

tribunal is to make the whole of the nations responsible for the conduct of such cases as that. When Great Britain found that Germany was inimical in consequence of the Transvaal incident, she was thrown into diplomatic correspondence with France and Russia, seeing that it was absolutely necessary in order to carry out her policy, which is a policy of progress and development, disseminating sound principles of government throughout the whole world, and in order to find allies she sought them in Russia and France showing the necessity of a tribunal of some kind, partial though it may be. Recent events of the past week or ten days have shown us a similar state of affairs. The Imperial Government, which has for many years occupied Egypt for the advantage of Egypt in its progress and civilization, to plant in that ancient kingdom the principles of good government, finds that a new state of affairs has arisen. Italy, a weak nation has marched into Abyssinia and has unfortunately been seriously defeated to the disturbance of the savage tribes in the interior and it is not desirable that those savage tribes should be allowed to get the upper hand of one of the European nations. It is not in the interest of civilization, it is not in the interest of the Christian nations of the world that anything of the kind should be permitted.

Hon. Mr. POWER—Does not the hon. gentleman think he is using strong language in characterizing the Christians of Abyssinia as savage tribes?

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—I draw a distinction between Christians and heathens. I am referring to the tribes of the interior. They are led by the Dervishes and are fanatical to a degree.

Hon. Mr. POWER—The Italians have not been fighting the Dervishes.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—No, but the trouble has aroused the Dervishes in the Soudan. I was not speaking of the Abyssinians, but of the Arabs in the Soudan district. The defeat of Italy was arousing their enthusiasm and bringing them to the front once more, in order to upset all the progress and civilization that has been accomplished during the last 25 years, notably the suppression of the slave trade and the

opening up of commerce. It became necessary for England once more, in the wisdom of the British Government, to open up the Soudan, but without the support of the nations of Europe she could not undertake the task in consequence of her international obligations in Egypt and she sought the alliance of the Dreibund, Italy, Germany and Austria, who have supported her in undertaking the advances into the Dungola district and the Soudan in the interests of Egypt, and the extension of the boundaries of Egypt and for the purpose of extending the spreading of civilization in that region. No one can deny for one moment that it is part of the duties of Christian nations to diffuse civilization as far as it is possible for them to do so, to give heathen nations in the heart of Africa and elsewhere the advantage of knowledge and progress and to bring them under control, so that their labour and their intelligence can be put to the highest use instead of exactly the reverse, as it is at the present moment. The advance of Italy, against those warlike tribes, has shown the Italian people the difficulty they have to contend with. Where Great Britain, backed by her moral prestige marched into Abyssinia without firing a shot twenty-five years ago, Italy has suffered severe losses. England has marched twice to Kumassi, on the west coast of Africa, without a shot being fired.

Hon. Mr. ALMON—It was not so in the first instance.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—It was, practically.

Hon. Mr. ALMON—No, indeed. Very many shots were fired there.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—The first advance was not quite without firing a shot, but it was practically a peaceful advance, and the last has been essentially so, and a very large district of Western Africa will now be brought within the influence of civilization as developed by the Imperial Government wherever it goes. These are all advantages that cannot be lost sight of, advantages that are sought for by advanced minds and advanced thinkers on lines similar to those laid down by our venerable friend, Mr. Monk, in his letters to Salisbury. Hon. gentlemen know that where there is union there is peace. In