

V.—GENERAL MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

Extracts and Translations from Foreign Periodicals.

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AFRICA.

—"A French Roman Catholic missionary has laid before the French Geographical Society some interesting facts in regard to the Fangs, a well-known tribe in West Africa. He represents them as having an unusual degree of energy, and as virtually monopolizing the ivory trade in the region in which they are found. The interesting fact is brought to light that, although they worship as fetiches the skull of the gorilla and the horns of antelopes, they believe in a Supreme Being who created and who upholds all things. This affords a fresh evidence that fetichism is often only a convenient device, a sort of intermediate, every-day, working religion, which may co-exist with a clear conception of one Supreme Being, compared with whom the fetich is little more than a convenient appliance. These people are warlike, and they always eat the prisoners whom they capture."—*Church at Home and Abroad*.

—"You can never win an African unless you first love him; and then when you love him, like all human nature, he responds to the love. The African has a sweetness of character which I have not found excelled even in England. The Africans of the Bible were gentle and kind. I call to your mind Ebed Melech, who lifted Jeremiah the Prophet from the dungeon and the mire; Simon the Cyrenian, who carried the Cross of our beloved Master and Lord; the Ethiopian eunuch who asked Philip the Evangelist to step up beside him, and was willing to listen to the explanation of the old Book. The African is the same to-day."—Canon TAYLOR SMITH, in *Church Missionary Intelligencer*.

—The Rev. George Grenfell writes to the *Missionary Herald* (English Baptist): "It is quite plain to us who are engaged

in the work that Central Africa is not to be evangelized by whitemen; too many of the conditions of life are against it. The European cannot make his home there as he does in South Africa, or on the highlands of the East Coast, or even at the extreme north; and we increasingly feel that the greater part of the burden will have to fall upon the people of the country themselves. Happily the natives are responding right nobly to the responsibilities laid upon them by their Master; and their readiness to witness concerning Him is one of the most encouraging features of our work. Their testimony is often very elementary and crude, but God is being glorified thereby, and seeing that He is making such use of His servants, we feel we are pursuing the right policy in locating ourselves in the most important centres that are available, and in looking to Him to raise up messengers who, through the gracious influences of the Holy Spirit, shall be enabled to carry on the work in detail. We do not advocate the maintenance of native evangelists by European churches, for we feel it is wiser to throw the burden upon the native churches; for though it may mean less apparent progress, we feel sure we are on right lines. Just so long as we bolstered up the native church at Cameroons they were dependent upon us, but when the Germans stepped in, and they had to depend upon themselves, they developed a resourcefulness and an ability that most surprised those who knew them best; and not only have they been able to stand alone, but they have so progressed that they have just completed their fifth new chapel since the fostering care of the English churches was withdrawn."

—"To-day I saw the young Khedive. His appearance impressed me most favorably. He has a fresh European complexion, a frank, modest, pleasant expression, and seems to be resolved to take the reins, so unexpectedly put into