

CHAPTER XV.

MEETING OF STANLEY AND EMIN.

The Albert Nyanza—The camp at Kavalli—Where is Emin?—Stanley makes retreat—Fort Bodo—Dwarfs of Central Africa—Travels of Lieutenant Stairs—Illness of Stanley—On the march—Return to the Lake—A letter from Emin—Jephson reconnoitring—Meeting of Stanley, Emin, and Casati—In council.

FROM the ridge of the plateau whence the expedition first sighted the Nyanza the view extends to an indefinite horizon.

The confluence of the Aruwimi is about 1250 feet above the level of the sea; thence the laborious ascent of the wooded terraces had to be made between which the river runs to join the Congo, forming numerous rapids and cascades as it rolls along. The pathway kept on a gradual rise, and eventually obtained an altitude of 5200 feet. After arriving at the eastern limit of the basin, they soon found that the plateau was making a sudden decline, and widening out so as to form a great hollow, in which, some 2900 feet below them, the

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