

one of Infantry, his force having moved south westward from Camp on the Washita, examining the region along the heads of the streams to the south of the Washita, and along the eastern portion of the Staked Plains. After joining me, his force moved eastward, parallel with mine, and from 15 to 20 miles distant. Following a small Indian trail from near mouth of Tule leading east, and from other indications of Indian camps, I moved further in that direction than I originally intended and proceeded to Fort Sill by the south side of the Wichita Mountains, and thence northwestward via the Elm and North Forks and the Washita, returning the troops for the Cantonment to North Fork, (February 3d.) and the remainder of my force to Camp Supply and Dodge; having satisfied myself by this movement at the time there were no hostile Indians left between the Arkansas and Red River, and that, after the Indians were driven from Muster Creek, they stampeded a camp in the canon of Red River and Canada Blanco; that from a laguna on the Staked Plains, southwest of Canada Blanco, they divided, a small band striking out north in their endeavor to join one of the Northern tribes, the larger portion crossing the Staked Plains, and the Pecos River to New Mexico, the only retreat left them, as they had been kept out of their favorite country and beyond the Buffalo range; this was an experiment they had never before attempted and have since regretted; while the remainder proceeded east, surrendering at their Agencies. This last movement, or scout, was made during the most intensely cold weather, the thermometer at times twenty five degrees (25°) below zero, and the troops engaged in it are entitled to the greatest praise for the fortitude and carefulness with which they endured the severity of the season—two of the Infantry companies had only shelter tents, up to January 11th, 1875—marching over the Staked Plains and broken prairie, (a distance in all of 700 miles), the ground frozen solid, and at times covered with snow, the ice on the streams strong enough to bear up the loaded trains. In ordinary seasons the piercing "Northerners" usually last three (3) days, yet during this movement they prevailed almost incessantly. Only such mention has been made of the obstacles encountered, as was necessary to a correct understanding of the work accomplished, and the difficulties overcome.

(To be Continued.)

### Fierce Battle Between Egyptians and Abyssinians

An Englishman who was captured by Abyssinians, and while captive witnessed a decisive defeat of the Egyptians, sends an account of it to the *Daily Telegraph*. He says:—Next morning we went about two hours' march further down the plain towards the Mareb, which crosses one corner of it. On recamping near Adda Battal a great religious ceremony was gone through in front of the Abuna's tent, in which the Patriarch himself led, "assisted" by not less than 450 priests, who in their great white turbans we had seen everywhere. This ceremony, we were told, was a renewal of the blessing given the day before, and the excommunication of those who, having been summoned to the king, had neglected or refused to come. About 500 cavalry arrived while this was going on, and so escaped. The remainder lay was spent in arranging the attack which was to come off on the morrow. It was now reported that the Egyptians were posted as follows: 800

men with 8 cannon, under Colonel Arondrup, were in advance in the Gundet Pass, on the Adowa road; 1,800 men and 14 cannon with Arakeley Bey in Gundet Valley; and 300 men and 4 cannon in the rear at Addi Hauala and elsewhere. The King decided to march the following morning (Nov. 16) to the Mareb, and, leaving the baggage there to attack Arondrup and the Gundet camp simultaneously. Accordingly at day break we were again on the move. Two hours' slow work had brought us to within 200 yards of the river, when turning a sharp curve into the main Adowa road, we were startled by the discharge of a cannon from the opposite side of the stream, now immediately in our front. The king was evidently taken by surprise. It was never thought that Arondrup would have his advantageous position in the pass and descend to the plain. The King's sister was riding by his side, and the lions were being carried on platforms just behind him. Horse, foot, and baggage were mixed up in a heterogeneous mass, but no confusion, however, ensued, for although the Egyptians opened fire with the whole battery the shell passed high above our heads, and our rear being saved by the sharp curve in our path, fell harmless in the plain behind us. In a very few minutes the King had collected some 600 footmen who were ordered to line the bed of the river right and left. Here they found a natural entrenchment, from which they were able to reply with the deadliest effect to the fire of the skirmishers, which the enemy now threw out within fifty yards of the north bank. It must be remembered that the Mareb here had only about six inches of water in the deepest part. It is quite inexplicable why the Egyptians, having advanced so close to the water, neglected to secure the river bed, but chose the bush, where they were utterly lost. The ground they occupied was a small triangular plain, having for its base the Mareb, its two sides being formed by difficult mountains, whilst at its apex was the pass by which they had entered. The soil was overgrown with close thornbush, and covered so thickly with boulders that it appeared at some time to have rained them. Having occupied the river bed, the King despatched cavalry right and left along the south bank, who, having outflanked the Egyptians, crossed, and riding along the foot of the mountains on each side, met in the Egyptian rear, upon the path cleared by them. During this time the Abyssinians, from their perfect cover, had made deadly work amongst the skirmishers, and on the right wing had opened a parley with the blacks, the result of which was that what remained of two companies there coalesced with the Abyssinians, throwing up their tarbooshes and arms, and shouting "Kwyti, kwyti," which in the Galla language (understood by both sides) is "Master, master," but in war signifies "I surrender." Finding themselves taken in the rear, the Egyptians endeavored to form a square, but, being charged while still in confusion, were literally cut to pieces. Arondrup was killed by a bullet in the centre of the forehead. Count Zichy, with three scalp wounds, a cut upon the cheek exposing the jaw, and his left arm shattered by a bullet, still lived, and was taken to the King. Hardly a score, save the blacks who had surrendered, remained alive. The affair lasted just twenty-five minutes. The Abyssinian loss was surprisingly small certainly not 100 killed and wounded. This is explained by the immense superiority of the position they took. It was next to impossible for the Egyptians

