Picturesque and Cosmopolitan Life in the Chief City of Malta.

THE MODERN AND THE ANTIQUE JOSTLING

Street Scenes and Sights in Valetta-Maltese Women and Their Charming Ways-Levantin Bazars-Luxurious Winter Residents,

[Copyrighted 1892.] VALETTA, Multa, Feb. 25. —[Correspondence of THE BELL |- The street scenes of Valetta may be briefly described in the statement that if one could combine Waterport street and the Alameda of Gibraltar, the Toledo of Palermo, the Eolus of Athens and the modern Boulevard de la Republique of Algiers, and then remove from this conglomerate some of its Borber and oriental aspects, you would secure an excellent likeness to the impression you gain from the

colorful scenes of everyday life and its activi-

ing procession of stately equipages in Loudon's famous Rotten Row.

Every stranger in Malta will visit the great Church of St. John. It stands today as it loft the grand master's hands, save in what it was deprived of by Bonaparte's locting. If not perfect in architectural grace, its exterior, which is surmounted by the Malters Cross. In marriage and stately, while tles in the chief city of Maita. The constant presence of the British soldierly, the splendid, luxuriant and sometimes wantonly extravagant displays of the goverament officials and garrison officers, with endless parades and reviews, alone give the place extraordinary life and activity. As every native inhabitant of the islands is an adherent of the Roman Catholic faith, priests and students clad in priestly garb are never absent from sight; while the processionals are of an extraordinary number and frequently characterized by the greatest cated to the Protestant ruler of England. Above the latter are royal arms.

Not the least interesting in features of the church of St. John are the chapels of language and the memorial vauits of departed knights. The nave is long and wide, and the walls are fretted in curious devices, gilt with sequin gold. Approaching the nisles on either side the eye rests, as through golden arches, mon a range of small dome-crowned

Every day, and often many times a day, the huge passenger steamers of the Med-iterranean discharge hosts of tourists here. Thousands during the winter months are on their way to and from Egypt, Australia or India. Thousands more are merely Med-lterranean travelers. Nearly all are here but for a day, but the accessions are ceaseless, and their members comprise people of every nationality. These are anxious to see much in little time, and with their chatter in all tongues, craning heads and enthusiastic faces, heighten and brighten the gay scenes of the handsome thoroughfares.

of the handsome thoroughfares.
Then in all this singular and unique medley there are odd trifles for interest and study ceaselessly passing before you, or forming distinct bits of color and antique in the strange and curious settings. Barefooted sellers of delicious Maltese oranges, which hide no less than nectar beneath their thin red skins, dart through the streets with their melodic cries and their endless "Sa-bas!" or "Good mornings!" whatever the time of day, the most agile and alert human beings

you over beneld.

Groups of watermen straggling to their homes beyond Floriana, redolent of barborside toil and traffic, gally not and smile and chant as they move within the throng. Here a bevy of bright faced middies, with the roll and swagger of old sea salts, but with the gravest decorum, look in this shop and that with respectful curiosity, always forming pleasant groupings, and now and then touching a sympathetic cord in your heart as members of the band stragglo behind to peer into the faces of tourists with an eager, hungry look, as if with a faint hope of recombinations of relativest form the form ognizing friends or relatives from the far away home. Officers from men-of-war, smileless and critical, and interested chiefly in the great fortifications, pass and repass constantly. They have a tolerative sort of bearing, and the look in their faces plainly tells the wonders their battle ships might accomplish even against Malta should they over chance to attempt a breach in its walls Solemn Turkish travelers and merchants

viewing everything askance, as though they remembered the Turkish heads La Valetto once biew back from cannons' mouths into the ranks of the besiegers, as reprisal, sud-dealy appear, whisk along for a moment, and as suddealy are missing. Algerian Jews, often with their beautiful wives and daugh-ters, rich in robes and splendid jewels, sweep past with a truly regal bearing. they may, for with the French in Algeria they are gaining great wealth from the vast tobacco plantations of Mascara, and they the cheapest and best cigars in the world are made by the deft Maltese, who feel that they are rolling in wealth if they receive for one year's labor what would sustain the Ameri can cigar maker for only one month.
With all those will be half naked Greek

