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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 briefness 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

now entered a wild country, in their nine-days' march through which their sufferings multiplied, and several deaths occurred. Aug. 13, on arriving at Airsibba, the natives presented a bold front, and the party lost five men from poisoned arrows. Lieut. Stairs was wounded below the heart, and suffered greatly, but he recovered. Aug. 31 the expedition met a party of Manyema, and their misfortunes began on this date. Stanley writes that he had taken the Kongo route to avoid Arabs who would tempt his men. Within three days of this unfortunate meeting, twenty-six men deserted. This must have happened not very far distant from the most southern region visited by Junker.

While crossing the region raided by Arab slave-traders, who, with their Manyema men, came from Stanley Falls, the progress of the caravan was an uninterrupted series of misfortunes. On Sept. 18 he left the station of the Arab chief Ugarrava, the expedition numbering 263 men, 66 having been lost by desertion and death, and 56 being left sick with Ugarrava. The march led to the Arab settlement, Kalinga Longa. The men lived on wild fruits, fungi, and nuts. Before reaching Kalinga Longa, Stanley lost 55 men through starvation and desertion. A slave-owner at Kalinga Longa named Ab ed Salim did his utmost to ruin the expedition short of open hostilities. He insisted upon purchasing rifles, ammunition, and clothing, so that the expedition left the station beggared. The men were absolutely naked, and were so weak that they were unable to carry the boat. Stanley was therefore obliged to leave the boat, together with 70 loads of goods, at Kalinga Longa, under the care of Surgeon Parke and Capt. Nelson, the latter of whom was unable to march. After a twelve-days' journey, the party, Nov. 12, reached Ibwiri. The Arab devastation, which had reached within a few miles of Ibwiri, was so thorough that not a native hut was left standing between Ugarrava and Ibwiri. What the Arabs did not destroy, the elephants destroyed, turning the whole region into a horrible wilderness.

It appears that Ibwiri is situated in about 29° east longitude, 126 miles distant from Lake Mvutan Nzige. In a later passage of his letter, Stanley gives the distance of Kalinga Longa from the lake as 190 miles, which leaves a distance of 64 miles for the line from Kalinga Longa to Ibwiri. The former place may therefore be situated near the sources of the Nepoko. It does not appear clearly where Stanley left the Aruvimi, but it would seem that this happened at Kalinga Longa or near it. This seems the more probable, as he left his boat there. Stanley continues: —

"Our sufferings terminated at Ibwiri. We were beyond the reach of destroyers. We were on virgin soil in a populous region abounding with food. We ourselves were mere skeletons. From 289 persons, we now numbered 174. Several of the party seeming to have no hope of life left, a halt was therefore ordered for the purpose of recuperating. Hitherto our people were sceptical of what we told them. The suffering had been so awful, the calamities so numerous, and the forests so endless, that they refused to believe that by and by we would see plains and cattle, the Nyanza, and Emin Pacha. They had turned a deaf ear to our prayers and entreaties; for, driven by hunger and suffering, they sold their rifles and equipments for a few ears of Indian-corn, deserted with the ammunition, and became altogether demoralized. Perceiving that mild punishment would be of no avail, I resorted to the death-penalty, and two of the worst cases were hanged in the presence of all. We halted for thirteen days at Ibwiri, revelling on fowls, goats, bananas, corn, yams, etc. The supplies were inexhaustible, and our people glutted themselves with such effect that we had 173 sleek and robust men. One had been killed with an arrow.

"When we started for Albert Nyanza, Nov. 24, we were still 126 miles from the lake. Given food, the distance seemed nothing. Dec. 1 we sighted an open country from the top of a ridge connected with Mount Pisgah, which was so named from our first view of the land of promise and plenty. Dec. 5 we emerged on the plains, leaving the deadly and gloomy forest behind us. After one hundred and sixty days of continuous gloom we saw the light of broad day shining all around, making all things beautiful. We thought we had never seen grass so green, or a country so lovely. The men literally leaped and yelled with joy, and raced over the ground with their burdens. Ah! this was the old spirit of former expeditions successfully completed, and all suddenly revived. Woe betide the native aggressor whom we may meet! However powerful, with such a spirit the men will fling themselves upon him like wolves on sheep. Numbers will not be considered. It was the eternal forest that had made them the abject, slavish creatures so brutally plundered by Arab slaves at Kalinga Longa.

"At Kilonga Wonga, on the 9th, we entered the country of the powerful chief, Mazamboni. The villages were scattered so thickly that no road except through them could be found. The natives sighted us, but we were prepared. We seized a hill as soon as we arrived in the centre of a mass of villages, and built a seriba as fast as bill-hooks could cut the brushwood. The war cries were terrible, from hill to hill, pealing across the intervening valleys. The people gathered in hundreds at every point, war-horns and drums announcing the struggle. After a slight skirmish, ending in our capturing a cow, the first beef we had tasted since we left the ocean, the night passed peacefully, both sides preparing for the morrow."

