A New Account of the Last Days of Africa's Most. Powerful Ruler.

MSIRI LOST HIS MIND

and Changed From an Enlightened Sovereign to a Tyrant.

HE MET DEATH AS A TRAITOR.

During Fis Tarly Pule He Gave Women qual Political Eights.

THE DISMEMBERMENT OF HIS EMPIRE

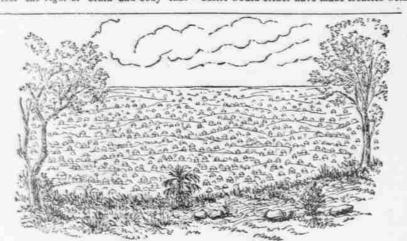
WHITTEN FOR THE DISPATOR. In the last month of 1891 the most famous was shot by a white man, and Garenganze, | self. which he had consolidated into a powerful kingdom, was shattered and broken. The s ory of the old King, Msiri, who, from an humble trader, became the most despotic and feared of all African rulers, reads like a remance. If in his declining years he had not lost the vigor of brain and body that I Msiri would either have made treaties with

His people grew rapidly to hate him on account of his relentless and colossal cruelty. For many years he had been kind to his subjects. Even the tribes whom he had conquered and upon whom he had inflicted great cruelty until he thoroughly subjugated them, were won by his subsequent justice and kindness to give him loyal obe-dience. As he grew old, however, his atti-tude towards both his subjects and the whites changed. Crawford savs "he became wrapped in the solitude of his own originality. A look of cunning craftiness came into his shriveled features and his general

and powerful native ruler in Central Africa | lethargic condition quite unlike his former

Policy of the Kongo State.

The first of King Leopoid's envoys to reach Garenganze was Lieutenant Le Marinel, and up to the end of last year the King had sent three large expeditions to Mukurru to establish the State's authority there. In an earlier period of his career



had given him ascendency over hundreds of

chiefs, he and his kingdom would not have been doomed, for the whites would gladty have made him their ally. He chose in his last months to treat them with treachery, and he was trying to kill a white man who had been sent to him when a bullet pierced

Msiri was the son of a Unyamwesi trader, and his youth was spent in his father's home, almost midway between the Indian Ocean and Lake Tanganyika. Sometimes his father took him hundreds of miles to the southwest, beyond the big lake, to trade in the Garengange country, among the mentern headwaters of the Kongo. In his early manhood his father sent him alone to to this country to buy ivory and slaves, and it was then that he won the lasting gratitude of Chief Sanga by helping him destroy enemies who were sorely pressing the

Made Belr to a King.

The aged ruler made the young man his heir, and not long after, upon the death of Sunga, the young foreigner became the rules of Sanga, or Garenganze. Then Msiri conceived the idea of making the Sanga people the nucleus of a great kingdom. He permitted nothing to stand in the way of his ambition. He put to death all who op-posed him. The only ruler in Central Af-rica who had guns, and who knew where to replenish his stock of firearms, he was su-perior to any combination against him.

One fear alone oppressed him. He was dependent for munitions of war upon traders east of him. He thought some day they might wish to ruin him and so would refuse to sell him frearms. He had heard that far to the west was another sea coast which the whites vis-ited. He sent a large expedition from the creder of the continent in search of this western coast. The party, heavy laden with ivery, went west until they met Portuguese traders, who sold them guns and powder. Msiri had thus opened a new trade route, and secured a new source of

What a Missionary Found Him.

So he went on conquering tribe after tribe, until his country extended from the hills nividing the Zambesi and the Kongo water systems on the south to the Upemba and Morro lakes on the north, and covered all the country between the Luapula and Luniaba headwaters of the Kongo. A large region beyond these limits was tributary to him, and paid heavy tribute in trory. His capital was Mukurru, which means "inhabited plain," and the town is one of the largest in Central Africa. It is a fair day's walk across this populous center. Gardens and fields stretch away for miles, and bundreds of clusters of buts are serviced all over the district. scattered all over the district.

Nine years ago the Missionary Arnot

Sine years ago the Missionary Arnot found Msiri at the height of his power. The King gladly welcomed the solutary white man who had come to live in his capitat. Arnot was the historian of Msiri's palmy days, and the Missionary Crawford, of the King's deline and fall. Arnot says in his "Garengange" that the King had ployed as officers of State, and they were responsible for the government of large districts. All the every in the country belonged to the King. Minor chiefs were expected to bring every tusk they secured to Misiri. They might keep for themselves the rubber and slaves, but the man who retained a tusk of ivory was put to death if his sin found him out.

