

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER,

And Bible Society, Missionary, and Sabbath School Advocate.

E. McLEOD, Editor.

That God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ—PETER.

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British Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

VOTES OF THANKS TO THE ARMY AND NAVY.

The Duke of Newcastle: My Lords, I rise for the purpose of performing a task which, if it be difficult for me adequately to perform, is nevertheless most grateful to my feelings—the task of moving, that your Lordships should agree to Resolutions which can by no possibility excite any discordant sentiment, which must assuage every feeling of party that may exist, and which must meet with the unanimous approbation of every Peer who sits in this House. (Hear, hear.) In performing this task, no extraordinary eloquence will be necessary on my part in order to induce your Lordships to agree to the Resolutions I have to propose. (Hear, hear.) These Resolutions must, under existing circumstances, appeal directly to the hearts and feelings of all who sit within these walls. (Cheers.) I feel that no praises, however high, which I could pronounce, and no statement, however elaborate, in my power to make, would be so calculated to impress your Lordships' minds as the simplest records of the deeds done, and of the circumstances under which they were performed. (Hear, hear.) On former occasions, when it was the duty of a Minister to move votes of thanks to the army and navy of England similar to those I now propose, it has been customary—that is, generally so—to give some details of the operations for which the thanks were bestowed, and to lay before your Lordships' House a statement of the actions which called for special approbation; but on the present occasion I feel I should be trespassing on the time of your Lordships, if I were to attempt to enter for your information into any such details. The circumstances on this occasion are very different from those which attended former wars. In the first place, the deeds were performed at a time when Parliament was not sitting; and secondly those deeds have been recorded in a manner so striking and graphic by the gentlemen who have been witnesses of them, and who have so faithfully described all that passed, that it would be affectation in me were I to attempt to give your Lordships any information upon actions and circumstances which have been circulated everywhere, and are known in every cottage in the country. (Hear, hear.) I said that on this occasion I believed that every feeling of party would be estranged. (Hear.) If noble Lords are pleased to impute any blame to the Government they can do so, but they cannot impute any to Lord Raglan or the troops under his command; and I am sure that your Lordships will feel that to any extent that you may blame the Government, to the same extent must you bestow praise on the army. It has always been considered that a vote of thanks to our gallant soldiers and sailors by your Lordships, was the highest reward they could obtain, and the highest incentive to renewed exertion that could be offered to officers and the men under their command. It has been considered not only as a proof of the gratitude of Parliament for the actions performed, but as the sense which Parliament entertains of the power of our soldiers and sailors to perform equal services, and to do as much for the future. It is not for me to discuss the aphorism which has become so trite as to be generally accepted, that England is not a military nation; but military glory acquired by our armies has ever been most dear to the people of England, and has ever obtained the expression of the warmest gratitude from your Lordships' House, and from the other House of Parliament. (Hear, hear.) I certainly am convinced that, so far as your Lordships' House is concerned, you must feel the greatest pride and pleasure on this occasion, because he who commanded those armies to whom the thanks of his country are due, and who has won for himself the greatest renown, is a member of your Lordships' House. (Cheers.) We must all wish that he may be soon here again, and we must cordially desire to see him returning on some future day, safe in health and strength, to enjoy those rewards and that renown which he has so justly earned. (Cheers.) I consider that Lord Raglan has deserved your Lordships' thanks, not merely as applicable to the military actions which he has performed in the Crimea but as applicable to his whole course of conduct since he left this country. The arrangements and preparations which he made at Constantinople, as well