Here Stanley narrates how negotiations with the natives failed, Mazamboni declining a peace offering, and how a detachment of forty persons led by Lieut. Stairs, and another of thirty under command of Mr. Jephson, with sharpshooters, left the zareba, and assaulted and carried the villages, driving the natives into a general rout. The march was resumed on the 12th. There were constant little fights all along the route. The afternoon of the 13th the caravan sighted the Nyanza. The descent from the plateau, which Stanley describes as 5,200 feet above the sea, to the lake, which is 2,300 feet high, seems to have been very difficult. Besides this, the caravan had to suffer from attacks of the natives. The natives of the lake did not receive Stanley kindly, but, for lack of a boat, he was unable to proceed. There were no trees of a size sufficient to make canoes. Here the significant passage occurs, "We had used five cases of cartridges in five days' fighting on the plain; a month of such fighting must exhaust our stock;" which shows that Stanley's caravan could not be of any assistance to Emin.

His disappointment must have been great, when, after finally reaching the lake, after having overcome the greatest difficulties, he was compelled to retrace his steps in order to bring his boat, which had been left in Kalinga Longa. He continues: "On Jan. 7 we were in Ibwiri once again. After a few days' rest, Lieut. Stairs, with 100 men, was sent to Kalinga Longa to bring the boat and goods. I also sent Surgeon Parke and Capt. Nelson. Out of the 38 sick men in their charge, only 11 men were brought to the fort. The rest had died or deserted.

"On the return of Stairs with the boat and goods, he was sent to Ugarrava. He was to bring up the convalescent. Soon after his departure, I was attacked by gastritis and an abscess on the arm. After a month's careful nursing by Parke, I recovered, and set out again for the Albert Nyanza on April 2, accompanied by Jephson and Parke. Nelson was appointed commandant of Fort Bodo in our absence, with a garrison of 43 men and boys. On April 26 we arrived in Mazamboni's country again. This time, after solicitation, Mazamboni decided to make blood brotherhood with me. His example was followed by all the other chiefs as far as the Nyanza. Every difficulty seemed now to be removed. Food was supplied gratis. Cattle, goats, sheep, and fowls were also given in abundance, so that our people lived royally.

"When one day's march from the Nyanza, natives came from Kavali and said that a white man named Malejja had given their chief a black packet to give me, his son. Would I follow them, they asked. 'Yes, to-morrow,' I answered. 'And if your words are true, I will make you rich.' They remained with us that night, telling us wonderful stories about big ships as large as islands, filled with men, etc., which left no doubt in our mind that the white man was Emin Pacha. The next day's march brought us to Chief Kavali. After a while he handed me a note from Emin Pacha, covered with a strip of black American oilcloth. The note was to the effect, that, as there had been a native rumor that a white man had been seen at the south end of the lake, he had gone in a steamer to make inquiries, but had been unable to obtain reliable information. He begged me to remain where I was until he could communicate with me.

"The next day, April 23, Mr. Jephson was despatched with a strong force to take the boat to the Nyanza. On the 26th the boat's crew sighted Mawa Station, the southernmost belonging to Emin Pacha. Mr. Jephson was there hospitably received by the Egyptian garrison. The boat's crew say that they were embraced one by one, and that they never had such attention shown to them as by these men, who hailed them as brothers. On April 29 we once again reached the bivouac ground occupied by us on Dec. 16, and at 5 P.M. of that day I saw the Khédive steamer about seven miles away steaming up toward us. Soon after 7 P.M., Emin Pacha, Signor Casati, and Mr. Jephson arrived at our camp, where they were heartily welcomed by all of us. Next day we moved to a better camping-place, about three miles above Nyamsassie, and at this spot Emin Pacha also made his camp.

"We were together until May 25, when I left him, leaving Jephson, three Sudanese, and two Zanzibaris in his care. In return he caused to accompany me three of his irregulars and 102 Madi natives as porters. Fourteen days later I was at Fort Bodo. At the fort were Capt. Nelson and Lieut. Stairs. The latter had returned from Ugarrava twenty-two days after I had set out for the lake, bringing with him, alas! only 16 men out of 56. All the rest were dead. My 20 couriers whom I had sent with letters to Major Barttelot had safely left Ugarrava for Yambuya on March 16. Fort Bodo was in a flourishing state. Nearly ten acres were under cultivation. One crop of Indian-corn had been harvested, and was in the granaries. On June 16 I left Fort Bodo with 111 Zanzibaris and 101 of Emin's people. Lieut. Stairs was appointed commandant of the fort, Capt. Nelson was second in command, and Surgeon Parke was medical officer. The garrison consisted of 59 rifles. I thus deprived myself of all my officers in order not to be encumbered with baggage, provisions, and medicines, which would have to be taken if accompanied by Europeans.

"On June 24 we reached Kilonga, and on July 19 Ugarrava. The latter station was deserted. Ugarrava, having gathered as much ivory as he could obtain from the district, had proceeded down the river about three months before. On leaving Fort Bodo, I had loaded every carrier with 60 pounds of corn, so that we were able to pass through the wilderness unscathed. Passing on down the river as fast as we could go, daily expecting to meet the couriers, who had been stimulated to exert themselves for a reward of £10 per head, or the major himself, leading an army of carriers, we indulged ourselves in pleasing anticipation as we neared the goal. On Aug. 10 we overtook Ugarrava with an immense flotilla of 57 canoes, and, to our wonder, our couriers, now reduced to 17, who related an awful story of hairbreadth escapes and tragic scenes. Three had been slain, two were still feeble from wounds, and all except five bore on their bodies the scars of arrow-wounds. A week later, Aug. 17, we met the rear column of the expedition at Bunalya."

