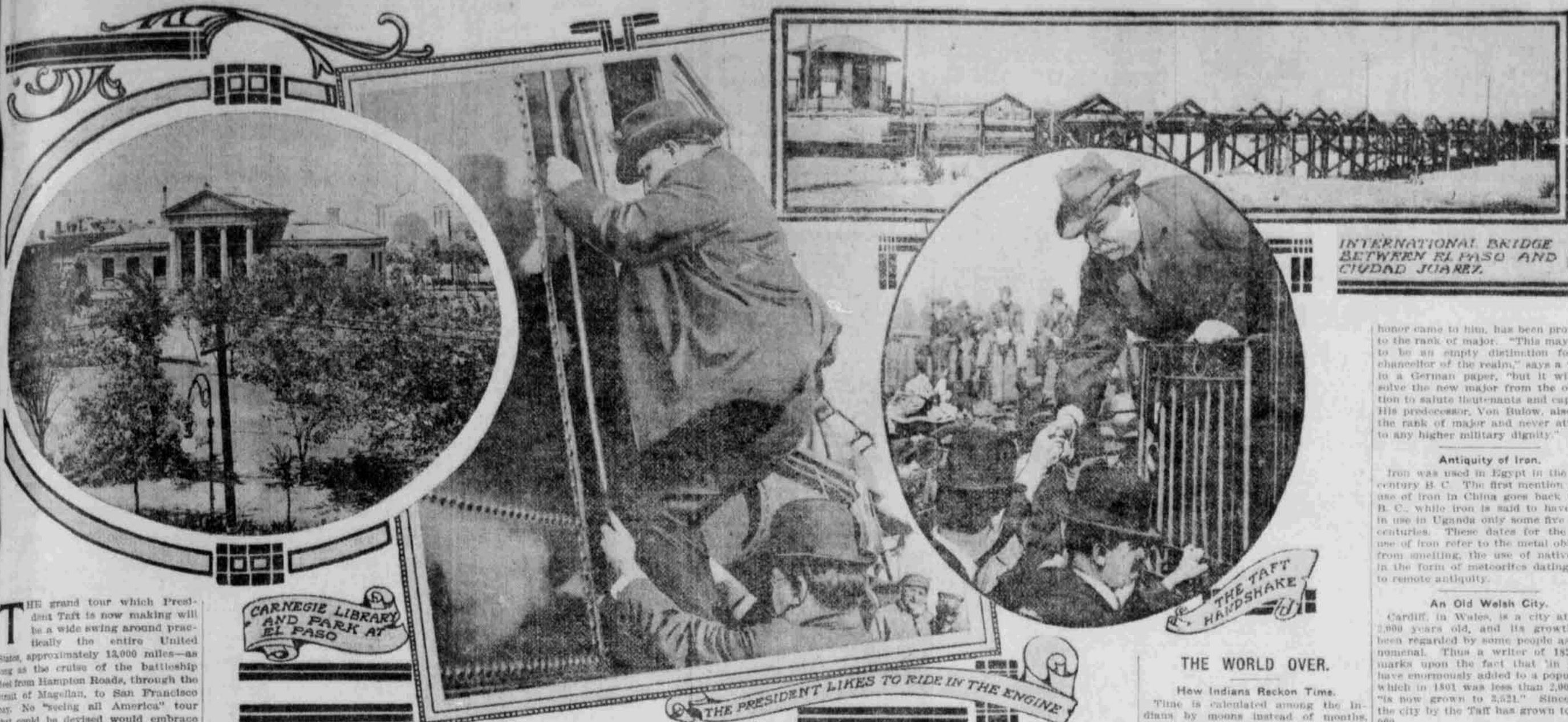


# PRESIDENT TAFT AS A TRAVELER IN HIS "AIN COUNTRY"



THIS grand tour which President Taft is now making will be a wide swing around practically the entire United States, approximately 13,000 miles—as long as the cruise of the battleship fleet from Hampton Roads, through the straits of Magellan, to San Francisco bay. No "seeing all America" tour that could be devised would embrace more points of interest in so brief a time as this president will give to his people as he travels through the country to the Pacific coast and back through the eastern states.

