

Rain and warmer tonight; Sunday clearing and colder; increasing northeasterly winds, becoming northwesterly.

LIKELY TO GO WITH MR. SMITH

Assistant Postmasters Will Probably Resign.

THE MATTER UNDER DISCUSSION.

Custom as to Department Changes Incident to the Retirement of a Member—Bottleneck of the Service Contemplated.

Probable retirements from office following out of the resignation of Charles Emory Smith, as Postmaster General.

William M. Johnson, First Assistant Postmaster General, appointed from New Jersey, August 23, 1900, salary \$4,000.

W. S. Shallenberger, Second Assistant Postmaster General, appointed from Pennsylvania March 29, 1897, salary \$4,000.

Edwin C. Madden, Third Assistant Postmaster General, appointed from Michigan, July 1, 1899, salary \$4,000.

Joseph L. Bristol, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, appointed from Kansas March 22, 1899, salary \$4,000.

Retirement of the Service.

The opinion prevails here today that the Assistant Postmasters General will retire with Postmaster General Smith. This belief seems to be based on the supposition that Mr. Payne, the newly appointed Postmaster General, would naturally like to have as assistants men with whom he is more or less personally acquainted, and upon whose honesty and entire reliance he could rely in his policy of readjusting and placing the postal service in the South on an improved basis and less subject to political influence.

President Roosevelt, it was stated today, selected Mr. Payne to be Postmaster General because he believed that the latter possesses the ability and tact necessary to bring about changes for the betterment of the service.

The Custom in the Matter.

It is recalled that in most cases in the past, where a Cabinet member has tendered his resignation, his assistants, as a matter of courtesy and custom, have also resigned their places, unless especially requested to retain their positions. This, it is understood, has not yet been done in the cases of the Assistant Postmasters General, and it is expected at the Postoffice and other departments that Messrs. Johnson, Shallenberger, and Madden will tender their resignations in due time, so as to afford Mr. Payne an opportunity to consult with the President in regard to the selection of the Assistant Postmasters General.

Question Not Yet Considered.

When seen this morning at the Postoffice Department in regard to this matter, Messrs. Shallenberger, Madden, and Bristol said that they had not considered the question as to whether they would resign. They said they had received no intimation to resign nor special invitation from President Roosevelt to remain. Mr. Masten, the chief clerk of the First Assistant Postmaster General, who is absent, spending Christmas holidays with his family in New Jersey, said this morning that it was customary for the assistants to resign with their chiefs, but, he said, he knew of no such custom in which this custom was not followed.

GONE AFTER MISS STONE.

Peet and Dragoman Leave Salonica for the Interior.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A news agency despatch from Constantinople says that W. W. Peet, treasurer of the Missionary Society in Constantinople, and M. Gargiulo, Dragoman of the United States legation, who left Constantinople December 17 to meet the brigades, who hold Miss Stone captive, and tender the ransom fund which had been raised to secure her release, have started from Salonica for the interior.

No news of their movements is to be expected for some days. The Government, on representations made by the legation, has sent instructions to the provincial authorities to render the United States negotiators for the release of Miss Stone every assistance in their power.

SCHOOL BOARD PROMOTIONS.

Mrs. R. A. Cooper Chosen Principal of M Street Institution.

The Board of Education at its meeting this afternoon appointed Mrs. H. S. Cooper, principal of the M Street High School, vice R. H. Terrell, who resigned to assume the duties of Justice of the Peace.

The others promoted as a result of the appointment of Mrs. Cooper as principal were S. W. Bryant, Thursday, army and navy reception, 9 to 10:30 p. m.; January 15, Thursday, Supreme Court Dinner, 8 p. m.; January 23, Thursday, Congressional reception, 9 to 10:30 p. m.; January 29, Thursday, army and navy reception, 9 to 10:30 p. m.

WHITE HOUSE FESTIVITIES.

Programme of Receptions and Dinners for the Season.

The following programme of receptions and dinners to be given at the White House has just been announced: January 1, Wednesday, New Year reception, 11 a. m. to 1:30 p. m.; January 2, Thursday, Cabinet reception, 8 p. m.; January 7, Tuesday, diplomatic reception, 9 to 10:30 p. m.; January 9, Thursday, diplomatic dinner, 8 p. m.; January 15, Tuesday, judicial reception, 9 to 10:30 p. m.; January 15, Thursday, Supreme Court Dinner, 8 p. m.; January 23, Thursday, Congressional reception, 9 to 10:30 p. m.; January 29, Thursday, army and navy reception, 9 to 10:30 p. m.

Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co. Del. and trips daily at 6:30 p. m. from foot 7th st. to Old Point Comfort, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and Newport News. See ad. page 7.

\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return Via R. & O. R. R. Saturday and Sunday, December 28 and 29, tickets good returning only Monday. Good on all trains except Royal Limited.

SHORT CHANGE FOR FIFTY-DOLLAR BILL.

A CONDUCTOR CONFESSES THEFT.

Note Inadvertently Offered for Change—Honesty of Owner Taken Advantage of—Clark Arrested in Baltimore.

Sidney R. Clark, a conductor on the Metropolitan branch of the Washington Traction and Electric Company, is in the hands of the police, charged with grand larceny. He was arrested in Baltimore and brought to the city this morning.

Confesses His Guilt.

Clark confesses that he took advantage of the honesty of a passenger and the street car of which he was conductor, robbing Mrs. J. C. Harbord of the greater part of a \$50 bill which she inadvertently offered in payment for her fare. Mrs. Harbord, who lives at 1164 Nineteenth Street northwest, is the complainant against Clark.

The Transaction was Peculiar and Occurred the Afternoon Before Christmas.

Mrs. Harbord left her home and walked to the corner of Connecticut Avenue and L Street northwest, where she boarded a southbound car on which the man under arrest was conductor. She tendered a bill in payment of 25 cents' worth of tickets and received \$4.75 in change.

"You've given me too much change, haven't you?" Mrs. Harbord remarked. "I only gave you a dollar bill, I think."

A Second Slice of the Money.

Clark thanked her, and \$4 of the amount was returned to him. She alighted at the corner of Eleventh and F Streets northwest.

On entering a store she found that she had only a dollar bill in her pocketbook.

On leaving the house she had placed a fifty-dollar bill and a one in her purse and the unavoidable conclusion was that she had given the conductor the fifty-dollar bill.

Conductor Clark Identified.

Several of the conductors whose cars would have passed L Street at the time Mrs. Harbord boarded the car were sent to her house Christmas Day and she identified Clark as the man. Clark went to the store for a few hours, turned in his car that night and disappeared.

The following day the police were notified and a request was sent to the surrounding cities that Clark be arrested. At his home, 308 N Street, southeast, nothing was known as to his whereabouts.

Over Half Spent.

When apprehended in Baltimore he admitted his identity and having received the \$50. He had spent a portion of it and but \$23.02 was found in his possession.

He is Locked up at the New Jersey Avenue Police Station.

QUAY TO RESIGN FROM THE SENATE.

PERSISTENT REPORT AT CAPITOL.

Condition of the Pennsylvania's Health, It is Said, Will Prevent His Return to Official Duties at Washington.

It was stated on good authority at the Capitol today that Senator Quay will never return to his seat in the Senate; that he is preparing to retire from active political life in the near future.

In a letter received at the Capitol today it was positively asserted that the Pennsylvania statesman has decided to resign from the Senate.

Senator Quay's Health.

Mr. Quay has been unable to attend the sessions of the upper body except for one day since the Fifty-seventh Congress convened. He has remained in Florida, and his health, instead of improving, has gradually grown worse. To return to Washington, it is said, would be to imperil his life.

Senator Quay has stated that he would have liked to remain here to attend to legislation in which he is specially interested, but that he found this impossible. His friends say that even under the most favorable circumstances he would hardly be able to serve out his term as United States Senator.

No Desire to Remain in Public Life.

Mr. Quay has at present, it is claimed, no desire to remain in public life, and will surrender as soon as he can do so and do justice to his friends. He can no longer take an active part in legislation, and as he has won all of his battles he is content to retire with present honors.

It was admitted this morning by a Senator who is close to Mr. Quay that the resignation will be sent to Senator Frye before many weeks.

HISTORIANS AT THE LIBRARY.

