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EDITORIAL

## ROOSEVELT'S EX-ACCOMPLICES.

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**C**OLONEL ROOSEVELT may, or may not be scoring at the primaries that are to determine the complexion of the approaching national convention of the Republican party. To judge, however, from the tactics of his opponents, the Colonel occupies a position that is unassailable by his foes.

Colonel Roosevelt has vulnerable spots in plenty—he listened to the representations of the Steel Trust and winked at their violation of the Sherman Act; he disgraced the country by dismembering Colombia while bound by treaty obligations to protect her territorial integrity, and set on foot the Canal Fraud; he insulted the Senate with the theory of “infinitesimal recess” during which he put pets of his own into office without the advice and consent of the Senate; he insulted the House by sending it a message in which he brought the Representatives’ integrity into question, and got a severe drubbing for doing so; as Governor of this State he became a party to Harriman’s manœuvres, whereby certain railroad stock was made by law proper security for savings banks loans; as Police Commissioner in this city he attempted to brutalize the police force by endeavoring to arm them with spiked clubs; he has falsified history by making himself out “the hero of San Juan Hill,” whereas in fact he “shared” in that battle only from the safe distance of Kettle Hill; etc.; etc.

Notwithstanding these numerous blow-holes in the Colonel’s armor, not one of them is availed of by his bitter foes. Instead, his bitter foes, are spending ammunition upon his “breach of word” on the score of his having declared he would not run for a third term and yet expressing readiness to run now—a venial offence, seeing that the “third term” which is historically tabooed is the third term by an incumbent who, as such, could do much in the way of dictating the election of delegates to the nominating convention of his party; they ring upon him the charges of “breach of friendship” on the score of his now turning upon Taft—as though Taft, his creature,

had not first turned upon his creator Roosevelt; they tire not in quoting the good opinion he once expressed of Taft, as evidence of his shiftiness,—as though a man is for all time nailed to the views he entertained of another, despite that other's subsequent radical change of conduct; etc.; etc.

Now, why is this thus, and why this thusness?

Colonel Roosevelt must be feeling like a man at whom people are firing blank cartridges. The noise is fierce; the damage done next to nothing. His foes dare not expose his misdeeds, they would expose the source of many a revenue pocketed by themselves.

Not all criminals “peach,” nor do they always “peach.”

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
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