

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

FOUR GENERATIONS AT BALMORAL.

The latest Balmoral group, which we present with this Number, is one of peculiar interest, showing as it does our beloved Sovereign, now in her eightieth year, with four generations of her descendants. The Heir-Apparent bears his honours as a grandsire well, and betrays no trace of the accident from which he has so fortunately recovered. His attachment to little Prince Edward of York is well known. Princess Victoria of Wales completes a pleasant family party.

WANTED—A LEADER.

Sir William Harcourt's unexpected resignation has thrown his party into a new ferment. For the past four years they have lived in an atmosphere of resignation. Mr. Gladstone resigned in 1894, and was succeeded in the leadership of the party by Lord Rosebery, who resigned in 1896. Sir William Harcourt resigns the leadership of the Opposition in the House of Commons in 1898. A crisis of this kind every two years is rather wearing. Moreover, in his withdrawal from responsibility Sir William Harcourt seems to be carrying with him Mr. John Morley, so there may be two great gaps on the Front Opposition Bench. Sir William hints to Mr. Morley that he has not received from the party the loyal support to which he was entitled, and Mr. Morley replies in a letter full of indignant sympathy. Then the party who are thus accused by two of the most eminent of their chiefs lift up voices of lamentation and reproach. It is roundly denied that Sir William Harcourt has any reason to complain. He suggests intrigues. Who are the intriguers? Blameless gentlemen who have sat behind him for years go about protesting their staunch integrity. When you meet a Liberal M.P. at a club, he takes you into a corner, and tells you, almost with tears, the tale of his devotion, and of this monstrous requital by the leader he trusted. What is Sir William Harcourt's motive? Does he want leisure for preparing thunderbolts against the Ritualists? Mr. Morley, of course, is absorbed in his biography of Mr. Gladstone. It is rumoured that Sir William is eager to plunge into a biography of Bolingbroke. If this literary craving should spread any further, the Front Opposition Bench may be literally deserted. Mr. Asquith may give himself up to the accumulation of materials for a life of Lord Halsbury, and Sir Henry Fowler may become absorbed in the study of Wesley. No doubt the divisions in the party have done much to chill Sir William Harcourt's enthusiasm for the arduous labours of Opposition leader. Both he and Mr. Morley are pledged to Home Rule, but a large section of the Radicals is inclined to discard it altogether. His favourite remedy for intemperance is rejected by many of his followers, who regard Local Veto as arbitrary and impracticable. On questions of foreign policy there is believed to be a serious divergence of views between Sir William Harcourt and Lord Rosebery, though the attitude of the Government in the Fashoda business practically received the support of all parties. At any

rate, for whatever reason, Sir William's decision appears to be final, and the Opposition must decide before February who is to lead them in the Commons. At present the chances are in favour of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, who is a man of large experience and great tact. Mr. Asquith is a much more impressive

resigned for reasons analogous to those which have actuated Sir William Harcourt.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS.

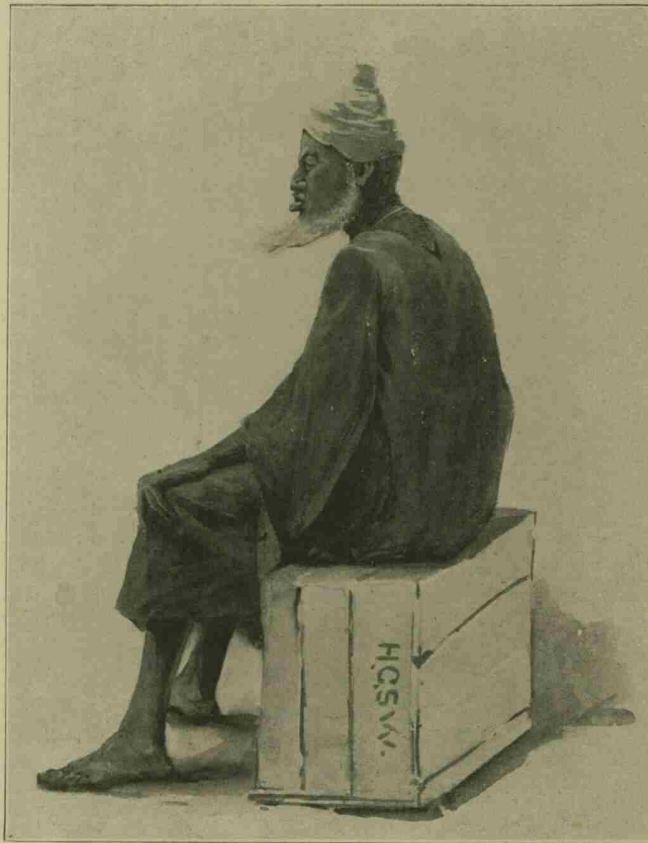
They have had a busy time at Drury Lane Theatre preparing for the pantomime, which Mr. Collins, the manager, and Mr. Sturgess, librettist, have built round the immortal story of "The Forty Thieves," to the music of Mr. J. M. Glover. The leading players are the old favourites, Mr. Dan Leno and the veteran Mr. Herbert Campbell. The leading ladies are new-comers at "the Lane"—namely, Miss Nellie Campbell, the comic-opera artist, who in private life is the wife of Mr. Musgrove, the Australian theatre-manager; and Miss Amelia Stone, who came from America to play in "A Stranger from New York," at the Duke of York's Theatre, last summer. Christmas pleasure-seekers have another sort of amusement at hand in the shape of Barnum and Bailey's circus, menagerie, and what-not at Olympia. The "freaks" have been increased, and a capital naval spectacle has been formed out of the historic incident of the sinking of the *Merrimac*.

