

LESSONS FROM CIVIL WAR

EXPERIENCE OF THE NORTH WAS THE SAME AS ENGLAND.

The South Won at the First, But the Tenacity of the North Told in the Long Run, and After Great Butchery It Won.

In many respects the struggle in South Africa to-day recalls and repeats the American Civil War. The Power of the vast resources has been caught indifferently prepared, and the Boer Republic, like Mr. Jefferson Davis, and the Southern Confederacy, have been allowed to snatch great initial advantages. There was, it is true, nothing quite like the siege of Ladysmith, or of Kimberley, or of Mafeking in 1861-5. But in their general outlines the two wars resemble each other closely says an English paper.

The Confederates, or Southerners, like the Boers, were a people accustomed to an open air life—a race of farmers and planters—while the Federals, or Northerners, were like the English, a people of manufacturers. It was anticipated, and it did prove to be the fact, that the people accustomed to the open air would do better in battle until their opponents acquired their hardness, mobility, and art of skirmishing. The woodman or the hunter will always be more skilful in taking cover than the city bred soldiers. But with time the city bred soldiers can learn all the woodman knows.

Then, too, the Confederates, like the Boers, fought in a country with which they were thoroughly acquainted. They know every inch of the ground and the tactics best suited to the terrain.

They had the best generals—incomparably the best generals in the earlier years of the war. The North had no man in 1861 or 1862 to march with Joseph Johnston, or Lee, or Stonewall Jackson.

At the outset each side expected an early and an easy victory. The South imagined that a few successes would lead to European intervention, and intervention was very near at hand at many points in the war. England and France were both inclined to recognize the South, but fortunately the popular will in this country was stronger and more far-sighted, than the statesmen. Still the hope of foreign intervention led the South to use every imaginable effort and filled the North with disquietude.

UNDER-ESTIMATED. The North started by fatally underestimating the resistance with which it would meet. It was ruled by men who had no knowledge of war and little comprehension of policy. President Lincoln though a very able and usually far-sighted man, failed signally to understand the greatness of the emergency or the bitter resolution of the South.

It was generally imagined that one great victory would bring the Southerners to their knees. As a matter of fact the South gained most of the victories, and was only crushed by sheer brute force, and by the terrible policy of attrition, which meant that the whole Southern manhood had to be decimated in the field at a cost of hundreds of thousands of Northerners killed and wounded.

The North opened the war by rash and hasty movements. It refused to listen to General Sherman, who from the outset accurately foretold what would happen, and set him down as a madman when he called not for thousands but for hundreds of thousands of men. It was weaker than England in this respect, that it had virtually no Army, and consequently one had to be provided instead of merely expanded. But then the Southern preparations on the other hand had not been as fully developed as those of the Transvaal have been.

TERRIBLE DEFEAT. Owing to the faulty operations of two Northern columns the first great battle of the war was a terrible defeat for the North. At Bull Run the green Northern troops, indeed, fought splendidly, and there were moments when it seemed that they had won the battle. But as the day wore on another hostile force came up on their flank, and they broke and fled in the wildest disorder. The very capital of the North all but fell into the enemy's hands, and there was at once a cry that the South could never be beaten.

That was in the summer of 1861. The defeat in no sense weakened the grim determination of the North. Steps were taken largely to increase the army. One hundred and fifty-seven thousand men had been called for before the battle; now 400,000 were demanded and raised.

The difficulty was not so much to find soldiers as to discover generals. Many officers had been appointed to high commands through interest and jobbery; many were much too old for a bold, aggressive war; others, again, who seemed to promise highly and were appointed on their merits, failed lamentably when put to the test.

Success in the field is the one thing which proves the general's capacity, and from the nature of circumstances all Powers must grope very much in the dark when they appoint to high command men who have only peace service on their record.

Beaten badly once, the North had

to spend many months in reorganizing its army. In 1862 it again tried conclusion and though some victories were gained in the west by younger generals—such as Grant, who was now coming into notice—the general result was most disastrous. Bloody and indecisive battles or positive and terrible defeats were the depressing features of the war, and gloom in the North was general.

