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THE COMPANY OF AFRICAN MERCHANTS, LIMITED.

CAPITAL—£400,000, in 40,000 Shares of £10 each.
WITH POWER TO INCREASE.

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The Capital of this Company has been fully subscribed.

Up to the present time comparatively little has been done to develop the resources of Western Africa. Trade there is merely in its infancy; but the Directors of this Company believe that it may soon be made most valuable to Great Britain.

In 1827, the value of British and Foreign Goods exported from the United Kingdom to the West Coast of Africa was

In 1840,	£155,759
In 1850,	410,798
In 1855,	890,216
In 1860,	1,145,484

The total actual value of imports from Africa into the United Kingdom for the six years, 1856 to 1861 inclusive (being the latest Official return), amounted to

In 1818, the import of Palm Oil into England from Africa was	1,465 tons.
In 1823,	3,328 "
In 1831,	8,164 "
In 1841,	19,853 "
In 1860,	40,216 "

This increase in one article, Palm-oil, though large, is trifling when compared with the resources of Western Africa, while many articles equally or more important and abundant have been totally neglected, or have only very recently received attention.

The Directors are convinced that, by a judicious encouragement of, and co-operation with, native traders and persons resident on the Coast, the imports of Palm-oil may be greatly increased, and also that other most valuable products, hitherto disregarded, may be made a source of wealth both to Africans and to this Company. Cotton, Fibres, Palm-nut Kernels, Pea Nuts, Oil Seed, Coffee, Pepper, Ginger, Grain, India Rubber, Gums, Dyes, Beeswax, Ebony, Copper Ore, and other Minerals, are all articles that Africa can supply in large quantities.

The Company is prepared to receive consignments of produce for sale in England, and to purchase and ship goods in return, and generally to transact business on commission against credits or good security. The Company's large fleet of vessels will offer great facilities to shippers, and secure rapid returns. Goods can be delivered at the various small towns on the Coast with the greatest regularity, and at moderate rates of freight.

The ample resources of the Company guarantee to African shippers the highest possible price for their consignments, and that purchases will be made for them on the most favourable terms (the large amount of goods purchased by this Company from the leading manufacturers of all articles suitable for the African Trade will enable them to buy such goods on far more advantageous terms than could otherwise be looked for), while the business will be conducted on such equitable principles as to foster and encourage the development of African resources.

Business will be transacted both in London and Liverpool. For further particulars, and on business generally, address JAMES ASPINALL TOBIN, Esq., Managing Director of the Company of African Merchants, Limited (at the Offices of the Company), Walmer-buildings, Water-street, Liverpool.

CONTENTS.

PAGE	PAGE
The West Coast of Africa..... 20	Gold Coast Affairs..... 25
River Gambia..... 20	Female Education at Cape Coast..... 25
Sierra Leone..... 21	Cape Coast Native Female School, Gold Coast, W. Africa..... 25
Sherboro..... 21	Administration of Justice—Terrible Revelations..... 26
The late Ashantee War..... 21	Letter of Governor D'Arcy to the Kings and Chiefs of the Gambia..... 27
Gold Coast..... 22	Cape of Good Hope..... 27
Lagos..... 23	Rapid Steam Voyage..... 27
Sierra Leone Industrial Exhibition Fund..... 24	Parliamentary Intelligence..... 28
Subscriptions to the African-Aid Society since May 23..... 24	Sierra Leone Exhibition..... 28
General Observations..... 24	Navigation of the River Niger..... 28
Eastern Africa..... 24	

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE BRITISH TROOPS FROM THE ASHANTEE FRONTIER.

The African Company's steamer Calabar, from the West Coast of Africa, arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday, the 9th inst. She left Benin, June 26th; Fernando Po, July 1st; Cameroons, 2nd; Old Calabar, 4th; Brass River, 6th; Bonny, 7th; Lagos, 10th; Accra, 12th; Cape Coast Castle, 14th; Cape Palmas, 16th; Sierra Leone, 21st; Bathurst, 25th; Teneriffe, 30th; and Madeira, August 1st. She brings 900 ounces of gold dust. Among her passengers is Governor Freeman, of Lagos.

The news from the rivers has no general interest.

All the British troops have been withdrawn from the Ashantee frontier. There is quite a consternation among the native chiefs in consequence of the late instructions from England.

The small-pox prevailed at Fernando Po.

An outrage has lately been committed in Benin River. The natives have taken an agent (Mr. Hineson) out of his factory and flogged him, likewise wounding and ill-treating his coopers. The matter has been left in Commodore Wilmot's hands.

All the attempts of Governor Freeman, of Lagos, to obtain an interview with the chiefs of Abeokuta, with a view to bring about a more friendly feeling between the two places, have been unsuccessful. The coast, from Cape St. Paul to Jachlin, was strictly blockaded by the cruisers Sparrow, Jaseur, Ranger, Speedwell, Zebra, Antelope, and Rattlesnake, to prevent a steamer* (already twice chased unsuccessfully by the Pandora) from shipping slaves; she is evidently much faster than any cruiser on the coast, excepting the Rattlesnake. Trade at Lagos very dull, and the roads from the interior still stopped. No signs of peace.

H.M.S. Gladiator, with the transport Waubejeez in tow, arrived at Sierra Leone on July 18th to coal, and sailed on the 20th for Cape Coast Castle, to remove troops.

The foundation of a new church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. James, was laid at Bathurst, on the 9th July, by the Bishop of Sierra Leone, in the presence of a large number of European and native residents.

The Liverpool ship Lincluden Castle, registered 960 tons, Captain J. M. Douglas, and laden with coals for Government, got wrecked on the 5th instant, near Rockcess, Liberia, West Coast of Africa; she is a total wreck, but no lives were lost. The passengers by the Calabar were: Mr. Roberts, from Old Calabar; Governor Freeman, Mr. Walker, Mr. Davies, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Adlam, Mr. Brown, Mr. Ashcroft, Captain Thorn, and Mr. Lowden from Lagos; Mrs. Lyall, Mr. Ashmore, Mrs. Edmunds, and three children, Lieutenant Franks, and Sergeant Gibson from Accra; Dr. Lucke, Captain Quill, Captain Knapp, Lieutenant Cary, Lieutenant Lowry, Lieutenant Pilcher, Lieutenant Smithwick, Sergeant Thorne, Sergeant Gibson, and Sergeant Barrett, from Cape Coast Castle; Mr. Hall and Mr. Sampson from Cape Palmas; Dr. Thomas, Mrs. Beale, M. Guimbertean, M. Lecomte, Mr. Field, Mr. Staniforth Levi, Mr. Lumkin, and Sergeant West and Mrs. West from Sierra Leone; Mr. Evans, Mr. Brown, Mr. Quin, Rev. J. Dolan, Lieutenant Keene, Dr. Verdon, Mr. Cheetham, Mr. Robertson, and Mr. and Mrs.

* The Ciceron, no doubt.—ED. A.T.

Galloway, from Bathurst; Captain Burton and Mr. Doorly, from Teneriffe.

RIVER GAMBIA.

We beg leave to congratulate our Gambia friends upon the success of another of our efforts in their behalf. We are officially informed, that, acting on our suggestion, measures are in course of preparation for giving to the Gambia settlement the benefit of postage stamps.

We are sorry to have great complaints of the non-receipt, by our Gambia subscribers, of their newspapers. It is rarely that we have now a complaint from any other quarter; but the irregularity, or something worse, still prevails at the Gambia. We alluded in our last to the continuance, in the Bathurst Post-office, of some of the abuses which we had hoped would have disappeared with the change of management. We repeat our hope that the notice we have again taken of these things will lead to an efficient remedy being adopted.

It has given us very great pleasure to receive the disclaimer of our Bathurst friends, that they have been ever moved by any personal motives in the complaint they have made to us, or have ever written what is not strictly true. We want, as we have before said, to be able to depend entirely on the perfect truthfulness of our correspondents everywhere in Africa. The cause of truth cannot be served by falsehood, and ours is the cause of truth, and of Africa. It appears that the garrison schoolmaster, by his communication inserted in our June number, had no reason or excuse for imputing inaccuracy to our correspondents in the matter of the first Colonial Writer. We are sorry to have to have to mention this gentleman again, but he has only his friend the garrison schoolmaster to thank for it; and we think after the specimen we have had of the garrison schoolmaster, that the first Writer in the Colonial-office may be fairly congratulated that it is under one of the other black schoolmasters,* and not under the G. S., that he is receiving instruction.

We rejoice to insert the following; there is nothing we so much desire as to find cause for praise:—

Bathurst, July 23.

Dear Sir,—We are indeed happy to state that the Acting-Colonial Engineer, Mr. Ingram, jun., is not only active but prompt in the performance of his duties. A good deal is being done to cure the defective arrangement in the drainage to which you so kindly and powerfully called attention in our behalf. Nearly all the streets in the Colony are now very much improved in the drainage; and the main drain of which especial complaint was made in your number of September, 1863, has been raised twelve inches above the former level; and a suitable brick bridge has been erected at the proper place. Surely we have cause to rejoice, while attributing all the praise to the African-Aid Society and to its valuable journal, the *African Times*.—Yours, &c.,

THE GAMBIA.

We look to our Gambia friends to make a good show at the Sierra Leone Industrial Exhibition. The hearty exertions of Governor D'Arcy ought to be seconded by those of his people.

SIERRA LEONE.

The arrangements for the Industrial Exhibition are steadily progressing. The *Sierra Leone Observer* says: "We at last hear our colonists speaking seriously of agriculture as the only certain means of prosperity; we do hope to see some of our intelligent young men show by example to the masses the wealth and independence they have so long neglected, and which our mother earth continually calls on them to seek and they shall find." If, as we hope, the exhibition has for results the application of educated industry with capital to agriculture, we have no doubt that an era of prosperity that could never otherwise have been inaugurated for the colony will date from the present year. After stating that the amount subscribed in Africa reaches to 800*l.*, the paper above quoted adds, with much reason: "We are truly sorry to see the small amounts as yet subscribed in England,

*All are black, it appears, and this shows great progress in some branches of education, at least.—ED. A.T.

but we hope that the friends of Sierra Leone there may use a little more exertion towards the benefit of the enterprise."

There have been good showers. The crops are said to be looking well. Freights were in demand, there being much produce on hand requiring shipment. There is a much greater breadth of land under ground-nut cultivation than was ever before known.

SHERBORO.

The small missionary paper, the *Early Dawn*, calls attention to the fact that the grave of the late Mr. Consul Hanson, who was lost while engaged in a noble effort to save the lives of the passengers and crew of the wrecked Steam Mail Packet *Cleopatra*, "is marked by a mere simple board which bears his name, and which will soon decay." Surely the Royal African Mail Steam Ship Company might spare a few pounds for some more enduring indication of the place where the remains of Mr. Hanson are laid. Or, if not, there must have been passengers on board that ill-fated ship who can well afford such a tribute to the memory of one who risked and lost his life for them.

We have more than once alluded to the small slave-trade carried on from the districts between the Sherboro and the Liberian frontier. It appears from the *Early Dawn* that a native trader residing near Bendoo, in the Sherboro, has been engaged in this infamous traffic, and has been arrested. Five of his slaves fled to the British Manager for protection. He has been sent to Freetown, Sierra Leone, and will have his trial before the Colonial Court. We fear that this is not a solitary instance, and that not unfrequently Sierra Leone traders—some of them liberated slaves—are directly or indirectly engaged in this most horrible traffic. It is enough to make one ashamed of human nature to find men who have been liberated and educated by British philanthropy, engaged in trafficking in the bodies and souls of their fellow-men, and doing this in defiance of the Government which at vast expense has secured and is protecting their liberties.

The *Early Dawn*, which has always been one of our ardent co-operators in stimulating to agricultural industry, the development of which is not alone the true source of wealth, but is the only cure for many of the evils which have brought reproach upon the nascent civilization of Sierra Leone, believes "that the cause of such painful manifestation of human depravity is to be found mainly in the fact that the Sierra Leone people in the Sherboro are nearly all traders; that legitimate trade is greatly overdone, and that being constantly in contact with those who desire to sell slaves, and have little else to sell, they are led into a secret participation in what was once the great business of the country. The remedy, we believe, is to be found—first, in a rigid enforcement of existing laws; but second, and mainly, in directing the attention of the people to some other business than trade. The native African who has been educated merely in a knowledge of letters is not always benefited. He is often a worse man than if he had remained a barbarian. He must be educated in the knowledge of some legitimate business. He must learn some kind of profitable manual labour. He must be taught that to cultivate the soil—with his own hands as well as with the hands of others—is both profitable and honourable. Above all, his moral nature must be developed. This is the great want of the people. Intellectually they are not deficient—morally they are very low; and it is in the moral development of the people there is hope for this country." As we have already written under the head of Sierra Leone, we do indeed hope that the "Industrial Exhibition" about to be held there will turn the attention of the people in the right direction. One of the great errors of English philanthropic action in Africa has been in educating intellectually without the industrial accompaniment. We hope that it is not too late for a radical change in that respect.

