

not the case. Mtesa had evidently imposed on the great explorer. "Stanlee," said he, "say to the white people when you write to them, that I am like a man sitting in darkness, or born blind, and that all I ask is that I may be taught how to see and I shall continue a Christian while I live." Mr. Mackay soon found out that he was one of the most degraded and bloodthirsty creatures. Before Stanley arrived he burnt to death two hundred youths in one day. A few years before Mr. Mackay arrived his soldiers captured two thousand persons, who were all slain the same day. When rebuilding the tomb of his father two thousand were murdered as an offering to the departed spirit. And regardless of the presence of the missionary, murders were of daily occurrence. He was as full of vanity as of cruelty. He had sent an embassy to England in the care of two missionaries who had to return home. The *Graphic* contained pictures of their reception by the Queen. Some copies had been sent to Mr. Mackay, and when the king saw the pictures he was so delighted that he spent hours in looking at them. They impressed him with his own importance. He thought of going to England to consult the doctors regarding his health, but the chiefs would not listen to the proposal. Said they, "Why should a great monarch like Mtesa go to England? Queenie (Queen Victoria) sends only *small* men to Uganda. Speke and Grant and Stanley were only travellers." Lest it should impair his dignity he decided not to go.

That which attached Mtesa and his chiefs to Mr. Mackay was his mechanical skill. He built a house for the missionaries and the people came in crowds to see it—were astonished at its glass windows, doors, hinges, locks, and the stairs leading to the upper story. He dug a well, and they were surprised to see the water; when he put a pump in it and made the water flow they shouted, "Mackay is the great spirit."



MEN'S HEAD-DRESS,
UGANDA.

He made a cart and painted it bright red and blue. When he yoked the oxen and drove them they shouted at the top of their voices, and danced for wonder and joy. When Mtesa's mother died he wished her to be buried after the fashion of royalty. Mr. Mackay consented to make the coffins. The outer one was of wood and the inner one of copper. It took a month to get them ready, and the king was highly pleased.