A BRITISH VICTORY,

General French Defeats the Boers and Occupies Colesberg.

BURGHERS ARE SURPRISED

They Are Outfanked and Flee, With Heavy Losses.

Stories of a Proposed Dutch Rising

With the Object of Scizing the Cape

Capital and Capturing Sir Alfred

RENSBURG, CAPE COLONY, January 1.-General French has completely defeated the Boers and occupied Colesberg. The General continued to keep the

Boers on the move, and pressed them closely Saturday and Sunday, giving them no time to make a prolonged stand, and when day broke he was within striking distance of the enemy. Last night all the cavalry, artillery, and infantry, the last-named riding in wagons to increase the general mobility, started upon a night march, with the object of turning the Boers' right. The flank operations were successful. The infantry and field batteries immediately, made a feint attack upon the Boer front, and while this was proceeding the cavalry and light artillery got completely around the enemy's right flank, as arranged. The programme worked without a hitch. The Boers were utterly surprised, and, finding their retreat threatened, fled in disorder to the eastward, leaving Colesberg in General French's hands.

ARTILLERY DUEL. LONDON, January 1.—The Daily Mail has the following dispatch, dated January 1st, from Rensburg:

"Yesterday afternoon a big force of cavalry and infantry, with ten guns, under the personal command of General French, moving by detour, occupied some hills three miles from Colesberg, where the Boers were in strength, confident in the natural aid afforded them by the hills

"The enemy's position extended six miles around the entire village. At day-break our artillery opened the battle. The Boers were taken by surprise, but replied vigorously. An artillery duel was maintained for two hours. Then a Boer Hotchkiss collapsed and was abandoned. We captured it. A Boer big gun was silenced, but this and the other Boer guns were withdrawn to the northward, shither we are harassing the Boer re-treat by a damaging shell fire.

LOYALISTS JUBILANT. "Colesberg is in our hands, and the few remaining Loyalists are jubilant. We have captured many wagons and a considerable quantity of stores.

"Our losses were quite slight, but the

river altogether at Norvalspont, where the bridge is still intact."

ANOTHER BRITISH SUCCESS. mar ston at Achte

LONDON, January 1 .- Captain Montmorency's sortie near Dordrecht, with a patrol of 120 men of the Twenty-first Lancers, and his retreat, December 30th, were followed up the next day by a successful British engagement, and the res cue of a small party, supposed to be men Captain Montmorency left behind him. Under Captain Goldsworthy, a force of

110 men, with four guns, accompanied by Captain Montmorency's scouts, sallied out of Dordrecht during the morning of December 31st, to relieve Lieutenant Turner and twenty-seven left overnight at Labnschagn's Nek. The Boers were driven back and Lieutenant Turner's party was recoued. Eight Boers and thirteen horses are known to have been The Times, in its second edition, pub-

ishes a dispatch from Sterkstroom, dated December 21st, which says: VOULD NOT LEAVE WOUNDED OFFICER.

Captain Montmorency's scouts were cut off, owing to their refusal to leave a wounded officer, Lieutenant Warren, of Brabant's Horse. These men, under L'extenants Milford and Turner, of the Frontier Mounted Rifles, defended thema most gallantly against the repeated cas of some eight hundred Boers. The enemy resorted to 'sniping' during the right, but were repulsed with loss.

"At 5:15 this morning, Captain Goldsworthy with the Cape Mounted Rifles, arrived and the enemy immediately fled to the hills Turner's party whose to the hills. Turner's party, whose horses had nearly all been killed, were rescued. They displayed splendid pluck, and the villiant manner in which Cap-tain Gold worthy effected their relief, on his own responsibility, is deserving of the highest preise. Our loss was two men wounded. The Boers lost about thirty men, including eight men killed." BOER LECRUITING STOPPED.

Another account mays: "The success of this little party will arrest the progress of the enemy's recruiting in that vicinity."

vicinity."
A dispatch from the Modder river says:
"December 31—The naval guns planted
a few excellent shells, without reply. The
enemy's opposition on the left is, apparently, considerably weakened."

PORTUGUESE NEUTRALITY. LONDON, January 1.-The Lisbon cor-

respondent of the Standard says:

"It is currently reported that the speech of King Calos in the Cortes tomorrow (Tuesday) will refer at some length to the situation in South Africa, but it is doubtful whether enything will be said more friendly to England than to be said more friendly to England than to

"The public is with the Boers, and the papers generally for British designs upon Delagoa Bay. The Portuguese Government asserts that has done everything to preserve neutality."

HOT WORK BEFORE BULLER.

