

BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE.

(Continued from page 1.)

Regulars. Gen. Harrison came on board with all his staff and 26 Indian chiefs. He was anxious to go forward, receive Detroit, capture Malden and defeat Perry, but could not get away from the British squadron in control of the lakes, and could strike at his line of communication. Plans were discussed and an agreement on involving the transportation of Harrison's army to the western islands, and operate from there against Malden. As Harrison was not quite ready to move forward, Perry went to Malden on a reconnaissance. He found the British squadron in the mouth of the Detroit River, with the Detroit not ready for service, and he decided upon a bold plan to attack them and there, before he could get ready, but northerly winds and an epidemic of lake fever among his crew prevented the execution of this enterprise.

On Sept. 27 the squadron returned to Put-In-Bay and dropped anchor there. Put-In-Bay is on the north side of the South Bass Island, and is the best and most commodious in the islands which form the chain to the eastward of Lake Erie. One of the islets which greatly help to landlock the harbor is Gibraltar, on the north end of which is what is known as Perry's Lookout, a high limestone bluff. About this time Perry received from Mr. J. M. Cooke, the famous banker, for many years, who has a fine summer house upon it and maintains the islet in beautiful shape. Perry had 300 men to act as marines and sharpshooters. At the end of the week Perry went up to Malden, again to challenge Barclay to battle, but the latter declined, and Perry returned to Put-In-Bay. In the meanwhile the interruption of the supply line with Long Point had become so severe that the army was reduced to rations, and it was imperative that something be done to get rid of the Yankee squadron. Perry had been anticipating this, and was therefore prepared for the signal, and came to him early on the morning of Sept. 10 of the advance, of the British squadron. The evening before he had called his officers around him and given instructions to each in detail as to what he was to do when upon the enemy at Malden the next morning, if the enemy did not come out. The main feature of Perry's plans was to make the best use of his cannon, and to have the command class among naval officers. It was a short gun of large caliber running from 6 to 68 pounds, and named after the Carron son of the Scotch ironmaster. They were first made in 1775. They had the advantage of being fired more rapidly than other cannon, they threw a larger ball, and its velocity was much superior to that of the other cannon, and splintered the sides of a vessel, inflicting many wounds by the splinters. Their range was very short, and they had to be brought to within 100 yards of the enemy to be effective. Most of Perry's guns were 32-pounders of this character, while Barclay had more long-range guns. Perry's plan involved getting as close to the enemy as possible, and then attacking him with the fire from his cannonades.

THE COMPARATIVE STRENGTH. Through Americans in Malden Perry had been accurately informed as to the British squadron, and knew precisely what he had to meet. Commodore Barclay's vessels were: Ship Queen Charlotte, 17 guns, one howitzer. Schooner Lady Prevost, 13 guns, one howitzer. Brig Hunter, 10 guns. Sloop Little Belt, three guns. Schooner Chippewa, one gun and two howitzers. Barclay had 35 long guns, to Perry's 15, and therefore greatly the advantage at long-distance fighting. The comparative strength of the two is thus tabulated: Guns. Shot thrown. Men. American. 54. 1,228 pounds. 490. British. 63. 852. 702.

Of the American crews, 125 men were of the regular navy, while the rest of the 474 were recruited from the army and elsewhere, of whom 116 were so pros- trated by lake fever and cholera morbus as to be unfit for service during the action. Barclay had 150 men from the regular army, 89 Canadian sailors, and 240 regular soldiers.

PREPARING FOR BATTLE. At the conference the night before Perry had designated to each of his commanders the vessel that he should attack and overcome. The main battle was to be fought by the Queen Charlotte and the Niagara, with the smaller vessels keeping busy similar ones of the enemy. Perry, in the Lawrence, was to attack the enemy's most powerful ship, the metal being heavier than that of her antagonist, he felt confident of disposing of her. Elliott, in the Niagara, was to attack the Queen Charlotte, and as the latter's battery of carronades would give her a superiority at close quarters with the vessel opposed to her the result could be anticipated. With the two principal vessels of the British kept busy, the others would be assured. Just before they parted, Perry ordered a large, square battle-flag, which, at his request, Mr. Hamilton, the Purser, had caused to be made and bore, in large letters made of white muslin, the alleged dying words of the gallant commander of the Chesapeake: "Don't give up the ship."