as those subsequently made by him at Varna, and afterwards in preparing his expedition to the Crimea, are as deserving of approbation as even his greatest military successes. A man of a weaker mind, and of less heroic courage, might possibly have hesitated from undertaking that great expedition. A man of less power of mind, and of less moral courage, might have hesitated under the circumstances in which Lord Raglan was placed; and, with a disease in his army, which almost justified him in exercising that discretion which the Government, as a matter of course, placed in his hands, he might have hesitated from undertaking that important expedition. (Hear.) I have stated before to your Lordships that I consider it would be almost an insult to Lord Raglan to speak of his personal courage, but it is impossible to refrain from pointing out the facts that he carried on two occasions the proof of that courage to, perhaps, an improper length. Exposed in the midst of a storm of bullets, and in the thick of the fight, he has given proof of a calm and resolute courage which was most admirable, but which might have cost the country the loss of his valued life. (Hear, hear.) The generous reliance which he placed on his officers was a most valuable trait in the character of Lord Raglan and was only equalled by the reliance which the soldiers placed in himself. I have been informed, but not by Lord Raglan, for his singular modesty has on all occasions prevented him from speaking of himself—I have heard from others, that, at the battle of Alma, our position might have been turned, but for the presence and skill of Lord Raglan, who despatched an officer to command two guns to be brought into play, which scattered the Russian forces, and prevented some of our men, who might have, under a less skilful general, been crushed, from being turned by the enemy. (Hear.) But modesty is the peculiar characteristic of Lord Raglan, whose despatches are worthy of a disciple of that great man whose despatches form the records of his country. It is not merely the greatness of his military success but the grandeur of his moral courage, not only in the field, but in the camp, that marks the character of this great and distinguished general. (Hear, hear.) If I say nothing further on this occasion, I hope your Lordships will attribute it to the fact, that I believe any eulogy I could pronounce on Lord Raglan would be as needless for my satisfaction as for that of your Lordships. (Hear, hear.) I will ask your Lordships for a vote of thanks for the generals and officers under Lord Raglan's command, including all the Generals, and not merely the veterans Sir John Burgoyne and Sir George Brown, who have passed that period of life when they might naturally hope to repose after their battles—I will ask your Lordships to give your vote of thanks to them all. (Cheers.) In the next place there is the illustrious Prince, also a Member of your Lordships' House, and who has on this occasion endeavoured to sustain the character of his Royal blood, and who has proved that the ancient valour of his race is not degenerated. (Cheers.)

My Lords, I am confident that you will rejoice, as Her Majesty does, that a member of Her Royal House has been enabled to share in the toils, and to participate in the hard-won glory, of the British army. (Cheers.) I also ask your Lordships' thanks for General Sir De Lacy Evans—(loud cheers) and I must allude to one of the noblest acts ever performed in alluding to that distinguished veteran General. He was sick on board ship in the harbour of Balaklava when the battle of Inkermann commenced, and your Lordships know how suddenly that battle began. Sir De Lacy Evans rose instantly from his bed, and ill as he was, he speedily arrived on the scene of action, where he found his division under the command of his brigadier-general, to whom he gallantly acted as aide-camp, riding by his side instead of taking the command, as he might have done, and reaping the rewards and honours of the day. (Loud Cheers.) This is one of the most distinguished traits of gallantry that ever was exhibited by any general.—(Cheers.) I ask a vote of thanks also from your Lordships for the other generals and officers, from the highest to the lowest, from those who had charged at the head of their regiments to those who had pushed forward one after the other, to uphold our standards, and carried them triumphantly to the heights of Alma. We will not stop here, my Lords, but I will ask you to give your vote of thanks to the non-commissioned officers of this army in the Crimea. (Cheers.) I have before alluded to the measures we have taken to reward the privates of the army, and your Lordships have signified your approval of that plan. Perhaps never were there battles in the history of this country to the private soldiers engaged in which thanks were so justly due as to the private soldiers in the battles of the Crimea. They were peculiarly soldiers' battles. There was no great strategy practicable at the moment of engagement, and the hand-to-hand combats which took place rendered them more like the battles of classic times than modern actions, and the perseverance and the fortitude of individual soldiers were brought to the severest test. (Hear.) Whether you look at the individual bravery of these men, or whether to their collective discipline, to that power of mind over matter which has enabled every man to overcome every individual sense, every human feeling, every dread of death—it is impossible not to admire and honour every man who fought on those days. (Cheers.) Whether you consider the storming of the heights of Alma, or the battle of Inkermann, you must alike admit that these men, fresh from this country, the greater part of whom had never before heard a shot fired in anger, fought like the oldest soldiers, that no veteran troops ever fought better.

