

# WELCOME AND SCHOOL

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

R. PH. SMITH - CO. TORONTO

## Through the Dark Continent.

BY HENRY M. STANLEY.

XX.

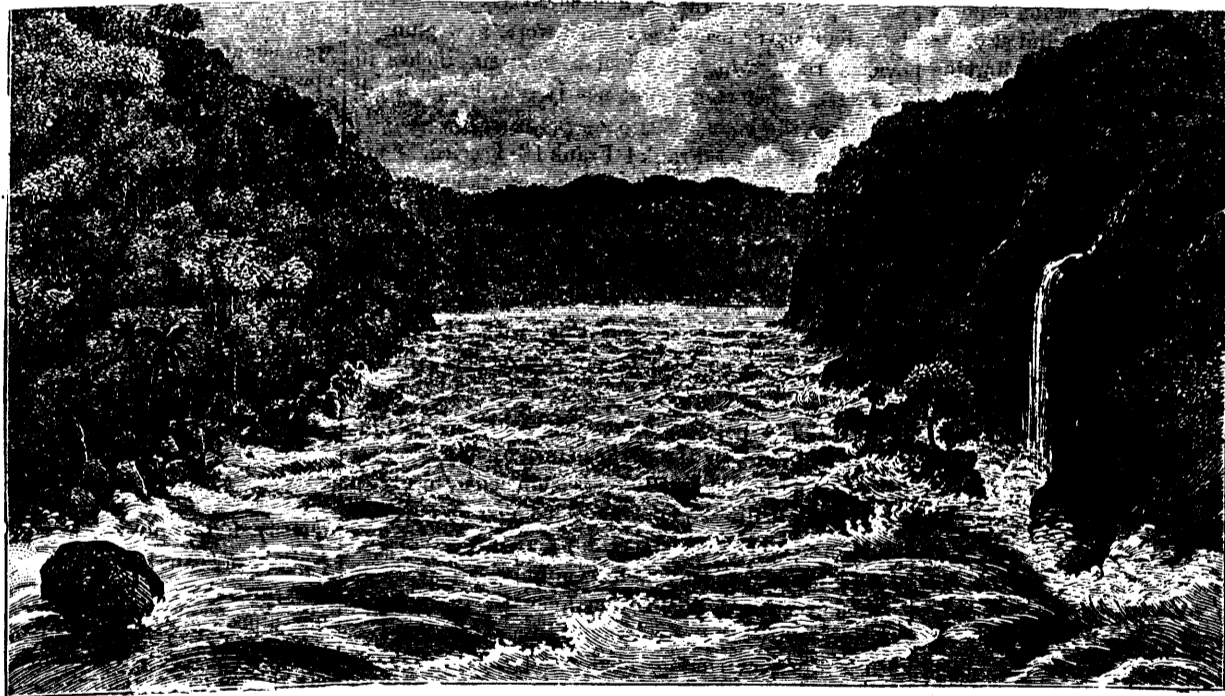
THOUGH our involuntary descent of the Lady Alice Rapids—a distance of three miles—occupied us but fifteen minutes, it was a work of four days to lower the canoes by cables. The next day we descended two miles of dangerous rapids and whirlpools, and on the 20th proceeded a distance of four miles, forming camp behind some small islets, near which the river expands to a width of about eight hundred yards.

During the three following days we were engaged in the descent of a six-mile stretch, which enabled us to approach the "terrific" falls described by the Basesse. The "Falls" are called Inkisi. The river—being forced through a chasm only five hundred yards wide—is flanked by curling waves of destructive fury—while below is an absolute chaos of mad waters, leaping waves, deep troughs, contending watery ridges, tumbling and tossing for a distance of two miles.

The natives above Inkisi descended from their breezy homes on the table-land to visit the strangers. They were burning to know what we intended to

"Up the mountain!" they repeated, turning their eyes towards the towering height, which was shagged with trees, and bristling with crags and hill fragments, with an unspeakable look of horror. They appeared to fancy the world was coming to an end, or some unnatural commotion would take place, for they stared at me with lengthened faces. Then, without a word, they climbed the steep ascent of 1,200 feet, and, securing their black pigs, fowls, or goats, in their houses, spread the report far and wide that the white man intended to fly his canoes over the mountains.

On the other hand, the amiable Basesse, across



"LADY ALICE" OVER THE FALLS.

The villagers sent a deputation to us, with palm-wine and a small gift of cassava tubers. Upon asking them if there were any more cataracts, they replied that there was only one, and they exaggerated it so much that the very report struck terror and dismay into our people. They described it as falling from a height greater than the position on which their village was situated, which drew exclamations of despair from my followers. The distance we had laboured through from the 16th of March to the 21st of April inclusive—a period of thirty-seven days—was only thirty-four miles! Since the fishermen "who ought to know," we said, declared there was only this tremendous cataract, with a fall of several hundred feet, below us, we resolved to persevere until we had passed it.

do to extricate ourselves from the embarrassing position in which we found ourselves before these falls.

Before replying to their questions, I asked if there was another cataract below. "No," said they; "at least only a little one, which you can pass without trouble." "Ah," thought I to myself, "I will haul my canoes up the mountain, and pass over the table-land, and I must now cling to this river to the end, having followed it so long."

My resolution was soon communicated to my followers, who looked perfectly blank at the proposition. The natives heard me, and, seeing the silence and reluctance of the people, they asked the cause, and I told them it was because I intended to drag our vessels up the mountain.

the river, had gathered in hundreds on the cliffs overlooking the Inkisi Falls, in expectation of seeing a catastrophe, which certainly would have been worth seeing had we been so suicidally inclined as to venture over the falls in our canoes—for that, undoubtedly, was their idea.

Having fully decided upon the project, it only remained to make a road and begin; but in order to obtain the assistance of the aborigines, which I was anxious for, in order to relieve my people from much of the fatigue, the first day all hands were mustered for road-making; and, by night, a bush-strewn path, 1,500 yards in length, had been constructed.

By 8 a.m. of the 26th, our exploring boat and a small canoe were on the summit of the table land,