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#### SECRETS SAFELY KEPT.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS ARE CLOSE MOUTHED ON OCCASION.

They Often Know Much More Than They Print - Secretary Blaine's Wonderful Memory-How a Subscriber's Question Was Answered-Notes of Interest.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Senator Teller's sensible proposition to abolish the secret sessions of the senate is likely to carry when that body again convenes. The secret session is a farce and a nuisance. It is a farce because it is not secret, after all, and it is a nuisance because it inflicts upon senators the necessity of lying and upon newspaper men the need of asking great statesmen to violate their oaths of office. Everybody knows that the newspapers print more or less correctly the proceedings of these so called secret executive sessions, and the information on which their reports are based must come from the senators themselves, since they are the only persons present. As a rule every newspaper man has two or three senators on whom he depends for information.

In most cases these senators are from the state in which the journal is printed that the correspondent represents, but not always. The correspondent keeps two or three senators "on his string," so that if one cannot be found in good time there remains at least one more to fall back upon. Correspondents do a good deal of "trading" in this matter of secret sessions, and find it a great help. For instance, the Boston correspondent worms from the Massachusetts senators all he can and gives the substance thereof to his friends, correspondents from Philadelphia and Chicago. These have meanwhile extracted as much possible from the Pennsylvania and Illinois senators, and when it is all put together each correspondent finds he has a pretty full and correct account of the proceed-

papers they represent, and have such a full realization of the necessities of the case from a journalistic standpoint, that they permit themselves to be coaxed into giving up a few fragmentary words. A vast majority of the senators try to still their consciences with the conceit that in refusing to do much more than give assent or dissent to the interrogatives of the correspondent they are preserving their oaths inviolate; but there are a few senators who frankly say the secret ses-sion is a humbug, and tell all they know without guise or guile. Lucky the cor-respondent who has one of these sena-tors "on his string."

One of the remarkable phases of public life in Washington is the close relationship and perfect confidence existing between statesmen and newspaper correspondents. The successful correspondents at Washington are men of character and honor. If they are not men who can be safely trusted with secrets they are out of place in Washington. One of the chief duties of a capital newspaper and let the boy come in to the fire.' I was very kind to the little fellow, and he writer is to discriminate as to what may | was very kind to the little fellow, and he be properly printed. In his free and used to think everything of us. but now friendly relations with public men he that our slave has become our congressbecomes possessed of information which he could not give to the public without working injustice to his friends; and though not bound by either the expressed or implied obligations of the confi-dential communication he finds it necessary to be on the alert, lest he at one time or another fail to exercise the nice discrimination which judges so infallibly between the public and the private. It happens very frequently that newspaper men become possessors of secrets which would ruin the careers of public men if published in full, but no line of which ever finds its way into print. Discretion and honor are so well understood here as newspaper characteristics that senators, representatives and cabinet officers place more confidence in correspondents than in their own colleagues. Neatly illustra-tive of this was a little corridor incident

which occurred in the Arlington hotel when Gen. Harrison was quartered there, just before inauguration. An Indiana friend of Gen. Harrison's was giving two newspaper men a bit of information, "absolutely confidential, not to be published." He had not proceeded far in his relation of the state secret when he paused and whispered:

"Step over this way a little. I'm
afraid Senator — is overhearing us." As an instance of the confidence placed in newspaper correspondents by public men an odd story may be told, though the name of the chief actor must of course be omitted. Two or three months before the Republican national convention last year a New York correspondent called on a certain senator, who had not been generally considered a candidate for the presidency, and was astonished

which occurred in the Arlington hotel

to hear the menator say: "I believe I can be nominated for the presidency to the Chicago convention. I have about take up my mind to be a candidate in dead earnest. Now, I will tell you of a little plan I have in mind. I'll charter a special train from Wash-ington to Chicago and invite all the news-paper representative to go along as my guests. Invitations for this trip will be sent out about three weeks before the convention, and I count that, masmuch as newspaper men are only human like the rest of us, this little stroke of mine will result in having me a good deal boomed for the nomination in all the

leading papers of the country." The newspaper man listened to this novel proposition with no little amazement, but finally plucked up courage

