

OUR HISTORY CONTEST.

A PRIZE OF ONE DOLLAR FOR SOME BRIGHT READER.

Four Questions in History To Be Answered—The Aim of the Contest—Same Rules as Govern the Bible Question Competition.

Almost everybody has studied more or less history. Much of it has vanished with their school days and questions which sometime ago could be easily answered are somewhat puzzling today. We have started this competition partly to revive an interest in a useful study, and partly to increase the interest of the young folks in *PROGRESS*. We have secured the services of a gentleman well qualified to conduct the question department. The questions will be given every week and the publisher of *PROGRESS* will give One Dollar for the first correct answer that reaches *PROGRESS* office. The rules and conditions that govern the Bible Question Competition will also regulate this. Answers will be received until the Saturday following publication, and the successful competitor will be announced the next Saturday. Answers should be addressed to "History Competition" care *PROGRESS*, St. John, N. B.

HISTORY QUESTION COMPETITION NO. 1.

1. In what year were the Acadians expelled from Nova Scotia?
2. What American poet has immortalised that expulsion, and what is the name of the poem?
3. In what city within the Dominion of Canada and year did the first General Legislative assembly meet?
4. Give the names of the British settlers who first established a trading station on the harbor of St. John, and state the year?

A REVIEW OF STANLEY'S EXPEDITION.

The adventurous expedition of the explorer Stanley for the relief of Emin Pasha was not the least noteworthy event of recent history. It drew the attention of the world to Africa as it was never drawn before, and brought it permanently, it may be said, into the politics of Europe. Stanley's latest work, "*Darkest Africa, or the Quest, Rescue, Retreat of Emin, Governor of Equatoria*," preserves in a voluminous and interesting manner the records of a series of most "moving incidents by flood and field," or rather by river, forest, plain, in savage wilderness, among savage men. Looking at the expedition in our view, it was a mistake, as Emin did not want to be rescued (at least, not by Stanley), but, in another, it was a great achievement, throwing light on the internal condition of a continent which, if it excites the greed of the unscrupulous trader, may, on the other hand, arouse the zeal of the earnest missionary. There may be some, even now, who do not know why Stanley went on the quest of Emin "Pasha," who was lieutenant governor of the provinces of the Lower Nile, Equatoria, under General Gordon. When Khartoum was taken by the followers of the "false prophet," El Madhi, and the "hero" was slain, "the Pasha" found himself in a very awkward position to say the least, when the news of these events became known to his soldiers. One battalion of regulars mutinied and deserted; another battalion, with about 3000 irregulars maintained a somewhat doubtful loyalty. Thus he was exposed to be attacked by the Madhists aided by the revolted soldiery, and his ammunition was failing. When his position became known in Europe, a large sum of money was raised by private subscription in England to purchase the necessary supplies, and Stanley was appointed head of the relief expedition. At that time Egypt had determined to abandon the equatorial provinces, and Stanley bore a "high order" from the Khedive informing him of that fact, but leaving him free to act as he chose, either to leave or remain, on the distinct understanding, if he stayed, it must be on his own responsibility and charges, as he and his officers and men would no longer be in the pay of his government. Emin was under no compulsion to be rescued, or to leave the provinces for Egypt.

When the expedition started, Stanley was under the impression that the Pasha was in a perishing condition, and that it was urgent on him to press forward with all alacrity. In choosing his route, he concluded that "the longest way around was the nearest way home," that he would more certainly accomplish his purpose by taking the Congo river, (though he had to circumnavigate the continent to reach it) than any of the eastern direct ways. He argued that the Congo route would be freer from native hostility, and offer less opportunity of desertion to his Soudanese, Somali, Zanzibarez soldiers and carriers than any other.

Stanley arrived at the mouth of the Congo on the 17th of March, 1887. He calculated it would take 18 months to reach the Pasha at the Albert Nyanza, and arrive at Zanzibar. The time taken—from March 1887 to December 1889—was about 33 months. His experience verified the truth of the poet's dictum, "The best laid schemes of mice and men oft gang agley." But it is the unexpected that happens. Stanley had no provision of the losses and delays which he would encounter on the way, from desertions, famine, death, the failure of officers to obey orders, and the inability of Emin to make up his mind.