Then Stanley goes on to describe his disappointment at hearing of the disaster that had befallen his rear guard, and says that he intended to go back to the Albert Nyanza to unite with Emin.

CALIFORNIA WINES.

A REPORT by Major B. C. Truman, and published by the Los Angeles Board of Trade, expresses some optimistic views of the future of California wines, which seem likely to be realized.

No one acquainted with the varied soil and diversified climate of California can doubt that it is to that State that the American people are to look for the wines which will in time take the place of the vintages of Bordeaux, Rheims, Epernay, Oporto, Madeira, and Tokay. California may not probably produce a Chateau Lafitte, a White Hermitage, or a Chablis, for some time to come; she may never perhaps be able to produce similar wines; but, even if she succeeds in perfecting processes of wine-making, and producing brands that are rich in bouquet and aroma, they may never, in the estimation of some, reach the perfection of those just named, and otherwise not be like them. No two wine-producing countries are precisely alike, although there may be similarity of climate, soil, cultivation, and manipulation. In California, grapes are grown in all kinds of soil, altitudes, and under very dissimilar atmospheric conditions; some of these conditions of climate, soil, and altitude resembling France and Italy, others Germany and Greece, others Spain and Portugal, while not a few of the Californian conditions are totally different from those of the European wine districts. Thus, to a great extent, the result will be the production of a new type; and our vintages, with their pretty names, may sound as sweetly in the ear of the connoisseur of the next generation as do Rousillion or Amontillado in our own.

During the last thirty years improvements have been made, and are still being made, in the cultivation of the vine, and the processes of wine-making in California. Commissioners and experts have visited foreign countries, and skilled workmen from leading European vineyards and wine-houses have been brought over here at great cost. Cuttings from all the rare vines of Europe have been imported, and all possible information respecting the cultivation of the vine, and the processes of wine-making, have been collected from every available source. Some species do not take kindly to this new climate and soil, while others appear to have gained new virtues; and although we cannot always expect that the identical flavor of the wine from the imported vine will be repeated in their new home, still many show a decided improvement. There are Rieslings in the market now, and some rare old white wines without a name in many a cellar, which, had their bottles been decked with the picture of some ruined old castle, might pass for a real Teutonic article from the banks of the Rhine. Other wines, like the Cucamonga of San Bernardino and the Angelica of Los Angeles, are noted for their luscious sweetness. Other blendings, like Kohler's or Baldwin's Bonanzas, have a quaint and fascinating flavor, while there are ports enough like their namesakes to defy comparison, and some sherries and muscatels which at no distant date will substantially supplant that class of imported wines in the United States.

As an illustration of the growing popularity of Californian wines at home, it is not too much to say that twenty years ago not ten gentlemen in the State ever placed either native wines or brandy on their table. Gradually, however, the white and red acid wines of Los Angeles and other counties improved, and were trusted; and now no Californian is ashamed of entertaining his guest with either the Sauterne, Hock, Muscatel, Zinfandel (claret), Riesling, or Burgundy of his native land. These wines are becoming favorites in the Eastern States, and even in England, and particularly among connoisseurs who know pure wines from adulterated ones. It also may not be generally known that certain French firms even export to their American customers red wines which were originally made in California, and shipped to France for the purpose of adulteration, or, at least, deception. The port wine from Los Angeles County is undoubtedly the best, purest, and truest port used in the country. It is palatable, medicinal in its effects, and purer than any port that comes from foreign countries, or that is manufactured in the cellars of importing-houses of New York and other Eastern cities. The Californian sherry is also gaining in favor, and its sale is daily increasing in the East; and what has just been said of the Californian port and the foreign article holds good for the sherry of California and its rival from abroad.

The excellence of the Californian vintages lies in their absolute purity, but they lack age and that exquisite manipulation which imparts to imported concoctions a mellow taste and an acceptable aroma. There is a nutty flavor to the so-called cheap sherry from abroad, that often pleases the senses more than that of the unadulterated sherry from California; and, while the former is actually guilty of deleterious effects, the latter is only deemed deficient in high-bred quality, which may be traced to its newness, and nothing else. Angelica wine from Los Angeles County has always been a favorite in the East, and is the wine that attracted the admiration of the jurors ot the Paris Exhibition in 1867.

There is no other vegetable growth in California which finds so generally a congenial place as the grape. It is a good bearer, and never fails if properly attended to. It never greatly suffers from cold or heat, or other elemental disturbance, and does not average one pound of decayed or indifferent berries in a thousand in the pickings. The vine suffers nothing from the elements, as a general rule; although whole vineyards in the lowlands, which have been primed too early, have been injured by frost, and so rendered non-producing for one season. The phylloxera has as yet occasioned