



BISHOP RIDLEY COLLEGE.*

raise the heathen. But in the Sūdān it is quite different.

The formidable climate of Africa is generally the great obstacle to missionary work. But this, too, is different on the Upper Niger, where the climate is dry and invigorating even in the rainy season, and up the Binue there would seem to be a climate as good as that of South Africa. "When a man goes up the Binue he lives forever" is sometimes said.

Brown, started work at Lokoja, but fell sick and died in 1884. The only other workers there were natives.

Meanwhile God had been preparing for this field one, called by no mean critic "Perhaps the noblest young missionary of our time," *Graham Wilmot Brooke*.

He was destined and educated for the Army; but when about eighteen years of age, he was so moved by a book of General (then Colonel)

The reader of the lives of Hannington, Mackay, and other African missionaries, will remember the weary marches on foot, and the troublesome porters; the innumerable delays, worries, and expenditure connected therewith.

Here, again, all is smooth on the Niger; frequent steamers can take missionaries and their belongings from the sea to the confluence of the Binue and the Niger, a distance of 275 miles (nautical) up the river.

In this mission Mohammedans have to be dealt with, who, so far from respecting white Christians as the pagans do, think their own religion an advance on Christianity; and, then, by Mohammedan law, which prevails everywhere, both the convert from Mohammedanism and the missionary that has preached to him are liable to death. They may be imprisoned and executed by the government, or they may be poisoned privately with impunity.

For many years the extreme rarity of vessels going up the river, combined with the unsettled state of the country, prevented any development of the Upper Niger mission; and in later years the extension of the work was chiefly in the Delta.

One young medical missionary, Dr. Percy

*This cut represents four scenes of Bishop Ridley College, St. Catharines, Ont.—three views of the building and one of the gymnasium—a notice of which was given in our last issue.