NEARING THE END OF LENT

Revival in the Realms of Society Expected

CLOSE OF A SEASON OF FASTING IN SIGHT | ander.

With Consciences Cleared Several of the Social Set Will Soon Prepare to Again Plunge Into the Whirl of Pleasure.

On the well known principle that "Blessings brighten as they take their flight," the period of Lent being quite generally accepted as a blessing, however effectively disguised, may be truly said to grow more tolerable as its successive weeks roll by and bring the plous devotee nearer and yet nearer to the resurrection time of pleasure and of gayety. Those who have fested throughout the forty days, as well as those others more numer ous, but not loss zealoge, who mortify the flesh in other ways, although they would doubtless continue their sacrifices indefinitely and with the utmost cheerfulness if the church required it, are glad that Lent is not eternal and that they may soon partake with consciences cleared by strict observance of the forms prescribed of the joys of the world in which a kind providence has placed them. One week more brings Palm Sunday and in two weeks Easter comes, both by courtesy of the moon, which is ever considerate and obliging in such matters.

Of the sports which, though not strictly apportaining to Lent, are nevertheless tacitly if not categorically sanctioned by the church, the involuntary and athletic pastime of chasing a truant hat along the public highways holds a high place by reason of the breadth of its opportunities and the ex-ceeding wideness of its scope. The high winds which prevail in this favored vicinity in the spring of the year make that season which includes the lenten period, exceptionally attractive to lovers of this simple diver-

The pursuit of a fugitive hat furnishes exhilerating exercise and a fine healthful bodily glow to the actual participant, although it is not invariably beneficial to the hat itself. But who shall describe the hl'arious joy of those who experience the pleasures of the chase from the unbiased stand-point of a spectator? A man is seen to approach in correct street attire and clothed with style as with an additional garment. He has a great deal of manner. It may be even puts on what is called "side;" if he does, his subsequent misfortunes are the more diverting. As he rounds a windy cor-ner, his hat is observed to leave his headnot gradually and gracefully, raised in courtly salute to some fair acquaintance—but suddenly and rudely snatched away by an irre-sistible force and borne aloft on the wings of a northern gale. The owner makes a frantic and acrobatic grab at space. He does not mean to do this. It is purely instinctive—the unthlaking instinct of primi-tive man. "He instantly realizes the futility of such measures, and with a sickly grin endeavors to assume his former manner.

The hat, meantime, has returned to earth, seeking out, with unerring accuracy, the spot in the muddy stret least adapted to the requirements of new bats, whence it goes trundling down the street on its brim at, a brisk pace. The owner clinging desperately to such remnants of his manner as are available to him under the circumstances, starts in pursuit. The quarry, however, having got away well in advance of the shot, is by no means disposed to forego its advantage. Dignity and regard of appearances gradually drop from the pursuer, who charges madly through miry ways in the wake of his persistently retreating headgear. He tries with hands and feet to check its restricted. hands and feet to check its graceful career, but, although he often manages to arrive within what seems a reaching distance, the hat evades him with devilish ingenuity and proceeds as before. At last—but not before the applauding spectators have seen a moving panorama of all the human passions—the prey, moved by some new caprice, rolls casily upon its side in a mud-puddle and there remains; and the owner, contemplating his recovered property and being aware of his sadly defiled shoes, begins, with proper humility, to turn his steps to the nearest place of refuge for repairs.

Mr. Austin M. Collett Surprised. Mr. Austin M. Collett was most pleasantly surprised on Thursday evening at his home. 2024 Locust street, the occasion being in honor of the thirtieth anniversary of his service with the Union Pacific, which was taken advantage of by his co-workers to extend their congratulations. After gaining admission Mr. John W. McCune, in behal of the delegation, presented Mr. Collett with an elegant leather-covered easy chair, Mr Collett feelingly responding. During th evening an impromptu program was ren-dered by Mr. Max Koetter, violinist, accompanied by Mr. Henry Bock on the piano and Messrs. Bowles, Brady, Shancon, McDonnough and Gleason, followed by elaborate

