A. KAUFMAN,

909 PA. AVE. N.W.

ON THE EVE
Of the battle.
TOMORROW
The last day of shopping
BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

We claim to play a leading part in this grand exit. We are giving as great value as any concern in the United States.

Below you will find suitable and sensible presents at

EXTRA SPECIAL SALE PRICES.

EXTRA SPECIAL SALE.
25c. Portfolios, with paper, envelopes and pen holder 15c
50c. Chatelain Bags ... 25c
50c. Bracelets for 19c
1,000 Pad Writing Tablets, note size, at ..... 1c. each

SOUVENIR SALE.
LADIES' 35c. Jap. Silk Handkerchiefs, any initial, ½-in. hem 25c
LADIES' 25c. ALL-Linen Embroidered and Scalloped Handkerchiefs for 19c
1,000 BRONZE AND White Metal 49c. Paper Weights (shape of sphynx) for 15c

XMAS PRESENTS.
BOOKS. Red Line Poets for 40c
GENTS' $1.50 fine quality Fancy Suspenders for $1
LADIES' $1.00 Quilter Tops for 69c

DESIRABLE GIFTS.
LADIES' $1.25 All-silk Hosiery, Richelieu Ribbed, Fancy Boot Patterns 89c
LADIES' $14 Mackintoshes, in Tan and Gray, for $10
LADIES' BEST CHEVRON CLOTH COAT, Lined throughout with All-silk Rhaddame, frog fastenings, worth $22, for $14.95

SURPRISE PRICES.

OUR GIFTS TO YOU.
LADIES' COAT OPOSSUM, FULL SOLL, Lined to side seams with best satin, worth $15, for $10.98

A GOOD WISH TO MERRY XMAS.

SENSIBLE XMAS GIFTS.
CHILDREN'S FINE DRESSES, (We have 6 of them), Fine Henrietta, at ..... $7 each.
LADIES' ENGLISH Cape Wraps at $14

EXTRA SOUVENIRS.
INFANTS' 35c. Worsted Sacques for 19c
INFANTS' SILK CAPS In White and Colors, at 89c

COMPLETE HOLIDAY DISPLAY.
CHILDREN'S 50c. Worsted Leggins in Brown, Black and White for 39c
FINE CARRIAGE ROBES Were $7.75, at $5

COMMENCES AT 8 O'CLOCK A. M.

The above articles are all suitable Xmas presents.

Avail yourself of the
SOUVENIR PRICES.
At
AAA
A A
AAA
A A
KK K AA U U FFF MM MM A NN N
KK AA U U F MMMM AA NNN
KK AAA U U F MM M AAA N NN
K K A A UU F MM A A N NN

909 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. N.W.

THE PEOPLE'S BENEFACTOR. 1t

ACCEPTABLE

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

FINE PLATES, $3 to $90 per dozen.
TEA SETS, $5 to $22.50.
ICE CREAM SETS, $4.50 to $32.
A FINE SET OF CARVERS, $1.50 to $17.50.
GAME SETS, $15 to $50.
FISH SETS, $10 to $60.
Individual CUPS and SAUCERS in an endless variety.

WILMARTH & EDMONSTON,
1205 Penna. ave. d21

WHERE WILL YOU BUY?

Be wary in buying Sealskins and Furs, unless you know of whom you are buying. There are a number of good places. *Ours is one.*

We can meet all competition on Alaska Sealskin Jackets and Reefers, quality considered.

Fur Capes with Fur Muffs to match. Elegant line of Muffs for Gifts.

All kinds of Fur Edgings, 50c. up.

The best Silk Hats and Derbys, from "Dunlap" and others.

A thousand Umbrellas and Canes, perhaps. Both engraved free.

WILLETT & RUOFF.
d21 905 Pa. ave. n. w.

"IMPERIAL LAMPS!"

Banquet and Piano Lamps.
Fancy Lamps of all kinds.
One gallon of Pratt's Astral with every Lamp sold.
THE IMPERIAL LAMP
Is especially recommended.

FRANCIS MILLER,
d17-6t 305-307 9th st. n. w.

AN ATTRACTIVE DISPLAY.

Of the many attractive windows on Pennsylvania avenue there are none that compare with the elegant and pleasing variety displayed in the windows of

J. W. BOTELER & SON,
923 Pennsylvania avenue.

Here can be found as complete an assortment of CHINA, GLASS, PIANO AND BANQUET LAMPS, BRIC-A-BRAC, &c.,

As was ever brought together, the collection of which, adapted for the *Holiday Trade*, would charm the most fastidious. Among the many greetings for Xmas and New Year's none can be found more appropriate than a selection from a china store. The superior qualities of these goods and their suitability for *Holiday Presents* can only be determined by a visit, which insures a purchase. d18

Open evenings until Christmas.

