

have ever been out since they were lighted when we entered our own home in 1855. It has always been our custom to keep the house open and servants on duty when absent for the summer months. Of course I except the summer when we sold the Eighteenth Street house, and had no home.

Before sailing, your grandfather wrote to the Hon. John W. Caldwell, who was an old friend, and at that time Postmaster General of the United States, asking him to procure for him from Hon. James G. Blaine, Secretary of State, a letter introducing us to the Diplomatic and Consular Officers of the United States abroad, and bespeaking for us such official courtesies as they could properly extend. The letter was very promptly accorded, and proved most valuable in obtaining access to certain parts of the British Museum, and other places not generally open to the public.