Three other presidents—Harrison, McKinley and Roosevelt—made the journey to the Pacific coast. They all went on handshaking and speechmaking jaunts, and if they left anything behind of use to the people, it was the memory of their presence. According to an enterprising journalist of the day who chanced to accompany all of these presidential excursions, "Every milestone along the transcontinental lines was hallowed, and every coyote and prairie dog howled at the sight of the president's train. It is understood, however, that the record is going to be made in one way—democratic simplicity and economy are to be the invariable rule on this tour. Mr. Taft has used it to be understood by all those who are responsible for such matters that he will not permit any extravagance under any pretext whatever. This, it is stated authoritatively, is official.

It has been planned to have the present trip cost no more than \$15,000. The Roosevelt coast excursion cost upward of \$100,000. The ex-president traveled in a train of five thoroughly equipped cars. Mr. Taft is content with one and

a half. He will also proceed by regular train, while his predecessor "ran special." Mr. Roosevelt had a retinue of twenty. Mr. Taft is accompanied by his secretary, his military aid and a few White House attaches. The others of his party are the members of the cabinet who are his guests.

## More Costly For Uncle Sam.

Still, paradoxical as it seems, President Taft's outing is costing Uncle Sam a good deal more than that of either of his predecessors. The former presidents traveled across the continent before the present railroad rates went into effect. That tells the whole story. The railroad companies footed the entire bill incurred during the former three presidential excursions to the Pacific coast—for the Pullman cars, porters, waiters and train crews, food eaten, cigars smoked and even the cheering beverages assimilated. It was possible in those halcyon days, but now if President Taft should have accepted a similar tender of hospitality on the part of the railroads he would have been liable to fine and imprisonment.

Now President Taft has at his disposal \$25,000 during the present fiscal year which he may devote to traveling expenses. President Roosevelt had a similar allowance during the latter part of his term, and when he left office on March 4 he turned over about \$17,000 of this fund untouched. The fiscal year ended July 1, and Mr. Taft had expended only about \$1,000 for traveling expenses. By the law the

\$15,000 remaining was swallowed up in the general fund of Uncle Sam's treasury.

When Mr. Taft made his trip to Beverly, Norwich and Lake Champlain, beginning July 3 and ending July 9, he had nothing to travel on except his "face." Congress had not yet appropriated the \$25,000 for the present fiscal year, and as far as the president knew officially, he might be called upon to pay for every mile he traveled out of his own pocket. He had been given assurances, however, that the urgent deficiency bill would carry the item and that it would be passed at the earliest possible moment. So he went ahead and made his New England trip "on tick."

As soon as he gets back from the west Mr. Taft is planning to visit Connecticut to attend the installation of a college president, and after that trip he will take a run out to his old home in Cincinnati. These little jaunts will cost up another thousand or so of the fast vanishing appropriation.

## Not So Comfortable.

In traveling with economy and simplicity the president subjects himself to many annoyances and drawbacks that he is spared when "running special." A special train is king of the road, and everything is sidetracked to let it go by, but a private car hitched to a regular passenger train, which is the Taft way of traveling, is no better than the string of coaches of which it forms the tail.

Through the west and south especially, where the roads do not and cannot make the time schedules that they do in the east, the president will be late in making most of his stops. It is a frequent thing for passenger trains in the south to come loading into the principal towns half or three-quarters of an hour behind time, and those who made up the president's itinerary saw trouble ahead. Each delay will make more of a delay somewhere else.

Then, too, the president is not having the comforts that he is given on a special train. His quarters are crowded, and every time the train stops at a station to take on or let off passengers a crowd of enthusiastic citizens make a dash for his car to shake his hand. They do not get as far as the hand-shaking point most of the time, it is true, but the secret service guards have the time of their lives in protecting him from the onslaughts, and in order to avoid the rude matured armies the president is obliged to remain locked in his stateroom whenever the train is in a station.

About forty banquets are to be faced by the president on his trip, and each banquet means a speech. Three times twenty speeches are expected of him between dinners, so the president is looking forward to a fairly busy time. Not more than one or two of the most important addresses were prepared by the president before he started on the trip. He believes that he can do himself better justice when he speaks on the spur of the moment and draws his inspiration from the remarks of those that precede him on the platform or

from the events that are passing in review.

