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ALTON B. PARKER

A Close Range Personal Study of the Man, by James Creelman-His Early Life as Farmer Boy, Schoolteacher and Law Clerk-On the Supreme Court Bench at Thirty-three_His Farm at Esopus_His Methods at Work and Play - Strong, Simple, Practical and Thoroughly American-Grave Dignity Which Suggests Great Reserve Power.

World the following close range personal study of Judge Alton Brooks Parker, chief justice of the New York the eyebrows and the smooth forehead state court of appeals and one of the indicates a man who can concentrate leading Democratic presidential possibilities:

While the country is calling for information about Chief Judge Parker, to whom millions of Democrats are turning for safe leadership in the struggle for control of the nation, the politicians of both parties who swarm over the hill on which the capitol of New York stands, the agents of corruption, rascals in and out of office, leaders of the bar and noisy pettifoggers, all have daily sight of him as he strides through the streets of Albany between the Hotel Ten Eyck, in which he lives, and the court of appeals, over which he presides.

Even in this center of political and legislative intrigue, where the weaknesses and selfish ambitions of public men are so soon searched out, this strong, brave, modest man has not an enemy. At the top of the Albany hill he sits, black robed, on the bench. At the foot of it is the law office from which David B. Hill is directing the campaign to make him president of the United States. Yet men of all parties, including his associates on the bench, bear witness that Judge Parker, in the face of exceptional flattery and against the pressure of a thousand influences, has maintained the highest traditions of his great judicial office by his consistent aloofness from politics, his simple, unpretending dignity and his devotion to his public duties. It is not that he is colorless or without ambition. There is no more warm blooded or aggressive man in the country. And he is known to be deeply attached to his party. His silence is the result of self discipline and a concep-

AMES CREELMAN, the famous a suggestion of craft. Nor is there special correspondent, recently anything sidewise or sly in the eyes. prepared for the New York They look at you straight. The practical and logical dominate the imaginative qualities-impulse is a slave to will. The lack of wrinkles between his mind without the great effort which contracts the facial muscles.

Judge Parker dresses well and always in dark colors, usually grays. His ordinary`attire is a cutaway coat of rough gray cloth and gray trousers. He wears a standing collar and a simple black cravat, held by a small pearl. Few men are more decorous or careful in their dress. In spite of his passion for work and his many pressing duties he usually dresses three times a dayfor riding, for business and for dinner And his clothes fit him, which cannot be said of most men in public life.

Dignity Suggests Great Power.

There is a grave dignity as well as a suggestion of immense power in Judge Parker which goes well with his black silk robe when he presides in the court of appeals. He is the youngest man in the row of judges. He is attentive to argument and keeps his eyes steadily on the lawyer who may be pleading. His courtesy to lawyers is well known. When he makes a ruling he does not waste words. It is useless to argue; the thing is done. All his associates say that he does everything in his power to save them from unneces sary work, and it is indicative of his nature that he is the only member of the court of appeals who is always present when the court is open. The other judges take their weeks off regularly, but Judge Parker serves every day of the session, so that there shall always be some one on the bench familiar with every ruling or agreement made in court.

As the judge sits high up in the great oaken hall of justice, with its bronze statue of Livingston and its paneled portraits of dead jurists, John Jay in his crimson university robes high above them all, he can see through the windows the Hudson river, which sweeps the shore of his beloved farm at pus, sixty miles away, where his family, his crops and his herds await him at each week's end. However deeply his mind is immersed in the complex problems of his great office, his heart is always in his farm, for he was born a farmer and will be one till he dies. This familiar and practical knowledge of farming and farmers is of great value to the court in dealing with agricultural cases.

pluck and independence and was greaty respected by his neighbors. His son, John Parker, was an intelligent man, highly educated and public spirstate and bought a farm at Cortland, grandson owns and cultivates today. health broke down the burden fell heavily upon his son John, the father ago.

of Judge Parker. Those who remember the judge's father say that he was a man of studious habits. In spite of his bitter struggle for life on the farm he read widely and deeply. He was especially fond of committing rare passages to memory, and every spare moment found him poring over a good book. On his mother's side Judge Parker

derives good New England blood. His white haired mother, who lives at Derby, Conn., is a woman of refinement. education and strong character. In the summer time she spends the judge's vacation with him at Esopus. She is a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance union. The giant sits before his mother while she solemnly lectures him on temperance, and, being an abstemious man, he smiles and promises to be good. Her constant aim is to warn him against ambition. When the newspapers grow

loud in his praise he is sure to get a letter from his mother exhorting him to be humble. Farmer Boy and Schoolteacher.

