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ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY FROM NOV. 13TH TO NOV 27TH, 1871.

'*Ollanta*; an Ancient Inca Drama.' Translated from the original Quichua by C. R. Markham, C.B. 1871. Donor the author. '*Du mesé di escursione alle Coste Belgiche*,' etc. By Comm. Cristoforo Negri. Firenze, 1871. Donor the author. '*Notes on Chinese Literature*.' By A. Wylie. Shanghai, 1867; and '*The Chinese Recorder*.' By S. L. Baldwin, in Foochow. Donor H. E. Hollingworth, Esq. '*Papers on the Eastern and Northern Extensions of the Gulf Stream*.' From the German of Petermann, Freeden and Mühry. By Captain R. H. Wyman and E. R. Knorr. Washington, 1871. Donor the author. '*Bloemlezing uit Maleische Geschriften*.' By G. K. Niemann. 1871. Donor the author.

ACCESSIONS TO MAP-ROOM SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13TH, 1871.—Chinese Map of China in 32 parts, published in 1862. By King-Hang-Low, Acting Governor of Hoo-peh. Topography of China and neighbouring States, with Table of Geographical Positions. Map of the New Course of the Yellow River, on 4 sheets. By Ney Elias, jun., F.R.G.S. All the above presented by H. G. Hollingworth, Esq. Map of Thessaly, on 2 sheets. By H. Kiepert. Presented by the author. Map of Turkey in Europe, on 4 sheets, by H. Kiepert. Presented by the author. Government Survey of India, 5 quarter sheets, viz., 1, N.E.—1a, S.E.—8, S.W.—8, S.E.—125, S.W. Presented by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India. Forest Map of Mysore. Presented by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India. Map of Australia, on 8 sheets. By Dr. A. Petermann.

The President, after a few prefatory remarks, read the following letters from Dr. Kirk to the late Sir Roderick Murchison and to the Foreign Office, regarding Dr. Livingstone:—

"DEAR SIR RODERICK,

"Zanzibar, 25th Sept., 1871.

"You will see, by the account sent to the Foreign Office, that difficulties have sprung up in Unyamwezi and cut off Ujiji from the coast; and as it happens no Ujiji news has been received for some time back, we may be a long time in getting any certainty of Dr. Livingstone's movements.

"All I can say is, that I lack reports from that place: neither he nor his Arab friend Mohamed bin Gharib had arrived; but there was a story, which I

think worthless, to the effect that they were both to go round the south end by way of Wemba.

"I can yet get no correct account of Manyema: every one knows it, but I find no one who has been there. I have seen people who have crossed the Tanganyika from Ujiji, and seen the Manyema caravans setting out, but it seems to be rather a new and special line of trade.

"I am glad that the governor of Unyanyembe is to be removed: he is the one on whom the war there is laid, and if he had been killed we should all have been better satisfied.

"Mr. Stanley was at Unyanyembe and in the fight, but the Arabs abandoned him; four of his men were killed, but he escaped. His prospect of getting on is at present small, but I really cannot say where he desires to go to; he never disclosed his plans here. I sent up letters for Dr. Livingstone under his care, and put also the things (of the second lot, the first has reached Ujiji) for Livingstone into his hands.

"I fancy he will make a point of meeting Livingstone first; but whether, having seen what is best to do, he will push on or come back, I cannot say. He was ill of fever when he wrote, but has got tolerably well.

"The men who came down return to-morrow, and ought to be there in twenty-five days, for the road is fine, and grass and food plenty.

"Believe me, dear Sir Roderick, yours most sincerely,

"JOHN KIRK."

"MY LORD,

"Zanzibar, 22nd Sept., 1871.

"Letters just received by special messengers, who left Unyanyembe about a month ago, inform us of a sad disaster that has befallen the Arab settlement there, and that will in all likelihood stop the road to Ujiji and Karague for some time to come.

