GORMAN DIES SUDDENLY; WAS SEEMINGLY BETTER

Heart Trouble Killed Senator When Family Was Hopeful.

NO STATE FUNERAL, HIS WISH

Made It in Writing to His Wife—Conscious Up to the End—His Notable Career.

WASHINGTON, June 4.—Senator Arthur Pue Gorman of Maryland died suddenly at 9:05 o'clock this morning at his Washington residence, 1432 K Street, Northwest. At his own request, made in writing, there will be no state funeral conducted by the Senate, but private funeral services, which the Senate will attend, will be held at his late residence at 11 o'clock Thursday morning.

Up to the moment of death Senator Gorman was conscious. His condition during the past week had improved so much that yesterday the family had hopes of shortly taking him to the country. He partook of some nourishment at 8 o'clock this morning, but at 9 o'clock he was seized with a heart attack and died in five minutes. At the bedside were Mrs. Gorman, Miss Ada Gorman, the Senator's eldest daughter, and the nurse. When the attack came physicians were sent for, but the Senator was dead before they arrived.

Senator Gorman's illness extended over a period of five months. He had not left his house since Jan. 16. He suffered, in addition to his heart affection, with more or less stomach trouble. Up to late last night he was in the best of spirits and chatted with various members of the family. As soon as he passed away word was sent to the Senate.

The Capitol building was shrouded in gloom when the news was received. Senators and Representatives, committee employes, police, and pages all knew Senator Gorman intimately, and their sorrow was general. When the Senate met Senator Bailey, in the absence of Senator Rayner of Maryland, announced the death, and said:

"I would ask the Senate to honor his long and faithful service as a member of this body by holding a public funeral in this chamber, except for the fact that he has himself left instructions that his burial shall be a simple one. In obedience to his wishes I forbear to make that request, and ask the adoption of the resolutions which I send to the desk."

Resolutions were then adopted declaring that the Senate had heard with profound sorrow of the death of their colleague, and that a committee of seventeen Senators be appointed by the Vice President for superintending the funeral, which the Senate would attend in a body.

It was also resolved that as a further mark of respect his remains be removed from his late home to the place of interment in Oak Hill Cemetery for burial in charge of the Sergeant at Arms, attended by the committee.

The committee was then announced by the Vice President as follows: Messrs. Rayner, Allison, Morgan, Hale, Aldrich, Teller, Gallinger, Elkins, Martin, Tillman, Clay, Spooner, Kean, Bailey, Blackburn, Clark (Mont.), and Overman.

The Senate then, as a further mark of respect, adjourned for the day.

The House on motion of Representative J. Fred Talbott, (Md.,) at 2.30 adjourned out of respect to the memory of Senator Gorman.

The following committee of seventeen members was appointed to attend the funeral exercises: Talbott, (Md.,) Gill, (Md.,) Smith, (Md.,) Mudd, (Md.,) Wachter, (Md.,) Pearre, (Md.,) Williams, (Miss.,) Livingston, (Ga.,) Davis, (West Va.,) Robertson, (La.,) Moon, (Tenn.,) Stephens, (Texas,) Bartlett, (Ga.,) Babcock, (Wis.,) Griggs, (Ga.,) Rixey, (Va.,) Burton, (Ore.)

Senator Gorman, in a written request addressed to Mrs. Gorman, asked that no state funeral be held. He said that he did not wish his body to be brought to the Capitol as he wanted his colleagues always to think of him as they knew him in life as an active Senator. There he was always cheerful and invariably smiling, and it is regarded as characteristic of his disposition that he should desire so to be remembered.

Senator Gorman leaves a widow and six children, as follows: Miss Ada Gorman, Mrs. Wilton J. Lambert, Mrs. R. A. Johnson, Mrs. R. W. Hills, all of this city; Mrs. Stephen Gambrill of London, England, who arrived here a week ago, and Arthur Pue Gorman, Jr., of Laurel, Md., a member of the Maryland Assembly.

Senator Tillman to-day made this statement:

"Senator Gorman will be very much missed by his colleagues and now that he is gone his enemies and detractors will doubtless be willing to concede what all of us who knew him well have known, that he was a man of great ability and tact, and I do not hesitate to say that so far as I have been able to discover he was a man of high ideals and in every way worthy of admiration.

"I take occasion to say that it is my earnest and sincere belief that of many things laid at his door he was entirely innocent, and I know that in dealing with the Wilson-Gorman Tariff Bill, which the Senate in some of the most important schedules, he but carried out in good faith pre-election pledges which have come to be commended rather than criticised and abused as he was for his actions in that matter.