The judge was born on the farm near Cortland almost fifty-two years ago. He attended the village schools and

the will of the majority in his party. Judge Parker's wife was Miss Schoonmaker of Accord, a woman of rare refited. In 1803 he came to New York finement and good Dutch Revolutionary blood. Their daughter married the the same farm which his distinguished Rev. Charles M. Hale, rector of an Episcopal church at Kingston, which is He had a large family, and when his within easy driving distance of Esopus. The judge's son died two years It is on the farm at Esopus that Judge Parker's personality has full

swing. Here he writes his most important judicial opinions. Here, too, he works in his fields, prunes his trees and cares for his thirty registered Red Poll cattle, his full blooded Poland-China pigs and fine flock of Shropshire sheep.

Rosemont, for so the farm is called, is a beautiful place, all up and down hill, fronting the Hudson and extending on either side of the rocky road that sprawls in from the village of Esopus. Across the great river is seen one of the new Vanderbilt houses. In the other direction are the lovely wooded mountains leading toward the Catskills.

His Home Life.

The judge's house is a modest but comfortable wooden structure, standing on the stone foundations of a Dutch house of colonial times. It is set on the side of a hill among shade trees and fronts the river. It is the abode of hospitality and refinement, the typical home of an American gentleman. The pictures, the books, the furniture, the wide hall and glowing worked about the farm. When sixteen fireplace, the sunny library and the



of him except that he was a man of and 1900 he voted for Mr. Bryan, but it ne drives his family to his son-in- o'clock. He averages less than seven pluck and independence and was great- was well understood that he was a law's church at Kingston every Sun- hours in bed. sound money man and merely accepted day and sings heartily, so that strangers in the congregation are apt to turn their heads. Nor does he forget to have his domestic servants, who are Roman Catholics, driven to their own church regularly.

The judge is a vestryman in the Kingston church and, although a man of very moderate means, he is probably the wealthiest man in the congregation. He is the practical pillar of the church and takes an active interest in its charities, its cooking and sewing and dancing schools, its physical culture class and its basketball games for boys. He is also a contributor to the funds of the local orphan asylum and is one of the managers of the Kingston city hospital.

His neighborly usefulness is to be seen on all sides. He is even the freight agent of a steamboat company, so that the little private dock on his farm may be used for the convenience of the community, and there the fastest steamboats of the Hudson touch on their way to and from New York.

Likes Magazines and Novels.

He is a confirmed magazine reader. delighting in such periodicals as Harper's and the Outlook. He seldom reads poetry, but is fond of good novels. Mrs. Parker is always on the alert for a good new story for her hardworking husband. But his natural taste is for Dickens, Thackeray and Scott. He delights in the vigorous out of door atmosphere of "The Scottish Chiefs." Jefferson is his favorite political writer. Any book or article on agriculture or cattle breeding is sure to interest him.

institution willing to take the assignment could be found. It looked as if His daughter, Mrs. Hale, is an acthe mortgages would have to be forecomplished musician and used to sing closed to pay the debt, which meant in a choir at Kingston. The judge took a destruction of values and little asher to Germany to study music, but Mrs. Parker's health failed suddenly, sets for the depositors, who were in a state of terror and confusion. and her daughter insisted on returning to the United States. Mrs. Hale plays Worked Night and Day. the plano for her father, and he occa-Judge Parker began to look about sionally sings. His musical tastes are for an honorable and wise way to save very simple, and classical compositions are apt to bore him. the institution and its depositors. He got a number of the old trustees to After he has spent a morning work-

ing on his judicial opinions-hours of assist him. grave concentration, when no one is permitted to interrupt his quiet-and York state. The idea was to ask the when he is waiting for lunch his secequity court to substitute in place of retary, Arthur MacCausland, will sit the temporary receiver twenty-five at the piano while the judge in a sweet prominent citizens to act as trustees. tenor voice sings old fashioned ballads The judge worked day and night urgor hymns, "I Feel Just as Young as I ing the strongest men in the county Used to Be," "Only an Armor Bearer,' to his aid in saving the bank. He "Hold the Fort," and so on.

got presidents and cashiers of banks It is all very simple and natural in and other business men enlisted. Ev that house, and hospitality is the first erything else was thrown aside until law. Indeed, the judge carries hospitality to an extreme. All his neigh-bors are his friends. When he sits at the twenty-five trustees were secured. Charles M. Preston, the state superinthe head of the long mahogany dining tendent of banking, who lived at Kingston, gave Judge Parker's bold table with his wife, mother, brother, daughter, son-in-law and grandchilplan his official support. The legal dren, with one or two guests and perbattle was before Justice Fursman in haps a neighbor visitor, he is the life of the scene-gentle, dignified, helping the conversation, but never forcing it, a rare gift in a man of strong mentality.

