that she has not adopted a flexible theory regarding contraband.

The Lokal Anzeiger surmises that there must have been a serious quarrel between the commanders of the Bundesrath and the Magicienne before the latter officer "overstepped his prerogative in carrying off the steamer," and expresses the hope that Germany will "speedily enforce the release of the vessel."

Even the moderate Vossische Zeitung calls the proceeding "characteristic English insolence," and adds that "the whole attitude of the English before Delagoa bay provokes a general protest."

BRITISH RECONNAISSANCE FAILS.

Capt. Montmorency Retires After a Six-Hour Fight.

LONDON, January 1.—A correspondent of the Associated Press at Sterkstroom, telegraphing December 31, says: Capt. Montmorency of the 21st Lancers, with a patrol of 120, was reconnoitering eight miles north of Dordrecht. He met the Boers at Labuschagnes Nek. They opened fire, and the British replied. The fighting continued for six hours, when the Boers received strong reinforcements, including artillery. Capt. Montmorency retired and took a defensive position at Dordrecht. The Boers did not pursue him. It is believed that they retired on their main body. Their losses are not known.

The queen's message to the British troops in South Africa was sent to every general. It ran thus:

"I wish you and all my brave soldiers a happy Christmas. God protect and bless you all."

The morning papers are inclined to refrain from commenting upon the Bundesrath incident, pending further information. The Daily Chronicle says: "The incident was unfortunate, but the Germans may await the result of the inquiry with confidence in our fairness."

The Standard says: "We feel sure that Germany will recognize the unimpeachable validity of our position. We shall enforce such claims as we possess with every desire to cause the least possible inconvenience to trade among friendly states; but at the same time we shall act with a firm determination to assert our rights as a belligerent power."

Preparing to Abandon Ladysmith.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Lorenzo Marques, dated December 29, says:

"It is reported from Ladysmith, by way of Pretoria, that the British are destroying their heavy cannon, prior to a final sortie.

"The Transvaal agents here have bought up all the available milk, sugar and coffee. They have managed to get large orders sent for shipment here by French and German steamers. Prices have advanced 50 per cent in consequence, and the stocks are very short. Something like a famine is threatened, as the British government is stopping all goods consigned here from coast ports.

"Several members of the volksraad meet every steamer, doubtless to give further orders. Portugal is doing her best to maintain neutrality, but foreign opinion in Lorenzo Marques is generally in favor of actively assisting the Boers to procure food supplies.

"Herr Pott, the Transvaal consul general here, is losing Lloyds' agency and the agencies for the Castle, Union and Bucknall steamship lines in consequence of the position he holds."

The war office publishes the following dispatch, dated yesterday, from the general officer commanding at Cape Town:

"Methuen's position is unchanged.

"French reports that the Boers, fearing their communications would be cut by our cavalry, have retired to Colesburg.

"Hear unofficially from Sterkstroom that a British reconnoissance, seven miles north of Dodrecht, engaged superior forces and was obliged to retire on Dordrecht."

"Later—Montmorency, on December 30, met superior force using artillery, operated to rear of Boers. In course of the day he was compelled to withdraw to Dordrecht in good order, assisted by sixty men sent from Dordrecht, before which we are in position for defense. The following casualty reported: One seriously wounded."

Shell Struck a Mess Tent.

The following heliograph message has been received by way of Weenen from Ladysmith, dated Wednesday, December 27:

"The Boers are actively bombarding the town. One shell struck the Devonshire mess tent, killing Capt. Dalzel, and wounding seven lieutenants, Dent, Twiss, Tringham, Caffyn, Byrne, Scafe and Kane."

A later dispatch from Ladysmith by way of Weenen, dated Friday, December 29, says:

"All well. The Boers have been firing plugged shells containing plum pudding and the compliments of the season. They are still fortifying their positions and are evidently determined to make a firm stand."

The Daily Mail publishes the following dispatch from Cape Town: "Ninety-five per cent of the Bechuana farmers in the Vryburg district joined the Boers, helping them to loot the stores throughout the country north of Orange river. They also undertook to invest Mafeking while Gen. Cronje's men went south to meet Lord Methuen. Government of Bechuanaland is being administered as if the Dutch had been in possession for ages."

CUTTING DOWN FORCE IN CUBA.

Likely That the Military Departments Will Be Reduced to Two.

It is probable that the present month will be marked by a complete reorganization of the military commands in Cuba. The impression prevails that there is to be a heavy reduction in these commands, and it is intimated that the outcome will be the creation of two departments, instead of the six which originally comprised Cuba, and the four into which the island is now divided. Gen. Wilson, who commands the combined departments of Matanzas and Santa Clara, has been ordered to Washington, and it is not the present intention that he shall return to Cuba. It is said that while here he, with Gen. Davis, who is coming from Puerto Rico, and is due on the 5th at New York, will advise the committees of Congress having to do with the creation of a new form of government for Puerto Rico, and with legislation for Cuba during the time it shall remain under American control.