and Sicilian sailors chattering and gesticu lating wildly. Cowled monks move noise-lessly along. Shopmen rush from place to place to secure what their customers desire without losing them while in the purchasing mood. Hawkers of lava bijouterie and lace plead and wrangle with tourists. Military bands are going and coming, filling the air with English, Scottish and Irish metodics While added to the exhilerating clamor of the town are heard all the tongues of all na-tions, and above these the clanging of count less church bells. These are never wrung They are flways hammered with emulous staccato, as though each bellman were en vious of outhammering all others. The belts are never silent from matins to the augelus hour of evening. Even after that they often break out as though they had got loose from restraint and were determined to to enjoy a night of it—as ail nans seem to do here in the soft and

Indeed Valetta is neversitent except in the ly morning hours. Then it is like a city of the dead, but always sweet and cool and winsome. At that time, if you are abroad alone, the sitent churches, the huge auberges, the tremendous ramparts, the vast archways the dim porticoes and the shadowy seem to whisper anew their tales of romance their mysteries of chivalrous and

But soon from this patio, from that narrow thoroughfare, another silent urchway, from huge barred doors that open and close with a startling click, come funeral forms clad in sombre black. They glide along with bowed heads. Their advent has been so sudden and their number is at once so great that you are filled with surprise and dismay. But these do not remain. For a soft and delicate hand, as if by accident, with a swift motion changes the folds of the faidetta, and the pretty faces of half a thousand Maltese maids and matrons are one by one for a moment turned reguishly or kindily to yours. Then you realize that the faithful fair of Valetta are on their way to early mass, and you stand their, hat in hand, yourself a reverent worshiper, mentally blessing one and all for their piety and pretty gracious

Ways.
These Maltese women are among the pleasantest of their sex, both as to the physical attractiveness and winsomenees of manner and character. They are as a rule more petite than those of Italy and Spain, but are very perfect as models of proportion and natural grace. Their carriage is superb. They possess an assurance which is never boldness, with a modesty untainted with prudery. Their feet, bands and heads are very small; their faces rather round than oval; their eyes and mouth are large and ex-pressive; and their is an upward, confiding and expectant look in their faces that is very winsome-at least to men.

They are not generally intellectual, but They are not generally intellectual, but, better still, they are contented home-makers, and are like birds of song in all the home-side joys. They mate early, being mothers at fourteen, and grandmothers at thirty, when they are still youthful and charming. During the reign of the Knights quite an aristocracy of wealth and nobility for so small an area and population sprang up in the islands, which continues to this day; and the Maltese women of this class are types of the islands, which continues to this day; and the Maltese women of this class are types of the greatest beauty and elegance. As the men of the middle and lower classes are noted for docility, thrift, frugality and many other excellent virtues, virtue itself is the crowning glory of Maltese maids and matrons; and to know this and of their affectionate, true-hearted and unassuming lives and ways is to find in every expression of Maltese Jemale loveliness an added and lasting charm.

The shops of Veletta are peculiar in their character. Of late years Malta has become an important winter resort for English and

an important winter resort for English and continental visitors, and such great numbers continental visitors, and such great numbers of sightseers for a day are now certain to be described by the dozen or more steamers making daily arrivals, that the shops of Strada Reele and Grand Rue have gradually taken on the character of a grand bazar of the more fragile and costly products of all Mediterranean and Levantine countries.

