

Battles Which Made the World

TRAFALGAR

The Sea Fight Which Cost Britain Her Great Admiral, but Which Wrecked the Plans of Napoleon for the Invasion of England.

By CAPT. ROLAND F. ANDREWS

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Napoleon ever believed that Trafalgar cost him England. Not until the day of his death on St. Helena did he cease to berate the unfortunate Admiral Villeneuve, who lost the day, lost his fleet and in losing the latter lost for Napoleon all chance of transporting safely across the channel the great French army which lay at Boulogne ready for the crossing in flatboats the moment the menace of the British navy could be removed.

Nelson, having chased the allied French and Spanish fleet to the West Indies and back, was doing watchdog duty off Cadiz wherein lay the French and the Spaniards, 34 sail of the line and 7 frigates. Villeneuve was distrustful of the skill of his crews and the equipment of his vessels. Napoleon was in a rage at Villeneuve, whom he denounced for "excessive pusillanimity" and to replace whom he started Rosily for Cadiz. Villeneuve, hearing of his intended successor's approach and possessing certain discretionary orders which directed him to proceed to Naples, fighting the English should he encounter them in inferior number, put to sea, leaving one of his ships behind him. Thereupon Nelson, with 27 sail of the line and four frigates, sprang at his throat.

The action was fought on the twenty-first of October, 1805. Nelson, coming on deck at daylight, could see the enemy in line of battle 12 miles to leeward. His captains already possessed his memorandum of battle, which called for attack in two columns, one led by Collingwood in the Royal Sovereign and one by Nelson himself in the Victory. Nelson, however, was far too able a man to expect rigid adherence to any rule of thumb program. His memorandum made broad provisions. "No captain," he wrote, "can do wrong if he places his ship alongside that of an enemy."

To meet the attack Villeneuve formed in double column, his line curving something after the fashion of a crescent. Nelson observed this disposition with approval. Attack at once, he directed, and hoisted his famous last signal: "England expects every man to do his duty."

To cut the enemy's escape, Nelson's column was headed about two points farther north than was Collingwood's. In consequence it was this latter officer in his fast-sailing flagship who first came into action. The Royal Sovereign plunged into the enemy line just astern of the Spanish Admiral Alava's craft, the big three decker, Santa Anna, which caught the Sovereign's starboard broadside.

Collingwood was in his element. "What would Nelson give to be here!" he cried to Rotherham, his captain. Nelson for his part called Collingwood a "noble fellow," as the Victory, flying every battle ensign her flag locker would yield, plunged into the fighting. The admiral headed for his old acquaintance, the Santissima Trinidad, a huge craft of no less than four decks, which greeted him with a terrific blast from her tiers of cannon. Scott, the admiral's secretary, fell at the first fire. A double-headed shot mowed eight marines, drawn up with the guard close by the admiral's side. Another shot whizzed between Nelson and Hardy, the Victory's commander. "Warm work," said Nelson; "Too warm to last long."

In the tops of the enemy's ships soldier riflemen were busily at work. To them Nelson, in his admiral's uniform, with four stars of the orders with which he was invested on his left breast, was a shining mark. Beatty, the Victory's surgeon, and Scott, her chaplain, begged him to remove these decorations, but Nelson answered: "In honor I gained them and in honor I will die with them."

No less than 50 men aboard the Victory had been killed before she fired a gun. Then she was laid along side the Redoubtable, her guns touching the French ship through the timber of which their shot went crashing. Her larboard battery, meanwhile, was busily engaged with the Bucentaure, Villeneuve's flagship, and the Santissima Trinidad. Harvey, who saw her thus engaged from the Temeraire, declared afterward that she seemed to belch fire. All the other British ships were similarly occupied. The cannonade was terrific, the slaughter dreadful. The French and Spanish, who for the most part had gone into action without flags, were now producing them in order to surrender. Villeneuve's fleet was being knocked to pieces about him.

Twice Nelson gave the order to cease firing upon the Redoubtable, believing she had struck, but it was from this vessel that he received his death. An infantryman in her mizen top took careful aim at the gallant figure on the Victory's quarterdeck and sent a musket ball through the paulown on his left shoulder. He fell upon his face in the pool of blood left by Scott, his dead secretary. Admir and his marines sprang to the stricken admiral's side. "They have done for me at last, Hardy," he said. "My backbone is shot through."

And as they were carrying him below he gave orders that the severed tiller ropes be replaced, the while he

covered his face and his stars with his handkerchief that neither the enemy nor his own gallant seamen might know who it was that was dying.

