

## THE ABYSSINIANS.

### ITALY'S INVASION AROUSED AN ANCIENT PEOPLE'S IRE.

France and Russia Believed to Be Back of King Menelik—Curious Customs of This Queer Monarch's Subjects.

**T**HE great Powers of Europe are not having the walk-over that they fondly expected in the work of subjugating various small Nations which they desire to "protect."

Spain is having an uphill fight of it in dealing with Cuba and England's clever intrigue to gobble up the Transvaal miscarried. Italy is having the fight of her life in trying to conquer the warlike Abyssinians.

Of all the petty wars of the past few months the Abyssinian struggle is the most interesting, for the reason that the people are fearless and capable of meeting slaughter with slaughter. In their recent campaign in Madagascar the French had only to overcome the deadly miasma which permeates the island. The English in the struggle with Pempher, the farce-comedy monarch of Ashantee, had the same enemy to contend with, but to a lesser degree. Spain has some real fighters opposed to her in Cuba, but Italy is having the hardest time of them all.

The forefathers of the people Italy is fighting were subjects of the Queen of Sheba. Their National pride is unlimited, and they look down upon all other Nations of the world as inferior to them in Christianity. To the European or American mind there is very little in Abyssinia to-day to suggest the glorious riches which astounded Solomon. In fact the whole country has a down-at-the-heel look. Because their ancestors of countless generations ago ranked as the greatest people in the world, the Abyssinians of the present time regard themselves as pre-eminent. They boast of their civilization, but it is a ragged and worn out echo of the civilization which reigned thousands of years ago.

is no danger of a scarcity of ammunition. Intelligent natives now operate the factory, and in addition to powder making, they turn out thousands of cartridges every day.

While Menelik had only 40,000 rifles at the beginning of the war, it is believed that at least 60,000 of his soldiers are capably armed to-day, including a large body of cavalry. The rest are armed with two-edged swords and lances. These seem primitive in these days of scientific death engines, but in the mountainous sections, where most of the fighting has been done, they are capable of great execution. The Abyssinians swoop down on a band of Italian soldiers, kill and wound as many as they can in a few minutes and then fade away. While the fighting lasts it is invariably hand to hand and the man with a long sword or lance is as good as the man with the magazine rifle.

The lancers do as much damage as warriors armed with rifles. The Italian explorer Crechi says that he saw a shield made of hippopotamus hide pierced like a piece of paper by a lance thrown by an Abyssinian at a distance of 200 feet. A compactly formed band of Italian soldiers afford an easy target for these lancers, who appear like magic, shower their lances and disappear before guns can be trained on them.

But the Abyssinians who are fighting for the independence of their ancient land are capable of waging war in the regular way. When fights of this kind are made it is believed that the native forces are officered by French and Russian military men, as tactics are adopted which are known only to soldiers of the most modern schools. This seems to have been the case at Makalle, which was surrendered by the Italians under Colonel Galliano to Ras Makonnen, commander of the Abyssinians. The Italians had held Makalle since last fall, but they were finally starved out. The Italians, with the rapid-fire guns, would have annihilated the Abyssinians had they made an assault on the fortress of Makalle.

While the Abyssinians have proved themselves fighters of considerable

wishes. They believe that women are more tender-hearted than men, and quicker to forgive transgressions.

It is probably the greatest country for feuds the world over. These feuds



CATHEDRAL OF ADOWA.

seem destined to last forever, and the older they grow the stronger they become. A whole family may be exterminated, but the next of kin is bound to step in and carry on hostilities. In this way the fight is kept up generation after generation until the original cause of the row has been completely lost sight of.

A man who feels that he has been insulted makes a formal call upon his enemy, and is received by a servant, to whom he imparts the reason of his visit. This is simply a formal notification of war. The caller is treated with a show of hospitality, being invited to eat and drink, but members of the family do not show themselves. After he has passed out of the house the war begins.