Among those present were: Messrs. Daily Coons, Meldrum, McCune, Rice, Sanden Watt, Christman, Collins, Willetts, Dugdale Neef, Edmunson, Cusack, Richelieu, Leary Brown, Curtts, Gibson, Perkins. O. Hansen W. Hansen, Stemm, Leary, John Cosgrove Elliott, Nelisen, Shaffer, Sallander, Appleton, Bigger, Curry, Wallace, Loud, James Cosgrove, Miller, White, Koetter, Paul, Jack. son, J. L. Collins, McAuliff, Johnson, Schin dler, Ahlquist, Axford, Elmgren, Swenby, Graw, Bonner, Granden, Doty, Moe, Tom-sett, Ogburn, Tennery, Lillie, Powers, Cavanaugh, Kendricks, Flemm, Reed, Gretzinger Angell, Lawless, Cleveland, Gordon, Vickery Bluett. Messersmith, Adams, Crandall Mathis, Lawrence, Oschenbein, Spellerberg, Christie, Brown, Cover, Spare, Payne, Cop-ley, Nelson and A. M. Collett, jr.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Garrow Entertain. A very enjoyable musical and benefit social was given by Mr. and Mrs. A. Garrow at their residence, 3719 Marcy street, March 24, for Rev. Flowers of South Omaha The house was beautifully decorated with palms and cut flowers and tempting refreshments were served in the large dining room There were about 150 persons present. Miss Martin, with her pupils, furnished an excellent musical program.

Those taking part were: Miss Martin, Nel

tle Dillon, Esther Johnson, Henrietta Fries, Mollie Anderson, Ann S. Cunningham, Lottie Thomas, Drina Black, Grace Elkins, Letta Gillum, Midge Hornsbye, Mr. J. S. Dillon, Gillum, Midge Hornsbye, Mr. J. S. Dillon Master Marion Dillon and Mr. Louis Schleip

Mrs. W. W. Connornn Entertains. Among the many enjoyable functions of the past week was a progressive high five party given by Mrs. W. W. Connoran at her home, \$16 South Twenty-second street, Wednesday afternoon to a few of her friends. The invited guests arrived at an early hour and the games were attended with a marked degree of interest by those participating. The rooms were redolent with the scent of cut flowers and plants. Mrs. Chase rendered in a very pleasing manner several musical



selections. Dainty refreshments were served during the afternoon. Mrs. T. C. Living- and silver inimole. Progressive high five ston and Mrs. W. T. Bourke and Mrs. W. W. Hartley were the recipients of appropriate lunch was served by the hostess, after

compolatory gifts.

Among others present were: Mesdames Arthur Hazleton, J. W. Bouk, J. Kune, Swoboda Krebba, E. R. Woods, O. N. Wilson and Chase, Sutton, Miss Windhelm of South Omaha, and Mrs. Stover and Mrs. Ed Alex-Proceeds for Visiting Nurses. For the splendid charitable work under the

rection of Miss Anna Millard, called the Visiting Nurse association, the following matrons and young women will have entire charge of the soda water fountain of Kuhn & Co. during the business hours of Saturday, April 10, making the sales, dispensing the refreshing liquids, and carrying away the refreshing liquids, and carrying away
the receipts of this unique money-ratsing
venture for a most worthy object: Chapcrones, Mesdames H. F. Wyman, K. C. Barton, Hitchcock, Peck, Clement Chase, Will
Carter, Kountze; attendants Misses Millard,
Helen Millard, Hoagland, Palmer, Morse,
Creighton, Cady, Squires, Buck, Himebaugh,
Peck, Crounse, Taylor, Chandler.

