

WELCOME AND SCHOOL

Do unto others
As ye would
That they
Should
Do unto
You.

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A "RUGA-RUGA," ONE OF MIRAMBO'S PATRIOTS.

Through the Dark Continent.

BY HENRY M. STANLEY.

XI.

EARLY next morning my convert sent me many presents as tokens of his esteem, such as four shields, sixteen spears, twelve knives, ten bill-hooks, six walking-sticks, twelve finely prepared skins and furs of wild animals, twenty pounds of myrrh, four white monkey-skins, ten beeves, sixteen goats, bananas and beer and wine, and an escort of one hundred warriors, to proceed by the lake to Dumo.

Four days after leaving Mtesa's capital we arrived at Dumo, and greeted the expedition, after an absence of three months and five days. Frank Pocock had enjoyed splendid health; and the soldiers showed, by their robust forms, that they lived on the best, and that the Emperor's commands respecting them had not been neglected.

A few days sufficed to re-form the expedition, re-pack all loads, and to prepare the boat—which had now been nearly nine

months of rough service on Lake Victoria—for transport overland to Muta Nzige. The *Livingstone* canoe was also taken to pieces, and made into portable loads for the journey. This canoe was twenty-three feet long, and was formed of four long planks and one keel-piece, sewn together with cane fibre, which formed light portable loads for seven men.

On the seventh day after my return to Dumo we began the march towards the general rendezvous of the exploring army on the Katonga River. The crossing of the Katonga consumed an entire day, and was effected by means of the *Lady Alice*, which had to be forced through the dense reeds. On the sixth day after our arrival at Ruwewa, we marched to Laugurwe, where we met—as couriers had pre-informed us—General Sambuzi, Mtesa's officer and guide, with a thousand men. In the afternoon I called to pay my respects to the general—for common-sense informed me that the best way of attaining the objects in view was to pay the utmost possible attention to the failings of this African general, and to observe all ceremony and politeness towards him.

As I entered the court, which had been constructed with a view to enhance his dignity—if space can be said to increase dignity—I observed

that the general stood up from amongst his subordinates, and stiffly maintained that position until I grasped him by the hand, when he managed to utter a faint greeting in response to mine. I was not altogether unprepared for this result of his promotion; still, it chilled me, angered me a little, I must confess, and induced me to ask him if anything was wrong.

"No," he said; "nothing was wrong."
"Then, why are you so stiff with your friend?" I asked. "Do you not like the idea of going to Muta Nzige? If you regret your appointment, I can apply for another man."

"My liking or not liking the journey will not alter the command of *Kubaka*," he replied. "I have received my commands to take you to Muta Nzige, and I will take you there. Sambuzi, your friend at Uvuma, is changed now to Sambuzi, the general. You understand me?"

"Perfectly," I answered. "I have a few words to say in reply, and you will then understand me as well as I understand you. I wish to go to Muta Nzige lake. So long as you take me there, and do exactly as the Emperor has commanded you, you shall have as much honour and respect from me as though you were the Emperor himself."

Sambuzi's force was twenty times stronger than mine, and was my only means of pushing through Unyoro. Prudence counselled me, therefore, not to let false pride be an obstacle to the accomplishment and success of the enterprise, and I determined to listen to its counsel.

Following our little army of 2,300 fighting men, there were about 500 women and children, giving a grand total of 2,800 souls.

On New Year's Day, 1876, the exploring army filed out from under the plantain shades of Kawanga, each detachment under the flag of its respective leader, and each known



STANLEY MARCHING AT THE HEAD OF HIS EXPEDITION.