

HE LED THE FIGHT.

FULL STORY OF GENERAL AMES' DEEDS AT FORT FISHER.

General Charles A. Carleton, who was Chief of Staff to Ames, Describes the Battle—General Curtis' Brigade Made a Decisive Charge.



IGHT has long been wanting upon the action of the Federal troops and their leaders in the storming of Fort Fisher and what ever tends to clear up the obscurities hanging over that battle is a real contribution to history.

After two formidable attempts to reduce it, with its walls pierced and its armament in part disabled by a terrific naval bombardment, the mighty stronghold stood defiant, garrisoned by 2,000 to 2,500 Confederate soldiers, with more at hand, when it was gallantly assaulted and carried by less than 3,000 troops, under General Adelbert Ames.

The story of the defense was told in the Century "War Papers," by Colonel William Lamb, commandant of the fort, and readers of that narrative cannot fail to see that the desperate fighting on the part of the garrison was necessary by the gallantry of the Federal assaulters. After waiting more than 30 years, for reasons of his own, General Ames has prepared a statement of the assault and capture, and doubtless the public will have the privilege of reading it in an ungarbled form at no distant day.

Next to General Ames, there is no one better able to speak of the events of that day than his assistant adjutant general and chief of staff, General Charles A. Carleton. General Carleton was beside General Ames all through the fight and was the only one out of five members of his personal staff spared by Confederate bullets to enter the fort with him at the head of the conquering column.

"Since the days of the peninsula war, when the soldiers of France, England and Spain stormed the fortified towns of the peninsula, there has not been a more bloody and desperate assault on a fortified place than that led by Ames at Fort Fisher," said General Carleton in a recent interview. "Ames' fight was a desperate and murderous hand to hand assault, lasting from 2:30 in the afternoon until nearly 10 at night, and he won the battle. The brunt of the assault upon the great stronghold, from the initial charge of Curtis' brigade—a decisive achievement, which gave us an entering wedge—all through the fearful hand to hand combat on the walls and inside the breaches, was done by Ames' division, and he was himself at the head of it every moment, leading a charmed life that day."

"Curtis was struck down at Ames' feet, the last of three brigade commanders to fall, and that in the very heat of the crisis. Then there was no one left to lead the troops, except Ames, his staff and the regimental commanders. Ames was a West Point graduate, and at the outbreak of the war was a lieutenant in one of the regular regiments. At the first battle of Bull Run he was wounded while displaying great gallantry in action. He next appeared in the field at the head of the Twentieth Maine volunteers, which he led in the bloody assault on the stone wall at Fredericksburg. A general's star was given him, and his followers say that he made an ideal leader of troops. He never hesitated to take desperate chances, and under the hottest fire, when officers and men were falling on all sides, he sat on his horse coolly watching, he said, the course of the battle and calmly delivering his orders. When the assault commenced on Fort Fisher's walls," continued General Carleton, "Ames advanced at the head of the brigades of Colonels Bell and Pennybacker. Curtis' brigade, one of three in the division (numerically the First), had already gained an outwork, and it was ordered by Ames to push forward to within 300 yards of the walls of the main fort. This advance of Curtis summoned the Confederate garrison to the parapets, and a stinging fire greeted the assaulting column."

"Ames was at the front, and every time that he and his staff group appeared together they became targets for sharpshooters stationed along the parapets or in the palisading. The general wore a full dress uniform that day and could easily be distinguished by the enemy's marksmen. During the entire battle of seven hours General Terry, the commander of the army, gave Ames but two orders, and these I heard and recorded at the time. Before we left the rear lines upon this assault General Terry was located at an advanced and abandoned Confederate redoubt, outlying and somewhat less than half a mile from Fort Fisher proper, and he there remained until summoned to the fort by General Ames after dark."

"I heard General Terry say to Ames, 'General Ames, the signal agreed upon for the assault has been given. Have you any special orders in regard to it?' inquired Ames. 'No,' replied Terry. 'You understand the situation and what it is desired to accomplish. I leave everything to your discretion.'"

