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We are going to open a handsome new store at 4 and 6 Queen Street East, the premises now occupied by the Foster-Armstrong Piano Co. We hope to take possession of the new place about March 1st, but before that date

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TO SEE STORAGE BATTERIES

Civic Officials Go to New York—
Controllers Are Undecided.

City Engineer Rust and Electrical Engineer Aitken left Saturday for New York City, and on Monday will commence their investigation into the railway systems of the United States metropolis. They will pay particular attention to the storage battery system of operating street cars and it will depend on the report they present on this system whether the board of control will deem it advisable to make a trip to New York to personally investigate this system.

Whether or not the engineers' report favors a visit of the board of control, it is the intention of Controller Hooker to make the trip on his own account. There are only a few cars operated by the storage battery system in and about New York, although it has been in use and is said to have been found satisfactory for the past two years. It is the opinion of Controller Ward and others of the board of control that it is at least peculiar that the system has not been more generally adopted, particularly as American corporations are noted for their readiness to take up any new thing that is for the benefit of their service.

For this reason some think that not only the board of control, but the entire city council should make the trip to New York to post themselves as to the working of the storage battery. They say that in view of the negotiations with the Toronto Street Railway Co., which will come up on the expiration of their franchise, any information which will tend to show whether this plant is antiquated or up-to-date, is expected to have an important bearing on the final settlement.

Mayor Geary, when questioned Saturday morning, expressed doubt as to whether even the board of control would be able to find time to go to New York, unless the report of the

engineers made such a trip imperative. He considers that there are enough important matters at present in sight to keep them busy for at least six weeks to come.

GAS BILL COMPLAINTS

Mayor Writes Company Calling Attention to Workman's Grievance.

Several complaints have reached the mayor's office regarding excessive gas bills. On Saturday morning a workman brought in a bill for the month just passed, which ran over \$6. Mayor Geary has written the Gas Company calling their attention to the complaints. He is of the opinion, however, that it is simply a case of a meter being wrong and has no doubt that the Gas Company will rectify the errors when they have been called to their attention. He wished it understood that he was not imputing any dishonesty to the company in referring to the excessiveness of the bills.

MINISTERIAL DELEGATION

In Montreal re Nova Scotia Eastern Railway.

MONTREAL, Que., Feb. 4.—Hon. George Murray, premier; Hon. A. K. MacLean, attorney-general, and Robt. E. Finn, M.L.A., arrived in Montreal last evening, and it is understood that the ministerial delegation is here in connection with the building of the Nova Scotia Eastern Railway.

Wrangle Over Tenders.
The Texas Asphalt Company have written the mayor requesting that the tenders for asphalt awarded by the board of control to the Union Oil Co. be reconsidered by the city council on Monday. They claim that if allowed to introduce the amount of fluxing into their product as permitted the other company under the specifications, their tender will prove the most satisfactory.

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THE MAN OF DESTINY

"THE MAN OF DESTINY" OR "THE IRON DUKE?"

By Anson A. Gard.
"I see they have started," said the colonel, throwing down a recent number of one of the New York magazines. "Started? Who have started?" said I, and what have they started? And after whom have they started? I wanted to get in all possible questions, for I knew that once the colonel got started I'd have little chance to do anything but listen.

"Why, the interests, the grafters, the time-serving politicians, and all the selfish hoard who will never be real happy so long as Teddy is on their trail. I see by this magazine that they are paying one of the brightest young editors in New York City to help them divert his tracking."

"Faying?" I broke in. "Why do you say they are paying?"
"Yes, paying. He'd have too much sense to do it on his own initiative and for nothing. Editors (that is outside of Canada) don't do things for nothing when they have a gold mine to draw upon for every line they can put against a man who would give the common people a look in at that mine."

"This young (he follows his name with a Jr.) editor uses many words in his attempt to prove that Theodore Roosevelt has met his Waterloo, for in his microscopic search for material, that there were two Waterloos—one fought and lost by 'The Man of Destiny,' the other fought and won by 'The Iron Duke'—the hero of one living out a life of honor, the other plotting alone for selfish glory."

