

the eye of the civilized world. Turning to the northeast of Africa, there is a comparatively open seaboard, in spite of blockade precautions, between Tajurah Bay and Cape Guardafui, whence a regular debarkation of slaves is in full swing. Emanating from the African coast *via* Southern Arabia and the Persian Gulf eastward, the Indian papers say that "unabated vigor" characterizes the slave traffic. Major Talbot has just stated that "many of the Omani boats fly the French flag and carry French papers, under cover of which they are able to practise their trade in slaves with impunity." The news is welcome that various suggestions are being considered by the residents and governors for the purpose of stopping effectually the abominable traffic.

Within French protectorates in the extreme Western Soudan the slave curse reigns. In a current volume, "Du Niger au Golfe de Guinée," recounting exhaustive geographical research, the author, Captain Binger, describes an extensive and fertile country, "often depopulated and devastated by war and slave-raiding." More terrible records of the pursuit and capture of slaves are furnished in another contemporary work, by Dr. Wilhelm Junker. Over an enormous tract of country, having Meshra-el-Rek on the north and the Welle-Makua to the south, peopled by the Niam-Niams, the Mongbuttus, A-Madi, and smaller tribes, native raids are prevalent, while all the races are preyed upon by the "Arabs," who gained a footing in the country at the time of the now defunct Egyptian rule. Since the King of the Mongbuttus was assassinated, disorganization and slavery exist over the whole region watered by the western feeders of the Nile, intensified by Arab sway and the tremendous advancing tide of Mohammedans from North Africa. It is very disappointing that Dr. Junker, whose services to geography, and particularly ethnology, are appreciated, should countenance a modified form of slavery, compulsory labor, and the administration of the *courbask* to promote the development of the African in regard of work and civilization. Possibly familiarity with Russian methods of government or contact with barbarous cruelties has suggested this kind of reformation. Of course other travelers advocate what the German paper, the *Reichsanzeiger*, urges to be in harmony with the "social and domestic conditions" in Africa. Such a procedure will have to reckon with the enlightened conscience of Europe and the United States! Again and again distinguished men have said that in the principal slave provinces free labor never has had a rational trial, because slave customs have prevailed from time immemorial. Humane methods of redeeming the negro are feasible. In some measure this has been shown in the diamond mines of South Africa, in the British West Coast colonies, in the coffee plantations south of Lake Nyassa, on the Slit highlands, and, notably at Blantyre, in the erection of the finest ecclesiastical edifice between Egypt and the Cape, which the natives have built voluntarily for wages, under the direction of white men. Testimony likewise to this effect comes from such African experts as Mr. Stanley and Sir