mackay is planning to build soon a fine office structure at the southeast corner of Market and Fourth sts. The lot for years has been covered with dilapidated shanties that are an eyesore to the neighborhood. This report is due to a remark made by Mr. Mackay that if young Flood did not build a theatre and hotel on the old Baldwin site he would erect one on his lot. Flood himself is singularly slow in beginning improvements, and the most valuable corner in San Francisco has lain idle for more than two years.

Everything You Want to Know. Tribune Almanac, 1901.

RECEPTION AT THE PRESS CLUB.

Alfred C. Harmsworth, Count de Sabune de Lafayette and Vice-Consul Chow have accepted invitations to be present at President Willard Cullen Bryant's reception at the Press Club to-morrow afternoon. An entertainment will be given by actors. A luncheon will be served. The arrangements are under an execution for \$800, in favor of Acker, Merrill & Condit, grocers.

BREWERS CLAIM PARKER HOUSE GOODS.

Deputy Sheriff Radley was served with a demand notice yesterday by the attorneys of the Pabst Brewing Company, of New-York, alleging that the company owns the furniture and silverware of the Parker House, Broadway and Thirty-ninth-st., which had been ordered to be sold at auction on Wednesday under an execution for \$800, in favor of Acker, Merrill & Condit, grocers.

LITTLE CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.

Percival Doran, three and a half years old, who lived with his parents on the ground floor of the five story flat house at No. 235 West One-hundred-and-forty-third-st., while playing to light a Christmas tree at 11 a. m. yesterday, ignited his

clothing and died two hours later at the J. Hood Wright Hospital from the effects of his burns. The boy's mother, who is the janitress, had locked Percival in the room while she went to the basement. The child's screams attracted the attention of a tenant, who burst in the door and aided the boy's mother, who arrived at the same moment, to put out the flames.

CARNEGIE EMPLOYEES' WAGES ASSURED.

NO REDUCTION FOR THE NEW YEAR FOR FOURTEEN THOUSAND EMPLOYEES.

Pittsburg, Dec. 29.—The employees of the Oliver Mining Company, H. C. Frick Coal Company, Carnegie Natural Gas Company, Youghiogheny Northern Railroad, Union Railroad, Pittsburg, Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad, Pittsburg and Connant Rock, Union Supply Company, Pittsburg Limestone Company, Mingo Coal Company, Youghiogheny Water Company, Pleasant Valley Water Company and the Pittsburg Steamship Company, which concerns form a portion of the Carnegie company, will on January 2 be informed that the same wages as paid this year will be continued for one year more. The company has also decided to make no change in the wages paid the workmen in its steel and blast furnace plants. The outlook for the coming year in this particular, the Carnegie company officials declare, is at least as good as last year, so that the fourteen thousand employes will begin the new century with bright prospects. The American Iron Works of the Jones & Laughlin Company has already made a wage agreement with the unskilled labor by which a grant of 10 per cent advance was made.

LOCAL BUSINESS COMPLICATIONS.

Arthur G. Muhler, a builder of No. 79 East One-hundred-and-twenty-sixth, has filed a petition in bankruptcy, with liabilities of \$28,822 and no assets. Of the liabilities \$71,000 was secured by bond and a mortgage.

Charles L. Pettis and Harry J. Hunter, composing the firm of C. L. Pettis & Co., wholesale dealers in produce at No. 204 Duane-st., made an assignment yesterday to Ulrich W. Tompkins. Before the assignment the Sheriff received an attachment against Mr. Hunter for \$2,000 in favor of Norman T. Kerr. The attachment was issued against Mr. Hunter only, as his home is in Newark. The Sheriff found nothing at the store on which a levy could be made. The firm was formed about August 1 last. Mr. Pettis had previously been a partner in the firm of Irving T. Hunter & Co. at the same address, who made an assignment on July 6 last.