

in area, cut out of the heart of Africa, and everywhere easily accessible by the Congo and its many navigable affluents. This is at present under Belgian influence, though Germany is casting covetous glances toward it. Within the past year the whole of Africa south of the equator, not previously occupied, has been annexed. England, pushing her claims up from Cape Colony, has extended her dominion over Bechuanaland, and her sphere of influence over the vast district reaching from the Zambesi River north to the Congo State, bounded on the west by Portuguese Angola, and on the east by the Portuguese province of Mozambique, Lake Nyassa, and the southern extremity of Lake Tanganyika. The large district west of Bechuanaland—the country of the Hottentots—has been annexed by Germany. On the east side of Africa, north of Mozambique, is a great German protectorate, extending from Zanzibar inward to the lake region and the Congo State, while north of this again is the vast territory of the British East Africa Company, which reaches westward from the coast to Victoria Nyanza and the Congo State and northward to Darfur and Kordofan. On the Gulf of Aden are English and French districts, while Italy has established a protectorate over Abyssinia and a great part of the region of the Gallas and Somalis. In addition to these are the recently-formed English protectorate over the island of Zanzibar and the extension of a French “sphere of influence” over Madagascar. Thus very little of east Africa is left under free native dominion. On the west coast annexation has been, if possible, still more active, scarcely a hundred miles of coast being left to the native states. First comes French Congo, a great district extending from the ocean to the Congo River. North of this is the Cameroons district, claimed

by Germany, with a long coast-line and an extension northward nearly to 10° north latitude and indefinitely inward. The coast of Guinea, between Liberia and the Cameroons, is divided up between England, France, and Germany, with the exception of a strip of native territory about one hundred miles in length. On the north Atlantic coast England has Sierra Leone and the Gambia district, Portugal a small claim known as Portuguese Guinea, Spain a section of the Sahara between Capes Bojador and Blanco, and France all the remainder. This great French district extends on the coast from Cape Blanco to Sierra Leone, with the exception of the small English and Portuguese claims indicated, and inward on the line of the Senegal River to Sego on the upper Niger, including the whole region of Senegambia. In addition to these coast claims, England and France have recently placed protectorates over interior regions of vast extent. France, from her Mediterranean acquisitions of Algeria and Tunis, has stretched her sphere of influence over a broad belt of the Sahara, extending southward to a boundary line reaching from Lake Tchad to the town of Say on the Niger. England, grasping upward from the Gulf of Guinea, claims a broad district along and east of the Niger, reaching inward to this French boundary-line, so that the claims of the two nations now extend over a wide region stretching from the Gulf of Guinea to the Mediterranean. If we add to the above the Turkish sovereignty in Tripoli and Egypt, and the English power over Egypt, we shall have completed our review of the partition of Africa. The districts thus annexed cover five-sixths of Africa, only about two million square miles remaining unappropriated, and this largely made up of the Libyan Desert, which no one wants.