

PAGES OF BRITISH HISTORY.

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

Under the above heading THE ANGLO-SAXON purposes to devote space in future issues to an account of British battles and leading events in the history of the creation of the Empire.

The ANGLO-SAXON proposes to do its part towards supplying the deficiency, in order that the Sons of Englishmen, Scotchmen and Irishmen in Canada may learn how their fathers fought, conquered and died for their country and the Empire, and won and bequeathed to us their heirs this fair Dominion of ours.

CHAPTER II.

THE BATTLE OF THE STANDARD, 1138. (Continued from our last.)

The three lines of the Scots were now in sight; and on a signal being given, the whole English knelt while the representative of Thurstan read from the carriage the prayer of absolution. With a universal shout, they answered "Amen," and then every man repaired to his place. From the Conquest to the close of the twelfth century but little change had taken place in the armour and weapons of the English; but five distinct varieties of body-armour were worn by them about the time of the Standard—a scaly suit of steel, with a chapelle de fer, or iron cap; a hauberk of iron rings; a suit of mail or quilted armour; another of rings set edgewise; and a fifth of regulated mail, composed of small square plates of steel lapping over each other like tiles, with a long flowing tunic of cloth below.

Though the red lion had been one national emblem of the Scots for more than a hundred years, and traditionally the thistle for a much longer period, on this day the standard borne by them was simply a long lance with a tuft of blooming mountain heather attached to it; and the armour and equipment of the Lowlanders were pretty much like those of the English. The vanguard consisted of Lothian and Teviotdale, the moss-troopers of Liddesdale and Cumberland, and the fierce and wild men of Galloway under their principal chiefs, Ulric and Donald, led by Prince Henry, who was reinforced by a body-guard of men-at-arms under Eustace Fitzjohn, a Norman baron of Northumberland, whom Stephen had offended by depriving him of the castle of Bam-borough.

The second line was composed of the Highland and Island clans, armed with their round targets, two-handed claymores, and tuags or pole-axes. The third, or reserve line, under the king, consisted of a strong body of Saxon and Norman knights on men-at-arms, with the men of Moray and from other parts covering the rear. Such was the singularly mixed force led by the Scottish king; for in his ranks were many men of England who favored the cause of his niece the empress, or were disgusted with Stephen's rule at home.

Favoured by a dense fog and the smoke of burning villages, which concealed his advance for a time, he was not without hope of taking the English by surprise; but they were fully prepared, and every man stood to his arms. Ere the battle began, the Norman barons, inspired by a humanity somewhat new to them, sent to the Scottish army Robert Bruce, Earl of Annandale, and Bernard de Baliol, nobles who held vast estates in both countries, to offer as conditions of peace "to procure from Stephen a full grant of the earldom of Northumberland in favor of Prince Henry."

The speech of Bruce, which was long, and contains many curious facts, is reported at length by Alred, a contemporary and confidant of David, hence it may be assumed to be substantially accurate; but David rejected all proposals.

Then exclaimed William MacDonogh, his nephew, "Bruce, thou art a false traitor!" Whereupon Bruce and Baliol departed, renouncing their allegiance to the Scottish crown, and the advance was resumed. The king, resolving now to place some Norman knights and Saxon archers in the van, gave terrible offence to the bare-kneed Celts who were in his army, and it threatened the most disastrous consequences.

"Whence comes this mighty confidence in those Normans?" asked Malise, Earl of Strathearn, scornfully. "I wear no armour; but there is not one among them who will advance beyond me this day."

"Rude Earl," replied Allan de Piercy,

a Norman knight, "you boast of what you dare not do."

David had to interfere, and place the Celtic clans of Galloway in the van, and reserve to himself the command of the Scots properly so called.

The English were drawn up in a dense mass around the covered standard. Their men-at-arms dismounted, and sending their horses to the rear, mingled with the archers, and met the shock of battle on foot. It was begun by the fierce "wild men" as they were named, of Galloway, who flung themselves sword in hand on the serried English spears with shouts of "Albanaich! Albanaich!" which means, "We are the men of Albyn!" The spearmen gave way; but a heavy shower of arrows threw the Celts into disorder, and as they fell back the English taunted them by shouting, "Erygh! Erygh!" ("Ye are but Irish! Ye are but Irish!") Prince Henry now rushed on at the head of his mailed cavalry, charging with lances levelled, and broke through the English ranks, says Alred, "as if they had been spiders' webs," and actually dispersed those who guarded the horses in the rear. Ulric and Donald had fallen, yet the Galloway men rallied without them and renewed the attack; the other lines were closing up, and for two hours the battle was but one wild melee of men and horses wedged and struggling together. Thus far one account. Another says that it was in vain that the Scots, "after giving three shouts in the manner of their nation," sought with their swords to break through the forest of spears. "Their courage only exposed them to the deadly aim of the archers; and at the end of two hours, disheartened by the loss, they wavered, broke, and fled."

