

NEW CHARGES AGAINST STANLEY.

H. M. STANLEY'S career in Africa is still a matter of comment. The latest contribution to the literature of this subject is from Col. Williams, who has been a surveyor-general of the Kongo railroad system. Williams served in our civil war as an officer of colored troops. Later on he served two terms in the Ohio Legislature. In the last Presidential campaign he was an enthusiastic Harrison man. He drifted to Paris, and from there to the Kongo Free State.

In an open letter to the King of Belgium, Williams says some very hard things about Stanley. It is claimed that the latter misrepresented the condition of the Kongo country; that it is dry and sterile, not fertile and productive as Stanley says. The natives can barely subsist on vegetables, that the very name of Stanley produces horror on the minds of the Kongo people; that he was a brute, a tyrant, a confiscator, and in fact a reproduction of one of the old Spanish marauders in Central America.

Williams speaks of the tricks played by Stanley on the unsophisticated Africans. If they are true, Stanley is worthy of a place among the fabled gods of the ancients. In his letter Williams says:

"A number of electric batteries had been purchased in London and when attached to the arm under the coat it communicated with a band of ribbon which passed over the palm of the white brother's hand and when he gave the black brother a cordial grasp of the hand, the black brother was greatly surprised to find his white brother so strong that he nearly knocked him off his feet in giving him the hand of fellowship. When the native inquired about the disparity of strength between himself and his white brother, he was told that the white man could pull up trees and perform the most prodigious feats."

This was certainly a convincing argument to show the white man's physical powers. But in addition to the above, the Colonel states that Stanley used to light his cigar with a lens, and then make the Africans believe that he was in direct communion with the Sun god, and that he could burn an African village as easily as light a cigar.

The gun trick is another of Stanley's alleged legendary accomplishments which paralyzed the natives. This is to take a percussion cap gun, tear the end of the paper which held the powder to the bullet, then pour the powder and paper into the gun, while he slipped the bullet into his sleeve. The African is next given the gun and ordered to shoot Mr. Stanley, who was only ten yards distant. The shot was fired, but Mr. Stanley took the bullet from his shoe or boot, and exhibited it

to the astonished African. Stanley was a spirit henceforth, and invulnerable.

In New York on the 14th inst., Stanley was questioned regarding the charges made by Williams. He says that Williams is a blackmailer and not worthy of credence. Stanley sails today for England. It is said that he has been appointed Governor of the Kongo Free State.

ITALY'S DIPLOMACY.

NEW YORK, April 13.—A Washington special to the *Commercial Advertiser* says: There is a possibility that the correspondence between Blaine and Rudini will be given out this evening or tomorrow morning. It depends upon the decision of the President. The situation is not improved as regards the relations between the United States and Italy, and whether it occurs now or later, the recall of Porter and the complete rupture of diplomatic relations is likely. Failing to get satisfaction, Italy will have to make some demonstrations of displeasure. What she already has done might be a sufficient demonstration if made after we failed to comply with her demands, but her minister having been recalled before the offense she must seek some other expression of displeasure after the offense to make complete the diplomatic rupture. This is the least she can do, having already done so much, and it is the most she can afford to do, in face of the complications in European affairs and the poverty of her treasury.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—But two facts could be added today to the public stock of information respecting the diplomatic entanglement with Italy growing out of the New Orleans tragedy. One of these was that the State Department has not received any intimation from the Italian government that their last note must be answered before a given date. Nor is such an intimation expected, for the Department feels that it is acting properly and that it would be a very unusual course for a nation engaged in diplomatic negotiations to question the motives upon which the correspondence proceeded.

The second fact is that Secretary Blaine's answer to Marquis Rudini's last note has not yet been forwarded. It was probably the Secretary's purpose to accompany the reply with an official statement touching the nationality of the New Orleans victims and other facts that were expected from the Department of Justice in New Orleans. These reports have not yet reached Washington. Unless the Secretary is prepared to send the letter without these facts it is not likely to be forwarded immediately.

ROME, April 13.—Premier di Rudini, in an interview today in regard to the Dreibund, held that a renewal of the triple alliance was of secondary importance as compared with a constant agreement with England. On many occasions, said the premier, the policy of the Dreibund harmonized perfectly with British ideas, yet Lord Salisbury, for special reasons has never adhered to the Dreibund treaty. Italy's renewal of her contract with the alliance de-

pends on the general situation in Europe, which was now changing every day. It was difficult to imagine that England and Italy would remain passive while war was being waged by Russia and France against Germany and Austria, even if the Dreibund did not exist. Rudini declares that he was convinced that France, despite her excessive armaments, would never alone wage a war of aggression while the Dreibund continued to act as the safeguard of Europe. In view of the prevailing temper in Europe, it was perfectly idle to discuss the question of a dissolution of the Dreibund.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Following is the correspondence between Secretary Blaine and the Italian government since the Secretary's note to Marquis Imperiali, acknowledging the notice of Baron Fava's departure:

ROYAL LEGATION OF ITALY,
WASHINGTON, April 2, 1891. }

Secretary of State:—I hasten to acknowledge receipt of the note which your Excellency did me the honor to address me on the 1st, in reply to that in which Baron Fava informed you of his departure on leave. I have laid the contents of your Excellency's aforesaid note before the Government of the King, and his Excellency, President of the Council, his Majesty's Minister of Foreign Affairs, has just directed me to address the following communication to you:

"The Government of the King of Italy has asked nothing beyond the prompt institution of judicial proceedings, through regular channels. It would be absurd to claim punishment of the guilty parties without the warrant of regular judgment. The Italian Government now repeats the same demand. Not until the Federal Government shall have explicitly declared that the aforesaid proceedings shall be promptly begun can the diplomatic incident be considered as closed.

"Meanwhile His Majesty's government takes note of the declaration whereby the Federal government recognizes that indemnity is due to the families of the victims in virtue of the treaty in force between the two countries."

I have therefore the honor to bring the foregoing to the knowledge of your Excellency, and I avail myself of this occasion to offer you assurances of my highest and most respectful consideration.

IMPERIALI.

To His Excellency Blaine, Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, April 14, 1891.

The Marquis Imperiali, Charge d'Affaires, etc.:

Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your note, dated Thursday, April 2nd. It contains a second message from the Marquis Rudini, part of which I here quote: "The government of Italy has asked nothing beyond the prompt institution of judicial proceedings through the regular channels. It would have been absurd to claim punishment of the guilty parties without warrant of regular judgment. The Italian government now repeats the same demand. Not until the Federal government shall have explicitly declared that the aforesaid proceedings shall be promptly begun