

ABUSED BY MR. TALBERT.

How the South Carolinian Attacked His Colleagues.

He Seems to Have a Poor Opinion of the Average Congressman—How Speeches Are Reported—Privileges Which Need Curtailment.

[Special Washington Letter.]

Rapid stenographers walk from place to place on the floor of the house of representatives, with books in their hands, and take down every word which is uttered by members of the house during debates. When one stenographer has been thus engaged for half an hour another expert comes to his relief. Then the man whose notebook is full of talk goes to a phonograph on the lower floor and shouts the words of the speedy young lady typewriter then takes the phonograph and transcribes the speeches, and they are sent to the government printing office. On the following morning the big Congressional record appears with every word reproduced just as uttered on the floor of the house. The same procedure occurs in the senate every day, so that, with the aid of stenographers, phonographers, typewriters, printers and pressmen, the words, sentences, paragraphs, entire speeches of senators and representatives are reproduced and kept so that they may be read many years after the statesmen are dead and forgotten.

A great many things are said in debate which ought not to be said; because they are not strictly true. The statesmen usually talk for the benefit of their constituents, rather than for the purpose of influencing congressional action. They talk with a view of having their speeches printed, to be sent, at government expense, to their constituents. For example, the Friday night sessions of the house which are devoted to the consideration of private pension claims are wasted. There is seldom a quorum present to do business. At one of these Friday night meetings recently, Congressman Talbert, of South Carolina, became angry because so few members were present, and he said: "They will have to give up their claw-hammer coats, their euchre parties and entertainments and come here. We are in a tremendous condition in this house, which reminds me of what I once heard of a preacher. He said: 'Now, I want to preach to all good Christians a little while, and I want all those who are not good Christians to get out; and I will pause for them to get out.' Not a single man stirred. 'Well,' he said, 'I want to preach to all sinners; and all those who are good Christians and not sinners will please get up and go out.' Not a single soul stirred. 'Well,' he said, 'I want to preach to all those who are lukewarm; all those who are good Christians and sinners will get out.' Not a soul stirred. The preacher was nonplussed. Then he got up and said: 'You are in a horrible fix.' So it is with a number of us. Dozens of members are at home making more promises. Republicans, democrats and populists are doing the same thing. Here we are without a quorum on account of our members at home fencing. And I think the people and our constituencies are like that preacher found his congregation. They are in a horrible fix." So, Mr. Chairman, I think we ought to have a call of the house and send out at once to the

The house usually adopts an order for the printing of several thousand copies of the eulogies, at government expense. These are bound expensively and make interesting reading for the families of deceased statesmen. They send copies to their friends; and, altogether, it costs the government considerable money to eulogize deceased statesmen, without benefiting the public. The public money ought not to be expended in that manner. The eulogy business has been overworked. It is time to stop it. The speeches on such occasions are usually delivered two months or more after the death and burial of a congressman, and there is not even the element of pathos in the proceedings. There is really no excuse for official eulogies.

During the debate on the bill making appropriations for the District of Columbia, Senator Blackburn, of Kentucky, delivered a speech which appears in the Congressional Record in full, and which shows the existence of a peculiar state of affairs in what heretofore been known as a charitable institution. The senate was considering a clause in the appropriation bill making provision for the expenses of an institution known as the board of children's guardians, when Senator Blackburn said: "I undertake to say, and I will submit the record evidence here to prove it, that there never was in this district, or anywhere else upon this



ON THE SOUTH FRONT STEPS.

continent, or upon this earth, a system of charities established that has proven as expensive per capita, and as worthless in its character and results as this board of children's guardians. It has cost five times as much under their supervision to support or care for a child as it did under any other system of charities ever known. Besides, they do not take care of the children. I undertake to say that every child that has ever come under its supervision or into its custody has been brought to it and turned over by one man, and he a private on the police force of the district. This is no board of children's guardians, or any other sort of board. It is a corporation, if it may be so termed, consisting of one man. Its agent, I believe, is a man by the name of Lewis. He does what he pleases with the funds. He expends at his own pleasure, without restriction of law, the appropriations that you make. To denigrate him a crank, in the face of the record which he has made, would be to treat him very mildly and very kindly."

