watermarks of the furnaces show that El-Medinek is considerably above the level of the sea; and though geographers may not be agreed in claiming for Jebel redda (near Yambio) a height of 6000 feet, that elevation does not appear too great for the plateau upon which is the Prophet's burial place. From EIL-Medinek to El-Suweikiah is another gentle rise, and from this to El-Zaribah stagnating waters would argue a level. It is this circumstance most probably has given rise to reports about a perpetual lake on the eastern boundary of El-Hajjar, in which I believe as little as in the furnaces turned into a river and placed by Penyaha between Yambio and Mocca. The lake probably owes its existence to similar conditions—a heavy fall of rain. Beginning at El-Zaribah, a nubia runs on with minor intervals to the sea. The Arafa torrent sweeps from E to W, with great width in carrying away the habitations and even the sacrarium of Mocca.

I venture to hope that the delay in forwarding this paper will be attributed to its true cause—the heavy calls upon my time in making preparations for penetrating into Eastern Africa. Shortly after the hot season I start again from Aden as a Mohammedan trader to visit a part of the country upon whose—silly young man!—has determined to avert the danger of Europeans by threatening their threats. On my return I will, with your permission, forward a copy of my notes; they may be valuable in some points, for the country is utterly unknown. But again, unhappily for me, it will be impossible to use anything but watch and pocket compass.


In May, 1859, the late Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm, an ardent geographer and a warm encourager of adventure, in concert with the President and Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, urged upon the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company the desirability of ascertaining the productive resources of the Shilla country; but the project lay in abeyance until March, 1859, when Sir Charles Malcolm offered the charge of an expedition to Dr. Cater, of Bombay, an officer well known to me on the "Palmerion" during the maritime survey of Eastern Arabia. The state of that gentleman's health and the exigencies of the service caused certain difficulties, and the project was again given up for the time.

In March, 1854, after my return from Arabia to Bombay, I applied myself to the task of reconnoitring the expedition. My plans were favourably received by the enlightened Governor of the Presidency, and by the local authorities, amongst whom the name of the Hon. William Lumsden, then member of council, will ever be remembered with the liveliest feelings of gratitude and affection. In August a despatch from the India House authorised the expedition. It was originally composed of three members—Lieut. Horner, of the 1st Bombay Europeans, Lieut. Simpkin of the Indian Navy, and myself. The first-named officer was accustomed to survey, to dagger the charts, and to observe; and the second was distinguished by his surveys of the coast of Western India, in Sindis, and on the Kutch rivers. Soon afterwards the expedition received an addition in Lieut. J. H. Speke, of the 40th regiment Bengal L. I., who had spent many years in collecting the fauna of Tibet and the Himalayan mountains, and who volunteered with ardour to become a sharer in the hardships and the perils of African travel. 

Accompanied at Aden, in the summer of 1854, we found the public voice so loud against our project, that I offered as a prenunitory to visit Harar in disguise, thus traversing the lands of the dreaded Eesa clan, and entering a place hitherto closed to us by a ruler with the worst of reputations. I could not suppress my curiosity about this mysterious city. It had been described to me as the head-quarters of slavery in Eastern Africa, and its territory as a land flowing with milk and honey; the birthplace of the coffee-plant, and abounding in excellent cotton, tobacco, saffron, gums, and other valuable products. But when I spoke of visiting it, men shook their heads, and in Oriental phrase declared that the human heart once struck off do not regress like the rose.

Our arrangements were soon made. Lieutenant Speke was detached to Gorgor Bander, with directions to explore, if possible, the celebrated Wadi Nogal, and to visit the Delhibants, most warlike of the Somal. Lieutenants Simpkin and Horner established their camp at Berbera, the great mart and harbour of the Eastern coast; and they employed themselves in ascertaining the productive resources of the country; in mastering the subject of slavery—still, I regret to say, flourishing in these regions; and in collecting cargoes for a more extended journey. They were also directed, in case of my detention by the Emir of Harar, to demand restitution before allowing the great caravan, which supplies that city with the luxuries of life, to leave the coast.