LONDON, January, correspondent at Frere -The Standard tamp, telegraph-

ing on January 1st, says "Sir Charles Warren's "Sir Charles Warren's livision is now nearly complete. Its heliquarters will be at Estcourt. It is rungred here that the guns which were captated from Gen-eral Buller at Coleaso have been mount-

eral Buller at Coleaso have been mounted in the hills commanding the drift over the Tugela river at Springfeld. The Boers, it appears, captured 20 rounds of shrapnel when they took the guns. "General Buller's difficultid have been immeasurably increased by the enforced delay since his last engagement. He now has before him a series of valled and fortified hills, running sixteen alles along the line of the Tugtia. These are swarmthe line of the Tugria. These are swarming with the enemi; posted in positions of great strength, and bristley with guns, while the river in front is in full

THE BUNDESRATH AT DURBAN.

the British cruiser, Magicienne, on the ground that she was carrying contraband of war, in Delagoa Bay, has been brought to the wharf here, and is now guarded by marines and blue-jackets. The United States, German, Russian, and Austria military attaches, who spent the holidays in Durban, returned to the

front this evening.

The White Star Line steamship Maiestic, which left Liverpool, December 13th, with 2,000 troops, arrived here to-

UGLY RUMORS.

CAPE TOWN, January 1.-Ugly rumors he object of selzing Cape Town and the docks, and capturing the Governor of Cape Colony, Sir Alfred Milner. The centre of the movement is said to be Paarl, a village about thirty miles from Cape Town, where a meeting of the Afrikander Bund was held yesterday.

A similar meeting was held at Rich-

aond, on December 28th, and it is reportwo towns are acting in concert. The members of the Bund at Wellington and the Dutch at Clanwilliam district are said to be armed with Mausers, and to be anxious to use them in behalf

of the Boers. Although the stories of a rising are dis redited, the police and military are taking ample precautions.

LIGHT THROUGH THE GLOOM. LONDON, January 2 .- 4:30 A. M.-The success of General French in driving the Boers from Colesberg has shot a welcome ray of light through the gloom of the campaign in South Africa. Everywhere it is commented upon as an example of sound tactics, and as an illustration of what may be done when the right me-thods are employed with the Boers. The government is urged to take the lesson to heart, and to see that no stone is left unturned in the endeavor to get the largest possible forces of cavalry and

mounted infantry to the front.

Now that General French has the Boers on the run, the hope is expressed that he will give them no rest, but will harass them until they have found their way them until they have found their way across the Orange river, which is twelve miles distant. The old wagon route to the Free State traverses Colesberg, and crosses the river by means of a fine bridge, 1,450 feet long. It is believed that the Boers retreated towards Norval's Point, further east, and the question is whether Convent Breach will be the control of the whether General French will be able to cure these two bridges before the Boers

DETERRENT ON THE DUTCH. One important effect of the success of General French is that it will probably have a deterrent influence upon Dutch

gerate the importance of small skirmish-es and engagements. It should be borne in mind that General French has only 2.000 men, and so far as the important points of the campaign are concerned the situation is virtually unchanged.

MODDER RIVER SITUATION. At Modder river the Boers appear covered a Boer camp established in the vicinity of Springfield, southwest of Colenso, by a Free State commando. A similar movement has been made at Mod-

A large force of Boers, it is reported. has formed a new laager about fifteen miles down the strtam at Kameelhoek. ALL WELL AT LADYSMITH.

Heliograph messages from Ladysmith show that all was well there on December 31st. The bombardment was being BOER SPIES IN YEOMANRY.

LONDON, January 1.-Alleged Boy spies, it has been discovered, have enlisted in the Yeomanry. A report from Lord Chesham, who is in command of the Yeomanry forces, says that the officials of this arm of the service are being pestered by agents of Dr. Leyds, the European plenipotentiary of South African Boers must have suffered heavily. They republics. He adds that two of them were actually accepted, but that they were afterwards discovered. He declares that the same thing occurred in Thornycroft's that body. He says, continuing: "We have given word to all our commanding offiers to keep a sharp lookout for traitors. No steps have been taken thus far to punish the alleged spies.

GOEBEL SLATE GOES THROUGH.

Democrats Will Organize Both Houses of Kentucky Legislature. FRANKFORT, KY., January 1.-All doubt as to the ability of the Goebel Democrats to organize both houses of the Legislature was dispelled by the attendance in the Democratic caucus to-night. Senator Goebel was nominated for president pro tem, of the Senate, and the entire Goebel slate went through. In the House caucus, all of the fifty-eight Democrats answered to the roll-call and participated. In the Senate, four Democrats remained out. They are Senators Alexander, Hays, Gillespie, and Roberts. Senator Hill was sick and absent, but he is not classed with the dissenters.

