

The Sunday-School Magazine, of Philadelphia, says that while San Francisco has a population of 300,000, its churches will seat only 55,000 people.

Oklahoma has just adopted a code of maritime laws. The Atlanta Constitution avers that there is not a body of water in the Territory over a foot deep.

With a population of 215,000, Montreal has a debt of \$19,000,000, or \$88 per head. Little wonder, comments the San Francisco Examiner, that Canadians should be crossing the border. It must be cheaper to move than pay taxes.

The St. Louis Republic takes no stock in the theory of the overproduction of cotton. It says that when the Southern farmers raise all their foodstuff they cannot produce too much cotton. But the trouble is that they will not raise all their foodstuff for a long time to come.

A Denver boarder made disparaging remarks about the cooking set before him, and much to his amusement the landlady sued him for \$20,000. His meriment died away when the jury brought in a verdict for \$750, and he has put in his time since in wondering what there was in the episode to strike him as humorous.

Pork is dearer now than it has been in ten years, or since Bismarck began to make war on the American hog. This is doubtless in part due to the opening of European markets to our pork. With better prices for pork beans have also advanced, and the traditional New England dish of pork and beans has now to be paid for by those who would enjoy it.

The London Graphic has a portrait and sketch of Potara, a Maori cannibal, who is eighty-five years old and still has a good set of natural teeth. He has not eaten a white man since 1816. He speaks well of white folks, but for a steady diet prefers a Maori, as the whites, or "Pakehas," have "a salty and bitter flavor." Potara must have a retentive memory of his tastes.

The statement published by the New York Sun of Consul Roosevelt at Brussels that it has been found profitable to ship cargoes of horse meat from this city to Belgium to supply the tables of the poorer classes may be news to most New Yorkers. A good horsesteak is not unpalatable, and though its edibility was discovered rather late in the day, thousands of working people in Europe are now glad to pay a little over six cents a pound for it. Beef is entirely beyond their means, and so is the varied bill of fare that most working people in this favored land enjoy every day.

In the opinion of the Chicago Herald "the criminal art gallery is the worst fruit that has been produced by grafting civilization on barbarism. It is bad enough to have the portrait of a convicted felon placed on exhibition for all the world to see, even after he shall have expiated his crime by serving his term of imprisonment. If he should desire to return to honest life the ineffaceable lines of his countenance in the pictures of the rogues' gallery are a standing and damning imputation against him. Either there should be no rogues' gallery, or every rogue, whether under police protection or not, should have a place in the spectacular display of portraits."

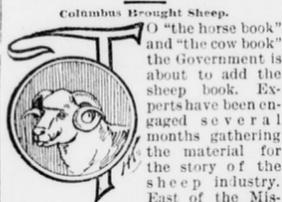
Italy expends every year \$96,000,000 for her soldiers, and less than \$4,000,000 for schools. In Spain it costs \$100,000,000 to maintain the army, and only \$1,500,000 to educate the children; but then, it is the education to find a Spanish farmer who is able to read or write. Germany boasts of being in the foremost rank among the Nations in the Kulturkampf of the world; yet she expends \$185,000,000 on her army, while \$10,000,000 is deemed sufficient for the education of her children. France maintains an army at an expense of \$151,000,000 and supports her schools with \$21,000,000. The United States expend \$115,000,000 for public schools, while the army and navy cost only \$54,000,000.

Every one that has observed the treatment of private soldiers in European armies knows how like cattle they are regarded. Not long ago, relates the Buffalo Courier, a saddle race was arranged between officers of the Austrian and Prussian armies, the course lying from Vienna to Berlin. A number of horses were killed in this trial of endurance. Recently the Austrian Government has been drilling soldiers in the field, with the thermometer at eighteen below zero, in order to test the relative endurance of the Austrians, Hungarians, and Poles in the service. In determining this point to the satisfaction of the Government, 1144 soldiers had their hands or feet badly frozen. These things are not likely to lessen the stream of emigration to America.

