

the voice requisite for the production of the sweet harmonious sounds of which the human throat is capable. Singing with them is merely sustaining a series of monotonous high-toned falsetto notes resembling the sad howling of the wind on a stormy night, or the wail of a banshee, rather than the rich flow of song to which our western training has accustomed us. This melancholy music is, however, introduced on all festive occasions, and itinerant musicians are constantly met with in the streets. Every group of jugglers or actors has one or two male or female performers on the guitar and flute accompanying it, and at the picnics in the temple and tea gardens musicians are constantly to be found who entertain the pleasure-seekers with their dismal strains.

At some of the feasts in the spring, evening water parties are made up, that row about on the smooth land-locked bays in large boats ornamented with coloured lanterns. There is generally a musician on board, and at a distance the melancholy sounds wafted over the calm surface possess a wild melody, in keeping with the lofty hills and the deep unruffled waters.

The Bikuni, daughters of one of the sectarian priesthoods, wander over the country begging alms, and carrying in their hands various kinds of musical instruments, such as the guitar before alluded to, or a small flute, with which they attract attention to their wants.

In wedding processions, when the bride goes to her husband's home, musicians herald her progress with loud-sounding horns and drums and a kind of shrill clarionet. In China also we find this custom prevalent, of singers and musicians performing upon miserable flutes and tinkling guitars, proceeding at the head of all bridal processions, as well as others of an entirely religious nature. A system of musical notation exists, but it is not elaborated; in fact, music, as a science, is unknown in these vast countries. It is curious to find nations, highly civilised in many respects, possessing the same organisation as that of their more musical fellow-creatures, yet with all these faculties of harmony undeveloped, not from want of power—for the Chinese at our missionary schools can be taught to sing quite melodiously, and the Jesuits instruct their neophytes to intone the various chants of the Romanist service with singular sweetness—but simply from want of skill. And so with the Japanese: there is no physical incapacity to prevent them producing good music, but a want of knowledge of the art. We have before alluded to the absence of singing birds in the Japanese islands, and it is a singular coincidence, that the inhabitants of these countries, where the sweet song of the lark and the rich notes of the nightingale, the blackbird, and the thrush are unknown, should in their music imitate the harsh melancholy cry of the gull and the hawk, instead of developing the numberless sweet sounds, the most varied and melodious of all of which the human voice is capable. Such music as is known is imparted to Japanese ladies and forms part of their education, and to women of the lower classes it also furnishes a means of employment. •

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

The tidings of the safety of Dr. Livingstone, after his long disappearance in the interior of Africa, spread a thrill of thankful gladness through all civilized lands. None of the detailed accounts since made known approach in interest the first letters which reached England. They were addressed to his trusty friend Sir Roderick Murchison, who persevered in his confident expectation of the traveller's return, even after the event had been given up as hopeless by almost all "African authorities."

The first letters read before the Royal Geographical Society are worthy of being recorded:—

"Bemba, Feb. 2, 1867.

"My dear Sir Roderick,—This is the first opportunity I have had of sending a letter to the coast, and it is by a party of black Arab slave-traders from Bagamoyo, near Zanzibar. They had penetrated here for the first time, and came by a shorter way than we did. In my despatch to Lord Clarendon I gave but a meagre geographical report because the traders would not stay more than half a day; but having written that through the night, I persuaded them to give me an hour or two this morning, and if yours is fuller than his lordship's, you will know how to manage. I mentioned to him that I could not go round the northern end of Lake Nyassa, because the Johanna men would have fled at first sight of danger; and they did actually flee, on the mere report of the acts of the terrible Mazitu, at its southern extremity. Had I got them fairly beyond the lake they would have stuck to me; but so long as we had Arab slave parties passing us they were not to be depended on, and they were such inveterate thieves it was quite a relief to get rid of them, though my following was reduced thereby to nine African boys, freed ones, from a school at Nassick, Bombay. I intended to cross at the middle of the lake, but all the Arabs (at the crossing station) fled as soon as they heard that the English were coming, and the owners of two dhows now on the lake kept them out of sight lest I should burn them as slavers. I remained at the town of Mataka, which is on the watershed between the seacoast and the lake, and about fifty miles from the latter. There are at least a thousand houses in the town, and Mataka is the most powerful chief in the country. I was in his district, which extends to the lake, from the middle of July to the end of September. He was anxious that some of the liberated boys should remain with him, and I tried my best to induce them, but in vain. He wished to be shown how to make use of his cattle in agriculture; I promised to try and get some other boys acquainted with Indian agriculture for him. That is the best point I have seen for an influential station, and Mataka showed some sense of right when his people going without his knowledge to plunder at a part of the lake, he ordered the captives and cattle to be sent back. This was his own spontaneous act, and it took place before our arrival; but I accidentally saw the strangers. They consisted of fifty-four women and children, about a dozen boys, and thirty head of cattle and calves. I gave him a trinket in memory of his good conduct, at which he was delighted, for it had not been without opposition that he carried out his orders, and he showed the token of my approbation in triumph.

