The Lure of the National Capital

BY EDWARD B. CLARK

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THEY cannot keep away, for the Washington lure is strong upon them. The attraction of the capital draws former senators and former representatives here just as surely as the call of duty summons the present office-holders. They drift down in November and scores of them stay until the adjournment, and other scores stay all through the summer.

Some men who before they were sent to congress rarely left the environments of their home villages have found after a term or two in the capital city, that the district had few attractions to offer them, provided there was money enough in their bank accounts to keep them in comfort in the city by the Potomac.

There are former senators and representatives whose influence has been sufficient to secure them government positions in the capital which will not only allow them to remain here, but which will pay them for their stay. The lot of these men seems to be particularly fortunate, and they are the objects of more or less envy on the part of those who would like to stay here, but who owing to pecuniary reasons and to inability to get office are compelled to return home.

There are plenty of evidences that former representatives who have chosen, after having once been defeated in the home district, to stay away from the native heath, are not altogether free from the criticisms of the home people, and perhaps there is no reason why they should be. When a man who has spent his entire life among certain people is weaned away from them by a short residence elsewhere, it seems that resentment springs, and few denials probably will come to the statement that a good many of the former officials who stay in Washington in preference to going home are not without frequent intimations that the people back in the district regard them in some degree as deserters.

Of course there are exceptions to every rule and in the case of senators and representatives of long service, who are poor and perhaps too old to renew the practise of the law, or to take up again their mercantile business where they dropped it to serve their constituents, there is excuse for the acceptance of office in Washington in order that the way of old age may be smoothed.

Then again there are the cases of men who have been in Washington so long representing their states, or their districts, that Washington has become their real home, and here they stay after a change of party administration has removed them from representative office.

Of the men who stayed in Washington because the place was like home, there should be mentioned former Senator Stewart, "Silver" Stewart of Nevada, who died recently. He was a noted figure on the Washington streets all through his congressional career, and through the few years of his retirement prior to his death. Senator's hair and beard were as white as the snow on the top of the Nevada mountains, but until within a few hours of his death he was apparently as strong as any tree that grows below the mountain timber line.

Frequently the former senators and representatives who live in Washington appear upon the floor of congress. They have the right there to appear because of their former services. There is one marked and shining exception, however, to this rule of occasional return to the chamber where the legislative service was rendered. When Senator Spooner of Wisconsin left congress in 1891, to be gone six years, he declared that he would never appear upon the floor of the senate while he was out of office, nor would he go to the capitol unless his professional business called him to practise before the Supreme Court. Spooner kept his word. He always had objected to the rule which admitted former senators to the floor of the senate. He did not say so, but he thought that in some few cases the lobbying opportunity might be too strong to be resisted by some of the senators who were not above using their personal influence with their former colleagues on behalf of some specific legislation.

In the spring of 1907, John C. Spooner resigned from the United States senate. After the six years of his absence from congress was ended he had been returned again to the upper house, but in the spring three years ago he resigned to enter the practise of law. Since the day that Senator Spooner left for this supposedly the last time, he has not been seen in the senate of the United States, nor has he been seen in the corridors of the capitol. He is in law practise in New York, and occasionally he comes to Washington, but unlike many other former representatives he shuns the actual scene of his legislative activities.

Gen. Charles Grosvenor of Ohio, who was in the house of representatives for years, and who was considered one of its most picturesque characters, a man lively and energetic in debate and appealing personal qualities, stays in the Buckeye state most of the time now that he has retired from congress, but the Washington lure draws him here occasionally, and he is seen always in his old haunts. General Grosvenor was such a fixture that it seems impossible to realize when he comes back and appears in the old places that he has been away at all.

No one misses Charles Grosvenor more than Champ Clark, the Democratic leader. Grosvenor is a standpatter of such strength that Mr. Cannon it was said, used to sit abashed in his presence. Mr. Clark is a free trader so sturdy that the other strong ones are weaklings; but nevertheless these two tariff extremes met and formed a friendship that time and separation have not been able to break.

