

A Radical Paper on the New Secretary of the Navy.

The Chicago Tribune (Radical) of June 26th thus announces biographically the appointment of Geo. M. Robeson as Secretary of the Navy, *vice* Borie, resigned. The appointment of Mr. Adolf E. Borie was a surprise to the world—the only one with which that gentleman's brief biography is filled. But his resignation had been so long and patiently waited for that it also was a surprise that it came so slowly. And now the country has a new surprise in the appointment of Hon. Geo. M. Robeson of Camden, N. J., formerly Attorney General of the State, which takes half its name from the city of his residence.

Although the name of the Hon. Geo. M. Robeson has not heretofore figured prominently in the history of his country, an intimate acquaintance with human nature in general enables us to state that he was born at a very early period of life, that he survived in safety all the common perils of his infancy, and that throughout this period he won the affections of those in whose charge the fortunes of life had placed him. Few of them doubted that he would one day attain to a very high position in the government of the country, though it cannot be authentically shown that the predictions proved specially to the office of Secretary of the Navy as that to which his great talents and ministerial experience naturally fitted him. At this early period of his life, the attention of his nurse, if not of himself, was very much given to naval affairs, and the benefits of the experience thus acquired will doubtless be of service to him in his new and enlarged field. As he entered fairly upon his growing period, the rapidity with which he rose in wisdom and stature was the subject of occasional if not frequent comment among all who watched the toddling and for a time uncertain footsteps of the future Secretary of the Navy. The old phrase "As quick as a flash" Jack Robeson" though not mentioned in any prior incident in the life of the subject in this sketch, nevertheless indicates very happily the rapidity with which he shot upward into a national reputation after President Grant nominated him to the office of Secretary of the Navy. George M. Robeson stands therefore before the country to-day a man of a national reputation as unshaken as the new fallen snow. True, the dispatch which thrills the country with the intelligence of his appointment conveys to us the pleasing information that he had already enjoyed the high distinction of being Attorney General of New Jersey,—result which we might have predicted from the fact that he had been born at Camden. He would only need a country house at Ambey to make him Governor. But this trifling episode in the history of the Hon. George M. Robeson was not mentioned by way of landowner or as an argument, however convincing, that he would perform the functions of Secretary of the Navy with distinguished credit to himself, and with honor to the American name as pertaining to one of the leading maritime nations on the globe. Far from it. It is assumed that the people of America know the fitness of the Hon. George M. Robeson for his important office. But as that might be universal, George M. Robeson is in the country, and, in fact, it is believed there are at least eleven of whom might be subjected to the cost of a journey to Washington and an unsuccessful effort to be sworn in as Secretary of the Navy. The official announcement has kindly designated the name and place of residence of the genuine George M., and thus saved the department the expense of transportation to and fro of the others. For it must be understood that no George M. Robeson pretending to be Secretary of the Navy is genuine unless labelled and connected with the signature of the manufacturer. As, in this case, the President himself makes the selection, we think there can be no doubt that he has got the right and genuine George M., and that the country will rejoice with ourselves that the President took the precaution, while he had him, to swear him in; since a bird in the hand is the hand at all times better than several warblers in the adjacent scrubby. Having thus given our readers every detail in our possession relative to our new and distinguished Secretary of the Navy, we adjure them not to keep their flags standing long at half-mast in honor of the decease of Borie, lest it might appear to give a sensible of the absence of that enthusiasm with which a grateful Republic might naturally be expected to regard the future achievements of the Hon. George M. Robeson. *Le Roi est mort; vive le Roi!* Borie is dead. Hurrah for Robeson!

Catching a Tarter—The Wrong Witness in the Box.

GEN. HENRY GREY, of Bienville, was subpoenaed to give testimony before the Congressional Committee now sitting in this city, to investigate the facts of the last election. From what we hear, the General's testimony was of a very unsatisfactory character. He was asked the cause of the small vote for Gen. Grant in his parish—only two votes being received for the Radical electors.

The General answered that, as far as he could learn from the negroes, the reason they would not come to the polls and vote was because the Provost Marshal, who came to the parish as a Radical organizer, had promised, in my words, to vote for the Radical ticket in the State election, to give each one of them 40 acres of ground, a mule, pio, hoe, axe and set them up in the world. This promise had not been kept, and, therefore, the negroes would not turn out to vote for the nominees of the party in the November election.