"Leaving the shores of the lake we endeavoured to ascend Kirk's Range; but the people below were afraid of those above, and it was only after an old friend, Katosa or Kiemasura, had turned out with his wives to carry our extra loads that we got up. It is only the edge of a plateau peopled by various tribes of Manganja, who had never been engaged in slaving; in fact, they had driven away a lot of Arab slave traders a short time before. We used to think them all Maravi, but Katosa is the only Maravi chief we know. The Kanthunda, or climbers, live on the mountains that rise out of the plateau. The Chipeta live more on the plains there. The Echewa still farther north. We went west among a very hospitable people till we thought we were past the longitude of the Mazitu; we then turned north, and all but walked into the hands of a marauding party of that people. After a rather zig-zag course we took up the point we had left in 1863, or say 20' west of Chimanga's, crossed the Loangwa in 12° 45' south, as it flows in the bed of an ancient lake, and, after emerging out of this great hollow we ascended the plateau of Lobisa at the southern limit of 11° south. The hills on one part of it rise up to 6,600 feet above the sea. . . . I have done all the hunting myself, have enjoyed good health, and no touch of fever; but we lost all our medicine, the sorest loss of goods I ever sustained, so I am hoping, if fever comes on, to fend it off by native remedies, and trust in the watchful care of a higher Power.

"I have had no news whatever from the coast since we left it, but hope for letters and our second stock of goods (a small one) at Ujiji. I have been unable to send anything either; some letters I had written in hopes of meeting an Arab slave-trader, but they all 'skedaddled' as soon as they heard that the English were coming. I could not get any information as to the route followed by the Portuguese in going to Cazembe till we were on the Babisa plateau. It was then pointed out that they had gone to the westward of that which from the Loangwa Valley seems a range of mountains. The makers

of maps have placed it (the Portuguese route) much too far east. The repetition of names of rivers, which is common in this country, probably misled them. There are four Loangwas flowing into Lake Nyassa."

The following letter from Dr. Kirk, dated Zanzibar, the 1st of March, was also read:—

"I am glad to announce that a letter has just been received from Miramuezi confirming the news brought three weeks ago. Livingstone has been in Ujiji in the middle of October last, where he would meet the agent in charge of stores and letters sent to him from Zanzibar. This letter reached us in fifty days. It was bought by slaves in advance. The Arabs of the caravan will be here in fifteen or twenty days hence; probably they will be bearers of Dr. Livingstone's letters from Ujiji. He has, no doubt, long ago gone forward to Albert Nyanza. I sent him Sir Samuel Baker's map, together with an account of all I know of the geographical problems involved, for it must be remembered that when Dr. Livingstone left England Sir Samuel Baker's discoveries had not yet been made known. With this map in his hand he will be able to apply himself to ascertaining the missing links in the chain of lakes. The Sultan of Johanna has been addressed on the subject of Mooss and his companions, and I trust he will take measures to have them punished, not simply for having fled, but for having given a false tale in their defence, and thus caused so much grief as well as no little expense."

First and last, in all his travels, the suppression of the slave trade and the permanent amelioration of the poor African races, have been the ruling motives of the good missionary traveller. In the recent volume of another missionary of African fame, the Rev William Ellis, "Madagascar Revisited," there is an interesting letter from Dr. Livingstone, written while Mr. Ellis was at the Court of King Radama II. Dr. Livingstone says—

Apart from all consideration of justice and mercy, it is impolitic to allow a traffic which tends to render labour unpopular. The Malagasee will rise in the scale of nations only by hard work. You may tell the king, if you think proper, that while labouring to put a stop to this horrid traffic by pacific means, it will be a joy to my heart in Africa if he will co-operate in the same noble work in Madagascar. I got out a steamer at the beginning of this year for Lake Zanzibar alone. She is in pieces, and when we get up to the cataracts of the Shire we shall unscrew her, and carry her past; but we had to put her together first in the low Zambesi delta, and had great sickness in consequence. My dear wife, who I never intended for that exposure, was the only victim of the fever, and I now feel lonelier in the world than before. Much reduced by sickness; and having a Johanna crew who wished to return home, we came away in the Pioneer."

