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The African Times.

JOURNAL OF THE AFRICAN-AID SOCIETY.

VOL. V., No. 53.]

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THE COMPANY OF AFRICAN MERCHANTS, LIMITED.

CAPITAL—£400,000, in 40,000 Shares of £10 each.

WITH POWER TO INCREASE.

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

In 1827, the value of British and Foreign Goods exported from the United Kingdom to the

West Coast of Africa was	£155,759
In 1840, " " " "	410,798
In 1850, " " " "	890,216
In 1860, " " " "	1,145,434

The total actual value of imports from Africa into the United Kingdom for the six years, 1856 to 1861 inclusive (being the latest Official return), amounted to £9,804,356

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

The steamship *Ethiopia*, with the mails from the West Coast of Africa, Teneriffe, and Madeira, arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday, the 15th inst.

Her dates are: Benin, Sept. 25; Cameroons, Sept. 27; Old Calabar, Oct. 2; Fernando Po, Oct. 3; Brass River, 5th; Nun, 5th; Bonny and Lagos, 8th; Accra, 10th; Cape Coast Castle, 12th; Cape Palmas, 14th; Sierra Leone, 21st; Bathurst, 25th; Teneriffe, Nov. 1; and Madeira, 4th inst.

She brings 3,530 ounces of gold dust, and 13,000 sovereigns in specie.

Business was unchanged at the different points at which the *Ethiopia* called.

At Lagos communication with the interior remained closed.

Native wars prevailed at Sierra Leone.

COPY OF MEMORIAL OF NATIVES AT THE GAMBIA TO H.M.'s GOVERNMENT AGAINST AN ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES OR CLUBS.

Bathurst, Gambia, West Coast of Africa,
October 20, 1865.

Sir,—The memorial of the undersigned principal members of the Gambia societies respectfully sheweth,

That your memorialists beg leave to approach your lordship for the purpose of most respectfully but most firmly protesting against the passing of an ordinance for the regulation of friendly societies or clubs within the British settlement on the River Gambia.

1. That your memorialists, being liberated Africans for some years, and served as apprentices in this colony, and after the expiration of their apprenticeship have managed to provide themselves accommodation, &c., but finding they are composed of different tribes, who are more or less interested in the welfare of those to whose tribe they belong, have raised up societies among themselves for the sake of providing for the necessary wants in time of sickness, deaths, childbirths, marriage of a member or member's family, and thereby relieving the Government from the expense incurred occasionally for burying their dead, to the disgrace of that tribe to which they belong.

2. That the subscription raised by each member in a society does not exceed twelve shillings per annum, and the allowances for funeral of a member and member's family do not exceed three pounds. Most of its members are so poor that they are unable to pay their monthly subscription, which sometimes prevents the society from meeting its demands.

3. That these societies have been standing uninterrupted for several years, and have been the means of producing good effects on the conduct of most of their outlawed and troublesome members, which may be proved by Mr. Pine, who was the magistrate of this colony, and also by General O'Connor, C.B., who was the Governor of the Gambia.

4. That the object in the formation of the ordinance in question is for the purpose of crushing the societies which are now existing, which could not be effected during the governmentship of General O'Connor, C.B.

It has been the practice for merchants to pay mechanics, sailors, and labourers their wages half in goods and half in cash, which goods were generally charged 150 per cent. higher than the retail price at Bathurst. This practice was abolished in the year 1856, through the aid of General O'Connor, C.B., since which time an inveterate hatred existed in the minds of the European merchants towards the native population.

That your memorialists are sorry to state that the ordinance is a decided plot, drawn by a resident European merchant, a member of Council and sitting magistrate, who had publicly threatened the destruction of these harmless and helpful societies at open court on the 14th day of March, 1856; and, having these authorities, has succeeded in obtaining the publication of the ordinance in question, which shows immediately that he has not the interest of the public, but to suit his private propensities.

That your memorialists, having for many years groaned under oppression, without being able to obtain redress from the authorities here, have raised subscriptions by which they were enabled to send one of their countrymen to study law, for the benefit of themselves and the improvement of their colony, and which will in some measure prevent the injustice long endured in this colony.

