

FOR THE BUSY MAN.

Constant Reader Tells What He Missed in Last Week's Papers.

Seems to me I heard there was an election the other day," remarked the Busy Man, as he broke in upon the studious quiet of his friend Constant Reader.

"How about the voting in states further away?" "In the Old Bay State the principles of the Puritans received their vindication by the election of Governor Curtis Guild, against whom no fewer than three Democrats contended, by a comfortable majority, but Boston retains in office District Attorney Moran, whose personal rival may put him in the field as a formidable rival for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency of W. J. Bryan, the 'Lincoln of Lincoln,' who saw his own state of Nebraska, despite all his efforts, go to the Republican again, Kentucky, also, where Bryan did missionary work, and Colonel Watterson upholds the banner of Democracy, was won by the Republicans.

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RETURN TRIP OF SECRETARY TAFT. "After the conflicting reports in regard to the change of date and change of route for the return of Secretary Taft from the Far East he has now reverted to his former plan of taking in the principal capitals of Europe on his return journey, and will hobnob with rulers on the way. While the Kaiser's plans provide for his absence from Berlin while Mr. Taft is there, it is now expected that the latter will be the ruler of Germany on the Isle of Wight, whether he is going after his visit with his uncle, King Edward, to England. Mr. Taft will also be able to pay his respects to the English sovereign. What bearing these visits and the welcome he is to receive when he gets back to New York will have on the political prospects of the Secretary of War the wisecracks are endeavoring to ascertain. Governor Hughes, who registered from the Hotel Astor, called on Tuesday for the first time since his arrival, although he had been persuaded to express any opinion on the local political situation in the course of the campaign, and then went to Buffalo, where he addressed the National Civil Service Reform League on the qualifications needed for the successful administration of public affairs. He has also visited some of the state institutions, to which he may speak in his next message. The Republican control of the Legislature is practically unchanged by the voting this year, and the re-election of Speaker Wadsworth is considered a foregone conclusion. When President Roosevelt came to his Oyster Bay home to set a good example in voting, and returned the same day to Washington, his message is engaged in the final review of the message which will be transmitted to Congress when it meets in the first week of next month. The recent financial flurry and the election have been factors in the situation to be considered in the President's messages on the results at the polls are that they were extremely gratifying, directing special attention to the figures in New Jersey, which are similar to those in other states. The meeting of the President with Mr. Parsons, head of the New York County Public Commission, early in the coming week, and other state leaders will be significant of political developments. The enthusiastic supporters of Dr. James R. Day, who have been making themselves heard in the city, have been criticized by the President, but him forward as a logical candidate to oppose the Republican nomination next year. Dr. Day declined a nomination at the hands of his Methodist brethren three years ago, there are not wanting those who say it was from political ambition. Another man who has figured in the political field in this city is David Jayne Hill, former president of Rochester University, is making rapid strides in the political field. From an assistant secretaryship in the State Department in Washington he went to Switzerland as minister and thence to the Netherlands, and now will become Ambassador at Berlin, succeeding Charlemagne Tower.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS. "Is the financial flurry at an end?" "Apparently so, as far as runs on banks are concerned, as the queues of depositors desirous of drawing out their funds have been paid off and have disappeared from in front of the paying tellers' windows. But the institutions which have closed their doors have not yet reopened them, although several expect to do so in the coming week. Changes in management have been made in order to be sure of the necessary public confidence to avoid fresh runs when they do reopen. The public mind is so much on edge, especially among the constitutions of the country, that a slight error might precipitate disastrous results. In England another rise of the bank rate has been made to prevent too great an outflow of gold to this market, and it has gone up as high a point as it reached in 1873, even in the greatest of panic years, 1877. Meanwhile the Lusitania and other large steamships have brought a great influx of gold hither, which has relieved the tension. Plans for currency relief are now under consideration, and a monetary Moses to lead the people out of the wilderness is eagerly looked for. The transfer of the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad interests to the Steel Trust is the most significant financial development of the week. No extra session of Congress will be called to discuss the plan, and by the time the two

houses are ready to take up the matter at the regular session it is expected that the question will be one of only academic interest.

BROUGHT FROM ABROAD. "The Lusitania, which brought over much gold, made a new record in time of crossing the Atlantic, but rivalry worth which is expected when the new Mauretania, which is expected to make more than twenty-six knots on her trial trips, speeds hither and at the same time the Lusitania is going toward the rising sun. The big North German Lloyd steamship Kronprinzessin Cecilie, which came in yesterday, brought with her a large amount of gold. In the week, not only distinguished group of passengers, but also a being, Joseph H. Choate and General Horace Porter, who expressed much gratification over the results of the Hague peace congress, which W. Gates, William H. Crocker, Arthur P. Helzso, and Jan Kubelik, the violinist, and his wife, Countess Czaky, the violinist, and his wife, in England the third of the huge battleships of the Dreadnought class. The first war airplane, constructed for the purpose of being used in the enormous number of 5,000 fatalities and more of the 410 passengers killed, 250 met death in ten disasters. The centennial of the Dutch Minister of State and his family met death by driving into the numerous canals of Holland in a dense fog. The first to be killed was the minister in his seventieth year, the pedestrian, who is from Portland, Me., to Chicago, had had trying weather conditions to contend with in crossing this state.

