

INTO THE JAWS OF DEATH.

A Charge that Amazed the World Thirty Years Ago.

It was thirty years ago, on the 25th of October, that the Earl of Cardigan's light brigade made the famous charge at Balaclava, near Sebastopol.

On Oct. 25, 1854, our eyes turned to the heights of Balaclava, on the possession of which depended the very existence of the allied forces.

and with our Mohammedan allies the word was sauuu qui peuu. The heavy cavalry on the right and the light brigade on the left were advanced, with the artillery in the centre playing a game at long bowls.

"Lord Raglan, who did not know the full strength of the foe, saw that this obstacle must be removed; but whether or not he also foresaw the necessity of first looking before the leap was taken must be forever a mystery.

"You see your enemy, my lord." "Even the Earl of Cardigan, impetuous as he was, generally speaking, looked at his commander in doubt as to the words.

and once more Nolan, impatiently waving his sword, which he had fiercely drawn from its scabbard, and pointing it to the artillery, cried: "Take the guns; these are your orders!"

"The crisis has arrived. No recourse is left but to do as he bids. A cold nod of assent from Lord Lucan. A profound bow from Lord Cardigan. Light Division, forward charge!" breaks from his lips.

"The unmasked batteries are already belching forth shot and shell. The trot breaks into a gallop, the gallop into

A FURIOUS, HEADLONG CHARGE. A'ready Nolan has fallen, cut down by grape shot, the secret of the fatal day dying with him. The serried ranks show frequent gaps as saddle after saddle is emptied.

"Close up! Close up! Charge!" is the unceasing cry, and in a shorter time than it takes to tell the opening ranks of the foe disclosed to the doomed, but indomitable few, cannon to right of them, cannon to left of them, cannon in front of them—and now cannon behind them.

"Far away, clear in front, with his aide-de-camp and a few choice spirits on his right hand and on his left—none ahead of him, rising like a lion, fights, as with a forlorn hope, the leader and commander of the Light Brigade. He bears a charmed life, and his brawny arm is endowed with a power of slaughter that grows mightier every moment from the meat it feeds on.

ONE AGAINST A THOUSAND. Coolly and calmly, as if in Hyde Park, he takes in the situation at a glance, and gives the word to the trumpeter, to sound first the 'assembly,' then the 'retreat.'

The enemy, paralyzed by the shock of the charge, and fancying that the whole British army supports the handful of braves, pauses in his murderous work to cheer the 108 survivors who returned slowly and sadly to the place from which they came, having, from a military standpoint, achieved nothing, yet covered with a deathless, fadeless wreath of glory.

"It was magnificent," said General Bosquet, "but it was not war."

NEWSPAPER FABLES.

The Editor of a Country Paper one day turned on the Office Towel, which was hanging on its Accustomed Nail, and began a tirade of Abuse on its Appearance, terming it Dirty, Unfit, Ill-looking, and fit only to be Flung out of the Window.

"While I am compelled to plead guilty to all Charges," humbly Responded the Towel, "You must Remember that your own Hands have helped to Soil me and make me what I am."

MORAL:

Had the Country Editor wiped his Hands on his exchanges the Towel could have indulged in no Back talk.

A DOMESTIC ROW.

One morning the Washington Hand-Press in a Printing Office suddenly flew its Frisket and called out in a loud voice:

"Hear ye! Hear ye! But for me the Banner could not be issued each week!" "Just hear that!" sneered a Case of Burgois over by the Window.

"Well, I don't want to Appear Egotistical," observed a Bundle of White paper lying on the floor, "but if you knew how hard it was for the Editor to raise the Cash to buy me, you'd Imagine I was of some little Account Around here."

"Gentlemen," added the Imposing Stone in marble voice, "I don't claim to own all the corner lots in Town, but if the Chases, Shooting-Stick, Mallet, Quons and myself were to go off on a Picnic I'd like to see the Banner go to press—I would!"

"Each and every one of you are valued in your Respective Places, and all combined go to help issue the Leading Newspaper of this country—circulation (when a circus agent comes a subscription) 6,000 copies—Wood Received in Subscription, as Heretofore."

MORAL:

And the Shears lay right there in Plain Sight and were not even mentioned.

THE FARMER AND THE EDITOR.

A Farmer who felt in his Heart that this was a cold World and that no one cared for him or his Mechanically slipped a goose Egg into his coat tail pocket and B-took himself to the village and the office of the Gazette, where he Produced the Egg and Swore by the Horn Spoon that it was laid by a pullet. The Astonished and Delighted Editor sent out for a Bed-cord to Measure the Length and Diameter of the Egg presented the Farmer with a Year's Subscription, and took Voluminous Notes with a Pencil.

MORAL:

If you can't get hold of a Goose Egg, a Pumpkin, Squash or a Puck of Turnips will answer just as well.

