

whole of these Bantu tribes, allied in language, usages, and origin, may form fully one-fourth of the inhabitants of Africa. If this estimate be correct it would raise their numbers to forty or fifty millions. But I shall not attempt so wide a survey; my limit will be South Africa; only the fact deserves to be noted from its bearing on the future civilization and Christianization of Central Africa.

I can glance only at some leading facts connected with these tribes, such as their distribution, origin, tribal characteristics, history, and probable future. The present sad crisis in South Africa may well suggest that some careful study of the Kaffir tribes is due, on the part of the British politician and the Christian philanthropist. It is, indeed, one of the greatest problems, we may say, that has ever arisen in our British colonial rule, how to put an end to these barbarous, sanguinary raids, so ruinous to life and property in South Africa, and how to educate and to elevate the Kaffir, so that he may be fitted to enjoy ultimately all the benefits of self-government. The Boers, indeed, cut the Gordian knot by enslaving or exterminating the aborigines; but this is a solution which England will not adopt, first, because it is opposed