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Price, Ten Cents.

THE  
**A - B - C**  
GUIDE  
TO  
WASHINGTON.

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*"The whole thing in a nutshell."*

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Containing a list of notable objects and places in city and vicinity, in order of popular interest; a cab or foot tour of sights within the town limits; an alphabetical index to the various objects and places, and a summary of miscellaneous information.

WITH DIAGRAMS.

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*Designed expressly for recreation-tourists wishing to use their own eyes and judgments.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

1885.

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## NOTABLE OBJECTS

IN

## ORDER OF IMPORTANCE.

THE following list attempts to arrange the popular sights of the city and vicinity, according to the comparative importance that a great majority of sight-seers would probably attach to them, after seeing them all. The object of the list is to enable a visitor, whose stay is short or uncertain, to see the most interesting things first. Elsewhere, the visitor is shown how to proceed from one object to another without wasting time or travel.

The visitor for a single day would have to forego Mount Vernon, Arlington and everything placed below the latter, and content himself with a walk over and about the Capitol (including the Botanical Garden, close by it,) and a visit to the President's house, (including Lafayette Square, opposite,) the Monument, Treasury, State, War and Navy Building, National Museum, Patent Office, Department of Agriculture and Corcoran Art Gallery; and he should take them in this order:

(5)

Capitol, Botanic Garden, Museum, Agricultural Department, Monument (looking in at the adjacent Bureau of Engraving and Printing, if he can spare the time,) Treasury, President's House, State, War and Navy Building, Art Gallery and Lafayette Square, and thence by street car (if not past 3:15 p. m.) to the Patent Office.

**Compass-Bearings.**—The Capitol is the local meridian. A line drawn lengthwise through its centre divides the city into East and West sections, and a line crosswise through its centre, into North and South sections, and this division explains the symbols N. E., N. W., S. E. and S. W., appended to the names of streets on lamps and corner buildings. The Capitol faces directly east; the streets indicated by letters run due east and west; those by figures due north and south, and those called avenues run diagonally in a variety of directions.

Of the objects and places named in order of interest, twenty-six lie west of the Capitol, seven east of it, and nine beyond the city boundary.

The main street is Pennsylvania avenue, from the west gate of the Capitol to the east gate of the Treasury, one mile long. A little northward is F street, running in the same general direction, and these streets are crossed, between the Capitol and Treasury, by 7th, 9th and 15th streets, and these are the streets that the visitor chiefly traverses during his sojourn.

**Capitol.**—Meeting place of Congress and chief building in city, visible from Pennsylvania avenue (the main thoroughfare) and many other points, by reason of lofty dome. Fronts due east and west. Face the bronze statue of Freedom on dome, having classical statue of Washington in the plaza to rear, and see, beside the middle steps, Columbus and Indian girl, representing Discovery of America, and Hunter and Indian brave, representing Settlement of America. See above portico, to right of observer, group representing Progress of Civilization. See, beneath central porch, statues of War and Peace in wall-recesses, and the Rogers' bronze doors, with groups in panels representing (begin with lower panel, left side of observer) Columbus and the Council, Columbus starting for the Court, Columbus before Ferdinand and Isabella, Columbus leaving Palos, Landing of the Spaniards (this is the top panel, above both doors), Columbus entering Barcelona, Degradation of Columbus, Death of Columbus. Enter the doors into Rotunda, to see the paintings on walls, the great fresco in the dome by Brumidi, the historical cartoons above the paintings, and the statuary groups over the four doors, Landing on Plymouth Rock, Penn's Treaty, Pocahontas and Captain Smith, and Daniel Boone and Indians. *Face toward bronze doors, and to the right is the way to Statuary Hall and Hall of Rep-*

*representatives, and to left the way to Supreme Court and Senate Chamber, all on same floor as Rotunda.* In Statuary Hall notice the peculiar clock. Beyond the Hall of Representatives is the lobby with portraits of the Speakers, and, opening from the lobby, the Speaker's room. The Supreme Court sits in the old Senate Chamber, famous for the eloquent speeches of Webster and Clay. Beyond the Senate Chamber is a lobby, from which opens the President's room and the Marble room. Turn to the left from the Marble room, and out of the lobby to the Ladies' Reception room, and, a little further, the Senate bronze doors, one paneled with representations of Death of Warren, Rebuke of Lee at Monmouth, Hamilton at Siege of Yorktown, and Colonist and Hessian; the other (beginning at bottom), Washington at Trenton, Inauguration of Washington, Washington Founding the Capitol, and Peace. Go back to Rotunda, face away from the bronze doors, and straight ahead on same floor is the Congressional Library. Return to Rotunda and thence to Hall of Representatives, and face the Speaker's desk—to the right is a marble staircase, up which see the fresco of an Emigrant Train Crossing the Rocky Mountains. From this staircase go to floor below and see frescoes in room of Committee on Agriculture, and from here go down stairs to basement to inspect ventilating apparatus.