The expedition consisted of 706 officers and men, but the number of its carriers was insufficient to transport at once the tons of food, gunpowder, cartridges, brass, iron, copper wire, the bales of cotton, yarns, fine provisions, etc. The greatest disaster that befell it may be traced to that cause. Stanley had received promises of 600 additional carriers from an old wily, deceitful, vindictive Arab ivory trader, Tippu Tib by name, but resolved to push forward with part of his force, leaving an officer to bring up the rest, with Tippu's contingent. At Yambuya, on the Upper Congo, he divided that force into an advance column

of 389 men, 357 rifles, under himself, Lieutenant Stairs, Captain Nelson, Mr. Jephson, Dr. Parke, leaving a party of 129 men under Major Barttelot and Mr. Jamieson at Yambuya, and another of 131 men under Messrs. Troop, Ward, Bomby, at Bolobo, forming the rear column, over which so much controversy has lately arisen. Major Barttelot was instructed to press for the additional carriers, but if it became apparent that Tippu Tib did not mean to furnish them, he was to follow after the advance column. If he could not carry forward all the stuff at once, he could make short and return marches, and have it brought on by double relays. It was better to move, though slowly, than waste away in inaction.

The old Arab fox played with the young impulsive major, put him off from time to time, kept him and Jamieson going back and forward between Banalya where the rear column was and Stanley station, until they seem to have lost all sense of their responsibility or power to break loose from the meshes Tippu Tib was weaving around them. They lingered and lingered, while from the effects of bad diet (ill prepared manioc) the men of the rear column sickened, dying off rapidly. When in August, 1888, Stanley returned to Banalya, he was staggered by the report that Barttelot had been shot, that Jamieson was dead, that the other officers, save Bomby, were invalided home, and he was driven half mad by the horrors of disease he witnessed within the pesthold. Of the 250 men about 60 were left fit for service.

But full of hope, all unthinking of the calamity that would befall the rear column, Stanley and his party pressed forward to do battle with the horrors of the savage forest. From Leopoldville to Yambuya they had steamed a stretch of 1,100 miles without rapids, enjoying at ease delightful views of calm, shining waters, with green woods; but their work commenced in earnest when, on the 28th of June, 1887, the trumpeter blew the signal "move on" into the unknown wilderness.

How describe in a sentence the details of such a march! They advanced on foot and by boat—frequent rapids demanding painful portages.

For 176 days they traversed the twilight gloom of the forest, hemmed in by millions of gigantic trees, whose meeting branches formed a canopy overhead, on a narrow track set with poisoned skewers; obstructed by enormous, dangerous windfalls; intersected by morasses, bogs and streams; a place full of dangers by day and terrors by night; that yielded nothing but fungi and weed beans; on such diet the strength of the strongest dwindled. Famine stricken, his party failing from sickness, attacked by cannibal warriors, beaten down by tempests of rain, himself torn with anxieties, pained by continual losses, desertions and deaths, Stanley was forced to confess that in all his former African experience he had met nothing quite so bad. The worst time of all was in October, when Capt. Nelson, himself disabled by ulcers on his feet, was left in charge of the sick at a place at the confluence of the Ihuri and Irturi rivers, fitly named "Starvation camp."

On the 10th of November, from the height of "Mount Pisgah," they had a view of the "promised land," and on the 4th of December emerged from the gloom of the primeval forest upon "a rolling plain, green as an English lawn, into broadest, sweetest daylight and warm and glorious sunshine, to inhale the pure air with an uncontrollable rapture." They literally ran and shouted with joy. But though the scene was peaceful they had entered on a region of battle, and had many a skirmish with the warriors of Mazamboni and Gavira ere they reached the plateau that looked down on the south end of Albert Nyanza—December 13, 1887.

But unaccountably, Emin was not there to meet Stanley, though he had been apprised that the relief expedition would be at Kavalliss point about that date. The country being waste and barren, Stanley was compelled to lead his party back again through the dismal forest, and camp at Bodo, at West Ihuri, where they remained recruiting their energies until April, 1888.

