

The Christian Visitor.

A FAMILY NEWS PAPER: DEVOTED TO RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

REV. I. E. BILL, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth Peace, good will toward Men." EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR
GEO. W. DAY, Printer. SAINT JOHN, NEW-BRUNSWICK, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1858. VOL. XI.—NO. 2

"A Brand Plucked from the Burning."

BY REV. J. H. WILSON, ABERDEEN.

Seven years ago a working man in this city was sitting at home one evening with his head on his hands in a fit of remorse. He was pining how he might take away his life. He had ruined himself, and crushed his family by strong drink, and he felt as if it were better for him to die than live. Leaving his house he walked towards the harbour. There, as he stood by the dock, and all but ready to accomplish his purpose, a pious young man, and a zealous and efficient member of a temperance society, walked up to him, and knowing something of his history, urged him to become a member of our temperance society. To all his entreaties he turned a deaf ear; but the conversation was so far blessed that the evil design was abandoned, and he settled down to his work again.

About a fortnight after this, the same young man came to our unhappy friend, and said, "I am unexpectedly called to the country to-day, and therefore cannot get to our society this evening; but, as I bought a ticket, and am unwilling that it should be lost, will you take it, and go to the meeting for me?" With some reluctance he accepted the ticket, and went to the meeting, greatly wondering how any company could be happy without the use of strong drink. But he was greatly disappointed. Not only did he find the party happy, but he too enjoyed himself; and when he awoke next morning, his mind was so calm, his conscience so easy, and his bodily health so good, that he could not help contrasting this experience with that which he was wont to suffer after being a night with his boon companions. Meeting with his friend during the day, he thanked him with all his heart for the considerate kindness he had shown, and thenceforward became one of the little band who were then but recently associated in furtherance of the temperance reformation.

Having now come to realize the blessings of temperance, his mind, which was naturally active, began to reflect on the subject of religion. He had been faithful and affectionately told that in order to be fully happy he needed both a new stomach and a new heart, and that although temperance would give him the one, grace alone could give him the other. And he was far more willing to come under the means of grace than he had been to come under the power of temperance, but years passed away before he came to know the saving change. For a long time he was satisfied with moral virtue, and held that this was all that was necessary to constitute christian character. At length he was brought under conviction; but he had not long to struggle for peace. When a boy, his mother had instructed him in the Bible, and stored his memory with its truths. These became light to him as he sought the way of life; and having found the footsteps of Jesus he walked in them, persevering unto the end.

About two years ago he became subject to what was believed to be a rheumatic, but which, eventually, became a fatal chronic disease. When on his death bed, he was called to experience much suffering; but he never murmured, and never once lost his confidence in God. Sitting by him one evening, a few days before he died, his mind became unusually calm and collected, and he spoke of his hopes and prospects without a doubt of his future state. Remarking on the grace of assurance, he said: "Yes, I know it, and let me implore you, sir, to continue to preach Christ, and him crucified, for that and that alone gives assurance in a dying hour. Tell our brethren of the Temperance Society, that while they cannot value too highly the blessing of temperance as a means to an end, faith in the finished work of Christ alone can sustain the soul within sight of eternity." Observing the strength of his faith, and the happiness he enjoyed, we asked how he came to get peace at first? "I got it," said he, "in this way. I had heard many a sermon, and read much on the subject of salvation, but I was greatly perplexed until one day while you were preaching on the Brazen Serpent, as a type of Christ. Then it seemed as if I were taken by the hand, and led up to Calvary, and told to look there with Christ's words in my mind, 'As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the son of man be lifted up, that whosoever believeth in me shall not perish but have everlasting life'—then I got peace." And thus he died. He was a brand plucked from the burning; and no one could more willingly, or more truly say, "By grace are ye saved, and that not of yourselves," through faith in "the gift of God."

