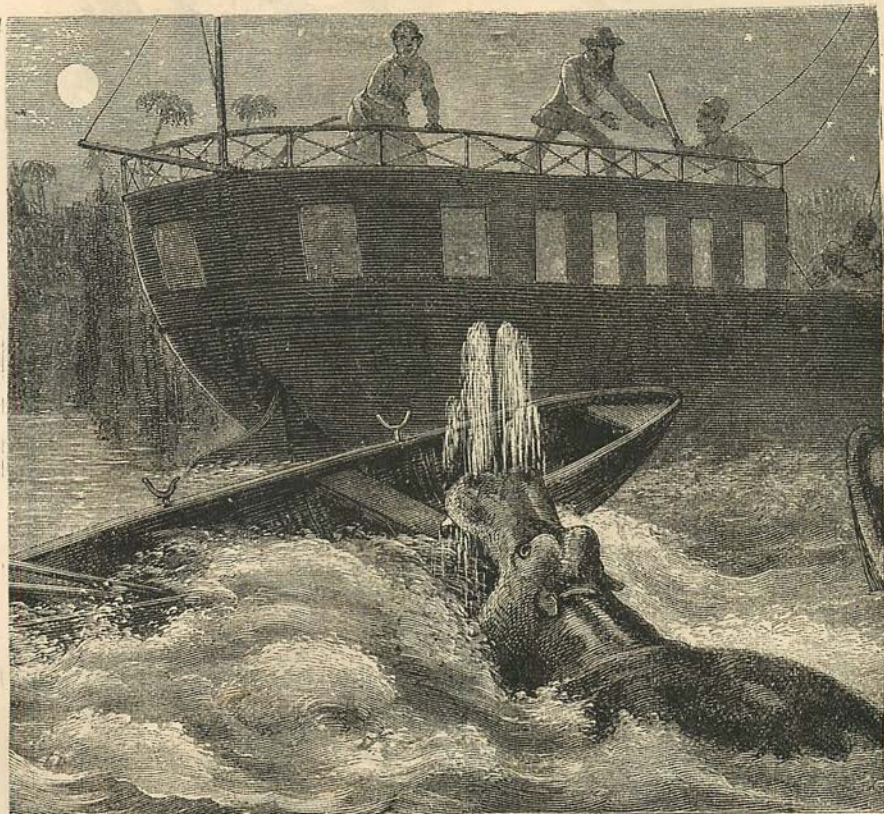


## ISMAILIÄ.\*



A NIGHT ATTACK.

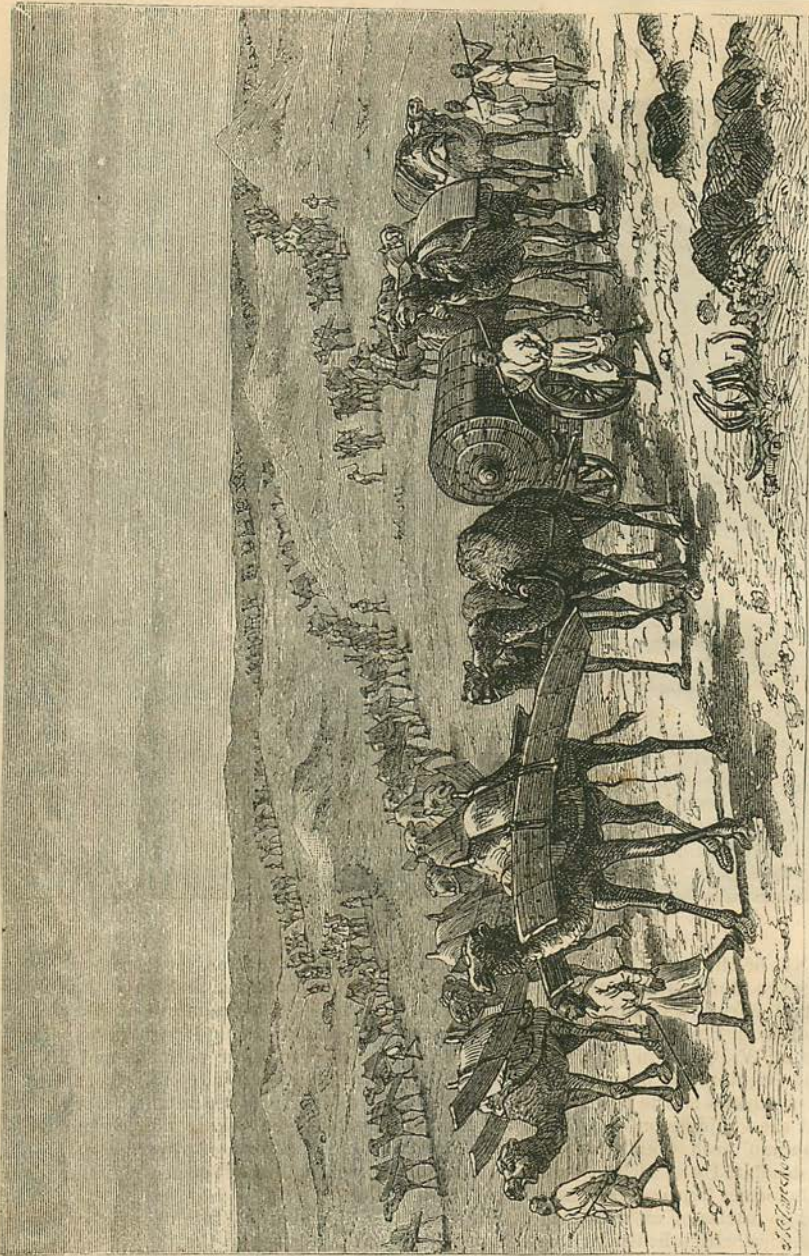
ONE of the most important expeditions ever undertaken into the regions of Central Africa was that intrusted by the Khedive of Egypt to the command of Sir SAMUEL W. BAKER in 1869. Its object was not the exploration of unknown regions. It was organized as the first practical step toward the suppression of the horrible traffic in human flesh which for unknown ages has desolated the richest lands of Africa. In his former journeys Sir Samuel had traversed countries of extreme fertility in Central Africa, with a healthy climate favorable for the settlement of Europeans, at a mean altitude of 4000 feet above the sea-level. This large and almost boundless extent of country was well peopled by a race who only required the protection of a strong but

paternal government to become of considerable importance, and to eventually develop the great resources of the soil. He found lands varying in natural capabilities, according to their position and altitudes, where sugar, cotton, coffee, rice, spices, and all tropical produce might be successfully cultivated; but those lands were without any civilized form of government, and "every man did what seemed right in his own eyes."

