

The Coming Wedding at the White House

It is not every day that a daughter of the president gets married, nor is it every president that has a daughter like Alice Roosevelt. So it is not to be wondered at that the American people—and the whole world, for the matter of that—are interested in the event of Feb. 17. Even the kings and emperors are sitting up and taking notice. Practically every potentate of Europe is to send a wedding present. It is said that the pope will honor the occasion by a token of remembrance, and it is not improbable that the sultan of Turkey, the empress dowager of China and the mikado of Japan may get into the game. Your Uncle Samuel has grown big enough to be the fashion, even though his republican notions are not exactly acceptable to the royalties who remain to pester the world.

Let it be said to the honor of Miss Roosevelt that she decided to marry a man rather than a title. That the man

one. His family has been a leading one about Cincinnati since the beginning of the nineteenth century. He can point not only to a grandfather, but a great-grandfather. There are people who could give money for a great-grandfather-in-law, in fact, they have been known to do so and have thus had ancestors made to order.

Mr. Longworth also has a great-grandfather, but perhaps he would not point to this forerunner with so much pride, that worthy having been a Tory at the time of the American Revolution. As a result of his sympathies with George III, his lands near Newark, N. J., were confiscated. This fact caused the great-grandfather, another Nicholas Longworth, by the way, to emigrate to Cincinnati in 1803, when he was 21 years of age. He became a lawyer and took the defense of a horse thief for his first case. As a fee he received two copper whistles, which he traded for 33 acres of land, then in the woods, but now in the very heart of the city. Before he died the land was valued at \$2,000,000. He also went in debt to the

Nuptials of Miss Alice Roosevelt and Representative Nicholas Longworth of Ohio in the East Room of the Executive Mansion on February 17—The Groom and His Ancestors—Miss Roosevelt's Interesting Career—The Most Conspicuous Young Woman in the World—Preferred a Man Rather Than a Title—Her Piquant, Independent and Vivacious Personality.

was included. When Miss Alice would go to Newport or New York he found it convenient likewise to go to Newport or New York. He even journeyed with her in a trip half round the world and back and was so constantly in the company of the fair one that other would-be suitors deserted the field.

SISTER IS A COUNTESS.

One of Longworth's sisters is the Countess de Chambrun. At her mar-

riage, which she spent several years abroad studying music, but such is the fact. He was a pupil of the celebrated Ysaye, from whom he has many letters and one of whose violins he owned. Later he traded this instrument and another almost equally expensive for a \$6,000 Stradivarius, paying \$3,000 "to boot." He attends all the best musical concerts and is an enthusiast on the divine art.

OF ATHLETIC BUILD.

In appearance the prospective son-in-law of the president is rather above medium height, of an athletic build and an easy, quick and graceful carriage. His face seems rather long, which effect is heightened by an abnormally high forehead, partially due to baldness. This gives an intellectual cast to a countenance whose features, while regular and handsome, are not especially distinctive. In manner he is not effusive, but cheery and cordial. He is a good story teller and a hall fellow with everybody. He is cautious about going into new enterprises, but once he has taken the whole of his character to whatever he has to do.

Mr. Longworth's Cincinnati home is a square, old-fashioned mansion, half hidden in vines and called Rookwood. It is situated on the Grandin road and is surrounded by ample grounds, which are the highest art of a landscape gardener. The house itself of which Alice Roosevelt is to be the future mistress contains rare paintings and art collections, the music room being especially notable.

It is in Mr. Longworth's Washington house, however, that the newly married couple will spend most of their time for at least the next two years owing to his congressional duties. This mansion, situated at Eighteenth and Q streets, only two or three blocks from the White House, is already pointed out to those "seeing Washington." The house is spacious, but unpretentious in appearance, and already contains nearly as notable a collection of tapestries, paintings and other works of art as the Cincinnati home. To these will be added the presents given to the bride on her trip to the far east, where Japan, China and the Philippines vied with each

other in the like she uses her father's cowboy sombrero. Her penchant for staid things was shown by the fact that she was the first woman on earth to go down in a submarine boat, taking a trip to the bottom of Narragansett bay at least two years before President Roosevelt made the world gasp by a similar feat.