J AAA L
J A A L
J AAA L
J J A A L
JJJ A A A LLLL

USEFUL CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Below we quote a few of the thousand and one useful articles suitable for holiday gifts:

Patterns of Wool Dress Goods from $1.25 to $15.
Patterns of Black and Colored Silks from $9.75 to $30. Guaranteed to wear well.
How's a pair of California Wool Blankets? Prices $5 to $15 a pair.
How's an Eiderdown Quilt for $6?
How does an Umbrella strike you? We have them in great variety, ranging from 90c. to $8.50.
What's more useful than a Gossamer Waterproof? We have them for ladies and children from $1 to $4.
Ladies' and Children's Fur Sets from $1.98 to $50.
Fur Muffs, 98c. to $12.
Silk and Linen Handkerchiefs in embroidered, plain and initialed, from 5c. to $2 apiece—put up in fancy boxes.
Any merchandise bought of us for holiday presents and proving unsatisfactory can be exchanged after Christmas.

JOHNSON & LUTTRELL,
d17 713 Market space.

FINE ELECTRO

SILVER-PLATED WARE.
Replating and Repairing a specialty.
RAMS & SONS' MANUFACTURING CO.,
Branch, 531 7th st. n.w.
oct-6m Factory, Baltimore, Md.

EVERY FAMILY

Should be provided with Ayer's Pills. No other aperient is in such general demand or so highly recommended by the profession. Mild but thorough in operation these pills are the best of all remedies for constipation, biliousness, heartburn, indigestion, flatulency, loss of appetite, liver complaint and sick headache. They break up colds, fevers and malaria, relieve rheumatism and neuralgia and are indispensable to travelers, either by land or sea. Sugar coated and compounded of the purest vegetable

NEEDS

cathartics, they may be taken with impunity by old and young. Physicians recommend these pills in preference to any other. H. W. Hersh, Judsonia, Ark., says: "In 1853, by the advice of a friend, I began the use of Ayer's Pills as a remedy for biliousness, constipation, high fevers and colds. They served me better than anything I had previously tried, and I have used them in attacks of that sort ever since."

AYER'S CATHARTIC PILLS.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists and Dealers in Medicine.

DID YOU EVER SEE A SICKLY BABY

with dimples? or a healthy one without them?

A thin baby is always delicate. Nobody worries about a plump one.

If you can get your baby plump he is almost sure to be well. If you can get him well he is almost sure to be plump.

The way to do both—there is but one way—is by careful living. Sometimes this depends on SCOTT'S EMULSION of cod-liver oil.

We will send you a book on it free.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists,
132 South Fifth Avenue, New York.

FOR FEMALE COMPLAINTS

USE POND'S EXTRACT.

23

BROWN'S IRON BITTERS ALMANAC

FOR 1892

Contains ONE HUNDRED RECIPES for making delicious CANDY cheaply and quickly at home. The book is given away at drug and general stores. d15

HOW ABOUT A PAIR OF

GOLD SPECTACLES,
GOLD EYEGLASSES,
OPERA GLASSES,
OPERA GLASSES,
OPERA GLASS HOLDERS,
OPERA GLASS HOLDERS,
KODAKS OR MAGIC LANTERNS,
LORGNETTES,
FOR CHRISTMAS?
FOR CHRISTMAS?

F. W. McALLISTER,
OPTICIAN,
d19-5t 1311 F ST. N. W.

CARHART & LEIDY.

928 7th and 706 K st. n.w.

MEN'S NECKWEAR.

High taste, careful excellence of manufacture, correct style. All that is novel in Puffs, Tecks and the ever popular Four-in-hand, all satin lined, at 25 and 50c.

UMBRELLAS

From the best makers at prices much below the general ones. Very durable coverings and stylish handles, in horn, ebony, antique ivory, natural wood with silver trimmings, and in the natural woods, weichall, furze, oak, acacia, &c., at popular prices.

GLOVES.

Gentlemen's Walking Gloves of the very best makes at $1 and $1.50.

Ladies' Foster Kid and Suede Mosquetaire Gloves at $1, $1.35, $1.75 and $2.

Men's Kid Fur-lined Gloves at $1, $1.50 and $2.

Chenille Table Covers, Down Pillows, Head Rests, Fancy Baskets, Art Goods of all kinds, Chenille Portieres, Lace Curtains, Fur Rugs, Handkerchiefs, Decorated China and Bisque Ware, Clocks, Bronze Ornaments, &c.

CARHART & LEIDY,
d19 928 7th and 706 K st. n. w.

W. M. SHUSTER & SONS.

TEN PER CENT OFF FOR CASH.

