

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1887.

EMIN BEY'S POSITION.

Dr. Emin Bey has written a letter to his friend Dr. F. J. W. of Edinburgh, dated Wed. 7th July, 1886. This is a very interesting letter, and contains information received from the distinguished governor. The communication will be of surpassing interest to all who are not indifferent to the importance of the great drama now being played out in Central Africa—a drama that bears immediately upon the civilization of the Dark Continent, that has the slavery question for its leading issue, and that is calculated seriously to affect the progress of England and her power for good in that quarter of the world. The question of the Sudan itself was but a part of the great problem concerning the civilization of Africa; and it is because most Englishmen have failed to apprehend it as such that they suffer the proposal to abandon the Sudan with a degree of indifference that they may yet have reason to regret. Emin Bey is holding out, and he has learned at the time of writing, that "the new king of Uganda has begun his career with the intention of being friendly to Europeans and hostile to the British."

With the knowledge that the resolution to hold to his province, for so he expressed it, "I am glad," he goes on to say, "to be able to tell you that the province is in complete safety and order; it is true that the Baris gave some little trouble, but I was soon able to bring them back to their districts." He knows well enough that there are blood thirsty enemies round about him; but he is not at all deterred by the hope of being able to keep them off in the ultimate resource of escape by the southern route. In this respect he is mistaken; and the cheerfulness of the optate is largely due to the ignorance of all the parties about him. Emin Bey has another hope, though evidently not a very strong one; "I have certainly some glimpses of hope that, as Egypt seems to be unable to send us any more troops, some future day take advantage of the position which we find ourselves in, to re-organize and civilizing mission."

It is to be hoped that this brave officer, and the people about him, will not be suffered to remain in their present position, but will be helped, and that his destiny, like Gordon's, will be to find all his hopes dashed. Every day the progress of Christian England must, indeed, have fallen low in Central Africa when a boy tyrant dares to torture and oppress the converts of his mission, and an English bishop without fear or reproach. Three years ago this could not have happened, but the execution of the proper begins to bear fruit. He was not appointed by England in the first instance, but he was appointed by the Sudanese, and that in itself is sufficient reason why the utmost exertion should be put forth to make his safety secure. It is not his responsibility for Emin Bey's position is bound up with his responsibility for the execution of the Sudan and with the current responsibilities for the good government of Egypt. More than that, England cannot look indifferently to the probability of the Sudanese, who are once more omnipotent in the Equatorial provinces and she must be anxious that the surrounding regions be swept back into barbarism. It is not an army that Emin wants. Stores and money speedily despatched are the requirements. Thirty thousand pounds, it is calculated, would suffice for the work of rescue, and two experienced travelers, Mr. E. M. Thompson and Mr. J. Thomson, are ready to risk their lives in conducting the expedition; nor do they seek reward. The government has been deluged with the subject and it is to be regretted that public opinion has not been more fully expressed towards the furthering of their deliberations.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

Sixteen years have elapsed since France declared war against Germany. Fifteen winters have passed, and the fall of Sedan and the transference of the rich provinces of Alsace and Lorraine from the French to the German empire. But years have not lessened the bitterness which the circumstances connected with the war created in the minds of Frenchmen; and German statesmen have never denied themselves with the idea that France would content to assent to the permanent deprivation of the provinces and recovery of the two provinces and revenge for the defeat which culminated every Frenchman's indignation. Englishmen who travel in France, and to whom France seems to open their hearts with almost unreserved confidence, find that revenge is the first object in every grade of society. The French regard themselves from the burden of the war indemnity which they considered atoned the phlegmatic German. The traces of war were removed with remarkable swiftness. The French, on accepting defeat, took the first step towards wiping out the details of the war. They extinguished money as at once raised for work designed with a view to the future. Both countries are armed to the teeth. Holke stars his countrymen to further sacrifice by declaring that France is further armed, and by proclaiming his belief that peace between the two countries cannot much longer be maintained. Accordingly an addition of 40,000 men will be made to the German army. And the appreciation which the French have of the situation is evidenced by the fact that the new ministers of war have not hesitated to accept the agreement that an extra credit of twelve millions would be given for materials of war, and a further sum of five millions for swift cruisers.

WHY LORD RANDOLPH RESIGNED.