Question—Who told you this was the reason?

Answer—About 500 of the negroes themselves.

Question—Can you give the names of any of these?

Answer—Yes; Jerry, Jim, Bob, Big Bill, Squint-eyed Joe, Bowlegged George, Tom.

Mr. Stevenson—That will do. Please give us their surnames.

Answer—They never had any; at least never knew them by such.

Question—Have you not been a prominent politician in this State?

Answer—No.

Question—Were you not a member of the Legislature?

Answer—Yes, but was never prominent.

Question—Were you not nominated for the United States Senate in opposition to Mr. Benjamin?

Answer—Yes; I was voted for.

Question—Did not this show that you was a prominent politician?

Answer—No; it only showed that I had some popularity; not that I was the proper man for the place, any more than the votes received by Gen. Grant proved that he was fit to be President of the United States.

"You can stand down, sir."

Thereupon the General retired, after having been brought down all the way from the borders of Texas to give testimony before the committee.—*New Orleans Times.*

—A Georgia paper says that some farmers there who formerly cultivated fifty acres of land and got an equal number of bales of cotton, get an equal amount now from twenty acres. They prepare the land and cultivate better than formerly, and their profits are increased thereby, and at much less expense.

Another Cabinet Explosion.

MR. U. S. GRANT has been President of the United States three months and twenty-one days. The second explosion of his Cabinet occurred yesterday. The venerable Mr. Borie, the man who gave Mr. Grant a mansion in Philadelphia, and the office-holder whose most remarkable official performance has consisted in bowering—*or Boring*—magnates for him to ship from all the ancient heathen mythologies, tendered his resignation, and retired precipitately from the Executive presence. A. Mr. Robeson—a New Jersey lawyer who don't even pretend to know a bowstring from a sheet anchor—was called in to take the old heathen mythologist's place.

It is perfectly well known to persons who are in a situation to give an occasional peep behind the scenes at Washington, that Grant's Cabinet has been quite the reverse of harmonious ever since its appointment. In most disagreements that have occurred, Grant himself has been the alleged cause. His irascible eye; but my husband ain't to him, ye see, and he says to me, jes' before he went away: "Betsy, says he, don't you lend me of mine to nobody, not on no account, while I am gone." So, Mr. Lincoln, you see that they say go, even to

"Why, whereabouts is your husband, marn?"

"Oh, he's way down in Pennsylvania building a bridge."

"Waal, I guess, if I go down to where he's to work, and git his consent, ye'll lend me that are scythe."

"Sartin, Mr. Lincoln. But man alive, what on earth do you mean? I tell ye he's way down in Pennsylvania."

The old soldier laughed in his droll, knowing way; then questioned her as to the exact place where his husband's bridge-building operations are took his wife.

That very afternoon he departed on one of his "grand tours," with only a change of linen, tied in a blue checked handkerchief, swinging from a stick over his shoulder, and whistling cheerfully as he left the old town behind him.

After ten days or a fortnight later he appeared before the astonished mechanic, exclaiming: "Hullo! Billins, will you lend me yer scythe for a spell? That are wife of yours won't let it go without ye say so. He's got pretty well under your thumb, ain't ye? Or, mebbe she's afraid to let a friendship 'ween her and me by lendin' me that."

Ten days later Miss Billings was astonished to see her eccentric neighbor appear, all dusty and travel-worn, at her door, and to hear him say, quietly: "Yes, man, your man says I may take that are scythe; and in high time that little mite should not do so!"—*Chicago Times*, June 26.

Vermont Democratic State Convention.

The Democrats of Vermont held a State Convention in Montpelier, on Thursday, June 7th, recently elected Governor of the State being represented. Hon. W. H. Bingham, of Stow, presided. Hon. W. H. Weston, of Montpelier, was nominated for Governor, receiving 102 votes in a total of 149. E. J. Phelps, of Burlington, was his principal competitor. Merrill Noyes, of Burlington, was nominated for Lieutenant-Governor, and John M. Weeks, of Lyndon, for State Treasurer.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the practical workings of the general Government are not to be blamed for the condition of the country; that we are to blame for the principles of our party.

