

THE FASHODA AFFAIR.

Events Leading Up to the Crisis Between Great Britain and France.



INVOLVED in the Fashoda incident, which brought Great Britain and France to the very verge of war, is a question which is purely territorial. The story of Sudanese history leading up to the culmination at Fashoda is a long one, but much of it is necessary to a clear understanding of the situation at present.

In the Egyptian Sudan, south of Khartoum and north of Equatoria, lies the Bahr-el-Ghazal, which is the territory in dispute. This land was formerly a province of Egypt. In area it is about five times the size of England. It is covered with forests and mountains, and possesses fine valleys which are subject to inundations. The great river, or Bahr-el-Ghazal, flows through it, with numerous tributaries, which form a labyrinth of streams.

Fashoda is situated to the north of this labyrinth, on the Nile proper, and commands access to all the streams that feed the Ghazal. It is the capital of the Shillik country, and was annexed to Egypt half a century ago. Sir Samuel Baker, in 1869, conquered the country as far south as Uganda, and General ("Chinese") Gordon ap-

When the British forces of General Kitchener arrived they found Marchand and his expedition encamped there. The cable reported cordial meetings between the rival forces, but the news, previously sent, of Marchand's arrival at Fashoda created intense excitement in London and Paris. The reports received in London were further to the effect that only the Egyptian flag was raised by Kitchener, and that the British union jack did not figure in the assumption of control. It was also reported that no indignity was shown the French flag, which Marchand kept unfurled during



FASHODA, AS SEEN FROM THE BLUE NILE.

the proceedings, and whose claim of prior occupation involved the dispute between the two Governments.

Great Britain stands united in this matter and the people are warmly backing up Lord Salisbury's determination to hold Fashoda at all hazards. The words of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, uttered in a recent speech defines the English attitude. "I hope, trust and believe the question is capable of a friendly solution, but this country has put her foot down. If, unhappily, another view should be taken by France the Queen's ministers know what their duty demands."

Not less positive are the words of Lord Rosebery, who, unlike the conservative Sir Michael, is a former Liberal Premier. He disposes of the subject by denying to Mr. Marchand the right to represent the Government of France, suggesting to France that the easiest way out of the difficulty is to repudiate Marchand altogether. In all events, there was but one opinion in England, and France must back down or make for war, and Great Britain was ready for either result.

The London Saturday Review says: The facts on which the Fashoda dispute is based are very much deeper than is generally supposed. At first sight it would appear as if the French were grasping at a shadow and disregarding the substance in pertinaciously laying claim to an apparently barren and unproductive spot while neglecting the fertile district of Bahr-el-Ghazal. But this is by no means the case. Fashoda is a point of incalculable importance to France, and it is correspondingly important that we should frustrate her designs in that direction.

It is her cherished project to make a railway from east to west of Africa, in order to divide the continent and thus prevent the joining of the two British spheres (north and south) by direct communication. With this ob-

circumstances, becomes specially interesting, because it is probably the final episode in the long struggle between England and France for the trade belonging to the great river valleys of the world. Fashoda belongs historically to the great struggle with France which began under William of Orange and was erroneously supposed to end with the battle of Waterloo. For one hundred and twenty-six years, from 1689 to 1815 the British were engaged in seven great wars. These wars either began as wars with France or soon became so. There is, therefore, some reason, apart from the folly of kings, which forces the English continually to be in conflict with the French. These wars were caused by the instinct of self-preservation—the strongest instinct of humanity. They were mercantile wars, and the fundamental reason for each of them was that the English were afraid that the French would take from them the colonies they had, and so close their markets; and they also saw a good chance

of enlarging their own markets, first at the expense of the French, and latterly by maintaining the "open door." The historic meeting of Kitchener and Marchand at Fashoda is possibly the last occasion on which the French and English will meet for the division of a continent. The result will be the same on the Nile as it was in India when Clive met Duplex; in Canada when Wolfe met Montcalm; in Australia when Governor Philip was enabled to lay the foundations of a great English nation in consequence of the wreck of the French expedition under La Perouse; at Trafalgar when Nelson met Villeneuve, and gave to the British eighty years' start in the race for trade and empire; and lastly, in Cairo when Lord Cromer, in the teeth of fifteen years of almost intolerable provocation from successive French residents, founded an Egyptian empire, over which our flag will float as long as it floats over the Tower of London.

