

I've Had a Fine Time," Pres. Taft For Fifty-Five Minutes Public Took Occasion to Shake Hands with Chief Executive—"Cheerful But Hard Work"

After the passing of the procession in review, President Taft, followed by Governor Weeks and staff, went in automobiles direct to the Buckingham Memorial, where the president held public reception. The president stood in the front parlor, with the governor and his staff at a short distance to the right, while at his left stood his military aide de camp, Major Butt. Through an avenue, with policemen forming the sides, the people passed through, gave their names, which were called just as hands were shaken, the president addressed, "Glad to meet you, Mr. —" as he gave the visitor a real hearty shake, emphasizing that he meant just what he said.

The people passed into the memorial building in single file through the front door on the side door and down the steps into the broad avenue leading from the depot. There was perfect order throughout the reception, which occupied just fifty-five minutes, and the handshaking was continuous. When it became necessary for the president to leave, he remarked: "That's cheerful, but mighty hard work. I've had a fine time." All through the reception the president had that characteristic smile that never wears off, and he greeted all

with equal cordiality. While Frates's band of Hartford played a medley of patriotic airs in front of the building, the president retired by the side entrance and went to the home of his host for the day, to prepare for dinner at 6 o'clock. Governor Weeks and his staff also went off immediately after reception in automobiles. Perhaps the most distinguished trio that paid their respects to the president was composed of Senators Bulkeley and Brandegee and Representative Higgins. The reception was held in the former home of the late war governor, William Buckingham, which was used as the headquarters during the celebration. An interesting fact in this visit of the president and his reception there is that he is the third of those who have been president who have held receptions at that historical place. They were James A. Garfield and Ulysses S. Grant, and on the occasions of their visit there were also enthusiastic receptions and big gatherings. It is estimated that over 2,000 shook hands with the president during the time from 4:15 to 5 o'clock Monday afternoon.

gorgeous display of interesting fireworks. Lasted for Two Hours on Rogers' Hill—Many Beautiful Pieces, Rockets and Bombs. The really grand display of fireworks was a fitting climax of the day's celebration, and although Franking square and contiguous streets were jammed with good-natured, cheering crowds and tickler amusement, all abating the water front and at points of vantage all over the city there were thousands enjoying the

pleaser, was also a visitor at press headquarters. Thomas Scott Baldwin, the owner of the ship, is a direct descendant of John Baldwin, one of the original settlers of Norwich. DISTINGUISHED GUESTS. Among Those Who Are in Attendance at the Celebration. Among the distinguished guests entertained in the city for the celebration were President William H. Taft, Gov. and Mrs. F. B. Weeks, ex-Gov. T. M. Waller of New London, E. S. Woodruff, Pittsburg C. Lounsbury, Senator Frank B. Brandegee of New London, Adm. General Cole and governor's staff, Congressman Higgins, Congressman John Tilson of New Haven, Capt. Archibald W. Butt, Asst. Executive Secretary W. W. Mischler, Bishop Brewster of Middletown, Senator Morgan G. Bulkeley of Hartford, Senator Charles E. Sears of Putnam, Supreme Court Justice and Mrs. S. O. Proutie of New York, Supreme Court Judge Simon E. Baldwin, New Haven, State Secretary M. H. Rogers of Bridgeport, State Librarian George S. Godard, of Hartford, President and Mrs. Charles I. Beach of the Connecticut agricultural college, Storrs, William A. Slater, Washington, D. C., George E. Palmer, New London, President and Mrs. Harry A. Garfield of Williams college, Williamstown, Mass., Mr. and Mrs. Arthur I. Shipman of Hartford, Rev. John Neale, Terryville, Mayor Edward W. Hooker, Hartford, Mayor James B. Martin, New Haven, State Comptroller Thomas D. Bradstreet, Judge Joel H. Reed of Stafford, Rev. J. Newton Perkins, New York, John Mitchell, Rev. Samuel Hart, D.D., dean of Berkeley Memorial building of the city, a former principal of the Broadway school, Alfred C. Bates and Axel Washburn, D.D., Middletown, Dr. John Rockwell, Judge John M. Thayer and ex-Gov. George P. McLean, Miss M. M. Eaton of Monowee, Col. E. H. Havens and wife of Bridgeport, N. N. Upham of Newton, Mass. and Major and Mrs. McDonough Russell.

