

EXPLORATION AND TRAVEL.

New Explorations in Central Africa.

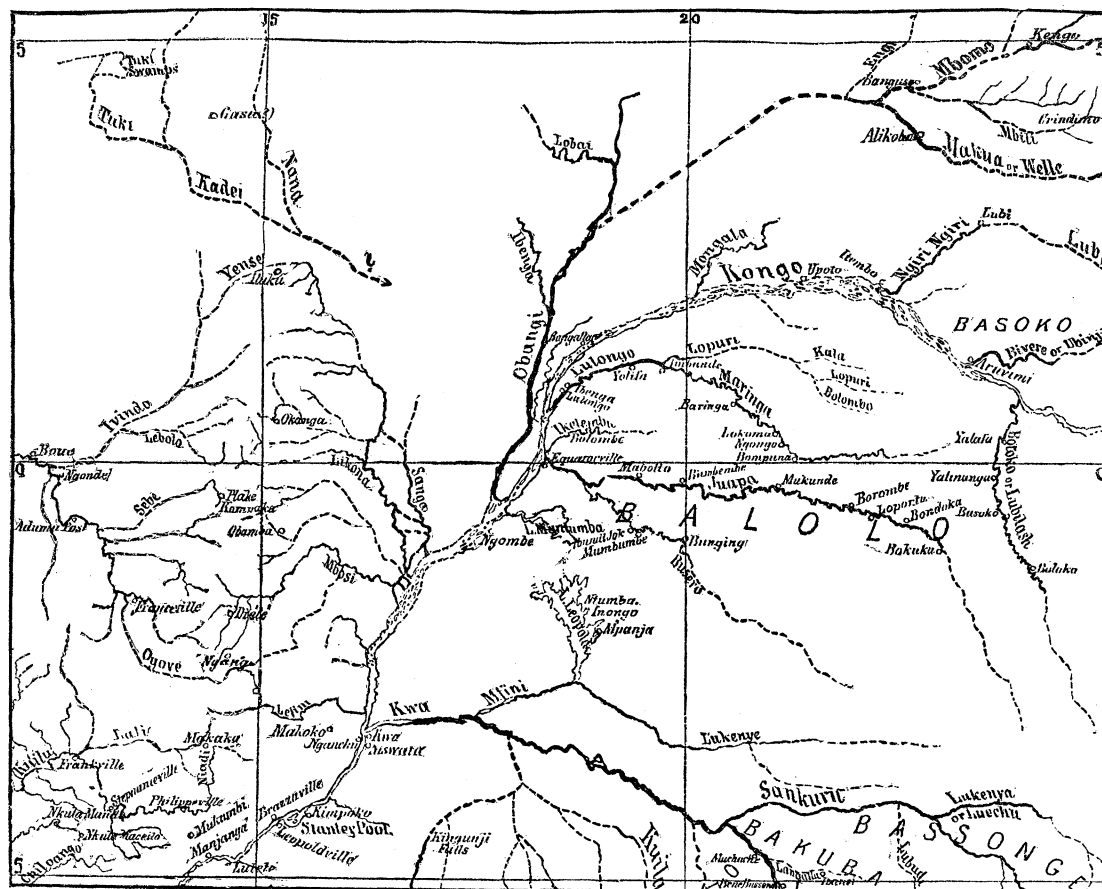
THE progress of explorations in the Kongo Basin is so rapid that our map of May 27 does not fully correspond to the present state of our knowledge. Therefore we reproduce in the present number the part in which the most important discoveries have been made, corrected to date. The Mongala and the tributaries of the Obangi are drawn more accurately from new maps published by the *Mouvement géographique*, but the most remarkable features of the new map are the discoveries of Giacomo de Brazza in the region between the Obangi and Ogove, which were published in the Bulletin of the Italian Geographical Society. Though it is more than a year since this traveller returned from his journey, the map has been published only now, but as it is not based on the longitudes of Captain Rouvier, the positions had to be corrected accordingly. De Brazza started from the upper Ogove. First he made several short excursions in the region between the upper Ogove and the

the *Mouvement géographique* that Captain van Gèle has ascended the Lopuri, the tributary of the Lulongo. The upper part of this river runs in a north-westerly direction, and approaches the Kongo closely in longitude $21^{\circ} 26'$. Then it takes a south-westerly course. The parallelism of these rivers with the Kongo explains the absence of tributaries in the central part of its upper course.

HEALTH MATTERS.

Pasteur's Methods.

RECENT criticisms of the inoculation-method of Pasteur for rabies have been very unfavorable; but the report of the English Committee will undoubtedly turn the tide again in the opposite direction. It will be remembered that this committee was appointed by the President of the Local Government Board, in April, 1886, to inquire into Pasteur's treatment of this disease. Its report has just been presented to Parliament. The value of such a report depends en-



MAP SHOWING LATEST INFORMATION ON THE KONGO BASIN.

Alima, and then started on his important journey. He left Madi-ville on July 12, 1885, travelling in a north-easterly direction. He crossed the Sebe farther north than this river was supposed to run, and crossed the water-shed between the Likona and Ogove under the equator. The most northern point reached is Iluku, situated in a densely populated region. He indicates that this region belongs to the drainage area of the Ogove, the Ivindo rising near this place. This is an important discovery, as it considerably enlarges the drainage area of the Ogove. De Brazza returned to the Kongo by way of the Likuala. Close to the mouth of this river, a little farther east, the Sanga, which according to von François carries a great volume of water, empties. Therefore it must drain an extensive area. As the western tributaries of the Obangi are of no great importance, and the tributaries of the Ogove extend so far east, we must suppose that its sources lie far north, and it may be that the rivers Kadei and Nana, which have been described to Flegel by the natives, are its upper course.

Since the accompanying sketch-map was engraved, we learn from

tirely upon the qualifications of those who form the committee, and we presume, that, composed as it is of some of the most eminent of English investigators, its conclusion will receive the most respectful and careful consideration by the scientific world. The report is signed by James Paget, Chairman; T. Lauder Brunton, George Fleming, Joseph Lister, Richard Quain, Henry E. Roscoe, I. Burdon Sanderson, and Victor Horsley. We venture to say that no more eminent committee was ever appointed on such an investigation.

In the course of its inquiry the committee visited Paris to obtain information from Pasteur himself, and to observe his method of treatment. They investigated a considerable number of persons inoculated by him. Mr. Horsley conducted a careful series of experiments on the lower animals, and entirely confirms Pasteur's discovery of a method by which they may be protected from the infection of rabies. The committee states that "it may be deemed certain that M. Pasteur has discovered a method of protection from rabies comparable with that which vaccination affords against infection from small-pox. It would be difficult to over-estimate the im-