## STORIES ABOUT SHEEP.

### RISE AND DECLINE OF THE MANIA FOR MERINOS.

How the Famous Breed Was Introduced Into This Country—Washington's Flock—Wonderful Wool Gathering—A Wild Breed in the Mountains—The Piney Woods Product.



Columbus brought sheep "the horse book" and "the cow book" to the Government's attention about to add the sheep book. Experiments have been conducted several months gathering the material for the story of the sheep industry. East of the Mississippi the work has been in the hands of Gen. Ezra A. Carman, for years the chief clerk of the Department of Agriculture. West of the river the ranch side of the sheep business has been most thoroughly investigated by H. A. Heath, of the Kansas Farmer. There is no politics in "the sheep book." Some people can't think of sheep without confounding them with the tariff. Gen. Carman and Mr. Heath have managed to collect a great deal of interesting information, and have not formulated an argument either for protection or for free wool.

There were wild sheep in North America when the discoverers came, says the Globe Democrat. The descendants of these wild sheep still inhabit the Rocky Mountains. At a glance the wild sheep look clumsy, but when frightened they go over the rocks with the agility of the goat. They are the best of mountain climbers. They make their way to



THE MOUNTAIN SHEEP, OR BIG HORN.

cliffs where nothing else without wings can follow. There is nothing in venison to approach this wild mutton. Englishmen who have eaten it say it surpasses the finest tame mutton of their country.

On his second voyage to America, in 1493, Columbus stopped at a port in the Canary Islands, and brought live stock for breeding purposes in the colony he was to found. Besides the eight hogs, Columbus brought a small flock of sheep. In 1530 Cortez, when he was in the City of Mexico, went to Cuernavaca and founded a great sheep ranch. The eight hogs imported by Columbus were the progenitors of countless thousands which stocked the Spanish possessions. From the Cuernavaca ranch of Cortez the flocks of sheep were driven in all directions. They occupied what is now Old Mexico and Texas and New Mexico, and were even driven into the Utah of today. Pizarro took some of these sheep with him on his expedition for the conquest of Peru, and the flocks spread over South America, crossing the Andes and occupying the great plains of La Plata. When Menendez came, in 1565, under commission of the King of Spain, to colonize Florida, he brought 400 sheep, as well as 500 negro slaves, and San Augustine, "the oldest town in the United States," was founded. The traces of that Spanish origin are seen to-day in the sheep of Florida and Southern Georgia.

Sheep played an important part in the early settlement of this country. The Catholic priests who established a string of seventeen missions for the Indians from San Diego to San Francisco had over a million sheep in flocks attached to those missions.



A YEARLING MERINO EWES.

Virginia in early times had a law prohibiting the removal of any sheep from the "colony." At that time tobacco was currency in Virginia. The colonial authorities gave a bounty of five pounds of tobacco for every yard of woollen cloth made by colonists. But he was a Virginia statesman—John Randolph—who said he "would go out of his way any time to kick a sheep." Maryland had sheep from the very beginning of settlement. The Swedes brought sheep into Delaware. They trimmed

the tails so as to leave a bunch of wool at the end like a lion's tail. This was thought to improve the appearance, and also to make a better defense against fleas.

Kentucky is the natural home of the mutton sheep. All of the year grazing on blue grass gives meat which cannot be excelled. From Winchester as many as 3,000 lambs have been shipped to market in a single day. They sell for from \$3 to \$5 a head, and make sheep raising profitable on land worth \$125 to \$175 an acre.

Kentuckians began early to improve their flocks. In 1809 the first mer-



FAMOUS VERMONT MERINO.

inos brought into Kentucky, only two of them, sold for \$1,500. In the next three or four years the Kentuckians went wild on the subject of improved breeds. Prices mounted to fabulous figures. Samuel Long, of Lexington, bargained with Mr. Trotter, of the same place, for one ram and one ewe. He agreed for these two sheep to build a four-story house 50 feet by 70 feet. The house cost \$15,000. Thoroughbred sheep dropped in value long before the house was finished. Within six months after Long had completed Trotter's house the same kind of sheep could be bought for \$20. Long kept his high-bred ram and ewe until they were worth no more than ordinary sheep. Then he killed them, and thanked God he wasn't worth a dollar. Soon afterward he died of a broken heart.

