

Battlefields.

BY the aid of photography, stay-at-home people may now realize what in olden times they could but imagine, more or less cloudily, according as their faculties helped them.

Also, we have in photography a process of historical record, such as older methods have never in the weakest degree approached.

And battles being, perhaps, the most striking and immediately effectful of historical events, photographs of battles and battlefields will be among the most important of historical documents. Perhaps more of this work has already been accomplished than most people suspect. Who, for instance, would expect to find a battlefield photograph forty-three years old? Yet here we have one, of that age less a few months, representing the interior of the Great Redan at Sebastopol. It is, we believe, the first battlefield photograph ever taken. Artillery in 1855 was not what it is to-day, by a great deal, but here we get a vivid notion of what even the smooth-bore artillery of half a century back was capable of, even when active and determined repairs were made almost as fast as damage was done. For the Russian defenders of Sebastopol,

under the great engineer Todleben, were anything but idle during the eleven months for which they succeeded in keeping the English and French armies out of the town. The final attack, which left the Redan (undoubtedly the strongest of the "keys" to Sebastopol) as we see it in the photograph, was begun by a general bombardment on September 5th, 1855. The bombardment persisted till the morning of the 8th, when the allies formed for the assault. It was a cold and dull morning. A low, black cloud of smoke hung over the city, from many parts of which flames were rising. At the signal of the hoisting of the French flag on the Malakhoff, attacks were made on the Little Redan by the French and on the Great Redan by the English. On the Little Redan not much impression was made. At the Great Redan a hundred British riflemen, carrying ladders, made for the ditch surrounding the fort, followed by the stormers, with the Russian shot tearing long furrows through them, and leaving heaps of dead and wounded in their trail. The ditch was 15ft. deep in many places, and the ladders were found too short, but the stormers scrambled up as best they might, and struggled



From a Photo. lent by]

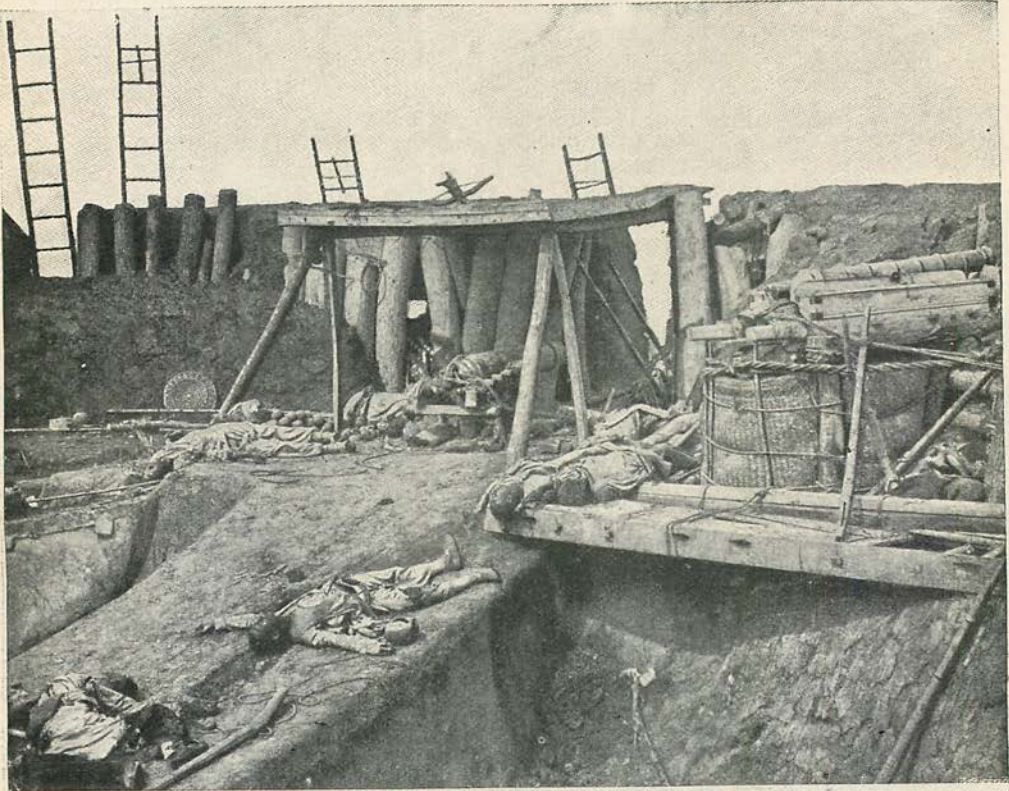
A CORNER OF THE GREAT REDAN AT SEBASTOPOL.