In this chaotic state of society the slave-trade prospered to the detriment of all improvement. Rich and well-populated countries were rendered desolate; the women and children were carried into captivity; villages were burned, and crops were destroyed or pillaged; the population was driven out; a terrestrial paradise was converted into an infernal region; the natives, who were originally friendly, were rendered hostile to all strangers, and the general result of the traffic in human beings could only be expressed in one word—ruin.

The slave hunters and traders who caused

\* *Ismailia. A Narrative of the Expedition to Central Africa for the Suppression of the Slave-Trade, organized by ISMAIL, Khedive of Egypt.* By Sir SAMUEL W. BAKER, Pasha, M.A., F.R.S., F.R.G.S., Major-General of the Ottoman Empire, etc., etc. With Maps, Portraits, and Illustrations. New York: Harper and Brothers.



CAMEL TRANSPORT OF STEAMERS AND MACHINERY.

this desolation were for the most part Arabs, subjects of the Egyptian government. These people had deserted their agricultural occupations in the Soudan, and formed companies of brigands in the pay of Khartoum merchants. The largest trader had an army of 2500 Arabs in his pay. These men were organized under a rude military fashion, and armed with muskets. They were divided into companies, and in many cases were officered by soldiers who had deserted from

the Egyptian army. It is supposed, indeed, that about 15,000 of the subjects of the Khedive, who should have been employed in working and paying their taxes in Egypt, were engaged, directly or indirectly, in the slave traffic of the White Nile. The traffic was regularly organized. Each trader occupied a special district, where, by a division of his force in a chain of stations, each containing some three or four hundred men, he could exercise a right of possession over

a certain amount of territory. In this manner enormous tracts of country were occupied by the armed bands from Khartoum, who could make alliances with the native tribes to attack and destroy their neighbors, and to carry off their women and children, together with vast herds of sheep and cattle. One trader alone, by the name of Agād, ruled by force of arms over a tract of territory covering nearly ninety thousand square miles. No other trader would interfere with him so long as he kept within his own bounds; within that his companies of brigands could pillage, burn, and massacre at will. A very powerful trader would sometimes make excursions into the territory of a weaker neighbor, but in general a sort of robber courtesy was observed.

It is impossible to know the actual number of slaves taken every year from Central Africa. Sir Samuel thinks that at least fifty thousand are captured and held in the camps of the slave-traders, or sent overland to the coast. The loss of life attendant upon the capture and subsequent ill treatment of the slaves is frightful; while the result of this forced emigration, combined with the insecurity of life and property, is the gradual depopulation of vast tracts of territory within the infested districts. The natives must either submit to every species of cruelty and wrong, leave their homes for distant regions, or ally themselves with their oppressors in warring upon other tribes. The result is devastation and wide-spread ruin.

To put an end to these horrible atrocities, Ismail Pasha, the present Khedive of Egypt, resolved to enlist the services of Sir Samuel as the leader of a strong military force against the slave hunters and traders of the White Nile. The objects of the expedition, as set forth in the Khedive's firman, were, 1st, to subdue the countries lying south of Gondokoro; 2d, to suppress the slave-trade, and introduce a system of regular commerce; 3d, to open to navigation the great lakes of the equator; and 4th, to establish a chain of military stations and commercial dépôts, at intervals of three days' march, through Central Africa, taking Gondokoro as the base of operations. The supreme command of this important expedition was confided to Sir Samuel for four years, commencing April 1, 1869. He was invested by the Khedive with absolute power, even that of death, over all under his command, and over all the countries belonging to the Nile Basin south of Gondokoro. To effect the objects contemplated by the Khedive, it was necessary to organize the expedition on a grand scale. Steel steamers for the navigation of the Albert Lake had to be conveyed from England, and transported in sections on camels over a long stretch of territory. It was necessary to establish a firm government in countries that hitherto had been

without protection, and a prey to lawless adventurers. This could be accomplished only by a large military force, provided with transports and stores, and with materials and supplies for fortified camps. In every expedition the principal difficulty is the transport. "Travel light, if possible," is the best advice for all countries; but in this instance it was not possible, as the object of the expedition was not only to convey steamers to Central Africa, but to establish legitimate trade in the place of the nefarious system of pillage hitherto adopted by the so-called White Nile traders. It was therefore absolutely necessary to start with a large stock of goods of all kinds in addition to machinery and the steamers. Sir Samuel's outfit included a paddle steamer of 251 tons, 32 horse-power; a twin screw high-pressure steamer of 20 horse-power, 108 tons; a twin screw high-pressure steamer of 10 horse-power, 38 tons; two steel life-boats, each 30 feet by 9, 10 tons each. In addition to the steamers were steam saw-mills, with all necessary machinery, including heavy boilers. All this bulky and heavy material had to be transported by camels for several hundred miles across the Nubian Desert, and by boats and camels alternately from Alexandria to Gondokoro, a distance of about *three thousand miles*.

The military arrangements comprised a force of 1645 troops, including a corps of 200 irregular cavalry and two batteries of artillery. The infantry were two regiments supposed to be well selected. The black or Soudani regiment included many officers and men who had served with Marshal Bazaine in Mexico. The Egyptian regiment turned out to be for the most part convicted felons, who had been transported for various crimes from Egypt to the Soudan. The artillery consisted of bronze rifled mountain guns, the barrel weighing 230 pounds, throwing 8½-pound shells. The expedition was also supplied with 200 rockets, 3-pounders, and fifty Snider rifles, with 50,000 rounds of ammunition.

Khartoum, on the Nile, about 1450 miles above Cairo, was selected as the place rendezvous and final departure. Her fleet of nine steamers and fifty-five sail vessels, the latter averaging about fifty tons each, was ordered to be in readiness for arrival of Sir Samuel. A part of this fleet, consisting of six steamers and thirty sail vessels, started from Cairo, conveying the whole of the merchandise. Not daring to trust any part of the steel steamers to the route, the vessels being liable to all kinds of mishaps, Sir Samuel had them conveyed, under his own superintendence, by way of the Suez Canal and the Red Sea, to Souakim, whence he crossed the desert to Berber, on the Nile, a distance of 275 miles, and thence reached Khartoum by steamer.

