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By D. D. HOCOTT.

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A Battle in Africa

DEFEAT OF THE KING OF DAHOMEY.

Correspondent of the London *Times* gives the following interesting account of a battle in which the redoubtable King of Dahomey has been defeated:

It may not be uninteresting to you to learn from one who is steaming on his way homeward from the West Coast of Africa that the long vaunted expedition of the King of Dahomey against Abbeokuta and the Egbas has been undertaken and has come to a disastrous close. You recollect, no doubt, that the King dwelt very stoutly on the expedition at the time when Commodore Wilmet paid his last memorial visit to Abomey; and that no arguments of the gallant commodore could dissuade the royal savage from his determination to pour forth the vials of his wrath on Abbeokuta. It would appear that on Monday, the 15th of March, the Dahomian army, with the King at its head, encamped at Owiwi, which is about twelve miles from Abbeokuta. Before 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning the frequent reports of a gun fired at Aro, one of the five gates of Abbeokuta gave warning to the Egbas that the Dahomians were in sight. The "Abashorun" signifies the principal chief. As this word is curious in composition, I may as well explain that its literal meaning is "A King of Heaven opening out everything." The enemy approached boldly enough. He had three brass field 6 pounder pieces, bearing the inscription upon the breech of "Mexico, 1815."

Advanced in a column 3000 strong within fifty paces of the wall of Abbeokuta, then suddenly played his flags, extended his lines, and marched rapidly towards the wall. The Egbas immediately opened a tremendous fire on the serried rows, and arrested them at once. In the advancing column were Amazons, who fought bravely and desperately. Many of the furies climbed the wall, which is more than fifteen feet high; but as soon as they had reached the top, the Egbas dragged them over and slew them. One of the Amazons, who had one of her hands cut off in her efforts to clamber over the wall, discharged her musket with the other hand and shot an Egba. She received a severe blow from a sabre, and fell backwards into the trench. The Dahomians were utterly defeated. In fact, they have never met with such a signal defeat, not even in 1851. They lost upwards of 1000 in killed and the number of prisoners is said to exceed 2,000. The whole strength of the King is stated to have been 10,000 men and women. The Dahomians fled in two divisions. In front of the division which took first to flight was the doughty King himself. The Egbas pursued both divisions and slaughtered the fugitives without a pause. Seeing the discomfiture of the King, the inhabitants of the neighboring crooms turned out and joined heartily the general massacre. Out of three field pieces, the King had the misfortune to leave two in the good keeping of the Egbas. I may now, perhaps, be allowed to tell you that the wall of Abbeokuta is fifteen miles in circumference, and that the population is scarcely less than 200,000 souls.

The future Express of Mexico has written and privately printed "Souvenirs de Voyage a bord de la Fantasio," and "Un Hiver dans l'Isle de Madere." The illustrious writer is granddaughter of Louis Philippe of France, daughter of Leopold of Belgium, first cousin Victoria of England, and sister-in-law of Francis Joseph of Austria. Her names are Maria-Charlotte-Amelia-Auguste-Victoire-Clementine-Leodoldine, and she was born in June, 1840, and married in July 1857. Moreover, she is said to be one of the best looking among the royal ladies of Europe.

THE NEW YORK SEVENTH.—The New York "Seventh" still keeps out of harm's way, as will be seen by the following, taken from the New York *Times* of the 8th:

The 7th regiment, Colonel Lefferts, proceeded yesterday morning to East New York, for field exercise. The men were dressed in fatigue uniform and carried one day's rations.

Gallant Charge of the Yankees.

A generous and chivalric foe should take pleasure in chronicling a brave and desperate deed of daring of his enemy, even though it be unrivalled by any act of prowess of which he himself can boast.

On Sunday morning, the enemy having doubled their lines of skirmishers, advanced them to within one hundred yards of our strong works near New Hope Church, firing with great spirit without receiving a response from those dumb Sebastopolis barriers. This thick line however, though sustained by three lines of battle, broke in the greatest confusion, and spite of the remonstrance and curses of their officers, failed to rally. The first line of battle then advanced to about the same point, and without being fired at, broke and ran. The second line advanced with a double-quick and yell, and after reaching the same magic position, it followed the retreating footsteps of its illustrious predecessors. The third line, nothing dismayed, advanced with bold and steady step, charged and took the works, which, without a single Confederate soldier being in them, had repulsed a thick advance of skirmishers and two solid lines of battle.

The truth is, our force had evacuated the works the evening before, to meet a movement on our right flank, and there was no force within four miles of the place, except a few cavalry videts, who were on a hill in the rear, admiring spectators of the desperate daring and unrivalled success of this daring Yankee charge. It is unnecessary to state that, when the Yanks ascended the embankment in front of the works, they cheered lustily; and that when their ensigns planted the star-spangled banner on the empty Confederate trenches, the welkin rang with the applause of their comrades, who, from their own works, viewed with patriotic satisfaction, the success of the magnificent charge; and that the air resounded with the sweetest strains of the martial airs of Yankeeedom, discoursed as their colors were raised triumphantly over the captured rebel stronghold.—*Atlanta Appeal.*

Fate of The Author of "God Save The Queen."