In the cockpit, where he waved away the surgeon, declaring that time spent on him was but wasted, when it might save the life of some other man, the admiral could hear the crew of the Victory cheering as ship after ship in the enemy line hauled down her colors.

"I hope," said the dying leader, "no English ship has struck."

"No fear," answered Hardy.

"Then I am satisfied," whispered Nelson. "Thank God I have done my duty."

A little later he asked the sorrowing Hardy to kiss him. Afterward he commended to the care of his nation Lady Hamilton and his daughter, Horatia. Then three hours after he had sustained his wound and with the splendid triumph wrought by his skill and bravery all about him, he died.

Of the allied fleet no less than 18—Nelson had predicted 20—surrendered to the English. Four of the van who escaped subsequently fell victims to the squadron of Sir Richard Strachan. Only 11 craft of the squadron limped back into Cadiz where they lay quiescent under Rosily until forced to surrender to the Spaniards by the outbreak of the Peninsular war. Napoleon's plan for the invasion of England could no longer possess existence.

HE TRIED TO QUIT TOBACCO

Tokyo Lawyer, After Months of Abstinence, Resumed Smoking on "Doctor's Orders."

A prominent Tokyo barrister-at-law Mr. Masuo Soeda, has long been a lover of tobacco and so have the members of his family, says East and West. Most of the servants in his household were likewise addicted to "the weed." One day last winter Mr. Soeda unexpectedly issued an anti-tobacco proclamation! He assembled the entire household and delivered a tirade against the poisonous effects of nicotine upon the human system. From the viewpoints of physical welfare, moral well being and national economy, he commanded his domestic auditors to follow his example by ceasing the use of tobacco. All pipes, ash trays, cigars, cigarettes and humidors were burned or destroyed. The struggle was difficult for some of the family, but they were strengthened by the example of the master of the house. On June 1, however, Mr. Soeda was seen to light a cigar while seated in his library. A cynical friend, who had grumbled about the lawyer's prohibition of tobacco, exclaimed:

"So, you've been smoking on the sly, despite your resolution!"

"Not at all; this is my first cigar in five months," was the reply. "My physician thinks he has detected symptoms of fatty degeneration of my heart and has recommended tobacco as an antidote. Therefore, I have begun taking my medicine. That's all."

Many Indian Languages. Before you write the government or the Smithsonian Institution and request it to send you the Indian name for this or that thing, bear in mind that there is no one American Indian language, says the Popular Science Monthly. On the contrary, there are no less than one thousand languages in the two Americas and practically five hundred distinct Indian languages north of Mexico. Thus, it is impossible to give the Indian word for any English equivalent. If you do receive an answer to your inquiry, the word given is probably chosen from the language of the tribe which once inhabited the particular part of the country from which the request comes.

The Rolling Stone. Whatever may be our estimate of the man we call a rolling stone, it is well to recognize that he is incorrigible. No consideration of the temporal prosperity that perseverance in things unpleasant may bring has the slightest power to influence him. Reprove his restlessness, shut him up with a ledger in your office, you will not make him content. He has no fear of being set adrift in the world without resources, for of his chief resource—his readiness to seek adventures brave and new—no man can ever deprive him. He cannot be fitted to our ordinary measures. His delight is set upon a different kind of life.—Exchange

Happiness and Pleasure. Ignorance confounds happiness with pleasure. Pleasure comes from without, happiness from within. People may be very gay and profoundly miserable. By the same token they may be really rich, yet actually poor. In either case their condition is due to the fact that the happiness which they sought, they sought for themselves. Therein is the poignant error of life. People who seek happiness for themselves fail to find it. But they who succeed in securing it for others, discover that on them also it has been bestowed.—Edgar Saltus.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR OCTOBER 7

PSALMS OF DELIVERANCE.

LESSON TEXT—Psalms 85 and 128. GOLDEN TEXT—They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.—Psalms 126:5.

These Psalms breathe the spirit of the true patriot. The Psalmist sees his afflicted country suffering for the sins of the people, prays for their restoration to the Divine favor, and with the eagle eye of faith anticipates the joyful day of spiritual and temporal blessings because of restoration to the Divine favor. Doubtless such patriotism would be pleasing to the Lord on the part of us all.

Psalm 85.

I. Praises for Mercies Received (vv. 1-3).

Praise is given for (1) Deliverance from Captivity (v. 1).

He had in mind the specific mercies of a given time; perhaps it was one of the oppressions of the Philistines from which they had been delivered.

(2) Forgiveness of Sin (vv. 2, 3).

