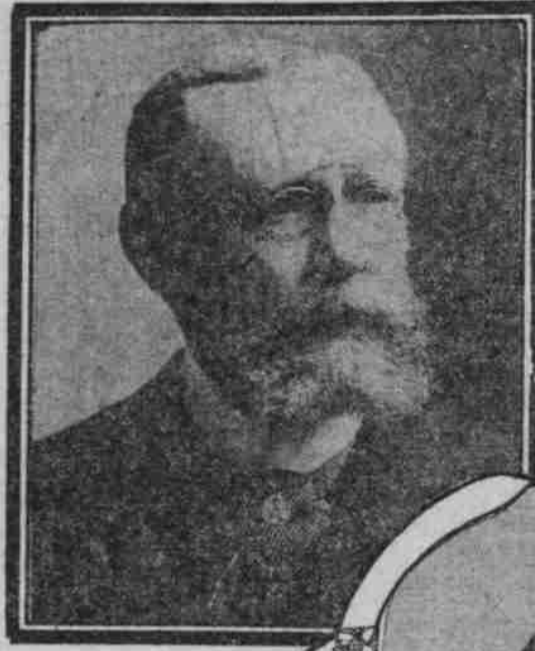


# THESE PUBLIC SERVANTS CAN'T BE SPARED

## GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHOM TAFT WILL RETAIN BECAUSE THEY HAVE PROVEN THEMSELVES VALUABLE



JAMES WILSON



ALVEY AUGUSTUS ADEE



HARRY WHITE



JAMES WILSON



MAJ. CHAS. D. A. LOEFFLER



ALONZO H. STEWART

**BY JOHN ELFRETH WATKINS**

OFFICIALS may come and officials may go, but a few officials, like Tompkins's brook, may go on forever in office, without Mr. Taft's hindrance, at least. These few officials are the men who cannot be spared as long as laws their zeal for work. Which way they have voted, for what party they have worked in the past, for what candidate they have whooped and hurraed and thrown up their hats does not matter a jot to the President-elect. They are simply invaluable, and it would be a hard rake and scrape to find others just as good. That is all. No one understands it so well as does Mr. Taft himself, who knows his Washington better than any other President-elect since John Quincy Adams.

**Will Beat Cabinet Record.**

During the campaign it was rumored that Mr. Bryan, if elected, would invite James Wilson, of Iowa, to retain his seat in the Cabinet as Secretary of Agriculture. This may or may not have been true. The point no less remains that James Wilson is one who may remain in the next Cabinet so long as his health lasts. On the last day of the present year—December 31, 1908—he will have broken the record for Cabinet service, held by Albert Gallatin, the great financier. Gallatin was commissioned Secretary of the Treasury May 14, 1801, and vacated that office February 3, 1814, having served 12 years 8 months and 25 days. He was the adviser of two Presidents, Jefferson and Madison, while James Wilson will have been the adviser of three, McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft. On the date when this article is published, Mr. Wilson will have been in the Cabinet 11 years 10 months and 13 days.

He has been continuously in public life for 45 years, having served eight years in his State Legislature, where he was Speaker; six years in Congress, and the remainder of his time, up to his Cabinet service, in various state offices. He was in Congress four years while Grant was President, and during two years of Arthur's administration. However highly he might have distinguished himself in these days, however, he never could hope to be President, since he was born in Scotland, from which country he emigrated when it was the 17th year of his youth.

**Assistant Secretary of State 27 Years**

Another noted official who cannot be spared is Alvey Augustus Adee, who has been Assistant Secretary of State for 27 years. Indeed, he has been continuously connected with the diplomatic and State Department for 29 years. He was the son of a naval surgeon of Annapolis, N. Y., and when he was 21 President Grant appointed him secretary of legation at Madrid, where, as charge d'affaires at different times, he early felt the responsibilities of a diplomatic career. After remaining at Madrid seven years he came back to the State Department as a clerk when President Hayes came in, but in less than a year Secretary Everts had noted his skill and had appointed him chief of the diplomatic bureau. Four years later Arthur made him Third Assistant Secretary of State. That his career had thus been started by Republican Presidents made no difference to Mr. Cleveland, who promoted him to the Second Assistant Secretaryship, which he has retained under Harrison, then Cleveland again, then McKinley and Roosevelt. He can remain under Taft as long as he will. Indeed, it would be considered little short of a calamity should he retire. Being but 68, he will probably remain in the office of the State Department for at least a decade more.