The following extract is from a work by Charles Reade, entitled the "Eighth Commandment."

Henry Carey was man of genius. He wrote for the theatre with immediate and lasting success. Next he handled satire, and Pope took his verses for Swift's, and Swift for Pope's. Lastly he settled down to lyrical art; and a rare combination of two rare talents, he invented the immortal melodies, and the immortal words to them. He wrote the words and melody of the National Anthem; for this he deserved a pension and a niche in Westminster Abbey. In a loose age he wrote chastely. He never failed to hit the public. He was of his age, yet immortal. No artist can do more. But there were no copy rights in songs. Mark the consequence of that gap in the law.—While the theatre and the street rang with his lines and his tunes, white fiddlers fiddled and were paid, and the songsters sang him and were richly paid, the genius that set all these empty music pipes a flowing, a million ears listened with rapture, was fleeced to the bone.

All reaped the corn but the sower. For why? The sower was an author, an inventor! And so in the midst of successes that enriched others and left him bare, in the midst of the poor, unselfish soul's attempt to found a charity for distressed performers, nature suddenly broke down under the double agony of a heart full of wrongs and an empty belly, and the man hanged himself. They found him cold, with skin on his bones, and a half penny in his pocket.—Think of this when next you hear "God Save the Queen."

CHINESE JEWS.—A recent discovery has brought to light the fact that Jews are very numerous in China. A Jewish officer in the British navy estimates them at one million. It was by mere accident that this community of Oriental China Jews was discovered. The officer referred to went up one of their rivers and observed a large town or city. He was not at first cordially received; but finally, obtaining an interview with the chief he landed under his protection, and found to his astonishment an immense population of Jews.

BIRTHS IN CUBA.—It appears by a communication to the French Academy that the climate of Cuba is exceedingly favorable to fecundity. Very often twelve, and sometimes more than double that number of children are found in one family. Many Cuban beauties become mothers at thirteen and re-appear in that character up to the age of fifty.

CAMDEN DAILY JOURNAL.

MONDAY MORNING, JULY 11.

A negro colony has been established on Gen. Lee's Arlington estates.

The State Convention of the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina, will hold its annual meeting at Greenville, S. C., beginning on Friday, 29th inst.

The Emperor Napoleon has restored to Masonic fraternity of France the ancient prerogative of selecting their own Grand Master. This act was hailed with great pleasure by the order. The practice in France has been for the Emperor to make the selection.

In the latest reports of deaths in the Atlanta Hospitals, we notice the names of P. S. MITCHELL, Co. A, 19th S. C.; and M. OWENS, Co. D, 10th S. C.; A. J. LAMB, Private, Co. E, 10th S. C.; LEVI KOON, Private, Co. K, 9th S. C.; F. A. MOORE, Private, Co. G, 19th S. C.

THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI.—Our latest advices from the other side of the Mississippi river would seem to represent that the Confederates are having all their own way in that department. A force of twenty thousand cavalry under General WHARTON are said to have moved into Missouri, while General SHELBY, with twenty-five hundred men, is already in the State, and General PRICE was hastening on with the artillery and infantry to the same destination. This is a movement we have anticipated ever since the defeat of BANKS and STEELE, and we doubt not that General PRICE is going into Missouri with the intention of staying there. He will no doubt be enabled to add greatly to the strength of his army in that State, and St. Louis will hardly be considered safe while he is in its vicinity with so formidable a force.

The Concert.

The proceeds of the concert, given on the 25th instant, for the benefit of the Soldiers, amounted to only \$136.00, while the expenses were \$144.50, making a loss, to the patriotic and benevolent musicians, of \$8.50. Mr. SCHÖLLER, however, determined that his enterprise should not be wholly fruitless, and, with commendable liberality, presented \$25 to the Soldiers' Real.

The ill success of the concert is to be attributed to the fact that suitable arrangements had not been previously made: for we are not prepared to admit that the citizens of Camden lack either musical taste or patriotism.

We were not able to attend the performance ourselves, but have competent testimony to its excellence. Much praise has been awarded, in particular, to a gifted lady who volunteered her services as a vocalist. Mr. SCHÖLLER requests us to return his thanks to Messrs. A. M. & R. KENNEDY, to Mr. JONES, and to Mr. JUNGBLUTH for their kindness.

