

CHATS WITH GREAT MEN.

WASHINGTON, February 8, 1893.—I had a chat last night with Judge Holman, during which I asked him as to President Harrison's future. Judge Holman replied:

"I don't know what the President will do after he leaves the White House, but I suppose he will go back to Indianapolis to live. He has, you know, a good house there and is a rich man."

"How much is he worth?" said I.

"Oh, I don't know exactly," replied Judge Holman, "but he has made a good deal of money out of his law practice and he ought to have saved a lot since he was elected. The White House is by no means an expensive place for a President in comparison with his salary, and I doubt not that Harrison has saved from \$125,000 to \$150,000 during his presidential term. He gets a great deal more than his mere salary. He has his house furnished. His servants cost him practically nothing. His fuel and light are paid by the government. He makes a great spread at his receptions with flowers and servants, but these are almost all given him by the government and a great part of his floral decorations come from the green house of the White House. It would, it seems to me, be a high estimate to say that either he or President Cleveland can have spent more than \$12,000 or \$15,000 a year during their presidential terms."

"Then I suppose President Harrison must be worth at least two hundred thousand dollars?"

"I don't know," replied Judge Holman. "Two hundred thousand dollars is a great deal of money. Still I suppose President Harrison was worth somewhere between fifty and a hundred thousand dollars when he entered the White House. He has always been a frugal man and he has never spent much on his campaigns, and during his stay in Washington before he became President he led a very simple life and did not waste anything in entertaining."

CLEVELAND AND THE OFFICE HOLDERS.

"How about Cleveland, Judge? Do you think he will make many changes in the offices?"

"No, I don't," was the reply. "I think he will increase the list of men in the civil service and that few changes will be made. I think many of the foreign appointments will remain as they are. I was with President Cleveland once in the White House during his term when a delegation called to ask him to remove one of the Central American ministers. They stated their case while I was there and President Cleveland listened soberly to them. After they went out he turned to me and said: 'It seems to me that these men are very unreasonable. The man they want to remove has been in that place for eight years. He gave up his business to go there. He has learned the language of the country and has become settled. He is doing his duty better than a new man could do it. I don't see why we should change him and I won't.'"

"I have heard President Cleveland express himself forcibly upon this matter at other times," continued Judge Holman, "and I don't think he wants to make many changes. President Harrison has kept a number of his appointees in office and there will probably be a

great many disappointed men about the time that the new appointments are expected to be made."

UNCLE SAM GOING TO RETRENCH.

"What is your idea, judge, of the next four years? Are we going to have an era of retrenchment in government expenses?"

"We are bound to have," was the reply. "Uncle Sam is becoming a spendthrift and during the last few years his pocket book has been open to every one and to everything. Our people are gradually growing very extravagant and our federal taxes must be cut down. We must reduce them, not by millions, but by the tens of millions, and we have got to do this in order to maintain republican institutions. I don't care how rich we get if we can keep down the taxes. We are now the richest nation on the face of the globe and we are growing richer every year. As long as the money is properly distributed it is all right, but our enormous taxation is bringing about centralization of wealth. The money is collected dollar by dollar from the seventy-odd million people of the country and the hundreds of millions thus collected fall into the hands of tens of thousands. The result is that the rich are growing richer and to a certain extent it seems to me that the poor are growing poorer. We have got to cut down taxation."

RAILROADS AND ANARCHY.

"Do you think, judge, that we are growing rich too fast?" said I.

"Yes, I do," replied the judge. "The land grants to the railroads brought the hordes of emigrants upon us so fast that we could not digest and assimilate them. Had the country been settled up more slowly America would now be inhabited by Americans instead of consisting of a succotash of nations. The opening of these lands took capital by the millions and men by the thousands from eastern states. This was not noticed at first, but the lands of the east have now fallen in consequence. Farms in the great valley of the Ohio have depreciated 30 per cent and more within the last twenty years; and along the Ohio river, where land was worth \$200 per acre ten years ago, you can now get it for \$50. Many of these land grants were bought by foreigners. English and German capitalists own nearly all the 40,000,000 acres granted to the Northern Pacific railroad, and Mr. Carter, the land commissioner under Harrison, told me the other day that foreign capitalists own 5,000,000 acres of mineral lands in Montana which are filled with an almost inexhaustible wealth. The emigrants got their lands in the west on a small cash payment. Bad crops resulted in their not being able to pay the interest, and there are today more tenant farmers in Kansas than in Indiana. The end of the trouble has by no means come. The strikes and anarchy shown here and there over the country are a foretaste of it. The real danger will appear about twenty-five years from now, when the whole country is taken up by settlers and when the question of daily bread will be a vital one with millions."

A CHAT WITH SENATOR WOLCOTT.

The above are the ideas of an old man of one of the older states. I want to offer them with a chat I had yesterday with one of the brightest young men of the

west. Senator Wolcott of Colorado, is the best human type which grows west of the Mississippi. Sprouted in the nursery of New England, from one of the oldest families of our history and surrounded by the associations of the Puritans and Yale College, he was pulled from the ground by his own energy and ambition and transplanted as a young man into one of the wildest parts of the mining regions of Colorado. With a great great grandfather who was one of the first governors of the Connecticut colony, with a great grand uncle who was George Washington's Secretary of the Treasury, and with no end of relatives in the revolutionary war, he dropped his genealogical tree in the east and began life as a young lawyer at Georgetown, Colorado. When he first practiced law there he tells me that the judges often pulled pistols out of their coat pockets and enforced order at the point of a gun. He soon showed himself able to take his stand with the best of them. Georgetown soon got too small for him and he went to Denver. He is now one of the ablest Senators from the west and he has shown that his gray matter is fully equal to his blue blood. He never says anything about his family, however, and he has made his way by sheer force and brains. He is a man of wonderful brain power. He is a great reader and gets more by intuition and quickness of intellect than the plodders of the Senate do by hard work. He has the muscles of a prize fighter and he is the personification of physical vigor.

I asked him as to the future of the west. He replied:

"It cannot be estimated. We have hardly begun to scratch the surface of our possibilities. There are vast regions west of the Mississippi which will be eventually settled and the center of population will soon be west of the Mississippi. A large part of the west which is now considered worthless will be in the future the best agricultural part of the United States, and a vast manufacturing country will grow up on the edge of the Rocky mountains."

COLORADO THE NEW YORK OF THE FUTURE.

"Take for instance Colorado. It is looked upon as made up of mountains and deserts. It will be within another life time the greatest state of the Union. It will surpass New York and it will have the same political influence some day that New York has now. In fifty years its population will be as great as that of New York, and it will surpass Pennsylvania in its manufacturing. We have gotten millions upon millions out of our gold and silver mines, but we will get more than this out of our coal fields. We have thousands of square miles of the finest anthracite coal, some of the veins of which are twenty five feet deep. You will not find this coal in any quantity outside of Pennsylvania. If our coal veins could be spread out over New York State, according to the estimate of a noted geologist, they would cover it with a carpet of fine coal seven feet thick. There is first-class iron near these coal fields and we are just beginning to develop our manufacturing. We have vast oil fields in Colorado, and we are already supplying all the cities of the United States west of Denver with coal oil."

COLORADO—AN AGRICULTURAL EMPIRE.

"Colorado is to be the great farming