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Reminiscences of the 'Old Town.'
BY SENEX.—No 3.

Ultima Thule—Beautiful Women—Sad Reflections—The Cemeteries, &c., &c.

What's here? Oh, I see; it is the railroad culvert, passing under Wilkes street. You perceive that old Mansion, across the way? It was the residence of Mr. Slacum, a successful and highly respectable merchant. Of the galaxy of lovely women that adorned the society of Alexandria, the daughters of this gentleman, might have been clasped amongst the stars of the first magnitude, I had almost said that they were *stellæ interminores stellas*; but where all were so brilliant the comparison would have been individious. I used to call the old homestead *ultima thule*, because it was the outside boundary of my periguinations in this direction.

Alexandria was always noted for its beautiful women. There may, possibly, be some one as old as myself, now residing in the town, who may remember the lovely N. R. of Fairfax st.—the beautiful Misses M. A. P. and S. H. of King—, the charming sisters, the Misses Y. of Cameron, and the *dashing*, sparkling beauty, H. P. of Prince, a very Diana Vernon!—These were the cynosures of all eyes, but there were many others, as attractive, almost, as they were.

It is a sad, it is a touching reflection, how time despoils us of our friends. Some native of this town, fresh in youth, may now, perhaps, be quitting for other scenes; when returning some sixty years hence, he may walk through the city, from its centre to its circumference, and not a single hand will be extended to greet his return! He may stop at many a familiar door sill, and, on inquiry, will be told, "we ken naught, sir, of whom you seek." He may cry aloud, but without response, save from mocking echo! But if he proceed to the Cemeteries, and there stroll amongst the tombs, the chissled marble, in mute, though affecting eloquence, will answer his enquiries, and inform him that, "here they lie!"

Capture of Gen. Gary's Staff, &c.

A dispatch from Cairo yesterday says:—"Another attack by the Confederates was made on Colliersville, on the Memphis and Charleston railroad, on the evening of the 3d inst. After a brief fight the enemy were repulsed. Brigadier General Geary and thirteen of his staff, were among the prisoners taken.

Lieut. Col. Loomis and Major Herrod, of the 6th Illinois cavalry, had an altercation at the supper table at Germantown on the evening of the 2d inst. Herrod fired four shots at Loomis as he left the table, killing him instantly. Col. Hatch, of the 2d Iowa, was obliged to draw his sabre on the soldiers to prevent their lynching Herrod on the spot. The remains of Loomis were brought to Memphis, and Herrod was taken there in irons. Reinforcements are being sent to Colliersville."

The Captain General of St. Domingo has been removed, and Don Carlos Devarges, marshal of Spain, has been appointed in his place.

A steamboat has arrived at Cairo from Memphis with 400 bales of cotton.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

The provost marshal, Captain Todd, has prohibited the selling of liquor in certain localities where there may be danger to the government property stored at different points, from the careless action of persons under the influence of liquor.

The whole time of the Criminal Court yesterday was occupied with a continuation of the trial of Ex-Major Henry C. Burnett and one Maude Roberts, for keeping a bawdy house at 275 D street.

In the Smithson court martial it is stated that a decision has been arrived, at which will be made public after receiving the necessary endorsement.

John G. Nicolay, the private secretary of the President, has arrived from his trip to the Rocky Mountains, in improved health.

An accident occurred yesterday afternoon at the Washington Arsenal, by the explosion of a box of fixed ammunition, whereby two men were severely though not fatally burned. There was considerable ammunition in the room at the same time, but it was so strongly packed in boxes that the explosion did not spread.

A woman visited the President's mansion yesterday, cut off a full half yard from the curtain of one of the windows in the Green Room, and made her exit before being discovered. Such things have been frequently done lately, as is supposed by a sort of curiosity hunters.

The Washington Union says: "The community in Alexandria have almost been completely metamorphosed since the outbreak of the war. Very few of the old residents remain, having abandoned their business and sought other localities. The contiguousness of a large portion of the army to the town has brought there an increased population who are trading and trafficking with it."

The 2d District of Columbia regiment is now engaged picketing the country from Falls Church to Vienna. Col. Alexander's headquarters at Vienna, and that of Lieut. Col. Drew at Falls Church.

The revolution in St. Domingo is in full blast. The rebels held possession of the entire island, with the exception of the capital and the East, and they were last reported within five miles of St. Domingo city.

Col. Wyndham, lately in command of a brigade of cavalry in the army of the Potomac, has not been "dismissed from the service" as has been asserted, but has been relieved from duty for the time being. The statement that Lord Lyons requested his removal on certain grounds, is incorrect.

The Congressional election in North Carolina was to take place on the 4th. John A. Gilmer would probably be elected from the Sixth district as an independent candidate. The Raleigh Standard is published again, advocates peace, and opposes the original secessionists.

DON'T LIKE MY BUSINESS.—There is no greater fallacy in the world than that entertained by many young men that some pursuit in life can be found wholly suited to their tastes, whims and fancies. Much truth is contained in the Irishman's remark: "It is never aisy to work hard." Let, therefore, the fact always be remembered by the young, that no life work can be found entirely agreeable to man. Success always lies at the top of a hill; if we would reach it, we can do so only by hard, persevering effort. Should any of our young readers be debating in his mind a change of business, imagining he has a genius for some other, let him at once dismiss the thought as he would a temptation to do evil. If you think you made a mistake in choosing the pursuit or profession you did, don't make another by leaving it. Spend all your energies in working for and clinging to it, as you would to the life boat that sustained you in the midst of the ocean. If you leave it, it is almost certain that you will go down; but if you cling to it, informing yourself about it till you are its master, bending your every energy to the work success is certain. Good, hard, honest efforts, steadily persevered in, will make your love for your business.

Richard McHugh, a private of company A, 9th Virginia cavalry, was captured at the house of his mother at Roll's Hill, six miles from Fairfax Station. James McHugh, a citizen and a brother of the above, was also captured at the same place. Moses G. Pettit was also arrested and sent in. Also, Daniel Williams, and J. F. Nalls an escaped Confederate conscript. Refused to take the oath. The above prisoners were sent to the Military Headquarters at Alexandria, from Fairfax-Court House, by the Provost Marshal of General Corcoran's division. They were committed to the Old Capitol last evening.

It was the iron clad monitor Sagamon that passed up the river yesterday morning, to Washington; she has been for some time past on the Chesapeake and James and Rappahannock rivers. She was in tow of the steamer Mount Washington, and was brought up for repairs.

From Maryland we learn that Messrs. Davis, Webster and Frank Thomas are elected to Congress. Cressfield is re-elected over the Unconditional Union candidate, Cresswell. It is thought that Holland has been elected over Calvert, but it is not certain. In New Jersey the Democrats have triumphed, securing majorities in both branches of the Legislature.

Fashion is running riot in Paris, and extravagance is the "order of the day." The "fine ladies" wear leathern cross belts studded with silver, sheaths for daggers, flaming petticoats, and carry walking canes in their hands.!!

The "big gun," at Battery Rodgers, just hauled there by means of a railroad constructed from the river, attracts much attention.—It is a "four hundred pounder," and one of the 15 inch guns, weighing 49,546 lbs.

The war debt of North Carolina is being rapidly extinguished by the proceeds received from privateers, which are making regular trips into Wilmington.