

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the city of Washington, the 14th day of September, A.D., one thousand nine hundred and one, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-sixth.

"(SEAL.) THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

"By the President,

"JOHN HAY, Secretary of State."

CHAPTER XXVI.

The Hero of San Juan—President Roosevelt's Active Life—Ancestry and Education—His Strong Personality—A Man of Deep Convictions and Great Courage.

Presidents die, but our government continues with unimpaired vitality. Stocks fall, but values remain. The government of this Republic is based on the bedrock of the Constitution, and has in it, we fondly hope, the principle of immortality. A stricken nation weeps for its beloved President, William McKinley, but its grief has in it no element of serious doubt or apprehension for the future. There is no interregnum. Theodore Roosevelt is President of the United States.

No man ever came to the President's office so young as he, but for twenty years he has been in the public eye. He has had more political experience and has been more in touch with public events than a large number of our Presidents previous to their inauguration. He has been all his life a student of our history and of public questions. He is a man of high standards and strong convictions and intense patriotism.

His impetuous zeal and earnestness in whatever he undertakes has been heretofore one of the main sources of his strength and political success. Tempered and sobered by the grave responsibilities of his new position, these qualities, wisely directed, will make his administration a power for good, full of solid achievement that makes for the peace and happiness of the people.

While, therefore, we mourn with unaffected grief for our beloved and honored President, William McKinley, there is no cause for alarm or uneasiness for the future. In the language of President McKinley, in one of his public addresses, "The structure of the fathers stands secure upon the foundations on which they raised it, and is to-day, as it has been in the years past, and as it will be in the years to come, the Government of the people, by the people,

for the people. Be not disturbed. There is no fear for the Republic."

Theodore Roosevelt was born in New York city on October 27, 1858, and comes from a family that for generations has been noted for its wealth, social position, high intelligence, disinterested public spirit, general usefulness and philanthropy.

He is a Knickerbocker of the Knickerbockers, being seventh in descent from Klaas Martensen van Roosevelt, who, with his wife, Jannetje Samuels-Thomas, emigrated from the Netherlands to New Amsterdam in 1649, and became one of the most prominent and prosperous burghers of that settlement. For two and a half centuries the descendants of this couple have flourished in and near the city of New York, maintaining unimpaired the high social standing assumed at the beginning, and by thrift, industry and enterprise adding materially to the wealth acquired by inheritance. With the special opportunities for distinction afforded by the Revolution, a number of them came into marked prominence.

CELEBRATED ANCESTORS.

Just previous to that struggle, and during its earlier years, Isaac Roosevelt was a member of the New York Provincial Congress. Later he sat in the State Legislature, and for several years was a member of the New York City Council. For quite a long period he was President of the Bank of New York. Jacobus J. Roosevelt, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, who was born in 1759, gave his services without compensation as commissary during the War for Independence. A brother of this Revolutionary patriot, Nicolas J. Roosevelt, born in New York city in 1767, was an inventor of ability, and an associate of Robert L. Livingston, John Stevens and Robert Fulton in developing the steamboat and steam navigation.

The grandfather of Governor Roosevelt, Cornelius van Shaick Roosevelt, born in New York city in 1794, was an importer of hardware and plate glass, and one of the five richest men in the town. He was one of the founders of the Chemical Bank. One of his brothers, James J. Roosevelt, was a warm friend and ardent

supporter of Andrew Jackson; served in the New York Legislature and in Congress, and was a Justice of the Supreme Court of New York from 1851 to 1859.

A cousin, James Henry Roosevelt, was distinguished for his philanthropies, and left an estate of a million dollars—which, by good management was doubled in value—to found the famous Roosevelt Hospital in New York city. Cornelius V. S. Roosevelt married Mary Barnhill, of Philadelphia. Of their six sons, the sole survivor is the Hon. Robert B. Roosevelt, one of New York's most distinguished citizens, who has served in Congress and also as a United States Minister to the Netherlands.

Theodore, another son, born in New York City, and deceased in 1878, was the father of President Theodore Roosevelt. He married Martha Bulloch, who with four of their children, survived him. Theodore Roosevelt, Sr., continued in the business founded by his father, and became a controlling factor in the plate glass trade. He greatly augmented the family fortune, and at his death was reputed a millionaire.