[Sydney Keith, Whitton,

on to the parapet. The Russians, however, were reinforced by large numbers from the Malakhoff, and by the sheer weight of their solid masses the few attackers were forced back over the parapet. But they returned to the struggle again and again, and, lying in the outer ditch, continued firing as long as their ammunition held out. So the fight went on for two hours, and then the gabions on the parapet gave way and fell into the ditch below with all who were on them, many being buried in the falling earth, whereupon those regained the trenches who could. The British loss in killed and wounded in this

and *débris* of all descriptions lie in confusion everywhere. It is a fact that on the outside of the fort many dead Englishmen were found actually still clinging to the face of the wall, shot through and through, but with arms and hooked fingers rigid in death.

Our next picture was taken five years later than the one we have been considering. It represents the interior of the angle of one of the Taku forts (the north fort, in fact) immediately after its capture by the British on August 21st, 1860. Our third and last war with China arose, as will be remembered, in consequence of these forts at Taku, at

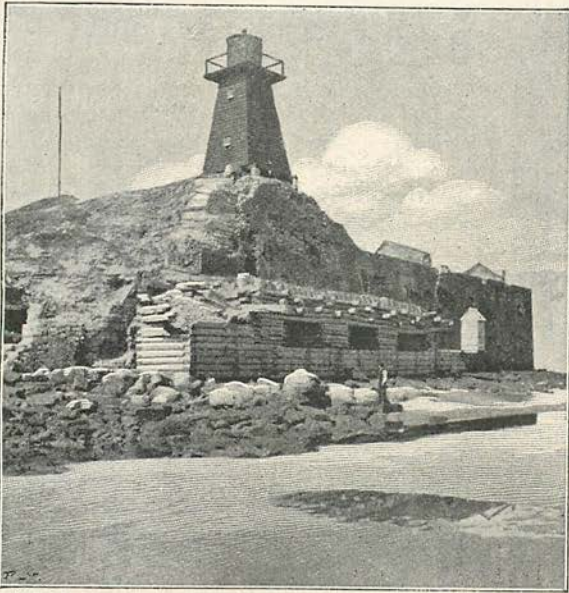


INTERIOR OF THE NORTH TAKU FORT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CAPTURE.
From a Photograph.

attack was 2,500, but the Russians lost far more heavily still.

The attacks on the two Redans were to have been renewed in the dusk of the early morning, but the Russians abandoned their positions and fled during the night. And so Sebastopol was taken. Our photograph shows the aspect of one corner of the deserted Redan as seen on September 9th. Gabions, and the earth they inclosed, are seen strewn in every direction; planks, sand-bags, guns,

the mouth of the Pei-ho, opening fire on the vessels carrying the English and French envoys, who were proceeding, by arrangement, to ratify a treaty at Peking. Eighty-one Europeans were killed, and nearly 400 wounded, and the ships were obliged to retire. Speedy measures were taken, however, and an adequate force was sent to punish the Chinese for their treachery. The Taku forts were taken, and after them Tientsin, whence a march was made on Peking, and



From a

FORT SUMTER.

[Photograph.]

that sacred city itself was occupied. It will be observed that far less damage was done here than in the Redan, no such great force of artillery being brought into play. But there *is* damage, as the dismounted guns and the dead bodies of Chinamen testify. The heads of the ladders used for scaling are visible above the parapet.