The craze for fine sheep to improve the breeds was not confined to Kentucky. In New York State the merinos were eagerly bought at \$800 or \$1,000 a head, and even as high as \$1,500. That was in 1810 and 1811. But the speculative fever ran only a short time. In 1815 merinos sold for \$1 apiece.

After the war of the revolution there was such a rush from the United States to import fine sheep from England that that country revived an old law to stop it. A penalty of £3 fine and three months' confinement was imposed on any person who exported sheep from England. One of the most enterprising sheep-breeders in this country was George Washington. He had a flock of 700 or 800. He bred them up until they yielded five pounds of wool to the sheep. Thomas Jefferson, as Washington's Secretary of State, became so interested in the subject that he concluded to "push the number of sheep" on his plantation, saying he "had never before considered, with due attention, the profit from that animal."

After Washington's death some of the best of his sheep were bought by George Washington Parke Custis and taken to Arlington. A new flock, with added fame, was created. Custis inaugurated the custom of annual sheep-shearing meetings. Gentlemen farmers came from the neighboring counties. The date was the 30th of April. The meeting place was the great Arlington spring, which gushed out not far from the Potomac. Toasts were drunk, speeches were made and prizes were distributed for the best specimens of sheep.

While the merino mania lasted it overshadowed everything. The fever ran, like something contagious, from town to town and from farm to farm. The papers were full of it. Marvelous statements of the great profits to be made were in circulation. Farms were advertised as peculiarly adapted to merino sheep. The worst scrubs were given the names of the most noted Spaniards. Ships were named "The Merino." A farmer in New Jersey who got half a bushel of potatoes from a single one used for seed called the product merino potatoes. Bull calves in Pennsylvania were advertised as "the pure merino breed." A farmer's wife named her tenth child "Merino Schmidt."



THE PINEY WOODS SHEEP.

Robert R. Livingston, of New York, known in American history as "Chancellor Livingston," was largely responsible for the mania. Livingston was Minister to France. He went abroad, he said, to get information which would be useful to his fellow-citizens, especially in agriculture. Up to that time Spain had made the rest of the world believe that merino sheep could be raised advantageously only in that country. She had put the rest of Europe under tribute to her for this precious commodity. France, however, had begun to experiment. Livingston saw, as he thought, a great opportunity. He became convinced, after studying the merinos, that they would thrive in the United States. Through his influence

as Minister he secured two couples of merinos in France and sent them home to the United States. He followed up this beginning with other shipments. But on his return to the United States in 1807 he was astonished to find that the subject of merinos had attracted very little notice. He set to work to enlarge the number of his merinos as fast as possible. He wrote articles telling of the wonderful increase in the amount and quality of the wool which the merino cross insured. He was a sanguine man, and soon had his neighbors wild about the new breed of sheep. The mania started. Livings-ton began to sell merino lambs at \$150. Merino wool was made into blue cloth superior to anything that had been produced in the United States. Samples were sent through the country. Livingston's shearings were public affairs. At one of the meetings the famous Jaron yielded 11 pounds and 11 ounces of wool.

Ex-President Thomas Jefferson and President Madison caught the merino fever. Both had estates in Virginia. Mr. Jefferson wrote to United States Minister Erving at Madrid, asking him to send over some merino sheep. The Minister turned the matter over to Consul Jarvis, who managed to get twelve of the famous escualons on board a ship at Lisbon. Jefferson at Monticello and Madison in the White House exchanged letters congratulating themselves that the merinos were coming. Jefferson unfolded in detail his plan to make the sheep perform the greatest possible amount of good. He scored Livingston roundly for his lack of patriotism in accepting such high prices. Livingston had just sold four of his merinos for \$8,000.