## A Friendly Meeting.

Instead of shaking hands across a pointed boundary on the bridge at El Paso, President Taft and President Diaz will exchange visits, the former crossing into Mexico and the latter setting foot on the soil of the United States.

With President Taft neither precedent nor law is involved. Up to 1906 no president of the United States had occasion to visit foreign countries, but President Roosevelt found it necessary to inspect the Panama canal and during that trip not only learned out beyond the three mile limit of continental jurisdiction and set foot on the soil of the canal zone, which is really American territory, but crossed without blinking an eye into the republic of Panama, which is foreign.

The first idea in connection with the meeting of the two presidents at El Paso was that they should greet each other at the middle of the bridge at El Paso, but Mr. Taft's common sense, as well as a desire to make the affair an unusual demonstration of friendship, would not accept it. It is now planned that President Diaz shall first call upon President Taft in El Paso and that Mr. Taft shall then cross into Mexico to return the courtesy. It will be the first time a United States and Mexican president have met. The Mexican town opposite El Paso is Ciudad Juarez.

JAMES L. CASE.

honor came to him, has been promoted to the rank of major. "This may seem to be an empty distinction for the chancellor of the realm," says a writer in a German paper, "but it will absolve the new major from the obligation to salute lieutenant and captains. His predecessor, Von Bulow, also held the rank of major and never attained to any higher military dignity."

## Antiquity of Iron.

Iron was used in Egypt in the ninth century B. C. The first mention of the use of iron in China goes back to 400 B. C., while iron is said to have been in use in Uganda only some five or six centuries. These dates for the early use of iron refer to the metal obtained from smelting, the use of native iron in the form of meteorites dating back to remote antiquity.

## An Old Welsh City.

Cardiff, in Wales, is a city at least 2,000 years old, and its growth has been regarded by some people as phenomenal. Thus a writer of 1822 remarks upon the fact that 30 plates have enormously added to a population which in 1801 was less than 2,000 and is now grown to 3,521. Since then the city by the Taft has grown to 100,000.

## The Kaiser's Speeches.

Whenever the kaiser appears in public he is accompanied by a court reporter, upon whom devolves the responsibility of stenographing the imperial speeches. The kaiser always reviews his speeches after their transcription in longhand, and they are then finally revised before publication by the German foreign office.

## Curious Fact About Ants.

Ants have six ears, which are located on the legs. Ants are deaf to all sounds by vibrations of the air, but detect the slightest vibrations of solid material. The impact of a small bird-shot fell on a table from a height of six inches will be detected by these insects fourteen feet away.

## Night in Africa.

Caroline Kirkland in her book on "Some African Highways" writes of night in the dark continent. "There is nothing so black as an African night, and I think that it is because the earth, being a deep red, offers no reflection to the faint starlight, such as we get in other lands."

## A Watch in a Finger Ring.

The smallest watch in the world is owned by a resident of Moscow. The watch is one-fifth of an inch in diameter and is set in a finger ring artistically worked and studded with diamonds. The maker worked three years on it and is said to have permanently injured his sight.

## A MODEST HERO

### The Man Who Helped to Discover the North Pole

ALTHOUGH Dr. Frederick A. Cook is entitled to all the honor which his countrymen accord to him for his crowning exploit in polar research, due consideration must also be given to the man who made this supreme American

frozen north. Mr. Bradley admits that it was determined to proceed with as little publicity as possible. "We took great care," he confesses, "that no one should know how we were prepared for the enterprise. Now that the thing has been accomplished there are those

Before they were many days out, however, the shrewd sailor guessed the purpose of the expedition, although he could not even then obtain a confirmation of his suspicions.

"Got enough pemmican here to feed a tribe of Eskimos," he remarked one day.

"Oh, yes," Bradley answered. "Might need it in case we are shipwrecked."

"Quite some hickory wood aboard," he remarked later.

"Quite so," Cook replied. "We may need it to build houses with when we get crushed in the ice."

"Well," he declared after a moment's thought, "if I didn't know you were going on a fishing trip I would say you

his account of how the expedition was managed from start to finish did much to relieve the American public of any feeling of unrest which the whippers of envious doubters had disseminated.