RECOGNIZING THAT BUSINESS IN OUR LINE IS FULLY ONE MONTH BACKWARD, AND HAVING AN OVERSTOCK OF *FINE CHOICE GOODS*, WE HAVE DETERMINED TO REDUCE OUR STOCK WITHOUT DELAY, AND SHALL BEGIN ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, AND ALLOW A DISCOUNT OF TEN CENTS ON THE DOLLAR IN LARGE OR SMALL PURCHASES FOR *CASH*. OUR STOCK IS WELL KNOWN TO CONTAIN GOODS OF ALL DESCRIPTION AND OF THE BEST MANUFACTURES IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. SILKS, FAILLES, RHADEIMESSE, BENGALINES, VELVETS, PLUSHES, SERGES, HENRIETTAS, DIAGONALS, BEDFORDS, PLAIDS, STRIPES, AND IN FACT A MAGNIFICENT LINE OF FIRST-CLASS DRY GOODS, ON ALL OF WHICH WE WILL ALLOW TEN PER CENT OFF FOR CASH. WE ALSO HAVE AN ELEGANT LINE OF HOSEM UNDERWEAR AND THE MOST COMPLETE LINE OF HOUSEKEEPING GOODS, SUCH AS TOWELS, NAPKINS, TABLE LINENS, CRASHES, BEDSPREADS, BLANKETS, &c., ALL OF WHICH ARE AT THE LOWEST MARKET VALUE, AND AN ADDITIONAL DISCOUNT OF TEN CENTS ON THE DOLLAR FOR CASH.

W. M. SHUSTER & SONS,
919 PA. AVE. no11

ALASKA SEAL SACQUES, REEFERS

AND JACKETS.

Astrakhan Reefers and Jackets,
Alaska Seal Capes and Muffs,
Mink Capes and Muffs,
Persian Lamb Capes and Muffs,
Black Marten Capes and Muffs,
Astrakhan Capes and Muffs,
Beaver Capes and Muffs,
Monkey Capes and Muffs,
Gray Krimmer Capes and Muffs,
Wool Seal Capes and Muffs,
French Seal Capes and Muffs,
French Coney Capes and Muffs,
Dyed Opossum Capes and Muffs.

Boas in Bear, Black Lynx, Black Marten, Black Hare and other furs.

CARRIAGE ROBES, FLOOR RUGS, FUR TRIMMINGS.

GENTS' FUR CAPS AND GLOVES, COACHMEN'S CAPES AND HATS.

JAMES E. DAVIS' SONS,
no24-tr 1201 Pennsylvania ave.

ANGOSTORA BITTERS. THE WORLD RENOWNED South American appetizer, cures dyspepsia, &c. Dr. J. G. B. Siegert & Sons, sole manufacturers. At all druggists.

2d EDITION.

GEN. CRESWELL DEAD

The Maryland Statesman Passed Away This Morning.

EXPLOSION ON A FRENCH VESSEL.

Arrival of Senator Plumb's Remains at Kansas City.

TODAY'S ELECTION IN IRELAND

JOHN A. J. CRESWELL DEAD.

Unexpected Demise of the Ex-Postmaster General.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

ELKTON, MD., Dec. 23.—John A. J. Creswell, ex-Postmaster General, died here this morning. Gen. Creswell died of pneumonia.

The news of Gen. Creswell's death will be read with a great deal of regret in this city, where he occupied a prominent position and where he had many friends and more admirers. Soon after quitting the desk at the head of the Post Office Department he became the president of the Citizens' National Bank in this city, of which he owned a large share. This position he filled from 1875 till January, 1890, when he was succeeded by Mr. E. Kurtz Johnson, who had secured a controlling interest in the bank. Gen. Creswell was a man of marked ability and was unusually popular with all with whom he was at all familiar. At the bank the first news of his death was received this afternoon from THE STAR office. It caused genuine sorrow among all those connected with that institution.

Since severing his connection with the bank Gen. Creswell had devoted himself to the practice of law. He had a large and lucrative practice and it was from this source that most of his large wealth was derived. His work was mainly with important cases before the Supreme Court. During the winter he lived with his wife at the Richmond, having leased his handsome house at the corner of 19th and I streets to Senator Quay. He also owned a handsome summer home at Elkton, and it was here that his death occurred. He was in this city about three weeks ago and was planning to come back for the winter at an early day.

Last spring he had the grip. This was succeeded by rheumatism and later by pneumonia, which left him in a very enfeebled condition. When he was last here it was noticed that he was very weak, but his complete recovery was confidently looked for.

Gen. Creswell was a member of the Presbyterian church and had a pew at the Church of the Covenant, where he was a regular attendant. He leaves a wife, who was a Miss Richardson. They had no children. Nothing is known in this city as yet as to the probable time and place of the funeral services.

LIFE AND CAREER OF GEN. CRESWELL.

