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The Nineteenth Century

A Chronological Review of the World's History In the Past One Hundred Years

The century opened with the great Napoleonic wars. As a leader of armies the great Corsican never found his match. Wellington won renown in that era by reason of his victories over the French in the peninsular war and the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo.

On the continent of Europe Von Moltke, the German leader in the Franco-Prussian war, stands out as a master in the latter half of the century. General Grant placed his name beside that of the great leaders of modern times. Scott and Zachary Taylor were the heroes of the Mexican war. Sherman, Sheridan, Thomas, Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson are names forever to be associated with the brilliant campaigns of the civil war.

Nelson opened the century as a naval commander, and at its close Farragut's record stands unrivaled.

In the last half of the century methods of warfare were revolutionized. Steam succeeded sail, and iron armor replaced modern shells. Revolving carriages and rapid fire guns were severely tested at the close of the century. For land troops the percussion rifles and the breech-loading magazine rifle, the machine gun and smokeless powder gradually changed methods of fighting. The great cavalry charges of Napoleon's time were never repeated, but the importance of mounted troops has been established by the experiences of the later wars of the century.

WARS AND GREAT BATTLES.

Famous Battles. Martial Leaders. Armament Etc.

1801. Tripoli declared war against the United States.

Treaty of Lunéville between France and Germany.

1805. The United States at war with Barbary.

England declared war on France.

1808. Peace concluded between the United States and Tripoli.

Battle of Trafalgar and death of Nelson.

Battle of Austerlitz.

1809. Napoleon invaded Prussia.

1810. Treaty of Tilsit between Prussia and France.

Napoleon seized Portugal; prelude to the peninsular war.

1811. Napoleon's second Austrian campaign. Battle of Wagram and treaty of peace at Schoenbrunn.

1812. Encounters between the United States Frigate President and the British ship Little Belt. Beginning of hostilities in the second war with Great Britain.

Battle of Tipperary.

1813. War declared against Great Britain over the "right of search." Canada invaded. Victory of the frigate Constitution over the British Frigate Guerriere and Java.

Napoleon's disastrous Russian campaign; burning of Moscow.

1815. Perry's naval victory at Lake Erie. Napoleon defeated at Leipzig and forced to retreat to France.

The French armies driven from Spain by Wellington.

1816. Battles of Lundy's Lane, Plattsburgh and Bladensburg; capture of the city of Washington by the British. Baltimore attacked. British invaded New Orleans; Jackson's first battle.

Treaty of Ghent, concluding peace between the United States and Great Britain.

1817. Battle of New Orleans; Naval contests between the United States frigates Constitution and the British sloops Guerriere and Levant.

Napoleon escaped from Elba to France and re-established his empire. Battle of Waterloo. Napoleon imprisoned at St. Helena.

1818. Naval battle of Navarino; defeat of the Turks by the allies, resulting in the independence of Greece.

Black Hawk was.

1820. Massacre of the Alamo battle of San Jacinto and independence of Texas.

End of the Seminole war.

Derry's rebellion in Rhode Island.

End of England's opium war in China; cession of Hongkong and opening of five treaty ports.

1824. War with Mexico.

1825. Battles of Buena Vista and Chapultepec, Mexico, and capture of the Mexican capital. General Zachary Taylor led the American forces at Buena Vista. General Winfield Scott the armies which captured the City of Mexico.

1826. Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo; end of the Mexican war.

1828. Beginning of the Oregon war. First two of forty thousand families change

to death for attempting to overthrow the Mexican republic.

1829. Andrew Jackson inaugurated president. Jackson served two terms, and his period in office was a most exciting one. As an executive he was noted for firmness and decision of character, strong common sense and patriotism.

1830. Revolution in France and accession of Louis Philippe.

of the Light brigade at Balaklava and siege of Sebastopol.

1832. Treaty of Paris; end of the Crimean war.

1833. Sepoy rebellion in India; famous for siege of Lucknow.

England at war with China; bombardment of Canton.

1834. Austro-Sardinian war; battles of Magenta and Solferino.

1835. Fort Sumter; Bull Run. Invasion of Mexico by England, France and Spain.

1836. Capture of Fort Donelson; first military achievement of Grant.

Peninsular campaign; disaster at Fredericksburg.

Battle of Antietam and emancipation proclaimed.

Battle between the Monitor and Merrimac; first fight between ironclads and first use of the revolving gun turret in battle.

1837. Decisive battle of Vicksburg and Gettysburg. Death of Stonewall Jackson, the Confederate leader.

1838. Surrender of Lee; end of the civil war.

1839. War between Prussia and Austria. Battle of Sadowa; first use of the needle gun.

1840. Napoleon III dethroned; republic established in France.

Amadeus ascended the throne of Spain.

1841. William I of Prussia crowned emperor of Germany.

1842. Lincoln inaugurated.

1843. Maximilian crowned emperor of Mexico.

1844. Assassination of Lincoln.

1845. Defeat and death of Maximilian, emperor of Mexico.

1846. Stage of Petersburg; capture of Atlanta and Sherman's march to the sea. Battle of Cedar Creek.

1847. Surrender of Lee; end of the civil war.

1848. War between Prussia and Austria. Battle of Sadowa; first use of the needle gun.

1849. Franco-Prussian war. Battles of Mars-la-Tour, Gravelotte, Metz and Sedan.

1850. Russo-Turkish war; decisive battle of Plevna.

1851. Important treaty of Berlin; signatory powers, Great Britain, Russia, Germany, Austria-Hungary, France, Italy and Turkey.

