

The African Times.

JOURNAL OF THE AFRICAN-AID SOCIETY.

Vol. IV., No. 42.]

LONDON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1864.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY:
Subscription, 6s. per Annum.

CONTENTS.

PAGE	PAGE
West Coast of Africa..... 71	Abeokuta..... 75
River Gambia: Mahaba's Affairs 71	Cape Coast Castle Native Female School, & Gold Coast, West Africa..... 76
Sherbro..... 72	Parliamentary Committee..... 76
Liberia..... 72	General Observations..... 76
Petition against Governor Pine's Rum Licence, and his Reply 72	Christmas, 1864, and Africa..... 78
Petition against Governor Pine's Rum Licence from the King and Chiefs of Anamaboe..... 73	The (Colony of the) Gold Coast..... 77
Anamaboe..... 73	The Gold Coast must be kept under British Influence..... 78
Expensive Evil..... 74	Interior of the Eastern Districts..... 79
Temperance Movement on the Gold Coast..... 74	Natal..... 79
Cape Coast..... 74	Abyssinia..... 80
Dutch African Government (Acting Officers)..... 75	East Africa..... 80
	Baines on West Africa..... 80
	African Steamship Company..... 81

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

The Royal Mail steamship *Athenian* arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, the 11th inst., with the West Coast of Africa mails, 1,661½ ounces of gold-dust, and 5,110½ species. Her advices were: Benin, Oct. 24; New Calabar and Bonny, Nov. 7; Lagos, Nov. 10; Accra, Nov. 12; Cape Coast Castle, Nov. 14; Cape Palmas, Nov. 16; Sierra Leone, Nov. 21; Bathurst, Nov. 25; Teneriffe, Dec. 1; Madeira, Dec. 3.

In consequence of the death of the purser of the Inter-colonial steamer, there is no news from Fernando Po, Cameroons, Old Calabar, and Brass, further than that the Europeans at those places are in good health, that trade was tolerably good, and that the Liverpool ship *Express*, with a cargo of palm oil, was totally wrecked on Brass bar in endeavouring to put to sea.

Trade was active at Bonny, and the health of Europeans good. The *Laughing Water* was totally wrecked on the bar on the 27th of October. At Benin trade was totally stopped (the river being blockaded), and was not to be reopened until the fine imposed upon the natives some time ago had been paid. Health good. In consequence of the temporary opening of the Abeokuta road, a large quantity of cotton had been received at Lagos, and awaited shipment for England. On the 21st of October Her Majesty's ship *Investigator* arrived from a cruise of 400 miles up the Niger, bringing highly satisfactory reports as to the resources of the river for trade. Dr. Baikie, who has established a native colony and has resided for some years in the interior, returned by her. He comes to England by next mail steamer. Trade at Lagos was moderately good. The colony was healthy.

At Accra trade was moderately good. Europeans were healthy; small pox destroying the natives.

The natives of Cape Coast Castle are greatly annoyed at the Governor having levied a tax upon licences for the sale of spirits, &c., to assist in meeting the heavy expenses incurred during the Ashantee war. Cape Coast was healthy.

At Sierra Leone the weather was intensely hot, the dry season having fairly set in. Trade improving, and the health of the colony tolerably good.

At Bathurst trade dull.

COTTON MARKET.—Owing to the greater ease in the Money Market, and the decreasing hope of any prompt settlement of the American difficulty, prices have been steadily improving.

RIVER GAMBIA: MAHABA'S AFFAIRS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

M'Carthy's Island, November 10, 1864.

Sir,—I have read the document published in your paper about Mahaba. His worshippers seem to have forgotten what atrocities he had committed. The reason why they are opposed to the Soninke Government was, that at certain times the people generally came to the factors and begged or demanded certain articles from them, and if refused in an obstinate manner, they considered it an insult to them, as the factors were occupying the ground of their fathers. The affray then generally terminated by the traders receiving a good flogging, and being made to pay a larger demand. I do not wonder at this being complained of; but if the traders were polite and obliging to them, and showed them that the goods did not really belong to the traders, at the same time making them small presents, they generally returned double the amount in a few days in cattle.

When Badiboo was under the Soninke Government, traders from every part of the country came down to trade in it, as it is situated near the large and populous kingdom of Salom. At Badiboo are the best cotton and phangs, numerous bandy cloth, and an immense quantity of ground-nuts; so much so, that Badiboo, under the government of the Soninkes, produced more nuts than any other kingdom on the River Gambia. The principal ground-nut marts were SWARA CUNDAR, BANNY, KINTAT CUNDAR, and SABAR. In these towns *Kola* are sold in great abundance for phangs, and afterwards exchanged for ground-nuts, from which the petty traders derive great benefit.

The people at Badiboo are an intermixture of Jollof, Mandigo, and Foola, and from them the people at Bathurst receive yearly several head of cattle, with some fresh butter, corn, and rice. Although the Soninkes are universally considered to be lazy, yet still the lower class are hard-working, and when a Soninke chief has rule over Marabouts, it is his general practice to compel them to work, so as to pay him a portion of their earnings. But when Mahaba became chief, trade almost ceased, the people in the interior being afraid to come down, as their property would not be secured from the ravages of Mahaba's people. The *Cabuncas*, who occupy an extensive region in the interior of Badiboo, reaching to Rio Nunez, on the other hand, were in the habit of coming down by land to Tenderbar, and from there cross over to Badiboo for the express purpose of purchasing horses and phangs, but they have since been afraid to do so.

The Mahaba war has desolated several towns. Most of the Foola, who formed a part of the inhabitants of Badiboo, have been scattered about in the country, and a great many of them have been sold, and their cattle stolen from them. These people are very useful in a country. They employ themselves in growing corn and rice, and they keep a great many cattle, which, by migrating to different parts of the country, manure the soil. The free Jollof, who formed part of the population, have almost, if not all, been sold, and here, at M'Carthy's Island, scarcely a week passes without a few of them making their escape, crossing over to the island, and claiming protection.

Most of those who are in favour of Mahaba credited him and his followers last season with large quantities of corn and rice,

which he promised to pay during the last ground-nut season. This he failed to do, but renewed his promise for the coming season; and it is feared that should the French organise an expedition against him, it will be a dead loss to them; therefore it is their interest to support him. Let us hope that, as has been represented, he is now about to make amends for all.

What now is the effect of these Mahaba wars in the upper portion of the river? The British possession of McCarthy's Island is the focus of trade and civilization in that portion, and in its neighbourhood several large towns have been destroyed, the inhabitants scattered abroad and sold as slaves—such as LAMEN WALLAH, situated on the north-east, abreast of Fatoto, CANDAY CUNDAR, CAINYEE CAINYEE, ZENDAH, and IONCAH CUNDAR. These towns in the ground-nut season generally give from 120,000 to 140,000 bushels of ground-nuts. The paths are now closed, and the people in the interior are afraid to come down. Before these wars a large quantity of ivory and gold formed part of the trade in this island, but now they are not to be seen; and although there is a sort of peace made between the two tribes, yet still they are *not on visiting terms*, and marks of deadly hatred are sometimes manifested which will sooner or later break out into open war; in fact, both parties are now only afraid of our Government, as the Governor has made them to understand that the first party who takes up arms will have the British to contend with as well as his native enemies.*

You will hear from me again about these tribes.

AUDE ALTEREM PARTEM.

SHERBRO.

There is a prospect that the long-talked-of roads in the Sherbro are at last to be constructed. Gangs of men are already at work on the road between Victoria and Bonthe, under the superintendence of Messrs. Domingo and Collier. We understand that this road is ultimately to extend from the Black River to Dumbuco, a distance of six or eight miles. We hope the work will be pressed forward rapidly.

We learn that regular postal communication between Sherbro and Sierra Leone is about to be established. This, we think, will meet with the approval of all classes. A small additional postage will be charged on letters and papers coming through the English mail.

The country is still quiet, with no special rumours of war. There are some mutterings of discontent among the natives at the course pursued by the English, but it is impossible to say whether they will amount to anything or not.

Among those who are turning their attention to farming in the Sherbro, is Mr. Andrew Smith, of Keilah. We learn that he has some fifty acres under cultivation, chiefly planted with cotton, ginger, and sugar-cane.

LIBERIA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS ENTERED AT THE CUSTOMS HOUSE, MONROVIA, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1864.

Imports.

The list enumerates fifty-four articles, which, with 8,470dols. under the head of miscellaneous, amount to 164,013dols. 20c., or 34,169l. 8s. 4d. sterling. The principal items in the above-mentioned list are—Cotton goods, 25,922dols.; fish, 7,390dols. 66c.; flour, 5,880dols. 35c.; tobacco, 34,219dols. 15c.; spirits, 8,111dols. 80c.; powder, 8,791dols.; guns, 8,362dols.

Exports.

303,505 gallons palm oil; 113½ tons. camwood; 306,219lbs. brown sugar; 18,015 gallons syrup and molasses; 16,657 bushels palm kernels; 242 hides; 3,934 country cloths; 14,272lbs. coffee; 6,353 feet lumbers; 1,908lbs. ivory; 800lbs. cotton; 150 kroos rice; the declared value of which was 171,608dols. 47c., or 35,751l. 15s. 8d. sterling.

