

just share of a Fund which was intended for all, and shall tend best to promote a fair and generous rivalry between them, and to diffuse more widely the benefits of Academic instruction throughout the land.

For the cause, therefore, of a higher education, as well as in justice to similar Institutions, which, as yet comparatively unaided, have done much for the advancement of learning as the enormously endowed University College of Toronto or more,—let all unite in applying by petition on the subject without delay to the present Session of Parliament, assured that, unless a legislative enactment is to be nullified, and set at naught with impunity, the Legislature will take immediate and effectual measures for remedying the evils of which the people of Canada have just reason to complain, and for finally settling this important question in a wise and equitable manner.

SAD NEWS FROM CENTRAL AFRICA.

The following letter reached the London Mission House in Bloomfield-street in December:—

“Keruman, (S. A.) 12th Nov., 1860.

“My dear Brother,—It is only four days since I forwarded a letter to you, which contained all the information which had then reached us respecting the Makololo brethren. It was favourable; but, alas! alas! it was only to lift us up that we might be plunged into the depths of sorrow. Alas! Helmore, the amiable, the unwearied and apostolic Helmore, and his devoted wife are no more inhabitants of this lower world. This distressing intelligence has just reached us by one of our people, who had been on an elephant hunt as far as the Victoria Falls on the Zambese. He there met with some people from Linyanti, who, when asked respecting the welfare of the missionaries, replied, in the phraseology of the country, that they were all dead with the fever; and, commencing with the name of the first victim, said Helmore died, then his wife, next two of his children, then the suckling of Mrs. Price; the next was Malatsi, a man of this station, Mr. Price's waggon-driver, the next, Tabe of Lekalong, who had accompanied Mr. Helmore to render him what assistance he could; and the last that seems to have died was a servant of the Bakhata tribe. The son of Tabe was in a dying state, and not affording the slightest hope of recovery. Joseph Aaron, our informant, seeing that these Makololo were perfectly familiar with the painful events which had transpired, they having just come from the spot, made further inquiries about the survivors. As it appeared but too evident that others would be cut down if the whole party itself were not swept off by fever, Sekeletu requested Mr. Price to depart as soon as possible. The want of men and the want of oxen, many of which were said to have been killed by the “fly,” obliged him to retrace his sorrowful steps with only two waggons, leaving the other two at Linyanti. The son of Tabe was placed in one of the waggons, and who could scarcely be said to live. Since then nothing has been heard of the party. Our informants returned by a more easterly course, and felt sure of falling in with them at the Bamangwato, but they had heard nothing of them. It would also appear from the statements of the Makololo that they, and especially their Chief, were a good deal soured on account of the non-appearance of either Dr. Livingstone or any of their men who had accompanied him, so that, when Sekeletu was requested by Mr. Price to give guides to lead and assist the afflicted party through the fly country, he refused, adding: “Let those who brought you guide you back.” From his utter

ignorance of distance and localities he murmured because Livingstone had not sent men to conduct the missionaries and tell the Makololo when he should come himself. It was rather unfortunate that this state of feeling existed when they arrived. He (Sekeletu), however, appears to have been otherwise anxious for their safety, and assisted them with oxen. Just 10 days after the relation of these events to Joseph Aaron, Dr. Livingstone arrived at the Victoria Falls, accompanied by his brother and Dr. Kirk. They had with them two donkeys, which they used for luggage. They were accompanied by a number of the Makololo, who went down with the Dr. to Tete. These, however, were much reduced in number; for, besides those who died, some preferred remaining with the tribes near Tete to returning to their own country. Dr. Livingstone was, as well might be expected, deeply affected with the news of the death of so many of the mission party, and regretted much that he had not been able to come at an earlier period, as he possessed a very efficacious remedy for the fever.

It is now 21 years since Mr. Helmore entered the mission-field. His life has been one of untiring zeal and devotedness to the spiritual and temporal welfare of the Bechuanas. It has been one of labour, cheerfully performed from a sense of duty, and from witnessing the happiest results in the conversion of many to the faith of the Gospel. In the commencement of his career he had his faith repeatedly put to the test, but these trials he meekly bore with his characteristic patience and firmness, while his kind and affectionate disposition commanded the respect of all who had any intercourse with him. He was greatly beloved by the people of his charge, who grieved over his departure with a depth of filial feeling alike honourable to both. Tabe, who with his son accommodated him in his own waggon, was a man of kindred spirit. He was an experienced Christian and a native teacher. When asked by an individual who met him on the journey as to what could induce him to visit such a sickly country, his reply was—“Surely I can go where Mr. Helmore goes.” Of course he expected to return to his family and his people, but his Heavenly Master has ordered it otherwise, and he has followed his Teacher to the Paradise of God.

“With kind regards to the directors,

“I am yours, sorrowing,

“ROBERT MOFFATT.”

“The Rev. Dr. Tidman, Foreign Secretary.”

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