Next we have views of Fort Sumter. This was a structure built mainly of brick. It was five sided, and the walls were 38ft. high. It stood on a shoal in Charleston Harbour, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Charleston. At the beginning of the American Civil War, in 186c, the fort, with the others defending the harbour, was occupied by United States troops. South Carolina was the first State to secede, and Major Anderson, in command of the troops, abandoned the other forts and betook himself to this, with a garrison of eighty men and sixty-two guns. General Beauregard, of the Southern Army, attacked it on April 12th, 1861, and of necessity it surrendered two days later—this being the first battle of the war. The first of our two photographs shows us the fort after this surrender. The Confederate party strengthened the place considerably, and added more guns and mortars. The Federal fleet attacked it in April, 1863, but were beaten off, and one monitor

was sunk. But in July of that year, the Northern forces built batteries on Morris Island, two miles off or so, and from these batteries shot and shell were showered for a week—some 5,000 altogether, each of weight from 100lb. to 300lb. This terrific smashing silenced the guns and demolished a great deal of the fort. But the garrison stuck to the ruins still, and two months afterwards they even beat off another attack from the sea. More, they stood a *six weeks'* bombardment, from the end of October to the early part of December, and would not budge. Still more, they held on through an even longer bombardment in the following year, and it was not until Charleston itself was abandoned by the Confederate Army that the heroic garrison at last evacuated the fort, in April, 1865, almost at the end of the war. The second of the photographs shows the aspect

of a piece of the fort wall—or rather of the place where there *had* been a wall—at this last period. It will be seen that shot and shell, round and conical, lie very nearly as thick as stones and bricks.

We come now to the doings of the Commune in Paris in 1871. In the day of France's national humiliation, when her armies were scattered and her capital at the



VIEW OF FORT SUMTER, SHOWING THE EFFECT OF SHOT AND SHELL.
From a Photo. by Anthony & Co., New York.

mercy of the Prussians, yet one more terror was added. When the Germans entered Paris a mysterious body, calling itself the "Central Committee," began extensive organization, and, under pretext of securing them from the Prussians, got possession of a large number of cannon and mitrailleuses. These they placed in positions chosen by themselves, and notably at Montmartre, where a formidable array of guns were directed towards Paris. Simultaneously, restlessness and insubordination broke out among the National Guard, a force appertaining strictly to Municipal Paris, and not under orders of the Central Government. An attempt was made by Generals Vinoy and Le Comte to seize the guns at Montmartre, but the greater part of the soldiers mutinied and made common cause with the "Committee" and the National Guard, a large part of which openly joined with the Red Republicans. General Le Comte was murdered, together with General Clement Thomas, an old commandant of the National Guard. The weak Government at Paris, distracted by a thousand perplexities, retired to Versailles, and the revolutionaries took command of Paris and superintended the election of the Communal Council. They announced a new form of government. Each "commune," or municipality, was to be a supreme government in itself; and France was but to consist of a loosely-federated mass of such communes.

It was much as though the London County Council were to proclaim itself supreme in London, superior to Parliament, and with its own army, and entirely independent of the Government of the country. This plan of government was to be forced on Paris, willing or not. A peaceful demonstration of unarmed citizens which met to protest was fired upon by the National Guard, and fled, leaving thirty dead and wounded,

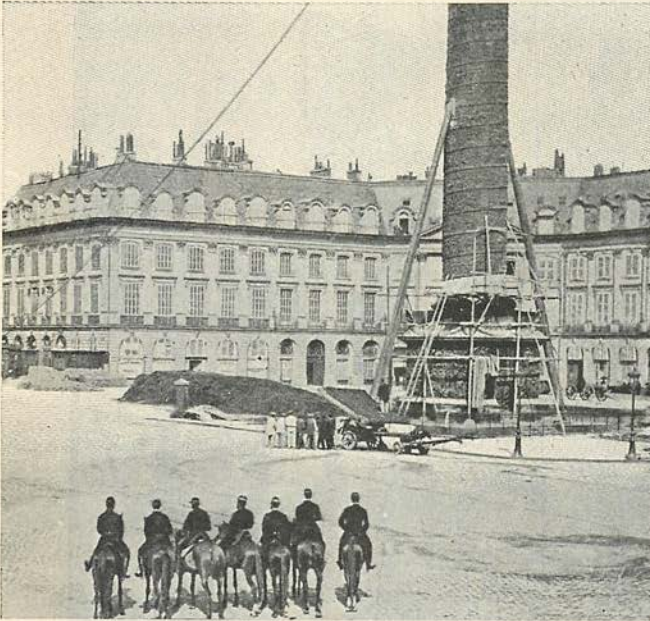
Barricades were thrown up in the streets, and the reign of terror and civil war began. In ten days alone, 160,000 persons left the city. A great sortie of the Communal party was broken up and driven back by the army of Versailles. The Germans gave permission for the organization of 150,000 French soldiers (many returned prisoners) to begin the second siege of Paris—a siege of Paris by Frenchmen.

