

## SUPPLEMENT.

## BLAINE.

His Magnificent Oration Delivered Before Both Houses of Congress

On the Life and Character of the Late James Abram Garfield.

His Lowly Beginning and Rapid Advancement to Fame.

His Services in the Field as a Soldier of the War for the Union.

WASHINGTON, February 27.—Prior to 10 o'clock this morning admission to the capitol was refused to all except members of both houses of congress and their employes, but at that hour the doors were thrown open to persons holding tickets to the memorial services of the late James A. Garfield, and soon the galleries were filled to their utmost capacity. A large majority of the spectators were ladies who, out of respect to the occasion, had for the most part discarded their bright colors and a sombre black was the prevailing hue. There were no signs of mourning in the hall.

Among the distinguished guests first to arrive were Judge Bancroft, Cyrus W. Field and Admiral Worden, who took seats directly in front of the clerk's desk. Among the guests who, at an early hour, occupied seats upon the floor, were General Schenck and Governors Hoyt, of Pennsylvania; Foster, of Ohio; Hamilton, of Maryland, and Bigelow, of Connecticut. At 10:30 Generals Sherman, Sheridan, Hancock, Howard and Meigs, and Admirals Ammen, Rogers and Rodgers entered and were assigned seats to the left of the speaker's desk, and a few moments later the members of the diplomatic corps in full regalia, were ushered in, headed by the Hawaiian minister, as dean of the corps. Their brilliant costumes only served to throw into stronger relief the dark attire of the members of congress who sat immediately behind them. The supreme court of the district, headed by Marshal Henry, were the next arrivals. Dr. Bliss was also in attendance. Mrs. Blaine occupied a front seat in the gallery reserved for friends of the president.

At precisely 12 o'clock the house was called to order by Speaker Keifer and prayer offered by the chaplain. The speaker then said: "This day has been dedicated, by action of the two houses of congress, to hold services in commemoration of the life and death of James Abram Garfield, late president of the United States. This house is now assembled and ready to perform its part."

The resolutions setting apart to-day for the memorial services were then read by Clerk McPherson.

At 12:10 the senate was announced, and all rose as the senators headed by the officers entered and took the seats assigned them.

They were followed by the chief justice and associate justices of the supreme court dressed in their robes of office.

Again the assembled multitude arose as the president of the United States and his cabinet were announced. They were accompanied by Senator Sherman and Representative McKinley, chairman of the committee of arrangements. The president took a front seat on the right of the presiding officer's chair.

At 12:30 the orator of the day, James G. Blaine, was announced.

The ceremonies were then opened by a short prayer by Chaplain Power, of the house, after which President Davis said: "This day is dedicated by congress for the memorial services on the late president of the United States, James A. Garfield. I present you Hon. Jas. G. Blaine, who has been fitly chosen orator for this historical occasion."

## THE ADDRESS.

MR. PRESIDENT: For the second time in this generation the great departments of the government of the United States are assembled in the hall of representatives to do honor to the memory of a murdered president. Lincoln fell at the close of a mighty struggle in which the passions of men had been deeply stirred. The tragic termination of his great life added but another to the lengthened succession of horror which had marked so many lintels with the blood of the first born. Garfield was slain in a day of peace, when brother had been reconciled to brother, and when anger and hate had been banished from the land. "Whoever shall hereafter draw the portrait of murder, if he will show it has been exhibited, where such example was least to have been looked for, let him not give the grim visage of Moloch, the brow knitted by revenge, the face black with settled hate. Let him draw rather a decorous, smooth-faced, bloodless demon, not so much an example of human nature in its depravity and in its paroxysms of crime as an infernal being, a fiend in the ordinary display and development of his character."