Senator Blackburn stated that he had thoroughly investigated this case and that his remarks were made with a full knowledge of facts ascertained by patient investigation, and the reading of many queries and rooms of testimony on the subject. He believed that the so-called board of children's guardians should be abolished. The matter was referred back to the committee on appropriations. The statements made by the senator indicate in a forceful manner how schemes are sometimes worked for the purpose of securing appropriations from congress under the guise of charity and the public welfare, whereas individuals who are unworthy reap the entire benefit of the public moneys which are thus appropriated.

A series of debates are carried on at the capitol from day to day which are never reported in the Congressional Record, and of which the general public could know nothing except as chronicled by the press. On the great marble steps at the south front of the capitol, a crowd of negro laborers congregate every afternoon about one o'clock, and engage in discussions on politics, theology and morality. They are employees of the house of representatives and appear to have nothing to do but to draw their salaries. Their friends, who appear to be loafers or vagrants, gather there also and participate in their discussions. They also indulge in a great deal of wrestling, boxing and obnoxious horse play; carrying on their diurnal diversions for two or three hours. They block the south entrance to the capitol, and by their use of chewing tobacco make the place unfit for any gentleman to enter; while certainly no lady would want to enter the capitol building at that point. They are sometimes so numerous as to bar the doorway, and are utterly indifferent to the rights of others even when admonished to step aside and let people enter. All of this questionable procedure is carried on beneath the windows of the private room of the speaker of the house of representatives, but nobody seems to have called public attention to the fact; and the disturbance of the peace, although open and flagrant, is unchecked and apparently unquestioned.

SMITH D. FRY.

It Was a Hornet. There was an unusually sharp flash of lightning, a stunning peal of thunder and a sharp, sudden pain, and a West Goulsboro young lady gave a shriek and jumped into the middle of the floor. Her friends thought she had been killed, but when the excitement had calmed down enough for an investigation everybody was relieved, for then it was found that the shock had been inflicted not by the lightning but by a hornet, which had chosen that inauspicious time for action.—Lewiston Journal.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, November 9, 1894.

Senator Faulkner, chairman of the Democratic congressional campaign committee, rises from the wreck to say a few words, which are both explanatory and wise. He says: "The history of politics will show that every landslide is the result of dissatisfaction, discontent and want of confidence of the members of the majority party, whose actions produce the result that surprises and astonishes the people—not by voting the opposing ticket, but simply by remaining away from the polls. The result of this election when ascertained will, I am sure, verify this conclusion. We have as many voters in the country as we had in 1892, who believe in the principles of the Democratic party, but the recent business paralysis, financial stringency, party dissensions, criminalities and re-terminations resulted in such apathy as to cause the stay-at-home vote to produce the surprising result. If we hope for success in 1896 we should maintain with fearlessness and determination the attitude we assumed in 1892; let personal and party bickerings of the past bury their dead, and unite in an earnest effort to harmonize those differences that have so seriously affected our organization."

President Cleveland is quietly attending to his official duties just as though there had never been such a thing as an election. He hasn't said a word on the subject to anyone who had authority to make it public, but it is certain that he has been doing a lot of thinking, and those who have been able to read between the lines will be able to form a pretty good idea of the trend of his thoughts when, in a few weeks, his annual message to congress shall be made public. While he has said nothing publicly, his closest personal friends have left the impression upon those with whom they have talked that the president does not consider himself in any way responsible for the unexpected Democratic defeat.

While few Democrats of any prominence care to be personally quoted on the subject of the election, every one with whom your correspondent has come in contact agrees that the greatest single source of Democratic troubles has been the lack of harmony within the party, which was made so painfully apparent during the last session of congress. The result of the election is merely an application of the proverb "United we stand, divided we fall," and the lesson must be taken to heart and profited by if the party calculates to go into the campaign of '96 with a reasonable chance to win. "A house divided against itself must fall."

The returns from the elections were galling enough to Democrats in Washington, but there was another thing connected therewith that was even more galling to them than the returns. That was, that some of the loudest cheers from the crowds which surrounded the newspaper bulletins with all the eagerness of a presidential election, when the news was favorable to the Republicans, came from the mouths of Republicans who hold office under the Democratic administration.

