

Notices.

DR. DAVID LIVINGSTONE.

Dr. David Livingstone was born in Lanark, Scotland, and worked in a cotton factory in his youth; but, being distinguished for ability, piety and enterprise, he secured a medical education for the missionary work in connection with the London Missionary Society. He was sent to South Africa, where he became intimate with the celebrated Missionary, Robert Moffat, and married his daughter. He labored as a missionary for a number of years among the native tribes of the interior; and, in one of his exploring expeditions, discovered the great Lake Ngami—a discovery which gave him a world-wide celebrity. He returned to Britain and published a very interesting book, giving the account of his missionary life, of the Kafir and other tribes, and of his geographical discoveries. On his return to Africa he undertook a new exploring expedition, which resulted in the discovery of the great River Zambesi and the stupendous Victoria Falls, as well as much valuable information respecting Central Africa; and his book, describing these discoveries, raised him to the very highest rank of modern travellers. The great universities of England formed a society to utilize his discoveries by sending him out again with a missionary bishop and a staff of agriculturists and mechanics to found a settlement on the Zambesi. This worthy effort was frustrated partly by the jealousy of the Portuguese, who claim that

country, partly by the cupidity and treachery of the natives, partly by the climate, and partly by the mismanagement of the Colonists. The question which then excited the public attention most was the exploration of the great lakes lying between the Zambesi and the Nile, which had been known to the ancients, and were again partly discovered by Livingstone and partly by Burton, Speke, Baker and others; and to explore these Lakes, and, if possible, open them to English commerce and missions, was the object of Dr. Livingstone's last expedition. This has been going on for several years with very rare letters from him—the latest dated in August last. Reports, indeed, of his having been put to death as a wizard have been received; but they are not credited, and, as a longer time has more than once elapsed before without hearing from him, it is hoped that he will yet reach the Coast in safety, bringing much precious information. At the date of his last letter, however, he had been deserted by all his followers and robbed of nearly all his outfit, so that his safety is a matter of deep anxiety.

The likenesses of the four most celebrated ministers of the Crown, which form our frontispiece, will please both those who are familiar with their faces and those to whom this is the first introduction to the countenances of men whose names are so familiar. We hope to continue the series for a month or two with likenesses of some of the more prominent opposition and independent members.

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