

—It is related that in the dead of winter, with piercing winds blowing fiercely from the north, on a wheelbarrow a blind woman was transported 470 miles by her husband and another man that she might be taught to read from raised letters, and so be fitted for work as teacher in connection with the English Baptist mission !!

### AFRICA.

—The life and work of the late Bishop Crowther, the first African bishop of the Church of England, will soon be commemorated in Sierra Leone by the erection of a Crowther Memorial Church.

—Rev. T. J. Marshall, a native minister, is engaged upon a translation of the Bible into the language of Dahomey. The New Testament and the Psalms are already finished.

—Nyangandi lives in West Africa, near the Ogowe River. She was going away from the missionary's house on Saturday afternoon, where she had been with bunches of plantains to sell, when his wife said: "Now, you must not forget that you promised to come tomorrow to church." "Yes," the girl replied, "I will surely come, if I am alive." But the next morning she found somebody had stolen her canoe, and no one would lend her one to go to church in. But she had promised to go, and so she felt that she must. She swam all the way! The current was swift, the water deep, and the river fully a third of a mile wide; but by swimming diagonally she succeeded in crossing.

—Rev. George Grenfell, Baptist missionary, while acting lately as frontier commissioner in the interests of the Congo State, travelled more than 1000 miles on a bull's back, his wife using the same means of transport. They have found oxen in this respect so serviceable, that they are taking four back

to the Congo for use in the service of the mission.

—The white ant is a pest almost beyond conception. In Africa their houses are dome-shaped mounds, often 18 feet high. These insects erect pyramids one thousand times higher than themselves! In their travels the ants so conceal their approach that their presence is not suspected until the damage is done. They usually tunnel into any object which they attack, often reducing it to a mere shell. In this way they have been known to ascend within the leg of a table, devour the contents of a box upon it, and descend through a tunnel bored in another leg, in one night.

—One of the problems confronting the Germans in East Central Africa, as a result of their progressive colonization policy, is what to do with the liberated slaves. At first, after liberating expeditions, these were distributed among the mission stations; but within the past year or two the number has increased considerably, and the difficulty of providing for them grows proportionately. The missionaries, who were thus heavily taxed, put in a claim for State aid, and were granted a yearly sum in support of each child. But this does not solve the problem of what is to become of the adult ex-slaves. In his report last year the imperial governor said it was impossible to make them support themselves, as they are for the most part physically weak, and had never learned and did not desire to work.

—The Berlin Society has gathered 11,456 communicants in South and East Africa. The Rhenish Society has completed a half century of work in Namaland, and the results appear in 10 stations, 2000 communicants, and 5000 native Christians.

—Among the population of Cape Town are found 17,000 Malays. Two English women are laboring in their behalf, and 6 more are needed.