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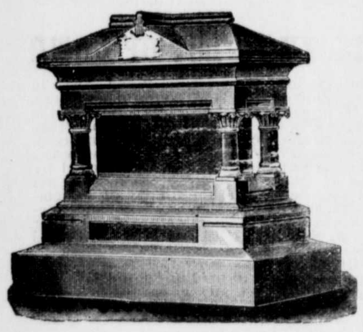

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WRITTEN BY

JAS. G. BECK, Agent.

Chestertown, Md.

[Continued from Second Page.]

afloat.

"He headed the landing force, at 11 o'clock on the night of 30 Aug. 1814, with a body of well trained seamen and marines, not over 140 men, formed in two divisions headed by Lt. Crease and Lt. Pearce, himself in command. He captured the enemy's pickets and one or two of the dragoons, found the enemy had shifted his camp; after marching four miles found him drawn up on a plain, surrounded by woods, with his camp in the rear with 500 militia, a troop of horse and five pieces of artillery. He determined to attack notwithstanding the large force opposing. By a smart fire and instant charge the enemy was driven from his position, completely routed, and compelled to a rapid retreat behind his artillery where he again made a stand; one of his guns was captured, but again abandoned. It was at this time Parker received his mortal wound, which obliged him to quit the field. The ball entered his right thigh and cut the main artery. He said to his Lt. Pearce on receiving his mortal wound, 'They have hit me, Pearce, at last, but it is nothing; push on my brave fellows and follow me'. Cheering his men, who returned his cheer, he advanced at their head a few paces further, when staggering from the loss of blood he fell into the arms of his 2nd Lt. (Mr. Pearce) and thus passed away.

"One James Perring, one of Parker's men, was mortally wounded in this engagement and called on his companions to draw him aside and push on. He then crawled to a tree against which in great agony he seated himself with his cutlass in one hand and his pistol in the other. At daylight, the Americans finding the British had retreated, returned to the field of battle for the humane purpose of collecting the wounded. They found Perring in this position, life fast ebbing away. They summoned him to surrender. He answered, 'No American should ever take him alive.' They assured him they only came to carry him to a hospital. He still refused. He was told if he refused giving up his arms they must fire on him. Collecting his remaining strength he exclaimed, 'Fire away and be d—d; no Yankee shall ever take me alive, you will only shorten an hour's misery.' The Americans respected the heroism of the brave young man and left him unmolested to expire on the field." Parker's body was embalmed and carried to England for burial. Parker was a cousin of Lord Byron, and it is said, was engaged to be married to Byron's sister. The poet wrote a beautiful tribute to Parker, in verse, soon after his death, which may be found in Byron's works.

Lieut. Crease reported having on his return three prisoners (cavalry): fourteen of his men killed, were reported by Crease, and 27 wounded.

It was my privilege last year to visit the city of London. In St. Margaret's Church, adjoining Westminster Abbey, I found a beautiful white marble tablet, over which rests a marble medallion, graven with the face of a handsome young man. The madallion appears to be held by a beautiful girl, whilst around it are grouped weapons of war; also an anchor and coil of rope. Under this design is a handsome bas relief, representing soldiers in action: a tree under which a wounded soldier is falling into the arms of a comrade, and in the distance is seen a ship of war on the sea. The elaborate inscription on this tablet reads thus:

"In the pious hope of a glorious resurrection, pursued through virtue, faith and valour, here lies interred the mortal remains of Sir Peter Parker—Baronet.

"Captain of his Majesty's Frigate Menelaus. An accomplished officer and seaman, who, after landing with a part of his crew on the coast of America, defeated an enemy supported by cavalry and artillery, three times the number of his own forces, and in the moment of victory received a mortal wound, under which he continued to cheer his men to follow up their triumph, until, sinking under its fatal result, he fell into the arms of the companions of his glory, and bravely surrendered, on the field of battle, his own gallant spirit to the mercy of heaven.

"He was a lineal descendant of three distinguished British Admirals, of whose virtues and valor he was alike the inheritor. His great-grand-father was Admiral Christopher Parker. He was the eldest son of Admiral Charles Parker, whose father was the late Sir Peter Parker, Baronet of Bassingbourn Hall, Essex, Admiral of the fleet, and his maternal uncle was the Honorable Admiral Byron.

"After 15 years of active service and intrepid toil in the service of his country, emulating the heroism of his ancestory, he thus gloriously closed his earthly career August 30, 1814.

"The officers and crew of his Majesty's ship, Menelaus, on their return home, in testimony of their deep affliction at the fall of their beloved commander, and of their affection for his memory, have erected this monument, as well to commemorate their grief and reverence for those virtues which so justly endeared him to his ship's company, as to attest to future times their admiration of that valour which distinguished him in life, and ennobled him in death.

