

through an unhealthy region, scarcely above the level of the ocean. The only signs of any habitations were tiny spirals of white smoke curling up from the midst of clumps of the densest jungle. The surface then began to rise rather rapidly, and in the space of another hundred miles reached an elevation of about three thousand feet, which is the general elevation of the plateau for some five hundred miles, although there are several ranges of hills which rise one thousand feet or more higher. Cameron, who went with the advance party of the caravan, reached the considerable village of Rehenneko, one hundred and fifty miles from the coast, near the close of April, a month having been occupied in accomplishing this distance. Dillon, with another division, came up a few days later, and was at once prostrated by a fever, which confined him to his bed for more than a fortnight. Cameron also had poisoned his foot by walking through the noxious jungle grass, and was very lame; it was indeed several months before he got over the effects of this poisoning. Murphy, who led the last division, did not come up till the 26th of May. He and Moffatt had been stricken with fever on the way, and Moffatt had died. "Poor boy," says Cameron; "he had come to Zanzibar so full of hope and aspirations for the future, and had told me that the day he had received permission to join the expedition was the happiest in his life."

During this enforced detention of a month, Cameron's men struck, demanding an extravagant amount of cloth in lieu of rations. "I was obliged to be firm," says he, "even at the risk of losing many by desertion, for the smallest concession on my part would only have induced them to increase their demands;" and as it was, the desertions were numerous. When the last men had come up, the entire expedition was finally organized for the march. It then consisted of the three Europeans, thirty-eight *askari*, or armed guards, one hundred and ninety-two *pagazi*, or porters, and nine servants, and gun-bearers,—two hundred and forty in all; besides which several of the men had their women and slaves. Two *pagazi* had already died, and thirty-eight had deserted. There were also twenty-two donkeys and three dogs belonging to the caravan. The expedition was well armed. The Europeans had each a double-barrelled rifle, shot-gun, and