

THE KHALIFA ABDULLAH.

LIFE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DERVISH CHIEF.

The Mahdi's Successor—Three-Fifths of the Sudan's Inhabitants Have Died Through War and Famine Since He Came to Power—A Cruel Monster.

Abdullah at Taishi Khalifa, whose power has been broken by the British forces under General Sir Herbert Kitchener, was the most powerful and successful of the three Khalifas of the three leading Arab tribes, that in 1882 helped the Mahdi to overthrow the Government of Egypt in the eastern Sudan and establish the Mahdist despotism in its place. Each of these Khalifas commanded a distinct section of the Mahdi's army, and Abdullah's force had most to do with the annihilation of General Hicks and his army. Abdullah was the favorite of his master. The Mahdi believed that if he died Abdullah was the only man who could maintain the strange empire he had raised and keep the upper hand of the rapacious Sudanese tribes. Before his death the Mahdi nominated the Khalifa, Abdullah as his successor, and thus the cruel and tyrannical Arab tribe of the Bagaras, whose leader was Abdullah, became the masters of the Egyptian Sudan and ruled it with a rod of iron.

The Mahdi died on June 22, 1885, after three years of power, and Abdullah has since been known as "the Mahdi's successor." There was intense jealousy and disappointment on the part of the Danagla and Jaalin tribes, who had been the rulers, but now became the ruled. Civil war on account of Abdullah's accession was narrowly averted, but he was too strong for his enemies in the other tribes, and they finally chose the part of discretion just when all had been made.

READY FOR BATTLE.

The new ruler then made it his business to render the other tribes harmless. He reduced the power of the two other Khalifas, and they became men of little influence. He sent many of the Jaalin and Danagla Emirs in chains hundreds of miles up the Nile, and he permitted his Bagaras to plunder the other tribes without mercy, under the pretext of levying taxes. There has been only one ruler of the Sudan for the past thirteen years, and he has been the Khalifa Abdullah. He maintained his policy of cruelly repressing all the people except his own tribe, until he was frightened very badly by the news that England and Egypt were getting ready to invade the country and overthrow his power. After that news reached Omdurman he made a great show of reversing his policy. He pardoned the imprisoned Emirs and tried in many ways to win back the unaffected people.

The Khalifa's empire, within which not a particle of European influence was permitted since the Mahdi captured Khartoum, extends along the Nile from Dongola on the north to the neighbourhood of Lake Nya on the south, a distance of about thirteen hundred miles. Omdurman, the capital, just across the Nile from the ruins of Khartoum, is about midway between these points. The Khalifa lost Darfur, but still his empire extends from the western limits of Kordofan to Abyssinia on the west, and embraces about 700,000 square miles. During the thirteen years he has controlled the destinies of the Egyptian Sudan it is estimated that nearly three-fifths of its inhabitants have perished through

WAR AND FAMINE.

Constant warfare has greatly diminished the male population. Abdullah is forty-nine years old this year. He is a Bagaras, with dark, coffee-coloured complexion, his face much marked by smallpox. He has a long and prominent nose, and wears a short beard, according to the Moslem custom. When he helped conquer the country he was very thin, but of late years he has grown exceedingly stout. He never conceals his Bagaras accent and dialect in speaking Arabic. He is gifted by nature with tremendous energy and common sense, but he has no education whatever. He can not read or write, and for this reason he could never accept of a European position. He is very cruel by nature, while the Mahdi was naturally humane. In the terrible days of the famine, when bones were ground to powder, made into a sort of bread, and eaten with eagerness in Omdurman, the Khalifa showed no mercy, pity or desire, to relieve these fearful sufferings. He did not care a jot for any of the people, except his Bagaras, and he made sure that they were all fed. He treated the white prisoners in his hands with great cruelty except a few whom he could make useful to him, and their enjoyment of his favour was spasmodic and uncertain.

Like the Mahdi, it was always Abdullah's wish to destroy even the recollection of the old regime under the Egyptian Government. This is the reason that they destroyed so many of the old towns which had retained some measure of prosperity under the Egyptians. Old Berber was deserted and a new Berber was built by the Khalifa's command just north of the old town. This is the reason and the only one why by far the finest city in tropical East Africa was

LAIN IN RUINS.