"*Stat sua quique dies; breve et irreparabile tempus omnibus est vitae; sed famam extendere factis hoc virtutis opus. 'Virg.'*"

The "Battle of Caulk's Field," we find took place not five miles from the bay shore as the English report. It was fought on the farm which still bears the name of "Caulk's Field," located about two and a half miles east from the shore of the Chesapeake bay and about two and a half miles south from Belle Air or Fairlee. This farm at the present time belongs to a well-known lady resident of Baltimore, formerly of Kent county. The old brick dwelling house on the farm is still standing and in one of its gables in the brickwork is seen the date, 1743, when it was erected. Houses were built in that day for all time, hence the walls of this ancient building are today in as perfect a state of preservation as when the British bullets of 1814 flattened themselves against its solid masonary. (These old round leaden bullets are still occasionally found near the house from which they rebounded.) The graves of some of the British who fell in this battle were visible at this place for long years after the engagement and some of the older residents of the neighborhood even now claim to be able to point out the locality of these graves.

On reference to the muster rolls of the Kent militia who took part in this engagement we find the names of many honorable families who still reside in that county. To many of these, no doubt it will be news that their ancestors took part in the battle of "Caulk's Field."

All around us we see the patriotic societies of the United States, stirring the hearts of their members to a new duty, viz, to mark the events of our national history in which the blood of our forefathers has been shed in defense of the hallowed principles set forth in our Declaration of Independence. Not only in this country have most beautiful and costly buildings and monuments and tablets been erected in honor of the soldier, the sailor, the statesman of the past, but in the distant Republic of France the women and children of America have erected, in the city of Paris, magnificent and costly monuments of bronze and granite in honor of our immortal Washington and his noble compatriot, General Lafayette.

The battle fields of the past are being located and from time to time patriotic societies are placing on them permanent identifications in the shape of stone, bronze or other imperishable monuments or tablets. The Maryl nd Society of the War of 1812 will no doubt join in the movement now on foot to erect a suitable monument in Kent county to the memory of Gen. Philip Reed the hero of "Caulks Field." This effort should stir the patriotism of every man, woman and child in this State, and all should gladly unite in contributing as they are able, to so worthy an object so as to make the memorial such as will reflect credit upon those joining in this effort. Let it be a substantial as well as a handsome shaft or tablet.

If it be the will of the people to erect such a monument on the battle field, I am authorized by the present owner of that historic ground to say that a suitable lot will be cheerfully donated for the purpose.

Among those who fought at Caulk's Field will be found many honorable names whose descendants still reside in "Old Kent." These will surely interest themselves in promoting this tribute to the memory of so gallent a soldier and so noted a statesman as the "Hero of Caulks Field". The descendants of these soldiers are eligible, and should join the "Society of the War of 1812," in this State.

APPENDIX.

In an old newspaper called "The General Advertiser," published at Easton, Talbot county, Md., under date of October 4, 1814, appears the following (the names are given exactly as printed).

"The list of the officers and men who were in the action at "Caulk's Field" on the night of the 30th August last, under Col. Reed:

"Of Capt. Chambers' Company—Ezekiel F. Chambers, captian. Thomas Eunick, Lieut. Wm. Skirvin, ensign. Joseph Wickes, 4th. John Magnor. David Chambers. Thos. I. Kennard. Philip Crane. Jesse Vickers. Wm. C. Lassell. James Vickers. James Mansfield George Watts. Jas. Coleman. Zabedie Harbert. John Kemp (drummer) Aaron Alford. Samuel Deal. James Haley. James Gooding. Lemuel Comegys. Thomas Wickes. David Falls. John Usselton. Sam'l Rumney. Robert Constable. Theoph Russle. James Robinson. James D. Miller. Andrew Toulson. Wm. Notts. Thos. Dugan. Benjamin Benton. Thos. Bordley. Isaiah Coleman. Jas. Hickinbottom. Benj. Lee Chambers. Edward Coleby. Alexander Dunk. Wm. S. Lassell. John Jones. Sam'l Griffith. Samuel Floyd. Richard Kennard. Wm. Elliott. Geo. Holtzman.

"Of Capt. Hand's Company—Henry Tilghman, Lieut. Richard S. Thomas, ensign. James Wilcox. Nath. Tonson. James F. Brown. Henry Copper. Robert McGuire. Wilson Stavely. James Middleton. Lemuel Wilmer. Wm. Martin. Henry Robertson. Joseph Redue. Arthur Parsley. Robert Barnes. Joseph Gibbs. Sam'l Elbert. Wm. Hague. Jeremiah Nicols. John B. Eccleston. Wm. Hyland. Thos J. James. Richard Seymour. Thos. Vickers. James Ringgold, Jr. John Edwards. John R. Wilmer. Thomas Taylor. Henry Robertson.

"Capt. Wickes' Rifle Corps—Simon Wickes, Captain. Joseph Brown, 1st Lieut. John Beck, 2nd Lieut. Eliphan Donlin. Samuel Coleman. Henry Urie. Richard Smith. Richard Kennard. James Yeates. Horatio Stokes. John Airy. John Hyland. John Beck. John Jones. James Smith. Sam'l C. Wickes. Peregrine Beck. Richard Freiks. Bazilla Sparks. Thomas Hartley. Levin Rolinson. Wm. Lamb. Elisha Swift. Robert Fellingham. James Tharp. John Pearce.

