

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN A CONDENSED FORM.

Officers Elected by the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, at Its Annual Meeting in Omaha—Other Interesting Items.

Order of Eastern Star. Nebraska grand chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, held its annual session at Omaha with a good attendance. The election of officers resulted as follows: Grand worthy matron, Mrs. E. M. Baldwin, North Platte; grand patron, David B. Howard, Lincoln; associate grand matron, Mrs. Maud M. Green, Genoa; assistant grand patron, Charles Phelps Schuyler, Grand Rapids; grand secretary, Dr. Elmer Dailey, Omaha; grand treasurer, Mrs. Rose McGivern, Fremont; conductress, Mrs. Cora A. Whitmore, Neligh; assistant conductress, Miss Anna E. Peterson, Omaha; grand chaplain, Kate Amble, Lexington; grand lecturer, Alice E. Landisley, Table Rock, Iowa; grand Adah, Mrs. Anna Walden, Neligh; grand Ruth, Imogene Foster, Neligh; grand Esther, Jennie M. Yennel, Hartington; grand Martha, Emily Compton, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; grand Electa, Maria E. Streeter, Crete; grand marshal, Ida Taggett, Nebraska City; grand organist, Carrie Meda, South Omaha; grand warden, Mrs. Bertha Coling, York; grand sentinel, Frank H. Young, Broken Bow.

Seriously Assaulted. W. S. Hartwick, a former employe of the Lemen Brothers circus, was badly pounded up at Fremont, Hartwick left the show and was obliged to attach some of the show property in order to get his money. During the evening three men supposed to be circus roustabouts went to the hotel and took a room near Hartwick's. They then broke into his room and jumped onto him while he was in bed. His front teeth were knocked out, his cheek cut open and he was badly bruised. The three left the hotel before they could be apprehended.

Circus Makes Trouble for Police. A circus was at Blair last week which was followed by a lot of toughs. Night Police William Quinan caught three of them trying to rob a man named Smith in a saloon and started with them to jail, when one of them resisted Quinan and had to be clubbed. After the officer had them inside the building they all three attacked him and an all round fight took place. Sheriff Muncie came to Quinan's assistance and the men were placed in the cell, after all three were knocked down and each one had received a well bruised head.

Peculiar Predicament. A peculiar sequel to the recent arrests for the illegal disposal of liquors in Humboldt occurred when Thomas W. Connor, the night policeman, was arrested charged with giving away liquor. Mr. Connor, in his official capacity, recently confiscated some liquor and his prosecutors say that he gave it away afterward, thus violating the law himself. Connor and his friends denounce the action as pure spite work.

Contract Let. The contract for building the new Scots Bluff County court house was let in Gerling by the board of commissioners to Ed. W. Sayre. The building under present plans will be of brick, two stories, 28x42 feet in size, equipped with vaults and other accessories. Bonds for the purpose of this contract were voted at the election last season and also a special tax levy.

Recruits Start West. Captain Kilian of the First regiment left Columbus the other day over the Burlington with 105 new recruits for San Francisco, via Denver. The boys were from Falls City, Fallerton, Warsaw, St. Edward and Columbus. Fifty recruits also left Hastings over the Burlington for California to join the First regiment of Nebraska volunteers and to be forwarded to Manila.

Loses an Arm. Bert Snyder, a member of the Elkhorn bridge gang, was the victim of a serious accident, which, it is feared, will cost him his life. In attempting to get aboard a train of cars Snyder slipped and fell and his left arm was crushed. Medical attendance was summoned and Snyder's arm was amputated near the elbow. He is in a precarious condition.

Attempted Incendiarism. An attempt was made to burn the large fall on the fair ground at Wahoo the other night. The fire was noticed about daylight by parties living near the grounds. The alarm was given and prompt action saved the building with but little damage. All of the stallions and part of the fence were burned last fall and probably from the same source.

Nebraska Law Declared Invalid. The supreme court has rendered an opinion declaring the fire and police law of the state invalid. Its effect will be, it is claimed, to remove Gov. Holcomb's appointees for fire and police commissioners of Omaha and to substitute therefor a board selected by the mayor and city council.