Note.—The Imports and Exports of Liberia are estimated to

* We think the above letter justifies the opinion expressed so strongly by our other correspondents, that a good gunboat is absolutely necessary in the Gambia.—Ed. A. 7

be equal to the aggregate of all the other ports of the Republic. The total Liberian Imports for the year ending 30th September, 1864, would thus be about 68,338l. 16s. 8d. sterling, and Exports 71,503l. 10s. 6d. sterling.

PETITION AGAINST GOVERNOR PINE'S RUM LICENCE, AND HIS REPLY.

To his Excellency Richard Pine, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Forts on the Gold Coast.

The humble petition of the undersigned Chiefs, Headmen, and other inhabitants of Cape Coast Protectorate, sheweth,—

That your petitioners, not being British subjects, but merely under British protection, ought not to be taxed without their being first consulted.

That the British Government has always acknowledged their right to be consulted, when any important measure is to be brought forward and passed into law.

That in the late ordinance relating to rum licences they were never consulted, nor had they any intimation of its existence until they were informed that it had passed into law.

That the three native councillors chosen by your Excellency are not their representatives, as the first intimation they had of their existence was after their appointment had been confirmed by Her Majesty the Queen (Victoria) of Great Britain.

That they consider their voice in your council not in the least binding on them.

That if, through ignorance, they have passively submitted to this mode of legislation, they do not consider they are bound to bear the yoke any longer, after their eyes are open to the oppression that a few can rivet on them, by virtue of an office which (they) your petitioners have no say in.

That they are aware that other countries allow the people on whom taxation falls the heaviest to choose their representatives, and are, therefore, bound to abide by laws made by them in a pure constitutional manner.

That they are surprised to find one London house alone, through their agents or correspondents here (whom they never elected to represent the people of the Protectorate, but perhaps nominated by your Excellency yourself), should represent this vast Protectorate, and take seats in your councils, because their combined interest must, in a great measure, actuate them, directly or indirectly, in their deliberations to (their) your petitioners' prejudice.

That the late acknowledged and prolonged mismanagement of the Ashantee war has greatly crippled their small resources, and they find that it is impossible for them to submit to any additional taxation in their present degraded position, in the eyes of their enemies (the Ashantees), which degradation was not brought on through their incapacity, but through those who were sent to lead them.

That, under these circumstances, your petitioners cannot but protest against your Excellency's right of passing the ordinance relating to the dealing in wines and spirituous liquors, and other ordinances generally, without first consulting (them) your petitioners.

That your Excellency will be pleased to reconsider the ordinance case in question.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Cudjoe Edjue, African king, X; J. R. Thompson, chief; Quacoe Gaipce, chief, X; Cofee Ammooah, chief, X; Cofee Awool, chief, X; Cofee Coomah, chief, X; Cofee Yamme, chief, X; Quamina Acquah, interpreter, X; Quow Dauquah, chief, X; Quow Ackoom, X; Quamina Aitah, X; Cofee Aiboo, X; Cudjoe Ayee, X; Quabina Appiah, X; Quasie Etsin, X; Quamina Coorentaill, X; Quow Tairviah, X; Quow Aison, X; Attah Quow, X; Cofee Annahquor, X; Quania Cooomah, X; Cudjoe Aitocole, X; Ahmee Quabina, X; John Coleman De Graft; Quacoe Aduarquah, X; Thomas Friskey, X; Cudjoe Saigoo, X; Cudjoe Addaquay, X; Cofee Baukah, X; Quacoe Toowah, X; Cofee Equee, X; Quasie Amrahia, X; Quamina Aminah, X;

Quasie Tobey, X; Quow Aduarkoom, X; Joseph Martin, X; John Halmon, X; Quacoe Boy, X; Quacoe Daddy, X; Quabina Arhin, X; Cudjoe Effiam, X; Quow Efoon, X; Cudjoe Mensah, X; Quabina Abbam, X; Thomas Yerson; John Dutton; Mathew Sago, X; John B. Johnson, X; Quabina Saikoom, X; Quacoe Mensah, X; J. F. Mayne; George Mensah, X; Cudjoe Kssal, X; Cofee Arhin, X; Charles G. Granes; James Catiline; John Amanee; George Musgrove; Robert A. Quansah; Joseph Daddy, X; James E. Davidson; William E. Davidson; Quasie Inroomah, X; Samuel Christian; Quabina Abackau, X; James E. Crawford.

GOVERNOR PINE'S REPLY.

Notice is hereby given, that a petition addressed to Governor Pine, and dated 25th October, 1864, has been received, but, owing to the very disrespectful manner in which it is couched, it cannot be entertained.

The inhabitants are reminded that, although the Governor at all times will be willing to receive respectful petitions from them, they are nevertheless warned against lending themselves to such documents as the present one, expressed in the most disrespectful and disloyal language, and containing evidences of a most mutinous and seditious spirit against the Government of the Protectorate.—By order,

(Signed)

SYDNEY R. BROWN,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Cape Coast, October 29, 1864.

PETITION AGAINST GOVERNOR PINE'S RUM LICENCE, FROM THE KING AND CHIEFS OF ANAMABOE.

Anamaboe, November 7, 1864.

To his Excellency Richard Pine, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Forts and Settlements on the Gold Coast.

The humble petition of the undersigned King, Chiefs, Headmen, and other inhabitants of Anamaboe, sheweth—

That your petitioners, not being British subjects, but considered as being merely under British protection, as it has been latterly demonstrated to the natives of the Gold Coast by the Home Government, through your Excellency, beg to be heard on the subject of the late ordinance, relating to the sale of spirits and other drinks, so suddenly imposed on the dealers of the country, without at least the necessary considerations which would otherwise make this taxation tolerable.

That your petitioners, forbearing to enter into other details that render the introduction and expediency of such an ordinance questionable, would simply for the present offer to your Excellency's consideration the following circumstances, under which any further compliance with colonial taxation seems hard and uneasy.

That this imposition seems to have for its object, not the benefit of the country at large, but the replenishing of colonial finances.

That more than one of these taxes have been heretofore imposed upon and willingly borne by your petitioners, with the direct understanding that the country was to have been benefited by them.

That, regardless of sweet and conciliatory promises of improvement held out to them by your Excellency's predecessors, as inducement to their paying these taxes, not even so much as accounts thereof have ever been published, much less any improvement made as far as it regards this place.

That many heavy fines have been in like manner imposed upon certain of the inhabitants of this place—in some instances amounting to 100 ounces and upwards—which fines were never accounted for, except that the money went into the colonial chest, and appropriated anyhow but rightly.

That when your Excellency called a general meeting at Cape Coast lately, your Excellency's petitioners understood certain suggestions to have been properly made by your Excellency, as

to how they could protect their country and benefit the land; and, consequently, your Excellency's petitioners expected no additional burdens, but rather a voice which should direct them how to proceed to that end, by appointing representatives, instituting municipal councils, and forming other useful means, which might conduce to the improvement of the country, as Sir Benjamin Pine proposed, and also bringing the native kings, chiefs, and people into a union, which would make the country strong, and advance the interests and enlightenment of the people, as well as accommodate the wishes of the local Government.

That the native magistrates and the councillors here are not, and never were, your petitioners' chosen nor recognised representatives, supposing your Excellency to have consulted those personages in order to the passing of the ordinance.

That by the despatches received by your Excellency from the Colonial office, in July, 1864, or the month following, as well as the general tone of Government voice at home in reference to the relative position of the natives of the Gold Coast with the English Government, and subsequently, by the communications as well as intimations your Excellency candidly gave us at the late meeting, your petitioners have fears, notwithstanding their wishes to support the present Administration, that any further sacrifice of their pecuniary interests would be highly imprudent.

That your Excellency will, under these circumstances, be pleased to reconsider the ordinance in question, and meantime take into consideration some direct and sound policy, whereby the country would improve.

And your Excellency's petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed)

Coffee Affray (X), King.

Quah Appeah, Chief.

Quacoe Bentoom, Chief.

Quah Ahivill, Chief.

James Quansah, Chief.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

(No. I.)

Anamaboe, November 14, 1864.

Mr Editor,—May I beg for a place in your paper to make a few remarks about Cape Coast government? Can it be explained why the Governors listen to Cape Coast people more than any other country on the Gold Coast? The reason for asking this is, when the Ashantee fugitive came down, the Governor called the chiefs of Cape Coast, and having shown the matter to them, they all agreed with him, not to deliver the man up. But I want to know what the Cape Coast people did in the late invasion? Again: it was Cape Coast people alone that took upon themselves and asked Governor Andrews to abolish municipal councils on this Coast; and Governor Andrews, too, like one who never wished the Gold Coast to advance, of course consented to such a foolish advice. This state of things ought not to exist. How can the interests or the general affairs of the whole body of natives—at least matters that concern them all—be submitted to the single opinion and judgment of the people of Cape Coast alone?—I am, Mr. Editor,

QUASSIE.

(No. II.)

