MY TRIP TO NEW YORK
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NOTES AND IMPRESSIONS

BY

F.M. Buckles & Co. New York
PREFACE

The information and pictures in this volume are supplied as a help to the visitor, who is, in reality, to be the author of the book. Blank pages are inserted to enable him to make notes and record his impressions of the places visited. The illustrations are reproductions from the portfolio of an artist and are therefore of more value than the commonplace photographs.

A book of this character should be of lasting interest to its owner and years hence will afford him much pleasure and amusement as a souvenir of his "Trip to New York."

THE PUBLISHERS.
At the time of the early Dutch settlement, the lower extremity of Manhattan Island was bordered by rocks. Just a little north and near what is now Bowling Green was the site of a fort, built by the Dutch West India Company, and called Fort Amsterdam. When the English took possession it became Fort James and later, during the reign of Queen Anne it was named Fort George.

The English decided to build a battery to protect their newly acquired territory and the strip of land beyond the fort was used for that purpose. It was then separated from the fort by water, reaching from Water and Whitehall Streets to Greenwich Street. The battery and fort were demolished at about the same time. In later years it became a park and is now known as "The Battery."
Personal Impressions
CASTLE GARDEN (The Aquarium)

On a strip of land about two hundred feet from the Battery a new fort was built. It was completed in 1805 and called Fort Clinton. At that time it was approached by means of a drawbridge, but the narrow stretch of water has long since been filled in. During the war of 1812 Fort Clinton was strengthened but was never attacked.

In 1822 it was deeded to the State and then became a place of amusement under the name of Castle Garden. Here it was that General Lafayette was received as a visitor to the United States in 1824.

In 1855 Castle Garden was used by the United States Government as a depot for emigrants and continued as such until 1892, when Ellis Island was used in its stead.

In 1896 it was made an aquarium.
THE BOWLING GREEN

This is one of the most interesting places in historic New York. It is a small oval park at the lower end of Broadway, and is the oldest park in the city. Fort Amsterdam was built here in 1615 and near here the first church in Manhattan was built by the Dutch.

In 1787 the fort was demolished and in its place was put up a red brick structure with Ionic pillars, used as a government house. When the seat of government was moved to Philadelphia, the building was used as a residence for the governors of the State, becoming later the United States Custom House. The corner-stone for the new building was laid in 1902. This beautiful structure is made of carved granite and cost nearly $5,000,000.

In the days of the fort, Bowling Green was used as a drill ground. In 1659 and for many years afterwards it was used for an annual cattle show; and in 1732 several citizens leased the ground and converted it into a bowling green. A leaden equestrian statue of George III was sent over by England and placed here in 1770 and an iron railing, costing £800, was put around it by the citizens. This railing is still to be seen, but the statue was torn from its pedestal by patriotic soldiers when the Declaration of Independence was read, July 9, 1776. It was moulded into bullets and these were fired at the king's troops.
My Trip to New York

Broadway at Bowling Green
IN TRINITY CHURCH YARD.
BROAD STREET AND THE STOCK EXCHANGE

In the days of New Amsterdam the land about Broad Street was a marsh, from which ran a brook through the centre of the street to the river. This brook was finally lined on both sides with planks so as to form an open drain. The marsh extended to Exchange Place one block below Wall Street. The ground between the swamp and Wall Street was known as the Sheep Pasture.

Between 1660 and 1676 the swamp and brook were filled up, and the street made level. It was paved on both sides and became a market place. This property is now in the centre of the financial district and is the most valuable real estate in New York.

One front of the Stock Exchange opens on Broad Street. The Board Room occupies the ground floor having a gallery for the accommodation of visitors—no one except the members being allowed on the ground floor. The upper floors are all used for offices. The Exchange is open for business transactions from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M. Only the stocks, bonds and securities which have been acknowledged by the Exchange are put on the market. The most important of them are represented by iron standards distributed around the floor where the buying and selling of the special securities take place.
ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL

The oldest church building in the city is St. Paul’s, on Broadway between Fulton and Vesey Streets. It belongs to the Trinity corporation and was the third Episcopal Church to be built in New York. It was completed in 1766; and was built to face the North River, because that position was considered more attractive than a frontage on Broadway. Between the church and the river there were no buildings at that time.

In the rear wall of the church, facing Broadway, is a tablet to the memory of Gen. Richard Montgomery, the soldier of the Revolution; and in the churchyard are the graves of many whose names are famous in history. Among them are monuments to Thomas Addis Emmet, the Irish patriot, and George Frederick Cook.

