

also the affection of the inhabitants of the colonies. We are sure that we echo the sentiment of all good citizens within the British Empire and of many people without, when we hope that Queen Victoria may be spared to reign for many years yet, to be a source of inspiration and an example of noble qualities to the world.

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THE CAPTURE
OF DONGOLA.

THE Anglo-Egyptian expedition to the Soudan has met with the most complete success so far. The speedy ascent of the Nile in the face of the greatest obstacles which a barren, ragged country can present, and the capture of Dongola, one of the most important dervish strongholds and the nominal objective point of the expedition against the Khalifa, within so short a time after the column began to move, reflects the greatest credit upon the Sirdar, General Kitchener, and his subordinates in command.

As was supposed would be the case from the beginning, the expedition has now been ordered to advance upon Khartoum, the Mahdist capital, distant from Dongola about 175 miles as the crow flies, but nearly three times as far following the course of the Nile. Those who recall the principal incidents of the Soudan campaign of ten years ago under General Wolseley will remember that the territory mainly contended for, and the district where the most important engagements took place, was that which is just about to be entered upon by the present force. At this point the Nile performs a series of eccentric turns, and its course might appropriately be represented in diagram by the letter "S." Between the centre of the "S," where Dongola is situated, and the horn of the lower loop marking Khartoum, lies the terrible Bayuda Desert, the crossing of which proved so fatal to the members of the former expedition. It was the traversing of this barren waste that entailed the greatest loss upon Wolseley's forces ten years ago. All manner of hardships had to be borne. Marching for days upon the blazing African sands with scant water supply, the troops at last drew near the wells of Abouklea.

It was at this moment, and at this spot, that the dervishes chose to attack, and the most sanguinary engagement of the campaign was fought here upon the terrible Bayuda Desert. Shortly after this came the news of the death of Gordon and the fall of Khartoum.

It is proposed to build a railway for the advance of the expedition on this occasion, the work of which, we understand, has already been started. In this way it is calculated that the dangers to the troops will be minimized, while a steady communication can easily be kept up with the base of supplies. But the building of a railway across an African desert can be no light work, and those engaged upon the work, be they natives or climated Europeans, will require to summon all their fortitude for the task. In any event, the probability is that from this on the advance of the Anglo-Egyptian expedition will be contested every foot of the way, and we may expect to hear of some thrilling encounters before the taking of Khartoum.

With the fall of that place, the power of the Khalifa will have been crushed, and the Soudan, having been made an Egyptian province, will become, under British protection, a well-governed and thriving country like Egypt itself.

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BRITISH CO-
LUMBIA GOLD
MINES.

THE latest reports from the famous Trail Creek mining district show that new veins of the precious yellow metal are being brought to light almost daily. Canadians should be alive to what this really means. They should not leave the working of so large a field entirely to foreigners. Any money that is to be made out of our mines should certainly be placed in the pockets of the people of this country.

At the same time the utmost care and judgment should be exercised in the placing of each investment. There is no doubt that there are many splendid chances for investment in British Columbia mines open to people having money to dispose off in this way—investments which will repay the investor a fair return on the money sunk. But it must not be forgotten that spurious concerns