

THE BURR-HAMILTON DUEL ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Tremendous Effect Produced by the Tragedy at Weehawken—History of the Pistols Used is an Interesting One.

One hundred years ago, exactly one week after his active participation in the Fourth of July celebration in New York city, Alexander Hamilton was shot in that memorable duel with Aaron Burr. Nothing now remains of the fatal field which, more than anything else, has made the name of Weehawken historic in the annals of America.

It was on July 11, 1804, that the two brilliant men, separated only by the murderous distance of ten paces, leveled pistols at each other, awaiting the word to fire. Only one shot was fired by each. Burr's aimed directly at his antagonist, inflicted a mortal wound, while Hamilton's, as was ascertained the day after, passed above Burr, the bullet lodging in the branch of a small cedar tree.

Dr. David Hosack, one of New York's most eminent physicians, attended the dying man. Hamilton

tiser, occurs the first notice of the affair:

"We stop the press to announce the melancholy intelligence that General Hamilton is dead. He expired about 2:30 o'clock."

On the following day and for several days thereafter the newspapers appeared with wide black borders on all of their pages. The newspapers in this city, Boston and other cities did the same as soon as the news was received, for, dependent upon stage coaches for information, many of the outlying towns did not hear of Hamilton's death until after the funeral in New York.

The funeral was held on Saturday, July 14, and Hamilton was buried where his remains still lie, in Trinity churchyard, New York. Practically the entire city went into mourning. Business was suspended, for days the flags were at halfmast, and hundreds

Maj. Richard Church of Rochester. He is a grandson of John B. Church, to whose house the body of Hamilton was taken from Mr. Bayard's home in Greenwich village.

The history of the pistols is interesting. Mr. Church purchased them in London, and it is said they were made by a celebrated gunsmith, W. H. Mortimer, gunmaker to George III. They were used in the duel between Aaron Burr and Mr. Church in 1799, and it is stated that they next figured in the fatal meeting between Philip H. Hamilton, the eldest son of Alexander Hamilton, and George I. Eacker, who fought at Weehawken on Nov. 23, 1801, young Hamilton being shot in the right side and dying the next day.

As Alexander Hamilton was the challenged party, he had the choice of weapons, and it is but natural that his brother-in-law's famous pistols were used again. After the duel they were returned to Mr. Church and have been carefully preserved in the family ever since.

When the railroad was cut through in the early seventies the last vestige of the old dueling ground was obliterated. A large red sandstone boulder had up to that time stood near the spot, and it was said that upon this boulder the head of Hamilton rested after he was shot. This original boulder may still be seen in the little inclosure on the high cliff, over 100 feet above the old fighting place.

Efforts have from time to time been made to erect a suitable monument near the site to Hamilton, but nothing except a very modest monument stands there to-day. A small semi-circular plot of ground has been set apart in the locality now known as Highwood, and which may be reached in about ten minutes from the ferry landing at Weehawken, and here is to be seen the only memorial of the duel.

The red sandstone boulder stands upon a granite pedestal, and the boulder is surmounted by an ancient bust of Hamilton, done by Riordan, the sculptor. In 1894 a number of residents in the neighborhood had a



Your Corner



Nine-Gored Walking Skirt a General Favorite—Shirt Waist with Box Plaited Effect—Recipe for Casserole of Lamb and Rice.

sugar and a little lemon rind. Cook in the oven for two hours. Rub this through a sieve (removing the lemon rind), and add to it half an ounce of gelatine. As it begins to cool stir in a quarter of a gill of cream. Have ready a border mold, masked with jelly and decorated with chopped almonds and pistachios, fill it with the fig puree, and place on ice to set. Whip half a gill of cream and sweeten it to taste. Turn out the mold in a cold dish and fill the center with cream.

Girl's Dress.

Simple frocks are always smart for little girls and those of the one piece sort, or made with waist and skirt in one, are peculiarly well liked for play time and school wear. This one includes a big sailor collar, which is always becoming to childish figures, and can be made from a variety of materials, being quite appropriate to simple wools as well as linen and cotton fabrics, but as shown the material is blue linen chambray, the collar and shield of white with trimming of blue and white braid.