Returning to committee room, turn from it to left, follow the winding passageway some 700 feet towards other end of building, and there see the frescoed rooms of Senate committees on Military, Naval, and Indian Affairs. Ascend to floor above by stairs near by, and get back to Ladies' Reception room, and find near there a marble staircase, up which see Powell's painting of Perry's Victory on Lake Erie, and on floor above Moran's paintings of the Yellowstone and the Colorado. Powell's painting is on the eastern staircase of Senate wing, and on the western staircase is Walker's painting of the Storming of Chapultepec. Come down that staircase and back to Rotunda, and face the bronze doors; then go out of door to left (as if going back to Senate), and first door on left is entrance to stairway leading to interior and exterior of dome. In the Capitol grounds, to left and rear of Senate wing, is the Grotto, worth a visit. This completes the usual tour of the Capitol. Salaried attendants are plentiful about the building, and may be freely questioned for information.

**President's House.**—Pennsylvania avenue,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles west of Capitol. Hours, 10 to 3. See the great East Room and, if possible, Blue and Green rooms.

**Washington Monument.**—South from the President's House, 555 feet high. Elevator and stairs

to lookout gallery. Numerous memorial stones in interior wall.

**Mount Vernon.**—Home and tomb of Washington. Steamer "W. W. Corcoran" from 7th street wharf, 10 a. m., each week-day, passing the old town of Alexandria, and back to city by 3:30 p. m. Fare, one dollar, including admission-fee. Mansion, tomb and grounds shown to each day's party by superintendent.

• **Treasury Building.**—Pennsylvania avenue, west from Capitol, and near President's House. See marble Cash Room, on main floor; Rogues' Gallery and counterfeit plates on third floor, and Redemption Room in basement. Vaults only shown on special order from Secretary or Treasurer.

**State, War and Navy Building.**—Pennsylvania avenue, west from President's House. Original Declaration of Independence, Treaties, and other exhibits in State Department Library, and see Diplomatic Reception Room; also Navy Department Library and Secretary's room, and portraits of Secretaries of War.

√ **Bureau of Engraving and Printing.**—On 14th street, south from Treasury. Visitors are conducted over the building and see the machinery and processes used in engraving and printing government bonds, notes and stamps.

✓ **National Museum.**—About five squares from last-named place, towards the Capitol. Accessible from Pennsylvania avenue by 7th, 9th or 10th street. Contains many exhibits of foreign governments at the Centennial Exposition and numerous natural history, geological and other scientific collections. Adjoining it is the Smithsonian Institution, "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men," administered by the Government; the architecture of the building being strikingly peculiar. The park in which these buildings stand was designed by Downing, the famous landscape gardener.

**Patent Office.**—On F street, six squares east of the Treasury and northwest from the Capitol. The model rooms are the points of interest, and see in them Franklin's press and the model of Lincoln's patent of 1847.

**Department of Agriculture.**—Between the National Museum and Bureau of Engraving and Printing. See the museum, the conservatory and occasional exhibits in the annex.

**Dead Letter Office.**—In Post Office Department on F street, opposite Patent Office. The curiosities are arranged into a museum. See also the account books of Franklin as postmaster-general, in Auditor's office.

**Corcoran Art Gallery.**—Pennsylvania avenue and 17th street, opposite War Department. Free on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; other week days, 25 cents. Large collection of paintings, statuary and casts from antique sculptures.

**Arlington.**—Former home of General Robert E. Lee. About one mile beyond Aqueduct bridge at Georgetown. See mansion, soldiers' cemetery and monument to the unknown.

**Army Medical Museum.**—On 10th street, near F street, nearly two squares from Patent Office. Building in which President Lincoln was shot, and tablet on house opposite marks where he died. See museum on upper floor.

**Lafayette Square.**—Pennsylvania avenue, opposite President's House. Planted with choice trees, and see statue of General Jackson, made of guns captured in battle of New Orleans. The horse is balanced on hind feet without supports or stays.

**Naval Arsenal.**—Commonly called the Navy Yard. Southeast of the Capitol, about a mile, at terminus of Washington and Georgetown street railroad. See the museum, and numerous shops, foundries and forges for the making of cannon, shells, anchors, cables, marine machinery, and every kind of metal work for naval purposes.



