

Memoranda by Mr. A. F. Banks, May 21, 1924.

Fred Bullen of Chicago, who is an old friend of mine for the past forty years, was in my office before he went to South America, he having known I made the trip, and I talked to him a good deal about Rio. I urged him to make the entire trip around South America, but he just went to Rio and back.

On his return he came in to tell me of his trip and said he had a queer experience. In Rio he was unable to read the local papers and was out of touch with everything that was going on in the United States or locally.

He said that in leaving Rio he was leaning against the ship's rail watching the beautiful sunset and a gentleman stepped up close to him also looking, finally taking his field glasses and after gazing, turned to Bullen and asked if he would like to use them. Bullen replied that his eyes were pretty good and he did not believe he needed the glasses. After remarking how beautiful the sunset was the gentleman passed on. The next morning when Bullen was on deck, the gentleman came up and said "Good morning" and asked where he was from. Bullen remarked that he was from Chicago. The gentleman said "Sit down, I would like to talk with you. What is your business?" Bullen said he had none. The gentleman then said "You ought to be in business". Bullen replied "I am seventy years old." He said "Seventy years old is young, and a man ought to be in business." Bullen said "The Volstead Act not only put me out of business, but made a dent in the value of some of my property." The gentleman replied "Well, if you are not in business, you at least must have some investments." Bullen said "I have". The gentleman asked "Well, what do you consider your best investment." Bullen replied, "Well, I think my Steel stocks are the best securities I have." "Why?" "Well, I like the way that man Gary handles the Steel Corporation. I like the way he handled Gompers. One of my friends, who is in the Senate, was telling me of an occurrence when Gompers and Judge Gary were before some Senate Committee, or in some other place, where Gompers ranted about the Steel Corporation and practically shook his fist in Judge Gary's face, who smiled. Then Gompers got through, they called upon Judge Gary and he literally tore the shirt off Gompers' back, to whom he referred as his friend. And then again I admire the way he has handled the Corporation". The gentleman then remarked "Do you know Judge Gary?" He said "No; he used to live in Chicago but I do not remember ever seeing him. However, if I ever do meet him I want to pat him on the back and tell him how much I appreciate the way he has handled the Steel Corporation." With that the gentleman turned his back to him and said "Well, you can pat him on the back now." Mr. Bullen said "Are you Judge Gary?" to which he received the reply "I used to be a judge; I am the Gary with the Steel Corporation".

Mr. Bullen then said to me "Banks, you just cannot imagine my feelings. I never was more surprised in my life. I saw quite a good deal of Judge Gary from then on and introduced him to Judge Hubbard, telling the latter of my experience with Judge Gary. Judge Gary upon learning that Judge Hubbard also was a stockholder in the Steel Corporation, said that he (Judge Hubbard) and myself ought to attend the annual meeting. I told him I was living a long way off from New York. Judge Hubbard said "Well, I live at Greenwich, Conn., and Judge Gary, I will go down to your meeting." A few days ago I received a letter from Judge Hubbard saying that he had attended the annual meeting of the Corporation and, without using any names, had told of my meeting with Judge Gary on the ship."

With that I turned and handed Mr. Bullen a copy of the remarks made by Judge Gary and Judge Hubbard at the annual meeting, and told him he had better take it home to his wife and let her read it.

Mr. Bullen was very enthusiastic over meeting the Judge who, he said, was exceedingly democratic, took part in all the festivities on the boat, met practically every one on the ship, all of whom were pleased to make his acquaintance and have talks with him.

Mr. Bullen said that Judge Gary would ask "Who is that man who just passed"; "Well, that was Mr. Williams"; "Where is he from?" "Chicago". "What is his business?" "Hickman, Williams & Company, and the Heald Iron Company." "Well, I would like to meet him". "So I introduced him to Mr. Williams; also Judge Hubbard. He seemed anxious to meet people and talk to them and get their point of view. He was also interested in deck sports, gave out the prizes for such sports and also the prizes at the mask ball. He could ask more questions than any man I ever knew, but they were questions worth while."

"It was surprising how much he knew of the South American coast line and the islands that we passed. We passed some island where we lowered the flag and blew the whistle. Judge Gary asked me if I knew why they were doing that; I told him 'No', and he said that one of the Lamport & Holt boats had been lost near that island and the crew rescued on the little island and cared for until they were picked up by another boat, and since that time no Lamport & Holt ship passed that island without blowing the whistle and dipping the flag. Where he gets all this information was a surprise to me."

I might add that Mr. Bullen has been a very warm friend of mine for the past forty years, and as long as he was in business, which has been until the last few years, he has been a loyal friend of the E. J. & E. Railroad.

Two or three days after Mr. Bullen was in my office, I met Mr. Williams on the street and he told me of his trip up from Rio on the boat with Judge Gary and what an enjoyable trip they had.