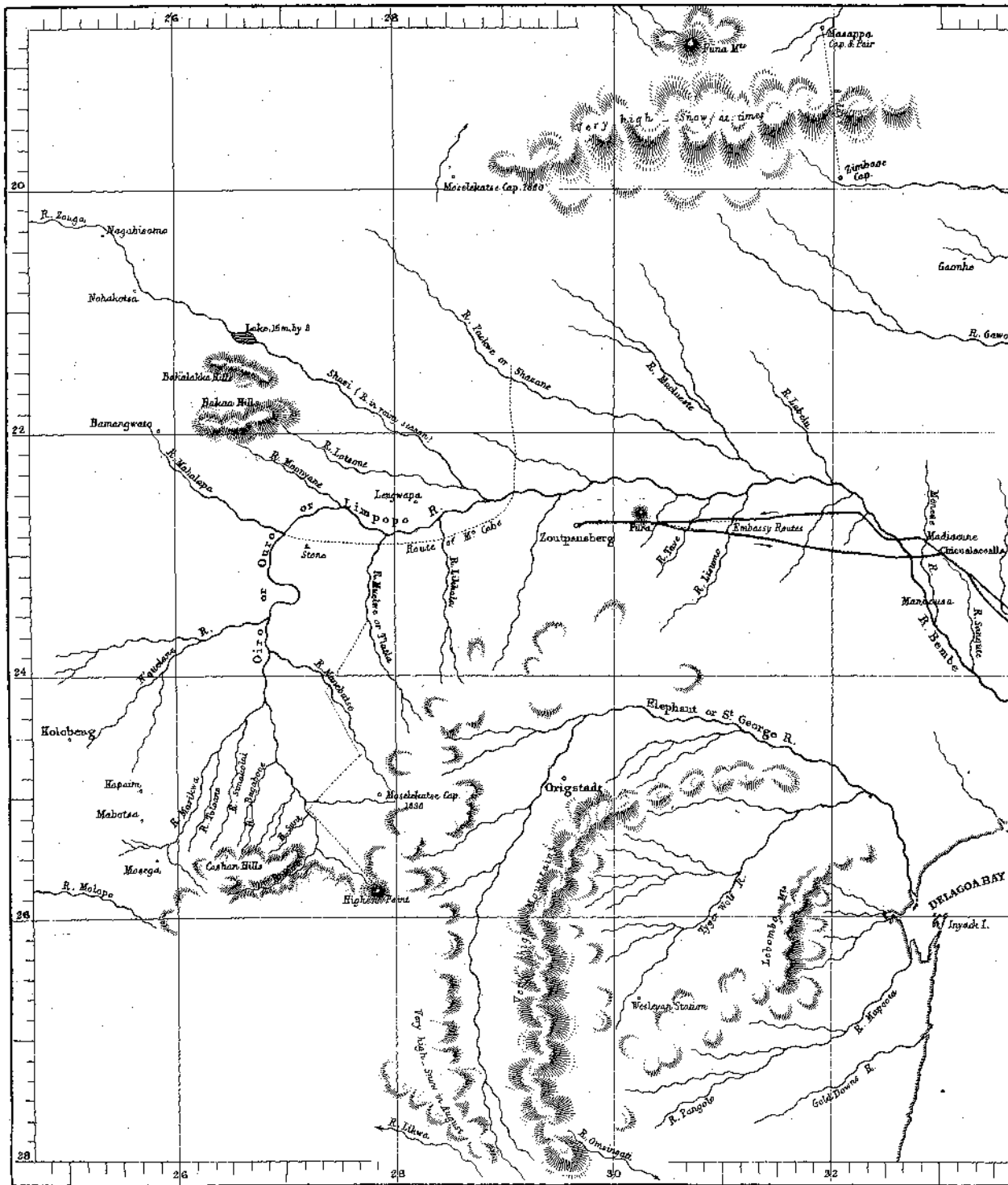


V.—*Journey from Inhambane to Zoutpansberg, by JOAQUIM DE SANTA RITA MONTANHA.** By JAMES MACQUEEN, Esq., F.R.G.S., &c.

