



AND SABBATH-SCHOOL COMPANION.

VOLUME XIX., No. 23.

MONTREAL & NEW YORK, DECEMBER 1, 1884.

SEMI-MONTHLY, 30 CTS. per An., Post-Paid.

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK.

As long as the horrors of the Indian Mutiny remain in the minds of the English people, the life of the Christian hero, Sir Henry Havelock, can never be forgotten. He gained much distinction in other countries but he will always be thought of principally in connection with India, for it was there that he gave his life for his countrymen. He was born in Sunderland, England, in April 1795, the second of four brothers who all became soldiers. It was intended that he should study law, but through some misunderstanding with his father he gave it up and in 1815 entered the army shortly after the battle of Waterloo. During the eight years that followed he gave his principal attention to the theory of war, in which he became proficient, and also to the study of the Hindustani language, and in 1823 he followed his two brothers to India. In 1829 he married Hannah Shepherd, the daughter of the eminent missionary, Dr. Marshman.

His rise in the army was at first not rapid; at the end of twenty-three years' service being still a lieutenant. But he was almost constantly in active service. He spent some time in Burmah and in 1828 he published a book on "Campaigns in Ava." Some time after this he went to Afghanistan where he greatly distinguished himself, and rose from one position to another until about 1854 he was made adjutant-general of the troops in India. Before this he had published his "Memoirs of the Afghan Campaign." He was also sent by Sir James Outram in command of troops to Persia where war was going on, and peace had only just concluded there when news was received of the outbreak of the Mutiny, and he hastened back to India.

But has it ever occurred to our young readers that to obtain a thorough knowledge of the life of any man they must know fairly the geography of the country where he made his name; for how can you read the story of this dreadful time intelligently if you cannot quite remember whether the river Ganges empties into the Bay of Bengal or the Arabian Sea, and if you think of Lucknow as a city perhaps somewhere on the borders of Afghanistan, or down near Madras? So now, if you are still interested

in the life of General Havelock, and are not pretty well acquainted with India turn to your map and to the historic river Ganges, and fix in your mind the situation of the places named.

Early in 1857 all the valley of the Ganges broke out in rebellion against the British, the cities of Delhi, Cawnpore, and Lucknow were the chief centres of the trouble. In the two latter the British residents, a mere handful,

Lucknow. But it was hard work getting there; between Allahabad and Cawnpore he had repeated encounters with the rebels, and when at last he reached the city flushed with victory, having put Nana Sahib to flight it was only to find that he had come too late. The little company, after suffering untold horrors for three weeks, had surrendered on being promised by Nana Sahib that he would

the feelings of General Havelock as he gazed upon the dead bodies of those whom he had come all that distance to save.

But more work was before him. Lucknow lay one hundred miles away and he had to fight his way to the relief of the garrison, who were entrenched there under the command of Sir Henry Lawrence. Eight battles in succession he fought and won, and then his army was so reduced that he had

to go back to Cawnpore and wait for reinforcements under Sir James Outram. General Outram arrived early in September, but although he was higher in rank than Havelock he generously refused to take the command from him, and so let Havelock crown the glory he had already won by raising the siege of Lucknow. Since the first of July this unhappy city had been besieged. Arrived at the city Havelock and Outram had to fight their way through narrow streets, each house a fortress in itself, until they reached the Residency, which they did on the 26th of September. And now General Outram resumed the command of the forces. But although they had entered the city and relieved the garrison they were too few to entirely defeat the enemy, and they were in their turn besieged, and it was not until the 10th of November that the final relief came under the command of Sir Colin Campbell.

But the hardships General Havelock had gone through proved too much for his strength and after a short attack of severe illness he died, three days after the Residency was evacuated. As a reward for his services he was created a baronet but he died before the news could reach him. By royal order his wife was given a pension and awarded the rank she would have held had her husband lived, and the baronetcy was given to his eldest son who had been with his father in the war in Persia and in the Sepoy

rebellion which had cost him his life.

The death of Sir Henry Havelock was a great blow to his friends and to his country. He was loved by all. He devoted much of his time to the spiritual welfare of the soldiers under his command, who received in derision from the other men the name of "Havelock's Saints;" and he regularly devoted a considerable portion of each day to private devotions. In his last moments



were besieged by the rebels under their cruel leader Nana Sahib. Too few themselves to attack the rebels, they could only hold the fort in the hope that soldiers would be sent to their relief before the enemy forced an entrance. As soon as the news of the rising was received in Calcutta General Havelock was sent up the river to Allahabad with orders to raise an army there, and then march to the relief of Cawnpore and

take them safely to Allahabad. But, instead of that, as they were getting on board the boats he had brought for them, and when quite defenceless, he shot all the men down, and a few days later when he heard that Havelock's army was near the city, the women and children, whom he had spared from the first massacre, were butchered in cold blood and their dead bodies mutilated and thrown around the streets. Imagine