The church interior is simple and effective, and a fine specimen of the churches of Colonial Days.

On the left side of the church, and marked by a bronze tablet, is the pew which was occupied by Washington after his inauguration.
PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE

The small triangle on the east side of City Hall Park, at the intersection of Nassau Street, Spruce Street and Park Row, is called Printing House Square, and for sixty years was the newspaper centre.

A bronze statue of Benjamin Franklin, the famous printer, philosopher and statesman was erected here in 1872.

A great crowd surges through here twice a day, as this is one of the important approaches to the Brooklyn Bridge, from the financial district. At the close of the business day the clerks and employees of the tall office buildings pack the narrow streets from wall to wall, and every one seems to have but one object—to get home as quickly as possible.
Personal Impressions

Statue in City Hall Park.
BROOKLYN BRIDGE

Brooklyn Bridge was opened to the public in May, 1883, having required thirteen years for its completion, at a cost of about $16,000,000. It was perhaps the greatest undertaking of its time and is now certainly one of the places in New York to interest visitors. About 300,000 people cross the bridge every day—most of them between the hours of 7 and 9 A.M. and 5 and 7 P.M.—called the rush hours. Many plans have been made to relieve the disgracefully crowded condition at the bridge terminals during those hours; but it still remains for some one to devise a successful scheme. The bridge is one and one-fourth miles long and eighty-five feet wide, and in the centre is one hundred and thirty-five feet above the water. An excellent view is to be had from the promenade, especially beautiful in the early evening, when the lights begin to appear in the boats on the river and in the tall office buildings in the city.
WASHINGTON ARCH

The Washington Arch was completed in 1893. It replaces the temporary structure built for the Centennial celebration in 1889 which commemorated the inauguration of the first president of the United States. It is made of marble and cost about $130,000; the amount having been raised by popular subscription, mostly in small amounts, from the citizens of New York.

The park at Washington Square is nearly nine acres in extent. In 1789 the site was purchased by the city for a Potter's Field and more than 100,000 bodies were buried there. In 1823 it was abandoned as a burial place and in 1827 was enlarged as a parade ground.
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impressions

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A. Tchéver.

[Image]
UNION SQUARE

Union Square lies between 14th and 17th Streets and Broadway and Fourth Avenue.

It is laid out in flower beds and lawns, and has a fountain in the centre, the basin of which contains many aquatic plants. Benches are arranged along the walks of the park and are occupied day and night by all grades of society—chiefly the homeless and unemployed.
STUYVESANT SQUARE

At Second Avenue and 15th Street is an enclosed park. This is called Stuyvesant Square and was originally part of the property of the last Dutch governor of New Amsterdam. It is surrounded by the old-fashioned homes of wealthy families some of whom are descendants of the Dutch settlers.

St. George's Protestant Episcopal Church is located here, at the corner of 16th Street.
MADISON SQUARE

Not many years ago Madison Square was surrounded by elegant private residences. Its convenience to many large hotels and its proximity to the theatre district have made it an important business centre.

At the northeast corner of the square is Madison Square Garden, one of the most unique structures in the city. It was opened in June, 1890, and is the place of large entertainments and exhibitions. It can be arranged to seat 12,000 people.

Near the southwest corner of the square is the tall Fuller Building (The Flatiron). Its peculiar shape is best appreciated when viewed from the triangle in front of the monument at 25th Street and Fifth Avenue.
HERALD SQUARE

Ten blocks north of Madison Square, at the intersection of Broadway, Sixth Avenue, and 34th Streets, are two triangles. The one south of 34th Street contains a statue of Horace Greeley and is called "Greeley Square"; the triangle north of 34th Street is Herald Square; the Herald building occupies the block between 35th and 36th Streets. Its great presses, printing the morning paper, can be seen from the street.

This is the heart of the theatre district, and is brilliantly illuminated in the evening. The restaurants are crowded with theatre parties at midnight: for here, Broadway never sleeps, and the owls on top of the Herald building witness many strange sights in the early hours.
In the Shopping District.
WAITING FOR A FARE.
COLUMBUS CIRCLE

At Eight Avenue and 59th Street the intersecting streets open into a great circle—partly forming the southwestern entrance to Central Park. In the centre of the circle is a column, on the top of which is a statue of Columbus. It was presented to the city in 1892 by the Italian citizens of New York to commemorate Columbus' discovery of America.