THE FRENCH IN SHANGHAI.

The proposal on the part of the French to extend their area of exclusive control at Shanghai has drawn forth a vigorous protest from the British, American, German, and Japanese merchants in that city. The protest is being forwarded to the Ministry at Peking by the Consuls of the nations interested. At a preliminary meeting Lord Charles Beresford was present, and maintained that in view of the cosmopolitan and commercial interests involved, it was not permissible for any Power to advance claims likely to derange trade and prejudice the general welfare. Our Map shows the British, French, and part of the American areas of exclusive control in Shanghai.

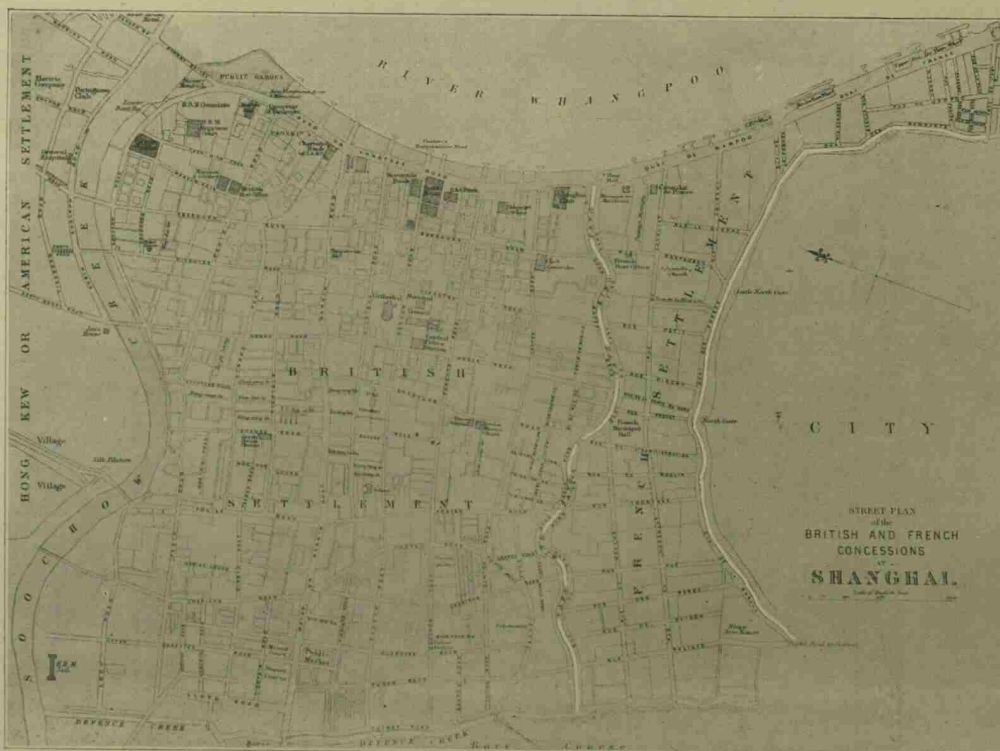
CIVILISATION IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

Our Illustrations of the region between Lake Nyassa and Lake Tanganyika give some idea of the progress civilisation is making in British Central Africa. There the military station forms the outpost of civilisation, and under its guarantee of peace the work of road-making and of boundary delimitation goes on. The Protectorate lies round the shores of Lake Nyassa and extends to the banks of the Zambesi. The administration of the territory by the Imperial Government was begun in 1891, but since 1894 the work has been taken over by the British South Africa Company, under the general supervision of the Imperial Commissioner. The European inhabitants number about three hundred, and the armed forces consist of Sikhs and negroes, about six hundred in all. The principal industry of the settlers is planting; coffee, sugar, and cinchona being the chief products. The expenses of administering the Protectorate are met partly by a locally raised revenue, partly by an annual grant from the British Government. For protection against the slave-trading Arabs and Yaos, forts have been erected along the frontier in all directions, but especially on the north and south-east. There are twelve administrative districts.



THE RISING IN SIERRA LEONE: THE REBEL LEADER, BAI BUREH, IN JAIL. SKETCHED FROM LIFE BY LEUT. H. E. GREEN, 1ST WEST AFRICAN REGIMENT. See "Events of the Day."

figure, but not so popular. Sir Edward Grey's ability is very marked, but he is young, and may have to bide his time. Lord Kimberley will probably continue to lead the party in the Lords until there is some decisive manifestation of a preponderant desire to see Lord Rosebery back in the position which he



STREET PLAN OF THE BRITISH, FRENCH, AND PART OF THE AMERICAN CONCESSIONS AT SHANGHAI.