REDISTRICTING BILL.

PROVISIONS OF THE CUMMING MEASURE TO BE INTRODUCED.

A GENERAL PROPOSITION.

Third, Fourth, Seventh And Tenth Districts Will Be Untouched—One Change In the Eighth District—Effort To Enlarge the First District.

The Cumming bill, proposing to redistrict the State for representatives in Congress, will be offered very soon after the reassembling of the General Assembly. As stated by the Dispatch, the bill has been drawn and its provisions are known, unless the patron or his associates in the advocacy of the measure make changes in it before presentation in the House.

The bill will be in the nature of a general redistricting bill, though the Third, Fourth, Seventh, and Tenth districts will be untouched, and but one change will be made in the Eighth District, and that one the addition of Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg to the Eighth, they being taken from the First.

ENLARGE THE FIRST.

All the changes in the eastern part of the State are consequential upon the effort to enlarge the First District and reduce the Second, which is now far larger than any other in population. It is proposed to take the counties and city of the peninsula from the Second and put them in the First, and in order to further even up the eastern districts, Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg will be transferred to the Eighth from the First.

There is good authority for the statement that the rumored transfer of Manchester and Chesterfield from the Third to the Fourth District will not even be proposed in the bill. If it be attempted at all, it will be on the initiative of the representative of some city or county of the district.

IN THE SOUTHWEST.

The other great changes are in the Southwest, where an effort will be made to so gerrymander the districts as to make the Ninth more surely Democratic. This is difficult to do, and the changes proposed are said to be those suggested by Congressman Rhea, who was recently defeated in the district as now constituted. It is proposed to cut off Smyth and Pulaski from the Ninth and add them to the Fifth, and transfer Floyd from the Fifth to the Sixth District. These changes will be stoutly opposed by members from the Ninth District, and especially by the people of the counties transferred. The addition of the two counties would bring the Fifth District more nearly up to the standard of population and would strengthen rather than weaken the Democracy of the district.

OPPOSE THE BILL.

It is understood that some of the most influential of the First District members of the House will oppose the redistricting bill so far as it proposes to enlarge the district. Mr. Cumming, the patron of the prospective measure, has conferred with members of Congress and it is understood the measure is as acceptable to them as any redistricting bill would be. Whether or not it is acceptable to prospective candidates for Congress will be an important factor in the contest over the bill. Certainly some of the most influential members of the two houses will oppose the bill. The indications are nevertheless, that the bill will pass.

GANS-GARDNER BOUT A DISAPPOINTMENT.

After Repeated Warnings, Decision Is Given To Baltimorean, In the Eleventh Round.

NEW BRITAIN, CONN., January 1.—After repeatedly warning Gus Gardner, of Philadelphia, Referee John Willis gave Joe Gans, of Baltimore, the decision, in the eleventh round of a bout scheduled for twenty rounds, before the National Athletic Club to-day.

Gans was on the defensive from the start, but Gardner danced around the ring from his opponent for five rounds, and showed no inclination to mix-up. In the fifth round, Gans succeeded in landing several good blows on Gardner, with telling effect. In the sixth, Gardner came back with the tactics which characterized the first two rounds of the bout, and relied on his footwork to escape Gans. The referee repeatedly warned Gardner, who clinched at every opportunity, but with little effect. In the eleventh round, Gardner caught Gans about the waist and threw him heavily to the floor. Referee Willis immediately stopped the bout, and gave the decision to Gans. Fifteen hundred persons witnessed the fight.

AL WEINIG DISPOSED OF.

But It Takes O'Brien Twelve Rounds To Do It.

BUFFALO, N. Y., January 1.—It took Jack O'Brien twelve rounds to dispose of Al Weinig before the International Athletic Club, at Fort Erie to-day. The Buffalo man went down and out in the middle of the twelfth round after receiving a terrific right-hand uppercut and a shove which banged his head against the floor, and made his rising within the ten seconds an impossibility. The contest was one-sided all through. Weinig did not land a score of clean blows throughout the twelve rounds, while O'Brien, with stinging jabs, cutting swings, and stunning counters, played on the Buffalo man wherever and whenever he pleased. But Weinig's vitality and well-known powers of recuperation and ability to stand punishment enabled him to stand on his feet and take all the gruelling until the finishing punch came.

O'Brien fought the fastest twelve rounds ever seen before the Fort Erie Club. He was in action every second, and although he landed a sufficient number of times on Weinig's jaw to have won a half dozen fights, he seemed to lack a blow powerful enough to knock him out. Weinig was knocked down clean in the first round, and was hanging on the ropes in the second and fourth rounds, but his strength held him until O'Brien had literally cut his face to ribbons, closed both eyes and worn him down until he was unable to protect himself or do damage to his opponent. O'Brien did all the fighting, Weinig seldom attempting a lead. O'Brien finished without a scratch.

