

The Montrose Democrat

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Miscellaneous: Reminiscences of a Memorable Duel.

The celebrated affair of the Leopard and the Chesapeake, the latter commanded by Commodore James Barron, resulted in Barron's trial and sentence by the court-martial, in the proceeding relative to which, it is said, Commodore Decatur took an active part, and a duel was finally the result, at Bladenburg.

A correspondent of the Chicago Tribune describes the affair as follows:

When Elliot arrived at Bladenburg, little knots of boys and men, knowing or guessing the matter impending, gave him interesting regard.

A group of naval officers, particularly standing at the tavern, walked out across the bridge toward the place of meeting, and concealed themselves within being of the pistol shots.

Almost every one of them was a friend of Decatur, and among them were Commodores Rodgers and Porter, and his two colleagues in the Board of Navy Commissioners.

Barron followed soon afterwards, walking between his seconds, Elliott, and his friend Latimer. His face expressed dignity and resolution. He walked firmly, and the three also descended into the Valley of Chance.

Decatur and Barron bowed to each other formally. Hamilton stood by Decatur, Latimer by Barron. Bainbridge and Elliott conferred together, and the former, who had behaved fairly and equitably throughout, was appointed to measure the ground.

He marked a line in the sod with his boot, and placing his toe to it, stepped out eight times, a yard to a step, marking also the last step as a base.

Four times a man's length, or across your right shoulder, was the distance. Each second now produced the pistols from a pair of cases, long-barreled dueling weapons, of fine finish and bright steel, silver-mounted. They were charged and rammed in the old style, and presented to each principal by the second.

During all this time no words was said except by the seconds.

In like manner Elliott and Bainbridge tossed for corners. Bainbridge won; it was Decatur's usual good luck.

"Commodore Decatur," said Bainbridge, "which stand do you select?"

"The north and south, obliquely from the brook," Decatur walked to the north, nearest the water, where he stood a few inches lower than Barron. Both threw off their coats confronting each other.

"Gentlemen," said Bainbridge, raising his pistol, "I shall give you thirty seconds to follow. Present—one—two—three. You are neither, at your peril, to fire before the word one, nor after the word three."

His comrade Barron turned his head, his pistol hanging at his side, and said to Commodore Bainbridge, "Have you any objection, sir, to pronouncing the words in the manner you intend to give them?"

"None," said Bainbridge, and he repeated the formula precisely as he afterwards gave it. For the first time the antagonists looked into each other's eyes.

Stares were the first words to fall in both. "I hope, sir," said Barron, "that when we meet in another world, we shall be better friends than we have in this."

"I have never been your enemy, sir," exclaimed Decatur.

Here Bainbridge walked behind Decatur, and took up the twelve or fifteen feet to his left, Hamilton as far as on his right. The same positions were reserved by Elliott and Latimer.

"Gentlemen," said Bainbridge, "make ready."

The antagonists swung around sideways, and looked at each other across their right shoulders.

"Present!"

The two arms went up and each took sight.

"One—two—"

One report rang out. The last word was decended by it. On the word two, both pistols had been simultaneously discharged.

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The subscriber is prepared to offer the people of Susquehanna County Perkins' Patent non-explosive Kerosene Lamp—the only positive Safety Lamp now in use. It has been thoroughly tested by scientific men, and also by practical use, and is found to be as safe as any family lamp.

E. H. BINGHAM, New Milford, Susq. Co., Pa. Agent for Susq. Co., Luzerne and Wyoming cos. Jan. 12th, 1870.—

ABEL TURRELL, DRUGGIST, MONTROSE, PA.

is constantly receiving NEW GOODS.

And keeps constantly on hand a full and desirable assortment of groceries.

DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS, LIQUORS, FRUITS, Oils, Dry-Staffs, Tass, Bibles, and other Groceries, Stone Ware, Wall and Window Paper, Glassware, etc.

—The Commissioner of Agriculture is said to be ill. His complaint probably is a bu-colic one.

—A lady in Paris who mourns for her eleventh husband is anxious to complete the dozen.

—Young gentlemen who are fascinated by the "curf of the period" are styled swiftners.

—Hartford Connecticut is very hard to satisfy. It objects to being converted into a cock-pit.

—The shoemakers are in favor of female suffrage. They manufacture women's rights—and lefts.

—"Died from the effects of mixed colaterals," is the way they get at delirium tremens in Cheyenne.

—Anthracite is said to be a "drug." If this is so, it must be one of the drugs that is good for a cold.

—Washington belles attend seven parties in one night. This is improving the time with a vengeance.

—A schoolboy's jest—One swallow does not make a summer; but a crooked pin often makes a spring.

—A new disease called "contested seats," has broken out in the Alabama Legislature, which is fatal to many negroes.

—A tantalizing old fellow in Nashville has left six widows \$5,000 apiece, upon condition that they shall never marry.

—A minister at a donation party received as a gift "two pints of skimmed milk" put failed to see the cream of the joke.

—Old wine put into new bottles sometimes bursts them, old wine put into young men leads them off on a "bust."

—It is a fine thing to hunt a grizzly bear but when he turns around and hunts you circumstances are altered decidedly.

—The Chicago Times says that one of those who wept over the pathos of Miss Dickinson's lecture, was—Miss Dickinson.

—A bankrupt returned as his assets nine children. The creditors acted magnanimously and allowed him to keep them.

—Fortune it is said knocks once at every man's door, but if the old jave ever knocked at our door we must have been out.

—We used to hear the phrase "revel in the halls of the Montezumas" but we now have "Revels" in the halls of Congress.

—President Grant denies that he has changed his mind on the Cuban question. When had he any mind to change?

—Wine is peddled on the Missouri railroads at thirty cents a bottle—twenty-five cents for the bottle and five cents for the wine.

—A California reporter chronicles as the only noticeable movement in real estate during the week, the blowing down of a barn.

—Theatrical calls journalists the "Corporation of the Goosequill." Straighten yourselves up, gentlemen, "Corporation" is good.

—Hard time" balls are fashionable out in Ohio. The invitations are printed on