In the mean time I prepared for a trip into the interior. The political resident at Aden, our possession in the Red Sea, instructed
me with two Somali policemen, and I provided myself with a small stock of cloth, tobacco, rice, dates, trinkets, and other articles with which a Moslem merchant would load his camels. I determined to travel as El Haj Abdullah, a personage of some countenance. Perhaps my adventure and a short description of a city hitherto unvisited by Europeans may not be unacceptable to a Society which, though essentially scientific, does not withhold encouragement from the pioneer of discovery, reduced by hard necessity to use nature's instruments—his eyes and ears.

On the 25th October, 1854, I started from Aden in a Somali boat bound to Zayla, a small port on the African coast of the Red Sea, nearly opposite and about 140 miles from our Arabian settlement. After two days' sail we reached our destination, when I found that the winds, ordered three months before, and paid for, had not been procured. The governor, our old friend El Haj Shermarsky, sent immediately to the neighbouring port of Tadjoura, but between the delay of catching the animals and a contrary wind which delayed the vessel, I lost at Zayla twenty-eight days. Travellers, like poets, are mostly an angry race: by falling into a daily fit of passion, I proved to the governor and his son, who were profuse in their attentions, that I was in earnest. He supplied me with women (cooks), guides, servants, and camels—on my protest, warning me that the road swarmed with brigands, that the Eena had lately murdered his son, that the small-pox was depopulating Harar, and that the caim or prairie was certain destruction. One death to a man is a serious thing; a dozen neutralize one another. I contended myself with determining the good Shermarsky to be the true Oriental hyperbolist.

With four mules and five camels laden with cotton cloth, Stuart tobacco, rice, dates, various "natives," a few handsome bottles or sheets (intended as presents to chiefs) and necessaries for the way, on the 27th November, 1854, El Haj Abdullah, attended by the governor, his son Molahummo, and a detachment of Arab soldiers, passed through the southern gate of Zayla, and took the way of the Desert.

There are two lines of road from Zayla to the ancient capital of the Hadhah emirate. The more direct numbers eight long stages through the Eena territory, and two through the mountains of the Nola tribe of Gallus. In this country the "geel" corresponds with the "hannah" of Arab; it is a stage varying from four to five hours. The camels are laden at dawn, and they proceed leisurely till about 10 a.m., when they are allowed to rest and feed. The march is resumed in the afternoon, and at nightfall the beasts and baggage are deposited in a thorn fence, which serves as a protection against thieves and plunderers. I estimate the average progress to be 15 miles per diem; in places of danger the Somali are capable of marching 27 or 28 without a halt; on the contrary, when water and pasture should be found, they content themselves with a single short march. Shermarsky objected to my travelling by the direct route on account of the Eena and the Gallus. These tribes inherit from their ancestors the horrible practice of mutilation. They seek the honour of murder, to use their phrase, "as though it were a sport" and will spare a pregnant woman in hopes that the unborn child may be a male. Then bearing with him his trophy, the hero returns home and places it before his wife, who stands at the entrance of her hut uttering shrill cries of joy and sanctifying the prowess of her man. The latter sticks in his breast the head of an infant, and the spectacle is one of those regions, and is ever afterwards looked upon with admiration by his fellows.

