

TALK WITH MR. BLAINE

SIDE LIGHTS ON HIS RECENT LETTER

A LONG-CHERISHED PURPOSE—FRIENDS' PROTEST, BUT HIS WIFE IS GRADUALLY CONVINCED OF HIS POLITICAL COURSE. HE WILL NOT WITHDRAW TO HELP THE NOMINEE, HE BETRAY NO PREFERENCE—HAPPY DAYS IN FLORENCE.

Chicago, Feb. 25.—I found Mr. Blaine this morning at the Hotel Washington, on the Longfellow. The hotel looks directly upon the Army. It is a large, square, yellow brick building, thoroughly comfortable and one of the best looking hotels in the city. The concierge informed me that he would be glad to take up my card, as Mr. Blaine would receive no one. After giving me a phony mad of glance when I presented, he finally carried up my card, and came down looking very much surprised, saying that Mr. Blaine would be glad to see me. I found Mr. and Mrs. Blaine sitting in the large red and gold parlor of their suite, which directly overlooks the river. The rooms upon this side of the hotel are valued on account of the small, bright, cheerful, sunny atmosphere. Mr. Blaine explained why he received so few of his callers. He said he was always glad to see any one who really knew him, but that there had been a number of people who had called on him during the last few weeks simply from motives of curiosity, and that he had been forced to a certain extent to keep his doors closed to visitors.

On Mr. Blaine's arrival in Italy he found himself overthrown by his old enemy, rheumatism. He was laid up for some weeks, and he was obliged to keep pretty quiet for two weeks more. The bright and pleasant weather here, however, made his recovery a very rapid one, and he is now going about as he did in Paris and London. He drives in the afternoon and takes a long walk in the morning. He looks bright and cheerful, and his friends are no sign of regret at his withdrawal from politics. He displays, rather, the satisfaction of a man who has had a period of rest.

MR. BLAINE'S DECISION PLEASES HIS WIFE. His family are pleased to have him retire from public life. During conversations with Mr. Blaine upon two or three occasions during my stay here, Mrs. Blaine in most emphatic terms approved of her husband's withdrawal from politics. She said she had heard and learned longer than he usually wears them. This is a slight change from his appearance. He was dressed in a rough tweed suit. His eyes looked bright and clear, and he was going about as he did in Paris and London. He drives in the afternoon and takes a long walk in the morning. He looks bright and cheerful, and his friends are no sign of regret at his withdrawal from politics. He displays, rather, the satisfaction of a man who has had a period of rest.

THE RECENT LETTER CAREFULLY PERMEATED. Upon the occasion of my first call, after some preliminary talk, the conversation turned upon the recent American politics. Mr. Blaine asked me questions at first. He wanted to know what I had heard as to the way his letter had been received. I told him that I had no information except the meagre scraps that had been called in the London papers, but that the general impression was that it had been received as he was not sincere in writing his letter to Mr. Jones, and that it was considered by such as were friendly to him as a withdrawal from politics. I also told him that the general comment of the English papers was that it was a sincere withdrawal.

WHY HE WITHDREW FROM ANOTHER CAMPAIGN. Growing more explicit, he said: "I hold that I have no right to be a candidate again. A man who has once been a candidate of his party and defeated, owes it to his party to withdraw, and not to be a candidate a second time. More than this, there is another plain reason for my withdrawing. I could not go through the long and weary process of a campaign, such as one as the caucus of the last campaign. To accept a nomination, and to do less than before, would be to betray the confidence of my party. I had no faith myself in the success of the party."

HE WILL NOT NAME HIS SUCCESSOR. He is enjoying his moderate life in a moderate degree. He has no desire to be at home. This he did not say in so many words, but it was plainly to be inferred from his manner in discussing home affairs. His two daughters are getting so much good from their visit and have so much enjoyment in it that he has yielded his personal desire to return to the United States until after the Republican convention in June. He wishes to avoid the political and social life of the city, and is desiring to influence, in the remotest degree, the Chicago convention.

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PROTECTION FOR THE FARMERS

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FREE TRADES TRYING THE BUNCO GAME

FREE TRADES TRYING THE BUNCO GAME. FROM THE ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT.

BREADED THE HIGH LICENSE BILL

BREADED THE HIGH LICENSE BILL. A LARGE NUMBER OF DEMOCRATIC POLITICIANS CONGREGATED AT ALL PARTS OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY SATURDAY AT THE HOME OF GOVERNOR GREEN IN ELIZABETH.

A FINE NEW OPERA HOUSE

A FINE NEW OPERA HOUSE. THE AMPHION ACADEMY IN BROOKLYN.

AMERICAN OPINIONS IN EUROPE

AMERICAN OPINIONS IN EUROPE. MR. BLAINE'S RECENT LETTER HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY HIS FRIENDS IN LONDON.

WHAT THE SWEDISH FARMERS HAVE ACHIEVED

WHAT THE SWEDISH FARMERS HAVE ACHIEVED. FROM THE MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE.

THE PRODUCER KNOWS WHAT HE WANTS

THE PRODUCER KNOWS WHAT HE WANTS. FROM THE DENVER POST.

THE MISSOURI VALLEY EYING MR. DEWEY

THE MISSOURI VALLEY EYING MR. DEWEY. FROM THE KANSAS CITY JOURNAL.

HOW TO GET A CINDER OUT OF THE EYE

HOW TO GET A CINDER OUT OF THE EYE. FROM THE MEDICAL SUMMARY.

A MINNESOTA SWEDDE PRES HIS MIND

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