That the societies formed by your memorialists are some of them so poor that they are unable to carry out its own expenses without great difficulty, and that the societies for which this ordinance is intended are quite of a different nature from ours, as a proof of which we beg to forward two of the societies' books and the proclaimed ordinance for your lordship's perusal.

Therefore your memorialists pray that your lordship will be

pleased to give the matter your serious consideration, and grant their requests by annulling this ordinance. And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.—With the highest respect, we are, Sir, your lordship's most obedient, humble servants.

Here follow the signatures of the principal members of the under-mentioned native societies or clubs—viz., of joiners, masons, carpenters, sailors, cooks, of the Bagurah Aku tribe, the Yoruba ditto, the Owoo ditto, the Jebu Aku ditto, the Egba ditto, the Eboe ditto, the Poppoh ditto, the Mocco ditto, the Attam ditto, of the Mocco and Eboe descendants, and the ship mates.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
Her Majesty's Principal
Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c., &c., &c.

BATHURST, RIVER GAMBIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Sir,—An ordinance was enacted here on the 14th day of June, 1865, by the Legislative Council, concerning the several societies here.

That ordinance is styled "An Ordinance for the Regulation of Friendly Societies or Clubs within the British Settlements on the River Gambia."

It was not first published here for general information, as used to be done, but was secretly sent to England to the Secretary of State for approval, which it received by a despatch dated 2nd August last, and was published for the guidance of all whom it may concern on the 28th September.

This ordinance, drawn by the Legislative Council, was the child of hatred and malice, and because the Jolloffs got money to ask for a lawyer from Sierra Leone to take up their cause against a European here. Those who got this ordinance passed wished very much to see the several societies' books, and learn how the money was subscribed for that and other matters.

The members of different tribes here—liberated Africans—joiners', masons', sailors', and other societies, only formed their societies to subscribe a certain sum of money—say, 1s., and others 6d. each per month—for the purpose of burying the dead, and making an allowance for sickness and births, only and for no other cause, except that when the Jolloffs were cruelly treated by one Dr. Sherwood, who ordered several policemen to break open their door, and take out a hearse to bury a white boy who died in one of the mail packets in this harbour. The hearse was not refused to be given to him, but the doctor was too impatient to wait for the keeper, who had got the key, whom they sent in search for in this town. Applying to the Governor for redress, and to the few authorities here, they found to be useless; they were obliged to seek further aid, and sent for a lawyer from Sierra Leone to plead their poor cause. They did not succeed in getting the lawyer, but we have got the ordinance, and no mistake.

Now, Mr. Editor, you good men that are in England, seeking the interests of the Africans, and trying to have Africa civilised, we apply to you. But let me do justice to these two members of the Legislative Council—W. H. Goddard, Esq., and Thomas Francis Quin, Esq.—who, we are sure, never wish to do us any harm.

The Governor, we believe, when assuming the government, swears that he "will do equal justice both to the rich and poor," &c., &c. Is this justice to the poor? What have they to do with our poor fund, which we form ourselves, subscribing to meet our wants in time of need, such as deaths, and sickness, &c.? From them we bought planks, nails, black cloth, blue and white bafts, &c., for the use of coffins. Does not great part of our subscriptions get into their pockets?

Our rules do not break the British law, nor do we attempt to do any harm to any person, neither do we threaten to prevent the law doing its duty should any member of our society be taken up for misconduct or crime, of whatever nature it may be.

Mr. Thomas Brown, who induced the Governor to enact such an ordinance, speaks loudly in open Court that he will see about all the several societies here, and smash them down to pieces. Only in the Gambia is he able to utter such proud words. As for Dr. Sherwood, he goes on to say, in the public streets, on horse-back, pointing out with his whip, "I'll soon get all your books and pull down all your flagstaffs, and have all your societies smashed down." He was quite right in using those words. It was through him and Mr. Brown that this secret ordinance was made.

The power which they have over us here causes them to send a memorial to the Secretary of State for the Colonies praying that the Gambia may remain as it is now. No; we hope for a change; that a Governor-General be appointed to govern the four colonies, as passed by a resolution in the House of Commons, who will act with strict justice both to the rich and the poor.

