

PLOT IN BALTIMORE.

UNION MEN WERE PREPARED TO BURN THE CITY IN 1861.

A Counter Movement to One Which It Was Believed Southern Sympathizers Had on Foot—Confidential Disclosures Made by the Old Tobaccoist.

"During the first year of the war," a grizzled colonel remarked, while recalling incidents of the great rebellion, "business connected with the recruiting and equipping of volunteers in Pennsylvania took me frequently to Washington, and as the hotels in that city soon became crowded and uncomfortable, I made it a custom to stop at Barnum's, in Baltimore, remain overnight there and run over to the capital early in the morning, and thus I passed many nights during 1861 in the famous old hotel of the Monumental City. Near it was a large tobaccoist's shop, where I discovered a superior grade of cigars was sold, and of this shop I became a regular customer. Ordinarily I was served by a young salesman, but I frequently saw in the shop an old gentleman who, I presumed, was the proprietor. One day I was rather surprised by the old gentleman's stepping forward to wait on me himself. After I was served he said:

"If you are not in a hurry, sir, I would be pleased to have you walk into my private office and have a smoke."

"I readily assented, and he led the way to a room at the rear of the store, separated from it by a glass partition, and having the appearance of long and habitual use. Pushing toward me a large split bottomed rocker, my host remarked:

"Here, for many years, I have been accustomed to receive my friends, of whom I had many, but I am sorry to say that now the number is sadly diminished."

"Why so?" I asked. "Because of differences in opinion," he replied. "I need not remind you of the condition the whole country is in, or tell you how completely men vary in their ideas of duty. Nowhere is that variance greater than here in Baltimore, and nowhere is there greater danger of its leading to a calamity."

"You surprise me," I exclaimed. "I knew there was considerable secession sentiment here, and that months ago it exhibited itself openly, leading to bloodshed on the streets, but I thought all that had passed away."

"By no means," he replied. "The rebel sentiment in Baltimore is as intense and bitter today as it ever was. The apparent quiet is only on the surface. You are in the service of the Union, and it may be as well for you to be informed exactly what the situation here is."

"Three-fourths of the people of Baltimore are intensely southern in their feelings and prejudices. All the slaveholders are so, and they are the leading citizens. Following them is the class which always toadies to what is considered the aristocracy, and after these comes a large disordered element known as the plug uglies, who are willing and ready to do anything that looks like resistance to constituted authority. Now, I know beyond doubt that the leading secessionists here are thoroughly organized and are determined, the first favorable opportunity that offers, to declare openly for the new Confederacy and carry Baltimore certainly, and Maryland if possible, out of the Union."

"How is all this to be done?" I inquired.

"Their plan is this: They know every man upon whom they can rely, and their strength is well understood. They have clubs organized, which meet regularly. The leaders have control of plenty of money, and supplies of arms are available. Regular communication is had with the Confederate leaders in Virginia, and they are waiting only for a definite, tangible opportunity to strike. Such an opportunity would come if the Confederate army made an advance toward Washington—a thing they expect—or should the Union army meet with another serious reverse in the east. If Beauregard had pursued McDowell after the battle of Bull Run, they would have risen then, and many were the curses heaped upon him for his failure, as they expressed it, to follow up his victory."

"What, I asked, 'do you Union men propose to do if the movement you anticipate is made?'"

"Burn the city," he replied. "Just as certainly as the Russians burned Moscow will we burn Baltimore if the rebels here take it out of the Union."

"How can you, so few comparatively in numbers, do this?'"

"Well, sir, we, too, are organized and for this one purpose. In every part of the city preparations have been made, and when the time comes 100 or more fires will be started at once. Do you know what this is?" he asked, taking from a closet a ball of tow, cotton, or oakum about the size of a large cocoon. "It is a fire ball, thoroughly saturated with turpentine. Plenty of these are ready, and at an understood signal they will be lighted and thrown where they will certainly prove effective. Oh, we know well enough that we cannot resist the organized rebels, but you can rely upon it that only the ruins of Baltimore will ever become a part of the slaveholding Confederacy."

"I never saw my old Union loving tobaccoist after that evening, for not long afterward I was sent to the army in the southwest and remained there until the end of the war. We all know that Baltimore remained in the Union and was not burned, but we know, too, that the Confederate army never made a serious advance on Washington, so that the opportunity waited for by the rebels in the Monumental City never came. How much truth, if any, there was in the old man's story must remain unknown. I only tell the tale as it was told to me."—New York Sun.

Our Educational Column.

Address all communications relative to this department to Editor Educational Column, care of THE STAR.