Burglars at Blair. The residence of Hub Jones and O. C. Thompson at Blair were rifled by burglars the first of the week and Judge Perkins a few nights later. Two men were arrested and one of them fully identified by Mrs. Perkins, who saw him from an adjoining room.

Irrigators Elect Officers. The election for the formation of the proposed Enterprise irrigation district, in Scotts Bluff County, resulted in a majority for the district. A. W. Raymond, Ed. J. Thomson and T. J. Fanning were elected as directors.

Brakeman Injured. William Harwood, a brakeman, had his right foot severely bruised under the engine pilot while switching at Rising Sun.

Explosion in Bicycle Factory. The blazing machines in the work room of the Norfolk Bicycle Company exploded the other day, seriously burning W. C. Ahlmann, who was operating it. The building was set on fire, but the fire department soon had the flames under control. Damage to the building about \$250 and to machinery about \$50.

Nebraska Sheriff Honored. J. J. Trompen of Lincoln was elected president of the Interstate Sheriff Association at their annual meeting in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Doctor Holds the Corpse.

Death has not ended the troubles of Tressie Lewis, a young colored woman, who died at St. Joseph's Hospital in Omaha, for a serious obstacle has arisen to prevent her burial. Dr. Worley attended her during her late illness. When she died her body was turned over to Undertaker Maul for preparation preparatory to shipment to Clarksville, Tenn. A casket was purchased and everything was ready for the sending of the body with the exception of the certificate of death from the attending physician. The physician positively refused to issue any such certificate until his bill was paid and therefore the body was not sent away, but is still at the undertaker's establishment.

Muselman Gets His Man.

Patrolman Harry F. Muselman of Omaha, narrowly escaped being shot the other night in an attempt to arrest John T. O'Keefe, one of a gang which has been making considerable trouble for residents in the neighborhood of Eighteenth and Vinton Streets. The officer ordered several young men lounging in front of the saloon at that corner to move on and in the resulting duel and hand-to-hand fight Muselman's head was grazed by a revolver bullet, which broke the flesh on his ear and left powder burns on his throat. O'Keefe was beaten about the head and now stands charged with shooting with intent to kill.

Killed by an Elephant.

While Campbell Bros.' show was being set up at Genoa Keeper Young was killed. It seems he was using the elephant Venus to push wagons under the tents. Young had the beast by its trunk directing it. The wagon the elephant was working with became entangled in some ropes and Young stopped and started ahead to see what the trouble was. As he turned his back to the beast it struck him and knocked him down and before any one could move was on top of him with its head and crushed the life out of him. Venus was driven off and captured and is now chained up. This man is said to be its fourth victim.

Verdict for Plaintiff.

The jury in the case of Kozak against the Modern Woodmen of America at Beatrice returned a verdict for plaintiff for the full amount, \$3,000. Kozak's body was found in a burned haystack with a bullet hole in his temple, and the company refused to allow the claim on the plea of suicide. The bullet was taken from Kozak's head and, together with a revolver found near him, were introduced in court by the defense. The plaintiff succeeded in proving that the bullet was a .32-caliber and the revolver .38-caliber, which point practically decided the case as above stated.

Shot by an Insane Man.

Robert Glenn, postmaster of Hildreth, was shot through the heart the other evening by Albert Gripskey, an insane bachelor, who lives near town. Death was instantaneous. Gripskey was taken in charge by the sheriff. The shooting occurred in the postoffice. There had been no differences between the men. Gripskey had long been considered peculiar, but was supposed to be harmless. Postmaster Glenn was an old soldier, and an ex-member of the Nebraska legislature.

Murderer Attempts Suicide.

Albert Gripskey, murderer of Postmaster Glenn at Hildreth, attempted suicide at Bloomfield by twisting the chain with which he was tied around his neck and the doorknob and throwing his feet out from under him. The sheriff who was guarding him found him almost dead. Strong threats of lynching are heard and an extra force has been added to protect him. He will have a hearing before the insanity board in a few days.