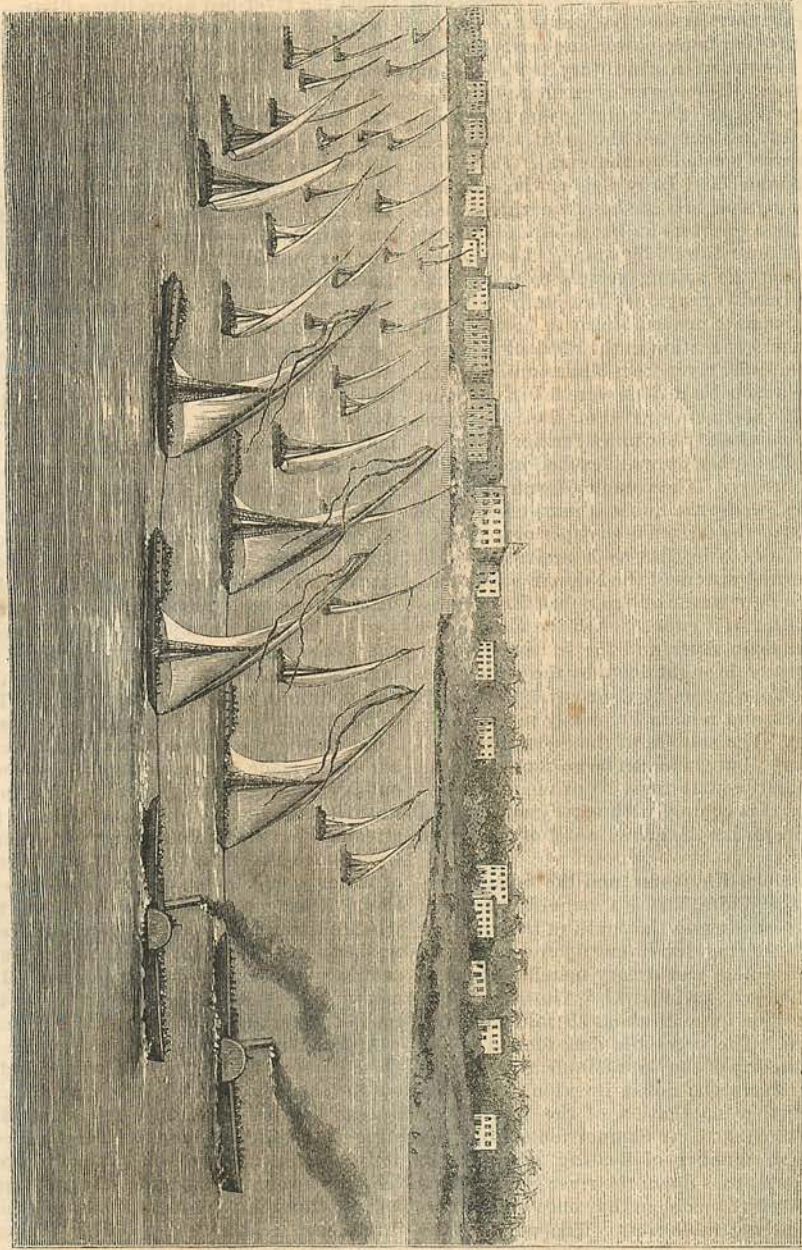


THE FORTY THIEVES.

At Khartoum many vexatious delays occurred. There was great opposition to the expedition on the part of influential traders. They had induced all the boatmen in Khartoum to run away, supposing that without boatmen the expedition could not start. Sir Samuel employed the police authorities to hunt up men, and at length the necessary crews were secured, all unwilling and refractory, and of the worst possible material.

The irregular cavalry was found to be utterly worthless, and the whole corps was sent back. Sir Samuel had twenty-one good horses that he had brought from Cairo, and these, together with the horses belonging to the officers, were all that could be conveyed in the transports. Forty-six men had been selected from the two regiments to act as a body-guard. They formed a fine company, composed of equal numbers of black and

DEPARTURE FROM KHARTOUM.



white soldiers, and were armed with Snider rifles. They were commanded by Sir Samuel's aid-de-camp, Lieutenant-Colonel Abd-el-Kader, and Captain Mahomet Deii. This company of picked men, who performed most efficient service during the expedition, received the name of "The Forty Thieves."

At length, on the 8th of February, 1870, Sir Samuel's preparations were completed. The bugles sounded the signal for departure. The troops hurried on board their respective

transports. Then came the official parting. Sir Samuel had to embrace the governor of Khartoum, then a black pasha, a *rara avis in terris*, and a whole host of beys, the affecting ceremony concluding with a very fat colonel whom the disgusted Englishman could not properly encircle with his arms. A couple of battalions lined the shore; the guns saluted as the expedition started on its voyage. Some of the steamers and sailing vessels that were to bring stores from Cairo

had not arrived, and the flotilla consisted of two steamers, respectively of thirty-two and twenty-four horse-power, and thirty-one sailing vessels, with a military force of about 800 men. The powerful current of the Blue Nile swept the fleet quickly past Khartoum, and having rounded the point, the expedition was headed up the grand White Nile. Sir Samuel and Lady Baker, who, as usual, accompanied her husband on this expedition, had quarters on board of a diabbecah, which was towed by one of the steamers. Leaving the sailing vessels to make their slow headway against the strong current, the steamers pushed ahead to Fashoda, the government station in the Shillook country, 618 miles by river from Khartoum. At this place a month's rations were taken on board, and the steamers started for the Sobat junction, about sixty-six miles further on by river. The junction was reached on the 16th of February. The volume of water brought to the Nile by the Sobat is immense, and the power of the stream is so superior to that of the White Nile that as it arrives at right angles the waters of the Nile are banked up. The yellow water of the Sobat forms a distinct line as it cuts through the clear water of the main river, and the floating rafts of vegetation brought down by the White Nile, instead of continuing their voyage, are headed back, and remain helplessly in the back-water. The sources of the Sobat are still a mystery; but there can be no doubt that the principal volume must be of mountain origin, as it is colored with earthy matter, and is quite unlike the marsh water of the White Nile.

