HE OLD

Visit to Gen. Edward C. Williams, A Veteran of Two Wars.

on one of the hottest days in the summer of 1895 two gentlemen of summer of 1895 two gentlemen of scity got off the cars at George-an Station, on the line of the othern Central, on their way to st an old friend, the veteran of wars, Gen. Edward C. Williams. liking a mile to the ferry they suc-sled in about one-half hour, by sign about one-half hour, by sign our ringing of a cast iron in attracting the attention of ferryman on the opposite side of some supposed of the susquehanna; the river at that the supposed of the susquehanna division of the old Pennsylma Canal. Upwards of two miles each them to the residence of ght them to the residence of Williams at Chapman, Snyder ty, Pa. At first it was hard to ge that this was the man who manded a company in the war Mexico and subsequently enged in the war for the Union and game a brigadier-general. They and the general in tolerable good gind the general in tolerable good with, notwithstanding his nearly ar score years of busy life—of exeure, energy and labor. They and him in the midst of his active ties as a merchant at that point, archance no one would have been greatly surprised as he was to dhis friends of former years comso unexpectedly upon him. He familiar faces of many friends, emajority of whom had been laid my beneath the sod of the valley.

important works, two or three of storian Rupp's books being printby them.

In December, 1846, upon the call volunteers for the war with rico, Mr. Williams, who had beged to Dr. E. W. Roberts' Volunt Company, raised the Cameron ards. These were accepted and med a part of the Second Pennsylmis regiment in the war with Mex-o. This company left Harrisburg eday following Christmas, 1846, way of Chambersburg, from elatter point marching the entire stance amidst driving snow storms ross the mountains. Arriving at itsburg, they were mustered into e United States service on the and of January, and five days af-reached the city of New Orleans. troops were encamped on the storic battlefield where the Ameri-Army under Gen. Jackson de-ted the British forces, on the 8th

January, 1815. Owing to some unavoidable delays company did not reach Vera wountil the evening of the capture d surrender of the fortress at that out on March 29th. When Gen. ott's army on its advance toward e city of Mexico, reached the untain pass of Cerro Gordo, they and the Mexicans strongly ensund the Mexicans strongly enenched, but they were completely
suted, and the next day the army
stered Jalaps, halting there until
a arrival of Gen. Cadwaliader who
so in command of the Pennsylvania
ses while Capt. Williams' commy was urged on the advance on
a road to Pueblo. Reaching the
sat La Hoya, the former occued the hills on the left, the CamerGuards on the right, where they Guards on the right, where they mined until the entire army pass-that point. The incidents con-ted with the entire march of Williams' company are not on-historic importance, but quite afficant, and yet, in a newspaper teh, it is impossible to give full culars. One of the most imstant events which transpired in scampaign of the Cameron Guards on bombardment of the citadel hepultepee, and it is to the cred-Capt. Williams that he raised first American flag on that cita-and kept it flying there until the ander-in-chief, Gen. Scott, rode causeway toward it. In the charge which preceded this Williams received a slight ad in the shoulder, and if any deserves a pension for disability allant services it is this vetoftwo wars. Light, Col. Geary, vas in command of the Second slvania regiment, stated in his of the engagement, that the perican flag raised in the city desired hag raised in the city lexico was by a company in his mand. Why that gallant officer ald have thus stated the fact is countable, for it was a well for fact that the colors were raisay Capt. Williams; and, that it may be here noted, according to williams. n. Williams' own account, was quently deposited in the State

served in the capitol of the State; and measures ought to be taken to see that this is effected.

Returning from Mexico with all the honors that could be bestowed upon a brave and gallant man, Capt. Williams was elected sheriff of Dauphin county on an independent ticket. As has been the general rule for a ceutury in regard to the Sheriff's office, Gen. Williams came out of it poorer than when he went in.

Early in 1861, when the rebellion broke out, and a demand was made for troops, Governor Curtin sent for Gen. Williams, who had been commissioned several years before as brigadier-general of the militia. The Governor directed Gen. Williams to organize Camp Curtin, which at that time was in possession of the Harrisburg Park Association, adjoining the northern boundary of the city, now Maclay street. Col. Seneca G. Simmons, of the United States army, being in the city, mus-tered into the United States service. Gen. Williams and he had the honor of being the first volunteer mustered into service for the defense of the Union. After organizing Camp Curtin; which was widely known as the most important point in the Northern States for the concentra-tion of Federal Troops, and the cen-tre of military operations for the period of four years, when the three months service was directed, Gen. Williams commanded a brigade, and was with Gen. Robert Patterson in the Shenandoah Valley, and subsequently mostered out at Washing-ton city. He was appointed by President Lincoln, colonel of the Lochiel Cavalry, and directed to raise twenty four companies in that branch of the service, which he accomplished in a very short time. Three battalions of raw cavalry it was difficult to handle, but by hard work Ten. Williams got his comman, into splendid discipline and drill. He went into camp at Jeffersonville, Indiana, where he exchanged his Pennsylvania horses for good Kentucky stock. After instructions from General Buford, he was orderentire day was spent in recalling ed to the front under General Buell, mind incidents of the bygone, and On reaching Greene River, and On reaching Greene River, and when ready to cross the stream, Gen. Williams was directed to take the advance, but the same evening they lt is a fact, that few men have led ore eventful lives than Gen. Wilms. Born seventy-six years ago Philadelphia, where he was educted under the old Lancasterian stem of public schools, he learned betrade of a bookbinder. Shortly fer he came to Harrisburg, where testablished himself in business ith John C. Clyde, of this city, now most eighty-two years of age. For number of years this firm did the late binding, and published severheard of the capture of Fort Donmarch into Kentucky were valuable as they were indeed arduous. Ow-ing, however, to a question of rank,

> The General is very pleasantly lo-cated, and nothing in the world pleases him more than to see the faces of his friends of other years and to hear of those whose he enjoyed at Harrisburg, which he still claims as his home. Notwithstanding the extreme heat, the day was delightfully spent and in the evening there were many regrets— the General to have his friends make such a short visit, and the friends to leave such a hospitable home, presided over by the veteran General and his charming wife. In the evening of their days it would be on-ly a noble tribute if a grateful coun-try would appreciate the heroic services of just such veterans as Gen.
> Williams, and place them in such a
> position where they could pass the
> remainder of their lives in ease and
> quiet. Nevertheless our hero is content, and we know that it is the
> heartfelt wish of his friends everywhere, as he approaches his four score years, that time will deal gently with him, and we can cheer-fully and heartily say "God bless

ed, be peremptorily resigned and re-turned to Harrisburg. Here the General lived for a number of years,

but in 1873 he went to Chapman, Pa.,

where he engaged in merchandizing, continuing therein until the present

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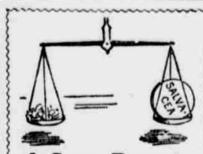
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