We are very sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Geslinger, who has long been a leading merchant in the Sherboro, and who has really been striving for the advancement of the country, as well as for his own individual profit.

LIBERIA.

We think it our duty again to remind our readers of the wants and claims of "St. Mark's Hospital" at Cape Palmas, and of the institution for the blind which has also been established there by the praiseworthy and indefatigable efforts of the Rev. C. C. Hoffman. We are almost ashamed to have again and again urged these claims with so little result—though the shame does not really attach to us, but to those who neglect to respond to our appeal. We consider that in these Christian benevolent institutions, established by voluntary contributions, for the greater part Liberian, Liberia stands out before the world with real glory. At recent examinations in the Cape Palmas District, one of the most interesting features was the readings and recitations of the blind pupils. One, who had only been two months under instruction, "read with fluency a portion of St. John's Gospel," on the English raised letters. And then in the *Carroll Messenger* we read: "Our building for the blind is suspended for the present for want of funds. May the Lord put it into the hearts of His people to give of their means, that we may finish this good work, and that others may be benefited, besides those already instructed." We heartily echo the prayer.

It is most satisfactory to learn that sugar and coffee planting still progresses steadily and rapidly on the banks of that rich river, the St. Paul's. But we cannot account for the little advance that has been made in cotton growing, while prices in England are so high. We can only suppose that, the connexion of Liberia with America being Northern, the Liberians have been constantly led to believe that the subjugation of the Southern States would soon be complete, the cotton production there be renewed with vigour, and that prices would consequently soon decline. We hope they will now hasten to get rid of this idea, and send their proper quota (which ought to be a large one) of cotton to England. It is only by the extension of agriculture, and the consequent increase of agricultural wealth, that the Liberian Government can obtain permanent and solid relief from those financial embarrassments which cripple the energies of the practical man now at the head of the State as President. The currency, which is paper, can be bought for specie at twenty-five per cent. discount; while for many goods it is declined altogether. There are hopes, however, it seems, and we rejoice to hear it, of some arrangements which will give great relief. But until capital, the residuary fruit of industry, increases in the country, there must necessarily be many painful difficulties to surmount.

THE LATE ASHANTEE WAR.

[No. 1.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

On Board the Calabar, 21st July, 1864.

Sir,—Nothing could exceed the degree of astonishment and alarm into which the Gold Coast has been thrown since the arrival of the last mail, in consequence of the decision taken by the home Government about the Ashantee war. It will be too late for us to attempt to effect anything, but I must say that we stand in a humiliating position before the natives of the Coast; and the Ashantees will always glory at such a complete defeat. It is greatly to be regretted that one just and honest man has been made the scapegoat before the British public by certain correspondents of the *Times*; a gentleman whose whole heart, since he came out to the Coast as Governor, has been the extension of justice to the most distant portion of the Protectorate, of British influence to the very Court of Commassie, and the establishment of unity and concord amongst the different chiefs. Every class in the Protectorate would testify in favour of Governor Pine. The *Times* must have been greatly misled by its correspondents to have said that the Governor was not supported by the inhabitants; that, in fact, it was "Pine's war;" that no one knew anything about it; and that, consequently, Governor Pine was to blame for all the misfortune which has befallen the officers and men who took part in the expedition.

No one who knew the firmness and promptitude with which Governor Pine acted, will hesitate to regard him as a man of ability and energy. I only hope the *Times* will insert the letters

that leave this Coast in defence of the so much abused Governor; the British public will then, I think, be fully satisfied that Governor Pine does not deserve the reproach that has been cast upon him.—Yours truly,

CARTHAGO.

[No. 2.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, July 14, 1864.

Sir,—Governor Pine arrived here on the 30th June in Her Majesty's ship *Rattlesnake*, and on the morning of the 1st July he landed with all the honours due to his high rank. On the 5th inst. he convened a meeting of the merchants and native chiefs. On their assembling he gave them notice of the decision Her Majesty's Government had come to with regard to the Ashantee war. The chiefs, on hearing the sad intelligence, gave vent to their feelings in the following strain: "We are now likened to a bird that was flying over water and knocked down, and having its feathers wet was unable to fly again." They continued: "You make big tent, and you call the chiefs in the interior to that tent; you tell them and us you intend to go over the Prah and teach Quaco Duah a good lesson. Your colonel sent message to tell him that he was coming to take dinner with him at Commassie. Our hearts were all glad to hear this from your own lips, and your colonel's, because we knew before that white man never say one thing to-day and change it to-morrow; now we come and hear this bad news, our hearts are full with shame, and we can never look our allies in the face again because of shame. We are waterside people; we may be able to get over this great disappointment; but our friends in the bush will laugh at us, and say that we deceive them; and what can we say? We must beg of you to call all those chiefs again under that big tent, and tell them yourself what you tell us to-day, because we are too much ashamed to do it ourselves. You tell us to go and take all the provisions and ammunition at the Prah. How can we do that, when you have thrown everything away in the River Prah? This we feel very sorrowful for." This is the pith and substance of the transactions at the first meeting held by Governor Pine since his return to Cape Coast Castle.

For some time, I considered a certain amount of blame rested on Governor Pine; but from the tenor of his last despatch before he went on his voyage, and which has been published in the *Times*, I am inclined to think otherwise; for in that despatch he expressed his "fears that the camps in the interior could not be kept up during the rains." The fault, therefore, rests with those in whose charge he left the government, and it is to be hoped that the public, and those who have lost their dear relatives, will demand from persons so highly culpable their reasons for continuing the deadly camp at "the Prah" during so inclement and sickly a season. It is quite clear that Lincoln's Inn has not yet proved able to supply us with a man capable of ruling one of the most insignificant, but most difficult Governments under the British Crown. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the "Royal Warrant under the Sign Manual, bearing date at Windsor the 11th day of September, 1863," will soon be cancelled; so that, in the event of Governor Pine leaving us again, the administration may be placed in some experienced and competent hands. This is not my opinion alone, but that of almost every intelligent, and certainly of every impartial, man in the British Protectorate. A great wrong has been perpetrated on these unfortunate people, and I feel sure you will not abandon their cause. Africa lacks independent men, who will fearlessly represent the true state of affairs on this coast; and that possibly has been the cause of so many blunders to the prejudice of an oppressed and greatly injured people. Unless something is done soon by the Government of England for this part of Africa, the farcical exhibitions of a rule, said to be British, will inspire universal contempt and disgust.

Atrocities are daily perpetrated by the subordinates of this Government. The next mail will bring you the result of an investigation that is about to take place here in reference to prison discipline and the mode of administering justice. I would have sent you some particulars by this mail, but I think it best that what I may send on so important a subject

should be official and duly authenticated. Public opinion must then take notice of it and give a verdict.—Faithfully yours,

J.

[No. 3.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Anamaboe, Cape Coast, July 12, 1864.

Sir,—It is my painful duty to solicit a place in your columns for a few words relative to the Government's cowardly desertion of us in this Ashantee crisis, which very, very glorious conduct on their selfish part, even members of the House of Commons could not help stigmatizing as "dishonourable."

Allow me, Mr. Editor, to ask what reputable excuse could be made (not only as regards us, whose ignorance and want of strength they take advantage of, but before the eyes and in the ears of civilised countries), with any regard to justice and dignity, by the English Government, or their representatives on the Gold Coast, for these wretchedly treacherous dealings? What brought on the war? Who offered protection to Guainin, the Ashantee runaway? Who threatened war to the Ashantee messengers, and defied the Ashantee King to send down his armies? Who sent the troops to the Prah to evoke the blood-thirstiness of the warlike Ashantees? For all these the English Government, or their Gold Coast Government, are answerable. But who have been all along the real sufferers? Who are now more than ever exposed to the mercy of the incensed Ashantee monarch? *The natives*, the poor natives. And wherefore? Because of the mere pride and obstinacy of a deceptive Government. Why, if this is the policy Christian England boasts of, I would, for my part, rather trust to the judgment and the honour of the vilest among mankind.

The English Government ought to do us justice in this affair; they cannot withdraw their protection, and leave us to adjust disputes and fight the battle which they have done all their best to challenge, without infringing the laws of justice, humanity, and uprightness in a manner as outrageous as it would be "dishonourable." If, however, they have decided in this truly shameful course, fearless of their notorious *Brutum fulmen*, I would say to such a Government: *Better retire. Aut nunquam tentes, aut perfici.*—I inclose my card, and I am, Mr. Editor, yours truly,

QUAASE.

GOLD COAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

July 14, 1864.

Sir,—As you are aware, there has been a large influx of strangers into Cape Coast lately, in consequence of the Ashantee affair—officers with their wives and children, soldiers with ditto—to the extent of some thousands of souls. The sudden arrival of a large body of persons in a small isolated spot like Cape Coast created well nigh a famine, until the inhabitants, recovering from the first shock of the increased demand for everything, set systematically to work to supply that demand to the best of their ability. There was one description of food, however, that everybody complained there was no getting; in fact, *that there was nothing in the shape of greens or green food to be had*, either for love or money. This argument—I had rather call it abuse of the country—was supported by one or two other officials that had been in the country upwards of two years.

Now, Mr. Editor, my idea is to give you and your readers the names of a few of the available vegetables and fruits of the earth to be had here merely for the trouble of picking; and others that the natives cultivate, though not to any great extent. But all the names that I shall produce are emphatically African plants, and to be had all the year round, and any day in the year, merely for the trouble of collecting, or at a very trifling expense. For the use of many of your readers who are resident on the Gold Coast, I have, where practicable, added the Fantee name to the plant mentioned. First, though not foremost, there is the *Wild Cabbage* (called by the Fantees "Empompo"), the leaves of which make a capital salad, or dressed as greens make a good substitute for the Savoy. It is to be had in perfection from the end of May to the end of February—i.e., nine months

in the year. Any Cape Coast child knows the plant, and could fetch it at any time; it is to be had in abundance within 500 yards of the Fort gate at Cape Coast Castle. Second, the *Wild Cucumber*, little inferior, indeed, to the cultivated one; it makes a good salad, and eats well also stewed, with a little melted butter. Then we have the *Samphire*, the *Seakale*, or *Mirenchie*, growing even down to the very beach. *Purslane* is also very abundant, and very wholesome, and grows everywhere and anywhere. *Spinach*, also, which the natives call "Kotú bettow;" and the *Love Apple*,* or *Enkrooma*, for seasoning soups or making stews, roasting, frying, &c. The *Green Papaws*, served with boiled mutton and dressed as turnips, are by no means a bad substitute for that excellent vegetable, Garden Mallow, or Vegetable Marrow. *Cabbages* of a very fair quality, from the *Tree Cabbage*, to be had at most of the native farms. *Sweet Potatoes*, *Green Corn*, or young corn dished up as green peas, makes a very respectable appearance. *Beans*, *Calaragas*, *Macagan*, and *Haricot*; these are to be seen daily in the market at Cape Coast, dressed up in some native dish, but the European can get the raw article, and dress it as he pleases. The leaves of the *Capicum Annum*, or *Pepper Plant*, make a good salad, and boiled and served up as spinach they make a very palatable dish. We have next the *Palm Cabbage*: the natives are always cutting down their palm-trees for the sake of tapping for the wine; the palm cabbage is the top or head of the tree, the part that has not become exposed to the air; this makes a very choice and delicious vegetable, and eats well with fish, flesh, or fowl. There are also several kinds of *Yams*, with as great a difference between the varieties as between the *Haricot* and the *Windsor Bean*. There is the *Kókóé*, or *Yam Cabbage*; the leaves make a good cabbage, and are used as such by the Africans; the root resembles the yams, but is more spherical, the yam being oblong, the native farmers and chiefs seldom cultivate this species for sale, they use it themselves; the flavour partakes something of a nice mealy potatoe or a roasted chestnut. I need not say much about the *Yam* for information of your English readers in Africa, for they seem generally to be of opinion that yams and sweet potatoes are the only eatable vegetables good for European palates; and that *Cassada* and *Kankey* are only fit for niggers and pigs. As regards *Cassada*, let me mention that the meal, mixed in equal proportion with flour, for making pastry, renders the pastry light, wholesome, easy of digestion, and well adapted for invalids. *Plantains*, roasted or boiled, make a very good vegetable. *Bananas* also, when just full grown, but not yet turned to ripening, make a passable imitation of carrot. Then there are *Mushrooms*, *Shallots*, *Chicory*, and *Pumpkins* of several kinds, all good vegetables, and to be had for the mere trouble of ordering them. All the above vegetables are in daily use by the natives; what the niggers, however, themselves consume, they consider (having been so told) as not good enough for the white man, and they never offer them; but I know there is not one native merchant in Cape Coast but can get one or all or any of the above-named vegetables, on any day of the week, or every day, if he like. Then why cannot the European use them. Many no doubt are not aware of these things; some few are perhaps indifferent, and so long as the cook gives them no trouble, care little how frequently roast fowl and yams, and yams and roast fowl, are set before them.