Between Khartoum and the Sobat junction the White Nile is a magnificent river; but on passing to the south of the great affluent the traveler enters upon a region of immense flats and dreary marshes, through which the river winds its labyrinthine course. This region extends about 750 miles, to Gondokoro. The vegetable dam formed above the junction of the Bahr Giraffe, thirty-eight miles above the Sobat junction, has made the further navigation of the White Nile impracticable. Sir Samuel found that the immense number of floating islands that constantly pass down the river had gradually choked the passage that once existed under the vegetable dam. The entire river had become a marsh, beneath which, by the great pressure of water, the stream oozed through innumerable small channels. In fact, the White Nile had disappeared. A vessel arriving from Khartoum in her passage to Gondokoro would find, after passing through a broad river of clear water, that her bow would suddenly strike against a bank of solid compressed vegetation. This was the natural dam or sudd that had been formed to an unknown extent; the river had ceased to exist. The dense spongy mass that

filled the river-bed acted like a filter. The earthy deposits grew to be immense mud banks and shoals, which were soon covered with a rich tropical vegetation.

At the time of Sir Samuel's expedition this accumulation was of unknown extent, and, like the Arab slave-traders, he was forced to seek a passage by way of the Bahr Giraffe, a branch of the White Nile. On the 18th of February the rear vessels of the fleet arrived, and the voyage was again resumed. Towing was difficult, owing to the sharp turns of the river. The Bahr Giraffe was about seventy yards in width, and at that season the banks were high and dry. Navigation was frequently impeded by dams of drift vegetation, through which a passage had to be cut with swords. One of these dams, through which a canal about 150 yards long was hewn, is thus described in an extract from Sir Samuel's diary, under date of February 28: "It is a curious collection of trash that seriously impedes navigation. The grass resembles sugar-canes; this grows from twenty to thirty feet in length, and throws out roots at every joint; thus, when matted together, its roots still increase, and render the mass a complete tangle. During the wet season the rush of water tears off large rafts of this floating water-grass, which accumulate in any favorable locality. The difficulty of clearing a passage is extreme. After cutting out a large mass with swords, a rope is made fast, and the raft is towed out by hauling with thirty or forty men until it is detached and floated down the stream. Yesterday I cut a narrow channel from above stream in the hope that the rush of water would loosen the mass of vegetation. After much labor, at 12.30 P.M. the whole obstruction appeared to heave. There was soon no doubt that it was moving, and suddenly the entire dam broke up. Immense masses were carried away by the rush of water and floated down the river."

A singular adventure occurred at one of these dams. While the men were digging out the steamers, which had become jammed by the floating rafts, they felt something struggling under their feet. They immediately scrambled away, just in time to avoid the ugly head of a large crocodile that broke its way through the tangled mass in which it had been held a close prisoner. Though freed from its uncomfortable position, the monster had not fallen among friends. The black soldiers, armed with swords and bill-hooks, made a bold onslaught upon him; and that evening the savor of his flesh went up from the cooking pots of the Soudani regiment.

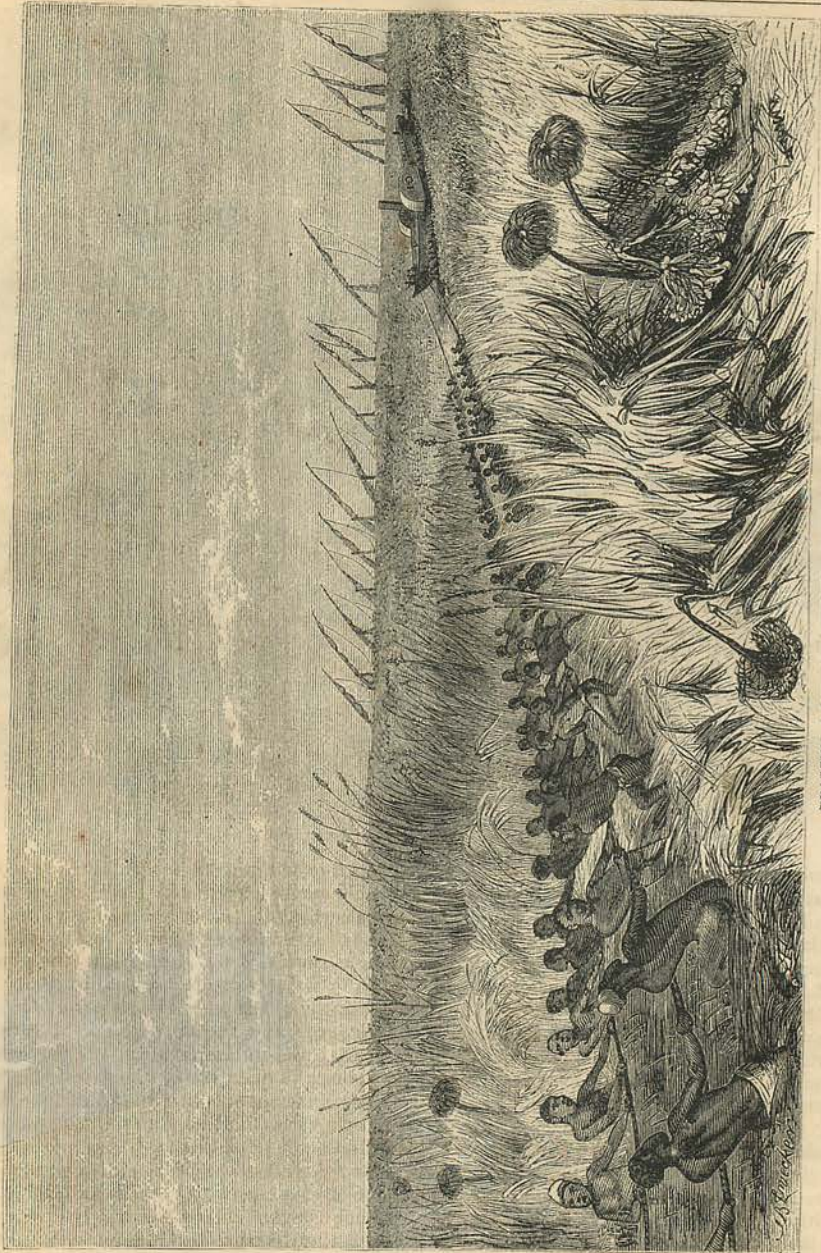
But new difficulties were in store. After passing the vegetable dams, the expedition reached shallows, with barely sufficient water to float the vessels over. The river had in many places disappeared, and the fleet



