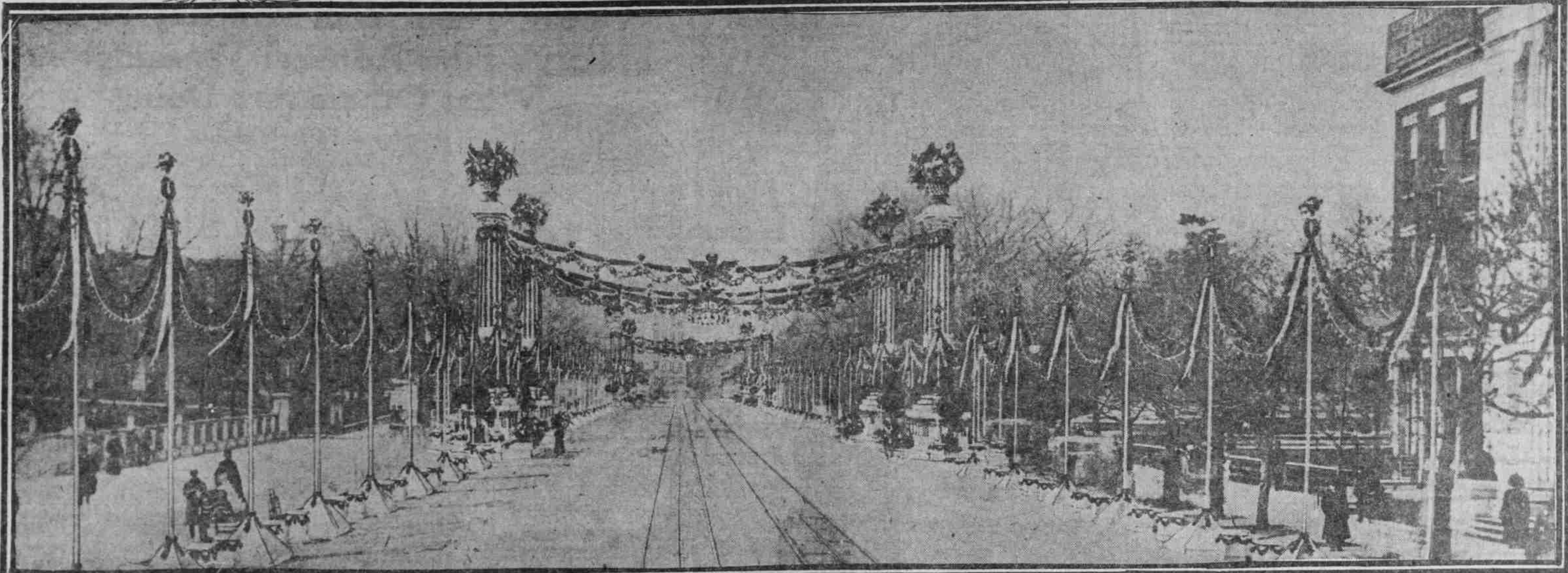


# INAUGURATING TAFT as PRESIDENT

## ALL PRECEDENTS TO BE BROKEN BY NEW MAN BEING THE GUEST OF THE RETIRING EXECUTIVE; DETAILS OF THE GREAT CEREMONIAL



COURT OF HONOR, FOR TAFT INAUGURATION

BY JOHN ELPRETH WATKINS.  
**M**R. TAFT'S inauguration will be replete with unique features and will establish some interesting precedents.

When the President-elect enters Washington a day or two before the inaugural ceremony the new "presidential suite" of the great Union Station will be formally used for the first time. This suite, occupying the east wing of the new depot, contains two handsomely furnished retiring rooms and a magnificent reception-room, 50 by 100 feet. When Mr. Taft enters the suite by a vestibule leading from the foyer of the station he will find a committee awaiting him in this reception-room, whose walls are beautifully paneled in mahogany and whose floor is covered by costly rugs.

Mr. Taft will not go to a hotel, as other Presidents-elect have done. He and Mrs. Taft will stay at the White House, where they will be the guests of the Roosevelt family until the stroke of noon on March 4 makes Mr. Taft himself the landlord of that mansion.