It was said by some of the high tariff Republicans when General Grosvenor retired, that they were not entirely hopeless as long as John Dalzell of Pennsylvania remained with them. Dalzell recently had a narrow escape from losing the nomination for congress. If he by any chance should be defeated at the election it is believed that the lure will be as strong upon him as it has upon the others.

Dalzell is as picturesque in his way as Grosvenor is in his way. It always was said of him that he never slept. He is nervous energy in the essence, and more watchful of Republican interests generally on the floor than is the titular Republican leader. Mr. Dalzell is always looking out for the interests of his constituents.

One drowsy June day when the house was heavy and business was simply droning its way through, Dalzell yielding to environment, nodded and then napped. Instantly the wily, wide awake Democrats put through something to which no one saw any objection. It touched Pittsburg.

Dalzell awoke too late. He had been asleep at the switch. Had his eyes never known night since that hour, he could not have lived down the memory of that one unconscious moment. One day just before the close of the last session, as he was leaving the White House, three voices in unison called to him so that all within a block could hear: "Any sleep this session, John?"

Dalzell was wakeful to this emergency and his answer carried little comfort to the inquirers, for none of the three was a standpatter:

"Not if the tariff is up," he said.

During the closing days of the last session of congress something of a "filibuster" was attempted by the Democrats in the senate in order to make sure that action should be taken on the statehood bill. A filibuster is known to the parties as an attempt to delay legislation. The senate has no set rules like those of the house, and so if one man chooses to talk on any particular subject, he can delay the consideration of any measure that he chooses, and the limit of his endurance is the limit of the delay that he can force although if he has other senators of his own mind to help "spell" him in the speaking, and thus in relays continue the filibuster almost indefinitely.

One of the most noted filibusters of recent years was conducted by three men still in the service, and curiously enough the arrangement for the filibuster was made by members of both parties. The active participants were Senators Stone of Missouri and Gore of Oklahoma, Democrats and Senator La Follette of Wisconsin, Republican.

These three senators made up their minds that they did not wish to have a vote taken on the currency bill which had been introduced by Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island, a bill which some of the senators said was a mere makeshift and would accomplish no good purposes.

In these days it is hard to find in congress a typical Yankee voice which the Englishmen say is our national characteristic. Gore of Oklahoma, however, has it. Why, it is hard to tell, but he has it in full measure, and no Maine coast man in Yankee voice characteristics can surpass this senator of the western plains state.

The filibuster in which Gore, La Follette and Stone took part was contained through a night and a day when Washington was hotter than it ever had been known to be before, at least so the natives say. When Washington heat takes possession of the capitol's interior it lays hold on the premises not to let go until November. It is impossible to keep cool in either house of congress when the heat of this climate strikes in.

During the fearful heat and humidity all one night long, Senator La Follette spoke in an endeavor to keep the currency bill from coming to a vote. He held the floor for 18½ hours practically without stopping. Senator La Follette is fortunate in one respect. When he was a boy, and a little later, he had a thorough training in elocution. If his teacher taught him nothing else, he gave him the secret of strengthening his voice.

At the end of 18½ hours of strenuous effort, La Follette spoke as clearly as he did at the beginning. Perhaps this is not the exact truth, for as a matter of fact, curiously enough, the Wisconsin senator's voice seemed to be actually in better condition during the closing hour of his address than it was during the opening hour.

The Wisconsin senator naturally has rather a rasping voice which like the voice of Gore of Oklahoma, is open to the Yankee characterization, but twang, accent, idiosyncracy or whatever you may choose to call it, passes with the first few minutes of utterance. The roughness is smoothed away and the words fall smooth and rounded and with a certain appealing force, even though the subject have nothing of appeal.

When a senator has the floor in his own right, he can talk upon any subject under the sun. He does not of necessity have to confine himself to the subject in hand. So it was that La Follette did not speak entirely of the currency question, but about other matters as well. Occasionally in order that he might spare his brain the trouble of thought and so keep it unwearied, he read from a book of fiction.