The combined department of Santiago and Puerto Principe is without a commander, although the duties of the post vacated by Gen. Wood, upon his promotion to the governor generalship, are being temporarily discharged by the senior colonel. Thus the entire orient, as the eastern half of the island is called, is without a permanent commander. It is understood that the four departments in the Cuban orient will be consolidated into one, and that a brigadier general will be named by Secretary Root, upon the recommendation of Gen. Wood, to take command, with headquarters at Santiago.

ANXIETY OVER COAST STEAMER.

The George Farwell is Overdue in New York.

NEW YORK, January 1.—Some anxiety is being felt for the coasting steamer George Farwell, from New Orleans, via Port Tampa, for New York. Mr. Fickett of the firm of Ray & Fickett, ship brokers, on South street, father of the captain, said today that he received a letter from his son at Port Royal, S. C., dated December 21, which stated that the Farwell put in there that day on account of a storm, and intended to sail next day. A storm was raging at that time, which may have prevented the little steamer sailing on the day intended, but she must have left shortly thereafter. She carried about seven men of a crew.

Count von Eulenburg a Prince Now.

BERLIN, January 1.—Emperor William has conferred the title of prince on Count von Eulenburg, the German ambassador at Vienna.

Battle Ship Texas at New York.

NEW YORK, January 1.—The United States battle ship Texas, from Norfolk, where she landed the dead of the Maine, brought by her from Cuba for interment in the national cemetery at Arlington, passed in Sandy Hook at 9:50 a.m.

Earthquake Starts Geysers Going.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., January 1.—Charles Taggart, who arrived in this city today from the Cocopah country of Lower California, reports that the earthquake of Christmas day had a marked effect on the geysers of that region, causing them to spout with redoubled force.

KAISER TO HIS ARMY

German Emperor Lauds the Military Arm of the Empire.

COUNTRY'S GREATNESS RESTS ON IT

He Considers That Today Marks Beginning of Century.

TITLES FOR SUBJECTS

BERLIN, January 1.—Emperor William, at the New Year parade today, addressed the officers of the garrison as follows:

"The first day of the new century sees our army, in other words, our people, in arms, gathered around their standards, kneeling before the Lord of Hosts, and, verily, if any one has especial reason this day for bowing down before God it is our army. A glance at our standards suffices as an explanation, for they are the embodiment of our history.

"In what condition did the past century at its dawn find our army? The glorious army of Frederick the Great had slept upon its laurels, fossilized amid all the petty detail of pipe clay, led by superannuated and insufficient generals, with officers unaccustomed to useful work and lost in debauch, luxury and foolish arrogance. Our army, in a word, was not equal to its mission, which, indeed, it had forgotten. Heavy was the chastisement of heaven which overtook it and fell on our people. It was cast into the dust, the glory of Frederick was extinguished and our standards were broken.

People Taught a Lesson.

"In many long years of bitter servitude God taught the people to look to itself, and under the pressure of the foot of the proud conqueror our people engendered in itself the most sublime thought that it is the highest honor to dedicate one's blood and purse to the fatherland in her armed service. Form and life were given it by my great-grandfather; new laurels crowned the newly created army and its youthful banners, but universal military service only attained its true significance through our great departed emperor. In his quiet work he evolved the reorganization of our army, in spite of opposition and ignorance. Glorious campaigns crowned his work in a way never expected. His spirit filled the ranks of our army, even as his own trust in God bore our troops to astonishing victories. With this, his own creation, he brought the German races together and gave us back long-desired German unity. It is to him that our thanks are due, and by the help of that army the German empire, commanding respect, has again assumed the position assigned to it in the council of nations.

Duty of the Army.

"It is for you, gentlemen, to preserve and employ in the new century the old qualities by which our forefathers made the army great, namely, simplicity and modesty in daily life, unconditional devotion to the royal service, the employment of one's whole strength of body and mind in the ceaseless work of training and developing our troops; and, even as my grandfather labored for his army, so will I, in like manner, unerringly carry on and carry through the work of reorganizing my navy, in order that it may be justified in standing by the side of my land forces, and that by it the German empire may also be in a position to win the place which it has not yet attained. With the two united, I hope to be enabled, with a firm trust in the guidance of God, to prove the truth of the saying of Frederick William the first: 'When one in this world wants to decide something with the pen he does not do it unless supported by the strength of the sword.'"

Barge for the Colors.

Emperor William has issued an order to the army announcing that in accordance with the unanimous decision of the German sovereigns, "a barge commemorative of the last century and as a fresh pledge of the unity and indissolubility of the empire," has been established for the colors of the whole army.

Prince von Hatzfeidt-Trachenberg, governor of Silesia, has been created a duke, and hereditary nobility has been conferred on Herr Thielen, the minister of public works.

EXPLOSION OF SEWER GAS.

Great Damage Wrought at Knoxville, Pa., Last Night.

