

character respecting the outbreak of hostilities between the Catholics and Protestants and the rumored destruction of several Catholic stations are not yet available. At the same time, it is useless to disguise the fact that the Jesuit priests, who have for several years been established in Uganda, look with extreme disfavor upon British prestige. The influence of these missionaries has been persistently used against the company's officers. Mwangi, at the date of Captain Lugard's last report, was much more favorably inclined toward the British than he had ever been before, but the king's extreme fickleness of purpose led Captain Lugard to doubt his entire sanity. He was, as a nominal Catholic, exposed to a good deal of influence from the priests. The latest news, however, proved that his conversion was of the most superficial character, according to which he was plotting with the Mohammedans to regain more territory by their assistance and to defeat the Christians.

It sounds strange to hear that Africa is not an unsuitable field, in some parts, for using the bicycle. The intrepid missionary, Mr. Ashe, of the Church Missionary Society, who started last year for Uganda, has, say the latest advices, nearly reached his destination, in accomplishing which the bicycle which he took out with him was of the greatest helpfulness. He was able to perform almost the entire journey on his machine; and he found the long narrow paths through the country admirably adapted to its use. His report is of such an enthusiastic character that we may in future regard the bicycle an almost necessary part of the equipment for an African traveller.

**The Central Soudan Mission.**—Mr. H. G. Harris and his 6 colleagues are temporarily located in the city of Tripoli, where they are zealously devoted to itinerancy among the natives, and, in the mean time, making themselves familiar with the Hausa and Arabic tongues. They propose at the

earliest opportunity moving toward Lake Tchad, the objective point of their gallant enterprise. The prayers of God's people on their behalf are desired. It is definitely announced that Lieutenant Mizon, of the French navy, has failed to reach the lake by way of the Niger and the Binue, and is returning by the Congo. The leaders of the last expedition, M. Crampel and his officers, were brutally murdered. By the Wadai Mussulmans, who are supreme at the south end of the lake, undying hostility has been declared to all white men. So far the attempts to reach the Tchad region confirm the views held by Englishmen on the Niger, that this vast central track of the African continent, the largest remaining unexplored area, may for some time be closed to Europeans. Its entrance during the next few years depends mainly upon missionary exertion and commercial relations.

**Miscellaneous.**—Affairs in Samoa are in a critical and unsettled condition. The natives in the islands are strongly supporting Mataafa, and there is danger of another outbreak against the present régime. While the Government's funds are exhausted, the natives are two years in arrears with their taxes.—On April 14th the first party of North Africa missionaries left England for Alexandria; their names are Mr. and Mrs. Summers, formerly of Morocco, Mr. James Smith, of Liverpool, Miss Ada Watson, and Miss Van Molen, from Doric Lodge.—By the London Missionary Society, the services of Miss M. L. Christlieb, daughter of Dr. Christlieb, of Bonn, and thus granddaughter of Mr. Weitbrecht, the celebrated missionary, have been accepted.—Dr. and Mrs. Laws arrived in London from Lake Nyassa in March.

#### Monthly Bulletin.

—Dr. Pentecost affirms publicly that there are more ordained ministers in Scotland than there are ordained missionaries in all the world.

—The *Western Christian Advocate* is not pleased with the showing made by