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Publisher: Routledge
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Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street, London W1T 3JH,
UK

Scottish Geographical Magazine

Publication details, including instructions for authors
and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rsgj19>

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Published online: 30 Jan 2008.

To cite this article: Robert W. Felkin M.D. F.R.G.S. (1886) The position of Dr. Emin Bey, Scottish Geographical Magazine, 2:12, 705-719, DOI: [10.1080/14702548608554257](https://doi.org/10.1080/14702548608554257)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14702548608554257>

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THE SCOTTISH GEOGRAPHICAL MAGAZINE.

THE POSITION OF DR. EMIN BEY.

BY ROBERT W. FELKIN, M.D., F.R.G.S.,

Member of Council, Scottish Geographical Society.

THE letters which arrived from Emin Bey, and which were noticed in the *Magazine* last month, have aroused considerable interest both in Great Britain and on the Continent. During the past three years many rumours have been circulating about him and the state of the extensive province over which he rules. (The last letters received from him were dated April 14, 1883.) Reports of his death and of anarchy reigning in his province have been generally credited, excepting by those who knew him and the country best. At length their faith in him has been rewarded, the silence has been broken, and his letters prove not only that he is alive, but that, with the exception of a few outlying stations, he has maintained his province almost intact from the slave-dealers' raids, and the hordes of the so-called Mahdi.

I think that it may be of interest to my readers if I briefly describe the position which Emin Bey occupies at the present time, the need he has of help, and the consequences to the province he rules, should that help be withheld. I shall conclude by pointing out how aid may be sent to him with great hope of success.

In order to make this paper clear to the general reader, it is accompanied by a sketch-map showing, first, the extent of the Egyptian Equatorial Provinces, which he still retains in a state of peace, though not of prosperity, and secondly, the various routes which may be taken by an expedition sent to convey to him the relief he so justly and patiently awaits.

Who is Emin Bey ? This question has been asked of the writer on numerous occasions ; therefore a few details concerning him may not be out of place.

Twelve years ago Dr. Emin Effendi was appointed by Gordon Pasha, who was at that time Governor of the Equatorial Provinces, as Surgeon-General. His medical education was obtained in Paris, Berlin, and Vienna. He is a remarkable linguist, having a knowledge of all European languages and of several of those spoken in Asia. His intimate acquaintance with various sciences is also very remarkable—geology, botany, meteorology, anthropology, and geographical studies serving to occupy his leisure moments. The results of his work are to be found in the Proceedings of many learned Societies.

For four years Dr. Emin Effendi held the position of Surgeon-General in the Equatorial Provinces. But medicine alone did not engross his attention, for Gordon Pasha, taking advantage of his wonderful ability in dealing with natives, employed him in three diplomatic missions of no little importance,—two to Uganda and one to Unyoro.

One of his missions to Uganda was of singular difficulty and danger. An officer, acting contrary to Gordon Pasha's instructions, had marched with 300 men to the capital of Uganda, with the intention of annexing the country, and Dr. Emin Effendi was sent to bring back the men ; and he accomplished the task, after much difficulty, in a successful manner.

It was most important for Gordon Pasha to enter into friendly relations with Kabaréga, the king of Unyoro, who was continually harassing the Egyptian frontier ; and here, again, Dr. Emin Effendi proved himself equal to the occasion, for he went without an escort to Kabaréga, and concluded a peace which undoubtedly saved Gordon Pasha and his few soldiers from annihilation.

In 1878 Gordon Pasha, who was then Governor-General of the whole Sûdan, raised Dr. Emin Effendi to the rank of Bey, and appointed him Governor of the Egyptian Equatorial Provinces, which position he has held faithfully up to the present time.

The difficulty of the position can only be estimated by the few Europeans who have personally visited the districts under his jurisdiction. When he took up the reins of government, the only districts in peace and security were a belt of land on either side of the Nile extending from Lado to the Albert Lake and the Shuli district to the east of the Nile. By the end of 1880, most of the stations had been rebuilt ; and the whole of the province,—which is almost as large as Europe,—had been reduced to peace and order, while all the stations, then numbering about forty, were connected by a weekly post. Through his efforts, slavery was permanently abolished, and the district was cleared of the slave-dealers, who had carried on an underhand but extensive traffic up to the time of Emin Bey's appointment.

In 1878 the Equatorial Province was maintained only at a deficit of £38,000 per annum ; three years later Emin Bey had a surplus of £8000 ; and this was obtained, not by oppressive taxation, but by the practice of

rigid economy and the suppression of abuses which had previously existed. To this fact the writer of this paper can personally testify.