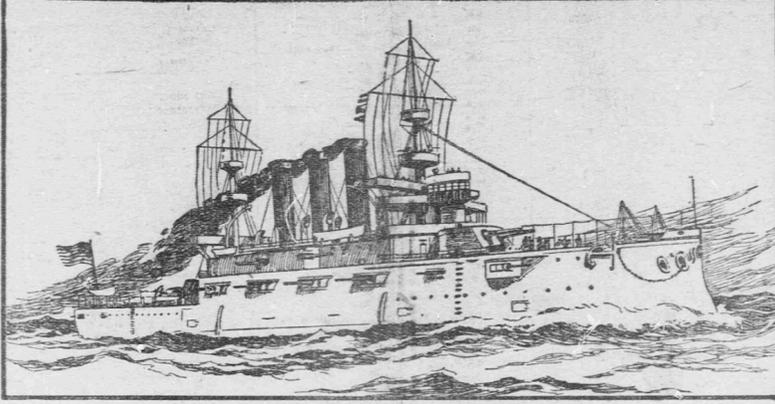
Building Inspected, Meeting Held, and Lunch Served in the Case.

After inspecting all the points of interest in the Congressional Library the American Historical Association held its second session in the northeast pavilion of that building at 10:30 o'clock. Addresses were delivered by Prof. Lucy M. Salmon, of Vassar College, who advocated the establishment of an American School of History at Rome; by Prof. George L. Burr, of Cornell University, who read a paper on "European Archivalities"; by Robert T. Swan, Commissioner of Public Records of Massachusetts, describing the work of his commission; and by Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, who spoke of the relation of the National Library to historical research in the United States.

At the close of the session luncheon was served to the members of the association in the library cafe.

A public session of the Church History section was held at 2:30 o'clock at Columbia University, and at 3:30 p. m. the college teachers of history held a conference.

Other meetings will be held at the university building at 4:30 o'clock and at 8 tonight.



THE NEW BATTLESHIP MISSOURI.

TITLE CONCERNS TO CONSOLIDATE

Merger Into a \$1,000,000 Company Taking Place.

COMMITTEES HAVE AGREED ON PLAN

Columbia to Increase Its Capitalization and Absorb the Real Estate Concerns—Will Also Do a Bonding Business.

The long-talked-of consolidation of the title insurance companies will soon be accomplished unless the plans of the controlling interests of the different companies miscarry in some unexpected way.

A new concern with a capitalization of \$1,000,000 is to take the place of the Columbia and Real Estate Title Insurance Company. Later it is believed that the District and Washington Title Companies will be absorbed by the new concern.

The new company will be organized under the law of 1890, under which the trust companies of the District and other financial institutions have been incorporated. It will add to the title insurance business now conducted by the Columbia and the Real Estate Title Companies a bonding and surety business, making this indeed quite an important work on the plan for the larger stockholders of both companies will be absorbed by the new concern.

The other advantage of the consolidation will be in the large saving of expense. It is estimated by the people most interested in the undertaking that the new concern can be operated for only a little more than the expenses of one company have been in the past. In this way it is believed that the returns on the money invested will be much larger.

The Bonding and Surety Business.

The bonding and surety business has long been considered a promising field in the District. There is at present no local company engaged in the business, though several New York, Baltimore, and other outside companies draw a large revenue from giving bonds here.

Two committees representing the Columbia and the Real Estate Title Companies have been at work on the plan for the new concern for some time, and have now prepared their report, which will be submitted to their stockholders in the near future. It is stated, however, that the larger stockholders of both companies have already acquiesced in the plan and that its success is practically assured.

The committee of the Columbia Company is composed of William E. Edmonston, J. M. Johnson, and W. A. Gordon. The committee of the Real Estate Company is made up of President John T. Arms, C. J. Bell, and George W. Brown.

Capitalization of \$1,000,000.

The financial plan agreed on is that the capitalization of the Columbia company shall be increased to \$1,000,000. The Real Estate Title Insurance stock will then be bought at par. This will make a total of \$500,000 for the two companies and will leave \$500,000 in stock to be sold for cash.

The stockholders of the two companies will be allowed to subscribe for stock at par and any part not taken by them will be sold to the public. The new concern will have nearly its entire capital stock in cash when it begins business, as the plants of the two companies are not valued at more than \$150,000.

GOVERNOR SHAW'S PLANS.

His Arrival Here Expected About January 20.

