

this amount of moral courage on the part of the General should only have been displayed at a time when its results were utterly futile. Before, such disobedience of orders would in all probability have saved Lucknow—none, it only entailed a useless fight and prostrated so many more of our scanty force by death, wounds, and sickness.

So the troops marched back again to Mungulwarra, and there remained for three or four days doing nothing, during which time the question of re-crossing the Ganges was being debated. At length this was determined, and preparations were made accordingly by the field engineer, who chose a spot for the embarkation considerably lower down than the place where we originally crossed. Here the river itself was much narrower, but to reach the place a succession of swamps and creeks had to be crossed. Causeways were thrown across the first, and the second was bridged with boats in an incredibly short space of time, considering the amount of work to be done, and the very inefficient means at the disposal of the engineer officers. The commissariat stores and baggage were sent down daily, and crossed over, and finally, on the morning of the 11th, an order was issued that all bedding—the only article of baggage the troops had been allowed to keep—was to proceed to the river immediately. We therefore anticipated having to follow ourselves during the night, and our as onishment may be conceived when at three p. m. the bugle sounded the turn-out, and we learnt that we were to advance to the front for the third time! The fact of the matter was, that the officer in command had received false information, which led him to suppose that the enemy had come down to Unao with the intention of attacking us during our passage of the river.

The English force marched off with their arms in their hands and their clothes on their backs, and not another thing. When they reached Unao, lo! there was not a soul to be seen; but there came in real information, to the effect that the enemy, under the impression that we had crossed the river two days previously, had really come down in force to Basarat Gunge, and that 4,000 infantry and 500 cavalry, with one horse-battery and some native guns, were now lying encamped in front of that place. Having gone so far, therefore, it was now impossible to retreat in the face of the enemy without a fight. Accordingly, the English force bivouacked that night on the plain, and marched forward at dawn next morning.

Meantime the enemy, hearing of our advance, had worked hard all night entrenching themselves, and when we drew near we found them very strongly posted—their right resting on a small village on the main road, where they had guns in battery—their left on a mound about 400 yards distant, which they had cut down into another battery mounting three guns—the interval between connected by a ditch and breastwork lined with infantry, with cavalry massed on their left flank, ready to act, if they dared.

To oppose these we had not, I believe, more than 800 effective men in the field, for 200 had been left behind to guard the river. The plan of battle was soon formed. The 78 h. Fusiliers, and four guns moved off on the right to attack the left of the enemy's position; the heavy guns on the left, supported by the 84th, went along the road to encounter the enemy's right battery, and the remaining troops and guns took the centre.

Our right—for the ground was good and the men fresh—moved fast, and soon came into action with the enemy's left. They seemed particularly jealous of this movement, and turned all the guns they could bring to bear upon us. I certainly was never under so heavy a fire in my life. In five minutes after we came into action, every man at the gun I was laying was wounded with grape, except the sergeant and myself; and four of our gun cattle were knocked over by round shot. The other three guns suffered nearly as much, and we found our fire had little effect on the battery in our front—their guns were too well protected. So we limbered up and got out of that as fast as we could, taking ground more to the right, and then found it was possible to move still more forward and take the adverse battery in flank. This was accordingly done, and then we had our revenge, for they could only bring one gun to bear on us, while we, with our four, enveloped their whole position. It is true that at this time we were within five hundred yards of the enemy's cavalry, who if they had one atom of pluck, could have charged and taken our guns with most perfect ease; but a handful of Fusiliers, with their Enfields, lying down on our right, and the small body of volunteer horse drawn up in our rear, made us feel perfectly secure, and we went on pounding the battery without paying the slightest attention to the horsemen.

Presently an artillery-wagon was seen creeping out of the battery. That was instantly knocked over; and soon after a lucky shrapnel silenced the one gun which was firing direct at us. Our fire grew hotter than ever, and at last a swarm of men was seen rushing back in confusion from the trenches. Hereupon a cheer ran along the whole of our advancing lines—the 78th quickened their pace before breaking into one of their magnificent charges—and the Fusiliers on our right dashed forward with a yell, in loose skirmishing order, at the left flank of the large grove of trees which ran along the rear of the enemy's position, and which was full of men.