### World's Biggest Crowd in One Room

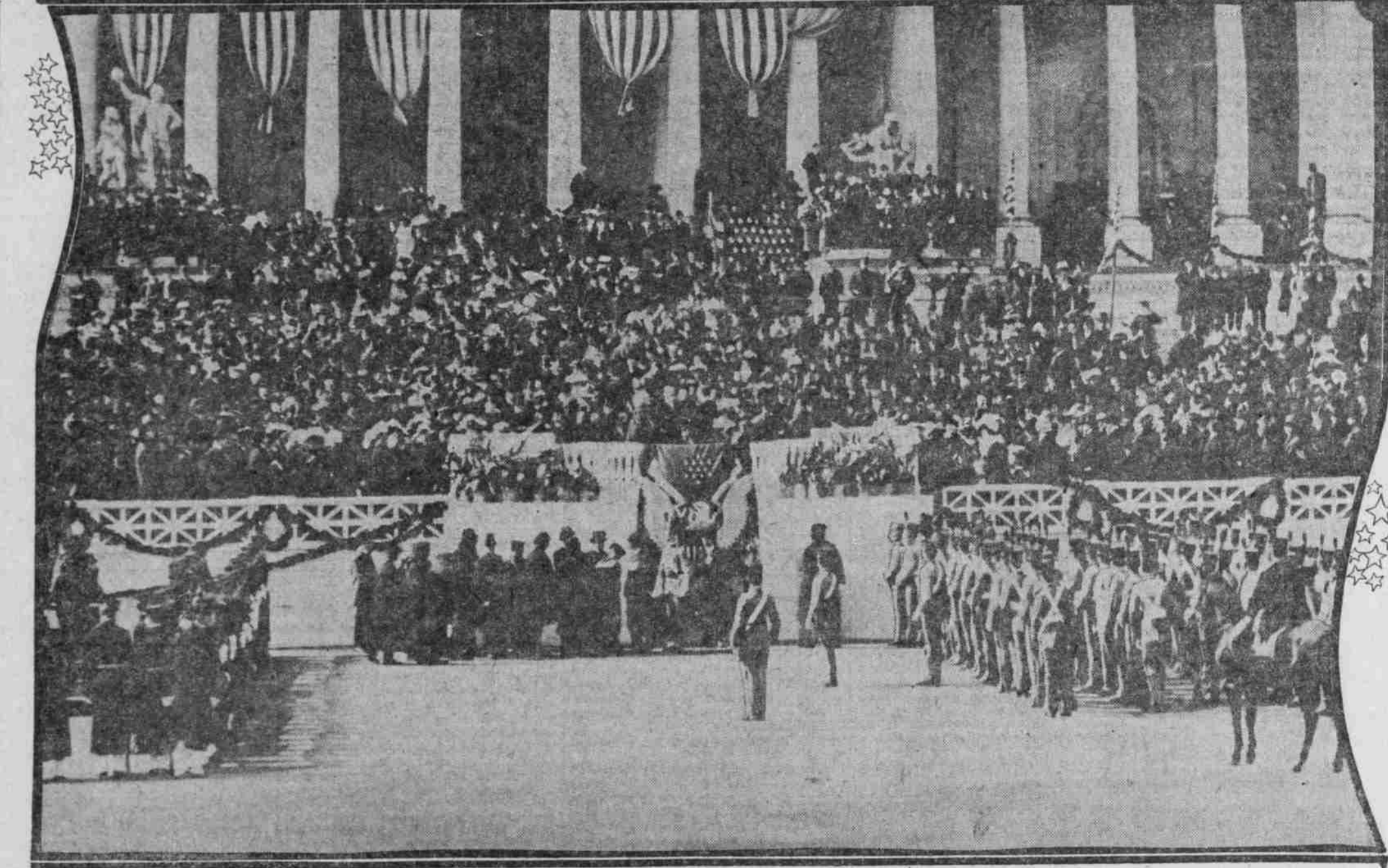
This happy blending of one Administration into the other will be made possible not only by the fact that the Roosevelts and Tafts are warm personal friends, but by the further fact that since Garfield succeeded Hayes this will be the first inauguration participated in by a President and President-elect of the same political party.