Moreover, Emin Bey had taught the people to work for the sake of work, and not from compulsion; good roads were constructed, wagons made, and oxen trained to the yoke; the people were instructed in weaving, and in the cultivation of cotton, coffee, rice, indigo; and wheat was introduced. In addition to the cares of government, Emin Bey found time to relieve the physical sufferings of the people. At sunrise every morning, when at Lado, he was to be seen in his hospital either prescribing for, or operating upon, his numerous patients. And at night, when Government duties were over, instead of seeking well-earned repose, he would be found writing, by the light of candles made by himself, those reports on various scientific subjects which have enriched the pages of so many learned periodicals.

For the last three years this distinguished man has been completely cut off from the civilised world. He has been attacked again and again by the rebels from the north; his soldiers have been reduced to absolute nakedness, and to such scanty supplies of food that they have even gnawed their own sandals to still the pangs of hunger: and yet, they have borne these hardships without a murmur, they have driven the enemy from their borders, and have maintained their province in peace, stimulated to most heroic exertions by the example of their Governor.

In order to avoid any possibility of mistake, and to show that Emin Bey had no choice given him, as to the advisability of evacuating the province committed to his charge, and withdrawing the Egyptian officials, it may be well to state that, before the road to the Equatorial Provinces was closed by the Mahdi's troops, he made a journey down to Khartûm, to warn the Government of the serious condition into which he foresaw that the Sûdan would fall, and to receive instructions as to his own action and the future of his province. He was ordered to return and maintain order in his province, and develop its resources, and was told that he over-estimated the gravity of the situation, while his offers to treat personally with the Mahdi were rejected. It is to this incident that he refers when writing on the 31st December 1885: "*When the troubles first began in the Sûdan, I called attention to the extreme danger that existed, and people said I exaggerated matters. It is quite possible they will say the same now.*"

On the 20th of April 1882, during his visit to Khartûm, he wrote: "You will have heard of the so-called Mahdi, and the disturbances he has caused. . . . Blind fanaticism, unnecessary acts of horrible violence, cowardly delay and fear, and unmeasured self-conceit, senseless measures of repression, and perfectly uncalled-for insolence are the factors which have brought about the burning discontent that has caused the people to lose their balance. Under these circumstances I have considered it my duty to try and utilise my whole influence, my linguistic powers and my acquaintance with the persons, in order to bring about, if possible, a *modus*

vivendi between the two contending parties. . . . I am curious to know whether the new Governor-General will be able to understand the position of affairs, and to grasp our requirements and the difficulties of the situation." On the 20th March 1882, he writes: "The situation here is not improved. . . . My offers to aid in settling the question have been rejected."

From this it will be clearly seen that Emin Bey had done his best to warn the Government of the danger of the situation, and had offered to use his influence to avert it; that he had been disbelieved, and had been ordered to return to his post.

He left Khartûm on the 15th June 1882, and from then till the 16th of March 1883 he had no single communication from Khartûm, and not a single steamer with supplies had been sent to him. On the 22d March 1883, he writes from Lado: "From the time I left Khartûm, on the 15th June 1882, until the 16th March 1883, no steamer or post has been sent from Khartûm to us; either the Government there cares little or nothing for us, or else they are convinced that everything is in good order here. . . ." He then implies that he has no official knowledge of how matters stand in the north, and no instructions.

The steamer left with his letters on the 23d March 1883, and from that day to this he has been without instructions from his Government, and has been unable to communicate with them until quite recently.

It may be well also to mention that the letters from the Government sent to him after the fall of Khartûm, *viâ* Zanzibar and Uganda, never reached him: they were opened by the king of Uganda, and then destroyed.

If Emin Bey would consent to desert his trust it would be quite possible for him to do so. He might, with a chosen band of picked soldiers, make for the Congo; but he is too noble to abandon his post. He writes, "I shall myself remain with my black troops . . . until the Government inform me as to their wishes, and until I know that the people committed to my care are in safety."

I cannot wonder that he writes thus, knowing that he has ever had the welfare of his people at heart, nor that, remembering the miserable condition from which he raised them, he is determined, as long as life is spared, to prevent them again falling a prey to the slave-raiders' ravages.

