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Reminiscences of the "Old Town."

BY SENEX—No. 6.

The City Hotel—Mr. Gadsby, &c., &c.

Towards the close of the last century, and early in this, the City Hotel was kept by Mr. John Gadsby, an Englishman, who came to this country during the revolution, and was, I believe, in the British Army. He was first known here as the keeper of a restaurant on Union Street. Everything around and about his premises was so nice, and his viands and liquors were so excellent, that he was very soon known to the *F. F. V's.*, and to gentlemen on the opposite shore. He was advised to rent the City Hotel, which he did, and very soon his reputation was world wide. His canvass back suppers were a common theme, for the like of them was never known before, nor, I believe, since. If his guests had to pay \$5 each, they always left rejoicing, knowing that they had had their money's worth, nor felt but one regret, viz: that their "throats were not a mile long, and every inch palate." Mr. Gadsby made money too fast to be satisfied. His aspirations kept along, *pari passu*, with his prosperity, and he considered that his genius was too much cramped in a place like this. The event proved that he was right. He moved to Baltimore, and might have been styled Boniface, the 1st. That is to say—he was the King of caterers, second to none, and the very first in the hearts of all, the world over, who were fond of good eating and good drinking. This hotel was on the corner of Hanover and Baltimore streets, where he reigned supreme, for many years, and died rich. He died rich. O, is not that *dulce et decorum!* Is it not worth a long life of tugging and toiling, and striving and self denial, to know that when we die our sons will have naught to do, but to eat, to drink, and be merry?

OPERATIONS OF THE U. S. MINT.—During the month of October, there were no deposits of gold or silver in the mint at Philadelphia. The coinage of gold for the month was \$316,786.06, the whole of which was in double eagles and fine bars. The silver coinage amounted to \$28,594.90. There were also coined 4,200,000 cents, the total value of the coinage amounting to \$387,375.96, covering four millions two hundred and sixty-five thousand and two pieces.

Advices from Fort Scott say a courier arrived there on Friday night from Gen. Blunt, bringing information that the Confederates under Cooper and Shelby eluded the Federal forces and crossed the Arkansas river with nearly nine thousand men, and were marching on Gen. Blunt, who has eighteen hundred cavalry as an escort to an immense supply train for Fort Smith. Gen. Blunt, aware of the enemy's movements, had curtailed his train and made preparations for defence.

John H. Bringler, arrested at Clarksburg, (Md.) on the day of the recent election, after taking the oath to vote, charged with having been in the Confederate service, was committed to the Old Capitol yesterday morning.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

[Correspondence of the New York Tribune.]

WASHINGTON, Monday, Nov. 9.—No considerable opposition was offered to the onward march of the Army of the Potomac yesterday, the Confederates having fallen back, and placed the Rapidan between them and the advancing columns. A brigade of Buford's cavalry encountered a brigade of Confederate cavalry at Waterloo Bridge yesterday morning, and, after a short fight, drove them across the river.—Having orders to proceed in another direction, the pursuit was not followed up.

Last night Buford's cavalry occupied Culpeper, and the main body of the army was in the vicinity of Brandy Station. To-day the advance has pushed on, and is at the Rapidan. The Confederates are on the south side of the river, in their old intrenchments. The Federal forces were rapidly moving upon the different fords of the Rapidan. If any determined resistance is to be made, it will probably be in disputing the passage of this river.

Meanwhile it is reported that a movement is being made by another column in a more southerly direction, and the reports of Kilpatrick's being in possession of the heights back of Fredericksburg are reiterated. It is furthermore stated that Gen. Lee is not with the forces in front of Meade, but that Gens. A. P. Hill and Ewell are in command. Lee is reported to have gone to Chattanooga.

The prisoners taken make the usual brags of how Meade will soon be whipped, and give out mysterious hints as to his being drawn into a trap. The North Carolina troops captured declare that they will not again take up arms. The North Carolinians and the Louisiana Tigers had a fight in the cars, on their way to town, upon this topic, the former boldly saying they were heartily sick of the war, and did not wish to be exchanged. The latter called them "poltroons," and at length the two parties came to blows.