The betting was at prohibitive odds in O'Brien's favor, although much money was won on the poposition of Weining's staying ten rounds, which he had backed himself liberally to do.

THE MAZATLAN SCOURGE IS ASIATIC PLAGUE.

So Longer the Slightest Doubt About It—People Fleeing From the City—Most of Victims Women.

MAZATLAN, MEX., January 1.—There is no longer the slightest doubt that the disease now afflicting this city is genuine Asiatic plague, for microscopic investigation proves that bubonic pest bacilli are in the blood of those afflicted with the disease. The plague has grown virulent within the last forty-eight hours, and the alarm, which had begun in some measure to abate, has returned with increased strength. The people are fleeing from the city at the rate of 300 per day, and some 5,000 have already gone.

It is a remarkable fact that more than 50 per cent. of the persons attacked are women.

The news of the recrudescence of the plague at this port has reached the interior towns of the State, and is causing a panic. Sanitary cordons of armed men have been placed around the towns to prevent the entrance of any one from this place.

Strenuous Sanitary Steps.

HERMOSILLO, MEXICO, January 1.—Owing to the scare caused by the epidemic at Mazatlan, strenuous measures are being taken here to improve the sanitary conditions of the city. Streets are to be kept scrupulously clean, and the city government has appointed an inspector for each city block, whose duty it is to enter every house in the block at least once during the day, make a thorough inspection, and report any suspicious sickness.

STABBED HIMSELF THIRTY TIMES.

The Terrible Suicide of Charles Groenus in Newport News—Hampton Railway Deal—Miscellany.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Charles Groenus, a German shipjoiner, stabbed himself thirty times early this morning at the Baltimore House, and died at the hospital at noon. His throat was cut from ear to ear, his heart and lungs were penetrated.

A large knife, found near the body, did the work. Groenus was fifty-five years old and came here from Baltimore, where he lived at 1022 West Mary street.

He had been separated from his family, and despondency prompted his act.

THE STREET RAILWAY DEAL.

"The Hampton Roads Railway and Electric Company was built for operation and not for sale," said President W. J. Nelms, when approached to-day relative to the rumor that his line had been absorbed by Frank Gould. He knows nothing about the report and says he has no idea that the line will change hands.

There was no emancipation day celebration here to-day, although the negroes of Hampton had a big meeting and a parade, and were assisted by local negroes. Recorder of Deeds Dancy, of Washington, was the principal speaker. To-night James H. Hayes, the negro lawyer who assisted Hon. John S. Wise in his fight on the validity of the constitution, addressed an audience at Zion M. E. church.

THE LOUISIANA.

The keel for the new battleship Louisiana will be laid at the shipyard the latter part of this month. The Pacific Coast lumber steamer, Francis H. Leggett, will be launched about Feb. 1.

Miss Minnie Gambaid, of Morrison's, and Walter M. Phillips, of this city, were married yesterday at the home of the bride. The young couple went to Richmond to spend part of their honeymoon, and from there will go West, returning in about two weeks to make their home here.

A meeting will be held next Tuesday of the directors of the newly-organized Eagle Shoe Company, whose plant will be removed here from Fredericksburg and enlarged with the aid of local capital.

Bishop Van de Vyver has authorized the Rev. Father T. J. Wilson, pastor of St. Vincent's Catholic church, to go ahead with work on the new Sisters' school, which will be built out of the fund given by Mrs. Mary F. Ryan, of New York. The opening of the Xaverian Brothers' College will take place the first Monday in February.

Harry Westacott, an enthusiastic nimrod of this city, to-day liberated 300 live birds for the benefit of his friends in the Chesapeake Gun Club, and an interesting shoot resulted at Riverview Park.

Watch services were held in most of the churches last night to witness the passing of the old and the entry of the new year.

Contractor Stannard, who will build the new Federal building, is authority for the statement that work will begin on the structure in a few days and that the granite is now on the way here. The marble will arrive March 1 and the steel structural work about the same time.

DANCE THE OLD YEAR OUT.

A Brilliant German In Fredericksburg—Those Participating.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Of all those who watched the old year die and helped to welcome the new, none were happier, merrier, or gayer than the young people who danced the german in this city last night.

As the curtain fell on the old year the orchestra played "Dixie," and to its ever inspiring strains the dancers danced in the year.

