

BANY, N. Y., March 5 .- (Special Correspondence of the Sunday regonian.)-Six feet tall, sienmuscular, alert with an ena bearing that sug gests both the college athlete and the Wadsworth, Jr., of Gennesco.

As he goes down. Washington av crombling State Capitol men and nen turn and regard intently his creet, swinging figure,

Our 28-year-old college boy As Speaker," says a grizzled veteran in state politics to a visitor in He has more games to think , about than baseball and hunting foxes m nofseback this year, let me tell

But if he wins-

It is not the Albany politicians only who are taking a keen interest in this

young man. Outside New York state nobody cares much about the Assembly Speaker; ordinarily, he is of no more consequence than the Speaker of any other State Legislature. Even the late Speaker Nixon, strongest man to preside over the lower House of the New York

Wedsworth is. First of all, in the eyes of the people, he represents in Albany "that down man in Washington," and what he were stands for in politics,

national figure. But just now young

His dramatic and unexpected rise as a single term Assemblyman to the Speakership, the most difficult place of the sort in the country, next to that held by Uncle Joe Cannon himself, this year at least, fixed the eyes of the political world upon him immediately after Governor Higgin's ro-markable "appointment"—which left the Assembly nothing to do but to "confirm" him-was issued.

His youth, personality, antecedents, affiliations, the strained situation in his party in this, the President's own state, and the fact that the insurance investigating committee's report would be received by the Assembly with him for presiding officer have added to the

public interest in him,
So has his attitude with reference to
the proposed blanket legislative investigations of the banking department and other divisions of the state gov-ernment. Governor Higgins was not ip favor of blanket investigation, neither was young Wadsworth, though contrary reports have been printed. So has the talk of making his father,

of his family have been college grad-uates for generations, yet always out-door men, fond of sports and not too bookish; each generation for a century and a half has had its fighting men in the Army and Navy. Wadsworths have taken a hand in every war in the country's history-except the war with Mexico-never without credit, and often with distinction; several have yielded patriotism's highest possible tribute, life itself.

The Roosevelts and the Wadsworths

have been intimate for many years, perhaps from revolutionary times even. Each of the two families can show a long list of members who were en-gaged in the War of Independence, and it would be strange if Roosevelts and Wadsworths falled to come in personal

Reesevelt, had many common

aims in life and the President has known the young Speaker since he For years Theodore Rousevelt the

at Geneseo to sittend the

"Jimmle Wadsworth's making good," on the average in the Fall when to says a younger man. "I don't envy wenther is good. The present Speaker faim his job, though, for it's no cinch. But it he wins-" wenther is good. The present Speaker confessed the other day that he had followed the nounds only once or twice in the past year or two. But that he explained, was because he had two other jobs on his hands, politics and the running of his farm.

The Austin Wadsworth estate is to the north of Genesco. The estates of the James W.s., father and son, are to the south. The home of James W., Jr., is near Groveland, four miles from the coun-

the Genesee Valley who co-operate with the Wadsworths in keeping up the hunt-the William Littaners, the Winthrop Chanters and the Chrys and the Runseys Legislature for many years, wasn't a f Buffalo among them, but without the Wadsworth support it would certainly go

W. Austin Wadsworth furnishes the dogs and pays such a large proportion of the expenses that the dues are merely ominal, \$10 a year, to be exact. He fur nominal, sie a year to be exact. The fur-nishes the horses, too, on occasion, and no Genescean, fond of the sport and pop-ular with the members of the hunt, need forego the joys of following the bounds just because he doesn't own a suitable mount of his own. Also Austin Wadsworth has extra mounts for visitors, and his hospitality is famous among those who ride to hounds in America.

But the greatest service in behalf of cross-country riding performed by Mr. Wadsworth is the protection and propaga-Wadsworth is the protection and propaga-tion of foxes. He doesn't breed tame foxes: they would be lacking in both cour-age and stamina, a failure so far as real sport goes, as the Meadowbrook Bunt folk found out years ago, but he does better. Poxes were abundant in the early days of the Genesee Valley, as almost every-where else in this country, but by the time the Genesee Hunt was established there were few within its bounds. For some years the Hunt had to follow the some years the Hunt had to follow the

Mr. Wadsworth planned a "refoxing" of the valley, however, and in order to bring it about he arranged with the farmers, both on and off the Wadsworth estates

James W. Wadsworth, Sr., chairman of the Republican State Committee to succeed Benjamin B. Odell.

Young Wadsworth may flash in the pan, but after watching him several weeks many Albany statesmen agree that he stands a strong chance of miking good. If he dees make good in what he sometimes calls "this job," he should be able to cut a wide swath in future National affairs.

Young Wadsworth distinctly belongs to the Rooseveit set politically, socially and in every other way.

He has never been poor, but he isn't of the multi-millionaire class; the men of his family have been college graduates for generations, yet always out-

he enlisted. He wouldn't have been following the wory dogs belonging to the Genesee Valley farmers seem to feel, by this time, that it is wickeder to kill foxes than it is to kill sheep.