Checks for Final Dividend.

E. R. Fogg, receiver of the Nebraska National Bank at Beatrice, is issuing checks for the final dividend of 114.4 per cent. This makes a total per cent. on proved claims of over 155,000. Eastern correspondents, who were creditor to the amount of \$5,000, were paid in full because they had collateral security in excess of their claims, which makes the actual dividend paid 75 per cent. The bank failed June 13, 1893.

Bad Lincoln Fire.

Fire at Lincoln destroyed the Fitzgerald building, a four-story stone and brick structure owned by the H. P. Lou Wholesale Grocery Company and the Beatrice Creamery Company, the latter one of the largest plants in the west. The total loss is roughly estimated at \$200,000, divided as follows: Fitzgerald building, \$30,000; grocery company, \$100,000; creamery company, \$30,000. All are well insured.

Two Valuable Stallions Burned.

The large barn on Frank Strahan's ranch, four miles west of Wayne, was destroyed by fire, the origin of which is unknown. Mr. Strahan's famous trotting stallion Union Medium, together with a 3-year-old stallion sired by Union Medium, and two other horses, were burned, besides considerable grain, harness, etc. Mr. Strahan's loss is about \$5,500, partly covered with insurance.

Potato Crop Looks Discouraging.

One of the largest potato growers in the vicinity of Dunbar says the outlook for a large potato crop is very discouraging and looks for prices the equal, if not better, than last year. There is a large growth of vines, but no potatoes on the roots. Corn is in line condition except on the low places and the last week has seen the farmers get all over their corn on the upland, killing most of the weeds.

Gets Five Years.

Charles Heberlein was sentenced in the district court at Humboldt to five years in the penitentiary, his offense being the theft of a team and buggy belonging to Richard Standerford.

Drowned in the Blue River.

While bathing in the Blue River at Beaver Crossing with several companions Axel Martinsent, 21 years old, was drowned.

Tomasek Is Dead.

James Tomasek, who was shot by his brother-in-law, Frank Levy at Morse Bluff, is dead.

Are Very Enthusiastic.

Prof. J. W. Clancy, who is manager of the Nebraska division of the National Educational Association, says that the teachers are full of enthusiasm, and he believes that the attendance at Washington next month will be fully up to Nebraska's average.

Blacksmith Loses an Eye.

While Thomas Quail, a blacksmith living a few miles north of Kearney, was working at his anvil, a piece of red iron flew up and struck him in the eye burning it completely out of the socket.



The Foreign Relations Committee through Mr. Davis, the chairman, on Friday reported favorably to the Senate the Newlands resolutions for the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands. The bill to incorporate the International American Bank, in accordance with the recommendation of the Pan-American congress, which has occupied a greater part of the Senate's time during the week was passed by a vote of 23 to 23. The conference report on the bankruptcy bill was presented and read, but no action was taken. The general deficiency bill occupied the attention of the House.

Saturday's session of the House was devoted chiefly to eulogies upon the life and character of former Senator Harris of Tennessee. Prior to hearing eulogies some consideration was given to a conference report upon the District of Columbia appropriation bill. The Senate was not in session.

Discussion by the Senate of the question of Hawaiian annexation was begun on Monday in open session. The principal speech of the first day was made by Senator Morrill of Vermont, in opposition to annexation. The taking of a test vote (45 to 15) showed the opponents of annexation to be in a hopeless minority. The House passed the general deficiency bill, carrying \$224,000,000. The bill occasioned little debate, and it passed practically as reported to the House from the Committee on Appropriations. The remainder of the day was given to District of Columbia business.

The resolution for the annexation of Hawaii was laid before the Senate almost immediately after it convened on Tuesday. Speeches opposing annexation were made by Mr. Mitchell of Wisconsin and Mr. White of California. After passing several bills of minor importance, the House, in committee of the whole, considered, without disposing of it, a bill to refer to the court of claims certain claims of persons for property taken or destroyed by the confederate invasions into the southern counties of Pennsylvania. The bill brought on a long debate.

