

volunteered to go to inhospitable climes, naturally dreaded by others as being the very valley and shadow of death to white men; so our friend, on being pressed as to the unhealthiness of the climate, and the many difficulties to be encountered among the degraded heathen in Africa, and especially the difficulty of learning a language, not one word of which he knew, and to which even the Latin tongue seemed no key, heroically replied, "I will just put 'a stout heart to a stey brae,' " (to a steep hill.)

Again, being remonstrated with, by a personal mutual friend, in name of his father and sister, (both long since numbered with the dead, as his mother had previously been,) and entreated to return to his kindred and his home, he, like one who had "counted the cost," answered from London: "Tell them, it is not that I love my father and sister less, but I love Jesus more, and rejoice to go to preach to the poor perishing heathen the unsearchable riches of Christ."

This brave missionary, while glorying in carrying the cross amidst Africa's benighted sons, proclaiming a free and full salvation through the only begotten Son of the One true and living God, is not forgetful of the land of his birth, or of his early teacher, but keeps up through him a constant correspondence on the *great cause*. And perhaps a few sentences from a letter just received from Mr. Ross, may interest you in his work, and may win your prayers; and I have no doubt he, like myself, believes that while every believing prayer is heard and answered, that of little children, the lambs of Christ's flock, is peculiarly precious in the ear of the missionary's God, the Almighty Redeemer.

The letter is dated 6th April, 1856, and is from Lilcatlong, apparently not very far from Lottakoo, (marked in your map,) which was the first scene of Mr. Ross's labours.

"Here I have the largest congregation of Bechuanas (natives) in the country, between six and seven hundred, and a day-school of one hundred and thirty, two out-stations, as well as other two where I formerly laboured. Perhaps there are not less than one thousand three hundred inhabitants in the district six hundred and six church members, and five schools with about three hundred and thirty scholars. I preach twice every Lord's day, lecture on Wednesday afternoon, teach in the large school every week day except Saturday, visit the sick and the dying, and itinerate to the out-stations as often as possible. But beside the spiritual exercises among so many, there is an immense amount of manual labour to be superintended, and to