PITTSBURG, Pa., January 1.—An explosion of sewer gas at Knoxville, a thriving borough near here, about midnight, wrecked a large number of houses and stables and tore up several streets for hundreds of feet. Fortunately no one was injured, but two women, Mrs. John Young and Mrs. Margaret Jackson, are seriously ill from the shock to their nervous systems.

The houses wrecked are twelve frame dwellings, owned by John Young, fronting on Rochelle street and occupied by as many families. They are practically destroyed. The two nearest Long alley will have to be razed. A dozen dwellings owned by the Knoxville Land Improvement Company at Zara street and Long alley are partly destroyed. A stable owned by Edward Jackson in Long alley and a block of five houses owned by Mrs. L. C. Snyder are complete wrecks.

Charles, Jucondo, Zara, Amanda and Baughman streets are in bad shape. Knox avenue and Long alley were also torn up by the explosion, and the majority of the streets named will have to be repaved.

The damage will reach many thousands of dollars.

TEAMSTERS THREATEN TO STRIKE.

Chicago May Face a Coal Famine in Zero Weather.

CHICAGO, January 1.—A strike of coal teamsters, with the weather around zero, threatens Chicago today. Unless the team owners sign the union agreement granting the demand for higher wages today, not a wagon, the teamsters say, will be taken from the barns and hardly one of the many rush orders for coal can be filled.

The tying up of the entire coal delivery system of the city in the midst of the worst weather of the winter will bring about much suffering, especially among the poorer classes, who are never able to keep on hand a large supply. If such a strike should continue a week many of the school buildings would have to be closed because of the cold unless some have a supply for a week or so in advance.

TO PENSION OLD EMPLOYES.

New System Inaugurated on Pennsylvania Railroad Today.

PHILADELPHIA, January 1.—The system of pensioning old employes of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company on the lines east of Pittsburg was inaugurated today. About 950 men who, by reason of long service in the company's employ, have become incapacitated for further active duty, were retired on pensions that average nearly half the wages they received when at work.

It is understood that a sum approximating $300,000 is at present available for pensioning purposes, and that before the system can be extended to the lines west of Pittsburg a much larger appropriation will be necessary. Thus far no person holding a position of importance has been affected by the pension rule. Hereafter no person over thirty-five years of age will be taken into the employ of the company.

Edwin Ray Snow Sentenced.

BARNSTABLE, Mass., January 1.—Edwin Ray Snow, charged with the murder of James T. Whittemore, at Yarmouth, last October, was arraigned at a special session of the superior court here today before Judge Higgins. He retracted his previous plea of not guilty and pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to be executed March 18.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

(Continued from First Page.)

ter; Maj. Greenough, Capt. McClure, Capt. Williams, Lieut. Hearn, Lieut. Conklin, Lieut. Ward and Lieut. Cassels. There was a large representation of retired officers, including Gen. Baird, Gen. Carey, Gen. Cushing, Gen. Du Barry, Gen. Hammond, Gen. Holabird, Gen. Macfeely, Gen. Sawtelle, Gen. Saxton, Gen. Vincent and Gen. Wilcox.

The naval officers, who followed next in line to the army, gathered in the office of the Secretary of the Navy and proceeded across to the White House, headed by Admiral Dewey and Engineer-in-Chief Melville, who was the ranking rear admiral present. The navy made a very creditable showing in point of numbers, and there was an unusually large attendance of officers of high rank. Admiral Dewey was followed closely by Lieut. Crawford, his staff secretary. The head of the line, after Admiral Dewey, was Admiral Rodgers, who was followed by Admiral Cromwell, Admiral Higginson, Admiral O'Neill, Admiral Bradford, Admiral McCormick, Admiral Hichborn, Admiral Day, Admiral Endicott, Admiral Van Reypen, Paymaster General Kenney, Captain Robley D. Evans, Commander Adams, Commander Baird, Commander Cowles, Commander Cover, Lieut. Mulligan, Lieut. Commander Stanton, Commander Perry, Judge Advocate General Lemly, Captain Craig, Captain Davis, Surgeon Boyd, Lieut. Commander Colahan, Naval Constructor Capps, Constructor Taylor, Captain Lamberton, Captain Perkins, Captain Wadleigh, Commander Pendleton, Commander Schroeder, Commander Harrie Webster, Lieut. Griffin, Lieut. Commander Veeder and Medical Director White and Lieut. Webster.

Gen. Heywood headed the marine contingent and was accompanied by Col. Reed, Col. Harrington, Major Lauchheimer, Lieut. Harold Snyder and many of the young officers recently added to the corps.

The diplomats did not leave the White House until a few minutes before 12 and gathered almost in a body in the red room to see the officers of the army and navy come in. The dazzling picture all this accumulation of gold lace and elaborate embroideries made in the sunshine of the red parlor made an effect worthy of remembrance.

