selves trying to remove Grant, the normal party element formed around Blaine. But the party had been weakened in 1872, and its subsequent victories were scratches. Finally it all came to Blaine, but it was then too late.

OATH VISITED HIS OLD HOMES.

After Mr. Blaine became the nominee for President, in 1884, I visited the homes of his youth, and suddenly there was revealed to me a past epic of mighty travel.

As the railroads were not opened to the Ohio till after he had gone down the river to Kentucky, Blaine had lived all his youth, so to speak, upon the king's highway, the Appian road. He had seen a tide of travel go by which we shall never see again—in stages, on horseback and in wagons, in sleighs, and on foot, herds, postboys, Congressmen, highwaymen. Going from the East, much of the travel was transhipped at Brownsville, and went down the Monongahela to Pittsburgh, and thence to St. Paul, Independence, and New Orleans by boat.

"How wise," I thought, "ought a boy to be who was bred on this great national road."

He had seen Clay, Jackson, Poindexter, Robert J. Walker he knew before Walker went to Mississippi. He had heard of Albert Gallatin, the financier, who lived at Friendship Hill, hardly thirty miles above Brownsville. Blaine stood touching the East and the West, that West that was to be all our politics for the rest of his life, and which even now dwelt only in the East like nothing whatever about.

Mr. Conkling never knew the West. He lived on the Erie Canal, but he moved to Utica from Albany after Blaine went to Maine.

From Brownsville young Blaine could pant to see that great heavy East, as its emigrants and lawyers and speculators went past. He saw it at last, in the far sundered corner of the country, that Maine or frontier Massachusetts which did not obtain its Statehood and admission to the Union till 1820. Maine and Missouri entered the Union together ten years before Blaine was born, and he could say, like Abraham of old, as he looked at the Missouri contention: "With my staff have I passed over this Jordan, and, lo! I am become two bands."

SCENES OF HIS BOYHOOD.

I hired a little boy, such as Blaine had been at West Brownsville, who was anxious to make some money for his father, and he drove me behind two ponies to Little Washington, twenty-four miles. The country looked to have been once old. Toll gates, taverns, turnpikes, hamlets, big stone culverts, everything reminded me of some Roman road to Gaul or Germany long since disused, but full of the echoes of a tramping past. The buffaloes, the Indians, Girty, Braddock, Benton, had gone that way.

And Blaine had counted the milestones many times in childhood, whose fame was now my only incentive to stray down that neglected aisle, parallel to the great nave of steam travel. Late, but at last, he had caught up with envious fortune, and was the candidate of millions for the mighty consulate. The high and bounding country took beauty and inspiration from her son, and the pleasure of pursuing such a biography by travel I felt to be the highest privilege.

Everybody spoke well of Blaine. He had left no evil memories behind him. One old lady, who called him "James," thought he had jilted a young lady while at college, but I investigated the matter and found little in it, as it takes two to be in love. The time of love came later on, and Blaine has been in love with his wife all his life.

He was at college a brash debater, striding in, carrying the argument by his feet and hands as well as his head. He loved to play shinny, which is a game of getting in as you can, poking and hooking out and kicking, hitting as you go, to drive the ball home. He went to the Presbyterian kirk, among the descendants of the whiskey insurrectionists, whose most wilful leader, David Bradford, lived in that town. The family affairs were hardly improved, and James wanted to get out and help the family to good times again.

WENT TO KENTUCKY TO TEACH.

Instead of going to Pittsburgh, like Carnegie, or back to Philadelphia spoils, like Thomas Scott, or in the lobby at Harrisburg, or to Washington with his relatives, the Ewings, just then in power, Blaine embarked for Kentucky to be a pedagogue, the same as Seward and Thad Stevens and Lyman Trumbull and Lewis Cass. His might have been the china cup they gave boys in those days inscribed "For loving a book."

By the time he returned to Pittsburgh from Kentucky, in two years, he was just a man, with a wife, soon to be a father, and poor and unsettled and anxious.

He once said to me: "Do you know that I tried to be a newspaper correspondent? Yes, I tried it in Philadelphia in the early 50's. I sent communications to the old *Pennsylvania Inquirer*. They couldn't pay anything. I might have stopped there had they paid me and never have gone to Maine."

He seems to have taken his meals at the Merchants' Hotel in Fourth street. The late M. Hall Stanton boarded with him there, and did not know that he was married. Stanton went to vote for him for President at Cincinnati in 1876, but had been badged for Hartranft, a trick probably set up from New York. It was the cause of Pennsylvania several times afterward quitting the party.

TEACHER AND PUPIL MET IN CONGRESS.

In Kentucky Job Stevenson, afterward a member of Congress under Blaine, was one of Blaine's pupils at the Georgetown Military Academy. He came into collision with Blaine in Congress, and it looked like the obstreperous pupil and the slashing schoolmaster coming to blows again, but nobody remembers much about it.