"Since fortune has put the occasion upon us," Mr. Jefferson wrote to Mr. Madison, "is it not incumbent upon us to so dispense this benefit to the farmers of our country as to put to shame those who, forgetting their own wealth and the honest simplicity of the farmers, have thought them fit objects of the shaving art. No sentiment is more acknowledged in the family of agriculturists than that the few who can afford it should incur the risk and expense of all new improvements, and give the benefit freely to the many of more restricted circumstances."

That was pretty good doctrine. Mr. Jefferson then suggested to Mr. Madison his plan. He proposed that they "give all the full-blooded males we can raise to the different counties of our State, one to each county, as fast as we can furnish them."

Mr. Jefferson in a letter to Mr. Jarvis returned thanks to the Consul for putting him in the way to "extend the improvement of one of the most valuable races of our domestic animals." He repented his intention to give each county in Virginia a ram. In that and other ways the ex-President disseminated the new breed through the State. He placed Virginia under debt to him for a period of great prosperity. Merinos became common. The bottom fell out of speculation.

This importation of merinos from Spain for Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison was a great diplomatic feat. At that time Spain's policy was to prevent, by heavy penalties, the sale of her sheep to go out of the country. Consul Jarvis made several unsuccessful attempts. Then, all at once, the opportunity came. Napoleon had invaded Spain. Europe was at war. By shrewd negotiations the United States obtained the privilege of trade as a neutral nation. From Maine to Georgia the skippers loaded their vessels with wheat, corn, codfish, bacon, beans, rice and other stores. They set sail for the Spanish peninsula. At Lisbon and Cadiz flour sold for \$17 and \$18 a barrel; corn for \$2 and \$3 a bushel, other things in proportion. Just at that time Spain was in a distracted condition. Estates

were being confiscated. Flocks were being broken. The famous sheep were on the market at from \$10 to \$50 each. Yankee captains, with the proceeds from their cargoes of provisions, bought whole flocks. These sheep sold in the United States for \$100 and \$150. The profits were enormous to the shipowners. Many sailing masters made fortunes in a single trip. In just twelve months there were brought over to this country 18,953 of these Spanish merinos. From the seaports the merinos were distributed in every direction. As



THE SOUTHDOWN, FAMED FOR MUTTON.

early as August, 1811, a St. Louis paper announced that "this valuable animal is already introduced into Upper Louisiana, where it promises to flourish in great perfection."

From Maine to Georgia and throughout the entire region east of the Mississippi, merinos—full-bloods, half-bloods, and all degrees—were for sale. Merino lambs sold for \$1,000 in the height of the fever, and came down to \$1.

In the piney woods of West Florida and Southern Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana is one of the queerest branches of the industry. Sheep run wild. They roam at large in the pine woods and are self-supporting. When shearing time comes round the owner hunts up his flock, wrestles with it for the fleeces, and pays no more attention to his property for twelve months. In Jackson County, Florida, a Mrs. Carpenter has a flock of 4,000 which grew from seven sheep. In some years Mrs. Carpenter has got as much as \$4,000 for her wool.

To many people a sheep is a sheep, and that is all. There is as much difference in breeds of sheep as there is in races of people. Six centuries ago some of the breeds of sheep in England were no larger than rabbits or rats. In 1700 an English ox weighed 400 pounds; calves, 50 pounds; sheep, 28 pounds; lambs, 18 pounds. In 1800 the live weight of cattle in England was 800 pounds; sheep, 80 pounds; lambs, 50 pounds. Last year Armour & Co., of Chicago, killed over 2,000,000 sheep, and the average weight was 99 pounds. Most of these were from west of the Mississippi, where the average weight is not equal to that east of the river. The human race is not all that has been growing better. What can be done with sheep is shown in the increase of the wool bearing. In 1810 the average weight of the fleece east of the Mississippi was 1.85 pounds; in 1850 it was 2.43 pounds; in 1860 it was 2.89 pounds; in 1870 it was 3.67 pounds; in 1880 it was 4.71 pounds; in 1890 it was 5.04 pounds. A better illustration of what can be done in sheep development would be hard to find.