It was the work of the Khalifa. He left hardly one stone upon another in Khartoum. One day in 1886, after he had been in power a little over a year, Abdullah ordered the thousands who lived in Khartoum to quit the town within three days. On the fourth day thereafter the work of demolition began. Houses were pulled down, the wood of windows, balconies and doors was taken across the river, and soon the town was fit only to be the habitation of wild beasts. The bricks were taken over the Nile, and Khartoum was a heap of mud ruins. The building material was used in the rearing of Omdurman on the other side of the Nile and it became a city of 150,000 inhabitants. The most conspicuous building in it was the tomb of

the Mahdi. Thousands of workmen were sent over to Khartoum to get the material for it. The Khalifa himself, emirs and judges carried stones for the dome. Of course, the whole city followed their example, and in a short time all the stone required was at the site. The Khalifa's palace, also was a sumptuous building for the Sudan.

SUICIDES ON GERMAN VESSELS.

Extraordinary Number of Firemen and Trimmers Who Take Their Own Life.

Her Majesty's Consul-General at Hamburg, in a special report to the Foreign Office, states that, according to the recently published annual report of the Hamburg Ship-owners' Association, much attention has been given during the past year, 1897, both by the Hamburg State authorities and by the representatives of the leading steamship companies to the subject of suicides amongst firemen, and trimmers employed in German merchant vessels.

It appears from the results of careful investigations, lately made, that the average annual number of suicides during the past ten years which occurred amongst all persons belonging to the engine-room staffs of German steamers was 2.99 per thousand, whilst the average annual number of firemen alone was 1.03 per thousand, and for trimmers 9.24 per thousand of the respective categories mentioned; against it may be added, 0.49 suicides per thousand and persons of the male population of Germany employed in various occupations on shore.

It will perhaps cause surprise to learn that most of the suicides amongst the engine-room staffs are stated to have taken place not, as might be supposed, during voyages, or from the tropics, but in the North American trade, and in the best appointed steamships, viz., in those belonging to the North German Lloyd Company, of Bremen, and to the Hamburg-American Steamship Company, where the best possible accommodation and hygienic conditions are provided for the men; and it would, indeed, seem as if there must be some connection between the frequency of desertions and of suicides.

All these facts are considered to point towards the necessity for seeking for the cause of these suicides, more especially in the circumstances that a large number of men engage themselves for this hard and unpleasant service who have been unable to find employment in any other way, or who have come to grief, and who are neither physically nor, more especially in mind, fitted for bearing such severe hardships.

HOW TO TEMPER GLASS.

Way to Make Your Lamp Chimneys Last Twice as Long.

Tempered glass may be bought at a slight advance on the price of the ordinary kind. It is comparatively unaffected by changes of temperature, and is therefore much more desirable for lamp chimneys and gas globes than that which is untempered.

The process of tempering is a very simple one, and may easily be performed at home. Put the glass into a tin pan deep enough to allow it to be entirely covered with cold water. Set on the back of the stove until the water is hot, then draw it forward, let the water come to a boil, and boil for from five to ten minutes. Then take the pan off the stove and set aside, glass and all, until the water is cold. The chief cause of lamp chimneys breaking is the failure to wipe them dry after washing. A damp glass breaks much more easily than a dry one. Turning the wick to its full height and so heating the chimney too suddenly is another, and last, but not least, allowing the lamp to stand in a current of air, a bit of carelessness which often occasions the sudden cracking of the cylinder from no apparent reason.

WOMAN GRAVEDIGGER.

A woman as a gravedigger! The idea seems almost impossible, but in the town of Lewes, England, there is a lady who fills the office of sexton. Everybody knows her, and until recently she dug all the graves in Lewes Cemetery. Now, at the age of sixty, she contents herself with filling them up and attending to the mounds and flowers. Mrs. Steel—the name of the sextoness, if one can use such a term—is a very healthy old lady and she has been heard to say that she will never leave her post until it is her turn to have a grave dug for her. May the time be far distant! It is a wonderful sight to witness the old lady use the spade.

THE BEST REASON.

Little Clarence, who reads and ponders—Pa, I have just been reading a paragraph which says there are various reasons why a man who talks in his sleep should not marry; what are some of those reasons, Pa?

Mr. Callipers—The best reason, my son, is because he talks in his sleep.

VICTORIA'S BREAKFAST.