The dress is made with fronts and backs and shaped by means of shoulder and under-arm seams. The box plaits are laid for its entire length and at each under-arm seam are additional inverted plaits in the skirt that provide the necessary fullness. The neck is finished with the collar and the shield is attached beneath, the right side being stitched permanently, the left buttoned into place. The sleeves are tucked to form box plaits to the elbows and form full puffs below and are gathered into straight cuffs.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (8 years) is 5 1/2 yards 27 inches wide, 4 3/4 yards 32 inches wide or 3 yards 44 inches wide, with 3/4 yard of contrasting material 27 inches wide for collar, cuffs and shield and 1/4 yards of braid to trim as illustrated.



Milk kept in a shallow basin will remain sweet for a longer time than if kept in a deep jug.

If a tablespoonful of paraffin be added to the pail of hot water used for washing tiles it will both cleanse and brighten them.

A fine waterproof blacking for shoes is made by mixing by heat one-half pound of tallow, one-eighth pound of beeswax, one gill of neatfoot oil, with one-quarter of an ounce of lamp-black.

If a button is sewed over a pin laid crosswise over the holes there will be less strain on the material and the button will stay on longer, especially if the garment is laundered frequently.

For a quick hot application remove the chimney from a lighted lamp, slip into an old stocking and apply to the pain. If steam is required wrap a damp warm piece of flannel about the chimney.

To wash a corset remove the steels, then lay the corset on a table or board and scrub with a stiff brush, using a lather made of white soap. Rinse beneath a tap with cold water, pull straight, and allow to dry.

The Strawberry Tint.

One of the prettiest new colors produced this season is reminiscent of the old fashioned "crushed strawberry" tint. In silk voile it is quite irresistible, and it makes the most charming frocks. One suit that looked extremely well consisted of a cloth skirt plaited into a quaintly shaped hip yoke, and a knitted jersey coat, both of this lovely rosy pink color; both coat and skirt matched exactly and the effect was charming.

Gooseberry Sauce.

Allow half pound of brown sugar to pound of fruit. Cook the fruit until perfectly tender, then add the sugar and cook twenty minutes. Just as they are finished cooking add a tablespoonful of brandy for each pound of fruit, and into each jar put a piece of thin lemon rind.

Boudoir Confidences

Fringe remains. Panel effects are noted. Puffings figure on sheer frocks. Whole lace dresses are in high favor.

Pastilles of velvet are by no means "out." Lace coats are lovely in cream color.

Embroidery of all rich sorts is in vogue. Boleros and etons are too becoming to part with.

Draped girdles, trim and snug, are as good as ever. Dotted swisses are stand-bys for summer dresses.

Sheer white India linen is both pretty and useful. Cascade bunches of small flowers are lovely on hats.

Grass-green tulle and bluets were seen on a hat recently. Linen in the natural color is to be in as high favor as ever. Shawl-like shoulder wraps are among the graceful features.

FOR WEE TOTS.



Blouse or Shirt Waist.

Box plaited effects are exceedingly fashionable and any combination of those of full length with shorter tucks is sure to make a satisfactory waist. The full length plaits give the long lines that always are desirable while the shorter tucks provide becoming fullness. This very excellent model is adapted to a wide range of materials but is shown in white mercerized madras, the collar and cuffs being of the material finished with fancy stitches. The back as illustrated is bloused slightly over the belt but can be drawn down snugly whenever preferred.



The waist consists of the fitting lining, fronts and back and is fitted by means of shoulder and under-arm seams. The effect of the box plaits is obtained by wide tucks which are turned one outward and one inward in each group and the closing is made invisibly at the center front. The sleeves are wide and full below the elbows, but tucked to fit snugly above and are finished with straight cuffs. The novel stock is a feature and is adapted not to this waist alone, but also to the separate ones which are always in demand.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 5 1/2 yards 21 inches wide, 4 yards 27 inches wide or 3 3/4 yards 44 inches wide.

A Delicious Dessert.

