RENCE CASE.

the Assays Made by and the Govern- t Assayer.

ays the Accused Ac- There Had Been Mill Run.

ry hearing of the J. A. as continued in the city erday forenoon, an ad- then taken till Wednes- 8 o'clock. Yesterday's e extent referred to the Mr. Donaldson and at assay office.

Donaldson, who, though ernment certificate, had g for a number of years practical miner, stated e witness box, that he am with the accused in brought back samples he way home they met , with whom the ac- versation. On August out some claims with the Sniders, and sam- a shot put into the $2 to $8. About Aug- accused told witness would probably take an ims and Lawrence gave ore to assay, the result n. Lawrence and Capt. terwards asked witness e mine, and Lawrence e had had a mill test or 800 pounds of ore, Witness asked Law- cCallum had been told , and the accused an- he had not wished to e too much. Accused to show him the gold e mill run, and a few showed him the piece in court and claimed m as one of his speci- had asked witness if e ingot into a different e accused told Capt. the mill run, and when to see the returns the ated that his confi- d them. In Septem- gain went out to made about 45 assays, were high. The wit- small piece of rich ore rn had brought to the zed the specimen pro- s the one. When the en to about the big he pointed to a place e sample came from. rence acknowledged to d been no mill test. ichael, provincial as- the accused had come assays made. Witness a piece of ore by the that he had left some assay office to be tried. r, on going to the office s there were of a differ- r. Lawrence expressed nformed of the high ples he had left. Capt. also brought samples, very low. This was e evidence put in yes- se was then adjourned ening at 8 o'clock.

AWARDED.

behalf of the Consoli- o. to commit for con- nderson, proprietor of olumbia Commercial before Mr. Justice ay. The motion was n article in the Journal comments and state- to prejudice the fair w pending in regard to ridge accident. hillips, who appeared tated that at the first the appearance of the of Mr. Henderson had ogy, and under the cir- not desired to press bought, however, that hould pay the costs of that the paper be re- lication of any further ted to prejudice the actions now before the

who was present in imself as content with d the court made an applicants costs and aper from publishing calculated to interfere of the bridge actions.

s Coal Find.

2.—The alleged coal great interest. Pro- Toronto, has made cial government, and osit to be of good tawa authorities, Dr. rs cast doubt on the of the supposed mine. er has orders for all e at $6 a ton.

for Coloring creating.

Make Old Things ike New.

nds of women will be wls, coats, vests, pants, t rags, sheepskin mats,

on is an important one, are. The great essen- t dyes—colors that are t to washing and sun-

—the only guaranteed ossess all the import- e perfect colors. The ves have such an ex- rupulous dealers have ate them. Avoid all you would have your colored richly and per- he "Diamond." Re- r dealer tells you are e "Diamond." The best in the world and

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Funds Needed for Chinese Mission Work—Well Known Hotel Man Missing.

Monthly Returns—Clarke Wallace at Kamloops—Almost Drowned —Mainland Mining.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Nov. 2.—The Philharmonic Society has 62 active members, who are practising Bennett's "May Queen" and Spohr's "God, Thou Art Great!" Two concerts will be given by the society this season.

There has been a decided falling off in the police court convictions this month. There were in all 76 cases, as follows: Vagrancy, 27; shopbreaking, 4; drunk, 17; absence from ship without leave, 1; breach of market by-law, 1; health by-law, 8; Indian act, 3; assault, 2; begging, 1; breaking prison, 1; and receiving stolen goods, 3.

There were but two fires during the month of October, the damage amounting to about $70.

Last month there were 31 deaths, 12 marriages and 28 births.

At the fishermen's meeting, at which Mr. Maxwell, M.P., presided, resolutions were passed praying for changes in the law relating to fisheries and the granting of licenses.

Mr. Maxwell, M.P., is finding his services very largely in requisition to tie the nuptial knot. There is, in fact, quite a marriage boom as regards the demands upon his ministerial services. Of course it adds novelty to a marriage to have it solemnized by an M.P., and this is no doubt the reason that the gentleman is particularly sought after.

The funeral of the late T. W. Stanfield took place yesterday. Members of the Sons of England, I.O.O.F., and of the Court Vancouver and Court Mountain View were in attendance. The funeral procession left the deceased's residence at 1:15 o'clock and proceeded to the C. P.R. depot. The remains were taken east to London, Ontario, for interment.