On the way back through the forest to the Albert, a party of Wumbutti dwarfs were captured, a tribe of pigmies, the oldest and smallest people on the face of the earth, mentioned by Herodotus, "father of history," an unteachable, warlike, pre-dacious, little folk, wandering about the regions of the mountains of the moon. One of the captives was a little, quite nude, of chocolate color, with big goggle eyes, of prepossessing appearance, and accustomed to admiration.

The Albert Nyanza was again reached, on the 18th of April, 1888, and on the 29th, Emin, with M. Casati walked into Stanley's camp.

Emin did not come up to Stanley's preconceived idea. He was neither so tall or military looking as he expected; he was too amiable and easy in temper; too engrossed in scientific work, to be a fit governor of a province in mutiny. Stanley was practical, mapped out his plans, could be stern, and at a pinch, hang a man to encourage the others; but Emin seemed to be the slave of circumstances, was said to be the victim of his own sentimentality, and could never screw up his mind to form a resolution to take a decided step. Never, it may be inferred, were "comrades" worse mated. Emin like Hamlet was perpetually soliloquising, "to leave or not to leave." Stanley was perpetually fuming, probably swearing at the Pasha's inability to make up his mind.

While at Nsabe, south shore of "the Albert," five miles from his camp, Stanley, on the morning of the 24th of May, had a glorious view of the "mountains of the moon," of the snow-capped Rukenwori, the "cloud king," 1,900 feet above the level of the sea. This was the great discovery of the expedition, and justified it. It was strange that the grand, impressive view of the white square crinkled crests of this monarch, rising proudly above the cones and peaks of neighboring mountains, had escaped the sight of Sir Samuel Baker and other travellers. As Rukenwori usually hides itself under a pall of dark clouds, and as Emin was extremely short-sighted, and especially fond of grubbing after insects and stuffing birds, it is not, perhaps, surprising that he did not discover Montes Lunae.

On the 1st of June Stanley went in quest of his rear column, and on the 17th of August, at Banalya, 90 miles from Yambuya, was horror-stricken at beholding the frightful condition of its few survivors, as already mentioned. For a third

time his party set out for the east, bearing the remainder of the ammunition, etc., for Emin, and the 29th of January, 1889, reached the Albert Nyanza for the third time. Stanley found Equatoria in a state of frightful confusion—Emin and Mr. Jephson prisoners. The Egyptian officers denounced the Khedive's "high order" as a forgery; bound to the provinces by strong ties, they were loth to leave. But in the end Emin was released, and gave his assent to the march to the sea, though more than once, in the course of the toilsome and dangerous journey, he regretted to Stanley the step he had taken.

The retreat was sounded on May 8th, 1889, the "caravan" numbered 1,150, of which total Stanley and the expedition made 230, having lost 476, the Pasha and his people, 600. Three possible routes were proposed. The route via Anukot and Karagwe, though longer than that by way of Uganda, being considered safer, was chosen. It took the "caravan" in which were many weakly women and children, over plains, over lofty mountain ranges, through deep defiles, and gloomy gorges, past native villages swarming with savage spearmen. As fore-runners of welcome, Baron Von Gravenreuth and 100 German soldiers, and the correspondent of the New York *Herald* appeared at Msua.

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Society,

The large demand upon our space by this department has been one of the levers that forced the enlargement. This it an popularity and interest. SOCIAL and PERSONAL will be made even more complete and more entertaining than usual. To do this we want the help of the people. It is a mistake to suppose that this department is what is called "select." It may be true that the news supplied by this or by that correspondent comes under the head "select," but the columns of *PROGRESS* are open to all the people, and not simply to a part of the people. All accounts of social gatherings are gladly welcomed and printed by *PROGRESS*, provided they are accompanied by the name and address of the writer.

Illustrations,

The very best illustrations that money can procure will illumine the pages of *PROGRESS* each week. They will be both general and particular in their character. Arrangements have already been made to publish regularly the portraits of men prominent in the maritime provinces. These will be accompanied by admirably written sketches, which will add to their value from an historical standpoint. The general illustrations will be the best production of famous painters, which will go very far toward enhancing the appearance of the paper.