You might suppose that occasionally the farmers would take unfair advantage of the Wadesworth devotion to sport; possibly they do, but that sort of graft is practiced infrequently, if at all. The man putting in a frauduent claim, or known to collect more than he should, would be very unpopular around Genesee.

Farmers Fond of the Sport.

More than one farmer, otherwise never mixing with the society cross-country riders all stands whenever he flinds it convenient and is made welcome by the master of the Hunt. But enjoyment of the Genesee Hunt meets is by no mems confined, among the farmers of the valley, to those who are qualified to follow the bounds.

Whenever the weather is fine on a meet. In fact, the meets are the classic free aminiscinent in all that pair of the valley.

ers, with their families, and sometimes many guests, in buggies, "democrat wag-ons" and other rural vehicles, to see the start. After the fox has got away the farmers follow the riders as well as they can for miles, sometimes keeping to the roads, of course. Often the farmers dis-play surprising knowledge of Reynard's probable course, and are able, when losing sight of both bounds and riders, to make short cuts by road to the best places from short cuts by road to the best places from which to watch the progress of the hunt. It has happened that fox, bound and riders have all been preceded to the point where the fox has finally succumbed by some of the farmer, spectators, who were thus enabled to view the "death" from a point of vantage on the highway.

The Genesee Valley Horse Show is another Wadsworth institution that lends color and life to the valley such as hardly any other region in the country can beaut

any other region in the country can boast. It is held every October, and has been for many years in a wide, level area neathe river, known as the Big Tree Field, perhaps a mile from the village and be-loging to the Austin Wadsworth estate. No admittance is charged, and the whole countryside is invited to come and see he high jumping, the steeplechase riding. the fancy driving and all the other stunts in which the exhibitors display themselves and their horses. Special invitations are also sent to society people in New York, Rochester, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Boston and elsewhere. These certainly furnish as much amusement to the farmers as do the four-footed creatures for whose exhibition the show is really held.

It goes without saying that the tall furnish entertainment to the society people as well; thus the Wadsworth horse show is a real addition to the joy of lively the beautiful valley of the Genesee. The Young Speaker's Training.

Though not a frequent cross-country rider of late, the young Speaker is as fond of the sport as he should be, being a Wadsworth, and riding to hounds as a boy and young man was a vital part of his training for the public career marked out

for him in advance by his father.

So were his preparatory studies at Southborough, Mass, his subsequent collage course at Yale—a Yale course has been customary among the Geneseo Wadsworths for four generations—so was his beneful. his baseball playing, of which so much has been written and printed since he be-came Speaker, and so indeed was his experience in Porto Rico as a soldier, and in the Philippines as a "civilian orderly" attached to Colonel Page's command. His military experience delayed his political career a little, however; it was planned that he should begin in politics the vers year of his graduation from Yale, but the Spanish War came along, and, of course,

he enlisted.

He wouldn't have been following the

It took two hours and some of the men of the other Wadsworths perhaps than might have balked if the young employer hadn't gone at it so enthusiastically.

Young Wadsworth had to learn how to too; by his father's direction he used to work by the day for one and another of the Wadsworth tenant farmers, beginning at S cents a day. He hoes corn, he rode the horse-rake; he "loaded" hay and grain-a beastly job by the way; it aftswers to the "trimming" of a ship's cargo -he helped about the "separator" or on the straw-stack at "threehin' time," and did all the other things a boy's strength was equal to in Summer time and early Fall, though, of course, he was in school the greater part of every year.

the greater part of every year.

During his college career he did some to 2000 in size. A family lives on each farm work every vacation; his devotion to baseball interfered somewhat, but there has was those he was had never been a Summer since he was old enough that he ham't done a share of the ferocious work of pitching hay. etc., either on one of his father's farms or his own.

All this doesn't mean that he works All this doesn't mean that he works with his hands all the time, as a farmer with only a few acres would work, but it does mean that he works enough to keep his hand in, and enough to convince his men that he knows just what their work is, how it ought to be done and whether they are earning their money. Since his marriage to Alkes Hay, two or three years ago, he has lived on his own farm of 100 acres, a wedding sift from his of 1100 acres, a wedding gift from his father, and has devoted more time to its conduct than some of his friends think he should.

he should.

Undoubtedly "Jimmie" Wadsworth got a good share of his training in politics while working "with the men." both when a boy and since; he is as democratic among them as if he was drawing eratic among them as if he was drawing wages the same as they. His political training when a boy was not limited to mixing with the hands, though. He used to pay almost as much attention as his father to whatever political doings were on when he was home in vacation time, and he knows a lot about that bulwark of our liberties, the local caucus. He wouldn't give much attention to the Pall campaign at home, though, for in the Fall he was always at school.

Running the Wadsworth Estates.

