

"In North Usukuma, south of the Victoria N'yanza, we had as stirring a time for four days as anywhere on our route. There was continuous fighting during the greater part of the daylight hours. The foolish natives took an unaccountable prejudice against Emin's people. They insisted that they were cannibals, and had come for no good purpose. Talking was useless, as any attempt to disprove their impression only drove them into a white-hot rage, and in their mad hate, flinging themselves on us, they suffered severely.

"I am advised that the Semba and Mwene route is the best for securing an abundance of food, and therefore I propose to adopt it; but as regards danger from attacks by the natives, one road seems to be as bad as the other."

RECEPTION AT BAGAMOYO.

At Mpwapa Stanley was greeted by several friends who ministered greatly to his comfort, and who helped him on his journey to Bagamoyo, which was a distance of three weeks' march. After resting two days the caravan continued on, and on December 3d Major Wissmann met Stanley, Casati and Emin at the head of the long procession, as it filed into the small village of Atoni, on the Kinghani River.

Having heard of the approach of Stanley's expedition, Wissmann had provided horses for Stanley, Emin and the lieutenants, in order to relieve the march of hardships at the latter end, and had these ready when the entrance into Atoni was made.

THE MIRTH THAT A SNAKE PRODUCED.

But the expedition was in great need of horses long before the meeting with Wissmann, for every one was both weary and footsore, while the highway, though bearing the semblance of a road, was rough and thorn bestrewed. But it was not every one in the expedition who could ride a horse, for to many of those belonging to Emin's party such an animal was a novelty, while even Stanley's assistants had lost much of their equestrianism in the now commoner practice of cavalry service on donkeys, oxen and goats, which latter animals Ward affirms served to bear both packs, and light men occasionally. But after leaving Kavalli there was no kind of riding animal in the expedition. One of the horses supplied by Wissman was not exactly a Rozinante, but it was no less distinguished for its quiet demeanor, on which account its services were the more in demand, as there was not much confidence shown by any of the party in their ability to keep company with a spirited horse. However, it fell to the lot of Jephson to bestride this promising "beast," and off he set in good glee, at first distancing his followers, and keeping a goodly pace until he met with a most unexpected mishap. While moving at a slow trot, suddenly his horse reared with a spasmodic effort that all but unseated him, and dashed away with a spirit that might wreck windmills and opposing phantoms, giving Mr Jephson barely time to see a large snake crawling along with some excitement in the road, and thus to surmise the cause.

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