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(PAGES NINE TO TWELVE)

Charge of Light Brigade

Interesting Historical Account of the Famous British Attack at Balaklava.

It was just fifty years ago on Oct. 25th, that the Light Cavalry made the famous charge of Balaklava that will always live in history as one of the most glorious feats of British arms. It is, perhaps, true to say that no other action has caught the public imagination in the same way as the charge of the "gallant six hundred." No doubt Tennyson's poem has had much to do with this. The charge was practically a blunder, and the result was disaster, but nothing will ever rob it of its wonderful and romantic glory.

Perhaps the best story of the charge is that given by a staff officer, whose "Letters from Headquarters" form one of the most interesting of the many accounts of the Crimean campaign. The staff officer was with Lord Raglan watching the progress of the battle from a position which commanded a view of the whole valley of Balaklava. In quoting from his description, we are therefore quoting the words of an eye-witness of the charge. "The Russians had captured earlier in the day, owing to the cowardice of the Turkish troops, were being removed, Lord Raglan sent an order to Lord Lucan (in command of the Cavalry Division) to the effect that the cavalry were to advance to take an opportunity that might offer to recapture the heights from which the Russians had driven the Turks. This opportunity did not occur, according to the view that Lord Lucan took, of the matter. Half an hour later, Lord Raglan sent another message to Lord Lucan. It was as follows:

THE FATAL ORDER.

"Lord Raglan wishes the cavalry to advance rapidly to the front, follow the enemy, and try to prevent the enemy carrying away the guns. Troops of horse artillery may accompany. French cavalry is on your left. Immediate."

This order was entrusted to Captain Nolan, a cavalry officer of great experience. What followed is best told in the words of a staff officer's story.

"When the order was delivered to Lord Lucan, he demurred for a moment putting it into execution, and Lord Nolan what it was that he was to do, who replied, it is said, 'My lord, is our enemy, and are our guns,' at the same time pointing down the valley to where the enemy had a battery of eight guns, with artillery also on each flank. Captain Nolan appears to have totally misunderstood the instructions he had received 'the guns' in the written order, of course, alluded to the guns the enemy had captured in the redoubts, and were, it was thought, carrying away, and the direction which Nolan pointed out to Lord Lucan was quite contrary to that intended by Lord Raglan. Lord Lucan appears to have considered that he was bound to charge the enemy, and therefore made arrangements to carry out the object which, he supposed, Lord Raglan had in view. He consequently communicated with Lord Cardigan, and desired him to form the Light Brigade into two lines. Lord Cardigan urged the uselessness of making such an attack, but Lord Lucan replied that his orders were imperative. The fatal order to advance was then given, and to the horror of all of us on the

heights above, we saw our handful of light cavalry advance down towards the Russian batteries."

The Light Brigade consisted of scarcely 700 horses, although composed of no fewer than five different regiments. In the first line were four squadrons of the 18th Light Dragoons (now Hussars) and 17th Lancers; in the second were four squadrons of the 4th Light Dragoons (now Hussars) and 11th Hussars. In their rear was one squadron of the 8th Hussars as a sort of reserve. The historian already quoted thus describes the scene which followed:

CAPTAIN NOLAN STRUCK DOWN.

"As they started into a trot, poor Nolan galloped some way in front of the Brigade, waving his sword, and encouraging the men by voice and gesture. Before, however, they had gone any distance the enemy's guns opened on them at long range. Nolan was the first man killed; some grape shot hit him in the chest; his horse turned and carried him to the rear through our advancing squadrons. His screams were heard far above the din of battle, and he fell dead from his saddle near the spot where the order had been given for the charge.