Dignity of British Courts. Judge Bacon, addressing a solicitor at the close of a case in the White-chapel court recently said: "I do not wish to suggest any improvement in the dress or attire of solicitors, but I really do not think it is proper for a black gown to be on such a light coat." The solicitor bowed his acknowledgment to the judge, whose objection was well founded on many judicial precedents.—Law Journal.

Ballroom Dances in Limerick. It has been left to Poona, India, to discover a ballroom novelty. This is the employment of limelight in certain dances. The most fascinating effects are simply gained by turning out all lights and switching on different colored limelights over the heads of the dancers. Thus a waltz danced in imitation moonlight is said to be a thing to dream of and the cotton with rainbow colored lights is ravishing.



BUCKINGHAM MEMORIAL Where Presidents Taft, Garfield, and Grant Have Held Receptions. The beautiful engraving appeals to memory so strongly that it seems but yesterday that, together with dear old "coroner" we were swimming in the river and hunting for pigeons in the old wooden railway bridge that crossed the river to the West Side; and with Longtongue can feelingly say: "How often, oh, how often, In the days that have gone by, Have I stood on that bridge," etc. But that was forty years ago, and many old schoolmates and friends have looked their last upon the "changing seasons," yet in memory's cabinet friendly jewels still reflect the splendors of long ago. There is one tie that binds me to your beautiful city that is sacred above all others; it is the one connecting link—the only surviving member of our family—my own dear sister, who has been a resident there for over forty years. In it, any wonder, then, that I permit me to wish you a most enjoyable reunion and to express again most feelingly my admiration for the artist's engraving on the invitation

WALTER F. LESTER, Chairman Fireworks Committee. beautiful pyrotechnic display from the top of Rogers' Hill. The exhibit opened with a discharge of bombs giving surroundings of the commencement, which were followed by an illumination of the firing grounds by red and green Greek fire. Then came in rapid succession flights of colored bombs and special rockets of variegated hues and of almost endless variety. For once stated, there was no cessation, and the darkened sky was illumined as it never was before, for there were pieces on the display that were never introduced for the first time. From upright mortars that were sent hundreds of feet high, 25, 24, 18 and 12 inch bombs which exploded in nearly all known hues, and with reports so loud that it reminded the boys of '91 and about the Buckingham Memorial building of the firing of the big Roman guns. Among the many sky-scraping and brilliant fire illuminators were 150 nine inch, 100 twelve inch, 75 eighteen inch and 50 twenty-four inch canisters, 50 assorted reporting shells with one to six inch and 10 thirty-six inch bombs filled with the latest forms of color known to the manufacturers of fireworks. Besides there were flights of arrows, with flash, report and steaming trail, and displays of pyrotechnic light illumination. Then there was a volley discharge of a battery of 500 Roman candles. One of the set pieces in the display was a cascade of silver and gold fire two hundred feet in height. There was an elaborate set piece representing the Rose of New England in the center, and surrounded by lattice of colored fire, was the representation of a rose in all its color and beauty, with its petals and leaves were the significant figures "1859-1909". The closing piece was an Italian bonbonette showing out clear in the dark background the regretful Good-night. As a grand finale there was a flight of 200 large rockets. The fireworks were furnished by the National Fireworks Manufacturing company of Boston, and the exhibition last night was under the personal supervision of John C. Deag, who had had thirty years' experience in the fireworks business. It was easily the most elaborate exhibition of fireworks ever given in the history of all New England.