The route which I pursued by no means direct; its sole merit is that, after a march of about 50 miles through the Eena territory, the merchant enters the lands of the Gallus and the Somali, whose life is, comparatively speaking, safe. My compass bearings were as follows:

1. From Zayla to Gaulljosa ... 339. 107° balance 19 miles.
2. From Gaulljosa to Kasaadj ... 449° ... 19
3. From Kasaaj to Dad ... 20° ... 19
4. From Dadal to Daraj ... 280° ... 11
5. From Daraj to Fari ... 197° ... 11
6. From Fari to Juyo ... 290° ... 10
7. From Juyo to Khalidi ... 297° ... 19
8. From Khalidi to Galias ... 297° ... 19
9. From Galias to Arbadhah ... 197° ... 93
10. From Arbadhah to Kord ... 197° ... 93
11. From Kord to Zayla ... 200° ... 63

The distances give a total of about 892 miles. As regards the names of stations, it must be observed that the Somali, like the Bedouins of Arabia, the Todas of the Neelgerry hills, and other wild races, are profuse in monosyllabic of every feature of ground. Each little watercourse, hill, date, and plain, is distinguished by some descriptive term: "Adal," for instance, denotes the quantity of gum found on the banks of the Ruba; "Kordaly" (the "middle-like") describes the peculiar appearance of a mass of rock.

To resume the narrative of my travels in this country, consisting of about twenty well-armed men and two women cooks, was led by one Naghi, a petty chief of the Eena tribe. Shermarsky had constituted him our aban or protector; in return for food and sundry presents of cloth and "notions" he affected us as safe-guard in the hour of danger. The "Abahud," as it is called, is an important and essential item on all marches; I may describe it generally as a primitive and truly African way of carrying common-house duties. Your "protector" constitutes himself lord of your life and property; without him you can neither buy nor sell; he regulates your marches, and supplies
you, for a consideration, with the necessities of the road. In six days we traversed the maritime plain of Zayla; its breadth is from 45 to 48 miles. The sand-hills, covered with sand-hoops and bristling with a scanty seleucuaceous vegetation. The sea sangled as through a burning-glass, and the rare wells yielded a poor supply of bitter bilge-water. As we advanced inland, the country improved. Frequent fiasseco, or basseleus, fringed with shrubs and thorns, fringed the coast, and showed traces of the coypus African moosun. The ground was covered with a growth of yellow grasses, not unlike an English stipple; the heads of the mummies appeared scattered over its surface; long lines of meandered canals passed their hands as they were being driven to pasture; numerous flocks of sheep, heifers, cows; the beautiful little sand-wantlinges bounded over the bushes; and flights of vultures, warning indicators of man's habitation in these lands, soared in the deadhead skies. Wherever we halted we were surrounded by wandering troops of Belemusins. The coarsest cloth is abroad and exceedingly plain, but tall and wide made: their finely hair is dyed dull by a mixture of salt and water, and is only Macusene a cast of melted sheep's fat. The toilette is simple—a dirty cotton cloth covering the loin, leather sandals, a round basket, a long dagger strapped round the waist, and two swords. The women are neatly habited in chocolate-coloured leather fringe at the bowler; their ornaments are zinc earrings, anklets of the same material, a necklace of beads, and a fillet of blue cloth worn only by matrons. The girls plait their wavy locks into numerous little pig-tails, and the heads of the naked children are shaved in a gallican fashion, with a crown of curly hair. By the power of my gun, I escaped a large plundering-party of Hair Awal horsemen, who were sweeping the plain with malicious intentions. A few rifles bullets would doubtless have beaten them off; in this land, if you show two soldiers per cent., the remainder will surely run. But pilgrims and peaceful travellers should avoid any contact with an uncivilized people that inhabit Africa. On the 3rd of December we arrived at the southern frontier of the Koss tribe, under the hills which form the first step to the highlands of Ethipia and fringe the Scarnell coast from Tushurah to Jerd Hafun or Goundafin; their formation is successively lenticular and cylindrical. The air became sensibly cooler, and we remarked an increased degree of fertility, with together traces of a moosun which lasts from June to September in the interior lands and cataracts which remain the faces of the hills. When I traversed this country it was a desert, the cold having driven the mummies to the maritime plain, but there fanners and cists dotted the slopes,
lating surface is covered with this season, with a glaring yellow coat of dried up grass; about half-way we halted for an hour in a shady or sunburned, where my Souli employed themselves in eating the grass. The place is infamous for malaria, and a small caravaan, hidden with hides and clarified butter to be harbored for males and gruits, had the honour (as the phrase of the country is) to sit under the shade of our sandals. Starting at 6 a.m., we arrived at 8 in the evening under the hills of Harar, with no other adventure than being dogged by a lion, who fled at the ring of a rifle. The cold was excessive, 42° in the hot day, and in the moonlight sun the mercury rose to 130°.