No word has been received at the White House from Governor Shaw, who is to succeed Secretary Gage at the head of the Treasury Department, regarding his coming to Washington. It is not thought that Governor Shaw will come before January 20, after he has been succeeded as Chief Executive of Hawkeye State, by Governor-elect A. B. Cummins, of Des Moines.

Mr. Gage Does Not Expect to Turn over his Position before the Middle of February at the Earliest.

There was a long conference in Admiral Schley's apartments at the Richmond today to decide upon his future course of action.

With the Admiral were Messrs. Rayner and Teague, of Baltimore, his counsel before the Court of Enquiry. They declined to see anyone while the conference was in progress, word being sent out that they were too busy.

English-American Wedding.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The marriage of Lieutenant C. D. Caig, of His Majesty's battleship Repulse, to Miss Elsie D. Tomkins, daughter of Rev. Dr. Tomkins, of Long Branch, N. J., and niece of Rev. F. W. Tomkins, of Philadelphia, was solemnized at St. Pancras Church today. Four of Lieutenant Caig's fellow-officers acted as ushers, and blue jackets and marines headed the staves. After the wedding Mrs. Tomkins gave a reception at the Langham Hotel.

WISHES TO ACT AS FIDUCIARY IN CHINA.

NEW YORK FIRM'S APPLICATION Payment of Chinese Indemnity necessitates a Fiscal Officer for This Government in Shanghai.

Formal application for appointment as fiduciary of the United States at Shanghai, China, was made yesterday to President Roosevelt by the International Banking Corporation of New York.

Consul General Goodnow at Shanghai was temporarily appointed fiduciary yesterday at a conference between Secretaries Hay, Root, and Gage. It is the intention, however, that an American financial firm shall be appointed fiduciary to receive the payments of the United States' share of the Chinese indemnity.

Consul General Now Acting.

The designation of Consul General Goodnow was made yesterday for the purpose of giving some one authority to represent this Government in the conferences regarding the indemnity frequently held in China. Some time ago it was generally understood that the Guaranty Trust Company had been designated, but it was later discovered that the charter of that concern did not permit it to do business outside of New York State.

That company is making an effort to have its charter so amended as to allow business transactions in the Orient. In case it extends its charter it may get the appointment as fiduciary.

The Applicant Company.

The International Banking Corporation was organized for Oriental trade.

Edward F. Crandin, of New York, the president; General J. J. McCook, the legal representative; and H. Hardy, the secretary of the company, made their application yesterday. It is rather expected that some firm will be appointed soon, probably before the first payments of the indemnity are made.

FRENCH SQUADRON FOR PORTLAND DEMANDED.

A PAPER'S ASTONISHING STORY. Declares Portland Authorities Kidnap French Sailors and Hold Them for Ransom as Tripoli Did.

NANTES, France, Dec. 28.—The "Fair de Loire" today published a sensational statement to the effect that the principal shipowners of France demand that the Government send a squadron to Portland, Oreg., to protect French shipping masters whose vessels touch at that port.

The crews of French ships, the paper avers, are enticed ashore by the American authorities, who are in league with the French consul, and are not allowed to return to their ships until the masters pay a ransom.

CAPT. LORD STILL MISSING.

Several Callers at Police Headquarters Think They Have Seen Him.

The publication of the picture of Capt. Thomas W. Lord in The Times this morning caused renewed anxiety on the part of the police in their efforts to locate the missing man. A number of persons who believed that they recognized the features as those of some one whom they had recently seen called at Police Headquarters today to tell what they knew of and where they thought they had seen the missing man.

While many of these persons were undoubtedly mistaken as to the identity of the man they described, memorandums were taken in each case and all clues will be carefully run down.

WANTS ALLES RETAINED.

Reported That He Will Make a Request for an Assistant Secretary.

Secretary Gage, it is said, will ask Assistant Governor Milton E. Alles in the Treasury Department.

It has been the custom for many years in official circles here for the outgoing department heads to make such personal requests of their successors in office and these are almost invariably granted.

WRECK IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Fog Causes Collision and Loss of Two Lives.

MANCHESTER, N. H., Dec. 28.—On account of a dense fog today, the passenger train leaving this city at 8 o'clock this morning, ran into a freight a mile this side of Nashua.