Miscellaneous Reading. LIFE WITH A PURPOSE.

To understand the judge's busines

capacity and his common sense way

of dealing with difficult situations it is

necessary to know how he saved the

Ulster County Savings institution. In

rary receiver was appointed.

values.

that night.

Here Lies the Keynote of Usefulnes and Success

Written for the Yorkville Enquirer. September, 1891, this important bank, It is the duty and it should be the which had deposits of \$2,500,000, closed pleasure of every intelligent and reits doors in consequence of embezzlesponsible being to have a purpose in ments by the treasurer and assistant life. There are multitudes whose lives treasurer of sums which, with the diviseem to be altogether purposeless. dends due, amounted to \$400,000. This They are carried down the stream of wiped out the supposed surplus and time not knowing where they are goleft the institution with a deficiency. ing to land. How sad to think of an The usual action was taken by the atimmortal being taking such a view of torney general to wind up the business his life in this world! We have in the and distribute the assets, and a tempo-Apostle Paul a splendid example of a man with a noble purpose in life. His It was found that it was impossible

is an ideal case. "From the time when to wind up the affairs of the bank in he became a Christian, Paul knew t' at the ordinary way without substantially destroying the market value of the real he had a definite work to do; and the call he had received to it never ceased estate of the bank. This was so beto ring like a tocsin in his soul. He cause the institution had invested about felt that he had a world of new truths \$1,500,000 in real estate mortgages, oneto utter and that the salvation of manhalf of which were on farms. To throw so many farms on the market kind depended on their utterance. It would have caused a crash in their was this which made him so impetuous in his movements, so blind to danger, so contemptuous of suffering. 'None Among the trustees of the bank were Judge Parker, General Sharpe and of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I Judge Kenyon. Judge Parker was on his farm at Accord when he got a hint might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of that there was something wrong. He the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospe left his fields, hurried to Kingston. of the grace of God.' He lived with made a quick investigation and had the assistant treasurer lodged in jail the account which he would have to give at the judgment seat of Christ ever in his eye, and his heart was re-

To save the depositors from . loss vived in every hour of discouragement Judge Parker took the leadership. He by the vision of the crown of life tried to get some strong institution which, if he proved faithful, the Lord, like an insurance company to take an the righteous Judge, would place upon assignment of the mortgages, with his head." some local bank as discount agent. No

It should be our desire and our aim in life to follow in the footsteps of the great apostle. Each one of us should have a purpose in life, a purpose that covers all the details of life. This purpose should run through all of our plans and efforts like a golden chain giving to our lives a symmetrical unity and a beautiful harmony.

The purpose which we have should be right, absolutely right. A mistake here will be fatal. Paul's purpose was the right kind of a purpose. So it should be with us. Our purpose in life should live and move and have its very being in the purest righteousness. Be sure you are right. Don't make a mistake here. Be sure that your purpose is right; be sure that the end you have in view is right; be sure the means you use in executing your plans are right. Be conscientious in this matter. Let truth and right and justice and virtue and temperance and conscience and courage form the constituent parts in the rainbow of character that spans your life from beginning to end. Be right and then be vourself.

"To thine own self be true; And it must follow as the night the day.

Thou canst not then be false to any man."

the special term of the supreme court Having formed your purpose for life adhere to it at all hazards. Look at at Troy. It resulted in a decree sub-Paul. There was nothing that could stituting the twenty-five trustees for the temporary receiver and scaling cause him to deviate one hair's breadth own the amount due to each depositor from his purpose. He was in the omnipotent grasp of an unchanging and unchangeable purpose. His purpose was so thoroughly inwrought into his very soul and life that it became an essential part of his very being. There was no agency that could sever the union existing between his person and his purpose. . The storms of opposition beat upon his house; but it stood, because it was founded upon a rock. Be sure you are right and then go forward. Be controlled, not by policy, nor by expediency, but by principle. Cleave to your purpose through adversity as well as prosperity, through clouds as well as sunshine, through darkness as well as daylight. Be persistent in your adherence to your purpose. The purposeful life will be rewarded. There is no reward for the purposeless life. It is absolutely barren-a comnlete failure. "Count that day lost whose low descending sur Views from thy hand no worthy action done. But just as sure as God sits upon the throne, just so sure will a rich reward come to the man whose life has een dominated by a right purpose. "If thou canst plan a noble deed, And never flag till it succeed, Tho' in the strife thy heart should bleed. Whatever obstacles control, Thine hour will come-go on true Thou'it win the prize, thou'lt reach the goal." WM. G. NEVILLE

tion of judicial propriety which nothing can shake. It is not a political posture, but a deliberate line of conduct, which he has followed for nineteen years.

