

WELCOME AND SCHOOL

Do unto others
As ye would
That they
Should
Do unto
You.



COXSWAIN ULEDI, AND MANWA SERA, CHIEF CAPTAIN.

Through the Dark Continent.

BY HENRY M. STANLEY.
II.

It is a most sobering employment, the organizing of an African expedition. You are constantly engaged, mind and body; now in casting up accounts, and now travelling to and fro hurriedly to receive messengers, inspecting purchases, bargaining with keen-eyed, relentless Hindi merchants, writing memoranda, haggling over extortionate prices, packing up a multitude of small utilities, pondering upon your lists of articles wanted, purchased and unpurchased, groping about in the recesses of a highly exercised imagination for what you ought to purchase, and cannot do without, superintending, arranging, assorting, and packing. And this under a temperature of 95° Fah.

In the midst of all this terrific, high-pressure exercise arrives the first batch of applicants for em-

ployment. For it has long ago been bruited abroad that I am ready to enlist all able-bodied human beings willing to carry a load. Ever since I arrived at Zanzibar, I have had a very good reputation among Arabs and Wangwana. They have not forgotten that it was I who found the "old white man"—Livingstone—in Ujiji, nor that liberality and kindness to my men were my special characteristics. All those who bore good characters on the Search Expedition, and had been despatched to the assistance of Livingstone in 1872, were employed without delay.

All great enterprises require a preliminary deliberative palaver, or, as the Wangwana call it, "Shauri." The chiefs arranged themselves in a semi-circle and I sat *à la Turque* fronting them. "What is it, my friends? Speak your minds." "We have come, master, with words. Listen. It is well we should know every step before we leap. A traveller journeys not without knowing whither he wanders. We have come to ascertain what lands you are bound for." I described in brief outline the prospective journey.

"But, master," said they, after recovering themselves, "this long journey will take years to travel—six, nine, or ten years!" "Nonsense," I replied. "Six, nine, or ten years! What can you be thinking of?"

"Ah, but you know the old master, Livingstone, he was only going for two years, and you know that he never came back, but died there."

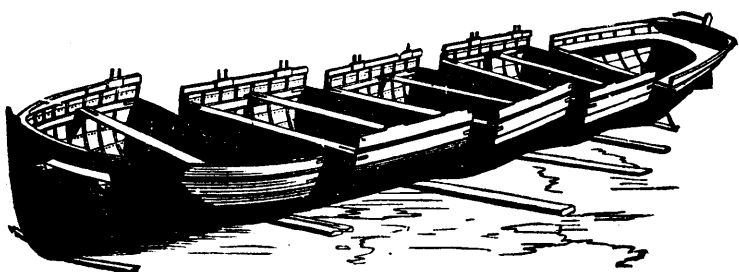
The steamer had brought the sectional exploring boat, *Lady Alice*, to Zanzibar. It was 40 feet long, 6 feet beam, and 30 inches deep, of Spanish cedar $\frac{3}{8}$ inch thick. When finished, it was separated into five sections, each being 8 feet long. If the sections should be over-weight, they were to be again divided into halves for greater facility of carriage. Exceedingly anxious for the portability of the sections, I had them at once weighed, and great were my vexation and astonishment when I discovered that four of the sections weighed 280 pounds each, and that one weighed 310 pounds! She was, it is true, a marvel of workman-



TARYA TOPAN.

ship, and an exquisite model of a boat, but in her present condition her carriage through the jungles would necessitate a pioneer force, a hundred strong, to clear the impediments and obstacles on the road.

While almost plunged into despair, I was informed that there was a very clever English carpenter, named Ferris, about to leave by the *Euphrates* for England. He promised to defer his departure one month, and to do his utmost to make the sections portable without lessening her efficiency. I explained that the narrowness of the path would make her portage absolutely impossible, for since the path was often only eighteen inches wide in



THE "LADY ALICE" IN SECTIONS.



"TOWARDS THE DARK CONTINENT."