Despite all this Alice Roosevelt has a shrinking side, dislikes the publicity of her position or did in 1904 she got used to it, and refused for years to permit a photograph of herself to be taken. It was only the ruse of a clever artist, painting her in an antiquated hat and threatening to use the picture unless he could get a photo, that caused her to sit for a likeness, but the shy slip of a girl of four years ago, at which time this incident occurred, is hardly the Alice Roosevelt of today. She has grown in poise, in experience and in beauty.

Alice Roosevelt's appreciation of her father has been shown on many occasions. At the launching of the Meteor off the coast of the Virgin Islands, she was not at Prince Henry or the assembled thousands, but at the familiar face beside her, and the answering look of Theodore Roosevelt showed that he understood. At another time Miss Roosevelt left the senate gallery in high indignation because Senator Carmack of Tennessee had spoken in criticism of the president. It was an impulsive act that would not have been done by the more trained in the ways of the world, but it revealed what was in the girl's heart.

HER FAR EASTERN TRIP.

Alice Roosevelt's trip to the far east was the climax of her girlhood. Prior to that time she had visited Cuba and Porto Rico, where she received popular ovations; New Orleans, where she was showered with honors such as had never been shown a woman in that proud city, and the St. Louis exposition, where she became at once the chief attraction of the show.

As a member of Secretary Taft's party her slight figure dwarfed even that of the gigantic Taft himself, while the senators, representatives and other high dignitaries were scarcely one-to-three in the popular estimation. In Hawaii and the Philippines she was shown almost royal honors, while in Japan she was received by the mikado and in China by the empress dowager.

Her honeymoon trip to Europe, which will be taken next summer after the congressional session is practically over, will complete her trip around most of the world. Until that time the newly married couple will remain for the most part in Washington. The wedding itself will easily eclipse any social event that has ever occurred in the White House. The nuptials will be celebrated in the historic east room, and Right Rev. Henry Y. Satteree, Protestant

Episcopal bishop of Washington, will officiate.

There have been many similar ceremonies witnessed in the executive mansion, the last one being that of the marriage of President Grover Cleveland to Miss Frances Folsom, 29 years ago. This one most nearly approaching the present affair, however, was the wedding of Nellie Grant to Algernon Sartoris. It is the only other marriage ever celebrated in the east room. The home life of Grant was much like that of the present occupant of the White House, and the heart of the silent man was wrapped up in his daughter. One of the unexpected parts of that brilliant event was the presence of some uninvited guests in the persons of little Jesse Grant, baseball nine, the ragged urchin, and the other of the daughter of the president, who was quite a social confectioner by dodging about among the swell guests.

OTHER WHITE HOUSE WEDDINGS.

Prior to the civil war there were a number of White House weddings. The first one was that of a relative of Mrs. Dolly Madison, who was quite a social leader in her day and made the event a gala occasion. During President Monroe's regime his daughter, Maria, was married in the blue room to her cousin, Samuel L. Gouverneur of New York. Only a few invited guests were present. Six years afterward John Adams, son of President John Quincy Adams, was wedded to his cousin, Miss Helen Jackson, the ceremony occurring in the White House. Two weddings occurred during Jackson's incumbency of the office, one of a niece of the president and the other of the daughter of an old friend. President Van Buren's son was married while his father was in office, but the event did not occur in the executive mansion.

The most brilliant of the early White House weddings was that of the daughter of President Tyler to William Waller of Virginia. Tyler was the last of the Virginia executives, and Virginia hospitality was the order of the day. President Tyler himself was married a second time while in office, but the ceremony was celebrated in New York.

Now one more gala event, the most notable of the list, is to gladden the home of America's chief of state both on his account and for the sake of his sensible daughter the American people enter into the joy of the occasion.

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ALICE ROOSEVELT AND NICHOLAS LONGWORTH.

Photo Taken for the Deseret News by Underwood & Underwood, New York, on the Ferryboat the Day (Jan 29th) That They Arrived in New York, to Meet the Countess de Chambrun, Mr. Longworth's Sister.

is an American is all the better. After the alliance of so many of our helmsmen to princes, dukes, counts and other weaklings with noble nicknames this is a grateful variation. This is an age of men, not of titles; of deeds, not of seemings. In American this is especially true, for ours is a land of men and of deeds, and it is well that the daughter of a president who is himself so democratic should thus honor the genius of her country.