Point after point in the outer defences was taken, and the Communists saw themselves defeated. Whereupon they took to wanton murder and arson. Public buildings were set on fire, and petroleum was pumped on the fires. People were shot in batches—often tortured by hopes of rescue first. Priests were dragged forth and shot as they stood, and in particular the venerable Archbishop of Paris was taken from the place where he had been confined as a hostage, and murdered. The in-coming troops on their part spared no Communards and gave no quarter, in many places equalling the atrocities of the revolutionaries themselves. And so the second siege of Paris came to an end in a deluge of blood.

Through all the troubles in France, Mr. Stone, now Sir Benjamin Stone, and a member of Parliament, had been conducting most valuable observations by means of photography, and by his courtesy we are enabled to print facsimiles of six of the photographs taken under his direction in



THE PARIS COMMUNE—BARRICADE OF PAVING STONES IN THE RUE DE LA PAIX,
From a Photo. lent by Sir Benjamin Stone.



DEMOLITION OF THE COLONNE VENDÔME.
From a Photo. lent by Sir Benjamin Stone.

Paris. He had in the beginning arranged with an eminent photographer to take pictures of all the more important incidents of the siege, and in addition to these records Sir Benjamin has a number of other interesting relics of the time. The first of the six photographs shows us the first of the barricades, set up in the Rue de la Paix. This is constructed of paving-stones torn up from the street and piled into a solid wall a dozen stones thick or more. Most of the barricades were made in this fashion, though the Communists were never particular, and made others of various materials, including overturned omnibuses. Firing was actually going on when this photograph was taken, and a Communist can be seen perched on the barricade near where the street lamp is visible, taking aim.

The next photograph is, perhaps, even more inter-

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esting. The Communists, while they held Paris, were very short of money. They seized it here, and borrowed it there, and took supplies where they found them, but the National Guard had to be paid, and there was little to do it with. So it was determined to pull down the Colonne Vendôme and sell the materials. By this means they expected to get some money, and at the same time to score a sentimental Republican triumph by oversetting the great memorial to the first Emperor Napoleon, whose statue stood at the top of the column, and whose deeds were commemorated on the column itself. A huge bed of straw and manure was laid a little away from the pillar's base to prevent too great damage, poles were fixed to guide the

fall, and ropes were fastened at the top, on which a crowd of people pulled. The column fell with a crash, and broke, notwithstanding the precautions taken. Later, when the troubles were over, it was repaired and replaced, with another figure at the top. The photograph was taken while the crowd in the Rue de la Paix awaited the signal to pull. The men on horseback in the foreground were leading members of the Commune. The succeeding photograph shows the statue of Napoleon after its fall.



THE STATUE OF NAPOLEON AFTER THE FALL OF THE COLUMN.
From a Photo. lent by Sir Benjamin Stone.

