

But what do the wishes of the people amount to when such frauds as were perpetrated at the late election are not only sanctioned, but planned and executed by the highest officials in the Territory.

One would suppose the government officials who lent their official power to carry out the unbalanced designs of the crusaders here would feel some remorse of conscience, and a blush of shame would once in a while tinge their countenances, but, no; they actually boast of it as if it were some noble work; shame is as far from them as the principles of justice and honor. The people here propose to stand by the Constitution, the efforts of other men to run over it and trample it under foot to the contrary notwithstanding.

R. L. BYBEE.

The picture presented in the foregoing details will not tend to raise an already depreciated public estimate of Idaho politics and politicians.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE Soudan

AND THE PRESENT CAMPAIGN.

Although the English-speaking world has been for the last two years at least, or since the lamentable attempt of Col. Hicks to subdue Mohammed Ahmed or Achmet, the False Prophet, very much interested in events transpiring in the Soudan, comparatively little, outside of a confused mass of names, is known of the region. Nearly every foot of the beaten ways between the Red Sea and Old Dongola, the Nubian Desert and El Obeid is strewn with the bleaching bones of English officers and Egyptian troops. There the gallant Stewart, the bold and gentle Burnaby, devoted Gordon and dashing Earle have laid down their lives truly and as Britons, and there also that trio of journalists, O'Donovan, Cameron and Herbert, breathed their last, slain by spear point or rifle ball of the False Prophet's soldiers.

EGYPT'S FIGHTING PASHA.

It is truly ground to which many heroic associations will ever cling. Until 1811 there was no Soudan as we see it now on the map of somewhat misty limits called Egypt. Until 1877 it had no existence as an administrative district, which it is now supposed to be. When the adventurous Albanian, Mehemet Ali, crushed the Mameluke factions in Egypt in 1811, and by virtue of his ability for fighting became Egypt's first ruler, he began his career as a reformer and conqueror. First he introduced reforms that strengthened his power at home and then moved on Lower Egypt to annex it and conquer its Arab inhabitants. He carried all before him, and with his warlike son Ismail, as leaders, the provinces of Kordofan and Senaar, further south than Khartoum and on both sides of the Nile, were added to Egypt. He established and fortified Khartoum. Murder and rapine were met with the like in the wars of those days, and the Arabs were relentlessly swept aside. Mehemet Ali's and Ismail's methods drew the Arab heart, and after a career of conquest Ismail and his small army were enticed into a carouse at Shendi by a native prince and murdered to a man. They were amply avenged. Before Ismail's death father and son looked around for new fields of conquest, and quarreled with Turkey. They beat the Turks on several hard-fought fields, and would have marched to Constantinople and captured the Sultan had not the great powers of Europe stepped in and stopped Mehemet's rush on their "Sick Man."

Then Mehemet retired to his augmented empire, Ismail was murdered and in 1848 the old warrior Pasha became imbecile and gave up the Pashalic to his son Ibrahim, whose grandson the present Pasha Tewfik is.

HOW EGYPT'S TROUBLE CAME ABOUT.

From Ibrahim's reign the troubles of Egypt began, for Abbas, his brother, is said to have been poisoned at the order of his son Ismail, and Said, another uncle of Ismail's, succeeded to the rulership. Said died in 1865 and Ismail became the fifth Pasha of Egypt. He ruined the land by his extravagance, much of which was in accordance with his ideas of advancing the interests of Egypt. But his career was cut short in June, 1879, when the Sultan of Turkey, as his sovereign prince, compelled him to resign, and Tewfik, his son, was appointed as his successor. Tewfik still reigns. The old Khedive is also alive, and living on an annuity in London, where he is a familiar figure, brown, ruddy and snow-haired. Ismail Pasha is 55 years old. It was he who called General Gordon to the Soudan to subdue the country, reform the administration and stop the traffic in slaves. Gordon and his Italian assistant, Romolo Gessi, succeeded where Sir Samuel Baker (Baker Pasha's brother) had failed.

FACTS ABOUT THE SOUDAN.