The figures were led by Mr. Clarence R. Howard. Refreshments, consisting of ice cream, cake, coffee and bon-bons, were served shortly after midnight, the german continuing afterwards until an early hour in the morning. Those present were: Chaperones, Mrs. Andrew Potts, Mrs. John T. Goolrick, and Mrs. H. H. Johnston; dancing, Mrs. John W. Stearns, of New York; Mrs. Clarence R. Howard, Mrs. S. G. Wallace, Mrs. W. C. Stearns, Misses Helen Harris, of West Va., Adra Bradbury, of Orange; Edith and Berry Barber, Nannie and Elise Ficklen, Lizzie Hurkamp, Edno Lee, Francis Perry, Mary Gordon Wallace, Jennie Maitland, Ellen Wallace, Nellie and Fannie Carmichael, Belle Dangerfield, of Alexandria; Mercer Crutchfield, Lizzie Doswell, Lula Braxton, Mary Fitzhugh, Kate Doggett, Mamie Shepherd, Josephine Maddox, Madge Taylor and Messrs. John W. Stearns, of New York; C. W. Stearns, David Wilcox, H. H. Henderson, A. F. Dickson, M. G. Latimer, M. C. Hall, Jr., C. O'Conner Goolrick, Chester B. Goolrick, R. H. Carmichael, George and Tom Shepherd, Mason and Taylor Smith, Barton Mason, E. M. and B. C. Young, Blight Harrison, J. C. Chichester, W. H. Hurkamp, Edward Warren, Charles H. Hurkamp, H. H. Johnston, S. G. Wallace, Clarence R. Howard, Edmund Bradford, Mr. Vaughan and others.

DANCE AT SOUTH BOSTON.

The Past Year the Most Prosperous In the Town's History.

SOUTH BOSTON, VA., January 1.—(Special.)—Last night the Hotel Garland was the scene of a beautiful dance given by the young gentlemen of the town. For brilliancy, beauty, and elegance it was unsurpassed. The Danville Orchestra furnished music.

The year 1902 was a record-breaker in all departments of business. The town prospered and grew beyond the expectations of the most optimistic citizens. More buildings and much handsomer ones were erected than in any year in the past. The new year begins auspiciously. On every side the click of the hammer and the buzz of the saw is heard. Carpenters, masons, and lumber dealers took only a few days of rest and are now back at work with renewed energy. Even the colored mechanics, who so dearly love the holidays, are at work to-day with a vim.

Within a radius of ten miles there are over one hundred families permanently settled. They came principally from the Northwest and embrace several nationalities. Real estate dealers have had a brisk, satisfactory year. The German colony near here are a hard-working, industrious class, and are giving much attention to fruit-raising. As grape-growers they are far in advance of our people. It has been remarked that northwestern settlers give much more attention to the raising of grass than our own people. Nearly all of them are hay sellers.

Richmonders in New York.

NEW YORK, January 1.—(Special.)—Following are the Richmonders registered to-day in New York:

Astor—N. R. Crump and R. Shirrefs.
Albemarle—T. A. Atkinson and L. T. Myers.
Earlington—J. W. Edwards.
Marlborough—W. E. Tomlinson and wife and A. W. Weddell.
Navarre—A. C. Johnson.
Winsonia—S. F. Taylor.

Mrs. Fannie Desreaux Dead.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., January 1.—(Special.)—Mrs. Fannie Desreaux, widow of Captain Desreaux, of Stafford, died suddenly Wednesday morning, while on a visit to the family of J. W. Ball, in this city. She was about 60 years of age, and leaves no family.

MANCHESTER AND CHESTERFIELD.

FEW FIRES LAST YEAR

AGGREGATE DAMAGE DONE BY FLAMES IN MANCHESTER $493.

GETTING NEW BUDGET READY.

Small Appropriation For Street Improvement—Manchester Rope To Be Used In Execution of "Jack" Brown To-Day—No Trace of Negroes Who Robbed Mr. Joseph Moore—Other Southside News.

After contending for better streets for many years it now seems probable that some provision will be made for improving the thoroughfares of Manchester within the next twelve months by the City Council. The deplorable condition of some of the streets has hampered the progress of the city to some extent, as well as caused much complaint on the part of citizens who have to tread through them.

While the new budget may not carry much over $3,000 or $4,000 for street improvement, it is probable that a system will be adopted by which the citizens may be given good pavements to walk on within a year or two.

The Business-Men's Association suggests that the property owners be required to pay two thirds for improving the streets of the city. They will present a memorial at the next meeting of the City Council, which will suggest many needed improvements.

GETTING BUDGET READY.

The new budget is being gotten in readiness and will be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Committee. It will carry an increased appropriation for the police department for at least two additional policemen. There will be few or no changes in the appropriations for the other departments.

The Almshouse Committee met last evening at the office of Superintendent Allen. After transacting routine business the members of the committee ate supper and adjourned.

There was no quorum for a meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners last night.

Chief W. B. Crooks has completed his report, which showed that the aggregate damage from fires in Manchester during 1902, was $493. The total number of alarms was twenty-seven. Fifteen of the fires caused the amount of damage as stated above. There were three false alarms and nine chimney fires.

The meeting of the Street Committee, which was to have been held last night, has been postponed until next Thursday.