Sunday Reading,

That there may be nothing in *PROGRESS* unfit to read on Sunday or any other day will be one of the cares of the editor, who at the same time, however, is well aware of the fact that there is a large class of people who lay aside the purely secular newspaper on Sunday. *PROGRESS* "SUNDAY READING" department will be selected with the greatest care; it will endeavor at all times to obtain the best thoughts of the greatest thinkers for its readers, and the men who preach pure gospel, who are broad in their views, simple and plain in their presentation of the Christian religion, will find a place in its columns.

Fashions,

The large addition to its space, will allow particular attention to the WORLD OF FASHION. We have made arrangements that cannot fail to make this department one of the most interesting and entertaining in the paper. Beside two regular fashion letters from New York

—which are specially written and beautifully illustrated for *PROGRESS*, and which will show the very latest whims in dress, there will be something of a more elastic and entertaining vein, also attractively illustrated, which will show the gay side of life. Local contributions by bright people, will make this department unusually complete.

Humorous,

"A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men." The fact that this is a chestnut does not detract anything from its truth. The best anecdotes, the brightest sayings, laughable sketches, original and selected cartoons on every phase of life will add every week to the variety and spice of the paper. This department will permit no "blues." It will be as funny as pen, scissors and engravers can make it.

Musical, Theatrical, Literary,

These columns have already been interestingly and ably conducted in *PROGRESS*. Each of them is in hands well competent to do honest, impartial work. The writers have no instructions except to give their best opinion of what they hear, see and read. They are not hampered by the "counting room"—advertisement or no advertisement their opinions are not affected. They give them for what they are worth. That they are appreciated is shown by the popularity of the departments.

Fiction,

One of the most popular features of a paper with many of its readers is a good story—either a long complete one—in fact a short novel—or an interesting serial. *PROGRESS* will have one or both of these features. They will be written for the most part, by authors who have won popular favor by good work. Complete stories by FITZGERALD MOLLOY, "CARMEL SYLVA" and "THE DUCHESSES" have been engaged exclusively for publication in *PROGRESS* in Canada. "They come high, but we must have them."

Opinions,

Every effort will be put forth to make the editorial page of *PROGRESS* as timely and strong as possible. The ablest writers in the province have been engaged to contribute to this department from time to time. Party politics will find no place in it, though the right to support, oppose or criticize any political move of importance is, of course, reserved. *PROGRESS* proposes to get, when it can, the best opinion on every subject, local and general, in which the people are interested. This will mean money, but we believe it will pay.

Prize Dollar Contests.

Every Boy and Girl who is going to day school or to Sunday-school or in fact any person, young or old, who is interested in the study of History or in the Bible will find two interesting Prize Questions departments in each *PROGRESS*, the full particulars and conditions of which will be announced in the first Sixteen Page Paper. It is enough to say here that the one who sends in the first correct answer to the questions in either department will receive a bright new dollar bill in return for his or her trouble. These prizes will be awarded every week. They are given with two ideas—first, giving even children a keen interest in the paper and second that the search for correct answer will result in practical benefit to many readers.

Specials,

From its start, *PROGRESS* has tried to obtain the best special contributors that could be had. It has not been able to offer flattering inducements in every case, but it has done the best it could, and can count more special contributors than all the city papers. The bright work of "Geoffrey, Cuthbert Strange," "Bildad," "Jimmy Smith," "Astra," "Johnny Mulcahey," Mrs. J. E. U. Nealis, "Pastor Felix," "Casey Tap," and many others, whose *nom de plumes* are familiar to *PROGRESS* readers, have added much to the interest of the paper. These have been supplemented by others, whose work will speak for itself.

General,

So many features and departments have been omitted in the foregoing incomplete summary that, after a hasty reading of it, before it goes to the printer, it seems to convey but a faint idea of what the enlarged paper will really consist of. So much is omitted that it will be useless to attempt to include the forgotten in this paragraph. They will all be found in the paper, for which we ask an honest impartial trial. If results can speak, we have satisfied the people with an eight page one dollar paper. We will be content to allow results to speak for the 16 page two dollar paper.

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