"I went to the rear at least twice during the battle and saw Terry, reporting to him the condition of affairs as they were, and he told me he had no instructions for Ames, thus intimating that he left everything to his judgment."

"The second order received by Ames during the battle was this, 'General Terry orders you to make one more effort to capture the fort, and if you fail to retreat.' This came to Ames by a staff officer some hours after the first and while we were struggling to reduce portions remaining unsubdued."

"When ready to advance and carry out General Terry's first order, Ames said quietly to his staff, 'Gentlemen, we will now go forward.' As soon as we appeared upon the level space in front of the walls the little party of six was selected as a target. Noticing that, somewhat, I instantly Captains Dawson and Keeler were struck, Dawson with a mortal wound. Captain Lockwood was disabled for a time with a contusion on the head, leaving only myself and Captain Matthews with the general. Matthews was afterward wounded. The charge of Curtis' brigade into the fort was led by Captain Lawrence, another

of Ames' staff, who was the first man to pass the palisading. While extending his hand to receive a guidon which he intended to place on the parapet his left arm was torn off by a shell. He was also wounded in the right arm and in the throat. The charge was a decisive achievement and gave the division a foothold. Curtis' advance had been most difficult. The palisades confronting him could not be scaled and had to be cut away.

"The instant that Curtis' flags crowned the parapet Ames ordered forward Colonel Pennybacker's brigade, going himself at the head of the column. Colonel Pennybacker fell wounded while gallantly placing the guidon on the parapet. This column was met by a murderous fire, but succeeded in joining Curtis', and the two brigades fought together along and upon the parapets. The other brigade of the division, led by the gallant Colonel Bell, moved forward over a bridge, and while passing that the leader fell mortally wounded almost at my side, I having under Ames' orders directed him where to attack. Thus two brigade commanders were down, and the third, Curtis, was about to fall."

"At that time I was within six paces, or less, of Curtis, on the interior plane of the fort, and in conversation with Ames, who was giving general directions as to the fighting of the troops. Curtis approached the general and was on the point of speaking to him when a shot from a Confederate battery outside the fort struck a small building in Curtis' rear. The thought passed through my mind that it was a close shot, and immediately afterward Curtis threw up his arms and fell backward, tossing in his sword in the movement so that it landed at my feet. This occurred about 4:20 p. m. The wound given Curtis was in the eye and resulted either from the shot direct or from a splinter hurled from the shattered building. Then it was, in the crisis of the fight, five hours before the stronghold surrendered, that Ames stood all his alone. The first of the regimental commanders had fallen, and of the general's personal staff I alone remained unhurt."

"All this time the Confederate defenders were fighting bravely, their leaders cheering them on with the hope that if they could hold out until nightfall re-enforcements would be sent to their aid. Their sharpshooters cut down all our color bearers, and our flags disappeared from the outer walls. Great timbered gun carriages and even cannon, broken by the heavy missiles of our feet bombardment, were lying in heaps, and around and on them the fight waged. When darkness came on, the battle was not ended, but with Ames, standing among his men and cheering them on in their work, no suggestion to falter, to suspend the engagement until the fol-



"his left arm was torn off by a shell." "I was lying morning, nor to intrude, found a listening ear. 'Advance!' Drive the enemy from his positions!" were his repeated orders.

"About 9 o'clock, under a general assault of our division, supported on one flank by Colonel Abbott's brigade taken from Faine's entrenched line, the garrison, or what remained of it, fell back, keeping up a steady fight with its rear guard."

"Ames vigorously pushed his advance along the beach in pursuit of the enemy. The Confederate General Whiting and Colonel Lamb, commandant of Fort Fisher, lay wounded in Battery Buchanan, one of two outworks which had taken the assaulting columns as they crossed the parapet. Captain Lockwood of Ames' staff had partially recovered from the effects of the wound received early in the fight and was at the front with the men who reached the battery first. He received from the fallen leader word that they would surrender the fort and all its forces, and to him the surrender was made about 9:20 o'clock. This was announced by General Ames to his men, who received it with cheers. He then signaled it to the fleet, and rockets were fired from the warships in honor of the victory."

George L. KILMER.

A Find.

