

## REMOTE CONGO FEEDERS.

### AN EXPEDITION TO BE SENT OUT TO EXPLORE THE REGION.

The Congo Commercial Company have decided to send out a fresh expedition, consisting of seven Europeans, for the purpose of attempting the solution of the remaining problems connected with the remote feeders of the great river. A glance at a map, says the *London Times*, "will show that toward the southeast the territories of the Congo Free State are bounded on the east by three lakes—Tanganyika, Moero, and Bangweolo—and dotted from south to north by a series of smaller lakes, among which are those of Lohemba and Upanba. These latter lakes, more or less conjectural, seem to constitute the reservoirs of the Congo. The main stream is formed, so far as is known at present, of three main branches—one, the Lualaba, which some regard as the principal, and which comes from the southwest, forming on the map a chain of lakelets, of which only two have been seen—by Cameron and Reichard; two, the Luapula, of which the Chambesi is the upper course, and which traverses Lakes Bangweolo and Moero, discovered by Livingstone; three, the Lukuga, which issues from Lake Tanganyika and flows direct westward. According to the information obtained from natives and Arab traders, these three rivers unite at a common centre, where the waters form a large lake, known as Lauji, which no white traveler has seen.

"The country of Urua, on the west of Tanganyika, into which the expedition will penetrate, has just been touched by one or two explorers. Among them are Capello and Ivens, Reichard and Arnot, all of whom speak in glowing terms of the fertility of the region, of its salubrity, and its richness in minerals. It lies so high and is so cold sometimes as almost to freeze. It is clearly a region on which it is desirable to have full information, in the interests of both commerce and geography. It has been stated that Mr. Stanley is likely in the future to undertake a special mission to the Upper Congo.

"However that may be, it is to be hoped that the Congo Company will carry out their intentions; there is plenty of room here for several expeditions. The proposed expedition will be under the command of M. Alexandre Delcommune, who has already done good work in exploring some of the Congo tributaries, and who has been seventeen years on the river. He will be accompanied by Lieut. Hackanson of the Swedish Army, formerly one of the agents of the Congo Free State; Dr. Briart, Lieut. Santschoff, formerly of the Russian Army; Baron Marcel de Roert, M. Norbert Diderich, an engineer, and M. Protsch. MM. Hackanson, Briart, and Santschoff have already sailed; M. Delcommune leaves on July 6, and M. Diderich on the 3d. The escort will consist of 150 native soldiers. The expedition will meet at Kiachassa about the middle of September, and, embarking on the steamer *Roi des Belges*, will proceed by the Upper Congo and its tributary, the Lomami, to the limit of navigation on the latter river, nearly opposite Nyangwé. Thence the expedition will proceed on foot. It will be absent from twelve to eighteen months.

"It should be stated that when the expedition gets to the country to the west of Lakes Moero and Bangweolo—included in some maps within the Congo Free State—it may find that the country is virtually under British protection."