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CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1885.

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Nov. 16, '85.

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Ch'town, Nov. 19.—wky.

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[Nov 19]

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Ch'town, Jan. 1885.

The Burmese Army.

DESCRIPTION OF KING THEBAW'S TROOPS AS SEEN IN REVIEW ORDER.

Minard Cammell describes as follows, in the London Times, a review by King Thebaw at Mandalay of some six thousand of the troops constituting the flower of his army?—

"All the time the troops were assembling the air was filled with the sound of gongs and bells, most sweet toned, some with a high, clear note, others booming out a deep bass. In front of each regiment was carried by two men a large gong, gilt all over, about three or four feet wide, and they had also ten or twelve small gongs, not more than six or seven inches wide, to each regiment, carried at intervals along the line. These they kept continually striking, I fancy with some idea of marking the time. The costumes of the different regiment, were very varied. Their coats were very like the British tunic in shape. One regiment was in red, with black trousers having a yellow stripe, and helmets of red papier mache. They all carried muskets, and if they were no better than some I examined of the palace guard, old rusty muzzleloaders, they could not be of much use. I understand, however, that they had a good store of Sniders. Two flags preceded each regiment, then came some twenty or thirty men with tall pikes, decorated with silk streamers, and then the regulars four deep. Tied to the muzzle of each man's musket were some green leaves, the emblem of victory. The chief officer (Colonel) of each regiment rode on an elephant at the rear of his men. He was most gorgeously attired in a green or red velvet coat, covered with gold lace. Behind him came the officers of the regiment, all mounted on ponies, and twenty or thirty men with bare legs and putzo (the native dress, a long skirt) girded up, each carrying a musket in a red cloth cover. I was told that these were the officers' weapons. Two small brass cannon about three feet long and three-inch bore, mounted on wheels, and dragged by three or four men, brought up the rear. These men were dressed in red coats, trousers and helmets.

IRRAWADY HORSE MARINES.

Besides the two cannon accompanying each regiment there was a detachment of about sixty cannon, all dragged by hand and in pattern to the above. I should have said that each regiment was accompanied by its own commissariat, consisting of about sixty men, following behind the regulars. Each of these men carried a long stick over his shoulder, from the end of which hung a round basket. There were two regiments of marines for arming the war barges; they wore red coats and bright blue trousers; their officers were also mounted on ponies and the colonel on an elephant; but what becomes of these animals when afloat I do not know. The horse marine in Burmah is thus a veritable warrior! There was one detachment of military messengers, or runners, about eighty in number, with bare legs and girded putzo. The marching was very poor. Now and then a column would get into step and go prancing along in dancing master style, lifting up their knees with most lofty action. When they arrived before the King in the inner column, each man fell on his knees and touched the ground three times with his forehead, shouting some laudatory words in a loud voice. A regiment seemed to be about four or five hundred strong.

GORGEOUS CHINESE AUXILIARIES.

There were two regiments of Chinese, only about one hundred strong each, in green loose stuff jackets of the orthodox Chinese shape, wide pink trousers and peaked bamboo hats. These warriors, I was told, were great favorites of King Thebaw. Following the Chinese came two troops of cavalry mounted on ponies. There were about two hundred of them. The ponies were well shaped, hardy-looking animals, and kept admirable order. A Burmese saddle is covered with embroidered cloth, red, blue or purple, rising very high in front; two long tassels dangle on either side in front of the saddle. The stirrups are very small, the Burmese inserting only the big toe. The bridle seemed a complicated arrangement of buckles and tassels. Large shields of tin or zinc are fastened on to the saddle to protect the knees of the rider. Each man carried a large sword buckled around his waist, and riding with short stirrups, his knees were tucked up almost level with the pony's back. The organizing and drilling of the Burmese army was in the hands of two Italian officers; they were present in the palace yard, and started each regiment on its march before the king.

MR. BARNUM SURPASSED.

