

ed the Mission. Men, women and children were mercilessly slain, the spiritual chief of the Mission, who was a Bishop, together with two or three of the Brethren, alone escaping. By a telegram from Zanzibar to the Paris "Temps," it appears that there was a second onslaught. "The Protestant Wagandas," it says, "have again attacked the Catholics and burned their houses. Captain Williams himself burned the house of the great Catholic Chief, Cyprien Kavata. Captains Lugard and Williams told the Fathers that they meant war and took the responsibility of it before Europe."

The "Missions Catholiques" of Lyons published several letters from the Victoria Nyanza regions which corroborate what the Bishop, Mgr. Hirth had already stated. The Bishop reports that he had a conversation with Captain Williams after the fight at Lese and was told that the Captain would treat with Mwanga, the fugitive King of Uganda, on the very onerous conditions: "That he would declare himself *English*, that is, Protestant; that he should have none but pagans about his person; that he should hoist the flag of the British mercantile company; and that no mission station should be established without the previous assent of the British East Africa Company." "These conditions," the Lyons paper remarks, "opposed as they are, to justice, to conscience and to freedom, convict the agents of Bishop Tucker. They are the conditions which he had premeditated. Unless Europe interferes Catholicism will be stamped out by the Protestant weapons of force and *law*."

A united press cablegram from London of date July 25th, throws additional light on this melancholy subject. "Letters have been received from the Missionary ASHE, in Uganda, which give more light on the conflict there between Protestants and Catholics. They corroborate the worst reports concerning the slaughter during Captain Lugard's conflict with the Roman Catholics. "Lugard's forces," the Missionary says, "killed several hundred men, women and children during the attack upon the island where King Mwanga and

the Catholics had taken shelter." MR. ASHE's letters shew that whatever the provocation, the British forces proceeded with unpardonable recklessness, as to the loss of life which they might cause.

Shall such things pass unwhipped of justice? Queen Victoria does not easily forgive comparatively slight offences on the part of the officers of her army. What will she say to the atrocities of Lugard and Williams?

In concluding this paper, already too long, we would ask: Is it according to the mind of the Church of England that her Bishops should act as Bishop Tucker has done? Is it pleasing to Our Gracious Queen and her advisers that British soldiers should be employed in cutting down defenceless Africans with their wives and families? Is it a rational way of spreading Christianity to send an armed force to crush Missions long established and that have been successful? Is it according to the thirty-nine articles of the Church of England, or any articles of religion, to make converts at the point of the bayonet? Is it according to sound statesmanship, prudence or policy that a British Government should countenance such proceedings as have recently disgraced the British name in Uganda? Is it desirable or not that a British Ministry which has had no part in such things, either by word or act, should institute an official investigation with a view to bring the offenders to justice?

It was not to be expected that the late British Ministry should have sought to punish the murderers of Uganda. The reports shew that they but too much favored the schemes and preparations which led to such scenes of blood. But we must think otherwise as regards the British statesmen now in power. They are a selection of able and large-minded men, haters of wrong and sticklers for right. Their action in so grave a matter will be anxiously looked for.

Will France be silent, so many of her children wronged and slain? The Republic claims to have *sentiment* for its guide. Let us see what this nobility of mind will do.