Of Capt. Griffith's Company—Samuel Griffith, Captain. Joseph Thomas. David Jones. Wm. Kendall. Samuel Baker. Barney DeCourse. John Crouch. Hyram Brown. Henry Dunk. Jonathan Harris. George G. Simmonds. James Crouch.

Of Capt. Hynson's Company—Thos. B. Hynson, Captain. Richard Grant, ensign. Robert Love. Peregrin Whaland. James Shaw. Wm. Hague. John Waram.

Of Capt. Page's Company—Samuel Wickes, Lieut. Merritt Miller, ensign. Thomas Crouch. Abraham Waram. Wm. Wickes, Jr. James Downey. Thos. Covington. John Yearley, Jr. William Frisby. John Glanville. Thos. Benton. Francis Benton. Bery Benton. James Legg. Nathan Gleaves. Jesse Clark. Benj. Hynson. John Dunn. James Eagle. Robert Collin. Gabriel Alloway. Stephen Bryan. George Ashley. John Humphries. James Hudson. Ezekiel Coleman. Jesse Covington. Wm. Simmons. Wm. Ivry. Thos. Spencer. Nicholas Dudley. Elishia Beck. Wm. Miller.

Artillery Company—Aquila M. Usselton, Captain. John Reed, Lieut. Morgan Bron, Lieut. —— Brown (?)—Edw. Nicholson. Henry H. Stewart. James Usselton. Philip Rasin, Jr. Edward Cannon. James Hatcherson. John Dugan. Joseph Gidley. Sirus Rasin. Wm. Weaver. Ezekiel Foreman. Wm. Apsley, Jr. Matthew Wickes. Philip Carroll. Chas. Letherbury. Dulany Apsley. William T. Usselton.

Especial mention was made of the following officers and others for their bravery and services in action:

Major Wickes, Captain Chambers.

Captain Wickes, Lieut. Beck, of Rifle Corps.

Lieut. Eunick, Ensign Skirvin, of Capt. Chambers' Company.

Capt. Hynson, and Ensign Grant.

Capt. Usselton (of Brigade Artillery), and his Lieuts., Reed and Brown.

Lieut. Tilghman, who commanded the guns of the Volunteer Artillery in the absence of Capt. Hands (who is in ill-health and from home), and his Ensign Thomas.

Capt. Wilson, of the Cavalry, who was with Col. Reed.

Adjutant Hynson (who displayed much zeal and firmness throughout)

Dr. Blake, Dr. Gordon and Isaac Spencer, Esq. (accidentally in camp), assisted in reconnoitering the enemy on his advance.

The foregoing list is doubtless the same which Lieut. Col. Reed says, in his letter or official report of the action, "as an act of justice I enclose you a list of the names of every officer and soldier engaged in the affair."

THOMAS HILL,
Baltimore, Md.

Searching For God.

Stanley Gorsuch, the little 3-year-old son of Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Gorsuch, of Churchville, Md., has reached the point in his career where life has resolved itself into one big interrogation point. His relatives are besieged from morning to night with questions—and not easy simple things, but inquiries into most profound subjects. A few days ago he asked, "Where is God?"

"God is everywhere."

The general answer failed to satisfy the small questioner.

"Here; in this room?"

"Yes' Stanley."

"Out on the porch?"

"Yes, Stanley."

"Down in the barn?"

"Yes."

"Whereabouts in the barn?"

Oh, everywhere."

"In Tom's milk cans down in the barn?"

"Oh, yes, Stanley, everywhere. Now run away and play."

Bed time came soon and put an end to questions. The next morning the small boy had apparently forgotten all about his interrogations of the night before. Soon after breakfast he disappeared and every corner of the house was searched for him. As a last resort somebody went down to the barn and, sure enough, there was Stanley trotting around among the milk cans, leaning away over the sides and looking down into the cans—looking for God.

From Crumpton.

The "Weight Social" last Thursday night was a great success. We noticed a great many from Galena and Millington present.

Mr. Ray Sparks, of Centreville, spent Sunday in town.

Mrs. George Butler is visiting her sister, Mrs. Newnam, in Baltimore.

Messrs. George I. Harrison and Walter Wallis are spending a few days in Baltimore this week.

Mr. Enoch Clough, proprietor of Piney Plains race track, received quite a severe hurt last Saturday by the horse which he was riding falling. We are glad to say that he is getting better at this time

Dr. Sayman's Medicine Company is performing nightly in Bradley's Hall. These entertainments are highly interesting.

Mr. William Woodall has accepted a position as clerk in the enterprising grocery store of Mr. J. Erdman Bramble, Centreville. Willie is a hustler and will doubtless prove of great service to his employer.

Politics seem to be very quiet. Everybody seems to be practicing on the sample ballots, so as to be able to vote on Election day.—*Observer.*

THE MAN WHO DID.

All doctors in my town failed to relieve me of rheumatism. I have used about half a bottle of Nelaton and feel so much improved, that while I may not need it, I enclose P. O. order for $1 for one more bottle of the remedy that has been such a God-send to me. I cheerfully recommend Nelaton to anyone suffering with rheumatism.

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