FUNERAL OF GEN. GORDON.

HONORS FOR THE GALLANT DEAD BY KITCHENER'S ARMY.

An Impressive Scene—Martial Requiem Amid the Ruins of Khartoum "Under the Conquering Ensign of His Own People.

Geo. Stevens, writing to the London Daily Mail from Omdurman, thus describes a touching incident:—

The steamers—screws, paddles, stern-wheelers—plugged their steady way up the full Nile. Past the northern fringe of Omdurman, where the sheikh came out with the white flag, past the breach where we went in to the Khalifa's stronghold, past the choked embrasures and the lacerated Mahdi's tomb, past the swamp-rooted palms of Tuti Island. We looked at it with a dispassionate, impersonal curiosity. It was Sunday morning, and that furious Friday seemed already half a lifetime behind us. The volleys had dwindled out of our ears, and the smoke out of our nostrils, and to-day we were going to the funeral of Gordon. After nearly fourteen years the Christian soldier was to have Christian burial.

On the steamers there was a detachment of every corps, white, or black, or yellow, that had taken part in the vengeance. Every white officer that could be spared from duty was there, fifty men picked from each British battalion, one or two from each unit of the Egyptian army. That we were going up to Khartoum at all was evidence of our triumph; yet if you looked about you, triumph was not the note. The most reckless subaltern, the most barbarous black was touched with gravity. We were going to perform a necessary duty, which had been put off far, far too long.

Fourteen years next January— yet even through the humiliating thought there ran a whisper of triumph. We may be slow; but in that very slowness we show that we do not forget. Soon or late, we give our own their due. Here were men that fought for Gordon's life while he lived—Kitchener, who went disguised and alone among furious enemies to get news of him; Wauchope, who

POURED OUT HIS BLOOD LIKE WATER

at Tamai and Kirbekan; Stuart-Wortley, who missed by but two days the chance of dying at his side. And here, too, were boys who could hardly lisp when their mothers told them that Gordon was dead, grown up now, and appearing in the fulness of time to exact ten thousand lives for one. Gordon my die—other Gordons may die in the future—but the same clean-limbed brood will grow up and avenge them.

The boats stopped plugging and there was silence. We were tying up opposite a grove of tall palms; on the bank was a crowd of natives curiously like the backsheesh-hunters who gather to greet the Nile steamers. They stared at us; but we looked beyond them to a large building rising from a crumbling quay. You could see that it had once been a handsome building of the type you know in Cairo or Alexandria —all stone, and stucco, two-storied, faced with tall regular windows. Now the upper storey was clean gone; the blind windows were filled up with bricks; the stucco was all scars, and you could walk up to the roof on rubble. In front was an acacia, such as grow in Ismailia on the Ghezireh at Cairo, only unpruned—deep luscious green, only drooping like a weeping willow. At that most ordinary sight everybody grew very solemn. For it was a piece of new world, or rather of an old world, utterly different from the squalid mud, the baking barrenness of Omdurman. A facade with tall windows, a tree with green leaves—the facade battered and blind, the tree drooping to earth—there was no need to tell us we were at a grave. In that forlorn ruin, and that disconsolate acacia, the bones of murdered civilization lay before us.

The troops formed up before the palace in three sides of a rectangle—Egyptians to our left as we looked from the river, British to the right. The Sirdar, the generals of division and brigade, and the staff stood in the open space facing the palace. Then, on the roof—almost on the

VERY SPOT WHERE GORDON FELL

though the steps by which the butchers mounted have long since vanished—we were aware of two flagstaves. By the right hand halliards stood Lieutenant Staveley, R .N., and Captain Watson, K.R.R.; by the left hand Bimbashi Mitford and two other officers.