While the Tafts are visiting the Roosevelts Washington will witness the assembling of the biggest crowd ever previously gathered together in one room in any part of the world. This space, the biggest single room under one roof to be found on earth, is the vast concourse of the Union Station. It is 755 feet long by 120 feet wide, which means about 100,000 square feet of floor space. The Washington Monument could be laid on this floor with 100 feet to spare at either end, and it is estimated that the entire army of the United States could be lined up in the immense room at one time. Thus arriving and departing inaugural guests will not be squeezed and jammed at this, the biggest station in the world, as they have been on previous occasions of the kind. Their trains will come into the depot on 22 tracks, some having platforms on both sides. Visitors will be interested to know that under the roof of this new station are a chapel, a police station, a club and a Y. M. C. A., besides the President's private station and an immense waiting-room 50 by 120 feet.

As President-elect and Mrs. Taft ride from the station they will find every square and triangle along Pennsylvania avenue covered with a grand stand decorated with flags and bunting, and as they turn into the two blocks fronting the Treasury, White House and State, War and Navy buildings, they will find the space converted into a court of honor lined with hundreds of festooned masts flanked with towering draped columns. In front of the White House itself will stretch the reviewing stand, where the new President, surrounded by the officials of the Federal and state governments, will view the inaugural parade, and Lafayette Square, directly across the court of honor, will be lined by a mammoth grand stand a block long.

### Beginning of the Ceremonies.

The inaugural ceremonies proper will commence at 10 A. M., March 4, when the President and President-elect will leave the White House together in an open victoria drawn by four horses and escorted by a grand division of the veterans of our various wars. Mr. Roosevelt will sit at Mr. Taft's right, the former being still President and having the honor seat in the vehicle. With their escort they will pass through the court of honor and along the full length of Pennsylvania avenue. The grand stands will all be full, even by this time, and the cheering will probably be deafening, for this will be last appearance of Theodore



WHERE THE OATH IS TAKEN, EAST PORTICO OF CAPITOL (ROOSEVELT TAKING OATH '05)

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Roosevelt as President of the United States, and the people will raise their voices in a grand farewell to him as well as a vociferous welcome to Mr. Taft.

### Ceremonies in the Senate.

The President and President-elect will enter the Senate wing of the Capitol by the bronze doors in the east front, each accompanied by a member of the Congressional committee on arrangements. Mr. Roosevelt will go immediately to the "President's room" and Mr. Taft to the "Vice-President's room," both luxuriously furnished apartments. Mr. Roosevelt will busy himself signing the bills passed during the waning hours of the 60th Congress, which will still be in session. Mr. Taft will be entertained by the committee on arrangements. The diplomatic corps, in court dress, will assemble in the marble room and at 11:15 will pass in a body into the Senate chamber, where they will occupy seats on the right side of the presiding officer. Then the Supreme Court will enter, followed by the Cabinet, the high officers of the Army and Navy, the Governors of the states and the members of the House of Representatives. The Taft, Roosevelt, Sherman and Fairbanks families will pass into the gallery to the west of that reserved for the ladies of the diplomatic corps. Meanwhile Vice-President-elect Sherman will have joined Mr. Taft in the Vice-President's room. The Senate with its newly elected members will already have been convened by President Roosevelt. Everything being ready, Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Taft will enter the Senate and take seats in front of the pre-

siding officer. Mr. Sherman will then enter and receive the oath of office as Vice-President, this being administered by Senator Frye, of Maine, the president pro tempore of the Senate. The new Senators having been sworn in, the inaugural proceedings proper will be announced.

