

UGANDA BY PEN AND CAMERA

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Uganda by pen and camera by C. W. Hattersley

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C. W. HATTERSLEY

**UGANDA BY PEN
AND CAMERA**



DAVID OWA, KING OF UGANDA.
(Photographed at the age of six.)

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BY
C. W. HATTERSLEY

WITH A PREFACE BY
T. F. VICTOR BUXTON

PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED FROM PHOTOGRAPHS

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P R E F A C E

BY T. F. V. BUXTON

MUCH has been written about the past history of Uganda, from the time of Stanley's visit in 1875 and onwards. Thirty years is a short period in the history of a people; but in this case the period has been so full of kaleidoscopic changes, and has been marked by so many critical events, that its history reads like a romance. The rapidity with which these changes have taken place result in this, that the best descriptions of the country, written even a few years since, are quite inapplicable to the present time; and thus there is ample room for such an account as Mr. Charles Hattersley gives in the present book.

Uganda is a country which has called forth an extraordinary amount of interest and sympathy here at home, and there are numbers who will welcome this latest picture of its people. Among them I hope there may be many young men whose thoughts are turning to the missionary life, and who wish to study a field in which, under God's providence, their future work may lie. The picture given here is graphic and attractive, and I can bear witness that it is also faithful and true to life. I had the privilege the year before last of paying a visit to Uganda; and it is pleasant, in turning over the pages of Mr. Hattersley's chapters, to have innumerable incidents of the journey and details of native life recalled by his descriptions, and by the excellent photographs with which they are illustrated.

Peace and security now reign in Uganda, and the English resident suffers from none of the anxiety as to personal safety to

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which he and his predecessors were exposed a few short years ago. But the missionary to-day, as Mr. Hattersley indicates, has to face other difficulties which are no less anxious to one whose whole heart is in the work. British administration has broken down the old restraints, and individual freedom of action prevails as never before. At the same time there is an in-rush of new influences from Europe and from India, which are often in direct antagonism to those of the missionary. The Christian Church is thus passing through a time of sifting and trial, and there seems a special call now for unwavering faith in the power of prayer and in the assured triumph of the Grace of God.

To meet the new circumstances, it is obvious that one of the most important objects to be kept in view must be the imparting of sound education. Elementary schools have already done a noble work,

and the Baganda have proved apt and eager pupils ; but among many of them the demand has now arisen for something more than the three R's and simple Bible-teaching. The whole system of education in Mengo, and throughout the country, is being revised and extended, and the ability which Mr. Hattersley has already shown in this branch of missionary work points him out as one who must take a prominent part in the improvements now under consideration.

We were impressed by the signs of vigour and efficiency evident in the conduct of the large boys' school under his charge, and were greatly interested in a project for which he was preparing at the time of our visit to Mengo. Mr. Hattersley was then busy over the erection of a group of small boarding-houses for the sons of chiefs in different parts of the country, for whom better education was desirable than could be obtained in their village schools.

One of these houses had been provided by the Administration to accommodate young chiefs from Busoga, for whom it was considered important that they should be removed for a time from undesirable home influences, and trained in a way more likely to qualify them for taking their part worthily in the government of their country. The work of these boarding-houses is now in full swing, and they must form a very valuable adjunct to the day school. We shall not soon forget our visit to this latter institution. The large grass-thatched building was well filled, and all the boys seemed to be working keenly at their lessons, while the teachers were throwing themselves heartily into the work of imparting knowledge. The most interesting class was a gathering of senior boys, many of them practically grown up, who were receiving systematic Bible-teaching from Mr. Hattersley himself.