Majesty's service from the Naval Brigade to the Life Guards, and as I listened to the conversation—for a Canadian *voyageur* was permitted many privileges denied Tommy Atkins—I felt that I learned more about the campaign that night than months of service with Earle and Brakenbury had taught me. The tragedy at Khartoum had a depressing effect, and soon the conversation drifted into politics and surmises as to the campaign, which almost everyone believed would open after the hot season had passed.

" Well, we'll have a shy at the beggars in the autumn, and accounts will be squared then," said a young subaltern, with considerable feeling, as he glanced at his arm, which an Arab's spear at Abouklea had caused him to wear in a sling. " I saw Reuter's latest telegram from Soudan at Korti, and it says that Lord Wolseley, Sir Redners Buller, Col. Butler and all the chiefs have advised an advance up the river at high Nile. So it must be a go. We've got to take Khartoum ; everybody knows that."

" You're right and you're wrong, youngster," reflectively said a grave looking Major, who had hitherto spoken but little. Everybody listened, for he was a man worth listening to, and knew the ways of the Government as well as pipe-clay and field manœuvres. "This war was forced on the Government by public feeling, and we all know how reluctant they were to enter upon it. When they did, they made it distinctly understood that it was an expedition for the relief of General Gordon and the garrison at Khartoum. It was to be that and nothing more. Now, if they were reluctant before, much more so will they be now to enter upon a campaign, the only object of which can be conquest or revenge, and Mr. Gladstone is not fond of either one or the other. No, there will be no advance in the autumn, in spite of all the advice our chief may give. This campaign has been expensive and disastrous, and the British public can be pacified now ; Mr. Gladstone is not going to conquer the Soudan. But" (he relit his pipe) " as sure as those stars are shining above us, the

MAP OF NILE RIVER