All the above-named vegetables and roots are in use by the natives and easily procurable; many are not cultivated at all, as the wild cabbage, samphire, seakale or mirenchie, cabbage or effan, purslane, spinach or kotú bettow, wild cucumber, &c.; and you have only to send your servant to pick the same, and bring them home. Even with the few names enumerated, a person may make a very agreeable change of vegetable diet almost every day in the week throughout the year; and yet people who are too idle to take the trouble to look around them, are constantly declaring that no green food is to be had in this part of Africa. Now, Sir, some of the old residents have cabbages, cucumbers, reddishes, lettuces, &c., all from imported seeds, upon their tables, constantly, eight and nine months in the year.

* "Tomato."—Ed. A.T.

I think I have occupied as much time and space as you will be able to spare me at this time; on another occasion, I will trouble you, Mr. Editor, with a few hints to some of my friends, who say there is nothing to eat here (no fresh meat they mean). I have now told them how to get their greens; next month, I will tell them how to get at the mutton, and fish, and other viands.—I am, yours most respectfully,

PHLOSS.

LAGOS.

With reference to the lamented death of Mr. and Miss Bischoff, at Abeokuta, announced in our last number, our correspondents state that "they both insisted on living in such a manner that no one doubted death would be the result." A hope is at the same time expressed, "that others may profit by the sad lesson, and not despise the advice of old residents, who know that nourishing food and the moderate use of wine are both necessary to enable Europeans to withstand the debilitating effects of the African climate."

Commander Glover, R.N., Colonial Secretary for Lagos, had arrived, and was soon appointed acting governor, during the absence of Governor Freeman, who has returned to England in the Calabar on leave.

Although the Abeokuta roads still remain closed, we are glad to find that there have been lately some shipments of oil from Lagos. This comes partly from Badagry and Porto Novo, and partly from the Ijebu Towns. The gradual development of trade in that direction proves that Lagos would rapidly have increased in prosperity had not the Abeokutans closed the roads to their town. It is deeply to be regretted that there is no sign at present of any change of conduct on the part of the Egbas, who may yet, ere long, bitterly repent their egregious folly and ingratitude.

Walter Hanson, Esq., has been appointed Civil Commandant at Badagry, and Vice-Consul for Okeodan and Addo.

We alluded in our last to a report which had reached Lagos of the Dahomans having plundered the oil stores, &c., on Porto Novo beach. It seems that the King of Dahomey sent men down to stop the landing of goods there (the beach being his property) without his authority and payment of duties to him. Not obtaining a satisfactory explanation, they seized one hundred puncheons of rum. Our correspondent says, "This is a nice little nut for the French to crack! they will find that Porto Novo is not quite so independent of Lagos as they fondly imagined." By permission of the Lagos authorities, they have now a war steamer in their part of the Lagoon. We fear this mixing up of British, French, and Dahoman territory, rights, and claims, will lead ere long to serious complications in the Bight of Benin.

THE AFRICAN TIMES.—A Missionary in South-Eastern Africa writes very strongly in praise of this journal, especially as being an instrument for bringing to the knowledge of people in England and Europe generally the deplorably wretched, oppressed, and down-trodden condition of innumerable tribes and peoples of strange languages inhabiting the vast continent of Africa. He concludes: "Let not the *African Times* be discouraged by opposition or feigned contempt. Future difficulties will be overcome as past ones have been. The result is with God—and the work shall be rewarded."

The *Philomel*, 5, screw gun vessel, Commander Leveson Wildman, has arrived at Devonport, from the West Coast of Africa station. She left the Bight of Benin June 5, Sierra Leone June 28, and St. Vincent July 8. The *Philomel* was commissioned at Devonport on December 19, 1860, by her present commander, and arrived at Bathurst, Gambia, on March 26, 1861. She has been employed in suppressing the slave trade. August 6, 1861, she captured off the Congo River a slave felucca empty, but completely fitted for the slave trade, and burnt her. The *Philomel* has also been employed in settling boundary difficulties between the Colonial Government of Sierra Leone and the Republic of Liberia; also in settling disputes amongst the native chiefs at Little Pepo and Abgway.

* We stated in a former notice that they were strict vegetarians and teetotallers.—Ed. A.T.

SIERRA LEONE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION FUND.

The Council of the African-Aid Society earnestly invite all the friends of African progress to send them subscriptions to this fund, which will be advertised monthly in the *African Times*.

Subscriptions may be sent either to the London and Westminster Bank, St. James's-square, London, S.W., or to F. Fitzgerald, Esq., Honorary Secretary of the African-Aid Society, 8, Adelphi-terrace, London, W.C.

Subscriptions in the colony to 21st July	£798	2	6
Ditto already announced in London	50	1	0
Birmingham Ladies' Negro Friend Society	5	0	0
Henry Christy, Esq.	5	0	0

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5s., STAMPED.

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AFRICAN-AID SOCIETY, 8, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, W.C., London.

N.B. Post-office orders for Subscriptions to the *African Times* to be made payable to Wm. J. JOHNSON, 121, Fleet-street, at the General Post-office, London.

The African Times.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1864.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE AFRICAN-AID SOCIETY SINCE MAY 23.

	£	s.	d.
Lord Calthorpe (an.)	21	0	0
Captain Close, R.N., 1862-3-4.	3	3	0
A. E. Croll, Esq. (an.)	2	2	0
Hon. A. Calthorpe (an.)	1	0	0
Thomas Dunn, Esq. (an.)	1	1	0
J. Purcell Fitzgerald, Esq. (an.)	5	0	0
T. Sawyer, Esq., Cameroons (an.)	1	0	0
T. B. Freeman, Esq., Accra (an.)	1	0	0

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

COTTON.—The quantity of clean cotton shipped from the Gold Coast, from February last to July, amounts to above *thirty tons*.

COFFEE.—A vessel belonging to the Company of African Merchants (Limited) has lately brought to Liverpool, among other valuable cargo, 425 *bags of coffee*.

SIERRA LEONE EXHIBITION.—The subscriptions in Sierra Leone now amount to 800*l.*, including 100*l.* promised by Governor D'Arcy, of the Gambia.

CAPE COAST.—The whole of the troops have been withdrawn from the Prah, and the stores, &c., destroyed.

RIVER GAMBIA.—Postage stamps are to be adopted here.

RATIFICATIONS of treaties of amity, commerce, and navigation between the Netherlands and Liberia, and Sweden and Norway and Liberia, have been exchanged in London between the Ministers of Sweden and the Netherlands and Mr. Gerard Ralston, Consul-General for Liberia in Great Britain.

SLAVE-TRADE.—The celebrated steam slaver *Cicero*, so nearly captured lately off the Dahoman coast, ran from thence to St. Thomas (West Indies). Her captain was so far from admiring the Armstrong shot, dangerously near him during the chase, that he gave up the command, and has returned to Biscay. The *Cicero* is the property of that notorious slavedealer, *Julian de Zulueta*, of *Havana*, and we have reason to believe will soon reappear in the Bight of Benin in search of a "*cargo*!"

AFRICAN ARMY SURGEONS.—We see with surprise that Dr. Horton, the native African surgeon who rendered such great service during the entire stay of the troops on the Ashantee frontier, has been ordered from Cape Coast to the Gambia. Is this intended as a reward?

ABEOKUTA.—The authorities have definitively refused to allow

the English property there, said to amount to 100,000*l.*, to be brought down to Lagos, until their war with the Ibadans has been brought to a close.

LAGOS.—The number of resident Europeans, which in January was eighty, is now only thirty-five, in consequence of deaths, and removals owing to the continued stoppage of trade with Abeokuta.

EXPORT OF SPECIE FROM SIERRA LEONE.—Great complaint continues to be made at the heavy amounts shipped for England by every mail. The Calabar brought several thousand pounds. We hope the contemplated banking operations of the Company of African Merchants in Freetown will prove a remedy for this prejudicial drain of coin.

Governor Freeman, of Lagos, has again returned to England.

EASTERN AFRICA.

THE breaking up of the Zambesi Mission, and the return of Dr. Livingston to England, are events of so decided a nature as regards the progress of material development and civilization in Eastern Africa, that they cannot be allowed to pass without remark. It is but too common, under analogous circumstances, to declare hastily that all the valuable life sacrificed and the money expended have been sacrificed and expended in vain. Because some immediate advance toward the desired end is not seen as a result of the labour and expenditure, the world gives its verdict of entire failure. Nothing can be more erroneous. Setting aside the fact that there is an issue of some sort or other from every even the most insignificant of human actions, it is incontrovertible that every Christian effort made toward the regeneration of a country long condemned to barbarism, superstition, and unproductiveness, must and does bear fruit. The travels of Dr. Livingston—the efforts made by him against the slave-trade—the labours and sacrifices of the Zambesi Mission—have their permanent place, and were, no doubt, indispensable in the great chain of events connected with the future civilized life of Eastern Africa. As believers in the eventual reclamation of the whole world from the exclusive dominion of evil, which for a time prevents portions of it from fulfilling the Divine mandate and intentions we cannot hold or propagate any other belief. We may, and do deplore, that the results desired when the Zambesi Mission first went out from among us, have not followed immediately from the effort. But we cannot and we think that no one ought to deplore that the efforts were made. And it is only when a false estimate is taken of them that such feelings can obtain. Regarded as isolated facts, the promptitude with which the Oxford and Cambridge Mission was organised, and the pecuniary support that flooded in, had in them something of grandiose. But to have occupied a permanent place among the Christian and civilizing agencies of the Christian world, that zeal and that liberality should only have been looked upon as the small introductory portions of a vastly larger consecutive movement. The Livingston labours and Zambesi Mission ought to be viewed not alone, but in comparison with the end toward which they were directed. What are two or three thousand a-year from a Government aiding the energy of one ardent man, and 20,000*l.* with a handful of zealous missionaries, when compared with the deliverance of a quarter of a continent from the cruel tyranny of that evil dominion under which it lies prostrate, bleeding, groaning, shrieking in moral and material agony? What are they? Why, infinitesimal. But, alas! and we write it with the sickness of sorrow and shame, every little effort made for Africa is so magnified in importance in the eyes or mind of the maker or the public, that a most unfair estimate is formed of it, and most unjustifiable expectations are attached to it. With regard to many other portions of the world that have not more than half the claim upon us that may be urged on behalf of Africa, men do give in faith and trust. "Cast thy bread upon the waters and it shall be found after many days," seems at least to be believed in. But when they are solicited to turn their hearts towards Africa, a spasmodic contraction of unchristian selfishness seizes them. They cast in their mite, as if it were a talent; and wonder that they do not see immediately some pillar in the temple of human progress overlaid with pure gold as the fruit of

their noble investment, for humanity and for God—or they throw their obolus to the beggar, as a churl in whom feeling is not quite extinct might cast a bone to a miserable dog. Yes—and the great Christian world which saw without active remorse, a century ago, one hundred and seventy slave ships depart in one single year for one single English port upon their unhallowed fiendish mission to the Coast of Africa—the great Christian world, some of the unchristian scum of which is still the remorseless instigator of African depopulation, murder, and war—the great so-called Christian world, turns up its eyes, in feigned or real astonishment, that Ethiopia doth not yet stretch forth her hands unto God! Honour, then, to Dr. Livingston, to the Oxford and Cambridge Society, and to its devoted missionaries! They have at least striven for good—they have sown in faith, and the harvest-fruit will some day come from their effort, even though it tarry. There may have been errors of judgment connected with the Zambesi Mission—we ourselves differ in opinion with the projectors of it on many points—but at least, there was a holy zeal; and we had rather behold twenty seeming failures of imprudent earnestness, than that chilling apathy which wraps itself up in the decent mantle of calculating prudence, and remains so impenetrable against enthusiasm that it rests inactive till death closes the account of labour, and leaves cold prudence to carry its "pound" wrapped up in the napkin to Him who gave it for employment, not for useless custody, and who deals out retribution as well as reward. Africa needs help in every quarter, and, as is our duty, again and again we ask it for her.

GOLD COAST AFFAIRS.

WE insert in this number the two letters on the "Administration of Justice" at Cape Coast which our printer last month omitted. Another letter, received by last mail, will also be found in our columns. There is an evident necessity for official inquiry into the charges thus brought against influential public servants at Cape Coast Castle. By a note to the last-mentioned letter, our readers will see that Governor Pine has immediately consented to hold a Court of Inquiry into these charges. We do not intend to anticipate the result by any further observations. Although if all the statements in letter No. 1 be true, there would seem to have been some negligence or oversight on Governor Pine's part, and we should, therefore, were we in a similar position, have preferred to invite or request Commodore Wilmot to hold the said court, we have nevertheless every reason to believe that, under Governor Pine, the inquiry will be impartially conducted. The official report will be laid before our readers in due course. Our position is clear in the matter. So soon as the charges reached us, we placed them in the hands of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, refraining from all publication of them, until we should receive from other quarters such a confirmation of the general charge as would justify our inserting them in our columns. We have neither fear or favour in these matters. It is our province to throw light into the dark corners of African administration—into all the recesses where evil dwells and reigns. We are on the side of the oppressed, and never on that of the oppressor.