(Cheers.) They have signified the honour of the country; and they have no despicable enemy to contend with, for, from whatever cause—I ask not what—no men could fight with greater desperation than the Russians at Inkermann. (Hear, hear.) I may be pardoned if I express my regret that my noble friend opposite last night had found fault with the opinion I expressed with respect to the conduct of the British troops. I must repeat, and that in the most emphatic terms, the words of praise which I believe are most justly due to those troops. There is a test in the soldiers' conduct, not merely in town sacked, but in camp and in the field; and that test applied to our army when in Bulgaria, proves that British soldiers are distinguished for their meritorious conduct as well in the camp as in the field of battle. (Cheers.) Every one of your Lordships, take, I am aware, a deep interest in reading the battles of this country, and I do not know one, which I can recall to mind, which can surpass those which we are now considering. (Hear, hear.) This is alike the sentiment of the Sovereign as of your Lordships, and Her Majesty has signified her approbation by conferring medals on the whole of the soldiers who have been engaged in those actions—medals to be inscribed with the "Crimea"—with two clasps for the two great battles of Alma and Inkermann, and those names are to be inscribed on the colours of the regiments which have fought on these glorious days. (Cheers.) I ask your Lordships also to pass a vote of thanks on the naval officers, who have evinced the greatest devotion to the service of their country, and who have rendered the most inestimable assistance to the sister service.—(Hear, hear.) None more than Lord Raglan and his soldiers feel how much this army and the country are indebted to the navy for the services rendered them. On the seamen and marines as much as to the officers of the army I have to ask your Lordships to confer your Resolution of thanks.—(Cheers.) There are two other services not usually included in those votes, and I will not ask your Lordships to depart from precedent—but I cannot forbear from making a passing remark on what I consider is due to a large body of seamen not engaged in Her Majesty's service—I allude firstly, to the officers and men of the transport service.—(Hear, hear.) Their services have been so indefatigable and of the most valuable description, and they are deserving the highest commendation; and secondly, to the medical men of the army.—(Cheers.) I do not speak of the medical organization, but there never was greater exertion shown by any body of men—never was more humanity evinced, and more complete devotedness to their duties than by these medical officers. (Hear, hear.) One of these, Dr. Thompson, I must allude to. He was left in circumstances of the most painful character, on the plains of Alma, after the battle, with not another person to assist him, to attend on the wounded of the Russian army—on those who thought an English officer little better than a devil; he was left there alone; he bound the wounds of the men, and, after undergoing the greatest danger, he at last escaped. He came back, but it pleased God to remove him from his sufferings—he died of disease brought on by his extraordinary exertions and his great toils. If it is not usual for Parliament to pass a vote of thanks to such a man as this, at least it is not wrong for a Minister to stand up in this House and express his admiration at such conduct. (Cheers.) I ask your Lordships to depart from precedent.—We are called on to pass a vote of thanks on those who have served their country; but there is a large body of those who have left their country full of expectation and of high hope, and who are not now within reach of mortal thanks, therefore their names will not appear on this list. But I am confident that their names will not be forgotten. (Hear, hear.) In the midst of triumphs there are deep sorrows, and if I look round among your Lordships I know that grief preys in the inmost heart for the losses sustained. I trust, however, your Lordships will not think it unbecoming in me to express my regret at the loss of one noble man—the name of Cathcart. I have had the happiness of knowing that noble man, and I was never more struck with the ability, honour and devotedness to his country in any man than I was with Sir G. Cathcart. (Cheers.) I knew him for a year and a half when he was Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, and he there showed himself of the highest value to his Sovereign—as valuable as a governor as he was at the head of his regiment. (Cheers.) I will not allude further to the illustrious dead.—They sleep on the bleak hills of the Crimea, but their fame is forever glorious—their names will live for ever in the hearts and remembrances of your Lordships, as well as in the records of the Country. I rejoice that on this occasion we are enabled to extend our vote of thanks beyond the usual extent. We have had upon these occasions an ally such as it has rarely been our lot to possess in any former War. I propose to your Lordships that we should give a vote of thanks to that gallant army which has shared with us in these labours and triumphs, beginning with that eminent man who undertook the duties of a commander at the commencement of hostilities, and including also that noble and gallant officer who has succeeded him in command. Marshal St. Arnaud, as is known, left his country to assume the command of the French Army with the conviction that he was then the victim of a mortal malady, and that in all probability he would never return alive to his own country. That gallant officer showed the greatest devotion to the service of the army, and I have it repeatedly in private letters from Lord Raglan that up to the time of his death the greatest possible harmony and confidence existed between his Lord-