It has been said in print that the Genesco Wadsworths are more like the big landed proprietors of England than any-

of the Speaker and his father, the Con-

There two carry on their own farms, the others leasing theirs on terms re-sembling those commonly accepted in England. They are evidently satisfactory to all concerned, since, while all the leases are yearly ones, a Wadsworth lessee rarely throws up his holding unless compelled to by sickness or old age. The 35,000 acres making up Wadsworths estates are held by Austin Wadsworth, Herbert Wadsworth, Mrs. Charles Wadsworth, Mrs. Porter Chandler, J. S. Wadsworth, Craig Wadsworth and the two James W.'s. For convenience they are divided into farms ranging from 90 acres to 2000 to size 1 femily lives on each to 2000 in size. A family lives on each

worth farms are paid mouthly wages—besides housing and farm produce as needed for subsistence—and so, perhaps, are more responsible than the other tenants to the proprietors, though all the various Wadsworth estates are reastrated according to husttates are run strictly acording to business principles. Each farm must be made to pay; and each is made to pay; nobody ever heard of a Geneseo Wadsworth "going broke." The estates support to be a support of the states of the s

port about 2000 people all told. Save for the leasehold system all the Wadsworth estates are run according to the same general plan. For con-venience the farms all have names, such as Sweet Briar Farm, Sugarbush Farm, Black Walnut Farm, etc.

Austin Wadsworth manages the estates belonging to the two or three of the family besides himself, and the J. W. Wadsworths also manage more estates than their own. Each Wadsestates than their own. Each Wads-worth proprietor employs expert book-heepers, as would any business man. The archives in each Wadsworth office include not only the financial returns from each farm—each separate field, in fact—but also records showing what have been the crops planted for more than a hundred years on every part of the great acreage the family controls, the amount of money spent for buildthe amount of money spent for build-ing, repairs, fencing, etc., the kind of crops which have been most successful and a vast amount of information that enables the owners to know pretty nearly what to do with and what to

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expect from every acre which they have under cultivation. Strictly speaking the Wadsworths

be; they have never yet gone in heat ily for the chemical analysis or the new "inoculation" of soils, the making of elaborate scientific experiments or modern intensive farming. They believe that great advances are to be made along those lines, though, and this is especially true of J. W. Wads-worth, Jr. Talking with a friend the other day he said that he purposed always being a farmer; the business, in his opinion, being as good in every way as any

CROSS COUNTRY RIDERS

OF THE GENESEE HUNT

James W. Wadsworth, Jr., Speaker

of the Assembly, Who Has

Made Good.

CONTRACTOR DESIGNATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

other business, considering the capita required and its stability. Given a fair grade of soil, proper knowledge of its qualities, plenty of hard work, strict attention to detail and the same ob-servance of business principles prac-ticed in other businesses, he said farming ought to pay 5 per cent on the capital invested year in and year out. Some businesses yield more, but the risks are greater and bankruptcy comes oftener. Plenty of farmers fail, but the percentage is smaller than in me other cellings. It has often been men who go into mercantile manufac-turing and fihancial enterprises drop out; nothing like this proportion of failures has been reported from the

"Farmers on a medium scale, who own their own farms, sometimes complain of the small amount of actual money they see in a year," said Mr. Wadsworth, "and compare themselves unfavorably with the merchant on a moderate scale, and, sometimes, with the man who earns a salary of \$2000 or \$3000. But these farmers forget that the farm furnishes the place for the family to live in, and so there is no house rent, no store rent, no shop rent

food for the family comes from the farm, without the passing over of any money to the butcher, the baker or the grocer, and that a large proportion of the money they do see every year in over and above the cost of living. This is not true of the money of most people

## not farmers handle, by any means, whatever may be their business." Wadsworths of Other Days.

What sort of stock is it from which this young farmer, sportsman, soldier, present-day politician and possible future statesman comes? This is a question which has not been fully answered in any of the recent Wadsworth articles.

James W. Wadsworth, Jr., is of the night severation from William broth-

ninth generation from William, brother of Christopher Wadsworth. These two were the first members of the family in America. They came from Yorkshire, England, and landed at Boston in 1832, only a dozen years after the Pilgrims stepped foot on Plymouth Rock.
The Wadsworths were exceptionally prominent before and during the Revo-

lution, both serving the colonists' cause. It was a Wadsworth of Hart-ford, where William Wadsworth set-tled, who hid the charter of Connecticut tied, who hid the charter of Connecticut in the famous hollow tree, later called the Charter Oak, when a royalist Governor planned to take it away.

General Peleg Wadsworth, of the fourth or fifth generation from Christopner, who had settled in what is now Maine, and was accomment in the military operations.

had settled in what is now Maine, and was prominent in the military operations there, was the hero of an adventure in 1781 that would read well in any volume of revolutionary romance. He planned to pass one night, guarded by only six Colonial soldiers, at his own home at Thomaston with his family, miles away from the main body of his troops. The British, learning of his rashness, sent a