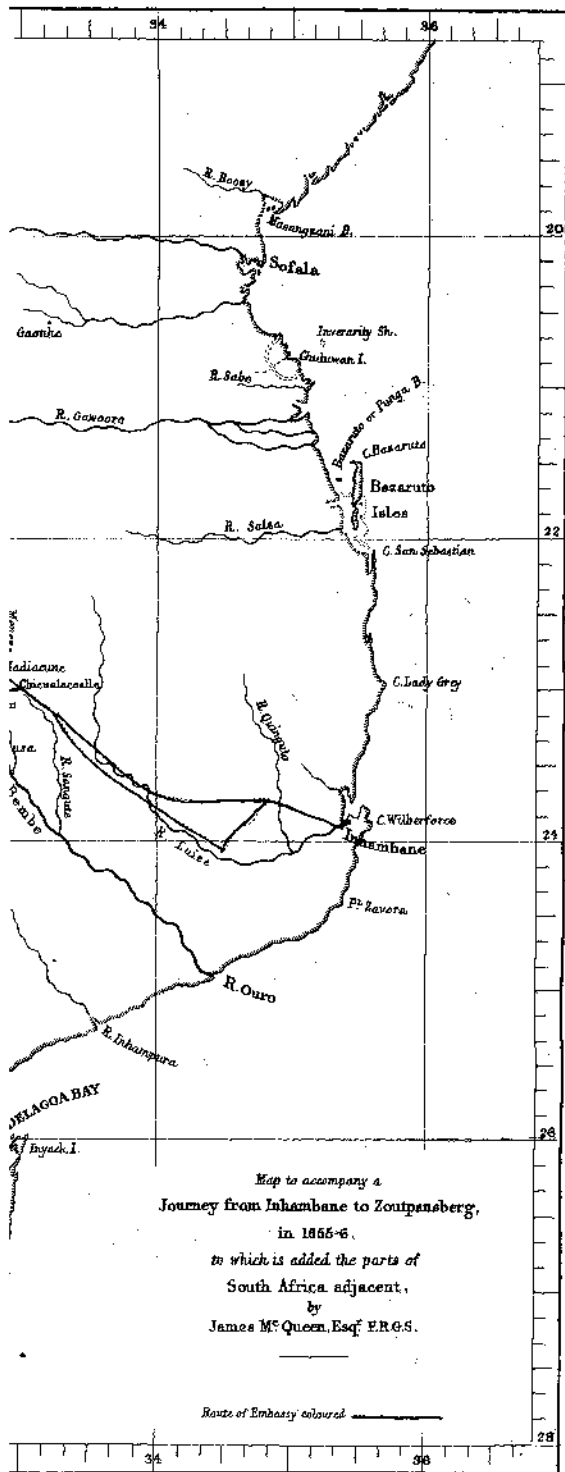
THIS remarkable journey was performed by an embassy sent from Inhambane, on the east coast of Africa, lat. $23^{\circ} 51' \text{ s.}$, long. $35^{\circ} 20' \text{ E.}$, to the settlement of the Dutch Boers at Zoutpansberg (Salt Hill), at a little distance—say forty miles—south of the Limpopo, or Ouro, in about lat. $22^{\circ} 50'' \text{ s.}$, and long. $29^{\circ} 35' \text{ E.}$ This embassy was ordered by the Portuguese Governor of Inhambane, and was placed under the superintendence of a Roman Catholic clergyman, a European, accompanied by some Arab merchants, a Russian, and some slave-traders. The party left Inhambane on the 25th May, 1855, nearly the close of the wet season in these southern latitudes. Besides fifty-four negroes, it was accompanied by several parties as servants. Leaving Inhambane, they proceeded across the river one day to Mango; from whence they journeyed one day to Morumbane. In one day, going west, they reached Guione. Proceeding first north-west one day, and then passing the little river Quingulo, they came to Carube of Ingoane. From thence they pursued their way in a south and south-westerly direction, and, passing several lakes each day, they fixed their encampment amidst brushwood. Here they turned north-west, in which direction they continued for eleven days, almost daily passing by lakes, and occasionally crossing hills. On the fifth day on this bearing they crossed the river Luize. Here they quitted the lands of Maxiva, and entered upon those of the powerful state of Chicualacoalla. On the third day thereafter they saw, on their left hand, water, said to be the river Sangute. One day more and they reached Chiquita. In two days more they reached Madiacune, from whence their course was west. On the first day's journey in that direction they travelled in the lands of the Malojos, and came near the great river Bembe (or Rio del Oiro, or Ouro), and in the next day, going in the same direction—namely, two days west—they crossed the river Bembe at a ford. The stream came from the north, and ran with a strong current. From the river they ascended the land to the south, and encamped at the close of the day at the town of Chicandana, amongst the cultivators or peasants subject to Manicusa. This state, or the capital of it, lay at some days' distance from the point where they first reached the river Bembe. They pursued their journey one day north-west by the side of the river Bembe, after which they

