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CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The New Crusade	85	Ecclesiastical News.....	99
The Bible in Schools	86	Foreign Missions—Formosa	101
Revivals.....	88	Do. Erzroom	102
Editorial Correspondence—Geneva.....	87	Do. India	103
Missionary Cabinet—John the Evangelist.....	90	Literature	104
The Children	92	Official Notices	105
International Sabbath-School Lessons	93	Page for the Young.....	106
Our Own Church	95	Acknowledgments.....	107
Meetings of Presbyteries.....	96		

The New Crusade.

WE refer to a crusade well worthy of the name.—the efforts of brave and consecrated men to open up Africa to the Gospel and to suppress the slave-hunting and slave-trading which are the source of woes unspeakable. Up the Zambezi, up the Shiré, up the vast valley of the Congo, up the mysterious Nile, they hasten, in the face of multitudinous difficulties, towards those regions where the darkness is deepest, the danger greatest and the need sorest. Fever, famine, treachery, cruelty, sheer savagery lie in wait for the generous invaders. Still they press on. And when one and another and another fall, volunteers are on the alert to fill the vacant places. There are Episcopalians, Methodists, Baptists, Congregationalists, as well as Presbyterians, in the field. They realize that their task is nothing less than the conquest of a continent. All honour to the noble pioneers of exploration, civilization and evangelization,—Livingstone, Stanley, Cameron, Grant and Speke, Baker, Gordon, and kindred spirits—who have done so much towards the solution of problems that had puzzled and defied a hundred generations. They were instruments in the hand of God to prepare the

way for a still more decided advance upon the fastnesses of the enemy. At this moment it is known that the very heart of the "Dark Continent" can be reached from the west coast by the Congo, to within a short distance of the Nile! Missions are spreading up the vast Congo valley, the chief obstacle being the devastations caused by the Arab slave-hunters who ruthlessly slay, burn and destroy, as well as capture. Hardly a year passes without the destruction of hundreds of villages and tens of thousands of lives, by the Arabs. It is in these central regions that Satan's seat is, so far as cruelty is concerned. Arabs, and Negroes under Arab control, are almost as merciless as the Inquisitors of Spain. Men and women and children are mutilated, starved, buried alive, burnt alive, roasted over slow fires, and all this to gratify the whim of a greedy tyrant or a blood-stained slave-dealer. At this time, Stanley and others are trying to penetrate anew the heart of Africa, the scenes of the worst horrors, in order to rescue a gallant ruler who has stood at bay for years surrounded by blood-thirsty savages. Stanley and his associates may succeed, or they may fail, in their arduous quest for Emir Bey; but they will most certainly succeed in calling attention still more vividly to the needs of miserable Africa. Christian civilization is coming