

Five Minute Chats on Our Presidents

By JAMES MORGAN

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A BACHELOR PRESIDENT

- 1791—April 23, James Buchanan born in Franklin county, Pa.
1815-16—Member of the legislature.
1819—Tragic death of his betrothed, Annie C. Coleman.
1821-31—Member of congress.
1832-34—Minister to Russia.
1834-45—Senator.
1845-49—Secretary of state.
1853-56—Minister to Great Britain.
1856—Democratic nominee for president.

JAMES BUCHANAN was the last president to wrap his neck in a stock, as Monroe was the last to wear knee-breeches—and he was the last of an era. An age passed away as he passed out of the White House.
After Buchanan's birth at a Pennsylvania log cabin, his father, who was an Irish immigrant, prospered as a country storekeeper and was able to send his son to college. But the college sent him back as a wild spirit that it could not tame. The pastor of the scandalized family begged and obtained a chance for the wayward youth, who improved it so well that he graduated first in his class. Nevertheless, the still unforgiving faculty denied him the honors of his rank.
This would be but a dull story of law and politics were it not for a single tragic episode which cast a shadow over the whole after life of our bachelor president, the only president to die a bachelor. A young woman, to whom Buchanan was engaged in early manhood, a daughter of the wealthiest family in the county, wrote him a letter of dismissal under the spell of a jealousy which had been aroused by gossips. Pride on both



James Buchanan.

sides kept the two apart until their separation was made irrevocable by her sudden death—probably by suicide. In grief and horror, the young lover wrote to the father of the dead girl, begging the privilege of looking upon her remains and of following them to the grave. But the letter was returned to him unopened.
Four and forty years passed, and Buchanan went to his grave without ever having taken any other woman to his heart. When his executors opened the papers, which the aged ex-president had left in a bank vault, they found among them a little packet of treasured love letters from his sweetheart of long ago. But in accordance with the request written on the outside, those faded mementoes of his only love were burned without breaking the seal on them.

Buchanan was by no means a crabbed old bachelor. He remained always most courteously attentive to women, though with a perfect impartiality. Nor did he keep bachelor's hall. At Wheatland, his country place near Lancaster, Pa., he brought up, from early childhood, the orphaned son of one of his sisters and the orphaned daughter of another, who became, as Miss Harriet Lane, one of the most admired mistresses of the White House.
After Buchanan had risen to top rank at the Pennsylvania bar, with a practice that brought him as much as \$12,000 in a year, he entered politics. Starting as a Federalist, he became a Democrat only at the death of the party of his first choice. He was elected to the legislature and to congress; was twice elected to the senate; served as minister to Russia and Great Britain and was secretary of state in Polk's cabinet.

For 20 years an unsuccessful candidate for the presidential nomination, the veteran politician had all but given up hope when at last it came to him unsought in 1856 on his return from a long absence as American minister in London. As he accepted it, he sighed that the honor had been denied him until he was too old to enjoy it, "when all the friends I loved and wanted to reward are dead and all the enemies I hated and had marked for punishment are turned my friends."

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ADRIFT IN A STORM

- 1857—March 4, James Buchanan inaugurated 15th president, aged sixty-five.
March 5, Dred Scott decision.
1859—Aug. 5, Completion of Atlantic cable.
Oct. 16, John Brown's raid.
1861—Feb. 4, the Southern Confederacy formed.
March 4, Buchanan retired from the presidency.
1868—June 1, died at Wheatland, Pa., aged seventy-seven.

