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EDGAR SNOWDEN, JR.
OFFICE—No. 104 King street, over
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Reminiscences of "the Old Town."
BY SENEX.—No 4.

The Oriental Palace—Living Cheese—Christ Church—The Old Commons—Gala days.

This building, corner of Prince and Columbus, was the residence of Mr. Swann, a gentleman of high social position, and a lawyer of some note. The appearance of the house is greatly changed, and many will say, much improved; well, perhaps, it is—*de gustibus non disputandum.*

We will now, if you please, turn into King street, thence up to Alfred, S. W. corner. I perceive, it is a grocery! It was one sixty years ago. We stepped into it one day, my father and I, and there we saw old Mr. Richter, the proprietor, gouging into something he called cheese, and devouring the same with infinite gusto.

It was literally a living mass! "I'll tell you what, sir," addressing my father, "it is delicious, and between you and me, a cheese is not fit to eat until it can crawl." We had neither stomachs nor arguments about this proposition, so we turned our backs on the store just in time to avoid a catastrophe.

We are on the corner of King and Columbus sts. "Ho! What is this we see!—windows, glass, and shutters smashed in! I am told, it was lately used, for contraband negroes; but I believe, a guard of soldiers now occupy it. The building was, some sixty years ago, the residence of Mr. Deneale, a worthy, and much esteemed gentleman—*Tempora mutantur!*

Old Christ Church is but little changed, so far as I can see; but I am told that the interior is not as it was. The old pews which were double, are now single, with the exception of Gen. Washington's, which is just as it was in the days of Old Lang Syne.

In a Westwardly direction from Columbus street there were very few houses between Cameron and Oronoko. It was a fine old commons, and in gala days large numbers of people from town and country would assemble thereon, to see what they could see, and to hear what they could hear. The 4th of July was always a grand day, and on that occasion the military companies, horse, foot and artillery, in their flashy uniforms, would give unmistakable evidence of the immeasurable importance in which each one held himself, from the General down to the drummer boy; and the urchins who could but touch the hem of their coats on that day were happy for a week afterwards. The commons would be filled with tents, and the young folks would be lost in wonder at the great display of cakes, meads, pies and beer, and the marvel grew at the rapidity with which they disappeared.

The last time that I was in Alexandria, to witness a 4th of July celebration, the orator of the day was Robert Goodloe Harper esq., a very distinguished son of Maryland. The address was delivered in Christ Church, and I am, probably, the only one in the town, now alive, who was present on that occasion.

Do you see that large brick building on Oronoko street, the last house, West? It was the residence of Jonathan Swift esq. He was a gentleman of very fine exterior, but what was most noticeable about him, was the great rapidity of his pronunciation. Let me see if I

can convey to your mind any idea of this peculiarity. Repeat, as fast as you are able. "if Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, where is the peck of pickled peppers that Peter Piper picked. "You can't?" Then, sir, I can give you no idea of the rapidity of Mr. Swift's utterance.

Sergeant Rood, of the 1st Michigan cavalry, was robbed and killed near Fairfax Court House, on Wednesday. He left here in company with two men, and it is said had \$500 in money with him. The men who were with him have not been seen since.

Gen. Boyle, commanding in Kentucky, has issued a general order, declaring that "all the corn that has been purchased by distillers in the counties on the line of the Kentucky Central Railroad is taken possession of for the use of the U. S. government, and will be turned over to Captain F. W. Oakley, Assistant-Quartermaster, for immediate shipment to Camp Nelson. No more corn will be consumed by distillers, or sold to them by the farmers, after date of this order. The necessities of the service require that this corn be taken, for which a fair market price will be paid; as far as practicable, the contract price of the distillers."

On last Sunday, regular Episcopal services were held in St. Paul's Church, Norfolk, Va., in which, the President of the United States was prayed for. Two weeks previously a like service was held in Portsmouth, Va. These were the first occasions on which the prayer for the President of the U. S. had been used in the services in these cities since the passage of the secession ordinance. Rev. M. E. Willing of New York, was the officiating clergyman on both occasions. General Barnes and staff together with a large number of troops, were present.

Seven children of Rev. Ambrose Dudley, deceased, who removed from Virginia to Fayette county, Ky., in the year 1786, are now alive. Their respective ages are as follows: James, 86; Jephtha, 84; Polly, 80; Benjamin, 78; Peter, 76; Ambrose, 76; and Thomas, 71.

Rev. Dr. Peabody has retired from the editorial management of the North American Review, and will be succeeded by James Russell Lowell and Charles Elliott Norton. The January number of the Review will be edited by these gentlemen.

The New York Journal of Commerce thus speaks of money matters in that city, on Thursday:—"There is less panic in the money market, and it is easier to borrow upon first class securities; but rates of interest are still high, and we can quote but little relaxation of the stringency."

The election in Annapolis, Md., passed off quietly. The polls in each election district in the county were guarded by a company of cavalry, sent by order of General Auger, commanding at Washington, and each voter was required to subscribe to the test oath prescribed.

ARMY MOVEMENTS,

A Washington evening paper has news from the army of the Potomac that General Kilpatrick's cavalry on Wednesday started on a reconnoissance towards Falmouth, and returned the next day. He found no large bodies of Confederates this side of the Rappahannock, though they encountered a few bands of guerrillas, whom they dispersed. On Thursday the chief of railroad transportation dispatched from Alexandria two hundred and thirty-six cars, loaded with quartermaster's, commissary and ordnance stores, for the terminus at Warrenton Junction. Pontoon trains have also been forwarded recently, which would seem to argue a movement in some direction. An army correspondent of the New York Times, writing on the 5th inst., says that one full corps of Lee's army was reported to be encamped that day at Brandy Station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. Stuart's Cavalry watch the fords on the south side of the Rappahannock. Lee's headquarters are at Culpeper.—Deserters report that his army stretches from Culpeper to the Heights of Fredericksburg, and numbers about thirty-five thousand men of all arms.—[Balt. Sun.

Riot in the Pennsylvania Coal Regions.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 6.—The Inquirer's bulletin contains a report of a riot in the coal regions around Mauch Chunk. It is said four men were killed last evening including Mr. Smith of the firm of Hull, Corties & Co., of this city. It is not believed by the principal coal men that there has been a riot at Mauch Chunk of a serious character. Mr. Smith, who was killed, has incurred the hatred of the Irish miners by his opposition to their secret organization, which had for its object the exclusion of all workmen of other countries. A Welchman was recently found dead in the mines, having been shot. It is supposed Smith was shot while travelling from the mines to Jeansville. A force of military have been in that vicinity for some time, enforcing the draft and arresting deserters. The telegraph line between Mauch Chunk, and Easton being down, direct communication cannot be obtained. [The Inquirer of to-day, attributes the affair to resistance to the draft, but thinks that order will be restored now, and no further outrage committed by the rioters.]

On the night of the 5th inst., in Chesapeake Bay, off the mouth of the Potomac, the steamer Louisiana, of Baltimore, from Fortress Monroe, collided with a three-masted propeller, supposed to be the Curlew, of New York, from Baltimore. The Louisiana was badly damaged, and had one boiler crushed in. Her passengers were transferred to the steamer Escort and reached Baltimore after ten hours' detention. The Curlew is supposed to have sunk, as she quickly disappeared, and it was blowing a gale at the time.

The Washington correspondent of the Springfield Republican says:—"The man who stands next to Mr. Seward in influence with the President is Mr. Sumner, and, on some points with which slavery is connected, Mr. Sumner has the most influence. On the question of the emancipation proclamation Mr. Sumner stood first. But in matters pertaining to the foreign policy Mr. Seward is without a rival."