The guerrillas again become active along the Orange and Alexandria Road. Last night they fired the large piles of wood between Manassas Junction and Fairfax Court House, accumulated by the Company during the year at great expense. One pile containing several thousand cords was burning this morning, without any prospects of its being saved.

[Correspondence of the New York Times.]

The army is completely surrounded by guerrillas and bushwhackers are fairly swarming within its lines. No two or three men can go out of sight of any camp without running the risk of either being shot or captured, because of marauding squads of the enemy everywhere to be found, the pickets having ceased to afford the usual protection to persons even while passing from a depot of supplies to camp, or from one camp to another.—To such an extent is this species of warfare carried on, that no officer, with the bump of caution at all developed, thinks of going beyond the immediate limits of a camp without a strong guard to accompany him, and the more reckless who venture out alone or with only one or two companions are considered extremely fortunate if they return in safety.—Yesterday morning Lieut. Hedges, of the Second New York cavalry, Acting Commissary of Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry division, while riding, accompanied by a single orderly from Catlett's Station, to a point three miles distant was shot at and seriously if not mor-

tally wounded. This occurred almost within sight of Gen. Pleasanton's Headquarters, and within a mile of the Headquarters of Gen. Meade. Lt. Hedges was so seriously wounded that he could not be moved in an ambulance, and Lieut. Col. Austin, of Gen. Pleasanton's Staff had him brought in on a stretcher. Three men were taken prisoners at about the same time from the train Lieut. Hedges had in charge. On Wednesday Capt. Page, Assistant Quartermaster at headquarters, sent Sergeant Terry on some business to a point near Centreville. He succeeded in reaching the vicinity of Bull Run without difficulty, when he was stopped by a citizen, who told him there were twenty or more of the enemy concealed in a piece of woods through which the road passed he was there on. Making a flank movement to avoid them, Sergeant Terry met a Lieutenant and Sergeant of the First Michigan cavalry, to whom he communicated the information he had just received and the parted. While still in sight the guerrillas, fired killing the Lieutenant and wounding the Sergeant with him. Sergeant Terry, who is an experienced soldier, succeeded in avoiding the enemy, and reached camp last night in safety, though he saw several squads of bushwhackers at different points. Not a day passes but what officers or privates are shot, fired at or chased within the lines proper of this army.

[Associated Press dispatch]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—From information which reached Washington to-night (the messenger having left the Army of the Potomac at 10 o'clock this morning), it appears that Gen. Buford yesterday reached a point two miles south of Culpeper.

Gen. Lee's headquarters on Saturday night were between Brandy Station and the Rappahannock. This refutes the belief current in some quarters that he had gone South to advise with Gen. Bragg.

The army lay in line-of battle all day yesterday but Gen. Lee declined to accept the issue of an engagement.

Snow fell yesterday afternoon along the line of the mountains, covering the peaks of the Blue Ridge.

Gen. Kilpatrick occupied Poney Mountain yesterday afternoon, and last night he discovered a large area of camp fires south of the Rapidan, between Raccoon Ford and Rapidan Station, on the railroad.

No forces of magnitude were discovered in and around Culpeper. This leads to the inference that General Lee has withdrawn his forces, excepting a rear guard, to his former strong position.

A gentleman who arrived here to-night, says that the Federal line of battle crossed the Orange and Alexandria railroad to a point where it is supposed General Lee has a full force on the front.

The Washington Star says there are fifteen thousand prostitutes in the city of Washington, and the number of their pimps and retainers are legion."

It is said that Hon. James Guthrie, ex-Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, will be elected U. S. Senator from Kentucky to succeed Lazarus W. Powell, the present incumbent. The election occurs this winter.

The late draft in Connecticut yielded 130 conscripts, and 1,547 substitutes; 956 paid the \$300, 781 never reported, and there were 82 conscripts and 18 substitutes deserted.