The Circle is brilliantly lighted, and on pleasant evenings is crowded with theatre goers and promenaders.
Goat Carriage - in Central Park.
MURRAY HILL

All the elevated district beginning at about 32d Street and Fifth Avenue, and covering several blocks, is called Murray Hill. The locality received its name from the Murray family, whose mansion, in colonial days, was located near 37th Street. The British officers, the day they crossed over from Long Island, were detained here by the wife of Robert Murray, while Putnam and the remnant of the American army escaped to the Heights in Harlem.

On the west side of the avenue, in the block from 33d to 34th Streets, is the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.
62 Personal Impressions
ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

This most superb structure occupies the entire block bounded by 50th and 51st Streets and Fifth and Madison Avenues. It is the largest and most elegant church building in the United States. It is open to visitors every day. In 1858 the cornerstone was laid by Bishop Hughes and witnessed by a great number of people. It was dedicated in 1879 by Cardinal McCloskey who was attended by thirty-six archbishops and bishops and more than 400 priests. It is of Gothic architecture in decorative and geometric style. The cathedral is built of white marble. Its front on Fifth Avenue has a central gable 156 feet high; a tower and spire on either side of the gable reach a height of 330 feet. In the towers are the heaviest chime bells in the country, weighing 30,000 pounds.

The plan of the interior consists in a nave, two transepts and a sanctuary. The nave is 164 ft. long and 120 ft. wide, with the side-aisle chapels. The total length of the interior is 306 ft., and its height is 108 ft.

The High altar is at the end of the central aisle. It was made in Italy and is of pure Carrara marble, inlaid with beautiful stones.

The windows are fine examples of painted glass. Most of them were made in Chartres, France,—near the great cathedral which contains the finest stained glass specimens of the thirteenth century.
FIFTH AVENUE

Fifth Avenue commences at Washington Square and extends northward to the Harlem River at 143d Street. It is known everywhere as a residential street of the ultra-rich; but a large part of the avenue is now used for business. As far uptown as 48th Street it is largely occupied by shops, hotels and clubs.

Looking south, on Fifth Avenue, from the Plaza are to be seen several tall hotels. The Savoy and the Netherland at 59th Street, and the new twenty-story Plaza Hotel, now being constructed; the two twenty-story buildings, on opposite corners of 55th Street, are especially noticeable; they are the Hotel St. Regis, on the east, and the Gotham, on the west side of the avenue.
In Central Park.
THE PLAZA

The southeastern entrance to Central Park at 59th Street and Fifth Avenue, is reached through a broad, open space called "The Plaza." Some of New York's finest hotels overlook the beautiful park gardens which are arranged here. Near the park entrance is a heroic bronze statue of Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman.

From this point and extending the length of the park to the northward, is the finest residential section of Fifth Avenue, and here many of the most magnificent private residences in America are to be seen. Owing to the number of millionaires who are located here, this part of the avenue is called "Millionaire's Row."
AT CENTRAL PARK MENAGERIE.
Opposite 83rd Street, in Central Park, with the main entrance on Fifth Avenue, is the Metropolitan Museum of Art. It was founded in 1869, and is controlled by a Board of Trustees.

The new building, fronting on Fifth Avenue, and containing the hall of modern sculpture, was erected in 1897–1901 at a cost of $1,000,000, and is only a part of the elaborate series of additions for which plans have been made.

The museum is open from 10 A. M. to 6 P. M., and is free every day except Monday and Friday — when an admission of twenty-five cents is charged; but it is open free in the evening of the pay days. On Sundays and holidays the museum is open from 1 to 6 P. M.
OBELISK - CENTRAL PARK
A Statute in the Art Museum
Personal Impressions
THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The building facing 77th Street and occupying the block from Central Park west to Columbus Avenue, is the Museum of Natural History. It contains one of the largest and finest collections of specimens in the world; including all kinds of mammals and quadrupeds, birds and reptiles,—many of the living specimens having been extinct hundreds of years.

The museum was founded in 1869, and the corner-stone was laid by President Grant in 1874.

When completed the museum will occupy the whole of Manhattan Square, from 77th to 81st Streets. The central building will be surmounted by an imposing tower or dome.

Visitors are admitted free except on Mondays and Fridays, when an admission of twenty-five cents is charged. On Sundays and holidays the museum is open at 1 P. M.
IN MANHATTAN SQUARE.
SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MONUMENT

On Riverside Drive, near 90th Street, is an imposing monument which was erected in 1902 to the memory of the "Brave Soldiers and Sailors who saved the Union."

