

Entered as Second-Class Matter at Crockett Postoffice. Subscription Price \$1.00 per Annum in Advance.

CROCKETT HOUSTON COUNTY, TEXAS, FEBRUARY 17, 1893.

Subscription Price, \$1.50 Per Annum

ONCE A POWERFUL NATION

Mr. Theodore Bent has made some surprising discoveries with regard to the inhabitants of Mashonaland.

years ago Montagu Kerr described

living among the rocks and granites of the hills, where they kept a constant outlook for the approach of the dreaded Metabeles. Their enemies

They called themselves the Makalanga, a name which did not signify much to the explorer until he returned to civilization, when he began to read the works of early Portuguese travelers.

careful and accurate writer on Africa than most of his contemporaries. Mr. Bent was astonished to find this statement referring to the region of Mashonaland:

"All these Kaffirs they call Mocarangas, because all talk the Mocarang language. The Monensuaps and all the Mocarangas are a nation, and which they have because they live in the land of the Mocarang, which is the best and most polished of all the Kaffir languages I have seen."

Here we have the same name as the Maikalang by substituting, as the Portuguese always did, r for l. Other conclusive testimony with regard to the identity of the two peoples has been discovered by Mr. Bent; and

the timely Maklakings of to-day, the descendants of the once powerful organization known in the nineteenth century as the empire of Monatlapa, a powerful K'amer organization. The Matlakels of to-day, which fell pieces on the account of internal dissensions, and finally became a prey to the Zulu hordes. The descent which Don Santos gives of the Maklakings of Monatlapa correspond exactly with the habits and customs of the present inhabitants. He tells the annual sacrifice to the spirits of their ancestors, the intercession for them between God and man, the

Mr. Brent has also been able to avail himself of the writings of Arabic historians who lived 1,000 years ago, whose descriptions of the manners and customs of the people living in this region connect them with the present race. Hence, it seems very clear that the country now called Mashonaland has been inhabited for at least 1,000 years by the ancestors of the present barbarous race, a race

During the plowing season every sixth day is called God's day, when the people abstain from work. The day is invariably devoted by the men to drinking beer and lying on the rocks. The Mashons piano consist of more than twenty iron notes, fixed to scale on a square piece of wood and played on a calabash to bring out the sound. The natives are a musical race, and easily pick up tunes to play.

The anthropologist evidently has an inviting field for research in the study of the Makalanga, whose language is as yet little known. The natives are very reserved with regard to their customs and religious observances.

The Athletic Age.

During a recent convention of church-workers two young men passed along Washington street who wore badges bearing the letters "I. H. S." in gold.

"What does them letters stand for?" said one member to another.

they stood with hunched-up shoulders on the corner, and packages of papers under their arms.

"Git out, Jimmy!" answered his mate. "You don't tell me ye don't know that? Why, it stands for 'English High School,' of course. Them fellows is on the eleven?"—Boston Transcript.

Indoubtedly a Munchausen.

"There's Smalltalk, now; he's a splendid fellow—reliable and—"

"Smallik! He's one of the biggest liars I ever heard speak."
"Gracious! How do you make that out?"
"Why, I heard him say the other day that he understood women."

Puzzling.

The vicar of Crosthwaite, in his books on Egypt, tells that he overheard a young English girl saying to her father: "I can't make it out; the guide-book says that Isis was the