Opponents of the annexation of Hawaii again occupied the attention of the Senate on Wednesday. Mr. White (Dem., Cal.) resumed his speech begun the day before, but after speaking two hours, yielded the floor to Mr. Pettigrew (S. D.), who discussed the resolutions for an hour and a half. Mr. White had not concluded his speech, Mr. Pettigrew taking up the argument against the resolutions merely to afford him an opportunity to rest. Mr. Pettigrew maintained that the territory of the United States was already large enough, and he believed it his duty to resist the acquisition of any territory inhabited by a people far inferior to ours or so located as to require a navy to defend it.

Discussion in the Senate of the Hawaiian annexation question was interrupted on Thursday by Mr. Hawkins of Utah with a speech in which he criticised vigorously the provision embodied in the conference report on the Indian appropriation bill which acknowledges the right of Indians to lease mineral lands on their reservations. At 1 o'clock the Hawaiian resolution was called up and Mr. Pettigrew of South Dakota resumed his speech in opposition, addressing the Senate for about two hours. Mr. Pettigrew, on account of fatigue, yielded the floor to Mr. McHenry (Dem., La.), who presented a constitutional argument against annexation. At the session of the House further agreements upon the sundry civil bill were reported from the committee on conference and adopted, and further conference upon the remaining points in difference was requested. A large number of bills of minor importance were passed and sixty-three pension and relief measures were disposed of, pursuant to the recommendations reached several days before in committee of the whole. The House adjourned until Monday.

Ancient Posters.

It is probably the general impression that posters and handbills are modern inventions, but it has just been discovered that the ancient Romans practiced this method of advertising. In digging at Herculaneum there was brought to light a pillar covered with bills, one on top of another. The paste used to stick them was made of gum arabic. The bills, when separated and examined, were found to be programs and announcements of public meetings and even election proclamations.

Ant Knowledge.

The president of the Agassiz Association, H. H. Ballard, recently caught an ant near his hill, shut it up in a box, carried it 150 feet away and set it free in the middle of a sandy road. What followed he thus describes: "It seemed at first bewildered. Then it climbed to the top of a ridge of sand, erected its body as high as possible, waved its antennae for several seconds, and then started in a straight line for home."

Growth of Palestine's Population.

As one testimony to the rapid growth of Palestine's population, it is stated on good authority that, while ten years ago there were not quite 15,000 residents in Jaffa, to-day there are nearly 25,000.

Italian FASTER.

Success, who recently completed his sixty-fourth public fast in Rome, has abstained from food in his performances for 2,500 days of his life—nearly seven years.

Too Much for Him.

"Send about Joe Smith's insanity, poor fellow." "What ailed him?" "Well, he was janitor in a bank and broke down his constitution trying to keep it warm enough for thin clerks and cool enough for the fat ones."

Cloves for the World.

The two little islands of Zanzibar and Pemba furnish four-fifths of the cloves consumed by the world.

FEARS A NEW POLICY.

Mr. Cleveland Warns Against Territorial Extension. Grover Cleveland, in the course of an address on "Good Citizenship" before the graduating class of the Lawrenceville, New Jersey, school, said he was opposed to the acquisition of new territory by the United States. He said in substance:

The American people are tempted every day and every hour to abandon their accustomed way and enter upon a course of new and strange adventure. Never before in our history have we been beset with temptations so dangerous as those which now whisper in our ears alluring words of conquest and expansion and point out to us fields bright in the glory of war. I believe there is sometimes a tendency to think of patriotism as something bellicose and defiant, best illustrated by noisily bragging of our national prowess, quarrelsome seeking some one who dares dispute it, and threatening war against the combined world on the slightest pretext. In view of these things and considering our achievements in the past and our promise for the future, recalling what we have done and what we have been able yet to remain for us to do under the guidance of the rules and motives which have thus far governed our national life, you surely are entitled to demand the best reasons for a change in our policy and conduct, and to expect a conclusive explanation of the conditions which make our acquisition of new and distant territory either justifiable, prudent, or necessary.

FIFTY DROWN AT A LAUNCHING.