The members of the Japanese night school celebrated the birthday of H.I.H. Emperor of Japan on Monday night by a concert and patriotic speeches.

An urgent appeal is to be made by the Anglicans of this city and the diocese of New Westminster in general for aid toward their Chinese mission work. Eastern help is needed unless this is to be entirely suspended, for the local anti-Chinese feeling makes it most difficult to collect funds in British Columbia.

The Bondholder claims are attracting more attention in Vancouver just now than any group of mines in the Vancouver market. A few days ago Bondholder was selling at ten cents, but it would be impossible to get it at those figure now.

The Excelsior claim, thought by some to be a continuation of the Golden Cache, has been purchased for a large sum. It is probable that a company will be formed and the claim stocked.

Opinions as to the need of a stock exchange in Vancouver are widely varied. Some think the market too limited; others that it would introduce into the stock market the element of gambling, and still others believe that the business that could be secured from outside would warrant the present chartered company in opening their doors and thus bring buyers and sellers face to face.

J. M. Stewart, ex-chief of police of Vancouver, was re-appointed chief tonight, succeeding Chief Ward, resigned.

VANCOUVER, Nov. 3.—Coronor McGuigan has written to the government asking them if it is legal to pay jurors at coroner's inquests. An answer has been received that the government has made no provision for the payment of jurors under the circumstances mentioned.

R. B. Ellis has returned from a trip to Toronto, where he has been interesting Easterners in B. C. mines.

Geo. Walker has been appointed to a position in the customs, E. White having resigned.

W. H. Allen, formerly of the Metropolitan hotel, has been appointed manager of the Manor House, Mr. Williams having resigned. Mr. Williams leaves for England in a few days.

The opera house was packed last night on the occasion of the first appearance of the Grau Opera Company. The audience were enthusiastic and the leading ladies were encored repeatedly. Everyone was pleased and satisfied.

The duty collected in the port of Vancouver for October amounts to $40,156; imports, $232,809; exports, $134.513; inland revenue receipts, $12,178. The returns show a large increase over the returns of the corresponding month of 1895.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Ladner took place yesterday at Ladners, and was attended by a number of Westminster citizens.

The Big Chief mine, operated from Vancouver, is making a magnificent showing. It is thought that the Le Roi vein is continued through several claims, including the Big Chief and Alice.

WESTMINSTER

WESTMINSTER, Nov. 2.—The imports for the month of October were $42,394, an increase over October, 1895, of $8,000; duty collected, $9,892, an increase over October, 1895, of $3,000; exports, $1,171,919; an increase over October, 1895, of $184,619.

Mr. Ladner has been fined $5 for fishing on September 25 contrary to law, Capt. Pittendrigh, S.M., presiding. It was claimed by the defence that the law was ambiguously worded and that September 25 was not a close day.

The fall assizes open on Tuesday.

W. J. Moggridge had his right arm amputated at St. Mary's hospital yesterday. The member was injured at the time Mr. Moggridge was assaulted and robbed two years ago.

Frank Pratt and Frank Pardue have been arrested on the charge of breaking into the house of Peter Watson during the owner's absence. Some of Mr. Watson's missing property was found in the possession of the prisoners.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, Nov. 2.—While tacking against a southerly wind near the Decourcey islands in a small boat on Friday, James McCann and John Silvey, two Kuper's Island ranchers, were upset. Mark Edgar and Dan McConvey, of Gabriola Island, were, however, near by, and rescued the two men.

F. J. Cleary, of the Nanaimo Prospecting Company, and two men, left yesterday for Pender Harbor on their way to Jervis Inlet, where they will continue development work on the company's claims.

During October there were 24 births, 5 marriages and 13 deaths. During September there were 29 births, 4 marriages and 17 deaths.

The returns at the Nanaimo customs house for October were:

Duty collected	$4,358 55
Other revenues	808,14
Total	$ 4,466.60
Imports dutiable	$13,209 00
" free	3,060 00
Total	$16,269.00

The total revenue this year is $751.53 less than for October last year, but $1,089.91 more than for September this year. The total imports for October, 1895, were $17,824, which is $1,552.50 more than for the same month of this year. The increase of imports over last month is $2,539.50.

The returns from the inland revenue office were:

Spirits	$110 65
Malt	143 51
Cigars	150 00
Total	$404 16

The returns for September were $1,237.64, a considerable decrease.