Boys and girls, a few days ago Prof. Lankford spoke to you in chapel relative to "Wasted Energy," and since that time your "uncle" has been wondering whether or not you have given the subject your serious thought, for this is a serious subject, and we fear that but comparatively few of you stop to think, even for a moment, the vast amount of energy that is wasted daily. Look at the big locomotives as they go thundering by, day after day, drawing heavy loads with seeming ease. Every part and bearing is carefully adjusted and oiled, and the monster mass of iron and steel obeys the slightest touch of the engineer's hand upon the throttle, and it moves off majestically, a picture of concentrated energy. Were it raised from the rails it would accomplish nothing, as all its energy would be wasted. So is it with you, boys and girls: you must keep your feet firmly fixed upon the right track and concentrate all your energies upon the given point, viz: the gaining of the educational goal. Cultivate each and all of your faculties alike; don't foster one and neglect the rest, or the mind will become dwarfed and imperfect. Cultivate alike the moral, mental and physical faculties and the result will be a sound mind and a healthy body. We want to keep before your minds the shortness of time and the rapidity with which it is passing. Three months of your present term has gone, leaving you yet but five-eighths of the term to complete the work laid out for you to accomplish. Are you keeping up to your classes in each branch, and are you fully prepared at any time to undergo an examination in the work you have gone over during the past three months? Think over this, boys and girls; ponder over the fact that an incredible amount of time and energy is wasted every day, and ask yourself, each one of you, "Am I doing my duty?" Don't imagine that an average of from one-half to three-fourths of an hour study each day out of the six designated for school work, will accomplish much or bring good results. Don't allow yourself to deceive yourself. You are wasting the best part of the day in idleness or dreaming, when you really haven't a moment to lose. Idleness breeds mischief.

"Satan finds some mischief still For idle hands to do."

And what is the result—poor grades, imperfect recitations and the humiliation of retention or demotion, while your fellow pupils, who were honest in their efforts and earnest in their work, advance a step above you, an honor to their parents, teachers and themselves. You never heard of a studious and industrious pupil getting into mischief or being scolded. Why? Because there is no occasion for it. They haven't time for mischief, but use every moment of their time in adding something new to their store of learning. Don't get the idea into your heads that because you seemingly can get a lesson by simply reading it over that you have done your whole duty. You deceive yourself. Let me tell you that your classmate who studies one hour at the same lesson that you imagined you learned in five minutes will have the best lesson, and retain it the longer and get more out of it. It is impossible to get all the points in any single lesson by simply reading over it once or twice. After you think you have it committed road it over again and you will invariably find points in it that you failed to see before, and the oftener you read it over, the more you will discover in it. Don't do anything imperfectly.

"All that you do, do with your might; Things done by halves are never done right."

Have a time for each lesson and give each lesson its full time. Be thorough in everything you do, no matter how small the task. The habit of thoroughness in small matters will insure thoroughness in large ones, and success will be with you in all your undertakings. If we could induce you to stop and think and to realize just where you stand and how you are situated, how pleased we would be and how surprised you would be for you to accomplish your work, and how you would hasten to make up or try to make up lost time. If you could but look forward a few years and see what the future has in store for you, you would be appalled at the many difficulties looming up in your path, all of which you must be prepared to overcome or they will overwhelm you and make a shipwreck of your life. Now! is the time to prepare to meet these numerous obstacles which are sure to come. Then, boys and girls, use the time judiciously that you now have and be ready to meet any and all interferences that may come in the future. Think! Work! Act!

SCHOOL NOTES.

Come out on Friday evening, all, and listen to the purring of the "Brooks." What has become of the sub-junior who was "spanked" by Janitor "Tom" on Hallowe'en for trying to carry off the cannon. The orchestra is making rapid progress. Boys, don't throw stones on the way to and from school. You are liable to injure some one or damage property.

A Common Danger.

If you have ever had a cold which you permitted to "wear away" it may interest you to know that it was a dangerous proceeding. Every cold and cough which is neglected paves the way for consumption, bronchitis, asthma or catarrh. Otto's Cure, the famous German throat and lung remedy, will cure any cough or cold and save you from consumption. Call on H. Alex. Stokes and get a sample bottle free. Large size 25c. and 50c.

ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILWAY COMPANY commencing Sunday, May 16, 1897, Low Grade Division.

Table with columns: STATIONS, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, No. 10. Rows include Red Bank, Lawnsboro, New Bethlehem, etc.

Table with columns: STATIONS, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, No. 10. Rows include Driftwood, Benzetown, Tyler, etc.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD. IN EFFECT AUGUST 1, 1897.

Table with columns: STATIONS, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, No. 10. Rows include Philadelphia & Erie Railroad Division Time Table, etc.

Table with columns: STATIONS, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, No. 10. Rows include JOHNSTOWN RAILROAD, RIDGWAY & CLEARFIELD R. R. AND CONNECTIONS.

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CONNECTIONS. At Williamsport with Philadelphia & Erie Railroad, etc.

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Notice of Incorporation.

In the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Jefferson. NOTICE is hereby given that an application will be made to the said Court on Monday, December 13th, 1897, at 2:00 P. M., under the Act for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations, approved April 25, 1874, and its supplements, by William Barclay, Jr., Glover, P. J. Fennel, George Roberts, J. E. Stine and John Lydon for a charter of an incorporated corporation to be called "The Sprague Mine Relief Association," the character and object of which is a mutual relief association, paying benefits in case of sickness and death, and for these purposes to give, possess and enjoy all the rights, credits and privileges conferred by the said Act and its supplements. FRANCIS J. WEAKLEY, Solicitor.

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