Mr. Editor, we (the Gambians) put our whole trust and confidence in you and the nobility in England, and the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to have that ordinance annulled, seeing it can do no good, but is only meant for evil.

That ordinance binds us as regards our own moneys honestly subscribed, forcing us to give bonds, and to register, paying fees to several parties—the Registrar, the Queen's Advocate, and the Clerk of Council. In this way all the little money we subscribe will be exhausted by paying different fees; and this they no doubt desire.

We beg most respectfully that the authorities in England will be pleased to look into this matter very attentively, and have that ordinance annulled altogether. We are in an English port, and not in the Havana or Cuba!—Yours, &c.,
Civic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Gambia, October 24, 1865.

Sir,—It is rumoured that Governor D'Arcy, who has served his time here, is endeavouring to return here as a Lieutenant-Governor; if so, the Gambia had better be left without a Governor. It was owing to his mis-government that the Gambia became a bankrupt government, and that some Europeans of the place have such powers over the laws, and oppress the blacks. His further services would ruin the colony. We want a Lieutenant-Governor who will not dread the merchants' bills, and, thereby submit his better judgment to their private interests and prejudices.—Yours truly,
R.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Gambia, October 24, 1865.

Sir,—What sad news I have to tell you! All the European crew of Her Majesty's steamer "Dover" (excepting a Mr. Spencer) died of drunkenness. Governor D'Arcy, the uninfatuated, instead of punishing these well-known drunkards, who always risked the lives of passengers, generally gave them sick certificates, thereby justifying their acts. It was known that very often the captain and engineers were ignorant as to the Dover starting from McCarthy's Island for Bathurst till they arrived in port, and these drunkards only amused themselves, when awakened from their drunken sleep of intemperance, to find themselves at Bathurst. The vessel was then generally managed by the sober mate, Spencer, and the black crew. Governor D'Arcy never spared a black man the very smell of liquor on him, if it was detected by himself or any of his European officials, but discharged them from duty. The Dover is now managed by a black captain and crew, and, notwithstanding their ability to manage her to the different ports on even half the pay of the European crew, the officials felt bound to please Mr. Brown, "the honourable," by hiring his cotton-saw-gin engineer, at 5l. per day, for a trip of five days. This engineer knows nothing of the business afloat, the work was all done by the native assistant, and the European engineer draws the pay for duties performed by another. In the Gambia, the blacks in all the offices work as an ass, and the white man, no matter what be his qualifications, draws the pay. In the Secretary's office, there is the first writer, Richard Graves Robertson, the son of Secretary Robertson, entirely unfit for that post, as he cannot write properly, nor spell correctly, neither could he by any possibility cast up a single sum of addition; but he draws the pay of 300l. per annum, and the second writer, being a black man, bears all the burden of these two offices. This is what the Europeans in the Gambia like; but had he (the first writer) been a thorough black man, and not a composition of black and white, would they stand it? Is it the white men alone who contribute to the revenue? Is it not the black men who risk their lives up the river among savages to enrich the merchants? Why are not the young black men employed in offices, and properly paid? Yet, after all, the white men go to England, after making plenty of money by oppression and wrong, and then they say that the black men and their country are not good; spoiling us and our country, to prevent their betters from coming to see! Oh! England, our mother country, hear these things, and plead our cause.—Ever yours,
Truth.

PROPOSED CONVICT MODEL FARM AT SIERRA LEONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Freetown, Sierra Leone, October 18, 1865.