**Government Printing Office.**—Seven squares north from Capitol. Here the visitor sees the arts of printing and book binding exercised in the largest establishment in the world.

**National Observatory.**—Seven squares west and three south of State, War and Navy Building, foot of 24th street, overlooking Potomac river. See the telescopes in the two domes, and some of the rare books shown in the library.

**Soldiers' Home.**—Reached by horse car from head of 7th street. An asylum for old regulars, situated in a large beautiful park, much used for carriage drives. There are numerous buildings in the park, including the summer cottage assigned to the President, also a lake with swans. Near the large main building is a national cemetery, which should be visited.

**Insane Asylum.**—Across the Anacostia river from the Naval Arsenal, and reached by horse car passing the gate of the latter. A large establishment supported by the Government. *Open on Wednesdays only*, from 2 to 6 p. m.

**Botanical Garden.**—Pennsylvania avenue, just west of the Capitol. See the collection of tropical plants in the conservatory, inquiring, if necessary, for the bread, india-rubber, tallow, camphor, papyrus, banana, vanilla and hat-palm plants; also see the fountain in the garden.

**Ordnance Museum.**—In large, white, corner building, 17th street, opposite War and Navy Building. See especially the Confederate battle flags, but the room has many other interesting objects.

**Signal Office.**—Less than two squares from the last-named place, on G street, distinguishable by vanes and electric wires above the roof. See the instrument room, where are the appliances used for predicting the state of the weather over the entire country.

**Oak Hill Cemetery.**—In Georgetown, accessible by street-cars. See the chapel near entrance, with tomb of John Howard Payne close by it. Chief Justice Chase, Secretary Stanton, and Professor Henry are also buried here.

**Georgetown University.**—A Jesuit college at the western end of Georgetown, nearly a century old. There are numerous ancient and costly books and manuscripts, and see also the chemical laboratory.

**Thomas Statue.**—Vermont avenue, near M street, six squares north, and a little east of the President's House. A bronze equestrian group, executed by Ward for the Society of the Army of the Cumberland.

**Congressional Cemetery.**—Eleven squares east

of the Naval Arsenal, actually the burial ground of old Christ Church. It was formerly the custom for Congress to erect a memorial to each member dying during his term and about 150 of such cenotaphs are in the grounds. Monuments to George Clinton, William Wirt, Elbridge Gerry, and General Macomb also exist. Commodore Chauncey is buried here. See the monument to the young women killed by an explosion at the arsenal during the civil war.

**Lincoln Park.**—Eleven squares directly east from the Capitol. See the bronze group, "Emancipation," erected by Freedmen to the memory of President Lincoln.

**Potomac Railroad Depot.**—Six squares west of Capitol, and just south of Pennsylvania avenue. See, in floor of Ladies' Waiting-room, the silvered star, marking where President Garfield was assassinated.

**Pension Office.**—In Judiciary Square, four squares north from Pennsylvania avenue by Four and half street, and in rear of City Hall. A unique departmental building, designed by General Meigs, and ornamented with scenes of army life, in relief, on the exterior walls. The large court-yard was roofed and decorated as the Cleveland Inauguration ball-room.

**Great Falls of Potomac.**—A series of cascades, 15 miles beyond Georgetown, up the river. Round-trip fare by steam canal-boat, 50 cents, leaving Georgetown 8 a. m., daily.

**Alexandria.**—An old town, seven miles down the Potomac, and accessible by ferry from 7th street, or train from Potomac depot. See Christ church, and the pews therein of George Washington and Robert E. Lee.

**Marine Barracks.**—A short distance up from the gate of the Naval Arsenal, and headquarters of the Marine Corps. The armory or museum is shown to visitors.

**Scott Statue.**—Seven squares straight out from Pennsylvania avenue front of President's House. Designed by Browne, and cast from Mexican cannon captured by General Scott.

**Coast Survey Building.**—Close to the south boundary of the Capitol grounds, on New Jersey avenue. See the standard weights and measures, and testing instruments for the same.

**Deaf and Dumb Asylum and College.**—About a mile north, and slightly to the west of Lincoln Park.

**Carp Ponds.**—Close to Washington Monument, a Government establishment for the breeding of carp for free distribution over the United States.

**Rock Creek Church.**—An ancient church and cemetery, the former built of English bricks; situated near the Soldiers' Home. See the old Bible and antiquated tombstones.

**Providence Hospital.**—A large infirmary in charge of Sisters of Charity, and liberally aided by Congress.

**Columbian University.**—One square north of Treasury, H and 15th streets. Visitors directed to objects of interest.

**Franklin School.**—A short distance northeast of last-named building; the model public school of Washington.

**Central Market.**—Pennsylvania avenue, 7th to 9th streets, halfway between Capitol and Treasury, the largest market house in the United States.