Though almost in sight of Harar, our advance was impeded by the Afar sands, and the Gallas to the east and south. The Gallas tribe was at council with the Goli, and, in such cases, the custom is for your friends to destroy each other to remain to your enemies to bar your progress. Guburke had given me a letter to the Geral Adam, chief of the Goli; a family feud between him and his brother-in-law, our Guibilum protector, rendered the latter chary of committing himself. We found ourselves forced to idleness until 12 o'clock, one of the chief's six wives, and his eldest son Shera, visited our khan and the purpose of escorting me to Harar. On the 27th of December we exchanged the rocks, thorn-trees, and dried grass of the desert for alpine scenery rendered by contrast truly delicious. We stood upon the portals of the highlands of Abyssinia, the huge primary chain which runs N. and S. along the length of Eastern Africa, and which—I hazards a conjecture—may have given rise to the theory of the "Lonely Mountains." This range is broken into abrupt stairs, often with table-forested summits; mountain ridges of the purest crystal bubble down the ravines, a system of fissures in the pink granite, and, collecting into one broad shallow stream, flow towards the Wobbe Shebaili. A species of finch (the Southerner of India, here called Dayiril) clutches the flanks and summit of the hills which are barred of earth by heavy rains; its presence in those lands usually denotes an altitude of 5000 feet. The valleys were yellow with cotton and tawny crops of the gigantic "Holcus Barbarum," it was "harvest-time" when the song of the reapers and the sound of the sickle gave pleasant proof that we had left the land of Bedouins. The roads were thronged with peasants and market-people, and in the hedges the dairy, the thistle, and the sweet savory were so many memorials of an English house.

We remained six days under the roof of the Geral Adam, one of the most trencherous and dangerous chiefs in this land of treachery and danger. My Soullah attended me with horror that preparations were being made to enter the city of evil fame. They attempted by all means in their power to deter me from the attempt, but the unfortunate little knew the persistency of a Haji. On the 2nd January, 1856, I mounted my mule, intending to enter Harar alone; the two policemen who were to accompany me, and I left my third servant with the Geral Adam, in charge of my heavy luggage and a letter of introduction forwarded to Lieutenants Stonyman and Horne in case of accidents.

We passed on over the hills of Harar by roads so rugged that loads are shifted from camel to donkey, and there I approached the city the men turned out of their villages to ask if that was the Turk who was going to his death? The question made me read to appear before the Emir in my own character, an Englishman. In these lands it is a point of honour not to conceal tribe or nation, and, as a general rule, the Ottomans wore the Turkish dress, and I the Frank. On the 3rd of January I entered Harar.

The ancient metropolis of the Haidia empire—now sadly decayed—is about 175 miles S.W. (200°) from Yaya and 219 S.W. (257°) from Berbera. This position, which I could ascertain only by dead reckoning, gives a latitude of 8° 20' and a longitude of 43° 17'; it agrees nearly with the traditional site according to the following authorities:

- Lieutenant Crowstonton, L.N.  [Lat. 8° 30' N.]
- Rev. Dr. Kempf  [Lat. 8° 20' N.]
- Captain Harris, R. A.  [Lat. 8° 15' N.]
- Capt. Drummond  [Lat. 8° 15' N.]
- Capt. Howe  [Lat. 8° 10' N.]  