Had our limits permitted, it was our intention to make some remarks upon the great evil of the accumulation of offices on one individual, which is a peculiar characteristic of Gold Coast administration. Mr. Barry, for instance, who without any previous official experience was sent out from this country a few months since, as *Queen's Advocate*, had scarcely time to become acquainted with the path from Cape Coast Castle to the town at its foot, before he became charged also with the seemingly incompatible functions of *Acting Chief Justice* and *Acting Colonial Secretary*! We shall show, next month, why these offices should not be held at one and the same time, by one and the same person, however agreeable it may be to the fortunate individual to receive the pay of three or more offices at once. We have heard of former instances in which five distinct offices, of not inconsiderable emolument, have been held at one time, by one individual.

Our letters will show how painfully the people at Cape Coast have been affected by the decision of Her Majesty's

Government with regard to the Ashantee war. Certainly if Government confine itself to the withdrawal of the troops, if it do nothing to bring about a permanent pacific arrangement with Ashantee, it will be difficult to justify its conduct. We have long since pointed out means of coercion, stronger than war—viz., a good road and the effectual cutting off of absolutely necessary supplies from Ashantee, should Ashantee persist in her hostility. We therefore hope to hear that the future has not been left to chance, or to mere barbarian impulse, but that measures have been adopted for removing from the people of the *Protected Territories* all well-founded fears of another Ashantee invasion, with the desolation and bloodshed that would infallibly characterise it, and the perpetuation of a deadly feud that must follow.

FEMALE EDUCATION AT CAPE COAST.

AS there is none other real civilization than Christian civilization, neither is this latter possible without the moral and social elevation of the female portion of the community. All efforts for changing the condition of the African people must be fruitless where this great element of civilization—an educated female community—is wanting. In another column will be found an appeal by Mrs. Moseley for funds necessary to establish a school for females at Cape Coast. Mrs. Moseley is the widow of a gentleman who, for some short time, until death removed him at once from life and duty, occupied a high official position at Cape Coast. While there with her late husband, Mrs. Moseley obtained the confidence and affection of almost the whole female population of the town. Since her return to this country her efforts have been unceasing to procure some arrangements by which the females of the town of Cape Coast may become so raised in social condition as to insure not only an increase of personal happiness among them, but, through their social influence, a general advancement in Christian civilization. To this great and most interesting work Mrs. Moseley has dedicated her future life. Already beloved by the female population at Cape Coast, she would commence her noble labours with advantages that many ladies might fail to secure, even were other ladies disposed thus to exile themselves from that civilization which must be so dear, in order to labour in such a country as that of Guinea in the cause of humanity and of Him who gave himself a sacrifice for mankind. Many of our efforts on behalf of Africa are possibly misunderstood. About this work of Mrs. Moseley's there cannot, however, be any misapprehension. Every lady who reads our journal ought to interest herself in this movement. It ought, and must, we should think, appeal forcibly to every female heart. Let it be remembered that the uneducated female in that part of the country is little better than a beast of burthen. We have always insisted upon the absolute necessity of efforts to elevate that portion of the community, if any real good is to be effected in Africa. And we now most earnestly appeal to all our readers for their individual aid and their personal efforts on behalf of that work for the prosecution of which Mrs. Moseley offers—yes, we need not have any hesitation in saying it, for we believe that she has fully counted the cost—*offers her life*.

We shall rejoice indeed to see the names of the ladies in all our subscribers' families on Mrs. Moseley's list; and if it be preferred to forward subscriptions through us, we shall be glad to have the pleasure of handing them to Mrs. Moseley's treasurers.

CAPE COAST CASTLE NATIVE FEMALE SCHOOL, GOLD COAST, WEST AFRICA.

Donations and subscriptions, however small, are earnestly solicited from the Christian and benevolent public, on behalf of a school for the spiritual and industrial instruction of the native converts and population at Cape Coast Castle, an institution the most highly calculated to raise and ameliorate the religious and social condition of the poor benighted Africans, by teaching them

* The first transport corps for the supply of the troops on the Ashantee frontier, ninety miles from Cape Coast, with provisions and military stores, was a female one!

to help themselves, and imparting that legitimate ambition for home and domestic improvement and industry, which would secure both their moral and social elevation, and render them not only a prosperous and industrious, but happy Christian people.

250l. or 300l. is at present required to commence the work and open the school, which, when once established, would in a great measure be supported by the native king, chiefs, merchants, and other residents at Cape Coast Castle. It is also hoped that the Colonial Government will ultimately grant a small annual sum to carry out this important work to a larger extent, if commenced by private subscription.

An English lady offers to go out and take the entire superintendence of the school as soon as the necessary funds are realised, and having already resided on the Gold Coast with her husband, who held in 1862 an appointment under Government there, she has some knowledge and experience of the warm-hearted, intelligent African mind and disposition, and feels sure it is fully capable of being placed in the same scale with that of the European, if possessed of similar advantages.

Further information will be gladly given by Mrs. Joseph Moseley, 2, Montagu-street, Portman-square, London. Messrs. Rivington, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, and Mr. George Parker, Librarian, High-street, Fulham, S.W., have kindly consented to receive subscriptions and donations.

The following contributions are already promised:—

	£	s.	d.
His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury	5	0	0
Colonel Crichton Stuart, M.P. for Cardiff	10	0	0
Miss Vernon Harcourt, Penton Grange, Andover	5	5	0
Rev. Edward Hoare, Incumbent of Trinity Church, Tunbridge Wells	2	0	0
Gurney Hoare, Esq., Hampstead	10	0	0
A Friend of the African	3	0	0
Mrs. Bruce	1	0	0
The Right Hon. Sir John Pakington, Bart., M.P.	2	0	0
Vice-Admiral Hamilton, Blackheath	1	0	0
T. S. Harford, Esq., Blaise Castle, Bristol	2	0	0
Conrad Finzel, Esq., Bristol	1	0	0
Lord Bishop of Chichester	5	0	0
Rev. William Marsh, D.D., Beckenham	0	5	0
Rev. A. S. Latter, Fulham	0	5	0
Rev. J. J. Coxhead, Fulham	0	5	0
Mrs. Thomas Canon, Pyon House, Hereford	0	10	0
Right Hon. Lord Colchester, Berkeley-square	1	0	0
Miss Emily Cuppage, Dublin	1	0	0

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—TERRIBLE REVELATIONS.

[No. 1.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, April 14, 1864.

Sir,—If Africa is to make known her wrongs—and your journal has been put forward to accomplish that end—let me write you something which I will defy the powers of Cape Coast to gain-say. At the present moment there are seventeen prisoners for trial here. These poor wretches have been kept for terms varying from three to four months; some are chained like the slaves in Domingo Martinez's barracks at Whydah; that is, with a large iron collar round the neck, connected with irons at the feet, and then fastened to an immense log of wood. In Cape Coast gaol (at Gothic House) a poor wretch was so starved, that he actually was forced to eat his own —, which he did with a gusto that made the gaoler vomit. This man's name is Coffey Tetlee. His chains have since been taken off, his iron collar unhooked, and hints have been given to him constantly to go away; but the miserable wretch, up to the present time, has not taken the hint.

What seems to me an act of gross cruelty and oppression has also just been practised on a man who, for some years, has been a Wesleyan local preacher, but through the bad conduct of his wife has been suspended from his duties until the issue of his divorce case (which he has brought himself) is settled. The

facts are simply these: Mr. Martin Doorly, the paymaster of the 4th West India Regiment, was in the camp. He wanted money to pay the troops. He wrote to his son to send him up 200l., and instructed him to go to the Commissariat for it. The boy did so, Mr. Doorly writing at the same time to the Commissariat that he would be responsible. The Commissariat gave the money to the boy, and it was sent up privately (*without an escort*) to the camp, at Mr. Doorly's personal risk. On their way up, the men who carried it went to the house of this man, Ricketts, and requested him to give protection to the box of money. Ricketts is said to have told them he would not be responsible, and to take the box away. They persisted, however, in putting the box with the money in another room in the same house. Several strangers slept at the house that night, all of whom knew the money was there. In the morning, on their awaking from their slumbers, the carriers found that some one had walked off with the box of money. Mr. —, who is stipendiary magistrate and Inspector of Prisons, arrived two days after from the camp. He immediately set to work, by virtue of his office as police magistrate and Inspector of Prisons, put irons on the hands of this unfortunate man, and placed him in a dark hole for two weeks without *ever once taking off the irons*, and only allowing him one hour in the forty-eight hours to go out. I implored of him to take the irons off, which he did; but still the poor wretch is kept in a most loathsome, dark cell, to eke out a miserable punishment on mere suspicion, *without a chance of a trial*. I do not say that Ricketts is or is not guilty; all I say is, that before a man is brought to trial here his health is so seriously injured, that he rarely lives long after escaping from the black holes of the prison at Cape Coast, which were never intended for human beings to live in, but only as stores for gunpowder, and other goods suited to African markets.

I know Mr. Doorly is responsible for this money, because he told me that he had written to the Commissariat to say so, and that the Commissariat officer had told him that in case the Home authorities put the blame on them, they would shift it over to Doorly, and produce his letter. So you see an official person has a deep stake in this affair; and I humbly submit that no stipendiary magistrate has a right to make use of his power to torture a poor black man, before trying him in a true British, legitimate way; or any Inspector of Prisons to put a man in irons who has never opposed the barbarous treatment he is undergoing now, on mere suspicion alone, without a tittle of evidence, that I can see, to condemn him.

Sir, it is time that these atrocities should cease. I, for one, will never sit quietly and see the bodies of these poor creatures hacked by a cruel and relentless set of men who dare to say that they are Englishmen.

I have just been reading Buxton's works on the horrid slave-trade, which has partly influenced me to come forward and expose the oppression exercised here.

Why, scarcely a day passes without some poor wretched negro being tied up and having one or more dozen of lashes inflicted on his back for the most trifling offences.

I have visited all the slave barracks in the Bights of Benin, and I declare to God I have never seen anything equal to the punishments inflicted here in a gaol that they tell us belongs to that dear Queen whom all Englishmen love so much, and who, I feel confident, would not sanction the torturing of unfortunate Africans before they are tried or proved guilty. The food of these unfortunates is something ridiculous. I assure you the poor wretches' three days' food would scarcely suffice for a single day.

You will naturally ask, why have no representations been made to the head of the Government here? Why, Sir, the reason is obvious; they are afraid to say a word for fear of greater punishment being added to their already miserable lot. I am not afraid, and will tell of the misery and wrongs done to this greatly-oppressed people.

I have no objection that you inform *any one* that I am the author of this letter, and I am willing and ready to prove every syllable penned before a qualified commissioner from home, who ought to come out *immediately*, to inquire into the ad-

ministration of British justice on the Gold Coast, or there will arise a scandal in *foreign lands* that will not redound to the credit of my country.—I am, Sir,

N.B.—Ricketts has been more than six weeks in prison; close confinement in cells.

P.S.—If this is published, I will continue it monthly, and be assured it will be months before I have completed my sad tale.

2ND P.S.—Since writing this, the poor wretch Coffey Tetlee has been released, after enduring two months' misery instead of six, which Mr. — had sentenced him to. The fact is, Sir, they knew that I promised to expose this affair in your blessed pages, and I am confident that was the reason of his *sudden release yesterday*. Some of the prisoners have been six months in prison without a trial, although Governor Pine visited the prison when he was here, every Sunday. Mark this.

[In another letter the same writer states: "We have a colonial surgeon at 200l. per annum, whose duty it is to attend to the prisoners. He has not been in the prison for eight days, although there are prisoners dying."—Ed. A.T.]

Note.—By June mail we learned that Ricketts had been tried, declared guilty, and sentenced to the chain gang.—Ed. A.T.

[No. 2.]

Cape Coast, June 14, 1864.

Sir,—You have published strange revelations about certain officials at the Gambia. But we can outdo them here. An Englishman was cast into prison a few days ago for a supposed assault on a man who gave him the greatest possible provocation.

This Englishman rendered great service to Governor Pine's Government on the first breaking out of the Ashantee war. But he was put in a criminal prison, and for nine days received *not the slightest prison allowance, water, or even the common necessities of life*. If it had not been for a friend who smuggled food and water to him, he must have died of starvation. This unfortunate victim is a suspected correspondent of your paper, which, doubtless, accounts for the severe and unheard-of vengeance of certain authorities. I believe the case has been referred to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; and if it has been properly stated, I cannot allow myself to doubt that *Justice* will be done to this persecuted man.—Yours truly,

A.
[We insert this without in any way guaranteeing its correctness. But we do know that the case has, as is here stated, been laid before the Colonial-office. It would have appeared to us impossible that such things could have happened, had we not received confirmation of some of the statements that appear (in the letter marked No. 1) of flagrant abuses in the so-called administration of justice for some months past at Cape Coast. We do not, therefore, think it right to presume that the allegations here made are incorrect. At the same time, we feel it necessary to say that by the mail which brought us the above letter we heard from other parties, cautioning us against any statements we might receive relative to the above alleged cruelties—although certainly not refuting in any way the main points of the charge.—Ed. A. T.]