"The purpose of this magazine writer seems to be to prove that Roosevelt, by his own effort and not by worth, worked his way from cow boy to president. In a country of nearly one hundred millions of people, with untold thousands of striving men of ability, using every possible means of reaching ordinary or extraordinary position, the one who forges ahead of all of the untold thousands, must have more than push to carry him to the summit of his ambition. That Theodore Roosevelt was looked upon as having transcendent worth may be known from the fact that after serving two terms as president he might have broken all records, and held that exalted position for a third term, had he but allowed his name to have been presented at the convention. For it is justly claimed that had his name been allowed to be presented that there would have been a Roosevelt stampede, with nothing to stop it. And at the following election he would have been chosen with thousands of the opposing party voting for him—thousands who believed in honest government, regardless of party lines."

"That his aims were for the betterment of all the people who believed in honest government, as against the grafters' aims for self alone, no man can with reason deny. He went further than all before him, in that he made his countrymen (our countrymen—Rube—yours and mine) think as never before had they been made to think. You remember that not long ago Mr. S. S. McClure (of McClure's Magazine), in an address before the Canadian Club at Ottawa, declared that the United States had advanced more in the past ten years, toward better conditions than we had in any other quarter of a century since we began as a nation. He did not say it, tho he might well have said it—but to no one man was this due so much as to Theodore Roosevelt. He fought every species of graft and so effectively did he fight the grafters that they and their paid press and magazine writers are even yet fighting him back."

"Unlike most leaders he drew no party line. At the head of the Republican party, he saw only his country's good, and spared not the Republican if he were in the wrong. For this the 'Old Guard'—the 'stalwarts' of the party—were aroused to a bitterness of spirit even more virulent than had they been of the opposing party itself. Country-party—and everything must go down before their wrath. And now, when temporarily

down (?), the grafter and his paid writers—detractors of worth—chuckles and call it a 'Waterloo' of the St. Helena-reaching brand. Those who place selfish interests before the country, graft before honesty, would have us believe that a single lack of success is utter and for-all-time failure. Roosevelt's mode of doing things is radical, and things radical seldom win out on first attempt. These same detractors will live to see that he whom they now look upon as 'The Man of Destiny' is, in very truth, 'The Iron Duke' instead. 'He can never come back' say they. In this they are truly, for he has never yet gone away."

"And then the colonel, picking up the magazine in which he had found his 'text,' handed it to me, to look over the philippic."

"I see," said I, "that one of the principal claims is that Teddy is ambitious."

"Yes, Rube, and so must every man be who would succeed—the lack of it spells failure. The lawyer is ambitious, and yet how many lawyers in a city of a quarter of a million people are known in a sister city one hundred miles away? The preacher is ambitious and yet you can count the 'Beechers' of the continent on one hand and still count all of the fingers of the hand, with but few of all the number beyond local fame. Who so ambitious as the militia colonel who would spend a fortune in a peace campaign for fame, only to receive the temporary plaudits of the few, to be forgotten even by them, before his name reaches other than local history? No, Rube, it takes more than ambition to get your name outside of the ward."

"Did you ever think what it is to be great? To have your name familiarly spoken, not only by the men of affairs of your own town, but by the very children of every cross-roads of a nation? Did you ever think that of all the thousands of millions of people who have lived, struggled and died, that one page of an ordinary book could hold the names of those of real, of lasting worth? The great of to-day are too often the forgotten of to-morrow! A city may go wild over one whose feet have carried him first to the goal, only to forget him for the next swift-foot; the speech of the hero is forgotten, only to be forgotten by the multitude for the momentary breeze. Nor is that ambition, which would erect great stone buildings for the benefit of the giver's fellow men, of lasting worth—even when the giver is alive his great edifice may be known as a 'reference library' and he be forgotten."

