

force upon you." The harangue continues in a similar strain, and it is easy to realize its effect.

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THE reply to this tirade, surely drawn from life, is noteworthy. "My children," said one, old Ogazi, "listen to me. Have you not come to me in all your troubles, public and private, these many years? This plague, remember, is God's visitation, not man's device. Are not the Government people fighting it for themselves, and their wives and children, as well as for us? And, indeed, more on our behalf than on theirs, for to infection our poor people are most susceptible. And do you not know that the doctor sahibs go to the stricken with their own lives in their hands? Was it not but yesterday that one of the gentle English nurses took the disease and died? Day after day she had tended others. I saw her in the plague sheds, always bright and cheerful, easing other's pain with such skill and tenderness. When she was ill herself and a special nurse was told off to care for her, 'Send her to the wards,' she said, 'they need her, my own poor patients.' You are ignorant, my children. You do not know that if the authorities separate the sick from the well, the *evil* (in health) from the *good*, 'tis to give both a chance of life. Those white tents are no monuments to the expectant dead; they are, indeed, monuments, but to the care for us of our rulers!"

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THIS picture of a brave and devoted plague nurse, thoughtful to the last for her patients, when the dread disease had already claimed her for its own, is worthy of record. It is by such deeds that the links are forged to unite us with the Indian peoples, and which do more to remove the misunderstandings almost inevitable between East and West than all the laws, be they never so wise, which can be framed.

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BLUE books are commonly supposed to be dull reading, but, as a matter of fact, this is frequently very far from the case, as the following quotation from the blue book recently issued containing the correspondence respecting the status of slavery in East Africa, and the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, will show.

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SIR LLOYD MATHEWS, Prime Minister to the Sultan of Zanzibar, writing to Sir Arthur Hardinge, Consul-General for Zanzibar and East Africa, says:—

"I have the honour to hand you herewith Reports for the past year by Mr. Farler from Pemba, Mr. Last from the various districts in Zanzibar, and from Mr. Alexander from Zanzibar

town, on the working of the abolition of the legal status of slavery. These Reports are so full there is little I can add, as for fully five months of the year I was very ill with malarial fever, and Mr. Alexander undertook the whole working of the office. You will, however, be interested to learn what has been done to provide for the freed slaves who are unable to look after themselves. The tract of land between Mbweni Mission and Chukwani Palace, a distance of 3 miles by about 1 in depth from the sea inland, belongs to His Highness the Sultan. At about 1 mile from Mbweni His Highness has given the Government as much of this land as may be required for leper, poor, and freed-slave establishments.

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"THE leper station was built last year, and there are now twenty-five lepers residing there. The station has an office, dispensary, store-rooms, bath-rooms for men and women, and a well-built well, which will shortly be worked by a windmill, etc. By the end of the year we hope to collect together all the lepers on this island, and make arrangements for those at Pemba. The station is half-a-mile from the main road inland. Dr. Spurrier was in charge, but was obliged to go home on sick leave. It is now under the care of Mahomed-bin-Said Mandri, my old native Commander of Regulars, who to his profession of a soldier has added that of medicine, the law ("sheria"), and reader of the Koran. He was directly under one of the British Consulate surgeons for years before joining the Urzam (Regulars), and has also made himself well acquainted with all native drugs and illnesses; therefore, from his position and from having been born in Zanzibar, he has much influence over all classes, and is very well fitted to take charge of those stations.

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"THE second station or village for the destitute, infirm, and sick slaves without masters to assist them, is now finished, in so far that over 100 cases can be given houses, and arrangements are being made for the building of accommodation for a large number, who, as they get convalescent, will be given small holdings to cultivate. The village is well built, and has its mosque, gaol, police quarters, and village shops with grain, lentils, and cloth. A dispensary and office will be finished before this letter arrives in England. For the present the dispensary at the neighbouring leper station is utilized for dispensing medicines to all sick that take up their quarters near the settlement of the poor people. Until the buildings are dry, the sick, destitute, and infirm are kept as inmates of the hospital

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