

A Remarkable Career.
AN AMERICAN FIGHTING WITH DESPERATE VALOR UNDER AN INDIAN PRINCE—ABOUNDING THE JEALOUSY OF ENGLISH OFFICERS—KILLED IN HIS OWN DINING-ROOM.

James Lillibridge was born in Exeter, H. I., about the year 1765. But little is known of his parentage beyond the fact that while James was yet a boy his mother and sisters kept a sailors' boarding-house on the Long Wharf in Newport. It is understood that his mother's name was Mowery. James was early put to a mechanical trade. He did not live on friendly terms with his mother and sisters; whether their mode of life was distasteful to him or he was regarded by them as an incumbrance upon the household, is not now known. But in consequence of a family quarrel he left Newport and went to sea. He then took the name of Murray, and was thenceforth known as James Murray. He is next brought to notice at Tranquebar, a seaport in Hindostan, about 1790.

Having heard that certain Frenchmen who had entered the service of Maharajah had risen rapidly in rank and fortune, and that the service of foreigners capable of instructing the natives in the art of war were not only acceptable but were greatly sought after by these local dignitaries, he determined to seek occupation in their employment. Though the Danes were in possession of the port of Tranquebar, the servants of the British East India Company guarded the Maharajah's dominions to prevent the ingress of foreigners. Murray evaded the vigilance of the British officers and entered the province of Holkar, one of the most formidable of the Maharajah's chiefs. There he met with a cordial reception, and was soon in a service which was sufficiently full of adventure to answer the wildest conception of his youthful and untutored fancy. For sixteen years he was to remain a partisan warrior, always fighting with the same valour and energy as when in the service of a barbarous prince, under a barbarous chief, or under the flag of St. George with Arthur Wellesley as his leader. It would be difficult to follow the record of his adventures, as it is contained in snatches from a hundred volumes of the history of British India; it is enough for our purpose to say that he marched and fought from Cape Comorin to Cashmere, and from the Bay of Bengal to the Persian boundary.

After long years of experience in the terrible warfare of the Indian princes, an act of humanity attracted the attention of the British Government in India, and alighted Murray from Holkar, the prince whom he had served so long. A number of British officers had been taken prisoners by Holkar, and were to be instantly put to the sword. At the imminent risk of his own life, Murray interposed to save the lives of these officers. This act of mercy chilled the affection of Holkar for one to whom, up to this time, he had shown a devotion akin to idolatry, and the conduct of Holkar disgusted Murray with his barbarous master. Murray got possession of a considerable district of country, which he subjected to his personal government. He maintained his position at first with difficulty, for at one time his force was reduced to eight badly armed men; but he finally succeeded in firmly establishing his authority over a considerable province of India. Afterward, upon the breaking out of a war between the British Government and the Maharajah's chiefs, Murray surrendered his sovereignty and proclaimed the supremacy of Great Britain over this principality, and at the head of 7,000 native cavalry, entered the service of the British Government. At this time it was said that he was the best partisan warrior in India. He was then "commissioned for his invincible courage and undaunted presence of mind, as well as for his personal prowess." He was received into the British service with great courtesy, and the fullest confidence was reposed in him. He retained his independent command, and was actively employed in the most daring and dangerous enterprises of that war. With his unaided command he took both Indore and Madwa, and at Bunnepore, when the British army lost 10,000 men in four several attempts to take the place by storm. Murray was often in action in command of his cavalry. Then, too, on the opposite side, hanging upon the flank of the British army, at the head of an immense body of cavalry, was Holkar, Murray's old master. This was Murray's opportunity, which an old quarrel, an opportunity, which from what we know of Murray's character, it is just to suppose, was not neglected.

At the close of the Maharajah war, a treaty was entered into between the Governor-General of India and the Maharajah's chiefs, by one of the articles of which the chiefs stipulated never again to take into their service an American officer, or permit an American to enter their dominions. This surprising compliment to the skill and courage of Murray was a restraint upon his idea of freedom to serve with whom he would, and did not well accord with his preconceived notions of his rights. Then the British officers, who, while he was so powerful an ally in war, had treated him with the greatest consideration, upon the return of peace neglected him and treated him with indifference. The Government had degraded him to a majority, and had returned him on half pay. So Murray resolved to leave the British service and return to the United States.

This was in 1806. He had acquired a considerable fortune, which he carried to Calcutta, whether he went to take passage to his native country. He was then in the prime of life. A few days before the time fixed for his embarkation from Calcutta, he gave a grand entertainment to his friends in that city. After dinner, when claret was being poured, his Arabian charger, and, for the entertainment of his guests, jumped the well-trained horse over the dining table. Finally the horse's foot was caught in the carpet of the pavilion, and the rider, who was said to be among the best horsemen known in that country, was violently thrown. He received an internal injury, which was regarded as mortal, and mortification followed, causing his death.