CROCODILE MOBBED IN THE SUDD.

had been forced through narrow, devious channels, through ditches cut with swords, and through a succession of marsh-like lakes, at the rate of about a mile a day. At length, on the 1st of April, fifty-two days after the departure from Khartoum, the flotilla stuck fast in the mud. It was the dry season. The river would not rise until December. Nothing could be done but retrace the route, and wait at some convenient station until the rainy season had made the river again navigable. The sailors and troops composing the expedition were delighted. They hoped Sir Samuel would return to Khartoum and abandon the expedition. He had other plans in view, but wisely kept them to himself. After vainly exploring several channels, and becoming convinced that his best course was to retreat, Sir Samuel ordered the fleet to be headed toward Khartoum. After some days of hard labor the channel of the Bahr Giraffe was again reached—the point where the labor of cutting through the marsh-like lakes had commenced. A great change had taken place in the character of the river. The narrow and choked Bahr Giraffe had disappeared, and the wonder-struck explorers gazed upon broad sheets of clear open

water, extending as far as the eye could reach, where only a few days before there was nothing but a boundless plain of marsh grass, with not a drop of water visible. These sheets of water, marking the course of the river, were separated by dams of floating vegetation. The volume of water was large, and the current had a rate of about three miles an hour. Nevertheless, although in open water, the expedition was virtually imprisoned in a kind of lake, shut in by a series of thick dams. "It is simply ridiculous," says Baker, "to suppose that this river can ever be rendered navigable. One or two vessels, if alone, would be utterly helpless, and might be entirely destroyed, with their crews, by a sudden change that might break up the country and inclose them in a trap from which they could never escape." Sir Samuel waxed eloquently wroth over the impediments with which he meets. After describing the process of cutting through several of the dams, he says: "The river is wider than when we last saw it, but is much obstructed by small islands, formed of rafts of vegetation that have grounded in their descent. I fear we may find the river choked in many places below stream. No dependence can ever be placed



DRAGING A STEAMER THROUGH THE SUDD.

upon this accursed river. The fabulous Styx must be a sweet rippling brook compared to this horrible creation. A violent wind acting upon the high waving mass of sugar-cane grass may suddenly create a change; sometimes large masses are detached by the gambols of a herd of hippopotamuses, whose rude rambles during the night break narrow lanes through the floating plains of water-grass, through which the action of the stream may tear large masses

from the main body. The water being pent up by enormous dams of vegetation, mixed with mud and half-decayed matter, forms a chain of lakes at slightly varying levels. The sudden breaking of one dam would thus cause an impetuous rush of water that might tear away miles of country, and entirely change the equilibrium of the floating masses."

At length, on the 11th of April, clear water was again reached, and the flotilla was





A HIPPOPOTAMUS KILLS THE BLIND SHEIK.

laid up for a few days at the station of Kut-chuk Ali, one of the principal slave-traders of the White Nile. From this place the expedition proceeded down stream to a point on the river below the Sobat junction, where Sir Samuel selected a spot for a permanent fortified station, which could be used as a base of future operations. The under-wood that covered the bank was cleared, and the large trees that bordered the river were taken possession of as shelter for the tents. The camp, named Tewfikceyah, after the Khedive's eldest son, Tewfik Pasha, was soon in complete order, and in a few days Sir Samuel was ready to receive a visit from Quat Kare, the true king of the Shillooks, in whose territory the camp was situated. The king had been driven from power through the intrigues of his enemies, and a pretender named Jangy reigned in his place. Quat Kare came to Sir Samuel for redress. The old king entered the camp, accompanied by two wives, four daughters, and a large retinue. Like all the Shillooks, he was very tall and thin. His wardrobe looked scanty and old, and he was presented with a long blue shirt, which reached nearly to his ankles, and a red scarf for a waistband. When dressed he sat down on a carpet provided

for the occasion, and invited his family to sit near him. There was profound silence for some time. The old king looked calmly round upon the scene, but did not speak. At length Sir Samuel broke the silence by asking him whether he was really Quat Kare, the old king of the Shillooks, whose death had been reported. Instead of replying, he conferred with one of his wives, a woman of about sixty, who appeared to act as Prime Minister and adviser. This old lady immediately took up the discourse, and very deliberately related the intrigues of the Koordi governor of Fashoda, which had ended in the ruin of her husband. It appeared that the Koordi did not wish that peace should reign throughout the land. The Shillooks were a powerful tribe, numbering upward of a million; therefore it was advisable to sow dissension among them, and thus destroy their unity. Quat Kare was a powerful king, who had ruled the country for more than fifty years. He was the direct descendant of a long line of kings, therefore he was a man whose influence was to be dreaded. The policy of the Koordi determined that he would overthrow the power of Quat Kare, and after having vainly laid snares for his capture, the old king

fled from the governor of Fashoda as David fled from Saul and hid in the cave of Adul-lam. The Koordi was clever and cunning in intrigue; thus he wrote to Djiaffer Pasha, the governor-general of the Soudan, and declared that Quat Kare, the king of the Shil-looks, was *dead*; it was therefore necessary to elect the next heir, Jangy, for whom he requested the firman of the Khedive. The firman of the Khedive arrived in due course for the pretender Jangy, who was a distant connection of Quat Kare, and in no way entitled to the succession. This intrigue threw the country into confusion. Jangy was proclaimed king by the Koordi, and was dressed in a scarlet robe, with belt and sabre. The pretender got together a large band of adherents who were ready for any adventure that might yield them plunder. These natives, who knew the paths and the places where the vast herds of cattle were concealed, acted as guides to the Koordi, and the faithful adherents of the old king, Quat Kare, were plundered, oppressed, and enslaved without mercy, until Sir Samuel came to their protection. It was arranged that the king should wait patiently till the matter could be brought before the proper authority. A grand feast followed the reception. Quat Kare was also treated to a shock from a magnetic battery, which he took with a stoical expression of countenance.