### Procession Through the Capitol.

All assembled in the Senate will then proceed through the rotunda of the Capitol to the east portico. They will pass in solemn procession, headed by the marshals of the United States Supreme Court and of the District of Columbia. On reaching the portico they will find it converted into an immense flag-covered stand seating 7000 persons. In the front and center of this Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Taft will take chairs, with Chief Justice Fuller on their right and the sergeant-at-arms of the Senate on their left. The Chief Justice, who has so acted at five former inaugurations, will then administer the oath of office to Mr. Taft, who will accentuate it by kissing the open page of a Bible especially selected for the ceremony. Bareheaded in the open air, Mr. Taft will then read his inaugural address, while tens of thousands of people crowded into the space between the Capitol and the Library of Congress will crane their necks to get a view of him. Meanwhile the grand divisions of the inaugural parade proper will have been assembled in the streets lining the Capitol. Contrary to precedent, ex-President Roosevelt will not return to the White House with President Taft, but at the conclusion of the latter's address will drive

with Mrs. Roosevelt immediately to the Union station, escorted by a delegation of citizens of New York, who will see him on the train for Oyster Bay.

### Great Parade Starts.

The head of the great inaugural parade will leave the Capitol at 1:20. Ahead of President Taft and his escort will march General Franklin Bell, chief of staff of the Regular Army, who will be the grand marshal of the procession. It having been the experience of past inaugurations that the civic bodies cannot withstand the strain of waiting in line so well as the regulars and militiamen, the civic grand division of the parade will march first. This will be composed mostly of political clubs—men in distinctive dress, carrying emblems of various sorts. Many unique features will be seen in this part of the procession. There will be a "possum club," from Georgia; an "alligator association," from Louisiana; pink-coated gentlemen hunters, from the fox-chasing districts of Virginia and Maryland; a "prosperity division," composed of commercial and professional organizations, representing billions of dollars' capital; hundreds of Kentuckians, headed by Mr. Bradley, their newly-elected Senator, and all wearing the "Bradley hat," made famous in that picturesque gentleman's political campaigns of the past 45 years. The National Guard of the various states, each headed by its Governor, mounted on horseback, will march in the order in which the states came into the Union, little Delaware coming first, Pennsylvania second and Oklahoma last. The

Filipino constabulary, which has come from the antipodes to honor their former Governor-General—all fine specimens of the Filipino race—will march with their famous native band. There will be also a "cadet division," including the West Pointers in chapeaux and gray swallow-tail uniforms; the Annapolis boys, in their blue blouses, and many other school cadets, including those of the Virginia Military Institute, bearing the torn battle flag which their historic battalion carried May 15, 1864, when it helped defeat Sigel's forces at Newmarket.

### Sailors from Fleet to Parade.

The bluejackets of the great fleet which has just ended its world tour will also parade along with the marines, and a grand division of regular soldiers, comprising nearly the whole Department of the East. Mr. Taft, at the head of the parade, will traverse Pennsylvania avenue in about 45 minutes, his horses being driven at a walk. Arriving at the White House at 2 P. M. he will there find Mrs. Taft and his children, who will have been driven back through the Mall, south of the parade route. The new President will then sit down to the first White House meal at which he will be host. While he and his family eat this luncheon the parade will be halted upon Pennsylvania avenue for 45 minutes. At 3:45 the President will take his position in his private box in the center of the reviewing stand and the entire procession will then pass before him. One parade innovation to be mentioned at this stage is the giving of orders that only the first band passing in front of the Presidential box shall play "Hail to the Chief." Former Presidents,

who have had to stand and listen to the air for three hours, and from hundreds of bands, have been unable to get it out of their heads, even in sleeping moments, during the first weeks of their administration, and on some occasions its memories are said to have interfered with executive business.

### Luminous Airship Display.

About 6 o'clock the parade being over, President Taft and family will re-enter the White House, where from their rear windows they will at 7:30 witness the beginning of what is promised to be the most wonderful fireworks display ever seen in the world. This will include towering fire portraits of Mr. Taft and Mr. Sherman, and—most wonderful of all—a colossal representation of a lighted city being bombarded from the heavens by a fleet of luminous airships. This "fire city," which is to be built in the grounds of the Washington Monument, will show the outlines of a typical, up-to-date center of population with towers and skyscrapers, some 100 feet high. A fleet of airships will be seen to approach it and an opposing aerial squadron go out and defend it. A terrific encounter will then ensue, the airships exploding after the hostile ones have dropped explosives into the city, which has crumbled and gone up in flames. There will also be an ascent of magnesium balloons, the unfurling of a fiery American flag 1000 feet in the air and the display of a pillar of fire 100 feet high, which will give a daylight effect to the great monument and to the heavens for several miles around. At 10 o'clock Mr. Taft and Mr. Sherman with their families will attend the inaugural ball at the Pension Office, the largest