The Sirdar raised his hand. A pull at the halliards, up ran, out flew the Union Jack, tugging eagerly at his reins, dazzling gloriously in the sun, rejoicing in his strength and his freedom. "Bang!" went the Melik's 1[illegible] pounder, and the boat quivered to [illegible] backbone, "God Save our Gre[illegible] Queen" hymned the Guards' ba[illegible] "bang!" from the Melik—and Sirdar and private stood stiff—"bang!" to attention, every hand at the helmet peak—"bang!"—in salute. The Egyptian flag had gone up at the same instant; and now, the same ear-smashing, soul-uplifting bangs marking time, the band of the 11th Sudanese was playing the Khedival hymn. "Three cheers for the Queen!" cried the Sirdar; helmets leaped in the air, and the melancholy ruins woke to the first wholesome shout of all these years. Then the same for the Khedive. The comrade flags stretched themselves lustily, enjoying their own again; the bands pealed forth the pride of country; the twenty-one guns banged forth the strength of war. Thus, white men and black, Christian and Moslem, Anglo-Egypt set her seal once more, for ever, on Khartoum.

Before we had time to think such thoughts over to ourselves the bands were playing the 'Dead March in Saul." Then the black band was playing the march from Handel's "Scipio," which in England generally goes with

"TOLL FOR THE BRAVE."

This was in memory of those loyal men among the Khedive's subjects who could have saved themselves by treachery, but preferred to die with Gordon. Next fell a deeper hush than ever, except for the solemn minute guns that had followed the fierce salute, Four chaplains—Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian and Methodist — came slowly forward and ranged themselves, with their backs to the palace, just before the Sirdar. The Presbyterian read the Fifteenth Psalm, The Anglican led the rustling whisper of the Lord's Prayer. Snow-haired Father Brindle, best beloved of priests, laid his helmet at his feet and read a memorial prayer, bareheaded in the sun. Then came forth the pipers and wailed a dirge, and the Sudanese played, "Abide With Me." Perhaps lips did twitch just a little to see the abony heathens fervently blowing out Gordon's favourite hymn; but the most irresistible incongruity would hardly have made us laugh at that moment. And there were those who said the cold Sirdar himself, could hardly speak or see as General Hunter and the rest stepped out according to their rank and shook his hand. What wonder! He had trodden this road to Khartoum for fourteen years, and he stood at the goal at last.

Thus with Maxim-Nordenfelt and Bible we buried Gordon after the manner of his race. The parade was over, the troops were dismissed, and for a short space we talked in Gordon's garden. Gordon has become a legend with his countrymen, and they all but deify him dead who would never have heard of him had he lived. But in this garden you somehow came to know Gordon the man, not the myth, and to feel near to him. Here was an Englishman doing his duty alone, and at the

INSTANT PERIL OF HIS LIFE

yet still he loved his garden. The garden was a yet more pathetic ruin than the palace. The palace accepted its doom mutely; the garden strove against it. Untrimmed, unwatered, the oranges and citrons still struggled to bear their little hard green knots, as if they had been full ripe fruit. The pomegranates put on their vermillion, star-flowers, but the fruit was small and woody and juiceless. The figs bore better, but they, too, were small and without vigour. Rankly overgrown with dhurra, a vine still trained over a low roof its dwarfed leaves and limped tendrils, but yielded not a sign of grapes. It was all green, and so far vivid and rerfeshing after Omdurman. But it was the green of nature, not of cultivation; leaves grew large and fruit grew small, and dwindled away. Reluctantly, despairingly, Gordon's garden was dropping back to wilderness. And in the middle of the defeated fruit trees grew rankly the hateful Soudan apple, the poisonous herald of desolation.

The bugle broke in upon us; we went back to the boats. We were quicker steaming back than steaming up. We were not a whit less chastened, but every man felt lighter. We came with a sigh of shame, we went away with a sigh of relief. The long-delayed duty was done. The bones of our countrymen were shattered and scattered abroad, and no man knows their place. None the less Gordon had his due burial at last. So we steamed away to the roaring camp, and left him alone again. Yet not one nor two looked back at the mouldering palace and the tangled garden, without a new and great contentment. We left Gordon alone again —but alone in majesty under the conquering ensign of his own people.

GRAINS OF GOLD.

Be not merely good; be good for something.—Thoreau.

Evil is wrought by want of thought as well as by want of heart.—Hood.

Our ancestors have traveled the iron age; the golden is before us. — St. Pierre.

We are indebted to Christianity for gentleness, especially toward women.—C. Simmons.

God governs the world, and we have only to do our duty wisely, and leave the issue to him.—John Jay.