Sir,—I could not write to you by last mail, as, owing to my recent arrival, I had very many matters to attend to; but I have now much pleasure to recur to the subject of my letter of the last of July, and beg to particularise my views on the establishment of a model plantation by convict labour. In my opinion, the Peninsula of King Tom's would form a most desirable spot for a model farm. A very commodious road runs all around the

peninsula, and forms an inner circle of not less than 150 acres of land. This land is owned by different persons, its highest value being about 4l. per acre. I believe it could easily be obtained, as it is at present as good as useless to its owners; but should any difficulty arise, the Colonial Government, without doubt, for so laudable and public a purpose, could pass an expropriation ordinance. There are a great many circumstances which render King Tom's more desirable for the establishment of a model farm than any other spot in the colony. First, a great variety of soil can be found on this little spot, and the result of manuring poor and effete lands could be practically shown in comparison with the results of farming on rich virgin soil without manure. Second, King Tom's is situated about two miles from Freetown, and is thus accessible to every one in town without much trouble or fatigue. It is now the resort of promenade on Sunday afternoons for a great many people. No one can approach Freetown from the sea without passing King Tom's, and little cultivated as it is at present, it offers so many prominent points, that no observant stranger passes without asking, "What place is this?" How much more would its appearance be improved, and how much more favourable would be the impression upon strangers, who come here full of prejudices against the colony, were this picturesque peninsula under proper cultivation. But these would be the minor of the good effects of a model farm at King Tom's. Every native who owns an acre of land would cultivate it in imitation of the model farm, and in not too long a time the whole colony would assume another and a better appearance.

The expenses cannot possibly be very high. The first and principal outlay would be the money for the acquisition of the territory. It would then be necessary to employ a good practical agriculturist, with an assistant. The former might scarcely cost less than 600l., and the latter not less than 400l. per annum. These in the commencement would form all the extra expense over the present cost of our gaol establishment. The expenditure for the gaol would be quite adequate to establish the model farm, since the convicts could be made to erect all the requisite buildings for themselves and for farm purposes, the materials for building, with the exception of wood, being in abundance on the ground, and the necessary wood could be bought in the rough logs, and worked by the convicts.

However, if in the commencement there would be an extra expenditure, in a few years every shilling would be repaid; the establishment, with every convict, would be entirely self-supporting, and what at present forms a considerable item in the expenditure of the colony would probably become in time a source of a small revenue.

I am not an agriculturist myself, and what I have said before is merely a general opinion I have formed on the subject. Since 1852 I have possessed a small farm, and occupied myself a good deal with farming, but I am bound to confess that it never paid me, which was mainly owing to the want of labour, and perhaps my ignorance of farming. However, the convict labour utilised on the field, there can be no doubt but that farming must pay, besides demonstrating to the public at large what can by labour and skill be obtained from the ground.—I remain, my dear Sir, faithfully yours,
T. ROSENBUCH.

SHERBRO.

The past season has been peculiarly favourable for trade in palm oil, and the quantity purchased is much greater than ever before. This is not only true of the Sherbro, but we believe of the entire Coast.

We are sorry to note the very small quantity of fruit on the trees. The fruit buds seem to have been destroyed by grasshoppers, and but little fruit will be produced.

The health of the Sherbro is very good. We learn that two steamers, one for the Anglo-African Company, and one for the Company of African Merchants, are shortly expected in the Sherbro to be engaged in the river and coasting trade. This will be an important aid to the missionary work.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, October 12, 1865.

Sir,—Since my last to you great changes have taken place at this place, and in the protectorate generally.

First. We have a splendid Colonial Hospital established, with every comfort.

Secondly. We have a magnificent tank, capable of containing 400,000 gallons of water. This tank, or, rather, this public nuisance (for such it was before Colonel Conran came) is now cleaned and repaired, and the Colonel is about fitting up some cheap plan that will keep this huge reservoir well supplied with good rain-water. This tank belonged to a lot of shareholders, who were glad to sell their shares for a mere song. Thus one of the greatest boons that has ever been conferred

upon the Cape Coast has already been given under Col. Conran's administration. Every man, woman, and child will remember his noble act for years to come.

Thirdly. The graveyard, that was a disgrace to the local Government, is now being substantially fenced in. While I am on this subject I must say that I have heard several parties making some sort of inquiry as to the large amount of money that Mr. Pine collected to do what Col. Conran is now doing. Perhaps it would be as well that Mr. Pine would see and settle this little affair without delay, as the contributors to the new burial ground do really want to know what has become of their former subscriptions.

