

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

David Livingstone, the distinguished African traveller, was born at Blantyre, upon the banks of the Clyde, near Glasgow, Scotland, in 1817. His father, who was in humble circumstances, and according to his son, too honest to become rich, was a small shop-keeper in the town of Hamilton, and died in 1836. David worked at the Cotton Mills of Blantyre, and devoted his spare moments to intellectual improvement. During the winter seasons he pursued his studies at Glasgow, and in the summer resumed his occupation at the Cotton Mills. In this way he was enabled to acquire some knowledge of classics. He resolved to devote himself to missionary life, and having studied medicine for a few years, during which time he attended two courses of theological lectures under Dr. Wardlaw, he was admitted a Licentiate of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, in 1838. He then offered himself to the London Missionary Society for Missionary work in Africa, and was accepted. He was ordained to the pastoral office in 1840, and soon after left England for Port Natal, where he became acquainted with his countryman, the Rev. Robert Moffatt, one of the most enterprising of African Missionaries, whose daughter he married. From 1840 to 1856, Dr. Livingstone laboured as a Missionary at Kuruman, Mafodson, and other stations in Southern Africa, and made several expeditions into the interior. He became acquainted with the language, habits, and religious notions of several savage tribes, and twice crossed the entire continent, a little south of the tropic of Capricorn, from the shores of the Indian Ocean to those of the Atlantic. In May, 1855, the Victoria or Patrons' Gold Medal was bestowed upon him by the Royal Geographical Society, for having "traversed South Africa from the Cape of Good Hope, by Lake Ngami to Livingstone, and thence to the Western Coast, in ten degrees south latitude." In the same year he began to retrace his steps eastward, and having again traversed these regions as far as Livingstone, followed the Zambesi down to its mouth upon the shore of the Indian Ocean, thus completing the entire journey across Southern Africa. At the close of 1856 he returned to England, and was present at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, Dec. 15, when the President, Sir Roderick Murchison, referred to him in very flattering terms, saying the Society had "met together to welcome Dr. Livingstone's return to England, after an absence of sixteen years, during which . . . he had made geographical discoveries of incalculable importance. In all his various journeys, Dr. Livingstone had travelled over no less than 11,000 miles of African territory; and he had come back to England as the pioneer of sound and useful knowledge; for by his astronomical observations he had determined the sites of numerous places, hills, rivers, and lakes, nearly all of which had been hitherto unknown, while he had seized upon every opportunity of describing the physical features, climatology and geological structure of the countries which he had explored, and had pointed out many new sources of commerce as yet unknown to the scope and the enterprise of the British merchant."

Dr. Livingstone was destined to achieve still greater distinction as an African explorer. In March, 1858, he returned to Africa, accompanied by a small band of assistants, sent out by Her Majesty's Government. He entered Lake Nyassa on the 2nd Sept., 1861, and made further explorations; but his wife, who had accompanied him in many of his perilous journeys, died of fever at Shupanga, on the 27th April, 1862; and what was termed the Zambesi expedition, was recalled in July of the following year. On the 20th July, 1864, Dr. Livingstone reached London, and after giving interesting particulars respecting his discoveries, and making arrangements for other explorations, again quitted England in April, 1865. A report reached England early in March, 1867, that he had been set upon and murdered by some of the native tribes near Lake Nyassa, two of his African servants having deserted him and started the rumour to cover their own



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treachery. The story was at first very generally accepted as probable until Sir Roderick Murchison proclaimed his belief that it was a fabrication. An expedition was fitted out under Mr. E. D. Young, and left England in June 1867 to visit the interior of Africa in search of the Doctor, who, from lack of channels of communication, had been for a long time unable to communicate with the authorities. Occasional scraps of information concerning him began to reach England, and the fears that he had met with an untimely fate were dissipated. Positive information was at length received of his entire safety, and of his great success in exploring the hitherto but little known regions of Central Africa. A letter from him dated "Near Lake Bangweolo, South Central Africa, July 1868," reached England in November last. In our issue of Dec. 4, page 71, will be found a notice of the important discoveries mentioned therein. His last letter dated Ujiji, May 30, shows the Albert Nyanza and Tanganyika to be one lake, in which the Nile has its source. He next intended to explore westward from Tanganyika, where he hopes to find the headwaters of the Congo; if successful he will have all but exhausted the field of African exploration.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE'S VISIT TO EGYPT.

Among the illustrious visitors who responded to the invitation of the Khedive to be present at the formal opening of the Suez Canal, none attracted more general attention than Her Majesty the Empress of the French. The press has teemed with incidents connected with the Empress' visit to the East, grave-diggers of high-toned British journals have descanted upon the happy influences of such a graceful display of Parisian fashion as that made by Her Majesty in the Capital of the Sultan; and while the Emperor of Austria and other notabilities of less dignity have gone and returned again with little more than formal mention, Eugenie's visit has been a fruitful theme of pleasant and instructive remark. We

have already devoted a considerable portion of our space to the description and illustration of the Suez Canal; and this week we give two views—one the passage of the rapids of the great cataract of the Nile by a party of the Khedive's visitors, a spirited scene which will not be without interest to the Canadian reader, as showing how "these things are managed" in Egypt; and the other the visit of the Empress to the ruins of ancient Thebes, in Upper Egypt. Her Majesty on this occasion was mounted on a dromedary, as were several of her suite. She was attended by officers of the Khedive's household, and a motley group of tourists followed her footsteps. Our engraving conveys a vivid idea of the scene the cavalcade presented. In connection with the Empress's visit to Egypt, it may not be uninteresting to give an extract from the letter of a correspondent as showing the condition of Egypt and of the Egyptian peasants in the present day. It is from a description of a visit paid to the Great Pyramids in the Desert. The writer says:—

"Leaving Cairo about six a. m., and driving down to the point at Boudak, which their dragoman selects for embarkation, visitors and their donkeys, their attendants, their tent for sleeping in on the Desert, their banners, rugs, and paraphernalia, find themselves in due course on board a Nile boat, and bound for the opposite bank. There has been the usual struggling with the donkeys, who have objected to water travelling; the prayers for your safety, and the appeals for backsheesh in return from the medley group of natives washing in the Nile, the women removing their veils, and laving hands, face, feet and legs with perfect composure under your very nose. The morning is of course lovely. The sun has not attained the fierce splendour from which you will have to screen yourself a few hours later, and the groves of feathery palms, the palace of Gizeh, the lofty masts of the Nile boats, the yellow sands of the distant Desert, and the proportions of the Gizeh Pyramids you are to visit, first standing out sharply against a sky of the brightest blue, are all seen to the best advantage, and enjoyed keenly in the fresh morning air. Your plan is, we will say, to



THE EMPRESS EUGENIE AND SUITE AT THE RUINS OF ANCIENT THEBES, UPPER EGYPT.