"All accounts agree as to the main facts; but naturally the letters written by Mr. Stanley, an American gentleman, who was on the spot, are the most circumstantial and reliable. I am indebted to Mr. Webb, the American Consul here, for some details related in those letters, which will, no doubt, be published in full elsewhere. Briefly the position is this—the Arab colony of the interior, whose centre is Unyanyembe, has for some time been led by a set of avaricious unprincipled men, whose acts of extortion, both on natives and the poorer Arabs, have for some time back been complained of to Seyd Burgash, who is impotent to interfere at such a distance, so long as things go well for the Arabs. A chief, whose village was one day's journey distance on the main road to Ujiji and Karague, fell under the displeasure of the Unyanyembe settlers, and his place was attacked in due course by a force of about 1500 muskets. Seeing that he could not hold the blockaded village, he retired with his followers, and formed an ambush for the return of the attacking party, when laden with ivory and other booty. The result was disastrous to the Arabs, and a great many were killed, including ten or twenty of the leaders, men of good family here. The Arab retreat soon became a rout, and much property was lost. Fortunately Mr. Stanley, who was weak and ill from fever, managed to return to Unyanyembe, but he was abandoned by the Arabs, whose conduct he speaks of as cowardly in the extreme.

"Such is the constant state of things in Central Africa. The road to Ujiji will now be shut for a time, and when we may again hear of Dr. Livingstone is most uncertain. One of the men who came down now says, that there was a rumour that Mahomed bin Gharib and the white man (Dr. Livingstone) would come back from Manyema by way of Marungu and Wemba. The report is worth nothing, I consider, but I may as well mention it.

The last lot of things sent by Mr. Churchill had reached Unyanyembe, as I have before reported; but I now learn that the head-man, in whose charge

they were, died the day after setting out for Ujiji, and the goods were brought back to Unyanyembe. I have little faith now in the Sheikh Saeed bin Salim, and shall write to Mr. Stanley, who will probably not have been able as yet to quit the place, and authorize him to make such arrangements as he can to get the goods forwarded, or, if not, to act for me to the best of his judgment in protecting them from plunder; but in such a state of things as this, it will be most fortunate if they have escaped, and ever reach their destination.

"The messengers will start on their return in a day or two, and should be able to accomplish the journey easily in seventy or seventy-five days, for the way so far is open and food plenty.

"To the Arab ivory trade the present position of affairs is most serious; they have now settled far up in the country, and collected about them thousands of slaves drawn from the country itself: these they cannot do without, and yet cannot trust; they are all armed, and may turn against their masters.

"The chief with whom they are at war is well provided with arms, and a caravan of his is now on the way up with several hundred kegs of powder, to stop these people on the way. The Wasagara have been told already to attack and plunder them; but this, too, may be but the beginning of similar attacks on Arab caravans, for the wild tribes, when once plunder has been encouraged, will care little whom they attack.

"I have, &c.,

"JOHN KIRK,

"Acting Political Agent and Consul for Zanzibar."

"Earl Granville."

Captain R. F. BURTON said this was not the first time that disturbances had broken out between the Arab trading communities and the natives of Unyanyembe and Unyamwezi. The present state of things might continue for two or three years; but if Livingstone wished to avoid passing through that district there would be no difficulty in his returning by the south of Lake Tanganyika. At the same time, a white man like Livingstone, fearless, and speaking the native languages, would be able safely to pass through places in which no black man dare venture. He had not the slightest fear with regard to Livingstone. He was convinced that the moment anything happened to him the news would rapidly spread to the coast, and the Society would hear of it almost as if it came by telegraph.

The following Papers were then read:—

- I.—*Notes on an Exploration of the Tulul el Safá, the Volcanic Region east of Damascus, and the Umm Nirán Cave.* By Captain R. F. BURTON, Medallist R.G.S.

[ABBRIEMENT.]

ON Wednesday, May 24, 1871, we—that is to say, Mr. Charles F. Tyrwhitt Drake and I—left Damascus, intending to commence a tour through the Hauran Mountain (Jebel Durúz Haurán) by an exploration of the Tulul el Safá. Little need be said concerning our first eight days of travelling over a well-worn line, except that we found the mountain, like Syria and Palestine generally, explored as to the surface in certain well-worn lines, and elsewhere absolutely