An important meeting of the Building and Lands Committee, will be held this evening at 8 o'clock.

WILL BE HANGED TO-DAY.

City-Sergeant J. G. Saunders has gone to the State Farm to witness the hanging of Jack Brown, a convict, at that place this morning. Brown will be executed with the same rope with which Ernest Davis is to be hanged next Friday in Manchester jail.

Brown was convicted of the murder of James Parker, and will be the first convict to be hanged at the State Farm. The execution will be the first to take place in the State in the New Year.

About twenty-five persons will witness the hanging of Davis, which will take place at sunrise next Friday.

NEW YEAR POEM.

The Rev. H. H. Moore composed the following poem New-Year's eve night:

Farewell, Old Year.

Farewell, Old Year; I bow my head
And close my eyes, and hear
The muffled tread of by-gone days
March back into the past.
The past—great tomb of alms and hopes,
Ideals and fond ambitions—
Enshrines with mist, and buries from the sight,
The shattered realisms born of day dreams;
Nourished oft by visions of the night.

Farewell, Old Year;
Thy numbered cycles—days and nights—
Accentuated here and there by sunrise,
Zenith, sunset, deepening twilight;
Then a plunge into the deeper darkness of the night:
Sun, moon and stars eclipsed at times
By clouds and shadows, cast athwart the stellar space,
As onward swings the earth
'Twixt orbs of night and day.

Farewell, Old Year;
We will not mourn thy going
As we do when friends of earth depart:
They sleep, and speak not when we call;
But Thou! Wilt not Thou speak
From out the past?
Sometimes in whispers, then in thunder tones?
Will not the sunrise, zenith, sunset,
Of the coming days,
Touch the vibrant chord of memory's
Magic note, and let us
Hear again the voices of the past?

Farewell, Old Year; march on, away:
Thou art the past, and soon will ancient be;
While we, God's greatest handiwork,
Shall live, and taste the sweets
Of His eternal NOW:
We live TO-DAY; and from the future grasp
By faith, the joys to neutralize
The sorrows of the past, and make
The PRESENT strike the middle note
Of sweet and holy calm.

—H. H. MOORE.

Manchester, Va., Jan. 1, 1903.

MOST ENJOYABLE DANCE.

One of the most enjoyable dances of the season was given Wednesday night at the home of Mrs. W. B. Bradley. Among the dancers were Miss Birdie Cox in blue silk mull and lace; Miss Edna Davidson in black chiffon; Miss Janye Davidson in white china silk wth cream applique; Miss Emma Perdue, in flowered organdy; Miss Grace Perdue in white organdy; Miss Susie Sampson in red etamine over silk; Miss Florrie Moody in white China silk; Miss Edna Bayley in pink organdy with lace bertha; Miss Lelia O'Brien in pink silk mull with ecru lace; Miss Mozelle Gregory in white organdy; Mr. and Mrs. George Paul; Miss Linda Livesay, of Baltimore, in cream moire; Miss Quennie Acree, of Petersburg, in grey crepe de chine with pearl passamentrie and Miss Osborne, of Bristol, Tenn., in blue silk. Mrs. Bradley, the charming hostess, was beautifully gowned in black taffeta with diamond ornaments. The gentlemen were Messrs. Emmett and Howard Gregory, John Sampson, Joseph Lucas, Robert Topham, Mark and Lynton Lloyd, Dr. Owens, Allen Pettigrew, Carfield Gorman, David Wiltshire, and Dr. Winstone, of Manchester; Mr. Wilkerson, Mr. Robert Michaels, and Mr. Hagen, of Richmond; and Mr. C. H. Durham, of Charlotte, N. C., and Walter Duval. A dainty buffet lunch was served at midnight.

BRILLIANT OCCASION.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Taylor entertained their friends Wednesday night at Drewry's mansion. Dancing was engaged in until 3 o'clock yesterday morning. The mansion was handsomely decorated for the occasion, the scene being one of the most brilliant of the season.

Among those present were Misses Bessie Weisiger, Minnie Weisiger, Gertrude Weisiger, Mamie Weisiger, Retia Weisiger, Maude, Patteson, Mary Patteson, Elizabeth, Polly, and Edyth Hyde, Mayme Lyons, of Petersburg; Ellen Brodnax, Virginia Willis, Sallie Yirby, Laura Taylor, Lucia Owen and Lucy Jones; Messrs: Willis C. Pulliam, Sam Moore, Tom Fendley, Lacy Fendley, Sam Patteson, Henry Patteson, Gus Goolsby, Tom Turpin, Royal Turpin, Phil. Carlton, Frank Sampson, Dr. Easley, of Richmond; B. P. Vaden, MacArthur, Clifton Robertson, Edwards, E. E. Early, Jones, Richard Bacon, and Fred Lucas.

Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Chalkley, of Richmond; Mr. and Mrs. Plummer, of Petersburg; Mr. and Mrs. James Burton, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Cary, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Weisiger, Mrs. W. B. Ball, Mrs. Kate Page, Mr. and Mrs. John Morris, Mrs. Kate Vaden, Dr. Ingram, Miss Sallie Brodnax, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Winnie, Mrs. R. A. Vaden, Mrs. B. M. Robertson, Mrs. T. M. Fendley.

DEATH OF AN INFANT.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Heath, of 1024 Hull street, died Wednesday. The child had been ill for several days.

The funeral took place from the house yesterday and the burial was in Maury cemetery.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

Manchester Lodge, No. 20, Knights of Pythias, met in Anderson's hall last night for the purpose of installing officers.

The new officers of the lodge are as follows:

Past Chancellor, W. J. Lewis; chancellor commander, A. D. T. Albright; vice-chancellor, George Jeffress; prelate, G. P. Reams; master of work, E. C. Height; keeper of records and seal, Charles S. Whitlock; master of finance, William J. Morrisett; master of exchequer, F. W. Bass; inside guard, J. H. Meigs; outside sentinel, P. L. Clary.

MR. ANDERSON HURT.

Frank S. Anderson, a clerk in E. W. Weisiger's drugstore in Manchester, suffered a painful wound on the left hand Wednesday evening.

He cut a large gash in his hand which bled profusely for some time. The wound was sewed up by Mr. Wood.

Mr. Anderson is suffering very much from the wound. He will not be able to use his hand for several days.

NO TRACE OF ROBBERS.

The efforts of the police to locate the robbers who held-up Mr. Joseph Moore in his saloon Wednesday night, have been unavailing.

Policeman A. S. Wright, went to Richmond yesterday, and Chief-of-Police Lipscomb went to Petersburg, hoping to get some trace of the robbers.

The robbery was the absorbing topic of conversation on the streets of Manchester yesterday.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Abbott has returned from Norfolk, where they have been spending the holidays.

Mrs. Jordan, wife of 'Squire H. A. Jordan, who has been dangerously ill, is much improved.

Mrs. L. H. Hogan continues extremely ill.

William Fowler, was arraigned in court yesterday morning, and plead guilty to a common cause and was discharged with a warning.

Miss Lelie O'Brien will entertain one of the euchre clubs, of the city, at her home.

Miss Bessie Rice, of Washington, is visiting the Misses Sampson.

Mr. Hickory White has just returned from a hunt in Powhatan county and brought with him one of the finest bucks seen in the city. Mr. White, who is a crack shot and an all-round lover of sports, says the deer are as thick in Powhatan as hares are in Chesterfield.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Clary have returned after visiting his mother, Mrs. W. B. Clary, of Manchester.

Miss Bettie Clopton has returned home after a pleasant visit in Petersburg.

A CHATHAM MARRIAGE.

Arrest of Henry Womac—Dances In the County.

CHATHAM, VA., January 1.—(Special.)—A very quiet and pretty home wedding was celebrated at the home of Mr. E. C. Shelton, in South Chatham, on Wednesday, at 11 o'clock, when his eldest daughter, Miss Nellie Shelton, was led to the altar by Mr. Frank W. Green, of Bath county. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. O. Pruden, who used the Ritual of the Episcopal Church.

The bride was becomingly attired in a blue travelling suit with hat and gloves to match.

Immediately after the ceremony the newly-wedded pair were driven to the depot and boarded the north-bound train for the groom's home, where he follows the occupation of farming.

Henry Womac (colored), who escaped from Constable Motley on Friday while en route to the jail, was lodged in prison on Wednesday by Constable R. B. Neal. He will be held for the next meeting of the grand jury.

A very delightful house party ended Monday night with a dance at the home of Mr. J. B. Stone, at Hurt. The guests were from Richmond, Lynchburg, Danville, and Chatham.

Mr. Andrew Giles arrived here Wednesday from Tarboro', N. C., at which place he suffered an attack of typhoid-fever, which disabled him for more than ten weeks. He is yet unable to walk alone.

WHITE HOUSE FETE.

(CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.)

Mr. Roosevelt received the supreme court of the United States, headed by Chief Justice Fuller. All of the justices were accompanied by the ladies of their households. Then followed the judges of the United States court of claims, of the District Court of Appeals and of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, cabinet members and ex-ministers of the United States.

At 11:30 o'clock the reception of senators, representatives and delegates in congress began. Seemingly, there were fewer than in some former years, owing largely to the fact that a majority of the congressmen have not returned to Washington from their holiday vacation.

Army and Navy.