Mr. Editor,—The position of certain persons on this Coast, as members of the Legislative Council and magistrates, is, I think, extremely futile, inasmuch as it brings more harm than good to the country. I think one of the objects of their being honoured with such appointments is to represent the voice of the people in the councils, and be the means of bringing a good understanding between the people and the local Government; but instead of which, they only go there to swallow what the Governor gives them; anything that is proposed is eagerly affirmed, right or wrong, foolish or hurtful to the interests of the country. And it appears these persons have a place in the Council just because they can afford the purchase of good champagne and give dinners. As to magistrates, they, or most of them, hold slaves; but when a slave case is brought before them they seem to abominate it. These things are not consistent. Things require a radical change altogether, and it is high time for those to see to this whose duty it is to do so.

QUASSIE.

EXPENSIVE EVIL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Anamaboe, Gold Coast, November 12, 1864.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Will you inform me whether it is the law in England, or in any British court, that the presiding magistrate should compel plaintiff or defendant who does not like to have a counsel, to employ one, simply because the one or the other thinks proper to do so? A little enlightenment on the subject will be very instructive, as the hard-up so-called lawyers have emptied our pockets, especially in our little town of Anamaboe. —I am, yours truly,

QUAMINA.

TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT ON THE GOLD COAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Anamaboe, November 13, 1864.

Sir,—The third anniversary meeting of the Temperance Society was held here on September 15, 1864, at the Wesleyan Chapel, as usual. The Rev. James A. Solomon, a Wesleyan teetotal native minister, occupied the chair; and, as might be expected, delivered a speech very apposite and moving. At Accra similar meetings have been very lately held, and addresses in favour of the temperance movement have been delivered by members and friends of the society there. New members are reported to have been added to the society, and hopes are entertained of some good being really done by these meetings of temperance societies. S.

CAPE COAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

November 14, 1864.

Sir,—The crisis long ago prognosticated has arrived. Governor Pine's exchequer having (through the almost cessation of trade on account of his Ashantee affair) become empty, like a drowning man catching at a straw, he endeavours to rivet a "rum licence" on the people of this Protectorate to replenish it.

The people, however, have universally opposed his law, and have respectfully, but strongly, stated their reasons in the petition* they have sent, supported by every king and chief here and at Anamaboe.

The Governor has, as you will perceive, almost denounced them as a seditious and mutinous lot of savages.

It is my present purpose to show you that these unfortunate and oppressed people are not deserving of the appellation thus so unceremoniously cast upon them. These say (and justly, too) that, *not being British subjects*, Governor Pine has no power to tax them without their concurrence, and they state, in support of their assertion, that previously no law was ever made, or matter of importance passed into law, until they, the rightful owners of the country, were consulted.

But Mr. Pine and his advisers have now completely ignored their right, so long acknowledged by previous rulers; and what makes them more incensed at his proceeding is the exclusive power he delegates to Messrs. Foster and Smith's agents, and others who do business entirely with that house.

It is a notorious fact that Governor Pine has been, and is still, under pecuniary obligations to these very gentlemen for advances made by them to carry on his Government. At a late meeting he stated publicly that he did not know what he could have done but for the pecuniary assistance he had received from Messrs. Foster and Smith's principal agents here. Thus you will immediately perceive why so much favour is shown to this firm alone, and why all their clerks have been raised to the dignity of magistrates, to the exclusion of other respectable merchant gentlemen.

These gentlemen are, of course, anxious to receive the money due to them, and it is not unnatural that they should desire to fill the Governor's chest, so that their claims may be adjusted. Human nature is human nature. There is no other name for it; and it is not to be expected that Messrs. Foster and Smith's

* Vide Anamaboe and Cape Coast Petitions.—Ed. A.T.

agents are unlike other people. Self-interest will and must actuate them, and certainly there never was a more open display of that human predilection than in the recent "Rum and Spirit Licences Ordinance" passed into law by these few gentlemen some days ago, without the knowledge of a single chief.

What does Mr. Chichester Fortescue, a member of Parliament, and a member also of Lord Palmerston's Government, tell us in his speech of 17th June last? "As to the domestic affairs of the natives, the Government did its best to reform their ways, without, however, forcing our laws and usages upon them." After a declaration of this kind, coming from such a man as Mr. Chichester Fortescue, is it consistent or equitable to force these people—particularly so soon after the great indignation they expressed with regard to the unaccountable, and, as they think, disgraceful abandonment of them in the Ashantee affair? Governor Pice has certainly attempted what no other man in his senses would dream of.

To add to this gross error, his stipendiary magistrate, Mr. Queen's Advocate Barry, fined two unfortunate natives on the 3rd inst.—two days after the Rum and Spirit Licence Ordinance came in force—10*l.* each, under the following circumstances:—

The first victim was the favourite daughter of the most influential chief in the Protectorate.

The chief constable, a Sierra Leone man, apparently desirous, also, of replenishing his exchequer, gave his wife a threepenny piece, and told her to get some strange man to go to this unsuspecting girl and persuade her to sell him some rum. The man goes. The girl tells him she has none, and if she had she could not sell it without first obtaining a licence. The man then implores of her to spare him a little, as he only wanted it for medicinal purposes, having a friend who was dying on the beach (or somewhere else) with bowel complaint. The girl, however, persisted in not breaking Governor Pine's new law; until, at last, moved by the earnest intreaties of this man, she yielded, and drained an all but empty cask, to alleviate, as she thought, a dying man's pain. Fancy her surprise when, in two minutes after, in walks Mr. Sierra Leone man (chief constable) and marches her off to prison.

These facts were strongly urged upon the Stipendiary Magistrate at the time, but it had no effect; a 10*l.* fine or a month's imprisonment was the doom pronounced on Chief Coffee Coomah's daughter. Her father, of course, declined to pay the fine, and his daughter was accordingly locked up with a murderess for the night. The next morning, to every one's surprise, the Governor ordered her release.

The other victim was a man who intended to take out his licence, and got a certificate from a magistrate, on the first of the month, qualifying him as a fit and proper person to be entrusted with spirituous liquors for sale.

He went to the Colonial Secretary's office on the day he obtained his certificate, but he could see no one to receive his money, and thinking that his certificate would shelter him until the Colonial Secretary could spare time to leave his commissariat duties to receive his rum licence fee, he went on selling. For this (although all the circumstances were proved) he was fined also 10*l.*, or one month's imprisonment, the stipendiary magistrate kindly informing him that *he could not make it hard labour*. The poor man paid the fine, and, I believe, petitioned the Governor to have it refunded, which was done. The Governor, with all his faults and errors, is above such dirty practices.

Is it a wonder that with such legislation and such justice the people should be ready to rebel?

Within the last three or four months the British rule has become a most despotic one. The Government never condescends to reason with the people. Laws are made without their knowledge or consent, and ignorant people are entrapped and sent to prison by unscrupulous officials, to be there the companions of murderers and murderesses.

It is an acknowledged fact that had the Governor properly convened the chiefs, &c., and reasoned with them, he might have done wonders; but he has fallen into a great error by depending too much on a certain class of men, who, instead of doing him any good, have brought him into general contempt and hatred. He

imagined that the influence of his friends was unbounded, whereas there is not one chief, headman, or captain in the Protectorate that will even do them reverence. The Africans want men who will not think it too much trouble to reason with them. They are not deaf to reason, No African is deaf to reason. It is surprising how argument founded on truth will prevail in their assemblies. It would be difficult to find an instance in which right, if fairly and patiently discussed with these people, has not prevailed against the hotheadedness of force and wrong. If, therefore, they do refuse obedience, that result must be traced to that want of discretion and ignorance of the character of the Gold Coast people which has characterised the late proceedings.

Since commencing this, I am informed that the people are so determined to oppose Governor Pine and his Rum Licence Ordinance, that they have commenced collecting subscriptions throughout the whole Protectorate, in order to send commissioners to England to represent their grievances. They are really in earnest, as large sums have already been paid in for that especial purpose.

These commissioners will be able to furnish most important information to the House of Commons. It is contemplated to send, in that capacity, three or four of the most influential chiefs here, with an interpreter and a gentleman of education to act with them. This is positively *willed* by the native kings and chiefs. They have a good cause; and if they are given a hearing, their visit may result in much good to these territories.—Yours faithfully,

SPERO MELIORA.

DUTCH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT (ACTING OFFICERS).

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Gold Coast, November, 1864.

Sir,—Misstatements and inaccuracies will sometimes creep into the most carefully-edited journals, as accidents will happen in the best-regulated families. One of your correspondents, signing himself "V.," in your number of the 23rd September makes some strictures on the Dutch Government here. They are in the main true, and rather within than over the mark; but when he states that "the officers mainly instigated the King, chiefs, and merchants to write to the Minister in Holland for a Governor and a book-keeper," your correspondent clearly shows he does not know the Elmina people. Neither the King, chiefs, or merchants would allow themselves to be led by the nose, as your correspondent suggests, any more than your correspondent himself would attempt to try it. Whatever they do, or may do, depend upon it they do not want the promptings of any officer.