I fancy that Blaine's caution at that time of life had not been grown, and that he was a child of impulse. But the successful man is merely a growth, and between the necessity one is partly responsible for and the adventure one must make to recover, the public being is hewed.

His wife became his guiding hand, and led him back to her parents and the clean, steady habits of New England. He might have gone further south, like Sargent S. Prentiss, and settled there and lost his habits; he might have stayed in Pennsylvania and become a tradesman, a glassmaker, or a contractor. He might have founded a town in Ohio like Charley Foster. But the genius which reserved him to love a book took him from all these earthly temptations and by a roundabout way led him into public life.

He was careful in Maine to show its men of capital the path of investment in his native districts, the Colburns and others. The basis of Blaine was still Pennsylvania, and while he has been a pleasing, graceful writer and general reader and a delightful conversationalist, he has never passed from prose to poetical illustration. Understanding, this earthly footstool, have been his domains.

More cultured than any of our Presidents except John Quincy Adams, or any of our statesmen, perhaps, except Webster and Seward, he had neither Webster's Miltonian march of rhetoric nor Seward's pure idealism, nor Quincy Adams's poetical emotion and power of monody.

Observer, perceiver, reporter, leader, writer, and deliverer of orations, Blaine has followed the national pike, kept on the stones and bridges, and charmed the country by his sense, perspicacity, and brightness as our *compagnon du voyage*.

HIS CAREER AT AUGUSTA.

Maine was a State, like a white sheet of paper, for the young stranger to write his name on. They knew him only as Hattie Stanwood's good-looking husband, heard that he was well connected, and were not surprised that he got upon the newspaper "down to 'Gusta," the capital, away off half way to Bangor and the lumber hills. Far behind him were the older Massachusetts settlements, whence went William King, Jonathan Cilley, and the shipbuilders, cotton spinners, and bigger merchants on to Boston. Further still was Portsmouth, N. H., where Webster started upon his career. Portland was the emporium, the city of Neal Dow and the Congressman, Longfellow, father of the poet, and it was sixty miles to the south. But Blaine lived at the capital, and the Legislature soon knew him, and he had a keen scent for local, topographical, and personal history.

The basis of all strong careers in America is historical sympathy and passionate love of country. There were many things to be picked up in Maine. Knox, the first Secretary of War, lived and died there. Vaughan, Lord Shelburne's secretary, who steered us clear of French intrigues at the final treaty of peace, came to the kennebec and settled. Neal Dow had framed his model liquor law atout that time, and Hannibal Hamlin, who had been in the Senate, was the Solon of the Penobscot lumbermen.

He saw the rise of the Republican party at the Philadelphia Convention of 1856.

The State was a compound of Massachusetts and Western, or pioneer character. Beauty in the women, courage and sturdiness in the men, large families, small careers, few fortunes, nearly pure English blood, not much cleanliness, a wholesome life, with the main chance closely to be watched, and respect for her public men, made the private and the public life of Maine nearly the same. How different from the life he had seen in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, Kentucky!

There is a tradition that in Blaine's stock somewhere was a Virginia grandfather, a schoolmistress. His native part of Pennsylvania was long considered to be included in Virginia and Wheeling, Va., was only about thirty miles from little Washington. The superior suavity of Blaine from such beginnings, his Irish softening, his perfectly correct habits, family, gentleness, and party fidelity, with ready and growing talents and self-watchfulness, the result of his till now uncertain employment, won him that foundation in the State no distant hostility has affected. Maine has been his gallant last and second mother, and no accusation comes to her in this hour of her Senator's, her Speaker's, and her Secretary's dissolution. *Dirigo* is her motto, and he has confirmed it, and even of him she could repeat the song of 1840:

> She's gone hell-bent
> For Governor Kent;
> For Tippecanoe
> And Tyler, too.

Yet Maine was long a Democratic State, like New Hampshire and Connecticut.

A MAN WHO MATURED SLOWLY.

Blaine would have made a great editor in a larger field, probably one of the greatest and most courteous of the world's journalists. Toward the close of his life he inclined to the press as better than politics, for then the rewards of literary composition were one result of his general fame; but in that tentative time in the Augusta paper his rewards were but livelihood, and he had opportunity to read and to get discipline.

The day Harrison was inaugurated I spent near five hours in the Capitol with Hannibal Hamlin. He told me that Blaine did not mature fast; that he gave no greater promise than many other young men; that his moral life in Maine was faultless, and that he had good, gentle, and orthodox inclinations. He said Blaine was uncertain in his fulfilments of political promises.

I suspect that Blaine in that commonwealth of small temporalities held himself back.

Age counted for more there than youth, and he knew the temerity of the stranger would awaken resentment. His wife, no doubt, played the part of *Dirigo*, and directed him from her native grasp of her native society. Mr. Elkins once said to me: "She is one of the last and best of the Puritan dames."