From the landing of the pilgrims at Plymouth till the uprising against Charles I., about 20,000 emigrants came from Old England to New England. As they came in pursuit of intellectual freedom and ecclesiastical independence rather than for worldly honor and profit, the emigration naturally ceased when the contest for religious liberty began in earnest at home. The man who struck his most effective blow for freedom of conscience by sailing for the colonies in 1620 would have been accounted a deserter to leave after 1640. The opportunities had then come on the soil of England that great contest which established the authority of parliament, gave religious freedom to the people, sent Charles to the block, and committed

to the hands of Oliver Cromwell the supreme executive authority of England. The English emigration was never renewed, and from these 20,000 men, with a small emigration from Scotland and from France, are descended the vast numbers who have New England blood in their veins. In 1865 the revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV, scattered to other countries 400,000 Protestants, who were among the most intelligent and enterprising of French subjects. Merchants of capital, skilled manufacturers and handicrafts—men superior at the time to all others in Europe. A considerable number of these Huguenot French came to America. A few landed in New England and became honorably prominent in its history.

The names have in large part become anglicized or have disappeared, but their blood is traceable in many of the most reputable families, and their fame is perpetuated in honorable memorials and useful institutions.

From these two sources, the English Puritan and the French Huguenot, came the late president, the father, Abram Garfield, being descended from the one, and his mother, Eliza Ballou, from the other. It was good stock on both sides—none better, none braver, none truer. There was in it an inheritance of courage, of manliness, of imperishable love of liberty, of undying adherence to principle. Garfield was proud of his blood, and with as much satisfaction as if he were a British nobleman reading his stately ancestral record in Burke's Peerage he spoke of himself as ninth in descent from those who would not endure the oppression of the Stuarts, and seventh in descent from the brave French Protestants who refused to submit to tyranny even from the grand monarch. Gen. Garfield delighted to dwell on these traits, and during his only visit to England he busied himself in discovering every trace of his forefathers in parish registries and on ancient army roles. Sitting with a friend in the gallery of the house of commons one night after a long day's labor in this field of research, he said with evident elation that in every war in which for three centuries patriots of English blood had struck sturdy blows for constitutional government and human liberty his family had been represented. They were at Marston Moor, at Naseby and Preston; they were at Bunker Hill, at Saratoga, and at Monmouth, and their own person had battled for the same great cause in the war which preserved the union of states. Losing his father before he was two years old, the early life of Garfield was one of privation, but its poverty has been made indelicate and unjustly prominent. Thousands of readers have imagined him as the ragged, starving child, whose reality too often greets the eye in the squalid sections of our large cities. General Garfield's infancy and youth had none of their pitiful features appealing to the tender heart and to the open hand of charity. He was a poor boy in the same sense in which Henry Clay was a poor boy; in which Andrew Jackson was a poor boy; in which Daniel Webster was a poor boy; in the same sense in which a large majority of the eminent men of America in all generations have been poor boys.

Before a great multitude of men in a public speech Mr. Webster bore this testimony: "It did not happen to me to be born in a log cabin, but my elder brothers and sisters were born in a log cabin, raised amid the snow-drifts of New Hampshire at a period so early that when the smoke rose first from its crude chimney and curled over the frozen hills there was no similar evidence of a white man's habitation between it and the settlements on the rivers of Canada. It remains still. I make to it an annual visit. I carry my children to it to teach them the hardships endured by the generations which have gone before them. I love to dwell on the tender recollections, the kindred ties, the early affections, and the touching narratives and incidents which mingle with all."

