

"Vive Napoleon," and the cry was taken up by the troops. No further resistance was offered. Such were the principal facts in that great historical episode of France, the anniversary of which has just been celebrated.

When politics becomes so exciting that women participate, there is generally a grave issue at stake which is likely to make it decidedly interesting. Especially so when we see German ladies taking a lively interest in public questions. According to the social ethics of Prince Bismarck, woman's sphere of labor should be restricted to her own family or at most to her immediate friends. It is, therefore, with some surprise that the news is received that the ladies of Berlin, headed by the Empress, have organized a series of *tableaux vivants*, or living pictures, by which these ladies intend to represent the horrors of the slave trade in Africa, and thereby arouse the rather phlegmatic Germans to its suppression by planting colonies in Central Africa. No doubt German statesmen feel chagrined by the fact that British valor rescued Emin Pasha, who saw no alternative except to vacate his Central African dominions or perish in them, thereby giving Great Britain a double pretext to claim these vast and fertile territories as her own. Germany's profession of philanthropy, though it may be insincere on the part of the German government, will certainly have a weighty influence with the German people. History records numerous instances where sentiment and religious zeal were the motives that prompted to the most important movements. We should not forget that the Crusades were in the main the result of religious zeal. So too, motives of religion and philanthropy prompted the good Queen Isabella to pledge her jewels in order to fit out Columbus for his memorable voyage of discovery. Likewise, in our own time we have seen how sentiment and romance may influence the destiny of a nation. For nearly a century the slave question had been before the people of the United States. They well knew that four millions of slaves were in bondage, that in many cases little children were sold from their mothers and wives from their husbands yet the nation remained comparatively unmoved, until suddenly a woman of genius wrote *Uncle Tom's Cabin*; and the brutality of the system was burned into the hearts of the lovers of freedom. The moral conscience of the nations was awakened, and not only in the United States, but likewise in Brazil the death knell of slavery was rung.

In this case philanthropists will rejoice if indeed Germany is awakened to the great moral and social reforms she is capable of introducing. Still there are certain wise ones who go about shrugging their shoulders and slyly winking their eyes and seem to think it is exceedingly funny for Germany to suddenly pose as the great missionary power of the earth, while many millions of her people are crushed

under a military despotism nearly equal to slavery.

That Bismarck believes that a gross blunder has been made in not sending supplies and troops to Emin is evident from the address of his son Count Herbert Bismarck in the Reichstag the past week.

The speech in itself betrayed great irritability. Even such men as Prince Bismarck and Signor Crispi, who have rendered great services to their country, would scarcely venture to dictate to a national assembly what questions of public policy they should or should not discuss. Count Herbert's remark that "certain persons cannot be kept silent by any fear of compromising the success of pending negotiations" only roused bitter opposition from the Liberals. Eugene Richter, carried away by his feelings, flung a poisoned arrow at the Count by the remark that there were "Ministers who hoped to hide their incapacity in the confusion caused by Parliamentary squabbling."

A curious light is thrown upon the inner history of Mahdism, by the letter addressed by Omar Saleh, the Mahdi's general, to Emin Pasha. In its diction it is like a chapter from the Koran, and every sentence burns with profound conviction. It is strange to find the fierce warrior of the desert, beginning with the reminder that "the world is a house of change and decay, and everything in it must one day perish; nothing in it is of value to a true servant of God except that which is for his good in a future life." It is stranger still to find the absolute confidence of the Mahdi's general in the righteousness of the cause he represents. In the very summons commanding Emin to surrender occurs a passage which thrills with child-like tenderness and affection. He says, "We have found him (the Mahdi) more compassionate than a pitying mother. He lives with the great, but he has compassion on the poor, he speaks only the truth and brings people to God, relieves them in this world and shows the path to the next." Such trash as this explains the valor with which the Dervishes have fought the best disciplined troops of Europe. They can look back, too, upon a long list of triumphs, in which the annihilation of Hicks Pasha's army, the overthrow of Gordon at Khartoum, and the death of Gen. Stewart take a place. The withdrawal of Emin adds another to the Mahdi's triumphs. The most zealous partisan of English policy in the East must admit that Great Britain has undertaken anything but a smooth and easy task in Egypt and Central Africa.

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EUROPE, December 9th, 1889.

Emin Pasha has had a relapse and great anxiety is felt.

Serpa Cinto is returning to Europe on the plea of ill health. His dispatches to the government declare that the English officials have written him their thanks for his services in Nyanza land.

## GETTING THROUGH COLLEGE.

It is wonderful how little a college education may cost nowadays. Considering the generous scholarships, cheap board, low room rent and ample opportunities of self-help it may truthfully be said that there is no one so poor in money as to be debarred the privilege and advantage of a college course if he has pluck and health.

A large number of the students are engaged in work independent of the college. Those who wait on table—a favorite employment—get their board free. At present a junior and a sophomore are running an eating-house and paying a large share of their expenses out of the proceeds. Several keep stores, selling athletic goods and gentlemen's furnishings and running Troy laundry agencies. A student from Armenia deals in Oriental goods. One enterprising man buys and sells second-hand furniture, undoubtedly making a lordly profit at the hands of unsophisticated freshmen. Members of the college quartette and the editors of the college papers make more or less, but nothing magnificent. Tutoring brings fair remuneration.

A young man working his way through college is generally ill-dressed, ill-fed and ill-housed. Sometimes, however, one meets a type that wears fashionable clothes. This magnificent character plays poker—whenver he can find anyone to play with—and also makes large but judicious bets on the ball games. He is the parasite of college life.

Occasional sums are made in odd ways. A student last year made himself a railway ticket agent for a week before vacation and cleared a small fortune. A man from an adjoining country village brought in a quantity of maple sugar from his father's farm and drove a thriving trade as long as his stock lasted. Before a semi-annual examination a great deal of more or less hasty reviewing is necessary, and, to save time as well as labor, students sometimes gather in companies of twenty or thereabouts and pay a man to read the "trot" while they follow in the Greek or Latin text. Each man pays the reader five cents an hour and tries to believe that he is ready to meet the dreaded "exam."

Quite a number of men find employment altogether outside the college. Several sing in church choirs or make a handsome sum giving banjo lessons in the neighboring towns. During the spring term a few get work on farm.—N. Y. Sun.

## EFFECT OF NOVELS.

The statistics of popular and circulating libraries show that 75 per cent of all the books taken out are novels of recent production, writes Edward J. Phelps, ex-minister to England, in *Scribner's*. A library for the general public that did not furnish them could not be sustained, whatever real treasures of knowledge and literature it might offer.