

"THE ANCIENT CITY."

—A—

HISTORY

—OF—

ANNAPOLIS, in Maryland.

1649—1887.

BY ELIHU S. RILEY.

ANNAPOLIS.

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ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

Disloyalty, on the day of the election at Annapolis, refused to take the oath of allegiance, and consequently left the polls, being denied the right of voting :

“Geo. M. Duvall, Jos. H. Nicholson, Oliver Miller, D. Claude Handy, Robt. W. Tate, James E. Tate, Wm. Tell Claude, candidate on the Secession† Ticket for the House of Delegates, Thomas G. Pratt, Thomas Franklin, James Revell, candidate on the Secession Ticket for State’s Attorney ; Martin Revell, Nicholas H. Green, candidate on the Secession Ticket for Clerk of the Circuit Court ; and Edward Boyle.

“Many of these men are members of the Bar, and express their determination on Monday, next, or as soon as possible thereafter, to have the Judges of Election indicted before the Grand Jury of Anne Arundel county, for refusing to receive their votes in accordance with the election laws of the State Maryland.

“I would most respectfully ask what course I shall pursue in the event of the Judges of the Election being arrested.

I am Colonel, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS I. KEFFER.

Capt. 71st, P. V., Provost Marshal.”

A copy of Col. Waite’s answer is not extant ; but the text may be inferred by the sequence. All of the gentlemen, who refused to take the oath, were arrested and required to report to Baltimore to Major-Gen. Schenck, where, after some days’ delay, they were all paroled, save Gov. Pratt and Col. Nicholson, to give no aid and no comfort to the Southern Confederacy. They were then allowed to return home. Their paroles continue to this day. Gov. Pratt and Col. Nicholson got as far south as Fortress Munroe, when the latter took the oath required of him, and returned home. Gov. Pratt refused to take any oath whatever, and was finally released by the Government.

CHAPTER LXII.

CHRONICLES OF ANNAPOLIS FROM 1863 TO 1887.

[1863.] Dr. Dennis Claude died December 9th, at an advanced age. He had filled many honorable positions, amongst them State Treasurer and Comptroller.

Roger Bellis, of Annapolis, lost a leg at Gettysburg and was afterward made a Second Lieutenant in the Invalid Corps.

December 22, a fire broke out at the house of Smith Price. The military effectively aided the citizens in extinguishing the fire. The *Gazette* called on the Legislature to aid the city to secure a fire en-

During the early part of February three Russian vessels arrived at Annapolis. During their stay a Russian sailor Demidorf was killed by an Annapolitan. Demidorf was buried in the National Cemetery near Annapolis.

Sunday, February 14th, about half-past four in the afternoon a destructive fire visited Annapolis. A large three-story building, foot of Main street, called Noah's Ark caught on fire. A violent wind was blowing. The inside was completely ruined; two frame houses adjoining, belonging to Mr. John Slemaker were wrecked, and considerable damage done to the store and brick-dwelling of Mr. Nicholas Killman. In removing the goods and chattels of the Killman residence, three flags of the Southern Confederacy were brought to light. This highly incensed the soldiers who were untiringly working to put out the fire. Noah's Ark was reduced one-story, and the walls rebuilt upon.

A company of negro soldiers, on their way to Baltimore, were obliged to put into Annapolis on account of the ice during the latter part of February. They encamped at St. John's College. They paraded the streets of Annapolis, and it aroused the military spirit amongst the colored people, who flocked to the camp and enlisted. One hundred and twenty went from Annapolis, about twenty of whom were rejected as disqualified. The *Gazette* says it learned that between two and three hundred slaves had left their masters with the determination to enlist. The *Gazette* approved their conduct.

During the last week in March, Col. Carros A. Waite of the U. S. Infantry, was relieved of the military command of Annapolis, and Col. A. R. Root appointed in his stead. Capt. Keffer, Provost Marshal, was also relieved, and Capt. Thomas Watkins, of Company B., of the Purnell Legion, was put in his place. Capt. Watkins' company performed the duties of Provost Guard.

The local election in Annapolis in April, developed a new party cry. The tickets were Union and Anti-Huckster. The Union ticket received a support of 168, and the Anti-Huckster 97. The excitement was small, the vote light. Solomon Philips was elected Mayor.

The *Maryland Republican* passed a high eulogy, at the retirement of Hon. Geo. Wells from the Presidency of the Annapolis and Elk Ridge Railroad, on his management of it, which had elevated the Road from a very low estate to one of great prosperity and usefulness. In 1863 the State received from the road \$14,286.72, being nearly 5 per cent. on the State's investment in the road. Joshua Brown, Esq., succeeded Mr. Wells.

April 12, Gen. Grant and several of his staff were in Annapolis.

Anne Arundel by an overwhelming vote elected Eli J. Henkle, Oliver Miller, Sprigg Harwood, and A. S. Bond, democrats, as delegates to the State Convention which had been called by the people. The Convention met April 27. Its chief acts were the proposed emancipation of slaves without pay and the enactment of qualifications for voters by which a large part of the white male citizens of the State were disfranchised. The constitution, with the aid of the Maryland soldiers' votes in their camps in the field, was adopted by 400 votes.

Col. Thomas J. Wilson, late editor of the *Gazette*, was sent to Annapolis in May, as Paymaster U. S. Army.