to see them, while they fired every shot well within the range their guns are adapted for from rest, aiming deliberately at the perfect mark afforded by the enemy's white tunics and red tarbooshes. It was not a battle, but a *battue*. The King had not brought more than 3,000 men into action, but now the whole body was ready for advance, and pressed on across the Mareb for the attack on Gundet Camp. Though but a short distance, as the crow flies, behind the advance guard, they had heard nothing of the affair just over. A train of baggage animals was arriving from Addittula, and considerable confusion existed. In the midst of this the Abyssinians, having divided and taken two routes, fell upon the Egyptians front and rear almost simultaneously, and had it all in their own way. The Egyptians seem to have made a very short fight, and then to have run. They were stopped by the King's troops, advancing to attack the rear, and their dead lay thickly scattered over the line of road for three hundred yards. In one place, about fifty yards from the camp, some fifty or sixty men seem to have made a stand, back to back, under a great tree, and they lay dead in a heap around it. In the camp itself were three great heaps of dead. In the midst of one lay Arakeley Bey, who had on the fall of Rustem Bey assumed the command. Gathering around him some three hundred men, consisting mainly of veterans who had seen hard service in Crete, he made a desperate stand, fighting like a lion at bay till he fell wounded in five places. Till this the men with him stood firm, and here, indeed, the only real defence was made; for with the rest it was a complete panic. The cannon and rockets were very badly served, and did positively no injury to the Abyssinians. The combat lasted a few minutes under an hour.

THE VALUE OF THE PRINCE'S PRESENTS — "An Indian" who writes to the *London Times* noting the triumphal visit of the Prince of Wales says:—"The value of the whole of the presents received by the Prince will not much exceed forty thousand pounds, and the value of the presents given by the Prince will nearly amount to forty thousand pounds. It may however, be necessary under this head to apply to Parliament for a supplementary grant of £20,000, thereby raising the sum of the appropriation on account of the Prince's personal expenses from £60,000 to £80,000. The value of the English goods ordered by the Princes of India to furnish their palaces for their reception of his Royal Highness, amounts, on a careful calculation, in London alone, to fully £250,000; and the taste which the Prince's visit will create among the higher orders of the natives of India for English fancy, goods will, it is thought, permanently increase the export of the productions of English skilled labour—of the Sidonia wares of London, Birmingham, and Staffordshire—to India. It is, in the opinion of those best informed on India, impossible to exaggerate the beneficial political influence of the Prince's visit. He has completely won the admiration, respect, and loyalty of all classes. The key to it is given in a remarkable observation of the Rajah of Vizianagram—"His Royal Highness is to the Viceroy as the Divinity to His symbol." And this strong tie, which the Prince of Wales' visit had created, of personal loyalty to himself, if wisely cultivated, will do more almost than anything else gradually to convert the tributary Princes and Chiefs into real pillars of the British Empire in India."