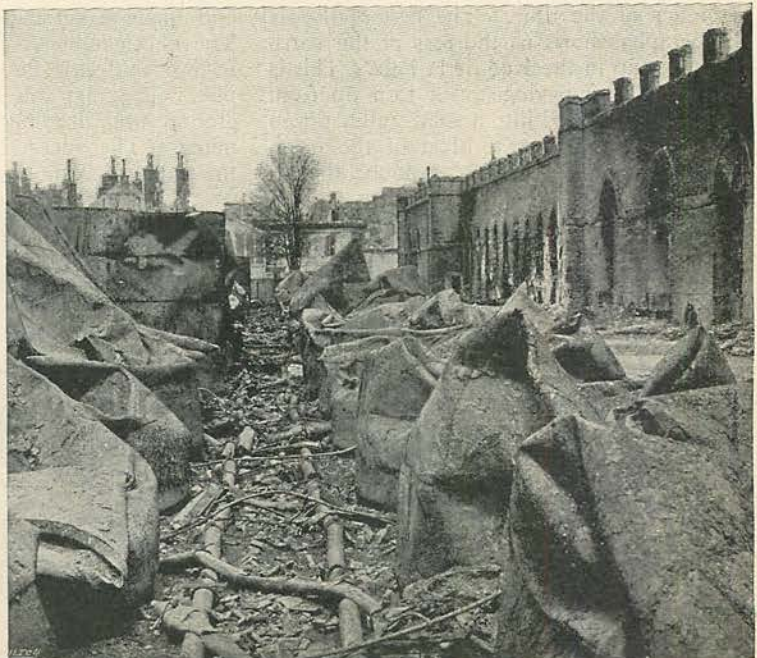


From a Photo. lent by] INTERIOR OF THE PALAIS DE JUSTICE, BURNED AND WRECKED. [Sir Benjamin Stone.

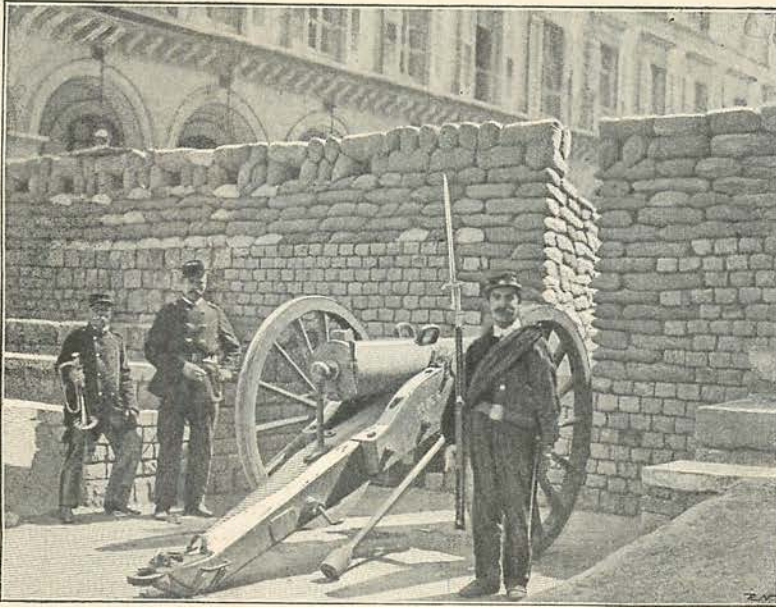
Next we have a view of the interior of the Palais de Justice after the Communists had visited it, burning and wrecking. It is an example of what occurred in most of the public buildings in Paris. Another example is seen in the next picture, showing the Arsenal, Reservoir du Grenier d'Abondance, the crumpled sheets of lead from the roof producing a very striking effect. The last of this group of photographs shows us the barricade in the Rue Castiglione, where the ordinary rampart of paving stones was capped by a parapet of sandbags.

We skip eight years, or nearly eight, and come to troubles of our own. It will be long ere the name of the field of Isand-

lhana is forgotten in this country. The memory of the sad disaster there sustained is so fresh in our minds now that it is difficult



THE ARSENAL, RESERVOIR DU GRENIER D'ABONDANCE, WITH CRUMPLED SHEETS OF LEAD ROOFING. [Sir Benjamin Stone.