During many of the hours La Follette spoke there were comparatively few senators in the chamber. Hour after hour he spoke, and then taking up his book of fiction, he read with a perfect regard for the rules of enunciation. His auditors were all sleepy and most of them were out of humor because there were only two who were in sympathy with the speaker, and yet perforce every person in the chamber gave heed to what La Follette was reading. For its subject matter perhaps they cared not a whit, and yet by the force of his reading eloquence he drove it home to their attention.

When La Follette had ceased speaking Senator Gore of Oklahoma, who as had been planned, took up the work and kept at it for some hours. He was relieved by Senator Stone of Missouri, who already was tired with his previous vocal attempt to keep the senate from a vote. The Missourian kept it up for seven hours and then Gore relieved him once more. That filibuster ended because Gore being blind, failed to note, and no one told him, that Senator Stone whom he expected was to relieve him, was not present in the chamber when the Oklahoma senator sat down for the third time. The vice-president instantly put the vote and the filibuster had been in vain.

WALKING FOR HEALTH.

Who has not heard that certain exercises are good for us because they "shake up" the liver? But it is not the best thing in the world to shake up the liver violently unless one is a trained athlete, and ordinary men and women are very far from being in that category. Exercise increases largely the liver's production both of bile and of sugar. Hence if it be more violent than that to which one is accustomed, more bile and sugar may be formed than can be taken care of by the system, and the subject may have what is called in popular parlance a "bilious attack." Now this is where walking comes in as a happy medium in exercise. We can often "walk off" a headache or a digestive disturbance when running would only aggravate the trouble.

It is a fact, supported by the highest authority, that a moderate exercise, such as walking, is a great aid to digestion. To run would retard digestion. In other words, you will digest your dinner better if you walk immediately after having eaten it, than if you sit still. Try this, and if you are thin you will gain in weight, besides saving more in the cost of living than you will lose in the wear and tear of shoe leather.

But suppose you are already corpulent, will walking after meals, in that case, make you stouter? No. Paradoxical as the statement may sound, walking will in that case make you thinner. Fat is a very unstable compound, and when it is present in excess more of it is destroyed by the increased amount of oxygen in the blood—due to the exercise—than is depositing by the blood, while on the other hand when adipose tissue is deficient the oxygen-bearing blood, which also carries fatty particles, deposits more fat than it can destroy, and thus the thin subject grows heavier.

Walking, then, in the open air is an exercise par excellence for everybody. It shakes up the liver just enough to keep it in good working order, it enriches the blood by increasing its amount of oxygen, thus favoring the destruction and elimination from the system of poisonous waste products, particularly by the lungs, skin and kidneys, and finally, by stimulating activity of nutrition in the muscles it tends to prevent the deposition of morbid matters of a tuberculosis or cancerous nature.

SULLIVAN, MICHAEL.

An East Boston doctor told of the experience of a druggist the other day who sold some alcohol to a new customer. After the man had signed the book as required he said: "Now, don't get that name twisted. It is Michael Sullivan, and not Sullivan Michael, same as they turned it around in the directory."—Boston Journal.

Promises to be Perfect

Mammoth Lens Recently Cast in France Seems to Justify Expectations.

The world's second 100-inch telescope lens was recently cast in France and is now in process of cooling. The first such large lens, which was attempted some years ago, proved a failure, yet everything seems to show that the one just cast will be a success. This, however, cannot be known with certainty until the cooling process is over, a few months being required to let the heat properly leave the lens.

Over eight feet in diameter, and five tons in weight, this lens is so large and cumbersome that its proper mounting will be difficult. As planned, it will be bolted to the top of Mount Wilson, over a mile above the sea, there to be built into the observatory telescope. As this gigantic piece of glass must be so placed that it can be moved by clockwork to counteract the movement of the earth in rotating, it will be pivoted upon a steel bearing which has been immersed in mercury, as was the 60-inch lens, the largest hitherto in the world.