enough to reply: "Senator, since your condding such a matter to me implies that you want my opinion of it, I will give you that very frankly. It would never do in the world. You mean well, of course, but instead of bringing you friends and strength it would only subject you to ridicule. In the first place, one or other

of the railroads sends out a special train to carry the correspondents free of charge. Many of the correspondents re-fuse to accept even this favor. Newspapers and newspaper men are much more independent about such things than they used to be. If you hire a special train, senator, you will not have enough

passengers to make up a good whist party. If I were you, I should dismiss the idea from my mind at once," The senator took the newspaper man's advice. He hired no special train, and his name was not mentioned in the Chicago convention.

Secretary Blaine is a much richer man than he is generally credited with being. He is more than a millionaire. Probably the luckiest investment Mr. Blaine ever made was in the Little Hope mine at Leadville, Colo., which has alone made the secretary rich. That mine has paid \$4,500,000 dividends in the last five years, of which large sum Mr. Blaine's share has been about one-seventh. "That mine appears to be misnamed," said a friend to him, recently: "it should be called Great Hope instead of Little Hope."
"Yes," replied the secretary, "Great
Hope would be better. I have already got from that mine \$1,800 for every one

invested, and have the stock left." Mr.

Blaine is also a large stockholder in the

Pride of Erin mine at Leadville, which is paying dividends of \$25,000 a month. Secretary Blaine's wonderful memory for names and faces is almost daily demonstrated by actual test. A few days ago ex-Congressman Thomas, of Illinois, took a cousin of his to call at the state department. "Blaine won't remember me," said the cousin, who is a Chicagoan named Saunders. "I never met him but once, and that was only for a couple of minutes, here in his office, when he was secretary of state under Garfield. It would be simply miraculous if he were to remember my face, let alone my name, at this late day." The ex-congressman had so much confidence in Blaine's memory that he wagered his cousin a box of cigars the secretary would either call him by name or remember his face and tell where and un-It must not be supposed that senators willingly talk of secret sessions. As a met. When the pair entered the room rule they are exceedingly reluctant to speak, but many of them are under such obligations to correspondents and the Thomas. This done, he turned to the cousin, held Saunders' hand ten or fifteen seconds, looking him meanwhile in the eye, and finally saying: "I am glad to see you, Mr. Saunders. Eight years have passed since we met in this very room." And thus Thomas won the

> Among the many office seekers still remaining in Washington is one whose case possesses more than ordinary interest. Mrs. Col. Young, widow of one of North Carolina's most prominent Republicans, wants the postoffice in her town, and could get it if her congressman would indorse her papers. This the congressman refuses to do. "And just to think," says Mrs. Young, "that my husband and I once owned this congressman. Mr. Cheatham was once our slave. His middle name is Plummer, and that is what we used to call him. I can remember the little mulatto boy so well. Dozens of times I said to my husband: that our slave has become our congress man he doesn't seem to wish to be kind to me. He has even proposed that I agree to take a minor clerkship here in one of the departments, as he has decided to put one of his colored constituents in the postoffice, and he wants to get

me out of the way." Writing of newspaper men reminds me of an odd duty which often falls to them in the regular run of business. If the subscribers of metropolitan daily news-papers knew the trouble they were puting people to with their never ceasing inquiries about naturalization laws, land laws, etc., perhaps they would be more modest in their requests. Let us follow one of these inquiries from start to finish. It was received through the mails in the office of a Chicago news-paper. The managing editor assigned it to one of his assistants. This painstaking and patient gentleman spent three hours in the office library trying to find out the information asked for, but without success. He reported his failure to the managing editor, and that personage merely exclaimed: "Wire the Washing-

merely exclaimed: "Wire the Washing-ton office to look it up."