The pace of our cavalry increased every moment until they went thundering along, making the ground tremble beneath them. The awful slaughter that was going on from the fire the enemy poured into them apparently did not check their career. On they went, heedless to the death, disregarding aught but the object of their attack. At length they arrived at the guns, their numbers sadly thinned, but the few that remained made fearful havoc amongst the enemy's artillery men. Scarce a man escaped, except those who crept under their gun-carriages, and thus put themselves out of the reach of our men's swords. This was the moment when a general was most required, but unfortunately, Lord Cardigan was not then present. On coming up to the battery as he himself afterwards described it, a gun was fired close to him, and for a moment he thought his leg was gone. Such was not the case, as he remained unhurt; however, his horse took fright, swerved round and galloped off with him to the rear, passing on the way the 4th Light Dragoons and 8th Hussars, before these regiments got up to the battery. The enemy's cavalry had been posted in rear of their guns, and on our advance some of their squadrons had been withdrawn to the higher ground on each flank, the infantry remaining in its old position (behind the guns), and these our cavalry had next to attack. However the Russians did not wait to be assailed, but on the approach of our men ran back to some brushwood behind them, where, of course, our men could not follow. At this time the whole of our squadrons that composed the first, and a greater portion of the second line, were in considerable disorder. No blame was to be attached to any one for this, as so many officers had been either killed, wounded or had their horses shot under them.

WILD CONFUSION.

The amazing number of riderless horses that were galloping about, many of them wounded and wild with fright, added also to the general confusion. Some of our cavalry chased the Russians almost down to Tcher-

naya River, but then, of course, had to return on their exhausted horses to rejoin their brigade. As soon as the Russians saw that all our squadrons had arrived at the guns they sent a large body of Cossacks of the Don to cut off our retreat. This was first observed by one of the troop officers of the 8th Hussars (which regiment was in the rear of the brigade) who immediately rode up and informed Colonel Shewell, the commanding officer, of this movement by the enemy's cavalry. Col. Shewell at once ordered his regiment to wheel about, which being done, he gave the word to charge, and was himself the first to enter the herd of Cossacks. These unfortunates, completely surprised by the manoeuvre, offered but feeble resistance, and this single squadron of the 8th Hussars passed through the Russians, of four times their strength, cutting down all in their way, while the rest dispersed to the right and left. A way was thus cleared for the remainder of our cavalry to retire unopposed—but not unmolested—as the enemy

opened upon them with grape from their guns on both flanks, besides throwing out swarms of skirmishers, which combined fire made fearful havoc of the gallant remnant of the Light Brigade. During the retreat, two squadrons of the Chasseurs d'Afrique, which up to that period had not been engaged, made a brilliant attack on the Russian battery on their left, which was pouring its deadly volleys on the retreating groups of British heroes. They succeeded in silencing for a time several guns, and only retired when they found they were opposed to an overwhelming fire from some Russian infantry which was brought up to repel their attack. In this charge they lost two officers and over fifty men killed and wounded."

The gallant Light Brigade came back to the British lines in twos and threes, some wounded, some supporting a wounded comrade. The mounted strength of the brigade at the end was 195. It had lost 247 men in killed and wounded and had 475 horses killed and 42 wounded.



One of the most servicable and at the same time most attractive materials for the dresses of little girls is French flannel. A dainty Dresden pattern is here employed and the trimming is taffeta bands decorated in French knots.

QUAY'S FISH STORY.

The late Senator Quay, himself a great fisherman, used to enjoy telling of the tall stories recounted by the West Virginia anglers along the banks of the Ohio river.

One day a stranger from Maryland in search of sport asked one of the natives whether there was good fishing in the vicinity.

"None better anywhere," was the reply.

"What kind of fish have you hereabouts?" asked the stranger.

"Oh, most all kinds."

"I hope there are some game fish to be had," continued the man from Maryland.

"Tell me, what was the weight of the largest fish ever caught in this region?"

"Well, sir," responded the West Virginian, "we don't never take no weighin' machines with us when we fish, so I wouldn't like to say, being an honest man, just how much that last trout of mine did weigh. But, stranger, I don't find mind tellin' you that when I pulled that fish out of the water the river went down a foot!"—Harper's Weekly.

A TOWN OF VIOLIN MAKERS.