The kindly looks turned upon him in the streets, the deference paid to him wherever he moves, without respect to party, and the frank admiration expressed when his name comes up in private conversation in this cynical and suspicious neighborhood show how fully his sincerity, breadth of mind and modest independence have impressed themselves upon those who have him under daily scrutiny.

Kindness of heart, firmness of will, charity in the judgment of others, constancy in friendships, love of work for its own sake, neighborliness, a quiet scorn for demagogy, self righteous attitudes or spectacular methods these are his recognized traits. He is never a boaster, and his sense of humor will not permit him to be pompous. It would be hard to find a man of more simple and wholesome manners-a cultivated jurist who has always been and still is a successful practical farmer.

A Man of Giant Strength.

Judge Parker is six feet tall and a man of giant strength. His shoulders ness about him. are broad and his chest deep. His muscles, developed by hard work on His Farm at Esopus. the farm and by daily horseback riding, are the muscles of an athlete. He slopes perfectly as a man should, from is to be found on his picturesque farm his shoulders to his feet, and in spite of his nearly fifty-two years and his weight of 196 pounds his step is as York state-one of 150 acres at Cortlight as a boy's, and he can vault into the saddle with ease.

man, strong and full of color. The makes them, on the whole, pay. He eyes are large and of an agreeable brown: lionlike eves but for the kindly expression. One notices the eyes first and then the immense jaws and formidable round chin. The lower part of the face is heavy, but not brutal. It has a powerful line and outward thrust that suggest tremendous will power. The mouth is large and masculine, with a thick lower lip. The upper teeth are big, flat and white. The lower teeth arc smaller. The coarse, tawny mus-

tache goes well with the brilliant brown eyes and the reddish brown hair. The judge's nose is aquiline. He has high cheek bones, but the characteristic is not marked. His high, broad forehead slopes back without a bump. it is a singularly symmetrical brow,

showing penetration, observation, ambition and energy. The block head is not large and is somewhat straight, so that it does not balance with the great jaws and the fighting chin.

Nowhere in the face or head is there

Judge Parker's Working Traits.

Considering the fact that within a few months Judge Parker is likely to be the Democratic candidate for president it is worth while noticing his working traits as a public officer. He goes at his task without nervousness It is hard to imagine a less nervous man. He works with method and deliberately, Unlike President Roosevelt, he does not lurch at things in a fury of energy, but makes progress in an orderly and calm mood. After dictating an opinion he goes over the sheets and strikes out everything unnecessary or rhetorical. But his corrections or dinarily relate merely to details; he does not have to pull his work to pieces. Nor is there any one who ever heard him speak discourteously or in anger to a subordinate. His tact and natural kindliness make things move smoothly. Yet there is an iron firm-

At the end of every week and during the summer vacation Judge Parker at Esopus, which overlooks the Hudson river. He has three farms in New land, another of 150 acres at Accord and still another of 90 acres at Esopus. His face is that of a country bred He manages these three farms and is no dilettante stranger to the country, playing with agriculture as with a toy, but a real farmer, who directs the work, superintends the plowing and, in harvest time, goes out in his shirt sleeves to work with his men in the hay and sorghum.

A careful estimate of Judge Parker's realth places the value of all his possessions at about \$30.000. This property he has acquired mostly by saving and good business judgment. His farm at Cortland came to him from his farmer father. He was born on it and worked along its furrows as a boy.

Of Old English Stock.

On his father's side the judge comes of old English stock. His great-grandfather. John Parker, was born in 1751 at Worcester, Mass. He was a hardworking farmer. When the war for independence broke out he left his plow and served as a private under Washington until the American repub-

lic was established. Little is known bench he has ignored politics. In 1896 her rosy lips and tries to whistle.

