



SIR CASPAR PURDON CLARKE, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, said the other day: "At the present rate of American acquisition of European art treasures, art students of Europe will soon have to come to America to complete their education."

And Sir Caspar is a European—and an Englishman!

But the director of the Metropolitan museum should know better than any man how great is the treasure of art treasures from Europe to America. He spends much of his own time accelerating the movement. His statement, therefore, is significant.

Already the family of Uncle Sam has adopted a policy of looking overseas for art. It is a policy that has shifted considerably toward the west.

being now perhaps somewhere on the Atlantic ocean, though it is now far east of Sandy Hook is still a question.

American art connoisseurs are now engaged in an effort for the reduction or removal of the tariff on objects of art. The present high tariff is the cause of many of the "art smuggling" movements of the art center. The duty on paintings and marble statuary is 20 per cent. On bronze manufactures it is 45 per cent. This applies to objects privately owned. Pictures and sculptures bought by or presented to public museums are free of duty. Imported admitted free. In spite of the high rate of tariff millions of dollars' worth of art treasures have been imported in late years for private galleries and homes. But more millions in value have been smuggled into the United States from Europe because the purchasers are not disposed to pay the tariff charges.

J. Pierpont Morgan, for instance, owns in various parts of Europe paintings, sculptures, bronzes, tapestries and other aesthetic acquisitions which cost him in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000. If he should bring them all over under present conditions the tariff would be considerably more than half a million. It is not that the collector of art loses in buying more treasures. Art lovers throughout the United States earnestly hope for the removal of the tariff so that this land may be further enriched by priceless works of European art.

It is the popular supposition that Mr. Morgan intends eventually to open his splendid art collection to public view. His private gallery is on East Thirty-sixth street, New York, is one of the most beautiful edifices adjoining his residence. He erected a few years ago for the re-

ception of that part of his collection already in America, which is still owned. He has presented to the Metropolitan museum, of which he is president, many valuable paintings and other objects of art.

Mr. Morgan's expenditures for works of art have been so large and his new acquisitions so numerous that only he and his private accountant know the aggregate. Some persons who have written on the subject place the sum at \$10,000,000 and beyond. It is admitted here and abroad that Mr. Morgan is the richest man in the world who has not tasted ruin in that direction, and he enjoys the money to gratify his tastes. Many other rich Americans are similarly inclined. That is why Europe is yielding up her treasures to America.

There is much protest, and loud protest at times, but money makes the more so as it is in trade. The Ameri-

can swollen fortune makes it possible for the United States to acquire treasure which for hundreds of years have been the cherished possessions of European capitals. Some of our multimillionaires are richer than the average monarch in Europe. When they see that they want they buy it regardless of any sentimental protest.

An Enthusiastic Collector.

A few years ago Mr. Morgan was in Constantinople pursuing his hobby. He suddenly cabled to his financial agents: "I want the crown of the Sultan."

Immediately a million dollars was cabled. Mr. Morgan replied: "It was francs I wanted, not dollars—but I can use the money."

Then he spent another million for the sword, the scepter or a statue. It is worth just what it is worth to the man who wants it and has the money.

to buy it. Morgan saw the Du Barry panels, by Fragonard, and paid \$1,000,000 for the set of half a dozen. He coveted the Rodolphe Kann art collection, including among many other objects eight canvases by Rembrandt, four by Rubens and six by a sandyke. The collection, which he had bought for \$1,000,000, was worth the \$5,000,000 he is said to have paid.

Our Precious Possession.

The history of "The Horse Fair," Rosa Bonheur's masterpiece, now the property of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and a permanent American possession, illustrates the point. Mlle Bonheur painted this world famous canvas in 1855. It was exhibited at the new Salon, where it was admired by all, but no purchaser. In 1856 the artist exhibited the picture in Bordeaux, her native town, after having

We demand the best. Some Europeans are prone to poke fun at America as a utilitarian country, a land gone mad with the mania of making money, piling up colossal fortunes and worshipping on the golden calf. Now it appears the laugh is on our side. These same colossal fortunes which a few Americans manage to pile up are being diverted to artistic ends. The world's art is being Americanized by Morganization. Irresistible armies of American soldiers are passing up the deals of European art. Captulation is the only course open to the citizens, but they can capitulate upon their own terms. This should carry some comfort to the continental countries which are compelled to leave their ancient heirlooms and priceless paintings and tapestries in an honorable captivity or permanent exile.

ROBERTS L.

Mark Twain Certainly Has That Title If President Roosevelt is the Most Popular—He is The Incarnation of American Spirit. In England He is America Personified—His Wise Head and Merry Heart a Joy Now the World Over, Says Sidney Brooks, in the London Chronicle.

