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# HOW SIR SAMUEL BAKER FILLED IN A MAP GREAT DISCOVERY OF LAKE ALBERT NYANZA, WHICH SOLVED NILE PUZZLE OF THE CENTURIES

From Public Opinion.

The jubilee of one of the most notable feats of African exploration, the discovery of the Albert Nyanza by Sir Samuel and Lady Baker, took place recently.

"There is no part of the world in which such remarkable changes have taken place during the last half century as in the African continent. Fifty years ago Central Africa was a land of mystery," says the Morning Post, "and was still in a state of primitive savagery."

**Finding the Albert Nyanza.**  
"The discovery by Sir Samuel Baker and Lady Baker, his wife, of the lake, which we now know as the Albert Nyanza, finally set at rest problems in connection with the geography of the Nile valley which had puzzled mankind ever since the days of Herodotus."

"The work of exploration in the long, strangely-neglected Dark Continent now goes on with so much energy that the labors of the men who were early in the field—Livingstone, Speke, Grant, Burton, and Baker—are apt to be, if not forgotten, somewhat overlooked."

**Making Maps—Old Style.**  
"It is due to the example set by these remarkable men that so much has been done to remove the reproach wittily satirized by Dean Swift:

"So geographers, in Afric maps,  
With savage pictures fill their gaps.  
And o'er uninhabitable downs,  
Place elephants for want of towns."

"Sir Samuel Baker unhappily is no longer with us. He died twenty years ago, but his indomitable helpmeet, who was ever ready to share with him the many hardships and sufferings which he underwent, is still living a life of dignified ease and retirement in the beautiful English home, Sandford Orleigh, which Sir Samuel purchased 25 years ago."

**The Explorer's Wife.**  
"It is situated near the little town of Newton Abbot, and from the wooded grounds one gets lovely glimpses of some most characteristic Devonshire scenery, Dartmoor and the noble Teign River, which to the observer from a distance presents all the appearance of a lake. A representative of the Morning Post had the pleasure of calling on Lady Baker a day or two ago, and of congratulating her on having lived to celebrate the jubilee of the great discovery, an event surely unprecedented in connection with geographical discovery."

In spite of the terrible experiences which she encountered in her earlier days in the course of her wanderings, it is remarkable how lightly her age sits on her, for though she is well past three score and ten, she has not a gray hair, and is as alert as ever."

Lady Baker is a Hungarian by birth—her maiden name was Florence von Süss—and she still preserves just a trace of her native accent, but has a perfect command of our language. As she says, she was the first white woman, as Sir Samuel was the first white man, to set foot in the region of the Albert Nyanza.

"Who can say how much the intrepid explorer owed to the devoted wife who stuck to him through all the vicissitudes of a most dangerous life? Hanging on the wall of one of the rooms is his portrait in marching costume, a sort of Norfolk suit, made of a coarse native cotton fabric, and it was made the dismal fever-haunted swamps in which so much of their life was passed."

"In one respect Sandford Orleigh is unique, and that is in the wondrous collection it contains of trophies of the chase, for a mightier hunter than Sir Samuel surely never existed. All of them, or nearly all, have some narrow connection with the death of some comrade or helper whom he avenged."

**Adventurous Travels.**  
"It was in 1861 that Sir Samuel set out on the expedition which resulted in the great discovery of which we are now celebrating the jubilee. Without any official aid or recognition whatsoever, he set out to discover the source of the Nile, with the hope of meeting the East African expedition under Captains Speke and Grant. As the Nile source had defied all previous explorers he kept his intentions to himself, although he had sufficient self-confidence to forecast his future success. The first year he was in Egypt he was occupied in exploring all the Nile tributaries from Abyssinia, and then he descended the banks of the Blue Nile to Khartum. He started from Khartum with a powerful force in three vessels, with 29 transport animals, including horses, camels, and asses."

"All went well as far as the Bah-el-Ghazal junction, but here the difficulties of the White Nile began to be apparent. The entire country was a dead flat, a world of interminable marsh, overgrown with high reeds and papyrus rush. Through this desolate region the river wound, no wind was favorable, owing to the frequent bends, and the current being adverse, the men had to tow the boats night and day through water and rushes, exhausted with hopeless labor and maddened by clouds of mosquitoes. There was worse to come as they very soon found."

"Meanwhile, however, the party arrived at Gondokoro, where Sir Samuel came across those gallant explorers, Speke and Grant, a meeting as memorable as that which took place between Livingstone and Stanley. Pushing along, he had to encounter the hostility of natives and

others, and many a time it was only his grim determination and pluck at a crisis that saved himself and the members of his party from destruction. The worst of it was that he could not rely on his own men, and no wonder, for they were recruited from among a people who lived by cattle-stealing, slave-hunting and murder. Then his dealings with native chiefs involved him in all sorts of difficulties. War was going on between some of them, and he was canvassed by each combatant for his support. Other chiefs detained him on his way with the object of extorting as much as they could from him, chiefly arms and ammunition. All this the gallant leader could face with calm, serene courage, but there was one stealthy foe which even he had cause to dread, and that was fever."