A member of the Queen's household says that breakfast proper, as far as the Queen herself is concerned, is nearly the same the year round. It consists of fried bacon, eggs, thin bread and butter and tea. Occasionally porridge finds a place on the menu, but not every day.

MANIFOLD APPLICATION.

"As the strength of a chain is that of its weakest link," said Mr. Slayboit, "the width of a road that of its narrowest part, and the depth of a channel its depth where it is shallowest, so also the strength of a man to be measured by his strength at his 'weak spot,' whatever that may be."

COST OF A GREAT STRIKE.

DISASTROUS EFFECTS OF THE WELSH COAL WAR.

Six Million Pounds Lost—Dire Distress Brought About by the Prolonged Labor Contest—Numbers of People Starve—Homes Devoid of Furniture and the Innates Almost Naked.

The Cardiff correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph, writing ten days before the collapse of the Welsh coal strike says: In proof of the widespread and disastrous effects of the Welsh coal war, no facts can speak more eloquently than the figures contained in the following summary of what may be called "ascertainable losses."

Colliers' wages (18 weeks to August 15) at 3s 6d per ton.....£1,306,900
Other workmen (day).....1,400,000
Owners' margin (on 10s selling price), 2s per ton.....493,102

Less product extra output of non-associated colliers.....908,775

Railway companies' losses.....£2,796,982
Overseas freights (say).....450,885
Seamen's wages.....1,400,000
Dry docks (Cardiff, Newport and Barry).....450,000
Dock men and dock dues.....302,225
Iron, steel and tinplate works.....150,000

SPENT IN RELIEF.

Coalowners' Association.....300,000
Colliers' Committee.....80,000
Merthyr Guardians.....24,000
Merthyr District Committee.....1,500
Merthyr Relief Committee.....900
Fourpridd Guardians and Coalowners' Relief Committee.....433
Cardiff Trades' Union.....7,500
Cardiff Local Committee.....2,000
Newport Local Committee.....2,000
Barry Local Committee.....2,000

Total loss.....£6,239,592

This summary, it will be observed, includes only losses ascertained to date, and puts them at a very moderate figure. In my calculations I am convinced I have erred, if at all, on the side of moderation. A vast amount of money has been lost in directions which cannot now be gauged, and much of which will probably never be revealed. It must be recollected also that the figures cover eighteen weeks only, that is, up to last Saturday, and the stoppage still continues.

PITIFUL SIGHTS.

The most pitiable sight in the streets of Cardiff, Newport, Barry and Penarth, at the present moment is the large number of respectable artisans strolling about, "out of work," through no fault of their own, but simply because the concerns with which they had been engaged are unable to proceed on account of the strike. Not alone are the men who had been engaged in loading the ships with coal at the docks unable to find employment, but the trade dependent upon coal are affected, and with the decrease in the amount of money in circulation, other trades have suffered, until it is difficult to tell where the effects of the strike come to an end. With so many thousands of men earning no money, there is the additional hardship of increased prices in the markets for many imported commodities, the lack of coal cargoes having directed vessels employed on home-chartering to other ports.

The members of local relief committees have had saddening experiences. A woman at Cardiff was given an order for half a crown. Out of this she bought one packet of cocoa and spent the rest in bread. The grocer from whom she made the purchase asked if cocoa without milk and sugar would not be rather hard drinking, and the reply was that it would be better than the cold water which the family had been confined to. The tradesman gave her some sugar as a little luxury.

STARVATION RATIONS.

The people have been reduced to starvation rations. Many of the men are away "on tramp" looking for work, and the women have sold out about possible. Doleful tales are told about the manner in which the household goods have gone to the pawnbrokers. First, the pictures and ornaments, then the furniture, even to the bedsteads and bedding; the plates and dishes and cups have gone, one or two at a time, for a few pence, until the women are left with nothing but the clothes to take away the very clothes. Thus, one Cardiff woman went to the committee to appeal for help. She had sold her last chemise, and her only clothing was an old petticoat and an equal-sized dress, with a pair of boots and stockings. And she was only one of dozens that are known to be in a similar plight. A glance inside some of the houses shows how far this sort of work has gone, for there is nothing to be seen but bare walls. Amongst the cases relieved by one of the Cardiff committees are the following:

SOME CASES RELIEVED.

