

James D. Cameron.

The Retiring Senator From Pennsylvania Gives His Views of Politics and Public Matters.

He Tells the Inside History of Grant's Third Term Movement and Declines How Blaine Lost the Presidency at Cincinnati—How Roosevelt Became and Not Oratory Run the United States—Cameron's Scheme for Increasing Our Commerce—How He Originated the Movement for a Fast Navy—His Views as to the Monroe Doctrine and the Future of the United States—The Story of His Appointment as Grant's Secretary of War, etc.

Special Correspondence of the News.

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WASHINGTON, January 25th, 1896.

SENATOR CAMERON has been named as one of the retiring members of the United States Senate. This will take another famous name from the rolls of that body. The Camerons have been prominent in congressional matters for the past fifty years. Simon Cameron was first elected to the Senate, in 1845, when James Buchanan was called into the cabinet. Buchanan had a retainer in the person of Simon Cameron, as the story goes, when he was appointed Secretary of State by James Buchanan and said: "Mr. Cameron, the President has tendered me the position of Secretary of State. What had I better do about it?"

"Why do you ask me?" was the reply, "when you have already made up your mind to accept it?"

"But I am anxious to know who will succeed me as Senator," said Mr. Buchanan. "I don't like to leave the Senate until I know."

"I rather think that Simon Cameron will," was the reply.

Simon Cameron did succeed Buchanan, and I have heard that the two were never very close friends after that. Simon Cameron served his term in the Senate. He was again re-elected for the six years beginning 1877 and served throughout Buchanan's administration. After he left the Senate he became Lincoln's Secretary of War, then minister to Russia and then again United States Senator, which position he had until 1877, when he resigned in favor of his son. Senator James Donald Cameron has held the position from that time to this, and when his present term closes he will have been in the Senate twenty years. He has, I understand, several times thought of retiring, but has concluded his senatorial career in order to show the people that he is something more than the son of his father and that he has an intellectual force and power of his own. When he first entered the Senate he was spoken of as Simon Cam-

eron's son, and his mother said that he could not be re-elected. After he was again re-elected to the Senate they persisted that he would surely go out when Simon Cameron died, and they were not satisfied to give him the credit of being one of the best political managers in the United States until he showed it by his last election, in 1894.

It is hard to say where Senator Cameron's home lies. There is nothing of the sleepy-head about him, but his home is in the West, in the mountains of Pennsylvania. He is very reserved, and he has, as a rule, a serious, contented expression rather than the smiling face of a politician. He is a very reserved man, and he has been a success both as a politician and a man. He made a fortune independently of his father, and he is said to be one of the wealthiest business men in the United States. He began his business life very early. After graduating at Princeton he went into a bank at Middleburg, Pa., as clerk, rose to be cashier and finally became president. He then got possession of his own mind, as the story goes, when he was appointed Secretary of State by James Buchanan and said: "Mr. Cameron, the President has tendered me the position of Secretary of State. What had I better do about it?"

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