BECAUSE the drama of history, like that of the theater, must have its heroes and villains, James Buchanan has been painted all black in the opening scene of the Civil war, loaded down with all the weaknesses and sins of his generation and banished forever into the wilderness. Anyone can see now, with the aid of hindsight, what Buchanan should have done, but not what he could have done.
The North itself, in the bewildering winter of 1860-61 was far from agreed that secession could or should be stopped by force. "Let the Union slide," the abolitionists said, "Let the erring brethren go," said Horace Greeley. "Wayward sisters, depart in peace," General Scott would have said to the seceding states.
In common with the politicians of his fast vanishing time Buchanan clung to the idea that freedom rather than slavery was to blame for all the trouble. He had not gone with Douglas and the northern wing of the divided Democrats in the campaign of 1860, but had sided with the southerners and voted for Breckinridge.
When the first state seceded he was already within ten weeks of the end of his term, with a hostile congress in



Harriet Lane.

front of him and behind him a country as irrefutable as himself. As he saw the Union falling to pieces he hoped on that it could be patched together again by another old-fashioned compromise. All the while there were southern members of his cabinet who were staying in Washington only to ship federal war supplies south and to aid in the preparations for destroying the government.
Edwin M. Stanton of Ohio, although himself a Breckinridge Democrat bluntly warned Buchanan: "You are sleeping on a volcano. The ground is mined all around and under you are ready to explode, and without prompt and energetic action you will be the last president of the United States."

"Mr. Stanton," pleaded the feeble old man, "for God's sake come in and help me."
The first day that Stanton took his seat at Buchanan's cabinet table he told the secretary of war, Floyd of Virginia, that he "ought to be hanged on a gallows higher than Haman's" for having ordered Major Anderson, without the knowledge of the president, to stay in a defenseless old fort at Charleston harbor instead of transferring himself to Fort Sumter, as the major had done in defiance of orders.
Before the middle of January the cabinet was reorganized and Buchanan was surrounded by staunch Union men who swept him along at a pace which sometimes left him breathless. The new secretary of the treasury, John A. Dix, quietly reported one day that he had sent to New Orleans his now famous message: "If any man attempts to haul down the American flag shoot him on the spot."

"Did you write such a letter as that?" Buchanan exclaimed.
"No," Dix replied, "I telegraphed it."
Had Buchanan been a man of iron instead of putty, probably he could have done no good in that chaotic Interregnum between the election and inauguration of his successor. If he had taken any step which should have hastened Virginia and Maryland into revolt there would have been no national capital on March 4, 1861. The retiring president would only have made heavier, perhaps impossible, the task which he wearily laid upon a stouter soul when he transferred the presidency to Lincoln and sadly tottered into the shadows.

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"Always after eating," continued Mr. Finniger, "I would have such cramps in my stomach that I could hardly stand it. I had fallen off until I weighed only ninety eight pounds and was so nervous the least little thing would upset me. I could sleep but little and got up in the mornings feeling all fagged out. My strength and energy left me and I felt like I would have to give up entirely. Besides taking everything in the way of treatments and medicines I tried dieting and the rest cure, but never got more than a little passing relief.
"The way Tanlac brought me out is marvelous. I can eat anything now without any trouble afterwards. I have gained twenty pounds and my nerves are steady as a clock. I sleep fine every night and get up in the mornings ready for a good breakfast and a full day's work, and am enjoying better health than I have in years."
Tanlac is sold in Gastonia by Murrow Drug Company; in Dallas by D. P. Summey; in Alexis by C. E. Abernethy & Sons; in Mount Holly by the Holland Drug Company; and in Lowell by the Robinson Company.

WILL FIGHT PROFITEERING IN WOMAN'S GARMENT INDUSTRY

NEW YORK, July 21.—Profiteering in the women's garment industry will be fought with union owned shops, factories and stores by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
This became known here today when officials of the union announced that it has a committee at work laying the foundation for the first group of union owned factories, which are expected to be in operation by next spring.

These factories are to be established, according to Benjamin Schlesinger, international president, to demonstrate that the workers can be paid first class wages, work less hours and enjoy better working conditions than they are now getting and reap a "reasonable profit" from their product and still sell it considerably under the regular market price.

The union proposes to sell its output to consumers through their own stores.
The first group of six factories will be established in New York, together with a number of union stores, union officials said. Others will be located in Chicago and Philadelphia.

Amply funds for the factories have been provided by the international union, Mr. Schlesinger said, and later as more money is needed "union shop and factory assessments" will be levied to finance the project until it is put on a paying basis.

