

# W O M E A N D S C H O O L

Do unto others  
As Ye Would  
That They  
Should  
Do unto  
You.

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NATIVE HOUSES AT MTUYU.

## Through the Dark Continent.

BY HENRY M. STANLEY.

XVI.

ON the 19th November, a march of five miles through the forest west from Kampunzu brought us to the Lualaba. The name Lualaba terminates here. I mean to speak of it henceforth as the Livingstone.

The Livingstone was 1,200 yards wide, from bank to bank, opposite the landing-place. As there were no people dwelling within a mile of the right bank, we prepared to encamp. Some sedgy reeds obstructed my view, and as I wished, while resting, to watch the river gliding by, I had them all chopped off short. Frank and the Wangwana chiefs were putting the boat sections together in the rear of the camp. Gentle as a summer's dream, the brown waves of the great Livingstone flowed by, broad and deep.

On the opposing bank loomed darkly against the sky another forest, similar to the one which had harrowed our souls. I obtained from my seat a magnificent view of the river, flanked by black forests, gliding along, with a serene grandeur and an unspeakable majesty of silence about it that caused my heart to yearn towards it. Downward it flows to the unknown; tonight black clouds of

mystery and fable; mayhap past the lands of the anthropoids and the pigmies; by leagues upon leagues of unexplored lands, populous with scores of tribes, of whom not a whisper has reached the people of other continents. We have laboured through the terrible forest, and manfully struggled through the gloom. My people's hearts have become faint.

I seek a road. Why, here lies a broad watery avenue, cleaving the Unknown to some sea, like a path of light! Here are woods all around, sufficient for a thousand fleets of canoes. Why not build them?

I sprang up—told the drummer to call the muster. The people responded wearily to the call. Frank and the chiefs appeared. The Arabs and their escort came also, until a dense mass of expectant faces surround me. I turned to them and said:—

"Arabs, children of Zanzibar, listen to words! We seek a road. I seek a path that shall take me to the sea. I have found it. Regard this mighty river. From the beginning it has flowed on thus, as you see it flow to-day. It has flowed on in

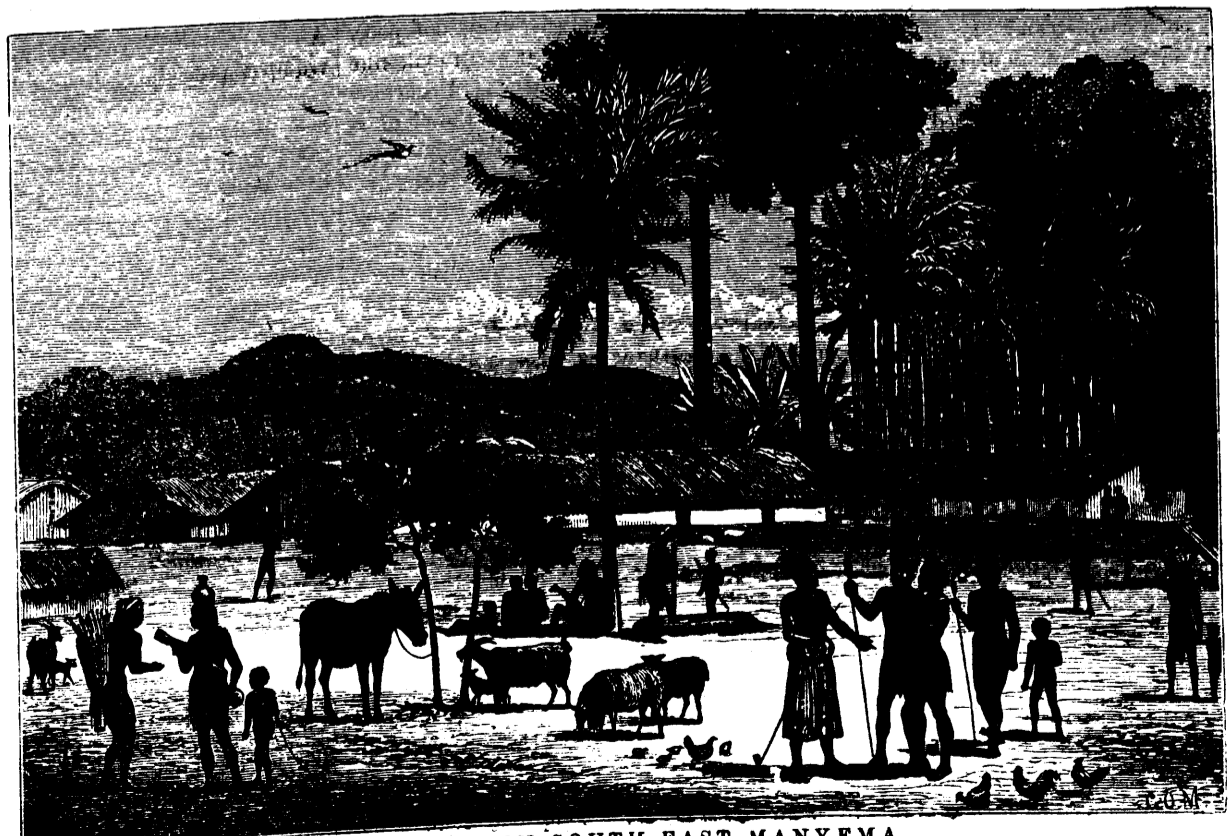
silence and darkness. Whither? To the salt sea, as all rivers go! By that salt sea, on which the great ships come and go, live my friends and your friends. Yet, my people, though this river is so great, so wide and deep, no man has ever penetrated the distance lying between this spot on which we stand and our white friends who live by the salt sea. Why? Because it was left for us to do. Yes," I continued, raising my voice, "I tell you, my friends, it has been left from the beginning of time until to-day for us to do. It is our work, and no other. It is the voice of Fate! The ONE GOD has written that this year the river shall be known throughout its length! We will take to the river. To-day I shall launch my boat on that stream, and it shall never leave it until I finish my work.

"Now, you Wangwana! You who have followed me like children following their father, as far as this wild, wild land, will you leave me here? Shall I and my white brother go alone? Will you go back and tell my friends that you left me in this wild spot, and cast me adrift to die? Speak, Arabs! Where are my young men, with hearts of lions? Speak, and show me those who dare follow me!"

Uledi, the coxswain, leaped upward, and then sprang toward me, and, kneeling, grasped my knees, and said: "Look on me, my master! I am one! I will follow you to death!" "And I," Kacheche cried; "and I, and I, and I," shouted the boat's crew.

"It is well. I knew I had friends. You, then, who have cast your lot with me stand on one side, and let me count you." There were thirty-eight! Ninety-five stood still, and said nothing.

The assembly broke up, and each man proceeded about his special duties. Tippu-Tib tried to persuade me not to be so rash, and to abandon all idea of descending the



A VILLAGE IN SOUTH-EAST MANYEMA.