The friends of Reed, Harrison and McKinley are very much alarmed at the prominence of Morton as a presidential candidate. They know that Tom Platt intended when he nominated Morton for the governor of New York to push him for the presidential nomination of his party, if he succeeded in getting him elected governor, and they know that Morton's barrel will be on tap at the next Republican national convention, and they fear it.

Washington Democrats, who all belong to the never-say-die family, think they are playing in hard luck indeed, this week. They stood up under the election returns with all the stoicism with which they have in the past received a long string of national defeats, comforting themselves with the reflection "we'll lick 'em next time," but they have heard something since that has caused not a few of them to use language not at all appropriate for an address to a Sunday school class. A few days ago a man born in Washington, and who has been a Democrat all his life, was appointed postmaster, the term of the Republican incumbent having expired. As he will be the first postmaster the local Democrats have had since the war, it was perfect natural that some of his Democratic friends should entertain the hope of succeeding some of the numerous Republican employees of the postoffice after the Democratic postmaster takes hold, and just as natural that he should look forward with pleasure to appointing them. It may be imagined how how they felt when informed that a new order, filtered through the Republican adjunct known as the civil service commission, limited the patronage of the postmaster to about ten men.

Never Strike a Man When He's Down. From the Wilkes-Barre Newsdealer. The FREELAND TRIBUNE is characteristically modest in not gloating over the defeat of Hon. W. H. Hines. Editor Buckley is one of the newspaper men who believe it to be in bad taste to kick at a man when he is down. Old newspapers for sale.

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Men's fine calf shoes, \$1.75, worth \$3.00. Ladies' shoes, from \$1.00 up. Boys' overcoats, live to thirteen years, \$1.25. The best bargain of all! Selling fifty-cent dress goods for 25c for the balance of this month. Good double shawls, \$2.50. Beaver shawls, \$3.25. Lace curtains, 48c worth 75c. Children's grain shoes, numbers ten to two, \$1.00. Wall paper very cheap. All colors of window shades, 25c. Curtain poles, 20c each. Furniture and carpets. Look at this! A good couch, \$4.00, better, \$1.50 up to \$15.00. A large oak bedroom suit, eight pieces, \$25.00. Large center tables, solid oak, \$1.25 to \$3.50.

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ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS.

MAY 3, 1894. LEAVE FREELAND. 6:05, 8:25, 9:35, 10:41 a. m., 1:35, 2:27, 3:40, 4:55, 5:50, 6:58, 7:12, 8:57, 10:40 p. m. for Drifton, Jeddou, Lumber Yard, Stockton and Hazleton. 6:05, 8:25, 9:35 a. m., 1:35, 2:40, 4:55 p. m. for Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Pottsville, Easton and New York. 6:05, 9:35, 10:41 a. m., 2:27, 4:55, 6:58 p. m. for Mahanoy City, Shenandoah and Pottsville. 7:28, 10:50 a. m., 11:58, 4:34 p. m. (Via Highland Branch) for White Haven, Glen Summit, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and L. and B. Junction.

SUNDAY TRAINS. 11:40 a. m. and 2:45 p. m. for Drifton, Jeddou, Lumber Yard and Hazleton. 3:45 p. m. for Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, New York and Philadelphia.

ARRIVE AT FREELAND. 5:50, 7:18, 7:28, 9:27, 10:56, 11:59 a. m., 12:58, 2:10, 4:31, 6:58, 8:47, 10:22 p. m. from Hazleton, Stockton, Lumber Yard, Jeddou and Drifton. 7:28, 9:30, 10:50 a. m., 12:54, 4:34, 6:58, 10:22 p. m. from Delano, Mahanoy City and Shenandoah (via New Boston Branch).

SUNDAY TRAINS. 11:31 a. m. and 2:27 p. m. from New York, Easton, Philadelphia, Bethlehem, Allentown and Mauch Chunk. 9:27, 10:29 a. m., 12:58, 5:40, 6:58, 8:47, 10:22 p. m. from Easton, Philadelphia, Bethlehem and Mauch Chunk. 9:58, 10:41 a. m., 2:27, 6:58 p. m. from White Haven, Glen Summit, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and L. and B. Junction (via Highland Branch).