But to the Soudan, after thus sketching the troubles of the descendants of the leading figure in modern Egyptian history—Mehemet Ali, the warrior Pasha. It came into existence in its present form in 1877 when Lower Egypt and the annexations made by Mehemet and Ismail were organized into one Administrative District and called the Soudan. On three sides of the Soudan are deserts, and on the fourth the Red Sea. It is a country of magnificent natural resources in parts, and of sterile and deadly deserts in others.

Its average length is 1,640 miles, and its average width 660 miles. One-fourth of its population has never acknowledged the authority of the Khedive, and seven-eighths of them have been slaves or are so now; and of these emancipated ones the army of Arabi Bey was made up. Mohammed Ahmed's is of the same material, with Arab additions.

KHARTOUM.

Khartoum is, of course, the Soudan's chief city, and when it is considered that it is poorly protected, one wonders how Gordon held out so long, and is apt to turn up one's nose at the abilities of Mohammed Ahmed's army. Before the False Prophet's revolt, it had a population of fifty thousand, but it hardly had a fifth of that number within its badly constructed walls of mud when the traitorous Beys let the rebel forces in. It stands at the junction of the White and Blue Niles, but is on the latter, and its fortifications, before being improved by Gordon, were not indicative of the use of any great amount of engineering skill.

SUAKIM.

Suakim is the Soudan's chief port. It is on the Red Sea and is about 650 miles from Suez, or half way down the length of the Red Sea. Its population, largely traders, numbers from seven to ten thousand. It is a clean, white town—for Africa—with an extensive trade in gum, ivory, feathers and other African products. The harbor is small and crooked, and the weather intensely hot, the sun reaching the zenith twice a year. From Suakim runs the two principal routes to Berber and Kassala, part of the former of which is to be covered with a railway. Gordon wanted one from Suakim to Berber ten years ago. Both routes are through vast deserts, with scant water supply. From Suakim to Berber is 240 miles, and from Suakim to Kassala less than 300 miles. Khartoum is about 200 miles distance from each, and 115 miles south of Berber, and on the opposite banks of the Blue Nile lay Shendi and Metemneh.

MASSOWAH.

Massowah, now in the joint hands of the Italian and Egyptian troops, is about 480 miles directly east of Khartoum, Kassala being almost half way between them. It is on a coral island of its name on the coast of the Red Sea, 280 miles south of Suakim. It was and is now claimed by Abyssinia, but the claim is not a good one now at any rate. It possesses the best harbor on the Red Sea, enjoys a large trade with the Abyssinian caravans, having a population variously estimated at from 2,500 to 3,000, the bulk of which are black Arabs. The balance are of every nation under the sun. Massowah is strongly fortified, but is naturally weak. The climate is almost deadly to a white man, the temperature often ranging from 100 to 114 degrees for four months in the year. The hot season begins shortly and doubts are entertained as to whether British troops can march over deserts in it. The chances are that they cannot. At any rate they can do nothing until the relief expedition under Gen. Graham reaches the Soudan. With it England is likely to have 20,000 to 25,000 men in the field, and then Mohammed Ahmed's troubles will begin.

THE ENGLISH FORCES.

Lord Wolseley's forces in the Soudan do not at present include more than eight thousand men divided into three divisions. The chief is at Korti under Wolseley and is made up of about twenty-five hundred men. The second of about two thousand men, is near Aub Hamed, half way between Korti and Berber under Colonel Sir Henry Brackenbury, and the third corps is that under command of Sir Charles Wilson, it having lost its leader, Sir Herbert Stewart, by a wound received in the Abu Klea Wells fight of January 19. It numbers about two thousand men. There are also two smaller forces out, one doing depot duty at Gakdul Wells, and an expedition of about one thousand men under Colonel Sir Redvers Buller is now moving on Metemneh, almost opposite Shendi. It is very probable that a more competent set of officers were never engaged in one of England's auxiliary wars than this group. All have given severe service and have given and taken hard knocks with Wolseley.

WOLSELEY'S ASSISTANTS.