From this case we learn—
First. How much pious working men may do for their fellow workers when faithful to their great master. Had not this pious working man been zealous to do good, this soul might have perished. Working men know how to speak to working men; and their power over each other is great.
Secondly. It shows the value of the Temperance reformation. Here it prepared the way for the "grace of God that brought salvation." It was the handmaid of religion. It should never be forgotten in our dealings with the intemperate, that intemperance is a physical disease as well as a moral evil. Hence the need of a new stomach, as well as a new heart. The physician, who is called in to deal with a case of inflammation, directs

his attention in the first instance, to the seat of the disease. His first care is to remove far away every irritant cause; and when the fever is checked, then he applies his remedy. So with the intemperate, the disease must be attacked by physical means, as well as treated by moral persuasives. And Christianity provides for both. It tells us to "do good to all men as we have opportunity;" and this good implies the use of such means as shall ensure the removal of a diseased appetite, and the application of such healing power as shall, by God blessing, save both body and the soul.

Thirdly. It shows the kind of faith that saves the soul. In order that faith may be practical in religion, we must take care and not mistake the act of the mind for the object believed. If we look for Christ in the inward movements of the mind, instead of Christ as the outward object of faith, we never can have faith by believing; "for as it is not the mere act of stretching out the hand to take the water, but the water itself that can cool the parching tongue—and as it is not the mere act of looking upon a sublime and beautiful landscape, but the landscape itself that conveys pleasant feelings to the mind, in like manner it is not the mere act of believing, but Jesus the object believed in that can give peace and joy to the soul." Disease is with yourself, and we must feel it before we will think of applying to the physician; but the cure comes from without; and so the disease of sin is within us—in the heart and we must feel it before we can be healed; but Christ the great physician is without, and we must fix the mind on him as able and willing to save, that we may be healed. In the present case, conviction of sin and danger was felt, but it was only when he was taken as it were by the hand and led, straight up to Calvary, and told to look there, that like John Bunyan's Pilgrim, the burden of sin fell off his back, and he walked onward to the gates of the Celestial City.

INDIA.

DESPATCH FROM GENERAL HAVELOCK.

Major General Sir James Outram having, with characteristic generosity of feeling, declared that the force should remain in my hands, and that he would accompany it as Civil Commissioner only, until a junction could be effected with the gallant and enduring garrison of this place, I have to request that you will inform His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief, that this purpose was effected on the evening of the 25th instant. But I must first refer to antecedent events. I crossed the Sive on the 22d inst, the bridge at Bunnce not having been broken. On the 23d I found myself in the presence of the enemy, who had taken a strong position, his left posted in the enclosure of the 'Alum Dagh,' and his centre and right on low heights.

The head of my column at first suffered from the fire of his guns, as it was compelled to pass along the Trunk-road, between morasses; but as soon as my regiment could be deployed along his front, and his right, enveloped by my left, victory decided for us, and we captured five guns. Sir J. Outram, with his accustomed gallantry, pressed our advance close down to the canal; but as the enemy fired with his artillery and with guns from the city, it was not possible to maintain this or a less advanced position for a time, but to become necessary to throw our right in the Alumbagh, and restore our left; and even then we were incessantly cannonaded throughout the twenty-four hours; and the cavalry, 1500 strong, swept round through lofty cultivation, and the sudden interruption upon our baggage massed in our rear (*see in orig.*)

The soldiers of the 90th Regiment, forming baggage guard, received the charge with gallantry, and lost some brave officers and men, shooting down, however, twenty-five of the troopers, and putting the whole body to flight.

They were finally driven off by two guns of Captain Ophert's battery. The troops had been marching three days, under a perfect deluge of rain, irregularly fed, and badly housed in villages; it was thought necessary to pitch tents, and permit them to halt on the 24th. The assault on the city was deferred until the 25th. On that morning our baggage and tents were deposited in the Alumbagh, under an escort, and we advanced. The 1st Brigade under Sir J. Outram's personal leading, drove the enemy from a succession of gardens and walled enclosures, supported by the two brigades which accompanied. Both brigades were established on the canal, at the bridge of the Char Bagh. From this point, the direct road to the Residency is a little less than two miles, but it was known to have been cut by trenches, and crossed by palisades, at short intervals, the houses also being all loop-holed. Progress in this direction was opposed, so the united column pushed and deployed along the narrow road which skirts the left bank of the canal. Its advance was not seriously interrupted until it came opposite the King's Palace or Kisorah Bagh, where two guns and a body of mercenary troops were entrenched. From this entrenchment a fire of grape and musketry was poured, under which nothing could live. The artillery and troops had to pass a bridge partially under its influence, but were, then shrouded by the buildings adjacent to the palace of Fluereed Bukh.