But another great change is taking place. Its progress the past two years has been very marked. The eastern portion of the country is going in for mutton-raising instead of wool-raising. New England, New York, and New Jersey began some time ago to banish the fine-wooled merino, and to bring in the English breeds for food. Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin are now following. Wool-raising is being turned over to the ranches in the West. The sheep-raising in the East is now primarily for meat. We are becoming a nation of mutton-eaters. The chop is dividing honors with the steak.

### THE SWELL OF THE '30'S.

George Wells, an Old-Time New-Yorker, Who Died the Other Day.

George Wells, an old-time New-Yorker, died the other day in that city, aged 83. At one time he was one of the best-known men in the metropolis. He was the king of New York swells, and the society belles of that day vied in competition for his smiles. He and his cousin, a wealthy wholesale grocer named Babcock, were reckoned among the handsomest men in town, and both were leaders in the fashionable world. They were habitués of the restaurant kept by Pettit & Crook on Water street, near Wall, which was famous before the war as the gathering place for wealthy brokers, bankers, and merchants of the lower part of the town. Here Wells held forth to a select coterie of every afternoon between 2 and 4 o'clock, his favorite subjects being society and dress. His remarks upon these subjects were considered authoritative, and he exercised much the same influence over his listeners as was wielded by Beau Brummell over the frequenters of both in another age. He was very elegant in manners as well as dress, and boasted of being "a gentleman of the old school." An old-timer who remembers him in his younger days said of him Tuesday.

"George would run as far as to kiss a friend and kick an enemy, as the saying goes. He and his brother were once in the warehouse business and wealthy. They failed through their simple trust in a friend. The latter obtained a warehouse receipt from them on the promise that he would store the goods with them the next day. Then he sold the receipt and disappeared, and they had to make good to the purchaser. From that time until ten years ago George was in the insurance brokerage business in Wall street. He was the most popular and best-known man in the business for many years. His reminiscences of old New York were extremely interesting. He lived in a retired way for the past ten years on an annuity from an investment in an insurance company."

### Costly Railroad in South America.

The Oroya Railroad over the Andes, connecting Peru with the basin of the Amazon, will be opened to traffic soon, according to the announcement. This road, although but 200 miles long, has cost about \$50,000,000, and it was begun twenty-six years ago by Henry Melgus, the story of whose extraordinary career reads like a romance. Its construction was stopped by the ruin of Peru in the Chilean war, and it has finally been completed through the efforts of Michael Grace, brother of ex-Mayor Grace, of New York, who succeeded in "financing" the enterprise in the English money market. The opening of this railroad is considered an event of very great commercial importance, inasmuch as the next century will witness an extraordinary development of South America. As a feat in railroad engineering this road is perhaps the most wonderful on record.—Springfield, Mass., Republican.

### How to Roast Meat.

The glory of a piece of roasted meat lies in the preservation of its juices. This may be best done by placing the meat in a very hot oven, at first, until it is lightly browned. This sets the juices and causes a coating to form on the outside to keep all juice from escaping. After the first fifteen minutes the oven may be allowed to cool somewhat, so that the meat has a chance to become thoroughly cooked without being burned on the outside.



Mrs. Cleveland rarely kisses her friends.

Mme. Patti, the singer, owns 106 canaries.

Emeralds are the favorite stones just at present.

Queen Victoria's favorite instrument is the harp.

Braid takes a most important place in the world of trimmings.

Purple catalpas are Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt's favorite flowers.

The fashionable fardagsles of 1860 were twenty-six feet in circumference.

Queen Margherita of Italy possesses a coral necklace which she always wears, day and night.

Mink is in high favor, its soft shade of brown mingling readily with most of the colors in vogue.

Large, light-colored felt hats have a charming effect trimmed with feathers and shaped to suit the wearer.

The extension of width in shoulders grows and grows, giving, in some cases, a winged aspect to the wearer.

Triple capes edged with fur are very becoming to slight figures, but over a sack-back coat we consider them a failure.

No better or briefer description of Mrs. George M. Pullman can be given than the mention of her resemblance to Patti.

Mary E. Bartlett, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, is the first woman to receive votes in a State ballot for United States Senator.