On this letter Mr. Ellis remarks—

"The king was interested, and deeply affected by Dr. Livingstone's statement of the frightful number of slaves exported *vid* Zanzibar. In reference to Madagascar, he said it was contrary to his wishes and orders that any should be imported to the country, and he did not think there could be many brought in. He had sent orders to the authorities to prevent slaves from another country being landed, or sold. To myself Dr. Livingstone's letter was welcome and refreshing. It was just the kind of letter which one Christian labourer might be expected to write to another so circumstanced. I had been near him abroad, some years before in Mauritius: we had been long acquainted, and I had last met him in London, and when I found that he had sailed along the west coast of Madagascar, it did not seem to me that we were so far apart as before. I had always honoured his noble self-devotion, and steadfastness of purpose in pursuit of the great objects at which he aimed. I had always believed that the end of the geographical was to be, in his aim, the beginning of the missionary enterprise, and that in whatever direction his steps might tend, he would carry with him a true missionary heart. I believed also that he was, to his own apprehension, furthering the great missionary work by opening up new fields to Christian effort, and by endeavouring to substitute, for the misery, and the murderous barbarism of the slave trade, honourable and lawful commerce as a means of preparing the way for the entrance of the Gospel of freedom and of peace. I have sympathised deeply with him in the heroic patience he manifested under the suffering and disappointment recorded in his last volume, and most earnestly desire for him an easier path, and happier results, in the arduous enterprise in which he is now engaged."

Varieties.

POLICE IN TOWNS.—The last annual return of the numbers of the police shows that in 1866 the police in the city of London, officers and men, were 699, being one to every 147 of resident population. In the metropolitan police district the number was 6,839, being one to every 500 of resident population, not reckoning the 739 dockyard police. The cost of the city police for the year was £60,123, and of the metropolitan police, £574,457. In Liverpool the police force was 1,100 in number, or one to every 440 inhabitants; the cost for the year was £76,844. In Manchester the number was 674, or one to 532 inhabitants, and the cost, £41,936; in Salford, 112, or one to 1,008 inhabitants, and the cost, £7,820. In Birmingham the force was 377 strong, or one to 891; and the cost, £26,119. In Leeds, 270, or one to 845; the cost, £17,675. In Sheffield, 245, or one to 891; the cost, £14,875. In Bristol, 303, or one to 540; the cost, £19,854. In Newcastle, 154, or one to 794; the cost, £12,362. In Hull, 152, or one to 692; the cost, £10,546. In many of the smaller towns, which maintain a separate force, the police are not one to 1,000 of population, and the total number is, therefore, inconsiderable. Some of the small boroughs present in the return almost the caricature of a force; Bodmin is returned as having a police force of three for its 4,500 inhabitants; Berwick five for its 13,000. The average for all England, town and country, is one to 894 of the estimated population. In these calculations the number of the police "establishment" is taken, and not the actual number on any particular day; and therefore where there were any vacancies the force is to that extent over-estimated. By the number of inhabitants is meant the number of persons sleeping in the town; persons resident during the business hours of the day, but sleeping out of the town, are not counted. In the city of London the resident population in the day is more than double that of the night; and the police force is only one to every 406 of the resident population in the daytime.

LOUIS PHILIPPE.—"He was a prince and a Bourbon; he was born and educated in the bosom of the old French monarchy, at the court of its kings; he was not a stranger to the maxims and traditions of the monarchies of Henry IV and of Louis XIV; he knew and comprehended them, not as a history we study, but as we know and comprehend facts we have witnessed. Very enlightened as to the vices and weaknesses of the old system, he was also well aware of the principles of government which long duration had introduced into it, and he judged it without animosity as without ignorance. Associated, on the other hand, from his youth with the ideas and events of the Revolution, he was sincerely attached to its cause, but also strongly impressed with its wanderings, faults, griefs, and reverses, and greatly mistrustful of the revolutionary passions and practices which he had seen in full play. All these spectacles, all these reminiscences, so many impressions and observations so variously heaped together in the short space of his life, had left him sadly perplexed as to the issue of such a great social crisis and the success of his personal efforts to put an end to it. He believed at the same time in the necessity of free government and in the difficulty of its establishment. We were talking one day alone in a small drawing-room at Neuilly; the king was in one of his moments of doubt and discouragement—I in my usual habit of optimism and hope. We were arguing with animation. He took me by the hand. 'Listen, my dear minister,' said he; 'I wish with all my heart you may be right, but do not deceive yourself. A Liberal Government in face of absolute traditions and the spirit of revolution is very difficult; we want Liberal Conservatives, and we have not enough. You are the last of the Romans.'"—*Guisot.*

VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY IN AMERICA.—The marvellous rise in real property in the metropolis of America is shown by the following from the "New York Times":—"The south corner of Broadway and Bond-street has been valued within a lifetime at ten dollars; it was sold once for 250 dollars, then offered for 500 dollars, then for 2800 dollars, and in 1839 was again sold for 18,000 dollars. Recently an enterprising Sewing Machine Company offered 200,000 dollars for it, which being declined they have leased the premises for a long term, and are about to open the most magnificent sewing-machine establishment in the world. During the past forty years the property has doubled in value every seven years. The whole of New York Island was once sold for ten dollars."