"Thou hast forgiven the iniquity—covered all their sin." God's restoration was the proof that he had pardoned. Great indeed was the sin of Jacob, but God's forgiveness was greater. He is peculiarly a God of mercy. Having forgiven the sins his anger is taken away. He stayed his hand from the judgment which would have justly fallen, to show his mercy.

II. Prayer for Restoration From Backsliding (vv. 4-7).

He knew how worthless the outward blessings of the Lord would be unless the people inwardly turned to the Lord. He, therefore, besought the Lord to give them the greater blessing, that of a change of heart. Without the change of heart forgiveness would be futile. A change of heart can only be by God's help.

(1) That God would turn the hearts of his people toward himself (v. 4).

Knowing the people's utter helplessness to turn to God, he cried out to God to save them by turning them to himself. He knew that God's anger could not turn from the people as long as they were impenitent.

(2) That God would take away the very remembrance of their sins (vv. 5-7).

(a) The ending of his anger (v. 5). The desire seems to be that he would wipe out the very marks of his displeasure by not longer allowing punishment to be meted out to them.

(b) The return to the people's joy (v. 6).

Their joy could only be realized through a revival from God. The Psalmist now becomes more bold in his requests.

(c) Shall show them mercy (v. 7). "Make it visible," is his cry. God's judgment was most real. His desire is that his mercy would be just as real.

III. Exultant Anticipation (vv. 8-13).

Having spoken the sentiment of the repentant people, the poet expresses confidence of the Lord's response. So faithful is God that those who sincerely pray to him can go forward with the assurance of petitions granted.

(1) "He will speak peace" (v. 8).

He knew that a gentle answer would come, but its continuance would depend upon the fidelity of the people. Turning to folly would provoke again his wrath.

(2) Will bring his salvation near (v. 9).

Only as his salvation was near could glory be in the land.

(3) Devise a way by which "Mercy and truth," "Righteousness and peace," may be united (vv. 10, 11).

He did not suggest a way. He may not have known it. Faith now sees the way in Christ. In him such a union has been blessedly effected.

(4) The land shall become fruitful (v. 11).

When sin is removed, temporal prosperity shall follow. Earth's barrenness is due to sin. When the curse is removed fruitfulness shall follow.

(5) Righteousness shall be the guide of his people (v. 12).

In that golden, glad age God's righteous ways will leave a track in which his own may walk with security.

Psalm 128.

I. The Fact of Zion's Deliverance (vv. 1, 2).

(1) By whom (v. 1). The Lord.

(2) Effect of (v. 2). The Lord.

(a) The people were scarcely able to believe it. So sudden and unexpected was their deliverance that it seemed to them as a dream. They expressed their feeling in joyful laughter.

(b) The heathen noted their deliverance as marvelous, and ascribed it to God (v. 2).

Song and Prayer.

II. The Song of the People (v. 3).

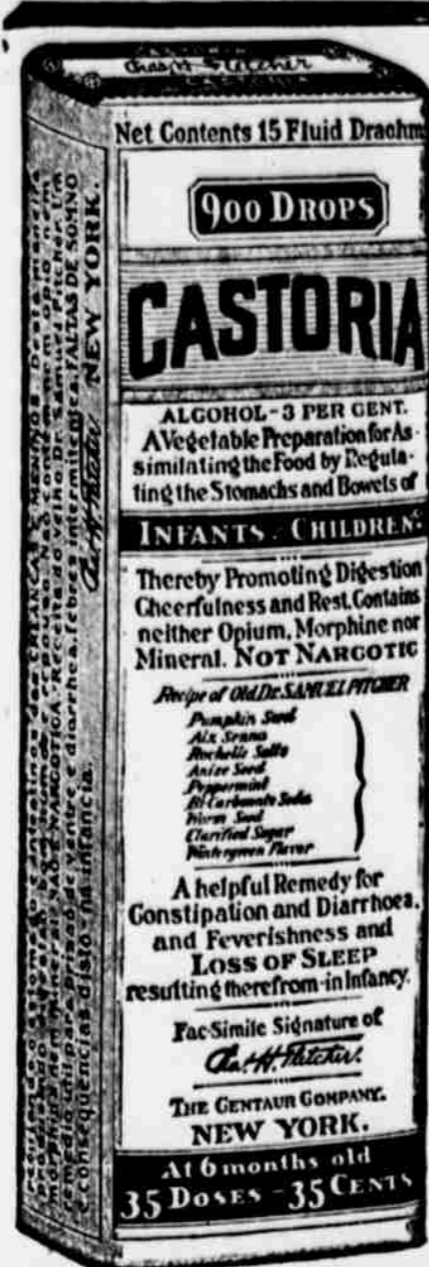
They ascribed their deliverance to the Lord and expressed their gratitude in singing God's praise.

