

INWARD ENGLISH MAILS.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL NEWS FOR CANADA

Royal, Political and Commercial Doings—Affairs in Ireland—Britain and Switzerland.

The Earl of Rosebery has visited Windsor Castle and was privately invested by Her Majesty with the Order of the Garter.

Princess Louise has opened an exhibition of industrial work made by pupils at the recreative evening schools of the metropolis.

It is officially announced that the Imperial Government has decided to send immediately a Commissioner to Uganda to report on the condition of that country and the best means of dealing with it.

Mr. Asquith, Home Secretary, speaking at the City Liberal Club, said that he was unable to state the measures that would be introduced by the Government, but endeavors would be made to give the widest possible extension to the exercise and enjoyment of popular rights.

Mr. Esslemont has vacated his seat for east Aberdeenshire on his acceptance of the office of Chairman of the Scottish Fisheries Board, and Mr. Buchanan, late M.P. for West Edinburgh, has been selected as the Liberal candidate to supply the vacancy.

In the election petition against the return for Walsall, the Judges decided that the election of Mr. James was void on account of an illegal payment by his agent for badges to be worn by his supporters.

Lord Ripon replying to a recent deputation, said that the Government would consider carefully before the expiration of the convention next year the future arrangements for Swaziland.

The Court of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland has reversed a decision of the Dublin Diocesan Court, and declared that placing a cross on or immediately behind the Communion table was illegal.

Two days' continuous rain has caused extensive inundations in Ireland, and railway traffic has been greatly interrupted.

A steamer on Nov. 25, ran into a lighthouse in Belfast Lough and knocked it completely over. The keeper and one son were drowned, two others being rescued.

Mr. W. H. Preece has been appointed Engineer-in-Chief and Electrician to the Post-office.

The Rev. Dr. Clutterbuck, formerly an Inspector of Schools, and who had been sentenced to four years' penal servitude for obtaining large sums of money by false pretences, died recently in Portland Prison.

Lord Kimberley in receiving a deputation on the subject of female education in India, expressed his sympathy with that object, promising to consider the request for an increased grant to the High School for Native Girls at Poona.

At a meeting of the Evicted Tenants Association in Cork the speakers professed but little confidence in the Government Commission, and one of them recommended evicted tenants to restate themselves and leave Morley to turn them out if he dared.

The Rev. J. Fay, parish priest of Summerhill, has been sentenced by the Court of Queen's Bench in Dublin to a month's imprisonment for using language in his sermons of the nature of threats towards witnesses in the South Meath election petition.

The Villa Palmieri at Florence has been taken for the Queen's occupation during her visit to that city. Her Majesty will leave England in March, and will probably stay in Florence for four or five weeks.

The Duchess of Edinburgh and her daughters have returned from the Continent, and joined the Duke at Admiralty-house, Plymouth.

Britain and Swaziland. Sir Henry Loch and Mr. Cecil Rhodes have been to Sandringham on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales. Sir Henry Loch afterwards left for the Cape. It is stated that he has come to a perfect understanding with the government on the question of Swaziland, and will on his arrival at Cape Town confer with President Kruger, of the Transvaal.

At a meeting held in London for the consideration of the Swaziland question, Mr. F. H. Faviell, who presided, moved a resolution against handing over the country to the Boers and in favour of the protection of British interests and of the independence of the Swazis. This was carried, and other resolutions claiming equal civil and political rights for British as for Dutch inhabitants of

the South African Republic, and urging the construction of railway communication with Swaziland, were also agreed to, and a committee appointed for the furtherance of the object of the meeting.

The Religion of Infants.

In the Court of Appeal, Lords Justices Lindley, Bowen, and A. L. Smith have pronounced judgment in an appeal from the decision of Mr. Justice North, "In re M'Grath, infants." The case was one in which four children of a Roman Catholic father and of a mother who was originally a Roman Catholic, but became a Protestant, before her death, were left by the mother to the guardianship of a Mrs. Scrimgeour, a Protestant, who was having them educated in Protestant schools. The aunt of the deceased father applied for the removal of Mrs. Scrimgeour from the guardianship; but Mr. Justice North saw no ground for the interference of the Court and dismissed the application, and their Lordships now confirmed his decision, and dismissed the appeal, with costs.

SONS OF THE EMPIRE.

A Reply to Mr. J. T. Wilson's Letter.

The Editor ANGLO-SAXON:

SIR, In taking issue with your able correspondent, J. T. Wilson, of New Westminster, B.C., I do so with every reason to believe in the truth of his expressions of patriotism and fidelity to the Empire, but I am sure so able a writer, and so sound a thinker as he, will admit that there are two, and sometimes more sides, to every important question.

He does not like the passage in "Sons of England's" letter of 1st Nov. issue of your paper, which says, "had it not been for the clannishness of the Scotchmen and the adhesiveness of the Irish I don't suppose the Sons of England would have ever been instituted."

