

PAGES OF BRITISH HISTORY.

Historical Battles—Noteworthy Events in the Story of the Creation of the British Empire.

St. Jean D'Acre, 1799.

(Continued from last issue.)

Defended by the English Sailors.

Daylight showed the tricolour on the outer angle of the tower, near which the French had constructed two traverses across the ditch, composed of sandbags and the bodies of the slain built up together, the bayonets alone being visible above them, so high were these ghastly ramparts. At this critical moment, when the Turkish troops were nearly giving away, Sir Sydney Smith brought the boats' crews ashore, armed them with cutlasses, pistols and pikes.

"Many fugitives returned with us to the breach, which," he states in his dispatch to Nelson, "we found defended by a few brave Turks, whose most destructive missiles were stones, which, striking the assailants on the head, threw the foremost down the slope and impeded the progress of the rest. A succession, however, ascended to the assault, the heap of ruins between the two parties serving as a breastwork for both, the muzzles of their rifles touching, and the spearheads of the standards locked together. Djeddar Pasha, hearing that the British were on the breach, quitted the station, where, according to ancient Turkish customs, he was sitting to reward such as should bring him heads of the enemy, and distributing musket cartridges with his own hands."

The enthusiastic old Turk pulled many of the sailors down, saying, "If any thing happens to my English friends Acre is lost!"

This amicable contest as to who should defend and who die in the breach, caused a rush of Turks to the spot, and thus time was gained for the arrival of succour, under Hassan Bey.

Sir Sidney had now to combat the repugnance to admitting any troops save his kilted Albanians into the garden of his seraglio. Of the original 1,000 of these fine mountaineers, only 200 now remained alive; and as this was no time for debate, he overruled his objections by marching in the Chiffie regiment of Osmanlees, 1,000 strong, armed with muskets and bayonets, and which had been drilled in the European manner under Sultan Selim's own eye.

"The garrison, animated by the appearance of such a reinforcement, was now all on foot; and there being consequently enough to defend the breach, I proposed to the pasha," says Sir Sidney, "to get rid of the objects of his jealousy, by opening the gates to let them sally and take the assailants in flank."

"He readily complied, and I gave direction to the colonel to get possession of the enemy's third parallel, or nearest trench, and to fortify himself by shifting the parapet outwards. This order being clearly understood the gates were opened and the Turks rushed out, but were not equal to such a movement, and were driven back to the town with loss."

Meanwhile old Bray, the carpenter on board the Tigre, swept the approach to the town with grape from his sixty-eight pounders. In repelling the sortie, the enemy were compelled to expose themselves once more to the flanking fire from the shipping, which brought them down in vast numbers; so that the small force left lodged in the shattered tower was soon destroyed by Mr. Savage, a midshipman of the Theseus, who threw hand-grenades into it.

Renewed Attack.

The enemy began a new breach by an incessant fire, directed to the southward of the lodgement, and every shot knocked down "whole sheets" of the ancient walls of crusading times.

A little before sunset, a dark and massive column of the enemy came rolling slowly yet steadily towards the breach. The pasha's idea was not to defend it at this time, but to let a certain number in and then close with them hand to hand in the true old Turkish fashion. The column thus mounted the breach unchallenged, and penetrated from the rampart to the pasha's garden where in a few moments the bravest of them lay headless corpses; "the sabre, with the addition of a dagger in the other hand, proving more than a match for the bayonet."

The rest fled with precipitation. Their leader, General Lasau, who was seen encouraging them sword in hand, was borne off the field mortally wounded by a musket shot; while General Romband was killed.

The British uniform, which hitherto had served as a rallying-point for the

old garrison wherever it appeared, was now in the dark mistaken for the French by the newly arrived Turks of Hassen Bey, who could not distinguish one from the other; thus many a severe sabre-cut had to be parried by our officers, among whom Colonel Douglas and some others nearly lost their lives.

Napoleon Forced to Retire.

The conflict of the 9th of May lasted no less than twenty-five hours, and ended "leaving both parties so fatigued as to be unable to move." One of Bonaparte's aides-de-camp, General Fowler, a Scotch-Frenchman, was killed by his side; and after having besieged Acre for sixty days in vain, and having sent word to Grand Cairo that he would return as a conqueror, he found himself at last compelled to abandon the idea, to quit his lines, and retire like a fugitive.