ship and that gallant officer. In point of fact, Marshal St. Arnaud and Lord Raglan, so far as the character of their communications was concerned, might have been serving in the same army, and have been brought up in the same service. Marshal St. Arnaud left on the 7th of September, in common with the English forces, the shores of Varna. In course of the short voyage to the opposite coast, the gallant Marshal became so indisposed that an officer sent by Lord Raglan to communicate with him reported that he believed it impossible that he could ever land upon the shores of the Crimea. Marshal St. Arnaud did, nevertheless, land, mounted his horse, travelled a long distance with the troops, and although repeatedly, during the battle of the Alma he endured the greatest suffering, he still gallantly remained at his post on the field, and as your Lordships all know, perished almost in the hour of victory.—(Cheers.)

General Canrobert succeeded the Marshal in the command of the French army, and the noble and frank conduct of that officer has already greatly endeared him to the whole British army, as it has, also, to Lord Raglan and all the general officers of the English army. (Cheers.) All respect his great military abilities—they admire him as a soldier, and they respect him as a man. (Renewed cheers.) Let me also, although his name may not be mentioned in the vote of thanks proposed to your Lordships, allude to the brave general second in command of the French army—General Bosquet. (Cheers.) The conduct of that officer is justly entitled to our notice and admiration. General Bosquet has been brought into more special notice with the English troops in the Crimea in consequence of his having served with the French right, and near to the position of the British forces. From information derived from the most authentic sources, I can assure your Lordships that general is looked upon by our troops with the same respect and admiration as one of their own officers; and they would be as ready to follow him to victory as any general who holds his commission under the Crown of this country. (Cheers.) It is gratifying to allude to the existence of such feelings and of such concord between the forces of the two countries. (Cheers.) I propose, also, my Lords, that we should give a vote of thanks to the French navy, in the same manner as we do to our own navy, for the distinguished services it has rendered, and the assistance it has afforded in all the operations in which the two navies have been engaged. (Cheers.) Both the French army and navy have, I rejoice to see, participated in the same glories as our own, and I am convinced that your Lordships will feel your emotions of enthusiasm mingled with theirs, and will as heartily afford your thanks to the foreign troops as to your own. (Much cheering.) My Lords, I feel how inadequately I have submitted this motion to your Lordships, but I trust that lengthened remarks upon my part were not necessary upon a subject at once so grateful and so much in accordance with your Lordships' feelings and sympathies. Were it not that I am confident that he is prepared to do so, I would invite the noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Derby) to second the Motion which I shall have the honor to propose. It has been my fate, during the few years I have occupied a seat in this House, to be frequently in collision with the noble Earl, but I feel certain that, upon this occasion, we shall be as completely united as any two Peers upon this side of the House. I invited the noble Earl, with confidence that he would agree with me, to unite his fervid eloquence to strengthen my feeble voice in appealing to your Lordships to give this vote the approbation of your unanimous approval. I feel certain, indeed, that your Lordships will bestow a unanimous and approving record of your approbation and gratitude for services rendered by these united armies, which have added a fresh lustre to the military fame of England and France. The noble Duke concluded by moving the following Resolution:—

"That the thanks of the House be given to Field-Marshal the Right Honourable Lord Raglan, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, for the energy and distinguished ability with which he has conducted the operations of Her Majesty's Forces in the Crimea, for the brilliant and decisive victory obtained over the enemy's army on the Alma, and the signal defeat of a force of vastly superior numbers on the heights of Inkermann."

"That the thanks of this House be given to—[naming the general officers]—and to the several other officers, for the zeal, intrepidity, and distinguished exertions in the several actions in which Her Majesty's Forces have been engaged with the enemy."

"That this House doth highly acknowledge the distinguished discipline, valour, and exertions displayed by the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the army, under the command of Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, in all the operations in the Crimea; and that the same be signified to them by the commanders of the several corps, we are desired to thank them for their distinguished and gallant behaviour."

"That the Lord Chancellor do communicate the said Resolutions to Field-Marshal the Right Honourable Lord Raglan, and that he be requested by the Lord Chancellor to signify the same to—[naming the general officers]—and to the several officers who served in the army under his command."

