

ture possibilities. When I returned in 1874 from my first survey of that river, its value was only partially known through the few traders or other white men who had preceded me. The admiral of the French man-of-war, then visiting in Gaboon harbor, had an interview with me on his vessel, and taking notes of my statements considered them worthy of transmission to his Government. A year later, when I had walked overland the few days' journey between the Ogove and Gaboon rivers, a route that white man had tried but twice before, the governor at Gaboon asked me for the map of my route and its comparative merits.

2. *Natural History*.—On the lines of botany, zoology, conchology, entomology, ethnography, and philology, missionaries are, each according to his taste, making collections of specimens and writing monographs in aid of those several departments of science. This they do with no loss of the time or money of the societies or boards in whose employ they are. They do it as an intellectual recreation. Your missionaries are educated men, but they have not, as you, your means of intellectual enjoyment in the library, the lyceum, the club, and the magazine. Without abusing time belonging to special missionary work, and receiving no pecuniary compensation for their collected specimens (for a proper rule of our Presbyterian Board forbids our engaging in any other work that shall bring us financial emolument), we gratify our taste and find a needed recreation in examining the fauna, flora, or antiquities about us. In botanical specimens from Peru you are aware that Roman Catholic missionaries first brought to the knowledge of the medical world that valuable tree the cinchona. No collection of shells will be considered complete without specimens from the snow-white strand of our Corisco Island, specimens noted less for their size than for their beauty of color and shape. I have sent to America bushels of Corisco shells. All missionaries in their reduction of strange

languages to writing, in the compiling of grammars, and in their translations of the Bible and other books, are giving to philologists collateral aid in the study of ethnology. It may seem to some a thing not worth naming that a missionary has given to entomology the rare African *antimachus*, a magnificent butterfly, or that another has given to a botanical garden the *lisorchilus* orchid, once valued at \$25. And yet there are those who would give that sum for a new orchid!

Who is it that calls him a benefactor of his race who has caused to grow "two blades of grass where before there was but one"? Equally he is a contributor to science who adds any new fact to the sum of human knowledge. Your fellow-citizen, my friend, the distinguished surgeon, Dr. T. G. Morton, thanks me for the first entire carcase of that strange and fearful beast the gorilla, sent to this country. Its mounted skeleton is in your Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. Three gorilla brains, given by me to Dr. Morton, were the first perfect ones ever examined in the study of comparative anatomy.

And Dr. Pepper Provost, of your university, thanks me for a collection of native African implements, tools, and other utensils illustrative of the life of those people. So unique and valuable was it considered, that it was placed on exhibition at the World's Fair, and one of your daily newspapers (the *Evening Telegraph*) lately remarked of it that "among the collections to be sent to the Columbian Exposition at Chicago, by the Museum of Archaeology of the University of Pennsylvania, there are none more interesting."

We ask no pecuniary or other reward for these items in the aggregation of the world's knowledge, but I claim for this side work of foreign missions at least the credit which you give to other workers in the cause of science. I do not discount the work of Lieutenant Peary, and his toil, success, and reward shared by his brave wife in the Arctic