SUNDAY TRAINS. 11:31 a. m. and 2:27 p. m. from Hazleton, Lumber Yard, Jeddou and Drifton. 11:31 a. m. from Delano, Hazleton, Philadelphia and Easton. 3:31 p. m. from Delano and Mahanoy region. For further information inquire of Ticket Agents.

CHAS. S. LEE, Gen'l Pass. Agent, Philadelphia, Pa. ROLLIN H. WILBUR, Gen. Supt. East. Div. A. W. NONNEMACHER, Asst. G. P. A., South Bethlehem, Pa.

THE DELAWARE, SUSQUEHANNA AND SCHUYLKILL RAILROAD.

Time table in effect June 17, 1894. Trains leave Drifton for Jeddou, Pottsville, Hazle Brook, Stockton, Beaver Meadow Road, Hazleton and Hazleton Junction at 6:05, 6:10 a. m., 12:05, 4:00 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 7:03 a. m., 2:38 p. m., Sunday. Trains leave Drifton for Harwood, Cranberry, Tomhickon and Deringer at 6:00 a. m., 12:00 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 7:45 a. m., 3:38 p. m., Sunday. Trains leave Hazleton Junction for Harwood, Cranberry, Tomhickon and Deringer at 6:07 a. m., 12:07 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 8:47 a. m., 4:18 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Hazleton Junction for Onedia Junction, Harwood Road, Humboldt Road, Onedia and Shepton at 6:10 a. m., 12:05, 4:00 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 7:45 a. m., 3:38 p. m., Sunday. Trains leave Hazleton Junction for Harwood, Cranberry, Tomhickon and Deringer at 6:07 a. m., 12:07 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 8:47 a. m., 4:18 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Deringer for Tomhickon, Cranberry, Harwood, Hazleton Junction, Roan, Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Pottsville, Jeddou and Drifton at 6:07 a. m., 12:07 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 8:47 a. m., 5:07 p. m., Sunday. Trains leave Shepton for Onedia, Humboldt Road, Harwood Road, Onedia Junction, Hazleton Junction and Roan at 6:10 a. m., 12:05, 4:00 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 7:45 a. m., 3:38 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Shepton for Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Pottsville, Jeddou and Drifton at 6:07 a. m., 12:07 p. m., daily except Sunday, and 8:47 a. m., 5:07 p. m., Sunday. All trains connect at Hazleton Junction with electric cars for Hazleton, Jenneville, Audenried and other points on Lehigh Traction Co's R. R. Trains leaving Drifton at 10 a. m. and Shepton at 8:30 a. m. and 1:15 p. m. connect at Onedia Junction with L. E. R. R. trains east and west. Train leaving Drifton at 6:00 a. m. makes connection at Deringer with P. R. R. train for Wilkes-Barre, Sunbury, Harrisburg, etc.

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"LET THE SINNERS ALL ARISE."

saloons all over the city and to the euchre parties and bring the soldiers here, and let us pension the soldiers or stop this hypocritical cant."

That sort of a speech may read well down in Mr. Talbert's South Carolina district, but it does not read well to people who know that it is both untrue and unfair. The members who do not attend the Friday night sessions remain away because they have other business. A very small percentage of them attend euchre parties and attend entertainments in clawhammer coats. It is unfair to have sent forth the inference that the absent members could be found in "the saloons all over the city." Very few members of congress are habitually drinking men. The spirit of temperance is abroad in the land, and statesmen are strongly influenced by the existence of that spirit and sentiment. Mr. Talbert knows this fact as well as anybody. He knew that he was misrepresenting his fellow members when he made that speech. It may make the readers in his district believe that their congressman is a strong temperance man, and always on duty in the house, but it is unfair for a congressman to build himself up at home by wholesale misrepresentation of his colleagues on the floor of the house.

The Friday night sessions are not held in their remarkable absenteeism. Afternoons are set apart, by the house, for the delivery of the life, character and public life of deceased congressmen. Afternoons the hall of the house is deserted. Not even a solitary man to be seen only the orators who have deceased, the congressional state in which the dead president, and the stenographer down the speeches.