My thermomter showed an altitude of about 5500 feet. The city lies upon the slope of a hill which falls from W. to E., in the latter direction are plantations of bunus, citrus, linus, the coffee-tree, the kaf—a thcin plant well known in Arabia—wars or "bastian, sulfur," and sugar-cane. Westward are gardens and orchards on a terraced slope; northward is a hill covered with tombs, and to the S. the city falls into a valley or ravine. It is about 1 mile long by half that breadth; it is a maze of streets and alleys like mountain roads; and the abodes, built of sandstone and granite cemented with a red clay, present a dingy appearance, strikingly different from the glaring white city of the Litt. The houses are flat-roofed, with small holes for windows and coarse wooden shutters; most of them have large court-yards and sepul-

* My thermometric observations were as follows:

- Alt. 8° 20' N.  [Lat. 8° 20' N.]
- Alt. 8° 10' N.  [Lat. 8° 10' N.]
- Alt. 8° 15' N.  [Lat. 8° 15' N.]
- Alt. 8° 20' N.  [Lat. 8° 20' N.]
- Alt. 8° 30' N.  [Lat. 8° 30' N.]

I have said that Harar is about 600 feet above the level of the sea, 24 ft. to the compassion's level, the observation was made outside and at some distance from the city.
large inverted triangles of scarlet upon the chest and the shoulders: it is girl with a long zone of Harar manufacture. No red is used, and annals are at a discount. The hair, coiled in blue muslin or network, is tied in two large bundles or buns below the ears, and the only ornaments are armlets of buffalo horn, coral necklaces, gilt hairpins, and Birmingham rings. Their voices are harsh, a phenomenon in Africa, where that organ is the only feature truly feminine; they chew tobacco with officiousness, drink beer, and demean themselves accordingly.

Harar is celebrated for sanctity, erudition, and fanaticism. The Shykhia Ababdi, El Beckri, and Ab Rakamah bequeathed to it a cincturation. Of modern celebrities the Kahi Khalis and Kahi Yussin rank foremost. None but the purely religious sciences are studied, books are scarce, and there is no such thing as the wafr front title for scholars, which makes men read in the East. Ten Harra sends forth a swarm of wilder, freer ignoramus, who, by too power of long prayer and chanting the Koran, live, as such folk mostly aspire to do, in plenty and idleness. Within the city a language is spoken quite different from the Somali and the Galaa Iskets; like the former, however, it is partly Semitic in grammar and etymology, the Arabic echo being grafted upon an African stock. I collected a vocabulary and the grammatical forms which will afford the learned some idea of this still unknown tongue. The prevailing sound is the ch of the Scouch "bech," consequently the effect is harsh and unpleasant. Men of education always know Amharic, and the stranger hears in the streets Amharic, Galla, Somali, and Dandaki.

The city is immediately surrounded by four tribes of Gallas, namely—

It is impossible to see this people without remarking its consequence to the Somalis. The Gallas of Cherran, Medien, and Pagum adoring Wak (the Creator), all living together without religious animosity. They might annihilate the city in a day, but it is not their interest to do so. The Emir pays them from 600 to 700 toobs per annum; they carry their lance into the palace-court, never run across H. I. II, gateway, as other must do, and drink grain strong drinks which they have not the art to brew. In return they are plundered by the citizens, and the Emir has made it Cecil to the Emir.

