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As regards the marriages of the Roosevelts, the first ~~two~~ three ^{NOTES.} _{pp. 23-36} were, as was natural in a Dutch colony with Dutch-descended women. After the third generation the marriages were for the most part with those of English descent, but Dutch marriages occurred even then, as the best New York families were still Dutch. Thus the stock kept virile and abreast of the times. Some of the famous Dutch families in New York have today nothing left but their name - they are few in numbers, they lack progressiveness and a true democratic spirit. One reason, perhaps the chief - of the

virility of the Roosevelts is this very democratic spirit. They have never felt that because they were born in a good position they could put their hands in their pockets and succeed. They have felt, rather, that, being born in a good position, there was no excuse for them if they did not do their duty by the community, and it is because this idea was instilled into them from their birth that they have in nearly every case proved good citizens.