

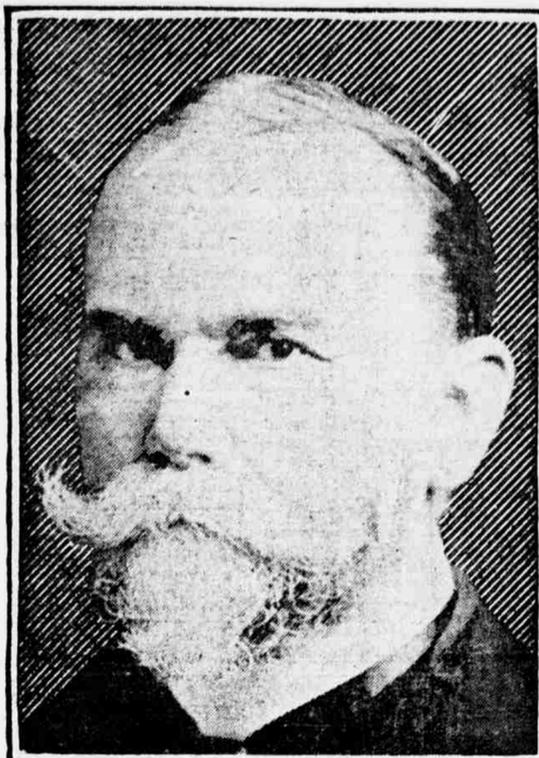
THE LATE JOHN HAY

DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF MAN WHO ROSE FROM RANKS.

A POET, BUT MAN OF AFFAIRS

State Papers That Have Made History. A Life of Accomplishment and Honor—Personal Side of a Great Man. Author of Ballads.

JOHN HAY has often been called "the greatest secretary of state." High praise that, when it is remembered that the premiership of the American cabinet has been held by some of the most distinguished men in our political history.



THE LATE JOHN HAY.

and Olney, John Sherman and others almost as illustrious have shone in this place.

Giant of Giants in Statecraft.

To say that a man is the greatest of such a list is to make him a giant of giants.

Yet, measured by actual accomplishments in world politics, the late John Hay measures with any of them, and it is perhaps not extravagant praise to say that he goes to the head of the list. Certain it is that he made the United States the diplomatic center of the world, that he maintained the integrity of China, that he opened the diplomatic door for the building of the isthmian canal, that he united the Anglo-Saxon world and made America its head, and that he introduced to all nations a new and more direct sort of diplomacy.

Leading up to this culminating role on the stage of statecraft were many minor positions in the diplomatic service. These began shortly after the civil war, and the first period ended in 1870. But in these few years three important places were held—secretary of legation at Paris, secretary of legation and charge d'affaires at Vienna and secretary of legation at Madrid.

Friend of Lincoln.

Diplomacy, however, was not the only field in which John Hay shone. Politics, war, journalism and literature each furnished some of the laurels interwoven in the wreath of his fame.

In peculiarly close and intimate relations with the great emancipator. He was the favorite editorial writer of Horace Greeley on the New York Tribune. He was the author of poems and prose sketches and histories read with interest and delight on two continents.

The Ohio society of New York once gave Hay a dinner, for among his other titles of distinction the great secretary lived several years in Ohio. In that talk he bewailed the fact that he was a man without a state.

his election the great war president made Hay his assistant private secretary. It was during the dark days of the conflict that the young man wrote his famous poem, "Little Breeches," an effort that he did not appreciate at the time and which he has never rated at its true worth since.

The Advent of "Jim Bludso."

It was not until 1871, however, that "Pike County Ballads," containing "Little Breeches," "Jim Bludso," "Banty Tim" and other famous dialect poems, appeared. In later life Hay tried to forget that he had written these, but the public would not have it.

It was also in 1871 that "Castilian Days" came out, which Horace Greeley declared the best book of travel he had ever read. A year later appeared Hay's translation of "Castellar's Democracy in Europe."