If it be remembered that to obtain a successful, flawless lens hundreds must be cast, the best of them selected, and so on until one clear and unpitted is obtained, this process often taking as long as three years, the cost and worth of this 8 1-3 foot lens will readily be appreciated. Astronomers all over the globe are said to be awaiting news of the success or failure of the lens with the keenest interest, as they believe it will, if successful, throw light on a great many as yet unexplained, astral phenomena. —The Pathfinder.

But Without the Charm!

An old coquette has all the defects of a young one, and none of her charm.—Dupuy.

Real Estate Exchange

OF WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL

Exchange Bank Birmingham Michigan

The following is a partial list of Farms, City and Village Lots, and Real Estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list.

150

Farm in Avon township; 37 acres of good clay loam; all cleared; some orchard; on main road; small house. Price $2,500.

77

One lot in Woodward Avenue, just south of land owned by Mrs. Fred Stone; 66 feet front and one hundred deep; $1,000; $100 cash, balance to suit purchaser. For particulars inquire of Mrs. Fred Stone, or address owner.

147

Nice little home for some one of small means; 40 acres in s w ¼ of s e ¼ of sec 21, Township 2 south, Range 9 east; 5 acres cleared, balance in good timber; 2 miles from Birmingham; 1 mile from electric at Troy Corners, where there are good schools and churches. Fare 10c to Detroit. $50 per acre.

194

Fifty acres in Township of Troy, adjoining the Joy Stone Quarry; 3 buildings, good house, basement barn, plenty of small fruit; soil is a sandy clay loam; 2½ miles from Flint Division D. U. R.; 2 wells and fine spring. Price $4,000.

193

Fifteen acres in Township of Royal Oak; no buildings; small grove of maples in a pretty location; near land, well drained, clay-potatoes, hay and oats will enable you to build the kind of house we may require.

201

Fine 5-story residence on Maple Avenue, corner of High Street; 80 feet front, 125 feet deep; bath-water heater, hot and cold bath, toilet, city water—every convenience found in the best class of residences. Can be rented for $600 per year and best neighborhood in town. Owner must sell at least $2,000 to build today; sale may come to build it for him and see what it will rent for. Don't buy this beautiful home for $2,500, and have your rent go year after year about payments. Ask the man at the bank.

222

Two-story to-cement or terrace, on the east side of Woodward Avenue. Two flats, each containing seven of 5 rooms each. Furnace, water-closet, bath, hot and cold water, city water and gas—each independent of other apartment. Rent for $15.00 per month each. $40 per year will pay all taxes and insurance. Will sell for $3,000 cash, or will sell the lot is 70 feet front on the best frontage on Woodward, and 125 feet deep, room for a nice cottage; can live in one apartment and have a steady income from the other. This is something to ponder over. Come and let us help you ponder. Always at your service. If you can't call, write.

229

A pleasant and sightly farm of 71 acres in West Bloomfield, ½ mile from the Northwestern electric; 1 acres orchard, 4 acres good timber; 6 buildings worth $3,000; and the price is only $5,000—terms to suit; well worth it. Soil, sandy loam and clay loam, under high state of cultivation. Better investigate.

241

Fine new house with all modern conveniences, within the city limits; corner lot, 66x132 feet; 9 rooms; 8-rooms, hard-wood finish; lot 66x100; plenty of fruit. You could not build the house for $3,000, and that's what we ask for the premises. Well worth looking at.

244

If you could buy an acre and a quarter of land with a brick house equipped with hot and cold water, bath, water-closet, furnace, and every possible convenience, and barn, chicken house, plenty of fruit and cement walks—and the house alone cost $6,000—for $3,000 on easy terms, you'd call it a snap, wouldn't you? Well, we can do it. Come on and we'll show you.

246

One hundred and twenty-seven acres in the Township of Avon. Six buildings worth $3,000; 7 acres of timber; 5 acres of orchard; well watered (Clinton river runs through the farm); no waste land; is 120 feet above the river; fine cedars, well, a good house, 2 barns in good repair; well fenced; only 3 miles from the thriving Village of Rochester. Will trade for a smaller farm, or would consider an offer of $5,500, with one-third cash. Take you to see it any old time at all.