In the Senate caucus, Senator Harold created a sensation by making an alleged expose of the anti-Goebel leaders, declaring that he had been approached by J. H. Whallen, of Louisville, and paid \$4,500 to remain out of the caucus. The money, he said, had been placed in a box with the Louisville Trust Company, the key to which he had sent up to Senator Goebel, who was presiding over the caucus, ending his speech by declaring that he had entered into the deal for the purpose of exposing Whallen, and further that there was not money enough in the world to make him disloyal to his party and his State.

NOTICES OF CONTEST. Attorneys for Goebel and the other contesting Democratic candidates for State offices to-day served notice upon the Republican contestees to take depositions to be used as evidence in the pending contest cases and naming their wit-

nesses. . The Republicans decided to-night to hold a conference to-morrow and nominate a straight Republican slate of candidates. The anti-Goebel leaders say the large attendance at the Democratic caucus to-night does not indicate anything as to the gubernatorial contest or the senatorship, as in the Senate the Goebel men and anti-Goebel men entered nto a deal regarding division of the

offices in that branch. South Trimble, of Franklin county, was nominated for Speaker of the House, on the thirteenth ballot.
BLACKBURN TO BE NOMINATED.

FRANKFORT, KY., January 1.-Senator loebel, of the Democratic joint caucus, ssued a call for a caucus to-morrow night. He states that the caucus is for the sole purpose of nominating a candidate for United States senator. Of course, Blackburn will be the only name placed before the caucus, and he will be nominated by acclamation.

citizen of Richmond should insure a portion, if not all, of his pro-perty (real or personal) in the Virginia State Insurance Company.

HE ACCOSTED A LADY

David Perkins is Arrested for Attempted Criminal Assault.

IDENTIFIED BY MRS. COLQUITT

Recognizes Him as the Man Who Maltreated Her.

Mrs. Martha J. Colquitt, of No. 616 east Cary street, startled the inmates of the Bethany Home, near Bon Air, yesterday afternoon by assuring them that a young negro had made an attempt to assault

This occurred about 1 o'clock, and by :30 David Perkins, a negro about 17 years by Mrs. Colquitt as her assailant. Not more than an hour later he had had a preliminary hearing before a magistrate and been sent on to the grand jury of Chesterfield county.

He was brought to Manchester by the Southern railway train which reaches that city at 6:20. He spent last night in the Manchester station-house, and this morning early he will be taken to the county jail at the court-house for confinement till his case comes before a special grand jury, which, it is believed, will

MRS. COLQUITT'S STORY. Mrs. Colquitt is a widow lady about 28 years of age, and has four little children, The children are all at the Bethany Orto the home to see them. Yesterday, as it was the first of the year, she decided to take them some trinkets and articles ple. She left Richmond on the 12:01 train of the Southern road. This train does not take long to get to Bon Air, and the mother, with basket on her arm, was presently walking rapidly down the track towards the home, which is about two miles this side of Bon Air. Mrs. Colquit had gotten in about five or six squares of the institution, when, she says, a yel-low negro youth overtook her. He was about 17 or 18 years old, according to her

She had never seen him before. THE NEGRO SEIZED HER. The negro seized her and she fell down on the side of the track. She is unable to say whether the negro threw her by some quick movement or she tripped her of what she was doing was of her pass-ing an arm under the iron rail of the track and holding to it with all her might. She says she had an indistinct notion that the negro meant to drag her to the woods near-by. She began to scream, too, with all her power. The negro told her if she cried out he would "smack her brains out."

HE SLAPPED HER FACE. She scarcely heard him, and cried out again and again. Then the youth slapped The print of his fingers was her face for an hour, and last night her left cheek was discolored and swollen. An old, crippled negro man, chopping wood among the pines near wood among the pines hear the railroad, was probably Mrs. Colquitt's salvation. He heard her screams of "murder" (that was what she cailed as lustly as she could), but was unable, being one-legged, to go to her very fast. He had a little boy out there with him, and he said: "Honey, go yon-der and see what's de matter wid dat voman hollering murder; quick, honey."
The boy went, and the old man called out, too, for help. Mrs. Colquitt says her assailant saw the lad coming and ran off. She then went to the home and gave the

HE IS QUICKLY CAPTURED. The home was thrown into much excitement. Mr. J. F. Miller, the manager of the home, got on his horse and went as quickly as he could to Bon Air, where he informed Mr. C. G. Whitworth, the special policeman, of what had occurred. Mr. Whitworth is postmaster. Mr. Whitworth is postmaster of Bon Air, station agent, telegraph operator, express agent, telephone operator, and special police officer. He is a man of action, as he clearly proved himself to be yesterday afternoon. It was a holiday, and all the men of the town were near-by skating. He got their help, and the country for miles around was scoured. Every yellov youth in all that section was put under arrest and brought to Bon Air. There they were lined up. Harry Moseley, a colored track-walker of the Southern track-walker of the Southern road, had met a youth coming up the track near the place where Mrs. Colquit met her assailant soon after the affair occurred. He walked down this line of ellow negroes. He readily picked out Perkins as the man whom he had met.

