

tain Coles, it appears, met with no encouragement from the Admiralty, and therefore consulted Mr. Brunel, the celebrated engineer, who warmly embraced the plan. "He did more," says Captain Coles in his letter to the *Times*, "he assisted me in my calculations, and gave me the aid of his draughtsmen." Captain Coles further states that, notwithstanding official neglect, he persevered, and in March, 1859, produced drawings of a "shield fitted with turn tables." Lastly, in December, 1860, Captain Coles, published, in "Blackwood's Magazine," drawings of his "gun shield and revolving platform," the platform being turned by manual power only. But unfortunately for this claim there is in existence a letter sent from New York to the Emperor Napoleon III. at Paris by Captain Ericsson, as early as the 26th of September, 1854, more than a year before the appearance of Captain Coles' first rough model referred to. It was accompanied by a drawing, a copy of which we have before us, which is the model of the invention claimed by Captain Coles, though somewhat different in its details from the *Monitor*, as finally built for the American Government by Captain Ericsson.

To return to the book. Of the work of our Navy the author says: "It established, in the face of unheard of difficulties, an effective blockade along the whole of the enemy's coast. . . . To the watches and fatigues of every kind which the duties of the blockade service involved there were added difficulties of another character. It was necessary to instruct the newly recruited crews, to train officers who had been taken from the merchant navy, and to ascertain, under the worst possible circumstances, the good and bad qualities of merchant vessels too quickly converted into men of war. In these junctures the Federal Navy displayed a perseverance, a devotion, and a knowledge of its profession, which reflect as much honor upon it as its more brilliant feats of arms. . . . The almost absolute commercial isolation of so vast a country as the Confederate States is an extraordinary fact which it is interesting to study in its various phases."

(To be Continued.)

General Richard Montgomery.

FACTS GLEANED FROM PERSONAL AND FAMILY DOCUMENTS.

The *N. Y. Post* publishes the following interesting reminiscences from a correspondent:—

The hundredth anniversary of the unfortunate expedition against Quebec, in which General Montgomery fell, is at hand. It was on the 31st of December, 1775, that the attack was made. His little army had undergone inexpressible hardships during the campaign, and the soldiers were half starved and half naked. Montgomery was greatly loved by his men, but it took all his influence to stir them into renewed exertion, disheartened as they were by fatigue, "Men of New York," he exclaimed, "you will not fear to follow where your General leads: march on!" then placing himself in front he almost immediately received the mortal wound which suddenly ended his life.

The hero of Quebec was born at Conroy House in the north of Ireland, and was the second son of an Irish baronet. His desire for military life was gratified at an early age by a commission in the British army, and he gained his first laurels with Wolfe on the

same field where he was destined to end his brief and glorious career. During the origin and progress of the difficulties between Great Britain and the colonies, Montgomery formed opinions favourable to American independence, and in 1772 he left the king's service to seek his fortunes and future home in America. He soon after purchased a farm at Kingsbridge, from which he moved to Rhinebeck, on his marriage with Janet Livingston. He now turned his attention to farming and left the village of Rhinebeck, where the principal thoroughfare is still called Montgomery street, and went to live on a farm at a distance of about two miles south of Rhinebeck. Country pursuits were to his taste, and he had laid out for himself a quiet scheme of life, which was soon broken up by the war. With such feelings of ardent devotion did he give himself up to the cause of American liberty that, when called upon by Congress to quit the retirement of his farm, as one of the first eight brigadier generals appointed, he wrote to a friend that the honour, though entirely unexpected and undesired, he felt to be the will of an oppressed people, which must be obeyed, and he accordingly went immediately into active service.