When a man kills another without just cause, he is handed over to the relatives of the victim, who are entitled to kill him in the same way that he did the murder. Or, if one man wounds another, the latter's relatives are entitled to wound him in the same way.

General Oreste Baratieri, Commander-in-Chief of the Italian forces in Abyssinia, was regarded as a skilled fighter in that country. He is fifty-seven years old. In 1859, when he had completed a monkish education, he joined Garibaldi as a volunteer in the Thousand of Marsala. Not long afterward he joined the Italian army, and was quickly promoted until he attained the rank of a captaincy.

Baratieri was wounded at Custoza, after fighting with great gallantry. After traveling to Khartoum with an exploring expedition, and on his return acting for some years as the editor of the Rivista Militare, in Rome, he was sent as military attaché to Berlin and Vienna.

At the time that Italy became imbued so strongly with the desire for colonial possessions Baratieri was a colonel of Bersaglieri. In command of his regiment he accompanied General Gandolfi to Africa, where he has remained ever since, distinguishing himself in military operations against the Abyssinians, Somalis and Dervishes. He became Governor and Commander-in-Chief on the retirement of General Gandolfi.

Baratieri has had difficulties to contend with which would perplex the greatest general that ever lived. The Dervishes who have joined the Abyssinians are fanatics. Their captains give the men a peculiar drug, more powerful than hashish or opium, before going into battle, intoxicating them and making them fight with the fury of fiends. They care absolutely nothing for death. The trained soldier is at a discount when pitted against legions of these madmen, bent upon slaughter.

Italy's treasury is empty, and with no money to equip the thousands of necessary troops, it looks as if Abyssinia would maintain her independence, particularly with France and Russia at her back. These Nations do not want Italy to gobble up the 130,000 square miles of territory, which, however, seems to be rich only in tradition.

### The Gallant French President.

President Faure has attached a photographer to his traveling retinue, who will take series of pictures of the President on public occasions for the kinetoscope. It has been pointed out that while M. Carnot, as President, kissing little girls, drew the line at those in their teens, M. Faure shows no compunction in kissing the older girls.—New York Sun.

### Scolded the Queen.

Queen Margherita of Italy was riding on her bicycle lately in the part of the park of Monza from which the public is excluded, when she was stopped by a carabinieri, scolded for trespassing, and then asked to give her name. The same day she sent the man her photograph and one of the ten-franc pieces bearing her effigy by the side of King Humbert's that he might recognize her in future.

## THE YOUNGEST COMMANDER.

### Joseph H. York in Charge of a Ship at Eighteen.

The youngest sea captain that ever entered the Port of New York in charge of a vessel, and probably the youngest commander in the world, is Captain Joseph H. York, of the three-masted schooner Charles J. Willard. Captain York is eighteen years old. He is a native of South Portland, Me., and his father is Captain George York, his grandfather is Captain J. C. York, and his brother is Captain Franklin C. York, all masters of vessels owned in Portland and well known in New York.

Young Captain York went to sea in 1893, serving before the mast of the schooner he now commands. The vessel was then in charge of his brother, F. C. York, who was promoted to a larger vessel.

Young York made but one trip before the mast. He noted every movement of his superior, and soon learned how to work the schooner. On the next trip he was made first mate, and before he had been on the vessel a year he was promoted to master. His first voyage, after he was given command of the Charles J. Willard, was to Porto Rico, and it was most successful. All last summer and fall he was in the Atlantic coastwise service, and one of the quickest trips between Richmond, Va., and New York, in a sailing vessel, was made by young York. He covered the distance between the ports named in the remarkably short time of forty-one hours.

Captain York is six feet tall, weighs 178 pounds, has very broad shoulders and a handsome, clean-cut face. The next trip of Captain York will be from Portland, Me., to the West Indies.

Young York from early babyhood



THE YOUNGEST SEA CAPTAIN AFLCAT.

had a taste for the sea, and devoted much of his time in building toy boats and sailing them on ponds adjacent to his home.