Writing to Mr. C. H. Allen, of the Anti-Slavery Society, Emin Bey says: "Forgotten and abandoned by the Government, we have been compelled to make a virtue of necessity. Since the occupation of the Bahr-Ghazel—I will not say its conquest, for this province has been taken by treachery—we have been vigorously attacked, and I do not know how to describe to you the admirable devotion of my black troops throughout a long war, which for them at least had no advantage. Deprived of the most necessary things, for a long time without any pay, my men fought valiantly; and when at last hunger weakened them—when, after nineteen days of incredible privations and sufferings, their strength was exhausted,

and when the last torn leather of the last boot had been eaten, then they cut a way through the midst of their enemies, and succeeded in saving themselves. All this hardship was undergone without the least *arrière pensée*, without even the hope of any appreciable reward, prompted only by their duty and the desire of showing a proper valour before their enemies. If ever I had any doubts of the Negro, the history of the siege of Amadi would have proved to me that the black race is in valour and courage inferior to no other, while in devotion and self-denial it is superior to many. Without any orders from capable officers, these men performed miracles, and it will be very difficult for the Egyptian Government worthily to show its gratitude to my soldiers and officers. Hitherto we have worked for our bread; and the good God, who until now has protected us visibly, will take care of us also in the future. . . . When, eight years ago, I visited Kaba-Réga, I little imagined that one day I should have to rely on his assistance and friendship. Nevertheless, I was driven to do this, and, what is more, the Negro has held me in friendly remembrance—has hastened to help his former friend, and has offered his hospitality and his succour.

“Believe, me, dear Mr. Allen, that, as I have ever had the greatest admiration for your philanthropic work, and the greatest sympathy with your humane efforts, you may henceforth rely upon my feeble aid without any restrictions. I have lived for many long years almost exclusively among Negroes, and this fact of my intimacy with them proves that I believe them capable of progress, susceptible to good treatment, and endowed with the same natural gifts as ourselves.”

Surely it must be admitted by all, that such devotion should meet with some reward. The very least that can be done is to endeavour to send the help so urgently needed.

I feel that the sketch just given of Dr. Emin Bey and his work is very inadequate, but space hinders me from entering more into detail. It is to be hoped, however, that enough has been said to show that he is worthy of succour, and I must now proceed to indicate what kind of aid he requires, and how it may best be conveyed to him. Our Society has nothing to do with political considerations; a Geographer claims our aid, and as Geographers we would help him. For many other reasons he nobly deserves it; and I am glad to note that the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society has already expressed its views on the subject, which is all the more gratifying to me, as the principles of their Association preclude the possibility of their advocating any but a pacific expedition.

It is very difficult to say exactly how many Egyptian and Khartûm officials are with Emin Bey, for this reason, that I am unable to estimate the number who escaped from the Bahr-el-Ghazel district when it was attacked by the rebels; but in 1883 there were some 250 such officials scattered about the province, together with their wives and families.

The troops under Emin Bey's command were as follows:—About 40

Egyptians, mostly belonging to the artillery, 2000 regular troops, Negroes, armed with the Remington rifle, and about 4000 Besingers (Negro Irregulars), armed with double-barrelled muzzle-loading guns.

The native population that would be affected by his relief we may roughly estimate at 6,000,000.

It is impossible to give the exact boundaries of the Equatorial Province still held by Emin Bey, for he writes that he "has been compelled to relinquish some of the outlying stations;" but we may take it for granted that the district included in the following boundaries is still retained by the energetic Governor. The northern boundary is the 9° north latitude, the western boundary is the Nile as far as Lado, and then a line pushed 150 miles west, and continued in a curve to the south end of the Albert Lake; the southern boundary is the Albert Lake, the Victoria Nile, and a line drawn from Foweira to 35° east longitude, which same parallel forms the eastern boundary.

The principal fortified stations are Lado, Regiaf, Bedden, Kerrie, Mugi, Labore, Dufli, Fatiko, Foweira, Wadelai, and Mahehi, which is the most southern station, and situated on the western shores of Albert Lake at about 2° N. lat. and 31° E. long.

It should be remembered that on Lake Albert there are two steamers, the *Nyanza* and the *Khedive*, as well as four or five large iron life-boats, each capable of holding fifty or sixty men.

It may, perhaps, be well here to reiterate the fact that, although Emin Bey last wrote from Wadelai he was only temporarily there, in order to send his despatches for Europe to Kabaréga. As he himself says, ". . . It was necessary for us to seek some way of escape, and, in the first place, it was urgent to send news of our existence to Egypt. With this object in view I went south, *after having made the necessary arrangements at Lado*, and came to Wadelai."