By the City of Nanaimo a large sample of Van Anda ore taken from the bottom of the workings and carrying a high percentage of free gold was brought down to be sent to the Imperial Institute, London, England.

The Silver Spur mineral claim has been recorded at the government office by John Wilson, of the steamer City of Nanaimo. The claim is situated on Texada island.

First snow of the season on Mount Benson Saturday morning.

T. Kitchin, mining broker, of this city, has received some magnificent specimens of gold and silver ore from Copper (a misnomer) King claim, situated on the banks of Cameron lake, and almost contiguous to the Nanaimo-Alberni road. This is the mine that gave excellent surface indications about a year ago, and created quite a flurry of excitement at that time. The mine is owned by Mr. Kitchin and others, and they have had men engaged for some time sinking a shaft, which is now down about 25 feet, exposing a large rich ledge. The ore shows silver, gold and slight indications of copper. Several of those interested in this mine left to-day on a visit of investigation, and on their return we will no doubt be able to give further particulars.

NANAIMO, Nov. 3.—A meeting of those interested in poultry was held in W. K. Leighton's office on Saturday evening, the question of having a show being discussed. It was decided to hold a poultry show some time in January, which, as it may be the only one held in the province this year, it is intended to make as great a success as possible.

The following records were made of mineral claims staked in this district during October: Dunsmuir district, 24; Texada, 15; Thurlow island, 14; Stewart island, 4; Sayward district, 3; South Nanaimo, 2; Valdez island, 1.

Yesterday there were two claims registered at the recorder's office from Thurlow island, the White Pine located by Thomas MacGuire, and the Red Pine located by James King.

ASHCROFT.

(From the B.C. Mining Journal.)

A contract has been let by Seymour Baker, C.E., to cut a sleighroad to the Hixon creek claim from the Baker claim.

A fine silver lead was located on the Cottonwood this week.

L. M. Lapointe, the well known cattle buyer from Vancouver, has secured one car of fine beef cattle from Charles A. Semlin, M.P.P. He will return in a few weeks and make a tour through the upper country, getting cattle for the fall trade.

The steamer Charlotte made her initial trip to Soda Creek yesterday, leaving Quesnelle at 10 a.m. and reaching her destination in good time. Her trip was satisfactory and her machinery, made in Vancouver, is all that could be desired. The Charlotte is under the command of Captain Odin, and W. McArthur is the engineer, both of Victoria.

TROUT LAKE.

(From the Kootenay Mail.)

The Great Northern is getting its trail in good shape for rawhiding to the wagon road.

The Silver Cup owners are going to extend the sleigh road up the South Fork to 7-Mile creek, where it will be met by the rawhide trail from the Cup.

The sleigh road from the Forks to the wagon road has been surveyed. Engineer Carry and 25 men are at work upon it.

KAMLOOPS.

(From the Inland Sentinel.)

James Cobeldick has completed the bond on Mr. Guerin's claim on Coal Hill, $500 being paid down, the balance, $13,000, payable at the expiration of twelve months. Mr. Cobeldick has also been in negotiation to secure several of the adjoining claims, namely, the Bluebird, the Golden Tip, and the Neighbor and Champion. Mr. Cobeldick says he intends stripping the ledge to find its bearings.

F. C. Innes and W. Pellew-Harvey, of Vancouver, and Robt. Buchanan have gone to the Homestake mine at Adams' lake. It is proposed to make some extensive experiments to discover the best method of treatment. The cyanide and other processes will be tried.

On Tuesday Victor Guillaume's two large barns and contents were totally destroyed, a total loss of between four and five thousand dollars. The only insurance on the property consumed was $1,600 on the buildings, in the Phoenix of Hartford.

The Glen Iron Mine Company has an order from the Tacoma smelter for 500 tons of iron ore.

On Tuesday evening Hon. N. Clarke Wallace, grand master of the Orangemen of British North America, arrived in the city. A deputation of local Orangemen drove up the line on Tuesday as far as Duck's to meet him. On the platform Mr. Wallace was introduced to many of those present, and afterwards escorted to the Grand Pacific hotel. On Wednesday he was driven out to the mines on Coal Hill by W. Thos. Newman, and had a good look at all the properties. A formal reception for Mr. Wallace took place at the Orange hall on Thursday. Mr. Wallace and W. Thos. Newman have started on a trip through the Southeastern Kootenay country. Mr. Newman says that immediately on his return he will begin work for the development of the Iron Mask claim.