Weddings and Engagements. Mr. Cyrus H. Gehrniger and Miss Katle dence of the officiating minister, Rev. Charles

W. Savidge, on Tuesday. Anneuncemento are issued for the mar risge of Miss Lillian Brenton of this city to Mr. Reed Morton Hindman of Chleago at St. John's Episcopal church, Twenty-sixth and Franklin streets, Tuesday evening, April

Pleasures that Are Past. The Oriental tea which Miss Dickinson announced for yesterday afternoon at 103 South Fifteenth street was indefinitely postponed because of the inclement weather. A most enjoyable evening was spent at the home of Miss Florence Moody, 2419 Grover street, last Friday evening. Games and cards comprised the evening's amusement and at a late hour delicate refreshments were served. Those present were: Misses Mary Grage, Florence Moody, Meta Drage, Emma Quick; Messrs. Kellar, Moody, Will Coopman and Robert Ross.

The Jolly Twelve Coffee club met last week at the residence of Mrs. J. Delaney. Mrs. C. H. Getzschmann won the first prize, a dainty cup, and Mrs. Pardun received the consolation token. Mrs. Fred Elsasser capdured the quilt. Those present were: Mes-dames C. H. Getzschmann, Pardun, Rice, Delanzy, G. F. Elsasser, P. E. Elsasser, J. Bell, McLarnin and Redell.

The J M club gave a very pleasant informal dancing party Friday evening at the Thurston Rifles armory. Those present were: Messra, and Mesdames C. Ochiltree, J. Williams, W. S. Staley; Misses Edna Martin, Laura Brurer, Gridley, Williams, Macumber, Ward, Oerter, Austin, Hartman, Armstrong, Kessler, McFarland, Schmidt, Curtis, Gunther, Burnham, Wright, Abbott, Byrne Frank, Salisbury and Foote of Fremont Messrs. R. Staley, Somers, Angell, McCul-ough, F. Williams, Peake, Ellison of Mis-ouri, W. Johnson, Dale, Palmer, Body, Harris, Keogh, Patterson, F. Cuscaden, R. Cuscaden, Kessler, R. W. Gillespie, French, Whiting, Gunther, Falconer, R. E. Gillespie, dack, Murphy, McDonald, Epeneter and At

Pleasures in Prospect.

The Omaha Whist club will entertain the adies' Whist club at its rooms in The Be uilding on Wednesday evening. The Doress Ten will be entertained by Mrs. F. B. Nichols at her residence, 310:

Pacific street, Wednesday afternoon. Captain and Mrs. B. F. Reynolds of Flor-nce gave a dinner last evening in honor of Miss Olmsted of Cincinnati. The guests were Messrs, and Mesdames J. J. Gibson, Dimstead, Pasterford, Miss Olmstead, Miss Allison, Mr. V. D. Clarke and Mr. W. B.

The entertainment at the Park Avenue United Presbyterian church last Friday evening was a decided success. Miss Ada Boyer displayed great talent in the rendering of her selections, which were highly appreciated by the audience. The music was by a quartet from the First United Presby-terian church, solos by the soprano and baritone, Miss Gertrude Sherman and Mr. Wallace Johnson; also a tenor solo by Mr. W. E. Gratton of the Park Avenue church. The numbers were well rendered and merite the praise accorded them.

The charity ball, which is to be given at the Millard Thursday evening, April 22, for the benefit of the Visiting Nurse association, will open with a minuet danced by sixteen well known young society men and women in costume. Mrs. McKenna has been deveting much time to the value in the results of the contract of the been devoting much time to the preliminary arrangements and has the following names enrolled as the participants in the fancy dance: Misses Palmer, Helen Millard, Florence Morse, Hoagland, Buck, Taylor, rounse, Peck, Messrs, Herbert Rogers, Will Rogers, Morsman, Palmer, Floyd Smith Pratt, Cooley and Lieutenant Lewis. Sup-

per is to be served during the evening. People Who Come and Go. Mrs. B. F. Marti is visiting in the east. Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Cudahy have returned

rom Chicago. Mr. Frank Kimball left for Chicago yes J. W. Vail and son went to Chleago yester

Mrs. Ella Carlisle is visiting friends and relatives in Washington. Mrs. C. E. Yost is entertaining her sister liss Jenness of Ypsilanti, Mich.