Blaine went to the Legislature, presided subsequently over the popular branch, and came on to Congress. He saw the transformation of the State after the Kansas-Nebraska betrayals of the North by Pierce, Douglas, and Buchanan, when the Democratic Senator, Hamlin, carried the fight for the Republican Governor. Fessenden entered upon his career. Lot Morrill was no unaccomplished political actor. The Washburnes had Brother Israel in the State—a vigilant, single-eyed man. That fact in which Blaine became an adept when he was in his healthy prime that lee-bound province taught him. He handled the pen and the gavel with that caution which finally became a defect in his nature.

He had to differentiate between his Scotch-Irish dash and his State of Maine method. Even in Congress at first he lay low. The same man was there, but he wanted to be sure.

Senator Cullom says that Mr. Lincoln once said to him: "There is a new man coming forward—Blaine of Maine."

What a pity that Blaine could not have lived to tell us with his own pen, and without the qualification of the candidate, the secrets and rumors of those times!

BLAINE AND CONKLING.

Near the close of the war came the Conkling incident, where the Maine member, hardly thirty-five years old, drew and returned the fire of one of the most combative and implacable men of the century, and yet, as many will be astonished to hear, I think Blaine and Conkling had as many points of resemblance as of difference.

Each was the superior in tone and self-esteem, official descent, and high-marked ambition of the great body of constituency servers around them.

The flavor of hayseed and of trade was in neither. Blaine had cultivated deference as much as Conkling defiance, but in either case the purpose was to prevail, and Blaine, if forgiving, was as quickly touchy as Conkling.

Defeated for Congress after one term, Conkling returned with the revenges of the contest still smouldering against the Provost Marshal General's Bureau of the Army. That bureau, having yielded to Blaine's tact what Conkling's compulsion could not procure, selected Blaine to read its letter of defence. Swords were at once out and sparks flew.

But Blaine had a little State and Conkling a big one. He laid New York across the path of Blaine to the Cabinet and the Presidency. He controlled the Senate and Blaine the House, and each got a President away from the other. It is a pity that such barbaric chronicles lie upon the page of our history, more worthy of narration by Froissart or Philip de Comines than the civil historian.

Yet I heard each of those men admit the ability of the other. "Conkling is as smart as he can be," said Blaine in 1869. In 1877, when Conkling was fighting to keep Arthur in the Collectorship, I said to him: "Don't you think Blaine is a growing man?" He nodded his head silently "yes." Blaine had supported Conkling as against Hayes, whom neither of them liked.

As social courtiers Blaine and Conkling were equally accomplished. None need ask where Macgregor sat when they were at the head of the table. Both had a Scotch streak, but there was no Puritan in Blaine, while Conkling was of old Salem witch-burning blood.

Both men were cautious, anxious, desirous of financial independence, and ambitious. Neither knew the way to happiness, if that can ever lie in ambition. Both at times were profoundly morbid and lonely; but Blaine reserved his family nook as a spot for peace, and never was harsh there.

He was made to make others happy, if he could not be happy himself. What are called Christian conciliations, a heartfelt amnesty for his persecutors dignified, if they also weakened Blaine, and here, eminently, he was like Henry Clay.

Conkling was rather like De Witt Clinton. He had the advantage of Blaine in being a trained lawyer and the comparative disadvantage of having no origination nor fertility of suggestiveness, nor scientific convictions. He was a stiffer partisan than Blaine, but Blaine would not bolt.

In a white heat Conkling left the party when Blaine was adopted by it, and Blaine would have supported Conkling if himself had been omitted.

Conkling was Bismarck as we have lived to see him. Blaine was Cavour.

The business grasp of Conkling upon his patronage and his promises was better than Blaine's, but he distributed them more feudally and parsimoniously. Utica was big enough for Conkling. Maine too small for Blaine.

From the seat which he had held three years in the Senate Conkling beheld Blaine raised to the rostrum of the lower House. Blaine beat a pure, not brilliant, but successful man, Henry L. Dawes. Dawes was angry, but I saw him at Blaine's door, an inquirer of sincere good feeling, when Blaine was about to die, and by that time Dawes's Massachusetts was also for Blaine.

AS SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

When Blaine made his speech in 1868-69 at taking the gavel, I leaned over the gallery and looked upon his carefully prepared notes. He was a little nervous, altogether effective.

As an orator he had a very loud, clear, slightly nasal, but not unpleasant voice, often appearing to proceed out of the corner of his mouth. He was not an orator, but a quick, lucid, cogent debater, and a good reader of his own thoughtfully considered essays. His countenance had the hungry grimness of a fighting Knight like Dunois or Bayard when he faced an antagonist before the House. Proctor Knott ceased to be a humorist or to smile after he jostled against Blaine with Mulligan for Knott's Sancho Panza.

Had Blaine lived he could have earned $100,000 this year by lecturing.

He made a great Speaker, great in impartiality, great in friendship, inclining uniformly to kindness. Congress was again his class in school.

He held it in hand like an educator. From it his popularity radiated over the land. Colfax had been glib, Banks mainly deportment; Blaine was a real man, easy, discerning, rescinrcal with joy, despatch, and elegance.

