

14. Maitre Labori, chief counsel for Dreyfus, seriously wounded by a pistol shot from a would-be assassin.

15. Fire: 27 buildings burned at Jamestown, N. Y.; loss, \$500,000.

16. Fire: At Tupper Lake, N. Y., 109 buildings destroyed, causing a loss of \$150,000.

17. Fire: At Holyoke, Mass., the stationery establishment of Parsons Green & Co. burned, causing a loss of \$600,000.

18. Fire: At Garden City, N. Y., the late A. T. Stewart's pet scheme, the Garden City hotel, burned.

19. Fire: At Norfolk, loss of \$200,000 by the burning of a hospital; 4 deaths.

20. Fire: At Call, Tex.; loss, \$150,000. At Bloomington, Ills., 5 buildings burned; loss, \$150,000.

21. Fire: At Duquesne, Ark., 54 buildings burned; loss, \$250,000.

22. Fire: At Victor, Colo., the business portion of the town destroyed; loss, \$2,000,000.

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AT THE WHITE HOUSE

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL RECEPTION TO ALL CALLERS.

Etiquette of Dress—Display by the Army and Navy Officers—Foreigners in Their Dress of State—Hand-shaking Extraordinary.

As compared to the brilliant court receptions of Europe there is very little in the social functions of official life in this democratic country which would be regarded as strikingly elaborate or gorgeous.

Although the New Year's reception begins an hour before noon, custom demands the wearing of afternoon dress. As there is in this country no officially prescribed court dress, there is nothing in the apparel of the diplomatic and civil officials of the government to distinguish them from other well-groomed men on formal occasions.

The most picturesque feature of the president's New Year's reception is the appearance of the foreign diplomatic corps in their gaudiest and best dress of state.

After the distinguished and brilliant assembly of officials—state, judicial, diplomatic and legislative—has passed through the reception room and received the president's New Year greeting, an hour is exclusively devoted to citizens, and the chief executive receives and shakes hands in quite democratic fashion with as many of his fellow countrymen as can reach him during the time allotted to the reception.

Marines Repulse Insurgents. MANILA, Dec. 27.—General Santa Ana, with a force of insurgents estimated at 300, attacked the garrison at Reading, Pa., 3 operatives were killed and 50 injured.

Approves Connors Elevator Contract. OTTAWA, Dec. 27.—A special edition of the Official Gazette contains the announcement that the Dominion government has approved a contract entered into by the Montreal harbor commissioners with the Connors syndicate for building elevators at Montreal.

General Brooke at St. Augustine. ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., Dec. 27.—General John R. Brooke, former governor of Cuba, arrived last night from Cuba. He will remain here several days before resuming his journey to Washington.

TWO OFFICIAL CALLS.

The Gentlemanly Way in Which Rival Mayors Observed New Year's.

For years there had been a bitter rivalry between the towns of Juba Hill and Dog Creek, and such a thing as an official visit between town officials had not been dreamed of.

At about the same time Mayor Drake was told that Mayor Mahoney did not consider him a gentleman, and he sat down and thought it over and then said to his friends:

It is needless to add that both towns encouraged their respective mayors in their plans. When New Year's day came, both mounted their mules at about the same hour and set out, and as a consequence they met half way between the towns.

"Will the gentleman from Juba Hill return to Dog Creek with the other gentleman?"

"The gentleman from Juba Hill was about to ask the other gentleman to accept of his hospitality," was the reply of Mayor Drake.

"As a gentleman and knowing what belongs to good manners—"

Then the respective mayors pulled their respective guns with a whoop. The respective gentlemen on either side followed suit, and for half an hour the most cheerful industry prevailed.

R. Overton and John Combs fought a duel at Alantheus Hill, Va. Both were killed.

JOUBERT AT FRONT.

Boer Commander Recovers His Health and Takes the Field.

FEVER IS RAGING IN LADYSMITH.

Disease Doing More Than Boers to Reduce Strength of the Garrison—Desultory Firing Continues at Modder River.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Dispatches from South Africa are still greatly delayed. But they are arriving more freely, which shows that the censorship has been relaxed.

There appears to be no great change in the situation. A dispatch from Lorenzo Marquez, dated Dec. 21, gives the following, received from the Boer laager, dated Dec. 19: "The British naval guns at Colenso have been cannonading Bulwer bridge, over the Tugela river, with a view of smashing it."

The bombardment of Ladysmith is proceeding slowly. General Joubert has arrived here and been accorded a hearty welcome. He addressed the burghers on Dec. 18. More British prisoners have been sent to Pretoria.

A dispatch to the Daily News from Ladysmith dated Friday, Dec. 15, by helicopter, says: "Another sortie last night. General Hunter, with 500 volunteers, destroyed one 6-inch Creusot gun, one howitzer and one Maxim. One Briton killed. The Boer gunners fled."

The newspapers continue actively discussing and criticizing the management, or rather mismanagement of the campaign. The advent of horse sickness throws increased attention on the question of transports and the want of wagons, which may tie the British forces to the railways.

The Sixteenth Lancers will go to South Africa from India, at the special request of Lord Roberts, even after the government had decided that no more troops should be withdrawn from India.

The transport Tantallon Castle has arrived at Cape Town with a number of howitzers and quick rifles, which General Buller urgently needs.

The recruiting of British colonists in Cape Colony is actively proceeding. Thirty thousand are actually under arms and several thousand more will be added.

Washington, Dec. 27.—An application for pardon of Joseph Wilkins and Howard Butler, now serving terms in the Moyamensing prison, Philadelphia, for violating the oleomargarine laws, has been made to President McKinley, and the attorney general now has it under consideration.

Ladysmith list shows that typhoid fever and dysentery are more effective than the Boer's artillery in reducing the strength of the garrison day by day.

STRIKERS CAN USE PICKETS. Ohio Judge Renders a Decision as to Rights of Striking Workmen.

TOLEDO, O., Dec. 27.—Judge Morris in common pleas court yesterday rendered an unusual decision as to the rights of striking workmen.

Nebraska Teachers Meet. LINCOLN, Dec. 27.—A brief session of the educational council last evening preceded the 31th annual convention of the State Teachers' association which opens today.

Mayor Tubbs Gets Two Years. ST. LOUIS, Dec. 27.—Vice President and General Manager Ramsey of the Washburn system, today authorized this announcement that on Jan. 1 a new division, to be known as the Detroit division, comprising the line between Detroit and Chicago, the Helmer branch and Montpelier yard would be created and placed under the superintendency of George M. Burns, with headquarters at Detroit.

Choked His Wife to Death. BALTIMORE, Dec. 27.—Franklin B. Livingstone, a blind man, aged 56 years, choked his wife, Rosie Livingstone, to death at their home in this city and then gave himself up to the police.

PLANNING A NEW SYSTEM. Paul Morton May Become President of the Pittsburg and Gulf.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—The Times-Herald says: Paul Morton, third vice president of the Santa Fe road, may be asked to accept the position of president of the reorganized Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf system.

File Application for Pardon. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—An application for pardon of Joseph Wilkins and Howard Butler, now serving terms in the Moyamensing prison, Philadelphia, for violating the oleomargarine laws, has been made to President McKinley, and the attorney general now has it under consideration.

Call For Stockmen's Convention. DENVER, Dec. 27.—President Springer of the National Live Stock association has issued the official call for the big annual convention of his association to meet in Fort Worth, Jan. 16, and continue in session four days.



THEY MET HALF WAY BETWEEN THE TOWNS.



GENERAL JOUBERT.



PRESIDENT MCKINLEY RECEIVING CALLERS.