Mrs. J. W. Vail entertained the C. A L. Card club at the Merchants' Tuesday Mrs. N. Wetzel and daughter, Edna, ar-

nome from a five months' trip in the eas and south. Mrs. W. J. Colvin returned yesterday from ten days' visit with friends and relatives in Chicago.

ago by the sudden illness of her sister, Mrs

Miss Alberta Post of Columbus, daughter of Judge A. M. Post of the supreme court, is visiting her friend, Miss Fannie Mer-

Mrs. J. J. Clayton and daughters of Lothrop street left last week for Chicago, where little Edith will undergo an operation for a throat trouble. Many of the Omaha colony at the State university are at home during the present vacation, among them being Miss Edith Schwartz, Mr. Fred Parsons and Mr. Robert

NOTES FROM OMAHA SUBURBS

Dundee. W. L. Selby has returned from a few weeks' business trip through the south and

Much sympathy and consternation are felt in the neighborhood for the family of Mr. Cavanaugh, whose strange disappearance has been the subject of so much discussion. His friends here are unable to account for his absence and feel sanguine of his speedy re-

Florence.

Mrs. J. G. Negley, secretary of the Wood-men Circle, made a business trip to Omaha

Mrs. Frank Reynolds gave a musical at her home Friday evening, a number of her Omaha friends being present.

J. Kirk, druggist, has been quite sick for the past few days, but is better. Frank Tracy has been in the drug store as clerk. Oscar Turner and Ethan Cole returned Monday from Honey Creek lake, where they have been the past week shooting ducks. They bagged quite a number of birds.

J. Weber returned yesterday from Clarks, Neb., where he has been hunting with two friends the past week. The three of them bagged 127 geone and fifty-seven ducks. Mrs. J. H. Deland, who has been living with her son at Perry, Ia., for the past three months, returned to Florence yesterday, accompanied by her son, Mr. T. H.

Eight members of the Coffee club of Omaha met at the home of Mrs. D. C. Hass Thursday, April 1, that date being Mrs. Hass' birthday. She received a number of valuable presents. Members of the Sunny

Side High Five club also surprised her the

lunch was served by the hostess, after which dancing was the order until a late

The Ladies' Aid society met at the home of Mrs. C. V. Foulk Wednesday afternoon for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year. Mrs. William Lighton, sr., was elected president, and Mrs. W. R. Wall secretary. The society has done very effective work the past year, as shown by the secretary's report, the amount received from garments made and sold and proceeds from socials, etc., amounting to about \$300 which was distributed among the poor and helping the Presbyterian church at this

Mrs. W. R. Wall at her home Tuesday evening, it being her 23d birthday. She was presented with a beautiful pin, an em-blem of the Woodmen Circle. Progressive high five was indulged in the most part of the evening, Mrs. W. Kindred getting the first prize for the women, and Mr. J. Kindred getting first prize for men. Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Hass each received a booby prize, Refreshments was served at 11 o'clock, after which dancing was indulged in until a late hour.

Miss Lizzie Bird of Omeha was the guest of Mrs. F. M. Watenpaugh.

. The Ladies' Aid society met at the home of Mrs. J. A. Morgan Thursday. H. Williams of Platte county visited with relatives in Benson during the past week. Mr. Lillienstopie and family have moved the house formerly occupied by Mr.

Services at the Methodist Episcopal church

commence at 11 a. m. Epworth league devotional meeting at 7:30 p. m. Church service at 8 p. m. Rev. Mathews, pastor. The regular monthly business meeting the Epworth league will be held at the church next Friday evening at 7:39; all nembers and officers are requested to be present and vistors are cordially welcomed. The first anniversary of the I. A. H. circle was celebrated by a social gathering of the members at the home of F. M. Watenbaugh. The evening was spent with music and games till a late hour, with refresh-

