

MR. CLEVELAND'S FUTURE. It is Not Yet Decided What It Will Be.

Perhaps He Will Travel for a Time and Then Become a Banker—How Other Ex-Presidents Have Occupied Their Time After Leaving the Highest Office.

Washington Letter. There has been much speculation for some days concerning President Cleveland's future. The president is only 51, has been but a few years married, and in the ordinary course of human events should have many years of activity and comfort before him.

According to the president's friends nothing is settled concerning his future except that he will not return to Buffalo. The prevailing opinion is that after a journey to Europe he will sell his Washington property and seek to finance himself at the head of some financial institution in New York city.

Mr. Cleveland cannot find much to comfort him. Washington lived only two years after his retirement, and the peace of even this brief period of release from public duty was broken by the rumblings of a war with France and by labor at the plans of reorganization of the army, which were entrusted to him by President Adams.

Jefferson's after life was much embarrassed by financial difficulties, and the 15 years which he spent at Monticello after leaving the White House cannot be described as years of contentment. Madison was more fortunate. Retiring at 69, he spent 19 years with his books and friends at Montpelier. Monroe was 67 when he left the White House, and the cloud of his declining years was the inadequacy of his income.

Andrew Jackson lived eight years after leaving the White House, and the evening of his life was noteworthy calm and in striking contrast with his tempestuous career. He became a devout Christian and took great delight in reading the scriptures to his family and servants.

When Mr. Cleveland retires from the presidency, he will be the younger man than any of his predecessors was on leaving the White House. Next to Cleveland in point of youth was Pierce, and it is to be hoped Cleveland's after life will be more pleasant than Pierce's was.

Johnson is the other president who re-entered public life, though he reappeared but for a moment. Upon his retirement in '69 Johnson at once set about securing an official return to the capital in which he had been the center of so much turmoil. He was defeated for the senate in 1870 and for congress at large in '72, but in '74 was elected to the United States senate. He died the next year.

Gen. Grant lived but nine years after retiring from the presidency, though his years were not without many troubles and disappointments. However, the only living ex-president, seems placid and content in his 66th year, while his immediate successors met their fate ultimately, the one while yet in office by an assassin's bullet, and the other of a broken heart because of his party's failure to make him its candidate.

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