FORT STEELE.

(From the Fort Steele Prospector.)

The construction of a telegraph line from Fort Steele to some point on the Great Northern railroad is spoken of.

The school has now a daily attendance of 25 pupils.

D. D. Mann, of the North Star mine, left for Montreal on Monday. About 500 tons of rich ore will be taken out and shipped.

Col. Ridpath has nine men working on the Sullivan group, and will have a large amount of ore to ship in the spring.

A party of Northern Pacific engineers have been looking over the situation near the head of Flathead valley. It is reported the railroad company are seeking to reach the Crow's Nest coal fields.

NAKUSP.

(From the Ledge.)

The Black Prince No. 2, on Lemon creek, has a ledge two feet in width carrying gold and silver.

The work goes steadily on at the Currie Fraction on the Galena Farm. The company who have the Currie group and adjoining claims under bond are doing most of their work on the Fraction. A short distance to the west of the present working another shaft has been commenced which will tap the ledge, probably at a depth of 200 feet.

David Bremner, acting for the Scotch syndicate he represents, has bonded the Wakefield, Ottawa and Cazubaza for $25,000, 10 per cent. cash. The property will be rapidly developed.

W. R. Thompson and his partner recently bought Sam Sturch's ranch near Silverton for $50. They sold it the other day to J. C. Harris, of Victoria, for $1,000, and have taken up another one on the Galena Farm.

The Republic group of three claims, situated between Twelve Mile and Springer creeks, has been bonded to Hector McPherson, of Brandon, Man., for $25,000, 5 per cent. down. Sutherland and Montgomery are the owners.

The Alpine is likely to be bonded to Bruce White for $60,000. There are four claims in the group, all gold propositions.

Adam McKay died of heart disease at Three Forks last Friday. He was well known in the Slocan and Kaslo. He was a partner with Ira W. Black in the hotel business at the Forks.

The Enterprise will ship from 800 to 1,000 tons of ore this winter.

Snow has about closed the prospecting season in the Slocan.

George Petty has built a rawhide trail to the Victoria on Dayton creek, and will ship ore this winter.

FERGUSON.

(From the Kootenay Mail.)

Surveyor Henderson is busy laying out Ferguson townsite.

Work on the rawhide trail from the Silver Cup to the Forks is being pushed rapidly ahead with eight men working on it. Thirty-two men are at work on the sleigh road from the Forks to the old Trout Lake wagon road.

Foreman Munroe is making a splendid showing on the Silver Cup.

Freight is still stacked up at Thomsons Landing, the delay causing considerable inconvenience and loss.

Ferguson & Cummings are doing a land office business at the Forks and intend putting a wing to and a new front on their hotel at once.

Mr. Astley, who represents Montana capital, took some mineral away from here and business may ensue.

BIG BEND.

(From the Kootenay Mail.)

The Smith Creek Hydraulic Company is working steadily and handling large masses of gravel. It will be a month or more before the works close down for the season.

Rumor has it that some Carnes Creek claims are about to pass to a strong English company. It is said the terms are arranged and papers drawn, and that the deal may be consummated any day.

The Orphan Boy claim, in the Ground Hog basin, is being worked by eight men, who will continue work all winter and put the property in good trim for the ten-stamp mill which is to be installed in April.

U.S. FINANCES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—The monthly comparative statements of the receipts and expenditure of the United States show the total receipts for October to have been $26,282,829 and the disbursements $33,978,277—a deficit of $7,655,458.

The October statement of the public debt shows the debt less, and cash in the treasury to have been $987,498.956, an increase for the month of $719,526, which is accounted for by a corresponding decrease in the cash on hand.

B B B

Unlocks all the clogged avenues of the **Bowels, Kidneys and Liver,** carrying off gradually, without weakening the system, all the impurities and foul humors of the secretions; at the same time **Correcting Acidity of the Stomach, curing Biliousness, Dyspepsia, Headaches, Dizziness, Heartburn, Constipation, Dryness of the Skin, Dropsy, Dimness of Vision, Jaundice, Salt Rheum, Erysipelas, Scrofula, Fluttering of the Heart, Nervousness and General Debility;** all these and many other similar complaints yield to the happy influence of **BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS.**

For Sale by all Druggists.