Darkness was coming, and it was proposed to halt within the court of this Mehal for the night; but I esteemed it to be of such importance not to leave this beleaguered garrison, knowing that succour was at hand, that I ordered the main body of the 78th Highlanders and the Regiments of Ferozepore to advance.

This column rushed on with a desperate charge by Sir J. Outram and myself, Lieutenants Hudson and Harbord, of my staff, and overcoming every obstacle, established itself within the enclosure of the Residency.

The garrison may be more easily conceived than described; but it was not until the next evening that the whole of my troops, guns, tumbrils, and sick and wounded, continually exposed to the attack of the enemy, could be brought step by step within this enclosure and the adjacent palace of Fluereed Bukh.

To form a notion of the obstacles overcome, a reference must be made to the events that are known to have occurred at Buenos Ayres and Saragossa; our advance was through streets of flat-roofed and loop-holed houses, each forming a separate fortress. I am filled with surprise at the success of operations which demanded the efforts of 10,000 good troops; the advantage last cost us dearly.

The killed, wounded, and missing—the latter being wounded soldiers, who, I regret to say, have fallen into the hands of a mercenary force—amount to 464, officers and men: Brigadier General Neill, commanding 1st Brigade; Major ———, commanding Artillery; Lieutenant Colonel Bazely, a volunteer with the force, are killed. Colonel Campbell, commanding 90th Infantry; Lieut. Colonel Tylter, my Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General, and Lieutenant Haveock, my Deputy Assistant Adjutant General, are severely, but not dangerously, wounded.

Sir James Outram received a flesh-wound in the arm, in the early part of the action, near Char Bagh, but nothing would subdue his spirit; and, though faint from loss of blood, he continued to the end of the operation to sit on his horse, which he only dismounted at the gate of the Residency. As he has now assumed the command, I leave to him the narrative of all events subsequent to the 25th inst.

The several palpable blunders in this despatch, all of which are to be attributed to the fact of its being transmitted by telegraph.

LETTER FROM LUCKNOW.

The following letter from Lieutenant Moorson, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General to Sir H. Haveock's force, was brought on a small scrap of paper by a cossid from Lucknow to Cawnpore, and forwarded from Captain Murphy, Brigade Major at Cawnpore, on the 3d of November. It is believed to be the last and only detailed note from the inside of Lucknow to that date:—

"Lucknow, Oct. 27.

"My dearest Mother,—All right, physically and mentally, brain, body, and limbs, to date. We relieved Lucknow from its instant peril, and are now ourselves occupying a more extended position in the town, blockaded with the garrison. Write to Inglis's, Gubbins', and Cooper's people, if possible, to say that they and their's are all well. We have grub abundant, ammunition, good quarters, plenty of fighting, stout hearts, and our God on our side; on the other, our enemy numerous, but cowardly, with a scarcity of iron and lead for guns. Had we not many women and children, sick and wounded, we could walk out of the town at any moment.

"As it is, we can hold our own, and steadily make small advances until reinforcements arrive. I tried once before to ease your anxieties by writing, but the messenger was compelled to throw away his despatches before falling into the hands of the enemy. "This goes through the beleaguering host, so you will, I hope, see the necessity for my writing no more fully. Mother mind! I don't deem me 'down among the dead men' until you hear it on the best authority; and, with very dearest love to all,

"Believe me,
Your truly affectionate son,
"W. R. MOORSON."

INCIDENT OF THE FIRST RELIEF OF LUCKNOW.