Hendrick Doyer is not liked. He has been guilty of many acts of injustice and oppression, that the people cannot and will not forgive or forget; and if he were to remain Governor, it would at any time only require a little fanning to blow the sparks of discontent into a flame of revolution. For instance, as a sample of their prison discipline, a murderer is confined pending his trial. *He admits he murdered his wife, and boasts of it.* This murderer is chained to a fellow-prisoner convicted of petty larceny. He sometimes abuses his fellow-prisoner as a skulking thief. He is allowed to eat and drink whatever he can afford to purchase; and indulges daily in his pot of palm wine, and rum and spirits, and a good plate of soup and footoo. The King and chiefs remonstrated against such treatment of a murderer, and all the satisfaction they got was that they were only waiting for the Governor to arrive from Holland; and meanwhile this brute of a murderer is treated like a common debtor.

With regard to the breaking open of the colonial chest, this, alas! is too true; but I abstain from any comment on this most shameful business.

To resume: the petition praying for a Governor and a book-keeper was despatched to Holland; and, in due course, an answer came back, "that the King and people have no business to find fault with those whom the *Holland Government*, in their high wisdom, choose to appoint their rulers." The King and his people were highly incensed at this answer, and forwarded a rejoinder to Holland that they were allies of the Dutch, not their slaves; and if they are expected to support the Government, they have a

right to a voice in their own interests; that they wish to be ruled by men who respect the laws, not trample them under foot.

Whilst handling Dutch affairs, a word or two as to the accumulation of offices under the Dutch Government may serve a useful purpose. The Dutch officers and clerks are allowed to accumulate any number of incongruous offices on one man's shoulders, but *only the pay of one office* is he allowed to enjoy. All the appointments at Elmina at the present moment are acting: thus, *one officer* is now actually Acting Colonial Secretary, Acting Chief Justice, Public Prosecutor, Acting Public Notary, Auctioneer, Governor's Adjutant, Private Secretary, Acting Postmaster, and *Chief Butler*, and for all this he receives the paltry pittance of 125*l.* per annum, with 25*l.* extra as Governor's Adjutant and Private Secretary. Another was lately Acting Secretary, Acting Clerk of Council, Acting Judge and Public Prosecutor, Guardian of the Apothecary's Shop, and Keeper of the Furniture, for which this individual received something about 166*l.* 10*s.* per annum! What would your English civil servants say to this Herculean accumulation of offices for this infinitesimal pay? It is simply impossible that any Government can be properly administered under such a state of things, men being worked to death, and then half-starved.

But to compensate for the small pay (*pour encourager les autres*), they are allowed to assume military rank—only local, by-the-bye—so that a lieutenant to-day may be seen with the toggery of a captain to-morrow, and a major the week after next; and he is no more a soldier than my grandmother, and could not take a file of three soldiers round a corner. The Governor assumes the rank and wears the uniform of a lieutenant-colonel; the book-keeper is usually a major; the commandants of the different forts are styled captains, &c. This distribution of military rank—to judge and prosecutor, civil commandants, book-keeper, clerks, *et genus omni*—is the most unintelligible part of the Dutch Governmental programme, which otherwise is not altogether so shockingly bad. The Colonial Engineer generally comes in for the appointment of chief boatman, to look after the Government canoes and the old wheelbarrow; he wears a first lieutenant's uniform. The Assistant Engineer, or *onder baas* as they call him, wears no uniform; *mais en veranche*, has generally the sinecure office of senior gravedigger thrust upon him.

Enough for the present; you shall soon have some additional details.—Yours faithfully,

SENECA.

ABEOKUTA.

November 5.

Events, since our last number appeared, have not been of a stirring character, but not devoid of interest. The road, *vid* Ibekekodo, has been frequently used by traders, and the market there has been over abundantly supplied with salt and tobacco. In return, we have heard of horses, ivory, shea butter, cloth, and trona brought down. This is a hopeful sign of returning peace. If the road to Lagos were free as before the war, at the present price of cotton, the whole country would be drained of that important article as far as Rabba, to the great embarrassment of the native weavers. One reason for closing the Lagos road, on the part of the chiefs, is their own inability to control their people when under the full influence of a thriving trade. This is not, however, the only reason, as events prove. The present price of seed cotton is 200 cowries per lb.; of clean cotton, 800 cowries per lb.; 3½*lbs.* of seed cotton yield 11*lb.* of clean cotton; the cost of cleaning is, labour, 20 cowries; gin, 20 cowries; which leaves 60 cowries per lb. profit. We think the cleaners of cotton will not be satisfied with this profit, and will either get more for clean cotton or pay less for seed cotton. The present rate of exchange is 3*shd.* 30*stra.* per 4*s.* 2*d.*; this rate could not be maintained, in consequence of the large amount of cowries now being carried into the interior, but a large quantity has been received, and more may be expected from Lagos, which will keep down the price of cowries. The greater part of the ivory now brought down is carried to Lagos and other places, as the merchants in Abeokuta find it more profitable to buy cotton. The horses brought down have been small and of little value.

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

	£	s.	d.
Contributions announced in our last number	114	10	0
Mrs. Joseph Moseley thankfully acknowledges, since November 22, the following further donations on behalf of the Cape Coast Castle Female Native School:—			
The Dowager Lady Buxton	10	0	0
J. Braithwaite, Esq., 4, Gloucester-square	5	0	0
Charles Le Braithwaite, Esq.	1	0	0
Mrs. Crewdson, Kendal	1	5	0
Mrs. Cropper, Ellegreen	1	0	0
John Wilson, Esq., Birmingham	3	0	0
Further information will be gladly given by Mrs. Joseph Moseley, 2, Montagu-street, Portman-square, London. Messrs. Rivington, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, Mr. George Parker, Librarian, High-street, Fulham, S.W., and Miss Webb, Secretary to the Society for Promoting Female Education in the East, 15, Shaftesbury-crescent, Pimlico, S.W., have kindly consented to receive subscriptions and donations.			

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5d., STAMPED.

You are earnestly requested to allow your name to be added to the list of yearly subscribers. Price 5s. per annum for each copy, payable in advance.
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.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1864.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

SPECIAL APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

The coming year, 1865, will inaugurate a *new era* for some, if not for all, of our *West African possessions*. The whole question of those possessions, and of the means employed for the suppression of the foreign slave-trade, will be the subject of inquiry before a Committee of the House of Commons. We are, of course, most anxious that the *new era* should be one of measures based on such principles as will secure the more rapid Christian civilization and material development of West Africa; and it will depend very much on the exertions made by the friends of Africa who desire such results whether they shall be obtained. Although, with the advantage of unpaid services and rigid economy, the African-Aid Society is able to pay its ordinary unavoidable expenses with a very small income, the *want of additional funds* cannot fail of being strongly felt on such an occasion as the important approaching one of the *Parliamentary inquiry* above referred to. In order that it may effectually advocate the best and permanent interests of Africa, and prevent the cause of Christian civilization and industrial improvement there from being sacrificed, MORE FUNDS ARE NOW NEEDED BY THE SOCIETY. We limit ourselves to a mere simple statement of this fact to our readers and friends in ENGLAND and in AFRICA. We are tired of *imploping* aid. If neither Africa nor England will furnish it on this important occasion, the selfishness and indifference which dictates such a course will have only themselves to blame should our exertions be thereby impeded and restrained. The Committee will be appointed early in the next Session, and no time should be lost in putting us in possession of such pecuniary aid as the friends of Africa may feel disposed to give on this occasion.

Address to Lord Alfred Spencer Churchill, M.P., Chairman of the Society, at its office, 8, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, London, W.C.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

King Pepple, of Bonny, having refused to pay the fine imposed on him by Her Majesty's late Consul for the Bight of Biafra, Captain Burton, instructions have been sent to Commodore Wilmot to take the necessary measures for enforcing payment.

Owing to the judicious and conciliatory measures of Lieut.-Governor Glover at Lagos, the Abeokutan chiefs had opened the river for trade in cotton for a period of nine days. 1,500 bales (1 cwt. each) had come down to Lagos before the mail left, and 3,000 or 4,000 bales were expected.

The deaths from smallpox at James and Dutch Towns, Accra, have exceeded 500. In one day there were above fifty deaths—the general average was seven or eight. The epidemic had nearly worn itself out, and by this time there is no doubt it has entirely ceased.

Great excitement prevails throughout the Gold and Cape Coast territories, in consequence of the imposition of a licence-tax for the sale of liquors, decreed by the Governor and his Council, *without consulting the chiefs and obtaining their approval*.

In the *Times* account of intelligence from the West Coast by the mail steamer, we found under the head of *Cape Coast*, "The colony was healthy." We hope the *Times* was unintentionally and unconsciously *prophesying* in classing the hitherto "Protected Territories" as a Colony! As regards the erection of those territories into a colony, we call the particular attention of our Christian friends to the letter, p. 78, dated from the Basle Mission station of Abokobi.

H.M.S. Investigator had returned to Lagos from her expedition up the river Niger, which occupied fifty-seven days. Dr. Baikie came down in the Investigator after a residence of several years in the interior. There were no casualties of any kind during the stay of the Investigator in the river.

The supercargoes of British ships in the Old Calabar River having put forward most unjust pretensions, that rendered it impossible for the free Sierra Leone traders to carry on their operations there, complaint was made to Her Majesty's Government, through the African-Aid Society, and the new Consul for the Bight of Biafra has received instructions to put an end to the grievance complained of.

CHRISTMAS, 1864, AND AFRICA.