"I don't mind telling you," said the actor, who was in an alcoholically confidential mood, "that my brother is serving a term in the Arkansas penitentiary for stealing hogs."

General Horace Porter in the course of a recent speech said, "Boston is not a city; it is a state of mind." This declaration was greeted with laughter by unthinking New Yorkers, who failed to see General Porter's point. He meant that as much mind is found in Boston as in an average state. We thank General Porter.—Boston Transcript.

Palmistry has been practiced in the east from time immemorial. The palmists claim that several allusions in the book of Job indicate a knowledge of this art.

Some kinds of wafers honey are extremely poisonous, a few grains causing a kind of delirium.

A Lover's Reimbursement.

The lover said:
"Modest was she when first we wed.
So shy, indeed, I can't forget
Her blushes red,
And when she mounted her pony true
For a canter down Fifth avenue
She wore a long skirt of sober blue,
Hiding her feet and stockings too."

Again he said:
"Now she's a bold and airy maid,
A blushing miss, of naught afraid,
All coziness fled,
She wears a jaunty bloomer fashion,
And when mounting her cycle saddle
She nimbly leaps and lands astraddle,
Then pedestrians just exclaim—
Altogether Express."

HARVEST OF HAIR.

HOW THE COUPEURS GATHERED IT FROM THE HEADS OF THE POOR.

Wives Employed to Get a Woman to Part With Her 'Chief Glory'—There Was Always a Sure Market, For False Hair Was Worn by All Fashionable Ladies.

History records the fact that in 1689, in England, long, flaxen hair was purchased from the head at 10 shillings an ounce, while other fine hair fetched from 5 to 7 shillings for the same quantity, and within the present century the heads of whole families in Devonshire were let out by the year at so much per poll, a periwig maker of Exeter going round at certain periods to cut the locks, persons. The use of false hair as an aid to feminine beauty was not unknown to the ancients in well-proved. The Greeks, Romans and Egyptians, long before the dawn of the Christian era, resorted to the wearing of tresses obtained from other persons' heads. They even went so far as to paint bald heads so as to represent them as covered with short hair, also marble caps so painted were worn. A valuable merchandise in the blood of German women is mentioned in ancient Roman history. A question that has doubtless often presented itself is, Where did all this hair come from? This question I will endeavor to answer. With the coming of spring in the midlands and west of France appeared what may fitly be termed a singular class of nomadic individuals, armed with long, iron tipped staves and bearing heavy packs of merchandise upon their backs. At first glance one would have taken them to be ordinary hawkers, yet merchandise was not an accessory to their strange industry. They were the coupeurs, the reapers of a hirsute harvest.

Armed with long, keen shears, they went their way seeking the tresses of willing victims dwelling in outlying hamlets and villages of peasant France, and a laborious business it was. From "dewy morn" until the shadows of night gathered thickly they did their 10 or 15 miles a day—often fruitlessly and with empty stomachs, their only bed the wayside. In Auvergne these seekers after hair were known as chignoniers. The Bretons called them margoullins. These terms have not fit English parallels.

These curious journeymen exerted every effort to gain their ends—a good head of hair—the former preferring the local fairs as a workroom, the latter choosing to visit the dwellings of their possible clients. In summer the Brittany margoullin was often seen going through the streets, carrying his long staff, from which hung twists of hair, while he cried in cheerful tones the well known "Pian, pian!" at the sound of which the cottagers, with an itching desire to possess some of his gewgaws, attracted the wanderer's attention. He was only too pleased to dazzle their eyes with his many colored wares, and his crew reaped their harvest. While the women fingered his goods the margoullin weighed her tresses with his hand, a proceeding at which he was adept through long practice. The bargain ended, the woman yielded her abundant locks in return for a few yards of cotton stuff or a gay petticoat, to which, thanks to the progress of civilization, the coupeur had to add a small sum of money. Sometimes the transaction was not completed without much discussion, the wares, and the coupeur had to return to the charge owing to female indecision, and he was more than happy when sure that a tardy remorse would not rob him of half his coveted trophy.