Following the congressional party came the military contingent, composed of officers of the United States army and navy and marine corps, together with the general and staff of the militia of the District of Columbia. General Miles, who is in China en route home from a tour of the Philippines, and Admiral Dewey, who is in command of the combined fleets at Culebra Island, and who led the military procession to the White House last year, were both absent. Major-General Young, next in rank to General Miles, accompanied by Major-General Corbin, adjutant-general of the army, led the line of army officers who preceded the naval officers. At the head of the latter were Rear-Admirals Remey and Melville, General Heywood, commandant of the marine corps, with his detachment, preceded the district militia.

New Army Uniforms.

The army officers appeared for the first time as a body in theis new dress uniforms. The new cap with flaring top, which has taken the place of the old cap, which was inclined to lose shape with wear, is a distinctive feature of the change. The frocks are elaborately ornamented, thus producing a more showy effect, as was noticeable to-day.

At the conclusion of this feature of the reception the assistant secretaries of departments, assistant attorney-genrals, assistant postmaster-generals, and various heads of bureaus and department chiefs in the government service, were received. In this section Vice-Governor Luke Wright, of the Philippines, was a notable figure. The President gave him a most cordial greeting. Then were received the Society of the Cincinnati, the Associated Veterans of the War of 1846-'47; the military order of the Loyal Legion, the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Union Veterans' Legion; Spanish war veterans, and the members of the Oldest Inhabitants' Association of the District of Columbia.

At 1 o'clock the reception to citizens generally began. For hours hundreds of people of all ages, colors, sex and condition had been waiting in line to greet the President and to receive his greeting. The line passed slowly through the main entrance of the White House, across the corridor into the Red Room, and thence past the President and party in the Blue Room.

Weather Delightful.

The throng was typically American—happy, fine-looking and well-dressed. The weather throughout the reception was so delightful that none suffered any discomfort or inconvenience from the long wait in line which many of them had. There was no hurrying, and sometimes slight delays occurred as the President or Mrs. Roosevelt exchanged pleasantries with particular friends. Occasionally the President varied the formality of the receiving by inviting, as a special compliment, some personal friend or dignitary of rank to take place with the receiving party.

Mrs. Roosevelt endured the long strain of the reception admirably. A few minutes before the close of the reception, Mrs. Roosevelt, not knowing how long it might continue, left the President's side and was escorted by Captain Cowles to luncheon in the private apartments of the mansion.

The gates were closed at 2:25 o'clock, the line by that time having passed within the grounds. The reception of callers was concluded at 2:34. The President, after chatting a few minutes with the receiving party, retired to his private apartments for luncheon.

Number of Callers, 7,000.

According to the programme, the reception should have ended at 2 o'clock, but the President directed that all persons in line should be afforded an opportunity of entering the White House and being received. The total number of callers fell a trifle short of seven thousand. The President extended a cordial greeting and handshake to each one. He was particularly interested in the babies, many of whom were carried by their parents. At the conclusion of the reception, the President manifested little fatigue.

The police arrangements were under the personal supervision of Major Sylvester, and Chief Wilkie, of the Secret Service, was present, with agents of his corps. The detectives permitted no one to pass the line with a hand in a pocket or covered.

PRESIDENT DIAZ'S RECEPTION.

Ambassador Clayton Yields Precedence To German Minister.

MEXICO CITY, January 1.—There was a brilliant scene at the Palace to-day, when President Diaz received the diplomatic corps, Consuls, officers of the army and navy, members of the Senate and House of Deputies, and leading citizens. The diplomatic corps was headed by Baron Von Heyking, the German Minister, who made a speech of congratulation, to which President Diaz replied feelingly. United States Ambassador Powell Clayton was not present, having gone to Cumavaca, thus courteously yielding precedence to the German Minister, who is soon to go away on a long leave of absence. In the absence of Ambassador Clayton, the American Embassy was represented by First Secretary McCreery. The ladies of the diplomatic corps this morning paid their respects to Madam Diaz.

A DUSKY GODDESS OF LIBERTY.

How the Suffolk Colored People Observed the Emancipation Anniversary.

SUFFOLK, VA., January 1.—(Special.) The banks were closed to-day and the postoffice kept holiday hours, but otherwise there was no observance of New Year's day by the whites.

The colored people had a big celebration in honor of the anniversary of the emancipation proclamation. There was speaking and a parade through the principal streets. The column, headed by a brass band, embraced a large number on foot, and quite a calvalcade of dusky horsemen.

In one vehicle there was a Goddess of Liberty, arrayed in the national colors, with a maid of honor by her side, while a wagon contained a log cabin, with diminutive darkies looking out of the door and windows.

ACTORS FACE PISTOL

Members of Giffen Company Have Trouble at Newport News.

Mr. Arthur Hurleigh, the assistant stage manager of the Giffen Company, arrived here from Hampton last night, where the company played on Wednesday, and where three members of the organization had the opportunity of looking down the barrel of a revolver in the careless hands of a doughty bar-tender during the wee small hours of yesterday morning.