Few Christians fail, we presume, when the time returns for commemorating anew the Nativity of the world's Saviour, to throw a mental glance upon the past and present of this world in connexion with that great event which is also to exercise so immense an influence in its future. The mind naturally reverts to that period when the glory of the Lord shone round about the Bethlehem shepherds—when the angel announced the "good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people," and the heavenly anthem proclaimed with seraphic strains, "on earth peace, goodwill towards men." Although we hear it not with our outward ears, we feel that the undying echo of those celestial strains still floats around this God-pardoned and reconciled world—still invites its teeming myriads to seek that only real peace which flows from the stable manger of Bethlehem through Calvary—an ever-widening and deepening stream. Then our thoughts turn toward that quarter of the world which has hitherto less than any other benefited by those healing waters—towards Africa, the still debased, degraded, wretched Africa—the land of abomination, of violence, and of blood. And though sickening indeed is the picture that Africa presents, the retrospect and the examination we have made give new strength and vigour to our hopes that in Africa's future there will be found a light of Christianity and civilization to cheer and gladden those other portions of the earth which have preceded her in emancipation from the unmitigated sway of the powers of evil.

For when that heavenly anthem was sung by the angelic choir what was the state of this world? The undisputed sway of Rome over those portions of Europe, Asia, and Africa bordering on the Mediterranean, the forced submission to her supreme authority of all the chief powers of the age, had produced that temporary quietude which befitted earth at the advent of the Prince

of Peace. But with this exception, how deplorable was the condition of mankind universally. The only existent civilization, that of the countries under the Roman sway, was a civilization of violence and slavery—a civilization that included most degrading superstitions, and excesses at the record of which all Christian people shudder. Beyond the limits of Roman dominion all was darker still. Cruel superstitions everywhere prevailed, and the whole earth was full of violence and blood. It is not our purpose to recapitulate; we merely appeal to the broad and well-known facts of history. We will just glance, however, at one that touches us most nearly—the fact of the condition of the greater portion of Europe—of what is now France, Germany, Britain. Lands of forests and swamps, roadless as the African bush, inhabited for the most part by naked populations, whose bodies were protected and ornamented by fat and paint, upon the altars of whose false gods human victims were offered—human blood was constantly flowing! Need we say more? True, these people were of fair complexion, and so beautiful, that captives from among them carried to Rome excited general admiration. But with this difference, what is there in the state and condition of Africa and the African people that could not have found a parallel in the state and condition of these now most highly-favoured countries and peoples? Nothing really. Evil ruled in them as it rules now in Africa, and it produced there fruits that attend its sway everywhere, and which make the greater portion of native Africa so loathsome. These countries emerged from their barbarism. How? By their own unaided effort? No. The pre-existing civilising agencies, imperfect and corrupt though they were, were brought to bear upon them. The Romans formed high military roads through them. Successive invasions, military colonies, the influence of new inhabitants, worked gradual changes. And then the great and glorious life-giving light of Christianity came in with its mighty transforming powers. Look at Europe now. It is far from being all that a Christian would desire. But even those among its favoured peoples who profess to scorn and condemn Christianity are greatly under the controlling influence of its precepts, because the civilization which prevails and governs, though still an imperfect one, is, nevertheless, a *Christian* civilization.

Why, then, should we despair of Africa and its people? Is there not, on the contrary, everything to stimulate and strengthen that hope which we profess? And let it not be asked if we are to wait eighteen hundred years for its fulfilment. The operating energies of Christian civilization are now developed and matured to such a degree, that immense results may be speedily obtained, if once those energies are brought to bear fairly on Africa. But what hope, we may be asked, is there of their being thus brought to bear upon it speedily? Is not everybody sick of Africa, with the exception of a few enthusiasts and ardent Christians? Are not statesmen and politicians professing their desire to wash their hands of it—to confine themselves merely to their trading watchtowers at certain points, and to leave the seething pots of barbarous and bloody superstitions, and of every moral enormity, to pour their horrid stench into the offended nostrils of civilization, without any effort at purification or control—gathering up their pure skirts, like the priest and Pharisee in the parable, to avoid the touch of the wounded and bleeding Samaritan, who is unworthy of their exalted sympathies? What hope have we, in face of all this? Why, all this does not in the least affect or diminish our hopes. It may interfere with our plans—with what we believed, and still believe, would conduce to a forwarding of the great work to be accomplished. But they will not, therefore, really retard that work one day beyond the appointed time. The Christian civilization and the industrial development of Europe have not been produced by the labours of disinterested philanthropy and Christian zeal, although these have exerted a great controlling influence in their progress. The same fiat which has brought European Christian order out of former European barbaric chaos, will bring an African order out of its bloody tumult. If the majority of our people will not be moved to the regeneration of Africa by the grand impulses of Christian love and zeal, an overruling power will move them to that regeneration through their own personal and social desires and

wants. We feel that civilised Europe will, in spite of her antipathies and reluctance, soon find that *she has an absolute need of civilised Africa*. What was refused for God, for Christ, for humanity, will be done for gain—for the supply of civilised wants—for the cravings of wealthy luxury. The day for this is slowly breaking; we who are watching can already perceive its light on the horizon. And when that day once fairly breaks, we believe the triumph of Christian civilization over African barbarism will be a rapid one. The facilities afforded by an enormous European wealth, and the discoveries and appliances of modern science and industry, are so great and varied, that when once the conviction gains, *Africa can supply what the world wants, she can afford to pay the agents who wrest it from her stimulated energies, she must have civilization introduced within her, whether she desires it or not*—when once, we say, this conviction gains the leading political and commercial minds of the age, then the progress of Africa will be rapid, because the selfishness of civilization embarked in the enterprise will be accompanied by Christian effort, and will be overruled by a directing Providence towards those blessed results which are pointed out on the glowing page of inspired prophecy. Meanwhile, we work in faith; after us others will work too—and we feel that *the end is not far off*. Once again, during our labours, we wish to all our friends, and to all mankind, that peace and joy of which the angels sang at Bethlehem—the only true earthly peace, and leading to eternal joys.

THE (COLONY OF THE) GOLD COAST.

IN our last we gave extracts from Earl Russell, Lord Stanley, and the *Times* newspaper, on West African affairs. The Ashantee war, and the proposed committee of the House of Commons next session, have brought the West African question prominently before the British public. Believing in the regeneration of Africa, we feel that good must result. If our readers have really paid attention to our Cape Coast and Gold Coast records during the last twelve months, the necessity of a change of system must have forced itself on their convictions. Things cannot be allowed to go on as hitherto. It is a disgrace to Great Britain that they should have been for so long a time conducted in the way we have found it our painful duty, more than once, to expose. But the fact is, that the affairs of Western Africa have not been deemed of sufficient importance to demand a real acquaintance with them by our leading politicians, or even by Secretaries of State charged with their direction. Had more attention been paid to them, we should not have had so prominent a man as Lord Stanley discoursing about the "most pestilential climate that exists," in face of the reports recently published as regards the ravages of the fatal yellow fever in Bermuda. Had more attention been paid to them, we should not have had Earl Russell speaking of the "pains" we have taken to spread civilization there. ("There are those who believe that the people may yet be civilised—that all our pains will not be thrown away," &c.) Had more attention been paid to them, we should never have seen a despatch from the present Secretary of State for the Colonies expressing his satisfaction with the report of the so-called examination into the alleged prison abuses at Cape Coast, received from some of the Government officials there. The climate of the Gold Coast is by no means of so pestilential a character as that of Bermuda; we have taken no pains, we have done nothing worthy the name of pains, to introduce civilization into West Africa; the abuses in the Cape Coast prisons were real, were infamous, and no mock inquiry by persons whose duty it was never to have allowed them to exist, should have sufficed for the entire satisfaction of a Secretary of State. It is not to be wondered at that, under a system which allows of such an easy self-whitewashing process from official neglect, nothing should have been done to improve matters at James Fort, Accra;* and that the people in the Accra district should be without any assistance from a colonial surgeon, while smallpox was carrying off its hundreds of victims, although there is some lucky pluralist (we presume) receiving an annual

* Vide page 62, November number.

stipend of 100*l.* from the colonial chest for his supposed medical and surgical labours in that district.