The fastest typesetter in California is said to be a young woman who is employed in a newspaper office at Santa Barbara.

Mrs. T. DeWitt Talmage makes her husband's pastoral and social engagements and all his lecturing interests are in her hands.

Purple veils are a daring innovation. A clear, good complexion stands the test well; but pale faces look deadly masked in the royal shade.

Mrs. M. A. Anderson, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms of the Arkansas House, acts as doorkeeper in the absence of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Lady Evans, wife of the late Lord Mayor of London, was a housemaid at the Oaks Hotel, Seven Oaks, England, prior to her marriage.

All London is admiring Jan Van Beers's portrait of Duchess of Marlborough in a white muslin frock, holding a red sunshade over her head.

Florence Nightingale, the famous nurse, is seventy-two years old. She takes her baptismal name from the Italian city in which she was born.

Miss Mary Conant, living near Rochester, N. Y., has managed her father's farm ever since his death, some four years ago, and made it pay well.

Electrotype reproductions of rare pieces of silver, such as are found in museums or valuable art collections, are among the latest fads of the aristocracy.

One looks with joy upon the arrival in the domain of fashion of the tight-fitting velvet pelisses. Nothing could be more fitting or stylish for the new spring costumes.

Magenta is a very popular color, and is combined largely with golden brown or light gray. Eminence purple is also a peculiar tone which is much used in millinery.

Annie Louise Cary Raymond sings in a New York church choir. The purity of and strength of her vocal chords are as fully retained as when she did service in "Faust," "Trovatore" and "Lucretia."

Flower garnitures for party gowns are beautiful. An especially dainty combination is of narrow stem green ribbon, at regular intervals of which is fastened a bouquet of lilies of the valley tied with a knot of the ribbon.

A Denver (Col.) housewife has an Indian princess doing her housework. The young woman is the daughter of a Pawnee chief, and her name in English is Rose Howell. She was a student for many years at the Carlisle school.

Paris actresses, it is said, wear paper lace, which by night looks as delicate as the best of real lace, while it costs but a trifle. To wear an expensive lot of lace, which may be ruined in one evening, is considered the height of folly.

Plain fine serges have been succeeded by the wide-ribbed varieties which show to such advantage in the plain trained skirts. In tweeds there is a distinct feeling for boucle effects, and fluffy curls break out of unexpected places in the latest textures.

It may be observed that as a general rule, skirts have widened at the top, and plaits and gathers contribute to this effect. In some very stylish examples there are as many as six or seven breadths in a bell skirt, while five straight breadths are seen in round skirts made full.

Tiny girls in white cashmere dresses and cloaks, with white leggings, large white hats with white or bright colored plumes and snowy gloves, have been among the most attractive of the many pleasing sights on the most fashionable metropolitan promenades.

Bodices which have the stuff cut on the cross are popular, and the linings for them are cut in the usual way. These bias cut corsages, which have seams under the arms and on the shoulders only, unless they are fastened in the front, require a good figure in order to be really effective.

## THE FIGHTING DERVISHES.

### SONS OF THE DESERT WHO ARE UTTERLY FEARLESS.

Charging Upon Fire-Walled Squares of English Soldierly With Reckless Bravery.

It is easier to turn a hungry tiger aside from his prey than a thoroughly excited Dervish from his swoop on an enemy, writes a correspondent on the London Telegraph. His half brother in fanaticism and creed, the Indian or Afghan Ghazi, is terrible, but the African and Arab Dervish is superlatively awful, with an incurable delirium for his opponent's gore. Howling and whirling Dervishes, such as travelers are "especially" conducted to see when visiting the East, are a comparatively harmless sort of lunatics compared with those types of the African big game who, "converted" to Mahdism, burn to run amuck with the rest of the unbelieving humanity. Once fairly bitten with the tarantula of Moslem sectarian zeal, the parasite is consumed with the belief that the delights of the seventh or any number of heavens await him if he can only engage in sturdy, steady butchery with "infidels," of his own or any race. It is a matter of indifference to him, in the operation, while he sheathes his sword in his and his Prophet's enemy, the latter is doing the same to him. Quick and happy translation he holds as his sure reward.

