

United States Senate Chamber,

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The Senate Snuff Boxes -
in older times it was fashionable
for Senators to take a Snuff.

it was the custom to keep a box of
Snuff on the Vice Presidents table
the Senator would step up to the
Vice President table and take a pinch
of Snuff, it seemed to be a part
of the Senatorial dignity but soon
after Mr Fillmore was Vice President
'dremain the morning over. when
so many Senators rise to offer petitions,
the Senator annoyed him so much
that he called me up to him and
said Bassett I want you to take

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this Snuff Box a way from
this tabel. I cannot understand
what is going on in the Senate
one account of the conversation of
Senators he seem to get
a pinch of Snuff you must get
some other place for it. I suggested
that on each side of the Senate there
be placed a Snuff Box. that is
just the thing, go and have it
done - it has been done ever
since, on each side of the Chamber
there is screwed to the Walls, a Comely
~~the~~ black Snuff Box -

The Snuff Box is not resorted to

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in this day, as in Olden Times
there is a very free Senator that
youes Sneff. at the time that
I now speak. 1887

I will ~~to~~ Name a free of the
Senators in those days and in those
he was found of a pinch of Sneff
Henry Clay. When I was a page
Could Me after \$20. times a day
to bring him the Sneff Box of the
vice President table, on one occasion
I ask him when he did not youes
his one Box. Well My Boy I will
tell you - I have my box, on my
table at my Hotel, if I bring it

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with me I am. Consider you
it, he was so fond of Snuff
that he would stop in the
middle of sentence and holler
out Page, bring me a pinch of Snuff
~~if~~ if Page happen to be out. (then was but 2
two Pages in those days) he would leave his
seat and walk up to the Vice
President's desk, take a pinch and
return to his seat, and go on with
his Speech - it all way created a
Laughter, now Matter how crowded
the floor was, the Ladies would
get up and let him pass: in those
day ladies was admitted to the floor

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of the Senate,

Martin Van Buren

was also found of a pinch of snuff
When he was Vice President he
gave me a Gold Snuff Box to
keep safe and place on the desk
every morning the Senate was in
Session, and every Monday Morning
gave me Fifty Cents to keep it safe.
{ I attended to it faithfully } and when his time
expired as Vice President just as he left
the Vice President Chair, he grabbed
up the Box put it in his pocket
and forgot to give me the fifty
cents, for the last week - he left the

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City June after Notes of Corce
he for got to give Me the fifty Certs
(to his estate Sills owes Me the money)

Senator Bibb. of Kentucky
was a grot Snuffer he carried his
Box in his hands, most of the time he
was in the Senate Chamber

Senata Thurman of Ohio
was also a grot Snuffer, one one
occasion when he was making a
speech in the Senate. his Snuff
Box gave out. he Coaxed a Page
and gave it to him to carry to
Capt Basset. and tell him to
fill it and send it back to

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to him immediately. I was in
my seat and heard what he
said, went out to the case
back of the Senate and fixed it
and handed it to the Page he carried
it and gave it to the Senator
he gave it a rap on top and
then open it and put a big pinch
up his nose, took out his
Bandana, handkerchief, and
then went over with his
Speech —

Senator Phelps of Vermont
was an extreme snuff taker
I have often seen him come

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in to the Senate Chamber
with his face all smeared
with snuff - So much so
that I have been often requested
by Senator to go to him and tell
him -

Senator Linn of Missouri
was a great snuffer. He also
would often come in the Senate
with running down his Cheats
Senator Preston of South Carolina
was many found of snuff,
Senator Marcy of New York,
was a great snuffer.

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Senator Edmunds of Vermont
George of Mississippi
Ingles of Kansas
Beck of Kentucky
Hampton South Carolina
Sanford, of California
Gray of Delaware wear found
of a Pinch of Snuff according
Senator Wilson of Maryland is a
Great Snuffer. When the Snuff box
on the side of the Vice President
near the Wall gives out he Com round
to my Seat and I give him Pinches. I have
Counted them as many as 12. Some days