Col. Sir Redvers Buller is Wolseley's Chief of the Staff, and has served under him in most of his campaigns, including the Red River expedition of 1879, the Ashantee war of 1874, and later in the expeditions against the Kaffirs and Zulus of South Africa.

Col. Sir Charles W. Wilson, of the Royal Engineers, is not a soldier who has seen much service in the field, but has had much experience in the East. He was Consul General in Anatolia in 1879, and previous to that served as one of the Royal Commissioners appointed to mark out the Servian frontier.

Col. Sir Henry Brackenbury, of the Royal Artillery, fought through the Indian mutiny and Ashantee campaign, was Private Secretary to Lord Lytton while the latter was Viceroy of India, and has been military attaché at Paris and Assistant Under Secretary for Ireland.

There are two other officers in the Soudan who are frequently mentioned in connection with the movements of the expedition. These are Col. Butler and Lieut. Col. Boscawen. Buller is

another Ashantee and Red River campaigner. He will also be remembered as marrying Miss Elizabeth Thompson, the battle scene painter, whose most famous works, "The Roll Call" and "Quatre-Bras," are famous.

Col. Boscawen is also with Wilson's forces. He was an aide of Lord Wolseley in the campaign against Arabi Bey, and was called from a military post in Ireland to the Soudan.

ARE THE "MORMONS" COWARDS?

Editor Deseret News:

The organ of slander of this city, the prosecuting attorneys, deputy marshals and others are very much concerned, because certain men cannot be found when commissioners and grand juries would like to interview them. This absence has called forth some foul aspersions from both tongue and pen. In a late issue of the sheet mentioned, Joseph Smith, the dead Prophet, is called a brave man because he faced the music every time without fail, and finally went to his death courageously, while the present Prophet, John Taylor, is branded as a veritable coward unworthy the confidence of the "Mormon" people, because they claim he is hiding away at a time when he should be to the front, easily to be found and always ready to answer marshals, commissioners, juries and courts, whenever they think fit to interrogate or try him. His Counselors, the Apostles and other leading men are placed in the same category and branded with cowardice also. Instead of arguing the point at this time I wish to turn to the pages of sacred writ for a few examples and ask our accusers to compare notes and tell us honestly are we any more cowards than they; on the contrary are we not equally justified before God as they were.

First—Will anybody accuse Moses, the great lawgiver, of cowardice, and yet we read that "he fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian," and there remained until the Lord called him to deliver His people. Pharaoh perchance accused him of cowardice, but God approved the act and blessed him with priesthood and great power.

Second—Was David the King of Israel a coward? When a boy he singly encountered the Philistine giant and slew him and afterwards performed other wonderful feats. Yet we find him being "let down through a window and he went and fled and escaped." For years succeeding we find him hiding away from Saul though he had many favorable opportunities of slaying him and exercising the kingly power to which he had previously been anointed by the Prophet Samuel.

Third—Will anybody question the bravery of the Prophet Elijah or his power with the heavens to the extent that he could command the elements and they obeyed him? Yet we find him fleeing from Jezebel into the wilderness and afterwards to a cave on the Mount Horeb, where God manifested himself to this hidden prophet.

We will pass by other examples of any equally prominent character quoted in Holy writ, for, did not the Apostle Paul say, "And others had trials of cruel workings, bonds and imprisonments of whom the world was not worthy," that "they" wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth? Come we now to the child Jesus or the Son of the Eternal One. Let us quote from the record. "The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying: Arise and take the young child and his mother and flee into Egypt and be thou there until I bring the word, for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him." "But when Herod was dead behold the angel of the Lord appeared again saying, Arise, take the young child and his mother and go into the land of Israel? Who was this Jesus? "The Alpha and Omega" "the beginning and the end." In short the "Almighty God" fleeing before a wicked ruler, an earthly potentate to escape his wrath and preserve his own life. Why did not the Angel instead of commanding Joseph to flee with that child smite Herod dead? Let those who sincerely say that the "Mormon God is a bad God" if He will not defend His people against all opposition. Answer the above question; for surely the entire heavens were interested above all things in this Savior of the world.