Whipped cream with a fig border makes a delicious finishing touch to a luncheon or dinner. The only difficult part is the making of the border. Here is the simplest method: Put a pound of figs, cut up very small, into a stewing pan with one pint of water, six ounces of loaf



SPOT WHERE HAMILTON FELL.

THE GRANGE, HAMILTON'S RESIDENCE.



was rowed at once across the river and taken to the spacious home of William Bayard, in old Greenwich village, where he died about 2 o'clock on the following day, July 12, 1804.

The prominence of the combatants and the tragic ending of the meeting directed public attention not only to this duel, but to dueling in general, as had never been done before in the United States. The practice was common a century ago. Alexander Hamilton's eldest son, a young man but 20 years of age, was killed upon the same field three years before his father received his death wound.

The pulpit and, to some extent, the press inveighed against the custom as unworthy of a civilized community, but it remained for the Burr-Hamilton duel to arouse public sentiment so strongly against this method of avenging insults that the practice was never afterwards regarded in so honorable a light.

It is difficult to imagine at the present day the effect produced by the duel, not only in New York city, but throughout the entire country. Political feeling in those years was intensely bitter, but Hamilton's services for his country had been of such recognized value that his death and the manner of it occasioned widespread mourning. A wave of almost universal execration burst over Burr.

Although vice president of the United States, he had been out of favor in his own party ever since the election of Jefferson, late in 1800. Jefferson and Burr each received seventy-three ballots in the original electoral vote. For over a week the house of representatives balloted upon the question, and Burr was accused of intriguing to defeat Jefferson, the logical candidate of his party.

To repair his waning political prestige, Burr secured the nomination for governor of New York in 1804. Opposed to him was Morgan Lewis, the candidate of the Federalists. It was a bitter fight, for Burr realized that defeat meant political extinction. Hamilton was a strong supporter of Lewis, and when the latter won, Burr, after an interchange of letters regarding certain statements made by Hamilton, sent a formal challenge.

The fact that the two men were to meet on the Weehawken dueling field was known to but few in New York. It was about 7 o'clock in the morning of July 11 that the duel was fought, and, although Hamilton was immediately brought back to New York, the afternoon papers of that date make no mention of the occurrence. On July 12, in the Commercial Adver-

of citizens wore crepe for thirty days. Services commemorative of Hamilton were held all over the country. Scores of orations were delivered upon his character, and it was truly said that not since the death of Washington had such universal mourning been seen.

William P. Van Ness, who later became judge of the Southern district of New York, by appointment of President Madison, acted as Burr's second, and he afterward published a detailed statement of the duel, in which he claimed that Hamilton fired first. His statement was really a protest against the widespread disapproval of Burr, amounting to ostracism.

Burr himself was amazed at the opprobrium heaped upon him. Never before had the popular will been so denunciatory for the surviving duelist. Burr himself had fought a duel on the same spot in 1799 with John B. Church. Neither was injured, although Burr received a bullet through his coat.

For a few days Burr continued to go about his business in his usual way and received his friends at his famous home, Richmond Hill, now totally obliterated, but which stood for years at about the junction of Varick and Charlton streets, New York. Finally he left the city.

Burr was indicted for the murder of Hamilton, but the indictment was quashed about three years later. The pistols with which the fatal duel was fought are now owned by

bronze tablet placed upon the boulder, and the inscription on it reads:

Upon
this stone
rested the head of the
Patriot, Soldier,
Statesman and Jurist,
Alexander Hamilton,
after the duel with
Aaron Burr,
fought July 11, 1804.

Beneath this inscription are two explanatory lines, as follows:

"The duel took place on the bank of the river near this spot, and the stone was moved here when the railroad was built."

In the rear of this modest little monument is a tall flagstaff, and the Hamilton Memorial association of Highwood will commemorate the anniversary of the fatal duel in an appropriate manner. — Philadelphia Ledger.

Buda-Pesth's Noted Crank.

Buda-Pesth has lost one of its best-known cranks, a man who always went barefoot and bareheaded. His favorite occupation was to offer medical advice to famous persons who were ill. This being rejected, he wrote long diatribes against human folly and printed them.