Six Hours Without a Memory.

The brain plays odd tricks with us at times, especially when it has been subjected to a sudden shock; and scientific men who think that its various convolutions are the seats of various faculties of the mind derive some confirmation of their theory from the fact that the power of memory may fail in part without any failure of intelligence, and may fail in part without being altogether impaired.

Lord Lindsay states that in the course of his wanderings amid the pyramids of Egypt he stumbled on a mummy which proved by its hieroglyphics to be at least 2,000 years old. In examining it after it was unwrapped he found in one of its closed hands a tubercular or bulbous root. He was interested in the question how long vegetable life could last, and took the root from the mummy's hand and planted it in a sunny soil, allowing the rains and dews of Heaven to descend upon it, and in the course of a few weeks the root burst forth and bloomed into a most beautiful dahlia. The story is said to be well verified.

Age Cannot Wither.

There has been a great deal of talk lately among the fashionables as to whether it is the correct thing for a bride to be attended to the altar by a string of fair bridesmaids, and also if the uncompromising black coat of the usher should be longer permitted to obstruct the view.

An Extraordinary French Murder Case.

Paris is at present stirred to its depths by the revelations made respecting the career of Pel, the poisoner of Montreuil. Pel is now at Mazas, on a charge of having made away with his servant, a woman named Marie Bohmer. He is also charged with having poisoned his first wife. M. Kuehn, the chief of the investigation department, is busy engaged at Montreuil in following up any clues which may bring the murder of the servant home to the accused.

Pel is a clockmaker by trade, and was married in 1880 to a young woman named B. Bureau, employed in a shop near the Champs Elysees. Two months after the marriage Pel's wife died in intense agony. She was hastily buried in the Montmartre Cemetery, but her remains are about to be exhumed by order of the Procureur of the Republic.

A year afterward Pel married a Mlle. de Murat, who is still alive. Pel denied that he had been married to his first wife, but M. Kuehn confronted him with his brother-in-law, and he then admitted the marriage.

M. Kuehn has made a minute examination with a microscope of Pel's house at Montreuil, and in the interstices of the floor has found living organisms such as exist only in putrefying blood. When Pel arrived in Montreuil from Nanterre, where he ran away from his second wife and his creditors in July last, he was accompanied by the servant Marie Bohmer, who, it is said, was formerly a lay sister in a convent and afterward a milkmaid in the Rue St. Denis. She entrusted a large share of her savings to the care of Pel, and about three months ago suddenly disappeared.

Pel, in answer to various inquiries, said he had sent her to the hospital. The neighbors, however, assert that one night, about the time of Boehmer's disappearance, a great fire was visible in Pel's house, and that the air around was infected by an offensive odor. In an adjacent sewer some human hair has lately been discovered, and it is in this direction, as well as in the closet, that Kuehn made his principal investigation today. Pel will probably be brought face to face with his second wife to-morrow.

It is not long since the mother of the alleged poisoner was killed by an electric battery made by her son. Pel is in a very dependent condition at Mazas, and has not partaken of much food during the past two days. A motto or associate has been placed with him, as it was feared that he was about to commit suicide, and possibly the accused clockmaker may make some statement to this person.—[London Telegraph.]

Effect of Paper and Ink on Eyesight.

The colors of paper and ink, says a writer in the Scientific Monthly, are for more responsible for defective eyesight than cross-lights from opposite windows, light shining directly in the face, insufficient light, or small type. If these were removed the principal cause of the mischief would still remain, the real root of the evil being the universally used black ink and white paper. These, says the writer in question, are ruining the eyesight of the reading nations. He argues that the rays of the sun are reflected by a white body, and absorbed by a black one, and that we print our newspapers and books in direct opposition to the plainest correct principles of optical science.

In accordance with this argument; if colored paper were substituted for white the eyes of all reading people would at once be relieved of a blinding strain—a continuous effort bound to result in permanent weakening of the eyes. Nature and science, says the writer above quoted, tell us that the color of all printing paper should be green. Green grass covers the ground green leaves are on the trees and green is the color most grateful to the eye.

Dispensing with Bridesmaids.

There has been a great deal of talk lately among the fashionables as to whether it is the correct thing for a bride to be attended to the altar by a string of fair bridesmaids, and also if the uncompromising black coat of the usher should be longer permitted to obstruct the view. There certainly has been a tendency displayed in recent marriages in Philadelphia to dispense with bridesmaids, and several reasons have been given by the brides. A pertinent one is that it is such an expense to a girl to find a handsome dress, which, as a rule, can only be worn on one occasion—at the wedding. A bridesmaid's frock is seldom of any use as a ball dress, and anybody who has noticed the picturesque group of maidens who follow after the ushers would hardly care to see young ladies attired in that fashion on the streets.—[Philadelphia Press.]

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