

PAGES OF BRITISH HISTORY.

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

OFF USHANT, 1794.

We now begin to approach the most stirring period of our naval and military annals, the menaced invasion of 1798; the renewed threats in 1801, and the still more formidable crisis of 1805. No Englishman who is worthy of the name can recall those times—the times of Howe, of Jarvis, of Calder, of Collingwood, and (greatest of all) of Nelson—without feeling a glow of patriotic pride at the deeds then done, the perils then averted, the conquests then achieved, and the humiliation of the strongest and fiercest foe by whom Britain was ever assailed; and at the preservation of this island, unscathed and inviolate by hostile fire or sword, while every other country in Europe was swept by the desolating storm of war.

The attack of the French mobs upon hereditary sovereignty alarmed all Europe; and when the blood of the royal family of France stained the scaffold, Britain, Holland, Spain, Austria, Prussia, and other states declared war against the new French Republic, and in 1793 that strife began which was to last, with little interruption, for twenty-two years.

Twenty-one sail of the line and several frigates, in addition to those already in commission, were on the 2nd of February ordered to be got ready and fitted for sea with the utmost expedition. At this crisis the British navy consisted of 156 ships of the line; 23 of fifty guns, 140 frigates, and 95 sloops—in all 414 sail.

The year 1794 saw some brilliant encounters with the enemy by sea. Among these, few were more gallantly fought than the action off Ushant, on the memorable 1st of June.

Most stately was the fleet which had been cruising off Brest and Ushant during the past month of May, under the veteran Earl Howe, one of Britain's most able admirals. He had with him the Queen Charlotte, a three-decker, of 110 guns, carrying his own flag, the Sovereign, 110 guns, carrying the flag of Admiral Graves, the conqueror of the Count de Grasse; and the Royal George, also 110 guns, with the flag of Sir Alexander Hood; the stout old Berdeur, 98 guns, which had the white flag of Sir George Bowyer, and whose captain was Cuthbert Collingwood; the Impregnable and Queen, each of 98 guns; and nineteen other ships of 80 and 74 guns; and in addition to this armada of two- and three-deckers were seven frigates.

The fleet was formed in three squadrons.

The van was led by Admiral Pasley, in the Bellerophon, 74, in after years the "prison ship" of the great Emperor.

The centre was led by Earl Howe, in the Queen Charlotte, 110 guns, with 900 men.

The rear by Sir Alexander Hood, K. B., Admiral of the Blue. The frigates Niger, Pegasus, and Aquilon were attached to each squadron, to repeat signals.

The result of the Revolution was that at this time a scarcity almost amounting to famine pressed sorely upon the French, who looked forward to the arrival of a convoy, consisting of no less than 350 sail, from various American ports, laden with West Indian produce. At the same time the Republican Government had fitted out at Brest under Rear-Admiral Villaret Joyeuse, a most formidable fleet, to cope with any that we might send to sea. So now Earl Howe's first object was to capture or destroy the American convoy; and secondly, to fight, if necessary, the Brest fleet, which otherwise might blockade our Channel ports, and incommode our commerce. After escorting a fleet of merchantmen clear of the Lizard, he had steered for Ushant, where he lay on the watch; and while cruising there he learned on the 19th, from an American ship, that the Brest fleet had actually left the port some days before, and that it consisted of twenty-five ships of the line and fifteen frigates and corvettes, under Villaret Joyeuse, and the Convention Deputy Jean-bon St. Andre, the three largest vessels being Le Terrible, Le Montagne, Le Republicain, each of 120 guns and 1,000 men.

On the 17th this armament had passed near the British fleet unseen in a dense fog; but they had heard fog-signals—beating of drums and ringing of bells. Villaret on the 19th fell in with the Lisbon convoy, consisting of Dutch vessels, and captured twenty of them, an omen of good fortune which animated the seamen more effectually

than a hundred harangues from the Citizen Deputy would have done; and then he proceeded to effect a junction with a squadron from Rochefort.

Earl Howe obtained accurate information of the enemy's movements; and from the crews of some captures he made, he learned that the French intended to use red-hot shot, and that their officers had resolved to fight at close quarters.

