

lustily, enjoying their own again; the bands peeled forth the pride of country; the twenty-one guns banged forth the strength of war. Thus, white man and black, Christian and Moslem,¹ Anglo-Egypt set⁵ her seal once more, for ever, on Khartum.

Before we had time to think such thoughts over to ourselves, the Guards were playing the Dead March in "Saul."² Then the black band was playing the march from Handel's "Scipio," which in England generally¹⁰ goes with "Toll for the Brave;" this was in memory of those loyal men among the Khedive's subjects who could have saved themselves by treachery, but preferred to die with Gordon. Next fell a deeper hush than ever, except for the solemn minute guns that had¹⁵ followed the fierce salute. Four chaplains—Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian, and Methodist—came slowly forward and ranged themselves, with their backs to the palace, just before the Sirdar. The Presbyterian read the Fifteenth Psalm. The Anglican led the rust-²⁰ling whisper of the Lord's Prayer. Snow-haired Father Brindle, best beloved of priests, laid his helmet at his feet, and read a memorial prayer bareheaded in the sun. Then came forward the pipers and wailed a dirge, and the Sudanese played "Abide with Me." Perhaps²⁵ lips did twitch just a little to see the ebony heathens fervently blowing out Gordon's favourite hymn; but the most irresistible incongruity would hardly have made us laugh at that moment. And there were those who said the cold Sirdar himself could hardly³⁰ speak or see, as General Hunter³ and the rest stepped out according to their rank and shook his hand. What

¹ **Moslem**—Mohammedan.

² **Dead March in "Saul"**—"Saul" was an oratorio composed by Handel (1685-1759), a German composer who spent a great part of his life in London.

³ **General Hunter**—Major-General Archibald Hunter, who served for many years in Egypt, and afterwards took part in the South African War.