Merchants from Tangier, serchants from Fez, merchants from Algiers and Tunis, merchants from Cairo, Alexandria and Constantinople, Persian and Arabian merchants, Italian merchants and Spanish, even the

WANDERINGS OF WAKEMAN their most tempting genere, are here, living together in mutual good will; and with tailors from London, perfumers and modistes from Paris and cafetiers from Greece, furnish a more perfugering display and warriety of a more pewildering display and variety of costly wares and luxuries than could be found save by a connoisseur in Paris, London or

gance and display is not outrivated in the London West End. The English government of Malta has provided splendid driveways

and greatly improved the country roads. In-deed, in the costliness of apparel, in the mag-nificence of the shops, in the throngs of fair

women of the northern type, and the suberb displays in riging and driving that in any

winter afterneon may be seen along upper Strada Reale and Grande Rue, and from Ports Reale through Florians around to

Sliems, and over every white driveway lead ing to the interior, constantly remind one of the throngs of Regent street and the morn-

ing procession of stately equipages in Lon-

Maltese Cross, is massive and stately, while

the interior with its historic associations ever in mind is wonderfully impressive. It is

gorgeous with every species of decoration. The high altar is resplendent with silver,

gold and precious stones. It occupies the

center of the choir and at either side are low diasks beneath crimson canopies, with a solitary chair on each; one for the

Catholic bishop of Malta, and the other dedicated to the Protestant ruler of England.

arches, upon a range of small dome-crowned chapels, the altar pieces of which are curious old paintings. These were the chapels of the

different languages or nations, as of France, Italy, Provence, Auvergne, etc., and these are extraordinarily rich in noble monuments

In marble and bronze.

The Virgin Chapel, hidden from the body of the church by the choir, possesses a balustrade of massive silver; and here are to be seen the keys of three cities of strength,

over which the Knights of St. John once ruled—Jerusalem, Acre and Rhodes. Stand-ing out from the dark paneling of the choir

immediately behind the altar, sculptured in white marble, is a representation of "The Baptism of Christ." It is the work of Mal-

I is the work of Mat-teso artists of the seventeenth century; and I have not seen its superior in any of the famous churches of Europe. The high, boldly-arched vaulting of the roof is entirely

covered with paintings representing scenes and incidents in the life of St. John, and the tapestries that hang below, which are said to

have cost \$30,000, are of wonderful proper-

tions and beauty.

Between the pillars separating the nave

and the aisle are many monuments, some encrusted with jasper and agate and all of unrivalled richness and grandeur. It is said

that at least every surface square foot of the vast structure covers the body of a once val-iant knight; the monuments to grand mas-

ters, and architects and painters ongaged in the embelishment of the edifice are bewil

dering in their frequency and magnificence

and the entire structure stands today a grand, yet pathetic, mausoleum and re-minder of the power and glory of those Chris-tian warriers of a heroic and chivalrous past.

This constant mingling of reminiscences

of medieval heroism with every other quality and object so strange and unique in eastern life and ways, the whole lightened by the gaieties and brilliances of the thousands of wealthy strangers of your own kind and tongue, is one of the most fascinating seasa-

ions to be experienced in any city of the

Wherever you turn you are confronted by majestic or exquisite relies of a former

grandeur carrying its material splender into

the present and weirdly conjuring the forms, faces and lofty motives of those who built.

Everything you see shows you modern

power adapting the sepulchres of the most justrous chivalry the world ever knew to the

practical and unpoetical uses of far-reaching diplomocy and aggressive acquisition. And

everything you hear illustrates how the warm, vigorous blood of today is flowing back upon all the east and its dead past,

thrilling a new and better life into its mum-mied old frame. Edgar L. WAREMAN.

DRAW POKER IN MONTANA.

Tenderfoot from Chicago Laid Out by the

It was in a gambling saloon in Butte.

The tenderfoot from Chicago, says the

Mail of that city, had taken to the war-

path and announced his determination

of relieving a few of the miners of what

spare change they happened to have

about them. Without much trouble he

found a victim who was willing to try a

hand or two at poker. Luck favored

the stranger from the start, and he won

and after the stakes had been run up to

a comfortable figure he magnanimously

"This is downright robbery," he ex-claimed, "and I don't want to end the

game here by bankrupting you. So,

"Hold on!" cried his antagonist, "I'll

"Well, what of it? I've got a looloo."

"A looloo-three clubs and two dia

The stranger was dazed. "A lootoo?"