The closing entertainment of the literary

ociety for this season was given at the hall last Wednesday evening and though it was a bad night the hall was well filled by The entertainment was opened by President Williams, who acted as chairman for the evening. A lengthy program was well rendered by the young people of the society, among the special features being the burnt cork minstrel songs given by a male quar-tot, which was encored with great enthusi-asm. The original paper, "Miss Safford's asm. The original paper, "Miss Safford's Dream." was well written and read by the author. The entertainment closed with a very beautiful tableau, "The Three Graces." This was the close of the literary season, but on the following evening the members gathered at the hall and had a last social gathering, passing the time with music and other amusements till a late hour, when other amusements till a late hour, when supper was served. During this hour toasts were given by Mr. N. Tindell and G. R. Willams. After supper the business was transacted, after which all departed for their bomes, feeling that the society had been a great success and determined to continue

An Invitation

Notwithstanding the disagreeable weather for the past three days the O. K. Scoffeld Cloak & Suit Co.'s store has been thronged with customers and judging from results with customers and language from retarding they must have been well pleased with the handsome garments shown in Omaha for the first time this season. Everything is up-to-date, nothing shoddy, but fine qualities and best workmanship at reasonable prices. If any one line was admired more than an-other it was the ladies' suits, the variety eing equal to that shown by many houses in the large eastern cities. Just to show you how reasonable a fine suit can be bought us we invite you to call and inspect them O. K. SCOFIELD CLOAK & SUIT CO., 1510 Douglas st.

FROM POVERTY TO AFFLUENCE. he Monte Cristo-Like Experience of

a Peanut Vender. Selling peanuts yesterday, today the pos owner, and at last it has poised itself over G. Scotto's peanut cart and descended in

golden shower upon his amazed head. Two years ago, relates the New York Sur man asked Scotto jocosely when he was going to Paris to get his fortune, and Scotto looked at him suspiciously and wanted to know what he meant. The man showed him an advertisement two years old in a French newspaper which wanted to know the where-abouts of "G. Scotto," and the peanut ped dier scowled and said: "I no lika you mak a joke wis-a me." The man laughed and tto frowned angrily, and went away mut scotto frowned angriy, and went away intering fiery things about a man who would make jokes over his poverty. Neither had the least idea that this peanut cart man, who looked like a hobo and acted like the son of a king, was the G. Scotto who was wanted in Paris.

wanted in Paris.

But the man's joke rankled in Scotto's memory, and he longed for revenge. He wanted it not for this jest alone, but for a long course of jollying of which that same man had been guilty. As he brooded over the matter it flashed upon him that the very sweetest revenge possible would be for him be that very man who was wanted, geto be that very man who make this joking all that money, and then make this joking teasing wasp of an American respect the dignified demeanor which he now laughed at. It did not occur to him at first that he would like to have the money for any other reason, because he hated the man most cordially, and because he had no idea he could get it. He did not know that he had kith or kin the wide world over who could leave him money, and the very fact that the man had joked about it set his mind against the possibility of the thing. If he had not disliked the man so intensely he would not have given the matter a second thought. After brooding over it some time he get a copy of the paper, studied the advertisement, and finally wrote to Paris, giving an account of himself. When the answer came it made evident that he was without doubt the G. Scotto who was wanted as the heir of L. Scotto of Paris. But it would take money to prove his claim and get possession of the fortune awaiting him, and he, a particularly unprosperous peanut peddler, who never had more than enough to replenish day by day his stock of goobers, was quite helpless in the case. He went to his friends and told his story and W. J. Fischer, who has been away from home for several weeks on business, spent a few days here this week, before making a second eastern trip.

Miss Sophie Fischer entertained a party of to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of means the town whom he knew to men of the town to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of the face of it, they said, and they had nothing to throw away on such a wild goose chase. Then he went to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of the face of it, they said, and they had nothing to throw away on such a wild goose chase. Then he went to men of means in the town whom he knew to men of the face of it, they said, and they had nothing to throw away on such a wild goose chase. young people on Tuesday evening and on Friday evening gave a delightful house party for a company of young women.