LETTER OF GOVERNOR D'ARCY TO THE KINGS AND CHIEFS OF THE GAMBIA.

SIERRA LEONE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

Government House, Bathurst, Gambia,
May 24, 1864.

Kings and Chiefs, my Neighbours—Listen—

The Queen of Great Britain has heard with sorrow of the wars which desolate and depopulate Africa. Her Majesty has ordered me to lead your minds away from the conduct of Cain to that of Abel, who offered the fruits and produce of the earth to the Almighty.*

2. When seven moons have gone, on the full of the seventh moon, I direct you, O Kings and Chiefs, to meet me in Bathurst. Bring with you the best you have: the swiftest and most beautiful of your horses, the strongest ox, the fattest sheep, also specimens of your cleanest cotton, your best grown indigo,

* Many of the principal chiefs and kings are Mohammedans.—Ed. A.T.

ginger, ground nuts, and all produce of the earth, together with pagans, country cloth, baskets, saddles, bridles, and whatever else you can display of the industry and trade of your subjects and country.

3. These articles, O Kings and Chiefs, will be placed side by side with the work of my people in Bathurst, whereupon I will convey all to Sierra Leone in the Dover; there a great house will be built by Major Blackall, the Queen's representative, to display these things to all the world. Moreover, Her Majesty's white subjects in England, artisans and others, who gain their daily bread, as Adam did, by the sweat of his brow, will send across the great water their work. More beautiful will be the articles than you see for sale in the stores of Bathurst. The glass house which is now building to contain these things is called an "Exhibition," and as it has been found to make the white man more clever, the good Queen has ordered the same to be held to improve the black men, and to perpetuate the memory of her great husband, who was the first to think of these things.

4. Now, O Kings and Chiefs, medals and rewards in money will be given to those amongst you who excel at this Exhibition, to the man who by his care has reared the finest stock, and to him who has made from cotton the strongest pagne, the owner of the best article of its class shall receive a prize, no matter how small that article be.

5. Travellers from England, from the African islands, from the Gambia, from Lagos, from the inside of this country, from the Gold Coast, from Cape Palmas, from all the world, will go to see this Exhibition; it will be a great time of happiness. What are all these people to meet for? Not to spoil the ground by shedding blood—for where blood falls, as you know, no corn grows—but to vie with each other in industry. On this happy occasion all people will hear blended with the sound of the Christian's bell shaken for prayer the voice of the marabout from the house-top ordering the adoration of the deity—distinctions of colour and faith* are, after all, of His ordination—it is He who gives existence, and surely this God of all mankind will bless this great undertaking.

6. What more is there for me to write? Lay these words to your hearts, and by the hands of John Day, the interpreter, send me answers in fitting time.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

According to last advices, apprehensions were still entertained by the authorities, at the Cape, of a new Kafir war. Reinforcements had been sent to Natal. At the same time, traders coming from the Kafir country expressed the belief that the Kafirs "were quite peaceably disposed, and had no intention whatever of any warlike rising."

The Bishop of Cape Town was still at Natal, from whence he was expected to return in about a month. Bishop Tozer, of the late Central African Mission, was in Cape Town.

The weather had been very seasonable for the farmers, and a great breadth of land had been placed under cultivation. The prices of colonial produce, particularly grain, were on the increase.

Trade was rather dull, and the rates of interest were on the decline.

RAPID STEAM VOYAGE.—IMPROVEMENT IN STEAM ENGINES.

The new steamer Eastern Province, 647 tons, 100-horse power, arrived in Algoa Bay, South Africa, in thirty-two days from London. Her speed is said to be owing to improved engines built under a new patent, the invention being that of a poor mechanic at Sunderland. The engines, which are undoubtedly the remarkable feature of the vessel, occupy but very little space. The cylinders are 38-inch diameter. The stroke is only two feet. A condensing apparatus is attached, by which 700 gallons of fresh water per day were constantly produced during the voyage—a quantity ample for all purposes.

* We are sorry to express an objection to any part of this interesting document, but we must state our dissent from this proposition.—Ed. A.T.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, JULY 21, 1864.

Mr. C. BEEKELEY called attention to the fact that a vote of 18,353*l.* for civil establishments and forts on the Western Coast of Africa was not properly set out in the clause. 14,353*l.* had been voted for establishments, and 4,000*l.* for the maintenance of forts. The two sums were bulked in the clause. He thought the 4,000*l.* should be specifically appropriated to the maintenance of the forts on the Coast, and with that view he moved the amendment of the clause by the substitution of 14,353*l.* for 18,353*l.*

Mr. CARDWELL and Mr. C. FORTESCUE denied that the sum of 4,000*l.* had been specifically voted for the forts. The total sum was for the maintenance of the establishments as a whole, and was properly appropriated.

Sir H. Willoughby, Sir J. Elphinstone, Mr. Cox, and Mr. Dillwyn maintained on the other hand that the vote was not appropriated in accordance with the intentions of the House when in Committee of Supply.

The amendment was ultimately withdrawn, and the clause agreed to.

SIERRA LEONE EXHIBITION.

We have already been instructed to order the purchase of specimens from the Exhibition to the amount of 50*l.* for a private museum forming in England.

Mr. THOS. CLEGG, of Manchester, will present to the Exhibition a Box of Samples of the Cotton of Commerce, with the Seed, the Fibre drawn out to show its length, &c., and offers the following premiums:—

Three guineas for the greatest quantity of cotton fibre, whether cleaned or uncleaned, grown within fifty miles of Sierra Leone. Two guineas for the next largest quantity.

One guinea for the next largest quantity.

If the cotton is in seed, four pounds of seed cotton are to count for one pound of clean cotton.

NAVIGATION OF THE RIVER NIGER.

We have been solicited by some of our subscribers, who were present at the annual general meeting of the Company of African Merchants, Limited, on the 6th July, to publish the following speech of Mr. A. HAMILTON, one of the Directors, on the Navigation of the River Niger:—

Gentlemen,—Before I explain to you, as far as I am able at present, the course which we propose to adopt, with a view to opening up the trade of Central Africa by means of the River Niger, it may be as well to give first a short statement of what has been heretofore done with that object.

It was in the year 1830 that Mr. Richard Lander traced the course of the River Niger down to the sea. The River Niger is distinguished from all other rivers in this respect, that whereas a great deal of curiosity always has existed about the sources of other rivers (more particularly the Nile, which has recently been solved, or is said to have been solved) with regard to the Niger it was as to the course which that river took after it left Timbuctoo. It was known to rise in the mountainous regions not far from the Atlantic, and to proceed in an easterly direction to Timbuctoo, and there this immense body of water was lost sight of, and was supposed for a long time to be swallowed up in the sands of the Great Desert. But by the enterprise and efforts of British travellers, and with fearful sacrifice of life, the question was at last solved by Mr. Richard Lander, who in the year 1830 followed its course in a boat down to the sea. Therefore, in 1832, a company was formed—a mercantile company—in Liverpool, to open up the commerce of the interior by means of the Niger. The expedition was attended with a total loss of the capital embarked in it, and with a fearful sacrifice of human life; in fact, I have in my eye now my friend Mr. Hector, who I believe is the sole survivor of that expedition.

Well, during the years 1839 and 1841 the enterprise was taken up by Mr. Robert Jamieson, who sent out a steamer and navigated that river with very great success as far as proving its capabilities for steam navigation, but, unfortunately, with very great loss as regarded the capital embarked in it.

Following upon that Her Majesty's Government sent out in the year 1841 an expedition, which is popularly known as the Niger Expedition. It was fitted out with great pomp and circumstance, under the auspices of Prince Albert and a great many philanthropic, and benevolent, and religious gentlemen, who took great interest in this expedition. But it produced no commercial result at all. The arrangements were conceived in such a faulty manner, and everything connected with it so badly organized, that it literally accomplished nothing. It neither added to our knowledge geographically, nor did it, in fact, attempt to do anything commercially.

The idea, therefore, lay in abeyance altogether I may say, until the late Mr. Macgregor Laird, who had ascended the River Niger in the year 1832, in the first expedition—he was a member of that expedition—until Mr. Laird took up the enterprise once more. He entered into negotiations with Government, and obtained a subsidy to send an exploring vessel out. He sent out a vessel which was called the Pleiad, in the year 1854. This vessel went up the Chadda, a large branch which joins the River Niger, about 270 miles from the sea, and ascended 300 miles above the confluence, being a distance from the sea altogether of 570 miles. I am glad to say that, owing to the precautions taken in this expedition of the Pleiad, there was no loss of life. In the interval between this and the previous expedition medical science had made such progress that the fearful loss of life which previously attended enterprises of the kind was happily avoided; and the loss of life in all the expeditions and enterprises subsequent to that ascent of the Pleiad has not been greater, I may safely say, than the mortality experienced on other parts of the Coast of Africa.

Well, Mr. Laird was encouraged by this success. I should observe that this last was chiefly an exploratory expedition; the Government, however, gave him leave to trade as well, and the Pleiad brought down upon that occasion a cargo worth about 2,000*l.* Mr. Laird, therefore, pressed the Government and obtained a subsidy for five years; and he continued his operations at intervals and with various success until the year 1861, when he unfortunately died, and it became my duty, as his executor, to wind up his affairs in the country and bring everything down.

It was an enterprise that was greatly beyond the means of any single individual. It was impossible for Mr. Laird with justice to himself and his family to embark sufficient capital to carry out this great enterprise to a satisfactory issue. As it was, his means being cramped, his expeditions were upon a limited scale, and subjected to heavy losses and failures, and various other contingencies; and it resulted in a considerable loss to his estate. But the Government, I am glad to say, made a handsome compensation to me, as his executor, in consequence of the enterprise and spirit that he had shown in carrying these things out.

But the steamers of Mr. Laird, notwithstanding, were not such as he was contemplating to send out when he died. He was just preparing to reap the fruit of the experience that he had acquired by his previous enterprises and operations, when he was unfortunately cut off.

But these operations, limited in scale as they were, were so far successful as to convince me that a great deal of good might be accomplished on the Niger, and that a trade can be developed there, but that it will take several years to develop it upon a proper scale; that we can also now, by the use of steamers that are better adapted for inland navigation, and by all the improvements which have been recently made with reference to navigating the rivers of India; that we can undertake the enterprise upon conditions and with facilities such as Mr. Laird unfortunately did not enjoy.

The River Niger has been navigated, in the course of these operations—actually navigated by steamers—up to the rapids at a place called Boussa, which is 400 miles from the sea, and as I have already said, the steamer Pleiad, in the other branch of the river, the Chadda, has ascended as far as 570 miles from the sea.

Now the natives of the interior of Africa are well known by all travellers to be of a class very superior to the heathens who inhabit the sea-coast—the belt of land along

which hitherto our commerce has been confined. The natives of the interior are Mohammedans, and they possess, comparatively speaking, a degree of civilization such as is not known on the sea-coast. They dwell in large towns, and there is the security for property which that necessarily implies. They carry on also a considerable trade—caravan trade; in fact, a gentleman who returned from Dr. Baikie's staff, who was attached to his staff for several years, and who I had the pleasure of seeing, told me that at a place not far from the point where the steamers would reach—not far from the confluence of the rivers, only a few days' journey, he saw a caravan arrive with European goods, among which was loaf sugar, made in Whitechapel here. Well now, these goods had been landed at Tripoli in the bulk, had been carried by slaves on their backs, across the great Desert of Sahara, and so they came from one market to the other until they reached to within fifteen or twenty days' journey of the point to which by our steamers we could send them. Now if the trade of Africa is such that it will bear the heavy expense of transit across the Desert, it surely will be very greatly developed, if by means of steamers on the river we could carry these goods, and establish a market on the River Niger whence the caravans would depart to the interior, instead of from Tripoli. In fact, as I have said, all the goods are now carried on the heads of slaves across the Desert in small packages, a journey of about six months.

Now, the trade that we should look to would be trade in palm-oil, such as now exists—that is, within a certain distance of the sea-coast. But we should go higher up, and draw our supplies of palm-oil nearer the source. The present course of the trade is for the palm-oil to be sent down to the traders at the sea-coast, but we should probably go up, and should thus be able to get it at a lower rate.

