The victory of the Anglo-Gordon Avenged
Indian forces at Omdurman practically closes the record of the extraordinary era of fanaticism and cruelty begun about sixteen years ago by the Mahdi. After thirteen years Gordon's death at Khartoum is avenged. More than that, the routing of the forces of the Mahdi's successor, the Khalifa, will open again to trade and to the possibilities of civilization the immense area of the Soudan, with its ten millions of inhabitants, which for now so many years has been shut off from the rest of the world, and has been the scene of continuous murder, outrage, and destruction. General Kitchener made his advance upon Omdurman on Sunday of last week. His forces comprised about 7,500 British infantry, 12,000 Egyptian infantry, and in all, including the cavalry, artillery, and camel corps, the army numbered between 20,000 and 25,000 men. The Khalifa's soldiers fought with the utmost bravery, as they have done in times past, and recalled the wild and fanatical and desperate courage shown by them in the campaign of 1885, when for the time being the British and Egyptian forces were compelled to retire from the Soudan. Not only were the attacks of the British forces repelled again and again, but in turn the Khalifa's followers charged upon the British lines, this time, however, in vain. No accurate estimate of the losses of either side has been made, but the British and Egyptian armies had probably less than fifty killed and three or four hundred wounded, while the losses of the enemy were probably up in the thousands. The Khalifa himself fled from the scene of battle, and was hotly pursued toward the southwest. He is probably making his way toward Koreofan, and the chances of his capture are great. One pleasant episode of the downfall of Omdurman was the rescue of Charles Neufeld, who has been for many years in captivity, and has been treated by the Khalifa with great severity. His final escape alive is nearly as remarkable as was that of Slatin Pasha, who fled from the Khalifa's cruelties about three years ago, and thereafter wrote the remarkable book which is the best and almost the only history of the Mahdi's movement. The newspapers have quite generally erred in speaking of General Kitchener's victory as the capture of Khartoum. It will be remembered that after the death of Gordon and the slaughter of his comrades the Mahdi razed Khartoum to the ground, and nothing now remains there except a few scattered huts. From the material obtained, in great part, by this destruction, Omdurman was built, on the other side of the river, and not far from the site of Khartoum. The victory not only restores a vast territory to Egypt, but strengthens more firmly than ever English power in Egypt. In London, on the day of the victory, a placard with the words "Avenged at Last" was placed by some one on General Gordon's statue in Trafalgar Square, and all day long crowds gathered about it and expressed satisfaction. The German Emperor took occasion to cable his congratulations to England, and it is said that while reviewing troops in Hanover he referred to the former alliance between British and German forces at the battle of Waterloo, adding, "The English a few hours ago won a victory against a stronger foe"—a remark which would hardly be particularly pleasing to France. This incident is one of many slight indications that a German and British alliance, if not actually concluded, is in process of formation.

The case of Captain Dreyfus Case Again
Albert Dreyfus, the Alsatian Jew and officer of the Fourteenth Regiment of French artillery, employed in the Information Bureau of the Minister of War, is still fresh in the public mind. In
October, four years ago, he was arrested on a charge of having sold military secrets to a foreign Power, the French Government having been put on the track of his offense, it was said, by the discovery of a letter, in his handwriting, found at the German Embassy. A violent anti-Semitic agitation was in progress at the time, and public opinion at once set strongly against Dreyfus. He was tried before a military court, and, in spite of earnest protestations of innocence, was convicted, mainly on the strength of an unsigned memorandum which indicated that its author had sold military secrets. On the trial this memorandum was submitted to five experts, two of whom were unable to find any trace of resemblance between the writing of the memorandum and that of Dreyfus, and one of whom (generally regarded as the most competent) maintained that Dreyfus, in writing the memorandum, had disguised his handwriting. The trial was conducted by court martial, with closed doors. Dreyfus was found guilty, condemned to be degraded from military rank, and to be imprisoned for life on Devil's Island, a penal settlement off the coast of French Guiana. His brother, Mathieu Dreyfus, made the charge that the real author of the famous memorandum was Major Esterhazy, who was arrested, tried by court martial behind closed doors, and acquitted. At this point Zola addressed his famous open letter to the President of the Republic, charging, among other offenses, that Esterhazy had been acquitted by the officers of the court martial under orders from their military chiefs. Zola was indicted, and his trial was, from an American point of view, a startling perversion of the methods of justice. Zola was found guilty, and, with the editor of the paper in which his letter appeared, was sentenced to imprisonment, and fined. The defendants subsequently appealed on the ground that the court which convicted them was incompetent. Their appeal was rejected, they were again tried before the court of Versailles, which had originally convicted them, and the same penalty was imposed upon them.

Colonel Henry's Suicide

Among those who appeared prominently in the Zola trial was Lieutenant-Colonel Henry, a peasant's son, who had risen to be head of the Intelligence Department of the French Army. The French Government has persistently refused to reopen the Dreyfus case, on various grounds, among others because it had discovered further proof of Dreyfus's guilt in the form of a letter, written apparently by a German military attaché to an Italian military attaché, which assumed knowledge of treasonable conduct on the part of Dreyfus. The Minister of War declared that the authenticity of this letter was indisputable. This letter, by his own confession, confirmed by suicide, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry forged, for the purpose of reinforcing the disputed proofs of Dreyfus's guilt. This confession and suicide, following so close upon the Zola trial, have set in motion a strong movement for the reopening of the whole case, and have caused the most intense popular excitement throughout France. Cavaignac, the Minister of War, who had laid such stress upon the forged letter, has resigned, still asserting his belief in Dreyfus's guilt, and General Zurlinden, the Military Governor of Paris, has succeeded him. Public feeling, which not many months ago made any advocacy of the cause of Dreyfus personally perilous, and which rarely, even in the history of France, has reached such a height of madness, is undergoing a rapid revolution. From all sides the Government is urged to reopen the Dreyfus case. Even the Paris press, which was furiously against Dreyfus, is now declaring that no other course is open to France, and the army joins in the demand. It would seem impossible that the Government should persist in the policy of refusing to reveal the evidence on which Dreyfus was convicted, and of refusing a full rehearing of the case. The military leaders have evidently been duped, or have been guilty of the gravest offenses against the State. Forces, moral, social, and political, are at work which must sooner or later compel the French Government to make a full disclosure of the Dreyfus matter, even at the risk of international complications.

Queen Wilhelmina

On Wednesday of last week the young Queen of Holland became eighteen years of age, and, in accordance with the Constitution of Holland, her reign began immediately. No ceremonies took place, however, upon that day, all public rejoicing and ceremony being deferred until this week, when the new Queen and her mother, the Queen Regent, proceeded from the Hague to Amsterdam, and were welcomed with the most genuine enthusiasm by