The following is an extract from a letter written by M. de Banerjee, a French physician in the service of Muzur Rajah, and published in *Le Pays* (Paris paper) under the date of Calcutta, Oct. 8:—

"I give you the following account of the relief of Lucknow, as described by a lady, one of the rescued party:—On every hand death stared us in the face; no human skill could avert it any longer. We saw the moment approach when we must bid farewell to earth, yet without feeling that unutterable horror which must have been experienced by the unhappy victims at Cawnpore. We were resolved to die rather than to yield, and were fully persuaded that in twenty-four hours all would be over. The engineers had said so, and all knew the worst. We women strove to encourage each other, and to perform the light duties which had been assigned to us, such as conveying orders to the batteries and supplying the men with provisions, especially cups of coffee, which we prepared day and night. I had gone out to try and make myself useful, in company with Jessie Brown the

wife of a corporal in my husband's regiment. Poor Jessie had been in a state of restless excitement all through the siege, and had fallen away visibly within the last few days. A constant fever consumed her, and her mind wandered occasionally, especially that day, when the recollections of home seemed powerfully present to her. At last, overcome with fatigue, she lay down on the ground, wrapped up in her plaid. I sat beside her, promising to awaken her when, as she said, 'her father should return from the ploughing.' She fell at length into a profound slumber, motionless, and apparently breathless; her head resting in my lap. I myself could no longer resist the inclination to sleep, in spite of the continual roar of the cannon. Suddenly I was aroused by a wild unearthly scream close to my ear; my companion stood upright beside me, her arms raised, and her head bent in the attitude of listening. A look of intense delight broke over her countenance, she grasped my hand, drew me towards her, and exclaimed, "Dinna ye hear it? dinna ye hear it? Ay, I'm no dreamin', its the slogan of the Highlanders! We're saved, we're saved!" Then, flinging herself on her knees, she thanked God with passionate fervour. I felt utterly bewildered; my English ears heard only the roar of artillery, and I thought my poor Jessie was still raving; but she darted to the batteries, and I heard her cry incessantly to the men, "Courage! courage! hark to the slogan—the Macgregor, the greatest of them all! Here's help at last!" To describe the effect of these words upon the soldiers would be impossible. For a moment they ceased firing, and every soul listened in intense anxiety. Gradually, however, there arose a murmur of bitter disappointment, and the waiting of the women who had flocked to the spot broke out anew as the colonel shook his head. Our dull lowland ears heard nothing but the rattle of the musketry. A few moments more of this death-like suspense, of this agonising hope, and Jessie, who had once more sunk on the ground, sprang to her feet, and cried, in a voice so clear and piercing that it rang along the whole line—"Will ye not believe it now? The slogan has ceased indeed, but the Campbells are comin'! D'ye hear, d'ye hear?" At that moment we seemed indeed to hear the voice of God in the distance, when the pibroch of the Highlanders brought us tidings of deliverance, for now there was no doubt of the fact. That shrill, penetrating, ceaseless sound which rose above all other sounds, could come neither from the advance of the enemy, nor from the work of the Sappers. No, it was indeed the blast of the Scottish bagpipes, now shrill and harsh, as threatening vengeance on the foe, then in softer tones seeming to promise succour to their friends in need. Never, surely, was there such a scene as that which followed. Not a heart in the Residency of Lucknow but bowed itself before God. All, by one simultaneous impulse, fell upon their knees, and nothing was heard but bursting sobs and the murmured voice of prayer.—Then all arose, and there rang out from a thousand lips a great shout of joy which resounded far and wide, and lent new vigour to that blessed pibroch. To our cheer of "God save the Queen," they replied by the well-known strain that moves every Scot to tears, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot," &c. After that, nothing else made any impression on me. I scarcely remember what followed. Jessie was presented to the General by his entrance into the fort, and at the officers' banquet her health was drunk by all present, while the pipers marched round the table playing once more the familiar air of "Auld lang syne."—*Jersey Times.*

possession of the fort before it was reached by the enemy. Brigadier Showers himself, with the main column, followed as speedily as he could, and reached the place on the 20th, when they found Colonel Custance, who had arrived the day before, in possession. The garrison, who had not been reinforced, surrendered at once. Fifty thousand pounds worth of treasure in rupees, with fourteen guns, and a large quantity of stores, were captured. About 500 of the garrison, said to be Poorbeahs, had fled during the night, and the sixty who remained laid down their arms. Here the force rested awhile, to recover from their recent violent exertions. They had during the previous fortnight secured upwards of £70,000 worth of treasure. They started again on the 22nd. On the 31st a detachment of Showers' column went in pursuit of a body of Mewattee and other insurgents, who had taken up a position on the heights near South, in the Goorgaon district. The rebels were dispersed with the loss of about 1000 killed. In this affair Mr. W. Clifford, of the civil service, was killed by a shot from the enemy.