After the reception of the army, navy and marine corps officers had concluded, Mrs. McKinley, at the suggestion of the President, smilingly made her adieux to those about her and went upstairs. The President escorted her by the south door of the blue room, and her departure and his return to his post were made so quietly as to be scarcely observed, save by those at the head of the next group waiting to be received.

The Judiciary.

The Supreme Court of the United States was represented by Chief Justice and Mrs. Fuller and their daughters, Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Aubrey; Justice Harlan, with the Misses Harlan, Mrs. Harlan, jr., and Mrs. Shanklin; Justice Gray and Mrs. Gray; Justice Brewer and daughter and Miss Cox; Justice and Mrs. White; Justice Brown and ladies; Justice McKenna, Justice Shiras, James H. McKenny, clerk, and J. M. Wright, marshal.

All the members of the Court of Claims, accompanied by Clerk Archibald Hopkins, the members of the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court of the District were present.

Mr. and Mrs. Aulick Palmer followed. The District government was represented by Commissioners Wight, Ross and Beach, Maj. Sylvester, Hopewell Darneille, auditor, and Judge Kimball.

Ex-Secretary of the Navy Herbert, Rev. T. De Witt Talmage, ex-Secretary of State Foster, and Commissioner Denby were present.

The Congressional Contingent.

There was a very large attendance of senators and representatives among the callers on the President today. Among the callers were Senator Frye of Maine, President pro tem. of the Senate; Senators Burrows of Michigan, Morgan of Alabama, Carter of Montana, Cockrell of Missouri, McMillan of Michigan, Fairbanks of Indiana, Allison of Iowa, Harris of Kansas, Quarles of Wisconsin, Teller of Colorado, Nelson of Minnesota, Beveridge of Indiana, Foster of Washington, Elkins of West Virginia, Platt of Connecticut, Foraker of Ohio, Butler of North Carolina, Wetmore of Rhode Island, Ross of Vermont and Kyle of South Dakota and Senator and Mrs. Lodge.

A very large number of members of the House of Representatives were present. Speaker Henderson came in company with Mr. Dalzell of Pennsylvania. Among others were Representatives Burton of Ohio, Ball of Texas, Benton of Missouri, Gaines of Texas, Newlands of Colorado, Cousins of Iowa, Fletcher of Minnesota, Terry of Arkansas, Bell of Colorado, Lanham of Texas, Babcock of Wisconsin, Morris of Minnesota, Wachter of Maryland, Fowler of New Jersey, Flynn of Oklahoma, Stewart of Wisconsin, Lacey of Iowa, Berry of Kentucky, Benton of Missouri, Rixey of Virginia, Parker of New Jersey, Taylor of Illinois, Latimer of South Carolina, Sprague of Massachusetts, Ferry of Arkansas, Dinsmore of Arkansas, Hitt of Illinois, Tayler of Ohio, Joy of Missouri, McClellan of New York, Thomas of Iowa, Calderhead of Kansas, Davidson of Florida, Fowler of New Jersey, Grosvenor of Ohio, Hull of Iowa, Burkett of Nebraska, Bartholdt of Missouri and Rrpresentative and Mrs. McCleary and son.

Government Officials.

Among the various government officials were ex-Governor Merriam, director, and Dr. Wine, assistant director, of the census bureau; Public Printer Palmer, Commissioner Evans of the pension office; Messrs. Clements, Youmans and Knapp, interstate commerce commission; Messrs. Procter, Barlow and Brewer, civil service commission, and Mr. A. R. Serven, chief examiner of the commission; Assistant Secretaries Brigham of the Department of Agriculture, Allen of the Navy, Meiklejohn of the War, Heath, Madden and Shallenberger of the Post Office; Spaulding, Vanderlip and Taylor of the Treasury; Solicitor General Richards, Assistant Attorneys General Boyd, Hoyt, Thompson and Pradt of the Department of Justice.

Of the departments the treasury was most largely represented, those present being Theo. F. Swayze, chief clerk; M. E. Ailes, private secretary; Charles Lyman, appointment clerk; Andrew Johnson, chief of customs; W. S. Chance, chief of the special agents; James K. Taylor, supervising architect; John E. Wilkie, chief of the secret service; S. I. Kimball, superintendent life saving; R. J. Tracewell, controller; C. M. Foree, chief clerk of the controller's office; Auditors Andrews, Morris, Youngblood, Brown, Timme, Castle; Ellis H. Roberts, treasurer; George W. Wilson, commissioner of internal revenue; George E. Roberts, director of mint; E. T. Chamberlain, commissioner of navigation; James A. Dumont, inspector general, and son; T. V. Powderly, bureau of immigration; M. D. O'Connell, solicitor.

District National Guard.

With the officers of the army, navy and marine corps were Brigadier General Geo. H. Harries, commanding, and the officers of the general staff, District of Columbia militia, as follows: Lieutenant Colonel Jas. M. Love, jr., adjutant general; Captain C. Fred Cook, aid-de-camp; Major Charles H. Ourand, inspector general; Major W. D. Davidge, jr., judge advocate general; Major H. H. Parmenter, quartermaster general; Major James E. Bell, inspector general of rifle practice, and Major F. L. Averill, chief of engineers.