A tragical incident occurred not long after the establishment of the camp. There was an old blind sheik who frequently crossed the river to visit the new-comers. One day he was returning with his son, when the canoe was charged by an angry hippopotamus. Seizing the frail bark at the end where the sheik was sitting, the monster crunched it to fragments between his ponderous jaws, and so crushed and lacerated the poor old man that, although rescued by his comrades, who hastened to his assistance, he died during the night. The hippopotamuses were often the source of great annoyance, and sometimes of danger, to the expedition. One beautiful moonlight night, when the flotilla was quietly at anchor in a lake close to the White Nile, one of these monsters made a most determined attack upon the *diahbeeah* belonging to Sir Samuel. The vessel was close to a mud bank covered with high grass, and about thirty yards astern of her was a shallow part of the lake, about three feet deep. A light boat of zinc was full of strips of hippopotamus flesh, and the dingy was fastened alongside. Every one was soundly sleeping, when, says Sir Samuel, "I was suddenly awakened by a tremendous splashing close to the *diahbeeah*, accompanied by the hoarse wild snorting of a furious hippopotamus. I jumped up, and immediately perceived a hippo, which was apparently about to attack the vessel.....My servant, Sulei-

man, was sleeping next to the cabin door. I called to him for a rifle. Before the affrighted Suleiman could bring it, the hippopotamus dashed at us with indescribable fury. With one blow he capsized and sank the zinc boat, with its cargo of flesh. In another instant he seized the dingy in his immense jaws, and the crash of splintered wood betokened the complete destruction of my favorite boat.....By this time I had procured a rifle from the cabin, where they were always kept fixed in a row, loaded and ready for action, with bags of breech-loading ammunition on the same shelf. The movements of the animal were so rapid, as he charged and plunged alternately beneath the water in a cloud of foam and wave, that it was impossible to aim correctly at the small but fatal spot upon the head. The moon was extremely bright, and presently, as he charged straight at the *diahbeeah*, I stopped him with a No. 8 Reilly shell. To my surprise, he soon recovered, and again commenced the attack. I fired shot after shot at him without apparent effect. The *diahbeeah* rocked about upon the waves raised by the efforts of so large an animal. This movement rendered the aim uncertain. At length, apparently badly wounded, he retired to the high grass. There he lay by the bank, at about twenty-five yards' distance, snorting and blowing."

Thinking the creature must be dying, Sir Samuel went to bed, but in about half an hour was awakened again by another furious charge. A rifle-ball in the head rolled the monster over, and he floated helplessly down stream. This time he surely must be dead. To the amazement of all, he presently recovered, and only gave up after receiving several bullets in his body. On the following morning a post-mortem examination showed that he had received three shots in the flank and shoulder; four in the head, one of which had broken his lower jaw; another had passed through his nose, and passing downward, had cut off one of his large tusks. Such determined and unprovoked fury as was exhibited by this animal had never been witnessed—he appeared to be raving mad. His body was a mass of frightful scars, the result of continual conflicts with bulls of his own species; some of these wounds were still unhealed. There was one scar about two feet in length, and about two inches below the level of the surface skin, upon the flank. He was evidently a character of the worst description, but whose madness rendered him callous to all punishment. The attack upon the vessels was probably induced by the smell of raw hippopotamus flesh, which was hung in long strips about the rigging, and with which the zinc boat was filled. The dead hippopotamus that was floating astern lashed to the *diahbeeah* had not been molested.

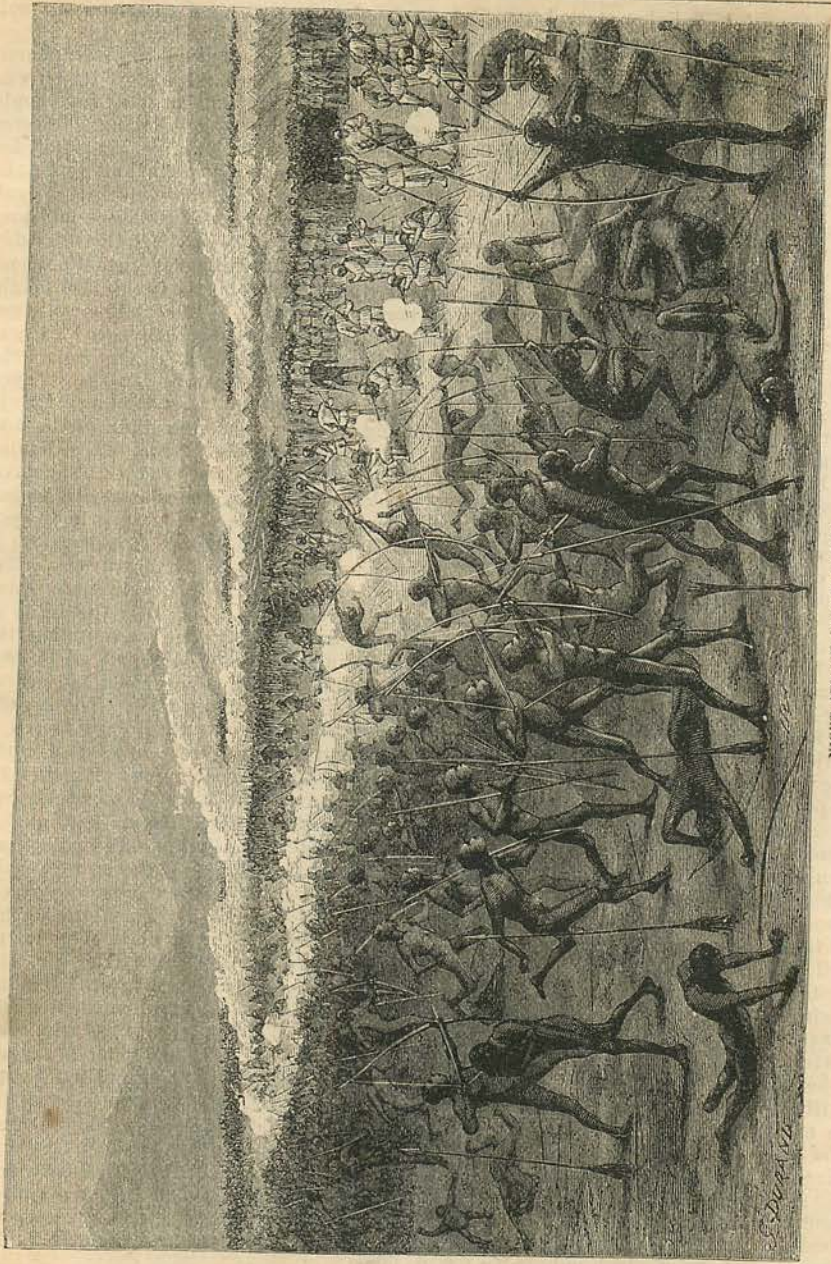
In August, 1870, Baker started from Tewfikceyah to explore the sudd, or obstructions of the main Nile, in the hope of discovering some new passage forced through the vegetation by the stream. Taking a steamer, with his own diahbeeah and a tender in tow, he left the station on the 11th, and in thirteen hours reached the old sudd, about twelve miles beyond the Bahr Giraffe junction. It was soon apparent that nothing could be done with the means at hand. The great river Nile was entirely lost. It had become a swamp. It was impossible to guess the extent of the obstruction; but Baker was confident that it would be simply a question of time and labor to clear the original channel by working from below the stream. The great power of the current would assist the work, and with proper management this formerly beautiful river might be restored to its original condition. It would be impossible to clear the Bahr Giraffe permanently, as there was not sufficient breadth of channel to permit the escape of huge rafts of vegetation, occupying the surface of perhaps an acre; but the great width of the Nile, if once opened, together with the immense power of the stream, would, with a little annual inspection, assure the permanency of the work.