"Three clubs and two diamonds."

cooly responded the miner, raking in the stakes. "I guess you aren't accus-

tomed to our poker rules out here. See

As he spoke he jerked his thumb towards a pasteboard card which orna-

mented the wall of the saloen. It read:

A 1.001.00

BEATS FOUR ACES.

The game proceeded, but it was plainly evident that the unsophisticated

young tiger hunter had something on

denly braced up, his face was wreathed in smiles, and he began betting once

more with his former vigor and reck-

lessness. In fact, he staked his last dol-

Just at this juncture the barkeeper

stopped in the midst of the concoction of

a Manhattan cocktail and quietly hung up another card behind the bar and

above the dazzling array of glasses and

The stranger threw down his cards

with an exultant whoop. "It's my time to how! just about now!" he cried, as he reached for his money. "There's a loo-

looo for you-three clubs and two dia

"Really, this is too bad. You evidently

don't understand our rules at all. You certainly don't mean to tell me that you

play poker in such a fast, loose, slipshod

way down east, do you? Why, look at

He pointed directly over the head of

the busy barkeeper. The Chicagoan read his doom in the handwriting on

the wall; it was the Belshazzar case over

again. The bit of pasteboard bore this

THE LOOLOO CAN BE PLAYED

BUT ONCE A NIGHT.
The young man has not reached home

yet, but as the walking is said to be pretty fair nowadays, he will be due in Chicago about the middle of next week.

"Tut, tut!" exclaimed the miner.

Within five minutes he sud-

he repeated. "Well, what is a looloo,

ake care of the dust, if you please.'

"But I hold four aces-see?

Finally he drew four aces,

He threw down four aces

Cook's Extra Dry has no superior. Imperial is perfectly pure.

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Mediterranean.

stendily.

here goes."

"A what?"

lar on his hand.

bottles.

monds.

that rule over there.

monds.

any way?'

refused to bet further.

and reached for the money.

save by a connoisseur in Paris, London or New York.

This not only adds greatly to the charm and interest of the street-scenes and displays, but tends toward tuxuriousness in habit and life on the part of those enjoying the winter upon the islands. These folk as a rule are drawn from the wealthlost of the English, Germans and French. They live sumptuously at the great hotels, at cluts, or in private villas in the suburbs of Valetta, the principal of which is Shema, where the elegance and display is not outrivaled in the HUSBAND FOUND BUT PENSION LOST Gleanings from Annual Encampments-A Petersburg Incident - Details of

lowa's Grand Memorial to Her Heroes on Land and Sea.

Significant Annual Death Rate Among the

Veterans.

According to a recent statement of D. John S. Billings in the Forum, the annual death rate among the survivors of the war who were entisted in the United States army has been about four-

teen per thousand. This is a little above the average for adult males, says the New York Herald. The total number of union soldiers was about 2,200,000. During and since the war 1,000,000 have died. At present, it is computed, the sick rate among war veterans is considerably greater than among the ordinary population, but not very much greater than among all adults above fifty years of age.

A comparison of the survivors of the Napoleonic wars with those of our civil war is interesting. According to a re-cent French list claiming to be official there are only twenty left, while of the English who fought against them only one is now alive, and he is in his 102d

Husband Found, but Pension Lost. Mrs. Wilson Bailey of Louisville, Ky., has regained a husband but lost a pension under peculiar circumstances. In 1884 the woman was informed that her husband had died at the Marine hospital in that city. Subsequently she was induced to apply for a pension, her husband having been in the service during the late war. Affidavits were produced from persons who swore that they saw Bailey die, and from the undertaker who swore he buried him. The pension was applied for and allowed. On the night of March 4, to the surprise of the woman, her long lost husband appeared at her home well and anxious to again oc-cupy a place at the family fireside. The wife had not heard from her delinquent husband during the eight years of his absence. Next morning she escorted her husband to the United States district attorney's office and made a full statement of the facts to that official. with a view of stopping the pension, thus righting a wrong so far as she could.