WEALTH NO BAR TO ACTIVITY.

Theodore Roosevelt, therefore, was born to comparative wealth, but did not let that deter him from a life of activity. After graduating from Harvard, in 1880, he spent some time in European travel, climbing the Alps and tramping through the country districts of Germany. On his return home, he began the study of law, but plunged at once into politics, and in 1881 was elected to the State Assembly.

By re-election he continued in that body during the sessions of 1883 and 1884. He introduced important reform measures, and his entire legislative career was made conspicuous by the courage and zeal with which he assailed political abuses.

In 1886 Mr. Roosevelt was the Republican candidate for Mayor against Abram S. Hewitt, United Democracy, and Henry George, United Labor. Mr. Hewitt was elected by about 22,000 plurality. In 1889 he was appointed by President Harrison a member of the United States Civil Service Commission. His

ability and rugged honesty in the administration of the affairs of that office greatly helped to strengthen his hold on popular regard.

He continued in that office until May 1, 1895, when he resigned to accept the office of Police Commissioner from Mayor Strong. Through his fearlessness and administrative ability as President of the Board, the demoralized police force was greatly improved. Early in 1897 he was called by the President to give up his New York office to become Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Then again his energy and quick mastery of detail had much to do with the speedy equipment of the navy for its brilliant feats in the war with Spain.

CRAVED SERVICE IN THE FIELD.

But soon after the outbreak of the war his patriotism and love of active life led him to leave the comparative quiet of his government office for service in the field. As a lieutenant-colonel of volunteers he recruited the First Volunteer Cavalry, popularly known as the Rough Riders. The men were gathered largely from the cowboys of the West and Southwest, but also numbered many college-bred men of the East.

In the beginning he was second in command, with the rank of lieutenant colonel, Dr. Leonard Wood being colonel. But at the close of the war the latter was a brigadier general, and Roosevelt was colonel in command. Since no horses were transported to Cuba, this regiment, together with the rest of the cavalry, was obliged to serve on foot.

The regiment distinguished itself in the Santiago campaign, and Colonel Roosevelt became famous for his bravery in leading the charge up San Juan Hill on July 1. He was an efficient officer, and won the love and admiration of his men. His care for them was shown by the circulation of the famous "round robin," which he wrote, protesting against keeping the army longer in Cuba.

This violation of official rule deeply angered some of those in power at Washington, and there was a talk of visiting displeasure on his head. But Roosevelt was by this time in such

high favor with the whole people that nothing was done beyond the publication of a letter by Secretary of War Alger reflecting on Roosevelt, which was received with general denunciation, and Roosevelt was, instead, commissioned colonel on July 11.

Colonel Roosevelt was nominated as Governor of New York State on September 27, 1898, receiving 753 votes, as against 214 for Governor Frank S. Black. His Democratic opponent was Judge Augustus Van Wyck. Colonel Roosevelt entered into the campaign with characteristic enthusiasm, and visited nearly every part of the State. He drew to his support the majority of the Independent Republicans and many of the Democrats, and carried New York State by a plurality of 18,079.

A STRONG CHARACTER.

He brought to the new position the same force and personality that he had displayed in everything he had previously undertaken. Although classed in some particulars as an Independent Republican, he did not totally ignore the machine. Nor did he invariably follow its advice. He consulted all factions and followed what seemed to him to be the best course for the State. He maintained his reputation for independence, yet held the respect of the greater part of the machine managers.

As the Presidential year of 1900 approached, it became apparent that there was a popular demand that Roosevelt should have a place on the Republican ticket. He at first refused to listen to any such suggestion, declaring that he much preferred to be Governor of New York, but was finally induced to consent to the use of his name, and at the convention held in this city, in June, 1900, he was enthusiastically nominated for Vice-President. He went into the campaign with his accustomed vigor, making a tour of the country and speaking at many places. His tour was, in fact, the one picturesque feature of an otherwise rather dull and uninteresting campaign.