"When this flag shall be hoisted to the main royal mast-head," said the Commodore, "it shall be your signal for going into action."

"The officers were leaving, he said: "Gentlemen, remember your instructions. Nelson has expressed my idea in the words, 'If you lay your enemy close alongside, you can not be out of your powder.' Good night."

GOING OUT TO MEET THE BRITISH. At 10 o'clock in the morning the American vessels got under way and stood out to sea, while hundreds of soldiers and civilians with anxious faces lined the shores to watch the battle. Perry, in the Queen Charlotte, was in the lead, and gave them a short address, at the close of which he displayed his large blue flag bearing the immortal words of the dying Lawrence, "Don't give up the ship."

"My brave lads, this flag bears the words of Capt. Lawrence. Shall I hoist it?" With one voice the men shouted, "Ay, ay, sir!"

And as the bunting was run up to the main royal masthead, and, fluttering out, hovered over the ship like the guardian spirit of the fleet, the men cheered and burst from the American squadron, while the army took up the echo with a mighty shout.

The men were then sent to quarters, and a profound hush settled over the scene, as every one waited the issue with breathless anxiety.

Perry now descended into the quiet of his cabin to make the arrangements for the "what might happen." Gathering his public papers and signal book together, he tied them in a neat package, shortened it and laid it carefully on the cabin table in plain view, ready to be thrown overboard should the ship be captured. Then, looking over his wife's letters, he tore them up, and after giving a searching glance around the cabin to see that everything was prepared for the worst, he returned to the deck prepared to fight for the best.

The light breeze that wafted the squadron toward the enemy was scarcely sufficient to ruffle the smooth tranquillity of the lake.

The English vessels, newly painted, gayly bedecked with flags and bunting, and throwing their shadows ahead, glancing along the sunlit waves, presented a beautiful sight as they came down in line of battle under the black sky. The Detroit was especially noticeable, his hull coming to her rigging, the damming whiteness of her canvas and the handsome style in which

she was handled. About 10:30 o'clock a bugle was heard from their flagship, which was the signal for the fleet to get underway on the different vessels, and at the same time the strains of "Rule Britannia" from a band in the Detroit were carried by the breeze to the ears of the Americans. In the Lawrence nothing served to break the silence except a few short orders which, followed by the shrill piping of the Boat-swain's whistle, broke over the waters with the more oppressive by the contrast, would the more, divested of all unnecessary clothing, revealing brawny arms and weatherbeaten chests, stood by the guns, their set faces and quiet demeanor plainly showing the seriousness of the conflict.

PERRY'S GALLANT BEARING. The bearing of Perry at this moment is said to have inspired confidence in all who saw him. The youthful commander, closely watching the approaching enemy, gave the necessary orders in calm, firm voice, which filled all around him with an intense earnestness and a determination to conquer or die. He was fully conscious of the responsibility resting upon him, and the session of the Great West was at stake. Whether it was to pass into the hands of Great Britain or of the United States would be largely determined by his conduct. Whether the young Master-Commandant was to go into history a hero or covered with the ignominy of defeat was to be decided that day. It was indeed "a time to try men's souls." About this time Perry ordered grog and rations to be served, for it was more than likely that at the regular time for the midday mess the squadrons would be engaged. After a hasty meal the fleet returned to their quarters. The youthful American commander now passed along the deck and examined each gun to make sure that all was in readiness, and he approached several gun crews, and had a word of encouragement for each. Observing some of the men from the Constitution, he said:

"I need not say anything to you. You know how best to do your duty. I am approaching another gun named by me who had served under him in Rhode Island, he remarked:

"Ah! here are the Newport boys. They will hereafter manuever in the variable wind to gain the weather gauge. Perry said to Sailing-Master William Vigneron Taylor:

"Run to the lee side of the islands." The Sailing-Master ventured to reply:

"Then you will have to engage the enemy to leeward, sir."

"I don't answer Perry: 'To windward and toward, they shall fight to-day,' and the American vessels passed to the lee of the islands, but a favorable shift in the wind soon afterward placed them to windward of the British.

