

VII.—PROGRESS OF MISSIONS: MONTHLY BULLETIN.

Africa.—King Mwanga. Uganda is one of the most powerful of African kingdoms, and the conversion of its king to enlightened views, and his restoration to power by the aid of Christians whom he had so cruelly persecuted, are events of no small importance to the cause of missions and of civilization in Central Africa. From a cruel enemy he has become a warm friend, so that he now sends to the Protestant and Catholic missionaries south of Victoria Nyanza, begging them to return to their work in his kingdom. "You will be at liberty to do whatever you like," says he. "Do not imagine that Mwanga will become bad again. If you find me bad, then you may drive me from the throne; but I have given up my former ways, and I only wish now to follow your advice." It is also reported that the English have completed a treaty with Mwanga, by which Uganda comes under the suzerainty of Great Britain. Still another report affirms that Mwanga has been defeated and dethroned. It is impossible to tell at present how much truth there may be in these rumors.

—The Brussels Conference. The results will not be fully known till the Powers have severally ratified its action. The report of the Maritime Committee is a long document, and shows that all difficulties have been surmounted, and an agreement has been concluded on every point. If the recommendations of the committee be adopted, the repression of the slave trade by sea will be regulated henceforth by a complete code which respects the views of the various Powers, and at the same time forms a code, the efficacy of which cannot fail to make itself felt. According to *J. Afrique*, all trade caravans, before starting from the coast, must give a deposit to be forfeited if they trade in slaves. Arms are not to be taken into the interior; and even on the coast, guns and powder will be under close supervision. Slaves found in any caravan or ship will, if possible, be liberated and restored to their own country.

—A large quantity of intoxicants is being imported by the Germans into their East Africa territory. Great care is taken to prevent this being brought into the English sphere. The English are beginning to see the baleful effects of this trade in rum, and are restricting it. But they have not yet much to boast of. It should be said, however, to the great honor of the African Lakes Company, that they absolutely refuse to have any share in the sale of intoxicants to the natives. The British South African Company is also working in co-operation with the African Lakes Company.

—A German traveler, Dr. Meyer, has lately

made the first complete ascent of Mount Kilima Njaro, in East Africa, and finds it almost 20,000 feet high. A graphic account appears in the Royal Geographical Society's *Proceedings* for March. This is the mountain that was discovered by our missionary, Rebmann, on May 11, 1848; and his letter, announcing the discovery, was printed in the very first number of the *Church Missionary Intelligence*, 1849. The scientific world and the *Athenaeum* laughed at a poor missionary finding a snow-capped mountain under the Equator. But Rebmann merely replied, "I was brought up in Switzerland, and I ought to know a snow-clad peak when I see one." That discovery was the first event in the history of modern Central African exploration.

—The acceptance of the Italian Protectorate by the King of Abyssinia is reckoned as affording much hope for missionary work in the valley of the Nile.

—Along the valley of the Nile, from Alexandria to the first cataract, there are seventy mission stations, and seventy Sunday-schools, numbering 4,017 scholars, while the boarding and day schools have over 5,000 pupils.

—There are, in connection with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, nine churches in the Gaboon and Corisco Missions, with 1,090 communicants enrolled, of whom 163 were added during the past year.

—The London Missionary Society has received news from its missionaries at the south end of Lake Tanganyika. They have been in great peril from the Arabs, and in great straits for provisions and cloths for barter purposes and wages, but the worst is thought to be now over.

—Stanley says that during his recent African expedition he came across a new and interesting race of blacks, the Wanoumas, who are absolutely European in type, and very intelligent. They appeared to be descendants of the ancient Ethiopians, who settled in some way not known to him in Equatorial Africa. These people never intermingled with the aboriginal races, but kept their blood intact, considering the ordinary negroes beneath them.

—Rev. Alfred Robert Tucker has been consecrated at Westminster as Bishop of Equatorial Africa, to succeed Bishop Parker, deceased, who succeeded Bishop Hannington, who was assassinated.

—The Congo. Mr. Grenfell, of the English Baptist Society, reports that they are expecting to open a new station at Lulanga, some 150 miles northeast from Lokolele. The officials of the Congo Free State desire the Society to make much greater advances up the river to Ukoto, some 400 miles, where the Arabs have as yet obtained no foothold. It is evident that