

The Charge of the Light Brigade.

Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward,
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

Cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon in front of them,
Volley'd and thunder'd.

A survivor of the celebrated ride into the jaws of death gives to a writer in the *Boston Commercial Bulletin*, the following graphic picture of the charge:

"Lord Cardigan's eye glanced us over, then spurring his horse for ward a few paces, he said:

"My men, we have received orders to silence that battery."

"My G—d, my brother ejaculated. Then grasping my hand, he said:

"Fred, my dear fellow, good-bye, we don't know what may happen, God bless you; keep close to me—"

"What more he might have said was lost in Lord Cardigan's ringing shout of:

"Charge!"

"We went at a trot; the trot changed to a canter, and the canter to a gallop. Through the lines I could see Lord Cardigan several horse-lengths ahead riding as steadily as if he was on a parade. Now, to tell the plain truth, when we had ridden a short distance, say one hundred paces, I felt terribly afraid. The truth flashed upon me in a moment that we were riding into a position that would expose us to a fire on both flanks, as well as the fire from the battery in front of us, which we had been instructed to silence. I said to myself, 'This is a ride to death!' but I said it loud enough for my brother to hear, and he answered and said:

"There goes the first!"

The first was Lord Lucan's aide-camp, Captain Nolan, who, after making a slight detour, was crossing our left to join us in the charge. The cannot ball had just cut him in two as my brother spoke.

"My heart leaped into my mouth and I almost shrieked with fear, but I retained myself, and setting my teeth hard I rode on. A moment later the rifle bullets from the sharpshooters on the hillside began to whistle about our ears. Saddles were emptied at every step. Then came the whistling shot and the shrieking shell and tore through our squadrons, mangling men and horses, plowing bloody furrows through our ranks. My whole soul became filled with a thirst for revenge, and I believe the same spirit animated every man in the ranks. Their eyes flashed and they ground their teeth and pressed closer together. The very horses caught the mad spirit, and plunged forward as if impatient to lead us to our revenge and theirs. At this time there was not much to be seen. A heavy dense smoke hung over the valley, but the flaming mounds of the guns revealed themselves to our eyes at every moment as they belched forth their murderous contents of shot and shell.

"Now a shot tore through our ranks, cutting a red line from flank to flank, then a shell plowed an oblique and bloody furrow from our right front to our left rear; anon a ricochetting rose over our front ranks, fell into our centre, and then hewed its way to the rear, making terrible havoc in its passage. Oh! that was a ride. Horses ran riderless and men bareheaded, and splashed with blood of their comrades, pressed closer and closer and ground their teeth harder and harder, and mentally swore a deadlier revenge as their numbers grew smaller.

"Alone and in front rode Cardigan, still keeping the same distance ahead. His charger was headed for the centre of the battery. Silently we followed him. Up to this time neither brother nor myself had received the slightest scratch, although we were now riding side by side with comrades who, at the start, were separated from us by several files. We reached the battery at last. Up to this time we had ridden in silence, but what a yell burst from us as we plunged in among the Russian gunners. Well if they had killed us all before we reached them, they had done too little and too much. They had set us on fire with passion—Only blood could quench our thirst for revenge. We passed through the battery like a whirlwind, sabering the gunners on our passage. I don't believe one of them lived to tell the tale of that ride. Over the battery and into the brigade—an army of cavalry. Our charge was resistless.

"The Russian fell before our sabres as corn falls before the reaper. They seemed to have no power of resistance. And there was no lack of material to work upon. They closed in upon us, and surrounded us on every side, but we hewed our way through a virgin forest, and only stopped when we reached the bank of Tebernaia river.

"Wheeling here, we proceeded to cut our way back again. On the return ride I was assailed by a gigantic Russian trooper, who made a strike at me with his sabre. I partially guarded it, but not wholly, and the next moment felt a stinging pain in my neck. It passed in a moment, however, and I was about to make short work of the trooper, when I heard my brother cry:

"Ah! you would, would you? and the Russian fell cleft to the chin.

"The color sergeant drained another glass.

"When, we formed on arriving at our starting point, Lord Cardigan, with tears streaming from his eyes, said:

"It was not my fault, my men."

"And the men replied with one voice:

"We are ready to go again, my lord."

"Just then I became dizzy. My scalp had been lifted by the stroke of the Russian's sabre, the skin of my cheek cleaved across my upper lip, and I fainted from the loss of blood.

"When my time expired in the cavalry, I re-enlisted in this regiment. I am always proud to hear myself called one of the Six Hundred, but—poor Jack! Fill that glass again, Tom!"

Thus ended the sergeant's story of the famous charge.

NEW YORK'S CATHEDRAL.

ST. PATRICK'S DEDICATED WITH POSING CEREMONIES.

The new St. Patrick's Cathedral, on Fifth avenue and Fifty-fifth streets, was dedicated to public worship, under the invocation of St. Patrick, with grand, solemn and imposing services. In the history of the Roman Catholic church in America no event has ever been celebrated with such magnificence or splendor as that of opening the doors for the worship of God of the most magnificent building of its kind in the United States. Ten o'clock was the hour appointed for the services, to commence but by 9 o'clock nearly every seat within the building was occupied. Outside the edifice were several thousand persons, many of whom wanted to purchase tickets, but they could get none, as all were sold out several days before. They were compelled to content themselves with viewing that portion of the ceremonies which took place outside the walls, namely: the procession around the building and the sprinkling of the walls with holy water by the cardinal. There were between 4,000 and 5,000 people within the building when the service commenced. Everything was favorable to make the ceremonies a success. The bright sunlight streamed through the windows with a brilliant tracery and carving of the lofty roof, while the same rays, coming through the richly-stained windows further down, shed a mild and soft light over the whole scene and the assembled thousands below. A number of sparrows flew in at the upper windows and chirruped lustily throughout the ceremonies. The high altar was lit up with countless candles and presented a beautiful appearance, being brought into bold relief by the lightly-colored windows behind it.

At the other end was the grand organ, a marvel of artistic skill and beauty. Seldom has such a throng of high dignitaries of the church been seen as were present.

It was 10.30 o'clock before the ceremonies commenced with the procession from the vestry. First came the attendants and servers; then 150 priests in a line two deep; then bishops in full canonicals; the archbishops, arrayed in their gorgeous vestments, each wearing his mitre, and lastly, his eminence Cardinal McClosky and Vicars General Quinn and Preston on either side of him. The vast audience arose and remained standing while the procession passed down the centre aisle to the grand central portal. The crowds outside the building also remained uncovered during the ceremonies. The cardinal on passing out through the portal turned toward the building and offered up a prayer. Then he recited the antiphon, "Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, O Lord," &c. He then sprinkled the holy water on the walls above and below, the chorus chanting "Misericordia." The procession then marched around the building the cardinal sprinkling the walls as he passed along. The sight was a splendid and striking one. The sun shone brightly on the gorgeous and glittering vestments of archbishops and bishops, and a hundred different shades of color were reflected back. The windows and roofs of the neighboring houses were thronged with spectators, and the streets were crowded. The sweet voices of the choristers rang out clear and musical on the balmy air. After making the round of the building and sprinkled the interior walls with holy water. Psalms were chanted by the choristers during the circuit. On returning to the high altar the cardinal was clothed in full pontifical vestments and proceeded to celebrate the mass. The mass according to the rubrics of the missal was that of Pope Gregory VII. The cardinal chanted the salutation Pax Vobiscum and sang the collects for the occasion. Then came a sermon by Right Rev. Patrick J. Ryan, coadjutor bishop of St. Louis. 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