by sight, who had patronized his peanut cart, and had occasionally spoken with him in a pleasant, we-are-equals sort of way. One pleasant, we are equals sort of way. On after another they received him kindly, list ened to his story indulgently, and shook their heads sorrowfully. It was generally believed that Scotto had gone wrong in his head and was suffering from a delusion. A good many feared he might go violently insane any minute, and there were a few who thought the only safe plan would be to lock him up.

pending the attack which would make him a danger to the community. But at last Scotto found a man who was a sufficiently dead game sport to gamble on him. J. J. Carrillo, ex-mayor of Santa Monica, agreed, for a half share in unrealized fortune, whatever it might be, to furnish him with money to prove his claim. So him with money to prove his claim. So Scotto bought some new clothes, went on to Paris, retained Joseph Touchiss, a Parisian attorney, put all his evidence into the lawyer's hards, and then came back to his peanuts and sat down beside his pushcart to await developments. And developments were such a long time materializing that Mr. Carrillo became convinced that the money he had advanced had been dropped into a hole, other people forgot all about it, and Scotto himself began to think that he had been the victim of one of deatiny's grim

been the victim of one of destiny's grim jokes, and that his peanut cart was to be, after all, his only possession.

But shortly came a cablegram from his attorney saying that the matter was all settled, and that the fortune was his as soon as he wished to claim it. And as soon as Scotto received the message he went in search of the man who had joked him two years ago, and before he told any one else, even Mr. Carrillo, he found that man and made him read the news. after all, his only possession

made him read the news.

Tarned Into a Park.

DESPERATE COMBATS AT BLADENSBURG

The Scene of Many a Killing Ordained by a Barbarous Code of Honor-Meetings on that Famous Field.

Though the duetto has now passed out of ashion as completely as the knight-errantry so ridiculed by Cervanies, the halo of ronance will ever linger about the spot on which men met on "the field of honor," and the details of the combats never lose their interest to succeeding generations. All disapprove of dueling in much the same way that we cannot countenance prize fighting, but there is probably not a person living who does not feel a quickoned interest in the history of these encounters, though lamenting at the same time the foolish code which made such a barbarity a necessity of the

No place in the United States, relates the

Philadelphia Times, will go down to coming generations as being more intimately con-

nected with the most famous dueling events than the little spot at Bladensburg, just four miles out in Maryland, and almost on the boundary line between that state and the District of Columbia. The town is an ancient one, the hamlet consisting of a coun-try road along which for several hundred yards are houses of various styles and ages. Here is a tumble-down shanty whose de crepit roof is covered with moss that has lain undisturbed for probably fifty years, while before the rusty gate is a group made up of the inevitable yellow cur and several colored children in various stages of raggednese. About on the straggling street are ness. About on the straggling street are large brick houses, some built when Washington was a boy and we but the colonies. At the end of the road runs the muddy stream known as the Eastern branch, where an urchin is generally to be found perched on a half-sunken boat with a pole hanging over the sluggish water. The place is sleepy and quiet; so still that one almost expects a Rip Van Winkle to march out of one of the numerous taverns, or some bluff soldier in buff jerkin to swagger about the doors waiting for the mail coach to turn the corner of the road, as it used to a hundred

years ago. The fact that has been announced that one of the owners of the dueling ground is about to make the place into a kind of park awakens interest and is to be welcomed as a mos valuable acquisition to history. Like all mat ter which has been trusted to "the slippery memory of witnesses," the numberless stories in regard to the real historic spots are hard to reconcile, and it is a task of almost herculean magnitude to trace out each and separate the fact from fiction. With the work, which will be accomplished by Colonel Moyer, the people of Washington and Bladensburg will be greatly benefited and history receive its most valuable acquisition. The old people who remember some of the events will be interviewed, the whole tale written up and the spots identified with their sanguinary record. THE BLOODY SPOT.

