

sidence and training, and a brother of Mr. Harms, also a clergyman, took charge of it. The course of instruction extended over four years, and embraced—Introduction to both Testaments, Exegesis, Dogmatics, History of the Church, History of Doctrines, History of Missions, Homiletics, and Catechetics,—a sufficiently formidable course, as will be admitted, to simple peasant men; and yet it included more, for there was a daily course of work through which they went.

There was one point to be settled further, and that was their destination. The east coast of Africa was fixed on, and then the tribes of the Gallas, lying north-west of the Zanzibar. The choice seems to have been more enthusiastic than prudent. These Gallas were only known as the terror of the whole east coast; a strong, hardy, savage race. They were robbers and murderers by profession; they were difficult of access; a missionary with them was completely isolated; but no one had ever tried them before, and this somewhat Quixotic reason outweighed everything. And here, before following out the story, it is well to have a distinct impression of the circumstances. A poor country clergyman, in a remote district, with a congregation almost entirely composed of peasants, proposes that as a congregation it shall send out missionaries to the heathen. The missionaries, as is natural, must be of their own body, peasants like the rest. As many as twelve come forward, and the clergyman, in the name of the congregation, and without any means, accepts the entire burden of training, sending, and supporting these men. Has anything like that been seen since the days when the Church of Antioch sent out her Barnabas and Saul?

A year or two had slipped past

in preparation and in regular parish work, when some young sailors of the German fleet sought admission to the Hermannsburg emigration. They were recent converts, and in their zeal proposed to found a colony near Boney, in Western Africa, and by Christian influences assist in putting down the slave-trade. Christian missionaries could superintend them, but what society would furnish these? They sought for guidance in this matter, and were directed to Harms, and laid their plans before him. They declared it was all one on which coast they settled; and that they were ready, as he wished, to stay for some months under his eye. An entirely new element was thus introduced, and has since determined the character of the mission—colonization. Peasants who had no missionary gifts pleaded to be taken out as settlers. Out of sixty who offered, eight were chosen. The sailors settled down to their work, and the scheme at once assumed a magnitude that had not been contemplated.

And now came a new trouble. How were all these persons to be sent out? Where would the money come from? Then one of the sailors said, "Why not build a ship, and you can send out as many and as often as you will?" The proposal was good; but, the money! That was a time of great conflict and wrestling with God.

Arrangements were at once made for the building of a brig at Harburg; it was well and quickly done, and there was only one mishap, which in the end proved harmless—it cost more than 2,000 crowns above the estimate. With a landsman's ignorance, Harms had not recognized the difference between copper-fastened and copper-sheathed until the little item in the bill brought it prominently before him. But all passed off well;