A woman has been living with six children, all under eight years of age, upon the barest crusts. Everything that she could sell, went to the pawnbroker, and at last, for two days, all they had to eat were two raw cabbages. But this is not all the woman is suffering. She had not paid her rent and the bailiffs were sent to her house to distrain or evict. A coal-trimmer's wife is left at home with six children while the man is away looking for work. She has been ill, had no food when she applied on Tuesday evening, since Sunday, and was sucking a child. In an almost similar case a woman was found with a baby only a few months old. The woman had had nothing to eat for two whole days, and for the same period the child had been sucking at an empty bottle; all that it had received was some water. As readers will readily understand, the poor little thing had been crying nearly the whole time. A further case reported was that of a woman expecting her confinement daily. She had nothing but the bare boards of the bedroom to lie upon, and had six children already. All the food that she got was obtained through the relief committee.

TURNED INTO THE STREET.
The misery of some of the people in Cardiff has been increased by the action of house agents. Many of the landlords have consented to forego their rents, but several have acted sharply. In far too many cases the bailiffs have been put into possession and the poor people turned out. The result is that in some six-roomed houses there are three and four families all huddled together. The window-blinds have gone, the pictures and ornaments, and the furniture, even to the bedsteads and bedding; the plates and dishes and cups have gone, one or two at a time, for a few pence, until the women are left with nothing but the clothes to take away the very clothes. Thus, one Cardiff woman went to the committee to appeal for help. She had sold her last chemise, and her only clothing was an old petticoat and an equal-sized dress, with a pair of boots and stockings. And she was only one of dozens that are known to be in a similar plight. A glance inside some of the houses shows how far this sort of work has gone, for there is nothing to be seen but bare walls. Amongst the cases relieved by one of the Cardiff committees are the following:

SLEEP IN THE FIELDS.

Crowds of colliers travel daily from the Rhonda to Tonypent, and thence across the Garth Milling Mountain, another of a Newport labourer, who lay down in front of a train, and the third a bailiff at Merthyr, against whom a popular demonstration was made on account of his action in evicting tenants. This week another woman in the colliery district made a desperate attempt at suicide.

OTHER TRADES AFFECTED.

Tales of the direct poverty afflicting classes of the community who are not strikers, nor the friends of strikers, but who suffer through the strike, multiply on all hands. Many scores of sailors are utterly homeless at Barry in consequence of the stoppage of coal exports, and fifty were found sleeping in the park and the fields, and in whatever public house will give them free quarters. Sheep have been mislaid from the mountains, and poultry from the farms, but the sympathetic farmers have taken no steps.

A collier's wife, starving at home, set out to tramp from Pontypridd to Hereford, carrying a sickling child. On the way the little one died at the breast. Three little ones in St. Mary's National School, Cardiff, fasted one recent Monday morning. Inquiry proved that they had had no food since the previous Saturday. The head-master of this

AYER'S Hair Vigor

Removes Dandruff

"I have sold Ayer's Hair Vigor for the past thirteen years and have known of no case where it has failed to give satisfaction. I sell more of it than of any like preparation."
J. P. BRISCOE, Harrison, Ark.

"For five years I have been selling Ayer's Hair Vigor under a positive guarantee that it would produce hair on a bald head and restore gray hair to its natural color. I have not had one bottle returned, nor has there been a single case where the dressing was used that it did not do all that was claimed for it."
H. M. ACUFF, Elba, Va.

"For some years my hair had been coming out. It had become very dry and my scalp was covered with dandruff. I have applied Ayer's Hair Vigor regularly for some weeks now, and I could hardly trust my senses when I first found that a new growth of hair had started. It is much thicker than formerly and of good color. The dandruff has disappeared and my scalp seems to be in a perfectly healthy condition."
MISS R. WRIGHT, Perth, Ont.

"Some time ago, my head became full of dandruff, which caused me great annoyance; after a time the hair began to fall out. The use of Ayer's Hair Vigor stopped the hair from falling and made the scalp clean and healthy."
MRS. C. M. AYRES, Mount Airy, Ga.

Restores to Gray Hair its Original Color.

"I think there is no toilet article in the world so good as Ayer's Hair Vigor. I am fifty-three years old and my hair would have been all white now if it were not for the use of the Vigor, but the application of that dressing has preserved its color, and kept it soft and glossy."
MRS. W. H. JARVIS, Otsego, Mich.

"After five years' use of Ayer's Hair Vigor, I can cheerfully recommend it as a desirable toilet article. It keeps the hair soft and glossy and helps it to retain its natural color."
D. WARNER, Dunstable, Ont.