Resolved, That the Constitution of the United States is the safeguard of the States.

Resolved, That the Democracy law, as ever, makes no distinction between citizens of native or foreign birth; and that we sympathize now, as ever, with men of all nationalities striving for their rights.

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Resolved, That we are opposed to the present unequal system of taxation of the general Government, and that we oppose the wasteful expenditures of the proceeds of such taxation.

Resolved, That the government of the Democratic party, rather than the present system of Radical rule.

"Retrenchment."

Newspapers of "moral ideas" are now making a good deal of noise about the retrenchment of the departments at Washington, in discharging government clerks. If there are more clerks than are needed, they ought to be discharged, but there are many rumors, and from "loyal" sources, that the Grand Army of the Republic has ordered a cleaning out in the departments, for the purpose of installing its own men.

Retrenchment, even on a small scale, is a good thing, but this retrenchment is so insignificant that it is not worth the hullabaloo made over it. Saving a few hundred thousand dollars when there ought to be reforms made which would save a hundred millions, is a ridiculous and doubtful character that it ought not to be specially commended. After paying interest on the public debt, the expenditures of the Government the present year will exceed \$200,000,000.

The discharged clerks are men appointed under Johnson, and therefore obnoxious to the powers that be. Among them are crippled soldiers, but their mutation presents no evidecne of "loyalty" to the men ordering their discharge. They are turned out and able-bodied politicians retained. Does such retrenchment originate in patriotic economy?—*Exchange*.

The New York Directory.

The "curiosities" of the New York city directory have been studied up, and are quite amusing.

There are many odd entries in the directory, such as the name of a man who has 3695 over last year.

Very great changes have occurred within the year in the character of the inhabitants, and the number of voices followed in the several streets of the city, which contains but 129 numbers, furnishes 2,320 names; Pine street, 1,180 names; Broad street, with 144 numbers, furnishes 1,210 names. Beaver street contains but 65 numbers, and furnishes 595 names; Nassau street, 1,570; William, 1,405; Exchange place, 715. Broadway furnishes 8,500 names. The streets which contain the immense tenement houses, or "barracks," show, by the number of names furnished, how dense the population is within their confined limits. Allen street gives 1,190 names, Cherry street, 1,740; Orchard street, 1,265; Broome street, 1,750; Ninth avenue, 1,265; Mulberry street, 1,795; Avenue A, 1,265; Eighth avenue, 2,370; Ninth avenue, 1,265. The Bowery furnishes but 1,465 names, Fifth avenue but 665, and Madison avenue, which contains, as yet, neither a leading hotel, a public place of amusement, nor a business office, gives but 295 names. It is somewhat amusing to notice the different names, corresponding to the colors, nationalities, beasts, birds, &c. First, we find 98 Blacks, 2 Blues (both blacks); 89 Browns, 245 Greens, 13 Greys, 1 Pink, 2 Purples, 387 Whites; then 29 Kings, and 6 Queens; 76 Bishops against 11 Priests; 23 Coffees, 1 Apples, 1 Tea, and 1 Lemon; 10 Hen, 100 Winter, 4 Summers, 2 Cows, 1000 Bullocks, and 6 Pies, and 1 Cake; 187 Foxes to 1 Duck, 6 Bears; 82 Wolfs, 1 Deer, 2 Fleshes, 2 Bones, 1 Fiddler, and 3 Singers. Of the different nationalities, we find 2 Irish, 58 Frenchs, 24 English, 7 Germans, and only 1 American; 8 George Washingtons, 2 Thomas Jeffersons, 4 John Quincy Adams, 1 Martin Van Buren, 50 Grants, and 1 Thomas Dodd; 27 Judges against 2 Juries, and 15 Diamonds with 6 Pearls; 1 Rough, 18 Ready; 8 Shoemakers and 4 Tinkers; 1 Shylock; 2 John Sheppards, 100 Pecks, and 2 Bushels; 7 Hams and 1 Egg; 2 Pies, and 1 Cake; 187 Foxes to 1 Duck, 6 Bears; 82 Wolfs, 1 Deer, 2 Fleshes, 2 Bones, 1 Fiddler, and 3 Singers. 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