

tory area known. The sale of alcohol to natives will be most rigorously punished."

"We are trying to cleanse and purify the great sea of heathenism and barbarism by a few missionaries and teachers here and there, meanwhile from thousands of sources are pouring in the black streams of an infamy and degradation a thousand fold worse. Is it not time that we endeavored to turn off the tap and cut off the supply?"

"When we meet the liquor traffic in those countries we are powerless before it; the work must be done here at home by cutting those streams off at the fountain head. Stop the manufacture and sale of liquors here, and the export must cease. This result can be obtained by the earnest, steadfast, united work of the Christian women of our land."

Let the women of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church of Canada see that they stand not by "consenting" to the slaying of Africa.

FIFTH READING.—LIBERIA.

On the western coast of Africa, south of Sierra Leone, extending along the coast for 500 miles, into the interior 200 miles, lies the little Republic of Liberia. As the English colony of Sierra Leone was founded, so in 1821 Liberia was located in Africa by the American Colonization Society, for the suppression of the slave trade, to rescue, liberate, educate and furnish homes for those who had been slaves. In this way civilization and the Christian religion were brought to that benighted quarter of the world, and to-day Liberia has several missions in charge of native or Liberian pastors, in addition to twelve stations under the care of missionaries. (Six of these belong to the Bishop Taylor Mission, as many more are closed for want of workers.) The population of Liberia numbers twenty thousand of American negroes and their descendants, and one hundred thousand natives. The natives are divided into numerous tribes, practically governing themselves, but said to be under the control of the Liberian Government, which Government is entirely in the hands of American negroes, called Liberians, owing to their being liberated slaves.

Monrovia, its capital, beautifully situated near the mouth of the Mesurado River, was so called in honor of Mr. Monroe, President of the United States at the time of its settlement. It is divided into two distinct towns, Monrovia proper, where about three thousand American negroes live, and Krootown with its two thousand natives.

It was at this pretty little town that the Board of Management of the Woman's Missionary Society was anxious to establish a Girls' School under the direction of Miss Whitfield, one of Bishop Taylor's most faithful and successful missionaries.

Liberia has an element of progress in her aboriginal population which no other civilized Government in Africa can command. In her jurisdiction there are Veys, the ingenious inventors of an alphabet, fifteen thousand in number; Mandingoes, the enterprising merchants and Mohammedan missionaries, who fill Soudan with their wares and letters; Pessehs, who are the laborious and indefatigable workers of the soil; Kroomen (forty thousand), without whom no extensive enterprise can be carried on in Africa; Bassas, who supply palm oil by the millions of gallons, camwood and ivory by the thousands of tons; Golahs, Queahs and the irrepressible Greboes. All these God has given to Liberia. They differ in dialect as do the people in Great Britain. One can always distinguish a

Krooman. He is the sailor of the coast; he navigates all the steamers and ships that do business in West African waters. The Krooman was never a slave; he was too useful to the slave trader as a sailor; in order to prevent his exportation the tribe adopted as a distinctive mark a blue band down the forehead, every male child is tattooed, and grows up with that stamp upon his face, of which he never fails to be proud. The Veys use a pen and an indelible ink which they make themselves. They have invented their own alphabet, constructed their own written language, and are slowly growing a literature.

SIXTH READING.—MONKEY MINERS.

Capt. E. Moss, who has just returned to London from the Transvaal, tells this story of the monkeys who work for him in the mines: "I have twenty-four monkeys," said he, "employed about my mines. They do the work of seven able-bodied men, and it is no reflection upon the human laborers to say that they do a class of work a man cannot do as well as they. In many instances they lend valuable aid where a man is useless. They gather up the small pieces of quartz that would be passed unnoticed by the workingman, and pile them up in little heaps that can easily be gathered up in a shovel and thrown in the mill. They are exceedingly adept at catching the little particles, and their sharp eyes never escape the very things that the human eye would pass over. When I went digging gold I had two monkeys that were exceedingly interesting pets. They were constantly following me about the mines, and one day I noticed that they were busily engaged in gathering up little bits of quartz and putting them in piles. They seemed to enjoy their labor very much, and would go to the mines every morning and work there during the day. It did not take me long to learn their value as laborers, and I decided to procure more. So I immediately procured a number, and now have two dozen working daily in and about the mines. It is exceedingly interesting to watch my two pet monkeys teach the new ones how to work, and still stranger, to see how the newcomers take to it. They work just as they please, sometimes going down into the mines when they have cleared up all the *debris* on the outside. They live and work together without quarreling any more than men do. They are quite methodical in their habits, and go to work and finish up in the same manner as human beings would do under similar circumstances."—*Transcript*.

SEVENTH READING.—CLIMATE.

Experience and prudence have greatly reduced the death rate among foreigners in Africa.

"Much remains to be learned as to the climate of Africa and the hygiene of African life; but enough is already known to justify the statement that the man or woman of good health and sound constitution can work in any part of Africa where the natives thrive.

"Illness, of course, must be endured, but with care and quinine and returns to cool countries the average missionary can spend a term of service in tropical Africa."—*Student Volunteer*.

EIGHTH READING.—A SUGGESTION FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR THE MISSION FIELD.

Captain Lugard, who has had practical experience of the difficulties of the questions he handles, says: "A missionary must above all things be a gentleman; for no one is