It was Perry's intention to have the Niagara lead the American line of battle, as he supposed that the Queen Charlotte would lead the English vessels; but finding that she was not to be depended upon, he decided to run the Lawrence ahead of the Niagara, so that the two flagships might come fairly alongside.

THE FIRST SHOT. At 11:45 a. m., while the squadrons were yet a mile apart, the Detroit discharged a long 24-pounder at the Lawrence by way to break the distance. The shot crashed chattered along the water and passed beyond the American flagship, upon which Perry seized a trumpet and sent the word along the line to the vessels to close up and take their prescribed positions, which were to keep within half a cable's length of each other, and enjoining it upon the commanders to preserve their stations in the line."

At 12:05 p. m. the Queen Charlotte fired a second 24-pound shot, and it crashed through the Lawrence's starboard bulwarks and sent a cloud of splinters over the men stationed in the batteries.

Sailing-Master Champlin, of the Scorpion, now trained his long 32-pounder on the Detroit, firing the first American shot in the battle, and soon afterward Lieutenant Hamilton, of the Ariel, who had been a Midshipman on the Constitution during her action with the Java, fired one of his long 12-pounders. The Queen Charlotte then fired her first gun, which was aimed at the Ariel, and the gunner, Chapman. The shot went through the Lawrence's main mast, while another shot fired from the same gun entered her starboard side at the water line. The Lawrence then fired her first gun, which was aimed at the Ariel, and the gunner, Chapman. The shot went through the Lawrence's main mast, while another shot fired from the same gun entered her starboard side at the water line.

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RENEWING THE BATTLE. As a glance Perry comprehended the condition of the Somers, he ordered her to be abandoned, and he himself went on board her, and she was in perfect order for conflict. He immediately ran up his pennant, displayed the blue banner, hoisted the signal for the fleet to get underway, and sprang and cheered from the whole squadron; however, altered the course of the vessel, set the proper sails, and bore down upon the British line, which lay half a mile distant.

Meanwhile the gallant Yarnall, after consulting Elliot, Forrest and Sailing-Master Taylor, had struck the flag of the Lawrence, and the lieutenant was then directed to come for better treatment after the battle, as he insisted upon returning to the deck. It was not long before he again had his own vessel, and was wounded, yet kept the deck. He had his scalp badly torn, and came below, with the blood streaming over his face. Some lint was applied to the wound, and the lieutenant was then directed to come for better treatment after the battle, as he insisted upon returning to the deck. It was not long before he again had his own vessel, and was wounded, yet kept the deck. He had his scalp badly torn, and came below, with the blood streaming over his face.

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successive stages. On Sept. 30 Detroit and Fort Malden were occupied. The British forces retreating eastward up the valley of the Thames, pursued by the Americans. On Oct. 5, at a place then known as Moravian Towns, they were brought to action, routed, and wholly dispersed. After the engagement, which in American history is called the Battle of the Thames, Gen. Procter reached Amherst with only 200 men. Hence he again retired upon Burlington Heights, at the head of Lake Ontario.

THE CONTROVERSY BETWEEN PERRY AND ELLIOTT. After the battle came as fierce a battle between the partisans of Perry and Elliott, which was kept up for years in spite of every effort to end it. The end came only with the death of both officers. Perry's report, which reflected severely upon Elliott and brought charges against him, was pigeon-holed by President Monroe, and the Court of Inquiry which Elliott succeeded in having ordered was notable in not summing up the merits of the controversy. Volumes of statements were filed on both sides, but in none of these had there been cross-examinations by the other side, so that no verdict could ever be reached.

Congress gave both gold medals, and several States also gave swords and other honors to Perry, Elliott, and the officers who participated in the conflict.

Rebel Butcheries. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I have been interested in Swinton's "Campaigns in the Army of the Potomac." They seem to me to be the fairest to all sides that I have seen.

I would like to know who were the 800 who came to the support of the four companies of the 3d Vt. charged, the other six on the skirmish line. They not only got into the rifle pits, but carried the line. Lieut. Buck, Co. D, jumped into a squad of rebel "brethren," leaving them right and left with his sword, and was followed by others. Then our friends remembered something they had left in the rear and ran after it. As our nearest support was not far away, our friends rallied. Then Capt. Harrington, who was in command, ordered a retreat, and the four companies hastened back. Their loss was 125 men—only three of whom were captured.