The last hours of his stay were dedicated to revenge; for not content, as formerly, to turn his cannon against the fortification, he spitefully gave orders to destroy an aqueduct, bombarded all the principal edifices, and endeavoured to reduce the pasha's palace to a heap of ruins.

While he was concealing or destroying his battering-train, and retreating from the plain of Nazareth, which was the boundary of his conquests, Sir Sidney Smith wrote letters to the sheikhs of the Drusas and the people of Mount Lebanon, in which, in a true crusading spirit, he invited them "to choose between the friendship of a Christian knight and that of an unprincipled renegade." He also seized upon Napoleon's field and battering artillery, amounting to twenty-three pieces; together with 2,000 of his wounded, whom he sent to Damietta, "whose expressions of gratitude to us were mingled with execrations," says his dispatch, "on the name of their general, who exposed them to peril rather than fairly and honourably renew the intercourse with the British, which he had broken off by a false assertion that I had intentionally exposed the former prisoners to the plague."

Killed and Wounded.

In this affair of Acre, the total number of losses accruing to the squadron under Sir Sidney, between the 9th and 20th of May, were 53 killed, 123 wounded, 13 drowned, and 82 taken prisoners. Of the enemy, according to Berthier, there died of the plague 700 men; killed in action, 500; wounded 1,800. This includes those who perished in the passage of the desert; but 2,000 fell into the hands of our admiral at Acre alone, so the French accounts can never be relied on.

Sir Sidney Smith Rewarded.

The thanks of Parliament were voted to Sir Sidney Smith, his officers, and men, and a pension of £1,000 a year was settled on him. The City of London—never behind in recognizing gallant services—presented him with a sword valued at a hundred guineas; while the Turkish Company presented him with another, valued at thrice that sum.

To Bonaparte he was personally an object of extreme hatred, as chiefly through him he was compelled to relinquish all hopes of conquest in the East. "That man," said he, bitterly, when speaking of Sir Sidney at St. Helena, "caused me to miss my destiny!"

Two great atrocities connected with the retreat of Acre are imputed to Bonaparte—the proposal to poison seven sick men, admitted by himself as a means to save them from torture; and the deliberate murder of 1,300 unarmed people, an act which however expedient, no British officer would ever conceive, and no British troops would have executed; and yet in the "Voice from St. Helena," both these acts are confessed and their justification attempted.

IS PARALYSIS CURABLE.

MR. GEORGE LITTLE OF ESSEX COUNTY, SAYS IT IS.

He Gives His Own Terrible Experience to Prove the Truth of His Assertion—Suffered For Over Two Years—Both Himself and Family Thought That Only Death Could End His Sufferings—Again Enjoying the Blessing of Sound Health.

From the Essex Free Press. Life is truly a burden to those not blessed with a full measure of health and strength, but when a strong man is brought to the verge of utter helplessness, when doctors fail, and their is apparently nothing left to do but to wait the dread summons that comes but once to all, the case assumes an aspect of extreme sadness. In such a con-

dition as this did Mr. George Little, of the township Colchester North, find himself, and recently the Free Press hearing incidentally that he had recovered health and strength, a reporter was sent to investigate. When seen, Mr. Little expressed a willingness to state the nature of his case, and his story is as follows:—



"Had to sit with feet in a hot oven."

Some four years ago Mr. Little suffered from a severe attack of la grippe which left his lower limbs partially paralyzed. He called in one of the best known physicians in Essex county, who appeared to do all that lay in his power for the relief of Mr. Little, but to no avail. For two and a half years he suffered the most intense pain and was confined to his bed for the greater part of the time. The doctor was puzzled with his case and as he seemed to obtain no relief, he changed doctors for a period. The second doctor did no better than the other, and Mr. Little returned to the one he had first called in. Finally, despairing of ever obtaining relief, he told the physician that he did not see any further use of taking his medicines, and believed that he should die if he did not obtain relief in a short time. He had wasted to little more than a mere skeleton, and was an object of pity by his neighbors, and felt himself a burden to his family. His wife and family had given up hope, and his neighbors all thought it was merely a matter of time when Mr. Little's death would relieve his sufferings. While his limbs were partially paralyzed he could use them sufficient to hobble about the house and door yard, but if he undertook to walk to the stable he would be confined to his bed for a week after. His limbs grew numb and cold. During the hottest days of summer he was obliged to sit with his feet and legs in a hot oven, wrapped in flannels and hot clothes, until the skin would come off in scales. Mr. Little believed that his physician was doing all that could be done, and has nothing but the kindest feelings for the treatment he received at his hand, but he is certain the doctor had no hope of his recovery. He had tried an advertised mineral water, taking in all seven gallons of it, but failed to obtain relief. After suffering for two and a half years, Mr. Little, in summer of 1893, read of a case similar to his own, that had been cured by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Grasping at this last hope, he sent for a few boxes and began taking them. Before the second box was all used, Mr. Little was satisfied that he had found a remedy that could cure him of his exceedingly painful and mysterious ailment. Mr. Little continued to use Pink Pills for several months and was able to get out and do light work on and about his farm, which he had not been able to do for over two years. He continued taking Pink Pills a while longer, when he fully recovered and able to do any of the hard work on the farm and in the winter time worked almost steadily at saw-logging and wood-chopping. During the past fall, he says he was frequently caught in heavy rain storms when away from home, but he had so far recovered that his exposures have not brought any bad results. During the very cold weather of the present winter he was hauling to Windsor, a distance of fifteen miles. He looks at present as if he had hardly seen a sick day in his lifetime.

