

THE ITEMS

SATURDAY MARCH 7, 1903.

HE TRUSTED THE PEOPLE.

When Theodore Roosevelt succeeded to the Presidency a man with whom political tact was both an instinct and a fine art, many gravely doubted his success as a constructive leader.

In his first message President Roosevelt recommended the suppression of anarchy, changes in the immigration laws, creation of more forest reserves, national organization of irrigation, upbuilding of the navy, reorganization of the army and militia, civil government, currency reform and lower tariffs for the Philippines, reciprocity with Cuba, an isthmian canal, a Department of Commerce, prevention of discrimination in railway rates, regulation of the trusts, and such degree of publicity in trust management as would give the necessary knowledge for their effective regulation.

Many of these things other Presidents had recommended for years—some of them from the very foundation of the government—but in vain. Nor was Congress at all prompt to heed the recommendations. At the first session under Roosevelt it did create more forest reserves, make liberal appropriations for the navy, give the Philippines civil government, finally decide on an isthmian canal route, and start national organization of irrigation. The latter was almost the only new feature of the Roosevelt program that Congress approved.

As for the trust question, the President was at first privately and then openly denounced in Congress for raising it, and was accused of "playing to the galleries." Trust influences availed to prevent even reciprocity with Cuba, and to fob off the Philippines with a trifling tariff concession. As for general regulation of the trusts, it was deemed that Congress lacked power, and that nothing could be done until the constitution was amended.

But Theodore Roosevelt kept negotiation. He kept right on talking to the American people. He told them not only what he wanted, but also how and why he wanted it, and why they ought to have it for their own benefit. He took the people more directly into his confidence as to what he wanted than any President since Lincoln, and more completely why he wanted it than any President since Jackson.

And he had his reward. Within less than a year after Congress adjourned, almost in open opposition

to the President, and filled with secret cabals to discredit him, practically all his program has been put upon the statute book by that same Congress. The canal and Cuban treaties will soon be ratified by an extra session of the Senate. Adequate tariff concessions to the Philippines may yet be made. All the rest is accomplished.

Theodore Roosevelt trusted the people and took them into his confidence. And the people trusted Theodore Roosevelt and rose up and voted their confidence in him. And Congress heard the voice of the people and obeyed.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

THE REWARD OF HONESTY.

United States Senator Hoar is one of the poorest of distinguished American statesmen. He says that all the income-producing property he has in the world or ever had yields a little less than \$1800 a year, and more than half of this comes from stock in a corporation which has only paid dividends for the past two or three years and is likely to pay no dividends after two or three years to come. With that exception, the house where he lives with its contents and about four acres of land, constitute the Senator's whole possessions, save two or three vacant lots that would not bring \$5000, not enough to pay his debts.

Senator Hoar has been twenty years in Congress as representative and Senator, getting a little poorer every year. He and his wife have been compelled to live much of the time in Washington boarding-houses in a fashion to which no Pittsburg mechanic earning \$2 a day would subject his household. Senator Hoar, however, never had to spend a dollar to be elected to the House or Senate. He was first nominated for the House when he was absent in Europe, trying to recuperate from overwork. His only extravagance is that he has been a large collector of books. On the other hand, John D. Rockefeller is credited with owning \$35,000,000 par value of the Standard Oil Stock, which at the present market value is worth about \$260,000,000. He is probably as rich a man as Andrew Carnegie, if not as rich as J. P. Morgan, whose wealth it is difficult to estimate.

Mr. Hoar at 78 is sure to die a poor man in this world's goods, but he is rich in honorable fame as a statesman, a scholar and a philanthropist, while John D. Rockefeller is only notorious as the organizer and executive of a robber trust, and the ostentatious dispenser of its gains.—Oregonian.

Representative Moody has won his fight for the Federal building at Baker City, Or., the omnibus bill will carry his amendment providing \$5000 for a site at that place. Under the terms of the bill the supervising architect will advertise for offers of sites, and the most attractive property will be purchased within the next year. This appropriation forms the basis for future legislation, and will enable the delegation in the next Congress to secure a further appropriation for the erection of the building. It is contemplated that the building will provide accommodation for the Post-office and courts, in event that future legislation shall divide the state into two districts and provide for a term of court in Eastern Oregon.

It is now a law that a permit shall not be granted to any person, company, corporation or association to move his or their sheep for treatment from one county into another, nor in any case for a greater distance than five miles, except that said sheep may be moved for treatment to any place upon the range usually occupied or controlled by the owner thereof, and except that during the summer season, when such sheep are grazed in the timbered mountains, they may be moved for treatment to the edge of the timber, irrespective of distance.

