

Africa, and hemmed in on each side with dense jungle, any package six feet broad could by no means be conveyed along it. It was, therefore, necessary that each of the four sections should be subdivided, by which means I should obtain eight portable sections, each three feet wide. Mr. Ferris, with the aid given by the young Pococks, furnished me within two weeks with the newly-modelled *Lady Alice*.

The pride which the young Pococks and Frederick Barker entertained in respect to their new duties, in the new and novel career of adventure now opening before them, did not seem to damp that honourable love of country which every Englishman abroad exhibits, and his determination to gratify it if he can.

They, a few days before our departure, formed themselves into a deputation, and Frank, who was spokesman, surprised me with the following request:—

"My brother, Fred Barker, and myself, sir, have been emboldened to ask you a favour, which no doubt you will think strange and wrong. But we cannot forget, wherever we go, that we are Englishmen, and we should like to be permitted to take something with us that will remind us of who we are, and be a comfort to us even in the darkest hours of trouble, perhaps, even encourage us to perform our duties better. We have come to ask you, sir, if we may be permitted to make a small British flag to hoist above our tent, and over our canoe on the lakes."

"My dear fellow," I replied, "you surprise me by imagining for one moment that I could possibly refuse you."

"Thank you kindly, sir. You may rest assured that we have entered your service with the intention to remember what my old father and our friends strictly enjoined us to do, which was to stick to you through thick and thin."

The young Englishmen were observed soon afterwards busy sewing a tiny flag, about eighteen inches square. While they were occupied in the task they were very much interested, and when it was finished, though it was only the size of a lady's handkerchief, they manifested much delight.

One of the richest merchants in Zanzibar is Tarya Topan—a self-made man of Hindostan, singularly honest and just; a devout Moslem, yet liberal in his ideas; a sharp business man, yet charitable. I made Tarya's acquaintance in 1871, and the just manner in which he then dealt by me caused me now to proceed to him again for the same purpose as formerly, viz., to sell me cloth, cottons, and kanikis, at reasonable prices, and accept my bills on Mr. Levy, of the *Daily Telegraph*.

The total weight of goods, cloth, beads, wire, stores, medicine, bedding, clothes, tents, ammunition, boat oars, rudder and thwarts, instruments and stationery, photographic apparatus, dry plates, and miscellaneous articles too numerous to mention, weighed a little over 18,000 pounds, or rather more than eight tons, divided as nearly as possible into loads weighing 60 pounds each, and requiring, therefore, the carrying capacity of 300 men. The loads were made more than usually light, in order that we might travel with celerity, and not fatigue the people.

Two hundred and thirty men affixed their marks opposite their names before the American Consul, for wages varying from two to ten dollars per month, and rations, according to their capacity, strength, and intelligence, with the understanding that they were to serve for two years, or until such time as their services should be no longer required in Africa, and were to perform their duties cheerfully and promptly. On the day of "signing" the

contract, each adult received an advance of \$20, or four months' pay, and each youth \$10, or four months' pay. Ration money was also paid them from the time of first enlistment, at the rate of \$1 per week, up to the day we left the coast. The entire amount disbursed in cash for advances of pay and rations at Zanzibar and Bagamoya was \$6,260, or nearly £1,300.

The obligations, however, were not all on one side. I was compelled to bind myself to them, on the word of an "honourable white-man," to observe the following conditions as to conduct towards them:—

1st. That I should treat them kindly and be patient with them.

2nd. That in case of sickness I should dose them with proper medicine, and see them nourished with the best the country afforded.

3rd. That in cases of disagreement between man and man, I should judge justly, and honestly, and impartially.

4th. That I should act like a "father and mother" to them, and to the best of my ability resist all violence offered to them, by "savage natives, and roving and lawless banditti."

They also promised, upon the above conditions being fulfilled, that they would do their duty like men, would honour and respect my instructions, giving me their united support, and endeavouring to the best of their ability to be faithful servants, and would never desert me in the hour of need. In short, that they would behave like good and loyal children, and "may the blessing of God," said they, "be upon us."

How we kept this bond of mutual trust and forbearance, and adhered to each other in the hours of sore trouble and distress, faithfully performing our duties to one another; how we encouraged and sustained, cheered and assisted one another, and in all the services and good offices due from man to man, and comrade to comrade, from chief to servants, and from servants to chief, how we kept our plighted word of promise, will be best seen in the following pages, which record the strange and eventful story of our journeys.