The only place in the world where violin-making may be said to constitute the staple industry is Markneukirchen, in Saxony, with its numerous surrounding villages. There are altogether about 15,000 people in this district engaged exclusively in the manufacture of violins. The inhabitants, from the small boy and girl to the wrinkled grey-headed veteran and the aged grandmother, are employed throughout the year in making some part or other of this instrument.

LONG-LIVED ANIMALS.

The recent presentation to the Natural History Museum in London of an eagle-owl which has lived 72 years in confinement, leads Mr. W. E. Pyraft, the ornithologist, to assemble a number of instances of great age attained by birds. A golden eagle which died in Vienna in 1719 was known to have been in captivity 104 years. A white-headed vulture captured in 1705 died in the Vienna Zoological Gardens in 1824. There is a record of a falcon which lived to the age of 162 years. In comparatively few instances are the stories of great age attained by animals authenticated by trustworthy records.

GOT CARELESS.

Among the many good stories told by Senator Daniel, of Virginia, is the following:

A gentleman in the south was one day in conversation with a Yankee who had brought letters of introduction from a friend in the north, when it transpired that the northerner was a veteran of the civil war.

"Yes," said the Yankee, "I was a participant in the late unpleasantness. You see this?" he added, pointing to a scar in his face — "I got that at the second battle of Bull Run."

"How in the world did you get hit in the face at the battle of Bull Run?" mischievously asked the southerner.

"Oh," responded the Yankee, with the utmost nonchalance, "I suppose I got careless and looked back." — Harper's Weekly.

A YACHT MADE OF PAPER.

Out of the sheets of an Austrian daily paper an ingenious Viennese engineer has lately constructed for his own use a small yacht, 15 feet long, decked all over and provided with a centre board. In making of the hull, deck, masts, sails, and rudder, several thousand copies of the journal were used—each plank requiring no fewer than 2,500 leaves—and enormous pressure had to be employed before the necessary solidity could be obtained. The inventor has already made several excursions on the Weyher See, and even in equally weather his boat is said to have behaved admirably.

NONE TOO GENTLE.

Surgery in the sixteenth century was not the refined science of the present day. Anaesthetics and antiseptics were unknown, and the operating theatre was often just where the patient fell.

In one of the many battles in which the fighting duke of Guise engaged, he was knocked down by one of the enemy's arrows, which pierced his head between the nose and one of the eyes.

Pare, the famous French surgeon, was on the field, and he immediately put his foot on the duke's face and drew the arrow out by sheer brute force.

The operation inconvenienced the duke somewhat, but he survived it, and lived to be assassinated.

The Days of Auld Lang Syne

Interesting Events of Ye Olden Times Gathered from The Planet's Issues of Half a Century Ago.

From The Planet files from Dec. 3, 1860, to Dec. 14, 1860.

Dr. Pegley, coroner, advertises his drug business.

Fenton's portrait gallery is located in Barfoot's Block.

P. C. Allen is the proprietor of the Post Office Book Store.

James Houston, District Master, calls a meeting of Orangemen in Dresden.

Mr. May opens up a billiard room in the Phoenix Block, King street, Chatham.

A case of chancery begun in England in 1791 was decided in London in October, 1860.

John Jacob Astor was introduced to the Prince of Wales as the wealthiest man in America.

Two little children in Dover Township were left alone for 24 hours. Both were frozen to death.

The English volunteer force now numbers 130,000 men. In case of war it would amount to 550,000 men.

Birth—On the 8th inst., at Grove Farm, Chatham Township, the wife of James Smith, Esq., of a daughter.

Died, on Sunday morning, 16th inst., Mary Elizabeth, aged one year and four months and two days, youngest child of Thomas and Adelaide Stone.

Last year there were in England and Wales 52 capital convictions, one a week on an average, and nine executions followed all for the crime of murder.

Married, at Thomas Larke's Hotel, Chatham, by the Rev. Mr. Nichol, of London, Mr. Peter Field to Mrs. Sarah Johnson, both of the Township of Harwich.