247

House, barn and about an acre of good garden land on north side of Harmon Street. Has old-fashioned house, and a cozy home at a low price. Farm is offered to go to first one and wants to sell badly enough to make a decided sacrifice. Ask the man at the bank about it.

250

Now; here is a "Beaner!" House, barn and shed on house, with two acres of land on westerly side of Woodward, opposite Electric Park, known as "Elmcrest," 10 rooms, bath, toilet, 2 cellars, furnace room, good hot-air furnace, 2 gas fixtures and vitals, one of the best-equipped lot of buildings for the value, being within a few strides of car and beautiful lawn; buildings insured for $4,000. All will buy it, and the balance of purchase price can be had on long time and low rate of interest. Without exception, this is the finest home and the best lot of buildings on our list and the price is right.

100

Lots 22 and 24, Beall's Addition, Birmingham. Price $400 for both lots. Terms, $50 cash; balance to contract.

270

House and lot, west side of Ann Street; 5-story frame cottage, cement-block foundation, 3 rooms and cellar; one block from Woodward Avenue. $1,850; terms easy.

273

New cement house, one block from Woodward Avenue, on Brown Street; 6 rooms and bath, 2 rooms downstairs; many veranda, hot-air furnace, hot and cold water, hardwood floors, good size lot; fruit trees, small fruits, cement walks, cistern, etc. Worth looking at; also worth the money. Can be had for $3,200, and will be for $3,500 on easy terms.

280

Farm of 238 acres in Troy—15 acres oak and maple timber, balance cleared; 7-room house; 2 outbuildings—value at $4,000, insured for $2,500. Remainder of farm is all under cultivation; 2 wells and stock from Woodward Avenue. Price low; terms easy. $2,000 will handle it. R. R. Day's Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Michigan.

281

Two very desirable lots in the Beall Addition and be worth $225 each. Will sell cheap for short saving town. Bound to go soon, as some ones of lots in the neighborhood are selling for twice the money.

282

Lot 4 in Block 7, Campbell's Subdivision; good house insured for $800; fine location for $1,600. Price easy little home for some one with enough cash to make a small first payment.

283

Lots 23 and 24, Beall's Addition; one of the best locations in the whole plat; can be bought for $425, and you can get them for $50 cash and $10 a month, balance on land contract with easy payments.

294

ACREAGE—32 acres, high and dry, in the village of Birmingham. Just the thing for platting. Street and sewer improvements all in. Fine stock from Woodward Avenue. Price low; terms easy. $2,000 will handle it. R. R. Day's Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Michigan.

296

Nice 5-room house, built last year in Village of Royal Oak; one block from both electric railways—gasoline, cisterns. 50 fruit trees and 120 feet deep. Cost owner $2,000, but will sell for $1,750.

Silk Workers of England.

There were about 30,000 persons employed in the silk industry of England, according to the latest returns, and of these over 20,000 were women.

297

Well-kept 10-room house, with all modern conveniences, including hot-water heating plant, bath, toilet, hot and cold water, electric lights, etc.; 2 acres of land, with fine lawn, shade trees, etc.; 2 good barns, with room for 6 horses and 10 cows; 2 chicken houses, with room for 200 chickens; 2 wells, with windmill and tank; 2 cisterns; 2 acres of fine strawberries, raspberries, currants, gooseberries, grapes, etc.; 2 acres of asparagus; 2 acres of timothy and clover; 2 acres of corn; 2 acres of potatoes; 2 acres of oats; 2 acres of rye; 2 acres of wheat; 2 acres of beans; 2 acres of peas; 2 acres of buckwheat; 2 acres of alfalfa; 2 acres of pasture; 2 acres of orchard, with 200 trees in bearing; 2 acres of orchard, with 200 trees not in bearing; 2 acres of timber; 2 acres of timber; 2 acres of timber