Then there is another article of produce which we should be able to obtain, I have no doubt in considerable quantities, in the upper country, called Shea butter, sample parcels of which, consisting of some ten or twenty tons at a time, were brought home by Mr. Laird's vessels and also by Mr. Jamieson's. It is a vegetable matter, used by the natives for food, and it will become, I believe, a very valuable article of import to this country. It is, as I have said, a sort of article we can expect to get in considerable quantities. It is a collection of the dribbles of individual producers; every old wife will boil some of these nuts, skim off the oil, put it into a pot, and it is kept until it gets into casks and comes home. The development of this trade in Shea butter will, if we should succeed in carrying out our views, I am sure, astonish us all. I see no reason whatever why it should not follow the same course precisely as the trade in palm-oil. Now, the import of palm-oil in the year 1830 was only 10,000 tons; in 1840, it was 15,000 tons; in 1850, it was 21,000 tons; and in 1860 it was 40,000, or one million and a-half sterling. These are the results that I look for.

But it is perfectly well known that cotton is an indigenous plant in the countries to which we should penetrate; that it has been grown there for thousands of years probably, and it is manufactured into cloth, and dyed with indigo, which they also cultivate, and they dye this cloth in a manner which, I dare say, Mr. Samson will agree, would astonish the dyers of Manchester; and, besides this, there are other articles, which I need not enumerate, in which we might create a trade—in addition to the trade which we might look to create in the immediate neighbourhood—in the countries immediately bordering upon the Niger. I think, as I have already said, that we should at once establish a diversion of the trade from Tripoli, and that we should be able to supply the great markets in the interior, Kano and Sokatoo, and Borasu, and other towns which are said to vary from a hundred to a hundred and fifty or two hundred thousand inhabitants.

The company means to establish trading stations at various points on the river, and to keep them constantly supplied with goods throughout the dry season, as well as when the river is navigable for vessels of a moderate draught of water, and so to give those facilities which Mr. Laird was not able to give. He would send up a cargo, barter it right off at a week's notice, and the vessel would come down again. We propose to establish

regular depôts. By this means markets will be formed; the natives who will bring ivory from the country will know that they can exchange it for other goods—European goods; or, whether they bring Shea butter, or anything else, they will know there is value to be had in exchange for it. For this purpose two powerful steamers will be required for constantly corresponding with these points, and besides these two steamers it will be necessary to have a third of a light draught, drawing, perhaps, two or three feet water, that might communicate all the year, so that during the dry season we should still be able to keep up our supplies.

Now, of course, this would involve a large outlay of capital, and it would necessarily be some years before any return could be expected from that outlay. It is, therefore, for this reason that we have applied to the Government to share with us the risk of the attempt, in the shape of a subsidy for maintaining steam service on the River. We have told the Government that we should be happy to let these steamers be available for all other parties who, either with goods or passengers, wish to ply on the River.

We, of course, cannot expect a monopoly of the River, and we shall be happy to take anybody up and down, charging them fair terms. We shall be happy to co-operate with anybody in any way that is fair and reasonable. We do not want to establish a monopoly in the matter, nor to selfishly grasp the thing to ourselves. You must see on all accounts that it would be impossible. But inasmuch as we are going to incur a very large outlay in the first instance, and as we are willing that it should be open to all, if we succeed, to come up and enjoy the fruits of our enterprise, we say to the Government it is fair that we should have some assistance towards maintaining steam navigation on the River Niger. Surely, if a subsidy can be justified anywhere—if the Cunard subsidy can be justified, where there are independent lines running across the Atlantic without a subsidy—surely for a purpose like this the very small subsidy which we have asked should be granted. And I believe it is likely it will be granted. I am sorry to say that we have met with some opposition from the members of firms engaged in the coast trade. Now, as regards these gentlemen—for I obtained copies of their petitions—their grounds of objections to our application are based, I am sorry to say, upon the narrowest footing that we can conceive. I think we ought to have no difficulty in overcoming those objections; because in point of fact these gentlemen, who have been engaged all their lives, and their fathers before them, in the trade of the West Coast of Africa, have in point of fact never pushed their way twenty miles from the sea-coast in any direction. They have derided the expeditions of Mr. Laird, and done everything to impede him. But in addition to that, in carrying on this negotiation with the Government, we have not only told the Government that we are willing to co-operate in a fair and reasonable way with any other persons who may desire to join us; but if any other persons can satisfy Government that they are able to carry out the same objects that we desire to carry out, we have told the Government that we are willing to stand aside, and let that other party get the subsidy and go up the River Niger, and we will follow when the result is obtained. We have shown no desire to be selfish, or to prevent any other parties whatever from embarking in the enterprise.

Now, I need not enlarge on the moral results which we hope will follow upon our efforts, if we are able to carry out our views. Our object is directly your benefit, of course—to forward your interests, to extend the trade of the company, and, if possible, to enlarge our business. But if at the same time we can carry out the great objects for which I imagine that all the money that has hitherto been expended upon the Niger—the great objects for which it was expended—if we can carry out these objects, and extend British commerce into the interior of Africa, and open up a fresh market for others, and at the same time strike a great blow at the slave-trade, and introduce commerce, and with it civilization and the Christian religion into the interior of Africa, I am sure that the dividends which you will receive will not be less acceptable, because they will be accompanied by these beneficial results. (Applause.)

IRON BUILDINGS,

Of every description, adapted to all climates, made portable, so that inexperienced workmen can easily re-erect them. THEATRES, CONCERT-ROOMS, HOTELS, BARRACKS, WAREHOUSES, VILLA RESIDENCES, CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, SCHOOL-ROOMS, SHOPS, MARKET-PLACES, LABOURERS' COTTAGES, STABLES, LODGES, &c., &c.

ESTIMATES and DRAWINGS may be had on application at the Offices, 21, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON.

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RIMMEL'S Marrow Oil and Philocome for the Hair.
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RIMMEL'S Perfumes for the Handkerchief, Tooth Powders, &c., &c.

E. RIMMEL, Perfumer by appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales.

Sole Agent for the Coast of Africa,
M. L. LEVIN, 1, BEVIS MARKS, LONDON.

BEADS, HARDWARE, CORALS, &c., on SALE at M. L. Levin's Warehouse, Bevis Marks, London.

List of Goods now ready: Large Yellow Agra Beads, ditto Black, ditto Green, Seed Beads all Colours, Fancy Agra Beads, Pipe and Bead Corals, Imitation Corals, Musket Flints, Cowries, Geneva in Green Cases, Brandy ditto, Gin ditto, Champagne ditto, Cordials ditto, Sardines, Candles, Perfumery (Rimmel's), Drugs (Lamplough's), Muskets, Matchetts, Swords, Bowie Knives, Table ditto, Looking-glasses, Wine ditto, Tumblers, Clothing.

M. L. LEVIN, BEVIS MARKS, LONDON, E.C.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA, MADEIRA, and TENERIFFE.

—The African Steam-ship Company's vessels (carrying Her Majesty's Mails) leave LIVERPOOL monthly, with goods and passengers, proceeding direct to MADEIRA, TENERIFFE, BATHURST, SIERRA LEONE, CAPE PALMAS, CAPE COAST CASTLE, ACCRA, LAGOS, BENIN, NUN, BRASS, BONNY, FERNANDO PO, CAMEROONS, and OLD CALABAR.

NOTE.—Goods for SIERRA LEONE will be delivered at consignees' risk into the Company's floating depot, from whence delivery is to be taken within seven days after arrival, otherwise they will be landed and put into Customs warehouse at consignees' risk and expense, under stop for charges. Goods for FERNANDO PO and the Rivers are transhipped at BONNY, and forwarded by branch Steamer at shippers' risk.

The splendid new steamship CALABAR, 1,200 tons and 240-horse power, A. J. M. CROFT, Commander, will leave LIVERPOOL on Wednesday, Aug. 24, at 12 noon. Passengers embark by steam tender, leaving the North Landing Stage at 10.30 a.m. punctually. Goods and heavy baggage must be alongside the ship at the loading berth, Huskisson Dock, not later than noon of the 22nd. No goods or parcels can be shipped without pre-payment of freight.

For further information apply, in Liverpool, to the agents, Messrs. FLETCHER and PARR, 23, Castle-street; or at the Company's Offices, 14, Leadenhall-street, London.

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Effervescing and tasteless, its constant use is especially calculated to maintain health and prevent Small-pox, Fever, and Measles.

Her Majesty's representative, the Governor of Sierra Leone, in a letter of request for an additional supply, states, "It is of great value; it should be in the hands of all Europeans visiting the tropics."

Is an agreeable effervescing remedy, of great efficacy in all kinds of Fever and Blood diseases, especially those occurring during hot weather. Dr. Gibbon, Staff-Surgeon in the Crimean war, states that European residents in hot countries find that the use of this refreshing beverage prevents exhausting perspiration and its alternative deadly fever.

The elegance, purity, and usefulness of the preparation has been certified by some of the most eminent physicians in the Army, Naval, and Hospital service of Great Britain.

It acts by purifying and lowering the temperature of the blood; hence its great importance to all persons seeking to reside with safety and comfort in tropical countries, or subjected to unusual heat.

His Excellency the Governor of the West India Colonies, in a letter of request for an additional supply, states, "After a residence of seventeen years in the Colonies, I am bound to admit it is the finest and best preparation I have ever met with. I keep it on my sideboard, hoping that others, seeing it, will be induced to take and profit as I have done by it. I attribute the excellent state of my health to its use, and I lose no opportunity of urging others to take it."

Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, 1st West India Regiment, Sierra Leone: "I have enjoyed uninterrupted health since I have taken your Pyretic Saline."

Dr. Sparks, the Government Medical Inspector, Port of London, bears cordial testimony to its efficacy in chronic forms of Gastric complaints and Febrile Dyspepsia.

William Stevens, Esq., M.D., D.C.L., states, in his work on West India Fevers, that wherever the saline treatment is adopted the fatal yellow fevers are deprived of their terrors.

Out of One Thousand cases treated on the Saline plan, "the astonishing number of Nine Hundred and Eighty-nine recovered."

Orders for the West Coast of Africa promptly executed per return of mail by the Sole Manufacturer, 113, Holborn-hill, London, W.C., or by M. L. Levin, Shipping Agent, Bevis-marks, he having special correspondents at Bathurst, Cape Coast, Anamabo, Accra, Lagos, Cameroons, Bonny, and Old Calabar. Agent for Sierra Leone, J. B. Elliot, Esq.; Messrs. Biden and Gardner, Cape Town, who are appointed also for the sale of the

CONCENTRATED ESSENCE OF PERUVIAN BARK.

Superior and more agreeable than Quinine, it truly contains all the elements of the Cinchona Bark, dissolved out by a peculiar process, that eliminates entirely the active principle, adding materially to its efficacy as a remedial agent; being fluid, it does not pass off or through the system, as Quinine occasionally does, it sits easier on the stomach, and will not produce either headache or constipation, mixes well with water, wine, or spirits, being exclusive, very important, rare and valuable properties fully appreciated by all who use it.—Sole Maker, H. LAMPLOUGH, Chemist, 113, HOLBORN-HILL, LONDON, W.C.

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SUPPLEMENT TO AFRICAN TIMES (No. 38), AUG. 23, 1864.

African-Aid Society,

8, ADELPHI TERRACE, STRAND, LONDON.

THIRD REPORT

FROM MARCH, 1863, TO AUGUST, 1864.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

In presenting their third Report, the Society feel constrained to give prominence to those changes effected during the past year, under which this Society has become, perhaps, the most cheaply administered of all the philanthropic Societies of London.

In the second Report, published in August last, it was stated that "temporary arrangements had been made, by which the expenditure of the Society, during the time they might be in force, would be reduced to a maximum of 200*l.* per annum."

These arrangements were only intended to serve for a period of transition; and at the beginning of February of the present year, the Secretary announced by letter to the Chairman his determination not in future to accept any remuneration or emolument whatever from the Society; offering at the same time to continue to conduct its affairs as heretofore, including the editorship of the *African Times*, as *Honorary Secretary*. Special meetings of the Council were called, in order to effect the changes consequent upon this proposal, which was accepted by the Council. Mr. Fitzgerald was unanimously elected an Honorary Secretary, and as such has since conducted, and will D.V. continue to conduct, the affairs of the Society.

Simultaneously with this economical change, the Council authorized the sub-letting of a portion of the Society's Rooms, which it was found could be dispensed with. By this a further saving of 30*l.* per annum was effected.

The current expenses of the Society since the 1st February, 1864, consist therefore of 52*l.* per annum for salary of clerk, 30*l.* per annum for rent, and the unavoidable charges for cleaning offices, fire, postage, stationery, occasional printing, with the ordinary petty disbursements; and it is believed that the entire expenditure may, and will, thus be kept within the sum of one hundred and ten pounds (110*l.*) a-year.

There can be no doubt that this sum ought to be furnished by annual subscriptions of an amount that will not prove onerous to any individual. Subscribers to the Society will have the satisfaction of knowing that the sums they contribute are applied directly to the objects for which they are destined, and a little effort on the part of the friends of the Society would certainly result in an assured income of above 200*l.* per annum, which it is desirable should be available for the Society, in order to guard against all probable contingencies. The friends of the Society are therefore entreated to use their influence for the attainment of this object.

COLOURED EMIGRATION TO AFRICA.