The Government may briefly be described as the Emir. This petty prince, whose signet bears the grandiose title of "Sultan son of Sultan," is by origin a Galla, by pretension a descendant VOL XXXI.
from the Caliph Alhakem. He is a beardless youth, 20 or 25 years old, short, thin, and apparently consumptive; his wrinkled brow and protruding eyes give him an appearance truly unprepossessing. Men say that he was poisoned by one of his wives; others declare that his ill health is the effect of a fall from his horse. He has four wives and two young children; during his three years' reign he has imprisoned a selection from his fifty eunuchs, and as, in this city, political offenders are hanged in a dark dungeon, confinement and death are nearly synonymous. The Emir preserves all the dignity of empire. These presented to him must kiss the back and palm of his hand. He must not be stared at. When hisough affects him, an attendant presents the hem of his robe. Bodies are not allowed at the doors, and those presented are dragged by the arms to the foot of the throne, a common Dutch custom. Running footmen precede the prince in the streets, flogging the people out of the way, and at mosques two or three matchlock-men stand over him, for he fears internal treachery as much as external violence. His war, the Great Muslim, and his mother, the Gissi Fatima, dare not address him without permission; he is, however, punctilious in administering justice. Imprisonment, fines, and the confinement of property, produce political influence. Misdemeanors are given up to the severest of laws, and their threats are promptly cut with a butcher's knife. Petty offenders are beaten in front and rear by two executioners armed with large hoes. Usually, the Emir allows his subjects to seek the benefits of the religious law as provided by the Cazil Abul Edelman. They prefer, however, the prince's prompt decision. Generally in the East a man expects to be defended by the civil power, he is morally certain of being stripped by the ministers of religion.

Habar is an essentially commercial town. Three caravans yearly convey to Berber the rich spoils of the Gallia country; these of December and February are small, while those in the month of March consist of at least 3000 souls and an equal number of camels. Every is a royal monopoly; the Emir buys it, and his subjects are forbidden to sell it. The best coffee comes from Jaffar, a Galla district about 7 days W. of Harar. The tobacco of this city are cultivated throughout Eastern Africa; hand-woven, they far surpass the produce of our manufacturers in beauty and durability. It is also the grand depot for the coffee, the warps, the admirable cotton, the gums, the tobacco, and the grains of the Gallia country. An idea of their cheapness may be formed from the fact that a dollar will purchase 1200 lbs., and the same sum suffices to provide a man with bread for a year. The only coin is a lot of brass commonly stamped; this "Mahallak" is the fifth part of a dollar, and the Emir imposes all subjects who

pass or possess any other money. Nothing can be more simple than the system of taxation; the cultivators pay 10 per cent. taken in kind, and traders are charged 1/5 of the cloth per donkey load; the consequence is that the animal is supported through the gates by four or five porters.

After sitting for an hour at the eastern gate, waiting for the permission of the Emir to enter his walls, we were ordered by a grim guard to follow. Arrived at the Emir's court-yard, we were told to dismount and ram, as the subjects of this prince cross the gateway or approach the palace but at a long trot. I obeyed the former and resisted the latter order. Then, wanting our mules, we stood under a tree close to the state prison, whence reminded the anxious clack of fettters, and turned deaf ears to the eager questions of the crowd. It was a love-day, and troops of Gallia caifalum, known by their heavy spurs and zoco armlets, passed in and out of the palace prolonging our anxious delay. At last, after being ordered to take off my clothes to and to give up my weapons, a mandate to which I again objected, we were escorted by the grim guard to the palace for a moment. A certain was raised, I entered with a loud salam, which was courteously returned by a small yellow man, not unlike an Indian Rajah, dressed in a cotton turban and a red robe trimmed with gold. As I advanced towards the throne, four or five chamberlains seizing my arms, according to custom, hurried me on till I stood over the Emir Ahmad ben Alhakem's extended fingers. Leaning me back, they then seated me in front of the presence, while my two Somalis attendants were giving the palm and the back of the thin yellow hand. Looking around the room I remarked the significant decorations of its walls—bright fettters and rustic mosaics. The couriers sat in double files extended at right angles from the throne; all had their right arms and heads hared in tokens of respect, and whenever approached the Emir saluted his head with the exceeding reverence. At the end of my survey I was called upon by the war or prince minister, who said to the Emir: "Every is a royal monopoly; the Emir buys it, and his subjects are forbidden to sell it. The best coffee comes from Jaffar, a Galla district about 7 days W. of Harar. The tobacco of this city are cultivated throughout Eastern Africa; hand-woven, they far surpass the produce of our manufacturers in beauty and durability. It is also the grand depot for the coffee, the warps, the admirable cotton, the gums, the tobacco, and the grains of the Galla country. An idea of their cheapness may be formed from the fact that a dollar will purchase 1200 lbs., and the same sum suffices to provide a man with bread for a year. The only coin is a lot of brass commonly stamped; this "Mahallak" is the fifth part of a dollar, and the Emir imposes all subjects who