About a mile from the town and just on he side of the pike running to Washington is what has been pointed out as the dueling ground. It is a low acre of ground along a small stream which flows beneath a culvert. On the side of the creek is a high hill, while the level land is just across and is hemmed in by another hill, making a tiny valley over-grown largely by trees. Near the head of the valley and almost at the roadside is a the valley and almost at the roadside is a tall tree, and about half way down stands another. It is said that the men who fought here selected this space as the one on which to stand. The sod, moist after the recent rains, is just beginning to look green, but the trees are bare and desolate, and the only sound which breaks the silence is the gentle trickle of the stream over its pebbly bedjust such a place as one would instinctively imagine to be the scene of a midnight en-

Cristo-like experience of G. Scotto of Santa Monica, Cal. For four years a fortune, said to amount to 8,000,000 francs, has been searching the world over to find its rightful owner, and at last it has poised itself over Carty of Virginia by some election trouble Though the men were cousins, McCarty sent a challenge, which Mason refused to accen on the grounds that the sender, in naming conditions, had violated the principles of the duello. In response McCarty "posted" Mason as a coward, and was the recipient at once of a challenge from Mason, but de-clined at once on the grounds that he did not believe that Mason intended to fight The matter was dropped then for a while but was soon renewed, and Mason sent Mc-Carty another challenge, to which the latter replied that he would fight in either of three ways-by leaping together from the dome of the capitol, by a hand-to-hand conflict on a barrel of powder, or by an encounter with dirks. Of course, such a solution of the trouble was not to be thought of and a meet-ing was arranged at Bladensburg. Here they met, standing only four paces apart, so close that the barrels of the shotguns used almost touched. The guns were loaded with a single ball, and Mason fell mortall; wounded and McCarty was borne off the

field seriously hurt.
DUEL OF NAVAL OFFICERS. The next duel which has made the little bit of ground famous was that of Barron and Decatur, in 1820. Stephen Decatur and James Barron were both post captains in the navy, but Decatur incurred the hatred of Barron by giving an adverse opinion when on the Board of Inquiry trying Barron for a breach of duty when in command of the frig-ate Chesapeake. In spite of the frequent assurances made by Decatur that his course had been inspired by a sense of duty alone Barron took the injury deeply to heart and challenged him. The couple fought with pis-tols at a distance of eight paces, both falling together to the ground wounded and esking mt tual forgiveness. Barron, who believed himself fatally shot, expressed the desire to meet Decatur "in another world," and Decatur again asserted that his whole course had been one of duty to his consci-ence. The pistols used in this famous duel are now owned by a Washington gentleman. Decatur's home at that time was the large brick house which stands on the corner of Connecticut avenue and H street, just diag-onally across from the Corcoran mansion. It had been built by him in 1814. His wife, who knew nothing of the affair, was at that time giving a dinner at which Dolly Madison and other prominent women were present. The news of her husband's death was brought The news of her husband's death was brought to her at table and she fainted from the shock. Decatur was brought to the house and died that night. His body now lies in the churchyard of St. Peter's, in Philadelphia, at the corner of Third and Pine streets. His widow retired from social life and spent the rest of her days in sociusion in Georgetown, uniting herself with the Catholic faith. The house in which Decatur died was afterwards occupied by famous men, among them being Henry Clay, Martin Van Buren, when vice president: Edward Livingston, when Jackson's secretary of state: George M. Dallas, vice president: Senator Judah P. Benjamin, afterwards secretary of war and state for the corfederacy, and is now the home of the widow of the late General Beale. The window cut in the south wall of the house was placed there by order of Van Buren in order to see the signals displayed from the white house by Jackson.

THE CILLEY-GRAVES AFFAIR.

The third duel of importance was that to her at table and she fainted from the

The third duel of importance was that which occurred in February, 1838. The participants in the affair were Hon. Jonathan Cilley, member from Maine, and Hon. Wil-liam Graves, member from Kentucky. The cause of the fight was an attack made in the house by Cilley upon General James Watson Webb, editor of the New York Courier and Enquirer, who had cast some reflection on members of the house of representatives. Graves was chosen by Webb as his second, but Cilley declined to receive the challenge, and the quarrel grew up between him and Graves, who then sent a challenge himself to