**Arsenal Barracks.**—On river front, foot of Four and Half street, occupied by garrison of Washington. Grounds open from sunrise to sunset.

### TOUR OF THE SIGHTS BY CAB OR AFOOT.

(The figures correspond with those of the Map.)

The Capitol is always first visited. Leave it by way of the Rotunda and through the bronze doors and turn, right, to *Coast Survey*, 2; thence, by way of *Providence Hospital*, 3, to *Marine Barracks*, 4, and *Navy Yard*, 5; thence to *Congressional Cem-*

etry, 6, and backward and northward to *Lincoln Park*, 7, and so, past statue of *General Greene*, 8, to *Government Printing Office*, 9. From here return towards rear of Capitol and past *Naval Monument*, 10, to *Botanical Garden*, 11; thence westward, across the long chain of parks, to *National Museum*, 12, *Smithsonian Institution*, 13, *Department of Agriculture*, 14, *Bureau of Engraving and Printing*, 15, *Monument*, 16, and *Carp Ponds*, 17; thence past *Light Infantry Armory*, 18, to *Treasury*, 19, *President's House*, 20, *State, War and Navy Building*, 21, *Ordnance Museum*, 22, and *Signal Office*, 23. From here still westward to *Observatory*, 24; thence to *Washington Equestrian Statue*, 25; thence westward to *Georgetown College*, 26, and backward and northward to *Oak Hill Cemetery*, 27, and still eastward, past *Dupont Statue*, 28, *British Legation*, 29, to *Scott Statue*, 30, *Louise Home*, 31, and *Thomas Statue*, 32; thence to *Franklin Square*, 33, *McPherson Statue*, 34, and *Farragut Statue*, 35; thence to *Art Gallery*, 36, and *Lafayette Square*, 37; thence past *Columbian University*, 38, and by way of the Treasury and F street to *Army Medical Museum*, 39, *Patent Office*, 40, and *Post Office Department*, 41; thence southward to *Centre Market*, 42, and *Potomac Depot*, 43; thence past *City Hall*, 44, to *Pension Office*, 45.

By using street car from Coast Survey to Navy Yard; Herdic public phaeton from Pennsylvania avenue and 8th street east (just above Marine Barracks) to Congressional Cemetery, and street cars from Printing Office to Botanical Garden; Washington Equestrian Statue to Georgetown College; Georgetown College to Oak Hill; Oak Hill to Lafayette Square, and Lafayette Square to Medical Museum, the tour can be made afoot, in two days, with reasonable time for inspection—the second day's tour beginning, of course, where the first was ended.

A cab, coupe or carriage might be engaged for the two days at a reduction from the regular rate per hour, and if such be used, the *Deaf and Dumb Asylum* and *Mount Olivet Cemetery* (Roman Catholic) might be visited from Lincoln Park; *Arlington*, on the way to Georgetown College, and the *Soldiers' Home* after the Patent and Post Offices. The latter can be reached by street car passing the Patent Office, and the *Insane Asylum* can be visited any Wednesday afternoon, by street car from 7th street wharf or Navy Yard.

### GENERAL INFORMATION.

In 1790, Congress enacted that the Federal Capital should be permanently established near the head of navigation on the Potomac, and Presi-

dent Washington selected the site and gave much personal attention to the details of laying it out. Andrew Ellicott, an American, was the chief engineer; but his assistant, Major L'Enfant, a French engineer, had magnificent ideas, derived from the royal town and park of Versailles, and these are perpetuated in the wide rectangular streets, broad intersecting avenues and numerous squares, circles and triangular spaces of the modern city.

Congress and the Executive removed to the Federal City in 1800, and after a short period of feverish and ruinous speculation in town lots by single capitalists and syndicates from the North and Europe, (the chief result of which was to build up the lower priced sites in rear of the Capitol, while inflation made a desert of the choice ground in front,) the city settled down to a slow and quiet growth, which lasted till after the civil war. In 1870 began that gigantic and extravagant era of street improvement and embellishment, which has carried Washington to the front rank of beautiful cities. Broad, smooth, clean pavements; lawns and shade trees, and handsome parks abound, and the landscape is dotted with public buildings of extraordinary size and grandeur. Business and residential structures are still mostly small and plain, but a new West-End has grown up since



1870, that rivals the fashionable quarters of the opulent commercial cities.