* It is greatly to be regretted that the diary of this interesting journey has not been faithfully rendered into English, without note or comment, and accompanied by a copy of his own map in detail.

Those who examine for themselves will possibly arrive at conclusions somewhat at variance with the geographical views contained in these pages.—J. A.



Pubd for the Journal of the Royal Geographical Socy. by J. Murray, Edinburgh. 50^t London. 1861.



proceeded one day north; from which point they kept a direct west course for thirteen or fourteen days to Zoutpansberg.

In the journey to the Bembe the country crossed was generally open brush, without any particular mention of hills; and the lands a good deal cultivated by the Landeens, or agricultural labourers belonging to the chief men of the different states. There were numbers of elephants, many cattle, a good deal of country provisions, waterfowl and great numbers of fine geese on the different lakes passed on the road. It was now the end of May, and the rivers subsiding after the rains, and the land beginning to be tolerably dry.

The distance travelled in the direction, north-west, will be 130 geo. miles, as the days' journeys were long, exceeding eight hours. To the most northern point is a distance on the northerly bearing 120 miles, bringing the advance to about lat. $22^{\circ} 20'$.

From this extreme point north they pursued their journey west fourteen days to Zoutpansberg, a distance of at least 150 geo. miles. On the second day they crossed a small river, and on the eighth day they crossed in the morning a small running river, and in the afternoon a large river: there divided into three channels, with a strong current; its bed full of large smooth stones. Next day they crossed the river Tave, which had a strong current. Between the great river and the Tave they came in sight of a river to the north, with a great current, which could be no other than the Bembe, or Limpopo. In all this line of march they encountered hills, ascending and descending them nine and ten in one day, most of them strewed with stones, and their path also covered with them, but otherwise open and unobstructed. They met herds of camelopards and other wild animals, and passed numerous lakes, some of them no doubt the remains of the inundation. Beyond the Tave they entered the state of Fera, where they were well received. Every day they passed and slept in towns or villages of the cultivators, and readily procured the supplies they required. It was now the end of June; the days were generally clear, but in others the sky was quite covered with clouds, and the country sometimes enveloped in mists and fogs. In the end of June and the beginning of July the cold, especially during the nights, was very great, and the water and streams hard-frozen every morning. As they approached Zoutpansberg, they crossed many small rivulets or streams. In Fera they found a large town built on a mountain, the dwellings in rows or terraces rising one above the other. In Fera also they found the cows exactly like those of Europe. On the 5th of July they reached Zoutpansberg, where they were received with great satisfaction and great honour and respect, and entertained most hospitably. They were also met in their march, at a considerable distance from head-quarters, by parties of the Dutch population with welcome, and supplies, and conveyances.

S. J. Schorman was general and commandant of the district, and with him and the other authorities they negotiated very readily treaties of peace and commerce in the month of August, 1855. At this place they remained till the 23rd of June, 1856. During the interval they visited Waterberg, a considerable Boer settlement, nine days distant. During their stay at what may be termed the capital of this quarter of the republic, they were entertained at many festive parties and dances.

Assuming that Inhambane is in $35^{\circ} 20'$ E. long., Zoutpansberg will be in about $29^{\circ} 30'$ E. long., and about 30 miles south of the Limpopo, or Ouro, or Oiro.

Although it was their winter season when the embassy reached Zoutpansberg, still the country must be greatly elevated to have had the cold so great within the tropic of Capricorn. In the distance they saw very high mountains, in all directions—north, north-east, and south-east. Towards Delagoa Bay, we know that this is the case from other and good authority. In a journey undertaken from Lourenço do Marquize or Delagoa Bay, in 1847, to Origstatdt by a party of Portuguese, they state that the distance was in a direct line almost 80 leagues (but 120 by the circuitous road), and that they had to go across immense mountains, infested with the Tsetse, but that more to the north there was an easier road.