This sentence shows that his positions as far north as Lado were secure. The journey from Lado to Wadelai is not a long one; a steamer plies from Lado to Bedden, occupying two days on the way up stream. At Bedden there is a portage; then another steamer runs to Kerrie in less than a day. From Kerrie to Dufli the march is two and a half days; and from Dufli another steamer runs to Wadelai in two days, or a little over. This would depend on the supply of wood for fuel, and on the moonlight. The whole journey from Lado to Wadelai thus occupies eight days, but from Wadelai to Lado only six days would be required.

In all probability Emin Bey is now occupied in making this journey pretty often, for after the defeat and death of Kabaréga, caused by the attack of the Waganda on his country, it is not likely that Emin Bey would care to be absent from his frontier stations for too long a time, as it would be just possible that the Waganda, flushed by previous success, might attack them. I do not consider this to be a very likely contingency, for the Waganda have a wholesome fear of the Egyptians, and in addition to this, the Prime Minister of Uganda has a very high opinion

of Emin Bey, although, for political reasons, he is compelled to keep this predilection in the back-ground.

What Emin is probably most in need of are the following articles :— Cloth to clothe his people, and to enable them to obtain the necessary supplies of grain, etc., by barter ; brass wire, beads, and sundry odds and ends as presents, and a few necessities for himself ; ammunition both for Remingtons and for muzzle-loaders,—besides which, some Maria Theresa dollars might be sent, as they have a standard value in the Equatorial Provinces. The ammunition should be previously packed in this country, so as to disguise its real character.

In considering the route to be taken by a relief expedition, there are two objects in view—first, rapidity in reaching him, and second, the interests of Geography, for, if the route to which I give preference be chosen, one of the remaining riddles existing in Africa will be solved.

There are four routes which might be taken by a relief expedition, and I may be permitted to explain them. The *first route*, starting from Zanzibar, leads through the Masai country, and should strike the Nile opposite Wadelai. This route, as will be seen on the accompanying map, is fairly direct, but the objections to it are, I think, insurmountable. In the first place, there would be no little difficulty in conducting a large caravan through the Masai district ; secondly, the Waganda would undoubtedly hear of the expedition, and would certainly try to intercept it, while it would increase the danger of Mr. Mackay, who is, I understand, imprisoned in Uganda ; and lastly, the expedition would encounter great delay and considerable difficulty in forcing a passage through the Umeiro and Longo¹ tribes.

To show the recent state of mind of Mwanga, king of Uganda, I will quote two or three passages taken from a letter written by Mr. A. M. Mackay, the missionary who has worked so nobly since 1879 in Uganda, and who is kept as a kind of hostage by the king. Writing on June 26, he says :² “ Again and again he (the king) has expressed his determination not to let us leave, being guilty in his conscience, and constantly alarmed by rumours from the east, partly arising from Dr. Fischer’s journey that way, and partly from reports of the presence of what we think must be the main body of Bishop Hannington’s caravan. . . . He has ordered our boats to be watched lest we should escape, and he is reported to have said that *when he hears of an army reaching the Ripon Falls, he will murder us at once*, and then let the white men come and catch him. . . . Every time a fit of malice comes on, it is on suspicion that we mean to ‘eat the country.’ . . . When the Germans brought a squadron to Zanzibar, it was proposed to kill us, ‘as we had brought them to eat Burgash’s country!’ . . . So also when Sir John Kirk sent us letters for the king, some to forward to Emin Bey, and

¹ Longo is misprinted Pango in the Map.

² *Church Missionary Intelligencer*, December 1886, pp. 882, 886, 889.

others requesting a passage for Egyptian soldiers this way, it was again believed that we meant to bring them to eat the country. . . . Being alarmed, he is dangerous, while his insufferable conceit makes him obstinate. Our position is now that of hostages in his hands."

It seems to me that it would not be fair to add to the danger of Mr. Mackay's position by any expedition *viâ* the east, and it is for this reason that I do not recommend Mr. Thomson's route. Mr. Thomson proposes to take a caravan of some 400 porters, and 50 to 70 camels and donkeys by the route he took through Masai-land to the Nile in 1883. The advantages he claims for this Masai route are as follows: "It is the shortest and most healthy; the country presents no topographical difficulties; camels and donkeys agree admirably with the climate . . . Taking everything into consideration, I myself pronounce emphatically in favour of the Masai route. With such a caravan as I have described, there should be no difficulty in placing fifty camel-loads of ammunition and some goods in the hands of Emin Bey. . . . It ought to be known that the present is the time when the expedition should be organised and made ready, to seize the favourable season in March or April to proceed up country, as then both food and water will be more plentiful."