MRS. COLQUITT IDENTIFIES HIM. Mrs. Colquitt also positively identified Perkins as her assailant. Mr. Whitworth et the other darkies go, and immediate y took Perkins before Magistrate G. W.

Mrs. Colquitt and Harry Moseley went before the 'Squire and testified against Perkins. The Magistrate sent him on to the grand jury. Officer Whitworth telephoned to the Manchester police station phoned to the Manchester police station. to Policeman Wright to meet him at the Manchester station as he came down on the 6:25 train. This Officer Wright did. They carried Perkins to the Manchester station, after Judge Clopton, of the Chesterfield court, had approved of it. There he spent the night. The quick action of Mr. Whitworth 'eft no time for excite-

ment, and almost unbroken quiet reigned at Bon Air during the entire afternoon. Perkins was not kept at Bon Air night, because it was feared the colored people would attempt to release him. He will be taken to the county jail by Policeman Alvis, of Swansbero', this

SPECIAL GRAND JURY. It is very probable that Judge Clopton will order a special grand jury at once, as the regular grand jury will not meet

Mrs. Colquitt came home on the same train that brought the negro to Manchester. She went immediately to her home. Perkins was seen at the Manchester station last night and gave his story of the affair. When he was arrested and Mrs. Colquitt confronted him, he denied everything. He says now that he did over-take the lady and offered to carry her basket, which seemed to be heavy. She W. A. CRENSHAW, Agent. refused to let him carry it. Then he put his hand on the basket, at which the lady ot mad. He denies all else that Mrs

HE RICHMOND DISPANCE.

and Miss Holland Ends Happily.

bride was the sequel of the attempt which Mr. Frank O. Harris and Miss Fannie V. Holland, of New Kent, made to elope

young people were folled in their attempt by the father of the bride, who came to his city with them. Mr. Holland took the young people back home Sunday norning. Before daylight yesterday he and Mr. Harris started to New Kent Courthouse for the license. This was ob-tained, and the two returned home. The wedding occurred soon afterwards, in the presence of a large number of friends. The ceremony was performed by Rev. R. B. Collier, of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Harris left at once for an extended tour of the North.

Mr. Holland ever had to the marriage was the youthfulness of his daughter, she being only 17 years of age. She is an only child. The groom is a fine young man, of industry, energy, and character

WOOLLEN-MAKERS' PAY RAISED

Advance Goes Into Effect in New

BOSTON, January 1.-A happy New Year fell to the lot of nearly every person em ployed in the great woollen-industry of New England to-day, when a general advance in wages went into effect. The in-crease takes effect in all of the mills owned and operated by the American six of the Eastern States. large companies independent of the com few small independent concerns hav not given their employees a raise in pay It is estimated that to-day's advance directly affect 40,000 hands, and indirectly nearly 200,000 persons.

The general movement was begun the American Woollen Company early in December, when the directors decided to make an advance of 10 per cent. was immediately after a general advance went into effect in the cotton-mills. I s estimated that the advance will make an addition of from \$30,000 to \$35,000 per week to Woollen operatives in New Eng-

fect to-day in a number of the yarn-mills, including the plants of the Dexter Yary Company, American Yarn Company, and Green & Daniel's Manufacturing Com pany of Fawtucket, R. I.

WILL USE OPTICAL TELEGRAPHY.

With New Italian Invention. CHICAGO, January 1.-A special to the

Record from the City of Mexico says: "Apparatus for 'optical telegraphy,' an Italian invention, has been received in Italian invention, has been received in Mexico. The army commissioner, Lieutenant-Colonel Carlos Salinas, and Major Jose Manterola have been appointed to investigate the apparatus, with a view to its adoption in the Mexican army. The purpose of the apparatus is to communicate long distances, without wires, using the conventional signs. Luring the day the reflection of the solar rays will be used, these being cast by mirrors. At night solar light will be replaced by calcium.

"Solem requiem mass was said yester-"Solem requiem mass was said yester-day at the tomb of Matias Romero, on the anniversity of his death at Washing-ton. A large number of persons were present, including all members of his family.

family.

"The annual charity hop of the American Colony for the benefit of the American Colony for the benefit of the American tribute and the president Diaz and his wife have promised to attend."