Riverside Park and vicinity is of historical interest, and is connected with several episodes of the Revolutionary period. The house of Gen. Oliver De Lancey, of the British army, which was burned by Americans in the winter of 1777, was near 86th Street and Riverside Drive.
A CRUISER IN THE HUDSON.
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Columbia University is situated on Morning Side Heights extending from 114th to 120th Streets, and from Amsterdam Avenue to Broadway. In 1754 it was chartered by the English Crown under the name of King’s College and was aided by money contributed by the English people. The Trinity Church corporation took a great interest in the success of the college from the first and granted to it a piece of land between what is now College Place and North River, the rents from which a part of the revenue of the University has since been obtained. At first the buildings were erected on College Place, now Park Place, and were occupied until 1857, when they were moved to the west side of Madison Avenue, between 49th and 50th Streets.
MORNING SIDE HEIGHTS.
GRANT'S TOMB

Riverside Park is on the western side of the city on the bluff over the Hudson River. In the northern part of this park, which was originally Claremont Heights, is the tomb of General U. S. Grant. It is a superb architectural structure with a one hundred foot square base and rises to the height of one hundred and sixty feet. The lower part of the monument is of the Doric order while the upper part is Ionic. Four arches support a dome under which are galleries.

The crypt where lie the bodies of both General and Mrs. Grant may be seen from the centre of the main hall, and is reached by rear stairways.
VIEW UP THE HUDSON.
The Broadway line of the Subway emerges from the ground at Broadway and 123rd Street, and runs on a viaduct to 133rd Street, where it enters a long rock tunnel under Washington Heights. The viaduct is 2,174 feet long.

The construction of the subway was begun in 1900, and trains were started October 27, 1904, running from the City Hall to 145th Street and Broadway. This line is now open from the Battery to the ship canal at the northern end of Manhattan Island; the Lenox Avenue and Bronx Park divisions are also in use. The total cost of constructing the subway was about $40,000,000. The deepest parts of the tunnel are under Central Park Mott Avenue, and Washington Heights. At Broadway and Manhattan Street the station is on a viaduct.
IN THE SUBWAY
The Harlem River is crossed at 181st Street and Amsterdam Avenue by Washington Bridge. The bridge is 2,400 feet long and 80 feet wide. It has two central arches each 510 feet span, 135 feet above the water. They are made of steel, iron and stone. The sections of steel are combined and keyed into the arches just as stone arches are built. It has seven side arches,—four on the west side and three on the east. These arches are made of granite and faced with pressed stone.

A fine view of this bridge and the river, may be obtained from High Bridge, at 175th Street and Amsterdam Avenue.
The most "foreign" looking part of New York City is the section bounded by Mott Street, Bayard Street and Chatham Square, including Doyer and Pell Streets; this is the Chinese quarter. Here are restaurants, shops, a Joss House (temple), and a theatre.

Sunday is the best day to see the Chinaman "at home"; he comes from all quarters of the city, within a radius of twenty-five miles, to spend the day here with his friends.
In Chimatown.
ON THE "EAST SIDE"
The main entrance to Prospect Park, Brooklyn, is from the Plaza, in Flatbush Avenue. Facing the entrance is a magnificent arch erected to the memory of the soldiers and sailors of the Civil War.

In the park a monument was placed in 1895, in memory of the 400 Maryland troops who were killed in the battle of Long Island, which was fought there in 1776. From the elevated part of the park a fine view is obtained, which, on a clear day, extends from the Atlantic horizon to the Palisades in New Jersey.

The park is almost as large as Central Park. The Flatbush Avenue car line, is the most direct from the Brooklyn Bridge.
On the site of the battle of Long Island - in Prospect Park.
CONEY ISLAND

Probably the best known amusement beach in America is Coney Island. It is on a sand bar, separated from the shore by Gravesend and Sheepshead Bays, and Coney Island Creek. It is reached by several elevated and street car lines, also by excursion steamers; all are crowded night and day during the season. There are three sections of the island; Manhattan Beach and Brighton Beach, which have some very fine hotels; and the great amusement beach, with which the name is more exactly identified. This section is a midway of fairy-like structures, which are exceedingly beautiful when illuminated in the evening.
VIEW OF THE WEST END.
ON THE BEACH.
SHOOTING THE CHUTES.
IN THE ANIMAL SHOW.
A BRIDGE IN "DREAMLAND."
A RIDE IN THE AERIAL SWING.
RIDING THE ELEPHANT.
Personal Impressions

The Scenic Railway
Personal Impressions

BATHING
READY
FOR A GOOD TIME.
ON THE BOARD WALK.
THE END
OF A FINE
TIME.
CHARGE FOR OVER-DETENTION TWO CENTS A DAY
ALTERATIONS OF THE RECORDS BELOW ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED

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