Now as an Englishman thirty years resident in Canada, one who knew what it was to be insulted and thwarted in every possible way by both men and women of the sister kingdoms, merely because he was an Englishman, I know the absolute need there was for the Sons of England B.S. One almost feels inclined to turn round and say, now that Englishmen have been driven to bay, and have at last asserted their nationality they are to be cajoled into letting the enemy who for years abused them, into their stronghold and allow him to muzzle them just at the critical period when by united action they are beginning to get a voice in guiding the affairs of the municipalities to which they belong.

In Ontario years ago, and in a great measure today, whole communities are Irish and Scotch. No Englishmen could get work in Toronto fifteen years ago if an Irishman could be found; qualification was nothing, he must be Irish.

Then again in this city today, nine-tenths of the civic officials are Scotchmen. No later than last spring an Englishman with a Scotch name, unfortunately for himself, marshalled the "Sons" at their church parade. He was a city employe. What, Macdonald an Englishman! horror, cut off his head! and out he went on Tuesday. A dozen other cases come into my mind, but space compels me to forbear.

No, let no amount of special pleading no number of professions of loyalty to the Empire, for a moment induce us to relinquish the staff which the abuse we have undergone in the past for being Englishmen, has hounded us into taking into our own hands, but rather let us ply it vigorously till we have taught other nationalities we have at least as good right to all that is going in Canada as the hitherto most favored nations.

On all subjects in connection with the maintenance of British connection and so forth, we will rub shoulder to shoulder with Sandy and Pat, whenever we are sure those two individuals are of the right persuasion, but let it be understood that English parentage and Protestant faith must ever be the necessary requisition for membership in the S.O.E.

In regard to that portion of Mr. Wilson's letter respecting the formation of a new order, "Sons of the Empire," there I would be with him hand and glove. Such an order is wanted to counteract the ever increasing number of those emanating from a foreign source. There are plenty of good Catholics, both English, Irish and Scotch, could enter such an association, or if preferred it could be like some orders of Foresters, and the creeds could be kept separate. There is no doubt plenty of room for it, and very probably many Sons of England would become members, but let such ever remember that whatever other institution they may join, with them it must be England first.

WINNIPEG FREE LANCE. Winnipeg, Dec. 2, 1892.

PAGES OF BRITISH HISTORY.

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

(Continued from our last.)

Blenheim, 1704.

Various changes were made with varying success, and in these no regiment distinguished itself more than Wyndham's horse (now 6th Dragoon Guards), under Colonel Francis Palmer. The arrival of the Earl of Orkney, K. T., with the second line of infantry sustained the charges of our cavalry, with whom he checked, and ultimately drove the gendarmes back. A thick shroud of smoke now enveloped Blenheim; and while squadron after squadron menaced it on the left, Marlborough ordered his brother, General Charles Churchill, with his division of infantry, to pass the Nebel at Untergrauk, a hamlet which, as it lay in front of their position, the enemy had set in flames.

That officer easily possessed himself of a stone bridge which crossed the stream; and marching between two rows of blazing cottages, his division rapidly formed in columns of regiments on the opposite bank. Simultaneous with this movement was the advance of the cavalry, who, by throwing fascines into the stream, with boards over them, crossed, with difficulty, however, as they were enflamed by the enemy's cannon; thus horse and man fell fast, in many instances to rise no more.

They were as yet unformed, when the enemy's horse rushed down the steep, charged, broke, and drove them to the brink of the stream. Certain destruction must have overtaken them there, had not the infantry, by this time in good order, wheeled to the left and checked the assailants by a fire of musketry as close as it was well directed. By this means the fugitives were enabled to draw together, while a reserve of cavalry, passing the stream, rode furiously upon the French as they retired, and completed their overthrow. Repeated charges now took place, in which sometimes one party, sometimes the other, was successful; while the artillery on both sides kept up a murderous fire, and the carnage was dreadful.

The blaze of musketry now covered all the plain; every inch of ground was disputed with inconceivable obstinacy, and a corps of eleven battalions, led by the Prince of Holstein-Beck, in attempting to pass the stream above Oberclau, was very roughly handled by the Irish Brigade. Its certain rout must have ensued had not Marlborough led up a fresh division to its support; while at the same moment, by a fortunate movement of the Imperial cavalry, he overthrew those of Marsin and assailed his infantry in flank.

Though the French centre was thus broken completely, Oberclau and Blenheim were still to be forced; they were both invested, and the allied army was enabled to form in perfect order upon the communications of the enemy.

On seeing their centre pierced, broken, and driven back, the French in Blenheim made an effort to escape by the rear, but were repulsed. A second attempt to sally in another direction, was vigorously checked by the Scots Greys. Encompassed now on every side, the French fought with fury of despair and rage, while the Marquis de Clerambault, their commander, plunged his horse into the Danube and was engulfed in the stream.

Four Dutch regiments were ordered to storm Oberclau. "Lord Clare maintained the post with incredible bravery," says O'Conor; "the carnage was horrible. Goor's regiment retired with fifty men only. Prince Eugene attacked the left of the Gallo-Bavarians with his usual intrepidity, and was met with equal valour. Three times repulsed, he rallied and brought his men back to the charge. 160,000 men were engaged in this slaughter, and modern warfare had seen nothing equal to it in the fury of the combatants and number of the slain."

