

THE PRESIDENT'S DENIAL

NOT AIDING TAFT BY PATRONAGE
Chief Executive Characteristic
Charges as 'False and Malicious'

Washington, Feb. 9.—President Roosevelt to-day made answer to the recent public statements that he has made use of Federal patronage to further the presidential interests of Secretary Taft.

The President begins by characterizing the charges as "false and malicious." He states in this with a analysis of all appointments sent by him to the Senate for its action to show that in no case has the proximity of a presidential contest influenced his action.

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

The statement that I have used the office in the effort to nominate any presidential candidate is both false and malicious. It is the usual imaginative invention which flows from a desire to say something injurious.

Since the present Congress assembled about a month ago I have sent to the Senate the names of all the officials I have appointed for the entire period since Congress adjourned on the 4th of March last, that is for 11 months.

There remain the great bulk of the offices, including almost all of the postoffices, the collectorships of customs, the appraiserships, the land offices, and the like, numbering some 1,250 or thereabouts.

ACCEP'S SUGGESTIONS.

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LARGE NUMBERS OF DEMOCRATS.

In the South Atlantic and Gulf States, which have contained neither Senators nor Congressmen of my own party, I have been obliged to seek my aid from various sources.

BIG CAR PLANT IS BURNED

Disastrous High Point Fire
The Works of the Southern Car Company, the Only Concern in the South Building Electric Cars, Destroyed by Fire, with Loss Reaching Nearly \$100,000.

Special, To The Observer.
High Point, Feb. 9.—The biggest fire in the history of the city in dollars and cents occurred here last night when the main plant of the Southern Car Company was destroyed by fire, together with all machinery.

The loss is between \$50,000 and \$100,000 and covered by only one-third insurance. There were twenty-three cars worth several thousand dollars each almost ready to go out.

RESENTS NEWSPAPER CHARGE.

This article is a good example of the accusation made by those of our opponents whose partisanship renders them especially unscrupulous and untruthful.

THE CASE COMPROMISED.

Kidnaping Case at Gastonia Settled.
Bun Habeas Corpus Proceedings Will Be Pressed by Mrs. L. A. States.

PROGRESS OF THE FLEET.

Going Through the Strait of Magellan in Stormy Weather—Chilean Cruiser Leads the Way.
Punta Arenas, Strait of Magellan, Feb. 9.—The Pacific Navigation Company's steamship Oritia, which arrived here this morning, reports having passed the American fleet in the strait.

CANNON'S CHANCES GROW

The East May Support Him
Each Day sees the Prospects For the Nomination of the Speaker of the House For the Presidency Get Brighter.

BY H. E. C. BRYANT.
Observer Bureau.
Congress Hall Hotel, Washington, Feb. 9.
Uncle Joe Cannon is not going to let North Carolina hand him a goose egg if he can help it.

The foregoing is part of a letter sent to-day to preachers throughout the country by the National Model License League, through its president, T. M. Gilmore.

STAFFORD MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Tributes to the Life and Character of a Dead Priest—Vice President Fairbanks the Principal Speaker.
Washington, Feb. 9.—Memorial services in honor of the late Rev. Dr. Stafford, D. D., were held at Chase's Theatre, in this city, to-day, when tributes to the life and character of Dr. Stafford were paid by men prominent in public life and the religious world.

ATTEMPT TO DYNAMITE A GROCERY STORE.

Pittsfield, Mass., Feb. 9.—An attempt was made to-day to blow up with dynamite the grocery store and restaurant occupied by Antonio Fio, the Italian.

WAS THE ALMIGHTY WRONG

PROBLEM FOR PROHIBITIONISTS
If the Manufacture and Distribution of Alcoholic Beverages is Wrong Per Se, Then Christ Was Wrong in Making Wine and in Commanding His Disciples to Drink It.

BY H. E. C. BRYANT.
Observer Bureau.
Congress Hall Hotel, Washington, Feb. 9.
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Washington, Feb. 9.—Efforts to re-establish wireless communication with the Nantucket shoal lightship No. 101, which was blown away, have failed.

AMERICAN FORCES.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Capt. William Campbell, Washington, (now N. C. (now Tenn.), Col. John Selvin; Sullivan county, N. C. (now Tenn.), Col. Isaac Williams; Wilkes and Surry counties, N. C. Col. Benjamin Cleveland; Maj. Joseph Freeman; Johnston county, N. C. Col. Rutherford Edwards; N. C. Maj. Joseph McDevitt; Col. Edward Lacey; Maj. William Candler.

FINANCIAL FLAURY IN DENMARK.

Copenhagen, Feb. 9.—A small financial panic has arisen here on account of a tight money market and extensive speculations on the Bourse.

MR. BURTON COUNTS NOSES

That Most Astute Politician, Representative Burton, Figures Out That the Secretary of War Has Twenty Friends on the Committee and the Allies Have Eight.

BY H. E. C. BRYANT.
Observer Bureau.
Congress Hall Hotel, Washington, Feb. 9.
That the administration and the friends of Mr. Taft are uncertain as to the color of the North Carolina delegation to the Chicago convention no one can doubt now.

WILMINGTON PEACE CONGRESS.

Great Gathering to be Held First Week in May. First Anniversary of North Carolina Peace Society—Prominent Public Men Will Take Part in the Affair.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Arrangements have been completed for the holding of an arbitration and peace congress at Wilmington, N. C., the first week in May.

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TAFT'S COMMITTEE STRENGTH.

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