Good taste rejects excessive nicety; it treats little things as little things and is not hurt by them.—Feulton.

No man was ever so completely skilled in the conduct of life as not to receive new information from age and experience.—Terence.

Our lives, by acts exemplary, not only win ourselves good names, but do to others give matter for virtuous deeds, by which we live.—Chapman.

Narrow-minded and ignorant persons talk about persons and not things; hence gossip is the bane and disgrace of so large a portion of society.—Sheridan.

There cannot be a surer proof of low origin or of an innate meanness of disposition than to be always talking and thinking about being genteel. — Hazlitt.

BOTH HAPPY.

Yes, my wife and I have separated.
Indeed? What is the trouble?
There isn't any now.

ROUND THE WHOLE WORLD.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GLOBE.

Old and New World Events of Interest Chronicled Briefly—Interesting Happenings of Recent Date.

A peer cannot resign his peerage.

Crabs two feet in length are often seen in India.

There are enough paupers in London to fill every house in Brighton.

San Marino, the smallest republic in the world, has an annual revenue of £3,000.

Charity organizations existed in Egypt 2,500 and in china 2,000 years ago.

Police Court statistics show that Cornwall is the best behaved county in England.

There are supposed to be something like a thousand murderers at large in Great Britain.

Tea is cheap in China. In one province of the empire good tea is sold at 1 1-4d. a pound.

Italy produces annually 70,000,000 gallons of olive oil, the market value of which is £24,000,000.

The largest organ in the world is in the Cathedral of Seville, Spain. It has 53 pipes, and 110 stops.

The Lord Mayor of London receives more than 30,000 letters in a year, most of which have to be answered.

The deepest mine in the world is the Lambert mine in Belgium, which is 3,490 feet beneath the earth's surface.

While boring for coal at Barrow a bed of salt was found at a depth of 300 feet. The bed is said to be 70 feet, thick.

There are said to be in London alone 8,000 children who are feeble-minded, as distinguished from idiots and imbeciles.

The mummy of a Pharoh which recently arrived at Marseilles from Egypt was charged import duty at the rate for dried fish.

In an exhibition at Dresden are collected a number of boots, shoes and slippers once worn by emperors, kings queens and princes.

The cheapest railway travelling is to be had in Hungary, where it is possible to go a distance of five hundred miles for 6s 8d.

Capital sentence cannot be pronounced upon any criminal in Sweden until a confession of the crime has been obtained from him.

Italy leads in the number of crematories, having twenty-four. America has twenty-two, Germany four, England three, and France two.

About 6,000 persons are employed by the London hospitals, and of this number 1,300 are honorary medical officers, who receive no fee of any kind.

Compulsory army service has just been established in Holland for all males over nineteen years of age, except priests, ministers and divinity students.

A scientist declares that a block of steel ten feet square would be pressed into a block only two feet square if taken 4,000 miles below the earth's surface.

Berlin is one of the most cosmopolitan of European cities. Though it is the capital of Germany, only 37 per cent. of its inhabitants are German by birth.

It is stated that 40,000,000 dozen eggs are used every year by calico print works, 10,000,000 dozen by wine clarifiers, and many millions more by photographers and other industries.

Ten thousand new cab and carriage horses are among the items which Paris is acquiring for the accommodation of visitors to the Exhibition in 1900.

At the sunset hour in Seoul, Corea, a town bell proclaims the fact when the sun has vanished beneath the horizon. No man is allowed in the street after that hour, under penalty of a flogging.

More than half the Lord Chancellors of England during the past fifty years were the sons of poor men. One of them was the son of a country barber, and the father of another was a Newcastle coalheaver.

The Persians in 516 B.C. invented a transparent glass varnish, which they laid over sculptured rocks to prevent them from weathering. This coating has lasted to our day, while the rocks beneath are honeycombed.

The Great Eastern Railway has an income of £4,000,000 per annum, which is larger than the entire revenue of the kingdom of Greece, and not quite so large as the revenue of the united kingdoms of Sweden and Norway.

Including policemen, post-office officials, market men and women, caretakers, bakers, hospital nurses and newspaper writers and printers, it is estimated that fully 100,000 of the inhabitants of London are night workers.