When he was ten years old he accompanied his father on an extended voyage to South American countries. It is his ambition to command one of the big liners, and he is thinking of entering the service of some of the transatlantic companies.

### Pretty Story About a Dog.

A doctor at Newark, N. J., tells this pretty story about a dog: According to the doctor's story, the dog came to his office last Friday night and barked and whined piteously at the door. He attempted to drive the animal away, but did not succeed. Finally the dog stole into the office behind a patient, and taking a position in a corner of the front room, continued to whine. There were several patients in the room, but as they exhibited no fear and the dog gave no sign of ugliness the doctor did not molest him. When the patients had been dismissed the dog, evidently believing it was his turn, hobbled towards the doctor, still whining and holding its right foreleg up. The doctor saw that the leg was broken and started for his operating room, the dog following. Securing splints and other things necessary for setting the limb, the doctor went to work and soon had the injured member in good shape. Throughout the operation the dog licked the doctor's hand in a grateful manner, and when it was finished went behind the office stove and lay down. He has since made the office his home.—New Orleans Picayune.

### Scolded the Queen.

Queen Margherita of Italy was riding on her bicycle lately in the part of the park of Monza from which the public is excluded, when she was stopped by a carabinieri, scolded for trespassing, and then asked to give her name. The same day she sent the man her photograph and one of the ten-franc pieces bearing her effigy by the side of King Humbert's that he might recognize her in future.



GOLDEN HORN. SEASIDE OF CONSTANTINOPLE, SHOWING GALATA BRIDGE.

## NEW COSTUMES.

### CHANGES OF THE SEASON IN WOMAN'S DRESS.

Design for a Blouse of Blue Sateen—Stylish and Comfortable Jacket for a Girl—Newest Hints in Millinery.

**S**OFT, dark blue sateen made the comfortable blouse depicted in the double-column illustration, the deep sailor collar and round cuffs being of white pique, trimmed with bands of embroidered insertion. Three handsome pearl but-

### LATEST THING IN HATS.

While all the world has been plotting the recent discovery of a scientist that makes possible photographs of hidden objects, no powerful chronicler has penned the praises of the inventor that discovered a way to prevent feathers upcurling because of dampness. It's been done, so a dealer in hat trimmings assures the writer, but the device consists of a finish that is applied only to new plumes. With this discovery comes the statement that plumes for general wear on hats will probably be discouraged. That is the way with fashion! We have just become accustomed to plumes, have generally decided that the effects from them that at first seemed too startling,



LADIES' BLOUSE—DESIGNED BY MAX MANTON.

tons are sewed on the box plait in centre front, which can be used in closing or for decoration only, the closing being invisible under the plait. The simple shaping is accomplished by shoulder and under arm seams, the lower edge being finished by a hem through which elastic is run to draw the fullness into position in blouse style. Full bishop sleeves are gathered top and bottom, straight, round cuffs finishing the wrists. The collar and cuffs can be made adjustable and removed for laundering when required, in which case bands of the material must finish the neck and wrists to which the collar and cuffs can be buttoned. The blouse, collar and cuffs can be made from one material, such as serge, flannel or cloth, and closed in front with buttons and button-holes in centre of box plait. For ordinary wear, rowing, physical culture, gymnasium or athletic exercises, this blouse will be found convenient and comfortable.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this blouse for a lady having a 36-inch bust measure is 3½ yards.

### GIRL'S JACKET OF ILLUMINATED CHEVIOT.

Illuminated cheviot to match the skirt made this stylish and comfortable jacket that is simply finished with machine-stitched edges in tailor style. The loose-fitting fronts lap in double-breasted style, the back and sides fitting smoothly to the waist, below which each section is widely sprung to give the fashionable rippled effect. The mandolin sleeves are in three sections, each seam being joined, pressed open and stitched on each side. Two box plaits are laid at the top, with the rest of the fullness in

are really beautiful, and now we are told to pass on to something else; told, too, in a tone that sounds like, "There, run away, children, you're in the way."