Members of the Giffen Company regard the imposition of a fine and the release of the bar-tender, who shot and wounded Mr. William Elliott, as a miscarriage of justice. Messrs. Emery, Blackmore, and Elliott had been tiding the new year over the bar, and assisting in speeding the departure of the old. The offending package over which the shooting occurred was a parcel of laundry belonging to Mr. Emery. It is alleged that the bar-tender not only refused to deliver the package, but cursed and abused the actors and filled up the cup of their indignation by a highly-ornamented application of the word "bums." Emery started for the bar-tender, Mr. Hurleigh says, though that functionary was protected by the massive width of the bar. He did not strike the man, though it was his evident intention to do so, when the bar-tender whipped out a revolver and fired point blank at him. It was the intention of the man to kill Emery, the latter believes, but his aim was bad, and the bullet tore only a hole through Emery's sleeves, but lodged in Elliott's leg, near the thigh. The bar-tender seemed dazed when he saw Elliott drop, but still held the smoking revolver in his hands when Blackmore ran behind the bar and seized him to prevent any further mischief.

Mr. Elliott is badly, though not dangerously, hurt. He was unable to leave with the company for New York, but it is hoped that he will be out in a week or so. Manager Giffen remained in Hampton with Mr. Elliott, but is expected here to-day.

Manager Giffen will leave shortly for New York to reorganize for the spring season at the Academy. He is making an effort to secure William Ingersoll for his leading man. Mr. Ingersoll was with the company two seasons ago, and is very popular here.

The Lake Hard Frozen.

Skating was enjoyed at Lakeside Park yesterday, and the ice is reported by the park-keeper to be three inches thick on the lake. With fairly cold weather there will be skating for some days there. The ice is said to be smooth and of good quality.

They Stole a Watch.

The home of B. H. Bullock, a negro living at No. 13 east Jackson street, was entered last night about 9 o'clock by two men, who secured a gold-filled watch before being scared off. The matter was reported to the police, and the 1 o'clock relief was ordered to be on a lookout for the thieves in that neighborhood.

RIPANS.

I had been troubled for three years with constipation and liver trouble. In my daily work I have been compelled to take my meals at uncertain hours, which has brought on a very severe attack of indigestion. I dreaded the approach of the meal hour, knowing the almost unbearable suffering which I have always experienced after eating. My food would come up sour and I would continue sick at my stomach for two hours thereafter. Six weeks ago upon the recommendation of a fellow clerk I took Ripans Tabules and the trouble with my liver and constipation has now been removed, and my indigestion has disappeared entirely.

At Druggists.

The Five-cent packet is enough for an ordinary occasion. The family bottle, 60 cts. contains a supply for a year.

A NEW YEAR'S DANCE

THE BRILLIANT COLONIAL BALL IN PETERSBURG LAST NIGHT.

A NOTABLE SOCIETY EVENT.

Affair Was Given Under the Auspices of the Daughters of the Revolution—Led By Mr. John Watson—Costumes of Those Present.

PETERSBURG, VA., January 1.—(Special.)—New Year's night was celebrated in Petersburg by a colonial ball, under the auspices of the Frances Bland Randolph Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of which Mrs. E. W. Finch is regent. Old Library Hall, within whose walls so many happy moments have been spent by the devotees of Terpsichore, once more resounded with the strains of sweet music, such as only Thilow's orchestra can render. The youth and beauty of the Cocade City were there and many an older head, for the nonce, forgot all traces left by Father Time, and mingled with the gayest of the gay. The hall was beautifully decorated with Christmas greens, palms and ferns for the occasion.

Mr. John Watson lead the dancing.

THE PATRONESSES.

The patronesses were Mesdames R. L. Watson, W. L. Venable, John McGill, Nora Nichols, Alexander Hamilton, R. C. Scott, H. P. Stratton, John Herbert Claiborne, W. R. McKenney, Archibald Campbell, William Mahone, R. T. Meade, Marie Morrison; and from the Daughters, Mesdames E. W. Finch, A. K. Davis, E. G. Temple, S. P. Mitchell, W. F. Drewry, R. Eemple, S. P. Mitchell, W. F. Drewry, R. R. Hill, Preston Roper, Gordon McCabe, Charles Hall Davis, and James McClevy.

Among those who wore striking costumes on the occasion, were: Mrs. Marie Morrison, gowned in a dress of white moire antique, with trimmings of old brocade worn by her great-grandmother at the Court of Louis V., at Versailles, in 1738, old lace of same date, hair pompadour, with plumes.

Mrs. R. T. Meade, black velvet, costume reguer, duchess lace and pearls.

Mrs. H. P. Stratton, imported organdy over white silk—hand-embroidered applique, pearls.

Mrs. John Herbert Claiborne, superb black lace over silk, with trimmings of pink panne velvet.