Yet high society in Washington long predicted that the daughter of the White House would wed a title. Rumor in that city of rumors has it that there is not an unmarried titled member of any foreign legation at the national capital that has not had designs on her. Besides, the castles of Europe are full of more of the sort. Then there is Asia. She might have been sultan of Sulu. True, she denied that story about the sultan of many wives offering her his hand and the upper left hand corner of his heart, but others of the Taft party insist that the proposal actually took place. It is too good a tale to be snuffed out by a mere denial. Why spoil so exciting a romance by the prosy statement that it is not a fact?

ASKED SEVEN TIMES.

Washington rumor also says—but what does it not say?—that Congressman Longworth had to propose seven times before he was finally accepted. There is a man after our own heart. He deserves her. All the world loves a lover, and especially a lover who never what he wants and will not take no for an answer. Lucky seven! The mystic number that has been sung by oriental poets and is held in reverence by people even farther west. Never did it turn the trick in a better cause. That union, dependent on a seventh "popping of the question" by a persistent lover, should be a happy one. One other thing is there that should not be overlooked. Mr. Longworth—the Hon. Nicholas Longworth—to whom he has all honor for his good taste, luck and perseverance, hails from Ohio. Does that not solve the riddle? The state that gave to the world a Grant, a Sherman and a Sheridan; where were born a Stanton, a Howells and an Edison, that was the home of one Harrison and the birthplace of another and that was both the home and birthplace of three other presidents; the state of Corwin, Giddings, Chase, Thurman and Taft—say nothing of Hanna, John Sherman and Rockefeller! There are people who have come so far as to say that the only thing President Roosevelt lacks is an Ohio birthplace, but if he cannot have a Buckeye birthplace he can at least afford a Buckeye son-in-law. He can have the state related to him by matrimony if not by maternity.

"NICK" A THOROUGHBREED.

As for Nick Longworth, as he is familiarly called by everybody about his two homes at Cincinnati and Washington, he is a thoroughbred. Moreover, he has wealth, birth, position, education, social distinction and all those things prized by certain classes of people, but withal he possesses the more fundamental qualities of manliness, independence, intellectual stamina and uprightness that are esteemed by every

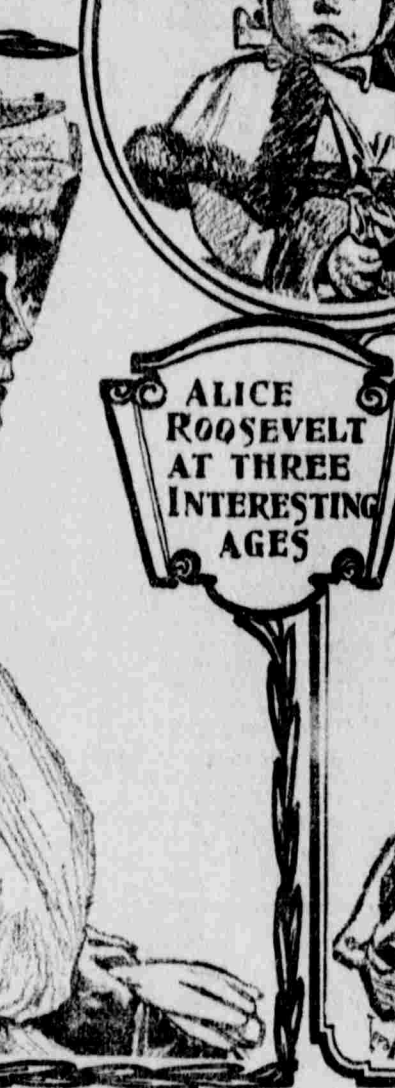
tune of \$5,000 to buy an old pasture lot and was sharply reproved by one of his friends for his extravagance. He lived to see that land worth nearly as much as the other.