A number of officers of the District of Columbia National Guard were also with the military contingent, among whom were Col. Henry May, Capt. F. B. Wheaton, Lieut. V. Walker and Lieut. Leroy Herron.

The Veterans.

The Grand Army turned out about one hundred strong, and, under the command of the senior vice commander, G. H. Staybaugh, who acted in the absence on account of sickness of Department Commander Farnsworth, marched from their headquarters on Pennsylvania avenue to the White House. An escort of the Old Guard, under command of Lieut. Gunning, headed the line of Grand Army veterans. The latter dressed mostly in civilian clothes, but some put on the uniform of the Grand Army. Following this line came those who served in the recent war with Spain, under command of Major Urell, and the proximity of the men of the two wars brought out in strong contrast the lapse of time, for in one line were young men, while in the other nearly all had passed middle life.

Then there came the Loyal Legion, Union Veterans' Legion and Union Veterans' Union. The Oldest Inhabitants' Association of the District of Columbia was the last organization in line. The general public was then admitted, and for an hour and a half a constant stream of humanity flowed through the White House portals. Meantime practically all the distinguished callers had departed and many of the ladies in the receiving line who were to hold receptions at their homes had gone.

Unusual Number of Ladies.

There have not been in years as many of the fair sex in attendance as were today. Scarcely a senator or representative in Congress came alone. Most of them had not only their immediate families, but guests as well. This is what made the event from the woman's standpoint, and it was also what made moving about from one point of vantage to another a work of some difficulty. It was the well-dressed crowd which delights the eye trained to the latest style and fine effects. Very few of the callers, however, were able to join the audience in the blue room, wistful as the looks were in that direction before passing to the greater freedom of the east room. After the army officers had passed through a large proportion of them remained to chat with the ladies there and contributed largely to keeping up the gayety even during the public reception.

There were so few breaks in the incoming procession that with the exception noted it was one continuous line from 11 o'clock until the reception closed. The reception of the public began a few minutes before the prescribed hour, which was appreciated by the long line which had been forming since 10 o'clock. The preponderance of the woman element in this long and patient line was as marked as it was everywhere else about the White House. There were plenty diamonds and sealskins worn, although neither of these most desirable possessions kept the shivers from showing in the faces of their wearers.

Two of the youngest visitors were the little daughters of Secretary Porter, who came along in the line to pay their respects to the chief executive.

Mrs. Dewey left the reception shortly after 12 so as to be back at her mother's home to begin her own reception.

Program of the Music.

The Marine Band, under Leader Santelmann, was divided into two sections, the first section being stationed in the main hallway near the red room, and the second in the hall at the exit. The programs rendered by each section were as follows:

First section—National anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner," Key; "The International Congress," Sousa; overture, "Rienzi," Wagner; selection, "A Runaway Girl," Monckton; march, "Admiral Dewey," Santelmann; "Steuermannslied und Matrosenchor," from "Der Fliegender Hollander," Wagner; scenes from "The Fortune Teller," Herbert; patriotic air, "Hail Columbia," Fyles.

Second section—"Presidential Polonaise," Sousa; overture, "The King's Lieutenant," Titl; selection, "The Army Chaplain," Millocker; waltz, "Estudiantina," Waldteufel; Chilean dance, "Manana," Missud; selection from "The Idol's Eye," Herbert; march, "True to the Flag," Von Blon; patriotic air, "The Star Spangled Banner," Key.

The Diplomatic Breakfast.

At 12 o'clock the Secretary of State and Mrs. Hay, in accordance with the time-honored custom which ordains the annual exchange of greetings between the head of the State Department and the members of the diplomatic corps through the medium of a New Year breakfast together, were back in their own home. Almost as promptly the special guests began to arrive, and in a few minutes quite as animated a scene as had occurred an hour earlier at the Executive Mansion was in progress. The drawing room, where Secretary and Mrs. Hay received, and the halls and library adjoining, were in a festive array of plants, flowers and blooming bushes, as was the dining room, on the other side of the hall. After an appropriate interval breakfast was announced, and the Secretary of State escorting Lady Pauncefote, and the British ambassador, with Mrs. Hay, led the way to the dining room. A substantial menu was served. By half-past 1 the formal event was over, and at half-past 2 Mrs. Hay, assisted by Mrs. Lodge, Mrs. David J. Hill, Mrs. R. R. Hitt, Mrs. Cridler, Miss Bliss, Miss Boardman and the Misses Hay, began her public reception.

Other Cabinet Receptions.