WILL RENEW MODUS VIVENDI. Newfoundland Removes the Danger

of Trouble With France. LONDON, January 1.-The second edition of the Times publishes a dispatch from St. John's, N. F., dated December 31st, saying:

"All the political parties agree that a enewal of the modus vivendi for another year is a measure which will pass unani-mously both houses about April 15th. All the colonists are united in a desire to assist the empire by every possible means." The fear that Newfoundland would refuse to renew the modus vivendi has been a bugbear of the Imperial Government, many of the authorities declaring that it constituted the gravest possibility olications with France. Thus the news that the modus vivendi will be renewed has been received with the greatest re

STEAMER SARATOGA FLOATED.

Ward Liner Had Been Aground Ten Days at Santiago.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, January 1.-The Ward Line steamer Saratoga, after having been ten days aground, was pulled off yesterday by the Santiago and two tugs. All her cargo and coal were removed, and the channel around the proneller and keel was dredged.

An investigation has shown remarkable port regulations. No pilots in the harbor lave a license, except two holding Spanish licenses; but several others are mitted by the commandant of the port to use the pilot flag. The man who grounded the Saratoga was not licensed, t is claimed.

AUGUŞTA AND SAVANNAH R. R.

Annual Meeting-Election of Direc tors and Other Officers.

SAVANNAH, GA., January 1.-The annual meeting of the Augusta and Savannah railroad was held here to-day. The road extends from Augusta to Millen, It is leased to the Central of Georgia railway, by which a rental of 5 per cent, on securities is paid.

The following Board of Directors was elected: J. D. Weed, F. H. Miller, W. M. Thomas, A. R. Lawton, George J. Mills, Mr. J. D. Weed was re-elected president; Mr. Frank H. Miller vice-president, and Mr. H. Hull secretary.

NEW YEAR TRAGEDY AT PASSAIC. Ellen Labash Accidentally Shot by Michael Schwartz.

NEW YORK, January 1.-Ellen Labash was shot and instantly killed at Passaic, N. J., at the beginning of the new year to-day. Michael Schwartz celebrated the advent of the new year by going outside the house and firing four shots from his revolver. After entering the house, he pulled the trigger, believing that there was no other bullet in it. There was a loud report and Miss Labash fell to the loor, shot in the heart. Schwartz was

Mr. Lewis P. Brown Dead.

Mr. Lewis P. Brown Well known in this city, died at Malden, Mass, a few days ago and was buried last Sunday at the First Congregational church, at that place. Mr. Brown was one of the most prominent citizens of Malden. He married, about a year ago, Mrs. Matilda Mosely, of this city.

You have failed to add to Richmond's prosperity if you have no policies with your city company—The Virginia State W. W. HARDWICK, Agent.

Colquitt relates. Perkins is a shiftless, idle youth, who CHANGE THE CHARTER comes of bild stock.

Recommendations Adopted by the Council Last Night.

AS TO MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP

The City Fathers Oppose the Plans Regarding Street Railways.

TAX THE TRACTION COMPANY

A New Sliding Scale Proposed, But

and considered, among other things, the minority report of the Committee on Charter, Changes. This report differed from the majority report only on the question of municipal ownership of street railways. It was submitted by Mr. Ebel and provides that the city may buy or sell, but not operate. The other changes have been published in the Dispatch be fore they were considered by the committee, and were adopted, substantially, in their original form.

A proposition to fix the rate of taxation for the Traction Company came before the body, stamped with the approval receipts up to \$200,000; 5 per cent. to \$300 000; 7 per cent. to \$400,000, and 10 per cent over that amount. This tax does not in clude the regular property tax of \$1.40, and will bring the city \$1.140 more than under the present system.

No action was taken, however, owing to the absence of the necessary twothirds vote, and a wide divergence of pinion regarding the advisability of ment offered by Mr. Bloomberg for the purpose of compelling the company to concrete the bed of their lines whereve they may be required so to do by the City Engineer.

THE SESSION IN DETAIL. The following members were present: Messrs. Bloomberg, Camp, Curtis, Grimes Gunst, Harrelson, Heeke, Hobson, Mc-Carthy, Miner, Peters, Pollock, Shea, Tanner Wallerstein, West, Whalen, Williams, and Caskie (president).

The Council passed an ordinance grant ing permission to the Southern railway from Virginia street to Fifteenth street by way of Mill. way of Alli.

A resolution was adopted instructing
cally Attorney to acquire by condem-tion, proceedings the sand-bar known
Justs Island, to be used for the im-ovement of the harbor and for dyking.

CHANGES IN THE CHARTER. majority of the Committee on Char-Changes recommended the following ter Changes recommended the following changes in the charter of the city:

1. That a majority of either body of the City Council shall constitute a quorum, but that a two thirds vote shall be neces money exceeding the sum of \$10 2. That the city shall have power to condemn land for public improvements, and to sublet, lease, or sell such portions of the land as may not be found

necessary to such improvements. Authorizing the city to construct sewers and adopt a uniform charge for their use, and to condemn existing pro-perty rights.

perty rights.

