

to have the control of the land for the canal in a manner almost unsurpassed in the history of transactions of that kind. He had intervened between the Russians and the Japanese when they were endeavouring to negotiate a peace at Portsmouth, N.H., and had brought it about. He had attacked the great industries and had taken the necessary steps towards securing a proper control in all matters relating to the welfare of the hundred of millions of people of whom he was President. These are mentioned among other facts in relation to him which indicate that he was an extremely able and notable President.

My own conception of Mr. Roosevelt was derived by two hours close intimacy and discussion of all questions relating to the well being of the world, and I never met a man who impressed me more fully and completely with his powers of quick perception and fixed resolution. If he erred at all, it was with the freedom with which he talked. A man occupying the tremendous position of President should be extremely careful and guarded in his relation to all matters in which he is particularly concerned, but Mr. Roosevelt discussed matters with the greatest freedom, so much so, that if I had gone out of the White House and repeated what he said to me, it would have caused a sensation, but I suppose he would have ended it, as he did with all such matters by declaring that it was false. He was delightful in his method and manner of expressing things, and entered fully into the sentiments which he expressed, and you could see at all times that he was aiming at securing the best results on all matters which it was possible for him to obtain.

He afterwards ceased to be President and was succeeded by Mr. Taft, who was his own choice. When he came home, after a tour in Africa, he expected, as a amateur of course, that he would be nominated again, but by this time Mr. Taft had been af-

fected by other people and he refused to give way, and after a desperate struggle in the convention a small majority nominated Taft, and Mr. Roosevelt went out of the convention, organized a separate party and ran without any of the concomitants which usually go with a party nomination, and yet he polled more votes for the Presidency than did Mr. Taft with the entire Republican party supporting him. He is now dead and there are few left in the United States that are not eager to uphold his name and fame, and he will go down to history as one of the most remarkable men who ever occupied the position as President of the United States.

I had also the privilege of an interview of two hours or so with Mr. Taft when he was President of the United States. He was a man of extremely large stature and full of anecdotal charm. My interview was not one which I sought myself nor was it one in which I had any concern. Mr. John Redmond, the leader of the Irish party was visiting Boston and had agreed with his wife and Joseph Devlin, M.P. for Belfast, and his wife to take lunch with Mr. Shuman at Beverly. After lunch, by appointment, Mr. Taft was to see him, and I went along with the procession and took part in the conversation which lasted for an hour or two. Mr. Taft was far more careful in his discussion of things and used no expressions that could be handled to his disadvantage in any place. He told many stories and anecdotes and received Mr. Redmond with the greatest civility. He is now in the prime of life and is a recognized feature in American life.

General William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, was one of the most remarkable characters that one is able to meet with in the course of a lifetime. There was no Salvation Army when Mr. Booth commenced preaching, and when he died a few years ago, he had an army numbering millions in various portions of the