At the head of eight battalions, Lieutenant-General the Earl of Orkney attacked the troops in the churchyard; while Lieutenant-General Ingoldsby, with four others, supported by the Royal Irish (or old 5th) Dragoons, under a tempest of round shot, bullets, and grenades, which conveyed anew all the field with corpses, advanced to assail the French in the village, still 13,000 strong, and resisting desperately even after Marsin, "who had no genius for war, and who should have spent his life in courts not camps, and should have joined the devotions of Louis and Madam de Maintenon, instead of leading the veterans of Europe on a field of slaughter," had sounded a retreat, and left them to surrender or die.

Eight o'clock had tolled in the spire of that village church, around which

so many were learning the great secret of time and eternity, ere the fire began to slacken, and the slaughter to cease, when the French drums beat a parley.

Prior to this, Tallard, when he saw the fate of one of his regiments, fought no longer for victory or for vengeance, but for sheer safety, rallied his broken squadrons in the rear of the tents, and had sent urgent messages to Marsin and the Elector on the left for aid, but sent in vain. He had also sent an aide-de-camp to the officer commanding in Blenheim, with peremptory orders to withdraw; but the aide-de-camp never reached his destination, being swept away with the living torrent which now pressed with irresistible fury upon his chief. Thus it was that Blenheim became so completely isolated, and that all became confusion and dismay in the once proud army of France. Without orders, leaders, or discipline, the regiments dispersed and fled like sheep; multitudes were cut down, or surrendered to the cavalry, while a vast number, in seeking to cross and escape, were swept away in the dark rolling waters of the Danube.

When twilight was stealing over the field, the ruined hamlets, and smouldering mills, the French in Blenheim capitulated; twenty-six battalions of infantry and twelve squadrons of cavalry surrendered as prisoners of war, and the bloody field was won. According to the "Atlas Geographus," this result was achieved by the Earl of Orkney, who perceiving a body of French marching towards him from a part of the village which he had ordered to be set on fire, "sent his aide-de-camp, Captain Abercrombie, to offer them quarter if they would surrender. They proved to be part of the French Brigade Royale, commanded by M. de Denonville, their brigadier, who after some difficulty surrendered to the earl. Another French battalion perceiving this, surrendered to Lieutenant-General Ingoldsby. It being near night, and the confederate troops not being in a condition to attack without further reinforcements, the earl sent his aide-de-camp with M. de Denonville into the village (of Blenheim), where there were still twenty-six battalions of foot and twelve squadrons of dragoons, to inform them that their horse were routed and Tallard taken, and to offer them the terms that had been given to the rest. M. Blazac, who commanded in chief, demanded leave to march out and join the rest of their troops, which the earl refused."

On this the whole surrendered unconditionally; but many of the ensigns, in their rage, tore their regimental colours to pieces ("Life of Prince Eugene").

The rout of the French was total and complete. There were taken 100 pieces of cannon, 24 mortars, 129 infantry colours, 171 cavalry standards, 17 pairs of kettledrums, all the tents, coaches, and baggage animals, 15 pontoons, and 2 bridges of boats, 24 barrels and 8 casks of silver, and a vast host of prisoners, including Marshal Tallard, and many officers of the highest civil and military rank.

This success cost the Allies, according to Brodric's "Complete History of the Present War, 1713," 4,435 men killed, 7,525 wounded, and 273 made prisoners. The Prince of Holstein and Brigadier Rowe died of their wounds; Major-General Cornwallis, Colonel Dormer of the English Guards, Lieutenant-Colonel Dalzel, Featherstonehaugh, and Lord William Forbes, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Scots Horse Guards, were among the officers killed. Among those wounded were Lord North, who lost his right hand, and Lord Mordaunt, who had his left arm shattered by a cannon-shot. The duke had a narrow escape from another, which grazed the belly of his horse, and as it struck the earth so covered him with mud that he was at first thought to be severely wounded.

The French and Bavarians are said to have lost above 40,000 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners. So great was the number of the latter that the 2nd battalion of the Royal Scots, with the regiments of Prince George of Denmark, Lords North and Grey, Rowe (Scots Fusiliers), and Meredith, under Brigadier Ferguson, were sent to Mentz in charge of them, and thence to Holland.

"In one place," says General Kane, "thirteen battalions were cut to pieces, not one of them escaping but such as threw themselves among the slain. I rode through them next morning as they lay dead in rank and file." The hussars followed the French stragglers with such rigour, that we are told in "The Life of Eugene," "there was no moving twenty yards in the Black Forest without finding a dead body."

Darkness had fairly settled over Blenheim ere the last sound of firing ceased to be heard, and the Allies were compelled to bivouac in the open field

not far from Hochstadt. The red blaze of their fires, stretching apparently to the horizon, were visible to the retreating French, and infused such terror into the garrison, that on the first sum they capitulated. Hochstadt opened its gates at early dawn on the following day, and the army marched through to a new position between Wittlingen and Steinheim. Despite his great anxiety to follow up his victory, Marlborough found the army so completely disorganised by the effects of the great battle, that some days of repose proved absolutely necessary.

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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, insured 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.

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 of 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.