On the morning of the 28th, when about 140 leagues off Ushant, the enemy were descried at some distance to windward. This was about six in the morning, when the sun was breaking redly in the east, and a breeze blowing fresh, south by west, causing the ships to roll heavily. On perceiving the British fleet, they hoisted their topgallant-sails and bore down in loose order, but soon after hauled again to the wind, and began to form in order of battle.

Our fleet still continued in order of sailing, save the van, under Admiral Pasley, which lay to windward of the whole, and were fast coming up with the French. About ten a.m. Lord Howe made that signal ever so welcome to a British fleet, to "prepare for action," for the Bellerophon to shorten sail, and the ships to get in compact order.

The hostile squadrons continued imperceptibly to approach each other, and when but a few miles apart, the French suddenly hauled to the wind on the port tack and lay to. A three-decker was then observed to hail each ship in succession, on which Earl Howe signalled for the fleet to wear, and coming to on the same tack as the French, he pressed to windward in two divisions. The crews were now piped to dinner, and in their grog, amid three cheers, drank "Confusion to the French, and a glorious victory to Old England!"

The number of men and guns in the action that ensued was 2,228 guns and 20,900 in all; but the French were superior to us by one ship, 60 guns, 4,002 lbs. of metal, 6,182 and tons.

Towards the close of the day, Admiral Pasley, in the Bellerophon, came up with the rear ship of the enemy's line, a three-decker, on which he commenced a fierce and resolute attack. She was La Revolutionnaire, 120 guns. For more than an hour he maintained the unequal contest, for she had 1,000 men on board, while Pasley's seventy-four had but 615; and when the mainmast of the Bellerophon fell, he was compelled to fall to leeward and rejoin the fleet. Her antagonist, which had suffered even more severely, put before the wind. The Audacious came up at this time, and continued to engage the same ship for two hours without intermission, when the mizzenmast of La Revolutionnaire went by the board, her lower-yards and maintop-sail-yard were shot away, and in this situation she fell helplessly athwart the hawse of the Audacious; but afterwards getting clear, she let fall her courses, and stood away before the wind, at a time when Captain Parker was unable to follow, as his sails and rigging were cut to pieces.

As the night which came on was extremely dark, he could not discern the lights of the fleet, and when day dawned nine of the enemy's ships were discovered to windward of the Audacious, whose situation became alarming when two of these gave chase; but, by the activity of her officers and men, she was enabled to preserve her distance, and they could perceive the great ship with which they had been engaged overnight lying like a log upon the sea, totally dismasted. Some prisoners on board the Audacious informed Captain Parker that under the monarchy she had been named Le Bretagne.

On the 29th a partial engagement took place between the hostile fleets, in which some of the enemy's ships were severely handled, and the weatherage kept by the British. For the two following days thick foggy weather prevented any operations, though at intervals the ships were in sight of each other, and not many miles distant, gliding from one bank of mist into another.

Such were the preludes to the great encounter on the 1st of June, when, in latitude 47 degrees 48 minutes north, and longitude 18 degrees 30 minutes west, with the sea rolling gently before a south-west wind, the fleet of France was seen by the British, early in the morning, steering in line of battle on the starboard tack.

(To be continued.)

Prince George Lodge, No. 28, Juvenile Branch, Gananoque, Ont., at their last meeting in March, appointed a drill instructor, and drill will commence at once. A description of the drill will be published in the ANGLO-SAXON for the benefit of other juvenile lodges. The Drill Instructor would be glad of some pointers from others interested.

SONS OF ENGLAND CALENDAR.

HISTORICAL EVENTS IN ENGLISH HISTORY

IN THE MONTH OF APRIL.