Some time ago a military commission was appointed in Doxledom to investigate certain alleged fraudulent transactions in the west, in which military officers of rank were implicated. Gen. McDOWELL, the hero of the 1st Manassas, was resident of the commission, and his report, which has been recently submitted to the LINCOLN government, makes some rich developments. The Washington correspondent of the New York *Herald* gives the names of divers Major and Brigadier Generals who were shown to have been implicated, and concludes by stating that permits, for trading in cotton, were shown to have been granted by Generals GRANT, CURTIS, STEELE, GORMAN and WASHBURN.

But a more damning case, of corruption in high places, has just been exposed by one of the civil Courts in Cincinnati. The facts, as developed before the Court, form a striking commentary on the war, and upon the spirit in which it is prosecuted by the Yankees. They are as follows:

JESSE R. GRANT, the father of ULYSSES, contracted with a firm in Cincinnati to procure, from GEN. GRANT, a permit to purchase cotton, to provide transportation for the same, and to secure such other facilities as might be required for successfully speculating in cotton. For these services GRANT was to receive one fourth of the net profits. GRANT performed his part of the contract, and the enterprise was brought to a successful termination; but the Cincinnati firm refused to account to him for the stipulated share of the profits, amounting to \$40,000, and GRANT had the shameless audacity to bring suit for their recovery. Judge FROVEX, who tried the case, and for whose loyalty to the LINCOLN government the paper, which reports the proceedings, vouches, remarked, in dismissing the plaintiff's petition: "I feel constrained to say that the whole of the trade, as disclosed in the proceedings, is not only disgraceful, but tends directly to disgrace the country. It is the price of blood." Truly out of their own mouth do they condemn themselves. Comment, on our part, would be superfluous.

Two millions worth of diamonds was imported into the United States the last year.—So says a foreign writer who has been reading on the subject.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI.

CLINTON, July 8 via MOBILE, July 9.—A gentleman of this town just arrived from the other side of the river says, that Little Rock has been captured by Price, with all of their stores and supplies, ammunition and arms. The Yankees have been entirely driven from Arkansas, except 4,000. Our army is under Kirby Smith. The Yankees occupy Helena.—This news was received official by Gen. Kirby Smith, has ordered the impressment of half the cotton in the Trans-Mississippi department, for the purpose of bringing military supplies.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, July 9.—We attacked the enemy on Johns Island at day-light and drove them from their line of entrenchments of yesterday. Loss not yet made public.

FROM PETERSBURG.

PETERSBURG, July 10.—About 5 o'clock on Friday evening our artillery along the whole line opened on the enemy, and at one time our men mounted the breastworks and defied the enemy, who sought the cover their entrenchments, and replied with artillery. The firing lasted about 30 minutes.

The enemy has made no assault on our lines for a week past, and the impression is that he has drawn off his force from our front. For several nights the rumbling of artillery and wagons has been heard all night. The enemy, however, still keep up a show of force along our lines.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, July 9.—Intense excitement prevails at Washington; from an announcement that 40,000 rebels were approaching that Lincoln had called out the militia of the adjoining States.

A telegram from Harrisburg says the excitement there was intense, in view of a rumor that Breckenridge was moving in the direction of Chambersburg. One report says he has 20,000 men, and has whipped Sedgwick.

PETERSBURG, July 9.—The Washington Chronicle of the 6th says great excitement exists at the North, in consequence of the rebel raid. Martinburg had been captured with large quantities of supplies.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad had been badly injured.

GREEK MET GREEK.—The following is an extract from a private letter written by a lady in the Trans-Mississippi Department to a gentleman in Shubuta, Mississippi. It is another one of the misfortunes, so many of which have occurred in the Virginia army:

"A sad misfortune occurred at the battle of Pleasant Hill. A large battery of the enemy's had been playing on our ranks for some time, committing terrible destruction. Col. Parsons, who commands a brigade of Texans, commenced a movement to charge and secure this battery. He succeeded in capturing it after a desperate struggle, and immediately turned it on the flying foe. General Churchill, commanding a brigade of Arkansians about the same time, commenced a charge on the same battery, he thinking that the enemy still held it. Parsons thinking Churchill was the enemy attempting to retake the battery, turned the guns upon him. A desperate fight ensued. The mistake was not discovered until Gen. Churchill arrived at the battery, and saw the colors. The loss here was heavier than at any other point on the battlefield."

The Raleigh *Confederate*, of the 6th, says: A gentleman on the train brings the information that Grant has withdrawn his army from the South to the North side of the Appomattox—thus abandoning his attack on Petersburg, and looking to another advance on Richmond, designing, it is said, to combine with his land assault an attack by water—unless the stubborn works at Drewry's Bluff and our iron clads should dispute and prevent his passage.

The young King of Greece, in a late interview with Admiral Kanaris to whom he presented his portrait, set in diamonds, was in return kissed three times by Mrs. Admiral Kanaris. Thereupon his youthful majesty shed a profusion of tears.