After his election he spent the winter quietly, with the exception of a hunting trip in the Rocky Mountains, on returning from which he had to contradict numerous wild stories of his

alleged exploits, written by imaginative correspondents who were never near his party. He presided over the Senate during the session of 1901 with dignity and a comprehension of his duties which made a favorable impression on that body and upon the country.

In the midst of his intensely active life Mr. Roosevelt has found time to do considerable literary work. The year after he was graduated from college he published his "Naval War of 1812;" in 1886 there came from his pen a "Life of Thomas H. Benton," published in the "American Statesmen Series;" the following year he published a "Life of Gouverneur Morris," which was followed in 1888 by his popular "Ranch Life and Hunting Trail."

AUTHOR OF MANY WORKS.

In 1889 were published the first two volumes of what he considers his greatest work, "The Winning of the West." In 1890 he added to the series of "Historic Towns" a "History of New York City." "Essays on Practical Politics," published in 1892, was followed the next year by "The Wilderness Hunter," while in 1894 he added a third volume to his "Winning of the West." In 1898 he collected a volume of essays, entitled "American Political Ideas." Since the Spanish war he has written a book on "The Rough Riders."

When Theodore Roosevelt was first considered by the Republican leaders for the position of Vice President, the possibility of his succession to the office of Chief Magistrate was thoroughly debated, and it was resolved that should he be called, under the organic law to act as President of the United States he would be a perfectly safe man for his party and for the people. There were those who feared his strenuousness—his radicalism in certain lines and his sturdy insistence on reform in the party, but after fully considering the character and history of the famous Rough Rider leader, his character was passed and he was voted a sound party man and an eligible and trusty candidate.

Roosevelt's character is summed up pretty well in this mes-

sage he sent a few years ago to a meeting of young men in New York City:

"First and foremost be American, heart and soul, and go in with any person, heedless of anything but that person's qualifications. For myself I'd as quickly work beside Pat Dugan as with the last descendant of a patroon; it literally makes no difference to me so long as the work is good and the man is in earnest. One other thing I'd like to teach the young man of wealth. That he who has not got wealth owes his first duty to his family, but he who has means owes his first duty to his State. It is ignoble to try to heap money on money. I would preach the doctrine of work to all, and to the men of wealth the doctrine of unremunerative work."

NEEDS NO APOLOGIES.

A salient point in the public and private career of Theodore Roosevelt is that no one ever had to apologize for him. Away out on the northwestern border of North Dakota, 600 miles from St. Paul, where the little Missouri winds its swift way through the heart of the Bad Lands, there stands the town of Medora. There Theodore Roosevelt first put the eight-pointed cross brand on his own cattle, and gave the outside world an initial illustration of what kind of strenuousness he believed in.

Before that time (1886-87) his personality had impressed itself upon college mates at Columbia and the small circle of intimate friends about him in New York city. But Medora, whether he intended it to be so or not, was the starting point in his public career. The man who would "come west" and not steal cattle from his neighbors, who would "tote" fair, who, bred in luxury, would take the worst as well as the best of ranch life without a murmur, was a novelty to the press as well as the public, and as "cow man" the present President of the United States is known.

"What strong direction did your home influence take in your boyhood?" was asked Mr. Roosevelt.

"Why," he replied, "I was brought up with the constant injunction to be active and industrious. My father—all my people—held that no one had a right to merely cumber the

earth; that the most contemptible of created beings is the man who does nothing. I imbibed the idea that I must work hard, whether at making money or whatever.

"The whole family training taught me that I must be doing, must be working—and at decent work. I made my health what it is. I determined to be strong and well, and did everything to make myself so. By the time I entered Harvard College I was able to take my part in whatever sports I liked. I wrestled and sparred and ran a great deal while in college, and though I never came in first, I got more good out of the exercise than those who did, because I immensely enjoyed it and never injured myself.

PRACTICED WRESTLING AND BOXING.

"I was fond of wrestling and boxing; I think I was a good deal of a wrestler, and though I never won a championship, yet more than once I won my trial heats and got into the final round. I was captain of my polo team at one time, but since I left college I have taken most of my exercise in the 'cow country' or mountain hunting."