I know of this primitive family abode, with the requisit change of scene, the same words would aptly portray the early days of Garfield. The poverty of the frontier, where all are engaged in a common struggle, and where a common sympathy and hearty cooperation lighten the burdens of each, is a very different poverty—different in kind, different in influence and effect from that conscious and humiliating indigence which is every day forced to contrast itself with neighboring wealth, on which it feels a sense of grinding dependence. The poverty of the frontier is indeed no poverty. It is but the beginning of wealth, and has the boundless possibilities of the future always opening before it. No man ever grew up in the agricultural regions of the west, where a house-raising or even a corn-husking is matter of common interest and helpfulness, with another feeling than that of broad-minded, generous independence. This honorable independence marked the youth of Garfield as it marks the youth of millions of the best blood and brain now training for the future citizenship and future government of the republic. Garfield was born heir to land, to the title of freeholder, which has been the patent and passport of self-respect with the Anglo-Saxon race ever since Hengist and Horsa landed on the shores of England. His adventure on the canal, and alternative between that and the deck of Lake Erie schooner, was a farmer boy's device for earning money, just as the New England lad begins a possibly great career by sailing before the mast on a merchantman bound to the farther India or to the China seas. No man feels anything of shame in looking back to early struggles with adverse circumstances, and no man feels a worthy pride than when he conquers the obstacles in his progress. But no one of noble mold desires to be looked upon as having occupied a menial position, as having been repressed by a feeling of inferiority, or as having suffered the evils of poverty until relief was found at the hand of charity. General Garfield's youth presented no hardships which family love and family energy did not overcome, subjected him to no privations which he did not cheerfully accept, and left no memories save those which were recalled with de-

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light and transmitted with profit and pride. Garfield's early opportunities for securing an education were extremely limited, and yet were sufficient to develop in him an intense desire to learn. He could read at three years of age, and each winter he had the advantage of the district school. He read all the books he found within the circle of his acquaintance. Some of them he got by heart. While yet in childhood he was a constant student of the Bible, and became familiar with its literature. The dignity and earnestness of his speech in his mature life gave evidence of this early training. At eighteen years of age he was able to teach school, and thenceforward his ambition was to obtain college education. To this end he bent all his efforts, working in the harvest field, at the carpenter's bench, and in the winter season teaching the common schools of the neighborhood.

The history of Garfield's life to this period presents no novel features. He has undoubtedly shown perseverance, self-reliance, self-sacrifice and ambition—qualities which, as it is said, for the honor of our country, are everywhere to be found among the young men of America. But from his graduation at Williams onward to the hour of his tragical death Garfield's career was eminent and exceptional. Slowly working through his educational period, receiving his diploma at 24 years of age, he seemed at one bound to spring into conspicuous and brilliant success. Within six years he was successively president of a college, state senator of Ohio, major general of the army of the United States, and representative to the national congress—a combination of honors so varied, so elevated, with a period so brief, and to a man so young is without precedent or parallel in the history of the country.

Garfield's army life was begun with no other military knowledge than such as he had hastily gained from books in the few months preceding his march to the field. Stepping from civil life to the head of a regiment, the first order he received when ready to cross the Ohio was to assume command of a brigade and to operate as an independent force in eastern Kentucky. His immediate duty was to check the advance of Humphrey Marshall, who was marching down the Big Sandy with the intention of occupying, in connection with other Confederate forces, the entire territory of Kentucky, and of precipitating the State into secession. This was at the close of the year 1861. Seldom if ever has a young college professor been thrown into a more embarrassing and discouraging position. He knew just enough of military science, as he expressed it himself, to measure the extent of his ignorance, and with a handful of men he was marching in rough winter weather into a strange country, among a hostile population, and every member was chosen upon the issues involved in the continuance of the struggle. The thirty-seventh congress had indeed legislated to a large extent on war measures, but it was chosen before any one believed that secession of the states would be actually attempted. The magnitude of the work which fell upon its successor was unprecedented both in respect to the vast sum of money raised for the support of the army and navy and of the new and extraordinary powers of legislation which it was forced to exercise. Only twenty-four states were represented, and 182 members were upon its rolls. Among these were many distinguished party leaders on both sides—veterans in the public service, with established reputations for ability, and with that skill that comes from parliamentary experience. Into this assemblage of men Garfield entered without special preparation, and it might almost be said, unexpectedly. The question of taking command of a division of troops under General Thomas or taking his seat in congress was kept open until the last moment—so late, indeed, that the resignation of his military commission and his appearance in the house were almost contemporaneous. He wore the uniform of a major general of the United States army on Saturday, and on Monday in civilian's dress he answered to the roll call as a representative in congress from