The fleet of six Arab vessels which were to bear us away to the west across the Zanzibar Sea, were at last brought to anchor a few yards from the wharf of the American consulate. The day of farewell calls had passed, and ceremoniously we had bidden adieu to our numerous friends.

By five p.m. of the 12th November, 224 men had responded to their names, and five of the Arab vessels, laden with the *personnel*, cattle, and *matériel* of the expedition, were impatiently waiting, with anchor heaved short, the word of command. One vessel still lay close ashore, to convey myself and Frederick Barker—in charge of the personal servants—our baggage, and dogs. Turning round to my constant and well-tryed friend, Mr. Augustus Sparkhawk, I fervently clasped his hand, and with a full heart though halting tongue, attempted to pour out my feelings of gratitude for his kindness and long-sustained hospitality, my keen regret at parting, and hopes of meeting again. But I was too agitated to be eloquent, and all my forced gaiety could not carry me through the ordeal. So we parted in almost total silence, but I felt assured that he would judge my emotions by his own feelings, and would accept the lame effort at their expression as though he had listened to the most voluble rehearsal of thanks.

A wave of my hand, and the anchors were hove up and laid within ship, and then, hoisting our lateen sails, we bore away westward to launch ourselves into the arms of Fortune. Many wavings of kerchiefs and hats, parting signals from white hands, and last long looks at friendly white faces,

final confused impressions of the grouped figures of our well-wishers, and then the evening breeze had swept us away into mid-sea beyond reach of recognition.

The parting is over! We have said our last words for years, perhaps for ever, to kindly men! The sun sinks fast to the western horizon, and gloomy is the twilight that now deepens and darkens. Thick shadows fall upon the distant land and over the silent sea, and oppress our throbbing, regretful hearts, as we glide away through the dying light toward the Dark Continent.

(To be continued.)

The Good Man's Creed.

A LITTLE thought and a little care,
A little tenderness now and then,
A precious speech, and a courtly air,
May give one rank among "gentlemen;"
But he who merits the highest place,
Though clad in homespun cloth, 'tis true,
Is one who carries a heart of grace,
And is really a nobleman through and through.

Ah! not to a leaflet here and there
Is the lovely scent of the rose conveyed;
Nor is there a corner within it where
The fragrance lurks, and the treasure's laid;
But every petal is truly filled—
Pink, or crimson, or saffron hue—
With odours rich, by the dews distilled;
And the rose is a sweet rose through and through.

And yonder billow, with foaming crest,
So bright and sparkling, so glad and free,
May seem of a lighter make than the rest
Of the mighty sweep of the solemn sea.
But there's not a drop in the crucible,
Never a drop since the world was new,
That wouldn't the self-same story tell,
That the sea is a salt sea through and through.

The tree is stunted, the vine is spoiled,
There's neither blossom nor leaf nor fruit,
When the sap in its upward reach is foiled
And fettered close in the tangled root.
And there's nothing sound and there's nothing strong,
There's nothing good and there's nothing true,
That is not honestly—right along
Sweet and savoury through and through.

Faithfully faithful to every trust;
Honestly honest to every deed;
Righteously righteous, and justly just,
This is the work of the good man's creed.

—The Earth.

A Thrashing That Saved a Life.

AN Evangelist tells of a young lad who left his father's home to be a sailor. He was absent for three years, and on the return voyage, just as he was thinking of how soon he should see all the dear ones at home, his ship was wrecked off the coast of Norway. Many were lost, but he and some others managed to get into a boat. They tried to row for the shore, but the men being wet, and the cold so intense, many of them were frozen to death. The first mate had command of the boat, and the lad being a favourite of his, he was afraid that he should fall a victim to the cold, and whenever he saw him dozing or showing any signs of sleepiness he thrashed him with a rope's-end. In vain the lad expostulated, the thrashing continued until all drowsiness was gone. At length they reached land, and were hospitably entertained by the natives, and in time were forwarded home. That young man often says he owes his life to the mate who administered to him that timely discipline. The sufferings and sorrows which God puts upon his people are like that thrashing. Only to keep them from falling into the sleep of worldliness that leads to death, to keep them alive in grace, and looking unto him, does he afflict them."