

DARK HORSE

The Surprise Election and

Political Murder of

President James A. Garfield

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Selected
Interpretations

Abrams 7
Griswold 10
Henry 16
James 15
Mollie 13

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The Speech
"Garfield vs. Hancock"
Joy Swanson - do you have
a copy

James - affair with
Mrs. Caldwells in N.Y.

"That Ohio man"

Grant - first former
Pres to campaign for a
national ticket

Roscoe Conkling of New York vs. James G. Blaine of Maine
over Provost Marshall General James Barnet Fay
Blaine's direct result p15
Stalwarts vs. Half Breeds

Arthur 468 votes

next 288 for all rest

8 for Blanche Bruce

1880 - Charles Gentlemen - Boston - 38 yrs. old b. Freeport, Ill.
4th of 6 children - divorced - been preacher, lawyer, debt collector
Oneida - free love commune - married to Annie Bunn - 5 yrs.
beat, punched and kicked wife slept w. prostitutes for divorce
Backed Grant - 11 June 80 - left Boston on ship Stonington
collided with Narragansett - 80 die.

Grant in Galena - John Russell Young, a reporter ask Grant to withdraw
P 44 Hayes find that Arthur from job of Collector of New York Port

June 5, 1880 - Chicago "Glass Palace"

Garfield showed bed with Ohio delegates ^{"without"} signed Grand Pacific Hotel
Garfield's speech against Conkling's unit rule

James Cox nominates Blaine
Conkling " " Grant
Garfield " " Sherman

19 Balloted N.Y. delegation

1st Ballot needed 379 - Grant got 304 Blaine 284 Sherman 83

28 ballots - all units held

36th Ballot - most ever for Rep. 399 Garfield / 306 Grant
42 Blaine

Dems 103 for John Davis in 1924

P 42 - Garfield - * rather be shot to death
Indiana and Wisconsin changed their votes 34th and 35th

All debates on nominees behind closed doors in Senate
names never appeared in Record until 1929

Senate Meeting at State Dept with Blaine - "never mentioned
Poirier consulting again p 338

Conflicting with Kate Chase Sprague
Senators William Sprague had driven him off his
property with shot gun - a drunk

New York 19 Bolters - led by William Robertson (51)

Chet Arthur - never held elective office
6 years Collector of New York Port
\$20,000 salary, 1500 employees - million in tariffs
he was fired by Hayes and Sherman
\$100,000 today

Büntow - Garfield vs. Hancock 3 pages cliches
meets with Chet Arthur the v.p. candidate in N.Y.C.
he delivered speech alongside Garfield - next
morning in N.Y. Times

New York City visit during campaign —
big rally 50,000 people Madison Square Park
Meeting w/o conflicting with Platt Adams, Norton - late
night no record available - supposed promises
for patronage if New York was delivered. P175

Fifth Avenue Summit

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Congling and Blatt resign their Senate seats before William Robertson vote.

1880 - Dem. candidate Winfield Scott Hancock
Need 185 elect. votes Solid South 135

New York had 35

Roscoe Conkling controls

New inventions
 Typewriter 74'
 Telephone 74'
 Electric light 79'

Transcontinental railroad - finished in 69'

Member of Congress since 1863

Ohio leg. elevated him to U.S. Senate as of 1881

A Dark Horse - first started w. Polk.

Williams College

House minority Leader

Counted votes for 5 yrs.

Garfield 48 in 1880

Chicago had 1/2 million people.

Unit rule favored
by Conkling - Hoofield
opposed

John Sherman - Treas. Sec. and former Senator (OH) brother of (57)

General Grant

James G. Blaine - close to him in House

Pro Grant - Stalwarts

Anti Grant - Half Breed

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Frontispiece portrait of James A. Garfield courtesy of the Library of Congress.

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March ²³
81'

Garfield sends list of appointments to Senate (p224)
Conkling not consulted - his friend - Garfield broke
promise - names William F. Westcott - Collector of Port of N.Y.

Dividens -

God had chosen him "I acted under an inspiration
of the Spirit"

9 million voted for Pres.

78.4% of those eligible
won a popular majority of under 10,000
elec. 214 - Hancock is 155

Gen. N.Y. Gov. won by 20,000 out of 1.1 million
Hancock 14 solid souths - Gen. lost N.J.
C.A.

Wom House

Party tie in Senate 37/37 1/2
not another tie until 2001

Blaine got nomination in 1884 first ballot 334.5 to
Party refused Arthur in 84' 218

Bright's disease - died 7 months after leaving which - (no
Guiteau poem - p 445 - Shot at twice 85

he was the most successful assassin - he
got his alleged friend Arthur who changed mind leave

Blaine vs. Cleveland 9.6 votes cast / majority of 26,000
Electoral votes 219 - 182

(58) Conkling - Great Blizzard of 1888 - collapsed in snow
Diphtheria and delirium - brain operation - died
a week later

Blaine - died 1893 in Maine

Grant went to Long Branch, N. J. in summer -
Garfield coming to Ellerson for two weeks - Garfield
in private spoke of Grant contemporaneously p 359
very standoffish and snub at Hotel Ellerson

Conkling's paramour Kate Sprague filed for divorce

Platt and Conkling resigned Senate seat - wanted
re-election in Albany but ran into trouble
Delavan Hotel June 30 - Mrs. Baldwin checks into
room 113 - Platt goes into room -
step ladder - to look into room p 368
30 witnesses saw Platt in bed.
Tom Platt became a national joke

Guiteau staying at Regis House - goes to Potowmack
and fires gun before going to train station
shot twice

Arthur - hated Garfield - How was he supposed
to act?

He lived 79 days
after being shot

49 yrs. old
Arthur Sumner in
123 feet. 51 yrs. old

Arthur and Conkling
planned by press for
the shooting of Garfield
never found the bullet
After 56 ballots Conkling
was defeated for Senate