brick structure in the world. The great court in which the ball will be held has a floor space of 150 by 250 feet, and is overlooked by four tiers of galleries. From these Mr. and Mrs. Taft and Mr. and Mrs. Sherman will be seen to promenade the length of the ballroom before taking their places in their boxes arranged at one end of the first gallery. An innovation will be the attendance at the ball of one special representative from each state. Chester A. Arthur, representing Colorado, will be one of the most conspicuous of these special functionaries. No wine will be served at the ball supper, and the music will cease at 1 A. M. Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.

## Giants of Senate 50 Years Ago

Washington Letter to Louisville Courier-Journal.

On January 4, 1859, the Senate was called to order in the old chamber, and soon after the journal of the last sitting was read. Mr. Davis made his report which represented the new chamber as safe and ready for occupation. Although he was chairman of the arrangements committee, and might have appropriately taken a more conspicuous part in the ceremonies, Mr. Davis refrained from more than the simple announcement, and it was upon his suggestion that the ceremony was marked by the simple and impressive proceedings which made the day great and memorable in the history of the Senate.

Senator John J. Crittenden, of Kentucky, was to speak, on moving the adoption of the committee's report, and the president of the Senate was to put the question, which he decided in the affirmative, he was to conclude with an address suitable to the occasion.

No scene in the Senate was ever more deeply impressive. How well Mr. Davis planned and assigned the chief roles of the parts enacted may be judged in the lofty and splendid addresses of Crittenden and Breckinridge. And what an audience they had! What an array of great American characters sat under the charm of eloquence of these two Kentuckians!

There was Jefferson Davis, in two years to be the President of the confederate states, with Albert G. Brown for his colleague from Mississippi; Stephen A. Douglas in the glory of a recent victory over Abraham Lincoln; Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine, soon to be Vice-President to Lincoln, who was destined to the Presidency largely through his great debate with Douglas in the summer of 1858; William H. Seward, to be Lincoln's Secretary of State; Charles Sumner, his successor, as he immediately had been, of Daniel Webster; Henry Wilson, to be Vice-President with Ulysses S. Grant; President Andrew Johnson, to be Vice-President and President of the United States; John Bell, soon to be a candidate of a vast number of citizens, an esteemed member of the Union above political parties; Robert Tombs and Ben Wade, the antipodes of Southern and Northern sectional spirit; James A. Bayard, whose father was a Senator, and whose son, Thomas P. Bayard, was to be a Senator; David Broderick, the fearless Californian, who died in a duel with Judge Terry of the Supreme Court of his state; Stephen R. Mallory, to be the Confederate Secretary of the Navy; Judah P. Benjamin, to be the Confederate Attorney-General; John S. Dix, his colleague from Louisiana, with James M. Mason, of Virginia, to be arrested on the steamer Trent while on their way to England as emissaries of the Confederate government; C. C. Clay, and Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama, Robert W. Johnson, of Arkansas, James Dixon, of Connecticut, and David C. Broderick, of New York; Lyman Trumbull, of Illinois, Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana, James Harlan and George W. Jones, of Iowa, John B. Thompson, of Kentucky, Zachariah Chandler, of Michigan, James S. Green and Truman F. Poole, of Missouri, John P. Hale, of New Hampshire, Thomas L. Chittenden, of North Carolina, Joseph Lane, of Oregon, to be candidate for Vice-President on the ticket with Breckinridge; Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania, James H. Hammond, of South Carolina, Robert M. T. Hunter, of Virginia, James Doolittle, of Wisconsin, Samuel Houston, who had been a Representative in Congress from Tennessee and Governor of that state, and the first President of the Republic of Texas, and James Shields, representing Minnesota. In the Senate, who had previously represented Illinois and was yet to represent Missouri in the same body.