JUDGE ALTON B. PARKER.

in the peach or apple orchard, in the

cow pasture, barn or sty, he is the

master of all in knowledge as well as

in energy. He will ply his pitchfork

or put his shoulder under a heavy load

with the best of them, and it is a good

agement are everywhere in evidence.

boyish lover. To his venerable mother

him.

ter.

dining room, with its long mahogany years old he taught school in a countable, all show evidences of intelligent try schoolhouse and established his autastes that were not developed in one thority by thrashing the school bully. generation. Then he taught school at Binghamton. Here Judge Parker walks among his Presently he was a teacher at Accord, bulls and cows, in top boots and pea in Ulster county, at \$3 a day. He injacket, the incarnation of strength and tended to go to Cornell university and virility. He strides through the sorwas saving money for that purpose, ghum and hay fields, visits the great but his father's necessities drew from barn, tends the sick cow or fondles his slender income, and his hopes of a the latest calf and helps his men to university course failed. He moved to clear up the leaves or stubble. His Kingston and entered the law office of cheeks glow, his eyes shine, and he Schoonmaker & Hardenbergh as a swings his arms like a boy, drinking clerk. Then he entered the Albany in great drafts of the pure air or Law school, and upon graduating he whistling a merry tupe. returned to Schoonmaker & Harden-None of his eight farm hands knows bergh. Within a few months he took half as much as he does about the a partner named Kenyon and opened a trees, the crops, the cattle, sheep, pigs, law office at Kingston. chickens, turkeys or ducks. Whether

For twelve years the young lawyer practiced his profession in Kingston. He had a good income and won several important cases. During that time he was quite free from the control or in-

fluence of large corporations. In 1877 he was elected surrogate of Ulster county and was afterward elected for a second term. That was his first experience of public office. His entrance into politics was due simply to his love for his old employer, Judge Schoonmaker, who had been driven out of politics. He believed that the judge had been wronged and set out to restore him to popular favor. So earnest was his campaign that he soon became a recognized political factor in Ulster county, being a favorite

of Mr. Tilden and Mr. Manning, who trusted and consulted him. In 1885 he was induced to become chairman of the Democratic state executive committee, and in the campaign which he managed David B. Hill was elected governor. Mr. Hill appointed him to a seat on the supreme court bench when Justice Westbrook died.

Honors Came Early.

When Judge Parker was thirty-three years old he was unanimously nominated for the supreme court bench by

the Democrats. The Republicans would not nominate an opponent. Not a vote was cast against him. He served on the supreme court bench until his election as chief judge of the court of appeals in 1897 by a plurality of about 60,000 votes.

During his nineteen years on the

A Day With Judge Parker.

It seems a small thing to write about a man's private habits, yet they throw some light upon his character, and, in the case of this farmer chief judge, who has shrunk so long from public notice, a description of his ordinary day is suggestive of his type. Nothing in the life of a candidate for president

is unimportant. ne rises usually at half past 6 clock in the morning, takes his cold plunge, shaves and dresses himself in thirty minutes. His riding dress is a brown corduroy jacket and breeches, cloth cap and leather leggings. After taking a cup of coffee without sugar

he is ready for his ride. Then he mounts his big bay saddle horse and rides at a hard trot for an hour over the country roads. The whole region is full of historical interest, and the judge knows every house and story. Now and then an early rising farmer sees him riding at a full gallop, talking to his horse and sometimes throwing up his arms in sheer excess of animal spirits.

After his daily ride, which he takes, whether in Albany or at Esopus, regardless of the season, he dresses for business and eats a hearty breakfast, usually of fruit, oatmeal porridge, beefsteak or sausages or bacon and eggs, with buckwheat cakes, maple sirup, hot corn bread and two cups of coffee When breakfast is over he goes to court for consultation, if he is in Albany, or works on his opinions, if he is

man who can keep up with him. He An Abstemious Man. is modest enough, save when he stands

at Esopus.

among his great Red Poll cattle, the His ordinary lunch coasists of thin pride of his heart. Then he swells soup, tea without milk or sugar, fruit with conscious comradeship, for they and custard or pumpkin pie. are like him-big, strong and genuine.

There is no finer sight in that part of bench until 6 o'clock, or, if he is on the the position on condition that the salthe country than Judge Parker in the farm, he divides his time between his ary should be abolished. This was middle of his herd, calling to his great bulls and laughing as they come to cattle, crops and judicial writing.