CAWNPORE.

Our last dates from Cawnpore extended to the 24th of Oct., and gave particulars of an excursion to Bitoor on the 18th, with the approach of reinforcements both from north and south. Since then the direct mails have been plundered, and we have for the fortnight been deprived of the communications of our own correspondents, and been compelled to draw on intelligence reaching us by the circuit of Calcutta. On the morning of the 22nd, a convoy of 700 men, with four guns, left, in charge of provisions, for Allumbagh, where the sufferings of the garrison were very severe. Though within three miles of Lucknow, they knew nothing whatever of what had occurred the previous fortnight. On the morning of the 26th, Brigadier Grant's column marched into Cawnpore a day earlier than was expected. It consisted of two companies of Sappers and Miners, three troops of Horse Artillery and two 18 pounder guns, 600 of her Majesty's 9th Lancers, her Majesty's 8th and 75th Foot, two regiments of Sikh cavalry, and the like number of infantry. They were in high health and spirits, nearly thirty in number, since the commencement of the siege of Delhi, and swept all before them on the way down. On the following day, the 93rd Highlanders and 200 of the Naval Brigade had joined them. The most tremendous reports are prevalent, in reference to the last two, throughout the country. The sailors are said to be four feet high and four feet across the shoulders, and to carry a field piece under each arm with as much ease as a porter would carry a bundle. The men in petticoats are believed to have been especially sent out by her Majesty so attired, to be avenged for the slaughter of our women and children. The strength of the garrison at this time was about 1,500, Grant's force about 3,500, and the reinforcements joining before the 30th would bring the grand total up to 7,000. On the 31st of October, Brigadier Grant's column, now 5,000 strong, crossed the Ganges, and reached Allumbagh without opposition on the 3rd November. They took with them 2,500 camels and 500 carts, with supplies for Lucknow. On the same day Sir Colin Campbell arrived at Cawnpore. He had very nearly been made prisoner on his way up. He and his staff appear to have been proceeding, very injudiciously, without an escort, when they suddenly came up with a body of the mutineers of the 32nd N.I. These were mounted on elephants, and were accompanied by seventy five native troopers. The Commander in Chief, so soon as he observed the enemy, retreated, till he found refuge in a bullock train some ten miles in the rear.—The troops continued for awhile to hover round, and the marvel was, that this piece of unparalleled rashness should not have terminated fatally. Having arrived at Cawnpore on the 3rd, Sir Colin Campbell remained there till the 9th, when he started for Allumbagh, where Grant's column was understood to be awaiting his arrival. The cause of the delay is not explained, but betwixt the 3rd and 9th November nothing decisive could have occurred, or we should have heard of it by telegraph from Madras, the channel thro' which our latest tidings commonly reach us, being conveyed there by steam from Calcutta. On the afternoon of the 1st, a sharp action occurred near the village of Kudnah, betwixt the Dinapore mutineers and a detachment of 800 men, consisting of part of the Naval Brigade and a detachment of the 93rd Highlanders, with two 9 pounder guns, under Colonel Powell, of her Majesty's 53rd Foot. Our loss was heavy; Colonel Powell being amongst the slain. The enemy were prepared for the attack, and the mutineer Sepoys were in uniform. Our success was complete; we captured their two guns and ammunition wagons, and then destroyed their camp. This occurring at the close of a forced march, the enemy could not be pursued. The detachment of the Naval Brigade, its task thus accomplished, fell back on Binkee with a view of returning to Futtehpore, but the rest of the troops marched into Cawnpore, where they arrived on the 2nd.

LUCKNOW.

