

SEPT. 29 AND 30 HOLIDAYS.

Gov. Roosevelt Issues a Proclamation Setting Two Days Apart as Days of General Thanksgiving.

ALBANY, Sept. 18.—Gov. Roosevelt to-day issued a proclamation setting apart Friday and Saturday, Sept. 29 and 30, as holidays to be observed throughout the State as days of general thanksgiving in honor of the return of Admiral George Dewey to the United States. The proclamation is as follows:

State of New York,
Executive Chamber.

PROCLAMATION.

Proclamation of a public holiday in honor of the return of Admiral Dewey to the United States.

Whereas, by Chapter 714 of the Laws of 1899 provision was made by the Legislature "for the due and appropriate participation by the State in the celebration to be given in the City of New York in honor of the return of Admiral George Dewey to the United States," and

Whereas, Friday, Sept. 29, and Saturday, Sept. 30, have been set apart by the proper authority as the date for such celebration; and

Whereas, The National Guard of this State and citizens from different parts of the State are anxious to participate in said celebration; now,

Therefore, In pursuance of the power in me invested by Section 24 of Chapter 667 of the Laws of 1892, and the several acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto, being "An act relating to the construction of the statutes and constituting Chapter 1 of the General Laws." I do appoint and set apart Friday, Sept. 29, and Saturday, Sept. 30, 1899, as public holidays to be observed throughout the State as days of general thanksgiving.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Albany this 18th day of September, 1899.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

By the Governor—WILLIAM J. YOUNGS,
Secretary to the Governor.

FIRST OF THE DEWEY BABIES.

George Dewey Ferraro, Son of a Light- house Keeper, Christened Over 20 Years Ago, Says Capt. Price.

Admiral Dewey's fame began nearly a quarter of a century ago, when John Ferraro, lighthouse keeper at the Fort Schuyler Lighthouse, christened his first-born George Dewey Ferraro. Capt. James K. Price of the West Thirtieth Street Police Station is sponsor for the story of how the first baby was named after the now famous Admiral.

There appeared at the station house on Saturday nigh. a man who greeted the Captain warmly, and after remaining with him for several moments Capt. Price came out on the station house steps and requested all the "Tenderloin" reporters to gather around him. He then told the following story:

"I suppose, boys, you are all wondering who that gentleman was who was just in to see me. Well, that is my brother-in-law to see me. Well, that is my daughter's father-in-law, Mr. Henderson, and he has in his employ a young man named George Dewey Ferraro, for whom he vouches as being the first of the army of babies named after the hero of Manila.

"Twenty-five years ago George Dewey was an Inspector of Lighthouses for the Government. His work consisted of inspecting all the lighthouses along the coast, and his duties brought him frequently to the lighthouse at Fort Schuyler. The keeper of the light at this point, John Ferraro, was a bachelor, and on one of the Inspector's visits the lighthouse keeper informed Dewey that he was about to take unto himself a bride.

"He showed his Inspector a photograph of a comely young woman, and asked his assistance to get leave of absence in order to get married and take a short wedding trip. The Inspector interested himself in the matter, secured the desired leave, and from that time on watched with interest the homemaking of his friend, the lighthouse keeper.

"A year or so later the Inspector again visited his friend, the lighthouse keeper, and was told that a son and heir had been born unto the couple. 'Let me see the lad,' said the Inspector, and the child was brought to him by the proud father.

"'What are you going to name him?' asked the Inspector.

"'We haven't decided as yet,' replied the lighthouse keeper.

"'Well, name him after me,' said Dewey, 'and this will be my first godchild.'

"'All right,' said the father, and the child was christened George Dewey Ferraro.

"The babe grew into a fine young man, secured employment with Mr. Henderson, and now, notwithstanding the fact that hundreds of babies have since been named after the famous Admiral, he is awaiting his arrival, proud to think that he was the first of the army of George Deweys."

Silver Service for the Olympia.

The silver service which the citizens of Olympia, Washington, are to present to the cruiser bearing the name of that city has arrived at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The service is a handsome one. It will be turned over to Admiral Dewey's flagship as soon as it is found convenient. It is very likely that the service will be presented to the ship a day or so after the ceremonies attending the return of the Admiral.

Salutes from Jersey City Cannon.

The committee having charge of the Dewey celebration in Jersey City met yesterday in the City Hall. The subscriptions received amounted to \$450. The five cannon to be furnished by the State will be planted at Linden Avenue, Communipaw Avenue, Morris Street, Morgan Street, and Pavonia Avenue. Each gun will be fired seventeen times

as Admiral Dewey's ship passes the city the day of the naval parade.