Returning from the West he plunged into politics and was thrice chosen to the New York Legislature, wherein he became famous as a free lance.

It was at this time that Mr. Roosevelt became involved in a conflict with the party organization and defeated it. He did it so thoroughly that his own delegates were sent to the county, State and national conventions of 1884. That was the year James G. Blaine desired to be President. Mr. Roosevelt escaped the Blaine contagion and took the New York delegation away from that statesman. He formed a combination between the Arthur and Edmunds men and defeated the Blaine following.

He was sent to the Chicago convention with Andrew D. White, George William Curtis and a number of other famous men. It may be written here that Mr. Roosevelt never left the Republican party, but he has always felt that upon a question of principle he was bound to act upon his own judgment. He has held that city politics should be divorced from those of the State and the nation;

that politics is not a grab game for spoils, but a dignified, honorable science to be unselfishly pursued; and yet he recognizes the fact that, in order to do good work in politics one must work with his party, which is to say with an organization. As a legislator he was a sore spot to "machine" partisans or men of corrupt inclinations. Courageous men loved him.

While in the Legislature he secured the passage of the measure which gave the Mayor of New York the power and opportunity to do his best in wielding the appointing power in connection with the police force. Prior to this the old Tweed charter had vested in the aldermen the power of rejecting or accepting the Mayor's appointments. The Roosevelt bill took this power from the aldermen. The Roosevelt investigation of the same year placed the county clerk's office, which had been reaping \$82,000 a year in fees, upon a salary, and various other reforms were effected. In 1886 Mr. Roosevelt ran for Mayor of New York and polled a larger proportion of the total vote than was polled by any Republican candidate until W. L. Strong was elected.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONER.

When General Harrison came to the Presidency he appointed Mr. Roosevelt Civil Service Commissioner, and that position he held until he became Police Commissioner of the city of New York. In the six years that he was Civil Service Commissioner he saw the law applied to twice as many offices as when he took the office; in fact, he added 20,000 offices to the scope of the reform law. The law was also well executed while he was in office.

From the Police Commissionership he passed to the position of Assistant Secretary of the Navy, where he woke up the fossils, gave Dewey the Manila opportunity, infused vigor into the officialism of Washington, made some people dislike him and a great many more care for him, and when war was threatened jumped into the centre of action with Colonel Leonard S. Wood and organized the Rough Riders. They fought like demons at Las Guasimas. They passed on to Kettle Hill, to San Juan and

to Santiago. He was on the firing line always, taking just what his men did, asking no more. Regular army officers called him an "ideal commander." His regiment was cared for as few were during the short period of the Spanish-American War. From Santiago he went to Camp Wikoff, and thence to the Governorship of New York by popular will. As Governor, he marked himself by his persistent fight against legislative corruption, and in favor of fair corporation taxation.

Mr. Roosevelt married Miss Edith Kermit Carrow in 1886, and they have five children, three boys and two girls, and a daughter by the first Mrs. Roosevelt. His home, where all his children were born, is called Sagamore Hill, and is at Oyster Bay, L. I. In New York city he sometimes occupies a rented house. Mrs. Roosevelt and the children are essentially a part of his life. While his official duties keep him away from them they are never absent from his thought nor he from theirs. His home life is as ideal as his public life is clean.

MADE SPEECHES IN THE WEST.

Colonel Roosevelt visited the West and made several speeches in which he fully maintained the independent stand he years ago assumed, but heartily endorsed the policies of the administration and the fundamental principles of the Republican party.

Theodore Roosevelt has had sorrow, having lost a beloved mother and a most charming wife, his first love, who was Miss Alice Lee, of Boston. They died in the same house within a few hours of each other, and the grief of the great strong man was pitiful to behold.

The present Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, who, before her marriage was Edith Carow, of New York, is a remarkable woman, and one of rare personality. She is a woman of the highest principle and of a far more than ordinary mental calibre. From her earliest childhood she has been an omnivorous reader and a constant student. She has always shrunk from anything like notoriety, and the necessary publicity that her husband's position has forced upon her has been, so far as lay in her power, made less

conspicuous. She is a New Yorker by birth, was educated at one of the fashionable schools and has spent several years traveling abroad. She is an accomplished linguist and her musical knowledge is far above the ordinary.