Sad Accident Mars the Ceremonies at Blackwall, England. Fifty persons, it is believed, were killed at Blackwall, England, when the new British battleship Albion was launched. Crowds of people were on a platform, built to accommodate the spectators, and 300 men, women and children were precipitated into the river Thames, the woodwork being unable to bear the weight on it. Tugs, steamers and rowboats immediately went to the assistance of the helpless people, but many sank before they could be reached.

The accident was due to a sudden rush of water, following the launching. The backwash from the launching of the vessel surged against and broke down the staging eighty feet long, filled with the spectators. The launching was presided over by the duchess of York. A large and brilliant company of ladies and gentlemen were present, including United States Ambassador Hay and Mrs. Hay. None of the guests were on the stage, nor were any prominent persons included among its unfortunate occupants.

INCREASE IN REVENUE.

Internal Collections Show a Large Increase for May. The monthly statement of the collections of internal revenue shows that the May collections amounted to \$14,098,117, an increase over May last year of \$3,281,225. The receipts from the several sources of revenue and the increases, as compared with May, 1897, are given as follows: Spirits, \$7,096,460; increase, \$1,988,067; tobacco, \$3,754,022; increase, \$1,013,759; fermented liquors, \$3,131,505; increase, \$247,887; oleomargarine, \$88,014; increase, \$23,712; miscellaneous, \$28,974; increase, \$4,962. The net increase in the receipts during the last eleven months was \$19,038,808.

Geer for Oregon's Governor.

The official vote in the recent Oregon State election shows the following result for Governor: Geer, Republican, 45,104; King, fusion, 34,539; Lane, independent, 2,888; Clinton, Prohibition, 2,213.

The Political Prop.

In Minnesota the Populists, Democrats and silver Republicans nominated a fusion ticket. Arkansas Democrats nominated a State ticket, denounced the bond issue and endorsed the war. The Republicans of the Twenty-first Ohio district renominated Theodore E. Burton for Congress. The colored Republicans of Alabama, in convention, put up a ticket composed exclusively of negroes. M. S. Peters was nominated to represent the Populists of the Second District of Kansas in Congress. John S. Rhea was renominated for Congress by the Third district Kentucky Democrats at Bowling Green.

Dan W. Jones, of Pulaski, was nominated for Governor of Arkansas by the Democrats in convention at Little Rock. Congressman Lorenzo Danford was renominated for his sixth term by the Republican convention for the sixteenth district of Ohio.

Republicans of the Fifth congressional district of Iowa, in convention at Cedar Rapids, renominated Robert G. Cousins by acclamation.

Ohio Republicans met in Columbus and nominated a State ticket. They support the war and leave the question of acquired territory to the President.

The Indiana Democratic State convention in Indianapolis nominated a State ticket, reaffirmed faith in the Chicago platform, declared the cause of the United States in the present war to be just and demanded its vigorous prosecution.

Michigan Democrats, Populists and free silver Republicans in convention at Grand Rapids renewed their alliance of two years ago and united on a State ticket, headed by Justin R. Whiting for Governor. The resolutions adopted favored the war with Spain.

The fusion convention of the Democrats, Populists and free silver Republicans of the Eighth Iowa district met and nominated G. L. Finn of Bedford for Congress.

John Lind was nominated by the three conventions at Minneapolis for Governor. J. M. Bowler was nominated for Lieutenant Governor by the Populists and endorsed by the others.

The middle-of-the-road Populists of Minnesota, who bolted the State Populist convention, held a meeting of their own and nominated a complete State ticket. L. C. Logg was named for Governor.



Hundreds of volunteers from Camp Alger, where there are about 25,000 soldiers, come to Washington every day. Many of them have never seen the capital before and up to this time the saloons and disreputable houses have been reaping a rich harvest from their patronage. The police have been instructed not to arrest or otherwise interfere with men in uniform unless it is absolutely necessary for their welfare or the protection of others, and notwithstanding this order the station houses are filled with drunken soldiers nearly every night. It has been the rule to send them back to camp as soon as they are sober without placing their names upon the docket of arrests or bringing them before the police court. Exceptions have been made only in cases of assault and other misdemeanors which could not be overlooked. It has come to be the practice also for the provost marshal of the camp to send an officer and squad of men into the city every morning for the purpose of picking up the boys who have fallen victims to temptations or are otherwise detained.