At the home of the Secretary of the Treasury Mrs. Gage held one of the largest receptions of the day. The house was set with palms and fresh flowers, a great fire burned on the hall hearth, and a general air of coziness prevailed. In the dining room a collation was spread and enjoyed by the visitors. Besides the official callers, army and navy officers, etc., who were calling, a large number of civilians, notably clerks of the Treasury Department and its branches, who were especially invited by the Secretary, were present to pay their respects to their chief and his wife. Mrs. Gage had the pleasant assistance of her daughter, Mrs. E. F. Pierce of Chicago, and the Misses Ruth Crandon, Swazy and Cox, all of Chicago, her guests at present, with Mrs. Charles A. Spaulding, Miss Lucy Page, Miss Cassini, niece of the Russian ambassador; the Misses Griggs, daughters of the Attorney General; Mrs. J. Stanley Brown and the Misses Gary, daughters of former Postmaster General Gary.

The Secretary of War and Mrs. Root had a brilliant reception from start to finish. Their home, which is especially adapted by reason of its spaciousness, arrangement and elegance for the comfort of a large party, was seen at its best. A holiday decoration of green and red as to vines and ribbon effects, with many pure flowers, accented the beauty of each room. One of the most elaborate spreads of the day of cold and hot dishes, with the usual accompaniments, was served in the large dining room, which is another marked feature of this fine home.

Mrs. Root was assisted by Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Phil Sheridan, Mrs. Cowles, Mrs. Postlewaite, Mrs. McClellan, Mrs. Parsons, the Misses Bates, Miss Sheridan, Miss Sanger, Miss Hawley, Miss Adola Greely, Miss Edith Patten, Miss Davis, Miss McKenna, Miss Hagner and Miss Glover.

Secretary and Mrs. Long received in the large parlors at the Portland, which were decorated handsomely with plants, vines and electric lights. A stringed orchestra played throughout the reception, and Mrs. Long was assisted by Miss Long and her grandmother, Mrs. G. S. Glover, who is on for her usual holiday visit; Mrs. Allen, Miss Allen, Mrs. Frederick Rodgers, Mrs. Sargent, Mrs. Richard Mulligan, Mrs. W. S. Cowles, Mrs. F. L. Denny, Mrs. Livingstone Hunt, Mrs. Eugene P. Stone, Mrs. W. W. Phelps, Miss Bradford, Miss Hichborn, Miss Wallace, Miss Benham, Miss Virginia Evans, Miss Gallaudet, Miss Satterlee and Miss Painter.

The Postmaster General and Mrs. Smith received their hundreds of callers in the flower-decked drawing rooms of their Massachusetts avenue home, where softly shaded lights and hearth fires made the first glimpse delightful. The hospitable atmosphere of the house was evident in the dining room preparations. Mrs. Smith had the valuable assistance of Mrs. Bingham, wife of Colonel Bingham; Mrs. John W. Foster, Mrs. Olmstead, Mrs. Perry S. Heath, Mrs. William E. Curtis, Miss Marie McKenna, Miss MacVeagh, Miss Evans, Miss Hemmick and the Misses Maury.

The Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Hitchcock added another chapter to the social history of the home they occupy, the residence par excellence of the Secretary of War and Mrs. Alger. Their reception was large and a most interesting one. Mrs. Hitchcock was assisted by Mrs. Henry G. Sharpe, Mrs. George G. Fraser, Mrs. Fairfax Harrison, Miss Ernst, Miss Mary Lay, Miss Marjorie Nott, Miss Cassels, Miss Henrietta Wallace and the Misses Hitchcock.

The Secretary of Agriculture and Miss Wilson, who received for the first time in their new home, 1022 Vermont avenue, were greeted by hundreds of callers. Plants and flowers were prettily arranged in the double parlors and a substantial collation served in the dining room. Miss Wilson had receiving with her Mrs. Dalzell, Mrs. Perry Allen, Mrs. Willis Moore, Mrs. Dawes, Mrs. Gallaudet, Mrs. Clarence Clark, Mrs. Thomas Walsh, Mrs. Raymond Patterson, Miss Colton, Miss Florence Foraker, Miss Elsie Bell and Miss Miriam Bell.

No reception was held at the home of Attorney General Griggs, because of the absence of Mrs. Griggs, who is at her home in Paterson, N. J., in attendance upon her mother, who is seriously ill.

At Gen. Miles' Home.

Gen. and Mrs. Miles held one of the most brilliant receptions of the day. Their home, 1736 N street, is well adapted for large entertainments. The large drawing room on the right was set with palms and plants, as were the halls and dining room, where a collation was served. Mrs. Miles had a number of friends assisting her, some of them being Mrs. Sternberg, Mrs. Stanley Matthews, Mrs. Whitney, Mrs. Gilmore, the Misses Horstman, Miss Ruggles, Miss Sawtell, Miss Colton and Miss Webb. The reception will last late into the afternoon.

Admiral Dewey's Reception.