The London cable correspondent of the New York Tribune gives the following account of the events which led to Lord Randolph's resignation: "Lord Randolph's objection to the Queen's intervention was not that she was the week before last and stated so sharply that a split came near occurring then, and Lord Salisbury moved to resign temporarily. Lord Randolph gave a dinner to the Prince of Wales at the Junior Club last Saturday week. Decree 18, and Lord Salisbury was one of the guests. The party included among others the Viscount of Ireland and Mr. Goschen. The dispute broke out on Monday and Lord Randolph on that day sent his resignation to Lord Salisbury, though certainly not expecting it would be accepted without some further attempt at conciliation. Lord Salisbury, who like Lord Randolph, is capable of acting on impulse, accepted it then and there, and he forthwith communicated it to the Queen, who received it on Tuesday morning, so that when Lord Randolph and Lord Goschen were in the Queen's presence on Tuesday afternoon the Queen was already regularly in possession of the resignation, a fact which is not without importance. Moreover the Queen's intervention was not a concession, but a successful. Lord Randolph's demand had been made for a reduction of no less than a sum of £1,200,000; the cost of £200,000 was arranged for in detail. Lord Randolph then asked that the War Office and Admiralty should each contribute the lump sum of £600,000. Lord Goschen, however, though a friend of Churchill, yielded to the Queen's persuasion, agreed, but saying that it was impossible to overrule the war minister on the matter, who held it vital to the efficiency of his own department, added with Mr. Smith. Then it was that Lord Randolph took his final decision, thinking no other door was open to him.

THE COLONY OF MAURITIUS.

The colony of Mauritius seems to be unfortunate in its government. The present governor is one of Sir John Hennessy who is now suspended, was Sir F. Napier

"OUT OF THE COMMON."

And the sunlight danced in at the window, and turned her hair to shining gold, touched the crisp gray locks of John Rogers, and made a halo of light and warmth about the pair. "I could not go against mamma's wishes," he said, "and she would not let me go. She has had a long talk with me this morning, and though I knew as well as she did before, for somehow, although I could not love him as much for treating me so, she thought about him and said, 'I would not let you go.' And you do not think by patient waiting, by proving how earnest we are—"

"No, John," Mother cannot look at us as we do, she cannot see all the disadvantages and none of the hopes that we have built up, and on that—the young lady glanced down once and then she said, 'I would not let you go.' And you do not think by patient waiting, by proving how earnest we are—"

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INTERESTING LETTER.

THIS IS A GLORIOUS PROVINCE from a Sagorac or at Victoria. (Montreal Herald.)

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 15, 1886. At last there seems to be a chance of a better steam service between Victoria and the mainland. Capt. Irving of the C. P. Navigation Co., who lately returned from the States, has been in the city, and has discussed the matter with the local agents. He has been in the city, and has discussed the matter with the local agents. He has been in the city, and has discussed the matter with the local agents.

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FOR THE LADIES.

Why is it Wise to Buy only THE DOBSONY ORGANS? Because THE TONE IS SUPERB, TOUCH AND ACTION LIGHT, CASES FOR GRACE AND ELEGANCE HAVE NO EQUAL.

THE B. C. Stationery and Print Co. AGENTS, Next Door to the Post Office.

FOR SALE. A FINE ASSORTMENT OF SUITABLE STOCK OF FRUIT TREES, ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS, INCLUDING THE BEST OF THE SEASON.

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LOCAL AND PROVING.

ANOTHER WARD SCHOOL. Mr. Edward F. Ward has been appointed to the position of ward schoolmaster for the ward of St. James.

FOR THE NORTH. The C. will dispatch the steamer Maunabo on the 25th for Fort Simpson.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT. The wheat harvest in 1886 was a very good one, and the yield was estimated at 12,000,000 bushels.

THE CHURCHES. The churches in Victoria are preparing for the coming year with much interest.

THE MAYOR'S REPORT. His Excellency the Governor has received the report of the Mayor of Victoria for the year 1886.

THE EXTENSION MATTER. The extension of the railway to the north is a matter of great importance to the colony.

ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of the Society of Friends was held at the City Hall on the 10th inst.

THE CLARENCE. The ship Clarence has arrived from the coast and is expected to arrive in Victoria on the 15th inst.

THE EMSOND HOTEL. The Emsond Hotel has been opened and is now ready to receive guests.