- 2nd—Richard Cobden died, 1865.
4th—Dublin Castle burned, 1708.
King James deposed, 1789.
5th—James I left Edinburgh for London, 1603.
Danton evacuated, 1794.
Canada discovered, 1499.
Battle of Lech, 1632.
6th—Capture of Badajoz, 1812.
Richard I. Cœur de Lion, died, 1109.
7th—D'Arcy McGee shot, 1868.
Duke of Albany born, 1853.
8th—Hudson Bay Co. established, 1602.
Queen's Own Rifles arrived at Qu'Appelle, 1885.
11th—William III. and Mary crowned King & Queen of England, 1689
12th—Transvaal annexed, 1877.
£5 Bank notes first issued, 1793.
13th—First Photograph produced in England, 1802.
Christopher Pitt died, 1748.
14th—Naval Engagement in British Channel, 1233.
15th—Mutiny at Spithead, 1707.
16th—Battle of Culloden, 1746.
18th—Sir Francis Baring born, 1740.
19th—Byron died, 1824.
Beaconsfield died, 1881.
21st—Bishop Heber born, 1783.
Henry VIII died, 1509.
22nd—Bombardment of Odessa, 1854.
Kandahar evacuated, 1881.
Darwin died, 1882.
23rd—Shakespeare died, 1616.
25th—Battle of Almanza, 1707.
English Army enters Edinburgh, 1573.
Riot in Montreal, 1849.
27th—Americans capture Toronto and burn Parliament Bldgs., 1813.
Nepalese War India ends, 1815.
28th—Victoria declared Empress of India, 1876.
Mutiny of Bounty, 1789.
29th—Disastrous hurricane on Island of Mauritius, 1802.
Peace with Russia, 1856.
War with France, 1803.
30th—Battle of Fontenoy, 1725.
Sir John Lubbock born, 1834.

The members of the Sons of England, and Englishmen, will notice that some of the most important and decisive acts and events in the pages of our country's history happened in this month. Why not hunt them up and enjoy the perusal of these events, and give the lodge the benefit of your search into the annals of our country's history.

REX HOWARD.

TORONTO S. O. E. NOTES.

(Communicated.)

Lady Warwick Lodge, Daughters of England, are making good progress. Their last regular meeting was a very successful one. The members are determined to make this lodge one of the strongest in the city. Visitors are always made welcome.

We regret to hear of the death of Bro. David Herring, of New York. He was an old member of Albion No. 1, and had been in New York for the last four or five years. He was in the prime of life, and unmarried. He was not in the beneficiary.

Bro. Jas. Lomas, one of the founders of the Order, is laid up with rheumatism.

Bro. Wingfield, of Albion Lodge, who has been suffering with rheumatism for some time, has been obliged to take to his bed.

Bro. Jeffrey, P. P. of Chatham lodge, was made the recipient of a beautiful P. P. jewel. After which he entertained the members in "ye olde English style." Bro. Dr. Norman Allan presided.

The annual dinner of London lodge was a great success. It was the first held in their new lodge room, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Bro. Ald. Frankland occupied the chair. The invited guests were Geo. F. Carrette, father of the Order, and James Lomas, one of the founders. Several visiting GrandLodge delegates were also present.

The Supreme Grand Secretary, Bro. Carter, received a grand reception at the banquet; it was fully five minutes before he could speak, so great was the cheering; it shows the esteem in which Bro. Carter is held by the Order all over the Dominion.

Albion Lodge at their last meeting were honored with the presence of several delegates of the Grand Lodge. The business of the meeting was

brought to a close earlier than usual, so as to allow speeches from the visitors, and a very enjoyable time was spent for the remainder of the evening.

Over 600 sat down at the banquet, and what a grand sight it was, and 400 ladies and friends viewed them from the galleries. It was the finest in the history of the Order, and did credit to the queen city of the west.

Bro. S. Hine, past president of London Lodge, was presented with a P.P. Jewel at their annual dinner. Bro. Grundy, of St. Alban's Lodge, made the presentation on behalf of London Lodge.

Bro. W. R. Johnson, who left with his family for England some two years ago, has returned again to Toronto. While residing in England his family had very poor health.

Hammersmith Lodge are changing their place of meeting to Dingman's Hall. April 6th will be their first meeting in their new quarters, and they extend a cordial welcome to all visitors who can honor them with their presence.

Bro. Geo. Clay, who has the new directory on hand, is still unable to complete it, on account of some of the Secretaries not sending in their lists. We trust those who have not done so will send without further delay, as the Directory is much needed and appreciated by the members. We see no reason why Secretaries should not aid Bro. Clay in this matter.

General S.O.E. Notes.

As Bro. Jno. Nott was getting off the south train last Thursday evening, he slipped on the frozen planks, the train being in motion at the time. He held on to the handle of the car, however, which dragged him about six rods. Mr. R. Vansickler, seeing Bro. Nott's position, ran after him and took hold of his feet and wanted him to get up, but Mr. Nott thought the better way not to do so until the train stopped at the switch, thereby averting an accident. All's well that ends well, though.—Port Perry Standard.