Mr. Little feels deeply grateful to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and claims that his recovery is entirely due to the use of the pills. He gives his testimony for the benefit of others who may be similarly afflicted. Mr. Little's wife, who was present at the interview, corroborated Mr. Little's testimony and believes he owes his entire recovery to the use of Pink Pills. The entire family look upon the husband and father as one rescued from the grave by the timely use of Pink Pills.

On inquiry among Mr. Little's neighbors, we find that he is a man of undoubted veracity. He has lived in Essex county all his lifetime, on his farm in Colchester North, about four years. He is the superintendent of the Edgar Mills Sunday school, and his case is too well known in that district to be disputed. His neighbors looked upon his cure as a most miraculous one, his death had been expected among them for many months before he began the use of Pink Pills.

AIMS OBJECTS, AND BENEFITS OF THE SONS OF ENGLAND BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Organized in Toronto, December 12th, 1874.

To Englishmen and Sons of Englishmen:

The mission of the Society is to bring into organized union all true and worthy Englishmen; to maintain their national institutions and liberties and the integrity of the British Empire; to foster and keep alive the loving memory of Old England, our native and Mother land; to elevate the lives of its members in the practice of mutual aid and true charity—caring for each other in sickness and adversity and following a deceased brother with fraternal care and sympathies, when death comes, to earth's resting place.

Great Financial Benefits, viz.: Sick pay, Doctor's attendance and medicine and Funeral Allowance are accorded. Healthy men between the ages of 18 and 60 years are received into membership. Honorary members are also admitted. Roman Catholic Englishmen are not eligible.

Reference for and adherence to the teachings of the Holy Bible is insisted on. Party politics are not allowed to be discussed in the lodge room.

The Society is secret in its proceedings to enable members to protect each other and prevent imposition—for which purpose an initiation Ritual is provided, imposing obligations of fidelity to the principles of the Society on all who join it.

The Society is making rapid growth and has lodges extending over Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores, having a membership upwards of 12,000 at present, the ratio of increase being far greater as the Society's influence and usefulness is better known. Lodges have been started South Africa

and will soon probably be started in England, etc.

The Beneficiary (Insurance) Department is providing insurance to the members for \$1,000 or \$2,000 as desired, at the minimum cost, unsurpassed by any other fraternal Society in Canada, and is conducted on the assessment system. The assessments are graded. A total disability allowance is also covered by the certificates in class "A." There are no disability claims in class "B." No Englishmen need join other organizations when the inducements of this Department are considered.

Englishmen forming and composing new lodges derive exceptional advantages in the initiation fees, and 12 good men can start a lodge.

In our lodge rooms social distinctions are laid aside and we meet on the common level of national brotherhood, in patriotic association for united counsel and effort in maintaining the great principles of our beloved Society. As such we can appeal to the sympathetic support of all true Englishmen—asking them to cast in their lot with us, thereby swelling the grand roll of those bound together in fraternal sympathies and in devotion to England and the grand cause of British freedom.

Any further information will be cheerfully given by the undersigned.

JOHN W. CARTER,

Grand Secretary.

JOB PRINTING!

The ANGLO-SAXON solicit Printing from Lodges and Members of the ORDER.

If you desire to get honest work at reasonable prices, or to ascertain the Rates for Advertising in our columns, address THE 'ANGLO-SAXON' Box 296 - - - - - Ottawa.

Our Office Address is 36 Elgin St., Ottawa.

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