The 78th went straight at the battery, which still remained crowded with men—the gunners working their two remaining guns to the last, and only bolting when our men were at the foot of the slope, carrying off with them one gun, the team of which had escaped the shrapnell of our artillery. After bayoneting all they could catch, the 78th turned the two captured guns on the enemy. Some artillerymen were into the battery directly after, and we had the intense satisfaction of giving the flying foe three rounds from each of their own guns.

The position was carried at all points about the same time, the enemy flying in headlong haste. On the left, having the advantage of the road, they managed to carry off their guns, as we had no cavalry to catch them, and our men were far too much exhausted with their previous run to follow up. Having contented themselves, therefore, with driving the enemy clean through and away from the village, the force halted for a short time to breathe, then marched back to Unao, where they cooked food—and so in the cool of the evening back to Mungulwarra. Next morning, the 13th, the troops moved down to the river, and—so excellent were the engineer's arrangements—were all crossed over and housed on the Cawnpore side by nightfall of the same day.

During the time the force had been acting on the Oude side of the Ganges, Bithoor, the abode of our enemy the Nena Sahib, had again been occupied in force by the insurgents, amongst whom were the 42nd Native Infantry, who caused great annoyance to the Cawnpore garrison. It was necessary to dislodge these people, and on the 16th our weary troops were again in full march for another fight.

The town of Bithoor lies on the Ganges about eleven miles north of Cawnpore. It is situated on a rising ground, surrounded by orchards and dense cultivation, and protected by a deep muddy creek which runs up from the Ganges round the base of the hill. This made it naturally a strong position, and it was still further strengthened by a battery mounting two guns, and breastwork thrown up beside the bridge which crossed the creek.

On arriving within sight of the place, the enemy's cavalry were, as usual, discovered hovering on our flank. A couple of long shots were fired at them to make the foe unmask his position, and these were immediately replied to by the two guns from the battery in our front. A portion of the troops, consisting of the 78th Fusiliers, and Royal Battery, were now ordered to deploy on the right and advance towards the entrenchment. The guns opened at 1,000 yards, and, after firing a few shots, limbered up for the purpose of advancing to within 700 yards' range, when all at once a musketry fire opened on them from a village on the right flank. Two companies of the Fusiliers instantly went off to attack this place, and the guns getting again into action at 700 yards, fired with such effect that the order was given to limber up and advance within canister range. This was done, and the battery was quietly advancing supported by the 78th and Fusiliers, when, to our surprise, a regular hailstorm of musketry came from the breastwork in front, right in upon us. The mutineers had coolly waited without firing a shot till we came within range. By this both the 78th and Fusiliers suffered severely; they immediately moved off to the right, where they got under cover of some sugar-cane and passing through it came out at the left of the breast-work, which they stormed and entered. Then turning, they went along inside, and after about ten minutes' hard fighting drove the Sepoys out across the bridge into the town and surrounding sugar-cane fields, and captured the battery. This was the first time that our troops fairly got at the enemy with the bayonet—for the Sepoys stood and fought it out—and had they not been so much exhausted with their morning's march in the sun, the slaughter would have been much greater. As it was, about three hundred of the enemy were killed, of whom it was computed about sixty fell by the bayonet alone.

While this was going on, the remaining portion of the force was engaged with the enemy posted in the sugar-cane fields on the left, and having driven them out of their cover, the whole force went forward pursuing the foe, who retreated, fighting through the town, till they finally broke and fled on the other side, in the direction of the Grand Trunk Road to Delhi. The old Residency, used by the Rajah as his palace, stood on that side the town; there were a number of tents in the garden, and the place was full of their cavalry, who were busy plundering and carrying off all they could lift. It was a fine opportunity for catching them, but the Sikhs, to whom the task was allotted, made a mess of it, by shouting and getting excited, instead of going quietly to work; so that the horsemen caught the alarm before they were surrounded, and scampered off inconspicuously without much loss, to the great wrath of the remainder of the troops when they heard what had happened.