He took up grape culture and made it exceedingly profitable. He gathered about him a fine library, rare old paintings and a notable art collection. His son Joseph, the grandfather of the present Nicholas, gave Cincinnati his art museum. Joseph's daughter, now the wife of Bellamy Storer, the American ambassador to Austria-Hungary, was the founder of the famous Rookwood pottery at Cincinnati. She was herself a proficient painter of china, receiving a gold medal at the Paris exposition for her work. Her brother was Nicholas Longworth, father of our Nicholas. Many stories are told of this older Nick. He was a judge of the Ohio supreme court and was noted for his exceeding gravity. So marked, indeed, was his solemnity that the name of his acquaintance named her pet owl "Judge Longworth." When the real Judge Longworth was once visiting in her home the entire company was startled, not to say embarrassed, by having a maid burst into the room in great excitement with the shrill announcement: "Madame! Madame! 'Judge Longworth' has laid an egg!"

WHEN HE WAS BORN.

Nicholas Longworth, the real Nick, not the old one, was born Nov. 5, 1859. He was graduated from Harvard in 1881 and was later admitted to the bar, though he never practiced. He preferred to devote himself to art, music, sports, caring for his estates, and finally politics. His first office was that of a member of the Cincinnati school board. He also ran for the legislature, but was defeated. He tried again, and this time was successful. Two years later he went to the state senate, where, in collaboration with the attorney general, he prepared the present municipal code of Ohio. In 1902 he was elected to Congress from the First Ohio district and re-elected in 1904.

Congressman Longworth is devoted to out of door life. He is an accomplished horseman, boxer, fencer and plays ball, tennis and golf. He is not a hunter and fisher, however, and has never been known to indulge in any sport that involves the taking of life. He is a good swimmer and loves the water. His chief recreations, however, are social. He is a familiar figure at banquets, receptions, balls, pink teas and other similar functions and is a favorite wherever he goes. He is a member of exclusive clubs in Cincinnati, Washington and other cities. He is a musician of more than amateur ability, playing well on the violin and piano and even acquiring himself with credit as a singer. He often gives musicals in his home city, which is one of the great music centers of America. But, though devoted to society and popular with women, his feminine admirers had about concluded that he was proof against affairs of the heart—that is, they had so concluded before his attentions to Miss Roosevelt became noticeable. Since then no lover was ever more devoted. The society dames early discovered the direction of the wind, so that wherever the president's daughter was invited Mr. Longworth



ALICE ROOSEVELT AT THREE INTERESTING AGES

TO-DAY

ONE YEAR AGO

riage the Duke of Manchester was present and seemed in a temper because he was not invited to sit at the bride's table. It was explained to him that this was not the custom in America, but the statement failed to mollify his anger. Afterward the noble duke made himself so disagreeable over the incident that Nick Longworth threatened to punch his face, after which Manchester subsided.

There is another story to the effect that on a winter Nick Longworth drove a golf ball through the streets of Cincinnati, though he had to pay for some broken windows as a result of the escapade.

Relative to his love for music, it is stated that George Ward Nichols, an uncle, founded the Cincinnati conservatory and also started the famous musical festivals. Judge Nicholas Longworth also gave freely to promote these enterprises, and the donations have been continued by the sons. A friend has said of the popular congressman that "Nick is one of the best amateur violinists in Cincinnati." It is not

other in bestowing costly souvenirs on the "white princess" as they persisted in calling the daughter of the American executive. The tariff duties alone on these articles is said to have amounted to \$2,000.

MISS ALICE HERSELF.

Miss Alice has been in the public eye so much for the past four years that it is hardly worth while to recount here her triumphs, social and otherwise. To say that during this time she has been easily the most conspicuous young woman in the world is to repeat what has been said often before, both in her own land and abroad. From the day in 1902 when she christened the Kaiser's yacht Meteor to the present few weeks have passed that her name has not been in the papers. This has not been done due to the fact that she is her father's daughter; but in no small degree has been owing to her own piquant, independent and vivacious personality. She is in love with life and gets the joy of everything. That initial public event in which she