The enormous pretensions of all the people of colour who offered themselves in Canada and the United States for emigration to Africa, made it hopeless for the Society to endeavour to raise the money that would have been indispensable for their voyage to, and establishment in, Africa.

The total change in the status of the coloured population in America, consequent on the war now raging between the Northern and Southern States, rendered it advisable also that no

further effort, as regards the removal of any of them to Africa, should be made until after the termination of the war, when it is probable that a portion of the most intelligent of the people will organise a spontaneous emigration, which will only require the aid of this Society to facilitate their advantageous settlement in Africa on their arrival there.

PREPARATION IN AFRICA FOR EMIGRANTS.

Meanwhile the efforts of the Society are directed to the effecting such beneficial changes at various parts of Western Africa, such material improvements, and such industrial developments, as shall make the West Coast and its adjacent countries more attractive than hitherto to those of African race, who may have obtained a greater or less degree of Christian civilization and knowledge, in the United States and the other transatlantic countries. In this political field, and field of industrial stimulus, the Society is working with untiring effort.

MISS HUSSEY'S SLAVE FUND.

In the Report last issued allusion was made to a fund created by accumulations under a bequest of Miss Hussey, in 1715. The gentlemen who had by invitation consented to act as trustees of this fund were not summoned to meet, as had been of course expected. The Society, therefore, addressed the Master of the Rolls on the subject, expressing a deep regret that the nomination of trustees had not been proceeded with, and a hope that they would soon be invited to meet. Instead of this being done, the Secretary to the fund, nominated by the Attorney-General (Mr. Clabon, of Messrs. Clabon and Fearon, Solicitors), addressed letters to merchants and others connected with Africa, St. Helena, &c., for further information and opinions—a course which, as might have been expected, has not yet led to any practical result. The Society will do all that can be done for making this fund, now amounting to above 20,000*l.*, available for the benefit of the African races. A scheme for its disposal is now said to be preparing by the Attorney-General.

HUMAN SACRIFICES IN DAHOMEY.

In June, 1863, the Society represented to Her Majesty's Government the impropriety of any person in Dahomey, on an official mission from Great Britain, consenting to become day by day spectators of the human slaughter which takes place at the Customs, held in Abomey and Cannah. The Society urged "that it should be a condition exacted from the King of Dahomey, by any future British Envoy, before proceeding to his capital, that there should be no human sacrifices during his stay at the above-named places, such sacrifices being abhorrent to the feelings and principles of Christian people, and such as no Christian Envoy should ever sanction by his presence."

Learning that instructions were being sent out by the August mail to Mr. Consul Burton to proceed on an official visit to the King of Dahomey, this subject of obtaining a promise from the King, that there should be no human sacrifices during his stay, was again urged strongly on Her Majesty's Government, and the Society were informed that instructions would be forwarded by the same mail to Mr. Consul Burton to obtain such promise from the King.

Mr. Consul Burton's Report has not yet been published; but the Society have, of course, every reason to believe that the instructions then given by Her Majesty's Government have been faithfully observed, and the Council feel that it must be very pleasing to the members of the Society generally that such a result should have been obtained.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES FOR WEST AFRICA.

It became evident, at an early period of the Society's action, that new elements were wanting for the promotion of industrial development, and the consequent advance of civilization on the West Coast of Africa. The commerce between England and the Coast, in private hands, as hitherto carried on, did not afford that amount of stimulus which was indispensable to an increased ratio of progress so every way desirable for Great Britain as well as for Africa, which must also require the application of capital for developing the resources of the soil. Although, therefore, the Society could not of itself take any part whatever in commercial enterprises, it aimed, in the first place, at the creation of Joint-Stock Companies for trade with Africa as an absolutely necessary instrument for bringing portions of Western Africa, until then having no legitimate trade with this country, into humanizing and civilizing mercantile connexion with her.

The Society is therefore glad to be able to state that the summer of 1863 witnessed the formation of two new Commercial Joint-Stock Companies for Trading on the West Coast of Africa. The close of 1862 had seen the advent of the West Africa Company, Limited; the spring of 1863 the Egyptian Trading Company; and in July, 1863, the London and Africa Company, Limited, and the Company of African Merchants, Limited, were established. The application of the limited liability principle to the African trade, and the creation of powerful Companies under its regulations, marks an important era in the affairs of the West Coast. There can be no doubt that industrial development will be stimulated by their operations. It must therefore be a source of great satisfaction to the Society, that its efforts in the African cause are considered on all hands to have been the indispensable pioneers in this important movement; and that it is believed such Companies could not have succeeded in establishing themselves as they have done, without the previous efforts of this Society. The Society regards a powerful Joint-Stock Company as a great agent for the promotion of civilization in Africa, and will have occasion in this Report to show that evidence has been already furnished in justification of this view taken by the Society. (*Vide Dahomey, pp. 4.*)

FORT OF QUITTAH.

It is deeply to be regretted that the Fort of QUITTAH has not yet been re-occupied by a British detachment. The necessity of this re-occupation had been long urged upon the Government, and when last year's Report was issued there was reason to believe, as therein stated, that orders for carrying it into effect had been given.

Finding, in November, 1863, that nothing had been done, and that the transit of slaves through Quittah, from Ashantee and the Volta district generally, to the ports of Dahomey for shipment was constant, large, and increasing, urgent letters on the subject were sent by the Society to the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, under date of the 7th and 17th November, lamenting the continuance of this great abuse, and renewing their application that a stop should at once be put to practices so iniquitous and injurious.

A reply was received, dated the 19th November, in which the

Duke of Newcastle states, "that the re-occupation of that fort (Quittah) has been delayed in consequence of the impossibility of detaching a sufficient number of men for that purpose," and that "the Governor (of the Gold Coast) has stated to the Colonial-office, that he is very sensible of the importance of re-occupying Quittah as soon as it may be practicable to do so."

RIVER CONGO.

In the River Congo a great diminution of the slave-trade was known to have taken place. The Society, therefore, on the 9th December last, represented to Her Majesty's Government the advisability of some complete survey of that fine river (which has not any obstructive bar at its mouth, as is usual in African rivers), in order that legitimate commerce, which had for many years been almost entirely excluded, might again be organised and carried on there, the regions through which the river flows being very productive.

CAPE COAST AND ASHANTEE.

By the December mail the Society received intelligence that fifteen soldiers of the 4th West India Regiment had died, and that a large number were seriously ill, the disease being caused principally by "the great impurity of the water there supplied to the troops." The Society brought this subject immediately under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, and informed them that, after mature inquiry, they had found that an apparatus guaranteeing the complete purification of 1,500 gallons per diem could, if Her Majesty's Government so resolved, be obtained and sent out by the January mail, and applied at a total cost of less than 100*l.*, and probably not exceeding 60*l.* or 70*l.*

The Colonial-office replied that fifty dripstones had been already sent, and a condensing apparatus would immediately follow, also that "instructions had been issued by the War-office to the Commissariat to reduce the supply of salt rations by substituting fresh or preserved meat, as circumstances might admit." The condensing apparatus, unfortunately, never produced more than 500 gallons a-day.

NATIVE SURGEONS.

Her Majesty's Government advertised for assistant-surgeons for the West Coast of Africa. The Society had long been convinced of the advisability of increasing the number of native African surgeons in the Government employ on the West Coast, and forwarded to the Educational Committee of the War-office, in the months of December, 1863, and January, 1864, certain proposals made by J. Africanus Horton, M.D., S.A.S., employed on the Gold Coast, for the establishment of a Medical School at Sierra Leone for the educated natives of various parts of Africa.

On the 1st of February, 1864, the Society addressed Earl de Grey and Ripon, President of the Educational Committee and Secretary at War, representing the perfect immunity from yellow fever enjoyed by the native born African at periods when that destructive epidemic sweeps off the Europeans from the West Coast of Africa; and pointing out that native Africans having been proved to be fully capable, if properly educated, of obtaining an adequate degree of efficiency in surgery and medicine, it seemed most desirable that precautions should be taken, by an addition to the number of native surgeons employed, to prevent the recurrence of that lack of medical assistance on the West Coast which has often been occasioned by the sickness and death of European surgeons there. The Society deem the increase in the number of African surgeons to be an important and indispensable aid to the progress of civilization in Western Africa, and therefore solicited that Her Majesty's Government would give to

any suggestions with such object "that full and impartial consideration which Her Majesty's Government must naturally be disposed to give to a matter connected with an economy of valuable European life in Africa—an ultimate economy of money in the medical department of Her Majesty's service in Africa—and an effective application of the inestimable benefit of medical and surgical skill among the suffering multitudes of Africa, who are known to appreciate this result of our civilization whenever it is brought within their reach." The reply of the Secretary of State for War was unfavourable, on the ground that the matter was "more intimately connected with civil or colonial employment and considerations." The Society felt this view to be an incorrect one; and their opinions have been but too fully and lamentably justified by the great sickness and mortality among the European officers employed on the Gold Coast, where the principal burden of medical service during an almost unexampled sickness among the troops has fallen upon Dr. Horton and Dr. Davies, the only two native African staff assistant-surgeons there.

The following table of sickness and mortality among the officers at the Gold Coast (in which the surgeons are marked with an *) will, in the belief of the Society, bring conviction on the subject to the mind of every impartial person:—

List of Officers Dead and Invalided since the Commencement of the present Ashantee Difficulties on the Gold Coast of Western Africa, from May, 1863, to June 10, 1864:—

Names of Officers.	What Regiment.	Rank of Officers.	Dead or Invalided.
S. B. Lamb	4th W. I. R.	Lieut.-Colonel	Invalided.
G. J. Ivey	ditto	Major	"
C. F. Holt	G. C. A.	"	Dead.
W. R. Mulliner	3rd W. I. R.	Captain	"
Thomas Herrick	4th W. I. R.	"	"
Thomas H. V. D. Hay ..	ditto	"	"
D. B. Gabb	ditto	"	"
P. W. Kingsmill	ditto	"	"
S. McDonough	3rd W. I. R.	"	Invalided.
C. J. Barnard	4th W. I. R.	"	"
A. W. McKay	ditto	"	"
M. W. B. Edwardes ..	ditto	"	"
W. A. Williams	2nd W. I. R.	"	"
— Danger	G. C. A.	"	Dead.
J. B. Jackson	3rd W. I. R.	"	Invalided.
J. Thomson	G. C. A.	Lieutenant	Dead.
J. W. Kean	2nd W. I. R.	"	"
J. D. E. Cross	G. C. A.	"	"
W. Low	3rd W. I. R.	"	"
C. F. Barry	4th W. I. R.	"	"
F. Blacklin	ditto	"	Invalided.
F. D. Crozier	ditto	"	"
A. H. Duthie	2nd W. I. R.	"	"
A. R. Lees	4th W. I. R.	"	"
— Stewart	"	"	"
G. F. Coward	4th W. I. R.	"	"
A. M. Brock	ditto	"	"
A. F. Wilkinson	3rd W. I. R.	"	"
C. B. M'L. Morales ..	4th W. I. R.	"	"
C. O. Bulger	ditto	Ensign	"
I. H. Brien	G. C. A.	"	Dead.
H. L. Baldwin	2nd W. I. R.	"	"
*— Schroeder	Attached.	S. Surgeon	Invalided.
*— Crow	"	Asst. Surgeon	Dead.
*— Rutherford	"	"	"
*— Hooper	"	"	"
*— Greig	"	"	"
*— Oughton	"	"	Invalided.
*— Lewis	"	"	"
*— Sanderson	"	"	"
— Goldie	"	Clerk of Works	Dead.

The Society feel bound, therefore, to continue their efforts for a considerable increase in the number of native African surgeons in Her Majesty's service on the West Coast of Africa.

RIVER NIGER.

The Society has never ceased to urge upon Her Majesty's Government the necessity, in the interests of African civilization, of establishing steam navigation on the River Niger in some way that would secure its permanency, and that it should not again be discontinued in consequence of the death of a single individual, as in the case of the late lamented Mr. McGregor Laird.

The Society followed up its former efforts by again impressing on Her Majesty's Government, by letter dated 1st February, the impossibility of the friends of Africa making any adequate efforts for the spread of civilization in the interior by way of the Niger, until such steam navigation should be permanently established on that river.

Mr. Peel replied, on behalf of the Treasury, that the Government did not feel disposed to make any further grants of money for such purposes.

Some Niger papers have lately been placed before Parliament, having reference to certain proposals made to the Government by the Company of African Merchants (and West African Company) for the prosecution of that great enterprise. From these papers it appears that there is no hope of anything being done during the present year.

The Society have also been semi-officially informed that Dr. Baikie, the Government Resident Agent in the river, is now to be withdrawn.

Great opposition has been made by the private European merchant traders to Africa against any grant; and there seems reason to believe that such opposition has prevailed with the Treasury against the known sympathies and recommendations of Lord Palmerston and Earl Russell. Such a disappointment of hopes which the Society had reasonably entertained of seeing the Niger opened to steam navigation this year is greatly to be deplored.