III. The Prayer (v. 4).

The people cried to God to visit their restoration with fruitfulness, even as the streams from the South spread out and make a country fruitful.

IV. The Promise (vv. 5, 6).

Though the people were still obliged to suffer the consequences of their sins, they were encouraged to go on in sowing though in tears, as the reaping would bring joy.



SERUM FOR RAT-BITE FEVER

Japanese Physicians Declare Cure Is Obtained From Veins of Persons Who Have Recovered.

A group of eminent Japanese doctors has been busy studying rat-bite fever ever since Futaki, Ishiura and their associates reported two years ago the discovery of the microbe that causes it. This is a spirochete, so-called because its form is spiral or zig-zag. Several types of this spirochete were found in men who had been bitten by rats, and in guinea pigs that had been experimentally inoculated. These were identified by Futaki as in all probability identical.

Doctors Renjro, Kaneko and Kikuzo Okuda of the Imperial University in Kyushu, Fukuoka, Japan, contribute to the Journal of Experimental Medicine a confirmation of Futaki's belief; Doctor Ryokichi Inada contributes a description of the disease; Doctors Yutaka Ido, Rokuto Ito, Hiroshi Ito and Hidetsune Wani describe experiments that prove the rat to be the common carrier of the Spirocheta icterohaemorrhagica, as the microbe of the disease is called; and Doctors Yutaka Ido, Hiroshi Ito, Hidetsune Wani and Kikuzo Okuda discuss the possibility of producing immunity.

The latter go into details of their experiments and come to the conclusion that "serum of persons who have recovered from rat-bite fever contains an immune body which destroys the spirochetes of that disease."

The importance of these articles lies in the final proof that this spirochete is the cause of the fever, that rats are the carriers, and that the disease can be cured.

Everybody Is Not Honest. The chap who accuses everybody of plagiarism usually has a few stolen ideas under his hat.

Some folks make a specialty of exchanging their brass for other people's gold.

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Over the Fence and Out.

At the Gibson county fair at Princeton there are places where the fences must be guarded to keep boys and others from swarming over and in, says the Indianapolis News.

This year one of the amateur policemen appointed for a long strip of fence sat down in the shade and fell asleep. Ben Murphy, president of the association, chanced to see a long, gangling youth climb the fence there. "You'll have to pay or get out," he told the youth. "Got no money; guess I'll get out," was the response. "No, on second thought," said Murphy, "I'll let you stay in on condition. You go wake that policeman and tell him you climbed in over the fence."

"Shucks, then eh'll throw me out," "Try it, anyway," said the president; "you'll get to stay."

Long Boy did as bidden. "I climbed over the fence," he told the aroused watchman.

"What!" exclaimed that individual. "Then right out you go."

He dragged the youth toward a gate, but the youngster yelled lustily to Mr. Murphy and he came up.

"I'm putting this hoodlum out," explained the policeman; "he climbed the fence."

"He said he did," snapped back the association head, "but I told him to stay and have appointed him to keep you awake. Turn him loose."

Long Boy saw the fair, but no more of his kind got over the fence that day.

Timorous Lover.

A woman went into a store for a pair of slippers. She asked the shop assistant to get her a pair about size 10, and she wanted them squeaky.

"They are for my father," she added.

"Squeaky, miss? I'm afraid we have not got any of that kind."

"Couldn't you make him a pair of squeaky ones?" asked the young woman.

"There is a young man who visits me frequently, and it would be very convenient for him to know just when papa is coming downstairs."

Don't Need Matches.

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Natural Process.

"The man whose plant was threatened with destruction by the strikers performed quite a physiological operation."

"What was that?"

"He armed all the hands."

Kitty Acquired the Habit.

As Mary's mother was a voice teacher, Mary was familiar with the terminology of the music studio. One day when her kitten was whining vociferously outside the door, Mary exclaimed: "Mamma, please let kitty in! She's outside, forcing her voice terribly."

No Other Place Would Do.

A dentist, who had been made nervous by frequent burglaries in his vicinity, was somewhat startled recently by having a man come regularly at the same hour every evening and sit on his doorstep. He finally suggested that, if it would be all the same to him, he would be pleased to have him divide his attention and sit on some neighbor's doorstep for a while.

"But it wouldn't be the same," shouted the visitor, "nor anything like it. You are a dentist, and I have an aching tooth that I haven't the courage to have pulled out. I come here every afternoon trying to make up my mind to have it out, and as soon as I come in sight of your house it stops aching, but when I sit on your doorstep, and the confounded thing knows it can be pulled out if it gives me trouble, I have some rest."

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