The so-called Peninsular campaign, after very hard fighting, resulted in defeat—mainly, however, because the Secretary of the War Department, a civilian, ignorant of all military necessities, interfered fatally with the conduct of the campaign. At Fredericksburg the Northern army was sent in to make a frontal attack upon a strongly entrenched Southern position with the result that there was simply a massacre of Northern troops. "It was a butchery, not a battle," said an eye-witness. Yet the North did not lose hope or faith, but grimly set its teeth and determined to conquer in the end.

So desperate did the position seem that in 1862 President Lincoln telegraphed with pathetic thankfulness, "God bless you," to a general who had fought a drawn battle, and who had just held his own, at the cost of appalling bloodshed. In 1863 came fresh defeats and fresh disasters. It was not till July of that year, twenty-seven months after the beginning of the struggle, that the tide began to turn. That the tide ever turned was, indeed, due only to three things—the tenacity of the North, its ability to cut off all military supplies, and its overwhelming numbers and resources. It did not win by better generalship or by superior fighting and courage in the field.

Even in the closing period of the war there were many terrible and anxious moments. Grant's frontal assaults on the Confederate army in the Wilderness and before Richmond issued in such loss of life as to lead many in the North to cry once more for peace.

The most prominent and, as was supposed, the most patriotic editor in the North shrieked of "our bleeding and despairing country." To add to the danger, a Presidential election was impending, and the butcher's bill was used as a strong argument by party men against the Administration. Conscription had been relentlessly enforced, leading to bloody riots in New York, and bringing yet fresh unpopularity upon the head of the President.

BRAVERY TOLD. Yet once more the bravery, tenacity, and insight of the Anglo-Saxon race told in this psychological moment. The war President, Lincoln, was re-elected. Troops by the thousands were poured into the field to fill the depleted ranks, and at the same time war stores began to give out in the South.

Slowly, step by step, Grant worked his stubborn way, fighting every inch, round the enemy's flank before Richmond. At last the long-looked-for moment came when the enemy's position was turned, and in that hour the Confederacy fell to pieces, after four long years of battle and slaughter, and after every vicissitude which the imagination could picture.

The task before us is a lesser one than that which confronted the North in 1861 or 1862. But from the past we can and should learn this lesson, that we must not underestimate our enemy's strength. Better, far better, 50,000 men too many than 5,000 too few. With inadequate forces frontal attacks become an absolute necessity against a mobile foe, unless the generalship on our side is of the highest order.

Consolation, too, we can gather from the past—from this war or 1861-5, and from our own glorious history. We, like our American cousins, won in the end. Let us not minimize our reserves in South Africa, but let us remember that with time and proper administration we can and shall win. Only, those responsible for the present errors ought to surrender power, that stronger and wiser minds may direct our arms. Wars are won or lost, by Governments, not by soldiers and generals—Governments which know, foresee, prepare, and dare to act.

TITIAN BRONZE. M Titian bronze, the new shade of hair, is still too much of a novelty to be common, but who has seen it and not longed for tresses of that wonderful hue? It is too expensive an operation to ever become the popular shade, and no amateur at hair dyeing can accomplish the desired result, so the fortunate few who possess locks of Titian bronze need have little fear of many duplicates.

The art of hair dyeing has made tremendous strides within the last few years, and there are many artists in that line whose work defies criticism, another word for detection, but Americans, as a class, have not taken kindly to that sort of thing, and the remark, "that she dyes her hair," is still considered by many as a term of reproach.

The Princess of Wales has a variety of wigs, which she changes with her toilets. On her return from a drive or reception another gown, with its accompanying wig, is in readiness, and that her locks are red to-day and brown to-morrow in no wise disconcerts the Princess. All such matters are regulated by custom, and the day may come when chemical hair dyes or exchangeable chignons will be part of every woman's wardrobe.

BRIDEGROOM SENT AWAY. A Polynesian bridegroom is conspicuous by his absence during the wedding festivities. As soon as negotiations are opened with the family of the bride, the young man is "sent into the bush," and there he is obliged to stay until the wedding ceremonies are completed.