The object of the Secretary of War in ordering that the recruits under the second call for troops shall be used in strengthening the regiments mustered in under the first call, so that each company shall have 100 and each regiment 1,200 men, is not only to promote the efficiency of the army, but it is a measure of economy which saves several millions of dollars to the Government. It cuts down the number of regiments and the number of companies, and consequently the number of officers, one-third, and as the pay of the officers of a regiment under the old plan aggregates almost as much as the pay of the men the expense will be reduced one-third also.

People in Washington who go to market or shopping these days are pretty sure to receive gold coin as change, and it is the first time we have had that experience since greenbacks were adopted by Secretary Chase in 1862. During the last six weeks the disbursing officers of the different departments have been paying the salaries of the clerks in the yellow metal, and all drafts and warrants upon the treasury have been paid in mixed money at the proportion of \$5 in paper to \$15 in coin. The result has been a scarcity of greenbacks and silver certificates and a large amount of gold coin in common circulation.

It seems to be settled that Gen. Miles himself instead of Gen. Coppinger will lead the army to Porto Rico, and it is the President's intention to allow him full sway in making the preparations for the expedition and selecting the officers and troops that will accompany him. Miles has upset the plans that were made in the War Department while he was at work at Tampa, and, having done so, will be held responsible for making and carrying out a new plan of campaign.

The superintendent of Washington police has been instructed to notify all liquor sellers of the intention strictly to enforce a law which was passed by Congress in 1891 forbidding the sale of liquor in any form to soldiers in the service of the United States, or to any person wearing the uniform of such a soldier, under the penalty of \$20 fine for each offense and the forfeiture of both the municipal and the United States license for the sale of liquor.

The boys at Camp Alger are very eager to get away and are agitated by every rumor that refers to their departure. They are rapidly becoming hardened soldiers and will soon be ready for serious business. The regiments are all short in numbers. Recruits are coming in rapidly, several hundred every day, but they are mostly green men who have never served with the militia and have to be drilled in the simplest rudiments of military duty.

It has been decided that there will be no general invasion of Cuba until fall. That has been the President's determination from the beginning. Even before the declaration of war he made up his mind that if hostilities should occur he would not be responsible for the sacrifice of the lives he knew must be lost from yellow fever and other climatic diseases if an attempt were to be made to invade Cuba during the rainy season.

There is intense indignation both in army and navy circles and in Congress because of the general understanding that Hobson has been kept in Castle Morro except to the fire of our guns. If the usual pretenses of warfare were followed Hobson and the Americans would be removed to a place of safety, instead of danger. The putting forward of prisoners as a shield is a relic of barbarism.

There is a vacancy in the postoffice at Steele's Mills, Pa., for the first time in fifty-three years. It is caused by the death of Joseph Strode at the age of 84, who was appointed postmaster by President James K. Polk Oct. 21, 1845, and held the office continuously ever since. There are two older men in the postal service. One of them is in Maine and the other in Maryland.

Secretary Gage's 3 per cent bonds are already at a premium of 2 per cent. Bankers and brokers in different parts of the country are publishing circulars and advertisements offering to pay that bonus for subscriptions that are acknowledged by the treasury.

It will be the middle of July before an attack can be made upon Porto Rico. The number of troops and the selection of the regiment will be determined later. Gen. Miles thinks he should have not less than 20,000 men, and the regiments which are in the best condition when the expedition is ready to start will be selected.

Under the new revenue law the clerical force in the internal revenue bureau is to be considerably increased and the new appointees are exempt from the usual civil-service examination.

THE UPPER NILE.