Fourthly. Police stations are established throughout the protectorate, and an intelligent man is stationed at each point for the purpose of giving reliable information to head-quarters, and to prevent a repetition of Fantee atrocities on unoffending Ashantee traders, and other peaceful people, who may desire to come to the sea coast for legitimate commerce.

Fifthly. The streets have all been drained, and proper roads have been, and are still being, made throughout the town, without a charge on the Government of *sixpence*.

Sixthly. Proper privies are being erected to leeward of the town, which will greatly increase the healthiness of all.

There is to be a meeting to-morrow about the schools, which the Colonel is determined shall be in a more efficient state than they are at present. To sum up, Colonel Conran is working hard himself; he talks very little, but he acts. The people have perceived the good that will result from his government, and he meets with assistance and co-operation from every one.

This is as it ought to be, and it is to be hoped that he will not change his present policy, or give up the great work he has undertaken, and pursued hitherto with so much energy and success.

It is true that the soldiers on the night of the 4th September last committed fearful assaults, and murdered two civilians in a riot, but as one of the murderers (Private William Headley King) has been tried and convicted of the murder of one of the victims, it is to be hoped that the Fantees will perceive that the Government are determined to do them justice, and that the present excited state of feeling on the Coast will be subdued on the 23rd October inst., on which day the ruffian Ring will expiate his great sin on the scaffold.

The Fantees ought also to remember that even in England riots of this description are not altogether unknown, and that in military stations, do what you will, the soldiers will occasionally quarrel and create riots with the civilians.

The Fantees, I regret to say, seem really greedy for vengeance. To hear them talk one cannot but imagine that they would glory in the wholesale slaughter of the whole garrison. This is truly deplorable, but, alas! so it is.

The King of Ashantee has sent to Mr. Blankson, of Anamaboe, a lot of samples of silk, with a desire that he would order him out a quantity for his court. Mr. Blankson has hit the iron while it is hot, and has gone to meet the King of Ashantee's messenger at the Prah, so that we are all hourly expecting a peace, and a good understanding with our formidable antagonist. All we pray is, that Mr. Pine will not come back to mar the good that is now being done.

King Aggery has not paid the fine yet, for which Governor Pine called the troops out, nor is he likely to do so. Governor Conran has, doubtless, ere this found out that he was misinformed on this point.

Mr. Pine's answers to the questions put to him by the committee have created great surprise on the Coast, the want of accuracy being so prominent. More on this head next mail.

We have an excellent Receiver-General, who ably supports the dignity of the Stipendiary Magistrates' Bench. All we want now is an educated Colonial Secretary. "Mr. Martin Dooley is acting"—this is an error.—Yours truly,

SPERO MELIORA.

NOTES ON THE LATE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

A Brief Account of some of the Questions and Answers put by the Select Committee of the House of Commons to Colonel Conran and Mr. Richard Pine, in reference to the late Ashantee War, and the King of Cape Coast's Dispute with Mr. Richard Pine.

6271. What tax was refused which caused the troops to be called out just before you left?—Colonel Conran: The troops were called out a few days before I left, for a different object—to aid the civil power.

Remarks.—The troops were called out by order of Governor Pine, although he afterwards wanted to put the blame on his Colonial Secretary, D.A.C. Gen. Sidney R. Brown.

6272. What object?—Colonel Conran: For the purpose of enforcing payment of a fine or damages, brought against the King's magistrate.

Remarks.—The King's magistrate made the threat, not the King himself.

6273. What damages were they?—Colonel Conran: They were damages for an assault committed by the native King's magistrate on a British subject. It was understood that the King refused to pay the fine, in consequence of which Governor Pine called out the troops to aid the civil power.

Remarks.—This prosecution was commenced at the instigation of Mr. Pine, who suggested that heavy damages should be claimed against the King, as his attempts to settle the affair had failed.

6274. What was the nature of the assault?—Colonel Conran: The assault was this: A young black man had been summoned by the King, and would not appear before his magistrate, stating that he was a British subject. The native police under the King were sent to apprehend him, and committed the assault. Our lawyer on the Coast took legal proceedings in our own courts against the King's magistrate, which led to the fine being imposed, which the King decidedly refused to pay, alleging that he had seven companies at his command, which to all intents and purposes signified a threat. Those companies consisted of 7,000 men. It was chiefly for the purpose of aiding the civil power that the troops were called out.