Providing that persons responsible for injury or damage done on the streets, or elsewhere in the city, for which the city may be liable, such persons may be joined with the city as co-defendant.

That the city may acquire street railways, by parchase, condemnation, or otherwise, by issuing bonds, to be known as city railway bonds, securing the same on such railways. That the city may also acquire conduits under similar circumstances.

That the city may compel persons to That the city may compel persons to use the culverts, sewers, or drains, and to pay rent for the same.

The minority of the committee submitted another report, recommending the adoption of a bill to amend the charter, which is substantially the same as the majority report, with the exception of the provision relating to street railways, the difference being that it stops short of municipal ownership.

STREET-RAILWAY OWNERSHIP. Mr. Caskie advocated the adoption of the minority report as far as it refers to the ownership of street railways. "I do the minority report as tar as a trace the ownership of street rallways. "I do not believe the conservative element of the city would go as far as the recommendation of the majority," he said; "it is too radical. Again, I do not think the Legislature would pass it. The conservative element of the city would oppose it, and there would be a fight which would result in the defeat of all the changes contemplated.

Mr. Caskie dealt at some length with possible contingencies that might arise. The Passenger and Power Company might not accept the ordinance; in ninety days—the term set for the acceptance of the franchise by the company—the Legisla-

the term set for the acceptance of the franchise by the company—the Legisla-ture would have adjourned, and the city would be helpless and compelled to grant the old company a renewal of its fran-chise for fifteen years. If the company knew they could compromise with the bondholders, they would not have asked ninety days in which to accept the franchise. A majority of the corporate s had signed a contract by which they agreed to accept the franchise if the contemplated arrangement with the bondholder failed, and the Richmond Passenger and Power Company could not as a whole Power Company could not, as a whole take the matter up.

A QUESTION OF FAITH. Mr. Pollock thought the objection to the majority report turned solely on the faith or distrust of the body in future councils of the clty.

Mr. Bloomberg opposed the proposed condemnation of vested rights acquired by property-holders in old sewers. "You'll turn the city upside down," he said, and he moved the elimination of this feature from the report.

from the report.

Mr. Pollock opposed this amendment. It was costing an immense sum each year to keep old sewers in repair, not a penny of which, he said, could be charged to the or which, he said, could be charged to the property-owners.

Mr. Bloomberg's motion was adopted. The resolution touching the majorities of the Council necessary to make appropriations was amended, so as to be more evolute.

explicit.
The minority report was then adopted, no one dissenting. TO MEET UPON CALL. The Charter Changes Committee also recommended a bill providing that the Board of Public Interest should meet at the call of the chairman, instead of each month, which was adopted.

A further resolution to amend the charter by extending the city limits so as to relieve the preperty-owners of Lee District from excessive taxation was adopted.

Mr. Bildowhers, ownered, the resolution

ed.

Mr. Bldomberg opposed the resolution, in the absence of information as to the burdens which would be placed on the city by relleving the preperty-owners of Lee District of taxation for improve-Caskie said it had never been con-

templated to incorporate Lee District. Some of the property-owners had opposed it, and carried the matter into the courts,

others favored it. The city had collected about \$135,000 in taxes, and spent about \$20,000 in streat improvements. The Court of Appeals had never decided whether or not the plan of taxation adopted by the city was the proper plan.

Mr. Bloomberg withdrew his opposition to the resolution, but offered an amendment providing that all assessments heretofore made shall be met by the property-holders, unless the courts, where the matter is now pending, rule otherwise. The amendment was adopted, and the section as a whole was also adopted.

A resolution was adopted increasing the salary of the steward of the almshouse to \$900 per year.

TAX ON TRACTION COMPANY.

Mr. Wallerstein introduced an amend-

TAX ON TRACTION COMPANY.

Mr. Wallerstein introduced an amendment to the taxation clause of the Richmond Traction Company, fixing the rate of taxation as follows: 3½ per cent. per annum on the gross receipts up to \$200,000, 6 per cent. over \$200,000 and not exceeding \$400,000, and 10 per cent. on all receipts in excess of \$400,000. This system, Mr. Wallerstein said, will increase the payments made by the company to the city on the present basis of earnings by \$1,140. The amendment makes the company llable to general taxation on all property owned by the company. Mr. Wallerstein said that it was essential that the rate of taxation should be fixed without delay. "It is generally conceded that consolidation will come, and the company must get its affairs in shape with this end in view, in order to facilitate the floating of the bonds."

Mr. Bloomberg offered an amendment providing that this taxation should be made subject to the condition that the company shall concrete its road-bed whenever required so to do by the City Engineer, otherwise the taxation shall be 5 per cent additional.

