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UGUHA HEAD-DRESS.

Through the Dark Continent. BY HENRY M. STANLEY.

XV.

HAVING reached the magnificent Livingstone River, we resumed our journey to the sea. The men, women, and children joined in a grand chorus, When a native orator attempted, in a loud and graphic strain, a description of the joy he felt. How quickly we marched! What a stride, and

what verve there was in our movements ! Faster, my friends, faster! 800n we reached the Arab town of Nyangwe. Tippu-Tib, the Arab chief, welcomed me. After regarding him for ^a few minutes, I came to the conclusion that this Arab was one of the most remarkable men I had met. He was heat in his person, his clothes were of a spotless white, his fez-cap brand-new, his waist was encircled by a rich dowle, his dagger was splendid with silver filigree, and his tout ensemble was that of an Arab gentleman in very good circumstances. He was the Arab who

TORONTO, JULY 27, 1889.

escorted Cameron across the Lualaba. Naturally, therefore, there was no person whose evidence was more valuable than Tippu-Tib's. The information he gave me was sufficiently clear that the greatest problem of African geography was left untouched at the exact spot where Dr. Livingstone had felt himself unable to prosecute his travels, and whence he had retraced his steps to Ujiji, never to return. This was momentous and all-important news to the expedition. We had arrived at the critical point in our travels : our destinies now awaited my final decision.

But first I was anxious to know why Cameron had declined the journey. Sayid Mezrui said it was because he could not obtain canoes, and because the natives in the Mitamba, or forest, were exceedingly averse to strangers. Tippu-Tib averred also that Cameron's men decidedly opposed following the river, as no one knew whither it went.

"In the same way, I am told, the old man, Daoud Liviston" (David Livingstone) "was prevented from going. The old man tried hard to persuade the Arabs to lend him canoes, but they refused, upon the ground that they would be rushing to death."

been consulting with his friends and relatives, and that they were opposed to his adventuring upon such a terrible journey; but that, as he did not wish to see me disappointed in my prospects, he had resolved to accompany me a distance of sixty camps, each camp to be four hours' march from the other, for the sum of five thousand dollars.

"There is no hurry about it," said I. "You may change your mind, and I may change mine. We will both take twenty-four hours to consider it. To-morrow night the agreement shall be drawn up ready for our seals, or else you will be told that I am unable to agree to your conditions."

The truth was, that I had opened negotiations without having consulted my people; and, as our conversation had been private, it remained for me to ascertain the opinion of Frank before my next encounter with Tippu-Tib.

"Now, Frank, my son," I said, "sit down. I am about to have a long and serious chat with you. Life and death-yours as well as mine, and those of all the expedition-hang on the decision I make to night.

"There is, no doubt, some truth in what the Arabs say about the ferocity of these natives be-Next day, Tippu-Tib informed me that he had fore us. Livingstone, after fifteen thousand miles



IN COUNSEL AT UJIJI.

of travel, and a lifetime of experience among Africans, would nothave yielded the brave. struggle without strong reasons; Cameron, with his forty-five Snider rifles, would not have turned away from such a brilliant field if he had not sincerely thought that they were insufficient to resist the persistent attacks of countless thousands of wild men. But, while we grant that there may be a modicum of truth in what the Arabs say, it is their ignorant, superstitious nature, to exaggerate what they have seen. A score of times have we proved them wrong.