

WHAT DR LIVINGSTONE SAW IN AFRICA.

THE GREAT LAKE.

In the year 1849, while labouring as a missionary at Kolobeng, South Africa, the Lord drew the heart of Dr. Livingstone (who is a native of Lanarkshire) to go forth in search of the lake which he heard the natives speak of. He knew that the Lamb redeems his great multitude which no man can number out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and he knew the text in Romans x. 14, "How shall they believe on him of whom they have not heard?" So he travelled many weary weeks northward, and then westward, till he came to the River Zouga. Here he found a rich country, and the people spinning over the waters of the river in swift canoes. This was far from Kolobeng—300 miles at least; but it was not till after 300 miles further journeying that he found the *Great Lake*, 70 miles long. It is called *Ngami*. The interior of Africa is not a desert; it is rather "a place of broad rivers and streams." (Isa. xxxiii. 21.) May the "name of the Lord" soon make the souls of the people what Isaiah describes in that verse.

"THE RIVER."

The great river which guided his course by its turnings for some hundred miles was the "*Zambese*," or "*Lecambe*." These words mean in the African language just "*the river*." And this is the meaning of "*Nile*," the river of Egypt. Now, this great river is occasionally some miles in breadth, and has in it lovely islands, some of them five miles in length. It is skirted with beautiful trees, not like its tributary, the Chobe, the banks of which are nearly unapproachable on account of tall, strong reeds, six or eight feet high. The date tree and the palmyra palm abound on its banks. It has cataracts or waterfalls; and it is said that sometimes the natives who hunt the hippopotamus in its waters have been carried down by the current along with the animal, and both together swept over the precipice.

IDOLS.

But the idols of the Balonda showed how dark are the souls of the people. They worship a block of wood with a rough figure of a human head upon it. Another idol was a lion made of clay, with two shells for eyes, and this placed in a shed. At another spot, after leaving Zumbo, he found the people adoring living lions, clapping their hands to them in token of veneration. And yet they so dread their vener-