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HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

No. 102.—WESTERN EQUATORIAL AFRICA.

There is no sadder page in missionary history than the short and simple record of the episcopate of Bishop Hill, the successor of Bishop Crowther in Western Equatorial Africa. On St. Peter's Day, June 29th, 1893, his consecration, together with that of his two native assistants, took place in St. Paul's Cathedral, at the same time that Bishop Sheepshanks was consecrated to the see of Norwich. Five months after his consecration—months spent in

visiting all parts of England "to call forth in every place the prayerful sympathy of the Lord's people," says the C.M.S. report—Bishop Hill, accompanied by a large party of recruits for Sierra Leone, Yoruba, and the Niger, sailed on November 22nd, and arrived at Lagos on December 13, 1893. On Christmas eve he held a confirmation service, and on Christmas morning and again on Sunday morning he preached at Christ Church. On January 1st he became ill with fever, and on the afternoon of January 5th he died. Mrs. Hill, who took the fever on the same day as her husband, suffered with him during the four days, and then, just after midnight on the morning of the feast of the Epiphany, "followed him to the presence of their Redeemer after an interval of only a few hours."

After such an experience as this, one would suppose that it would be hard to find ready at hand a man with faith and courage strong enough at once to take up the work which was beset by such terrible danger. But two weeks afterwards the Rev. Herbert Tugwell, a missionary in the Yoruba territory, had accepted the offer of the Archbishop of Canterbury to be the successor of Bishop Hill; and he was con-

secrated on March 4th, 1894, in Lambeth Palace Chapel. The new Bishop graduated from Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, in 1880, and was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Chichester in the same year. In 1889 he was accepted by the C.M.S. as a missionary and sent to Lagos, where he has been ever since. Bishop Tugwell is a young man, and has apparently become thoroughly acclimatized in West Africa.

On succeeding pages will be found portraits of the two native missionary bishops, Dr. Oluwole and Dr. Phillips.



THE RIGHT REV. HERBERT TUGWELL, M.A.,
Bishop in Western Equatorial Africa.

Bishop Oluwole was born at Abeokuta. His parents had been converted to Christianity a few years before his birth, and as soon as he was old enough they sent him to the mission school. In 1865 he entered the Training Institution for Teachers, under the charge of the Rev. J. A. Maser. On account of the serious outbreak against the missionaries in Abeokuta this institution was, in 1867, transferred to Lagos. Here in 1871 Mr. Oluwole was promoted to the post of tutor. Later on he studied at the Fourah Bay College in Sierra Leone, and while there obtained the Durham degree of B.A., after which he paid a visit to England. He returned to Lagos as

Principal of the Grammar School, in which capacity he has labored since September, 1879. The work of the school has greatly prospered in his hands. It is self-supporting, and exercises a steady influence for good. Those who were present at the last anniversary meeting at Exeter Hall will remember how Mr. Oluwole pleaded the needs of his country, and how, finding there were only eight students from the Church Missionary College ready to go out this year, he desired to bespeak them all for the Yoruba mission! As assistant-bishop he will have special charge of the Lagos Church Mis-