The meeting took place, with Henry A. The meeting took place, with Henry A. Wise of Virginia as the second to Graves. The weapons were rifles, and the distance eighty yards, the fight taking place at 3 in the afternoon. Ciliey fired first, then Graves, both guns missing. Graves demanded another shot, which was exchanged. At the third shot Oilley dropped his rifle and placing

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the ground, saying, "I am shot," dying in three seconds. He left a wife and three children. So great was the indignation excited by this affair that the whole country was

horrified and the supreme court declined to attend the funeral. Several duels of minor importance have Several duels of minor importance have since taken place at Bladensburg, among them being Jones and Johnson, in 1845, and Daniel and Johnson, in 1852. But these, like the one fought by Randall and Fox, in 1821, excited but little beyond local interest. The spot before described is generally credited with having been the meeting place of the force for the force of the the famous fights, though one authority as-serts there are two grounds and that some took place in one spot and some in another. The consensus of opinion, however, seems to favor the ravine by the culvert as being sacred to the memory of three of the most famous fights on the field of honor in the United States. HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS.

The town of Bladensburg was founded early in the last century and was named in honor of Governor Bladen of Maryland, one of whose descendants—Mr. Lowndes—still lives in a beautiful country seat just on the outskirts of the hamlet. In revolutionary times the stream was a good-sized river and ships sailed up to the dock. In the town is a tavern honored by a large sign proclaim a tavera honored by a large sign proclaiming it to be the "George Washington house," but knowing ones say that it was not at this mansion that Washington stopped, but at the inn of a Smith Suit, whose tavern stood on what is now a vacant lot in the center of the village. By far the most interesting house in the place is a big, rough brick, built in 1749 by a man named Ross. It was afterwards the birthplace of William Wirt, the attorney general who prosecuted Aaron the attorney general who prosecuted Aaron Burr. The house shows its antiquity in the Bur. The house shows a sandy in the blackened brass knocker which still hangs on the door, and still preserves many traces of its former grandeur. It is now the property of a colored family named Lee, who are fully conversant with its history. During the war with the British, when the battle of Bladensburg took place, the house was used as a hospital. Many relies of this con-

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Randolph took place not very far from Bla-deneburg, though not in the immediate vi-cinity. The spot was on the shore of the Potomac, just above Little Falls bridge, on of Bianenaburg took place, the house was used as a hospital. Many relics of this conflict are picked up even at the present day. Not far from town is "Barney Spring," in honor of Commodore Barney, who was there shot and taken prisoner. Another place of interest is "Bostock," a fine residence erected in 1746 by Christopher Lowndes, from England, who was among the first inhabitants of Bladensburg. This estate is now the home of a Washington artist, Mr. Dieudonne.

Another handsome old country place is "Riverdale," which was once the home of Charles, Lord Baitimore, but has now passed out of the family.

The spix was of the salore of the cent of the cent of this century that the custom of personal encounters has died out and the duelo is no longer tolerated. Though it originated as far back as the time of David and Goliath, and Curatii, coming down through the Middle as sort of dressing gown. Randolph's gun exploded accidentally and a second trial was made, Randolph firing into the air, while a ball from Clay's pistol perforated his century that the custom of personal encounters has died out and the duelo is no longer tolerated. Though it originated as far back as the time of David and Goliath, and Curatii, coming down through the Middle Ages and raging in Germany, Spain, France and went to the field wearing a sort of dressing gown. Randolph firing into the air, while a ball from Clay's pistol perforated his century that the custom of personal encounters has died out and the duelo is no longer tolerated. Though it originated as far back as the time of David and Guliath, and Curatii, coming down through the Middle Ages and raging in Germany, Spain, France and went to the field wearing a sort of dressing gown. Randolph firing into the air, while a ball from Clay's pistol perforated his counters has died out and the duelo is no longer tolerated. Though it is an at the was seen in the counters has died out and the duelo as far back as the time of the sendory and serior died out and the duelo as far back as the time of

was so tall and slim that shooting at him was like "firing at a pair of tongs."

It is greatly to the credit of the end of