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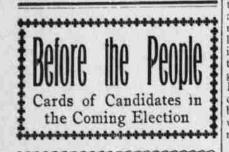
#### cutting it and piling it in the back yards of the well-to-do people of St. ADDRESS OF SECRETARY TAFT Louis. After six years of this life

### (Continued from page 1)

foundation and maintenance of this nation's life will always be associated with those of Washington and Linroln

The character of Grant as developed by the war and as necessary to the result was as remarkable in its way, considering his previous history as was that of Lincoln.

It is true that Grant received an education at West Point, but certainly nothing was developed there in him to indicate his fitness and ability to meet great responsibilities. He did well in the Mexican War as did other lieutenants. He manifested as regimental quartermaster energy and fa-miliarity with his duties. But in 1854 he resigned from the army because he fered him an opportunity for an edu-bad to. He has yielded to the weak-cation. He did not like the life at ness of a taste for strong drink and West Point and while he seemed in ness of a taste for strong drink and rather than be court-martialed he left the army. He returned from Vanconver on the Pacific Coast to his family at St. Louis without money, without property-a disheartened man. He accepted from his father-inlaw a loan of 75 acres of land upon which he constructed a house for his famly to live and there he carried on farming operations. His chief business seemed to be that of selling wood, of





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he gave up farming because of ill health and went to the real estate He failed business for a year. His associate dissolved the this. partnership. Then at last his father offered him \$600 a year as a clerk in his leather store at Galena, Ill., and thence he moved from St. Louis. He worked there for a year also. Dur ing these seven years, though every-thing looked dark, he overcame in a great measure his weakness for strong

He

ginia.

drink. But he was so constituted that it seemed impossible for him to earn a livlihood even when he had given hostages to fortune in the shape of a wife and four children.

Then the Civil War came on Grant had never been a dreamer of possible military glory. He had gone to West Point because it offered him an opportunity for advancement; ofthe Mexican War to be well adapted to the command of men, to be well adapted to the duty of quartermaster he never had that vaulting military ambition that present in the character of Napoleon and other military leaders. He tendered his services at the beginning of the war merely from a sense of duty and obligation for his education. His having been a student at West Point and a regular which he executed his plans and the army officer necessarily brought him to the front when military training and experience were in such great demand. He modestly suggested in his letter to the adjutant-general at Wash-ington that he believed he was fitted during the first three years of the way to command a regiment. He never an earlier termination. Grant's idea gave evidence of military ambition. He visited Cincinnati seeking to be of a war was a fight and a series of battles and his ttheory of winning vic come the staff officer of McClellan, but in vain. And then by great luck he was made the colonel of the 21st Illinois by Gov. Yates.

tories was that the side which was first ready the morning after the bat tle to resume it would win in the end The greatness of the man was seen in his willingness to assume responsi-From that time he took command bilities and his power of standing the of that regiment until the surrender strain when defeat and disaster seemof Appomattox his life was one well ed to threaten the success of his directed, well planned effort to suppress the rebellion. From time on plans and to indicate their weakness his constant quest to find and fight t was then having determined on the enemy. Beginning with the batwhat his "lan should be, he stuck to it and pushed it through in the face of tle of Belmont he was always in the field and always seeking the Confed-erate forces, though in the West he Il opposition and vindicated his udgment by ultimate success. He was suffered as did the western generals etirely willing to receive advice but

his decision was his own. from the interference of the war department and the paper stragetist like Halleck and the freedom of his move-Another quality he had as a great military commander was the power ments were curtailed and his constant to select competent subordinates and of instilling into them confidence in activity restrained by timidity and jealousy of his superior officers. But him and his purposes, which almost in spite of all of this he pressed on insured success. The men he especially selected were Sheridan, Sherman, and by victories he won he compelled the war department to give him a freer hand. Fort Henry, Fort Donel-McPherson, Rawlins and Logan and how well they justified his choice. When he came east he suffered from son and Shiloh were victories that shone like stars in the darkness of the an absence of that mutual understanddefeats of other Union commanders, ing between commander-in-chief and subordinate commanders that had and although in disgrace for a short been of such value to him in his period he finally was put in command earlier campaigns. of the army charged with the duty taking Micksburg-and he took it. Then followed the great battle of Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge, after which he was called to Washing-

The history of Grant's relations to those of his subordinates to whom he gave confidence and whom he had himself selected is a fascinating one. ton, made lieutenant-general and com-The relations which existed between mander of the entire army of the United States. Then for the first dwell upon. The utter absence of time, he came against Lee and for a jealousy between him and the pleasure which each took in th

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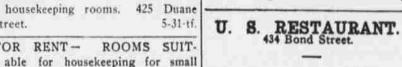
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Who

fought and which he had to fight to

exercise original free thought, and to

free himself from the bonds of mili-

tary precedent. Grant was a man of

such a sensitive nature that he could

not even bear to see animals subjected

to pain. And yet his conception of

war and its necessities was so clear

that the dreadful losses sustained by

him in the Wilderness, at Spottsyl-

vania and at Cold Harbor and in the

other campaigns against Lee did not

turn him from his purpose or lead

im to change his plan which he had

deliberately formed of wearing Lee deliberately formed of hammering of out and by constant hammering of

His purpose was at the cost which

the Northern Army was able to stand,

to inflict losses upon the Southern

army which in the end meant its de-

struction. A calculation of the losses

which the army of the Potomac sustained during the first three years of

the war showed them to have been

far greater than those sustained by Grant during his campaions of '64

and '65 against Lee and it is cer-

tainly not too much to say that had

Grant's military career as a general

begun in the cast as it began in the

west the war would have been length

ened out to a full four years. The

tenactity with which Grant conduct

ed his campaigns, the speed with

promptness with which he was or

hand next morning with a force able

to light after a drawn battle, if put

in practice the army of the Potomac

would certainly have brought about

ending the army of Northern