Until the authorities intervened, cutting was conducted in public as an amusement for onlookers, it being considered highly entertaining to hear 10 or 12 rival coupeurs endeavoring their wares, each protesting his to be far superior to his fellows. The prohibition of this custom drove the hair invaders to erect tents, rent for the day unoccupied shops, cellars, stables or any corner they could find wherein to establish themselves. Stricks were then stuck up, from them being suspended petticoats as a lure, as an indication of what could be had in exchange for tresses; to the petticoats were attached twists of hair as trademarks. The wares, accompanied by peasants hatted, casting envious glances at the multicolored garments, they were handled and even tried on, thus affording an opportunity to the coupeurs to flatter their fair customers—who did not long rest—and victory rewarded the cut buyers. In Auvergne—where the coupeurs were most numerous—the greatest harvest was reaped on St. John's day. The ingathering extended from April to September, during which month the butchers, bakers, locksmiths, etc., foretook their ordinary avocations for that of the coupeur, returning to their legitimate trades with the coming of the dead season. The hair of different countries was distinguished by certain qualities. For instance, that of Auvergne was the coarsest; the finest and most flaxen from Belgium; the blackest and longest from Italy, while that produced in Brittany was the most beautiful, though less well cared for.—Hearth and Home.

Lord Nelson's Spirit.

Captain Alfred T. Mahan writes an account of "Nelson in the Battle of Copenhagen" for The Century. Captain Mahan quotes the following from the account of the engagement written by Colonel Stewart of the British forces: "Lord Nelson was at this time, as he had been during the whole action, walking the starboard side of the quarter deck, sometimes much animated and at other times heroically fine in his observations. A shot through the mainmast knocked a few splinters about us. He observed to me with a smile, 'It is warm work, and this day may be the last to any of us at a moment,' and then, stopping short at the gangway, he used an expression never to be erased from my memory and said with emotion, 'But, mark you, I would not be elsewhere for thousands.'" With this spirit may be compared his rebuke some days after the battle to a lieutenant, who during the action had made a hopeless report about the grounded ships, "At such a moment the delivery of anything like a desponding opinion, unasked, was highly reprehensible and deserved much more censure than Captain Foley gave you."

Brains Bigger Than Man's.

According to Professor Max Weber of Amsterdam, the only animals which surpass man in the relative weight of their brains are elephants and whales, but there are several that rank ahead of him in the ratio of the brain weight to the total weight of the body. All of these, however, are comparatively small animals. Among them are many monkeys and certain members of the squirrel and mouse families. No animal of greater bodily size than man has a brain which is relatively as large as his. Upon the whole, it seems that man's mental superiority is due rather to the quality and organization than to the size of his brain.

Darwin and Tyndall proved what naturalists before their time suspected, that the air is literally full of plant germs and seeds.

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The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure acts internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution, and its insidious nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer one hundred dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for full testimonials.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

Many of the Books an Incentive to the Intelligence of Young People.

Edward W. Bok has been making a careful and comprehensive examination of Sunday school libraries, and in The Ladies' Home Journal he confesses himself disgusted with the literature thus placed in the hands of our boys and girls. A less complete investigation, Mr. Bok says, would not have made it possible for him to believe that the libraries of our Sunday schools were stocked with such piles of rubbish—"wicky wicky literature," as he terms it. He quotes the names and titles of a number of books he obtained from Sunday school libraries, and these seem to completely warrant his conclusions. "Such books," he contends, "are an insult to the intelligence of the young people and have a pernicious influence. Instead of being healthy books they are decidedly unhealthy in tone and teaching. Surely we are cultivating a dangerous taste for reading in the young when we feed them on such rubbish."

Mr. Bok unhesitatingly lays a part of the blame upon the publication boards and societies, which are influenced by a denominational spirit that narrows their choice of books. Then, again, it is shown that the most mediocre sort of "talent" is employed to write these books, and that bargain prices—less than \$80 per book—are paid. A share of responsibility, Mr. Bok asserts, rests upon the men who purchase Sunday school libraries, who, as is most frequently the case, are not qualified for the task and whose object is to secure a library as cheap as possible. Mr. Bok warmly urges that the selection of Sunday school books be left to women, who "instinctively know and feel the kind of a book which a boy or girl will read and enjoy." He insists that women should be given carte blanche to make the selections so far as the prescribed amount of money will go. "A hundred good books," Mr. Bok concludes, "are far better than 500 books of indifferent interest," which are bought simply because they are cheap. "A Sunday school library cannot be created in a day, and no discouragement should be felt if the financial means of the church are contracted and necessitate the purchase of only a few books at a time."