The magnitude, course, and source of the Inhambane River are points deserving notice as connected with this subject. Its source is estimated by De Lisle to be 130 miles distant, and the bearing of its course north-north-west from the town of Inhambane. The river is only navigable for ships to a distance of 9 miles, and boats about 5 miles farther. The native name appears to be Moviembene. The Luize is an affluent of it. An inspection of the map will show that the bearing and distance of its course and source cannot be materially incorrect. The Bembe, or Rio del Oiro, or Ouro, is therefore most probably the river Limpopo or Ouro, as it is also called, the mouth of the Rio del Ouro, marked and known in every map of Eastern Africa in lat. $24^{\circ} 43'$ s., and long. $34^{\circ} 15'$ E. At its mouth it is 1 mile broad, but it has never been minutely examined, nor the country around it. The ambassadors alluded to expressly name the stream the Bembe or Rio del Oiro, and add that it is also known as the River of Crocodiles. Mr. McCabe also mentions that such was its name (Ouro) and designation where it bursts through the Cashan Hills in its course northward and eastward. The Dutch Boers distinctly told Dr. Livingstone * more than once that the river Limpopo entered the sea under its native name Ouro, and at some distance to the north of Delagoa Bay, but not in it. So also other authorities tell us, and assure us that the river cannot

* Letter, Livingstone to Oswell, 7th Sept., 1846, &c.

reach the Manice, or St. George River, asserted by some to be its mouth. The river Inhampura would intervene with its course; but it is not so. That mouth is, however, formed by the Elephant River and the Omekonto, and other rivers that descend from the northern parts of the Dragenberg. The course of the Elephant River is at least 460 geo. miles, and through a very mountainous country, abounding in streams, and therefore with its numerous tributaries brings a supply of water equal to form the Manice. This river, according to Owen, is at 50 miles from the sea, $25^{\circ} 27'$ s. lat., 120 feet broad, 18 feet deep, with a current of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour. At 35 miles to the westward the Manice, according to the same authority, breaks through the formidable chain of mountains which traverse that portion of Africa. The Rio del Ouro, or Gold River, therefore, is the probable mouth of the Limpopo River, and has no connection with Delagoa Bay. Mr. Baines also shows and states this (*Geo. Journal*, vol. xxiv., p. 291). The real name of the Elephant River is the Pellulah or Lepulula. The name Manice may be derived from Manikos, a chief that dwells on the lower part of that river. The Bembe, or Rio del Oiro, which is the Limpopo, is, therefore, though not quite certain, not the principal affluent or parent stream of the St. George River.

The Inhambane embassy do not seem to have been troubled with mountains in their advance to the north-west; but from the extreme point gained in that direction, they in their future progress found the country exceedingly lilly, mountainous, and stony, and the cold exceedingly severe. Mr. McCabe and others tell us that to the south of the middle course of the Limpopo the country is exceedingly mountainous. To the northward it is still more so, the hills in about the parallel of 20° s. rising to the elevation of 8000 feet; and about the sources of the Sabe it is stated that they are sometimes to be seen covered with snow.

On the return of the embassy, the party crossed the Bembe at the end of fifteen days' march, being one day more in the distance from Zoutpansberg than in their advance, from which it would appear that they recrossed the stream lower down, and where they say it ran in two channels, with a strong current in each. Perhaps they took the road through the country of the Manicussa, or Manicurassa, which they in one place distinctly state to be the nearest.

In concluding the journey, the ambassador gives us a good deal of curious and interesting information regarding this advanced Dutch settlement, its population and produce, showing the advances made and making in civilization and industry. On these important points we have been left greatly in the dark by English authorities, while by some of these the characters, manners, and pursuits of these pioneers of South African improvement have

been grossly misrepresented. It is pleasing, therefore, to find a foreigner, and a Roman Catholic, speaking of these Protestants in the way that he has done.