T. MILBURN & Co., TORONTO.

THE BATTLE OF HAFIR.

Artillerymen Alone Come Into Conflict With a Most Determined Enemy,

Who Finally Fled in Confusion—Narrow Escapes of Gunboats.

The Times special correspondent sends the following interesting dispatch from the Soudan expedition, dated Hafir, September 21:

HAFIR, Sept. 21.—Some time back the Sirdar said that the Egyptian army would celebrate the longest reign of any British Sovereign by entering the town of Dongola on September 23; and there can be little doubt now that this prediction will be fulfilled. Since writing my last letter at Fereig our advance has been rapid. On the 17th our whole force, with the exception of the 5th Battalion, which was left to guard the line of communication, marched to Bargi, a distance of ten miles. On this and the subsequent marches the cavalry and horse artillery covered the front, while the camel corps marched in column on our left flank. The four brigades marched in as extended a formation as the nature of the ground allowed, in columns of double companies whenever that was possible. Our force was now as mobile as so large a body of men could possibly be; the organization was admirable; all heavy baggage had been left behind, and none but hospital tents were carried. Since we left Fereig our cavalry were constantly in touch with the dervishes, of whom about two hundred horsemen hovered around us and kept Wad el Bishara well informed as to our movements. The march to Bargi took us through a pretty country, and I began to realize that the accounts I had heard of the great fertility of the Dongola province had not been exaggerated. We traversed a green land of palms and bush and lush pasture, and round each village were fields of cotton, beans and ripening maize. The inhabitants stood in crowds outside each village, ragged and miserable looking creatures, who welcomed the troops with shrill cries of delight. During our march to Bargi we saw nothing of the gunboats, as they steamed up the western channel on the further side of the island of Arduan, which is three miles broad.

A HARD MARCH.

We bivouacked on the river bank and resumed our march at dawn on the 18th. We heard from the villagers that nearly the whole Dongola force, amounting to 4,000 men, under Wad el Bishara himself and about 50 emirs, was awaiting us at Kerman, so we looked forward to a warm engagement on the morrow. From Bargi we marched across the desert for ten miles, avoiding a deep bend of the Nile. On reaching the river bank again we found the steamers awaiting us. Here the men of the Staffordshire regiment disembarked. We halted till three in the afternoon and then marched to our bivouac eight miles off, on the river bank, opposite the island of Tunbus. This day was the hottest and most oppressive we have had for a long time; the route for the most part lay across soft sand, but the men of the Staffordshire Regiment displayed excellent marching qualities, and their pace was remarkably fast. The men have recently been engaged in repairing the railway line, and their hard work with pick and shovel has put them in good training; they look and are as fit as men can be. At Tunbus, unfortunately, one of our gunboats, the El Teb, grounded on a shoal, and I believe she has not yet been got off.

On Saturday, the 19th, we marched at 4 a.m. We passed through Abu Fatma, now in ruins, at dawn, and were then but four miles from Kerman. Our hopes of a brush with the enemy were now shattered by the information we here received from the inhabitants. Wad el Bishara, we were told, had transported his entire force, guns and supplies, across the river in the night, and now occupied Hafir on the west bank. At 6 o'clock we passed the fort which Wad el Bishara recently constructed at Kerman, a large square enclosure with stout mud walls loopholed, a place which, if well defended by his riflemen, would have cost us many men. I now rode up to a sandy hill on the river bank where our artillery was taking up its position and saw the first shot fired by one of our Krupp guns at 6:30. It was certainly a unique engagement. Our force of