"Our humane friends" kindly bayoneted all the wounded, to save them from further suffering. If I remember correctly, that fort was all there on that part of the line, and one regiment could have held it; and could then have flanked Yorktown.

Will not Lieut. Lyons or Capt. Whittemore, who were in that charge, tell us about it? They do not seem to be in the 3d Vt. write occasionally to The National Tribune? A regiment that could boast of "Baldy" Smith, and its first colonel; of 216 school teachers, and 14 ordained ministers in its ranks; a regiment whose average weight was 162½; a regiment that was in front from start to finish, ought to have a few men left yet who can give the history.

Some one tells us of how our "friends" fired a salute in our honor at Lewinsville, Va., and one shell accidentally bursting, killing some and wounding others, among them Mr. Merrill, of Pencham, Va. The former shot at a farm house to die his brother, an unmustered recruit, without arms or uniform, remaining till he died; when our "friends" tied him to a tree and shot him out of sympathy for his sorrow! The farmer showed us the tree and the hole where he was buried. How we did love them for all their kind acts! Some of us have not lost all our love yet! Come, you fellows, tell us about these things; if you do not, I shall be compelled to tell some family secrets. Yours for truth—D. C. BIXBY, Co. G, 3d Vt.

Buried at Sparta, N. J. Following is a list of soldiers buried at Sparta, N. J. There is a plot there for the burial of soldiers, but not all of those named below lie in that plot. Indeed, they are not all in the same cemetery, and while monuments or headstones are at the graves, three of them are in the potters' field:

John Rochelle and Isaac Hurd, War of 1812; John Sturd, Mexican War; Erasmus Ames, Con. hermit soldier; Joseph Pierce, Co. E, 38th Wis.; Decker A. Polson, 3d N. Y.; Richard Romaine, 15th N. Y.; members of the 1st N. J. Cav., who were decorated by the Secretary of the War. Then the ceremony of taking possession of the conquered vessels, and receiving the formal submission of the vanquished ships, which attempt to escape, signal to anchor, and started for his battered flagship, determined, on her deck, and in the presence of her surviving officers and crew, to receive the commanders of the captured vessels, and to receive the surrender of the crew, to receive the commanders of the captured vessels, and to receive the surrender of the crew.

THE PRESENCE OF STONES AT THE GRAVES. The presence of stones at the graves is due principally to the energy of Commodore W. H. Rochelle, Co. B, 2d N. J. Corporal C. S. 2d N. J. Cav., who, until this year, has for many years, taken upon himself all the labor and duty of decoration of the graves on Memorial Day. This year he relied upon others, and none of the graves were decorated. The stones were placed by him—three or four. There is at Sparta a Soldier's Monument, erected by Commodore James B. Titman four years ago. Since its dedication it has not witnessed any ceremony, patriotic or memorial.

These facts—if facts—The National Tribune gathers from a New Jersey newspaper. What height is the patriotism of Sparta, N. J. It had a small G. A. R. Post at one time; but that is now extinct.

Mexican Veterans. The New England Association of Mexican War Veterans had their Reunion, banquet and election at Boston on Aug. 15, and many of the present many accompanied by their families. The officers elected are: Gen. Chamberlain, President; Capt. Searle, Vice-President; E. W. McGinnis, Secretary.

Deaths in the Kansas Home. The following is a list of those who died in July at the National Military Home, Kansas: Thos. Heald, Co. G, 7th N. Y. Cav.; Geo. H. Smith, Olney's Regiment; Capt. Martin V. Jones, Co. B, 3d Mass. Cav.; John Matthewell, Co. H, 2d Mass. Cav.

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Deaths in the Kansas Home. The following is a list of those who died in July at the National Military Home, Kansas: Thos. Heald, Co. G, 7th N. Y. Cav.; Geo. H. Smith, Olney's Regiment; Capt. Martin V. Jones, Co. B, 3d Mass. Cav.; John Matthewell, Co. H, 2d Mass. Cav.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Co. K, 11th Ind., held their Annual Reunion at the farm residence of Mrs. E. W. Pickett, two miles south of McCordsville, Hancock County, on Sunday, Aug. 28. A large proportion of the company were farmer boys who were born and who grew up at that part of the country, and when the war was over they married and settled down on farms in their old homes. There were seven members of the Apple family in the company, Picketts, Whites and Perrys, and their children and grandchildren, are neighbors. It is dangerous to speak ill of any one in that neighborhood, lest one slander a relative of all persons who hear him.

