

mountains have been traversed, separated by such tracts of pasture land as would make your cowboys out West mad with envy ; and right under the burning Equator we have fed on blackberries and bilberries, and quenched our thirst with crystal water fresh from the snow beds. We have also been able to add nearly six thousand square miles of water to the Victoria Nyanza.

"Our naturalist will expatiate upon the new species of animals, birds, and plants he has discovered. Our surgeon will tell what he knows of the climate and its amenities. It will take us all we know how to say what new store of knowledge has been gathered from this unexpected field of discoveries.

"I always suspected that in the central region between the equatorial lakes something worth seeing would be found, but I was not prepared for such a harvest of new facts. This has certainly been the most extraordinary expedition that I have ever led into Africa. A veritable divinity seems to have hedged us while we journeyed. I say it with all reverence. It has impelled us whither it would, effected its own will ; but nevertheless guided and protected us. What can you make of this, for instance ? On August 17th, 1887, all the officers of the rear column are united at Yambuya. They have my letter of instructions before them, but instead of preparing for the morrow's march to follow our track, they decide to wait at Yambuya, which decision initiates the most awful season any community of men ever endured in Africa or elsewhere. The results are three-quarters of their force die of slow poison. The commander is murdered, and the second officer dies soon after of sickness and grief. Another officer is wasted to a skeleton, and obliged to return home. A fourth is sent to wander aimlessly up and down the Congo, and the