From Lucknow, the point on which all our interest centres, we have scarcely had a line of intelligence since the 27th of September, when the Residency was relieved. We purposely avoid giving more of the names of those said to have fallen, having already

been the means, there is reason to believe, of mentioning some as slain who are still supposed to survive. Oude, the stronghold of disaffection, has been since August the rallying point of the rebels, and there are now said to be not fewer than 50,000 in arms in and around Lucknow. The number may be exaggerated, but that it is very large may be inferred from the fact, that though Allumbagh is only three miles from Lucknow, and has for the most part been in easy communication with Cawnpore, not a line reached them from Outram or Havelock, or those under them, for more than a month. It must be remembered that when the force started from Cawnpore on the 29th September, the occupants of the Residency were in such peril that a delay of twenty-four hours would have been fatal to them. Their relief was understood to have been all that was contemplated, when, returning with them to Cawnpore, Havelock would have awaited for the reinforcements—commencing active operations, in which we trust he is engaged, about the present time. Allumbagh, the country residence of former royalty, if left unoccupied by us, would have been maintained by the enemy as the means of cutting off our communication with the base of operations; and as the sick, wounded, and baggage would have formed a serious encumbrance in the desperate conflict which, as was expected, ensued, they were left behind—the officers not carrying with them so much as a change of clothing. On the 25th, and more especially on the 26th of September, the fighting seems to have been most severe—nearly a fourth of our force having been disabled. Some time after this, the date is uncertain, and after nearly a third of the town had become ours, the troops under Outram and Havelock seem to have become separated. It now turned out that with a body so large, so helpless, and so exhausted as the occupants of the Residency are, and a force so reduced, it would be vain to attempt to retire from Lucknow. There appears to have been very severe fighting, with a heavy list of casualties. On the 18th October a tremendous explosion was heard at Allumbagh, supposed to have been occasioned by the blowing up of the principal magazine of the enemy.—Provisions now began to fail, and an attempt is supposed to have been contemplated to return to Allumbagh. On the 19th severe fighting is said to have occurred in the streets in an endeavour to recapture the divided troops, or probably to secure some position of the enemy's, occasioning special annoyance—for our information is little better than the echo of a rumour. Maun Singh, the great Oude landholder, who promised to join us with 15,000 men, is said to have become incensed against us about the time of Outram's arrival by a malicious falsehood, intimating that his zemana had been violated. On discovering that he had been made the victim of a deception, he is said to have expressed his regret for what he had done, and to have proposed to join us; but these things are to be received as rumours only, still wanting confirmation. It was understood the garrison expected to be able to hold out till the 10th No. At this date they would be able to resume the offensive at least 7,000 strong. Their trials and endurance, when they come to be narrated, will be found to have had few precedents in the annals of heroism.

MALWA.

We intimated in our last the fall of the pretty fort of Dhar on the 1st of November, but were not then in possession of particulars.—This little principality is in the province of Malwa, in Central India. It contains an area of 1,000 square miles, possesses a population of 1,000,000, with a revenue of nearly £50,000 sterling. A large number of the Indore mutineers, being supposed to have taken this direction, were followed from Mhow on the 20th of October, by the Malwa field force, under Brigadier C. S. Stuart, of the 6th Regiment Native Infantry. After a variety of encounters, during which the insurgents were driven within the walls, it was found requisite to confine our operations to an imperfect siege till our heavy guns arrived. The fort is a parallelogram, its sides facing the cardinal points. It stands in a hollow; on the east side the valley extends from it about 800 yards, on the south about 1,200, where low ranges of hills make their appearance, commanding the works. The town commences at the south west corner of the fort, from which it is completely detached, extending to a considerable space to the southward and westward. On Sunday, the 25th, the siege train arrived, when the town was captured, and the fort invested. Five days' hard firing were occupied before a breach was established.—On the 30th, a flag of truce was shown, and operations for half an hour suspended; but the brigadier wisely declined acceding to any conditions, as the breach, which was then rapidly enlarging, was declared practicable on the following day. The troops were immediately ordered to storm, when they found the place abandoned. The lights were burning everywhere, but not a soul was seen, though a brisk fire had been kept up upon us scarce half an hour before. During the siege of Dhar, our casualties were only about six wounded, Lieut. Christie, of the Bombay Artillery, being slightly hurt. Brigadier Stuart now turned his attention to the northward, marching on the 8th inst. in pursuit of Heera Singh—formerly a jehadar in the Nagpore Cavalry, and in command of the troopers who murdered their officers, Captains Brodie and Hunt, at Indore. The rebels were at Augur, on the 6th, having just before made a dash on