Ever since her marriage she has devoted herself, heart and soul, to her husband's career and at the same time has been a devoted mother. She has not, in one sense of the word, gone into society at all, although by her birth as well as her marriage she has always had a position which involves certain social duties. Her circle of acquaintances has been from childhood the same as her husband's, and they have among their friends the leading people of the country. Mrs. Roosevelt is rather petite, has brown hair and brown eyes, a clear skin with some color when she is excited, but her chief beauty is her mouth, which is marvelously expressive.

HIS PERSON AND DRESS.

Mrs. Roosevelt dresses neatly and simply with a quiet elegance. Her wealth of tresses is pushed back from the forehead, except a few curly ringlets that play about her temples. She is not an athlete, but she is a finished horsewoman and is fond of outdoor exercise. Mrs. Roosevelt is a member of half a dozen clubs and has long been identified with a score of charities.

She possesses the great talent which made Mrs. Cleveland so popular, of remembering the faces of people she meets once or twice and also being able to remember all about them. She is the boon companion, as well as the very wise and tender mother, of her stepdaughter and her own children, who are much younger than Miss Alice Roosevelt. She has a wide knowledge of politics, both foreign and American. She is a frail looking woman, but has much more strength than she apparently possesses. She is deeply religious.

Mr. Roosevelt's two sisters are women noted for their rare charm, intelligence and their most gracious manners. Mrs. Cowles, formerly Miss Anna Roosevelt, has been married only a few years, although she is older than her brother Theodore. Her

charitable work is known the world over, and her business ability is striking.

When her cousin, Mr. J. Roosevelt, was in charge of the British Embassy in London, she went over as his guest and stayed with him for a time, taking charge of his household. Her success as a hostess was marvelous in London, in fact, in England, where she made countless warm friends, and where she met Commander Cowles, whom she married the following year. In Washington, where she is a very marked personality, she comes nearer to having a salon than any other American woman.

STRONG LOVE OF HOME.

The Roosevelt love of home is a marked characteristic of the family not confined at all to this generation, for the Roosevelt clanishness was at one time a byword, and to this day the immediate members of the Roosevelt family apparently find more pleasure in each other's society than in that of any of their friends. Mr. Roosevelt certainly takes intense pleasure in being with his children, as they do in being with him. Home for the Roosevelt is the "dearest spot on earth."

A prominent journal says:—"Upon Theodore Roosevelt, whom circumstances as unexpected as they are sad have made the twenty-fifth President of the United States, the eyes of an expectant nation are now turned, dimmed though they be with tears. What will the new President make of his opportunity? What will be his policy, and whom will he seek for his advisers? Such are the questions on many lips. President Roosevelt has as yet had little to say on these topics of absorbing public interest; indeed, volubility on these subjects on his part would at this time have been most unbecoming. The few words spoken by him, however, after the oath of office had been administered by Judge Hazel at Buffalo are reassuring.

"In this hour of deep and national bereavement," said the newly inaugurated Chief Magistrate, "I wish to state that it shall be my aim to continue absolutely and without variance the policy of President McKinley for the peace and prosperity and honor of

our beloved country.' Nothing more could be desired, particularly if the words of the incoming Executive referred to the later policy of his lamented predecessor, whose outlook had become broadened by experience and inspired by a spirit more cosmopolitan than that which had characterized the putative author of the McKinley bill.

"But Mr. Roosevelt is not an unknown quantity in public life in the United States. Few men at his age in recent American history have attained equal distinction and notoriety—the word being used in no invidious or disparaging sense. He has lived in the white light of publicity almost from his youthful cowboy days. He sprang into early fame as the historian of the conquest of the Great West, and has since remained prominent, with few intermissions, in various branches of the public service more or less important. He has been Police Commissioner in New York city, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Colonel of Volunteers, Governor of his native State, and Vice President of the Union; and now he has attained the highest honor within reach of an American citizen.