In this action the ill effect of marching Englishmen in India by day, instead of by night, was particularly manifest. The men came into action so fagged with the heavy road and hot sun, that ere half the fight was over, they were utterly exhausted, and could not do half the execution they would otherwise have done, had they been fresher. Were the system of the old Indian generals adopted, of marching during the night, halting when within a few miles of the place till dawn, and then going on again in the grey of the morning, every man would be fresh and ready for any amount of working that might be before him. Curious to relate, the enemy on this occasion seemed to be quite as much exhausted as our own men. Some of them actually threw themselves down from exhaustion, and suffered themselves to be bayoneted rather than stir. The cause of this was discovered after the action, from one of our Thannadars who had been made prisoner and escaped during the confusion of the flight. The day previous was a Hindu fast, which had been strictly kept by all the Sepoys, who therefore had to fight upon empty stomachs. "Had we," the man said, "been able to follow up the fugitives for another four miles, we might have killed almost the whole of them;" for he saw the Sepoys throw themselves down on the ground by scores, utterly unable from exhaustion to stir another step.

The troops remained that day bivouacked in and around the old Residency, and next morning marched back to Cawnpore, where it is supposed they will go into camp and rest awhile. Of this, however, I am not as yet certain, since I am at present away from the scene, having been despatched the next morning with a couple of guns on board a steamer, in company with a detachment of infantry, to proceed down the river, and destroy any boats that might be collected on the Oude side of the Ganges.

One thing, however, is certain—the troops' want rest. It is now about forty days since the column left Allahabad, during which time it has fought an action on an average every fourth day, captured seventy-one guns, and lost upwards of a fourth of its numbers. It was really piteous to see the regiment marching back from Bithoor. The 78th left Allahabad over three hundred strong—it is now reduced to less than a hundred fighting men. The 6th, that started a few months ago for Persia a thousand strong, is now reduced to hardly the size of two companies; and the rest in proportion. Meantime, reports say that the Gwalior force, fully equipped, and with thirty-one guns, are marching upon Cawnpore. Truly, the sooner the English reinforcements come, the better.

THE LIBERAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

The editor of the *Islander* expresses some alarm, in his issue of Friday last, at a rumour which he says he has heard respecting the revival of the Liberal Reform Association, and cautions the public to beware of the "imposture," as he designates that association. If there were any immediate and pressing necessity for it, we do not suppose there would be much difficulty in getting the dreaded Society into a state of organization as effective as it was in its palmiest days during the fitful and troubled administration of the HOLL & PALMER Government in 1854. As to saying it was an "imposture," we beg to assure our contemporary that his making use of hard names does not always justify their application. The Liberal Reform Association was no secret organization like the Political Alliance—a meeting of which no waste of breath on the part of Mr. Crier Hatch can succeed in bringing together—its meetings were open to the public, and persons of opposite principles were as free to listen to its discussions as its own members. The *Islander* intimates that the Association was an "imposture," because it is alleged to have promised certain things which it did not perform. Now, the object of the Association was to have liberal or reform principles carried out in the administration of the Government. This was the pledge it gave the public, and it took only about six months to redeem it. It was established shortly previous to the formation of the HOLL & PALMER Government in 1854. It was well known before the meeting of the new House, which gave existence to that Government, that several members had most flagrantly betrayed their hustings pledges, and had otherwise deceived their constituents. The Association felt that it was its duty to expose the perfidy, so that no portion of the electors should be again imposed upon; and the exposure was so effectual that the gentlemen who ratted, taking discretion for the better part of valour, deemed it wisest not to face the storm of the public indignation, which was sure to overwhelm them at the general election in 1854—an event that was the result of the Society's agitation—and quietly slunk into their former and congenial obscurity. The only way for the Society to effect its object was, to excite a strong public opinion against the short-lived Government of 1854, by exposing for general reprobation its maladministration, and to procure as speedily as possible thereafter an appeal to the constituencies. We challenge the *Islander* to prove that the Association failed in the accomplishment of this object. The recollection of the disastrous defeat of its party in the summer of 1854,—when so many members of the Tory Executive Council were rejected by the people—one having been previously dismissed and another having resigned—that there was not a sufficient number left to form a quorum,—so embitters the *Islander's* reminiscences of the Liberal Reform Association, as the principal agent in the political movements of that period, that its editor and his friends may well be alarmed at the rumoured prospect of its revival. Although the Association has witnessed the establishment, as far as practicable, of the principles for which it contended when in opposition, and its mission might therefore be declared to be at an end—yet, perhaps, it would not be unadvisable to justify the apprehensions of the Tory party, and arouse the slumbering Association and its branches, so that they be prepared to do battle for their principles in the election contests which must ere long agitate the country. We have no reason to doubt that the Liberals will have a larger majority in the new House than they have in the present one; but as the Tories are evidently determined to work hard to give a different termination to the elections, we should be prepared to counteract their movements in every quarter; and a more formidable auxiliary in this good work could not be desired than the Liberal Reform Association, awakened from and refreshed by its long slumber.