Grant was a long time displaying his really great qualities of courage and confidence. Colfax faded away in the Vice-Presidency.

Blaine was to many of us a new revealment.

Soon he lost his State of Maine primness and became a continental Pennsylvanian again. Who could forget the opening of his reception of the King of the Sandwich Islands: "It happens auspiciously that the first sovereign to be received by the American Congress comes not from the East but from the West."

It was in the business management of his promises—his committees—that he made his earliest mistakes and enmities. He disappointed Butler and Garfield, the former a potent personality in the House, with abundant resources and audacity, the Mirabeau of that body, and Garfield was the hope of the free traders, who thought they had extorted the promise that he should have the Ways and Means Committee. He put Dawes there instead and gave Garfield Appropriations.

Had Blaine given Garfield what he wanted—Ways and Means—Garfield would never have been President, for he came to me soon afterward and said: "They are just standing on their heads in my district at the news that I am a member of the Cobden Club." Garfield had been there by the same influence which in the fullness of days, twenty-four years, best protection through its own immodesty put there by a small levy of men without craft or profession, or physical property, whose apostle was David A. Wells. "I tried to give them free coal," said Blaine to me.

AN INDEPENDENT FACTOR THEN.

This agitation, in fact, was factitious, and the schism it set up in 1872 was meant to catch Blaine, but he had too sensible a constituency to wander from it. The amateur free traders destroyed both their candidate, Greeley, and all hope of tariff revision till late in Cleveland's term, and in the interval there was no barrier against the most rapacious bounties.

Grant came to his second term with Conkling, Edmunds, Morton, and Carpenter, heading an intolerant majority, and Blaine was the sole independent power left.

He had preserved himself through the excesses of the impeachment trial, taking no notable part in it. He now grew eminent by his moderation and brilliant conduct over a Congress that was soon spotted by exposures, a Senate full of hatreds, and a President who was the victim of his appointees. Panic supervened in 1873 and lasted till 1877-78, and Tilden carried New York with the cry of reform.

The St. Louis whiskey cases, the District of Columbia extravagance, Credit Mobilier, and back pay caught almost everybody but Blaine. The Vice-Presidents, Colfax and Wilson, Garfield, Patterson, and Brooks went to the wall.

It became necessary in time to catch Blaine, and Mulligan was found in time to affect his nomination by a Convention pitched in Mr. Hayes's State of Ohio.

While Blaine was being crucified in Washington the alliance of bullies at Cincinnati, reformers and assassins in the same caucus, were dividing his effects.

Morton, Bristow, Conkling, Hartranft, or the Camerons, and Hayes were all required, with a big State behind them, and the aid of that other Spangler, the Gaslight Man, to beat this pestiferous schoolteacher from Maine.

He uttered a cry of pain as he went to church, and fell unconscious upon the steps.

When Bristow called at his house to express regrets, Mrs. Blaine gave a repetition of Oliver Cromwell's daughter Bridget fetching her father Oliver from his height.

Since that time the wounded remnant of Blaine has been upon the stage, but they had to remount Grant as a candidate to beat him in 1880, and then only landed him in the State Department, as they had previously landed him in the Senate.

He was defeated by a union of the military and the officeholders, but he shivered New York in Mr. Conkling's mailed hand, broke Sherman in Ohio and Cameron in Pennsylvania, and when Garfield died Blaine was the most popular man in the new world, and so was nominated over Arthur and the Senate in 1884.

While Garfield went in pursuit of Blaine to be his heart's ease and Cabinet head, Harrison seemed to desire to be rid of Blaine and to put in that still lonely, too popular man's place, a parcel of subordinates who could be labelled Blaine men. This parsimony of discharging obligations, the sensitive country felt, tired of having Mr. Blaine made use of and backsaloped.

Garfield was a more verdant and heavy-hoofed Blaine, the domestic line of the Arabian strain. He was as good a student and reader as Blaine, possibly a little higher in literary finish, a more professional orator and pulpiteer, and a tender-hearted fellow; but in many things he never rose above being a big, soft boy, and in Cabinet initiative and worldly and social presence his moral bore no proportion to his physical courage. Blaine made an admirable chamberlain to this man of no aplomb, but it was not hard to prick Garfield against his mentor.

Arthur, in like manner, had resolved to sacrifice Blaine in order that he might propitiate and get rid of Conkling, like Richard II., banishing Norfolk and Hereford at once. Both went into the opposition, and Mr. Harrison seems to have regarded himself as a smarter man than Blaine.

It seems a singular fact that, while Prime Minister to three Presidents, Blaine never had a full chance, and yet kept the public admiration above them all. Each of these Presidents broke Blaine's household menage up. Garfield lost him a life term in the Senate; Arthur the proprietorship of Blaine's beautiful house, which he added manfully to Washington's architectures, and before Harrison's term was out Blaine's official residence in the Rogers residence had become a private one.

POPULARITY WAS HIS CRIME.

So in the Senate.