One of the Sunday amusements in Havana is cock-fighting. It is customary at such contests to revive a half-vanquished bird by spraying Santa Cruz rum over its head. The rum is blown from the mouth of one of the fight directors.

There seems hardly any limit to the age of fish of many kinds. In the Royal Aquarium of St. Petersburg there are fish to-day that are known to have been there at least 150 years. Some of them are five times as big as when first captured; others have not grown an inch.

There are no fewer than 35 tunnels over 1,000 yards in length on English railway lines. Those of notable extent are the Severn tunnel on the G. W. R., 7,664; the Totley tunnel, on the Midland, 6,226; the Stanedge, on the North-western, 5,342; the Woodhead, on the Great Central, 5,297; and Bramhope, on the North-eastern, 3,745 yds. long.

The largest inhabited building in the world is unquestionably the Vatican at Rome, with its eight grand staircases, 200 smaller ones, 20 courts, and 11,000 apartments. Its marbles bronzes, frescoes, paintings and gems are unequalled in the world, and its library is the richest in Europe in manuscripts. Its collection of sculpture not only surpasses any other, but all others together.

One of the most beautiful sights in the world is the annual migration of butterflies across the Isthmus of Panama. Where they come from or whither they go no one knows. Towards the end of June a few scattered specimens are discovered flitting out to sea, and as the days go by the number increases until about July 14th or 15th the sky is occasionally almost obscured by myriads of these frail insects.

A statistician, who has been looking into the matter of divorce has found that the proportion of divorces to population is least in Ireland —only one divorce to every 400,000 inhabitants. In the United States the proportion of divorces is ominously large, 88.74 to every 100,000 of population the largest known, in fact, save in Japan, the figures for that happy empire being 608.45 divorces to every 100,000 of population.

The Duchess of Marlborough and the Duchess of Devonshire probably have the finest pearls in England, the Manchester necklace being very well known. Many smart ladies wear their pearls constantly, although they are not seen, as they are worn under a high dress, as pearls are supposed to keep their colour better when worn next to the skin. Pearls have, within the last twenty-five years, increased in value 1,000 per cent.

IRREGULAR BY SYSTEM.

The Ameer of Afghanistan Is Not a Believer in Punctuality.

Civilization, at least as we understand it, makes much of economy—a saving of money, effort and time. Moreover it teaches us that one of the most efficient helps to economy of any sort is regularity. Nevertheless the civilization of Afghanistan teaches the lesson otherwise.

Miss Lillian Hamilton, M.D., who occupied the important position of lady physician to the ameer tells some of her amusing experiences—among others of the lack of regularity in the ameer's household, and the reason therefor. She found that work begins in the morning when he is ready, when he is tired, work ceases. When he wishes to eat, dinner is served, and when he feels inclined to sleep the court is closed. He seldom rises before noon, though he may be astir early.

The difficulty is that as soon as he is astir every one is expected to be in attendance. The most important officials keep a servant waiting at the court door, to leap on his horse, and warn his master the moment the ameer wakes.

Being so unused to punctuality himself, the ameer cannot understand it in others. Miss Hamilton says, that one day when she had been sitting with him, she noticed that it was about her lunch time. Accordingly she excused herself, explaining where she was going.

"Are you hungry?" asked the ameer.

"No, I cannot say I am."

"Then why are you going to eat?" he persisted. "What a strange idea." Again she explained that it was her lunch time.

"Lunch-time?" he said. "Who made it your lunch-time? And what has that to do with it? I should have thought appetite was what had to be consulted, not time."

The treatment of servants was another subject on which the stranger found her ideas had to be remodelled. She quickly dropped into the habit of being as free and easy with them as was the custom.

"Indeed," she says, "I should have gained nothing if I had tried to keep them in what we should call 'their places.' They would not have understood it, because they were not accustomed to it. Moreover you could never be quite sure what their places were, they changed about so. I shall never forget my surprise when I met the ameer's old doorkeeper riding some distance outside Cabul, surrounded by quite a retinue of servants. He was on his way to Kandahar, of which city he had just been made governor.