The meeting of the Sirdar and Marchand has done credit to both. Lord Kitchener acted wisely and with tact, while Major Marchand behaved like a gentleman of France. Nothing would have been easier than for Kitchener, by the tyrannous use of overwhelming force, to have hurried England into her twenty-fifth war with France by wounding the susceptibilities of the brave soldier explorer. Kitchener's language to Marchand was prescribed for him by Lord Salisbury. Annoyance to England was the sole motive of the Marchand expedition. To send an armed party of Frenchmen absolutely without a base to occupy Egyptian territory and defy the joint power of England, Egypt and India—for Indian forces could land at Suakim within ten days from the date of an order from London—is so wild a scheme that it can end in nothing but futility. When the Fashoda incident is settled, the French power of annoyance in Egypt will probably be considerably curtailed before the coming winter is over. The French, aided by the Russians, who have no interests in Egypt, block the way by opposing grants being allowed for the Egyptian War Department by the Caisse de la Dette. In January next the existing international arrangements will be modified. In English Government circles it is maintained that everything has passed off at Fashoda exactly as was anticipated, and that the French flag at Fashoda meant no more than the display of a British union-jack from the window of an English shop in Paris.



MEETING OF GENERAL KITCHENER AND MAJOR MARCHAND AT FASHODA.

Close observers will note that England at the present juncture is especially polite to France, and the latter would be well advised to remember Mr. Kipling's hint— "But oh! beware of my country when my country grows polite."

A Girl's Curious Suicide.
A young Texas girl ate the heads of 212 parlor matches in an attempt to commit suicide. When she repented she swallowed a lot of lard and bacon as an antidote. The combination was fatal in a few minutes.

Few Carriage Roads in the Pyrenees.
There are quite 100 roads of one kind and another over the Pyrenees between France and Spain, but only three of these are passable for carriages.

A MODEL SCHOOL HOUSE.

Indiana Has Just Erected One on a Strictly Hygienic Plan.

The model country school house in Indiana has recently been completed. It was dedicated by Professor Sanford Bell, President of the Indiana Association of Child Study, who is



INDIANA'S MODEL SCHOOL HOUSE.

now Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Indiana State University at Bloomington. This building is beautifully situated in a grove of oak and hickory in the northwest corner of Center township, Porter County.

Trustee E. M. Burns, of Valparaiso, supervised the erection of this school. It is built on a strictly hygienic plan and furnished with all conveniences and improvements, nearly \$5000 having been invested in the enterprise. Stone, brick and metal constitute the main materials in the structure, which is thirty-eight by fifty feet. The building is divided into recitation room, library room, organ room, cloak room, stairway hall, an upper apartment and a basement. The basement has a seven-foot ceiling. It furnishes ample accommodation for the furnace and fuel. The recitation room is thirty-four by thirty-six feet and has a seating capacity of sixty-four, in single seats of the latest manufacture and varying in size to meet the requirements of the children. All the rooms in the first story are fifteen feet high and beautifully ceiled with metallic panel ceiling. The class room is well lighted, having ten windows two and a half by twelve feet. One stairway leads from the hallway to the upper apartment and another leads from the main room into the basement. An arch opens from the hall into the cloak room. The main entrance has double swinging oak and plate glass doors, and the entrance from the main room to the cloak room is also fitted in this way. Rooms are heated from a hot-air furnace. Roof and towers are covered with metallic shingles. In front of the building is a large stone platform, six by twenty-four feet, surrounded by a heavy iron railing, which extends to the base of the steps. The playground is large and well arranged. The school building is of much interest to educators from various places.

Pat's Puzzle.

In a jovial company each one asked a question. If it was answered he paid a forfeit, or if he could not answer it himself he paid a forfeit. An Irishman's question was: "How does the little ground squirrel dig his hole without showing any earth about the entrance?"

When they had all given it up Pat said: "Sure, do you see, he begins at the other end of the hole."