Editor of the New York Tribune.

It was in 1870 that Mr. Hay became an editorial writer on the Tribune, a place he held for many years. It was here he began his lifelong friendship with Whitelaw Reid. The two men have many points in common, not the least of which is that both married rich wives.

It was Reid who introduced Hay into New York society, and one of the match makers of the metropolis decided that the young author and diplomat—Hay was then thirty-six—was too eligible a bachelor to go unmarried.

Colonel Hay's house in Washington has a rather modest appearance on the outside, but within it is artistic and beautiful. The great diplomat's chief fad was to gather cartoons made of himself, and one of the rooms of his home is plastered with them.

In manner Secretary Hay was suave, polished and courtly. He never lacked in vigor, however, and often startled the diplomats of Europe by the originality of his moves.



MR. HAY'S COUNTRY HOME AT NEWBURY, N. H., WHERE HE DIED.

finality of his moves. He did not believe in the indirect methods of old time diplomacy and pushed matters to a conclusion. He spoke many languages, and his grasp of affairs was truly world wide.

J. A. EDGERTON.

A Bearded Freak.

One of the earliest of the American bearded freaks was Louis Jasper, who lived in southern Virginia at about the time of the close of the Revolutionary war. His beard was nine and a half feet long and correspondingly thick and heavy.

Important Question.

The wasp was buzzing languidly around the house cat. "You needn't come any nearer," said the cat.

Too Suggestive.

Henry Hyde—You ought to be in the workhouse. Roofless Rufus—I know it, boss, but I jest can't bear de idea! Henry Hyde—You shouldn't be so proud. Roofless Rufus—Taint pride, boss; it's the name o' de place I can't stand.—Cleveland Leader.

Most people would rather preach half a day than practice half an hour.—Montreal Star.

POEMS BY JOHN HAY.

Notable Favorites Written by Late Secretary of State.

Jim Bludso of the Prairie Belle. Well, no! I can't tell what he lives, because he don't live, you see.

He weren't no saint—them engineers is all pretty much alike—One wife in Natchez Under-the-Hill And another one here in Pike.

And this was all the religion he had: To treat his engine well, Never be passed on the river, To mind the pilot's bell.

All boats has their day on the Mississippi, And her day come at last—The Movastar was a better boat, But the Belle, she wouldn't be passed.

There was rumm' and curst' in the night, There was rumm' and curst' in the night, There was rumm' and curst' in the night.

Through the hot, black breath of the burn-in boat, Jim Bludso's voice was heard, And they all had trust in his cussedness.

He weren't no saint, but at judgment I'd run my chance with Jim Longside of some pious gentlemen.

Little Breeches.

I don't go much on religion— I never ain't had no show— But I've got a middlin' tight grip, sir.

I come into town with some turnips, And my little Gabe came along— No four-year-old in the county.

Hell to spit over the prairie! I was almost froze with skeer, But we rustled up some torches.

And here all hopes soured on me, Of my fellow critter's aid— I jest flopped down on my marrowbones.

We found it at last and a little shed, Where they shut up the lambs at night. We looked in and seen them huddled there.

Banty Tim.

I reckon I git your drift, gents— You 'low the boy shan't stay. This is a white man's country; You're Dimocrats, yer see.

Le's reason the thing a minute; I'm an old fashioned Dimocrat, too. Though I laid my politics out o' the way.

Now, dog my cats ef I kin see, In all the light of day, What you're got to do with the question.

Why, blame your hearts, jest hear me! You know that ungodly day, When our left struck Vicksburg Heights.

Lord, how hot the sun went for us, And the rebel bullets whizzed round us! How the rebel bullets whizzed round us!

The rebels seen him as quick as me, And the bullets buzzed like bees. But he jumped for me and shouldered me.

So, my gentle gazellen, thar's my answer, And here stays Banty Tim. He trumped Death's ace for me that day.

Or my hamer's got Timon Jey!

CUT THIS OUT.

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