"Several of the ameer's own relations are table servants. This is, indeed, rather a coveted post, as it often means advancement. But when they have laid the cloth-[illegible] floor, of course —and placed the [illegible] on it, they sit down and partake of the repast with the rest of the courtiers."

GUIDANCE.

Mudge—I have always tried to guide myself by the truth.

Yabsley—Well you have succeeded in steering yourself past it pretty successfully.

THE CZAR AT HOME.

The Russian Court Is the Most Magnificent in the World.

The Russian court military and ministerial dress is costly and rich in the extreme, and the richness is carried out even to the liveries of the servants, their scarlet coats being literally ablaze with gold, says a writer in the English Illustrated Magazine. It is a fact that no court in the world presents such a picturesque and magnificent appearance as does that of Russia. At any function, therefore, the show is brilliant, but more especially perhaps, at a ball, when the rich evening toilets of the ladies, enhanced by jewels of priceless worth, add much to the already brilliant effect. The Russian dances are of a very stately description, and both the emperor and empress take part in them very thoroughly. The aspect of the armorial-hall where the supper is often laid, is grand beyond all description. This meal is not partaken of standing, as at the majority of the courts, but the guests sit down at the long row of tables. A porcession is formed, which is headed by his imperial majesty, and the most distinguished lady present, and the room is then entered in the order of precedence. Of course, an immense quantity of plate is displayed. This and the china that is also used are noted throughout Europe for their richness and beauty. There is one service alone, capable of dining 500 persons, that is composed entirely of the purest silver overlaid with gold. Added to all this the use of a variety of the choicest fruits and the rarest flowers among which orchids figure largely, makes the scene one of the most gorgeous magnificence. During the evening a state progress through the suite of rooms is made by the imperial personages, and the chief officer of the household, the guests forming up into a long avenue on either side. One special feature is that two or three of the largest halls in the palace are, on the occasion of a ball, fixed up as a huge conservatory, palms, exotics, ferns, banks of flowers, and even fruit trees being transplanted thither with the most marvellous effect. Electric light is carried throughout, and glows down from myriads of globes of a variety of colors. In this veritable fairyland hundreds of seats are placed for the convenience of the guests between dances. It would be utterly impossible to mention the rare works of art to be seen in this palace, comprising paintings, statuary, collections of jewels, antiquities and curios of every description. Everything is of oriental magnificence, and to see it all the eye must weary of the continuous dazzle.

POSTOFFICE AUTO-CARS.

Experiments Made in England and How They Worked.

A novel feature of the yearly report of the British Postmaster-General, which has just been issued, consists in the account of experiments made with motor vans driven by oil, steam and electricity. An oil motor car, the property of the British Motor Syndicate, was engaged for two separate weeks, in the first instance conveying letter mails between the General Post-office, and the South-western district office, and on the second occasion between the latter office and Kingston-on-Thames.

For the first week there was a nominal charge of 26s., said to be the out-of-pocket expenses of the syndicate, whereas for the service which the motor car displaced in the week, about £6 would have been paid under the contracts, and for the service to Kingston rather more than £5.

The work of the motor car was performed satisfactorily, but the experiment was not pursued, as the syndicate were desirous of constructing a more suitable car. For the next experiment a steam motor car was engaged, the property of a private firm, and the vehicle was employed for six weeks conveying parcels between London and Redhill. The price charged was £7 a week, compared with an amount ranging from £11 to £14, the estimated cost of a pair-horse van of like capacity. As a rule, the journey was performed in from ten to twenty minutes less time than that allowed for a horsed conveyance.

An electric motor car, belonging to the Electrical Vehicle Syndicate, was employed on town work for four weeks. One or two accidents of a minor character occurred, giving rise to delays, but in other respects the work was satisfactorily performed.

Arrangements have since been made for extended trials, and it is confidently hoped that the results will show that motors can be permanently used with advantage to the mail service.

THE RIGHT OF WAY.

It is a well established principle of law that in crossing streets or highways the person on foot has the right of way. Drivers and bicycle riders should always bear this fact in mind. It is law, and if you injure a pedestrian by careless driving or riding you are responsible for it. A person is not required by law to ran across the street to keep out of the way of vehicles and bicycles. The drivers and riders are the ones to look out for a clear track.