ONE THING CERTAIN. Bachelor—Do you believe that it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all? Benedict—I don't know about that but it's better to have loved and won.

THE FARMER IS THE KING. AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY.

An Income of Many Millions in Ontario—Interesting Statistics Concerning the Rural Interests of the Province.

The report of the Bureau of Industry containing complete statistics of the agriculture of the Province, has just appeared. The information exceeds anything published elsewhere, and tells pretty well the story of the Ontario farmer.

The story that this book tells is the vast importance of the agricultural interests in Ontario. The mineral wealth of the Province may be great and the business wealth enormous, but the agricultural wealth outtops any other industry.

THE ASSESSED AREA GROWS. The rural area assessed is 23,392,584 acres, and the Province is growing in this direction. The woodland, which amounts to 7,198,905 acres, is naturally decreasing, and the marsh lands, which Mr. Ross intends to reclaim, cover 3,200,065 acres. During the year 13,300 acres were reclaimed.

FARMERS' REVENUE. But the foundation of the country is its field crops. Taxing the prices paid on the markets and applying them to the grain grower, some idea may be gained.

Table with columns: Bushels Grown, Value. Rows include: Fall wheat, Barley, Spring wheat, Oats, Rye, Peas, Buckwheat, Corn for husking, Potatoes, Beans, Mangels, Carrots, Turnips, Corn for silo, Hay, tons.

But this is only a part of the revenue from the farms of the Province. In this list fruit is not considered. There is in orchards and gardens 335,420 acres and in vineyards 10,118 acres. Of apples alone there are 9,670,000 trees.

THE LIVE STOCK. The live stock is another important feature, and the census give 611,241 horses, 2,215,942 cows, 1,677,014 sheep, 1,640,787 hogs, 9,084,278 fowl. It is estimated that the sales of live stock brought in \$65,307,301. Then the value of bees is placed at \$998,049.

WEALTH IN DAIRYING. The value of dairy products is enormous. From the creameries \$1,294,220 was received, and from cheese factories \$10,252,240 was taken in.

PASSING OF THE HORSE. Before leaving this branch of the report, it might be well to notice the passing of the horse. In 1898 he numbered 611,241; in 1897, 613,670; and in the years before, 624,749, 647,696, 677,777, 685,187, 688,814.

Income of the farms in Ontario accordingly must reach about \$200,000,000. The value of the farm is given as follows:

Table with columns: Farm land, Buildings, Implements, Live Stock, Total. Values: \$556,246,569; 210,054,396; 52,977,232; 103,744,223; \$923,022,420.

The average per 100 acres, which is the usual size of a farm, is as follows:

Table with columns: Farm land, Buildings, Implements, Live stock, Total. Values: \$87; 698; 226; 414; \$3,946.

PAYING OFF MORTGAGES. The chattel mortgages are decreasing, as will be shown in the following list:

Table with columns: 1898, 1896. Values: \$12,382,218; 13,561,716.

CONSULT THE BIBLE. It is said in Scotland that those who desire to learn what fate or fortune the new year has in store for them may do so by consulting the Bible on New Year's morning before breakfast. The sacred book must be laid upon a table, and those who wish to consult it must open it at random and place a finger upon one or other of the chapters at which it is opened. This chapter is read and believed to describe in the ensuing year of the person making the trial.

THE REAL TEST FOR SWEARING. Wrangler—You say that Job's patience never was really tested? Quibbler—I do. Why, he never put the lighted end of his cigar in his mouth just as he wanted to make his argument most impressive.

AN EXPLODED THEORY. Biggs—It's all nonsense about there being honor among thieves. Boggs—Yes? Biggs—I'm sure of it. I just read an account of a plumber being held up by foot-pads.

VENERABLE OCEAN WARRIORS. Some of the Old Men-of-War Lying in British Dockyards.

Few of us, says the Army and Navy Illustrated, of London, are probably aware of the number of old men-of-war still existing on harbor and other service in our dockyards and ports that have helped, in their day, to make naval history. As a fact, there are more than a score of such, and some of them are to be found to-day, in the most unlikely places.

