

MEMORANDA.

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part of the natives, since it looked so surprisingly new. Yet the Maria Theresa dollar is the only available one in all this part of the dark continent. The conquering tour of this coin was achieved with remarkable rapidity.

Of other metals which are used in coinage in civilized lands, copper is used to quite an extent in Africa. The cannibalistic Niam-Niam especially like the English bar copper of one inch diameter. Expeditions to the territory of the Niam-Niam, therefore, have generally been forced to include several copper-smiths, and these men, as soon as the Niam-Niam land was reached, applied themselves to transforming the bars of copper into rings of sizes varying from that of a bracelet to that of a tiny finger-ring. And so great is the love of the Niam-Niam for these baubles that even one of the small copper finger-rings (value less than a cent)

WOULD PURCHASE A FAT CHICKEN

of them.

Iron, too, is made use of in this way among the Africans. As it goes into trade in stick form, there were up to recently such expressions as a "stick of rum," meaning the equivalent of a stick of iron in rum—generally about a gallon; "a stick of tobacco," equivalent to twenty rolls of the weed—quite common in central parts of Africa. At the mouth of the Niger, for instance, in Bouny, the iron is wrought into horseshoe-like form and then called igbi, or manilla. Another form is given to this iron money in the territory watered by the tributaries of the White Nile.

The Bongo people have an iron currency having the shape of a spade, with a handle and an anchor-like end to it. This they call loggo colluti. The largest iron coin circulating here are of the size and shape of a large plate, being one foot in diameter. These treasures are piled up in the warerooms of native merchants just as silver or gold bars in other lands. For ten iron plates of two pounds weight each the love-lorne

BONGO SWAIN BUYES HIS ANAMORATA OF
HER PAPA.

When he can't get ten of such iron plates he has to be satisfied with an elderly beauty.

Besides metals salt is a medium of exchange in Africa. This is especially the case in Abyssinia and in certain districts in northern Africa. The blocks of salt, called amole, come from