Annual Encampments. Twenty-five hundred visitors and delegates attended the annual encampment of the New York state Grand Army of the Republic in Buffalo, last week. The condition of the State Department, as will be shown by the reports of the assistant adjutant-general and assistant quartermaster general, is of a gratifying character. The assistant adjutant-general's report for the six months ending December 1, 1891, shows: Number of members in good standing July 1, 1891, 40,444; gained during the six months, 2,831. Lost during the term by death and otherwise, 2,054. Number in good standing December 31, 41,221. There was expended for relief during the term,

C. B. Melton of Madison, was elected commander of the Wisconsin Grand Army at the annual encampment last week. Regarding the state veterans' home the following recommendations were made: Favoring an annual contingent appropriation of \$5,000 by the legislature; that unmarried inmate pensioners pay to the home all their pensions in excess of \$6 per month, and married pensioners all in excess of \$12 per month; asking the establishment by the United States of a postoffice at the

J. B. Fuller of Marysville was elected commander of the California Grand Army.

A Brave Soldier But Not a Warrior, "The soldier is always more or less brave," remarked the veteran to a representative of the Detroit Free Press. "and even when he is not at all inclined to heroism he will, when the tug-of-war comes, rise superior to himself and do great deeds of valor. It's funny to hear a man you know who will go right up to a cannon's mouth when it is loaded to the muzzle and a man standing at the vent ready to pull the string, express his feelings when the spirit isn't moving him. Once when we were down there before Petersburg, when the shot was tearing up the ground in forty places at once, I was lying in a safe corner with a man who had only a few hours before come through a perfect rain of fire, carrying the flag to a point where he could shake it in the enemy's face. We got to talking about war in general and this sort of fighting and I said to him:

"'If you had your choice would you have war this way or out in the open, face to face?"
""There's only one way I'd have war,"

he said sharply. "'How's that?' I asked. "'Have it over, and that d-quick, he replied, and ten minutes afterwards he was doing a deed that won him his

shoulder straps.

The Iowa Soldiers' Monument. After a long controversy regarding the state memorial to the soldiers of Iowa, the legislature has decided to adhere to the original project-a grand monument commemorative of heroism on land and sea. The Twenty-second general assembly appropriated \$5,000 to be expanded under proper restrictions in preparing a site and foundation on the capitol grounds for the purpose of perpetuating an expression of the patriotism, courage and distinguished soldierly bearing of their fellow citizens as manifested during the war of the rebellion, and the governors of the state, James Harlan, Samuel Kirkwood, George G. Wright, Edward Johnston and D. N Richardson, were appointed a committee with authority to advertise for and examine plans for such monument and report to the next general assembly upon the plans submitted.

The commission thus created was directed to do impracticable if not impossible things. By the terms of the act the executive council was required to erect foundation for a soldiers' monument upon the state capitol grounds, and to this end an appropriation of \$5,000 was made. The committee was charged with the important duty of employing architects, artists and sculptors to provide plans for a monument to be erected upon this foundation; but, for such expensive work, no appropriation

was made. The Twenty-third general assembly continued the monument commission but directed it to report to the present legislature as to "whether a monument a memorial arch, a memorial hall or a memorial hall and monument compined would best express on the part of the people of Iowa their appreciation of the patriotism, etc., of their fellow citizens of the war of the rebellion. And if, in the judgment of the said board of commissioners, it shall be desirable to do so, they are given authority to adver-tise for, procure and examine plans for

GRAND ARMY DEPARTMENT | either or any of these forms of expressions as aforesaid and report the same to the next general assembly." In consequence of advertisements and prizes offered by the commission, there were received at the office of the governor of received at the office of the governor of lows forty-eight designs and plans for consideration, and a second meeting of the board was beld for the purpose of viewing them. At this meeting the forty-eight plans were presented and arranged, two days were devoted to the careful and critical examination and discussion, und the meeting adjourned without having declared any definite final opinion. final opinion.