1852. British disaster at Khartum, in the Sudan; death of General Gordon.

1853. War between China and Japan; battle of the Yalu.

1854. End of the war between China and Japan; treaty of peace at Shimonesaki. Insurrection in Cuba.

1855. United States battleship Maine blown up in Havana harbor Feb. 15. War declared by the United States on Spain and volunteers called out in April. Naval battle of Manila May 1. Battle at Santiago July 1. Correa's fleet destroyed July 3. Santiago surrendered July 17. Spain sued for peace July 28. Peace protocol signed Aug. 12. Manila captured Aug. 13.

1856. Treaty of Paris between the United States and Spain. Spain evacuated Cuba.

War in South Africa between Great Britain and the South African Republics and Orange Free State.

1857. British victories in South Africa. Boer republics annexed as British colonies.

Antiforeign uprising in China; stage of the legations. Battle fought at Tianjin between allies and Chinese Imperial troops. Peking abandoned by the Chinese court and occupied by the allies.

1858. Edmund Keat, English actor.

Charles Mathews, English actor.

Noah Webster, the American lexicographer; Washington Allston, American painter.

Robert Southey, poet laureate of England from 1813 to 1843. Southey, Coleridge and Wordsworth were called "poets of the Lake school" because they resided in the lake district and sought inspiration from nature.

1859. Chopin, musical composer.

Talma, noted French actor.

Sir Walter Scott and Goethe, two of the foremost authors of the early century.

1860. John Philip Kemble, English actor.

1861. William, French actor.

1862. Sir Walter Scott and Goethe, two of the foremost authors of the early century.

1863. Alexander Hamilton killed in a duel by Aaron Burr.

1864. Dissolution of the German empire and founding of the empire of Austria.

1865. Beginning of the revolutions of the Spanish-American republics.

1866. Chile revolted from Spain and set up a republic.

1867. First steam passage across the Atlantic made by the Savannah, which sailed from New York to Liverpool in 30 days.

New Grenada and Venezuela formed a republic under Bolivar.

1868. Mexico declared her independence of Spain.

Greece threw off the yoke of Turkey. Napoleon died at St. Helena.

1869. Nathaniel Hawthorne, English essayist and historian.

Washington Irving, W. H. Prescott, the historian; Humboldt, German naturalist and explorer; Lord Macaulay, English essayist and historian.

James constituted an empire with Napoleon hereditary emperor.

1870. Abdication of Napoleon and exile to Elba.

1871. Annexation of George IV to the throne of England.

1872. France a republic under a directorate. George III, king of England.

1873. General Winfield Scott the general who captured the City of Mexico.

1874. Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo; end of the Mexican war.

1875. Beginning of the Crimean war. First two of forty thousand families change

independence of the South American republics.

1876. President Monroe established the Monroe Doctrine by declaring in his annual message that "the American continents are not to be considered subjects for future colonization by any European power."

1877. John Stuart Mill, English philosopher.

Julia Ward, French historian.

1878. Lamartine, French historian.

1879. Saint-Saens, French author.

1880. Dickens.

1881. Dumas (pere), French writer.

1882. Edwin Forrest, actor.

1883. D'Artagnan, historian of the reformation.

1884. John Stuart Mill, English philosopher.

1885. Bulwer Lytton, English novelist.

1886. Landseer, English animal painter.

1887. Macready, English actor.

1888. Guizot, French historian.

1889. Michelet, French writer.

1890. Kaubisch, German painter.

1891. Hans Christian Andersen.

1892. Charlotte Cushman.

1893. John Lothrop Motley, American historian.

1894. George Eliot.

1895. Carlyle.

1896. Longfellow.

1897. Emerson.

1898. Darwin.

1899. Richard Wagner.

1900. Dora the Illustrator.

1901. George Bancroft, American historian. James Russell Lowell.

1902. Tenayos.

1903. Edwin Booth.

1904. Frances Anne Kemble, famous actress, who retired from the stage in the fifties.

1905. Oliver Wendell Holmes.

1906. Harriet Beecher Stowe.

The Century in History.

The story of that century which is now drawing to a close will, I venture to think, prove to be one of the most important volumes in the whole history of civilization. I do not say that it will be one of the most brilliant, for there may have been centuries which flashed a broader and a brighter light over the world's fields of intellectual and moral darkness; centuries of more startling conquests, of more sudden changes; centuries even of greater triumphs in literature and in art. But the nineteenth century has been a time of growth and of development in all the paths of civilization such as the world's history has hardly ever seen rivalled and, in the application of science to the everyday needs of humanity, has never been equalled. When the century opened, there seemed to be a vast, impenetrable, impenetrable region of darkness, a cloud covering the old civilization from the new. Asia and Africa appeared to have nothing to do with modern civilization except as a subject for the reader of history or as an exploring ground for the traveler. Egypt was the land whither the peoples went with a taste for antiquities to study the pyramids and the sphinx. India was even still looked upon as the country to which enterprising Englishmen went to make fortunes. China was thought of as a mysterious, old-fashioned region, peopled by countless millions of persons who wore pigtales and were shot off by great walls from the visits of intruding foreigners. The real living world was commonly regarded by Europeans as only to be found in Europe itself, for the new world, as it was called, had not yet begun to count for much as an influence of civilization, and the still newer world of Australia counted for nothing at all. It would hardly be too much to say that the whole work of modern science which has to do with the practical affairs of everyday life has, so far as it has gone, been accomplished in the nineteenth century. Of course, there were great scientific discoveries made in the definition and the application of natural laws to human