In a letter I have just received, Mr. Thomson says: "Such a party could be easily started within three months from this date; in less than other three—perhaps in two—it could be at the north end of Kavirondo, and then, perhaps, in a month or thereabout, Emin could be reached—seven months from this date."

I do not say that this route is an impossible one, but I think that its difficulties and dangers are too great to be risked. I would note here that the late Dr. G. A. Fischer tried to reach Emin Bey after his failure to come to terms with Uganda, by this East Coast route; it is just possible that he might have succeeded, but, having been too sanguine as to the Uganda route, he had omitted to provide himself with beads, brass wire, etc., to buy food from the tribes inhabiting the districts through which he tried to pass.

I cannot too emphatically urge the need of caution in respect to Uganda. I know the people well; and although it is very probable that, backed up by strong letters from our Consul-General at Zanzibar, the leader of a Relief Expedition might receive a friendly invitation to pass through that country, yet I am convinced that, once in Uganda, no expedition—at least no such expedition as I advocate—could ever pass on to the north.

Mr. H. Wichmann, one of the editors of *Petermann's Mittheilungen*, writes, on 25th November 1886, to the Secretary of the Scottish Geographical Society: "We have no further news of either Dr. Junker or Emin Bey. . . . Dr. Fischer was informed during his stay at Lake Baringo, in the Masai country, that the caravans from Pagani already go ten days further northwards to the country Turkan (see sheet 8 of Ravenstein's map of Equatorial Africa), from where the Egyptian station

Fatiko is to be reached in fourteen days. Dr. Fischer was strongly in favour of the route through the Masai country in the case of an expedition being sent out for the relief of Emin. Dr. Fischer told me that an expedition would reach the Nile in four to five months by this route." This agrees very nearly with Mr. Thomson's calculations.

To show how little the king cares for letters from the English Consul-General, it is only necessary to quote a sentence from the Rev. R. P. Ashe, who writes, on April 7, 1886, "The king stated that if the Consul were to write seventy letters for Mackay he should not let him leave the country."¹

Mr. Bonalo, the Secretary of the Khedivial Society of Geography, advocates an expedition with large presents to Uganda.² Mr. Wichmann writes, "I do not think that Mwanga would send help to Emin which he has refused Mr. Mackay to do, and lately also Dr. Junker, who spent 2000 thalers in buying cloth for Emin, but could not obtain permission to send it away."

One excuse after another would be made, one demand for presents after another would be put forward, until at last, either the patience or the resources of the expedition would be exhausted. The Waganda's policy has remained unchanged—at least the policy of the Court party—for years. Notwithstanding the intercourse they have had with missionaries and others, they fleece all Europeans, and will continue to do so until they have learnt a lesson which it would be out of the province or power of a Relief Expedition to teach them.

The *second route* that might be taken is, theoretically, an enticing one. It has been proposed by some to send an expedition up the Congo, and either to go up the Aruwimi, or Biyerré, to a point which is marked by a cross on the map, and which is situated only some 500 miles from Wadelai, or to utilise the river Mobangi, which Mr. Grenfell states to be navigable far beyond the point he reached, and which is believed by some to be Schweinfurth's Welli, and then to proceed through the Nyam-Nyam district to Emin's relief. This proposal is based upon the published opinion of General Gordon, who wrote, in January 1884, from Brussels, that the Bahr-Ghazel district was only 250 miles from Stanley's station on the Congo. This is no doubt true, and for a philanthropic or commercial undertaking the route is practicable enough, but it is not the route for the relief of Emin Bey. The time it would occupy is one great objection; and, secondly, delay would inevitably attend the passage of the expedition through the Nyam-Nyam district.

We have only to consider the time taken by Dr. Oscar Lenz, to see the force of the foregoing statements. He left Europe more than a year ago, bent partly on exploration, partly on rendering aid to Dr. Junker and Dr. Emin Bey. I may presume he has used every endeavour to push on; still, he only left Stanley Falls on April 4th, and has now arrived at

¹ *Church Missionary Intelligencer*, November 1886, p. 838.

² *Egyptian Gazette*, November 15th.

Kasongo, near Nyangwe. My firm belief is that commercial speculations and philanthropic plans, other than for the aid of Emin Bey, should not be undertaken by any expedition sent to his succour.

I have not felt it necessary to refer at any length to the *third route* which is marked on the map, and which is the one attributed to Mr. H. M. Stanley, who has offered to place his gratuitous services at the disposal of the Government. He is prepared to take the command of a non-military expedition from East Africa to Uganda, in order to induce the king to re-open communications through his country, and to release Emin Bey; and he thinks that this expedition might take from twelve to eighteen months.

