STORY OF THE SOUDAN WAR

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649714131

Story of the Soudan War by W. Melville Pimblett

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

W. MELVILLE PIMBLETT

STORY OF THE SOUDAN WAR





(e) W

STORY

OF THE

SOUDAN WAR.

From the Rise of the Revolt July, 1881, to the Fall of Khartoum and Death of Gordon, Jan., 1885.

BY

W. MELVILLE PIMBLETT.

LONDON:

REMINGTON & CO., PUBLISHERS, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN. 1885.

[All Rights Reserved.]

24683. 4.2.

INDEX.

CHAPTER I.	PAGE
Gathering of the Storm—The Mahdi: His Mission—England and Egyptian Finances—The Dual Control—Jealousy of the Notables—Arabi Bey—The Crisis—Arabi Dismissed —Recall of Arabi—Riot at Alexandria—Defiance—Firm Attitude of the British—The French Retiring—Commencement of Hostilities—Arabi in Rebellion—Arrival of British Reinforcements—Fighting in Egypt—End of the Revolt—Disbanding of the Egyptian Army—British	
Army of Occupation	1
CHAPTER II.	
Storm Clouds Again—The Mahdi in Arms—Spread of the Soudan Rebellion—Defeat of Egyptian Troops—Army Reforms—Colonel Stewart's Mission to Khartoum—Projected Relief of Soudan Garrisons—Brighter Prospects—Confidence of the British Government—Mr.	
Gladstone Disowns Responsibility	12
CHAPTER III.	
Colonel Stewart at Khartoum—The Fire Still Burning— Causes of the Revolt—Oppression of the People—The Slave Trade—Arab Manner of Fighting—Dervishes— Intentions of the Mahdi—Abdul Kader's Mission—Con- tinued Spread of the Rebellion—Another Egyptian Defeat	
-Capture of El Obeid-Triumph of the False Prophet	

CHAPTER IV.	FPAS
Appointment of Colonel Hicks—Intensified Alarm in Egypt —Earl Dufferin's Advice—Reinforcements for the Besieged Garrisons—Hicks's Victory over the Mahdi —Submission of Chiefs—Hicks Pasha Commander-in- Chief—The British Government still Disclaim Responsi- bility—Money and Provisions Wanted—Note from the Khedive	26
CHAPTER V.	
Threatened Bankruptcy—Hicks Pasha again Leaves Khartoum—Doubts and Difficulties of the General—Full Powers—Despairing Communication—The Sheep go Down to the Slaughter—March on the Mahdi's Strong-	
hold	85
CHAPTER VI.	
An Ominous Silence—Fears in England and Egypt—Defeat of the False Prophet—Another Cloud—Renewed Sus- pense—Whisperings of Calamity—The Worst Doubts Confirmed—Hicks' Force Annihilated—The General and his Staff Killed—Terrible Slaughter near El Obeid— Bejoicings of the Rebele—Graphic Details—Panio in Egypt	46
Ever-increasing Troubles—Rising in the Eastern Soudan— Osman Digna—Defeat of the Rebels—Victory of Osman—The British Consul Killed—Disaffection Among the Tribes—Depredations near Suakim—Another Defeat of the Egyptians—Tokar and Sinkat in Peril—Grave Posi- tion of Affairs—The British Army of Occupation—Baker Pasha—New Army Constituted from the Gendarmerie—	
Critical Situation	54
CHAPTER VIII.	
Proposed Relief of Tokar and Sinkat—The Soudan and Its Abandonment—Resignation of the Egyptian Ministry— England still Powerful—Awful Straits of the Garrisons —Baker Pasha's Army on the March—Desperate	

INDEX.	iñ
Onslaught by the Arabs-Rout of the Egyptians, with	PAGE
Great Loss—Cowardise—Flight to Suakim	62
CHAPTER IX. British Preparations for War—Concentration of Troops— Rebels Around Suakim—Projected Relief of Tokar— The British Commander—State of the Country—The Rebels still Fearless—Reports by Spies—Fall of Sinkat— Awful Scenes—Terrible Massacre—Tewfik's Bravery— Alarming Intelligence—Surrender of Tokar—Suspected Treachery—Landing of the British CHAPTER X. El Teb—Night before the Battle—Formation of the British	72
—Sickening Scenes—Description of the Conflict: Desperate Resistance of the Arabs—Personal Encounters—Exciting Events—Barbarity of the Enemy—British Pluck—The Enemy Routed—Evidence of Arab Prisoners—Losses on Both Sides	80
The Arabs again Collecting—British Advance on Tokar— View of the Enemy—Dubbah Occupied—Trophies of War Discovered—Arabs Coming In—Proclamation by General Graham and Admiral Hewett—Address to the Troops—Return to Trinkitat—Preparations for Another Battle—The Rebels Sighted—Constitution of the British Force—Battle of Tamasi—Fearful Onslaught of the Rebels—The British Wavering—Great Slaughter—Lost Ground Recovered—Defeat of Osman—His Camp Fired —The Killed and Wounded—The Expeditionary Force	
Recalled	90
CHAPTER XII, Khartoum Again—Painful Reflections—Spread of the Rebellion—Alarming Situation—Relief Prayed For—Preparations for Evacuation—The Telegraphic Communication Cut Off—Mr. Power's Self-abnegation—Further Advance of the Mahdi—Khartoum Described—The Soudan Desert: Its Sterility—The Nile—Solitude and Desolation—Korosko—Abu Ahmed—Berber—Shendy	101

CHAPTER XIII.