No. The Parliamentary Committee has become absolutely necessary. The affairs of West Africa demand inquiry. The illusion ought to be dispelled, that (with exception of our slave-trade squadron efforts) we are *taking pains* to civilise Africa. We do justice to the department of which Earl Russell is the head, and to which the efficiency of the slave-trade squadron, and the protection afforded to trade in native ports, is principally due. But that species of action, although indispensable and most praiseworthy, will do but little toward African civilization. It leaves the great evils of Africa untouched. The foreign slave-trade was a degrading, brutalising, destructive incubus. But there are other enormities which strike at the root of all civilization, and which the entire destruction of the foreign slave-trade will do little or nothing to remove or remedy. It is time the illusion should be dispelled, that, aided by a trade at certain points on the Coast in palm oil and other produce, paid for by the English manufacturers, &c., given in exchange, the Africans are capable of their own moral regeneration, of any satisfactory advance in civilization, or of any extensive reception of a pure and cleansing Christianity. As we before said, that trade is a necessary, indispensable adjunct. But it must obtain, if it is to possess any of the efficacy desired, a development far greater than can ever be hoped for without the exercise of an *absolute pressure of European civilization* in certain radiating districts. We are not (speaking for ourselves) content, in view of the superstitious and inhuman debasement of Africa, and of the growing wants of civilised Europe, that certain points on the Coast should alone be occupied, and the natives be left to the undisputed sway of those agencies of evil which have hitherto dominated among them. We deny the necessity, in an economical point of view, of relinquishing a control over the Gold Coast and Cape Coast districts. We maintain that those districts need not be a burthen to this country; since this seems to be a necessary consideration, from our having become nationally so poor, that we cannot afford a few thousands a-year in the battle of God and humanity against all hellish excess. We maintain that, under a proper system, there is nothing in the climate of the Gold and Cape Coast districts so fatal to European life as to make it impossible for European energies to be brought to bear upon them. Comparing them with the West India Colonies, we contend that there is nothing in the climate to justify their abandonment while the latter are retained. As smallpox, the great native scourge, could be speedily exterminated by a general vaccination, so the malarious influences would disappear in the face of advancing civilization, with its sanitary clearances and regulations. We assert, and reassert, that, with a soil and climate unsurpassed for tropical production, there is nothing in the advance of Natal, for example, that could not be obtained in those districts as a colony of the British Crown—that nothing has been ever done in the way of production in any of our West India colonies that could not be equalled or surpassed there under a system which should enlist the free energies of the natives in the great work of industrial progress. We should not find evidence wanting to prove that an open English responsible rule would put down all possible conterminous hostility, and make all such wars as that of last year with the Ashantees impossible; while the lands and forests offer an ample guarantee for the repayment of any advances that might be necessary for roads, bridges, and Coast improvement, and their gold resources would make them an African California.

We ought indeed to congratulate ourselves that those districts possess such capabilities—for as we have long ago contended, it is impossible for us to abandon them, even were we disposed to the extravagance of throwing away such valuable possessions. We quite agree with Lord Stanley in denouncing the Protectorate, but we feel certain of Lord Stanley's conversion from the error of merely holding on to some points of the Coast to the good and sound policy of a strenuous effort for the development of their resources, and to the noble and Christian determination to take some pains for spreading the blessings of civilization and Christianity among their populations.

We cannot conclude without expressing our thanks to Earl Russell for his interesting anecdote of Sydney Smith. Sydney Smith was right.* All that is advanced against the possibility of civilising Africa might have been spoken in the Senate at Rome, to prove that it was "quite hopeless to civilise the Britons." The regeneration of Africa is *certain*—therefore its civilization is possible—therefore we shall be guilty towards God, towards Africa, and towards ourselves, if we do not strenuously endeavour to effect it.

THE GOLD COAST MUST BE KEPT UNDER BRITISH INFLUENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Abokobi, November 10, 1864.

Sir,—As you have already heard, the smallpox has been doing much havoc in James Town and Dutch Accra, but not so much at Christiansborg, probably because this place is more widely spread than the other two, which have clusters of houses on a small space. The other places to leeward—i.e., Labaday and Tesbi—send their people (sick of the smallpox) out to the field, and stop all communication with the infected places, which is certainly a very good plan. The smallpox came down from Aquamu to the coast. The mountain district has been safe until lately, and Late only is infected. Of course, these people are very much afraid of this sickness, and ask advice of their priests, &c. Thus a Mohammedan doctor, or, as others say, a fetish priest, gave the clever advice that all red goats and red cocks should be killed, because the latter call the sickness by crowing, and the former impart the sickness to men. So the poor dupes set about killing them everywhere, and red goats and red fowls became very cheap! But the missionaries and Christians could not, of course, comply. They vaccinated their people, and kept goats and fowls alive. The rage of the heathen was, therefore, turned upon them. They caught the goats and killed them. The young men came to the mission premises and took what they could, white, black, or any other coloured beasts and fowls. In Aburi they assembled in the street, and with war songs marched to the Christian village to plunder. They could scarcely be persuaded to return. The Chief of Aburi refused to punish those who stole goats. They moreover forbade the use of the water well to all Christians. The Chief of Aquapem, Kwao Dade, forbade the women to cook for our boarding scholars, and the missionaries were obliged to send their stock away to avoid plundering.

Such things could not be suffered without applying to the authorities. The Acting Chief Civil Commandant, Mr. Sealy, at once made up his mind to go to the place with seven soldiers and see into the palaver. This was a step in the right direction, because our Aquapem people laboured under the idea that the Government would no more protect the missionaries. They came to this conclusion because they saw that Mr. de Ruignes, when here, was decidedly hostile towards us, and that since January or February, 1862, no commandant or official person had come up. But when they heard that the Commandant was coming, they gave way at once. Kwao Dade revoked his law about feeding the pupils. In Aburi the elders came willingly to the Mission hall to listen to what Mr. Sealy had to say, and paid immediately the money for the goats that had been killed. The Commandant has treated these people in a wise manner, and they had confidence in him, and said that it would be a good thing if he would come and see them twice a-year. At Akropong Kwao Dade had lost all his boldness, was quite innocent, and put all the blame upon the town chief (buafo), who had wisely made his escape, and did not appear. Still, the Commandant warned his Majesty as to his future behaviour. At Late, where they would not allow the burial of a Christian woman who died in her confinement, the Commandant at length brought them to their senses, to allow the Christians to do according to their rites. Thus the palaver was settled nicely and quickly, thanks to the energy and good sense of our young Commandant, Mr. Sealy.

I have troubled you with this long tale of superstition, folly, wickedness, and, at the same time, ready obedience to British

* Tide page 67, November number.

authority, because it shows plainly what would be the consequences of withdrawing the British protection from our Gold Coast. We have now belonging to the Basle Mission six stations, with twenty-five missionaries, twelve of whom are married. We have 548 children and youths in our schools and boarding-schools, with more than 1,000 Church members, according to the census of January 1, 1864. By withdrawing your protection you will throw our work back for more than ten years, if not entirely destroy it. On the other hand, by protecting us, you will assist us in a great way. There are, also, our brethren, the Wesleyans, who had in 1863 fourteen chapels, twenty-three preaching places, ten missionaries, 1,598 full members, 245 members on trial, and 1,432 children in their schools. Therefore we have under direct Christian influence 4,000 to 5,000 persons, besides the great numbers who are reached by indirect influence in conversation and preaching. Christianity has thus become a power on the Gold Coast; therefore the heathen wish to get rid of it; they feel their superstitions tottering. Take further into account that nearly the whole Bible is in print in the Accra or Ga language, and a great deal of it in the Otshi language, which is spoken in Fantee, Ashantee, Akim, and Aquapem. This is another powerful engine by which heathenism will and must be eventually overthrown, as surely as it has given place to light in your own fair islands hundreds of years ago. All this has been done under the Protectorate, which, in fact, did not, or did very seldom, confess itself to be Christian; which has not given us or our Wesleyan brethren a farthing to support our schools, though they once felt it their duty, and promised to do it; and though the Governors asked us for several years for reports of our schools, as the Blue Books will prove. What, then, would be the great results, under God's blessing, if Her Majesty and her Ministers and Parliament would make up their minds to show the people that they are interested in the progress of Christianity, not only because they wish well to down-trodden Africa, but feel it to be their sacred duty, as Christians, to spread the knowledge of Christ, and to undo, as far as in their power, what their forefathers, nay, their very fathers, have done by trading in human flesh? Would not the bread thus cast upon the waters be found again in Britain after many days? Will not all the friends of missions, whether they belong to the Church Missionary Society, who have no stations on the Gold Coast, or to the Baptists, or to any other society, stand together for their brethren on the Gold Coast, and show that they too are interested in the progress of Christianity here as well as elsewhere? Will they not send petitions to Parliament, covered with thousands of names, to confess that it has fallen to the lot of the British Empire to sacrifice a few thousand pounds a-year, which will be returned to them more than a hundredfold, according to the promise of our Lord, whose word is sure and un-failing!

But I hope for even more than this. I hope that that inquiry of the Parliament will lead to the forming of a British Colony of the Gold Coast. As we are now, there is no prospering. Capital cannot be employed for want of security; the production of the country is kept back through want of confidence. People who are now lazy will turn to work so soon as they are properly directed. Let me help as much as I can. And may our Lord be pleased to bless all these efforts!—I am, my dear Sir, faithfully yours,

C. L.

INTERIOR OF THE EASTERN DISTRICTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Bibrassee, near Croboe, Accra District,
November 10, 1864.

Sir,—I had intended to forward you a long account of the present state of affairs in these Eastern Districts by this mail, but am prevented doing so till next month. I may, however, inform you that, bad as things were twelve months ago, they are now infinitely worse, and it is difficult to describe, and impossible to imagine, the state of utter confusion in which the whole country is at present.

It is really only speaking the plain truth when I say that at

this moment the Government have not the slightest influence or authority out of James Town and Christiansborg.

It is true that constables are daily sent to other places with summonses or warrants, but not the least notice is taken of them; and not unfrequently parties summoned or to be arrested take it into their heads to cudgel the constables within an inch of their lives, and then kick them out of the place; yet even when such an incident occurs, no attempt is made on the part of the Government to vindicate their authority.

