

TAFT JUST MISSES ROUGH RIDER TRAIN

His Car Almost Coupled to Train
of ex-Soldiers Coming to
New York.

SQUARE DEAL FOR ROADS

Says That Is What He Seeks—As a
Traveler He Wants Safety for
Railroad Employes.

PARKERSBURG, West Va., June 15.—President Taft and 100 Rough Riders, on their way to New York by special train to participate in the Roosevelt reception next Saturday, passed through Parkersburg to-night. The President just missed having his car hooked on to the Rough Rider special, the railroad officials deciding at the last moment to attach his private car to the regular Baltimore & Ohio train due in Washington at 6:30 to-morrow morning. Mr. Taft will receive the Roosevelt troopers at the White House to-morrow.

The President spent most of to-day at Marietta, Ohio, where he delivered a historical address at the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of Marietta College. The President also received the degree of Doctor of Civil Law.

Passing through Parkersburg Mr. Taft made a five-minute address to a big station throng from the rear of his car. His hearers were mostly railway employes, and this caused him to say something of the necessity for more safety appliances to protect the lives and limbs of men employed on railroads.

"I travel so much," said the President, "that I feel like a railroad man myself, and I want the men engaged in that work to be as safe as possible, for when they are safe the passengers are safe."

Mr. Taft referred briefly to the new railroad bill, saying it had been enacted not to attack the railroads, but to secure justice for them and to do justice to all interests.

"What I plead for," Mr. Taft concluded amid cheers, "is a square deal for all in this, whether they be farmers, railroaders, manufacturers, or workingmen. We are all in the same boat together, and what injures one injures all. We want a healthy development of all and justice to all."

The President left at 6:55 P. M. for Washington, just ahead of the Roosevelt Rough Riders' special.

President Taft, speaking at Marietta College, took for his theme the "History of the Northwest Territory," and referred to the ordinance of 1787, for the government of the territory, as the greatest instrument of fundamental law, except the Constitution of the United States, which has ever been enunciated by men.

He declared that the provision in the Northwest ordinance, which later appeared in the Constitution forbidding the impairing of an obligation of a contract by law, has been of far-reaching importance and has tended to make this country with its democratic government by the people and for the people perhaps as conservative a community in respect of the rights of property as there is in the world.

"The preservation of the sacredness of the contract obligation in the laws of this country has done much to give stability to our business and to increase the confidence of investors and the consequent risking of capital and the marvelous development of our whole country."