NEW CANADIAN MINISTRY.—The Cabinet of Canada, led by the Hon. E. P. Tache, in which there had been two vacancies for some time previous, resigned in a body on the 20th ult. The Hon. John A. McDonald, who held the office of Attorney General in the late Ministry, was instructed to form a new Cabinet, in which he succeeded after some delay. All the Upper Canadian Ministers have been restored to their late positions. The Lower Canadian section stands as follows:—Attorney General East, Hon. Geo. E. Cartier; Commissioner of Crown Lands, Hon. Mr. Sicotte; Speaker of the Legislative Council, Hon. N. F. Belleau, (vice Tache); Chief Commissioner of Public Works, Mr. C. Allyn, M. P. for Quebec; Provincial Secretary, Hon. T. J. J. Loranger, M. P. for Laprairie, (vice Terrill). Mr. Dunbar Ross is succeeded in the Solicitor Generalship by John Rose, Esq., Q. C. of Montreal, without a seat in the Cabinet.

A MURDERER HUNG HIMSELF.—Breen, who was under sentence of death for his participation in the murder of the Mackenzie family, near Saint John, N. B., a few weeks ago, committed suicide by hanging himself in the jail at Saint John on the 6th instant. He would have been hung by legal process had he survived five days longer, and much censure was directed against the jail authorities for allowing him to cheat the gallows.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.—The second or December No. of this new periodical came to hand by last Mail. It contains many ably written articles, and excellent as the first No. was, we think the second is a better one.

PRESERVED FISH.—We acknowledge the receipt of two boxes, hermetically sealed, Oysters and No. 1 Mackerel, prepared and put up by our excellent friend at St. Eleanor's, N. J. Brown, Esq. Every person who knows the quality of Bedoune oysters, (and their reputation extends far beyond this Island) requires no recommendation of the article when preserved and put up for use by so skillful an artisan as our friend at St. Eleanor's. We are indebted for a similar favor to Mr. James Romans, of this city, who is associated with Mr. John Cairns, Tinsmith, in preserving and putting up in hermetically sealed boxes, Lobsters, Oysters and No. 1 Mackerel. They have prepared a considerable stock of these fine fish in admirable style, and we trust they, as well as their competitor at St. Eleanor's, will obtain that liberal patronage to which their enterprise is so justly entitled.