The story goes that when the Galloway men rallied, and with terrible yells were about to renew the attack, an English soldier, with singular tact and presence of mind, suddenly elevated a human head upon his spear, and shouted "Behold the head of the King of the Scots!"

This spread speedy consternation, and the men of Galloway fled, falling back upon the second line, while the third abandoned the field without striking a blow. On foot, David strove to rally them, but in vain; then his knights and men-at-arms, perceiving that the day was lost, constrained him to quit the field. Placing himself at their head, he covered the retreat and prevented the pursuit of his ill-matched army as far as Carlisle, when, enraged by their defeat and the loss of some thousands of their number, fired with mutual animosities and petty national jealousies, they assaulted each other, and fought promiscuously among themselves.

It was on the 25th August that David entered Carlisle, and there for some days he was in great uncertainty as to the fate of his gallant son, Prince Henry, whose impetuosity had carried him through the ranks of the English. On his return from the chase of the fugitives in the rear, finding the battle lost, he commanded his men to throw away their banners, and so mingling with the pursuers, he passed them undiscovered, and after many hazards succeeded in reaching Carlisle on the third day after the king's father.

In their retreat the Galloway men carried off many Englishwomen, who were only restored through the intervention of Alberic, Bishop of Ostia, the papal legate, a circumstance which affords some proof of the barbarity of the times, and the ferocity of the troops who carried on the war. Yet David who led them was founder of twelve of the most magnificent abbeys in Scotland. At Carlisle he exacted a solemn oath from all that they should never again desert him in war; and after storming and razing to the ground Walter L'Espes castle of Werk, he returned to Scotland more like a conqueror than one whose army had been so totally routed, as the victors of Northallerton were not in a condition to follow up the advantage they had gained; and ultimately, through the mediation of the legate and the Queen of England, peace was concluded on the 9th April, 1139.

The old monastic writers of England dwell with great satisfaction on the singular battle of the Standard, which they considered to have been won, less by the valor and hardihood of those who fought under old Walter L'Espes of Werk, than the influence of the holy relics and the banners of St. Peter of York, St. Wilfred of Ripon, and St. John of Beverley. The place where they stood is still called the Standard Hill of Northallerton.

(To be continued.)

New York Herald: "Isn't the Canadian Pacific's evident desire to have an outlet and terminus in New York another movement toward annexing this country to Canada?"

LETTERS FROM SETTLERS.

EXPERIENCES OF SCANDINAVIAN COLONISTS.

Settlers who were Induced to Leave for the States—Glad to Come Back to Canada.

In the Eastern Townships.

The following letters will be read with deep interest by Englishmen who have relatives in the mother land, who desire information respecting Canada as a field for settlement:

The undersigned having had from ten to twelve years' residence in Waterville, P. Q., Canada, will give some of their experiences about the country.

Some of us came here in 1882 without one cent in our pockets and we were sent from Quebec to Sherbrooke, fourteen in number, and we being Swedes and Norwegians, could not speak one word with the agent, and he telegraphed to C. O. Swanson, who came and took us all to Waterville, and here we got everything that we wanted, both food and work, and what furniture we needed to keep house with. Not only us but all who have come here have been treated the same, no matter of what nationality.

TRIED THE STATES.

After four years' stay in Waterville we heard much about the large wages which people were getting in the United States, so a few families started for Uncle Sam's domain, on May 20, 1886. We travelled through different states and did not find any place we liked as well as Waterville. Of course there were a great many fine looking places but it was so hot that we could not stand it. At last we went to work in Detroit, Mich., but we did not like it and it took all we earned to keep our families. We saw plainly that we were one hundred (100) per cent. better off in Canada not only financially but also in health. We did not have one drink of real good water the whole time we were away; and in Canada the climate is so much better and we had by this time found out what Mr Swanson had told us before we started, that we had made a mistake.

Some of us had spent about \$500. Two of us had been working for Mr. Swanson in his furniture factory in Waterville, and we concluded to write asking him if we could get our places if we came back. He answered that if we had

HAD ENOUGH OF THE STATES

we could come back, and we arrived at Waterville the second time with no money. But now we are well off again and we intend to stay and enjoy our blessed country as long as we live.

We have here one of the best schools in the province in which our children may finish their education without going off anywhere else, and we hope that many of our countrymen will come this May, and make their homes in the Eastern Townships and they will see then that what we say is true, but we must acknowledge for any one of limited means who likes farming perhaps they will do better to go to

THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

and take free homesteads. We don't say this on account of our own knowledge of the country, but we heard C. O. Swanson's statement of his travels through Manitoba and the Northwest last fall. And with these few remarks we will close our letter. If any one wants any more information they can have it by writing to us. We remain,

Yours truly,

- Goulbrand Olsen, Norway.
Henry T. Hamberg, Linden, Sweden.
Jahun F. Anderson, Sweden.
Iver Knudson, Sweden.
Thmid M Moene, Norway.
C. E. Hanson, Sweden.
J. F. Johnson, Sweden.
Mathias J. Knudson, Norway.
John Knutsen, Norway.
C. M. Broden, Sweden.
Waterville, P. Q., Canada, May 31, 1892.