The Senate had long been the semi-corrupt participator in the executive patronage it confirmed, and through every State thus licentiously usurped was a Blaine recruitment. With a few exceptions these Senators resolved upon a policy of cold, deaf and dumb snobbery for the man whose crime was popularity; but whenever Blaine was to speak they had the mortification to see the galleries crowded, and at one of these pageants, when the statue of William King of Maine was to be received, Mr. Blaine gave way to his pique against Massachusetts, which had been weaned over to Edmunds, by reciting her crabbed guardianship of her ward of Maine. All that he said was true; it was not wise, but he would not have preserved his reputation if he had been always tame.

It is a singular fact that he has lost and regained almost every State in the Union.

Nor is it clear that Blaine won his promotions by management.

Who ever saw his headquarters in competent hands?

If he intrusted any one in it was one like good old flushy-brained J. F. Jones; the rest invited themselves in and expected to pick his official table bare. His managers really were the American voters.

Senator Cullom says that Blaine's election to be Speaker was the result of a spark of good feeling at a little dinner. Mr. Holman says that Blaine always had remarkable ability. Judge Robertson said to me after Blaine's defeat by Cleveland, and just as he was laying down the Collectorship of the Port of New York: "I sat with him in Congress; I loved him, and could not be persecuted out of that regard, and I say to you that they in Congress who pursue him are not worthy to untie Blaine's shoestrings."

A MAN WHO REQUIRED LOVE.

Blaine required love as much as some other leaders required hate. With this cherishing nature he silently suffered under a hatred which appeared to have studied his pangs, and had sworn never to let him escape. He had not one but a hundred Roger Chillingworths, each the more implacable from having had no injury to whet him on. Said Mr. Sherman, our Consul to Liverpool, who was long Blaine's clerk: "Was there ever such hate of so kind a man? It will never let up on him, either."

No, as it has been said of one before, "He was driven like a lamb to the slaughter, and he opened not his mouth." But those gibes make the tears to-day which will long moisten the grass upon his grave.

Henry Ward Beecher, who was called fouler names than Blaine, and with the corners of more Mulligan letters sticking out, thought it some relief to get up and abuse Blaine in 1884, and to summon a railroad President from Michigan "to the judgment seat of God" because he refused to confirm Beecher in some slander.

About the time Blaine became Speaker he and Hannibal Hamlin made a combination which beat Lot Morrill for the Senate. A rather impotent jealousy of Blaine therefore existed in Maine from the times of Fessenden to those of Tom Reed.

Yet before he died Blaine was the candidate of all the Conklingites, even of some of Conkling's blood, and of Don Cameron and Quay, of the last Washburne, of George Hoar, the relative of Beecher, and of Thomas Platt.

All he seemed to want after 1884 was health. He was fascinating indeed, and his favors to others were long regardless of personal consequences. Many women admired and even loved him. Husbands trusted his friendship for their wives.

If any of his sons were erring he loved them the more. You could no more drive Ellen Terry out of the domain of love than Blaine.

He was indulgent to the young men who filled the seats of Maine in the Senate when he might have desired them, but he went in-stead and wrote a long book, the doing of which, under a time contract, gave him the gout and a slight paralysis, and then he gave all the proceeds of the book to pay the deficit of his campaign, he whom they said was a corruptionist.

Cyrus Field invited him to meet the rich men, but he met, instead, the alliteratively senile Burchard.

He perceived the genius of Jay Gould, as now all perceive it, but Gould was no giver.

The Pacific Railroad people were for Conkling, the Forbes and Boston cormorants were his enemies, and money poured out from Pennsylvania for Harrison was withheld from Blaine.

MADE HIS MONEY IN THE LAST TEN YEARS.

He was not well off when first elected Speaker, but he took a house befitting his station, and there I saw him providently assist the butler with the wine for a press reception.

In the time of general jobbery, with land grant railroads absorbing great domains, all that was brought against him was a miserable parcel of Fort Smith stock, while jurist Senators were taking the public time to argue railroad and patent cases under the roof of the Capitol for lordly fees.

He made no money until after Garfield's death, when his reputation drew him into some mining and Virginia railroad operations. Mr. Elkins told me that had he been reared to business he would have been a great business man. Mr. Henry Davis said that when Mr. Blaine built his house at Washington he became so embarrassed that Davis went and borrowed some money for him to see him through.

Men who in Cabinet places turned over to their employers kingdoms of the public land, newspaper correspondents who became millionaires on secret and early information, shrank from the man of similar faculty, whose nervous apprehensions led him to write, "Burn this letter," a thing of no more account than when he has said to me after long and hearty talks: "Now, I never want to see one word of this in print."

I think his timidity was abnormal, and invited slanders and suspicions, but he investigated no man and questioned no man's right to his own conscience and acquisitions. The testimony of private correspondence is the testimony of a receiver of stolen goods, and domestic correspondence could condemn Carlyle, or Washington, or William the Silent.