One of the company exclaimed: "But how does he get there?" "Ah," said Pat, "that's your question—can you answer it yourself?"—Chicago Times-Herald.

Germany's Proxy Emperor.

The Kaiser selected aged King Albert of Saxony to look after the affairs of the German empire while William himself is unable to do so by telegraph or should emergency arise during his extensive trip to the Holy Land. Just before he left Berlin the Kaiser held conferences with many of the petty rulers of the empire. He agreed to many precautionary measures, but refused to give up his dangerous trip. King Albert was chosen as temporary regent because of the absence of Prince Henry of Prussia, the Kaiser's younger brother.

King Albert was born in 1828, eldest son of the late King John, whom he succeeded in 1873. He is a Field Marshal of the German army, and has unquestionably shown a degree of military talent worthy to be compared with those of the famous Prussian Generals in the field more than twenty



KING ALBERT OF SAXONY.

years ago. Entering the army fifty-four years ago, he bore high command in the Danish, Austrian and French wars, taking part in the battles of Gravelotte and Sedan and in the siege of Paris.

FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Destroying Ants' Nests.

If the ant hills are not very large the ants may be destroyed by pouring boiling water over them, or better still boiling tobacco tea, but the most effective remedy is bisulphide of carbon poured into holes, six inches deep and two feet apart, filling in immediately after the liquid has been poured in.

Cause of Sheep Scab.

Common sheep scab is caused by a species of parasitic mites which are larger than that kind which cause scab on horses, cattle and other animals, and is a distinct variety. This parasite inhabits the regions of the body which are most thickly covered with wool; that is, the back, the sides, the rump and the shoulders. It is the most serious in its effects upon the sheep of any of the parasitic mites, and it is the cause of the true body scab. It is generally believed by sheep-raisers that there is but one kind of sheep scab, but there are three other forms, likewise caused by parasitic mites. One of these is the sarcoptic scab, which is limited almost entirely to the head. The second is the symbiotic scab, which affects the limbs and udder, while lastly is the rare affection of the eyelid scab. These forms of the disease appear to be rare and of a mild nature compared with the common body scab.

Feeding Apples to Cows.

We do not wonder that there is strong prejudice against allowing cows, and especially milk cows, to eat apples. For the most part it is well grounded. While it is possible to give a milk cow a few dry apples without drying up her milk perceptibly, that is not the kind of apples the usually gets. If the cow is in a orchard where apples are falling, she eats every time she hears one drop and eats it greedily, however wormy, sour, green and bitter it may be. All apples have some malic acid in them, even including those that we call "sweet." This malic acid, together with the tannin that is found in the rith peel, and especially in green, small apples, contracts the cow's stomach. If she eats much of such fruit, it gives her the colic just as surely as it does the small boy. The cow's stomach was not made to digest such stuff, and so sure as it is put into her stomach there is riot and rebellion. Every one knows that giving vinegar to cows, and rubbing her udder with vinegar will dry her off. We believe that allowing cows to eat many apples, even if they are ripe, has a bad effect on their milk production.—American Cultivator.

Clipping Wings.

Many hesitate to clip the wing on account of an almost certain disfigurement that is likely to be the result. If care is taken in cutting, the wings can be clipped in such a manner that the mutilated feathers cannot be detected unless the fowl is caught. I have a flock of Leghorns which I recently clipped; it would take a very acute observer to note that the wings had been tampered with in the least. The task is by no means difficult; any one can do it by using a little care. If the operator is a right-handed person, take the fowl in the left hand and hold close to the body partly by the hand and forearm. Spread out the left wing with the thumb and forefinger of the arm that is holding the fowl. With the right hand take a sharp pair of shears and cut the flight feathers, or the ones on the outer side; but until you come to the natural division between the flight feathers and the secondaries. The section that should be cut is technically known as the "primaries." If the primaries are cut as close to the flesh as possible and the operator is careful not to cut over too far and get into the secondaries, the effect will not be noticed when the fowl is in its natural position. Except in extreme cases this will prove just as effective in restraining high flyers as though the wing had been practically cut entirely away. When this is not sufficient, which is seldom the case, more clipping will be necessary.—C. P. Reynolds in Orange Judd Farmer.