Sir Samuel therefore determined to return to Khartoum to arrange for a special expedition to take this important work in hand. He reached that place in the latter part of September. After many vexatious delays, occasioned by the opposition of the slave-traders, he succeeded in completing his arrangements, and returned to Tewfikceyah. This station was now dismantled and abandoned for the more advantageous position at Gondokoro, once the seat of an Austrian religious mission. The fleet arrived at this station on the 15th of April, 1871. Great changes had taken place in the White Nile since the time of Baker's last visit. The old channel, which had been of great depth where it swept beneath the cliffs, was choked with sand-banks. New islands had formed in many places, and it was impossible for the vessels to approach the old landing-place. The fleet therefore dropped down the stream, and landed at a spot on the east bank where the ground was high and well shaded. Once a traders' settlement had flourished there, of which only half a dozen broken-down old huts remained. The whole face of the country was sadly changed. Formerly pretty native villages were scattered over the landscape beneath clumps of trees, and the country was thickly populated. But every thing was altered. There was not a village on the main-land. The pretty settlements had all been destroyed, and the inhabitants killed or driven for refuge to the numerous low islands in the river, which formed their natural defense. These

were thronged with villages, and the soil was under good cultivation.

Immediately on landing Sir Samuel sent for the chief of the Baris, Allorron, who was promised protection if he and his people would return to the main-land and become true subjects to the Khedive. In return his people must cultivate corn, and build the huts required for the troops on their arrival. Allorron was profuse in promises and protestations of good-will. But the next day he declared that his people could not prepare the materials for the camp. The neighboring tribes were hostile, and he could not venture out to collect bamboos. He was told that if he refused to obey orders the troops would be sheltered in the villages. Allorron was very sulky and sullen. He was a big and savage-looking brute of the lowest description, his natural vices having been increased by association with the slave-traders, with whom his tribe was in league. Many of his people were serving in the pay of Abou Saood, a noted slave-hunter. It was well understood by the various tribes that if Sir Samuel succeeded in establishing himself firmly at Gondokoro the trade in slaves would be broken up, and that the traffic in ivory would be regulated by law. The alliance with Abou Saood had proved disastrous to the Baris tribe. The Loquia, a powerful tribe only three days' march to the southeast, had lost slaves and cattle through Abou Saood's raids; and when his bands had quitted Gondokoro for their own station in the interior, Loquia had invaded the unprotected Allorron, and had utterly destroyed his district on the eastern main-land. For many miles the country resembled a lovely park. Every habitation had disappeared, and the formerly populous position was quite deserted by the surviving inhabitants, who, as already stated, had taken refuge in the islands, or on the west side of the river. At this season the entire country was covered with a tender herbage—that species of fine grass, called by the Arabs "négheel," which is the best pasturage for cattle. Allorron's people dared not bring their herds to pasture upon this beautiful land from whence they had been driven, as they were afraid that the news would soon reach Loquia, who would pounce unexpectedly upon them from the neighboring forest.

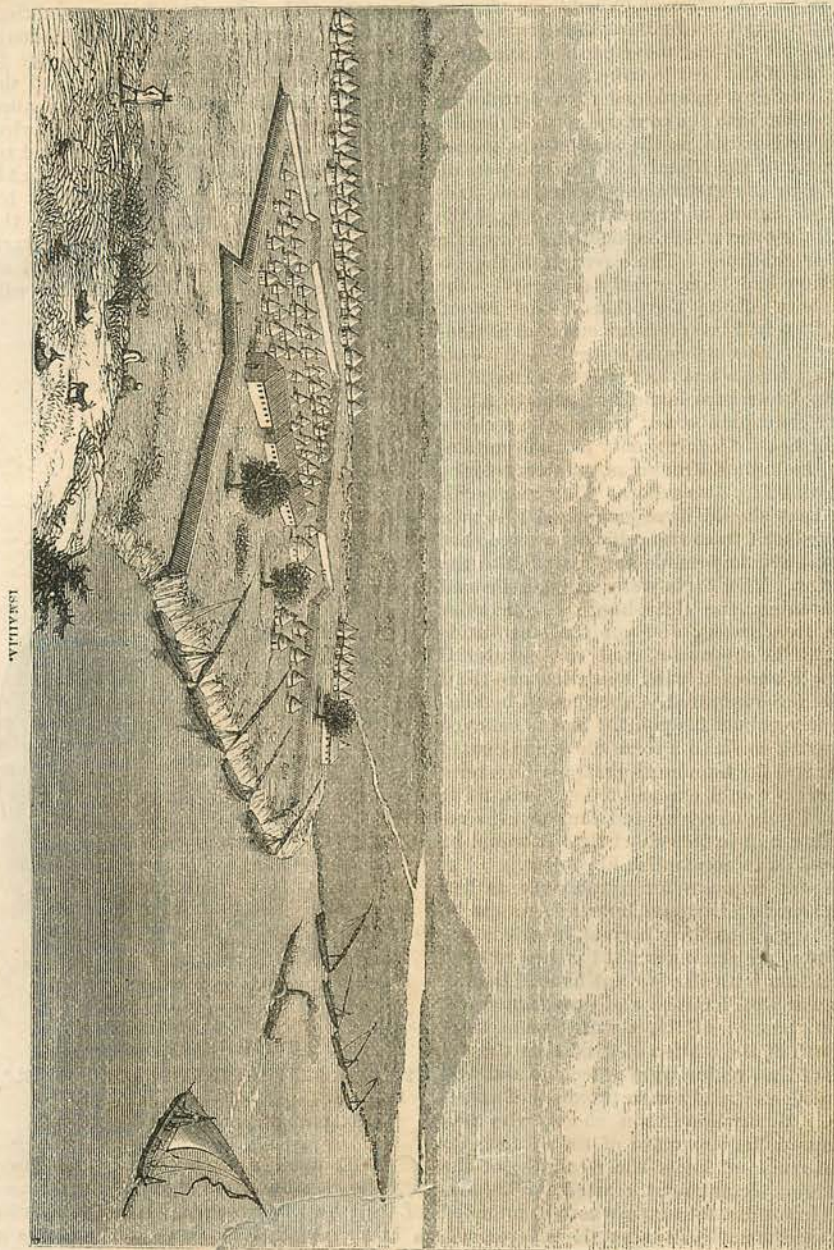
Sir Samuel took possession of the deserted country, and proceeded to lay out a camp and to cultivate the ground. Every hut had its own neat garden. Very soon ten acres of corn were above-ground, copious rains having started the seed like magic. The Baris remained sullen, and refused to assist in bringing material for the huts; and though they now ventured to send their herds to pasture on the main-land, they would sell neither sheep nor cattle,



