

# 1872—MARCH—31 days.



THE FIGHT FOR THE STANDARD AT THE BATTLE OF BAROSSA.

1 F	The Mamelukes (1,600 in number) massacred at Cairo by Mehemet Ali, 1811.	Min's Age.
2 S	John Wesley died, 1791—leaving 72,000 followers in England, and 50,000 in America.	
3 S	<b>Third Sunday in Lent.</b>	23
4 M	Columbus discov. Jamaica, 1495.	24
5 Tu	<b>Battle of Barossa, 1811.</b>	25
6 W	In 1786, the enormous sum of £471,000 was paid by England to the Landgrave of Hesse, for Hessian "auxiliaries" [mercenaries] lost in the American war.	26
7 Th	The British effect a landing in Egypt after much opposition from the French, 1801.	27
8 F	[Charles XIV. of Sweden d., 1844.	28
9 S	<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent.</b>	29
10 S	A resolution passed in the House of Commons—"that the advisers of further prosecution of offensive war in America are enemies to their king and country." 1782.	1
11 M	"What is public history but a register of the successes and disappointments, the vices, the follies, and the quarrels, of those who engage in contention for power."—PALEY.	2
12 Tu	In 1819 Parliament granted £10,000 to the Duke of York for taking care of George III., in lieu of the Queen, deceased.	3
13 W	<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent.</b>	4
14 Th	The Queen Charlotte, 110 guns, burnt by an accidental fire off Leghorn, when 700 British seamen out of a crew of 850 perished by fire or drowning, 1800.	5
15 F	The ex-Emperor Napoleon arrived in England, 1871.	6
16 S	In a period of one hundred years—from 1730 to 1830—it was estimated that the value of the diamonds found in Brazil amounted to £3,000,000.	7
17 S	The Allies signed a treaty for the subjugation of Bonaparte, 1815.	8
18 M	<b>Palm Sunday.</b>	9
19 Tu	<b>LADY DAY.</b>	10
20 W	[Peace of Amiens, 1802.	11
21 Th	James I. of England (VI. of Scotland), the "wise fool," died, 1625.	12
22 F	War declared against Russia, 1854.	13
23 S	<b>Good Friday.</b>	14
24 S	"Sicilian Vespers," and massacre of 8,000 Frenchmen, at Palermo, 1282.	15
25 M	<b>Easter Sunday.</b>	16
26 Tu		17
27 W		18
28 Th		19
29 F		20
30 S		21
31 S		22

## THE MOON'S CHANGES.

Last Quar.	.. 2nd, .. 28 min. past 7 even.
New Moon	.. 9th, .. 53 min. past 12 noon.
First Quar.	.. 17th, .. 25 min. past 2 morn.
Full Moon	.. 25th, .. 43 min. past 1 morn.

## Reference to Illustration.

THE battle of BAROSSA, in Spain, was one of the most glorious of the many triumphs over the French, achieved by the British in the Peninsular war. Although the British fought at great disadvantage, through the superior position of the enemy—caused by the Spanish general having negligently left the key of the whole field of battle unoccupied—the French were compelled to retreat, leaving nearly 3,000 dead, six pieces of cannon, and an eagle—the first the British had taken in the Peninsular campaign, and which was captured under the following circumstances:—

In the heat of the action, the first battalion of the 87th Regiment was engaged with the 8th Imperial, and after a severe contest, drove it back at the point of the bayonet. During the engagement, a young ensign of the 87th perceiving the Imperial eagle, cried aloud to the sergeant, "Do you see that, Masterman?" He then rushed forward to seize it, but was shot in the attempt; the sergeant instantly revenged his death, ran his antagonist through the body, cut down the standard-bearer, and took the eagle, which was subsequently brought to England, and deposited with others in the chapel of Whitehall. The gallant Masterman was afterwards rewarded for this brave achievement by a commission in the second battalion of his regiment.

It is related of Masterman that on one occasion hearing the action singularly commended by a gentleman, who was not aware that he was addressing one so nearly interested in the eulogium, he replied with great modesty—"The sergeant merely did his duty; and only accomplished what hundreds of his comrades would have done had they possessed an equal opportunity; it was the fortune of war—the sergeant fortunately succeeded in the attempt which had cost the poor ensign his life."

The French were commanded by Marshal Victor, the English by Sir Thomas Graham, afterwards Lord Lynepooh; and it may not be uninteresting to give a brief outline of the career of this gallant soldier, of whom Sheridan said, "Never was there seated a loftier spirit in a braver heart:—"

Thomas Graham was born at Balgowan, Perthshire, in 1750; but he did not enter the army until he was in his forty-fifth year, and he did so then