

**LIVES AND
DISCOVERIES OF
FAMOUS TRAVELLERS**

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Lives and Discoveries of Famous Travellers by Anonymous

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ANONYMOUS

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LIVES AND DISCOVERIES
OF
FAMOUS TRAVELLERS.

Compiled by the Editor of
'THE ENGLISH CIRCUMNAVIGATORS,' 'THE ENGLISH EXPLORERS,' 'THE TREASURY
OF MODERN BIOGRAPHY,' ETC.

DAVID LIVINGSTONE, LL.D., D.C.L.

SIR SAMUEL WHITE BAKER.

HENRY M. STANLEY.

MAJOR SERPA PINTO.



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PREFATORY NOTE.

THE following accounts of the Lives and Discoveries of several distinguished modern Travellers form another volume in the list of popular works, issued by the Publishers with the view of meeting the steadily increasing demand for reading of a wholesome and instructive character. The details in each case, for each narrative, have been drawn directly from the original sources of information,—Dr. Livingstone's *Missionary Travels*; Sir Samuel Baker's *Albert Nyansa* and *Ismailia*; Mr. H. M. Stanley's *Across the Dark Continent*; and for Major Pinto's travels, the letter submitted to Lord Northbrook, President of the Royal Geographical Society.



CONTENTS.

	PAGE
DAVID LIVINGSTONE, LL.D., D.C.L.,	5
SIR SAMUEL WHITE BAKER,	33
HENRY M. STANLEY,	146
MAJOR SERPA PINTO,	221



LIVES AND DISCOVERIES OF FAMOUS TRAVELLERS.

DAVID LIVINGSTONE, LL.D., D.C.L.

THE facts in the early life of Livingstone, though familiar enough, have an undying interest to the student of biography. In a character which embraced so many simple, sincere, and earnest elements, there is a danger of overlooking his simple, manly greatness. His great-grandfather fell at the battle of Culloden; his grandfather was a small farmer in Ulva, where Neil Livingstone, his father, was born, and his youth was nurtured amongst the traditionary legends of a past age. David Livingstone was born at Blantyre, near Glasgow, in 1813.

Livingstone relates that his grandfather could give particulars of the lives of his ancestors for six generations. One of these traditions told of a hardy islander, who, on his death-bed, called his children round him, and said, 'Now, in my lifetime, I have searched most carefully through all the traditions I could find of our family, and I never could discover that there was a dishonest man among our fore-

fathers. If, therefore, any of you, or any of your children, should take to dishonest ways, it will not be because it runs in our blood; it does not belong to you. I leave this precept with you, "Be honest!" Like many of the Highlanders, his ancestors were Roman Catholics; but he says 'they were made Protestants by the laird coming round with a man having a yellow staff, which would seem to have attracted more attention than his teaching, for the new religion went long afterwards, perhaps it does so still, by the name of "the religion of the yellow stick."'

The island of Ulva yielding insufficient support for a numerous family, his grandfather had removed to Blantyre Works, situated on the Clyde, near Glasgow. His sons were received as clerks in the factory there. His uncles entered the army or navy, but his father remained at home, carrying on the business of a small tea-dealer, but was, as his son remarks, too conscientious to become rich. They were members of the Church of Scotland, a religious establishment which he speaks of as having been an incalculable blessing to the country. During the last twenty years of his life, however, he went to an Independent church in Hamilton, where he held the office of deacon. Livingstone revered his father's memory, and spoke of him as presenting to his family a continuously consistent, pious example. His mother he remembered as an anxious housewife, striving to make both ends meet.

David Livingstone, at the age of ten, was sent to the factory as a 'piecer,' to help the household income. Part of his first week's wages he expended in buying Ruddiman's *Rudiments of Latin*. The study of Latin he vigorously pursued at an evening school, which met between the hours

of eight and ten at night. Not unfrequently he would continue his studies till twelve o'clock, although he had to be at the factory by six o'clock in the morning till eight in the evening, with intervals for breakfast and dinner. He said, in writing his *Missionary Travels*, that he knew *Virgil* and *Horace* better in these early days than he did at that time. In addition he read everything he could lay his hands on, except novels. Works of travel, or books relating to scientific research, were his favourites; and with his limited leisure he managed to make himself acquainted with the scenery, botany, and geology of his native district. He had a habit of fixing upon the spinning-jenny the book he was reading, so that his eye could catch the sentence as he passed on his work. His father, with a narrowness of mind characteristic of many good men in his position, would have preferred that he should have been poring over such works as the *Cloud of Witnesses*, or Boston's *Fourfold State*, to reading such miscellaneous literature. In the fresh glow of Christian ardour, Livingstone determined upon becoming a medical missionary to China, and began to turn his mind towards preparation for the mission field.

Livingstone was promoted to the more laborious toil of a cotton spinner while in his nineteenth year, and he was thus enabled to support himself while attending the medical, Greek, and Divinity classes in Glasgow. 'I never,' he wrote, 'received a farthing of aid from any one, and should have accomplished my project of going to China as a medical missionary in the course of time by my own efforts, had not some friends advised my joining the London Missionary Society, on account of its perfectly unsectarian character. It sends neither Episcopacy, nor Presbyterianism, nor Inde-