The remarks I have previously made on Uganda apply still more forcibly to this proposal; and I feel sure that Mr. Stanley, should his generous offer be accepted, will take them into consideration.

The *fourth route*, and the one which I would propose for a Relief Expedition, is what I believe to be, all things considered, the safest, the most rapid, and the most practicable. It is as follows:—An expedition, composed of picked porters and 200 reliable Negro soldiers, should start from Zanzibar by a direct route to Mkumbiro, then follow Stanley's route as far as Nyagoma,¹ and then strike due west till Lake Alexandra is reached,—thus giving Karagwe a wide berth. The expedition should next skirt Lake Alexandra, and take a northerly route to the Muta Nzige, follow its eastern shores, and then strike directly for the south end of the Albert Lake (Muritán Nzige). Before arriving at this point, messengers should be sent on to Emin Bey, who would meet the expedition with his two steamers and life-boats at the south end of the lake. The geographical results to be obtained by this route would be of great value, but I need not enter into this point more fully, as it will be self-evident to all Geographers.

By taking this route, it is most probable all possibility of coming in contact with the Waganda would be avoided; in fact, if the leader of the expedition kept his own counsel, the Waganda would not necessarily know of its destination. Even if the Waganda did hear of the expedition they could do little or nothing to delay it, for they are not in the habit of making raids towards the south-west, and the people there do not fear them. In the north-east they are greatly dreaded, as they are constantly attacking the people—it forms, in fact, their slave-hunting district.

There would be no difficulty, surely, in finding a well-trying and experienced leader. Mr. Stanley's name has already been mentioned; and our Honorary Member, Mr. Joseph Thomson, would, there is no doubt, be willing to return to the seat of his great exploits; and I am convinced that should he be intrusted with the mission, it would be crowned with success.

Since I commenced to write this paper, I have received another letter from Dr. Emin Bey, which I append. A few remarks are, however, neces-

¹ Not Uyagoma, as in Map.

sary as a preface to it. The letter is dated Wadelai, 7th July 1886, and it will be read with interest; but I fear that it may produce the impression that Dr. Emin Bey is not now so much in need of assistance. I must, therefore, call attention to the fact that, even before this letter was written, the king of Uganda had invaded Unyoro, and is reported to have slaughtered Kabaréga and some 10,000 of his people, thus preventing Emin Bey from having any communication with the south.¹ It seems to me that this makes it all the more important that no delay should take place in forwarding a Relief Expedition to him.

“WADELAI, 7th July 1886.

To ROBERT W. FELKIN, M.D., F.R.G.S., Edinburgh.

DEAR FRIEND,—It is just possible that my letter dated 1st January of this year may now be in your hands, and a letter dealing fully with my position dated the 18th of May is probably nearing you.² Notwithstanding, I will take an opportunity which presents itself to me to send you a few words of greeting. From my last letters you will learn that I have come to the determination to hold out here with my people; this resolution has been greatly strengthened by the letters I received from Mr. Mackay a few days ago.

The new King of Uganda has begun his career with the murder of Hannington, and has further determined that his policy against Europeans shall be hostile.

In consequence of this, I immediately wrote to Sir John Kirk and the Government at Cairo informing them of my position, and also of my resolution to hold my province.

I have certainly some glimmerings of hope, that, as Egypt appears to be unable to send us aid, England may, at some future day, take advantage of the position in which we find ourselves, to remain true to her former traditions of a humanitarian and civilising mission.

At the present time, when the European Powers are racing neck and neck to gain possession of districts in Africa, is it really possible that no one in England should have been enlightened enough to see how easy it would be to occupy the whole of our province, and this too without any cost?

Well, these are political matters with which, perhaps, I should not trouble you in a letter which is only written to convey you my sincere greetings.

I have really very little news to give you; the only new trial which God has seen fit to bring upon us has been an extensive epidemic of small-pox, which has cost us many lives, because the people would not allow vaccination to be carried out. It has, however, given me the opportunity of making extensive observations on the aboriginal treatment of this disease—observations which I hope sooner or later to be able to communicate to the pages of some Medical Journal.

I am glad to be able to tell you that the province is in complete safety and order; it is true that the Baris gave us some little trouble, but I was soon able to restore order in their district.

