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By James McLaurin.

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Poetry.

What will they say in England?

BY THE REV. J. S. MONSELL.

What will they say in England?
When the story there is told,
Of Deeds of might, on Alma's height,
Done by the Brave and Bold!
Of Russia, proud at noontide,
Humbled ere set of Sun;
They'll say—'twas like Old England,
They'll say 'twas nobly done!

What will they say in England?
When hushed in awe and dread,
Fond hearts thro' all our happy homes,
Think of the mighty Dead;
And muse in speechless anguish,
On Father, Brother, Son,
They'll say in dear Old England,
God's Holy will be done!

What will they say in England?
The matron and the maid,
Whose widow'd, withered hearts have found,
The Price that each has paid.
The gladness that their homes have
They'll say in Christian England,
God's Holy will be done!

What will they say in England?
Our names both night and day,
Are in their hearts, and on their lips,
When they laugh, or weep, or pray;
They watch on Earth, they plead with Heav'n
Then forward to the fight!
Who droops and fears! when England cheers,
And God defends the Right!

English and Foreign.

[From the Church Witness.]

The arrival of the Pacific at New York has put us in possession of English dates to the 25th ult.

The one grand and all absorbing topic in the English Journals is the battle of Inkerman, which took place on Sunday, the ever memorable fifth of November. In this stupendous struggle a mere handful of our brave countrymen and their gallant allies were engaged with a horde of their enemies, and by the good Providence of the Great Sovereign of the universe, gained a most decisive victory over them. We have given below copious details of this achievement, which, while it adds new lustre and renown to the British arms, carries with it, also, at the same time, sorrow and suffering to many a British homestead. The engagement commenced at an early hour in the morning, and lasted till the close of day. The enemy aided by a dense fog and the darkness of night, got possession of the heights, which by some strange oversight, were left without trenches or earthworks, and were therefore undefended; but notwithstanding, right gallantly did our noble fellows repair this heavy disadvantage. For three or four hours some 8000 of them singly and nobly resisted the attacks of the enemy, estimated at from 45,000 to 60,000 strong, inflamed to the utmost by drink and fanaticism. Victory trembled in the balance. But at last the arrival of 5000 or 6000 of our brave allies decided the fortune of the day. And marvellous to tell, the combined forces inflicted a loss on the Russians positively exceeding their own aggregate numbers—a loss variously estimated at from 15,000 to 20,000 in killed and wounded. The carnage on all sides was awful. It is pronounced one of the bloodiest struggles ever known in the history of modern warfare. As the London Morning Chronicle says:—

"It was not what scientific strategists call a battle—it was a hand-to-hand struggle for life and death. It was fought by our troops with volleys fired at ten paces length—with bayonets fixed—with muskets used as clubs. It was fought in hollows and ravines—on the hill side and the rocky crag—it was fought beneath a hail of grape-shot, with the enemy in front, behind, around us. It was won by a succession of victories, gained by each regiment fighting where it stood. From the mist and the broken character of the ground, none could tell how the battle was going—our troops only knew the enemy was there. For hours the battle raged unabated in its fury. Our ranks remained unbroken, but the odds against us was still fearful. The day was drawing on. It was at the hour when here, throughout the length and breadth of the land, prayers were being offered up in our churches for the success of our arms—when fond hearts were including in those prayers the names of many who were fighting and dying on that fearful field—that the French Zouaves appeared in sight on the heights above. This was the turning point. Wearing out by their unavailing onslaught on our lines, the enemy could not withstand the charge of these fresh assailants.—With a common cheer, the French and English charged together on the left flank of the Russians, and forced them down the hill into the valley of Chernaya. This was the main point of the Russian attack, and on their repulse in this quarter, they gradually retired with their artillery from the positions they had occupied, and the dark columns of the defeated army recrossed the bridge of the Inkerman."

The conduct of all engaged in this tremendous battle is warmly, enthusiastically applauded. A Liverpool paper says, "the whole United Kingdom is inexpressibly proud of all her gallant sons;" but we will add, the whole empire is proud of them, nay, the whole civilized world. There seems not a single soldier—whether officer or private—who took part in that desperate engagement, that failed to distinguish himself in a superlative degree. Their victorious struggle against infinitely superior numbers was indeed "a battle of heroes," and it has been well said that no description can do adequate justice to such prodigious feats of arms.

A good deal of fault is being found in England with the government, for not sending out greater reinforcements, and an impeachment of ministers is even talked of. The Times says, "we need not merely half a dozen regiments, but 30,000 or 40,000 men, to redeem our army from destruction, and make good the position we have taken." It is gratifying to know that energetic efforts are now being made, both by the French and English Governments, to meet the emergency, and that our small but heroic force in the Crimea is by this time adequately reinforced.

The report which we received by way of the United States, of the total loss of 32 transports, and of 3 line of battle ships being on shore, turns out, we rejoice to say, to be without foundation.—A gale, it appears, had occurred in the Black Sea, but we have only a Russian authority for the amount of the damage it had done. The reported capture of two English cruisers in the Black Sea rests also upon the same authority.

Hostilities, on a large scale, are about to commence in the Danubian Principalities. The French Government was about to send two strong divisions to that quarter, and we shall probably soon hear of the doings of our old friend—Omer Pasha.

The English Parliament was summoned to meet on the 12th December. Rear Admiral Bruce is

appointed Commander-in-Chief of the British squadron in the Pacific.

