

THE new number of the *Mouvement Géographique*, in a series of tables shows the position of the various powers in Africa at the present date when each power is counting what it has gained, to be as follows:—

Portuguese Africa.—Madeira, 314 square miles; Cape Verd Islands, 1,486; Guinea and Bissagos Islands, 2,316; S. Thomé and Principé, 417; Cabinda, 460; Angola, 470,000; Mozambique, 300,000.—Total, 774,993 square miles.

Spanish Africa.—The position of Spain in Africa is at present uncertain. She will have to settle with France both in Western Sahara and in the Muni district, in the neighbourhood of Gaboon. In 1876 her total claims amounted to 3,660 square miles. Now she claims the coast from Cape Blanco to Cape Bojador, and is stated to have made treaties with the chiefs of Adrar and neighbouring districts, giving her an addition of 200,000 square miles, while in the Muni she claims, according to some estimates, 40,000 square miles. If all the claims of Spain are admitted, she will have a territory of some 220,000 square miles in Africa and its islands, but probably she will have to reduce her pretensions. On the most recent French maps the western limit of the French Sahara cuts through the centre of the territory claimed by Spain.

French Africa.—Algeria, 123,480 square miles; Tunis, 44,790; Senegal and dependencies, 580,000; Sahara and Western Soudan, 965,000; Gold Coast, 19,300; Gaboon and French Congo, 270,000; Madagascar and islands, 232,600; Réunion, 964; Comoro Islands, 798; Obock, 2,316.—Total, 2,300,248 square miles.

In the Sahara and Soudan the adjustment of boundaries has still to be made, while the claims made in the Senegambia region will be subject to modification; so that the areas given cannot be regarded as precise. At present the hold of France over Madagascar is slender, but she is not likely to let go.

German Africa.—In 1876 Germany had no claim to a mile of land in Africa, though so long ago as 1866 Von der Decken urged the annexation of the region now included in British East Africa. The remarkable feature about German acquisitions in Africa is that they were virtually obtained within a few months in 1884-85; all else has been mere adjustment of boundaries. On the Gold Coast and in the Cameroons precise delimitations have to be carried out and in the former region, in the meantime, Germany is creeping inland. The following may be taken as approximately the areas of the present German claims:—Togoland, 7,720 square miles; Cameroons, 193,000; Southwest Africa, 385,000; East Africa, 450,000. Total, 1,035,720 square miles.

The Congo Free State did not exist in 1876. Its limits were fixed at the time of the Berlin Congress, and embraced about 800,000 square

miles. If the kingdom of Lunda, which has been turned into the Eastern Quango province, be included in the Free State, the total area will be about 1,000,000 square miles.

Italian Africa.—Although an Italian firm had a station at Assab, on the Red Sea, about 1864, it was not until 1880 that it was taken possession of officially. Now Italy claims an area of 360,000 square miles. So far there has been no international arrangement, but there is not likely to be much difficulty in arranging boundaries. Abyssinia, Shoa, and Kaffa alone cover 305,000 square miles; Massowah and Assab, Harrar, and a part of Somaliland cover the rest.

Turkish Africa.—Turkey's claim to Tripoli embraces 380,000 square miles. Nor does any one doubt that she is nominally the suzerain of Egypt; but, as a matter of fact, that country is held and administered by England. The total area still held by the Khedive is probably about 400,000 square miles, while the Egyptian Soudan covers about 1,000,000.

Coming to Great Britain's share in the scramble, and taking the limits prescribed by the Anglo-Portuguese arrangement, we find the following results:

British Africa.—West Coast Colonies, 45,000 square miles; Royal Niger Company, 400,000; Atlantic Islands, 125; Walfish Bay, 460; Cape Colony and dependencies, 500,000; Natal, 21,000; British South African Company and Nyassaland, 500,000; Mauritius, etc., 900; Zanzibar and Pemba, 760; British East Africa, 400,000; Somali Coast region, 38,000; Socotra, 3,000.—Total, 1,909,445 square miles.

The British East Africa Company has no northern limit to its sphere, and English troops occupy Wada Halfa, Cairo, and Suakin. In mere area France considerably exceeds England in her share of the scramble, but so far as value goes England has no rival in Africa.

To sum up, the various European powers have acquired the following areas in Africa, Turkey being excluded, and Egypt being left aside:

Portugal.....	774,993 sq. miles.
Spain.....	210,000 "
France.....	2,300,248 "
Germany.....	1,035,720 "
Congo Free State....	1,000,000 "
Italy.....	360,000 "
Great Britain.....	1,909,445 "

Total..... 7,590,406 sq. miles.

If to this we add the areas of Egypt and the Egyptian Soudan, of Tripoli, Morocco, the independent Central Soudan States, the Transvaal and Orange Free State, it will be found that of the 11,900,000 square miles of Africa, not more than 2,500,000 remain to be appropriated.

THE "Dark Continent" has been crossed from coast to coast but sixteen times.