The Niger papers alluded to will be published in the *African Times*, and the Society will renew its endeavours to obtain steam navigation on the Niger whenever a favourable opportunity may offer.

TURNER'S PENINSULAR.

Turner's Peninsular, near Sierra Leone, on the West Coast of Africa, was ceded to Great Britain in 1826; but the cession was not accepted by the Government of this country. There is a strong desire both in Sierra Leone and in Turner's Peninsular for the annexation of the latter to Sierra Leone.

The Society conceive that there is a marked distinction between thus extending the bounds of a colony and doing anything with the object merely to acquire new possessions on the Coast. They therefore ventured to express a hope to Her Majesty's Government that, should the chiefs of Turner's Peninsular renew the act of cession, this country would admit of the annexation of that territory to the colony of Sierra Leone.

The Secretary of State, in his reply, rather discourages the belief that Her Majesty's Government would be induced to accept the territory that might be thus ceded, there being "serious objections to the extension of our territories and responsibilities on the West Coast of Africa."

SOLYMAN, GALLINAS, MANNA, AND MUTIAN TERRITORIES.

The Liberian Government, having claimed the acknowledgment of the Sherbro, at the northern boundary of Liberia,

the examination of titles was deputed to Commissioners appointed by Great Britain and Liberia. The British Commissioners decided against the Liberian claims, which included the Solyman, Gallinas, Manna, and Muttan territories.

It is greatly to be deplored that those countries should continue to feed the small slave-trade which is being continually carried on from them to the Portuguese possessions northward, and which gives great trouble to the authorities of Sierra Leone. These fruitful territories might be made very productive by legitimate trade, if the chiefs were under the restraint of subjection to Sierra Leone. The constant waste of human life there by native wars can only thus be prevented. And the educational resources of Sierra Leone are now so extensive, that the colony is capable of exercising a constantly-increasing civilizing influence on the West Coast, and particularly on the neighbouring countries. The Society, therefore, ventured to suggest to Her Majesty's Government the propriety of preparing for the gradual reception of those territories into the colony of Sierra Leone, whenever the chiefs and kings might so desire. It was only a suggestion to the Government—though an important one—and not demanding any present decision or reply.

ASHANTEE WAR.

The lamentable war with Ashantee, which has been attended with so much sickness and loss of life among the troops employed at Cape Coast, has greatly occupied the attention of the Society during the last few months. The Society cannot avoid expressing its deep regret that those material influences, other than the action of an armed force, which might have been brought to bear on Ashantee with a power that the Society believed would have conduced to a pacific arrangement, were not resorted to.

The Society has been year after year urging the construction of a good military road from the coast to the Ashantee frontier. At the commencement of the present difficulties with Ashantee, they represented that to make such a road should be the first among the means to be employed. They also recommended in the strongest manner that the Volta River should not be allowed to be used for supplying the Ashantees with European goods, munitions of war, &c., and above all that the continued supply of salt from the coast at Adda, without which it is said the Ashantees cannot exist, should be made to depend upon a pacific arrangement being arrived at.

The Society do not wish to dwell upon what might have been the beneficial results, had their suggestions been followed. The Society's work is to make the best of the actual state of affairs, where it cannot make its counsel prevail. It is, therefore, in constant private communication with Her Majesty's Government for forwarding such measures as may make the late calamities lead to great and lasting good.

They have reason to hope and believe that a good military road will now be made and maintained from the coast to the Ashantee frontier; that other roads will be also made; and that a greater impetus than hitherto will be given administratively to all that may tend to the development of the material resources of the territories.

DUTCH POSSESSIONS ON THE GOLD COAST.

It was impossible that such subjects should be under consideration and discussion without the difficulties created through the intermixture of the Dutch settlements on the Gold Coast with those of Great Britain being adverted to. The Society, therefore, printed a translation of an important pamphlet lately published in Holland (this was sent to the Government, with a letter, on the

4th June), relative to those Dutch possessions. Hitherto, the only feasible arrangement thought of seems to be the cession of the Dutch possessions to Great Britain; the Dutch Government in this following the example of Denmark, who ceded those which she possessed on the same coast in 1851. But the Society regret to say that this most important question has not made much progress. The Dutch Government have not expressed any willingness to cede their possessions, and it is not thought they would, in any case, do so without being paid for them; while the British Government evince no desire to become purchasers, or to accept them in any other way than as a gift to them, which would be an annual saving of nearly 11,000*l.* a-year to the Netherlands Government. The Society attach great importance to bringing the entire Gold Coast under British dominion, and will leave no possible effort untried to induce the two Governments to reconsider this question with a view to its settlement.

DEPUTATION TO THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

On the 4th of June, the Society solicited an audience of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and were received by Mr. Cardwell in deputation on the 18th June. The desires and views of the Society with regard to the Protected Territories of the Gold Coast, in connexion with the Ashantee difficulty, were explained, and the Rev. M. Schenke, Basle Missionary from the Gold Coast, who attended the deputation, was heard at length by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, as to the wants and necessities of those territories, and especially of the Eastern District. It is hoped that much good may result from this interview.

SIERRA LEONE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

It is not only a gratifying sign of progress in Africa, but also an additional proof of what may be done by the appointment of good governors to our African possessions, that an Industrial Exhibition should be in course of organization at Sierra Leone.

This Exhibition originated with, and has been ardently promoted by, his Excellency, Governor Blackall, and by Commodore Wilmot, senior officer of the squadron on the Coast. It is intended that it shall be held at the close of the present year. The Council of this Society opened a subscription in aid of the fund being collected for defraying the expenses. The contributions made to the Society for the purpose in England have been regularly advertised in the *African Times*. The total amount known to have been subscribed in the colony when the June mail for England left was 750*l.*, which, with 60*l.* subscribed here, raises the fund at present to above 800*l.* A much larger amount is required, and the Society cannot avoid expressing the hope that the friends of Africa in this country will yet come forward liberally to aid in this most praiseworthy effort at Sierra Leone.

This Exhibition at Sierra Leone must be regarded rather as a stimulus to what is wanted and could be done in the colony, than as an evidence of what has yet been accomplished. The agriculture of the colony has been greatly neglected. The intelligent classes of the community failed to comprehend the noble character of industrial effort made for developing the natural resources of the colony, and turned their attention principally to trade. It is most desirable, therefore, that the present step in the right direction should be practically encouraged by the friends of Africa in Great Britain.

LEGITIMATE TRADE WITH DAHOMEY.

Dahomey has always occupied the attention of the Society, one of whose earliest public efforts was a deputation to Lord Palmerston to urge on Her Majesty's Government the adoption of

measures that might bring about a change of system there. The Society has never ceased to recognise that the war slave-hunts, and the massacres at Customs, could only be adequately attacked by legitimate trade. They have never ceased in desire and effort to promote this great civiliser, and to bring its powerful influence to bear on the bloodthirsty practices and superstitions of Dahomey. It is, therefore, with very great satisfaction they are enabled to state that, through the co-operation of the Company of African Merchants (the formation of which last summer has been already adverted to), the trial of its influence in Dahomey has fairly commenced. Mr. William Craft, having received encouragement from the King, has been established by that Company as their representative at Whydah; and efforts are now making to prove to the King and chiefs, by practical results, the great advantages which the cultivation and export of cotton will procure for them and their people. The King and chiefs have promised, that if revenues can be obtained by the cultivation and export of cotton, equal to or greater than those derived from the export of slaves, the slave-trade shall be discontinued. And there can be little reason to doubt that, under such circumstances, the new value given to human life would tend greatly to modify, if not altogether to abolish, the system of human sacrifices which has hitherto so horribly prevailed. Mr. Craft, who is of African descent, has already obtained in Dahomey the name of "the truthful black Englishman," and is listened to by the King; and the Company of African Merchants are really entitled to the thanks of the Society, not only for undertaking the effort at Whydah, which individual merchants had all refused to do, but for having selected Mr. Craft as their representative there.

ABEOKUTA AND LAGOS.

The great repulse of the King and army of Dahomey, by the Abeokutans affords just grounds for congratulation; but we must, at the same time, express our regrets that the differences between the authorities of Lagos and those of Abeokuta remain unsettled, and that trade between those places has not been resumed. The same feelings among a certain portion of the inhabitants of Abeokuta which finally prevailed against the introduction of settlers from America, and the reception of a British Vice-Consul, have prevailed against the British colony of Lagos. There is reason, however, to hope that the mutual wants of the two places will shortly lead to that renewal of friendly relations under which alone the increase of cotton planting and of other industrial efforts can be expected.

FIRST NATIVE AFRICAN BISHOP.

The Society cannot allow to pass unnoticed the consecration of Dr. Samuel Crowther, as first Bishop of the newly-formed See of the Niger Districts. Dr. Crowther was sold as a slave, when a boy, from those districts over which he is now to exercise episcopal authority as a Bishop of the Anglican Church. This fact is in itself evidence of a great change in the relation of native Africa with Europe and the world at large; and the Society hope that the attention to the affairs of Africa, which this elevation of a native African to episcopal dignity has awakened in England, may lead to increased effort for the general advancement and civilization of countries so long systematically brutalised and depopulated by the foreign slave trade, and commend itself to the thoughtful attention of the free blacks in the United States, in connexion with the efforts making

there for the abolition of slavery and the advancement of the Africans in the social scale.

ASSISTANCE, &c. TO REFUGEE SLAVES.

As in former years, an amount of good has been done among destitute refugee slaves in England, that is not at all represented by the small outlay annually shown in the Society's accounts for such purposes. Temporary distress has been relieved, situations on board ship have been obtained, and assistance has been given toward emigration to Liberia, by gentlemen connected with the Society, who have been privately solicited for these purposes.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

No public meetings whatever have been held during the past year. The Society keep this accessory in reserve for occasions that may possibly arise, when the raising of some fund for a special object would justify the outlay which necessarily attends such meetings.

THE "AFRICAN TIMES."

The monthly journal of this Society, the *African Times*, has now entered upon the fourth year of its existence. Its circulation has sufficiently increased to enable sixteen pages to be generally issued in lieu of eight, with which the publication commenced. The Society have reason to believe that this journal, which has between 300 and 400 subscribers in Africa, has already effected great good; and to hope that, if adequately supported, it may, with God's blessing, prove to be an important instrument in the promotion of good government, of material progress, of industrial development, and of civilization in Africa. The friends of the Society are earnestly entreated to obtain for it new subscribers, and a generally-increased support.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

Notice has been given in the House of Commons of a motion for a Committee of Enquiry into the affairs of the Gold Coast, early in next ensuing Session. The Society feel that this may mark an important era in the history of the progress of civilization and industry in Africa. Efforts will therefore be made to ensure that the claims, wants, and value of the British possessions in Western Africa shall be adequately presented before the Committee by competent witnesses.

ACCOUNTS.

The accounts as audited will appear at foot.

APPEAL.

The great human family, under the influence of progressive civilization, has ever-increasing wants. A productive Africa becomes thus every year more and more needed to meet the growing demand for tropical and other commodities. In striving to bring the powers of civilization to bear upon poor and inert Africa, for stimulating the development of her latent natural wealth, the African-Aid Society is working for the general interests of humanity. While missionary effort is directed to the benefit of the individuals in a barbarous community, the energies of this Society are employed for aiding the more rapid elevation of such communities in the scale of civilization; and these are works that ought equally to enlist the sympathies and secure the co-operating assistance of every one who desires the happiness of mankind, and the glory of God.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FROM APRIL 1, 1863, TO AUGUST 1, 1864.

Dr.			Cr.
To balance in hands of Secretary	£1 11 8	By balance of Johnson's old printing account (1860-1-2-3)	£96 12 0
" Balance at bankers'	150 1 8	" Stationery	8 15 2
" Subscriptions and donations	335 5 6	" Postage	12 16 4
		" Travelling expenses	4 13 7
		" Newspaper account	4 15 2
		" Cleaning, coals, light, &c.	7 18 1
		" Miscellaneous	3 13 4
		" Assistance to negroes	2 10 10
		" Meeting at Fendall's Hotel	1 5 0
		" New Printing account (1863-4)	1 1 0
		" Rent, one year and a-half	90 0 0
		" Secretary, clerks, &c.	184 5 0
		" Chair to Alake of Abeokuta	11 14 0
		" Cheque-book and discount	0 9 4
		" Balance at bankers', August 1, 1864	56 15 0
	£487 3 10		£487 3 10

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1864.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Society's Rooms on the 25th July. The Report and statement of accounts were read and approved, and ordered to be published. The other general business of the annual meeting having been transacted, the following resolution was moved by J. Purcell FitzGerald,

Esq., and carried unanimously: "That the Honorary Secretary be instructed to draw up a short abstract* of the last year's proceedings of this Society, to be printed and widely circulated; and that an appeal be made for the raising of the income of the Society to 200*l.* per annum."

* It is intended to issue this Abstract with the September or October number of the *African Times*.

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VOL. IV.

The West Coast
River Gambia
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