Zoutpansberg, or Salt Mountain, is so called from the quantity of salt that is found in it. Many rivulets descend from it. The population are all industrious, and every one labours with his or her own hands. The females perform all the domestic work, and are also seamstresses and tailors. They make all the clothes for the males. The men are carpenters, masons, shoemakers, tanners, blacksmiths, saddlers, and some of them servants. The streets of the town are at right angles, and are of a good breadth. They are kept clean, and have rills of water running in them. No one is allowed to throw any dirt upon them, nor are pigs or cattle permitted to run about in them. There is a neat church, with considerable accommodation; it is covered with straw. The Sabbath is strictly and religiously observed. The population consume flesh and bread, and coffee is taken at all hours of the day. The number of dwellings is 278, accommodating a population of about 1800 souls, of which 300 or more are fit to bear arms, and liable to serve in defence of the country, from seventeen to twenty years of age. Each soldier, when called to active service, is obliged to provide a horse, or ox, and a cart. They consume nearly 22,523 lbs. to 25,000 lbs. of gunpowder, 40,000 lbs. of lead, 4000 lbs. to 5000 lbs. of coffee, and 10,000 lbs. of sugar. Little tea is used. They export 200,000 lbs. of ivory. They produce and export wheat, barley, rye, French beans, broad beans, maize, manna, &c.; also spirits, honey, dried fruits, tanned skins, dry salt, rhinoceros' horns, sea-morse teeth, ox and buffalo horns, boards and planks, butter, cheese, orchilla weed, garden parsley, sawed timber, &c. They have peach-trees, figs, apples of all kinds, limes, oranges, walnuts, almonds, quinces, chestnuts, apricots, bananas, grapes, and palm-trees. They have one judge, with a salary of only 100*l.* per annum, and some income from fees!

In conclusion, it would appear from the narrative that on their return they passed the Bembe a little to the south of the road by which they advanced, as at this point they found the river in two channels, with much water, and a considerable current, whereas on their advance they found the river where they crossed it in one deep channel. On the day following, after they had crossed the Bembe, they reached and crossed the river Meneze, and in the evening of the same day they reached a town of the kingdom Chicualacualla, the territory of which kingdom begins at the left bank of the Bembe. At the town mentioned they procured guides for their forward journey. With little wind, the weather here was clear and cold. Advancing, they traversed the country.

of Quamitoassimba and Boetha. On the middle of the eighth day from the river Meneze, they reached and crossed the river Luize, the water of which was brackish, with several salt-water lakes around and eastward of it. Near it they had the sky covered with heavy clouds, from which heavy rains descended. Having crossed the Luize at a place which had much mud and many reeds, they travelled for four days along its left bank, nearly always in sight of it (crossing and recrossing it repeatedly), when they again crossed the stream to the right bank. Here the stream was of a considerable breadth; and, from the bearing in which they travelled, it is clear that this river is a branch of the Inhambane river, if not in reality the main branch of that river. This part of their journey from the Meneze to Inhambane took place in the month of July, and consequently after the conclusion of the rainy season. On the seventeenth day from the river Meneze, they traversed the small state of Mazeza; on the nineteenth day they reached Ingoana; on the twentieth day they reached Maunduene; and next day, Bytinga, near the Inhambane river, which they subsequently crossed at the point where their advanced journey began. The country from the place where they first started seems to have been, generally speaking, plain, with a few shrubs and brush, and a good deal cultivated by the Landeens, or native agricultural labourers. They found provisions readily, and had no trouble whatever with either chiefs or people in passing through the country. The districts around the Bembe had iron and copper in great abundance. The party returned to Inhambane on the 1st of August, 1856, after an absence of fourteen months.*

VI.—*Description of the Ruins of the Acropolis of Cassope, in Epirus, 15 miles north of Prevesa.* 1860. By Lieut.-Colonel COLLINSON, R.E.

Read, May 12, 1862.

THE village of Camarina and the monastery of Zalongo are situated on the most southern of the Suli range of mountains, which is detached from the others and overlooks the sea on the

* The Map accompanying this Paper is drawn upon the given bearings, and on estimated distances; but when checked by journeys from the opposite directions, and from accounts lately received, it would appear that the route must have been a little more southerly. This will bring Zoutpansberg to be some distance more to the south and the west than where it is placed.

Moselekatsé's present capital is, from actual astronomical observation as regards latitude, in $19^{\circ} 58' 58''$ s.

The cold, after the embassy passed the Bembe, was found to be exceedingly severe; the streams and rivers being covered every morning with thick, compact ice. Even with warm clothing the cold during the night was scarcely bearable.