It is "Ask Adee" nine cases out of ten when things get into a tangle at our foreign office. He knows by heart the peculiar form of addressing every sovereign on earth, whether as his most Catholic majesty, or what. "his most Christian majesty," or what. He has at tongue's end the yard-long list of titles of every monarch of Christendom or beatitude. He tells the President where distinguished foreigners in Washington should be placed at table or in what order they should be received with respect to home officials, and this function has resulted

in his being dubbed "etiquette tutor of the Presidents."

He can play the diplomatic chess game blindfolded or on a dozen boards at a time, and what he doesn't know about the rules is not worth knowing. Indeed, he probably knows even all that isn't worth knowing. Like the late P. D. Armour, he rejuvenates his mind with tea. Annually he bicycles through some part of Europe for a month at a stretch, making snapshots as he goes. He also delights in making photographs of his colleagues at their desks.

**An Indispensable Diplomat.**

Another of our diplomats who has been promoted under both Republican and Democratic administrations is Henry White, now Ambassador to France. It was rumored the other day that he was the only one of our present Ambassadors whom Mr. Taft would retain. However true this may be, he, like Mr. Adee, entered the "can't-be-spared" class at an early age, and there is little doubt that he will remain in our diplomatic service for many years to come. Arthur sent him to Vienna as secretary of legation in 1882, and he had been there but a year when sent to London as second secretary. Here he made himself so useful that, in spite of his being the appointee of a Republican President, Cleveland retained him and promoted him to first secretary. From this time he repeatedly acted as charge d'affaires in the absence of Minister Phelps, and his having been favored by Cleveland did not, in turn, cause Harrison to overlook his special abilities. However, he was not reappointed during Cleveland's second term, but McKinley was glad to send him back as chief assistant to John Hay, when the latter was Ambassador to London.

Indeed, so tactfully had Mr. and Mrs. White comported themselves in London that they had become intimates of the then Prince and Princess of Wales, and when these royalties ascended their thrones America had at a court a man and woman who could chum with their majesties. This was what America wanted, and Roosevelt retained Mr. White until 1905, when he promoted him to Ambassador and sent him first to Rome and later to France, where he is now. It is rumored that Mr. Taft will take advantage of Mr. White's personal friendship with King Edward and send him to London, which is considered the highest diplomatic berth in the gift of our Government.

**Our Veteran Creole Diplomat.**

Our two chief diplomatic fixtures are now attached to our Paris embassy, for Ambassador White's chief assistant

### BRITISH INDIAN AGENT HOPES TO REVOLUTIONIZE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM



MR. H. E. GORST & MISS GORST. COPYRIGHT 1909 BY GEO. G. BAIN.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Harold E. Gorst, brother of Sir Eldon Gorst, who is the British agent in India, is in New York with his little daughter, guests of Charles Rann Kennedy. Mr. Gorst comes here to lecture on education. He has a revolutionary plan. He has been studying the influence of modern education on the life of the child, as exemplified in his daughter, and he says the present system is a curse. It gives everyone the same kind of knowledge, ignoring the personal equation. It makes of the spirited child a listless, commonplace lump of humanity. Mr. Gorst wants to revolutionize all this. He will tell the Political Education League soon.

there is Jean Henry Vignaud. As first secretary there he long has been to our Paris post what Mr. White was to that at London, and it is regarded as certain that Mr. Taft and his successors will retain him there until he drops in the harness.

The memoirs of no living American would be better worth reading than those of this distinguished Louisiana Creole. Born in New Orleans 78 years ago, he there taught public school while a young man, gaining extra money the while by writing for Le Courier and other New Orleans papers. Next he became editor of L'Union de Lafourche, another Louisiana paper, as well as of a weekly review, La Renaissance Louisianaise. This was all before the war. When that struggle began he received the commission of Captain in the Confederate Army.