From Michigan to Assiniboia.

Yorkton, Assa.—By request of Mr. C. O. Swanson I am glad to tell Scandinavians generally how I like this part of the country and what I think of Scandinavians taking land and making homes for themselves here.

I came here from Minnesota, in the spring of 1884, so you see I have been here seven years. I also travelled through Dakota and looked after free homestead land, but all the good land there had already been taken so I could not get any that I liked.

I am well satisfied with the land I have here. It is well adapted for both stock raising and crops of all kinds, and

in fact I am positive that there is no better land in America.

Good water may be got by digging from ten to thirty feet, and plenty of wood for both fencing and firewood.

In many places it is not necessary to dig for water, as there is good water in the brooks, etc.

There is plenty of timber for building houses and barns. I am not sorry that I came here to settle, as I have had crops every year since I came here and they can then see for themselves that what I have written, is true. As Mr. Swanson does not want a long letter I will close by saying that if any one wants any more information, to write to me and I will give you all I can. (Signed) N. H. NELSON, Yorkton P.O., Assa., N. W. T., Canada.

From Michigan to Assiniboia.

By request of C. O. Swanson, who is now travelling through this country for the purpose of encouraging Scandinavian immigration, I left Michigan, United States, for the purpose of visiting some friends at Whitewood, and I have been so favorably impressed with the country that I have decided to stay, and have bought two acres of land here in the town and have entered for a quarter-section of homestead land, and have entered another quarter-section for a friend who will be here in the spring.

I have thoroughly investigated the Whitewood district and found that the farmers are all doing well and I have seen where they have threshed their wheat, barley, oats, etc., and a good many have realized 40 to 45 bushels to the acre of wheat, barley as high as 65 to 75 bushels, oats 80 to 100 bushels, and hardly any frozen.

Not only is the land good for grain, but also for stock. I left the United States Republic in June last, where I have been doing business as a mine carpenter for fifteen years, and I prefer this country for farming and will say without hesitation that if people of limited means only knew what land they can find and the opportunities this country offers to its settlers, they would do well to get away from mining districts and crowded places and come and get a home for themselves and their children.

(Signed) W. H. BUDDLE, Whitewood, Assa., Canada.

From Dakota to Assiniboia.

Written at the request of C. O. Swanson by C. F. Dayton, formerly of Brown county, South Dakota.

I came here October 1st, 1890 and have travelled over this district considerably and am happy to say that I never saw a better country for mixed farming. There is plenty of timber and hay, and the country is fairly well watered on the surface by ponds and sluices and some creeks, which afford good water, but the ponds are mostly brackish but good for stock. Good water may be had by digging from 10 to 25ft.

The general appearance of this country is very much like South Western Minnesota. There is not so much wind. In short, it is a first class stock and mixed farming country.

I am located on section 16, township 30, range 11, west two miles. My post office is Yorkton, Assa., N. W. T. Will be glad to answer any inquiries made in regard to this country. (Signed) C. F. DAYTON, Yorkton, Assa., Canada.

From Tideway to Tideway.

In an article under the above heading in the Times, Mr. Rudyard Kipling writes:—"Then a fellow traveller spoke, as many others had done, on the possibilities of Canadian union with the United States; and his language was not the language of Mr. Goldwin Smith. It was brutal in places. Summarised, it came to a pronounced objection to have anything to do with a land, (the United States), rotten before it was ripe, a land with seven million negroes as yet unwelded into the population, their race-type unevolved, and rather more than crude notions on murder, marriage and honesty. This is very sad and chilling. It seemed quite otherwise in New York, where Canada was represented as a ripe plum, ready to fall into Uncle Sam's mouth when he should open it. The Canadian has no special love for England—the Mother of Colonies has a wonderful gift for alienating the affections of her own household by neglect—but, perhaps, he loves his own country. Here are the waters of the Pacific and Vancouver (completely destitute of any decent defences) grown out of all knowledge in the last three years. At the railway wharf, with never a gun to protect her, lies the Empress of India—the Japan boat—and what more auspicious name could you wish to find at the end of one of the strong chains of empire?"

THE 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 this 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.

Reverence for and adhesion 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 for greater as the Society's influence and usefulness is better known. Lodges have been started in 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. The assessments are graded. A total disability allowance is also covered by the Society. 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.

The Society is governed by a Grand Lodge with subordinate lodges—the officers of which are elected annually.

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 British freedom.

Any further information will be cheerfully given by the undersigned.

JOHN W. CARTER,

Grand Secretary.

Grand Secretary's Office, Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, April 1st, 1892.

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