NIGHT ATTACK ON THE CAMP.

hoping to starve the troops into the abandonment of the country. But this was not in Sir Samuel's programme. On the 26th of May, 1871, he took formal possession, and, in the name of the Khedive, declared the country annexed to Egypt. The ceremony was quite impressive. A flag-staff eighty feet high had been erected on the highest point of land overlooking the river. Twelve hundred men, including soldiers, sailors in uniform, and servants and camp followers in

their best clothes, were on the ground. Sir Samuel's staff for the occasion was composed of his aids-de-camp, Lieutenant Baker, R.N., Lieutenant-Colonel Abd-el-Kader, together with three other officers and Mr. Higginbotham, the civil engineer of the expedition. The formality of reading the official proclamation describing the annexation of the country to Egypt in the name of the Khedive took place at the foot of the flag-staff. At the termination of the last



sentence the Ottoman flag was quickly run up by the halyards and fluttered in the strong breeze at the mast-head. The officers with drawn swords saluted the flag, the troops presented arms, and the batteries of artillery fired a royal salute. A military review concluded the ceremony.

Allorron and his people still remained hostile, and Sir Samuel was obliged to confiscate some of their cattle to obtain food for his men. Several times the Baris at-

tacked his camp at night, and in numerous instances surprised and murdered his sentries at their posts. The most serious encounter was a night attack on the camp which took place July 21. The Baris had made friends with their old enemies, the Loquia, and the combined forces of the two tribes surprised the camp, and would have destroyed it had they been able to penetrate the thorn fence by which it was surrounded. Sir Samuel was now compelled to take the

offensive. A series of expeditions was organized against the Baris and their allies. The result of these movements was the submission of the hostile tribe.

It was now determined to undertake an expedition into the country south of Gondokoro, or Ismailia, as the station was named in honor of the Khedive, for the purpose of subduing the great slave hunter and trader Abou Saood, and annexing to Egypt the territory over which he held the sway of a robber chieftain. The strength of the expedition had been greatly reduced by the treachery of the Egyptian colonel Raouf Bey, who had been left in command at Gondokoro. This officer, in spite of positive orders that none but the really sick should be allowed to return home, had sent to Khartoum great numbers of troops who were in sound health, leaving only 502 officers and men, including drummers, buglers, clerks, etc., with fifty-two sailors. Thus an expedition that should have comprised 1645 men was reduced to so insignificant a force that it appeared impossible to proceed into the interior. The Baris were still hostile and threatening, the slave-hunters' companies were treacherous, and yet the slave-trade was to be suppressed and the equatorial districts annexed with less than one-third of the force required. Abou Saood had apparently gained his point. It was believed that with so small a force Sir Samuel could not travel far from head-quarters. His term of service would expire on 1st April, 1873; he had only one year and four months remaining, and in this short time it would be impossible to accomplish his object.

Urgent requests for reinforcements had been sent to Khartoum, but as there was no certainty about their arrival, it was necessary to make arrangements for the proposed expedition with the force at hand. Gondokoro was well fortified and provisioned. A reconnaissance of the country immediately south of the station showed that the natives of that region were peaceable and well disposed, and ready with promises of assistance. Meanwhile Abou Saood, who had witnessed the departure of the soldiers for Khartoum, and knew the weakness of the remaining detachment, started for his stations in the distant south, where he intended to incite the natives against the government, and thus frustrate the proposed expedition. He had never before traveled inland. For many years he had been in the habit of arriving at Gondokoro from Khartoum with the annual fleet sent out by the slave-trader Agad, bringing new levies of brigands and fresh supplies of arms and ammunition. He would then remain several weeks at Gondokoro, receive the ivory and slaves collected from his various stations in the interior, and return with his spoil to Khartoum. Now, however, he had one grand object in view—

to prevent the advance of the expedition. It was therefore necessary that he should visit his stations and warn his people to withhold their slaves and ivory until the hated "Christian Pasha" should be recalled on the expiration of his term of service, when the old condition of affairs would return. Undismayed by the difficulties in his way, the "Christian Pasha" pushed on his preparations with great vigor, and on the 22d of January, 1872, was ready to start. An account of the new expedition and of the results of the whole undertaking will be given in another paper.



## THE STORY OF THE THREE BEARS.

For Little Folks.

FROM ROBERT SOUTHEY'S "THE DOCTOR."

"A tale which may content the minds  
Of learned men and grave philosophers."

GASCOYNE.

ONCE upon a time there were Three Bears, who lived together in a house of their own in a wood. One of them was a Little, Small, Wee Bear, and one was a Middle-sized Bear, and the other was a Great, Huge Bear. They had each a pot for their porridge; a little pot for the Little, Small, Wee Bear, and a middle-sized pot for the Middle Bear, and a great pot for the Great, Huge Bear. And they had each a chair to sit in; a little chair for the Little, Small, Wee Bear, and a middle-sized chair for the Middle Bear, and a great chair for the Great, Huge Bear. And they had each a bed to sleep in; a little bed for the Little, Small, Wee Bear, and a middle-sized bed for