John A. J. Creswell was born at Port Deposit, Cecil county, Md., November 18, 1828. He was graduated at Dickinson College, Pennsylvania, in 1848, studied law and was admitted to the Maryland bar in 1850. He was a member of the state legislature of 1860 and 1862, and was assistant adjutant general for Maryland in 1862 and 1863. He was elected to Congress and served from December 7, 1863, till March 3, 1865, and, having distinguished himself as an earnest friend of the Union, was elected as a republican to the United States Senate in March, 1865, to fill the unexpired term of Thomas H. Hicks. On February 22, 1866, he delivered, at the request of the House of Representatives, a memorial eulogy of his friend and collebgue, Henry Winter Davis. He was a delegate to the Baltimore convention of 1864, the Philadelphia loyalists' convention of 1866, the border states convention held in Baltimore in 1867 and the Chicago republican convention of 1868. In May, 1868, he was elected secretary of the United States Senate, but declined. On March 5, 1869, he was appointed by President Grant Postmaster General of the United States and served till July 3, 1874.

SENT TO BLOOMINGDALE.

Mrs. Ada Thorpe Loftus, the Crank Who Wanted to Kill the President.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Mrs. Ada Thorpe Loftus, who, according to the statement of Rudolph V. Martinson of No. 58 East 54th street, came to this country for the purpose of "removing" President Harrison, was sent to the Bloomingdale Asylum this morning from Bellevue Hospital, having been pronounced insane yesterday. She arrived on the Britannica last Sunday and put up at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

TREMENDOUS DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

Eighteen Persons Killed and Thirty Wounded on a French Vessel at Antwerp.

ANTWERP, Dec. 23.—Eighteen persons were killed and thirty wounded by the accidental explosion of dynamite on the French "lugger" or two-masted vessel, The Pilot, here today.

The force of the explosion was so great that the whole neighborhood seemed to rock and tremble. Every window within the sweep of the concussion was shattered. Doors were blown in and crushed as if by battering rams. People at a considerable distance from the quay where the ship blew up were swept off their feet and hurled, bruised and bleeding, for yards.

Fragments of the ship, intermixed with human remains, are scattered here and there about the scene of the explosion. The horrors of the scene can hardly be described.

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WRECK.

While Cyrus W. Field Improves His Son's Condition Grows Worse.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The condition of Mr. Cyrus W. Field is considered more hopeful today than it has been for some time He was able to sit up and take a little nourishment. His family now have no fears of any immediate danger.

The belief is growing that Edward M. Field is a mental as well as a physical wreck. He still refuses to eat, and Warden Dunlop said this morning that force would soon be used to make him take some nourishment. Field's counsel, Mr. Lindley, visited Ludlow street jail this morning and tried to induce the imprisoned banker to partake, if only sparingly, of a tempting repast which he had had prepared. His efforts were unsuccessful.

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y., Dec. 23.—The jury investigating the condition of E. M. Field today, after a consultation of fifteen minutes, brought in a verdict that he was insane.

TODAY'S FIGHT AT WATERFORD.

Significance of the Struggle Between Redmond and Davitt.

DUBLIN, Dec. 23.—This is the great day in the battle for supremacy between the rival factions of the Irish parliamentary party. It is conceded that the election which takes place in Waterford today is the decisive struggle in the Irish fight and upon it will depend the future course of the factions. If Mr. Michael Davitt, the nominee of the McCarthyite section, wins the fight it is believed his success will end the dissensions which have split the party since the developments of the O'Shea divorce case and that henceforth the Irish members of parliament will work together to secure home rule for Ireland.

In the event of the victory of Mr. John E. Redmond, the nominee of the Parnollites, there is no doubt the struggle will be further continued, and the result will be a still longer postponement of the realization of the hopes of the Irish people.

When the booths were opened quite a number of voters were ready to cast their ballots. There was no disorder and everything passed along quietly. There was no delay in the proceedings and the voting is now proceeding briskly.

Extensive Iron Discoveries in the Northwest.

DULUTH, MINN., Dec. 23.—Particulars of the new iron finds on the Mesaba range in township 58, ranges 16 to 18, are just beginning to come out and show that these latest ore discoveries exceed anything yet found in the entire Lake Superior region.

GUTTED BY FIRE.

The Tremont House at Quincy, Ill., Burned—Loss in Other Places.

QUINCY, ILL., Dec. 23.—The Tremont House has been gutted by fire. The three upper floors are destroyed and the two lower floors were ruined by water. The fire was discovered shortly before midnight, but everybody was safely aroused. Loss upward of $100,000; insurance unknown.