The stiff fight the other day between the Egyptian troops south of Wady Halfa and the Mahdists recalls to me many a bygone incident and fierce struggle between British and Egyptian troops and forces largely composed of Dervishes. Ambigol Cataract, where the skirmish took place, is about sixty miles south of Wady Halfa. There is an Egyptian outpost at Gemal, where the great Second Cataract proper begins, and another at Sarras. The one station is fifteen miles and the other thirty-three miles further up stream, and the railroad line and ironclad train still run through to both posts. No doubt when the Dervish raiders, numbering 400 strong, were repulsed from the forts they fell back from the river towards the easier-going tracks inland, along which they must have sped on their camels. The Egyptian cavalry—which, under careful English training, have learned to trust their weapons and their own physical strength in a contest with the Bedouines—probably not numbering more than two squadrons, overtook the raiders at the pleasant aforesaid camps of Ambigol. There, no doubt, under the palm-trees' grateful shade, hard by the rush and roar of the mighty river, the Egyptian troops at once opened fire upon them. Although the whole of the enemy were unlikely to have been Dervishes—for these gentry never run away, but, when necessary, walk sedately out of a fight, merely to assume a fresh coign of vantage—a sharp engagement seems to have ensued. The Mahdists, nothing loath, swarmed, mounted and foot, up the rocky hills, which their pursuers had, with sound, tactical judgment, crowned, and whence they had opened fire.

I think it was at the battle of El Teb I first made the acquaintance of the Mahdist Dervishes. The Fuzzy-Wuzzy Hadendowah tribesman is the bravest of the brave, but the Dervish is heroism run crazy. These so-called "holy beggars," self-sworn to devote themselves to the Prophet's cause, came at General Graham's square of merinos, Highland men, and stout linesmen as if we had been children to be frightened by a cry. Clad in their patchwork rags, with shaved heads, many armed with no better weapons than sticks, they charged full in front of the fire-walled square. Down they went by scores and hundreds, but others quickly took up the running toward us. I saw them that day—more than one of them—pierced through and through with Martini-Henry bullet wounds, come fiercely on, reeling like drunken men, their teeth gleaming and eyes aflame with hatred. Happy were they if they could but cross weapons with our bayonets. When exhausted nature failed them, their last act was generally to hurl the weapon they carried, stick, lance, or sword, toward our ranks, and shout an Arab imprecation against us, "Nosrani" (Nazaroni). An old gray-haired sheik actually charged the square reading the Koran aloud, which he held in his hands. Later on, when Sir Herbert (then Colonel) Stewart charged the worsted Arab footmen with his two regiments of cavalry, their mounted Dervishes faced his whole force and boldly charged them in return. Again, at Tamsi, when the Arabs broke into General Davis's square, where I was, and having temporarily captured our six machine guns, on which they danced in lendish glee, the Dervishes were in the forefront of the attack. A big marine, who had bayoneted one of them, found his rifle caught and clutched by the fanatic savage, who strove to wrench his oeman with his sword. It was at the moment we were being driven back, and while the marine tugged and swore to get his weapon free, the reeling Dervish essayed with his parting strength to slay or wound our Tommy Atkins. In the desperate battle at Abu-Klea, similar scenes occurred. I state it as a fact, of which I took personal note at the time, that during the melee in which Colonel Burnaby fell, a Dervish, who had struck that officer, and was promptly bayoneted through the back, twisted about while the steel was protruding, and tried to thrust his lance into the soldier. Even the crippled and wounded Dervishes on the field of battle lay in wait to stab the chance passing enemy. Asked to "surrender," and put down their swords and spears, the invariable answer of the sorely stricken Dervish was, "Christian (or infidel) dogs, never!" When I saw them last in the Sudan, a few years ago, there was no abatement in their blood-thirsty ferocity, nor show of hesitation, whether they numbered few or many, of a longing to get to close quarters with their enemy.