Twenty-five thousand one hundred and fifty-five copies of the Bible were sold in Constantinople in the year 1859, being more than double the sales of the preceding year.

On Friday night last an Indian named Joke Gance, who was hunting in the vicinity of Charing Cross (Cook's Corners), when his gun was discharged and he was killed.

A romantic French chemist burned the body of his friend, extracted from it the iron that was contained in his blood and had it made into a finger ring which he wore in memory of his friend.

Married, at Chatham, on the 11th Dec, at the residence of A. McDonald Black, Esq., by Rev. Mr. Nichol, of London, the Rev. John Rennie, of the Church of Scotland, to Mary Jane, youngest daughter of John Thompson, Esq., of St. John's, Newfoundland.

A. P. Salter, Esq., who has recently returned from the Hyperborean regions, judicially ruled over by the ex-representative for the Western Division, the Hon. John Prince has laid on our table a potato the weight of which is one pound six ounces. This potato is merely left as a sample

of what will grow in the vicinity of Sault Ste. Marie. Certainly it is very fine and speaks volumes in favor of that section of Canada.

Teachers wanted for common schools, Chatham: For Central school—One head teacher holding first class certificate, \$500, assistant male teacher, first class certificate, \$400; female teacher, first class certificate, \$300; assistant female teacher, second class certificate, \$240. North Chatham school—One female teacher, second class, \$240. Colored school—Male teacher, first class certificate, \$400; female teacher, second class certificate, \$240. Jas. H. Sive-wright, Chairman.

We observe by the last issue of the Morpeth Gleaner that it will shortly suspend publication, and on the first of January, 1861, a new journal bearing the cognomen of the Progressionist will be issued in its stead by Messrs. J. B. Richardson, Clipperton & Company. What the policies of the new paper will be or whether it will have any politics at all we do not know. No doubt a prospectus will shortly be laid before the public. Clear Gritism, however, is evidently on the wane in Howard.

The London correspondent of the New York Sun says: I was told the other day an anecdote of the Queen which illustrates her good sense and real desire to promote the welfare of her subjects. She had agreed to have her photograph taken for the gratification of such of her subjects as might desire to possess the counterfeit presentment of their ruler. She presented herself in a plain black silk dress without a particle of ornament. The photographer ventured to suggest that she should send for some jewels. "No," said the Queen, "this photograph is to go among the people and I wish to do all in my power to discourage extravagance." It is such anecdotes as these that have secured the Queen a high place in the regard of the people. I have everywhere heard her spoken of with affectionate respect.

The court of general quarter sessions of the Peace and County Court for the County of Kent opened on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at 12 noon. Present Wm. Benj. Wells, Esq., chairman, J. Stone, Stephen White and Wm. McKerracher, Esqs., J. P.'s. At the Bar, the Clerk of the Peace, A. D. McLean, Chas. E. Pegley, C. R. Atkinson, W. McCrea, R. S. Woods, H. P. Duck and Albert Prince, Esqs. The court having been opened by proclamation the Clerk of the Peace proceeded to call the grand jury, of whom James Hart, Esq., was chosen foreman. Philander Crawford, Augustus Crow, Richard Cudmore, Henry Northwood, James Richmond, David Smith, Henry Bartlett, John W. Dolson, Patrick Flynn, Miles Miller, Cyrus McCully, Lott Patterson, Wm. Reed, W. F. Wilson, James Baxter, R. J. Earl, Thos. R. Adams and Geo. D. Ross.

You don't need charity to look on the best side of a woman; she will keep it turned toward you.

While you are talking about what you are going to do, remember that other people are doing things.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.



Above is a waist of pale pink chiffon, composed of numerous ruffles, piped with black velvet over a taffeta lining of the same shade. The square effect of the yoke is produced by handsome lace to which French knots and other handiwork has been applied. The new wide girdles is here applied.



Attractive waist of oriental silk, in golden blue, embroidered in Persian colored flees, among which are tracings of gold thread. Narrow lace is a rich cream finish for yoke and cuffs.