

Three weeks had elapsed since I was in the thralls of a medical exam. for a policy of life insurance, when the agent who had "roped me in" stepped into my study, and after handing me a cigar and a little beating around the bush, said he was "awfully sorry," and handed me the company's cheque for \$509.

"What's this for?"

"Turned down," was the simple reply of that magnetic agent. "Good morning, when you're in the city don't forget to give us a call."

I was more than disappointed. This endowment policy had matured altogether too quickly. I could not rest until I had seen the doctor. Just as I was about to start for his office I saw his dog cart across the street. I waited until he came out from his patient. "I didn't get that policy, doctor; agent returned the cheque this morning. What was wrong?"

"Bright's disease, old man, Bright's. Good-day, I'm in a great hurry."—*Charles St. Morris, in Toronto Empire.*

DEATH OF SECRETARY GRESHAM.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 28.—Secretary Gresham died at 1:15 o'clock this morning at his rooms at the Arlington Hotel. Although his recovery was practically abandoned when his spell occurred shortly before 6 o'clock last evening, the most powerful heart stimulants known to medical science were injected periodically, and an infusion of normal saline solution was made through an open vein in the arm. He recovered slightly, but owing to severe rigors shortly before 11 o'clock, he began to fall rapidly, and his vitality began to ebb. The three physicians saw that the end was near, and at 12 o'clock withdrew to the ante-room, leaving in the sick room only the members of his family and the nurses.

Up to that time he had been conscious and talked at intervals. His words were full of bravery. He fully appreciated his condition and spoke words of hope and cheer to his stricken wife and daughter. Sometimes his mind wandered slightly and went back to the days of long ago, recalling incidents of life and happiness in the springtime of his life. He spoke, too, of his absent son and his private secretary, Mr. Landis, whom he loved as a son, and who, like his son, was speeding to his bedside, but all too late.

Mrs. Gresham sat by the bedside smoothing his fevered brow and occasionally reading to him from Bible passages which he loved. As the end approached his pulse became hardly perceptible. Gradually his eyes glazed and closed. Mrs. Gresham, with noble and heroic fortitude, continued to read the words of the gospel to her departed husband. Her daughter and son-in-law stood with bowed heads at the side of the couch. At 1:15 o'clock his breathing ceased, a peaceful shadow passed over his pale countenance, his pulse flickered and his sorrowing family were in the presence of death.

Mr. Gresham's illness began May 1st, when he was attacked with acute pleurisy. The physicians diagnosed his case as gallstone in the bladder at first, his pleurisy symptoms being overlooked for almost thirty-six hours. As soon as Dr. W. W. Johnston, who

is now the attending physician, was called he discovered that the secretary was suffering from an acute case of pleurisy, probably caused by exposure while riding out to Woodley, the President's country home, at night.

The secretary's right lung was affected, the cavity being already filled with pleuric fluid. His respiration rose to 48. The physicians decided not to tap the cavity, but to rely upon absorption to rid it of the exuded fluid. Gradually Secretary Gresham grew better. The respiration was reduced almost to normal. Last Saturday, when Dr. Johnston thought all danger past, the left lung suddenly became affected and filled rapidly.

About 5:30 this evening he sank rapidly, and death was momentarily expected. Restoratives were applied and hypodermic injections of nitroglycerine (the most powerful of all heart stimulants), and strychnine were made, and about 9 o'clock the stricken statesman had revived somewhat.

The news which came later that Secretary Gresham was dying spread like wildfire through the city. President Cleveland, who was at Woodley, was telephoned to, and kept constantly informed as to his premier's condition. He too had been confined to his room, it is said, for two days by a bilious attack.

Secretary Gresham was conscious almost the entire evening. Many times he inquired for his son Otto, who is on the way from Chicago. By midnight the signs of dissolution were crowding thick and fast, and the watchers waited in silent agony of spirit for the going out of life.

Walter Quintin Gresham was a soldier, a judge and a statesman, prominent and distinguished in those three great fields of human endeavor. He rose to the rank of major general of volunteers during the rebellion. He was for fourteen years United States circuit judge for Illinois, and held three cabinet portfolios—postmaster general and secretary of the treasury under Arthur, and secretary of state under Cleveland.

Mr. Gresham came of English stock. His ancestors moved to Virginia and later to Harrison county, Indiana, where he was born on St. Patrick's day, 1832. August 11, 1863, he was appointed brigadier general on the recommendation of Grant and Sherman and placed in command of the Natchez division. In the following spring he was placed in command of the division of the Seventeenth corps of the Tennessee, which took part in the campaign against Atlanta. At Leggett's Hill, before Atlanta, he was struck with a bullet just below the knee. To the day of his death he never recovered the full use of his limb.

The war over, General Gresham returned to his profession at New Albany, Ind. In 1866 he was nominated for Congress, but was defeated. When General Grant became President he appointed Mr. Gresham United States district judge for Indiana. When Postmaster General Howe died, in April, 1883, Mr. Gresham was tendered the cabinet position by telegraph and accepted. Near the close of Arthur's term, on the death of Secretary Folger, he was appointed secretary of the

treasury, a position he held until October, 1884. President Arthur, who had taken him from the bench, had the satisfaction of restoring him to the bench at the close of his service, by appointing him to succeed Judge Drummond.

After Mr. Cleveland was elected, in February, 1893, he summoned Judge Gresham to Lakewood, N. J., where, after a consultation, he tendered him the position of premier of the cabinet he was forming. Judge Gresham accepted the trust March 8th.

The secretary was a hard worker. He was thorough in all things and insisted upon reading up every aspect of a case which came before him. This involved long hours spent in study, and it is now clear that Secretary Gresham was brought to his last illness by the great exertions he was obliged to put forth to discharge his official duties to his own satisfaction.

In 1858 Mr. Gresham married Miss Matilda McGrain, the daughter of Thomas McGrain, a man of Scotch-Irish descent. A son and daughter were born to them, who live in Chicago. He was devoted to wife and children. This side of his life the public knew nothing of, but it furnishes the best key to his nature and character.

NEWS NOTES.

Plans are under consideration for the development of a pottery manufacturing plant in Missoula, Mont. It has been known for several years that there exists near Missoula a large deposit of pottery clay which is of very superior quality.

Utah Messenger: The Mills Bros. have just fired kilns containing 150,000 brick which they will soon have ready for market. The boys are now supplying quite a lot to Ephraim, and expect to supply a big quantity in this town this season.

There is a well grounded rumor floating around, says the Coalville Times, that a strike of silver ore of splendid quality has been found within a very few miles of Coalville, which bids fair to create a rush when the location becomes known.

A vicious fight, in which honors were about evenly divided, has just taken place between a gray horse and a big boar in a pasture near Skamokawa, Wash. The horse nearly trampled and bit the life out of the hog, and in return carries a wound on his right foreleg six inches long, inflicted by the boar's tusks.

The grand jury at Phoenix, Ariz., has found three indictments for embezzlement against R. E. Dagge, late president of the defunct bank of Tempe. Bail has been fixed at \$6,000. It is expected that others connected with the bank at the time of its failure will also be indicted. Sensational disclosures are expected.

A Chinaman on the Allen ranch, near Pasadena, Cal., was bitten recently on the hand by a rattlesnake. It seems that a number of rattlesnakes have been found on the ranch in the last few days, and in a hunt for more of them the Chinese was bitten. A large quantity of brandy was poured down his throat, and he was soon out of danger.