The English and French Governments have refused to enter into negotiations for a treaty of peace, on the basis of the "four points." They plainly declare that they intend to hold the Crimea, and will, in their own time, dictate the terms of peace. This is manly and straightforward language.

Lord Raglan, in his official despatch to the British Government, speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of the English and French troops at the battle of Inkerman. We have only room for the following brief extracts from this interesting document:—

I have the greatest satisfaction in drawing your grace's attention to the brilliant conduct of the allied troops. French and English vied with each other in displaying their gallantry, and manifesting their zealous devotion to duty, notwithstanding that they had to contend against an infinitely superior force, and were exposed for many hours to a most galling fire.

It should be borne in mind that they have daily, for several weeks, undergone the most constant labour, and many of them passed the previous night in the trenches.

I will not attempt to enter into the detail of the movements of the French troops, lest I should not state them correctly; but I am proud of the opportunity of bearing testimony to their valour and energetic services, and of paying a tribute of admiration to the distinguished conduct of their immediate commander, General Bosquet, while it is in the highest degree pleasing to me to place upon record my deep sense of the valuable assistance I received from the commander-in-chief, who was himself on the ground, and whose cordial co-operation on all occasions I cannot too highly extol.

It is difficult to arrive at any positive conclusion as to the actual numbers brought into the field by the enemy. The configuration on the ground did not admit of any great development of their force, the attack consisting of a system of repeated assaults in heavy masses of columns; but, judging from the numbers that were seen in the plains after they had withdrawn in defeat, I am led to suppose that they could not have been less than 60,000 men. Their loss was excessive, and it is calculated that they left on the field near 5,000 dead, and that their casualties amount in the whole, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, to not less than 15,000.

Your grace will be surprised to learn that the number of British troops engaged little exceeded 8,000 men, whilst those of General Bosquet's division only amounted to 6,000, the remaining available French troops on the spot having been kept in reserve.

I ought to mention that while the enemy was attacking our right, they assailed the left of the French trenches, and actually got into two of their batteries; but they were quickly driven out in the most gallant manner with considerable loss, and hotly pursued to the very walls of Sebastopol.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Commander in Chief, Canrobert, issued the following order of the day for the battle of the 5th:—

GENERAL ORDER.—Soldiers, this has been a glorious day for you.

A great part of the Russian army, favored by the night and mist, succeeded in establishing themselves, with a powerful force of artillery, on the heights, which form the extreme right of our position. Two divisions of the English force sus-

tained, with that immovable constancy which we know so well is the characteristic of our allies, the unequal combat, until a part of the division Bosquet, led by its worthy commander, together with the horse artillery, came to their support, and threw themselves upon the enemy with a degree of skill and boldness to which I am anxious here to render the fullest testimony.

Driven back at last into the valley of the Tchernaya, the enemy left upon the ground more than 4000 killed or wounded, having carried off as great a number during the continuance of the contest.

While these events were taking place, the garrison of Sebastopol made a sortie on our left which gave an opportunity to the besiegers, and particularly to the 4th division, handled with energy by General Forry, to give the enemy a severe lesson. The troops called upon to repulse the sortie gave proofs of an energy which adds in no small degree to the glory which they have already earned by the constancy with which they have supported the rough but heroic labors of the siege.

I could name whole divisions, soldiers of all arms, and of all ranks who have distinguished themselves highly, this day, I shall make them known to France, the Emperor, and the army.—But my intention to-day was to thank you in their name, and to assure you that you have just added a great page to the history of this difficult campaign.

Head quarters before Sebastopol, Nov. 5, '54.

THE GENERAL-IN-CHIEF, CANROBERT.

The following letter is from an officer in the camp before Sebastopol:—

"Camp before Sebastopol, Nov. 8.

"I received your letter of the 15th about an hour after the termination of one of the hottest engagements of this or any other age, which took place on our regular Gunpowder day, the 5th of Nov. I will not enter into particulars, as you will gather everything from the despatches, and our 'correspondent's' account; but I will tell you that with the numbers we had opposed to the Russian force, nothing but British energy could have held the position we did for hours without the slightest assistance. The enemy was supposed to be above 40,000; whereas our number during that time did not amount to more than 6000, or 7000 at the outside.

"Nothing could exceed the way our fellows fought; and it would have done your heart good to see the Guards stand up against the awful odds opposed to them. The Russian artillery was fearful, and they had got 32, 18, and 12 pounders, upon the heights, which played upon us unceasingly. They always attack us at the same point, because they can shell us from their forts and ships over the whole of the ground. A very strong reinforcement had arrived from Odessa the day before, together with two of the grand dukes, and this was supposed to be their great effort, which, thank God, has signally failed. They brought up their entrenching tools, so that they had evidently intended to make a lodgment.

"Our loss is 2,502 killed and wounded whilst theirs is variously estimated at 12000, 15000, and some say 20000. The Guards, who only went in to action 1,200 strong, lost killed and wounded 589! Out of these there were 12 officers killed, and 22 wounded. I had my horse killed. Out of 13 general officers employed that day we lost three killed and five wounded! At this rate you will say, things will very soon come to a termination, and so it must be as far as the English army is concerned, for to go into action, or present 14,000 bayonets will very soon be used up. Our siege is going on slowly, but they say it must be done and