Scourge of the Tiger

A Portrait of Samuel Seabury

By JOHN S. GREGORY

By this time the Tammany tiger must be fairly well immunized to the lash of the inquisitor. He has crouched, so to speak, before the bar of justice a good many times since that far-off day when the Rev. Charles F. Parkhurst called down the wrath of the Lord on his wickedness. It was then that the famous Lexow Committee hurled its Q's and A's at the leaders of the New York County Democratic organization and sent Richard Croker hustling to Europe while a reform administration took over the town. Out of all the reverberations only one conviction resulted, something to do with a basket of peaches, and Croker returned to power four years later.

It would not be surprising if the Tiger's fur had grown thick in the thirty-odd years that have passed since the Lexow investigation. Tammany Hall has repeatedly been charged with high treason to civic righteousness, and has always regained its grip on New York. In its current inquisitor, however, the Tiger may have found a foe whose blows will sting. Samuel Seabury, counsel to the Hofstadter Committee, is a Democrat of great legal distinction. He has already demonstrated, in his investigation of the Magistrates' Courts, his ability as an investigator. He is probably the only attorney in history who has represented the executive, judicial and legislative branches of the state of New York at one time and enjoyed simultaneously the prerogatives and authority of each. In deciding whether District Attorney Thomas C. T. Crain of New York should be removed, Seabury represented Governor Roosevelt, the state's chief executive. When he uncovered intolerable conditions in the city's lower courts, he was doing so at the suggestion of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court and therefore was the voice of the judiciary. In the current inquiry, as special counsel to a legislative committee, Seabury works for the legislative branch. If Judge Seabury ponders the subject he will undoubtedly be horrified by the knowledge that he has violated Montesquieu's plea for separation of the three branches.

These unusual powers constitute one of the reasons for an aura of almost superhuman dignity which is supposed to surround Judge Seabury; he embodies not only the law but the executive and the legislative as well. There are other reasons for the widespread veneration. One is the fact that he is an old New Yorker, the son of a clergyman and the descendant and namesake of Samuel Seabury who was the first Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America. His impressive baritone voice, which rings in fine cadences in court, is another contributing cause. The culminating one is his appearance. Judge Seabury has snow-white hair, which is neatly parted. His eyebrows are impressively bushy. He has broad shoulders and his complexion is ruddy. Even when he is wearing a sack suit and is behind an ordinary office desk the black robe of the jurist seems to enfold him.

All this is somewhat misleading. The sterling virtues are there, of course, but Judge Seabury is not one of those men who view themselves with great seriousness, who think of themselves in the third person. He has an active, if faintly judicial, sense of humor. He was recently conferring with his associates on the possibility of investigating misuse of relief funds in one of the city boroughs. Charges had been made that jobs had been given to men and women who did not need them, and this led to the supposition that political favoritism had been prevalent. The borough is, of course, under Democratic rule.

"We should inquire," said Judge Seabury solemnly, his eyes quite serious, "whether the 1,800 individuals on the payroll were voters and learn their party affiliations. It will not do to have favoritism. It may well be that they are all members of the Socialist party. We cannot permit the Socialists to benefit in that way."

As he approached this mild climax of his story, Judge Seabury permitted his eyes to open very widely and a smile played about his lips. His associates laughed heartily.

The counsel for the Hofstadter Committee is not, of course, a boisterous individual and it is not on record that he ever made a pun, even a legal one. His heredity and background typify decorum even if his political views have, from time to time, been anathema to fellow New Yorkers of breeding and respectability. Born in New York City in 1873, Samuel Seabury spent his boyhood in the cloistered calm of the rectory of the Church of the Annunciation on West Fourteenth Street. His father, the Rev. William Seabury, was pastor of the church as well as professor of canonical law at the General Theological Seminary. Tradition may have argued that the son was to enter the church, like most of his distinguished forebears, but after preliminary education in private schools young Samuel turned to the law. There was not much money, since this was a pastor's household, and he earned part of his expenses while at the New York Law School by reading legal manuscript and proofs for publishers and printers. After graduation in 1893 he took a year of graduate work and was admitted to the bar in 1894. He became associated with the law firm of Seabury & Pickford that year.

Keystone

SAMUEL SEABURY

Seabury would unquestionably have made an excellent clergyman had he so elected. But his choice of the law caused no loss in the ranks of those who battle against injustice, against the inhumanity of man to man. He must have been a rather solemn youth, thus stepping from the pages of Mrs. Wharton's *Age of Innocence* and looking for dragons to slay. He must also have had forceful qualities; in 1897 he was endorsed by the Citizen's Union, an anti-Tammany organization, as candidate for alderman from his home district. He would have made the campaign had not his attention been deflected by the figure of Henry George, the Single Tax apostle.