FIFTEEN THOUSAND MEN SAT IDLE

on the sands under the burning sun, our artillery alone coming into action, and we watched a spirited encounter between our gunboats and the very determined enemy on the further bank. At this point the Nile is between 2,000 and 3,000 yards wide. In front of us were several large flat green islands, with villages, cultivated fields and pastures, on which were grazing numbers of cattle and goats. The low further bank of the Nile is lined with palm trees, and here, close to the village of Hafir, extended the enemy's defensive works. Wad el Bishara has throughout showed good generalship, and more especially did he do so in his selection of this position and in his method of fortifying it, which would have done credit to a European engineer. A continuous line of shelter trenches ran along the river bank, with loopholed mud walls so low that they afforded but a small mark to our gunners. Both to the north and south of this position were deep morasses, across which our men could have progressed but very slowly, had we landed a force and attempted to storm the entrenchments. Bishara had with him five small brass guns captured at Khartoum. They were served by eight Egyptian gunners, two of whom had formed part of Hicks Pasha's ill-fated force; the other six, one of whom had been a captain in the Egyptian army, were with Gordon at the fall of Khartoum. Their lives were spared by the dervishes, and they have been compelled for all these years to serve in the Mahdist army. They contrived to conceal themselves when Bishara evacuated Hafir, and came over to us on Sunday morning, greatly rejoiced at having regained their liberty. They stated that they would have been put to death had they refused to fire on us, but that they were careful to take very bad aim; however that may be, they made very good practice on our gunboats. The dervishes also had two Nordenfeldt guns at Hafir, and they probably jammed, as they were only in action for a short time. On the left of the dervish earthworks lay moored to the bank the small gunboat which Gordon had built during the siege of Khartoun, and about 25 large sailing vessels, some of which appeared to be of 40 tons burden. These we knew were laden with the whole of the grain that had been brought down from Dongola for the supply of Bishara's force.

THE ENGAGEMENT,

as I have said, opened at 6:30. For an hour our guns shelled the dervish position with apparently very little effect. Their five guns replied, but all their shot fell short. The riflemen opened fire upon us from their shelter trenches with Remingtons and Martini-Henrys, but at this long range few of their bullets reached us, and we had no casualties. But at 7 o'clock Commander Colville came up with his little fleet of three gunboats; the Tamai was his flagship, while Lieut. Beatty, R.N., and Capt. Oldfield, Royal Marine Artillery, commanded the Abu Klea and the Metemmeh respectively, and now a really exciting engagement commenced. Commander Colville's orders were that he should bombard the enemy's works, cut out their sailing boats if possible, and then steam up the river to Dongola, thirty miles distant. The gunboats followed the main channel of the river, under the western bank. Looking across the intervening islands, we saw each ship in turn steam up till she was abreast of the enemy's forts and rifle pits, deliver a well-directed fire at a distance of about 400 yards from her Krupps, Nordenfelts and Maxims, and then drop down stream again till practically out of range. These manœuvres were employed throughout the engagement, and well it was so, for every vessel would have

GONE TO THE BOTTOM

had they remained long exposed to the heavy fire with which the dervishes replied. I saw the rifle bullets plashing into the water round each vessel as she came within range, while the five dervish guns made excellent practice, and it was obvious to us that some of their shell attained their mark. While the gunboats were thus employed our shore batteries co-operated by pouring their heavy fire on the dervish position, but we did not succeed in silencing the enemy's fire. The defenders stuck to their guns with a splendid bravery, and their hot fire, as we afterwards ascertained, inflicted considerable damage on our gunboats. The bullets pattered against their sides and pierced all the deck cabins and other woodwork. One shell struck the Abu Klea between wind and water and entered her magazine; happily the shell was faulty and did not burst, so the dervishes were not gratified by beholding the blowing up of one of our vessels. Three shells also struck the Metemmeh, one passing through her smoke-stack, one through her cabin, and one through the gun shield at her bow. The casualties were numerous. Early in the day Commander Colville was shot through the wrist, but he continued to command his vessel; Armorer-Sergeant Richardson was killed, and 12 other men were wounded; many had very narrow escapes; a bullet, for example, passed through Lieutenant Beatty's helmet and another grazed his leg. The enemy's losses must have been heavy, and we saw a large body of dervish cavalry and camel corps retire for some distance into the desert, evidently with the object of getting out of range. They were shelled by our shore batteries and lost some men before they got away.

A DETERMINED ENEMY.

For three hours our gunboats were thus engaged, but they failed, accurate though their fire was, to silence our determined enemy. Then, at 9 a.m., Colonel Parsons was ordered to take two field batteries, one horse battery and the Maxim battery, with an escort of two companies of the Tenth Sudanese battalion, to the further side of the large island of Artaghasi, were they would only have the main channel, 1,200 yards broad, between them and the enemy. The Nile, having already subsided considerably, has left bare a somewhat swampy isthmus between the main shore and the island, across which the guns were carried without any difficulty. The guns took up their position on the westernmost point of the island, directly opposite the dervish defence. On riding over to this point I found our gunners busily engaged with the enemy. At this comparatively short range the fire was very effective. I saw several shells plug their fort, and the mud walls which sheltered the riflemen were knocked about a good deal; but still we were unable to silence the fire of the enemy, for whose extraordinary pluck we could not but entertain the highest admiration. Their riflemen opened a hot fire on us from their loopholes, but even at the range of 1,200 yards nearly all their bullets passed over our heads; the dervishes have shortened all their rifle barrels by about a foot so as to diminish their weight, but have placed no foresights on them, with the result that they always fire high. Three of our men, however, were wounded on the island, one of them subsequently died.