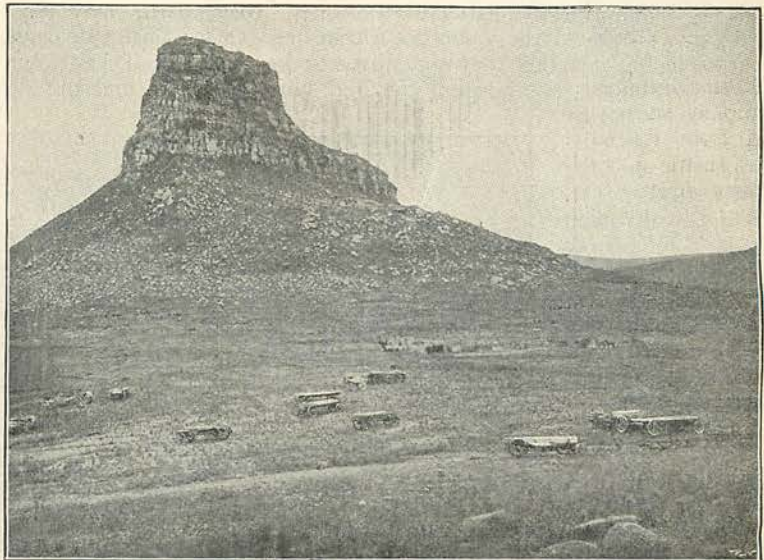
BARRICADE IN THE RUE CASTIGLIONE, TOPPED WITH SAND-BAGS.
From a Photo. lent by Sir Benjamin Stone.

to believe that the event occurred nineteen years back. The story may be told in a few words: a march out in force, a successful encounter with an unimportant body of the enemy, and a leisurely return; meanwhile, an inadequately guarded camp, a stealthy approach by the main body of the enemy in overwhelming numbers, and the extinction of the camp. Four companies of the 24th Regiment were wiped out—that is to say, the whole of the British force present, the rest consisting of native levies, many of whom escaped. Our total loss in killed, British and native together, was 837 or thereabout, but that none died tamely is testified by the fact that more than 2,000 perished of the swarm of 20,000 which surrounded the little band. Lieutenants Melville and Coghill, badly hurt, escaped to the River Tugela, with the colours of their regi-

ment, but died there. The whole of the stores of the camp fell into the hands of the Zulus, but dispirited by their losses, they abandoned the place on the approach of the main body of the British—some 1,600 British and the rest natives—in the evening. We give a photograph of the site of the camp, where many of the camp-waggons, deprived of their oxen by the Zulus, may be seen scattered on the sloping ground where the

men of the 24th made their last stand.

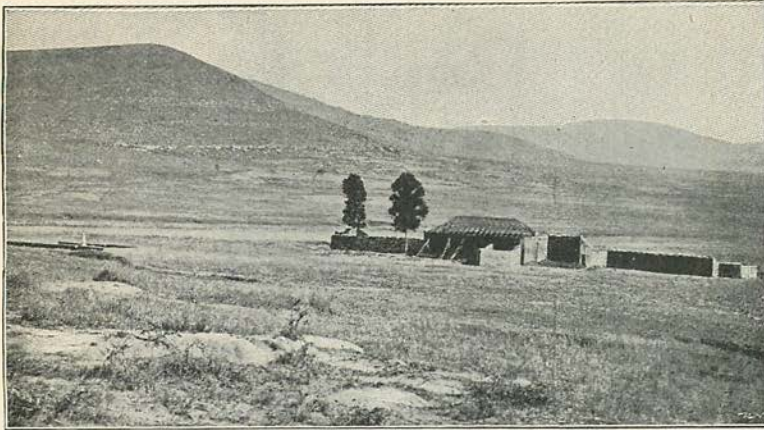
But that night saw another fight, when a handful of the 24th Regiment again encountered a swarm of the enemy, but this time successfully. Singularly enough, too, a pair of young lieutenants especially distinguished themselves here. From the field of Isandlhana the nearest road into the Colony of Natal lay through the pass of Rorke's



From a]

ISANDLHANA.

[Photograph.



From a]

BORKE'S DRIFT—DE WITT'S HOUSE.

[Photograph.