Variety of Feed for Hogs.

I know very well that pigs cannot be entirely fed on corn with profit until they are finished, unless they have grass. The past winter I did not remember it until I had relearned it at some expense. January 15 I weighed a bunch of July and September shoats that had been full-fed on corn from the time they began to eat. The first week I fed 7 bushels of oats and 29 bushels corn, which produced 1-2 pounds of pork for each bushel fed. The second week 2 bushels oats and 18 bushels corn produced 84-17 pounds for each bushel fed. The third week 8 28-29 pounds, the fourth and fifth weeks 6 7-8 pounds. No oats were fed the fourth and fifth weeks. I sold part of the hogs and turned others out on a pasture range, as they were not doing well. They had all the corn they would eat, but always seemed to want something they could not get. Their stomachs were worn out and were in a fine shape for disease. I weighed 18 of the thriftiest, principally barrows. The first week they ate 2 bushels oats and 91-2 bushels corn, several buckets full of salt and ashes and two or three bushels of partly decayed apples. I had noticed them chase the hens for their droppings. Taking the hint I wheeled out from the henhouse several bushels which they ate ravenously. This produced 16 8-11 pounds of pork for each bushel of grain fed.

This gain was so large I thought I might have weighed the hogs at an unfair time. The next week I made the circumstances of weighing like the previous week. The shoats showed a gain of 12 1-2 pounds for each bushel of grain fed. Quite a quantity of ashes, apples and droppings were given. After the hogs had eaten a part of they would return at once to corn. There are certain elements in these feeds that aid digestion. The hogs I turned on pasture range and gave a limited amount of corn have made a great improvement.—J. B. Martin in American Agriculturist.

Making the Best of Corn Stalks.

Corn-cutting time never comes around without making the writer smile at the ideas which prevailed among farmers when and where he was a boy. The first of corn cutting was always "topping" it, so as to secure fresh and green the top part of the stalks with the tassel. This part being fine and small, it was supposed could be eaten better than the larger stalks below the ear. Then, as all the valuable part of the stalk was supposed to be gathered, the ears were left to ripen on the long butts, and after they were husked stock was turned in to pick out what they could. As by that time frosts had cut the leaves and ruptured the stalks, they were then of little more value than dry woody fibre, as most of their juices had dried out. Naturally enough, with only the upper third of the corn stalk saved as being worth keeping, corn stalks as food for stock were little thought of, and not considered nearly as good as hay.

All this suddenly changed when farmers began the cut corn from the field for soiling cows. Though they broke off the ears of corn so as to not make the food too rich, the cow always seized the corn stalk, not by its butt and still less by its tip. She would grasp the stalk with her tongue just where the ear was broken off, draw it into her mouth and double it up, then chewing vigorously both ways until the taste did not suit her, when she would bite off a part of butts and the tassel, and let them drop out of her mouth on the ground or in the manger. If the stalk was not turned to woody fibre at the butt, very little of the lower part of it would be thrown out. The tassel and some part of the stalk below it would, however, always be left uneaten, thus expressing the cow's practical judgment that this was the least valuable and least palatable part of the stock.

In eating corn stalks the cow knows what is best for her. It behooves men to learn from her if they would feed her sensibly. Just at the time flint corn begins to glaze, and most of its substance is in the milky stage, the stalk is sweet and full of juices down to the root. But immediately after this the lower part of the stalk hardens. That cuts off most of the sap from the root, and the sooner after this the corn is cut the better the stalks will be. Experiments have shown, too, that if corn cutting is delayed after this there is very little, if any, gain in the weight of grain. The juices in the stalk and the carbon elaborated from the leaves continue to fill out the grain on the ear, perhaps not as well as they would before the corn was cut, but enormously better than they could if the leaves or stalks had been frosted.

The safest rule, therefore, is to cut corn any time after the surface has glazed, and especially if there seems danger that frost will scorch and brown the leaves, thus at once stopping their further use in helping to deposit starch in the grain. When corn has been frosted before cutting the leaves have their sap vessels ruptured, and this poisons the sap, often causing the stalks to turn sour. Stalks thus injured cannot be kept in any way, except by cutting them and packing so closely in the silo that they will be exposed only to the fumes of carbonic acid gas generated by their own decomposition. This is the principle of the silo, and therefore there is a slightly sour taste to even the best-kept silage, and a very decidedly sour taste to that which is put up badly.—American Cultivator.

