

south of the equator, and twenty-five miles from the coast of Africa, on an expedition into the interior.

For a month they traversed the maritime zone, the region placed with reptiles, insects, and fever. Beyond this country rises rapidly, and is diversified by declivities and ravines. Descending into undulating plains beyond this region, they found the soil in one part parched by the sun, in others covered by dense vegetation. These plains, rising from three to four thousand feet above the sea. Crossing a desert country, the travelers entered a fertile region, called the "Country of the Moon," described as the garden of eastern Africa. The capital, named Kaze, is the chief seat of commerce in southeastern Africa.

To the west of Kaze the country sinks towards the great depression of the interior, where rice, sugar cane, and all the products of India come to perfection. Two hundred miles further the caravan rested at the summit of a series of high mountains, on the 18th of February, 1858, they beheld the great lake, about which reports had been tantalized by vague and contradictory reports for three hundred years. This lake, called by the negroes Tanganyika, lies between the parallels of three and eight degrees south, about six hundred miles from the eastern coast, and about twelve hundred and fifty miles from the western coast. It is three hundred miles long, thirty to forty broad, and eighteen hundred feet above the sea level. Its shores are elevated, its waters sweet, and it abounds in fish.

After spending eleven weeks in laborious researches here, the expedition returned to Kaze. There Burton became ill, and Speke left him in order to verify reports they had heard of another great lake further to the north. Speke set out on the 9th of July, 1858, and after a march of twenty-five days, arrived at Lake Nyanza, (the water) situated in latitude 2° 41' south. The Arab merchants asserted that this lake was the source of a great river, which Speke at once concluded to be the White Nile. He ardently desired to satisfy himself on this point, but they required him to return to Burton, his chief, which he did on the 25th of August. The two travelers returned together to London, where they were warmly received by the members of the Geographical Society, who organized a new expedition, led by Speke, and Captain Grant, a former companion in arms in India. They left Zanzibar on the 1st of October, 1859, escorted by sixty armed men, and by porters carrying beads, calico, and other articles of exchange.

After great delay and difficulty, they reached Kaze, whence they sent dispatches to England on the 20th of September, 1859, a year after they had entered the country.

In October they resumed their journey. From this time nothing was heard of them in England for more than a year. Dispatches sent by way of Zanzibar never reached home, and the first news of their safety was Captain Speke's dispatch from Gondokoro, February 15, 1863.

After leaving Kaze, they traveled north-west, and on the 1st January, 1862, reached the capital of the kingdom of Karagwe, a small territory on the western shore of Lake Nyanza. Some of the peaks of this region are ten thousand feet high. Its climate is like that of England in summer. The country to the west of this is described as "the paradise of equatorial Africa," and its people are called by Speke the "French" of these regions, on account of their good taste in dress and dwellings. They were acquainted with the navigation of the Nile by whites, and had received their goods in exchange. Here the travelers were detained five months. Northwest of this they entered a country inhabited by inferior people, who subsist chiefly on grain and the sweet potato.

On the north-west shore of Lake Nyanza, they found two rivers flowing out of the lake towards the north. East of these, about the middle of the lake, the White Nile, the main stream of the great river, flows over rocks twelve feet high. The channel is here one hundred and fifty yards broad.

The northern shore of Lake Nyanza nearly coincides, in direction, with the line of the equator, but is about twenty miles north of it.

The travelers endeavored to trace the course of the Nile downwards from the lake to Gondokoro, but were prevented from doing so fully by a war which was raging among the natives at the time. They saw enough, however, to satisfy them of the reality of their discovery.

Miani, a Fezzian, protests against this alleged discovery, saying that the river of Speke is not the true Nile, but Speke's adherents claim that he traced the great river four hundred and fifty miles further south than Miani ever traveled.

The Austrian Government is about to send Miani on an expedition to test the truth of the matter. Geographers, in general credit Speke's observations, inasmuch as they were made by a man of well known scientific attainments, while his opponents are mostly theoretical discoveries.

Science cannot fail to profit by the inquiries and researches which will arise out of this rivalry.

Notes and Suggestions for February.

Farmers.—All the farmers of a farm should be glad to see their owner, and in fact every other person, should be glad to see them. Man should be recognized as their best friend. Colts and steers particularly should be handled and petted constantly. If treated thus, they will never need breaking. If there be a stable-boy, he should be treated with kindness and respect, and should be kept from kicking and biting, no wonder they become vicious. The same boy in passing through a cattle yard will crack over the back with a fork handle if they found standing in the dryest part of the yard when he wants to pass. The result is always the same—a yard of wild cows and ugly steers, to be afterward broken by fear and a good feed roots to all classes of stock, particularly to those which may be breeding, and by this means counteract the tendency to constipation.

Building.—Study to make changes which will save steps and afford decided conveniences. Paint lasts a great deal longer if put on in winter instead of in summer, and is less likely to be defaced by dust than in the green state.

Cows.—It is common practice to have cows come in about 40 to 60 days before they can be turned out to pasture. This makes March or even April the calving time in this latitude. Still many cows come in in February. They ought to have good hay, a daily feed of out roots slightly salted, and a little meal sprinkled on this. For a few days before calving they should be removed to a roomy stall or loose box to get a little at home in it. They should be looked after, but let alone unless in serious trouble. After parturition give a warm bran mash made with scalding water, and let the cow return to her ordinary feed, increasing the amount of roots and grain if the flow of milk is great, or exhausting.

Horses.—If, as often happens in winter, a horse's coat is full of dirt and scurf which currying appears to develop but not remove, a change of diet is needed. If possible, feed roots, and also give free access to salt. In the absence of roots, bran wet with plenty of warm water may be a partial substitute, especially in cases of constipation.

Hired men.—If not already provided for the season, should be secured in February. The best are usually engaged first.

Apple Sugar.—Several warm days will cause the sap to flow, and the first flowings are richest in sugar, so there should be no time lost, but preparations be early completed.

Potatoes.—Keep seed potatoes in the coolest part of the cellar, secure from frost. Examine others, removing decayed ones, and rubbing off the sprouts that will start if they be kept warm.

Plowing can very seldom be done this month with profit. Very dry and porous soil may sometimes be broken up, however, and with advantage.

Poultry.—Examine carefully for vermin; grease, or better, whitewash the roosts. Clean out the nests, put in fresh straw, and whitewash the whole poultry house.

Sheep.—Some lambs intended to be marketed early, will be dropped in this month. The ewes should be kept at night in tight, well ventilated stables, without much litter, for some time, before and after yearning. Pregnant ewes should not be denied exercise, nor furnished with stimulating diet. Some turnips daily are very desirable. Exercise promotes health of the eyes, vigor of the lambs, and full flow of milk, and the ewes must be forced to take it, in cold, snowy winters.

Swine.—Store pigs will often pay for their keep by the work they will do on the manure, and the manure they will make if plenty of muck has been laid in. See that they do not pack the manure so hard that it will not ferment at all. Encourage them to work it over by dropping tubbins into holes made with a bar. A breeding sow, that is irritated by other animals, fed on corn meal, and withal a little constipated at the time of farrowing, is apt to be very cross and sometimes to eat her pigs. Prevent this by giving a daily feed of raw potatoes, or other roots, with bran or linseed meal instead of Indian, not allowing her to be disturbed, nor to become fat. Give a clean well littered sty, and watch her at the time and after farrowing, giving her a warm bran mash as soon as she will eat.

Wood.—Cut and haul a supply of fire wood for the year.—*American Agriculturist.*

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