His Policy Toward Women.

If the Kongo Free State had known of the existence of this powerful empire when the State was formed, in all probability it would not have been included within the State's domain; for the policy of King Leopold and his advisers was to leave outside the State the powerful native rulers who were likely to give trouble. It was this policy that gave to the Kongo State its remarkable southern boundary, the empire of Lunda being left outside. But when the State was organized Garenganze was not known, and so it was included within the State's territory. About two years ago the Kongo State, hearing that Mairi had given a triendly reception to the white missionaries who had visited him, decided to make its sovereignty over the

country effective, endeavoring at the same time to keep on good terms with the King. Msiri was then very well known, and his great power and his kindness to the whites had given Europeans a very favorable iminterested in the remarkable features of his government. Many women read with interest of the Garenganze country where Msiri had given unusual rights and privileges to their sex. He had not only given many districts to his wives to govern, but women were also allowed to attend the courts and to have a voice equal to that of the men in suggesting the policy of the State. Msirr was popular with the women of his country. He frowned upon wife beaters. Any woman who was habitually illureated by her husband was permitted by the King to return to her father without any compensation to the cruel husband, even though he had paid the father a heavy

How the Empire Fell. Mr. Daniel Crawford, one of English missionaries in Garenganze, has just published in the organ of his mission-ary society, an account of the old King's latest years and of the disintegration of the empire he had consolidated. Mr. Craw-ford says that within the pust four years,

ford says that within the past four years, while Mairi's rule nominally extended over an enormous area, his subjects were in a constant state of revolt. The Wasanga, the original people of the old chief who made Mairi his heir, were particularly active in revolt against the King. They carried on what Crawford calls "a night guerrilla warfare" around the capital and ran off with muny of Msiri's slaves.

demeanor was overbearing and haughty." When he met his death, he was only walting for powder to carry on a war of ex-termination against every Sanga man who had thwarted or opposed him. In the last year of his life the faculties of the once feared conqueror became greatly impaired. He took no steps against the night attacks of the Wasanga. He was 'in a strange

A PART OF MURUERU AS SEEN FROM ARNOT'S COTTAGE. the whites or declared them his enemies and trusted his fate to the issue of war. In his days of weakness, however, his attitude was most unsatisfactory. The envoys of the State could not learn what he intended to do. Sometimes he declared he would accept the protection of the State, and at others he was almost openly hostile and treated the whites with great discourtesy.

They soon found that it was dangerous to enter his presence unless with a strong ruard. They believed he was likely, under the guise of a friendly invitation, to lure them to their death. Late in November last year news was brought to Msiri of the near approach of King Leopold's third expedition, com-manded by Captain Stairs. It had marched

overland from the Indian Ocean, while the preceding expeditions had ascended the Kongo. Stairs was an Englishman, and the leaders of the other expeditions were Belgians. The missionaries who had been at Msiri's court were British, and the King had learned to trust them. He therefore heard with delight the approach of the Englishmen, as he mistakenly thought all the white members of the expedition to be.

The great empire of Garenganze now no longer exists, but is divided into numerous small chieftainships, all submissive to the State. The country is very elevated and, compared with most parts of equatorial Africa, it is salubrious. The people are in-

"They are English, do you hear, sons of the dust?" he shouted to a crowd of his people, "and we know the English to be a true people." The white men were invited to hasten on to the capital. Mairi asserted joyfully that the English were his friends and that he knew he could obtain from them a large amount of powder with which to destroy his enemies. What was his disappointment when Stairs arrived and said he had come to raise the flag of the Free State over the country. The King de-State over the country. The King de-manded a large supply of cloth and powder before he would consent to raise the flag. Stairs then built a stockade and raised the emblem of the State, informed



the King that in future he must obey the white men, and that no more skulls would be permitted to hang from the walls of the town. The King sent back the messengers with the answer that he would continue to kill as many people as he pleased, and show their heads as trophies. He, however, fixed the following day for the ceremony of blood brotherhood with Stairs. Next morning, December 28, it was found that he had left his town and gone to the suburb of Munema. He sent word to Stairs that he would receive him on condition that he came unaccompanied by soldiers. It was very evident that he was plotting treachery.