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country's treasury. During my residence at Harar, the two Somalis who had been sent with me from Aden behaved admirably. As usual, I was regain in the town, I found an easy pretext for hurrying my departure. These townsmen are all princes on a large scale. "You enter at your own bidding—you leave at another's"—is the native proverb, true and significant. My speedy dismissal was perhaps owing to a report that three brothers had been sent by the Government of India to Eastern Africa. Visions of cutting off caravans induced the Emir to get rid of me, he being, it is said, much puzzled how to treat so uncomfortable a case. Yet I had no reason to complain of him; and as a proof that my modest endeavours to establish friendly relations were not unsuccessful, the Prince wrote, immediately after my departure to Aden, requesting to be furnished with a "Frank physician." He finally declined one for a while for myself and a letter addressed to our Political Resident in Aden.

I offer no description of my return route to Berbera, as it was a mere adventure of uncommon hardship. The accident which has for the present terminated our wanderings is deserving of some detail.

On Saturday, the 7th of April, the H. E. L. Company's schooner Maha (Libye) was lying off Berbera, her guns roaring forth a parting salute to the Somalis. The great mart of Eastern Africa was, at the time of my second landing, in a state of confusion. But a few hours before the Harar caravans entered; and purchase, barter, and exchange were being carried on in the utmost hurry. All day and during the greater part of the night the town rang with the loud voices of buyers and sellers. To specify no other valuable articles of traffic, 500 slaves of both sexes were in the market.

The next morning I was up early, accompanied by two armed men, and by two oarsmen, on a sortie to the southern hills, where there had been some skirmishing the day before. About 9 a.m., I was returning from the ground chosen for the battle, when I was stopped by a man who pointed to the city. He told me that the town was deserted, and that the enemy were about to attack. I was much surprised at this intelligence, and determined to go to the town at once.

On the 8th of April, about 1 p.m., in the afternoon, I arrived at Berbera, and was greeted by the friendly Emir, who received me with great demonstrations of respect. I was immediately conducted to the citadel, where I was received with great honor and respect. The Emir, who was a man of great politeness and refinement, gave me a hearty welcome, and promised to do everything in his power to facilitate my visit to the town.

I was conducted to a large, stone-built palace, where I was shown every mark of hospitality. The food was excellent, and the wine was of the best quality. I was allowed to remain as long as I pleased, and was provided with every convenience that could be desired.

On the 9th of April, I was conducted to the city, which was in a state of great confusion. The streets were crowded with people, and the markets were thronged with buyers and sellers. The town was in a state of great excitement, and the air was charged with the noise of guns and muskets. The enemy were said to be in very strong force, and the situation was extremely critical.

I was conducted to the citadel, where I was received with great demonstrations of hospitality. The Emir, who was a man of great politeness and refinement, gave me a hearty welcome, and promised to do everything in his power to facilitate my visit to the town.

I was conducted to a large, stone-built palace, where I was shown every mark of hospitality. The food was excellent, and the wine was of the best quality. I was allowed to remain as long as I pleased, and was provided with every convenience that could be desired.
With my little remaining strength I reached the spit at the head of the creek, was carried into the vessel, and persuaded the crew to arm themselves and repose to the scene of our disaster. Presently Lieutenant Horns appeared, and closely following him Lieutenant Speke, who had escaped from his captors, was supported in badly wounded. Lastly, the body of Lieut. Sturman was brought on board, spared through the heart, with the mark of a lance piercing the abdomen, and a frightful gash apparent in the forehead. The lamented officer had ceased to exist; his body was stark and cold; we preserved his remains till the morning of the 20th instant, when we were compelled to commit them to the deep. Lieutenant Horns declared his long service. We were overwhelmed with particles of his soil, till even the ground, and snow covering the long grass, the road descends rapidly into the Matuta. In less than half an hour the trees of tropical growth began to rise on either side of the steep zigzag path, the heat became oppressive, torrents of rain fell continuously, while, as the mist at intervals closed away, hills became visible on every side, clothed with gigantic trees and tangled underwood.