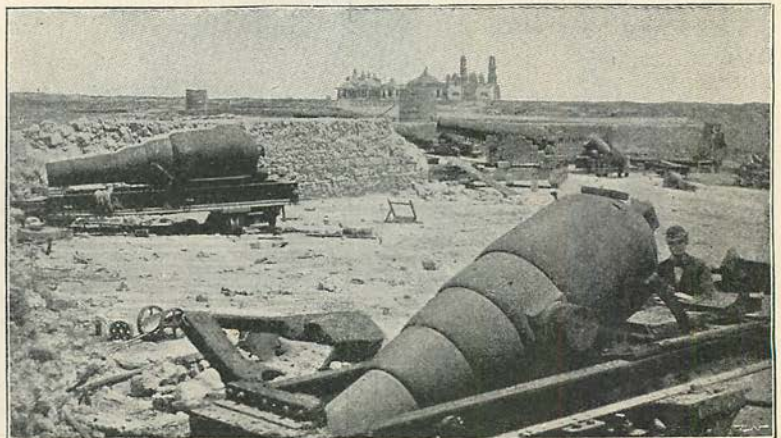
Drift. This post, with the hospital for Lord Chelmsford's force, was held by Lieutenants Chard and Bromhead with eighty men only. Some native fugitives from Isandlhana brought the news of the disaster, and to the two young officers the meaning was this—that the victorious host of flushed Zulus would make for the pass, and, if they could, would pour through into the Colony, and murder and lay waste among its peaceful farms. They had but their eighty men, but they never hesitated for a moment. They flung up defences of anything that lay handy—bags and biscuit-tins, principally. They had barely finished this curious and frail barricade when the enemy, to the number of 4,000, began to pour in their fire. The 4,000 rushed time after time, and the attack lasted all night, but the eighty never wavered. Six times parties of the Zulus got within the barricade, but each time they were driven back by the bayonet. The hospital was fired, but at dawn the enemy withdrew, and soon afterward the little band was relieved by the main British force from Isandlhana. About the barricade 351 Zulus lay dead, but many had been carried away by the retreating force.

On July 11th, 1882, the bombardment of Alexandria began, at seven in the morning. The first distinct impression

was made at 8.30, when the fort of Marsa-el-Kanal was blown up; and at eleven o'clock the Mex Fort was completely silenced. Fort Ada held out till 1.30, succumbing at last when the great *Inflexible* joined in the firing with her 80-ton guns. Fort Pharos was stopped at 4 p.m., but firing did not cease till 5.30. Lord

Charles Beresford, in command of the little *Condor* gunboat, performed the most distinguished service of the day, steaming boldly in under the guns of the Marabout Fort, and doing amazing damage, the little ship being handled with such astonishing dexterity and quickness as to escape altogether without damage. The bombardment was resumed next morning, but soon afterward a flag of truce was shown, and then it was discovered by a landing-party under Captain Morrison that the rebels had abandoned the place. We give a photograph of the interior of Fort Mex after the fight, with an enormous Krupp gun in the foreground dismounted by the British fire.

British land forces under Lord Wolseley (then Sir Garnet) followed up the retreating Egyptians; and after various minor successes finally defeated and overthrew Arabi Pasha at Tel-el-Kebir. The position was a good one, and the Egyptians had fortified it



From a]

FORT MEX—ALEXANDRIA.

[Photograph.



From a]

TEL-EL-KEBIR.

[Photograph.

well with excellent earthworks, and lay behind it to the number of 26,000 or more. Sir Garnet Wolseley's skilful night march on this position with an army of 13,000 is a matter of quite recent memory. The Egyptians were taken by surprise at daybreak on September 13th, and in twenty minutes

shows a portion of the field after the battle, with the first and less formidable earthwork in the background. A dead horse lies among the general litter, near an ammunition waggon.

Our last two pictures do not precisely represent battlefields, though they illustrate the effects of artillery, and at the same time

were swept away at the point of the bayonet, and the position, which Arabi had been fortifying for weeks, was in possession of the British. The attack was made from two sides, the left being in command of Sir Edward Hamley, whose troops were chiefly Highlanders. Thus, the Egyptian army was completely broken up and scattered. Our photograph



From a]