The Death of the King. Stairs sent four of the head men of his expedition to Msiri, but they did not return. Captain Bodson, accompanied by six Zanzibaris, was then sent to see the King, provided he would consent to come out of his stockade with only a small escort. Stairs stockade with only a small escort. Stairs had warned Bodson not to run into danger. Bodson, however, entered the stockade, where he found Msiri surrounded by 40 of his warriors, and carrying a fine sword, that had been presented to him by Stairs. Mr. Crawford's account of what follows hardly differs from that which has already reached America. Bodson saw the four men under mard. They had been detained as prison-America. Bodson saw the logir men under guard. They had been detained as prison-ers. The Captain began to ask Msiri why he had imprisoned the messengers of Cap-tain Stairs, when the King suddenly leaped forward and thrust at Bodson with his sword. Bodson avoided the thrust by

sword. Bodson avoided the thrus by springing aside, and at the same moment he shot Msiri through the heart.

As the King dropped dead, several of his soldiers fired at Bodson, who fell desperately wounded, and soon died. A considerable force of Zanzibaris under the Marquis de Bonehamps had been sent to support Bod-son. They heard the gunshots, rushed forward, and were so infuriated by the treacherous murder of Bodson that they cut off Msiri's head and carried it away on a pole. A Good Thing for the People.

Miri's great kingdom at once fell to pieces. His son, Mukandudanpu, a young man of considerable influence, was appointed by Stairs to the chieftainship of a re-stricted district. The minor chiefs who were in control of small districts, came to the capital and accepted the flag of the State. King Leopold's agents had at last taken some sort of effective occupation of the country. Forts were built at Mukurra the country. Forts were built at Mukurru and at other large centers of population.

dustrious, and now that the Kongo Free State has relieved them from the tyranny of their eld kings, it is hoped that peace and comfort will rapidly be restored, and that this great region will become, as it deserves to be, one of the most prosperous portions of the Free State.

Last summer, however, a great many people in Garenganse died of starvation, because, owing to the disturbed condition of the country, nearly every industry had been CYRUS C. ADAMS.

ANALYZING AN AROMA.

The Flavor of the Woodruff Chemically Examined by Specialists.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.] Several chemists have recently spent much time in examining the aroms of the woodruff or the German "Waldmeister," which lends such an aromatic bouquet to Rhine wine, and is the flavor par excellence for the annual May wine.

They have ascertained that its base is coumarine, which is contained in various ther plants, chiefly the seeds of the tonka bean, the flower of the Hartz clover, the blossoms of the spring grass and the rind of the agriot tree.

A short time ago Dr. Hans Molisch discovered coumarine also in the American maudlin, the Ageratum mexicanum sims, which is found all over this country. This plant exhales no coumarine aroma while in fresh condition, but it is strongly apparent as soon as it is pulled from the earth and al-lowed to die. When thawing the plant after it had been frozen the aroma is exceed-ingly penetrating, and the same holds good for its leaves, as soon as they begin to dry and shrivel up. The leaves of the maudlin which have been thrown into boiling water impart to the latter the delicious flavor. It is well known that dried woodruff is much more fragrant than the fresh.

FORMER OUTLET OF THE LAKES

Prof. Wright, of Oberlin College, Says It Is Through the Ottawa River.

Indianapolis News. ! Prof. George Frederick Wright, of Oberlin College, claims to have discovered tormer outlet of the great lakes by way of the Ottawa river. The outlet is in a low pass in the Canadian highlands leading from Lake Nipissing, which is only about 70 feet above Lake Huron, into the Mattawan river, a tributary of the Ottawa. There Prof. Wright found a delta terrace about 100 feet in height and half a mile wide, extending up the valley of the Mattawan for a distance of a mile and a half.

The material of it was coarse, consisting of thousands of boulders from one to ten feet in diameter. So great was the force of the current down the Mattawan that it pushed a bar of this coarse material entirely across to Ottawa, so as to make a slack-water navigation for some distance above. If this discovery should be accepted it will have an important bearing on the age of the Niagara gorge, which has generally been ac-cepted as the chronometer of the postglacial period.

Couldn't See a Sea Serpent, There was a captain of aCunarder once who was called on to the bridge by his first officer to see a supposed sea serpent. "Sir," said he, "I once knew a man who saw one and put his name to a document to that effeet. He was a captain, too, and when he came into harbor his employers dismissed him, because they said they couldn't have a skipper who got so drunk as that. He was the sport of the press for a month, and his friends all put him down for as big a liar as Captain Drake's great-grandiather. I'm going below. I can't afford to see sea ser-

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THE NAVAL BATTALION.

funds for the purpose of building an armory, that they had a snug sum already donated, and that they were sure of one-fourth the purchase price of the Fifth Avenue Market House if it was sold. Company to Be Organized Here Another One at Erie.