Blaine's greatest offence was being worthy of the Presidency, and having the popular charms and talents. Said Justice Miller to me after Hayes had beaten him: "These popular conventions are packed to reject a man whom everybody wants for a man nobody wants, and when I see Hayes preferred to Blaine, I think conventions ought to have had their day."

The three brimming times of Blaine's life were when he delivered the Garfield oration, elected Harrison, and sat at the head of the Pan-American Congress.

POLITICAL FOES WROTE HIS EPITAPH.

His epitaph was written by the Democratic National Convention which last nominated Mr. Cleveland at the passing of a resolution of sympathy at the death of Blaine's son. The implacability of his party's Pharisees was drowned in the inquiry of Pilate and the Romans: "Why, what harm hath he done?"

The golden affluence of the period he and Grant commanded, from the driving of the golden spike in 1869 to the power of our society to stay the devastation of Baring's failure, is the reply.

We are rich, and he was broken-hearted.

The sections which the policy of Grant and his advisers would have divided Blaine composed. In this he resembled Henry Clay pressing the Missouri Compromise in 1820.

In cultivation and address; in a wide, suggestive, and searching interest into the material affairs of his country; in versatility, scholarship, and finish, he was fifty years in advance of his equals.

Redeemed by weaknesses which hurt no one but himself, and by a volatility which is the Creator's best gift to the earth and gives it alternation of sun and dew and atmosphere to breathe and sustain life and set the hues of cloud and rainbow, Blaine is the sunset of his time, the still, starry closing of a noble day.

GEORGE ALFRED TOWNSEND.

ACTION OF CONGRESS.

Both Houses Adjourn After Listening to Brief Eulogies.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The Senate met this morning in the gloom which the intelligence of Mr. Blaine's death an hour before noon naturally cast over that body and over the Capitol. The sad event was appropriately noted in the opening prayer of Chaplain Butler. As soon as the reading of yesterday's journal was completed Mr. Hale of Maine, one of Mr. Blaine's closest friends, rose and announced the death. He said:

MR. PRESIDENT: We are again summoned into the presence of death. A very great man has passed from this earth. The Hon. James G. Blaine died in his house in this city at 11 o'clock this morning. His long illness had, in some measure, prepared us for that; but the dread event will carry sadness and mourning throughout all the United States, and will awaken interest and sorrow wherever civilized man lives on the face of the globe. Mr. Blaine's career was so remarkable and his public services were so great that in all the histories which may be written of his times he will stand as the central figure, not only as to his own country, but on policies and subjects that affected other great nations. He belonged, Mr. President, not to my one State, but to all the country; and Pennsylvania, which gave him birthplace and nurture, and Maine, where he made his home and where he became her first citizen, and which filled his lap with all the honors which she could bestow, mourn to-day more than do the dwellers by the shores of the great Gulf and in the cabins of the far Sierras. This is no time or place for me to speak in detail of Mr. Blaine's distinguished public life. He was for a time a distinguished member on the floor of the House of Representatives of the nation, and for six years presided there as its speaker. His services in this chamber covered years. He was twice Secretary of State, and was, until of late, a member of the present Administration. I do not think there is one Senator here who will not deem it fitting, in view of these facts and of the fact that he died where his last peaceful look from his chamber window might embrace this Capitol, where his voice had been so many times heard, that we adjourn in respect to his memory, and that, although Mr. Blaine was at the time of his death a private citizen, this body take immediate adjournment.

Mr. Cockrell (Dem., Mo.) moved that, in view of the announcement by the Senator from Maine, that the Senate do now adjourn. The Vice-President put the motion and at 12:20 declared the Senate adjourned till to-morrow.

In the House, soon after the reading of the Journal, Mr. Milliken of Maine rose amid profound silence and said:

MR. SPEAKER: It becomes my sad duty to announce to this House the death of James G. Blaine. Mr. Blaine was for fourteen years a prominent and leading member of this House. For six years he was the distinguished Speaker of this House. Every position he has held he has gilded with the light of genius, and he has given to the public service in this generation such service as only such industry and such laboras have enabled him to his death to-day. I doubt not that every member of this House will be glad to pay him a tribute of respect by an adjournment.

Mr. Holman (Dem., Ind.) said:

MR. SPEAKER: The deaths which have been announced so recently of illustrious citizens may well bring to our minds the prophetic words of the Hebrew king: "How are the mighty fallen!" The death of James G. Blaine will profoundly impress the sensibilities of the country. A great man is dead. He laid the foundation of his fame in this hall. Here were his great and early triumphs. How often have we heard in this hall the tones of his ringing eloquence. Great in statesmanship. Known not only throughout this country, but to the statesmen of the civilized world. And not only great in statesmanship, not only one of the illustrious characters which have illustrated the value of free institutions, but beyond that he was great in the field of literature. As the historian of the grandest epoch in the history of the country, he did his work well. His history, covering a period of years, will go down to posterity as one of the brightest illustrations of the period in which he lived and of the grand events of which he was a part. In view of these facts it seems to be eminently proper and fitting that with the announcement of his death here, on this the theatre of his great achievements, this House, out of respect to his memory, should adjourn. I therefore move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to and at 12:32 P. M. the House adjourned.