The passenger engine and baggage car, and three rear cars of the freight, were demolished. The fireman and engineer of the passenger train, and one trainman in the baggage car, were killed. No passengers were hurt.

LAUNCHING OF THE MISSOURI

Props Knocked Away Shortly After 11 o'Clock.

MISS COCKRELL AS THE SPONSOR

Fifteen Thousand People, Among Them Many Distinguished Personages, Watched the Great Battleship Take the Water.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Dec. 28.—The battleship Missouri, one of the heaviest and fastest warships in the United States Navy, was successfully launched here today at 11:15 a. m.

The event was witnessed by 15,000 people, and was greeted by every steam whistle in the harbor blowing its loudest and strongest.

From stem to stern on the new vessel were national colors. She received her full complement of that country which always marks the launching of a battleship. Many distinguished people were among the thousands present. United States Senators and Representatives, Governors of States, and officials high in naval and army circles were spectators.

Miss Marion Cockrell, daughter of United States Senator Cockrell, had the distinction of christening the ship, and gave the name of the ship, and the vessel was baptized with Mississippi River water "champagne." She was accompanied here by a large party of friends who came as her guests.

Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Alice, and Secretary Long of the Navy, were witnesses of the event.

Banquet Follows Launching.

A banquet followed the launching. It was in honor of Miss Cockrell and loyal Missourians to the number of several hundred, who had journeyed hither to see the launching.

The banquet commenced at 2 o'clock and was the most elaborate affair of its kind ever held here. The builders of the big boat were the hosts. These usually take place in the city, but on this occasion it was held at the Hotel Chamberlin, at Old Point Comfort, a few miles distant. This was made necessary in order to properly provide room for the 600 guests in attendance. All the notables who witnessed the launching were seated.

The battleship Missouri and the State of Missouri were toasted by Senator Cockrell and Lieutenant Governor Lee. Governor Tyler and Governor-elect Montague took care of the Old Dominion in their addresses.

Secretary Long and C. B. Orcutt, president of the yard, were scheduled to make appropriate addresses at 3 o'clock.

Disappointed Young Lady.

The Washington party, which witnessed the launching of the battleship Missouri, arrived here this morning on the steamer Washington. There was one sadly disappointed young lady in the company, Miss Marion Cockrell, the daughter of Senator Cockrell. She was to christen the big vessel, and for the occasion she had made a handsome gown. A porter's blunder caused the trunk containing her dress to be left on the wharf at Washington. She accepted the disappointment with true Western cheerfulness and philosophy, and wore her street gown when she broke the bottle on the prow of the boat.

Secretary Long, Secretary Gage, Capt. S. C. Lemly, President C. B. Orcutt, of the Newport News Shipbuilding Company, which is building the battleship, arrived here by train this morning.

Members of the Party.

Among those in the Washington party, which includes a large number of Missourians, are Senator Cockrell and Miss Marion Cockrell, Mrs. C. C. Cockrell, A. V. Henry, Frank Cockrell, Representative Cochran and wife, W. S. Cowherd and wife, Representative Iepburn and wife, Representative Benton and wife, Mrs. Champ Clark and son, Representative Robb, Willis Vandevanter, Assistant Attorney General, L. E. Payson and wife, Prof. H. N. Hall and wife, Thomas F. Walsh and wife, Representative Rixey, Representative Rhea of Virginia, F. E. Rittman, Commander E. D. Taussig, E. H. Braxton, E. T. Chamberlin and wife, F. M. Chase, J. A. Dumont and wife, Dr. C. Knight, E. F. Gallaudet, S. N. Lee, John Daugherty, W. J. Hughes, Miss M. Jackson, J. R. Edwards, Mrs. M. L. Parviz, W. F. Thomas and wife, J. R. Walker, and W. Melville and wife.

UNCLE SAM'S NEW SEA FIGHTER.

Technical Description of the Battleship Missouri.

The Missouri is a sister ship of the Ohio and the Maine. Her contract price was \$2,855,000. Her keel was laid February 7, 1900, and on the latest construction report she is set down as 51 per cent completed. The Missouri's contract speed

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES IN THE DISTRICT.

OVER TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND

The Report of the Director of the Twelfth Census—Classification According to Sex and Service Rendered.