Helpless as a Brand.

Captain Bliss was like all steamers, a strict disciplinarian, and his crew respected him beyond measure. Not one of them would have dreamed of interpreting a command otherwise than according to the strict letter of the law. Things must be done shipshape under his rule.

One day, while the ship was in a certain port, the captain gave a dinner to some town acquaintances, and as the resources of the ship were not great some of the sailors were deputed to wait on the table to re-enforce the insufficient number of stewards.

As these men were not used to such work each one was told exactly what service would fall to his share.

The hour came, and the dinner went merrily on. Presently, however, one of the ladies wanted a piece of bread. There was none very near her, and the finely disciplined stewards seemed to be quite oblivious to her need. She turned her head and spoke very softly to the man at her elbow.

"Bread, please," she said.

He looked regretfully at the bread and then at her. It was evident that he would fain have helped her if it had been in his power. He saluted in fine naval style.

"Can't do it, ma'am," said he. "I'm 'told off for taters."—London Telegraph.

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No. 4—Atlantic Express..... 11:40 p. m.
No. 28—Freight..... 7:00 a. m.
GOING WEST—MOUNTAIN TIME.
No. 1—Limited..... 3:55 p. m.
No. 3—Fast Mail..... 11:30 p. m.
No. 23—Freight..... 7:35 a. m.
No. 19—Freight..... 1:40 p. m.
N. B. OLDS, Agent.

Legal Notices.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.
Land Office at North Platte, Neb., March 19th, 1897.
Notice is hereby given that Robert J. Menzie has filed notice of intention to make final proof before Register and Receiver at his office in North Platte, Neb., on Saturday the 17th day of April, 1897, on timber culture application No. 11,256, for the west half northeast quarter of section No. 8, in township No. 14 north, range No. 27 west. He names as witnesses: Horace Paulsen, Penney Hrubman, Alfred B. Pierce and Ira Mann, all of Gandy, Neb.
JOHN F. HINMAN, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.
Land Office at North Platte, Neb., March 19th, 1897.
Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of her intention to make final proof in support of her claim, and that said proof will be made before Register and Receiver at North Platte, Neb., on May 26th, 1897, viz: MARY D. WILKINS, who made Homestead Entry No. 15651 for the north half of the northeast quarter, southeast quarter of the north east quarter, northwest quarter of the southeast quarter section 21, township 9 north, range 27 west. She names the following witnesses to prove her continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: James E. Shaw, William Manigault, Joseph E. Thompson, and Albert L. Boutney, all of Farnam, Neb.
JOHN F. HINMAN, Register.

NOTICE.
John C. Golvin and Mrs. John C. Golvin, defendants, will take notice that on the 23rd day of February, 1897, Mrs. Ann E. Hentig, plaintiff herein, filed her petition in the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, against said defendants, to enforce a certain mortgage executed by the defendants to her on the 23rd day of January 1st, 1896, \$25.00 July 1st, 1896, \$25.00 January 1st, 1897, \$25.00 July 1st, 1897, \$25.00 January 1st, 1898, \$25.00 July 1st, 1898, and the coupon notes due thereon, and to declare the whole amount secured thereby due and payable, and there is now due on said bond coupons and mortgage the sum of \$100.00, and interest thereon at the rate of ten per cent per annum, and the plaintiff, who is the assignee for value of said bond, coupons and mortgage, prays that she be appointed receiver of the same, and that said premises may be sold to satisfy the amount so found due.

Witness my hand and seal of office on and before the 20th day of May, 1897.
Dated March 22d, 1897.
MISS ANN E. HENTIG, Plaintiff.
BY T. C. PATTERSON, Her Attorney.

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