MARK TWAIN, the best loved of Americans, as President Roosevelt is the most popular, is with us. He has come to receive the degree which Oxford is about to confer on him, and Oxford never more truly represented the nation than in thus honoring the most distinctive figure in the world of English letters. But I hope the leap of welcome which all Englishmen feel in their hearts at the mention of Mark Twain will not stop at a merely academical tribute. The King Edward will find means to stamp it with his decisively national approval.

A compliment paid to Mark Twain is something more than a compliment to a great man, a great writer and a great citizen. It is a compliment to a great American, to a man of whom we will come home to them with peculiar gratification. Mark Twain is the national author of the United States in a sense in which we in England at the present moment are not. The people of this country feel for him among his own people is like that of the Scotch for Sir Walter Scott 30 odd years ago, or like that of the Americans for Charles Sumner 20 years ago. It is admiration, gratitude, pride, and above all, an immense and intimate tenderness of affection.

To writers alone is it given to win a mastery of this quality, or writers and occasionally by the oddness of the human mind, to generals. Perhaps one would best take the measure of the American devotion to Mark Twain by noticing it as a compound of what Dickens enjoyed in England 40 years ago, and of what Lord Roberts enjoys today, and by adding something therefor for the extra intensity of the American feeling. The "popularity" of statesmen, even of such a statesman as President Roosevelt, is a poor and flickering light by the side of this full and glowing of personal affection.

It had none, none to Mark Twain, not only for what he has written, for his humor and his unflinching command of his subject, but for his unassumingness, his jollity and his power to read the heart of boy and man and woman; not only for the tragedies and afflictions which he so unobtrusively touches, but only for his brave and fiery dashes against tyranny, humbug and corruption at home and abroad; but also because his countrymen feel him to be beyond all else the truest and noblest of the American spirit. That is why I hope that this—in all human probability, his last—visit to England will not be allowed to close without such honor and attention as the King alone can bestow.

I remember nothing, a little over a year ago, in a New York club, a token of the success of the visit, which I held. The club was one of authors, actors, artists and journalists—the New York equivalent of the Garrick. Success and the King were the topics in such a club, but when Mark Twain came in to lunch he was escorted to the table with every circumstance of honor, and the whole company of authors, actors, artists and journalists

distinction, rose to greet him and remained standing till he had taken his seat. It was a little incident, but a very significant one. No man could wish for a more genuine compliment than this which was paid to the privileged informality of club etiquette.

Mark Twain has crammed into his 71 years of life experiences enough to furnish material for a novel and a zephyr. In the enjoyment of them that seems to be one of nature's gifts to Americans. In one of the fragments of that delightful history which he has been compiling its unique and zigzag course through the pages of the North American Review, he declares that "if I should stop to think about my life as a stenographer for a hundred years, I should still never be able to set down a tenth part of the things which have interested me in my lifetime." It was this attitude of mind which started Mark Twain should have been born among the rough actualities of a Missouri townlet in the thirties, where the "old boys" could be recalled, as he told Rudyard Kipling—found its inimitable setting to hand.

Mark Twain started out as a compositor, and wandered in a few years over two-thirds of the American continent—half journeyman printer, half laborer. It was not until he had started to make a fortune out of cocoas on the Upper Amazon that he fell, to the extreme gain of his million readers, beneath the seductions of a plot's life on the Mississippi. The Civil War gave him a stop to that career, and for a while Mark served. I believe, with the Southern forces. There came a turn as privileged citizen, and he was appointed to his brother, who had been appointed an official of Nevada territory; then some prospecting for silver; then journalism, and finally a career of descent into literature, partially relieved by lecturing tours.

Few men have seen more of the world than he. He has traveled once, if not twice, all around it, and from the snows of the Rockies to the sovereignty of Europe, he has encountered pretty nearly all humanity in all its range. His last tour was one of unhappy complication. Mark Twain was ill but when the publishing firm failed, he was left with a large sum bankrupt. He assumed a moral where there was no legal responsibility and set to work to pay off his debts. It took him a long time, but he was left with such a bout with Fate as that. It ranks with Scott's among the historic calamities of authors both in the suddenness with which it came and the superb spirit in which it was faced.

I said just now that Americans feel Mark Twain to be the incarnation of the national spirit. His humor is all American. It is so, because of his charity and his indomitable common-sense and the freshness of his heart and feelings which lies beneath the surface of his ideas. His sense of capacity for crusading, his spiritual hardness, his idealizing faith in woman and democracy, his touch of misanthropy, the ferocity of his satire, the power of his manly imagination—Mark Twain made the world laugh. But his humor has always been on the side of the angels. He has gazed at much, but never with a hostile eye. He has seen power and nobility. And thought for



Who Seems to be the Man the National Guard Has Been Looking for To Put It Into Permanent Good Form.