MAKES HAIR GROW.

"For about five years my hair kept falling out until I was almost bald. Some New Hampshire friends asked me to try Ayer's Hair Vigor and insisted on getting it for me. I used it during that summer and fall and found that a new growth of hair had started. I continued to use it steadily for about four months, and at the end of that time had as good a head of hair as one could wish."
HOWARD MELVIN, Carlisle, Mass.

"I am well pleased with Ayer's Hair Vigor. When I noticed that my hair was getting thin, I came old and my hair would have been all white now if it were not for the use of the Vigor, but the application of that dressing has preserved its color, and kept it soft and glossy."
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ON THE VERGE OF STARVATION.
It is true no actual deaths from starvation have been reported, but numbers of people, and especially little children, are on the verge of it. There is, for instance, the report concerning a family starving in a furnitureless house at Pontypridd, the husband away looking for work, and no relief arriving because the man is not at home to claim his share of the distribution at the colliery; of another family, also without relief because the distance to which they live from the colliery would cause larger expenditure in railway fare than the relief itself; a third case, in which a whole family at Pontypridd is being supported by a kind-hearted neighbour; and a fourth instance, of a scene in Penrhynwiler School one afternoon, when several children were found crying silently at their lessons, and inquiry elicited the fact that they and thirty or forty others had had no food at all that day.

It is estimated that in Cardiff alone 10,000 little children daily suffer unsatisfied hunger. Relief has been given by means of distributions of food at the schools, but the schools are now up for the holidays, and the children have few to care for them.

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is for funds with which to relieve the famishing.

FRUIT CURE IS PRESCRIBED.

Fashionable Physicians Say That It Is Followed by Marvellous Results.

Among the pleasantest of the prescriptions of fashionable physicians nowadays is the fruit cure. Abroad it is the great recourse of nervous women, overworked by the duties of Society with a big S. There they eat oranges, figs or grapes, according to the season. Here, earlier it was berries, then cherries, and now it is peaches.

You go to a fruit farm. There you eat as many peaches and drink as much milk as is pleasant to you; the appetite grows by feeding. Drink very little water and eat meat only once a day—but little then. It will be better if you compromise on a strong soup. Go to bed early and rise with the sun. See the cows milked if you like; at any rate, take a pint, two full glasses of new milk. Then take a walk of from one to five miles, according to your strength, and come home to breakfast of oatmeal, cream and fruit.

In short, you lead the life of a healthy animal, a life which rouses your torpid liver, stimulates your blood to healthy circulation, and clears your complexion. Perhaps your doctor gives you medicine—more likely not, unless you are really ill.

It is a pleasant cure, and not expensive. Based on such a farm, will cost from \$5 to \$10 a week, according to the location. You may read, knit or sew if you like; pleasant occupation adds agreeably to the cure. The one thing forbidden is to worry. A month to six weeks of such a life is required to effect a cure.

STORY OF A KISS.

Sweet Phyllis, one bright summer day, Upon a rose a kiss impressed; A butterfly which chanced that way In turn the blushing bud caressed.

It stole the kiss and straightway flew, Oh, fickle heart! into a glade, And there, upon a violet blue, In ecstasy the kiss it laid.

The zephyr, sighing through the trees, The floweret's tender fragrance sighs, The kiss is wafted on the breeze, And finds a home upon my lips.

To Cure: Take Laxative. All druggists sell cure. 25c.

What Will

Your Life Save

Paine's Celery Can Res

Tis Folly and the Use of Me

"I am tired and life of misery and heart and will nervous and sleep crazed with headache, dyspepsia and people usually are despondency, men often found on the to the dark."

Have courage, sister! Paine's Celery Compound is more desperate and it has proved an and it will certainly this your use of a What will you Will you allow t disease and death t will you, by the sh Paine's Celery Com at the root of you sound, healthy and

The latest physi Celery Compound food and medicin given to suffer ng l ens and builds up t muscles, it purifies out disease of ever existence and a lo trial of one bottle Paine's Celery Com and disease banish

"Why, Mrs. Ay that your husband the Klondike?" "hot because I did it will take h cool off."

Dr. Chase Cu Operi

Toro My boy, aged suffer from Cat submitted him to General Hospital, resorted to Dr. Ch one box of this prompt and compl