In ordinary life Murray was a mild and amiable man, but when aroused into anger he became ferocious and un-governable. He was of middling stature, pleasing expression of countenance, had great bodily strength and agility, and was untried in the use of the broadsword. Upon one occasion, when he was attacked by seven native cavalrymen, he slew three of them and then escaped from the remaining four.

Bridging the Danube at Kalafat.
The Turkish army in its field operations seems to have profited by the lessons of the past year. Instead of leaving the enemy to choose the time and place of attack, their latest preparations show that the Turks favor an independent initiative and have a correct knowledge of all the means of making a position favorable. We have previously stated that the Danube is significant as the first great line of defence for Turkey. The quadrilateral fortifications on the Lower Danube, Rastchuk, Silistria, Schumla and Varna, after being repaired and enlarged, will enable the Russians crossing the Danube from the neighborhood of Bucharest, will throw obstacles in the way of an army advancing southward through Dobruja, will cover the Balkan passes, and finally will render the connection with Constantinople by sea and the commissar of the army secure. A passage through that formidable quadrilateral is less to be feared by the Turks, the four forts being but two days' march from their neighbor, so that in a battle opened by the Russians the Turks have every possible chance to enjoy all the advantages of an *appui* in connection with a fort. It fully explains why at this present moment the Turkish Generals of the army confine their efforts more to the western positions of defence on the Danube than the eastern. Nor does it seem as if they would divide their strength between the points situated between Rastchuk and Widin, and Sisowa, Nietsch, and their more or less dilapidated fortifications, which they have given most attention to. The Turkish army of Osman Pascha has moved and in which but few weeks since more than 60,000 men were gathered. Such considerable forces in Widin are enough to attack the flank of the enemy at any time, whether advancing from the north through Romania, or operating on the Bulgarian soil. Ancient Donauia regarded by the Romans as a point of great strategic importance has forfeited materially in that respect by the cessation of the *tele-de-pont* called Kalafat, situated on the left bank of the Danube, which in 1859 rendered such valuable and glorious services against the Russians. True, the water-front of Widin is protected by an island of considerable length in the middle of the river, being well fortified, although Kalafat would at any rate be a good point of support against a Russian attack. If, on the other hand, the Turks take possession of Kalafat at the right time, the possession of Widin will be next to unassailable, for marshes, impassable, extend for a long distance beyond the water-front, a perfect nest of miasmata to meet the assailants. The more recent fortifications of Widin, erected by the Austrians in the beginning of the last century, are calculated now to afford but a weak bulwark, more especially toward the water-front, where the old Bulgarian castle is seen towering aloft, against the modern ordnance, is in the first place a very solid protection, and all the conditions will at once be changed to favor the Turks, when in obedience to the impulse of self-protection, which he subjected to his personal government. He maintained his position at first with difficulty, for at one time his force was reduced to eight badly armed men; but he finally succeeded in firmly establishing his authority over a considerable province of India. Afterward, upon the breaking out of a war between the British Government and the Maharajah's chiefs, Murray surrendered his sovereignty and proclaimed the supremacy of Great Britain over this principality, and at the head of 7,000 native cavalry, entered the service of the British Government. At this time it was said that he was the best partisan warrior in India. He was then "commissioned for his invincible courage and undaunted presence of mind, as well as for his personal prowess." He was received into the British service with great courtesy, and the fullest confidence was reposed in him. He retained his independent command, and was actively employed in the most daring and dangerous enterprises of that war. With his unaided command he took both Indore and Madwa, and at Bunnepore, when the British army lost 10,000 men in four several attempts to take the place by storm. Murray was often in action in command of his cavalry. Then, too, on the opposite side, hanging upon the flank of the British army, at the head of an immense body of cavalry, was Holkar, Murray's old master. This was Murray's opportunity, which an old quarrel, an opportunity, which from what we know of Murray's character, it is just to suppose, was not neglected.

Long Walks.
1792.—May 29th, John Morgan a Welshman, for a wager of 100 guineas, undertook to walk from London to Land's End, in Cornwall, and back again (610 miles), in fourteen days, which he accomplished within nine hours of the time allowed him.

1795.—September 8th, Pearson, a tailor, who was to walk 300 miles in Totthill fields, Westminster, in six days, finished his journey half an hour within the time allowed him.

1799.—On February 1st, George Guest, of Birmingham, who had laid a considerable wager that he walked 1,000 miles in twenty-eight days, finished his journey with great ease. It seemed as if he had laid by for bets, for in the last two days he had 106 miles to walk, but walked them with as much ease to himself that to show his agility, he walked the last six miles within an hour, though he had fully six hours to do them in.

1865.—In July, a young woman went from Blenclogie, in Scotland, to within two miles of Newcastle, one day, which is about seven or eight miles.

Robert Batley, of Thetford, in Norfolk, when an old man, frequently walked from Thetford to London (eighty-one miles), in one day, and back the next.

1788.—July 20th, John Batty undertook to walk 700 miles on Richmond course in fourteen days, which he performed with great ease. Mr. Batty was in the fifty-fifth year of his age.

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