In the new order of things there will be an attempt to revive trimming with whole birds. The artist contributes



HAT TRIMMED WITH A WHOLE BIRD.

one of the first of these models. Its crown is draped emerald green velvet, and its brim chenille braid. Two lace jabots are put at either side of the back, with two pink chrysanthemums toward the front. Immediately in front is placed a small white owl with outstretched wings, the tips extending over the edge of the hat on both sides. The brim is shorter in back than in front, and is slightly rolled at the sides.



A GIRL'S JACKET OF ILLUMINATED CHEVIOT.

side plaits turning forward and back. The high turn-over collar in military style is stiffly lined with canvas. Pocket laps cover the openings to pockets inserted on each front that are stitched and firmly pressed in position. The mode is suitable for either school or best wear, is very simple in construction and stylish in effect. The jacket can be interlined if necessary, and a bright lining of silk taffeta adds much to the style and finish of the garment. Cheviot, tweed, serge, mo-hair, homespun, covert and ladies' cloth all develop stylishly by the mode.

The quantity of material, 44 inches wide, required to make this jacket for a child eight years of age is 2½ yards.

The hat comes well over the forehead, which makes the owl look as if he were standing upright, and this, with the outspread wings, gives a very striking effect.

### BELTS.

In the matter of belts for day gowns a fashion writer notes, that the narrow belts have yet several widths, and the wider ones are worn by the taller women, and the narrower ones by the shorter women, while the shortest and stoutest women eschew them altogether.

The South Carolina Legislature has passed a bill permitting the State Treasurer to loan the sinking fund at his discretion.



GEN. BARATIERI, COMMANDER OF DEFEATED ITALIAN ARMY IN ABYSSINIA.

But for all that the Abyssinians are fighters. It is now more than a year since Italy began active hostilities and to-day the Abyssinians have the upper hand in the fight. The reason of it is simple. Italy has about fifteen thousand men in the field while King Menelik II. has about 200,000. Only 40,000 of the latter at the outset were armed with modern rifles, but he is receiving fresh supplies all the time, and his fighting force is steadily improving.

skill, they are most interesting as a people, for many of their customs are the same which prevailed in the times of the ancients. Debt is their particular abhorrence. To be unable to repay a loan is a disgrace greater than ignominious death, for it places a whole family outside the breastworks of respectable society for generations. Three thousand years ago the Egyptian who contracted a debt always had to give as security the mummy of his father. If he failed to release the corpse of his parent from the hands of the money lender by repaying the loan, he was forever disgraced, and was denied religious services upon his death.

The same spirit animates the Abyssinian. He is taught from his babyhood to avoid debt, both for his moral and physical well-being. The Abyssinian law is more energetic in punishing the unfortunate debtor than was the ancient Egyptian. The debtor is cast into prison and an iron band fastened around his right wrist. Every day the creditor and an officer of the law visit him, and when he says he is unable to pay, a turn is given to the screws in the wristband, which causes it to sink into the flesh. If the unfortunate has no friends who can scrape up the required sum, the wristband shrinks and shrinks until the hand is completely severed. Then the debtor is released with the mark of his disgrace forever attached to him. It is almost needless to say that but few debts are contracted in Abyssinia.

In one way they are tremendously religious, and two out of every three days, the year through, are fast days. The Virgin Mary they pray to and call upon for protection. Motherhood in the eyes of the Abyssinians is most sacred, and they venerate their own mother beyond all else. The will of their mothers is law and a part of their religion. They argue that if they obtain the good will of the Virgin she will intercede for them with Christ, and that He will follow her



DERVISHES IN A FIGHT.

It is believed that both France and Russia are silently at work in the case of Menelik. A former French army officer was induced some years ago to establish and direct a powder-making factory in Shoa, in the south-west of Abyssinia, and now there