PAGE

Gordon!—Interview at Southampton—Gordon and the Congo
—His Opinion of the Soudan and the Mahdi—Difficulties
of Evacuation—Summoned to London—Appointment to
Relieve the Soudan Garrisons—Colonel Stewart to be
Gordon's Companion—The Start—En Route to the
Soudan—Instructions to Gordon—The General's Memorandum—Remarks by Colonel Stewart—Arrival at Cairo
—Firman from the Khedive—Gordon's Appointment
Commended

CHAPTER XIV.

Career of Charles George Gordon: His Birth—At School—
Military Training—In the Crimea—With the British in
China—In Command of the Chinese—Brilliant Exploits
—Honours—Gordon's Religious Enthusiasm—Death no
Fears—"The Ever-Victorious Army"—Trials in the
Soudan—Governor-General—Despair—Hunting Slavedealers—Gordon's Achievements—Return to England. 126

CHAPTER XV.

Gordon and Stewart Alone—Arrival at Abu Hamed—"Hopeful of Success"—The General's Plan of Action—Military Aid not Necessary—At Berber—Council of Notables Elected—Confidence—Entry into Khartoum—Great Rejoicings—Active Operations—The Deliverer at Work—Release of the Oppressed—Mahdi Proclaimed Ruler of Kordofan—Proclamation on the Slave Trade—Consternation in England—Gordon proposes Zebehr Pasha as his Successor to Governor-Generalship—Indignation—Arguments For and Against Zebehr

CHAPTER XVI.

Gordon's Acts of Mercy and of Grace—" Holding the Balance
Even"—Clearing the Augean Stable—The Governor
Sanguine—Activity of the Mahdi's Agents—Proposal to
"Smash" the Mahdi—Warnings to the Soudini—Evacuation Possible—Despatch to the False Prophet—Indignant Reply of Mohammed Ahmed—Gordon Invited to
Become a Dervish—Colonel Stewart's Reconnaissance—

Failure of Gordon's M	issio	n-Kbar	toum S	urround	ed-	
"Caught at Khartoun	n"-	-Hoping	against	Норе-	-No	
Quarrel with Zebehr-	-No	Chance	for the	Garriso	ns—	
Gloomy Forebodings				<u>.</u>		149
CHA	PT	ER XV	Π.			
the Government did n	ot C	Commissi	on Zeb	hr-Go	rdon	

Why still Appeals for Zebehr-Relief of Halfiyeh-Hostilities Begun-Imposing Array of Rebels-Capture by the Arabs-Refugees at Khartoum-Rejoicings in the City -Defeat of Gordon's Soldiers-Treachery in the Camp -Exciting Narrative-Regrets - Two Pashas Court-Martialled and Shot - Faith in Gordon Unabated -. 162

Proofs of Confidence-Gratifying Events

CHAPTER XVIII.

Not Abandoned ?-Isolated at Khartoum-Resisting the Enemy-Improved Defences-Gordon still Defiant-Wonderful Resources-Dark Days-Rebellion in the City-Bashi-Bazouks Disarmed-Reported Advance of the British-Renewed Hope-Again Despair-Sustained Firing-The Rebel Losses-Gordon's Faith in Heaven -" Nothing but God's Mercy "-No British Troops-Measures for Evacuation—Escape not Possible without Dishonour-Safe in Khartoum-Turkish Soldiers-Why British Troops were not Despatched—"The Situation is Desperate "-The "Indelible Disgrace" Telegram . 175

CHAPTER XIX.

The "Rescue" of Gordon Demanded-Votes of Censure-Excitement in the Country-Allegations of Parsimony and Cowardice - Proposed Volunteer Expedition to Khartoum-Chaos at Berber-Fears of the Governor-Massacre of Refugees - Shendy Invested - Touching Appeal from Berber-An Egyptian Expedition Cancelled-No Help for Berber-Threatened Resignation of Nubar Pasha—The Mahdi Demands Submission—Troops Ordered to Assouan-Conflicting Reports-Alarming Intelligence-Rumoured Fall of Khartoum and Capture of Gordon-The Rebels in Berber: Consequences . 188