

## World of Missions.

### Naive Population in Africa.

In spite of the strong stream of European immigrants that flows steadily into South Africa, the blacks are increasing faster than the whites. The Fingoes in the Transkei are not only prosperous, but probably ten times as numerous as they were 60 years ago. The Zulus, in Natal, have doubled their numbers in 20 years. In 30 years the Basutos have quadrupled, overflowing the Orange Free State and Cape Colony. The Bechuanas are probably 4 times as numerous to day as when Dr. Livingstone was a missionary among them. Lying out at the touch of civilization! Why, the natives of South Africa were never so thoroughly alive. And this vitality of the natives may mean the permanent enrichment of the empire, if we are wise enough to use it. For the native is absolutely indispensable to the development of South African industry, whether it be mines or manufactures, husbandry or handicrafts. The Cornish miner who goes to work at Kimberly or Johannesburg, does not wield the hammer and turn the drill as he did at home. In the new land, he finds a new environment, and discovers that he can do very much more by directing the labors of the two or three, or half-a-dozen natives that are allotted to him. And the same holds true, to some extent, of all the skilled labor that England sends us. The brain of South African industry is at present covered with a white skin, and there is no immediate prospect of a change. *L. M. S. Chronicle.*

### Transformations in Samoa.

What a transformation! Fifty years ago wild huntsman and fishers, now active planters, zealous artisans; fifty years ago dreaded cannibals, now teachers and preachers of faith and love. Fifty years, indeed, are for the individual man a long time, but for a whole people they are a small section of its history. This section of Samoan history begins with a brilliant initial, the solemnly celebrated advent of John Williams, and concludes with the conversion of the little people, and its passing over into German colonial government, which there is hope will prove a genuine blessing for the island tribe.

Herr von Bulow, however, attacks not only the missionaries but also their work, because, forsooth, superstition, ancestor-worship, drunkenness, and immorality, are still to be found in the islands. That the Samoans are far from having become perfect Christians, is assuredly true. Human weakness is so deeply bred in the flesh that even we Germans, who look back upon a Christian development of thirteen centuries, can only bethink ourselves with sadness of our own imperfection. Yes, there are yet weak men enough in Samoa, among the aboriginal islanders, as well as among the white settlers. Many of these latter exercise an evil influence over the former, and therefore for the the primeval population of Samoa it is much to be wished that all the white emigrants were Christians faithful to their creed in word and act.—*Zeitschrift für Missionskunde.*

### Cannibalism in the New Hebrides.

Rev. F. J. Paton says that in the New Hebrides every island which is not Christian is yet cannibal, and genuine fondness is displayed for human flesh. The grossest at

times are kindly disposed toward him and hospitable. Once, after a night in a certain village, the chief gave him a spear which had been handed down for generations, and also a beautifully carved and well polished spoon. He soon found that the spoon had been used only at cannibal feasts to dig out of the cooked bodies the choice portions of meat! Hence the polish!

### The Railway to Uganda.

The annual report on the progress of the Uganda railway up to March 31st last, was published in August. A year previously the permanent alignment had been marked out to the 418th mile; and during the year under review the survey of the remaining 164 miles was completed, while earthworks (except on a portion, 12 miles long, of the Kikuyu incline) were made ready for the rails up to mile 420, an advance of 108 miles. During April and May, 1899, the plate-laying was carried rapidly from mile 279 to Nairobi (mile 326), which is to be the headquarters of the railway. Here a month was spent in laying sidings and transferring materials for workshops etc., and it was not till October that the rails reached the top of the Kikuyu Escarpment at mile 362. At this point it had been arranged to provide temporary expedients for lowering materials of all kinds, as well as locomotives and rolling-stock, down the slope; but owing to the war in South Africa, long delays arose in sending out of machinery, and the inclines were not completed till May of last year. On October 30th the "rail-head" had reached to 452 miles from the coast, while advance gangs were working up to the 490 mile.

### Moslems Can be Reached.

The Holy Spirit can turn the hearts of the Mohammedan Hausas toward Christ, as well as the hearts of the heathen Batoro, and He will if we ask with faith. Yes, and why not also the hearts of the Mohammedans in Egypt and Palestine and Persia? Indeed He is doing it. We are warned to exercise great circumspection in what we write. The adversaries of the Gospel are ever watchful to find a pretext for opposition. We have seen an Arabic translation, printed in Egypt, of Lord Salisbury's speech relating to missionary work in Mohammedan lands, spoken at the S. P. G. Bicentenary meeting, and we can imagine the use to which it will be put in the valley of the Nile. In Palestine and Persia our missionaries have to be ever on their guard lest occasion should be given for hindering the work. But God does give signs of His power and answers to His people's prayers. Let us therefore pray on, pray always, and not faint. The parched land shall become a pool and the thirsty land springs of water.—*C. M. S. Gleaner.*

"How is it that you have such splendid sheep?" was once asked of a farmer. "Because I look after the lambs," was the reply. He who makes a child happy is the most worthy follower of Him who bade us become as children if we would enter His kingdom.

John Ruskin tells us that in some conditions of mind it is well to turn our thoughts from the majestic mountains to the flowers that find their homes upon their sides and summits. To live in a rarified atmosphere is not wholesome. It is better once in a while to come down to the valley where men and things struggle with that which is ordinary.

## A Story From Life.

### Showing How Suffering Can be Overcome.

**A Mill Operator Who Suffered From Kidney Trouble Spent Many Dollars In Useless Experiments to Restore His Health—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Restored Promptly and Effectively.**

Good health is the chief requisite to happiness, low spirits, moroseness and irritability can in most cases be traced to ill health, and in not a few instances are direct symptoms of kidney trouble. These, added to the severe pains in the back which accompany the disease, make the life of the sufferer one of abject misery. One such sufferer was Mr. Darius Dean, of Jordan, Ont. Mr. Dean in an interview with a reporter recently gave his experience as follows:—"I am a saw and grist mill operator, and naturally a strong man; but the life of a miller is a hard one, with long hours of labor and frequent exposure. Some years ago as the result of this exposure I was afflicted with kidney trouble, and although I spent much money in various remedies I did not find a cure until I was persuaded to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. In the autumn of 1898 the trouble began to assume an aggravated form. I suffered from most severe pains in the back, and a feeling of drowsiness, and yet so severe was the pain that many a night I scarcely closed my eyes. My appetite was poor, I suffered from headaches, lost flesh, was miserable and wholly unfit for work. It was while in this condition that I was advised to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and procured three boxes. Before I had finished the third box I felt much better, and I then procured a half dozen boxes more. I used all these, but before they were all gone I felt that my health was fully restored. In the interval since then I have had just one slight return of the trouble, and Dr. Williams' Pink Pills soon drove this out, and my health since has been the very best. I have gained much in weight, eat and sleep well and consider myself as healthy a person as is in the county; and the credit for this I feel is entirely due to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills increase the supply and the richness of the blood, and in this way cure physical and functional weaknesses. Most other medicines simply act upon the symptoms of the disease, hence when the medicine is discontinued the patient is soon as wretched as ever. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills go directly to the root of the trouble and cure to stay cured. Hence it is unwise to waste money in experiments with other medicine. These pills are sold by all dealers or will be sent postpaid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

The Montreal Witness tells how the late Earl Cairns, when he was ten years old, heard a Belfast minister say in his sermon, "God claims you." These words stuck to the boy and kept echoing in his soul. "God claims you," he said to himself, "and He has a good right to claim me. He made me, and He cares for me; and He has sent His Son to die for me." And he resolved to yield to God at once. His motto to the end was "God claims me."