

Editorial.

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DAVID LIVINGSTONE.

This daring and distinguished Congregationalist, who possesses a world-wide renown as a missionary, philanthropist, traveller and discoverer, has, alas! fallen when homeward bound from the heart of Africa, which has so long been the *terra incognita*, laden with facts which were to supply the place of fancies long indulged in regard to that which was before unknown. We cannot refrain from giving a few statements regarding the wonderful life of this remarkable man, even though compelled by our space to mention them with the severest brevity.

He was the son of Neill Livingstone, of Hamilton, Lanarkshire, Scotland, a deacon of the Congregational Church in that place. He was born in East Kilbride, in 1816, and spent his early youth working in a cotton mill near Glasgow. At the age of 19 he began both the study of medicine and theology, receiving instruction in the latter from Dr. Wardlaw. Completing his course at the Congregational Academy, and having received his license from the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, he in 1838 offered his services to the London Missionary Society for foreign work. His offer being accepted, he spent three months in further theological study in England, and having been ordained to the minis-

try, he sailed in 1840 for Southern Africa his destined field. For the encouragement of timid student preachers, if there are such, it may be stated, that when he was prosecuting these further studies under the tuition of Rev. R. Cecil, he was sent by his tutor to supply the place of a minister, who had been suddenly taken ill. After taking his text he became bewildered and had not a word to say, when he snatched up his hat, and, with no remark of any kind, went home. His first mission station was Port Natal, where he became acquainted with Rev. Robt. Moffat, whose daughter he subsequently married.

It was not until 1849 that Dr. Livingstone made his first essay as an explorer, independent of mission work. This was in search of Lake Ngami, and in the ten years previous to 1855 he led several independent expeditions into the interior of Southern Africa, visiting several savage tribes before unknown to Englishmen, and twice crossed the entire African continent, from the shores of the Indian Ocean to those of the Atlantic. In 1856 he returned to England, having travelled over 11,000 miles of land for the most part untraversed by any European, and believed to be inaccessible.

Early in the spring of 1858 Dr. Livingstone returned to Africa for the purpose of prosecuting further researches. In a few months his expedition reached that part of the eastern coast where the Zambesi falls into the ocean, which they ascended by two small steamers, that they might thence make their way into the in-