NYACK, N.Y., Dec. 23.—A large barn belonging to Harvey Depew, situated near where the conflagration occurred at Conger's City on Sunday night, was burned last night. A number of valuable horses and cows perished in the flames. The loss is $10,000

The fire was probably the work of an incendiary.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—A fire occurred at an early hour this morning in John Chatillon & Sons' scale factory, 85, 87 and 89 Cliff street. It broke out in the paint shop on the third floor, and the running oils and paints communicated the flames to the other stories in quick order. The building was damaged about $40,000, while the loss on stock is put at $75,000. Both building and stock were fully insured.

DETROIT, MICH., Dec. 23.—The oil-can depot of the Union Mills was almost entirely destroyed by fire at an early hour this morning. The loss is estimated at $150,000. The amount of insurance is unknown. The fire was caused by spontaneous combustion.

ROSLYN, L. I., Dec. 23.—The barns, out houses and farm machinery on the farm of William Townsend, at Glenwood, were destroyed by fire at an early hour this morning. Three horses and several cows were burned to death. The loss is $3,000; partially insured. The cause of the fire is unknown.

KANSAS' HONORED DEAD.

Arrival of the Remains of Senator Plumb at Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, MO., Dec. 23.—The day had barely dawned when the special train which was bearing the body of the late Preston B. Plumb to his native soil arrived at the Union depot. The scene was one of extreme gloom, in keeping with the solemnity of the occasion. A heavy cloud of fog and smoke hung over the station like a pall. The hurry and hustle of the trainmen and passengers and the noise which is ever present about the station seemed modified. All moved slowly, and by their actions discovered that they unconsciously endeavored to prevent any unnecessary noise. Everybody desired to show his respect and honor for the dead Senator. The depot lights had been extinguished and early morning was scarcely sufficient to light the station, while the headlight of the engine of the funeral train cast weird shadows before it as it drew into the station.

THE ESCORT TO TOPEKA.

Gathered in a group opposite the main entrance were stationed the various escorts which were to accompany the body of the distinguished Kansan to Topeka, the state capital, and thence to Emporia, the home of the Senator. These escorts were four in number, the first being composed of Gov. Lyman U. Humphrey of Kansas, accompanied by his staff and the officers of the state; the second of Timothy McCarthy, department commander of the G. A. R. of Kansas, his staff and delegations from various posts of Kansas, Emporia Post being given the place of honor; the third of the pallbearers, Hon. J. K. Hudson, Judge John Guthrie, Col. A. G. Huntoon, Mayor W. H. Sims, Judge John Martin and the Messrs. J. S. Collins, C. M. Foulks and F. P. McLenna, all of Topeka, Kan., and the honorary pallbearers, F. P. Baker, Judge F. G. Adams, ex-Gov. Thos. A. Osborn, Col. C. K. Holliday, George R. Peck, Judge J. B. Johnson, Dr. S. Sheldon and Dr. M. O'Brien. The fourth escort consisted of Mayor Hannon and the members of the city council of Kansas City, Kan., a committee, headed by A. B. Ford, of representative men of that city and a detachment of metropolitan police.

When the special train arrived over the Missouri Pacific Gov. Humphrey, Commander McCarthy, the pallbearers, Mayor Hammond and Mr. Ford entered the funeral car and formally received the body from the sergeant-at-arms of the Senate.

Suspension of a Mississippi Bank.

VICKSBURG, MISS., Dec. 23.—The bank of Greenville, Miss., suspended yesterday afternoon. United States Senator White of Louisiana, representing the Whitney National Bank of New Orleans and other creditors, was in Greenville yesterday. President Pollock has been appointed receiver. The liabilities are stated at $1,000,000. The assets are fully equal to that amount.

CAPITOL TOPICS.

Two Bills Providing for the Establishment of Mints That Are Very Similar.

Imitation is said to be the sincerest form of flattery. If that be true then Senator Allison has paid Senator Manderson a delicate and unusual compliment. On the 10th instant Senator Manderson introduced a bill to establish a branch mint of the United States at Omaha, in the state of Nebraska. On the 16th instant Senator Allison introduced a bill to establish a branch mint of the United States at Council Bluffs, in the state of Iowa. Singularly enough the two bills, with the one difference of location, are precisely similar as to phraseology and punctuation. Omitting the first section of each measure—which provide for Omaha and Council Bluffs, respectively—there is not a single point of difference. The careful investigator is therefore forced to the conclusion that, recognizing Senator Manderson's ability as a bill drafter, Senator Allison procured a printed copy of the Nebraskan's bill, and, after making the necessary amendments with a pen, introduced it as his own.

It is generally understood that the establishment of a branch mint at each of the places named would never be permitted by Congress The two cities are but a short distance apart—fare on the electric road 10 cents—and the impression is therefore abroad that the old struggle between the two centers of population is about to break out in a new place. Advocates of Council Bluffs claim that their town should be selected because at present it has nothing worth having except the Union Pacific transfer, and this argument is concurred in even by the Omaha people. The chances are that neither competitor will get there—the rival cities killing each other's chances. While Senator Allison may admire Senator Manderson's literary style he will doubtless effectively oppose the location of a money-making concern in Omaha

TO BUY THE BANCROFT LIBRARY.

