

plause of the highest authorities in this branch of science. To these qualities and acquirements he added a knowledge of medicine, by which he not only guarded over his own health, but gained the affection and respect of those among whom he sojourned.

It is seven years since Dr. Livingston began to make his first researches into hitherto unexplored districts, after having laboured silently for nine years at a station among the Bechuanas, in the neighbourhood of the well known Mr Moffat, whose daughter he married. On the 1st of June 1849 he left his station at Kalubeng, two hundred miles north of the Kuruman, accompanied by Messrs. Oswald and Murray, in quest of the "off-reported lake beyond the desert." After considerable suffering from the climate, and deprivation, caused by the jealous fears of the native chiefs, Lake Ngami was reached. It was found impossible to cross it and penetrate further north, as had been intended, from the want of boats or of materials to construct them: a return was therefore effected without further result than a more accurate knowledge of the position and character of the lake. In the following year a similar expedition was undertaken; but Dr. Livingston and his party were soon driven back by the scourge of the marsh fever. In 1851, a third and more successful attempt to penetrate the country was made. A well-peopled and fertile district was discovered to the north of the lake, in which the people were found to have a considerable knowledge of some of the arts, such as the making of tin vessels and of a rough species of crockery. Dr. Livingston's success upon this occasion appears to have stimulated him to his last gigantic undertaking, by suggesting the idea of a rich unexplored country further to the north. Accordingly, soon after his return, he accompanied his wife and family from his station to Cape Town, saw them embarked in a ship for England, and left thus alone, he set out on the 8th of June 1852, on his great journey to the north. He first directed his course towards St Paul de Lando, on the west coast, in latitude 5 degrees South, or about 30 degrees north of the Cape. In this journey, a great part of which was occupied in passing through sandy deserts, he seems to have experienced much hardship and intense suffering, having arrived at St Paul de Loando in such a state of health that his

friends considered that his constitution was broken, and that his work was finished. Soon, however, he rallied, and instead of being daunted by these perils at the outset, he immediately prepared to begin his journey through the centre of the country. In this enterprise the London Missionary Society cordially agreed to support him, as far as their aid could reach him, though they felt that they could not undertake the responsibility of advising him to encounter such dangers, but must leave him in this to the direction of Providence. No support could, however, avail him, as soon as he had departed a little way from the coast. He was forced to depend upon his gun, or upon the friendly hospitality of the natives. He first directed his course in a southeasterly direction, towards the Malokolo, whose territory is situated not very far to the north of Lake Ngami, and then appears to have travelled east and north-east, till he gained the country through which the upper part of the Zambesi flows. This journey occupied him several years, and was complete only on the 26th of May last, by his arrival at Quilimane, a Portuguese settlement on the Indian Ocean.

It is impossible to have yet any very adequate or complete idea of the countries penetrated and the work accomplished by Dr. Livingston. His discoveries have certainly dissipated many illusions. Instead of finding immense tracts of desert, such as the country traversed has been generally, and even very lately supposed to consist of, he has passed through a region in many parts most fertile, where indigo, sugar-cane, and other plants grow luxuriantly, and where beeswax, coal, iron, and gold are also found, some of them in large quantities. The natives also, he states, are a people of mild and in many respects of generous character. Those who reside in the centre of the country constitute the true Negro races, from which the slaves were formerly chiefly abstracted and carried down to the coast for export. They are naturally an ingenious people, and fond of commerce. As a proof of their superiority to many other aborigines, Dr. Livingston relates various customs which prove the high reputation in which the ladies are held. "If a divorce happens," he says, "it is generally the woman who divorces the man, and she takes the children away with her." When a man marries a young woman in another vil-