ENGLAND'S HAPPY MARRIAGES.

Some of Them Are Recorded in the Annals of Dumnow Town.

Dumnow, in Essex county, England, has been bringing itself before the public again by a revival of its fitch-of-bacon ceremony. Dumnow ought to be able to furnish some answers to the great question of how to be happy though married. It is the place where it was once the custom to reward and promote conjugal felicity by giving a fitch of bacon to the couple who, after a year of matrimonial experience, could swear that they had not once regretted entering the estate commended of St. Paul to be honorable. It appears that even the pious prior of Dumnow, who instituted the custom hundreds of years ago, had certain modern, sceptical notions about the success of marriage. Apparently he was of the opinion that there would seldom be many claimants for the prize.

The number of candidates who filled the conditions have not been many in the whole history of Dumnow, and the presentations of the fitch of bacon have been few and far between. But this year Dumnow revived the custom, and two couples received the award due to those who marry and do not regret it. One was a Dublin magistrate and his wife and the other a railroad servant and his wife, from Hertfordshire. The jury was composed of six maidens and six young bachelors, and after the trial an operatic cantata, "Ye Dumnow Fitches," was performed. The oath which the winners of the fitch have to take is enough to deter many from proclaiming their married happiness to the world. After the trial, which takes the form of questions and answers in the presence of the assembled multitude, the oath is administered to the happy pair while they kneel upon two hard, pointed rocks.—N. Y. World.

FOREIGN ECHOES.

Kaiser Wilhelm sits for his photograph about once a week.

The salary and expense allowance of President Casimir-Perier is \$340,000 per year.

It is estimated that foreign stocks amounting to \$3,819,035,000 are held in Great Britain, and the interest receivable upon them \$145,000,000 per annum.

It is said that one of Lord Coleridge's peculiarities was his habit when on circuit of strolling round the court to keep himself awake. This was a frequent practice of his when sitting late to finish a case, and was extremely disconcerting to the counsel who happened to be addressing him.

London has an annual average rainfall of but twenty-five inches; Paris, twenty-two inches; Manchester, thirty-six inches, and Edinburgh thirty-eight inches, while Boston shows forty-six inches, New York forty-five inches, Philadelphia forty-one inches, and Chicago thirty-six inches.

An eminently practical German scientist is said to have applied a mild current of electricity to a swarm of bees, quickly causing them to fall to the ground in a stupefied condition. The bees could be safely handled while in this condition, and if the electrical current were not too strong, no injury was done to them.

NATURAL HISTORY NOTES.

There is a twin crystal of emerald in St. Petersburg seven inches long, four broad and weighing four-and-a-half pounds.

A DETECTIVE'S STORY.

The Sweetheart Robbed to Pay a Man's

"I was disgusted a few days ago at a case I worked up," remarked a detective to a Washington Star reporter. "A young lady who was possessed of considerable money and a number of jewels sent for me. She had been robbed of some diamonds valued at several hundred dollars. I finally found all but one pin, they having been pawned. I obtained a description of the man who borrowed money upon them, but for several weeks could not locate him. When I did his landlady said that he had left that morning and was going to Baltimore. I watched the depot, and was soon rewarded by seeing the man step out of a hack. I seized his arm and said: 'You are arrested!'"

"What for?" he asked, in a tone that showed he was not much surprised, but greatly frightened. "That will be explained at the station," I replied. There was a feminine shriek from the hack, and, glancing into the vehicle, I saw it was my fair client. They had just been married and were starting on their wedding trip. I took in the situation at a glance, and then realizing that I was powerless under the new order of affairs, I said: 'I see now that you are not the man I want, and let him go. Then he began to bluster, and, taking him aside, I gave him to understand I knew of his robbing the girl to pay the expenses of his courtship, and he quieted down very suddenly.'

A Curious Christian Name. In the Canterbury Diocesan Gazette there is an interesting and authentic record of the use of Acts of the Apostles as a Christian name. The entries are in the registers of Boughton-under-Blean, Acton, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Pegden, from Dunkirk, was baptized August 2, 1795, and the burial of this Acton Pegden, aged 79 years, took place November 14, 1865. The name seems to have been abbreviated to Acty, for the vicar of Boughton has heard a parishioner speak of her uncle Acty Pegden. Again, Acts of the Apostles, son of Richard and Phoebe Kennett, was baptized at Boughton church April 21, 1822.—Notes and Queries.