The Union troops captured him at New Orleans and after his release Judah Benjamin, the "brains of the Confederacy," who long had known of his worth, made him secretary of the Confederate diplomatic commission sent to Paris in 1863. This was Mr. Vignaud's debut in diplomacy, 46 years ago, at Paris, where he is today. His services here became known to the Roumanian government, which after the war sent him to Paris as secretary of its legation. But our Government needed him, and sent him to Geneva with the Alabama claims commission and again to the international diplomatic metric conference, in 1873. His mastery of the French language, added to his experience in diplomacy, led to his recommendation to Grant for a regular appointment in the diplomatic service, and Grant, overlooking the fact that Vignaud opposed him in the Civil War, both with the sword and with diplomacy, appointed him in 1875 secretary

of our legation in Paris, where he was promoted to first secretary by Arthur. He has remained at our Paris post since his first appointment by Grant, and thus he has there represented altogether three governments, serving us continuously for 33 years, under nine administrations, Republican and Democratic alike. Had Mr. Adee and Mr. Vignaud been men of great wealth who could afford to expend about \$50,000 a year on entertainment, they would have been ambassadors a decade or more ago. As it is they have been content with salaries of \$4000 and \$3000, respectively.

**Forty-seven Years' Service.**

Quite as indispensable to the Government during these two generations has been Dr. Sumner Increase Kimball, general superintendent of the life-saving service, who has been continuously connected with the Federal service for 47 years. He was born in Maine, where he was graduated from Bowdoin five years ahead of the late Speaker Reed. Like the great speaker, he also became a lawyer, served his apprenticeship in the Maine Legislature, but left it a decade before Reed entered. He came to Washington at the beginning of the war as a clerk in the second auditor's office. In eight years he became chief clerk of that office, and a year more found him chief of the revenue marine, now the revenue cutter service, although still in his thirties. The life-saving service was then under the revenue marine, and young Kimball at once set to work to develop it. His humane necessity so impressed him that he aided in having it made a separate service, and his name was sent to the Senate as its first chief in 1875, while Hayes was President.

So well was he known to our lawmakers, even then, that the Senate confirmed him without referring his name to committee; and he has served as the head of the service for 31 years, without a break, under eight Presidents and two Democratic administrations. In 1883 Congress rewarded his services by an increase in salary "while the position is held by the present incumbent," as it was stipulated. So highly has he been trusted by Secretary of the Treasury that frequently he has been asked to act as controller, registrar or collector. He has also represented the Government at conferences abroad. Last October he and his wife entertained many of the high Government officials at their golden wedding anniversary, a conspicuous figure at which gathering was their son, E. P. Kimball, superintendent of the money order service of the Post-office Department. Dr. Kimball is hale and hearty at 74. He has personally known all the factors in our Government prominent during and since the Civil War period. The life-saving service without him would be as "Hamlet without the Dane," for it has known no other head. He has made it what it is, and will undoubtedly be retained in office as long as he retains his zeal for work.

**Has Served Near Fifty-one Years.**

In the White House itself Mr. Taft will find a veteran official who cannot be spared as long as he retains his present robust health. This is Major Charles D. A. Loeffler, U. S. A., widely known as "doorkeeper to the Presidents." Going on 51 years ago, the then young Loeffler at Baltimore enlisted in a cavalry regiment, in which Robert E. Lee was Lieutenant-Colonel and Fitzhugh Lee was Second Lieutenant. With this regiment Loeffler got into the thick of Indian fighting, and showed his courage on many occasions,

particularly upon a notable one, when he aided in saving the life of Fitzhugh Lee, who as long as he lived thereafter was one of the plucky soldier's warm friends. Indeed, General Fitzhugh Lee always visited at the White House to see Major Loeffler when in Washington.

At the outbreak of the Civil War Loeffler, now a Sergeant, was ordered to Washington, where he was kept on special scout duty until the close of the struggle, when Secretary Stanton appointed him his bodyguard. Later he was with General Schofield, and when Grant was inaugurated he was told to report for duty at the White House. He was posted at the door of Grant's office and has thus guarded every President until this day. When Mr. Taft is inaugurated Major Loeffler will celebrate his 49th year in White House duty. In 1875 Hayes gave him the commission of Captain in the Regular Army, and he was later promoted to Major. And even when he was placed on the retired list he was deemed as indispensable to the White House, where he will undoubtedly remain as long as his present youthful vigor lasts. Last July, when he celebrated the semi-centennial of his service to the Government, President Roosevelt sent Major

Loeffler a letter of congratulation, in which he said:

**"An Absolutely Trustworthy Man."**

"Today you complete your fifty years—a full half century—of service in the Army of the United States, and you have been in close and confidential relations with eight Presidents. You have rendered loyal, faithful and gallant service to the country; you have shown yourself an absolutely trustworthy man; you have done well every duty entrusted to you. It is a record for your children and your children's children to be proud of."