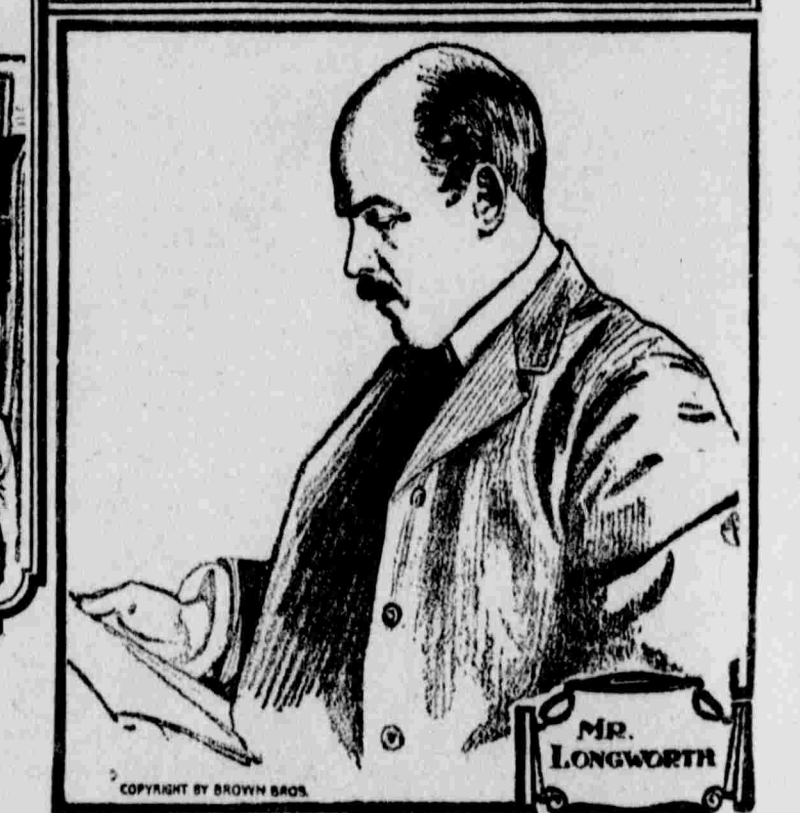
\$2.50." At another time, it is related of her that she rode in a railway carriage with two young Yale students at her feet, and attracted not a little attention by flashing a green snake in their faces ever and anon. When asked what she did with her curious pet she answered that she placed it on the curtain and let it catch flies.

MURMURED "SHE'LL DO."

She is original and not bound by fashion unless it suits her. She is distasteful to a shirt waist skirt, and while she dresses tastefully and well does not affect extensive and lavishly expensive wardrobes and is not a slave to clothes. Yet the most aristocratic society of Washington—and few cities have a set more exclusive—has looked up to her with approving eyes and murmured, "She'll do." One summer at Newport she introduced the innovation of carrying a cane and did it with such a chic grace that she made it the style. She is quite an expert sleight of hand performer and often entertains small groups by doing difficult feats in this line. When needing a hat for egg



EAST ROOM IN THE WHITE HOUSE WHERE THE WEDDING WILL OCCUR



MR. LONGWORTH

Pleasures of Caracas.

Yet Caracas is a charming place to spend a vacation in. One never tires of watching the pack trains arriving with loads of coffee, cocoa, or marketing produce, or setting out with all manner of queer merchandise for the country estates. Then there is the market, where one is sure to find some new variety of fruit or vegetable, no matter how often he visits it. Even more interesting to me are the quaint houses, which seem so many centuries behind the times, and yet present such delightful vistas as one glances through their forbidding doorways. And, of course, there are excursions to be made on every side; tramps across the val-

leys among the banana and sugar cane plantations, or up the hillside to see a coffee estate.—George M. L. Brown, in February 2, Nicholas.

Back East

"The winter twilight was mistral and sad. 'Listen,' she said in a tense voice. 'Hear the howling of the last wind among the bare, crumpling trees. See how mournful lies the waiting light on the snow-covered hills. This frozen desolation, Oh, does it not make you feel that in life there is too much of cold, too much of bleakness?' 'Well, no,' he answered candidly. 'Father, you see, is in the coal business.'"

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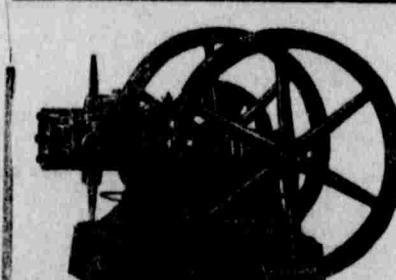
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