In ten minutes the Washington corre-spondent had started his young man for the department of justice with the tele-graphed inquiry between his fingers. At the department he was told: "We never answer questions. In fact, it is against the law for us to give opinions that are not asked for by the president or mem-bers of his cabinet. Besides, if it were to become known that we were answering legal questions to everybody, it is my belief that inside of a month we'd be getting 50,000 letters of that sort a day. I can't answer your question, but I will show you where you can find the information you seek." And after a few moments' inspection of a big book the assistant correspondent was on his way to his office with the solution of the problem in his pocket. In a few minutes the answer was speeding over the wires Chicagoward, and next morning "Old Subscriber" picked up his paper, read with much satisfaction the short but clear and comprehensive response to his query, and said to himself: "It doesn't seem to be a bit of trouble for these newspaper fellows to answer ques-tions. They know everything."

WALTER WELLMAN.

Mr. Broughton's Art Address. Mr. Broughton, A. R. A., delivered an interesting address at Birmingham lately, on distributing the prizes at the Municipal School of Art. He cited to the cSheriff Sale.

Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of an order of sale issued by the clerk of the district court of the second judicial district of Nebraska, within and for Lancaster county, in an action wherein John L. Farwell is plaintiff, and Emil Schultz et al defendants, I will, at 2 o'clock p. m., on the 15 day of May A. D. 1889, at the front entrance to the district court rooms in the city of Lincoln, Lancaster county, Nebraka, offer for sale at public auction the following described real estate to wit: The north west quarter of section No. 26 The north west quarter of section No. 26 township No. 7 north of range No. 5 east of the 6th P. M., Lancaster county, Nebraska.

Given under my hand this 10th day of April

Chattle Mortgage Sale.

To all whom it may concern. You are here-by notified that on the 20th day of April 1889 at 2 o'clock p. m. at the Halter block in West Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, by authority of a chattle mortgage executed Oct 9th 1888, by Grant & McGoff to Benson & Park ington and by them assigned to me and flied for record in the office of the county clerk of Lancaster County, Nebraska. On the 9th day of Oct. 1889, as No. 29,511 of chattle mortgages. I will sell at public auc-tion to the highest and best bidder for cash the following articles of personal property to wit: "All fixtures in the saloon building owned by A. Halter on lots 7 and 8 in block 17 West Lincoln, also all merchandise and partitions in said room, in said building, said room being west room."

Default has been made in the terms of said mortgage and the mortgages of the mortgage feels himself unsafe and insecure. There is now due this 30th day of March 1888, the sum

A. HALTER, assignee of Benson & Parkington By Talbot & Bryan, his Atty's.

Chattle Mortgage Sale, To all whom it may concern. You are hereby notified that on the 20th day of April, 1889, at 2 o'clock p. m. at the Halter block in West Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, by authority of a chattle mortgage executed by C. W. Welsh and U. S. Grant to me dated November 5th, 1888 and filed for record in the office of the county clerk of Lancaster County omee of the country terk of Lancauer Country
Nebraska, November, 6th 1888, as No. 29,870
of chattle mortgages I will sell at
public auction to the highest and best bidder
for cash the following articles of personal
property, to wit: 2 pool tables, 1 billiard table
32 pool balls, 4 ivory billiard balls, 3 cue racks Scues, 3 bridges, 2 ball racks, 2 strings of beads, 1 pin pool board, 4 chalk holders, 12 billiard room chairs, I round walnut table, 4 Lamps with shades and hanging attchments, counter,till and back shelf, I looking glass, 2 pictures, 9 gobiets, 5 glasses, stove, 10 joints of pipe, tobacco cutter, small iron stove, brooms 5-screen doors with hangings, 1 board partition, bed stead, springs and mattress and bed clothes, wash stand, table covers, ice tank and all other articles of personal property used in connection with the billiard hall all of said articles above discribed being situated in the billiard hall formerly occupied by said mortgagees in Halter's block in West Lin-coln, Nebraska.

Default has been made in the terms of said mortgage and the mortgagee feels himself unsafe and insecure there is now due this 30th day of March, 1889 the sum of 4539.00. J. S. BARWICK, Mortgagee. By Talbot & Bryan bis Atty's.

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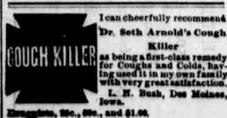
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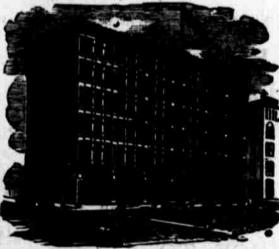
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