The Hibernia, for instance, is, perhaps—indeed, she must be certainly—the oldest British man-of-war in existence after the Victory. For present purposes the old Implacable, attached to the Lion trading ship at Devonport, does not count.

The Hibernia, in point of fact, was launched a few months before Trafalgar, and hoisted her first pennant and admiral's flag a few months after that battle. She was a sister ship to Collingwood's favorite old flag ship the Caledonia, long since gone to the shipbreaker.

The Hibernia's first cruise was in 1806, as flag ship of the Channel fleet, with the Union at the main of the famous Earl St. Vincent. She flew St. Vincent's flag during the old chief's last service afloat, and after it was hauled down on board the Hibernia St. Vincent's flag was never again hoisted in any man-of-war.

In the closing years of the Napoleonic war the Hibernia served in the Mediterranean, and in the various small affairs that our ships blockading Toulon under Lord Exmouth had she took a part.

After lying up for years in the Hamoaze she went to the Mediterranean in the forties as flagship to Sir William Parker, "the last of Nelson's captains," and there, with the exception of two brief returns to England to refit, she has remained ever since.

The Eagle is another, and she did some very smart fighting service indeed, off the coast of Spain and in the Adriatic down to the close of the great war. Her list of principal battle honors is as follows:—Duke of York's victory over Dutch, 1665; victory over French off La Hogue, 1692; capture of Gibraltar, 1704; Rooke's victory over French, 1704; Hawke's victory over French off Finisterre, 1747; actions in East Indies, 1782.

The old Belvidera frigate is the last of the old shipmates, in the most literal sense of the term, of Broke's famous Shannon, with whom she served through the American war of 1812. It was the Belvidera which fired the first British shot in the war, and her adventures were many and notable, a brilliant and spirited page of our naval story, were there space to do more than briefly allude to it as we close.

The Hibernia is the flagship of the Admiral Superintendent of Malta dockyard, the Eagle serves as a drill ship for the Royal Naval Reserve at Liverpool, and the Belvidera acts as receiving ship at Portsmouth.

BRITISH SOLDIER AS A GYMNAST. His Physical Development is Attended To in The Army Gymnasiums.

Tommy Atkins—that is to say, the typical British soldier claims to be stronger and more enduring than the fighter of any other race. And it is just as well to know how he comes to have this physical superiority.

The reason is found in the army gymnasiums. The best of these gymnasiums is at Aldershot, where the science of physical development is marvelously understood and practised. Raw recruits with stooping shoulders and shambling gait are turned out after a few months big, full-chested and muscular, proud of their bearing and masters of their weapons.

After a hundred and ten days of training Tommy must be ready to join any regiment in the British service. The soldier's nerves and heads are trained as well as their muscles, for they are taught to scale walls, climb high scaffolds and mount ropes and ladders at fast time.

There are fields of labor for out-of-door work and for parades, and there is an enormous outdoor framework for climbing and swinging. One entire building is devoted to the practice of fencing. Indeed, the variety of accomplishments in addition to plain soldiering that Tommy Atkins has to acquire is enough to justify his strut and swagger on coming out.

Probably the hardest of a British soldier's duties is the wearing of his uniform. The British Army dress is exceedingly and unnecessarily burdensome, but there is little likelihood that it will be modified.

Protest is sometimes made against the great bearskin shakos of the Scots Guards and the gorgeous but heavy cuirass of the Horse Guards, but English sentiment as a whole would be scarcely more opposed to the tearing down of Westminster than to the eliminating of these features of the military magnificence of the nation.

AN EXPLODED THEORY. Biggs—It's all nonsense about there being honor among thieves. Boggs—Yes? Biggs—I'm sure of it. I just read an account of a plumber being held up by foot-pads.

THE DURHAM CHRONICLE IS PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING AT THE CHRONICLE PRINTING HOUSE, CARAFRAX STREET DURHAM, ONT.

SUBSCRIPTION The Chronicle will be sent to any address, free of postage, for \$1.00 per year, payable in advance—\$1.50 may be charged if not so paid. The date to which every subscription is paid is denoted by the number on the address label. No paper discontinued until all arrears are paid, except at the option of the proprietor.

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