

ness and variety among the tribes of men which inhabit the unknown continent. "Fierce, wild savagery, loathsome cannibalism, cruelty, the densest darkness and degradation



KING OF THE CHUMBIRI,
CONGO COUNTRY.

of heathenism—such was the aspect as the white man, with some one hundred and fifty followers, endeavoured quietly and peaceably to paddle in mid-stream past their villages."

Well might Stanley exclaim as he rowed up the majestic river, among the surrounding luxuriance of vegetation,

"Every prospect pleases,
And only man is vile!"

Until the missionary explorations of Dr. Livingstone, nothing could be done toward the evangelization of the interior of Africa. All efforts were confined to the coast. He drew attention to the peoples and their needs. On his first return visit to England, in 1856, he said to his countrymen: "I go back to Africa to make an open path for commerce and Christianity. Do you

carry out the work which I have begun. I leave it with you."

As to the missions on the Congo River, the Baptist Society appear to have made the first step in that direction. Mr. Arthington, of Leeds, wrote to the Baptist Missionary Society, offering them one thousand pounds if they would undertake mission work in the Congo country. The society accepted the offer, and sent word to two of their missionaries to prepare for a journey to that region. About this time Mr. Stanley had arrived at the mouth of the Congo, having traced the course of the river.

Shortly after this a party arrived on the river to found the Livingstone Inland Mission—undenominational. Mr. Crudgington of this party, according to Mr. Stanley's advice, returned home to get a steel sectional boat, the *Plymouth*. He hoped to be able to navigate the cataract region.

Great progress has been made since that time in the opening up of the country. Trading houses have



MNYAMWEZI PAGAZI.

pushed far into the interior, and a railway is in course of construction to connect the upper and lower river, and transport merchandise past the cataract region.