Mrs. R. L. Watson, black moire antique, jet trimmings and diamonds.

Mrs. A. K. Davis, black net over silk, pearls.

Mrs. E. G. Temple, colonial costume belonging to her great-grandmother, Susan Poythress.

Mrs. W. F. Drewry, black net over silk, pink trimmings.

Mrs. R. R. Hill, black lace over silk, Martha Washington fichu, pearl ornaments.

Mrs. Preston Roper, white moire antique, diamond ornaments.

Mrs. Alexander Hamilton, white satin, duchess lace, diamonds.

Mrs. Griswold, black net over white silk, hair pompadour.

Mrs. Brooks Rogers, white moire, hand embroidered with rose point lace bodice, diamonds.

Mrs. W. A. Bragg, shell pink organdy over white silk, duchess lace, and dull gold ornaments.

Miss Annie Coleman Wilson, blue silk, pearls.

Mrs. Cross, white silk, Watteau back, Medici collar, diamonds.

Mrs. Robert Budd, Janice Meredith costume, white silk slip, pink and blue over dress.

Miss Mary Ellen Whyte, white Paris mousseline, satin ribbon and point lace, pearl ornaments.

Miss Martha Collier, heliotrope crepe de chine, amethysts.

Miss Alice Collier, hand-embroidered white crepe, pearls.

Miss Mary Beasley, white point d'esprit, pearls.

Miss Mary C. Gilliam, white Paris mousseline with satin trimmings.

Mrs. Pryor Jones, white organdy, hand-embroidered applique.

Mrs. E. H. Patteson, white organdy, lace applique, diamonds.

Miss Josephine Budd, colonial girl, Janice Meredith costume.

Miss Julia Budd, cream lace over yellow brocaded satin.

Mrs. Campbell, black tulle, silver embroidery, diamonds.

Mrs. Cooper, of New Castle, Del., black satin, lace, diamonds.

Mrs. Duncan Wright, black silk, duchess lace, diamonds.

Miss Helen Venable, pale pink pompadour costume.

Miss McGill, embroidered black net and pearls.

Miss Lyon, of Englewood, N. Y., colonial costume.

Miss Rosa Stephenson, white satin, colonial costume, pearls.

SOME OF THE OTHERS.

Among those present were: Dr. and Mrs. H. G. Leigh, Dr. and Mrs. John Mann, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Stratton, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Maclin, Mr. and Mrs. Lauterbach, Mr. and Mrs. W. Gordon McCabe, Mr. and Mrs. Waverley Wilkins, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Meade, Mrs. Griswold, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. McKenney, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kernan, Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Pryor Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Bamble, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gilliam, Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Drewry, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Temple, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Roper, Mr. and Mrs. Broocks Rogers, Misses Helen Venable, Julia Budd, Josephine Budd, Ashby Camp, Miss James, Mary Eliza Jones, Annie Watson, Annie McKenney, Miss Romola Lyon, of New York, Annie Coleman Willson, Mary Beasley, Martha Collier, Alice Collier, Miss Hobbie, Emily Virginia Towns; Messrs. John Watson, Bartlett Roper, Paul Roper, Dunn Martin, Robert Martin, Joseph Venable, E. P. Goodwyn, Hamilton Seabury, Robert Watson, Powell Watson, Leslie Watson, James Cuthbert, William E. Griffin, John S. Jones, Mr. Gilliard, Charles Cuthbert, Herbert Rogers, Dr. William Shippen, Stanley Beckwith, Samuel Price, Carter Myers, James Weddell, Robert Davis, George Whitmore, Edwin Whitmore, Wallace Jefferson, Marshall Payne, George Bernard, Joseph Smith, Meade Doyle, Meade Bernard, Samuel Zimmer, Samuel Budd, Mason Hill, Carl Davis, Colin Spotswood.

The scene on the floor of the hall, noted for the presence of so many lovely and charming women and chivalrous men and noted, too, for the many beautiful costumes, was a brilliant one. The stately minuet was danced to perfection, and other dances followed till a late hour. The ball was a decided success in all respects and will long be remembered as a social event of great interest.

FIRE AT ONANCOCK.

Burton and Parker's Store Burnt—Narrow Escape of George Burton.

ONANCOCK, VA., January 1.—(Special.)—An alarm of fire was sounded this morning about 3 o'clock, when the store of Burton & Parker was found to be aflame. The structure and stock of goods were destroyed in a short time after the alarm. A large portion of the population hurried to the scene. The fire department arrived shortly after the alarm. Upon examination, it was found that the nearest hydrant was several hundred feet away, and no attempt was made to run a hose to the fire. The fire, when discovered, had gained such a headway, that but little effort was made to extinguish it. Those on the scene could do little more than stand with folded arms and watch the flames do their deadly work.

George Burton, who was asleep on the top floor of the building, came very near los