Farm and Garden Notes.

Sunlight and pure air are potent elements in promoting health and vigor in horses as well as other stock.

Any system of tillage that will most completely utilize the rainfall for crop production will insure the best yields.

The horses used for plowing and getting out the corn and other work on the farm will be as well off without shoes as with them. Try it.

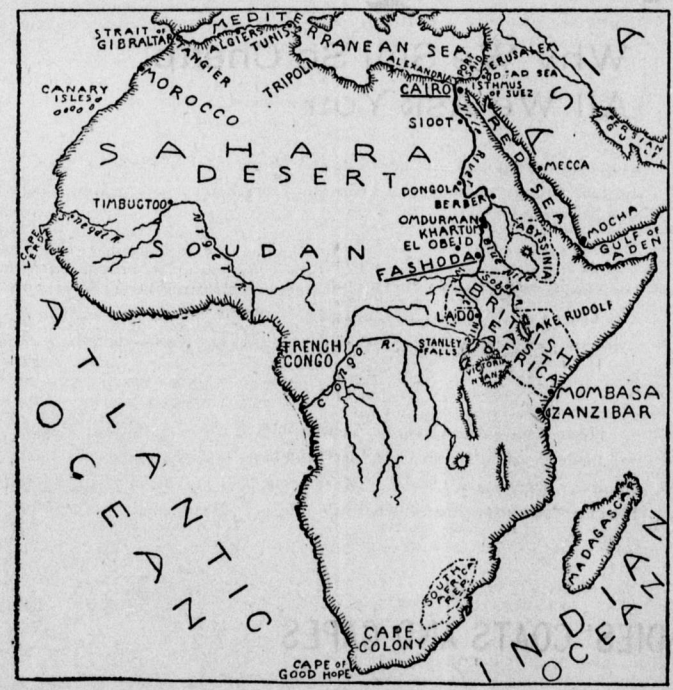
Every year introduce new blood into your yards, for if you do not you will, with the best strains, find a decrease of eggs in a few years with poor hatches.

To get best results with hens or with chickens, they must have constant attention, a variety of food, but not too much, and must be fed at regular times.

Soils containing much sand are more easily cultivated than others and are called light. Red color in some clays is due to iron compounds, but the brown and black colors are due to decaying vegetation or humus.

Remember to inspect the water privilege of the flock most carefully, if wooden troughs are used see that they are sound and whole. Have them scalded and purified with lime water once a week, adding a few drops of refined carbolic acid.

The successful feeder will study the wants of his cows just as much as the successful caterer studies the tastes of his customers. He will give them their food in as palatable a condition as possible, though not necessarily in what may be termed a fancy style, which would be impracticable.



Map showing how if France had held Fashoda she would have had a belt of empire across Africa from the Senegal River to the Blue Nile, and would have defeated Great Britain's "Cape to Cairo" project.

protect French interests in the Upper Ubanghi." An expedition was organized, and Colonel Monteil placed at its head. M. Liotard was appointed Government Commissioner in the Upper Ubanghi province.

In January, 1896, Captain Marchand proceeded up the Ubanghi to aid Liotard. He passed through much danger and hardship and met Liotard with his forces at Meshraer-Rek, within easy distance of Fashoda.

The rest is soon told. From arriving at Fashoda to claiming French domination was a small step, and it was taken. Once lodged there, the country was apparently in the possession of the French.

ject in view she has obtained from Menelek concessions to build a railway right across Abyssinia, the line being already in construction. It is essential to the scheme that this line should be carried through to Fashoda.

But it is equally essential that we should retain Fashoda, both for the prevention of the plan—which would be a severe blow to British interests—and for the establishment of that Cape to Cairo communication which will give us supremacy in Africa. The issue at stake are so vital to both countries that a conflict between them is more seriously threatened than most are disposed to think.

The Fashoda incident, under these