In the Loeffler family there is also an incident case of "like father, like son," similar to that in the Kimball family. In 1888 Carl A. Loeffler, the Major's little son, was appointed a page in the United States Senate. Although pages have a definite term, after which they retire from the roll of the Senate, Carl Loeffler has been retained ever since, under Democratic and Republican Senators alike. The Senate simply can't spare him, and after 20 years of service he has risen to be a special confidential employe on the floor of our higher legislative body.

And, speaking of the Senate, we find there also another notable example of the man who can't be spared. January 13, 1878—21 years ago, almost to a day—Alonzo H. Stewart, an 11-year-old Iowa lad, was appointed a page in the Senate by Senator Wright of that state. Mr. Allison, also of Iowa, took a great fancy to the bright lad, and he became this Senator's protégé after Wright had retired. From page he became chief of pages, and for years was the assistant to the venerable Bassett, who for 62 years was an employe of the upper house. And when Mr. Bassett died Stewart succeeded him as "assistant doorkeeper," an office which has long existed as a

### UNITED STATES CONSUL TO MESSINA AND WIFE



MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR CHENEY. NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Little doubt exists of the death of Arthur Cheney, who was United States Consul at Messina, and his wife. Circumstantial reports of their fate have come from Italy. They are the only Americans so far officially reported as dead.

manometer, for, in the first place, there never had been an actual chief doorkeeper, and the assistant doorkeeper does not tend door. He is actually the Republican "whip" of the Senate, and the general factotum of the Republican side, and it would require the entire space of this article to define his other duties.

**The Reincarnation of Bassett.**

He has served under 12 presiding officers of the Senate, Republican and Democratic, and early in his career he improved his spare moments by studying law with two members of Congress. Some time ago he made an argument before the Supreme Court of the United States, of whose bar he is a member. He could doubtless earn four times his present salary if he went into private practice. But the Senate simply cannot spare him. And, besides, he is now generally believed to be a reincarnation of the venerable Bassett, who was homesick each day the Senate was not in session.

"My man Crook is drafted. I cannot spare him. Provost-General, please fix." President Lincoln hurried this card to the War Department when William H. Crook, a member of his bodyguard, was drafted into the Civil War. Crook was "spared" to Mr. Lincoln, and has been to his successors for 45 years, and is now the disbursing officer of the White House.

Surely no greater tribute to a man's worth can be paid than those words—"I cannot spare him."

Washington, D. C., January 16, 1909.

### The Preaching That Wins.

**Homiletic Review.**

A sermon that comes from the heart of the preacher will go to the hearts of his hearers.

The subject of a sermon depends on its object. The preacher of the old theology preached "as a dying man to dying men." The preacher of the new theology must preach as a living man to living men. The business of a preacher is not to preach to the men and women who are not at church, but to preach to those who are there. Some texts are only pretexts. They are too apt to be the "point of departure" for a sermon. It is better to begin back of the text and work up to it than to begin with the text and work away from it. Sermons should never be measured, they should be weighed. Not length, but strength is the true test of a sermon. The secret of a successful sermon, as of Sam Weiler's valentine, is in making one "which there was more." Some preachers are like boys swimming under water. You see them when they dive off the text, and you see them again when they bob up at the "Amen"; but all through the sermon you lose sight of them because they have gone in over their heads. Do not serve your sermon up a second time, cold and stale. Warm them over in the glowing fervor of the imagination and emotions in which they were cradled. Where there is no revision the people perish.

### Rope for Christmas Present.

**Puck.**

A Greek matron, being thoroughly tired of her husband, consulted the oracle at Delphi. "Give him rope enough and he'll hang himself" was the oracle's advice. The matron's eyes filled with tears. "I've tried that," she exclaimed. "I have given him a large box every Christmas, and while he has talked of hanging himself, he has never done so."

### Mount Theodore of Mexico.

**Puck.**

Mexico has a new volcano, the reports saying "that the top of a low mountain was blown off by a subterranean explosion, and that lava and sulphurous flames have been pouring from the crater for several days." There is some talk of calling the newcomer Mount Theodore.