Admiral and Mrs. Dewey received callers at the home of Mrs. Washington McLean. The reception began at 12:30 o'clock, immediately after the return of the admiral from the White House. The house was, as usual on festive occasions, made more beautiful by a quantity of flowers, artistially arranged in the drawing room, ball room, library and reception room on the main floor. A floral representation of the admiral's former flagship, the Olympia, very beautifully made, had a post of honor, and came in for a great deal of attention from the visitors. Mrs. Dewey, Mrs. McLean, Mrs. John R. McLean and Mrs. Ludlow had about thirty assistants, among whom were the Misses Sanger, McKeever, Ashton, Goodfellow, Hopkins, Schroeder, Berry, Townsend, Hare, Bates, MacVeagh, Kean, Boardman, Wallace, Lambert, Owen, Hunt, Walker, Taylor, Wetmore, Sargent, Hoff, Warder and Evans. An orchestra of ten pieces played throughout the reception, which concluded at 2:30 o'clock.

Notes.

During the public reception a woman, after shaking hands with the President, gave him a small parcel, saying it was a New Year present. The President smiled his thanks.

With Chief Justice Fuller were his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Wallace and Mrs. Aubrey, followed by Justice and the Misses Harlan. Justice Brewer and Justice Brown each escorted the young women now visiting at their homes.

Many of the ladies whose names appear in the list of those invited to receive, both in the receiving line and back of it, were not present, owing to their absence from the city.

The reception of the public was all over before 1:30. The last of the line was inside the house a quarter of an hour earlier, and the reception wound up with the bands playing the liveliest airs. The cold weather naturally deterred many from attending, so that this part of the function was somewhat shorter than is usual when the weather is more genial.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Sloane of New York were among the out-of-town guests present in the blue room.

The appearance of Admiral Dewey at the head of the naval officers was awaited with interest, even the diplomatic contingent showing more than usual interest. The admiral bowed to hundreds of people who saluted him on the way in. He and the President exchanged greetings in the most pleasant manner.

RUNNING CROSS COUNTRY

Great Grit Shown by Y. M. C. A. Athletes.

W. F. Ford Lost Both Shoes and Finished the Course in His Bare Feet.

A cross-country run under difficult and disagreeable circumstances was held this morning by the Young Men's Christian Association under the sanction of the A. L. N. A. It was started at Association Park shortly before 11 o'clock this morning and was witnessed by a number of admirers of the grit required for this most exacting of all outdoor sports. The course was seven and a quarter miles long, over a variety of snow-covered country, mostly in Virginia. The line of the chase, as published in Saturday's Star, marked by red flags, took the runners over undisturbed and untramped snowfields for a part of the distance and over slippery paths that prevented the best running, but, nevertheless, exceptionally good time was made.

The ten athletic fellows who took part were rigged out in half hose and running shoes, cotton jeans covering a greater part of their legs, a light body covering and a jersey, without caps for the most part. Unusual endurance, nerve, grit and determination were demonstrated by all who finished.

The Start.

With W. G. Stuart, 1902, of Pennsylvania University, widely known as "Mike" Stuart, the champion distance runner of the District, as scratch, the other starters were sent out ahead with handicaps of from one minute and fifteen seconds to three minutes. The last three men to start finished in the reverse order of their starting, and more than fulfilled the predictions of their most ardent supporters.

While the runners were speeding over the white-mantled course every opening along their path was eagerly scanned with field glasses from the portico of the old Van Ness mansion. The change in the positions of the runners took place on the other side of Long bridge. Stuart came first in sight on the return and finished the two laps in Association Park in good form at a strong, steady pace, having good wind after his long run. The first prize, a silver cup, went to Stuart.

Cornell Student Second.

C. J. Morrison of Cornell University, a mere youngster, lithe and wiry, was exceedingly fresh as winner of the second prize, a gold medal.

Little W. F. Ford of the Y. M. C. A., the smallest fellow in the lot, who won the silver medal by finishing third, probably showed the greatest grit. He lost his right shoe in the middle of the seven-mile course as he turned for home and dropped his left shoe passing the bathing beach, running barefooted in the snow from the time his shoes came off, and dropped in a breathless manner after crossing the tape.

C. W. Pimper and J. Graham entered Association Park running together and made the last lap in a sprint, the former winning by fifteen yards. They secured the bronze medal and badge, respectively. G. F. De Wein finished in exceedingly good form for such a large, stalwart athlete. A. A. Leitch of Gallaudet entered the park sixth, but did not finish the last two laps, all the prizes having been claimed. P. L. Small of the Baltimore Athletic Club and W. H. McElfresh of the Y. M. C. A. did not complete the course.

Order of Finishing.

The order in which the runners finished, their handicaps and times follow:

	Handicap.	Time.
W. G. Stuart, Pennsylvania	Scratch.	44 m. 43 s.
C. J. Morrison, Cornell....	1 m. 15 s.	46 m. 3 s.
W. F. Ford, Y.M.C.A.....	2 m. 30 s.	47 m. 30 s.
C. W. Pimper, Y.M.C.A.....	2 m. 45 s.	49 m. 0 s.
J. Graham, Y.M.C.A.....	2 m. 45 s.	49 m. 30 s.
G. L. Brist, Y.M.C.A.....	2 m. 45 s.	54 m. 0 s.
G. F. De Wein, Y.M.C.A..	2 m. 45 s.	55 m. 0 s.