Through some difference of opinion among the Grand Army posts, it was deemed advisable by the Twenty-third general assembly to take time and look into the memorial question. The com-mission was therefore strengthened by the addition of two more members, and on July 9, 1891, it met in Iowa City for further action.

After full discussion of the question as presented to the commission the board unanimously decided that it was unnecessary to make further effort to secure or to examine further other plans for a memorial structure of any kind, and recommended also the erection of a memorial monument as designed by Harriet A. Ketcham, and of such finding to report to the general assembly with the further recommendation that this general assembly take prompt steps to se cure a site for such monument and to let the contract for the erection thereof.

The design accepted calls for a monument 120 feet high. The first base or platform upon which the structure stands is 58 by 76 feet, with six columns ten feet in height on which rests a'cor-nice, from which a magnificent column of granite sixty-five feet in height rises, which is surmounted by a bronze figure of "Fame" fifteen feet in height.

Starting from the four corners of the pedestal, upon each of which stands a soldier of heroic size, represent-ing the four arms of the federal service -the sailor, the engineer, the infantry and the cavaly soldier-on either side it appropriate niches are colossal female figures, one symbolical of Iowa, one of her dead heroes, and one (History) teaching a reclining youth the history of the war.

The twenty Corinthian columns-five at each corner—are of variegated gran-ite ten feet in height. These support a cornice upon which rest the ends of the four gables. With these are four pediments which contain the arms of the state of Iowa, cast upon a bronze disc. Below the base of the pediment is a bronze frieze, which is composed of twenty medallion portraits in bronze, properly or-namented, of Iowa's distinguished sons who took part in the war for the union. These heads, life size, will cause great interest among the friends of those whose likenesses appear upon the frieze. They will be modeled from life if living, if not, from the best pictures to be had.

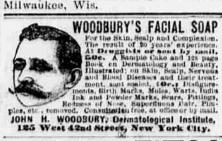
On panels of bronze 6x7 feet there are battle scenes upon two sides of the monument below the frieze—one that of Donelson and the other of Sniloh. These were battles in which Iowa troops made for themselves imperishable names and drew the attention of the union to their bravery. The main shaft, of polished granite sixty-five feet in height, rises from the center of the whole structure and is surmounted by a bronze figure of Fame fifteen feet high, who, with outstretched arms, holds the laurel wreath of victory, with which to crown the victors. At the base of the column are four heroic-size; bronze equestrian statues, the riders, being men who distinguished themselves with the Iowa soldiers in the civif war. The lives of the distinguished lows generals who will be represented in these equestrian figures will in themselves comprise a history of the part Iowa troops took in

putting down the rebellion.

Mrs. Ketchem, the gifted Iowa woman, whose design was accepted by the com mission, lived to learn of the honor she had won in a field where no favor was shown, in competition with the artists of the entire country, but died soon after. She was born in the beautiful and romantic highlands of eastern Ohio, and descended from a long line of music loving, pastoral people. In 1876 she began art studies under Wilson MacDonald, the noted sculptor of New York city. afterwards studying under Clarke Milis of Washington, D. C., and Franklin Simons and Signor Ferrai of Rome, Italy. Her life, full of the brightest promise, ended at her home in Mount Pleasant, October 13. 1890. Ketchem was the leading sculptor of her sex in Europe and America, and her talent has been warmly commended by artists and travelers competent to judge

So this soldiers' monument, for the construction of which the commission asks for an appropriation of \$200,000, it carried to completion, will not only commemorate the heroic deeds of war, but will stand as well for the gifted woman who designed it.

At a joint meeting of members of the First regiment Wisconsin volunteer infantry (three months and three years), held at Madison during the recent Grand Army encampment, it was decided to hold a reunion of the survivors of the two organizations at Milwaukee garden, on the old Camp Scott grounds, July 2, 1892. Future notices and a copy of all future proceedings, including historical roster, personal reminiscences and incidents of camps and campaigns will be sent free to all members whose addresses with company and services are furnished the secretary, C. K. Pier, Milwaukee, Wis.



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