He always puts on evening dress for There are a tall silo and a cold storage dinner. That meal is generally made house, built on the judge's plans. In up of soup and a roast, such as beef, the storage house are apples, pears, lamb or spareribs, principally of his cider and all manner of good things to own killing, followed by a salad and eat, mostly the product of Rosemont. fruit or pie. His one abomination is Thrift, orderliness and energetic man-"buttermilk pap," a beverage which his the most stirring incident of his priwife delights in, but seldom serves In his home the gentle, lovable traits vate life. of the austere chief judge reveal them-

when he is present. The judge usually drinks water with selves. To his wife, the inspiration of his mature life, he is always like a

his dinner, save when he has guests, and then Mrs. Parker sets forth wine. he is the dutiful son, smiling at her He occasionally takes a whisky highball with his meal. Altogether he is a stern sermons on temperance and hustrongly abstemious man. He smokes and perhaps even earlier. In 1680 Sanmility, but proud of her noble characafter dinner, but never before.

He takes his little redheaded grand-Sleeps Only Six to Seven Hours. son by the hand and swings around Notwithstanding the early hour at the veranda with him like another which he rises and the steady vigor care of the Christian Brothers the with which he works, Judge Parker church is kept in excellent condition. child. He catches up his baby granddaughter Mary in his arms and dances up and down the wide hall, whistling does not retire before 11 c'clock or the while. And when his name is midnight. He sleeps soundly and is up most stirring and romantic episodes mentioned to her she always purses

to his pro rata share of the assets. The court also enjoined the depositors from drawing out more than 25 per cent of their deposits till further judicial orders were made.

His scheme was a new one in New

Fortunately for the institution,

Stopping a Panic.

And now a tremendous excitement was stirred up in consequence of local political disturbances. The leading newspaper of Ulster county, to embarrass the bank and thus injure some of the original trustees, advised the depositors to draw out their allowable 25 per cent as soon as the bank's doors opened, as it would probably be all

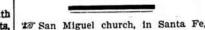
they would ever get. A frantic crowd of depositors stormed the bank. The "run" meant ruin. But when the doors opened there was Judge Parker, with a bag

of money which he had obtained in New York. He was determined to prevent a panic. Leaping on the treasurer's desk, with flashing eyes he faced the white faced, excited crowd, and, flinging a roll of money down, he cried: "Come on! We are ready to pay. Come on! Do you think we would

waste our time on a broken bank?" Instantly the panic ceased. Judge Parker had saved the day. The depositors departed, and only 11 per cent of them drew out their money. That saved the Ulster County Savings institution, which has since worked out of its difficulties.

The general term of the supreme court and the court of appeals both sustained Judge Parker's novel plan as sound in law. The judge never rested till the thieving treasurer and assistant treasurer were sent to the state prison,

where they both died. After awhile Judge Parker was asked to become president of the bank. Then he goes to court and sits on the He declared that he would only accept agreed to, and he was elected president. He did not retire until the deposits of the bank were several hundred thousand dollars greater than they were before its doors were closed. The rescue of this savings bank and its depositors is the achievement of which Judge Parker is proudest. It is



N. M., is the oldest ecclesiastical edifice existing in this country, says the Denver Times. It was erected in 1582, te Fe was burned and the roof of San Miguel was consumed and the interior badly damaged. In 1710 the church was put in thorough repair. Under the is a unique memorial of one of the

again, clear eyed and smiling, at 6:30 of American history.

THE JUGGERNAUT MYTH .--- Only two owns in India are more sacred than Muttra. One is Benares and the other is Jagernath, or Juggernaut, which is about 150 miles south of Calcutta on the shore of the Bay of Bengal. There is the great idol which we have all heard about from the missionaries, but I regret to say that there has been a good deal of misrepresentation and exaggeration. When I was a boy I read in Sunday school books the most heart-tearing tales about the poor heathen, who cast themselves down before the car of Juggernaut and were crushed to lifeless pulp under its monstrous wheels. This story has been told thousands of times to millions of horrified listeners, but an inquiry into the fact does not confirm it. It is true that on certain holy days the great image of Juggernaut, Jagernath, which ever way you choose to spell it, and it weighs many tons, is placed upon a car and the car is drawn through the crowded streets by thousands of pli-grims, who cast flowers, rice, wheat, palm leaves, bamboo wisps, sweetmeats and other offerings in its way.

and other offerings in its way. Occa-slonally in the throng that presses around the image some one is thrown down and has the life trampled out of him; on several occasions people have been caught by the wheels or the frame of the car and crushed, and at rare intervals some hysterical worship-er has fallen in a fit of epilepsy and been run over, but the official records, been run over, but the official records, which began in 1818, show only nine such occurrences during the last eighty-six years.—Wm. E. Curtis in Chi-cago Record-Herald.