Senator Frye today introduced a bill authorizing the purchase of the Herbert H. Bancroft library—a collection of historical information concerning the western half of America.

There are about 60,000 books, maps, manuscripts, pamphlets, &c., in the library, and the whole collection may be purchased for the sum of $500,000.

NICARAGUA CANAL.

The bill introduced by Senator Sherman today to amend the act to incorporate the Nicaragua canal is identical to the bill reported to the Senate from the committee on foreign relations last session on the same subject.

MILITARY BILLS.

Senator Proctor today introduced a bill to amend the revised statutes by adding the proviso that all persons not in the military service who refuse to give testimony when summoned before a court-martial shall be liable to a fine of not less than $500 and imprisonment for not more than one year. Senator Proctor also introduced a bill repealing the law passed last Congress providing for the examination of officers of the army and requiring that in future all examinations prescribed shall be conducted by boards composed as the Secretary of War may direct. The bill further provides that the examination of officers in the engineer and ordnance corps who were officers or enlisted men in the volunteer service shall be conducted in the same manner as the examination of the officers of their respective corps.

IMPROVING THE HARBOR OF NEW ORLEANS.

Senator Gibson of Louisiana today introduced a bill appropriating $500,000 for the improvement of the harbor of New Orleans, to be expended in accordance with the plans of the Mississippi river commission.

RURAL FREE COMMUNITIES.

Senator Hansbrough today introduced a bill in the Senate authorizing the Postmaster General to extend, when practicable, the free delivery system to rural or farming communities, the carriers to be classified and compensated as those now employed in the service. The carriers are to be authorized to receive and receipt for registered letters and sell stamped envelopes, stamps, postal cards, &c. The bill also authorizes the Postmaster General to extend such portion of the amount that may be hereafter appropriated for compensation of postmasters and for star route transportation as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

SHAKEN UP BY MR. CRISP.

Rules of Precedence Not Followed in the Cases of Many Committees.

Speaker Crisp in the make-up of his committees has departed in many cases from the rules of precedence that have generally been recognized. In the first committee—elections—the rule is observed. Representative O'Neill, who was second on the minority to Mr. Crisp himself last Congress, goes to the head. Nils Haugen of Wisconsin is the first minority member, being the first among survivors on that side.

The committee on ways and means is badly shaken up, as was expected. Mr. Springer, who has not heretofore been connected with the committee at all, is chairman, and Mr. McMillin holds second place, his relative position on the minority last Congress. Mr. Turner is retained, but the other members of the majority, with Wilson, Montgomery, Whiting, Shivley, Stevens, Cochrane and Bryan, are all new men. Messrs. Reed, Burrows, McKenna and Payne have served before, and Dalzell takes Bayne's place. Mr. Dingley is transferred to the committee on appropriations.

Instead of promoting Mr. Forney, who headed the minority in the last Congress, Speaker Crisp has made Mr. Holman chairman of the committee on appropriations, with Mr. Forney second. All other democratic members are retained and C. R. Breckinridge, Compton and O'Neill of Massachusetts added. Livingston represents the alliance membership. The new republican members are Bingham, Dingley and Grout. Belden has been dropped. Mr. Outhwaite of Ohio is a notable example of the appointment of a chairman from outside the old membership of the committee. He is placed at the head of military affairs and loses his place on the elections committee. Gen. Wheeler of Alabama, the ranking member of the old committee, is second on the list.

David B. Culberson of Texas goes to the head of the judiciary, being the ranking member of the old minority, while ex-Chairman E. B. Taylor of Ohio heads the minority this year. Mr. Oates of Alabama is second and Bynum of Indiana third. This is the best place Bynum gets.

Henry Bacon of New York, a new man, gets the chairmanship of the important committee of banking and currency, instead of Coyert of New York, who would have had it if precedent had been followed.

Coinage, weights and measures, as was expected, will be presided over by Richard P. Bland.

Mr. Mills is at the head of the new committee on interstate and foreign commerce. Charles S. Baker of New York was chairman of the committee on commerce, its predecessor in the last Congress.

IN WALL STREET TODAY.

Unusually Active Trading on the Stock Exchange This Morning.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—There was an active trading on the stock exchange again this morning. By noon the sales had aggregated 207,600 shares. The opening figures were generally ⅛ and ¼ per cent higher than those of last evening. Chicago gas and Missouri Pacific were the conspicuous features of the early dealing. The first named was very strong and rose 1¾ per cent, while Missouri Pacific was weak and declined sharply. After the first few minutes the general list went down under moderate offerings for realizing.

