

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Dec. 4th 1905.

Elliot Woods Esq  
Superintendent of

My Dear Sir-

I presume you are not aware of the fact, but it is a fact that the squirrels in the Capitol grounds, while somewhat amusing, are nevertheless a nuisance in several respects.

In the first place they drive away the birds by robbing their nests, and the birds are far more useful in destroying the insects that injure the trees.

In the second place they are a nuisance to the residents in the vicinity. A few years ago I bought and planted an English walnut tree in my back yard, which has been in bearing for three or four years, and since the squirrels have been there, I have not been able to save any of the nuts, as the squirrels take them be-

for they are fairly ripe.

They are about the place nearly every day, and on Thanksgiving day one of them sat on my porch railing and looked at me as I sat at my desk, as impudent as anything could be, as much as to say, how can you help yourself!

I don't want to kill or injure them, but I must protect myself in some way.

I beg to suggest that you send them to the Soldiers Home, where they will be equally amusing, have more trees and harm no one.

Respectfully Yours,

W. C. Dodge  
116 B. M. N. C.

Dodge W. C.

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