In conclusion, I must remark that a number of little combinations gave rise to our disaster. Our arrangements were hurriedly made. We could not take from Aden the number of well-trained Smalai policemen upon which I had originally calculated, and we had to depend upon raw recruits, who fled at the first charge. But what we had ever been led to believe that Borebas was as safe as Bombay itself, and we expected, after a month's march, that the men would be educated to fight. Political events at Aden also prevented our obtaining the war-steamboat Mohi, whose presence would have rendered the coast safe, and once in the interior we should have been secure from the Bedouins, who have a terror of firearms. Had our letters despatched from Aden arrived when expected, we should have been enabled to leave Borebas with the Ogolshay cannon.

Yet my opinion of the Smalai is unchanged; nor would I assume the act of a band ofbrigand—for such was the cause of our disaster—to be the expression of a people's animus. They have learned to respect us: four or five of their number were, it is reported, killed or mortally wounded that fatal night, and if my plan for punishing the outrage be carried out, it will be long before a similar event occur again. The officers whom I have had the honour to command professed themselves ready to renew the attempt; and when the torrent has subsided, we would start from Kurrum, a safer though a less interesting route. Should we be deterred by the loss of a single life, however valuable, from proceeding, plans now made public in Aden, we shall not rise in the estimation of the races around us. Briefly, permission to carry out our original projects is the sole recompense we hope for what we have suffered.

VI.—On the supposed Sources of the River Paruas, one of the principal Tributaries of the Amazon.

By C. R. Maxham, Eng., F.G.S.

On the 1st of May, 1858, I left the little town of Pauar-jambu, which is 40 miles N.W. from Caucro, the ancient city of the Tonos, with the intention of exploring and collecting information concerning the valleys to the eastward, and, if possible, penetrating to the banks of the Madre de Dios, or Paruas. From the level plains on the summits of the last range of the Andes, where the clouds, charged with grief; we had lived together like brothers. Lieut. Sturman was a universal favourite, and truly melancholy was the contrast between the hour when he lay down to rest full of life and spirits, and the evening coming when we saw him a livid corpse.

A journey down the steep path, of three hours' duration, I accomplished the descent, which was 8 miles long, and reached the banks of the torrent of Chiricuyan, where a little shed had been erected. It was near sunset when I thus found myself at the entrance of the Montatica. The Montatica, descending by a splendid waterfall at the side of the path, swept by the little level space where the shed was built and disappeared almost immediately between the spurs of the hills. From this small amphitheatre thus formed, the hills rise up perpendicularly on every side, covered with tangled brushwood, furna, and creepers of most brilliant colours; and wherever a projecting point gave room for roots to take hold, the space was occupied by leafy palms and other forest trees. The Ñeuryuyu (or green river) falls into the Tonos, one of the tributaries of the Paruas. Towards sunset it ceased running, and the mist descending, it was presented an unclouded beauty. The brilliant and varied colors of the foliage and flowers, the splendid butterflies of immense size, and birds of the gaudy plumage, humming birds shaking the dew drops from the scarlet salvia, parrots crowding on the upper branches of the trees, with the sparkling fall of the torrent, combined to form a fairy-like scene of surpassing beauty. 

* * *

"The passage into these valleys, where the corn grows, is over that high mountain of snow."—Cuvier, describing a large animal preparatory, which makes a man's head gloomy; so took down: how much more instructive must be the account and description given, of a nation in form of a serpent!—

C. R. Maxham, Eng., F.G.S.

The topical valleys and plains to the eastward of the Peruvian Andes are called "the Montatica."