The consequence is, that travelling in the interior, or indeed in any place five miles from James Fort, is absolutely dangerous, from the almost certainty of being panyarred (seized) and sold, if a black, or if an European or Mulatto, detained for some fictitious claim of a party with whom the individual so detained has no connexion. What with the stoppage of trade on account of the Croboe fine, the insecurity of life and property, and the expected disturbances on account of the spirit tax, the whole country is in a nice state, and you may expect to hear of some fine goings on ere long.

No doubt the British public will be glad to learn that, through the vigilance of their cruisers on this coast, the slaves intended for shipment in the celebrated steam slaver have become so expensive to their owners at Whydah and other places, that they have been resold, in the neighbourhood of the Volta, to the Bush people for *half price*, some having even found their way up here, and also at Accra.—Yours, &c.,
VOLTA.

P.S.—The mortality from smallpox in James Town and Dutch Town, &c., Accra, amounts to above 500. Although the paths have not been opened for communication and trade between Cape Coast and Ashantee, the Volta remains open to the Ashantees as before, and a fine trade in gold dust is going on in that direction. Is not this shameful on the part of the Government? All communications ought to be opened, or none at all. In this way there is neither peace nor war. That old Croboe fine affair is working constant mischief too.

NATAL.

We are glad to see that, after so much unpleasantness between Lieutenant-Governor Scott and the Natalians, principally arising from serious differences of opinion with regard to the Caffir locations, there has been a general meeting, with festivities, in which all the past has been forgotten, and compliments, congratulations, and good wishes abounded on all sides. The address of the Corporation of Durban concluded as follows: "We have been made aware that it is, shortly, the intention of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen to recall you from the scene of your arduous duties for the past few years. We hope that your Excellency's future may be crowned with success, and that your Excellency will be pleased to accept and notify the loyalty and devotion of the people of this borough to the throne and person of our beloved Sovereign Lady the Queen."

The occasion of these festivities was the important one of the opening of the *Queen's bridge* over the River Umgeni, connecting the important counties of Durban and Victoria—the latter being the great sugar and cotton county of the colony, and the port of Durban being the chief destination of such produce for shipment. This bridge, now satisfactorily completed, is the *first great bridge* of this young, but most important colony; and was indispensable to the proper development of its great agricultural resources. The erection of a bridge, a long-felt necessity, was first proposed by Mr. Saunders, representative of Victoria County, some years ago. In 1861 the Legislative Council voted the requisite funds. The work was contracted for by Mr. Taylor, acting as agent for Mr. Jackson, and under the able and energetic supervision of Mr. Paterson, Colonial Engineer.

The bridge is thus described: "It is an iron girder bridge, erected on iron cylindrical supports, which rest on piles of creosoted Baltic timber, driven through the bed of the river. There are seven different spans, each of which is a hundred feet in length. The actual width of the waterway is therefore 700 feet, but when the length of the approaches are taken into account, the bridge is nearly 1,000 feet long. Side channels are allowed for the passage of eddy water through the embankments. The

cylinders are about two feet in diameter, and present no appreciable obstruction to the water. We need, therefore, have little fear about the stability of the bridge. The roadway is twenty feet wide, paved with asphalt, and protected by a light and ornamental hand-rail, which is painted white, while the massive girders below are painted copper, or Caffir colour, thus presenting a pleasing contrast. When viewed from either end, the long vista of the bridge looks very imposing, and conveys to the mind so strong an idea of advanced civilization, and of high mechanical science, that it is somewhat difficult to realise the fact that the engineer to whom reference was made at home, required the iron work to be made of greater strength than had originally been intended. This has helped to swell the original estimate of 14,162*l.* to between 16,000*l.* and 17,000*l.*"

And so, for 17,000*l.*, the colony has possessed itself of this important accessory of development: Sixty waggons, laden with sugar, cotton, &c., &c., passed over the bridge as an opening train, and the ease with which a few oxen drew each waggon over the bridge, contrasted with the former difficulties of dragging one with a team of twenty or thirty bullocks, through a wide river bed, might well raise the feelings of the colonists to enthusiasm.

The people of Natal are so eminently practical, that the colony must advance and prosper. The Legislature has this year authorised, made large grants of land to, and guaranteed certain interests upon, a line of railway throughout the colony, to connect the rich coal mines of the interior with the coast.

We are glad to see it stated that labourers who have recently entered the colony, coming from one of the neighbouring native tribes, are considered to be even preferable to coolies. If a good supply of such native African labourers can be procured, there can be no doubt that, with the increased facilities for obtaining capital at a reasonable rate which the colony now possesses, its future progress in wealth and importance will be almost fabulously rapid. Natal is a bright spot in Africa.

ABYSSINIA.

It has been stated that Mr. Bassam, bearer of a British Government message to the King of Abyssinia, wrote thus to Mr. G. P. Badger, of Bayswater, under date, Massowa, Nov. 4, saying that he had heard of the safe arrival of his messenger at Gondar, and was therefore quite at a loss to know why no answer had been sent to him; but that having despatched another letter, he was daily expecting permission to go up. He then adds: "A rebellion, headed by a chief named Tissoo Gabazai, had broken out in different parts of the country, and it is not improbable that this circumstance may have rendered the roads unsafe towards the coast. So great, moreover, is the dread of the King's displeasure, that Abyssinians arriving from the interior scrupulously avoid all intercourse with Europeans. Hence it is very difficult to obtain any reliable information respecting the state of things at Gondar, and every attempt to communicate privately with Captain Cameron and the other British captives has proved unsuccessful. It appears that our unfortunate countrymen are confined in a tent next to that of the King, and all intercourse with them is strictly forbidden under the severest penalties. Besides this vigilant watch, each European is chained to a trustworthy dependent of the royal household, the latter being relieved at short intervals. The chain is never more than four feet long, so that the prisoner can scarcely move without the knowledge of the guard, and *vice versa*." Mr. Bassam finished by expressing his determination to go up to Gondar, should there be the most distant hope of his obtaining an interview with King Theodoreus.

The *Bengal Hurkuru*, published at Calcutta, November 12, says:—

"King Theodore, we learn, on the receipt of Her Majesty the Queen's letter, delivered to him by Mr. Bassam, relative to the release of the European gentlemen confined in Abyssinia, remarked, 'Kings ought to write to kings, but no subordinates' (governors). He, however, immediately ordered the release of the Europeans, and loaded them with presents. Her Majesty's

steamer *Pantaloon* will perhaps bring back the Abyssinian mission to Aden."

We are sure our readers will feel, with us, that there is great difficulty in reconciling these two statements. Either there must be error as regards the date of the letter sent to Mr. Badger, or the news published by the *Bengal paper* is not authentic. We trust, however, that it is authentic, and that the British Consul and the missionaries have been released. They have suffered the grossest outrages, and have been in extreme peril.

EAST AFRICA.

Great complaints continue to be made with regard to the systematically obstructive policy of the Portuguese authorities and traders at Delagoa Bay; and a strong feeling prevails that the time has come when both colonial and Imperial interests require that a small force should be placed on the Island of Inyack, which is a British possession, and near to the entrance of the harbour. Inyack is much healthier for a settlement than the mainland. Delagoa Bay is the natural outlet of a large range of territories extending far inland, and more or less thickly populated by native tribes. One or two partially navigable rivers empty their waters into the large bay, and flow down from the hunting grounds of the interior. The export of ivory from Natal is fast decreasing, owing to the formidable opposition of the Portuguese traders, who seem determined that they alone shall have the power of trading with the natives in that part; while they at the same time take advantage of the freedom of trade in Natal to bring ivory out of the interior also by that route, and ship it from Durban to Delagoa Bay, as they have lately done, to be transhipped from the latter place to Lisbon. We certainly think that for many important reasons the sooner the nucleus of a settlement is formed on Inyack Island the better. There can be no doubt that it would become an important trading station.

BAINES ON WEST AFRICA.

Explorations in South-West Africa: Being an Account of a Journey, in 1861 and 1862, from Walvisch Bay, on the Western Coast, to Lake Ngami and the Victoria Falls, by THOMAS BAINES, F.R.G.S. London: Longman and Co. 1864.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Baines for a new link in the important chain of African explorations. Mr. Baines is an artist formerly attached to the South Australian expedition, and subsequently to that of Dr. Livingstone, on the Zambesi. To those who have had the pleasure of seeing the charming pictures sent home by Mr. Baines from the Livingstone expedition to the Royal Geographical Society we need not say a word as to Mr. Baines' merits as an artist. His delineations of African scenery, people, &c., strike one as being particularly faithful. The book he has now placed before the public is essentially an artist's book; and those who like a plain, uncoloured tale of African travel, without any of the deceptive halo which imagination too often furnishes, and which, like the mirage so frequently met with in Africa, only misleads, will be quite at home in this volume. No one ought to expect to be amused by an account of African travel. The picture must always be a sad one to those who feel for the deep degradation of a great section of the human family. It always affects us painfully. There is scarcely one redeeming trait to be discovered among Mr. Baines' Bechuanas, Damaras, Namaquas, Mallobas, &c. They seem to be devoid of all natural affection, and are really very little superior, in their present state, to the brute creation, which in many of its tribes far surpasses them in love and care of their offspring. How those people are to be reached by any adequate civilising agency, is a difficult problem to solve. True, they seem to be simplifying it by an almost incessant mutual destruction, so that in the course of a few years there may not be many of them to deal with. But this destruction, the fruit of their atrocious barbarism, is fearful to think of by those who are compelled to look upon them as accountable creatures, hurried into a dread eternity by those Satanic influences which have prevailed against their happiness here.