THE ENEMY'S LOSSES.

One of our shells struck the dervish steamer below the water line; she gradually heeled over until her deck faced us, then sank in shallow water, so that a portion of her side is still visible. At 10 o'clock our guns and Maxims on the island opened a still brisker fire on the enemy, and the men of the 10th Sudanese fired occasional volleys. I saw three shells in succession strike the enemy's redoubts, which most probably dismounted the guns, for their fire was silenced for the time. It was immediately after this that the three gunboats steamed in line past the enemy's works, delivered their final shots under a heavy musketry fire from the dervish entrenchments, and proceeded triumphantly up the river to reach Dongola before sunset. After this the fire became intermittent on both sides. Occasionally, parties of dervishes made attempts to reach their flotilla of boats, with the object of carrying off their groin, but were driven back by our Maxims. Throughout the night we opened fire at intervals on the river bank in the neighborhood of the boats, and succeeded in keeping the dervishes off, so the whole of their large supply of grain fell into our hands on the following day. In the evening some Berberis swam across the river, and from them we learned that the enemy's losses had been heavy, that Wad el Bishara had been severely wounded in the head and shoulder by a shell, and that Osman Azrak had also received a dangerous wound.

FLIGHT OF THE DERVISHES.

Early on Sunday morning I saw men shaking out the large lateen sails of the dervish boats, and soon the whole flotilla got under way and sailed across to our side of the river. At the same time hundreds of people came out of the village of Hafir and lined the Nile bank, waving cloths as if to welcome us. It was evident that the dervishes had evacuated the place. I ascertained from the intelligence department that Bishara, misled by some of our spies, who had caused him to believe that it was our intention to continue our march along the east bank, had crossed the river with all his men, animals, stores and ammunition at 3 in the morning, and was now marching on Dongola to oppose our passage of the river at that place.

The dervish general must have been quite unprepared for our next move. The enemy being now well on their way to Dongola by a desert route which avoids the Nile, the Sirdar gave orders that our entire force should cross the river to Hafir with the utmost despatch. We had long wondered at what point we should effect our passage of the Nile, and had expected to meet with opposition and to lose many men; but the successful ruse by which Bishara was outwitted enabled us to accomplish this difficult task without firing a shot. Throughout the day and for a great part of the night our gunboats and the captured dervish vessels sailed backwards and fowards from bank to bank, transporting across the broad, rushing stream our men, animals, supplies and baggage. The organization was so perfect that this large force was embarked and disembarked without any confusion. It was, indeed, a most creditable performance; but the sirdar, is, undoubtedly, an admirable organizer, and with him as leader the Egyptian army is, for its size, the most mobile in the world.

I crossed early in the day, and found the villagers ostensibly plucking from their clothes the dark square patches that mark the followers of the Mahdi. The women were more enthusiastic than the men; they uttered their shrill luluing, seized our hands, and would have embraced us had not their unloveliness led us to keep them somewhat aloof. I saw the poor Egyptian gunners who have for the last twelve years been the cruelly treated slaves of the Khalifa. Their joy at their release was most affecting to behold. At 4 p.m. the three gunboats returned, after having thrown a few shells into Dongola, which they found abandoned by the enemy. They had captured several boats laden with grain, and it is supposed that we now have in our possession the bulk of Bishara's grain supply. Of ammunition also he can have but little left. The Kababish camelmen who were impressed to carry the dervish ammunition deserted after the evacuation of Hafir, and dropped all their loads in the desert. We have recovered most of this, some hundreds of cases of rifle ammunition, and 72 boxes of Nordenfeldt ammunition which had fallen into the Mahdi's hands when Hicks Pasha's force was annihilated. This morning the remainder of our force crossed the river, and I hear that we will march this evening on Dongola, which is 28 miles distant by land. The dervishes, we understand, are awaiting us there and intend to fight.

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