Amar and Ibi

In “tailed Head-hunters of Nigeria”

However, to return to the Benue. Some six of us left Lokoja

on the 8th of August [1906] in a stern-wheeler, and a week afterwards

arrived at Amar, or rather, Amara, as the natives called it —

though they could hardly be expected to know, of course. It is

difficult to conceive why such a spot was chosen ; the station was

established on a swamp, there was no decent landing-place, and

the native village, about two miles off, was not of any size. A

little to the south is Ibi, the old Niger Company's headquarters,

an important town on the trade routes, much more healthy,

accessible, and better in every way, yet it was deliberately aban-

doned for Amar, which has in turn been left, Ibi having again

come into its own. Somewhat similar errors were made in the

sites of Kontagora and (I am told) Yola, Kano, and other places,

but I can only write for certain of those I myself have seen.