The Latter-day Saints can answer the question satisfactorily to themselves: they can afford to wait, nay hide, if needs be; for our deliverance will surely come, and without at all sacrificing their manhood or meriting the appellation of cowards by avoiding, for the time being, too close contact with their enemies (for despite all protestations to the contrary, these men are our enemies.) We will accomplish such a victory that will lift us above their power and eventually we shall behold those who now grin with Satanic delight at the prospect of bringing into bondage men who are so far above them in every principle of honor and true manhood, "hiding themselves in dens and rocks of the mountains, and calling upon these to fall upon them and hide them from the face of Him that sitteth upon the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb," unless they speedily repent; for these are the words of Jehovah himself. Mock, sneer, deride, persecute in the name of law—this handful of God-serving people called "Mormons," for your time is short; your end is near. You will find ere long, as Saul did (who thought he was doing God service, in holding the clothes of those who killed Stephen

while he was being stoned to death) that it is hard to fight against God.

CONSISTENCY.

A PORTRAIT OF THE MAHDI.

Alfred M. Cotte, L.L. D., gives to the Catholic World the following pen picture of the Mahdi:

"Imagine a man about 40 years of age, of medium height, as lean, as the saying is, as shotten herring, with a mahogany complexion, coal-black beard and eyes, and three vertical slashes on his palid cheeks; add to this a long cotton shirt as a garment, a narrow turban as a head-dress, a pair of wooden sandals, and in the hands—dry as those of a mummy—a string of ninety beads, corresponding to an equal number of divine attributes, and you have the mahdi. Those who have seen him say that Mohammed-Ahmed plays to perfection the part of a visionary dervish, waving his head when walking, and murmuring constant prayers, his eyes fixed on heaven. His father was a carpenter on Naft island, in the Nubian province of Dongola, and about 1852 came, with his four children, to Chindli, a small city on the bank of the Nile, south of Berber. When still very young he was placed as an apprentice under the care of one of his uncles, a ship-builder of Chabakah, opposite Sennaar. It seems that the future prophet was not without his failings, for one day his uncle thought well of flogging him in a regular French style. The proceeding was not appreciated, and the child ran away until he arrived in Khartoum, where he entered a sort of school or convent of begging dervishes, who were in charge of the monument erected over the venerated remains of Cheick Hoghali, patron of the city. There his life was a remarkable one for his piety; but as to education, he never learned how to write or even how to read fluently. Later he went to a similar institution in Berber, then to one in Aradup, on the Kena. In the latter city he became, in 1870, the favorite disciple of an eminent fakir, Cheick Nur-el-Daim, and finally was ordained by him and went to Abbas island, White Nile. His fame as a saintly man was every year on the increase. He lived in a kind of pit or subterranean repository for grain, called a silo, which he had dug up with his own hands, and there he passed his life, fasting and praying, burning incense day and night, and repeating the name of Allah for hours at a time until he would fall to the ground panting and exhausted. If anybody spoke to him he gave back no answer, except sentences from the sacred books of Islam. Earthly things seemed to inspire him only with disgust and pity. He had made a vow to absorb himself in the contemplation of divine perfections and to weep all his life for the sins of mankind. But his tears did not destroy his powers of vision, and he kept his best eye wide open to business; and the faithful coming by thousands and depositing rich offerings at the mouth of his silo, he never failed to see the gifts nor to stow them away carefully for stormy days. In 1878 he had become so wealthy that he felt the necessity to declare that Allah had ordered him to leave his silo and to take unto himself a large collection of wives, whom, as a truly practical man, he chose among the most influential families of the country, especially that of Bagaras, the most opulent slave-traders on the White Nile.