Since I last wrote you, all the stations are busily employed in agricultural

¹ The Rev. R. P. Ashe writes, on April 7th, 1886, from Uganda: “The war with Kabaréga, king of Unyoro, is over. Great slaughter on both sides. It is said that Kabaréga was killed; the Baganda leader was shot dead . . . They say his (Dr. Junker's) house was left untouched when Kabaréga's capital was fired.”—*Church Missionary Intelligencer*, November 1886, p. 838.

² This letter has not yet come to hand.

work, and, at each one, considerable cotton plantations are doing well; this is all the more important for us, as it enables us, to a certain extent, to cover our nakedness. I have also introduced the shoemaker's art, and you would be surprised to see the progress we have made. We now make our own soap, and we have at last enough meat and grain, so that we have sufficient to keep life going; such luxuries, however, as sugar, etc., of course we have not seen for many a long day. I forgot to say that we are growing the most splendid tobacco! Personally, I am only in want of books and fine shot, arsenic, soda, etc., to enable me to continue the preparation of zoological specimens. Notwithstanding this, I am continuing to collect specimens whenever I am able, and in a few days I am sending collections for Professor Flower, Canon Tristram, and Dr. Günther, to Sir John Kirk at Zanzibar, and I trust he will have the goodness to forward them to England. They contain many new and interesting specimens, especially those collected in the Monbuttu and Nyam-Nyam districts.

Our relations with Kabraga have still continued friendly; he has also had the goodness to send my letters to Mr. Mackay in Uganda, and has permitted me to buy several necessary articles from the Zanzibar Arabs who live in his country. Captain Casati has, on this account, acceded to my wishes, and taken up his residence with Kabraga in the meantime, in order to look after our interests.

Dr. Junker is at present in Uganda, and hopes soon to start on his homeward journey. I am only too glad that he at least has been enabled to escape from here.

Write me, as soon as you possibly can, what has become of Lupton. I do hope he has already escaped. I see in the *Daily News*—a present Mr. Mackay has been good enough to send me—that Lupton and Slatin are in chains at Khartûm!

A short time ago I was compelled to go as far as the Albert Lake, and took the opportunity to make a detailed survey of the whole of the route from here to Mahehi; from there I crossed the lake to Kibiro, where I ascended the mountain, measured its height, made a large collection and many interesting notes. I then made a detailed survey of the route from Kibiro to Wadelai.

It is my intention before long to finish my investigation of the Albert Lake, both geographically, zoologically, and ethnographically.

You see that I have plenty to occupy my time, and now, as I have, through Mr. Mackay's goodness, received some English journals, I am not without some pleasures: *Utile et dulce*. . . .

On the 18th of May I sent off a full copy of my journal to your sister.³ I hope it may arrive safely. Please send me newspapers and books; write to me soon, and believe me, ever to be yours most sincerely,

DR. EMIN BEY."

I think it well to call attention to an extract from the diary of the Rev. R. P. Ashe, dated Wednesday, June 23d, 1886: "Dr. Junker and Mackay go up to court, large Baraza. King consents to let Dr. Junker go away, and in the boat. Then came on the matter of Emin Bey's letters; first of which asks leave to pass with all his people. Second asks leave for himself only, and a few secretaries and clerks."

From the above it seems as if Dr. Emin Bey had made inquiries as to the possibility of withdrawal *via* Uganda.

³ The journal has not yet been received.

It will be noticed, however, that in his last letter to me, which was written at a later date, he says that his resolution of staying with his people had been greatly strengthened by Mr. Mackay's letters, which, according to the *Church Missionary Intelligencer*, were written in reply to his inquiries.

The following letter, published in the *Esplorazione*, was written by Dr. Junker to Dr. Schweinfurth at Cairo :—

MSALALA, ENGLISH MISSION,
SOUTH OF VICTORIA NYANZA, 16th August 1886.

DEAR FRIEND,—Escaped at last from the clutches of Mwanga at Uganda, I find myself here this morning, and make use of the last courier that departs from the station for the coast to send two lines to you.

Forty porters and some Zanzibaris have been enrolled, and I hope to be able to continue my journey, some day, from here to Ujiji, and thence to Bagamoyo.

Must we believe that nothing will ever be done for these unhappy Equatorial Provinces? Write, write on, dear friend! Send forth words of thunder that will open the eyes of all the world! I am most urgent that all that is possible may be done. It is absolutely necessary that Emin Bey should receive help without delay. I have procured for him in Uganda 2000 dollars worth of cotton goods, but even in such circumstances as these the King Mwanga interposed the greatest difficulties. In spite of his promises that the despatch of the merchandise into Unyoro should be made through a certain Mohamed Beri, whom I had paid for this purpose, I have been obliged to depart without seeing the convoy started *en route* for the north.

