Notes: Henry Cabot Lodge - Autobiography

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Henry Cabbot Lodge: Autobiography

Lodge seems to have had the ability to provoke life even to those far away and out of touch. Here was I in '84 naturally disliking him because I believed it was due to his influence that T R who seemed a likely young crusader had gone over to the Republicans. I didn't like him when I met him in Washington ten years later in the Capitol - I was with Senator Hoar and his daughter - and Lodge came up. "Here is a fellow historian," the Senator said in his hearty way and told him I was working on the life of Napoleon. I shall never forget the contemptuous look I got from the fellow historian. Heaven knows I was humble enough about that job, was surprised enough that it went over as it did. I had only pulled myself through by saying resolutely as I worked, "A rat may look at a King. A cat may look at a King."

Moreover, I hadn't liked his tariff policy and I was to say so later and to get a reproving letter from a great lady - Mrs. Field. (Look up this letter)

I rejoiced in all the evidence there was that it was not he who got the gold plank into the Republican in '96, also he claims it.

I have among my notes one of the cruelest and probably undeserved speeches of Charles Eliot who could be cruel. Attach note

Of course I detested his attitude towards Wilson's work at the League of Nations. There was the contempt he showed
the labor delegation when they came over in the interest of
International Labor. Amazing. (Look this up)

Wilson was too obstinate probably. Senator Hitchcock
of Nebraska told me of going to Wilson's sick bed. Hitchcock was
engineering the campaign and laying out a possible compromise.
(Look this up)

"Mr. President," Mr. Hitchcock said to him, "is it
not time that you held out an olive branch?" Mr. Wilson
characteristically enough said, "Let Lodge hold out the olive
branch."

But my dislike of him was his pushing the high
tariff - high cotton - high wool - allowing the outrageous
wool peak. (See Tariff in Our Times)

A. A. B. tells me that President Elliot said:
"Yes, I have known Henry Cabot Lodge 8 years - (Bert
thinks about fifty) I have never known him to have a generous
emotion, but he is an improvement on his father who was my
neighbor for seventeen years. No man ever had a worse
neighbor. He was malignant."