In response to a request from Senator McMillan, Chairman of the Senate District Committee, W. R. Merriam, Director of the Census, has forwarded the following statistics giving the number of employees, male and female, in legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the Government employed here in Washington.

The total number of employees is 27,965, of whom 26,169 are males and 1,796 females, divided as follows: Legislative, 963 males, 154 females; executive, 19,109 males, 1,340 females; judicial, 37 males, 2 females. The employees in detail are:

The Legislative Employees.

Legislative—Senate, officers and employees, 385; House of Representatives, officers and employees, 272; Capitol police, 65; Library of Congress, 367; United States Botanical Garden, 28.

The Executive Employees.

Executive—Executive Office, 28; State Department, 109; Treasury Department, 5,547; War Department, 2,711; Navy Department, 3,077; Postoffice Department, 1,449; Interior Department, 7,672; Department of Justice, 212; Department of Agriculture, 982; Government Printing Office, 3,691; Department of Labor, 84; Fish Commission, 67; Interstate Commerce Commission, 153; Civil Service Commission, 61; Industrial Commission, 17; Smithsonian Institution, 359; Bureau of American Republics, 22; Local Postoffices in District, 628.

Judicial—Supreme Court of the United States, 12; Court of Claims, 27.

HOW DE WET RUSHED COL. FIRMAN'S CAMP.

KITCHENER TELLS WAR OFFICE.

Boers Climbed a Supposedly Impossible Precipice and Overwhelmed the English Before They Could Make Ready.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—In a despatch to the War Office, Lord Kitchener gives further details of the action at Twentfontein on December 24, when General De Wet rushed the camp of Colonel Firman. He says:

"The column was encamped on a solitary kopje whose southern side was almost precipitous. The outposts on the northern side were well pushed out. The position, which was naturally a strong one, had also been entrenched.

"The night was moonlight, but cloudy. It is stated that the Boers climbed the precipitous southern side and collected near the top.

"At 2 o'clock in the morning the Boers suddenly attacked the pickets on the summit in superior numbers. Before the men in the camp were able to get clear of the tents, the Boers rushed through, shooting them as they were coming out. The officers were shot while trying to stem the tide.

"Lieutenant Harwich, who worked the pompano, was shot through the heart. There was no panic among our men. All did their best.

"Including the casualties, half the column is now at Elands River Bridge. The remainder are prisoners. Two wagonloads of dead and wounded Boers were removed from the scene of the action. The Boers, who numbered 1,200 and were under command of De Wet, behaved well."

NEW THEORY ADVANCED.

Girl's Family Believes Her Only Recently Murdered.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The family of Ella Cropsey believe that she was not killed until some time after her disappearance on November 29. They think that she was held a prisoner somewhere in the meantime.

Her father's sister, Miss Ella Cropsey, was seen at her home in Brooklyn this morning. She said:

"It is the belief of our family that the girl was murdered only recently. There were reports that a girl was being held captive by a negro woman in Rockland County, and that she refused to tell her name, or who was responsible for her detention, because she feared her father would kill the man concerned. This report is now being investigated."

Andrew G. Cropsey, uncle of the murdered girl, left for Elizabeth City at 9 o'clock last night. His daughter, Carrie Cropsey, who was visiting the girl when she disappeared, has arrived at her home in Brooklyn. Early this morning she left for a small town in Rockland County, where she will visit relatives. She was accompanied by her mother.

ARMY'S NEW YEAR DAY CALL.

An Order Issued Relating to White House Reception.

In connection with the President's New Year reception the following official order was today promulgated by the War Department:

"Officers of the Army in this city and at Washington Barracks and at Fort Myer will assemble, in full uniform, at the office of the Lieutenant General Commanding on Wednesday, January 1, 1902, not later than 11:25 a. m., and proceed thence to the Executive Mansion to pay their respects to the President of the United States. The commanding general and general staff officers of the District of Columbia National Guard are invited to assemble in the order named for officers of the army.

"The formation will be made under the direction of the Adjutant General, in the following order:

"1. Officers on the active list, according to corps and regiments, as given in the Army Register.

"2. Officers on the retired list, in the order of corps and regiments to which they formerly belonged."

\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return Via R. & O. R. R. Saturday and Sunday, December 28 and 29, tickets good returning only Monday. Good on all trains except Congressional Limited.