The prestige of Europeans here at the present time is much diminished; it would be a lasting shame if Europe should not attempt something for the help of Emin Bey. . . . It is with this hope alone that I essay to return to Europe.

WILHELM JUNKER.

I introduce this letter from Dr. Junker, who had only left Emin Bey's province a few weeks previously and who had just come through Uganda, in order to show the urgent need in which he considers Emin Bey to be, and also the difficulty he met with in Uganda.

I am sure that all who read his words will feel what great force they lend to the necessity for immediate action. Written, as they are, by such a well-known traveller on his way from Emin Bey's province, they convey an appeal of such urgency and importance that few will fail to be influenced by them.

It is to be hoped that England will equip an expedition without delay, and either enable Dr. Emin Bey to maintain his position, and persevere in his noble work, or, if necessary, to force a passage either to the Congo or to the East Coast.

APPENDIX.

I.

The following Resolution, proposed by the Right Honourable the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Vice-President of the Scottish Geographical Society, and seconded by Mr. James Currie, Member of Council, was unanimously adopted at a Special Sitting of the Council of the Scottish Geographical Society, on 23d November 1886, on the basis of a statement submitted on the occasion by Dr. Robert W. Felkin, the African traveller, a Member of the Council :—

“That, having regard to the long and varied services rendered during the past twelve years by Dr. Emin Bey in Central Africa, not only to Geography, but to other cognate Sciences—both by his personal exertions and by the help he has constantly given to explorers—the Council considers that he well deserves the support and assistance of the British Government.

“The Council does not suggest any military expedition for his relief, but is of opinion that a *pacific* Relief Expedition might be successfully undertaken by Her Majesty’s Government.

“It is evident that an Expedition of this character passing through hitherto unexplored districts would contribute not a little to our geographical knowledge of Africa.”

A copy of this Resolution was sent to Lord Iddesleigh, accompanied by the following letter :—

“SCOTTISH GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY,
80A PRINCES STREET,
EDINBURGH, 23d November 1886.

The Right Honourable THE EARL OF IDDESLEIGH, ETC., ETC.,

Her Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

MY LORD,—The letters recently received in this country from Emin Bey, Governor of the Egyptian Equatorial Provinces, have been brought under the notice of the Council of this Society.

From these letters the Council have learnt with concern of the distress and isolation of his position, and have resolved to forward to your Lordship a petition in favour of steps being taken for his relief.

Apart from the consideration of his laudable exertions in the cause of humanity, the Council consider that the scientific achievements of Emin Bey and the services rendered by him to the Geography, Meteorology, and Ethnography of Central Africa claim for him the aid and assistance he now so anxiously awaits. They venture also to call the attention of your

Lordship to the services rendered by Emin Bey to British and foreign travellers whose routes have taken them through the districts under his command.

The Council believe that efficient aid might be extended to him with comparatively little difficulty, and they would venture to suggest that a *pacific* Relief Expedition might be despatched by Her Majesty's Government from Zanzibar, *via* the south end of the Victoria Lake, to the south end of Lake Albert, where communications with Emin Bey could be opened up by means of the steamers at his disposal.

Mr. Joseph Thomson, our countryman, would, in the opinion of the Council, be ably fitted to conduct such an Expedition with rapidity and success.

I am instructed by the Council to forward to your Lordship the accompanying Resolution, which was adopted at a special Sitting to-day.

I have the honour to be, MY LORD,

Your Lordship's obedient, humble Servant,

ARTHUR SILVA WHITE,
Secretary."

The following letter has been received from the Foreign Office by the Secretary of the Scottish Geographical Society :—

"FOREIGN OFFICE, *December 3, 1886.*

SIR,—I am directed by the Earl of Iddesleigh to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d ultimo, enclosing a resolution passed by the Scottish Geographical Society, in favour of a *pacific* Expedition for the relief of Dr. Emin Bey, and I am to inform you that the subject is under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble Servant,

T. V. LISTER."

The Secretary, Scottish Geographical Society,
80A Princes Street, Edinburgh."

II.

The Society has received a letter from Signor Cesare Rossi, Vice-President of the African Exploration Society in Milan, intimating its intention to send assistance to Captain Casati (from whom letters, imploring assistance, have just been received, after a silence of three years), and proposing to co-operate with the Scottish Geographical Society in their efforts on behalf of Emin Bey, by offering "a reward of some thousands of *lire*" (francs) to whoever would undertake the task of conveying to Casati the assistance he requires.