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# **"WATCH MEETING" IN CHICAGO**

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**It Promises to be the Biggest Event  
of Its Kind in the Country.**

*Special to The New York Times.*

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Word was received here early to-day that, as the New York Red Cross meetings had been abandoned, the strongest forces at the command of the American National Society would be directed toward making its Chicago "watch night" meeting at the Coliseum the principal event of the kind in the country.

Greetings from many persons in other countries were received on the belated steamers that arrived in New York Monday. Among these were reviews of the progress of civilization of the world during the nineteenth century and prophetic outlines for the new century from Zola, Dreyfus, Sara Bernhardt, Edwin Arnold, Hall Caine, Nikola Tesla, J. K. Jerome, and Israel Zangwill. The sealed packets containing copies of these greetings are being rushed out to different parts of the country in time to reach the most distant points by New Year's Eve.

The chorus of fifty voices for the Coliseum meeting next Monday night is engaged in daily rehearsal of the patriotic songs of various nations.

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