Remarks.—Proceedings were commenced in the court in consequence of Governor Pine's orders to that effect. The lawyer referred to acted entirely under Governor Pine's orders, as per his despatches. The companies (seven) do not number 4,000 strong.

6275. What was the amount of fine imposed on the King?—Colonel Conran: 20*l*.

Remarks.—20*l*. with about 5*l*. costs.

6276. What was the end of the story?—Colonel Conran: The King paid the fine and submitted to the English law.

Remarks.—The Colonel was in error here, or perhaps he had high official authority for saying so. The King never paid the fine. On the contrary, after Mr. Pine had called the troops out and King Aggery had openly insulted him at two meetings, and positively refused to apologise, although the most influential men in Cape Coast urged him to do so, headed by Mr. Pine himself—but no; the King said he was determined he would not gratify the Queen's representative. Mr. Pine then publicly stated that he would not recognise John Aggery to be any longer King of Cape Coast. In the midst of this confusion and defiance from the King of Cape Coast, Mr. Richard Pine, Governor of the Gold Coast, ordered the money to be paid (unsolicited by the King) out of the British Government chest by a voucher, which is now filed in the Receiver-General's office, bearing Mr. Pine's and his Colonial Secretary's signatures. John Aggery was then asked by Mr. Pine to give a note of hand to pay the amount conditionally. And so ended the fine and its payment—John Aggery still refusing to pay the money.

6277. Were the troops called out?—Colonel Conran: The troops were called out, and remained out for an hour or two, when they were recalled into barracks, the affair having been settled.

Remarks.—The Colonel might have answered this with great truth had he known the secret—the affair having been settled by Mr. Pine paying the fine out of the Government chest.

7522. Did you summon a council of that sort before the Ashantee war?—Mr. Richard Pine: I called upon all persons to come forward and hear my directions.

Remarks.—This is an evasive answer. "Hear his directions." But it would appear not to counsel, or deliberate upon them, as was so strongly urged by Commodore Wilmot at the first onset.

7525. Did you find them all come?—Mr. Richard Pine: Scarcely a man was absent.

Remarks.—Mr. Pine committed a grievous mistake here; very, very few came.

7526. From what distance in the interior did they come?—Mr. Richard Pine: From the furthest parts.

Remarks.—Most incorrect; as every one on the Coast knows.

7527. Did the chiefs of Denkera and Akim, and others, come?—Mr. Richard Pine: They either came, or sent their sons, nephews, or messengers.

Remarks.—This answer of Mr. Pine has astonished even his friends; it being notorious that at the meeting only the Cape Coast people were present, with one or two exceptions.

7558. How does the sprit licence work?—Mr. Richard Pine: At present it works very well, every one has acceded to it.

Remarks.—This is not so; the people are very much opposed to this tax; but, as they say, "We have no big guns, or forts, we must submit. We petitioned against it, but were denounced by Mr. Pine as seditious and mutinous" (by proclamation).

7759. Do you think that that is a desirable tax?—Mr. Richard Pine: I thought so.

Remarks.—If the place was a colony doubtless it would be, but this law was made by people who were not elected by the Fantees

to legislate for them, therefore it is an arbitrary and vexatious tax, and is most unpopular with all the natives.

7560. Do you think so now?—Mr. Richard Pine: Yes, I do.

Remarks.—If drunkenness and riots are successes, then it is most successful.

7561. It is a success, on the whole?—Mr. Richard Pine: Yes.

Remarks.—This answer is on a par with all of Mr. Pine's replies.

7689. Do you think your authority in it has increased during that time?—Mr. Richard Pine: I hardly know whether I should not be accused of egotism if I say, that since the days of Governor McClean, I do not think they have had greater confidence in any one.

Remarks.—This reply would be better answered by King Aggery, and all his people, than by any one else.

7829. Do you suppose that such a force might be levied again in case of emergency?—Mr. Pine: I am sure it might.

7830. Was that force tolerably efficient?—Mr. Pine: It was very good so far as it went. The late Mr. Hutchinson embodied forty men who never received sixpence.