ALBANY, Jan. 27.—The Assembly had adjourned before the news of Mr. Blaine's death got to the members. When the news reached the Senate, Senator Cantor, the Democratic leader, said:

"Mr. President, the news has just reached here of the death of that eminent and distinguished American statesman, James G. Blaine. At this time I shall refrain from saying anything of his life and services to the people. A time will be fixed next week when an opportunity will be afforded to the members of the Senate to express their admiration of the services he has rendered to the public. I desire simply at this time to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That if the Senate concur a joint committee to consist of three Senators and five members of the Assembly be appointed by the respective presiding officers of the two Houses for the purpose of preparing resolutions in memory of the deceased statesman.

Senator Saxton, the Republican leader, seconded the resolution and said: "We all recognize the fact that the death of Mr. Blaine is a national sorrow, and there will be many who will desire to pay more than a passing tribute to his memory, but we recognize the fact also that a more appropriate occasion for that will be given on the presentation of the resolutions by the joint committee to be appointed."

The resolution was unanimously adopted. On motion of Senator Cantor, and by a rising vote, the Senate adjourned in respect to the memory of Mr. Blaine.

AUGUSTA, Me., Jan. 27.—The Legislature this afternoon appointed a committee to attend the funeral of Mr. Blaine, and also one to draw appropriate resolutions, and then adjourned until Monday. Memorial services will be held on Wednesday. Gov. Cleaves and Gen. Selden Connor, Chief of Staff, will represent the State at the funeral. Gov. Cleaves issued a proclamation to the people of Maine.

A DEMOCRAT'S TRIBUTE TO BLAINE.

Vice-President-elect Stevenson Says He Closely Resembled Henry Clay.

CHICAGO, Jan. 27.—"I knew Mr. Blaine very well," said Vice-President-elect Stevenson today. "When I entered Congress Mr. Blaine had just closed his third term as Speaker of the House.

"Even at that early time he was an admirable parliamentarian, and his conduct in the Speaker's chair was such that I do not believe I have ever heard one word spoken against his ruling on any decision he had rendered.

"The first great debate in which I heard him take part was that in which he and Mr. Garfield were engaged upon the one side and the late Judge Lamar, Mr. Hale, and Mr. Cox upon the other, the subject being the Amnesty bill. Mr. Blaine was a great debater, a man of wonderful eloquence, but to say that is merely to repeat a truism.

"To thoroughly appreciate his power one had to hear his wonderful voice. His voice thrilled, his words entranced. Life, color, passion, personality, were all thrown into his address. He combined with his eloquence such a thorough knowledge of his subject and such a complete mastery of detail that his argument seemed irresistible.

"He possessed to a large degree that magnetism which appeals to friend and foe—that something which made men follow his leadership wherever he led them. In thinking over his death and of his remarkable career I cannot help feeling that, in many respects, he closely resembled Henry Clay.

"As a popular idol, as a great leader of his party, the likeness was striking. No statesman in modern times had a more devoted following; possibly none had engendered more bitter opposition among sections of his own followers than Mr. Blaine and Mr. Clay. Each was the most popular of his party, and yet each was unable to reach the goal of his ambitions—the Presidential chair."

LONDON COMMENT ON MR. BLAINE.

British Opinions Differ as to His Political Leadership.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—All the morning dailies comment editorially upon Mr. Blaine's death. The *Daily Chronicle* says:

"Few men have played so many parts. Most of them he played remarkably well. His manner was charming, but we cannot rank him with the great political leaders of his country.

"As a moral leader he cannot be ranked with Lincoln or Sumner any more than with Jefferson or Adams. He was a brilliant specimen of the American politician. He was versed in the arts of wire-pulling management, but possessed an interesting personality, foreign to the class to which he belonged. He was good natured, well read, and attractive. It to these gifts had been added a sterner sense of rectitude and a loftier purpose, he would have been a really great figure in American politics.

"As it is, we must place him in the category of lower men. He typified the period in which he lived, and the best we can hope for his country and the world is that the class to which he belonged, whether brilliant and interesting like himself, or sordid and despicable like most of its members, may soon pass from actuality into history."

The *Standard* says: "It would be idle to pretend that America is made any poorer by the loss of her great statesman. He was unquestionably a versatile politician, an elegant speaker, and a clever wirepuller, and he might have been a powerful leader if he had kept his record cleaner. Long association with the least attractive elements in American public life roughened the fibre of his naturally refined character.

"His life's labors will leave scarcely a memory. His career is a fitting example of the curb which the Constitution and traditions of America places upon the best minds of the country. They prevent growth except in times like those of civil war, when dictatorial powers are placed in the hands of an official or statesman."

The *Daily Telegraph* says: "The impression has long prevailed that Mr. Blaine was animated by feelings of bitter hostility to British interests in all parts of the world. It is more probable that his tirades against England had as motive the desire to win Irish votes, but in his character and policy there was so much secretiveness that it is difficult to estimate his qualities and idiosyncrasies aright. He was a master of intrigue, a wirepuller who well understood how to manipulate machine politics.