Mrs. Montgomery had about this time purchased several hundred acres of land near what is now called Barrytown, on the Hudson. Here she was building a house during Montgomery's absence in Canada. She had bought the land from an old Dutch farmer, but it originally formed part of the Schuyler patent. "I long," wrote the General to her from Canada, "to see you in your new house, and wish you could get a stove fixed in the hall; they are the most comfortable things imaginable." To this house, when completed, Mrs. Montgomery removed, but General Montgomery never saw it. Here Mrs. Montgomery passed her long widowhood alone, for they had no children. By his will General Montgomery had bequeathed his farm at Kingsbridge to Lady Ranelagh, his sister, who was poor, with a large family to provide for. The farm had been ruined by the Continental army to supply materials for the construction of Fort Independence, which stood on a commanding piece of ground belonging to the place. Deep ditches had been dug about the fort, and the trees cut down and used for fascines and firewood for the army.

Montgomery's will was made a few days only before the storming of Quebec. The authenticity of this document is attested by the signature of Benedict Arnold. It is still in existence, though the paper is yellow and worn after a hundred years.

Through the courtesy of the English General Carleton the body of Montgomery was buried within the walls of Quebec, where it remained for forty three years. It was then brought to New York in compliance with an Act of the Legislature. This was done by order of Governor Clinton in the summer of 1818.

On the appointed day, Governor Clinton informed Mrs. Montgomery that the body of the General would pass down the Hudson. After lying in state in Albany it was to be taken to New York on the steamboat *Richmond*. Mrs. Montgomery, by the aid of a glass, could watch the boat pass Montgomery Place, which was the name she had given to the estate near Barrytown.

We give her own words describing the mournful pageant in a letter to her niece; in quaint and touching terms:—"At length," she wrote, "they came by, with all that remained of a loved husband who left me in the bloom of manhood, a perfect being. Alas! how did he return? However

gratifying to my heart, yet to my feelings every pang I felt was renewed. The pomp with which it was conducted added to my woe when the steamboat passed with slow and solemn movement stopping before my house, the troops under arms, the Dead March from the muffled drum, the mournful music, the splendid coffin canopied with ermine and crowned by plumes. You may conceive my anguish. I cannot describe it. Such voluntary honours were never before paid to an individual by a republic, and to Governor Clinton's munificence much is owing." The body was buried in St. Paul's Church under the cenotaph which had been erected by Congress many years before.

There are but few relics of Montgomery in existence. At the time of his death communication between New York and Canada was slow and very difficult to accomplish. Sloops plied the Hudson, and it took a week to go from Albany to New York in favourable weather. The contents of his trunk were sold in Canada, and the greater part of his wardrobe purchased by General Arnold. An inventory of all his effects was sent to Mrs. Montgomery, with an account of the manner in which they had been disposed of, and a list of the things purchased by Arnold. These curious papers are preserved.

The watch and seal taken off his person on the field of battle were delivered by the British General Carleton to Colonel Donald Campbell, who forwarded them with the accounts of General Montgomery to his widow.

Montgomery's sword is in Morrin College, Quebec. The only original portrait of Montgomery is at Montgomery Place. It represents him as a young man of about twenty five years, the age at which he came from Ireland. This portrait served as a model for the face and figure of Montgomery in Trumbull's picture, which is in the State House at Albany. The countenance is frank, gallant, and handsome, and indicates a generous and amiable temper.

Montgomery said of himself, that he was "taciturn and disliked long speeches." There is no doubt that this character was a very genuine one, blending perfect simplicity, a strong moral sense, extraordinary physical power and gentleness of disposition with the great courage which is the moving spirit of the hero.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—In the Military Academy Appropriation bill reported to the House of Representatives occurs a proviso, which, if adopted for the army officers stationed at West Point, will probably be inserted in the Army Appropriation bill when it comes up. It cuts off the longevity pay, which has been allowed for nearly 40 years, and the forage for officers' private horses, which has been authorized by law since the formation of the army. The proviso reads as follows:—"Provided, and it is hereby declared and enacted, that the pay herein allowed and given shall be in full of all other pay allowance, forage, rations, or communion, except for quarters, fuel, and light, and that the pay for other professors, instructors, and assistants, being officers of the army, when detailed and assigned to service at the Military Academy, shall be only their army pay, without increase for term of service, and without allowance for forage, rations, or communion, except for quarters, fuel, and light."

Achduke Rudolphe, Prince Imperial of Austria, will be crowned King of Hungary in July.