

SONS OF GREAT SIRE

The Effect of Ancestry Is Shown in American Politics.

FAME FROM THEIR FATHERS

Half a Dozen Scions of Noted Families Are Numbered Among Present Aspirants for Political Honors—P. Tecumseh Sherman, James R. Garfield, George B. McClellan, Fred D. Grant, and Allen Thurman, to Mention Benjamin Harrison.

This is going to be a great year for the sons of famous men. Heredity, which has a political flavor, seems to be asserting itself with unusual force, so much so that the sons of ordinary men with aspirations for public office had better make a careful study of their respective family trees and endeavor to bring to the face some ancestor who was a great man a few generations ago.

Summed up briefly these are the men who are now in search of political honors and whose fathers were great men before them:

P. Tecumseh Sherman, son of Gen. William T. Sherman.
 James R. Garfield, son of James A. Garfield, the martyred President.
 Robert T. Lincoln, son of President Abraham Lincoln.
 George B. McClellan, son of Gen. George B. McClellan.
 Fred D. Grant, son of Gen. U. S. Grant.
 Allen Thurman, son of Allen G. Thurman, the old Roman.
 Incidentally, Benjamin H. Harrison, grandson of President William H. Harrison, but that is an old story.
 Some of those above named are about to make their debut in the arena

Congress assemblies. Col. McClellan as president of the board of aldermen, acquitted himself creditably, and takes pride in the fact that he is a Tammany Hall man. It is to this organization that he owes his rapid progress, and the fact that he was the son of such a famous general had considerable to do with Tammany's interest in the young man, as he drew a great many G. A. R. votes which would otherwise have been cast in the Republican fold.

A New Comer.
 A brand new comer is P. Tecumseh Sherman, son of Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman. Not one person out of a thousand in New York, or, for that matter, in any thousand, knew that the general had a son living in the city. It is with great surprise that some of the people living in the new Twenty-fifth Assembly district recently learned that Mr. Sherman is a candidate for the office of assemblyman in the State Legislature. This district is a fairly strong Republican one, as it includes a portion of the old Eleventh, which was controlled by the colored vote. Mr. Sherman is a lawyer at No. 59 Wall street, New York, and has quite a practice that does not bring him largely before the public. He is not a rich man in the New York meaning of the term, and has never before sought to bring himself within the piercing range of the public eye. His practice is a good one, and if he succeeds in getting into the political arena he will find many old friends of his father ready and willing to push him along. Allen Thurman, son of the Old Roman, is sometimes frivolously referred to by his opponents as the "Roman Candle," has recently come forward as the leader of the Democratic silver men of Ohio. The fact that he speedily made enemies draws to the keen politician that he must have more than average ability. The politician without enemies is like a bird without wings. Mr. Thurman is really hampered by the prominence of his father. George has been accused of trading upon the fame of the Old Roman, but his friends say he is a big enough man in every way to conduct a fight unaided by the sparkle of the family halo.

This makes it appear that the sons of presidents and famous generals are going to form an important factor in the politics of several States in '95 and '96. It is quite true that at no time previous in the history of the country was there such a galaxy of them seeking political preferment



AN INTERESTING TRIO.

of politics, while others can already show class as old campaigners.

There is young James R. Garfield, for instance. He is making a comparatively humble beginning and intends working his way up the political ladder step by step. He has never sought appointment to office, but hopes to make an entry to the realms of statesmanship through the vote of the people.

He has been nominated for State Senator in the same district of Ohio which sent his father to the Legislature three or six years ago. There are other coincidences which in a sentimental way help along the campaign of this young man. His father was twenty-eight years old and had been married just a year when he ran for the office that his son is now working for. Young Garfield is also twenty-eight years of age, and has been married a trifle more than a year. The father and son were both graduated from Williams College, but the son had the additional advantage of a course in the Columbia law school of New York, and moreover has traveled extensively abroad. He is also a rich man, whereas his father at the same time of life was poor.

There was some little objection to the nomination of young Garfield on account of his youthful appearance, but it was pointed out that the same objections had been made when the father had been nominated. Young Garfield is anxious to go

to dissolve the popular belief that great men's sons seldom amount to much.

Col. Fred D. Grant.
 Col. Fred D. Grant has had many public honors thrust upon him. He is a retiring, modest man, and the last one in the world to make original overtures for political preferment. The fact that he was "the son of his father" brought him into notice and thrust the honors upon him. Col. Grant is anything but a practical politician. As a police commissioner of New York he now occupies an ideal position for his temperament, with the possible exception of his being too tender-hearted. Col. Grant's modesty restrains his political ambition. It is not likely that he will ever attempt the dizzy heights of statesmanship sought after by Mr. Lincoln.



Col. Fred D. Grant.

to Congress, and he is anxious to go from the same Ohio district—the Nineteenth—that sent his father many years ago. He is a good speaker, has a level head, and his friends are confident that he will make a brilliant showing in the State Legislature.

Ohio politics, however, is always red-hot. He has become identified with the Republican faction, which seeks the elevation of "Fire alarm" Foraker. Should the McKinley or Sherman forces earn an emphatic triumph, the political progress of the Foraker followers may be arrested for some time.

Lincoln's Ambition.
 Robert T. Lincoln is being mentioned again as a possible candidate for the Presidency in 1896. For many years he has been regarded as a Presidential possibility. At the Republican national convention of 1888 he received a scattering vote of five of the eight ballots cast. His forces were raggedly organized, however, and no determined or business-like effort was made at that time to win for him the nomination. In the convention of 1892 he was raggedly supported, showing some strength among the delegates of the New England States.

There are two facts which may count against the nomination of Mr. Lincoln in 1896, no matter how carefully his fences may be attended to. Illinois has already captured four of the national Republican nominations, and in the last campaign the State was carried by the Democracy. This puts it in the category of doubtful States for the first time since 1856, when it went Democratic. There was no break in its Republicanism until 1892.

"Little Mac's" Son.
 George B. McClellan, son of the great general, has already won many successes in the political field, although a very young man. He was one of the few Democratic candidates for Congress to withstand the ravages of the Republican tidal wave last November. He will represent the Twelfth New York Congressional district in Washington when the Fifty-fourth