AT 20 minutes past 6 o'clock on Monday, the 2d November, a severe shock of an earthquake was felt all over San Francisco. It was a single violent shock, accompanied with a noise resembling the violent slamming of a door. Another violent shock occurred at 20 minutes past 1 o'clock on the morning of the 6th, which is supposed to have been almost as severe as the shock of February, 1856. Besides these, a number of oscillations of the earth were observed during the afternoon and night of the 4th. Clocks were stopped by these shocks, and it is said that, in a few instances, rents were made in walls of houses.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—The Atlantic telegraph cable has been coiled up for the winter in a shed built for its reception in the Keyham-yard, at Plymouth, and divided into four water-tight compartments. Mr. Whitehouse, the chief electrician of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, will during the whole of the winter carry on a series of experiments upon the cable, with the view of ascertaining its general electric capabilities, the rate at which each signal can be transmitted, with the effect which the different periods of the day, the temperature, and state of the atmosphere have upon its conductivity. The next submersion of the cable (which is to be increased to 3000 miles in length) will be attempted at the end of June or beginning of July, so as to leave an opportunity for another effort if any accident should occur; and the process of submersion is to be commenced in the middle of the ocean, the ends of the two halves being united on board the *Niagara* and *Agamemnon*, and each vessel then making the best of its way to land.

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The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., DECEMBER 21, 1857.

THE LIBERAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

The editor of the *Islander* expresses some alarm, in his issue of Friday last, at a rumour which he says he has heard respecting the revival of the Liberal Reform Association, and cautions the public to beware of the "imposture," as he designates that association. If there were any immediate and pressing necessity for it, we do not suppose there would be much difficulty in getting the dreaded Society into a state of organization as effective as it was in its palmiest days during the fitful and troubled administration of the HOLL & PALMER Government in 1854. As to saying it was an "imposture," we beg to assure our contemporary that his making use of hard names does not always justify their application. The Liberal Reform Association was no secret organization like the Political Alliance—a meeting of which no waste of breath on the part of Mr. Crier Hatch can succeed in bringing together—its meetings were open to the public, and persons of opposite principles were as free to listen to its discussions as its own members. The *Islander* intimates that the Association was an "imposture," because it is alleged to have promised certain things which it did not perform. Now, the object of the Association was to have liberal or reform principles carried out in the administration of the Government. This was the pledge it gave the public, and it took only about six months to redeem it. It was established shortly previous to the formation of the HOLL & PALMER Government in 1854. It was well known before the meeting of the new House, which gave existence to that Government, that several members had most flagrantly betrayed their hustings pledges, and had otherwise deceived their constituents. The Association felt that it was its duty to expose the perfidy, so that no portion of the electors should be again imposed upon; and the exposure was so effectual that the gentlemen who ratted, taking discretion for the better part of valour, deemed it wisest not to face the storm of the public indignation, which was sure to overwhelm them at the general election in 1854—an event that was the result of the Society's agitation—and quietly slunk into their former and congenial obscurity. The only way for the Society to effect its object was, to excite a strong public opinion against the short-lived Government of 1854, by exposing for general reprobation its maladministration, and to procure as speedily as possible thereafter an appeal to the constituencies. We challenge the *Islander* to prove that the Association failed in the accomplishment of this object. The recollection of the disastrous defeat of its party in the summer of 1854,—when so many members of the Tory Executive Council were rejected by the people—one having been previously dismissed and another having resigned—that there was not a sufficient number left to form a quorum,—so embitters the *Islander's* reminiscences of the Liberal Reform Association, as the principal agent in the political movements of that period, that its editor and his friends may well be alarmed at the rumoured prospect of its revival. Although the Association has witnessed the establishment, as far as practicable, of the principles for which it contended when in opposition, and its mission might therefore be declared to be at an end—yet, perhaps, it would not be unadvisable to justify the apprehensions of the Tory party, and arouse the slumbering Association and its branches, so that they be prepared to do battle for their principles in the election contests which must ere long agitate the country. We have no reason to doubt that the Liberals will have a larger majority in the new House than they have in the present one; but as the Tories are evidently determined to work hard to give a different termination to the elections, we should be prepared to counteract their movements in every quarter; and a more formidable auxiliary in this good work could not be desired than the Liberal Reform Association, awakened from and refreshed by its long slumber.