The following comrades of Co. K were present and had posts of honor and plenty at the table of 200 guests, with our old Colonel, Gen. F. McGinnis, at the head. Gen. McGinnis being the main of the company, an independent organization, in Indianapolis, when the war broke out.

Gen. George F. McGinnis, Wiley Dixon, J. H. Hinds, Wm. Apple, John Jenkins, John White, Harvey Bolander, John Hults, George Flemming, Jack Apple, Sam Rickett. Also, Will C. Phipps, Co. A, Peter Bolander, Co. I, John Apple, Co. D, and David Negley, Co. W. A splendid dinner, spread by the wives and daughters of the comrades was highly enjoyed. After lunch Gen. McGinnis gave a short talk and Mrs. George Apple, President W. R. C., Department of Kansas, also addressed the company. Stories were told of the soldiers left from '61 to '65; war songs were sung and a very enjoyable time had.

The company will meet the last Sunday in August, 1905, at the residence of Mrs. Malissa Apple, Oaklandon.—WILL C. PHIPPS.

How Fast They Depart. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I suppose that this is an average county so far as mortality is concerned. The people are generally farmers, and live in open air, and they exercise healthfully, and wisely and without excess. The deaths of pensioners in such a community is a good index of the rate of death among the veterans. Of those who 12 years ago had their pension papers prepared here, the following have died:

Frank Caldwell, 42d Ind.; George S. 42d Ind.; James Johnson, 42d Ind.; William Belcher, some Indiana regiment; Job Gilley, Co. E, 27th Ind.; Joseph R. Jones, Co. H, 27th Ind.; James H. Jones, Co. D, 24th Ind.; Robert Wallace, 52d Ind.; Gilbert White, an Indiana regiment.

There have died since the war: Perry Adams, 415 Indiana regiment; Perry Williams, 27th Ind.; Ransom H. Jones, Co. K, 27th Ind.; Wiley Wallace, 42d Ind.; Milton Masters, 42d Ind.; Charles Marshall, 42d Ind.; Robert Marshall, 27th Ind.; John W. Jones, Co. E, 23rd Ind.; Oscar Swanwick, 42d Ind.; William Jones, 42d Ind.; Capt. Cain, an Indiana regiment; William McKnight, an Indiana regiment; Co. H, 23rd Ind. I remember in this County. No doubt there are many more.

The following, I can recall, now living and getting pensions: George C. Cray, 58th Ind. gets \$10 a month; Clark H. Kirk, 38th Ind. gets \$8 a month; W. W. Jones, 91st Ind. gets \$10 a month; Lee Osborn, 58th Ind. gets \$8 a month; John Nelson, 27th Ind.; Ransom H. Jones, Co. H, 27th Ind.; Oscar Swanwick, 42d Ind.; William Jones, 42d Ind.; Capt. Cain, an Indiana regiment; William McKnight, an Indiana regiment; Co. H, 23rd Ind. I remember in this County. No doubt there are many more.

Association of Army Nurses. The idea of a National Organization of Army Nurses, conceived by Miss Louisa Thayer, was adopted at our gathering in Washington, D. C., in September, 1892, and drew up the preliminary Declaration which was passed upon and approved by the following members: The organization was not perfected then, but was reorganized, under charter, at Louisville, Ky., in 1895. I was made its first President, and Daniel Keenan, Co. H, 8th N. Y. Cav., was elected Secretary. Nelson Purcell, Co. E, 27th Ind.

There are about 600 Army Nurses living and drawing pensions. Some of them are aged 80 years of age. We have, I think, near 250 in the Association—from nearly every State in the Union. I have, during my present term, devised their emblem or badge, appearing in the latter part of this issue. It was adopted as our official emblem and badge. I also have written a Ritual which has been approved and adopted; and am to present the same as my complete set of surviving members. The Matron of the 32d