Mr. Baines accompanied a trading and elephant hunting ex-

pedition, and the labours and perils attendant on ivory trading "beyond the limits of civilization" are worthy of notice by those to whose luxury they minister. But among all the benefits he has bestowed, we place in the front rank that of the discovery—or, if not discovery, the close examination and description—of a substitute for the worn-out Upas tree. Let no rising rhymester, in future, venture upon that too long famous minister of destruction in his similes. The poison grub of Africa is a reality, a deadly reality; and a grub will, we opine, suit much better than a tree for the majority of cases in which the simile is required. The name, it is true, "Ngwa" seems a little untractable at first sight, but as pronounced, "Ingwa," it is much more docile. It has, moreover, another name—"Káa." This grub furnishes the poison for the Bushmen's arrows; a charming novelty, because almost all other poisons capable of being thus applied are either vegetable or mineral. The grub is thus described:—

"The little brownish-yellow beetle, with darker spots upon its body, head, and wing covers—and, say, about three-eighths of an inch long—deposits eggs upon the leaf of the *Maruris paperie*; these (eggs) are about one-sixteenth in length, of a bright orange yellow, and from them issue small grubs, black at first, but changing to a very pale, almost transparent flesh colour; the head is dark brown, furnished with serrated mandibles, and apparently two pairs of forceps, capable of independent action. We think we can discern two indentations in the forehead, which appear to be eyes, but the highest magnifying power we have is the microscope out of a sextant. Its neck is protected by a shield, also dark brown, either in two parts, or made to appear so by a lighter stripe down the middle; its legs are brown, and seem at first only like small hooks, but examination shows that they are beautifully jointed; and along each side, just at the edge of the belly, is a double row of a dozen dark spots, the uppermost of which seems to be merely colours, while the lower is a small tubercle, with a dark-edged circular orifice. We were much puzzled by a covering of green matter, similar in colour to the leaf it feeds on. At first we thought it was the first skin peeling off, and lay in loose rolls parallel to the transverse muscular rings of the body; it seemed gradually driven forward toward the head, where it formed a shield, or hood, portions breaking off as it dried, and being replaced by fresh. At length we were enabled to decide that it must be the excrement of the creature, issuing not only in the usual manner, but from the pores that are scattered over nearly the whole of the body. When the grub attains a length of three quarters of an inch, this matter is more sparingly distributed, and is of a brownish colour. In a short time the grub drops from the tree, and burying itself about two feet below the surface, forms its cocoon of a thin shell of earth agglutinated round its body. Its entrails, or rather the whole internal juices, are in all stages of its grubhood of the most deadly nature, and if brought in contact with a cut or sore of any kind, cause the most excruciating agony. Livingstone says, 'The person who cuts himself calls for his mother's breast, as if returned in idea to childhood again, or flies from human habitation a raging maniac.' He also says: 'The Bushmen cure the wounds by administering the Ngwa itself, in combination with fat, but they did not tell us this.'"

There is, however, an antidote—the *Kála huelluc*, a small soft-stemmed plant, with leaves two and a-half inches long by a quarter broad. It has a small yellow flower, with five petals, a number of stamens, and the cuty divided into two sepals; its root is something between a bulb and a tuber, rough and brown outside, and when cut is seen marked with concentric rings of light reddish brown and purple. "There are two other kinds of *Kála huelluc*. Fat is used after the chewed root of the *Kála huelluc* has been applied to a wound."

We think our readers will agree with us that the "upas," or what remains of it, may be dug up and burned, to the great relief of the reading public. Mr. Baines' book is rich in descriptions of animals, birds, &c., and in its delineation of specimens of African tribes, and finishes with a splendid engraving and description of the "Victoria Falls." Mr. Baines retains Dr. Livingstone's estimate of the depth of the falls—viz., 350

feet—and then found by careful measurement that the beautiful spray cloud rises to the height of 1,194 feet from the bottom of the chasm, while the breadth of the fall, from end to end, is about 2,000 yards. We must give one short extract:—

"Now stand and look through the dim and misty perspective till it loses itself in the cloud of spray to the east. How shall words convey ideas which even the pencil of Turner must fail to represent? Stiff and formal columns of smoke there are none—the eastern breeze has blended all in one. Think nothing of the drizzling mist, but tell me if heart of man ever conceived anything more gorgeous than those two lovely rainbows, so brilliant, that the eye shrinks from looking on them, segments of which rising above the abyss, deep as the solar rays can penetrate it, overarch spray, rock, and forest, till, rising to the highest point, they fail to find refractory moisture to complete the arch."

When the journey was undertaken Mr. Baines had proposed going down the Zambesi, and embarking on the East Coast in the Cape of Good Hope, instead of returning westward. But that ever-recurring and terrible impediment to African research—fever—drove the party away from the Falls to the high lands of the desert. There the account leaves them. Mr. Baines' book is a necessary addition to all African libraries. As such we recommend it to our readers. The delicately-tinted frontispiece, "Regiment of Flamingoes, Swakop River," is really lovely, and not many years ago would have been of itself considered worth the whole price of the volume.

AFRICAN STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.

At the half-yearly meeting of this company, held Dec. 5, T. Norton, Esq., in the chair, the following appeared in the directors' report:—

"After paying all charges, there remains a balance to the credit of revenue account of 4,731*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, out of which your directors recommend the payment of the usual dividend of 8*s.* per share, free of income tax, for the half-year ending Oct. 31, last. This payment will absorb 4,403*l.* 4*s.*, and leave 328*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* to be carried forward to next half-year's account. As intimated in the last half-year's report, your directors have extended and improved the passenger accommodation of the *Armenian*, and they have also increased her cargo capacity. The cost of the additions to the ship has been carried to her capital account, and the expense of her general repairs and new shaft has been discharged out of revenue account. The *Calabar* completed her first voyage, and has been despatched on her second. The results of the first were highly satisfactory, and the advice received since she sailed on the second gave promise of an equally successful issue. Your directors' expectations of the saving in her consumption of fuel have been fully realised. Much inconvenience has hitherto resulted from the difficulty of communicating with Lagos, caused principally by the dangerous character of the bar. To remedy this state of things as far as possible, and to afford additional facilities to the traders at that rising colony, your directors have purchased the barque *Margaret*, and have despatched her to Lagos, where she will be moored and converted into a floating depot. They have every reason for thinking that great benefits will result from this step."

COTTON, WOOL, and other Material, PRESSED and PACKED by WALKER'S PATENT ROTATING PRESS, in HALF the USUAL TIME. Sugar Mills for Splitting the Cane, Palm Nut Sorters, Nut Crackers, and every kind of Machine for Africa or India. 17, COWPER STREET, CITY ROAD, LONDON.

LEO L. LLOYD, COMMISSION MERCHANT, MONROVIA, LIBERIA, receives consignments of Ready-made Clothing, Crockery, Dry Goods of every description, Oilecloths and Carpetings, Hardware, Bottled Liquors and Ale, Millinery, Fancy Goods, Boots and Shoes, Umbrellas, Flannels, Looking-glasses, &c., &c.

Mr. L. desires to open correspondence with those gentlemen desirous of transacting business with him. Address as above. The best of references given.

Monrovia, Liberia, 1864.

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.

IRON ROOFING

Is the cheapest, lightest, and most durable of any description of roofing. Is very portable and inexpensive in carriage. Corrugated Iron Sheets, Painted or Galvanised, supplied in any quantity, and packed for exportation.

IRON GIRDERS,

BRIDGES, RAILWAY STATIONS, &c., &c., Manufactured by S. C. HEMMING and CO. Experienced Workmen sent to all parts of the World, at a moderate charge.

Now ready, in one vol., 8vo, with Frontispiece in Chromolithography, 3 Maps, and 34 Wood Engravings, price 21s.

EXPLORATIONS in SOUTH-WEST AFRICA, being an Account of a Journey in the years 1861 and 1862 from Walvisch Bay to Lake N'gami and the Victoria Falls. By THOMAS BAINES, F.R.G.S., formerly attached to the North Australian Expedition, and subsequently to that of Dr. Livingstone on the Zambesi.

"As a painter of African scenery and native figures, Mr. Baines has achieved a great success. As a writer, he describes everything which he sees, and evidently observes well. His description of the Victoria Falls is perhaps the best word-picture of African scenery which has yet appeared."—Reader.

London: Longman, Green, and Co., Paternoster-row.

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, Matchettes, 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 dépôt, 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 screw steamship CALABAR, 1,208 tons, and 250-horse power, A. J. M. CROFT, Commander, will leave LIVERPOOL on Saturday, December 24, at 2.30 P.M. Passengers embark by steam tender, leaving the North Landing Stage at 12.30 P.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.

LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE.

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

Printed by WILLIAM JOHN JOHNSON, at 121, Fleet-street, in the City of London; and Published by him, for the African Aid Society, at 8, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, London.—DECEMBER 23, 1864.