NEW CANADIAN MINISTRY.—The Cabinet of Canada, led by the Hon. E. P. Tache, in which there had been two vacancies for some time previous, resigned in a body on the 20th ult. The Hon. John A. McDonald, who held the office of Attorney General in the late Ministry, was instructed to form a new Cabinet, in which he succeeded after some delay. All the Upper Canadian Ministers have been restored to their late positions. The Lower Canadian section stands as follows:—Attorney General East, Hon. Geo. E. Cartier; Commissioner of Crown Lands, Hon. Mr. Sicotte; Speaker of the Legislative Council, Hon. N. F. Belleau, (vice Tache); Chief Commissioner of Public Works, Mr. C. Allyn, M. P. for Quebec; Provincial Secretary, Hon. T. J. J. Loranger, M. P. for Laprairie, (vice Terrill). Mr. Dunbar Ross is succeeded in the Solicitor Generalship by John Rose, Esq., Q. C. of Montreal, without a seat in the Cabinet.

A MURDERER HUNG HIMSELF.—Breen, who was under sentence of death for his participation in the murder of the Mackenzie family, near Saint John, N. B., a few weeks ago, committed suicide by hanging himself in the jail at Saint John on the 6th instant. He would have been hung by legal process had he survived five days longer, and much censure was directed against the jail authorities for allowing him to cheat the gallows.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.—The second or December No. of this new periodical came to hand by last Mail. It contains many ably written articles, and excellent as the first No. was, we think the second is a better one.

PRESERVED FISH.—We acknowledge the receipt of two boxes, hermetically sealed, Oysters and No. 1 Mackerel, prepared and put up by our excellent friend at St. Eleanor's, N. J. Brown, Esq. Every person who knows the quality of Bedoune oysters, (and their reputation extends far beyond this Island) requires no recommendation of the article when preserved and put up for use by so skillful an artisan as our friend at St. Eleanor's. We are indebted for a similar favor to Mr. James Romans, of this city, who is associated with Mr. John Cairns, Tinsmith, in preserving and putting up in hermetically sealed boxes, Lobsters, Oysters and No. 1 Mackerel. They have prepared a considerable stock of these fine fish in admirable style, and we trust they, as well as their competitor at St. Eleanor's, will obtain that liberal patronage to which their enterprise is so justly entitled.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM EUROPE.

The English Mail was received here from Pietou this forenoon, brought by the sailing packet *Pallas*, from our papers by which we give the following extracts of the latest news.

Parliament was opened by the Queen in person on the 3d inst. Her Majesty's speech refers principally to the Currency and Indian questions. Amongst measures of a local character, one on Parliamentary Reform is announced in the speech.

Several additional commercial failures have occurred in Britain, and on the Continent the panic has been felt severely, where the failures have been heavy and numerous.

The news from India continues to be of an encouraging character; and although the rebellion is far from being suppressed, uniform success appears to await the operations of the British troops, now considerably reinforced by recent arrivals.

NEWS FROM INDIA.

HAVELOCK REINFORCED BY QUEEN'S TROOPS.—MALAGHUR TAKEN AND BLOWN UP.—BATTLE OF AGRA AND DEFEAT OF THE REBELS.—ONE THOUSAND OF THE ENEMY KILLED, AND CAPTURE OF ALL THEIR GUNS.

ALEXANDRIA, Nov. 18.—Intelligence per Bentinck, which arrived at Suze yesterday morning from Calcutta. The following ships, with troops, had arrived at Calcutta:—Steamship Thebes, steamship Golden Bleece, and steamship Caledonia. Passed ships Areta and Bucephalus at Sand Heads. At Madras, there were steamship United Kingdom, steamship Carthage, and ship Alnwick Castle, on the 4th November. At Galle