"Dr. Cook has been breaking precedents in this trip to the pole," he explained. "His methods violated all the old traditions. He went at a different season; he did not leave a ship frozen in the ice to the old, regular way. Also he was taking a course which no explorer ever took before, in keeping away from the eastern drift of the ice from the Bering sea. He profited by other men's mistakes. He made his dash to the pole from the west, relying on the drift of the ice to carry him



JOHN R. BRADLEY  
Copyright 1909, UNDERWOOD & UNDERWOOD

who do not know what to make of the matter because it was not started out on the usual lines. There really never was a better prepared expedition."

The expedition did not set forth with the blaze of trumpets and the excitement of gunpowder. It was equipped simply, but in a more thorough and more manner than any which had preceded the conquest of the

were going to hunt for the north pole? Mr. Bradley makes no claim to be a scientist, but his experience in unique adventures has qualified him to speak authoritatively on many subjects little understood by the typical stay at home man of science. His forecast that Dr. Cook's announcement of his discovery would be met by skepticism in many quarters, and he proceeded without delay to take up the cudgels in defense of his friend and whom companion. Long before the successful pole searcher had set foot in his own country Mr. Bradley had practically routed the scoffers by his sane and lucid manner of disposing of apparent impossibilities and discrepancies. He has proved himself to be a doughty champion, and

to the eastward. Now, that seems to have worked all right.

"In his outfit was a canvas tent, one which was easily collapsed, and it occupied some of the space and weight which might have been given to less important things. Also it took some space which might have been used for food, but it was worth it. Now, according to the books, when your Arctic explorer gets a great line of water in the ice or a lead he sits down by the side of it for awhile and keeps hoping until it closes up. Sometimes two or three days pass before his hope comes out. Dr. Cook went across those places in his canvas boat. The boat can be used for a tent at night."

"But how is he going to get home?" the skeptics asked.

"The natives," Bradley replied, "have some arks that are big enough, perhaps millions of years. I do not see why Dr. Cook cannot."

EDWIN G. WEIR.

## NEW FEDERAL OFFICE

### Henry Martyn Hoyt Made Counselor of the State Department

THERE have been many new federal offices created in the past few years, all of them important, perhaps, to the incumbents and a few of them important to the public. None is of more moment than the recently announced counselor of the state department, the first appointee being Henry Martyn Hoyt, former solicitor general and prior to 1905 assistant attorney general of the United States.

The chief duties of the new official will be the drafting of treaties and advising the secretary of state in matters of international law. Mr. Hoyt starts with the important and delicate task of framing a treaty with Japan. If he gets that done without having it ripped to pieces either by the Tokyo foreign office or by the United States senate he will prove himself a man entitled to all the emoluments and honors of his new job. What with Congressman Richmond Pearson Hobson trying to stir up a war scare, backed by the noise of not able assistance of the yellow press on both sides of the Pacific, Counselor Hoyt should have a rather interesting time for the next two or three years. But perhaps he is enough of a lawyer not to mind a little congressional and journalistic wind.

## International Law Unwritten.

The beauty of international law is that it is not written. There is no international legislature to enact and no universal sovereign to execute it. It is a thing of universal consent to which universal counsel is not always given. Any lawyer that attempts to expound this nebulous proposition certainly has a man's job. Of course the stronger nations have agreed to a sort of code among themselves, and this simplifies matters in an extent. But it is more or less defined except on a few important points, and precedents of decisions by arbitration tribunals are scarce. The treaties formed between nations throughout the ages furnish the main groundwork of the code, so that Counselor Hoyt's complicated duties as international lawyer and treaty writer fall together naturally. Yet treaties are made to fit special and peculiar cases, to meet exigencies and national ambitions. Each treaty is a law unto itself and does not necessarily conform to any other; it is a law to the two nations signing it and to none else. International law is something out of these special agreements and is supposed to govern all nations alike. It does if they have not enough power to overstep it. The arguments of the world are sufficient evidence that there is no great faith placed in its binding force. The creation of Mr. Hoyt's office is logical, however. Since this is a lawyer's administration, why not have an

international lawyer along with the rest?