Willing to Quaff. A few days ago a recruit was taken to be sworn in before the magistrate. Everything was going on swimmingly till the magistrate asked the man the following question: "Have you ever been in prison?" At this the man looked startled, but, quickly recovering himself, he blurted out: "No, sir, I have never been in jail, but I don't mind doing a few days if you think it necessary."—London Telegraph.

The Blacksmith and the King. Some time ago, while holding court in the royal palace, overlooking the Danube, Francis Joseph received a Hungarian blacksmith, who desired to thank the king for the decoration conferred on him in recognition of his having invented an agricultural machine.

During the audience the blacksmith drew from his pocket two photographs representing the king and queen, and, handing them to his majesty: "May I ask your majesty, and also the queen, for your signatures?" "And why?" demanded the king, smilingly. "Well, when I die the cross of merit which your majesty has given me will have to be returned and my children will at least have your majesties' portraits and signatures in remembrance of this audience." "The queen is absent from Hungary," said the king, "and I cannot give you my signature at the present moment, for I have neither pen nor pencil within reach." "I have brought a pencil with me," said the smith, handing it to the monarch. The king thereupon attached his signature to the photograph, and dismissed the smith with a smile. The smith did not retire, however, but stood his ground. "Is there anything else I can do for you?" asked Francis Joseph. "Yes, your majesty, I am waiting for my pencil." "The king had mechanically pocketed it, and he returned it with a hearty laugh.—San Francisco Argonaut.

Baby Tricks the Gaiours. Pens are proverbially alike, but not more so than "nigger" law students. And when each wears astrachan hair, gold spectacles and a Stewart tartan necktie, Dze Manik Lal is as like Dababoy Jamshedji as any two men in iron masks. This fact is not lost on a wily Hindoo law student. This bright young mind has, it is said, taken several scholarships at Lincoln's Inn under his own name. He, now, for a consideration, is willing to temporarily adopt the series of consonants which form the name of any gentleman with a similar color scheme, and in his improper person goes up for and successfully passes the examinations of the council of the bar.—Phoenix.

He'd Done It Before. "You look after the dinner," he said in his lordly manner at the conclusion of a few remarks on the cost of running a house, "and I'll look after the dollars."

"I've been looking after the dinner all my life," she protested indignantly; "that's all I've got to look after, while you—"

"Marie," he cautioned, fearful that there was about to be an explosion, "while you have been diligently looking after the dollars—"

His face relaxed in a gratified smile. "—to spend," she said in conclusion. He realized then that she had made a study of him.—Chicago Post.

No Sudden. Gushing Young Man (taking elderly spinster into his confidence)—Miss Wellalong, I have written a poem, addressed "To a Young Lady." Let me read it to you: "For love of you, dear Hazel, I—" Elderly Spinster (sighing)—Law, Mr. Spoonmaker! My eye is not hazel! It's dark brown! — Chicago Tribune.

Well-Directed Sympathy. The German section of a suburban church, listening a moment to an amateur performer in behalf of some local guild, was heard to remark: "Dot makes me sorry for dot biano," "Why not for the people?" a bystander asked. "Der pebbles can git away," was the answer. "Der biano musht shiday."—Boston Courier.

Made of the Right Stuff. "What are your qualifications for an umpire?" asked the president of the league. "I fell down an elevator shaft, was run over by a motor car, dropped out of a balloon and rode ten miles on a cyclone. I'm in fair condition yet." "You're engaged for next season."—Detroit Free Press.

Differences. "They say that human nature is always the same," said the middle-aged lady. "But I don't think so." "What's the reason?" asked her niece. "Twenty years ago girls read magazines and did needle work. Now they study a road map and learn to use a monkey wrench."—Washington Star.

Fast Life. Aunt Miranda—I suppose you saw Mary's girl when you was down to the city. Has she grown much since they moved away from Basswood Corner? "Uncle Jedediah—Grown! Why, she's grown! yet. You won't believe it, but her newest dress only reaches to her shoulders."—Brooklyn Life.

A CLOSED room is bad for sleeping, because air once breathed parts with a sixth of its oxygen and contains an equivalent amount of carbonic acid gas; air breathed six times will not support life.

PURGING the flesh with even the finest needle hurts because the nerves are so thickly matted just under the skin that not even the finest point can be introduced without wounding one or more.

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Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure diarrhoea and sick headache.