

linguistic expedition, returned during the year 1895. He first visited Hausa colonies in Tripoli and Tunis. Then by the rivers Niger and Benue he reached Kano, the commercial centre of Hausa land. The result was 3000 new words for a dictionary, materials for a Hausa grammar, and native manuscripts containing history and historical and religious songs. The Hausa, who occupy the central Soudan, northeast of the Niger, are an intelligent people, a black race, but not of pure negro blood, a people of splendid physique, whose manufactures are known all over Northern Africa. They were, if their history is correct, at the time of the Norman conquest of England more civilized than ourselves.

—Dr. W. H. Leslie, of the Baptist Missionary Union, writes thus of his work on the Congo: "This work is not child's play with over 700 church-members, 2 or 3 outside churches, 30 native evangelists and teachers, a training school that is continually preparing more, 600 or 700 children in the schools, 200 in our station schools, 1500 patients a month to doctor, with building, printing, etc. Farther and wider is the circle of the Gospel light extending from our station. Faster than we can train them come the calls for preachers and teachers. The station here is like an oasis in a great desert the cool waters of which, encroaching upon the waste, change it from a wilderness of sin into a veritable garden of the Lord."

—Karl Blind closes his article on "Problems of the Transvaal" in the April *North American Review* with these words: "Switzerland, with a population of barely 3,000,000, surrounded by three great monarchies and a republic, possessing enormous military strength, might be torn to pieces by them to-morrow if her existence were not placed under international guarantee. To strike out Switzerland

from the book of independent nations would be a crime at which freemen all over the world would stand aghast. Now look at a map of Africa, and see what enormous extent of territory already belongs to England—most of it acquired by her since the last twenty years. The South African Republic and the Orange Free State are, in comparison with that territory, mere specks. They are surrounded by and englobed in those colossal English possessions. They constitute an African Switzerland. Shall free and powerful England be the means of annihilating them? It would be a dark and indelible blot upon her escutcheon; and all that can be done to hinder the perpetuation of so shameful a crime will be a service to right, to justice, and to England's own freedom and fame."

—The Zambesi Industrial Mission has purchased 50,000 acres with which to sustain a great evangelizing work.

ISLANDS OF THE SEA.

—We give the following extracts from a letter by a missionary's wife in Madagascar: "I have come to the capital to attend the first public Protestant service ever held in Madagascar in the French language. Two pastors of the Reformed Church of France, both truly earnest and consecrated men, reached Antananarivo three weeks ago. Their names are M. Lauga, of Rheims, and M. Krüger, of Paris, who is tutor at the training institution of the Paris Missionary Society. M. Krüger has been laid aside with fever, and it is M. Lauga who has arranged everything for this French service, which is to be held regularly every Sunday morning. There was a difficulty about hymns, no French hymn-books having yet arrived, and also about a choir to lead the singing. The hymns were taken from a solitary copy of the McAll hymnal which had found its way into