The Scramble Among European Nations for This Territory. R. Dorsy Mohun, formerly United States agent in the Kongo Free State, writes an article for the Century on "The Scramble for the Upper Nile." Mr. Mohun, after describing the expeditions seeking to reach the Upper Nile, says:

Many will ask, Why this feverish haste to occupy this wretched country in the heart of Africa? Reasons are many, and most of them are sound. First and foremost, the power which holds the southern countries through which the Upper Nile and its tributaries flow has the fate of Lower Egypt in her hands. It has been stated many times that it would be quite feasible to divert the course of some of these rivers, thus decreasing the annual rise, which means everything to the agriculturist of Lower Egypt. Without her agriculture there would be no future for the country; and unless the river overflowed its banks annually, and made its deposit of rich soil from hundreds of miles south, the situation would be absolutely desperate.

Secondly, the districts of Darfur and Bahari-Ghazal are rich in gum-rubber and ostrich feathers, and a certain amount of gold has been found.

The Bah-el-Ghazal abounds in elephants, and great stores of ivory are said to be held by native chiefs, only waiting for traders who will deal honestly with them. The two districts of Dar-Senaar and Dar-el-Fungi are more or less agricultural countries, and before the fall of Khartoum Greek planters had been successful there. Therefore, from an agricultural point of view, the country is valuable.

Thirdly, the finest soldiers in the Egyptian army, commonly called the Sudanese, come from these southern provinces. These men are in demand as soldiers, not only in Egypt, but on the east and west coasts of Africa. The black battalions of the Egyptian army are composed of Sudanese, and are reckoned among the best soldiers to be found anywhere.

Who will be successful in this scramble for the Upper Nile? I say, most emphatically, England; although France seems to have a temporary advantage in the occupation of Fashoda. This occupation England cannot, and will not, permit to remain permanent; and, following up the numerous protests made by Lord Rosebery's government, the present government must, in order that the prestige of England may be undimmed, give notice to France to leave Fashoda and return to her west-coast hinterland.

From the point of view of commerce and progress, it would be preferable for this vast territory to be under the indirect control of England. Her possessions are never encumbered with large numbers of military and civil officials, and she does everything in her power to foster and develop trade on strict lines of partiality to home. With England at the head of affairs in this benighted country, there can be no doubt but it will develop its resources in a comparatively short time, although there has been no semblance of authority of government there for thirteen years.

Bread Buttering Machine.

Many of the ocean liners are now provided with a very ingenious machine for turning out large quantities of bread and butter or sandwiches. The slicer will cut either meat or bread, and the bread can be sliced without buttering, if desired. The machine cuts and butters sixty slices a minute, and with its aid 8,000 sandwiches have been made in two hours. It does not matter whether the bread is stale or fresh; the thickness can be graded to anything the operator wishes, and the quantity of butter to be added with equal certainty and uniformity. One movement of the hand spreads the butter and cuts off the slice of bread. It is said that with this machine a full-sized ham can be cut into slices in four minutes, without any waste. In making 1,000 sandwiches, it is estimated that a saving is effected of three hams and eleven pounds of butter, in consequence of both the ham and the butter being used with greater evenness and accuracy, enough but no more being expended.

Useful Thief-Catcher.

A simple thief-catcher has been invented for the protection of money tills. It consists of an electrical connection between the till and some point where an alarm can readily be heard. A boy who had for a long time been stealing his master's money was brought up before a London justice. The master said that in consequence of the loss of small sums from the till he had the clerks' drawer fitted with electric alarms. In the absence of one of the clerks, the prisoner tampered with the till, when the electric alarm rang, and he was caught.

Compliment to Wellington.

The following story was told by the Duke himself to Sir John Macdonald, the adjutant general of later years. "The greatest compliment I have had paid in my life," he said, "was once when our fellows got into a scrape in the north of Spain and had been beaten back in some disorder. I rode up and rallied them, and led them back, and they recovered the lost ground. Just as I rode up, one of the men stepped out of the ranks and called out, 'Here comes the — as knows how.'" — Cornhill Magazine.

Minors in the British Army.

More than half the infantry recruits of the British army for the past year have been under 18 years old.

After a man reaches 40, he has to go to church to hear anything about love.