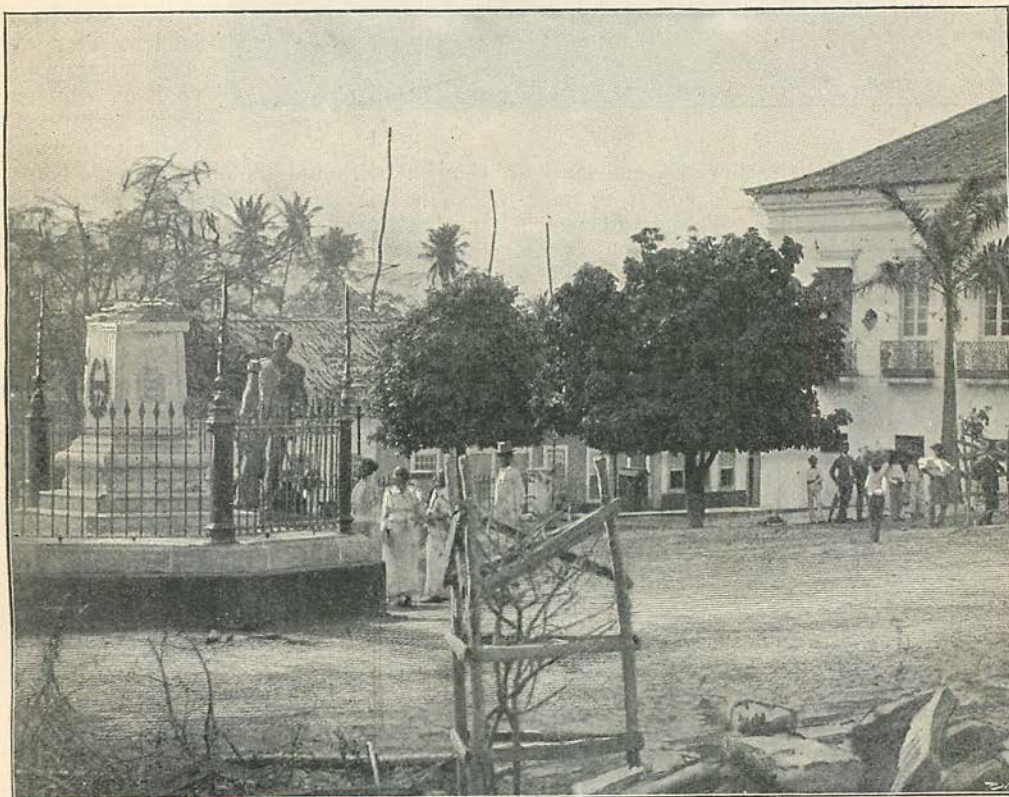
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF CEARA, AFTER THE ATTACK.

[Photograph.

the ways of South American Republics. Early in 1892 the Governor of Ceara, a Brazilian province, became obnoxious to the Central Government, and defied it to remove him. It was no uncommon state of things in Brazil, and this Governor—his name was General Clarindo de Queiroz—was supported by some troops and some of the people in his province. He had got the police and local forces under his command, and his fingers hooked well on to the public money-boxes, and he would not have been a South American Republican official if he had

a hundred of the Civic Guarda to defend it. But all to no purpose, for the Government troops brought some old-fashioned cannon and knocked fresh windows all over the premises, thereby persuading the inmates at last to surrender. One of the photographs gives a view of the late Governor's office after the attacking party had finished their alterations. There is a certain air of disorganization about that office, noticeable even to the most unbusinesslike observer.

Outside the house stood a statue of some



From a)

THE STATUE WHICH FELL ON ITS FEET.

[Photograph.

not held on to them with all his might. But the Central Government was as amorous of the money-boxes as General Queiroz, and they sent Senator Bezerra and Colonel Bezerril to knock the rebellious Governor off the coffers in question. These officers took a battalion of soldiers with them, and gathered up as they went the cadets of the Military School and the marine apprentices stationed at Ceara. The Governor barricaded his house, and got a hundred of the police and

former president of this fraternal republic. Early in the scrimmage a shot hit this statue and knocked it over; but it fell on its feet, and, stranger still, stood so, without toppling over. Plainly, this was an omen of success for the Central Government, and the attacking party, invigorated thereby, renewed the bombardment with fresh courage, and ruined a deal of furniture. Our last photograph exhibits the statue standing where it fell.