The rear of the column was brought up by about 150 elephants in single file. Some of them were magnificent animals, with immense tusks, but the last twenty or thirty were quite young and very small. Each elephant was guided by a

Mahout astride on its neck, and the larger animals carried a small cannon mounted on the howdah on its back, in which also rode two men. The army, after passing by the king, marched on right round the city walls. I met some of them two hours later outside the palace walls. They seemed completely exhausted after their six or seven miles march and came along with very listless gait. There were then about fifteen thousand soldiers in Mandalay, and the Burmese could probably muster an army of thirty thousand men. Many of them, however, I was ascertained, would be useless, being merely an undeilled rabble.

THEBAW'S VARIED ARMAMENT.

I have already said that I heard that there was a large store of Sniders in Mandalay, but one day when leaving the palace I was allowed, quite unmolested, to examine the rifles in one of the guard houses. Among thirty pieces I found six different patterns. Some were old flint muskets, and all were in a very filthy and dirty condition and much covered with rust.

"Controlling the Brakes."

A VALUABLE LESSON TO ALL LIVE MEN FROM THE LATE H. B. CLAFFIN.

(From the Boston Herald.)

All the notices of the late Horace B. Claffin, of New York, agree in the one point that there was a man capable of successfully managing a business of from \$60,000,000 to \$90,000,000 a year, who yet possessed as absolute a power of throwing off the whole burden of it from 4 o'clock in the afternoon till 10 the next morning, as though it were nothing more than the matter of a cent shop. The question how far such a man can be imitated in so enviable a quality is one of vital concern to thousands who are in the habit of lying awake at night brooding their friends with the monotony of their business talk, or making their homes a weariness to their wives and children; and all this, perhaps, over the atlas burden of a limited legal practice, a small dry goods business, of a petty country parish. Innumerable are the women that understand how to control to perfection the draughts of a cooking stove, and the men that are equal masters of the furnaces and boilers of huge engines, who, none the less, are always heating themselves red hot, burning out their own lifebrakes, and bringing on no end of DESTRUCTIVE PHYSICAL EXPLOSIONS.

Down on Bridget without stint for leaving the draughts open morning, noon and night, all the sermons they have ever listened to, and all the journals of health they have ever read, have glided off them like water from a duck's back, when it comes to the question of running their own engines. Now, the two most serious problems that have exercised the ingenuity of man are the problems momentum and control. Yes, forty miles an hour; that is exactly the thing for an express train, but not when there is a washout just ahead on the track; yes, two thousand feet a second for a cannon ball; but not if there is nothing to determine whether the missile is going to hit within a mile or two of the mark. The beauty of the thing comes, when, with a turn of the wrist, a little child can slow down the momentum of a great ocean steamship. Now, no two penny lawyer or diminutive country minister is, after all, a more colossal embodiment of uncontrollable force than the Oregon or the Arizona, however firmly he and some of his female friends may be persuaded of the idea; and the sooner he reaches the conclusion that he, too, may aspire to the moral dignity of a well regulated and self-respecting machine, the better for him, as well as for a good many other people. Horace B. Claffin was simply a man that believed as practically in

MENTAL AND MORAL BRAKES,

as in those of the Westinghouse species, and had learned how, with a turn of the lever, to bring them to bear. Business for the day over, he said now is the time to love my wife, play with my children, eat a good dinner, and not allow a perturbed digestion to treat the Lord's bounties with contempt. These are the things that keep a man sweet, happy and healthy, and 'Got thee behind me, Satau,' is just as important a thing to fling in the face of ledgers and bargains now as it is when the same arch-enemy is up to any of the other wicked tricks. Of course, the power is the result alone of long and resolute practice, aided by the help that really comes to a man when he heartily surrenders himself to loving his wife, romping with the children and enjoying his dinner. Putting the mental brakes on to a business of \$90,000,000 a year, particularly on a down grade—and the man went through enormous reverses—must, no doubt, often have been hard enough, but it always enabled him to come up smiling the next day. Indeed, on this score, it is asserted by many prominent American business men who

have visited France and came in contact with leading bankers, manufacturers and lawyers there, that one Frenchman of this class would, in a term of years, break down and survive, three Yankees, and that simply through his superior ability to run and regulate his own machinery.

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Nov. 16, 1885—ly r

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PREPARED BY

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

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