"It would have been 'party perfidy and party dishonor' for him to have done otherwise than he did. We shall miss him very much in the Senate, and it will be a long time, I fear, before we shall have in the Senate a man so well qualified and so willing to discharge the responsibilities of leadership which his great experience had imposed on him."

Arthur P. Gorman began to hold office at the age of 12, and that remained the business of his life. He became a politician as a family way of avoiding that profession, and never was out of office except for a brief period, late in life.

He was born in Howard County, Md., in 1839. His father was Peter Gorman, and of him little is known. Some say he was a laborer, others that he was a contractor. Gorman attended the public schools for a brief period, but did not graduate. Instead he obtained an appointment as page in the United States Senate in 1852. The Senate then met in what is now the Supreme Court room, and a year or two ago some workmen, moving some of the hangings in this room, found the name "Arthur P. Gorman" cut in one of the marble columns. The page had cut it there in 1852.

Was Postmaster of Senate.

When Gorman reached his majority he was appointed Postmaster of the Senate. He served under Lincoln's Administration, for he was a war Democrat. He held this place throughout the war, and was removed in 1866 because of the fact that he was with President Johnson. The President promptly appointed him Collector of Internal Revenue in the Fifth District of Maryland.

He held this office as a Johnson man until Grant became President, when of course he lost it. He was out of office only a few months, however, for in that same Fall (1869) he was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates. He became Speaker of this body in 1872, and later was elected to the State Senate. Meanwhile, at the age of 23, he had become Paymaster of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Company.

In 1880 there was a fight over the United States Senatorship. William Pinkney Whyte was the Senator, and was up for re-election. Gorman was one of his most active supporters. There were some other candidates, but Gorman's name was not mentioned. Yet when the votes were taken Gorman was elected.

Whyte's friends always charged treachery, which was always denied by Gorman's adherents. Gorman soon came to control the State machine absolutely, but he had not controlled it long before charges of the most flagrant corruption were made against it. They were not made alone by Republicans; indeed, independent Democratic movements were organized against Gorman, and from that time until the close of his life the Democratic Party in Maryland was in a state of constant civil war between the machine and the independents.

Gorman took an active part in the management of the National campaign of 1884, and got a great deal of the credit for Cleveland's election. He was said to have invented the ingenious lie made of Dr. Burchard's "Rum, Romanism, and Rebellion" utterance, and also to have done a good deal in the way of obtaining money to dump into New York in the last days of the campaign.

Cleveland Did Not Like Him.

Cleveland, however, had little use for him, and Gorman did not reap much by his work. He had his hands full with the revolt at home, which assumed large proportions during Cleveland's first Administration. It was charged that under Gorman election frauds were perpetrated which found no parallel except in Tweed's worst days in New York or in Philadelphia under Quay. Dead men and imaginary persons were alleged to have been voted by thousands.

Gorman weathered the storm, and continued to control the State. He had never made a great reputation in the Senate, but he did so in Harrison's Administration when the Force bill was defeated. Gorman, who was a skillful organizer, managed the Democratic side and contrived to defeat the Force bill by making a deal with several Republican Senators from the silver States, whereby he was to prevent any interference with the sacred metal.

This victory was what made Gorman popular in the South, and gave him his reputation as a political general. He did not manifest then and never did manifest any strong qualities as a floor leader. His success was entirely due to the skillful arrangement of deals. While Gorman was often accused of treachery and falsehood to men in his own party, he never was accused of betraying any Republicans with whom he had entered into a deal, and one of these recently said that Gorman always kept his end of the bargain with the Republicans.

He was not a good speaker, and was always morbidly sensitive about having as his colleague in the Senate any Marylander who could outshine him. When old Senator Wilson died in 1891 there were a number of prominent Democrats who were candidates. Gorman controlled the Governor, Jackson, and he had this official appoint Charles H. Gibson, with the understanding that Gibson should fill out the unexpired term, and not be elected. This quieted the other candidates, but when Gibson's term as appointee expired he was elected by a Legislature controlled by Gorman. Gibson was known in the Senate as "me, too," and never cut any figure there.

A Presidential Candidate.

