

entertained. The following appeared in the *Missionary Herald*:

"CIVILIZE THE AFRICAN AND THEN CHRISTIANIZE HIM.—This seems to be the order some celebrated African explorers would have missionaries observe. Sir Samuel Baker says: 'The philanthropist and missionary will expend their noble energy in vain in struggling against the savage herds until the first steps toward their gradual enlightenment shall be made by commerce.' He advises the missionary to wait awhile till the Africans have been humanized.

"Alvan S. Southworth, in an address before the American Geographical Society, said: 'I have roughly computed that the Christian world has spent on

as the moral life-power in his nature. We may apply this to the lowest of our race in heathendom as well as in Christendom. The Gospel meeting the soul's needs, its greatest want, dispels its darkness. 'The entrance of Thy Word giveth light.' God's Spirit working through the truth and the preacher effects a change without which all benevolent efforts are in vain.

"Attending this change and springing from it, as naturally as a stream from its fountain, there springs up in the heart of the hitherto unclad, filthy, and lazy heathen, a desire for clothing, for soap to cleanse it, and for some industrial pursuit. Then follow neat and comfortable dwellings, schoolhouses, sanctuaries, improved methods of cultivating the soil, and



SEVENTH CATARACT OF THE CONGO, STANLEY FALLS.

missionary labour in Africa, since the era of railroads and telegraphs began, an amount sufficient to have built a railroad along the line of the equator. Let us be practical with the negro, for in his aboriginal state you cannot spiritualize him.'

"He rejoices that such missionaries as the railroad and steamboat are getting into Africa. What are we to infer from these and similar statements? Evidently that those who are devoting their lives to the elevation of Africa are mistaken, for their *modus operandi* is to evangelize first, in accordance, as they maintain, with the divinely-appointed method—'Preach the Gospel to every creature.' It has been truly said: 'As there is no philosopher too wise, so there is no child too simple to take in God, through Christ,

other proof of the civilizing power of the Gospel. . . . The writer can speak from experience. Ten long years of toil among Africans, almost as wild as the beasts which nightly prowled around his dwelling, witnessed no desire for either a shirt or a plough until there were conversions to Christ."

Perhaps, as with some of the reforms which are being made in our own country, more is to be expected from work among the children of the dark continent than from any other quarter.

"There is a peculiar charm," said one of the travellers, "in the associations