MUCH ACTIVITY AT PRESS HEADQUARTERS. Many Papers Had Representatives Here Covering Celebration. In the press headquarters were placed two private wires by the Western Union company and two telephones. Wendell W. Mischler, the assistant secretary to the president, visited the press room with copies of the press office address for the reviewing stand. Mr. Mischler was the guest of Frederic W. Cary, chairman of the publicity committee, and was taken out to the fair ground for the airship ascension and afterwards viewed the fireworks from the president's car near

WILLIAM E. YOUNG, Chairman Nomination Committee. The little affair had been previously arranged, though not to the knowledge of the president. His automobile was speeding down town to him to take charge for the parade when the driver slowed down and stepped the car at the Ripley home. Miss Helen Huntington of Norwich, the president's daughter, and presented Mr. Taft a pretty box in which was enclosed a beautiful aureole-blue hand-embroidered silk flag of the party. The president acknowledged the gift with a few pleasing words and followed with his famous smile and a salute to the ladies of the party. The flag was presented by Mrs. Elizabeth Huntington Rice, now staying in this city, formerly of Cincinnati, and a personal friend of the president. Mr. Rice is a great-granddaughter of John Joseph Williams and of a family identified with the history of Norwich. Miss Huntington, who presented the flag, is a great-granddaughter of Mr. Williams. While in the Philippines with her husband, Gen. Edmund Rice, they frequently met the president. The flag was embroidered by Mrs. S. Comstock of Union square. The work is beautifully executed and is the more remarkable because of the fact that it was wholly embroidered within a period of two days and a half.

EDWIN A. THACTY, Chairman of Executive Committee. Lerou's drug store are several articles of much interest, among which is a military cap worn by John Tracy, quartermaster of the Third regiment of the state militia, in the 29th anniversary; also a helmet worn in the 20th anniversary by Seth L. Peck. A certificate issued by the fire commissioners to James Tourillotte, a member of the fire company. The heading of the certificate is a good picture of Broadway corner looking towards Franklin square as it was before the Shamoor.

Immutability Conditions. Another doctor has denounced corsets for women as being the source of innumerable troubles. This is a nice situation for him. The women won't give up corsets and so much the more work for the physicians. Women are what they are and cannot be changed.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

MORE RESPONSES FROM INVITATIONS SENT OUT. Oregon, California and Holland People Send Regrets. Chairman W. H. Shields of the invitation committee has received more replies from absent sons and daughters who could not attend. Among them are the following:

Washington, D. C. Mr. William H. Shields, Norwich, Conn.: Dear Sir—Being a native of Norwich, and too far to attend the coming celebration, I respectfully solicit one of the beautifully illustrated invitations of the 25th anniversary of Norwich, Conn., the dearest spot on earth to me, which I wish to have framed and hung beside a picture of my mother.

San Francisco, Cal., June 16, 1909. Mr. William H. Shields, Chairman of the Invitation Committee, Norwich, Conn.: Dear Sir—I am in receipt of your invitation to attend on the 5th and 6th proximo the 25th anniversary of the founding of the town of Norwich and the 125th of the incorporation of the city. In reply I will say that I regret most exceedingly that I will be unable to be present on this occasion, as it would certainly give me great pleasure to be present.

Portland, Oregon. "The Rose City of the West" William H. Shields, Chairman of Invitation Committee, Norwich, Conn.: Dear Mr. Shields—Acknowledging receipt of your city's invitation to be present at the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the incorporation of the city of Norwich permit me to most gratefully thank you for the kind remembrance that once, in the long dreamy past, it was my pleasure to call your beautiful city my home.

Rotterdam, Holland, June 25th, 1909. Hon. William H. Shields, Chairman of Invitation Committee, Norwich, Conn.: Dear Sir—it is with much pleasure that I acknowledge, though tardily, the receipt from you of the handsome invitation card presenting me on behalf of the citizens of old Norwich with the freedom of their city next month; and it is with much greater regret that I realize the impossibility of my being with you all. I use the word "regret" in this connection, but although not a resident of the old place for many years I feel, whether rightly or wrongly, that I own an equal ownership with its citizens.

WILLIAM H. SHIELDS, Chairman Invitation Committee. that has awakened such a flood of pleasant memories of the almost forgotten past. Here's to the Rose of New England. May her sweetness perfume the lives of her children!

Very sincerely yours, E. L. E. WHITE.

At all the churches in the center of the city the vestries were open as rooms for women and children, as indicated by a placard, and were decorated by a placard, and were a chance to get in out of the crush come laymen to many who were glad to rest awhile. At the Trinity Methodist church a lady who was introduced by patrons during the day with the red water barrels placed about the city by the water department. Two were on Franklin square and one each at the Universalist church, Otis library, Washington street near the United Workers rooms and the Chelsea Par

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