In 1892 Gorman was a candidate for the Presidential nomination. The movement was organized in Washington, and the organizers laid in a large stock of buttons and badges, and went to the Chicago convention to start the boom. When they arrived they found William C. Whitney there on behalf of Cleveland. Whitney put up an aggressive and truculent front, and let everybody understand that it was to be a fight to the finish. The Gorman men made ready for it, but they had no leader. When he learned of Whitney's attitude he weakened and retired from the race. His disheartened friends and his followers could not find him. This demoralized and disheartened them, and by the time they could hire him he informed them that he would not take any part in the fight. The incident created much bitterness among his followers. They took the badges and buttons, which never had been taken out of their boxes, and threw them into Lake Michigan. Cleveland was nominated, the only serious fight against him being made by Hill.

The tariff was the issue and Cleveland was elected on a promise of tariff revision. It was with this promise that the House passed the Wilson tariff bill. When it got into the Senate it fell into the hands of Gorman, Brice, and James Smith, Jr., who proceeded to turn it inside out and make a protection measure of it. In this form it was passed. Cleveland was bitterly disgusted. He refused to sign the bill, which became a law without his signature, and he took the celebrated "My Dear Catchings" letters in which he flayed Gorman and his associates and branded the bill as one of "perfidy and dishonor."

This excoriation aroused Gorman and led him to deliver practically the only speech he ever made which will be remarkable. It was a bitter attack on Cleveland, made in the Senate. He attacked the President's motives, character, and told how, in his management of the campaign of 1884, he, Gorman, had gone through the mire with Cleveland.

Beaten by Independents.

The incessant assaults upon the machine in Maryland were now beginning to bear fruit. Renewed accusations of corruption and fraud were made, and in 1895 the Independent Democrats tore the State away from Gorman and turned it over to the Republicans. A sensational incident immediately preceding the campaign had a good deal to do with the result. Gorman had promised Thomas G. Hayes the nomination for Governor of Maryland. On the night before the convention Hayes learned that the nomination was to go to John E. Hurst, and he called upon Gorman and delivered a blistering speech to him. The incident became public property, and Hayes's language to Gorman figured largely in the campaign.

Lloyd Lowndes, a Republican, was elected Governor, and in successive elections the Republicans controlled the State offices until they had driven Gorman and Gibson from the Senate and wiped out the Gorman machine as soon as they got in power, however, the Republicans began to quarrel, and the Democrats got back. Gorman was a force no longer to reckon with.

In 1903 he came back to the Senate and resumed his old place as floor leader for the Democrats, which he had held ever since the Force Bill fight when he left the Senate. He started in by trying to organize the Democrats against the Cuban reciprocity treaty, but failed in so doing.

Then he tried to organize them against the Panama Canal treaty, but as the canal was currently supported by the South, he failed here too. These were the only important issues of that session, and at the end of the session he had demonstrated his not succeeded in creating any ammunition for the coming campaign.

In the early part of 1904 Mr. Gorman met the bitterest defeat of his life. That morbid sensitiveness of his about having a colleague of striking intellectual attainments was the cause of it. He had promised the Senatorship to John Walter Smith, who had been Governor, and had signed a bill appointing a commission at Gorman's direction. When the Legislature met, however, Gorman undertook to confer the Senatorship upon another man. Smith resented this and made a fight. The independents backed Isidor Rayner, and when there were so many candidates that Gorman could not control the Legislature. The upshot was that the man most objectionable to him, Rayner, was elected.

Shied at Presidency.

Gorman's friends again made him a Presidential candidate in 1904, when various elements of the party were undertaking to defeat Alton B. Parker for the nomination. The effort was a failure, however, because Gorman could not be induced to come out in the open. He would not let even his friends know how he stood, and the boom had to be withdrawn. Its chief result was to make his friend and business associate, Henry G. Davis, the candidate for Vice President.

Though nominally the floor leader, he took no part in the work of the Fifty-ninth Congress. His health was failing, and Senator Bailey assumed the leadership in his absence.

Gorman's last appearance in politics was in the campaign of 1905, when he made the issue on a proposition which he declared was for negro disfranchisement. His opponents dissected the bill and declared that it was all a fraud, simply aimed at the negroes and really was drawn for the purpose of enabling the Gorman machine to control elections, and the independent Democrats bolted, and the proposition was beaten at the polls.

Mr. Gorman left a widow, a wife, five daughters, and a son. The latter is in politics and is a member of the Maryland Legislature. The family usually lived in Washington, though he maintained a voting residence in Maryland. One of his political henchmen in Maryland once described if the Senator had a fine house in Washington. "He has a fine vestibule," was the reply. For Gorman's house was as mysterious as everything else about him, and few of those who called to confer with him ever got beyond the vestibule.

Gorman was a rich man. In business affairs he trained with what is known as the "West Virginia Crowd," including Henry G. Davis, who was related to him, and Senator Elkins.

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