In the hour to noon the market again became strong. Lackawanna took the lead among the active stocks and gained 1⅝ per cent. Western Union followed with an advance from 82½ to 83¾. Among the low-priced shares Iowa Central was very prominent. The preferred rose 3 per cent to 44. The whole list advanced, but in most cases the improvement was only fractional. At this writing (1:30 p. m.) the market is dull.

Money, 2½ at 3 per cent. Exchange quiet, but steady; posted rates, 482½a485; actual rates, 481½a481¾ for sixty days and 483¾a484 for demand. Governments steady; currency 6s, 109 bid; 4s, coupon, 117¾ bid; extended 2s, registered, 100½ bid.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The following are the opening and closing prices of the New York Stock Market, as reported by special wire to Corson and Macartney, 1419 F street.

Name.	O.	C.	Name.	O.	C.
Atch	44⅞	44⅞	E. & W. pre	69⅝	69⅝
Bell Tel	.....	203¾	N. J. Cen	112¾	112¾
Can. South	62½	62¾	N. & W. pref	.....	75
C., B. & Q	108¾	108⅞	Northwest	115½	116⅛
Can. Pac	.....	.....	N. American	18⅝	18⅝
Cen. Pac	.....	.....	Nor. Pac	22⅝	22⅝
C. & O	23⅝	23⅝	Do. pref	70⅝	70⅝
C. & O. 1st p'd	60⅝	60⅝	Ore., R. & N.	79	80
D., L. & W.	139⅝	140⅛	Oil	58⅞	58⅞
D. & H. Canal	125⅝	125⅝	Pac. Mail	37⅞	37⅞
D. & Rio Gr	.....	.....	Reading	38⅞	39⅝
Do., pref	.....	45	Rich. Ter	13⅝	13⅝
Ills & Cat. Fd	50⅝	50⅝	Rock Island	80⅝	80⅝
Erie	33⅝	32⅞	Silver Ctf's	94⅞	94⅞
Ft. Worth Cts.	20	19⅝	St. Paul	81⅞	81⅞
Hocking Val	30⅝	30	Do. pref	125⅝	125
Ill. Cen	108⅝	108⅝	St. P. M. & M.	.....	.....
Lake Shore	124⅝	125	Sugar	85⅝	85
Louis. & Nash.	82⅞	82⅞	Sugar, pref	92	92
Manhattan	104	104	Tex. & Pac	13⅝	13⅝
Mo. Pac	62	62	Ten. C. & I	.....	.....
Mich. Cen	109⅝	109⅝	Union Pac	44⅞	44⅞
N. Y. Cen	117⅞	118	Wabash	.....	.....
Lead Trust	18⅝	17⅞	Do. pref	31⅞	31
N. Y. & N. E.	39⅞	40⅞	West. Union	82⅞	84⅞

Washington Stock Exchange.

Sales—Regular call—12 o'clock m.: U. S. 4s, $500 at 116⅞. Washington Light Infantry 2ds, $400 at 100; $500 at 100. Lincoln National Bank, 10 at 103. Washington and Georgetown Railroad, 1 at 225; 5 at 227. Comercial Insurance, 25 at 8. Washington Gas, 10 at 41¼. American Graphophone, 10 5¾. Washington Gas, series A, $300 at 130.

Government Bonds—U. S. 4s, registered, 1907, 116⅛ bid, 117⅛ asked. U. S. 4s, coupons, 1907, 117⅛ bid, 118⅛ asked.

District of Columbia Bonds—Market stock, 7s, 1892, currency, 102½ bid, — asked. 20-year fund, 6s, 1892, gold, 102 bid, — asked. 20-year fund, 5s, 1899, gold, 105 bid, — asked. Water stock, 7s, currency, 1901, 125 bid, — asked. 20-year fund, 6s, gold, 1902, 115 bid, — asked. Water stock, 7s, 1903, currency, 125 bid, — asked. 3.65s, 1924, fund, currency, 113⅛ bid, 115 asked. 3½s, reg. 2-10s, 1893-1901, 102 bid, — asked.

Miscellaneous Bonds—Washington and Georgetown Railroad 10-40, 6s, 103½ bid, 105½ asked. Washington and Georgetown Railroad Convertible 6s, 143 bid, — asked. Masonic Hall Association, 5s, 104 bid, — asked. Washington Market Company, 1st 6s, 1892-1911, 110 bid, — asked. Washington Market Company imp. 6s, 114 bid, — asked. American Security and Trust Company, 5s, 100⅛ bid, 102⅛ asked. Washington Light Infantry 1st mortgage 6s, 1904, 100 bid, — asked. Washington Light Infantry 2d, 98 bid, 103 asked. The Washington Gas Company, series A, 6s, 127 bid, — asked. Washington Gas Company, series B, 6s, 128 bid, — asked. Washington Gas Company Convertible 6s, 1901, 143 bid, 147 asked. Eckington Railroad 6s, 96 bid, — asked. Capitol and North O Street Railroad 1st mortgage 5s, 111 bid, 116 asked. Metropolitan Railroad Convertible 6s, 111½ bid, 123 asked. U. S. Electric Light Convertible 5s, 108 bid, 111 asked. Anacostia Railroad 6s, 102 bid, — asked. Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone 1st mortgage 5s, 97 bid, 103 asked.