HIS CHARACTER AN OPEN BOOK.

"If Theodore Roosevelt's character has not been read by the American people as an open book spread out before them, it has not been through any fault of his own. He has not been content to talk of the strenuous life; he has lived it. Intensity is his predominant trait. His greatest failing, perhaps, is lack of steadiness—by which it is not to be inferred that he is weak. Far from that being the case, he is, if anything, too strong-willed. But what is meant is that he has betrayed in the past want of poise. This failing, however, is usually associated with immaturity, and is likely to be sloughed off as the individual possessed of it attains riper experience.

"President Roosevelt has wit and grit, and if he shall keep his feet on firm ground, the affairs of the nation will doubtless be quite secure in his hands, and will be conducted by him with discreet conservatism. The weight of responsibility is not conducive

to soaring; and thus ballasted there is every ground for expecting President Roosevelt to turn his back to the glory-crowned heights and to travel the safe though prosaic and toilsome path of duty, as will be required of him by the national interests."

The following estimate of Mr. Roosevelt was written during the campaign that made him Vice-President. It is from a Colorado poet in praise of the Rough Rider:

"Now, doff your hat to Teddy, boys, for he's the proper man.
His life has been a triumph since its starting first began.
His pluck and spirit in the days he roamed upon the range
Has builded up a character no circumstance can change.
From a cowboy on the 'round-up' to the Governor of his State
We've always found a man in him that's strictly up to date.
As a daring 'bronco buster,' or a Colonel in command,
We'll greet him with McKinley with an open, hearty hand.
He served his country nobly and fired his faithful boys
With patriotic valor, amid the cannon's noise.
And, as they to him were loyal, in battle's fierce array,
So will the voters prove to be upon election day.
Now doff your hats to Teddy, boys, the man with grit and nerve
In every office that he fills, the people will he serve.
Progression is his policy, no laggard in the race,
He'll lead us on to victory, whatever be the pace."

Theodore Roosevelt is the third graduate of Harvard University to hold the highest honor in the gift of the American people. John Adams and John Quincy Adams were graduated from Harvard. It was in 1825 when J. Q. Adams became president. Now comes Roosevelt. Roosevelt entered Harvard in 1876, when he was eighteen years old. His work in college was characterized by the enthusiasm and earnestness which have become known to all the people as dominant traits of his character in public life.

When he came to the Cambridge college he was a slight lad and not in robust health, but he at once took a judicious and regular interest in athletics and in a little while the effects were apparent in his stalwart figure and redoubled energy. He

wrestled and sparred and ran a great deal, but never indulging in athletic work to the point of injury.

In his studies young Roosevelt was looked upon "as peculiarly earnest and mature in the way he took hold of things," as one of his classmates put it. Ex-Mayor Josiah Quincy, of Boston, who was in college with Roosevelt, says of him:

"He exhibited in his college days most of the traits of character which he has shown in after years and on the larger stage of political life. In appearance and manner he has changed remarkably little in twenty years, and I should say that his leading characteristic in college was the very quality of strenuousness which is now so associated with his public character. In whatever he did he showed unusual energy, and the same aggressive earnestness which has carried so far in later life.

MATURE BEYOND HIS YEARS.

"He exhibited a maturity of character, if not of intellectual development, greater than that of most of his classmates, and was looked upon as one of the notable members of the class—as one who possessed certain qualities of leadership and of popularity which might carry him far in the days to come, if not counterbalanced by impulsiveness in action or obstinacy in adhering to his own ideas. He was certainly regarded as a man of unusually good fighting qualities, of determination, pluck and tenacity.

"If his classmates had been asked in their senior year to pick out the one member of the class who would be best adapted for such a service which he rendered with the Rough Riders in Cuba I think that, almost with one voice, they would have named Roosevelt. Theodore Roosevelt is in many respects as broad and typical an American as the country has produced."

Both his fellows and his teachers say that he was much above the average as a student. He was just as original, just as reliant on his own judgment as he is now. In a mere matter of opinion or of dogma he had no respect for an instructor say-so above his own convictions, and some of his contemporaries in college recall with smiles some very strenuous discussions with teachers in