"That the thanks of this House be given to Vice-Admiral James Whitely Deans Dundas, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath; to Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons,

Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath; and to the several captains and officers in the fleet under the command of Vice-Admiral; and also to the officers of the navy and marines employed on the shore in the siege of Sebastopol, for their indefatigable activity and exertions in conveying Her Majesty's land forces to the Crimea, in effecting their disembarkation, and in co-operating with them during the siege of Sebastopol."

"That this House doth highly approve of and acknowledge the services of the seamen and marines on board the ship under the command of Vice-Admiral Dundas, and also of the seamen and marines employed on shore in the siege of Sebastopol, in their indefatigable activity and exertions in conveying Her Majesty's land forces to the Crimea, in effecting their disembarkation, and in co-operating with them during the siege of Sebastopol; and that the captains of the several ships do signify the same to their respective crews, and do thank them for their praiseworthy and gallant conduct."

"That this House acknowledges, with admiration, the distinguished valour and conduct of those who have perished during the present struggle in the service of their country, and feels deep sympathy with their relations and friends."

"That the thanks of this House be given to General Canrobert and the French army, for their gallant and successful co-operation with Her Majesty's land forces in the attack on the enemy's position at Alma, for their energetic and timely assistance in repelling the enemy at Inkermann, and for their distinguished exertions, in common with Her Majesty's troops, in the siege of Sebastopol; and that Field-Marshal Lord Raglan be desired to convey to them the present Resolutions."

"That the thanks of this House be given to Admiral Hamelin and the French navy for their cordial co-operation with Her Majesty's fleet in conveying the allied forces to the Crimea, in effecting their disembarkation, and in the siege of Sebastopol, and that Vice-Admiral Dundas be desired to convey to them the present Resolution."

Practical and Moral.

GLEANINGS FOR MOTHERS.

—SYMPATHY OF MOTHERS WITH THEIR CHILDREN.

"Oh, how I do love to talk with you, Mrs. S. I would rather talk with you any time than with my own mamma." Thus exclaimed a girl of nine years, whom he had taken into our family to bring up. I was spending a season in conversation with her, which she greatly enjoyed, as her remarks testified.

"Why, Jane," said I, "what a speech! I thought you wanted to see your mother very much."

"So I do," she replied; "but for all that, I love to talk with you, better than I ever did with her."

"What is the reason?" I asked.

"I don't know exactly," said Jane. "Sometimes mamma wouldn't let me talk with her, when she wasn't busy either. The school girls used to plague me sometimes, and if I told mamma she would say, 'Hush! stop telling tales out of school. I used to plague them back; and so we had real quarrelling at times. One day, pretty soon after I came to live with you, I told you how Ellen May pushed me down, and you told me about heaping coals of fire on her head. You know you said, if I would give her part of my orange, she wouldn't do so again, and she didn't. Now when the girls plague me, I do something to please them, and they stop very quick. I guess they won't trouble me any more. Before I came here, if I hurt me and told mamma, she would laugh at me, and tell me what a fuss I made about nothing. But you say, 'Never mind, or 'I'm very sorry,' and that seems to make it stop aching almost. I feel as if I can tell you any thing better than I could tell mamma, for she never cares what I say."

Poor child! It was sympathy she needed; and how natural to seek it from her mother. If Jane's mother had lent an ear to her daughter's troubles with the girls, she might have prevented these quarrels, and might have instilled into her mind the great principles of right which it was her duty to do. She need not have encouraged the child to make "much ado about nothing," by mourning over every scratch or bruise; but she might have fortified her resolution to bear the pain, might cause her to forget by adroitly turning her attention to something of interest. This course would have added to the happiness of the child, and strengthened her affection for her mother.

Let a mother show her little ones that she regards their troubles as trifles, and their sports as follies, and it will not be long before they will cease to reveal their thoughts and emotions confidingly to that mother. They will find their playmates more congenial spirits, and will form injurious intimacies, of which the mother will remain ignorant, for they will soon learn the art of concealment. They will not tell of their temptations, not seek for counsel of those in whom they confide not. The Holy Spirit may strive with them, but no mother bids them beware how they grieve it away, for she is unconscious of its presence. Distress on account of sin may lie heavily on their young hearts, and they may grope in spiritual darkness for months, not knowing whither to turn for relief, when a mother would gladly point out the way, did she but know their desires.

I knew a Christian mother who prayed earnestly for the conversion of her son. Day after day she poured out her soul to God, but the answer came not. She told me her anxiety, and request-