"Yes, Rube, my boy, Theodore Roosevelt was ambitious. But he made good. Our country was made better by his having lived. The very men who cry out against him know this to be true. The day on which New York went wild over his return from Africa, saw a coterie of brokers at the Waldorf-Astoria. They were berating him with their choicest invective while he was at Thirtieth-street. But the moment he appeared at the head of the procession at Thirty-Fourth-street, they were the wisest of the wise who threw high their hats in air. In their selfishness they cried out: 'Villain!—Destroyer of wealth!—Enemy of our interests.' And yet at Thirty-Fourth-street their hearts cried out: 'Teddy, our hero!'"

And then I said: "But it is claimed, colonel, that he is not a statesman, that he is nothing but a preacher."

"Only a preacher? They forget that there are preachers and preachers. They may be right, and I guess they are. But if all the preachers of the world were to deal in plain facts, as he deals in them, they would be more Bible and less catering to the race-soldiers, bridge-playing, horse-racing payers of big salaries for the careful-speaking preacher. If Teddy's 'congregation' need the opposite of Heaven they get it, and they know it when it comes. His 'texts' have been innumerable, and he never has to read from notes, the Mothers of the Nation learn from him, whilst those who butterfly through their lives, purposefully leaving no child to call them bliss-

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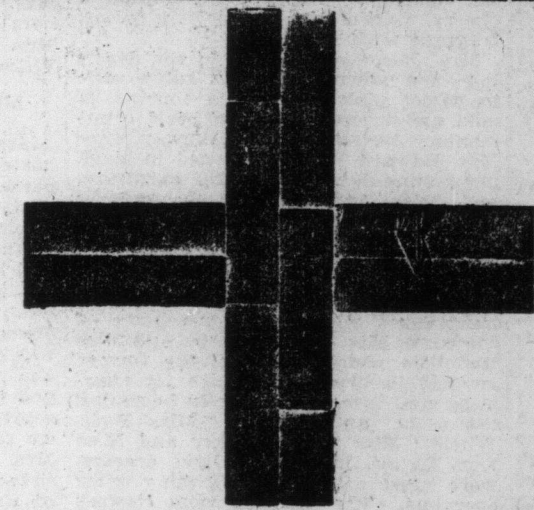
sed, tremble at his scathing words; the boys and girls grow enthusiastic over his 'sermons'; and the Common People look upon him as their friend. Yes, Roosevelt is a preacher—a preacher without a cant.

"He is honest. Hence the opposition of those whose selfishness he thwarts. He is fair. His books of history are read by those whose failure he records—read with no bitterness of spirit, for he darkens neither side of the story. The facts may have done that, but his pen never blackens the picture. He is fair. The coal miners and the railway companies saw thru his eyes and the greatest of coal strikes came to an end. He is fair. Russia and Japan believed this and the most sanguinary war of modern times came

to an end. "Speaking of Roosevelt as a writer, I wonder how many of the ordinary, matter-of-fact people, realize or even know of his literary works? His 'Winning of the West' (six volumes) might well be used by all the school children of his country, since Parkman has not told the history of that wonderful land so accurately. And to Parkman himself he has given full credit. In these volumes he deals with the poor Indian of the plains in a Christ-like manner, that might well put to shame the treatment the poor Lo-has received from the hands of some of our statesmen (2). His 'Naval War of 1812' (two volumes) might have been written by an English writer, and a French reader not know the difference. His 'American Ideals' would

make us a better people if their were in truth ours personally. In this volume he preaches 'Morality and Efficiency' as few ordained preachers could have done it. Of course all know the part he has played in the writing of hunting stories. In fact many there be who think that these are the extent of his writing."

"While bitterly berated by the 'Austure Fakir,' such naturalists as John Burroughs are pleased to call him their friend, and the 'Fakir' has been made more careful of what he tells as fact. In short, Rube, if Roosevelt is ambitious, his ambition has made of him one of the few all-round men of the century."



Guard Your Health

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