THE new blouse is still being talked about Pennsylvania will have a naval batthroughout the army and the National Guard. The main objection to the new pas-There are now two companies of Guard. The main objection to the new pat-tern blouse is that it is too expensive to be worn as one for common use on the drill ground, fatigue and the target range. No complaints as to its adoption, however, have been heard in this vicinity. All officers in the local commands favor the proposed change, and consider the new garmens the necessary thing. A number of the local officers have already had their blouses changed to correspond with the require-ments of the May order, although it will be five months before the blouse will be adopted. the battalion in Philadelphia, and it is proposed to organize two more companies-one in this city and one in Erte, these two cities being ports of entry and having sufficlent water in which to drill the companies. Adjutant General Greenland will, at the next session of the Legislature, en-deavor to get an appropriation of \$1,500 for each of the four companies, or \$6,000 in

The Secretary of the Navy has written to A BILL of interest to the Guard was intro-Adjutant General Greenland that he is de-sirous that the two companies already formed in Philadelphia shall perfect themduced at the opening last session of the Fifty-second Congress, and if it is fortunate selves in the handling of heavy ship ord-nance, and to that end he proffers the loan enough to pass the ordeal of such bills it of two guns. They have been accepted, and will be shortly sent to Philadelpnia. Gossip of the Guard, THE annual report of the Adjutant General is expected this week.

enough to pass the ordeal of such bills it will be of considerable benefit to the National Guard. The bill provides for a camp of instruction at or near Chicago, to be composed of such number of regulars as the President may direct and 50,000 volunteers, for 15 days, in August, 1862, who shall be members of militia organizations in existence at the time of the passage of the act, one-half of whose members, at least, must volunteer and who have had at least three months previous military instruction and training. Transportation, subsistence and medical supplies are to be supplied to the volunteers by the United States, but no pay is to be given for service. A general officer of the army is to be designated to command the camp, and the Secretary of War shall detail such officers of the army as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the act and also for the purpose of instruction; \$1,500,000 is appropriated to carry out the provisions of the act. THE Guard will encamp in Chicago next ninmer. The encampment will be by bri-THE company rooms have mostly all been deserted by the troops since the weather has become so cold. The boys will again get down to drill after the new year sets in. Inspection orders will soon be sent down from the Inspector General's office. Officers and men will have plenty of hard work to meet the necessary requirements of the orders. THE switchmen's strike at Buffalo, N. Y., The switchmen's strik" at Buffalo, N. Y., last summer cost * state \$192,647 30, divided as follows. subsistence, \$51,175 67; transportation, \$48,672 51; pay, \$84,250 85; clothing, camp and garrison equipage, \$6,711 11; Quartermaster's stores, \$1,427 16. Pennsylvania will probably get off with \$450,000 as the outcome of the Homestead strike.

THE PITTSBURG FILTER COMPANY, No. 30 Sandusky Street, Allegheny, Pa. Manufactures the

DAVIS FILTER. As armory to cost \$50,000 is to be built by the Fourteenth Regiment. An officer of the regiment stated the other day that they would experience no trouble in raising the

Store Open Monday Until 12 O'Clock M.

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FIFTY CENTS TO THREE DOLLARS A WEEK-That's all we ask on from \$12 to \$100 worth of such goods as you may want from our immense stock of