"We expect to be turning out medium and high priced garments for the spring trade," A. Baroff, secretary of the union, said. "The first factories will probably employ about 1,000 workers, to be selected by the union." They will pay higher wages than are paid by employers in the garment industry and a seven hour work day will be in effect, he added. The workers now work an eight-hour day with a half holiday on Saturday.

The local unions of the Ladies' Garment workers, according to Mr. Baroff, are also taking steps on their own initiative to defeat the high cost of living by establishing cooperative restaurants and stores. A number of stores, have been started in New York and a restaurant is being operated by unions in Philadelphia, he said.

BERLIN, July 20.—German theaters have been so hard hit by the amusement tax that attendance, according to the managers, has fallen off from 90 to 70 per cent. Max Reinhardt, Germany's foremost play producer, announces that he will have to close his three Berlin theaters unless the tax is abandoned.

A Whole Week's Washing Done in Ten Minutes

And for Only a Few Cents

Wash everything you will be delighted to know that "Blue Monday" never comes again. Throw away your scrubbing boards, forget your tired knuckles and backs, and learn how a whole week's washing may be done easily, quickly and pleasantly.

It sounds like a dream, doesn't it? But it's true. No, there's no need to buy expensive automatic washers—just a cake of Clean Easy Naphtholene Wash Soap that will last for two weeks!

"Clean Easy isn't merely a soap. It's more than a soap. It's a regular household worker—the best friend you ever had, because it does the meanest work and never gets tired or cross. Just notice how different it looks from other soaps."

The Clean Easy method is very simple. All you do is soak the clothes overnight. Then shave 1/2 bar of Clean Easy into a tub containing 4 1/2 gallons of water. Let the chips dissolve. Bring it to a boil. Put in the clothes—stir for ten minutes with a stick—rinse, blue and dry—and presto, an average week's washing is done. It's as clean and fresh as if you had scrubbed and rubbed for hours over a miserable washboard!

Wonderful, isn't it? So simple and easy, so quick and comparatively pleasant! Why, hundreds of women have written us the most enthusiastic letters about Clean Easy. We know you will appreciate it. Ask your grocer for Clean Easy—the wonder soap—today. Follow the directions on the inside of the wrapper.

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NOW OFFERED AT H. SCHNEIDER'S CLEARANCE SALE Ending Saturday Night JULY 24th. Come, Let nothing keep you away Rain or Shine COME!

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Men's Negligee Shirts at only .....\$1.25
Men's Negligee Shirts at only .....\$1.48

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One lot fancy Silk Ties at .....98c
One lot fancy Silk Ties at .....\$1.25

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- Men's good Handkerchiefs at .....10c
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- 1 lot Children's Dresses worth more than double the price, in small sizes, 3 to 6, at only .....29c
1 lot in small sizes, 3 to 6, at only 18c
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- Ladies' Sailor Hats at only .....25c

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Silk and Satin Petticoats at only .....\$2.98, \$3.98 and \$4.98
real fine Corset Cover at 48c, 98c, and \$1.25.
Silk Jersey Petticoats at low prices.

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Gastonia, N. C.

GERMANS PROTEST AGAINST AMERICAN ADDING MACHINES

(By The Associated Press)
BERLIN, July 20.—German manufacturers of adding machines are appealing to the government for assistance in their fight to prevent the importation of American made machines which they claim now are superfluous, as the German industry is capable of supplying the home demand.

Action has been precipitated by the application of a well-known American firm through its Berlin branch for permission to import 1,700 adding machines to meet the German demand until the American firm has completed its local branch factory.

The German manufacturers have addressed a joint appeal to the ministry of economics demanding further enforcement of the existing import embargo and requesting that wholesale importation should be prohibited.

The Vorwarts declares that, while the German working man does not desire to be placed under the domination of American capital, the present action by the German makers is undignified and not in keeping with the German efficiency which has always been able to assert itself in the competitive markets even when pitted against American enterprise.

It is believed the coal obtained in the operation will pay much of the cost of building a proposed tunnel under the Pirth of Forth in Scotland as there are mines at each end of the projected line.

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