**The Great Discovery.**  
"After eighteen days' journey from M'rooli the long-wished-for lake was announced by the guide. Suddenly, on reaching some rising ground, Sir Samuel saw the great reservoir of the Nile before him. Weak and exhausted with more than twelve months' anxiety, toil, and sickness, he tottered down a steep and zigzag path and in about two hours he reached the shore. The waves were rolling on a beach of sand, and as he drank the water and bathed his face he named this great basin of the Nile, subject to the permission of Queen Victoria, the Albert Nyanza, in memory of the Prince Consort. This was at a place called Vacovia, whence the party proceeded in canoes to a point 25 miles beyond Magungo, and from here, after many and exciting adventures, he succeeded in getting back to civilization. On his return to England he was made the lion of a season, and honors fell on him in profusion."

"The account of the great journey of the explorer and his wife will remind the public of the dangers, difficulties and hardships which had to be faced by the adventurous spirits who first revealed the secrets of the continent to the civilized world," adds the Morning Post. "Now the resources of science and of capital are fast making travel in the heart of Africa almost as easy and comfortable as it is in Europe. Railways are being pushed inland from the coast in every direction."

"All the European powers are vying with each other in the opening up and development of their African possessions. In Nigeria a new line is being constructed through a rich and hitherto almost unknown region. A few days ago it was announced that in German East Africa with the capital of the colony on the Indian Ocean had been completed, and soon there will also be direct communication between this fine inland sea and the Atlantic, the Belgian Colonial Minister having recently informed the chamber that the Congo Railway will reach the lake within three months."

"The importance of all these enterprises can hardly be realized by anyone who has not seen Central Africa in its natural condition. Until railways are built the progress of trade and settlement is very slow. The only means of travelling or of sending goods from one point to another is the caravan of native porters. The men tramp slowly and painfully along rough paths, at one time

passing through stretches of swamp and fording rivers, at others pushing through dense forest or crossing rocky waterless stretches. No trader knows for certain when his goods will arrive or in what condition they will arrive, and the very length of the journey makes it impossible for him to look for a quick return on his capital."

## A JAPANESE WOMAN OWNS AND MANAGES BANK.

It is generally thought that women in Japan hold the same position as in other parts of the Orient, but nothing could be farther from the truth. Japanese women are neither slaves nor toys, and they are held in great respect."

It is true that Buddhism and the militarism of the feudal system took them out of public affairs, in which they were once very prominent, and secluded them in their homes; but the Japanese mother and wife have always been held in high honor."

Moreover, Japanese women can likewise share the business responsibilities of their country, a fact which is attested by the career of Mrs. Seno, the head of the Seno Bank of Tokio. Her husband was a prosperous merchant who resolved to establish a bank in his home town in the northern island of Hokkaido, but he died before his plans were put into execution. His wife determined to carry them out herself, but decided that a greater opportunity would be afforded for banking business in the city of Tokio."

She accordingly moved to the capital, bought a favorable site in the suburbs, placed her adopted son in a financial institution so that he might become familiar with the details of banking, and when he had proved himself capable, she took the management of the bank into her own hands. She has since then been a successful banker, and it has been declared a dividend of over 6 per cent."

**Directs Affairs of Bank.**  
Mrs. Seno, who is over seventy years of age, arrives in the president's office early every morning and supervises all transactions of the institution. She dresses very simply, is easily accessible, and has great influence over her subordinates. She is in every sense of the word the head of the institution."

In all matters affecting loans and investments she gives the final decision, and she is regarded as the most expert accountant in the institution. Her attitude towards her employees is one of

## KINSMAN OF KINGS MARRIED IN CITY HALL BASEMENT; BRIDE A DIVORCEE

Mr. Napoleon Bonaparte

Mrs. J. Napoleon Bonaparte

In a musty, dingy basement room in the New York City Hall with Aid. "Happy Jack" Riordan officiating, Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, great-grandnephew of Napoleon I., emperor of the French, was married to Mrs. Blanche Pierce Strebeigh. The bride is a recent divorcee. Bonaparte is the son of Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte and Caroline Appleton. He lives in Washington. On the marriage license he wrote, "No occupation."

# Penman's Underwear

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great kindness and consideration. She combines in a rare degree quickness of thought, promptness of action, and generosity of nature. She always travels third class. When she became a large shareholder in a railway she was presented with a first-class pass, but she still travelled third class. One of the railway officers remonstrated with her, and she replied that as part owner of the railway she felt that she was host rather than a guest, and that she would leave the first class cars for those who had tickets, and were often compelled to take seats in inferior cars for lack of accommodation."

She is a woman of many private charities. The first private subscriber to offer money to the authorities at the time of the war with Russia was Mrs. Seno. Her greatest delight is said to be spending her evenings with her grandchildren, telling them stories, hearing about their studies, and listening to violin music. Truly, a remarkable woman."

**FAMOUS SOCIETY LADY CAPTURED BY DERVISHES**

Mrs. Jackson Gouraud, of New York, Has Thrilling Experience in Africa.

Paris, March 31.—Mrs. Jackson Gouraud, of New York, returned to Paris this week after her search for the "quintessence of happiness" in a North African desert. She found perfect content there, but at the same time she came perilously near losing her life.

When she threaded her way across the sandy wastes it was also with the object of persuading some chiefs of the dervish tribes to come to Paris to figure in her great \$5,000 prize fete, but when she was several days beyond the reach of civilization her native convoy mutinied.

She steadfastly refused to pay them the extortionate sum they now demanded to proceed further, and they departed, leaving her alone with her native interpreter without protection from the semi-savage marauders.

Mrs. Gouraud next fell into the hands of a small band of which the chief was a powerful dervish named Saugo Tomo and was held a prisoner three days. She attributes her eventual liberation to a charm representing Buddha, which

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