"Every one has still fresh in his memory the appalling extermination of Hicks Pasha's 11,000 men, surrounded on the 5th of November, 1883—the first day of the fourteenth century of the hegira—at Kasghil, while marching on El Obeid. This horrible butchery, happening on the threshold of the century announced as the one of the last prophet, gave a bloody consecration to Mohammed-Ahmed, who, after the three-days' battle, went all over the battlefield, piercing with his spear the ghastly corpses of his enemies, and exclaiming: It is I, the prophet, who destroyed the heretics! Compared to him Mohammed was no more, in his mind, than a small prophet. He alone was the only great and powerful messiah announced by Mohammed himself. The sultan of Constantinople was no more the supreme caliph, the chief of Islamism; it was he, Mohammed-Ahmed, and he ordered his own name to be invoked in public worship in the place of Mohammed's, right after the name of Allah!

"I have said enough to show what kind of a man is the Nubian mahdi."

A SALVAGE QUESTION.

A CURIOUS question in the matter of last voyage claims has grown out of the salvageage of the *Alaska* between Liverpool and New York. The voyage was one of the roughest ever experienced, and the storm through which the *Alaska* passed was so severe that it is said almost any other vessel would have succumbed to it. She weathered the gale in splendid style, but after it

was over her rudder broke, so that it was impossible to steer her. Two days subsequently the *Winnipeg* was sighted, and taken in tow for the purpose of being used as a rudder. The curious part of it is that the *Winnipeg* made the voyage in this manner in one day's less time than she otherwise would have done, and yet her owners will claim salvage from the underwriters of the *Alaska* for service rendered which helped instead of hindering her. It is said to be the first case of the kind that has ever occurred and it is uncertain how it will be settled; but however it is decided it will probably afford rich pickings for some lawyers.

Great credit is accorded to Captain Murray and his officers and crew of the *Alaska* for the masterly manner in which they handled the steamer during the storm and after she was disabled, and the cabin passengers showed their appreciation of their efforts by contributing for their benefit a purse of \$750, and presenting them with a copy of certain complimentary resolutions which they passed.

THAT MISSING MAN.

ST. JOHNS, ARIZONA,

February 12th, 1885.

Editor Deseret News:

I see a notice in the NEWS February 3d, of a missing man, a German named Bittner, who left Salt Lake City last May. I believe this man Bittner came to our camp at Badger Creek, beyond Jacob's Pools, some time about the 27th or 28th of September last. He had a small bundle and a staff in his hand, and wore a black slouch hat, a brown ducking coat, and, I think, pants of the same material. He walked a little lame, as he told us that his foot had been frost-bitten. His age and complexion agree with the published account. I set this man over at Lee's ferry myself about the last of September or first of October, and the last I heard of him he was at Winslow, a little above Sunset, Arizona.

I assure you we were not a little surprised to see a man on tramp in that lonely desert country, with no bed or horse or food, only what he received of the missionaries whom he tried to keep pace with.

ROBERT HOLMES.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Astor, U. S. Minister to Italy, had an audience with King Humbert yesterday and presented his letters of recall.

Grannis Block, Dearborn street, near Washington, Chicago, burned last night. Loss \$150,000; Insurance \$120,000.

The Colorado State convention of the Young Men's Christian Association is in session at Denver. Attendance large.

The California Assembly yesterday passed a constitutional amendment providing that railroads shall pay a tax of 2 1/2 per cent on their gross earnings.

A fire at Willingford, Conn., Wednesday night destroyed the Franklin Hall building, occupied by three families. An old man named Jackson was burned to death.

Denver, 19.—The first train over Marshall Pass since Sunday last arrived here to-day. The situation of all the mountain roads is encouraging, with one or two exceptions. Trains are now running regularly.

The Oregon Senate, by a vote of 18 to 10, rejected the bill to resubmit the constitutional amendment conferring suffrage on women, which was voted down at the last State election.

San Francisco, 19.—An iron-worker's strike was inaugurated ten days ago, 15,000 men in the different shops refusing to accept a 15 per cent reduction of wages. It ended to-day. The manufacturers gave way and the men returned to work at the old wages.

The knitting girls in Well's hosiery factory at St. Louis, twenty in number have struck against a reduction of wages. A meeting of all knitting girls, about 400, will be held on Monday next. It is believed the strike will become general.

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FOR 1885
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JAMES J. H. GREGORY, (Seed Grower), Marblehead, Mass