Mr. Grimes insisted on withdrawing at this point, and in the absence of a two thirds vote, the matter was laid on the table, to be taken up at a special meeting of the Council, to be held next Thursday night.

The Council then adjourned.

FIRE DEP'T ANNUAL REPORT. The Twelfth Review Sent to the

ay night. The Council then adjourned.

Mayor and Council. The following is the twelfth annual report of the Board of Fire Commissioners to the Mayor and Council of the city: Richmond, Va., January 1, 1900.

to the Mayor and Council of the city:
Richmond, Va., January 1, 1990.
To the Honorable the Mayor and City Council of Richmond, Va.:
Gentlemen.—In obedience to the law, the Board of Fire Commissioners submit their twelfth annual report for the Fire and Fire-Alarm departments for the year ending December 31, 1899.

The year ending has been highly successful from a fire point of view, and while the losses throughout the State have been phenomenal, our city has been spared, and there has been neither loss of life or property to any extent. There were 27 alarms of fire received and transmitted to the Fire Department, with a total loss approximating \$48,000, which is inconsiderable for our city, and is an additional recommendation to Chief Puller and his command. Their continued alertness, capacity, and interest in their duties have made the duties of the Board of Fire Commissioners comparatively easy.

The year just past was a bugbear, however, in point of detail, as certain improvements were necessary, without special appropriation, and in order to complete our plans within the amount set apart, rigid economy had to be exercised, and the small demand for the service enabled the department to successfully finish up without embarrassment.

The splendid quarters of No. 2 Engine Company were finished at a cost of \$7.500, and that model of perfection in the way of fire quarters not only adds to the beauty of the city, but fills a necessity that was long recognized. That particular district is rapidly becoming the centre of large factories and commercial plants, and requires the very best fire protection. The building vacated will be utilized for general purposes, such as veterinary hospital, repair-shop and store-house, a long-needed building.

In view of the rapidly-increasing work and the erection of large establishment of all kinds, it is important that the entire

In view of the rapidly-increasing work and the erection of large establishments of all kinds, it is important that the entire department should be placed on a full-paid basis, so when the department reaches a fire it should be fully equipped with men to handle the apparatus and in any cases to crush out the fire in its incipiency. With this object in view, your honorable body is again wred to make a sufficient appropriation to make this We most urgently request that our pay roll accounts be increased for reason stated above; also, as we think that the

hief Engineer, Assistant Engineer, Superintendent of Fire Alarms, as heads of their departments and capable officers are inadequately paid, and should be more are inadequatery programmers and process of the Hawes's The most notable fires were the Hawes's The most notable fires were the Hawes's Angle Cheroot-Factory, all of

Lime Warehouse, Angle Cheroot-Factory, and the Watt Plow Company, all of which were restricted to the premises; still, the loss was considerable.

Our board desires to extend to your honorable body their sincere thanks for the ordinances concerning shingle roofs and fire escapes, which were amended at their suggestion and approval, and while these laws will work no hardships, they will lessen the danger to life and property will lessen the danger to life and property from fire. There has been no serious infractions

neer's report for detailed statements.

The physician's report will give you fateresting details concerning his duties, and is well worthy of perusal.

The Fire-Alarm Department, under the care of our efficient Superintendent, W. H. Thompson, and his corps of capable assistants, is kept up to a high standard, and it is a very rare thing that an alarm goes wrong. The city is fast outgrowing the instruments now used in this department. ment. In addition to the regular work of this

ment.

In addition to the regular work of this department, it is made the duty of our Superintendent, by ordinances adopted by your honorable body, to supervise all overhead and undergrand electric construction and care for all electrical apparatus owned and operated by the city. We briefly mention the following: Annunciators, call bells, and clocks of the City Hall, signalling apparatus at the City Hospital, the Police Patrol Signal service, local electric-light plant at the new pumpworks of the City Water-Works—In fact, this department has become the electrical branch of the city government. For a more detailed statement, your attention is called to the report of the Superintendent of Fire Alarms and Police Telegraph. The thanks of the board are due to his Honor, the Mayor, and to your honorable bodies for the patient and generous consideration always granted to the department, and our thanks are especially due to the honorable Committee on Water. Committee on Light, and the Board of Police Commissioners, whose kindly coperation has been of such great assistance.

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. FRISCHKORN, President Board of Fire Commissioners.

Wedding Invitations, Visiting Cards, Monograms, Coat of Arms engraved, Writing Papers stamp-ed. All good work and proper styles. HUNTER & CO.

Use Rob Roy Baking Powder. Guaranteed absolutely pure. Best Granulated Sugar, 5c. Pound.