D. McMeekan of Cornell, J. B. Baillee of the University of Pennsylvania and A. G. Lawrence of the Baltimore Athletic Club were entered, but did not start.

Examination for Physician.

The civil service commission will conduct an examination February 6 and 7 to fill the position of assistant physician at the Government Hospital for the Insane. The examination will consist of letter writing on a practical subject relative to insanity, anatomy and physiology, general and special pathology, obstetrics and gynaecology, surgery, chemistry, materia medica and therapeutics, bacteriology and hygiene and mental diseases. Sixteen hours will be consumed in the examination, divided into two sessions of eight hours each. The department states that it is desirable to obtain eligibles who have had at least five years' actual experience in a hospital or institution for the treatment of the insane. A salary of $1,200 is given.

Steamship Arrivals.

At New York, Thingvalla, from Copenhagen.

At Liverpool, Etruria, from New York.

Big Freight Shed Burns.

NEW YORK, January 1.—The freight shed of the Staten Island rapid transit railroad at St. George, S. I., was burned today. The fire at noon was under control. Some six freight cars, loaded with merchandise, were burned. The building was about 150 feet long, 50 feet wide and 40 feet high.

A Cause for Controversy.

From the Peoria Herald.

Oom Paul reads the Bible every day. It is stated that he also consumes two gallons of beer every twenty-four hours. Of course the brewers and the Christians will disagree as to where he gets his fighting qualities.

Tangible Evidence.

From the Buffalo Express.

The opening of the principal ports of Luzon to trade is a positive evidence of progress in putting down the insurrection.

CABLE TO ICELAND.

Consul Ectelson Reports as to a Project of Interest.

Victor Ectelson, United States consul at Bergen, reports as follows in regard to a projected cable to Iceland:

The projected telegraphic communication with Iceland is a question of interest to all northern Europe. Especially will it be valuable in assisting meteorological observations, the various observatories thus being able to obtain daily telegrams concerning the state of weather in Iceland. It often happens that storms from the north sweep over Europe without previous atmospheric indications of their approach.

The main question at issue, however, is laying the cable. It will be 650 kilometers (403.89 miles) in length, extending between Iceland and the Shetlands. The Northern Telegraph Company of Copenhagen, Denmark, has offered to lay this cable under the following peculiar contract: The Icelanders shall pay to the company a yearly subsidy of $9,380 for twenty years; Denmark is also to pay a yearly subsidy of $13,400, and the neighboring countries are requested to contribute an aggregate sum of $91,450; thus, together, the interest included, an amount of $1,407,000 is desired by the company. Undoubtedly this business would yield a fair profit, as the usual price of laying a submarine cable is not higher than $1,200 a sea mile, and, according to this figure, the cost of laying the proposed line would not exceed $850,000.

Another telegraphic company has offered to lay the cable between Iceland and the Orkney Islands (a greater distance than the proposed line) for about $850,000, thus showing that the amount asked for by the Danish company exceeds by more than 50 per cent the expenses involved in laying the cable.

Not only, however, is the price asked exorbitant, but the manner of the payment itself is strange. The inhabitants of Iceland (72,000 or 73,000 peasants and fishermen), who for centuries have lived in no affluence, are asked to pay more than $187,600 for a cable for which they have almost no use, while it will bring other nations extraordinary advantage.

Apart from the already mentioned benefit to meteorology, the cable will also be of particular service to American, English, French and Norwegian fishermen, who carry on their trade on a large scale in the neighborhood of Iceland.

CRUSADE AGAINST VICE

Begun Today on Lower East Side in New York.

Several Prominent Ministers Will Engage in the Movement—Instructions to the Police.

NEW YORK, January 1.—This, the first day of the new year, has been selected for the inauguration of the crusade against vice on the lower East Side. The movement has attracted wide attention by reason of the forces behind it. These include the Society of Ethical Culture, whose leader, Prof. Felix Adler, has announced his intention to rid the congested district of its many "plague spots."

Prof. Adler will have the assistance of over a score of ministers of all denominations, among them, it is reported, the Rev. Charles A. Briggs, formerly of the Presbyterian Church, but now a Protestant Episcopal clergyman, and in charge of the Pro-Cathedral in Stanton street, the very center of what is called "The infected district."

No set plan of campaign has been outlined, but the work will be pursued with aggressiveness. Much of its force will be derived from the fact that the better element of the district will lend a hand, and in their quiet way bring the leaders of the crusade face to face with the situation.

The politicians will be appealed to, and if these appeals fail then other means will be resorted to.

Just what is meant by this the leaders of the movement refuse to say, but they intim