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THE NEWS of Stanley's journey from Yambuya to Mvutan Nzige confirms the view formerly expressed, that his object of relieving Emin Pacha has failed. From his report we learn that Emin, rather, had to relieve him, and, by furnishing men, has enabled him to return to the Kongo. The results of Stanley's wonderful journey will undoubtedly be of the greatest importance to science, as they will clear up the geographical relations between the Kongo basin and the lakes of the upper Nile. Regarding the appearance of this region, Stanley says: "We were one hundred and sixty days in the forest, — one continuous, unbroken, compact forest. The grass-land was traversed by us in eight days. The limits of the forest along the edge of the grass-land are well marked. We saw it extending north-easterly, with its curves, bays, and capes, just like a seashore. South-westerly it preserved the same character. North and south the forest area extends from Nyangwe to the southern borders of Mombuttu. East and west it embraces all the country from the Kongo, at the mouth of the Aruvimi, to about east longitude 29°. How far west beyond the Kongo the forest reaches, I do not know. The superficial extent of the tract described totally covered by forest is 246,000 square miles. North of the Kongo, between Upoto and the Aruvimi, the forest embraces another 20,000 square miles. Between Yambuya and Mvutan Nzige we came across five distinct languages. The land slopes gently from the crest of the plateau above the Mvutan down to the Kongo River, from an altitude of 5,500 feet to 1,400 feet above

the sea. North and south of our track through the grass-land the fall of the land was much broken by groups of cones or isolated mountain ridges. To the north we saw no land higher than about 6,000 feet above the sea; but bearing 215° magnetic, at a distance of 50 miles from our camp on the Mvutan, we saw a towering mountain, its summit covered with snow, probably 17,000 or 18,000 feet above the sea. It is called Ruevenzori, and will prove a rival to Kilma Njaro. I am not sure that it may not prove to be the Gordon Bennett Mountain in Gambaragara, but there are two reasons for doubting if it be the same: first, it is a little too far west for the position of the latter, as given by me in 1876; second, we saw no snow on the Gordon Bennett. I have met only three natives who have seen the lake toward the south. They agree that it is large, but not so large as the Albert Nyanza." We give the substance of Stanley's experiences at another place.

As usual, this news was immediately followed by another despatch, purporting to give further details of more recent adventures of the explorers; but, coming as it does from Brussels, it merits more serious attention than the Zanzibar news of Reuter's bureau. The telegram is dated Brussels, April 7, and says, "Advices received here from Stanley Falls state that Arabs who have arrived there report that Henry M. Stanley and Emin Pacha were heard from in February. They were then marching toward Zanzibar, with several thousand men, women, and children. They also had six thousand tusks of ivory. The Arabs who brought the news arrived at Stanley Falls in February. They claimed to have seen Stanley several months before that time." It may be that the steamer which carried this news to Leopoldville brought down Stanley's letter, which, as will be remembered, was detained for some reason or other at Stanley Falls when the first news of Stanley's return was sent to Europe. One interesting fact is learned from Stanley's report. It is the recent advance made by the Arab slave-dealers in the country north of Stanley Falls. It appears that since their first advent on the Kongo they have rapidly encroached upon the territory of the northern tributaries of the Kongo; and it also appears that at no very distant day the invaders who started from Dar For, and those who extended their raids from Zanzibar, will meet in the Welle region. In the face of these facts, the endeavors of the European nations to suppress that insignificant part of the slave-trade reaching the coast appear altogether hopeless, unless they succeed in cutting off the supply of fire-arms from the slave-dealers, thus destroying one of the principal causes of their superiority over the aborigines.

STANLEY'S LETTER.

STANLEY'S letter, although containing no more recent information than the telegram sent a few months ago, describes graphically the enormous difficulties encountered by the intrepid explorer; and his description is the more impressive on account of its brevity and of the simplicity with which the most exciting events are set forth. The expedition, which consisted of 389 officers and men, started from the camp of Yambuya, on the Aruvimi, on June 28, 1887. The very first day the natives attempted to prevent the progress of the expedition, but were unable to put any serious obstacles in its way. For seven days the expedition marched inland in an easterly direction, through a densely populated district. Evidently Stanley kept on the southern side of the river. His letter says that this course took him out of his proper direction, which tends to confirm the report that the Aruvimi runs more southerly than indicated in most maps. He again reached the river on July 5. From this date until Oct. 18 he followed the left bank of the Aruvimi. After seventeen days of continuous marching, the expedition halted for one day's rest. Aug. 1 the first death occurred, the cause being dysentery. So far, for thirty-four days, the course had been singularly successful.

Assuming that he made good progress, his first day's journey having been twelve miles, he would have been approximately north-east of Stanley Falls. Here his difficulties began. The party