National Bank Stocks—Bank of Washington, 410 bid, 440 asked. Bank of Republic, 300 bid, — asked. Metropolitan, 260 bid, 270 asked. Central, 295 bid, 305 asked. Farmers and Mechanics', 190 bid, — asked. Citizens, 170 bid, 185 asked. Union bia, 160 bid, 175 asked. Capital, 124 bid, — asked. West End, 94⅞ bid, 97 asked. Traders', 112 bid, 118 asked. Lincoln, 103¾ bid, 103 asked. Ohio, 99 bid, — asked.

Railroad Stocks—Washington and Georgetown, 224 bid, 227 asked. Metropolitan, — bid, 100 asked. Capitol and North O Street, 40 bid, — asked. Eckington and Soldiers' Home, 31 bid, 38 asked. Georgetown and Tenleytown, 51 bid, 55 asked. Rock Creek, 100 bid, — asked.

Insurance Stocks—Firemen's, 47 bid, 58 asked. Franklin, 50 bid, 60 asked. National Union, 13 bid, 16 asked. Arlington, 170 bid, 185 asked. Corcoran, 67½ bid, — asked. Columbia, 14⅝ bid, 15 asked. Potomac, 75 bid, 90 asked. Riggs, 3 bid, 8½ asked. People's, 6 bid, — asked. Lincoln, 6½ bid, — asked. Commercial, 5 bid, 5½ asked.

Title Insurance Stocks—Real Estate Title, 130 bid, — asked. Columbia Title, 6¼ bid, 6½ asked.

Gas and Electric Light Stocks—Washington Gas, 41½ bid, 41¾ asked. Georgetown Gas, 45 bid, — asked. U. S. Electric Light, 144 bid, 150 asked.

Telephone Stocks—Chesapeake and Potomac, 51 bid, 60 asked. American Graphophone, 4¾ bid, 6 asked.

Miscellaneous Stocks—Washington Market Company, 16 bid, 20 asked. Great Falls Ice Company, 135 bid, 160 asked. Bull Run Panorama Company, 16 bid, 22 asked. Pneumatic Gun Carriage, ⅜ bid, ½ asked. Interocean Building Company, — bid, 90 asked. Washington Brick Machine Company, 250 bid, 340 asked. Lincoln Hall, — bid, 100 asked.

Safe Deposit and Trust Companies—Washington Loan and Trust Company, 107 bid, 108½ asked. American Security and Trust Company, 107 bid, 110 asked. Washington Safe Deposit Company, 110 bid, — asked.

Baltimore Markets.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 23.—Flour dull, unchanged—receipts, 4,748 barrels; shipments, 7,416 barrels. Wheat steady—No. 2 red, spot, 1.03⅝a1.03¾; December, 1.05⅛a1.03⅝; January, 1.08¾a1.0[illegible]; February, 1.05¼a1.05⅜; May, 1.07¾a1.08; steamer, No. 2, red, 95—receipts, 34,069 bushels; shipments, 48,000 bushels; stock, 1,613,525 bushels; sales, 73,000 bushels. Southern wheat dull—Fultz, 95a1.04; Longberry, 98a1.03. Corn steady—mixed, spot 54⅝ 54¾; year, 54a54¼; January, 52⅞a52⅞; February, 51⅝a51¾; March, 51⅝; steamer mixed, 50¼a50½—receipts, 183,277 bushels; stock, 801,536 bushels; sales, 152,000 bushels. Southern corn steady—white, 60a54; yellow, 40a54. Oats quiet and steady—No. 2 white western, 40½; No. 2 mixed western, 39—receipts, 4,000 bushels; stock, 118,607 bushels. Rye firm—No. 2, 98 bid—receipts, 319 bushels; shipments, 62,372 bushels; stock, 901,536 bushels. Hay quiet and steady—good to choice timothy, 12.50a14.00. Grain freights very dull. Cotton dull—middling, 7⅞. Provisions quiet and quiet. Butter firm. Eggs firm—26a28. Coffee quiet—Rio cargoes, fair, 17; No. 7, 13⅝. Sugar steady. Copper steady—reduced, 10⅝. Whisky firm, active—1.25. Peanuts unchanged.

BALTIMORE,