Another one was killed by the fifty-seven varieties of pickles of a well known manufacturer, as his son was reported to have eloped with a trained nurse, leaving his father in a state of mind expressed as a 'pickle.' The new eagles coined by the Mint to signify the familiar inscription 'In God We Trust,' which was put on coins in deference to the sentiment of the word 'God' in the inscription. It was the irreverent Robert G. Ingersoll who said that the bank bills redeemable in coin should bear the words 'I know that my Redeemer liveth.' General Booth has made his farewell address to the Salvation Army in this city, closing his career of public life in the city. The automobiles has been shown by the number of persons flocking to the shows where machines were to be seen. The theory of Professor Lowell, of the Southern Pacific Company, and I hereby agree to conduct myself as a gentleman while enjoying any of the privileges of the club. This is the only certificate of membership to be required of the men who will use the chain of clubhouses that the Southern Pacific Company is building along its lines in Nevada, California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Modern railroading requires men with clear heads and strong muscles. This railroad believes that it will be more likely to keep its men in good condition if it provides comfortable quarters for them, with opportunities for healthful recreation and companionship. The bedrooms of the clubs are arranged so that they may be darkened in the daytime for men who have night runs. There are card rooms, writing and reading tables, billiard, pool, lounging and bath rooms. Club stationery is furnished for members, and an effort is made to induce the men to keep in touch with their families and to continue home ties, however much their employment may keep them away from their own towns. Opportunities for study are also offered. There are no membership fees and no deductions from the payroll for club maintenance. Trifling fees are charged for beds, baths and use of billiard room—about enough to cover wear and tear, and no more. The Rev. Mr. Freuder, of Philadelphia, tells his story on himself. Some time ago he was invited to dine at the house of a friend, whose wife went into her kitchen to give some final orders. Incidentally she added to the servant, 'We are to have a Jewish rabbi for dinner to-day.' For a moment the maid surveyed her mistress in grim silence. Then she spoke with decision: 'All I have to say is, if you have a Jewish rabbi for dinner you'll cook it yourself.'—Christian Register.

A NATIONAL SONG. (As rendered by the average American.) My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Land where my fathers died— Land of the free, land of the brave, and the home of the brave. Three years ago the building on the same site, which the government has now just vacated for its new \$5,000,000 Custom House in Bowling Green Place, was erected for the Merchants' Exchange. Site and structure cost \$1,800,000. The edifice is 200 by 100 feet, 77 feet high, and of Doric architecture. It occupies the plot bounded by Wall, William and Exchange streets and Exchange Place. It passed into the possession of the government in 1862.

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Those who thought they saw in the recent announcement of the completion of the sale of the old Custom House, in Wall Street, to the National City Bank the destruction of another landmark of old New York will find comfort in the fact that the new owners do not plan the demolition of the old building. Though McKim, Mead & White, the architects for the bank, are not yet prepared to announce in detail the plans, it was stated the other day at their office that the familiar front of the building, with its big portico and great columns of granite, will not be disturbed; in fact, that the changes affecting its outward appearance will consist chiefly in additions and alterations to be made at the top. The height of the building is to be increased by three or four stories. Later, if its foundations and walls warrant it, possibly the old structure will develop into a full fledged skyscraper.

AN ARCHITECTURAL FEATURE. There was a time when the old Custom House was counted one of the architectural features of this city, and in many respects it still entitled to rank as such. None of the modern buildings here can boast of such an imposing array of great monoliths as those which adorn the front of the old edifice. Though to the casual observer there appear to be only twelve of these great columns, there are in reality eighteen, for back of the row of twelve in front is another row of four, and back of these, high up the long flight of steps, close to the main entrance, are two more. The columns, which like the walls of the building, are of blue Quincy granite, are each 60 feet high, 6 feet in diameter at the base and 5 feet in diameter at the top. Each column is supported by a base and the transfer of them from the New England quarries to the place where they now stand was thought to mark a new era in the history of building in this city. The granite was quarried at Wall Street, a skidway was built along the roadway of the street to the site of the building, and all traffic was stopped while the great columns were rolled up the many logs up to the new building and put in place.

FOR BUSINESS INTERESTS. The building which has now passed into the possession of the National City Bank has been long identified with the financial interests of the city and country. From an office in Broad street the Merchants' Exchange, an organization of city business men effected for mutual trade benefit, moved to the Tombs Coffee House in 1792, and there were completed, in 1828, to their new home, on the site now occupied by the old Custom House, at Wall and Exchange streets. On December 16, 1835, this building and many others were destroyed by fire. A marble statue of Alexander Hamilton standing in the rotunda was lost, but the letters in the United States Postoffice, which was in the building, were saved. Three years later the building on the same site, which the government has now just vacated for its new \$5,000,000 Custom House in Bowling Green Place, was erected for the Merchants' Exchange. Site and structure cost \$1,800,000. The edifice is 200 by 100 feet, 77 feet high, and of Doric architecture. It occupies the plot bounded by Wall, William and Exchange streets and Exchange Place. It passed into the possession of the government in 1862.

A HISTORIC MEETING. The first regular meeting place of the Stock Exchange, the building has also played its part in other matters of local and national interest. When news of the death of President Lincoln, on April 15, 1865, transformed New York into a city of mourning, a great meeting of citizens was called at noon in the rotunda of the Custom House. Simeon Draper, Collector of the Port, was president; Moses Taylor and Henry M. Grinnin, vice-presidents, and Henry M. Taber and S. B. Chittenden, secretaries. Among those who addressed the meeting were Generals Wetmore, Garfield and Butler, Judge Governor King, Daniel S. Dickinson and Judge Pierce. The committee of thirteen citizens, including Moses Taylor, Jonathan Sturges, William E. Dodge, Hamilton Fish, Moses H. Grinnin, William M. Everts, Charles H. Russell, Edwards Pierrepont, Samuel Sloan, John J. Astor, Jr., F. B. Cutting, R. M. Blatchford and Charles H. Marshall, was appointed to go to Washington, offer the aid and sympathy of the city to the government and attend the funeral. The new owners of the old building purpose to expend \$1,000,000 in refitting and refurbishing its interior, and the architects say it will, when finished, the largest banking building in the world.

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