General Wedgewood is now adjutant general of the guard, in which capacity he is personal representative of Gov. Cutler, commander-in-chief of the state's military forces. He is responsible for the possibility for the need of state troops to quell domestic troubles, the probability of calls to national emergency increases, and he hopes to maintain a supplementary first reserve, instead of building up a great standing army, such as have France and Germany. The strength of many of them are gone.

For that reason the guard is now an organization in which the nation takes pride. Consequently the duties of an adjutant general are much larger than they formerly were.

The work of E. A. Wedgewood into the guard as its commander-in-chief has been followed by steady improvement in spirit and discipline, and for the first time the state's military organization is without serious friction.

Gen. Wedgewood has had an interesting career in the military service. Away back in 1862 he was with the 1st company M. stationed at Provo. When the Philippine call came for the Utah batteries he joined his brother officers of the guard at a

a humorist that he will be remembered, though one's thoughts go first of all at the mention of his name to the "Jumping Frog" and his immortal story. He has been in the "Tramp and the Duel in the 'Tramp Abroad.' I believe an even higher claim may be made out for him as a delineator, a very historical romances of an extraordinary

Deutenant of Battery B. At San Francisco he was ordered back to Utah to recruit the batteries to full war strength, while the main command was in the Philippines. His recruits he arrived in Manila in the fall of 1898 and was promoted to be captain of Battery A during the Philippine campaign. He first took part in the insurrection, one of the night scout Feb. 4, when he commanded a Utah detachment on the center of the American lines and was kept busy all night repelling the attacks. He was in the junction with the Pennsylvania and Colorado Infantry. Later he commanded the artillery stationed at the Manila harbor. He was one of the men who after vantage points in the early days of fighting. On returning to Utah he resumed the practice of law and took part in the building of the new headquarters for the Utah soldiers, killed in the islands. When the old soldiers organized the local camp of the Society of the 100,000, he was elected president after Captain Wedgwood in recognition of his personal interest in the men and his regard for their personal welfare. He was elected to the position followed by the return of Brig. Gen. Sam C. Park, and Capt. Webb, both of whom had been prominent in its early history.

think he could have done a great deal in this direction if he had studied while young, for he seems to enjoy reasoning out things, no matter what."

I do not know whether Mark Twain has brought his famous white suit with him. But in any case, if in the course of the next few days you see it, it will be in London—a man with a vast mane of gray hair, blue eyes challenging beneath heavy, puckered brows, a grizzled moustache velling a mouth of equal strength and sensitiveness, with a fine steadfast conquering look about him.

Take off your hat to him with reverence, for he is Mark Twain.—*London Chronicle.*

Dr. Edward Everett Hale Advocates

Dr. Edward Everett Hale, chaplain of the United States senate, declares it to be the duty of the nation to prevent the fear of destitution from the aged. He asserts that this is one of the duties that we have neglected over long, and that it is only by social reforms effected by conscience, by the increased practice of poverty, to follow an example already set us by Europe.

As a matter of fact Germany is the only country in the world to which we can look for practical experience of old age pensions. In England, where poverty is far more acute than in this country, the problem has never advanced beyond the stage of discussion, nor does it seem to have won that measure of popular approval that is essential to legislative success. In Germany, however, the social and practical scheme of old age pensions has been in operation for 16 years, and while it has worked without friction it cannot be said to have had much appreciable effect in minimizing discontent or in checking the advance of social democracy.

It was Emperor William who secured the passage of this important act of domestic legislation. In November, 1881, he pointed out to the Reichstag

that those who are disabled in consequence of old age or infirmity possess a well founded claim to a more ample relief on the part of the state than they have hitherto enjoyed. To devise such a system of social security as will best provide, however difficult, is one of the highest obligations of every community based on the moral foundations of justice and equity. The connection with the actual capabilities of the people and a mode of turning these to account in corporate associations is the basis of the system. The aid of the state, we trust, develop a scheme to which the state alone would prove unequal."

The old-age pension scheme in Germany is a charity, not a right, allowed to create a class distinction. Both these stumbling blocks are avoided by the provision of the law which makes the pension a right, not a discretionary upon all wage earners who are above the age of 16 and who earn less than \$500 a year—that is to say, upon all wage earners who survive throughout the country. There are no exemptions except servants of the government who are otherwise provided for, and to whom pensions are already granted by other laws in their employment. There is no humiliation caused by a law that works automatically and universally, and there is no loss of honor, because the cause the recipient himself contributed to his pension, by a weekly deduction from his wages.

Old-age or annuity is made up from three sources, the state, the employer and the employed. The following table shows the five divisions of the German wage scale, the percentage premium paid on each class and the annual pension payable when the

Fair in Belgium Where Unmarried Women Seek Husbands.

THE most curious matrimonial fete that was ever instituted has just been held for the seventh time in the little Belgium village of Ecasseux-Lalain, and was attended by bachelors desiring wives from all parts of Belgium, France and Germany.

