

flag hoisted, I also observed canoes from Brass with palm-oil casks. After passing Agberi, I found less current in centre of river. Found it very hot on bridge up to 1 30 P.M., when we had a sharp shower, which reduced the temperature in shade from 90° to 84°. Above Truro Island the aspect of the country changes, trees are not so numerous, with a fine expanse of water; the first grass-land we passed at 2 P.M., and although not actually clear of the Delta, yet it is a decided improvement on the sameness of the lower part of the river. 3:30, heavy tornado; wind not so violent as at sea, but torrents of rain; it lasted some time. Abreast of second grass-land, the country becomes more open; trees of a larger description present themselves, and, as we near Ibo, the river expands considerably. Anchored at 6:30 P.M., off Abis Farm. Made forty-two miles.

*September 5.*—Started at 5:30 A.M.; thermometer 73° Fahrenheit. Passed Ibo early. This is the furthest town up the river to trade with by the Brass merchants, and evidently the Liverpool of the Delta, as it has a large trade up and down the river. Passed the town of Asonaro, which is at war with Ibo; also Abenso, from where we observed for the first time land of a mountainous nature in the distance. Here the river gets broad and noble-looking. We arrived at 6:15 at Onitsha, and sent some of Mr. Crowther's Party on shore. Made forty-eight miles; found the current very strong here.

*September 6.*—Started from Onitsha at 5:45 A.M.; thermometer 75°. Heard that Aju, Chief of Ibo, was dead, the man that plundered Mr. Laird's factory in 1860, and that tried to detain Mr. Southwick when sent on shore from "Espoir." The first open land appeared below Miller Point, above Walker Island. The river is broad, but rather shallow. Monte Video Mountain was scarcely visible, owing to the cloudiness of the atmosphere. Thermometer at noon 84°, and at 3 P.M. 89° in the shade. We generally have a smart shower each afternoon, which cools the air. The current has not been so strong to-day, owing to the course being straighter; we have been going eight knots. Just above Agane a large sheet of water presents itself, and the land around us very mountainous. Passed several large canoes going down the river. Anchored at 6:30 P.M., near the head of Arka Island, having made fifty-two miles.

*September 7.*—Started at 5:30 A.M.; thermometer 74° in shade. At 7 A.M. passed the large town of Iddah, supposed to contain upwards of 10,000 inhabitants, situated on a pretty hill 127 feet in height. There is a large plain on the south side. The houses are round, and the natives dressed in the blue cloth of the country. This place might be made the key of the Niger, as the deep water channel is very narrow, so that the town entirely commands it. Igara is the name of the country, and the King of Iddah's territory reaches as far as the Confluence. The scenery about Shooter's Sound is of a fine picturesque description; hills, thickly wooded valleys, and mountains steep and rocky. Mount Freedy, in the distance, is conical shaped, about 800 feet in height. The natives have been down on the banks in great numbers as we passed. The country here might be turned to good account, and, from what I have heard, the natives would be glad to work the ground, only they are prevented by fear of King Massaba, who sends down his horsemen in the dry season, and takes them for slaves. The land opposite Beauford Sound grows guinea corn, and the island itself has several farms on it. The navigation here is very unpleasant, owing to the number of rocks, and some of them

a wash. From Beauford Sound upward the country still continues mountainous, and of a very rocky nature. Current strong. About four knots from Maconachee Sound I first observed Mount Patte, at the foot of which Dr. Baikie has his settlement, called by the natives Lukoja. At 5:20 P.M. landed the Rev. Mr. Crowther and party at Gbebe (Confluence), and then proceeded to Dr. Baikie's place, three miles higher up, and on the west side of the river; anchored and sent the gig on shore. Found Dr. Baikie was not there; men who had been left in charge of his place said he had gone up the country, but could not say in what direction more than that he left for Bida last September, and had not since been heard of.

*September 9.*—Came to the determination it was only wasting time remaining at the Confluence; determined to proceed to Rabba, as I was unlikely to gain any information respecting Dr. Baikie here, and knowing King Massaba could give me every particular of his whereabouts, and also in case of my not seeing him I would have a responsible Chief, with whom to leave his goods. Weighed at 5 A.M., and found a great difference not having the boat in tow, being able to go 9.8 knots. The country to-day is flat, splendid ground for rice. The river up here was much flooded. At 5:20 P.M. anchored off Egga; sent messenger to the King requesting he would send fresh beef and wood in the morning, which he promised. Made seventy-five miles this day.

*September 10.*—Remained at anchor till 1:30 P.M., in hopes of getting some wood, but it came off in such small quantities, and the charges were so exorbitant, I did not consider myself justified in purchasing it. At 1:30 P.M. proceeded up the river. At 5:15 P.M. anchored off a small village called Eghon, and sent kroomen on shore to cut wood, which they did all night.

*September 11.*—5.15 A.M. started this day; having come to the last of Lieutenant Glover's charts that are printed, we had to proceed with more caution, as Lieutenant Allen's charts are of little service, owing to their being on such a small scale. Anchored for the night off Pascha.

*September 12.*—Started for Rabba at 8 A.M. Rain in the morning very heavy. The natives here seem much finer, better featured, and not so dark as the coast men. The women rub a kind of fine red clay over their bodies. At 1 P.M. anchored off Rabba, well clear of the shore. It is situated on high ground, with red cliffs close to it. The King of Rabba sent messengers off to salute me, and Massaba's headman also called on me. Made arrangements for sending a messenger to King Massaba, who was encamped five days' journey from Rabba, informing him of my arrival, and requesting that he would send horses, as I intended paying him a visit.

From the 12th to the 17th September nothing of importance occurred: remained at anchor waiting for horses. On the afternoon of the latter date the messenger arrived with them; but owing to an attack of fever, I was unable to start till the 19th, when we commenced our journey, and reached the village of Mokwa, our party consisting of Mr. Southwick, Acting Second Master, five kroomen, three guides, and myself. Started on the following morning at 7 A.M. for Dzuguma, a town distant about twenty miles. On the way met War Chiefs, sent by King Massaba to conduct me to him, accompanied by one of Dr. Baikie's men, who spoke English; passed through tracks of cultivated land, consisting chiefly of guinea corn and cotton, the latter particularly is raised in great abundance through these districts. Reached Dzuguma at noon, having travelled during the day