## No Trust Busting.

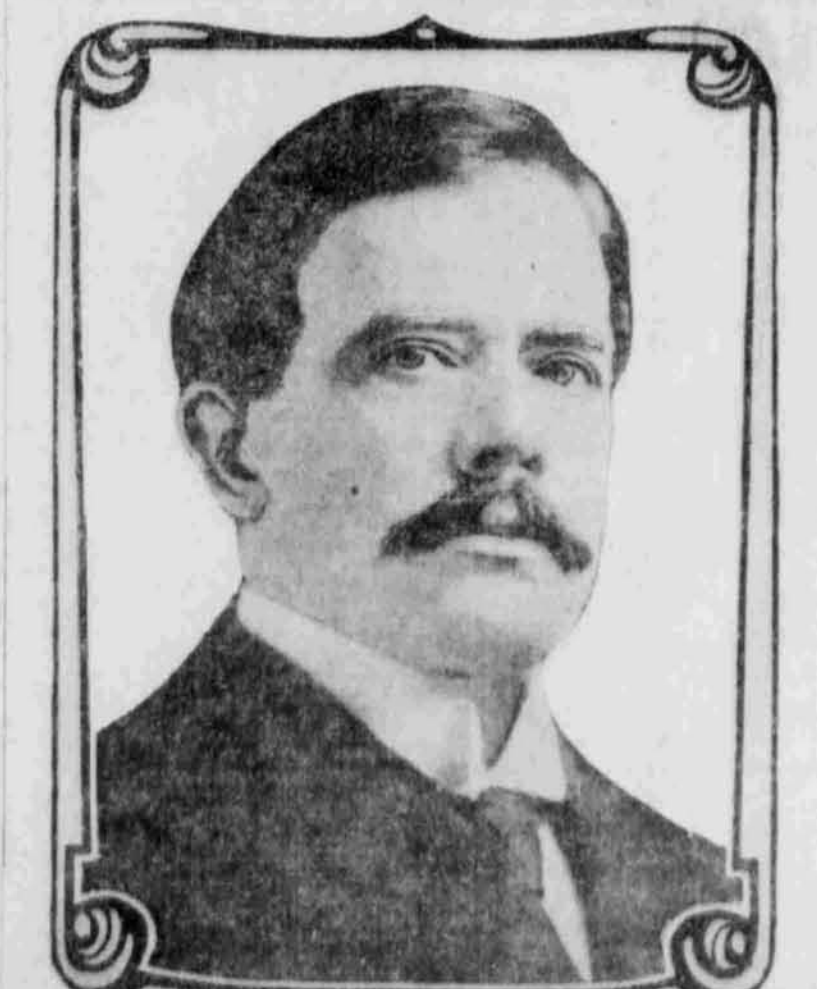
It is not thought that the new counselor of the state department will have any trust busting to look after. The international trust may have put in its appearance, but as yet there is no international anti-trust law.

Henry Martyn Hoyt is a native of Pennsylvania, and was General Henry M. Hoyt, former governor of that state. He was educated at Yale and at the law department of the University of Pennsylvania, entering prac-

Philadelphia, but resigned to resume the practice of his profession in that city. In 1897 he was made assistant attorney general of the United States, and when Philander Chase Knox became attorney general a few years later the two were thrown together intimately in the work of looking after Uncle Sam's legal affairs. Indeed, they have been lifelong friends and were fellow practitioners at Pittsburg when young men over a quarter of a century ago. Therefore it is but natural that Knox should have chosen Hoyt as the first law officer of the state department.

In 1902 Mr. Hoyt was promoted to be solicitor general of the United States, which position he held up till the middle of the present year, thus completing over twelve years' continuous service in the department of justice. He is at present fifty-three years of age.

Not only in the framing of treaties, but in the settlement of disputed questions between this and other nations,



H. M. HOYT, COUNSELOR TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

ties at Pittsburg. He was at one time assistant cashier of the United States National bank at New York. He was later treasurer and afterward president of the Investment Company of

with his position he one of great responsibility and influence. A man in such a place can exercise a power for good in promoting the peace of the world.

J. A. EDGERTON.