It is called the Gouter Matrimonial fete, after the name of the good lady who instituted it. She was Mme. Gouter, and was possessed of a family of 17 daughters. The years passed on, but no husbands came forward.

Madame was in despair, and, in her grief, confided her troubles to a gentleman friend from Brussels. He looked at the 17 charming daughters and smiled thoughtfully.

"I have many unmarried friends in the city," he said, "I will bring them all out next Sunday. Perhaps some of them will fall in love with your daughters. Who knows?"

Mme. Gouter was delighted, and promised that the eligible young men should be received most graciously; there would be some refreshment served to her daughters, and a little fete would be held in honor of the occasion.

Madame added that to avoid all misunderstanding her eldest daughter would not come, and she would speak with speech, in which she would explain the exact nature of the visit.

In due course 20 shy and modest young clerks from Brussels arrived. Mme. Gouter, in behalf of herself and her 16 sisters, welcomed them. Then each man chose the particular sister he fancied, was waited upon by her, and encouraged to offer his hand and heart.

The afternoon passed to evening, and good Mme. Gouter, all smiles and happiness, had the announcement to

four of her daughters had found fiances.

So successful was Mme. Gouter's enterprise that in the following spring all the maidens of Ecoussinnes desiring to marry joined together, appointed one of the number "the president," and issued an invitation broadcast to the bachelors of the country.

Immediately the Gouter Matrimonial fete became an institution. As a result of the second anniversary, in 1902, 10 marriages followed; the third saw 15 successful matches made; the fourth, 17; the fifth, eight (a very wet day), and the sixth (last year), 22.

Long before the fete day this year, when the 10th of Monday, which is in all parts of Belgium, France and Germany, many were busy making ready for the possible wedding day.

Before 10 o'clock in the morning they commenced to pour into the little village in hundreds.

The fete was to commence with the president's speech at 2 o'clock, but by 1 o'clock the crowd of bachelors were thronging the cafe and narrow streets of Ecoussinnes.

There were 40 eligible maidens closely packed in their well-shuttered homes, dressing dainty white antebridal gowns.

At 2 o'clock Mlle. Marie Ghendoe, this year's president, made her appearance on the balcony of the Matrimonial hotel.

In a long, happy speech, she welcomed the bachelors, telling them of the virtues of thrift, sobriety, and unselfishness, which would make them good husbands, and expounding the domestic qualities of the maidens of Ecoussinnes.

Then the bachelors made their choice. Forty lucky young men succeeded in gaining the good graces of the ladies, and signed their names to

Income.	Contributions.	Pension.
\$ 84 or less	3½ cents	\$27.50
134	5 "	35.00
204	6 "	42.50
276	7½ "	50.00
over \$276	9 "	57.50

The machinery of the law is very simple. The employer is responsible for the collection of the premiums of the workmen, that is to say, he is responsible for the collection of the contributions, and the other half he pays himself. That is his contribution to the system. For its part the government pays for the administrative expenses, that is to say, the sum of \$12 a year to each pension granted. In practical operation it is frequently found that the employer pays the workman about 10 per cent of his regular earnings, finding that this is more economical than the weekly division of small amounts.

But the scheme is not alone applicable to old age but also to accident or infirmity. If a workman has paid at least 200 weekly premiums he becomes entitled to full pension in case of accident or infirmity, or in case of mental or physical incapacity as to be unable to earn more than one-third of his normal income or of such amount as is usually earned by persons of his class.

The payments under this heading are somewhat more liberal than under the old-age pension. It is proportion to the number of premiums that have been paid. The old-age pension becomes at once payable upon proof that the man has been disabled for three years and he may, if he wish, continue at his trade

or wara money in any way open to him. He does not have to plead poverty or anything else than the fact that he is 71 years old. During the 16 years that law has been in operation 60,000,000 of people have benefited therefrom and have received \$100,000,000 in the form of pensions. That such a colossal scheme should work with such harmony is perhaps a justification for Dr. Hale's endorsement of its adoption in America, although it has been doubted if it could be applied so successfully where the ideals of life are so different as in the Orient. It is by no means so strong—S. Coryn in the O.S. Angeles Times.

A Cruel Religion.

"It is all very well," said the Lenton lecturer, "to say that other religions are as good as ours. Take Mohammedanism, for instance, that cruel creed. Take the 'Lord's prayer' of Mohammedanism, the prayer that is repeated daily in every Mohammedan household and mosque. This is it:—

"I seek refuge with Allah from Satan, the accused. In the name of Allah, the compassionate, the merciful. Oh, Lord of all creatures, Oh, Allah, destroy the infidels and polytheists, thine enemies, the enemies of the Most High. Oh, Allah, make their children orphans, their wives widows, their children orphans, their women, and their children, and their possessions, and their race, and their wealth, and their lands, as booty to the Moslems. Oh, Lord of all creatures!"