"Mr. Blaine has long been regarded with mistrust by a large section of his compatriots. Even his repeated fits of illness were regarded in many quarters as political manœuvres designed to cover some hidden action contemplated as a surprise to his opponents.

"That he was one of the most powerful, subtle, far-seeing political leaders in a country where management of the machine is high art can be denied by none that came within the sphere of his influence."

The *Daily Graphic* says: "As a statesman Mr. Blaine has few claims on the notice of the historian. As a politician he had been the leading figure in America since Lincoln died. His conduct of foreign politics was unworthy of his great talents.

"With a patriotism almost antique in intensity and ideals of Napoleonic vastness, he combined a singular lack of practical insight and prudent calculation. Hence a succession of failures earned for him the reputation of a trickster and blusterer."

The *Times* says: "Although he never attained his ambition—the Presidency—yet, as a party organizer and a director of public policy, he had, from time to time, influence and authority greater than those of the titular chiefs."

After noting the many respectful tributes paid to Mr. Blaine in America, the *Times's* article continues: "We do not say that such a feeling is universally shared, but it is the one to which public expression can be most properly given. It is right and proper that in his own country no adverse voice should just now be raised. Mr. Blaine was never at pains to conceal his unfriendliness to England.

"That unfriendliness may have been real or it may have been simulated as a party trick. It was on the moral side that he most conspicuously failed. He had been more gifted with generous instincts and capable of wider political aims, he would have had more chance of permanent success.

"It is not easy to interpret the Mulligan letters in an innocent sense. Like Mr. Gould's influence in the financial world, Mr. Blaine's influence in the political world was regarded as lowering. Though he had personally attached friends, his character and influence were so universally condemned that we will not venture to dispute the correctness of his judgment."

The *Daily News* says: "The splendid fabric of his life could only be crowned by the Presidency, and he probably would have made any sacrifice of vital energy to obtain it, if there had been left to him but a single day to enjoy his triumph. He did not complete his scheme, his party, and, above all, the nation, had other interests.

"Mr. Blaine was discomfited and suffered some of the ridicule which usually attends ill-timed ambition. His mistake in this instance is the one that marked his entire career. He was a little too greedy of personal aggrandizement. He had every art except the one of not seeming to care. His strivings for the Presidency gave his whole life the irritating effect of unrest.

"He was always at political wires. He brought only energy to the rendering of his part when the majority were beginning to demand dignity and character. The impressario who could have given Hamlet the choice of the republic never would have found this Cincinnatus ploughing in the fields, but at the telegraph office, waiting for the last news from town."

Canada Admired Mr. Blaine.

MONTREAL, Jan. 27.—Mr. Blaine's death was one of the principal topics of discussion here to-day, and on all hands kindly expressions of opinion were heard regarding him. Canadian public men, who had anything to do with him while he was at the head of the State Department, speak highly of his broad-mindedness and great ability.

The *Witness* to-night says of his death: "In a country where statesmen take a sort of pride in limiting their horizon so as to exclude any views of foreign affairs, he was among the two or three whose interest did extend beyond the borders of his own country.

"He would have liked the United States to play a larger part among the nations of the world in international affairs, and he would have liked to extend her borders by securing the union of Canada, Mexico, and Cuba with the United States. His Pan-American scheme was intended to bring about a commercial zollverein of all North and South American countries, with the exception of Canada, which he excluded from his scheme simply because it was a part of the British Empire, which he believed political union alone could bring into accord with the United States. Mr. Blaine was in many ways, however, a politician rather than a statesman. Notwithstanding his wide views, he had more confidence in political treachery and chicanery than a really statesmanlike man could possess."

The *Gazette*, the Dominion Government organ, will say editorially:

"James G. Blaine is dead. He was one of those men of whom the United States has produced in late years a good many who achieve too high a reputation for their own success. Three times, when the chances of his election were fairly good, he lost his party's nomination. The Presidency to intellectually smaller competitors.

"Of all the Republican statesmen he undoubtedly had the greatest personal popularity, and it was allied with a mental power that fitted him for the highest place in the State. His horizon was a wide one. He could see far beyond the ordinary politician's vision, and was able to conceive and execute great schemes.

"His reciprocity amendment to the McKinley tariff was designed to give the United States commercial control of the continent. It was the idea of a really great man. Its author deserved a better fate than to be cast aside as he was by a convention of office holders, many of whom he had helped into place.

"It has to be said, though, that his character had its weak side. He had allowed his name to be tarnished with corruption, and though he lived long after the offence was committed he never fully recovered from the injury.

"It defeated him when he ran against Mr. Cleveland in 1884, and was a terrible weapon in the hands of his enemies, which they used without mercy. He also descended sometimes from urging what was right to doing what was expedient, but that is a little offence in America and it did him little good. He will be remembered as one of the country's able and loved but unsuccessful