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C. D. KENNY, Northwest Broad and Sixth streets; southeast Main and Seventeenth streets. Use Rob Roy Baking Powder.

Guaranteed absolutely pure. Church Almanaes for 1900 at HUNTER & CO.'S.

Christmas Holiday Rates via At-· lantic-Coast Line. On account of the above occasion the Atlantic-Coast Line will sell tickets between points on its lines at rate of one and one-third first-class fares for the

round trip. Tickets on sale December 22, 23, 24, 25; also, December 30 and 31, 1839, and January 1, 1900, with extreme limit January 4, 1900.
In addition to above-named dates, tickets will be on sale December 15th to 21st, inclusive, with final limit January 4, 1900, for teachers and students of schools and colleges, upon presentation of certificates signed by superintendents, principals, or

signed by Superatorial Presidents thereof.

C. S. CAMPBELL.

C. S. CAMPBELL. Division Passenger Agent. Old papers for sale at 15 cents per hundred at the Dispatch office.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Brilliant Reception Ushering in

NUMBER OF GUESTS, 3,354.

the New Year.

Mrs. McKinley Present, in Spite of Ho Feeble Health.

PRECEDENCE QUESTION SETTLED

The Result is in Favor of the Arm

WASHINGTON, D. C. January 1.-F heath a sky as bright as that of Cuba line at the White House gates to-d ident of the United States, after th brillfant official reception which usher in the New Year and marked the one

ing of the social season in Washington There have been larger crowds in the have been more brilliant, and in no have the crowds been better handle with less confusion or less of feminis heartache and resentment because dainty toilets disarranged in the crush.

Beginning promptly at 11 A. M., tl eremony was concluded at 1:15, at which time 3,354 guests had passed down the lin Mrs. McKinley was present, despite I feeble health. She remained in the Bl Parlor only through the strictly office Section of the programme, retiring the as had been previously arranged. BEAUTIFUL DECORATIONS. With the flush of excitement on

happy, as she led the Cabinet processi

down the corridor, with the President. the Blue Room. The brilliant lights flected from the crystal chandeliers ov head, the twinkle of tiny electr globes through heavy draperies of smale and a jungle of palms and foliage plant made an excellent stage setting for t official procession, as it moved down staircase, and through to the Blue Park where the receiving party was to tal Mrs. McKinley bowed and smiled to the

little crowd of favored spectators filled the end of the corridor to the opening act of the day's ceremonia. As she turned into the Blue Room sh kissed the tips of her white-gloved fingers to some of the children, who waved their hands to her from a point of vantage near the door.

PRECEDENCE MATTER. The troublesome question of precedence

receiving party, and was escorted in of the arm of Secretary Long. The diplomatic corps, which headed the There has been no serious infractions of our laws, and with some few exceptions the discipline has been well-nigh perfect.

You are referred to the Chief Engineer's report for detailed statements. display of uniforms was brilliant. Turkish fez, the gilded orders of Co tinental Powers, the fur-trimmed tuni and high, polished boots of the Russian the queer, sage-green, gold-encrusted un forms of the Japanese, and ermine-trimmed, silken robes of Koreans and Chinese, all combined form a picture of unusual magnificence

SPAIN'S REPRESENTATIVE. Special interest centered in the appea ance of the Duke de Arcos, the Spani Minister, and his beautiful American wit It was the first White House rec tion at which Spain has been represent since the close of hostilities, and ti greetings accorded them were especial cordial.

cordial.

Following the diplomats, the America officials, judges of the Supreme Com Senators and Representatives, department chiefs, and the like, made a longer than the control of the receipt of the r if less striking, procession. The receition to the general public concluded t function. CABINET AND DEWEY EVENTS. The Secretary of State and Mrs. He entertained the members of the diple matic corps at breakfast at noon, at the handsome residence, on Lafayette Squar It was a repetition of the brilliancy a

the presence of the diplom representatives at the White House. Most of the wives and near relative of the several Cabinet officers receive during the day.

The admiral of the navy and M. Dewey received a large number of called "Hammond" Flowers

for Christmas presents. Blooming Plan Carnations, Primroses, Narcissus, Bes nias, Orange-Trees, Palms, Ferns, a Cut-Flowers of all kinds. Use Rob Roy Baking Powder. Guaranteed absolutely pure.

The Weather.

WASHINGTON, January Forecast for Tuesday and We

nesday: Virginia-Fair; continued temperature Tuesday and Wednesda high, northwesterly winds. North and South Carolina-Fair Tu day and Wednesday; continued low to perature; brisk northwesterly winds, minishing; ice will form in bays and lets of North Carolina to-night and Tu

day. THE WEATHER IN RICHMON YESTERDAY was clear and cold, thermometer falling rapidly at night. range of the thermometer was as

Mean temperature.....