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\$12	Worth	50c	Cash	. 50c	Weekly
\$25	Worth\$1	00.1	Cash	. \$1.00	Weekly
\$50	Worth \$2	2.00	Cash	.\$2.00	Weekly
\$75	Worth \$2	2.50	Cash	\$2.50	Weekly
100	Worth \$3	3.00	Cash	.\$3.00	Weekly
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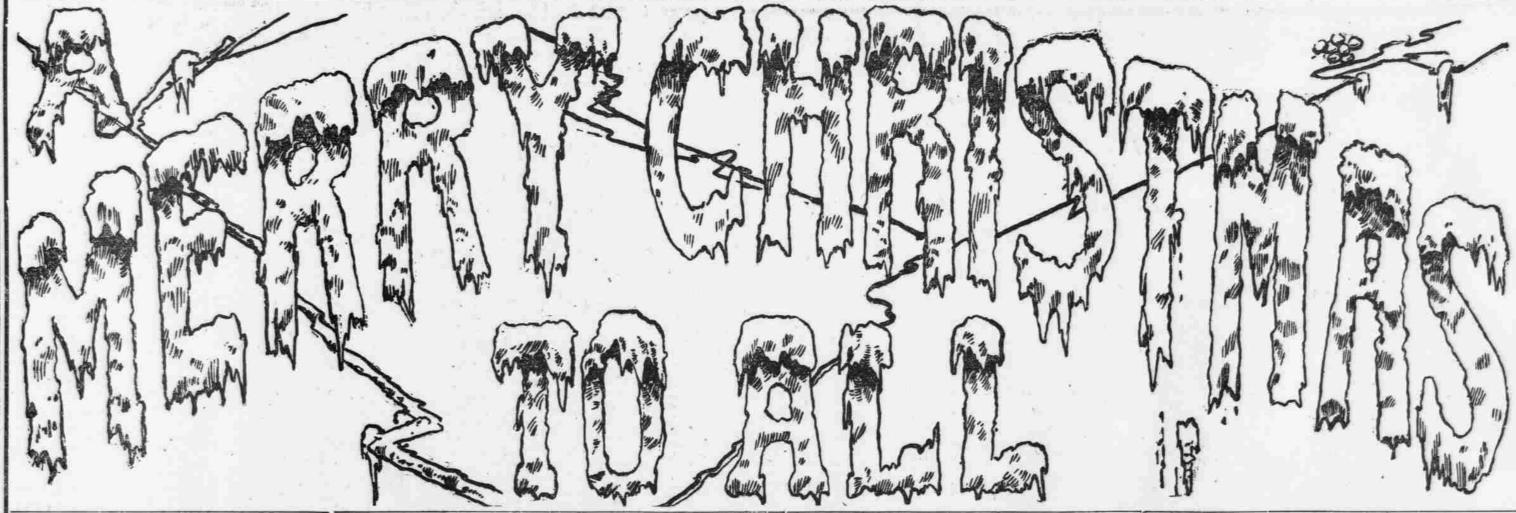
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We made this season extra and unusual efforts to serve you well and promptly, and our efforts have been fully appreciated and amply rewarded.

We hereby extend our thanks to the many thousands of patrons who have thronged our store during the past week or so. To each and all a Merry Christ-

TO-MORROW, MONDAY,

We accompany Santa Claus in his eleventh annual tour of the various Orphanages, Homes, Asylums and Institutions of the two cities, and shall have the extreme pleasure of presenting to the inmates thereof suitable Christmas gifts. The procession will be divided into two large divisions, and the time at which the various points will be reached is given below:

PITTSBURG DIVISION.

St. Michael's Orphan Asylum, Southside, 11:30 A. M. Southside Hospital, 12:30 P. M. Homeopathic Hospital, Second avenue, 1 P. M. Children's Temporary Home, Washington street, 1:45 P. M. St. Paul's Orphan Asylum, Tannehill street, 3 P. M.

West Penn Hospital, 4 P. M. Episcopal Church Home, Fortieth street, 5 P. M. Little Sisters of the Poor, Bloomfield, 6 P. M. German Protestant Orphans' Asylum, West Liberty borough-presents

taken to Sixth avenue and Smithfield street. Children's Aid Society-Presents taken to Dispensary building, Sixth ave. Concordia Orphan Home, De Lano, Pa. - Presents sent. Roselia Foundling Asylum, Cliff and Gum Streets-Presents sent. Odd Fellows' Orphan Home, Ben Avon-Presents sent.

G. A. R. Home, Hawkins station, P. R. R.—Presents sent. Oakland Day Nursery, DeSoto Street-Presents sent.

ALLEGHENY DIVISION.

Ridge Avenue Orphan Asylum, 9:30 A. M. Colored Orphans' Home, Greenwood avenue, 11 A. M. Woman's Christian Home, Locust street, 11:45 A. M. United Presbyterian Orphans' Home, Monterey street, 12:30 P. M. Allegheny Day Nursery, North avenue, 1 P. M. Allegheny General Hospital, Stockton avenue, 2 P. M. Protestant Boys' Home, Anderson street, 2:30 P. M. Home of the Friendless, Washington street, 3 P. M. Little Sisters of the Poor, Washington street, 3:30 P. M. Home of the Good Shepherd, Troy Hill, 5 P. M. St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum, Troy Hill, 6 P. M.

WATCH! TO-MORROW

Our announcements in the daily papers. Between now and New Year's we intend to close out, regardless of cost or value, all our odd lots and broken sizes both in staple and fancy goods,

Prices will be struck with the lightning of reduction, and we'll offer you the greatest money-saving chances ever within your grasp.