Down to 1871 the city was governed by a mayor and council elected by popular vote ; but municipal corruption and inefficiency so imperilled the Federal interests centered in the capital, that Congress substituted for the electoral system an appointed board of commissioners, and provided a revenue made up one-half from private taxation, and the other half by a yearly grant from the Federal treasury. The jurisdiction of the commissioners extends over the entire Federal territory, called the District of Columbia, and consisting of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, three or four hamlets, and a considerable number of farms, amounting in all to some 64 square miles, with a population in 1885 of fully 200,000, of whom about 180,000 are in the practically united cities of Washington and Georgetown.

The city sits above a broad and picturesque river, and is enchained by a range of wooded hills. The climate is healthy and agreeable, and the concentration here of the high officials engaged in national legislation and administration forms an active and interesting social life ; the result of these causes being that Washington is becoming distinctively the social as well as the political capital of the country.

Washington is excellently supplied with hotels, restaurants, churches, theatres, street-cars, cabs and carriages, and newspapers, and its railway and steamboat connections are abundant. Local and railroad time are the same, being that of the eastern meridian.

The principal hotels are the Arlington, Belvedere (European), Ebbitt, Harris, Metropolitan, National, Riggs, St. James (European), St. Marc (European), Welcker's, Willard's, and Wormley's.

The principal churches are St. Matthew's (Roman Catholic), Epiphany (Episcopal), New York Avenue (Presbyterian), Metropolitan (Methodist), Calvary (Baptist), Congregational (Independent), All Souls (Unitarian), Memorial (Lutheran), Christian (Campbellite), and Washington Hebrew (Israelite), and there are two sects of Quakers.

The leading theatres are Albaugh's Opera House, National, Ford's Opera House, Theatre Comique (Variety), Herzog's Museum, Dime Museum, and Abner's Music Garden.

The railroads are the Baltimore & Ohio, to east and west, and Baltimore & Potomac, to east, west, and south.

There are five street railroads, with numerous branches, intersecting and traversing the entire city, but the visitor had better rely upon inquiries made whenever he wishes to ride, or to make quicker time than by walking.

By taking the street cars to the river front, steamboats may be found for Alexandria, Mount Vernon, Fort Monroe, Norfolk, and other points; but for particulars see the newspaper announcements.

Cab and hack fares are 75 cents per hour, or 25 cents per mile, for the two-wheeled cabs, one dollar per hour for the one-horse four-wheelers, and \$1.50 per hour, or one dollar from railroad depot or steamboat wharf, for two-horse carriages; hotel busses, 25 and 50 cents per trip.

Guides are frequently employed by tourists, at 50 cents per hour, but are of little service to an active sight-seer, accustomed to use his own eyes, ears and tongue, and should invariably be identified in some way before being engaged, as decoys for gamblers, card-sharpers and other swindlers often pretend to be guides, in order to procure victims. Even a genuine guide is apt to annoy his patrons by his stereotyped talk and manner.

There are two morning and two evening newspapers, which should always be examined for local news and information.

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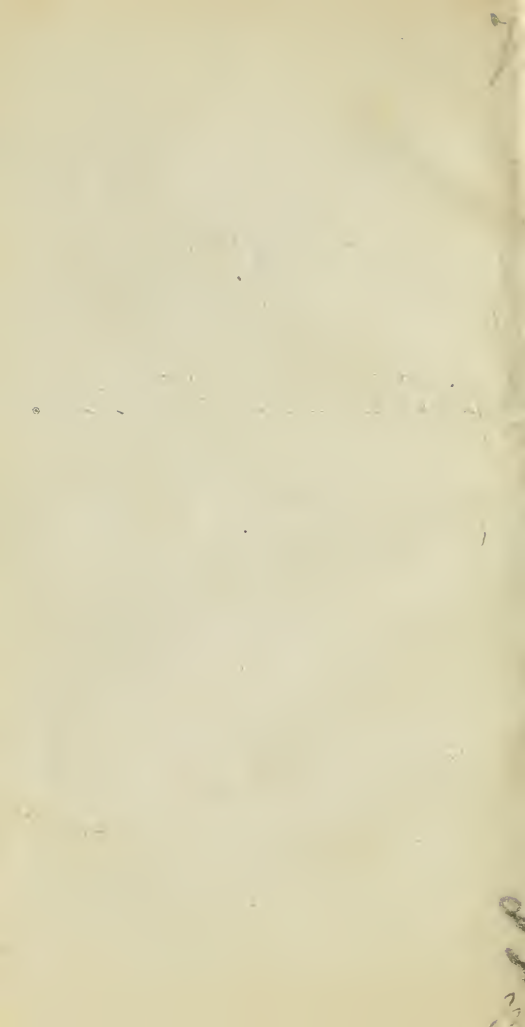
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