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Roosevelt: A Biography

III—Return to Politics and Second Marriage

By HENRY F. PRINGLE

Roosevelt's self-imposed exile in the Bad Lands came to an end in 1886. He was to be married again and was also anxious to reënter the political arena. His defeat in the New York City mayoralty election had little effect on his political future and the following year saw him in the thick of the fight against Cleveland. In the next installment is told the story of his reform efforts as President of New York's Board of Police Commissioners. As always he attracted an enormous amount of attention and although largely unsuccessful as a reforming police chieftain, he managed to gain something of a national reputation

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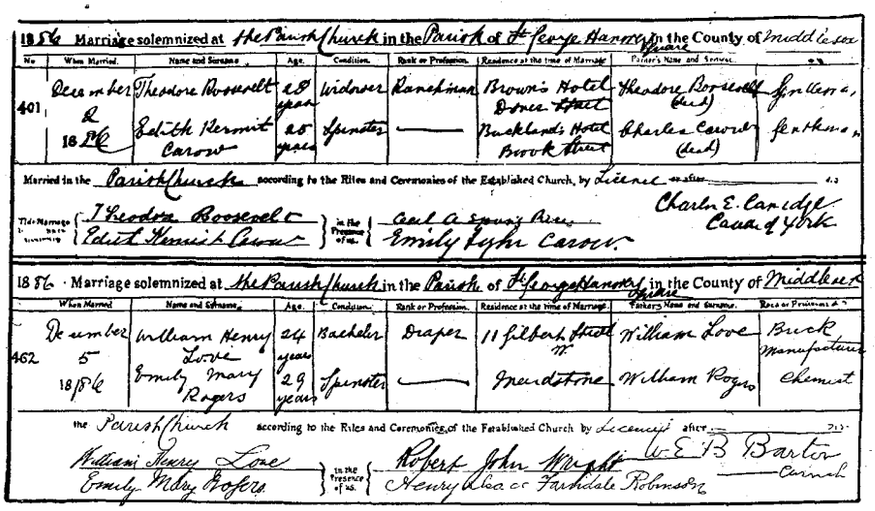
THE episode of the Bad Lands would have ended even if the herds of the Maltese Cross had flourished and multiplied. The winter of 1886-87 merely accelerated the end. The West had brought Roosevelt a measure of tranquillity, but increasingly his fundamental interest was in the East, where two factors, in particular, were drawing him back. The Bad Lands, having served their purpose, became touched with sentimentality. Roosevelt had no desire to return, had it been possible, to the land "of scattered ranches, of herds of long-horned cattle, and of reckless riders who unmoved looked in the eyes of life or of death."

The more important influence which turned his face East was the fact that he was to be married again. The first mention of his engagement to Edith Kermit Carow was on November 1, 1886, when he told Cabot Lodge. The story of Edith Carow, however, goes back virtually to the beginning of Theodore's own story. She belonged to the group of boys and girls who played in the yards of the ample houses off Gramercy and Union Squares. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Carow, who lived near the Fourteenth Street mansion of Theodore's paternal grandfather, she was an intimate companion of Corinne, the youngest of the Roosevelt brothers and sisters. She was three years younger than Theodore.

When the Roosevelt family went abroad in the summer of 1869 the children were homesick. They missed all their New York friends a good deal, and they longed to see Edith. Teddie, being the most talkative, was the one who gave voice to their sentiments. On November 22, 1869, he succumbed to one of his attacks of melancholy and noted in his diary:

> In the evening Mama showed me the portrait of Eidieth [*sic*] Carow and her face stirred up in me homesickness and longing for the past which will come again never, alack never.



1886 Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of St George Hanover Square in the County of Middlesex

No	When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname	Rank or Profession of Father
401	December 2 1886	Theodore Roosevelt	28 years	Widower	Ranchman	Brown's Hotel Dover Street	Theodore Roosevelt (dec.)	Gentleman
		Edith Kermit Carow	25 years	Spinster	—	Buckland's Hotel Brook Street	Charles Carow (dec.)	Gentleman

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by Licence or after — Charles E. Candee Curate of York

This Marriage was contracted between: Theodore Roosevelt, Edith Kermit Carow — in the Presence of us: Carl A. Spring Rice, Emily Lyon Carow

1886 Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of St George Hanover Square in the County of Middlesex

When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname	Rank or Profession of Father
462 December 5 1886	William Henry Love	24 years	Bachelor	Draper	11 Filbert Street W.	William Love	Buck Manufacturer
	Emily Mary Rogers	29 years	Spinster	—	Friendstone	William Rogers	Chemist

the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by Licence or after — W. E. B. Barton Curate

This Marriage was contracted between: William Henry Love, Emily Mary Rogers — in the Presence of us: Robert John Wright, Henry Lea or Fairdale Robinson

RECORD OF THE LONDON MARRIAGE

Facsimile of a page from the register of St. George's Church. T. R. gave his occupation as "ranchman"

Brown Bros.

EDITH KERMIT CAROW

To whom T. R. was married December 2, 1886

"You are my most faithful correspondent," he wrote to her the same winter and, in a letter describing the sights they had seen, he signed himself: "Evere [*sic*] your loving friend, T. Roosevelt."

The boy and girl friendship between Theodore and Edith continued through the years of tutoring and the second journey abroad. During Roosevelt's freshman year at Harvard she went to Cambridge, accompanied by Corinne, to visit him. That she was in his mind that year is shown by a letter to his sister, dated February 5, 1877, in which he told of some sleighing party in Boston. ". . . . One of the girls," he said, "looked quite like Edith only not nearly so pretty as her ladyship."

Was a childhood love affair behind all this? It would be natural, in view of the outcome, to assume that there was. Mrs. Robert Bacon, who knew Edith and Theodore and also Alice Lee well, felt confident that such had been the case. If it was so, Edith suffered because she remained at home while Theodore went to college. In October, 1878, he met the fascinating Alice Lee. There is little to support any theory regarding them; my own is based on the degree to which, in the years of their married life, Edith Carow took care of the violently adolescent person who had become her husband and had risen to such heights. She was not a power behind the throne, although she sometimes influenced him. Rather, she watched over his welfare. She persuaded him to put on dry clothing

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