Lodge Rose of Couchiching, No. 23, S. O. E., held their regular quarterly meeting on Monday evening, the 19th ult. It was one of the largest meetings in the history of the lodge. Among other matters it was decided to change the nights of meeting from alternate Mondays to the first and third Mondays in each month. A vote of condolence was given to Bro. H. Greenland, on the loss of his child. Owing to the large amount of business on hand, the delegate's report of the Supreme Grand Lodge meeting was postponed.—Orillia Packet.

QUEBEC.

Bro. B. T. Sellers, of Lodge Yorkshire, Montreal, informs us that the brethren of that lodge are doing well and the Order on the increase and prospering. Bro. Sellers has promised to keep the ANGLO-SAXON posted upon the movements of Englishmen in the commercial metropolis.

A brother writing from the Province of Quebec, says:—"I take great pleasure in remitting to you \$1.00 for continuation of lodge card in the Englishman's Encyclopedia—the ANGLO-SAXON."

The concert and ball, under the auspices of Victoria Jubilee Lodge, Montreal, last week, was a decided success. The programme, an excellent one, was thoroughly enjoyed. At a recent meeting of this lodge the members presented past-president Robert Penk with a past officer's jewel. Bro. ex-Ald. Thompson, on behalf of the lodge, made the presentation.

The members of the Sons of England in Montreal (East End), have succeeded in organizing a fife and drum band. Mr. Albert Cardwell has been appointed leader, Mr. A. Dunne, president, and F. W. Cardwell, secretary-treasurer.

OTTAWA.

Lodge Derby, No. 30, gave a most interesting entertainment on the 13th March. So popular has become the entertainments got up by this lodge that the hall was so crowded a large number had to go away. It was a financial success.

Lodge Stanley, No. 55, held their quarterly meeting on Thursday night last. There were a large number present. Bro. E. J. Reynolds read a report of the Grand Lodge proceedings, which was received and discussed. President Bro. Cheetham, presented a past president's jewel to Bro. E. Bull, who responded to the honor conferred upon him in a few well chosen remarks. A committee was appointed to arrange for an open concert to be held on the 12th April.

DO YOU WANT IT.

Just before the writer took up a pen to write this item, the following editorial article, from the Chicago Ledger, was brought to his attention. It says: "Nearly every day the newspapers give an account of some eminent man falling suddenly dead at his desk from heart disease. As a rule, no middle-aged man in active business dies thus suddenly unless poisoned, and that poison, in the majority of cases, is tobacco. Meanwhile the slaughter goes on. The press and pulpit seem muzzled, the majority being participants in the popular vice, and those who are not seem hypnotized and afraid to speak out."

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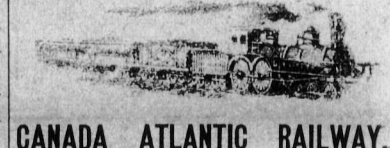
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For time of trains see time tables. E. J. CHAMBERLIN, C. J. SMITH, General Manager. Gen'l. Pass. Agent.

General F

Such is the general the Manitoba clinic already formed, and those in incubating pointment of a sp a luxurious appen save that of the ex dates, and that th paid for by the ap into the Order.

"At home."—O March 20th, the Westminster lodg and a number of l a very enjoyable a it being the occas "at home" enterta ville, secretary, oc his usual pleasant a few introductory those who were programme. T which was enjoye brought to a clo Save the Queen.

We beg to draw readers to the Gra Daughters and which appears on

A very enternta social was given t England of Kings programme was out. Past Presic Smythe, Q. C., oc Lodge Richmond 6th annual dinner good time was en

"A Short Rou we published in from our Winnip copied in full t ANGLO-SAXON, b Winnipeg, on the respondent is kn best informed me We print on Bro. Thos. Ellio Lodge. Next issu commendations t On page 7 will White Rose degr lodges of the city A. Rush, presiden secretary.

A LAW THAT IS Owing to the Friendly Societies presiding officer side in that provi wards, who filled Vice-President in the Sons of Eng year, was presen to the office of A resolution was the Grand Lodg Toronto recently executive to have Society registere Act for Friendly As the Order has ing from the Atls was deemed advi To recognize the Edwards a resol the Grand Lodge Supreme Grand Grand President

Bowwood lodge, O of its surgeon, D Friday morning, very short illness taken to Toronto to be interred in