Remarks.—Mr. Pine committed a great mistake here, and also a great injustice to others. The late Mr. Hutchinson never embodied forty men. There were nineteen volunteers who enrolled themselves under him. They were composed of European and native clerks of houses here, and were not Mr. Hutchinson's "own people" or slaves, as Mr. Pine would have the committee believe. Of these nineteen volunteers only thirteen went to the camp, and no one knows it better than Mr. Pine.

7831. How were they armed?—Mr. Pine: Their own masters armed them, but when they were short of arms, I supplied them from the Government store in a requisition upon the Colonel commanding.

Remarks.—This is most incorrect. Every arm that the volunteers had belonged to the Government, and Mr. Pine knows it well, as he gave orders for every arm that the volunteers received.

7833. Did not Mr. Finlason raise a force of this kind?—Mr. Pine: Yes, but they were not "his people."

Remarks.—By this most remarkable answer of Mr. Pine, one would imagine that his memory had fled. For a refutation to his own statement, I quote his own words under date November 9, 1863, Despatch 98, addressed to the late Duke of Newcastle. "When about to visit the camp of Ajimacoon, Cape Coast had been so drained of its inhabitants that my departure was rendered almost impossible for want of hammock-bearers and carriers; but Mr. Finlason, a merchant here, most courteously offered me a portion of the forty volunteers which he had embodied, clothed, and maintained at his own expense, provided I would permit him to accompany me with them as a body guard, to which I thankfully consented. Mr. Finlason, whom I appointed a captain of volunteers, remained with me for nearly a month, placing his men entirely at my disposal, and had the advance I so desired been effected, I should have proceeded with the utmost confidence under the escort of forty native volunteers of known courage, attired in Garibaldian costume, and making no contemptible appearance." This alone furnishes a tangible refutation to Mr. Pine's own statement. Why he should desire to laud the late Mr. Hutchinson for deeds which he never performed, and to withhold the merit that is due to others, is well known on the Coast, and doubtless ere this it is known to Mr. Cardwell himself. Mr. Adderley appears to have known of the existence of Mr. Pine's despatch of November 9, 1863, which, coupled with more notoriously recent reports and events at Cape Coast Castle, induced him to put this question to Mr. Pine. There is only one expression of opinion on the Coast, and that is, that the public, more particularly Mr. Pine's own friends, regret much that he should not have exhibited a little more respect for truth, and the august assembly before which he ought (however much he disliked certain political opponents on the Coast) to have restrained those feelings, which were one of the principal means of bringing him into disrepute amongst the virtuous portion of the Gold Coast community, and by whom he can never be respected as a British Governor ought to be.

WM. CHARLES FINLASON.

(To be continued.)

ABEOKUTA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

September 30, 1865.

Sir,—In your August number you have an article headed "The Yoruba Countries," and another on Lagos, dated July 9th. As I am interested in the welfare of this country, I wish to notice in this letter some of the subjects referred to in those articles.

1st. The policy of the Lagos Government, and its results. I

* Evidence of this is in our possession.—Ed. A. T.

grant that, by Lagos being a British colony, the slave-trade has, to some extent, been stopped. I say, "to some extent," for lately it has revived; but has trade increased? I say, No! and I think that any one who has been in Lagos will acknowledge that, since the British took possession of it, it has declined.

2nd. The road to Ibadan, by what is falsely called "the more direct road of Ikorodu." This celebrated road, upon which so many "airy castles" have been built, has been for some time open, with all the advantages it is possible for it to possess, since it is the only road open to the Coast. What is the result? When your article on Lagos was written, a quantity of oil and cotton went to Lagos by way of Ikorodu; but it had not been brought from Ibadan; it had been plundered by the Ibadans from the Egba farms; and when that was over, the influx of oil and cotton gradually ceased. This road is not so good as the one by way of Abeokuta, for during the rainy season, or from March to November, it is very bad for travelling, and is a four days' journey with a load; while the road from here to Ibadan is only a day and a-half's journey, and then the river affords an easy mode of conveyance to Lagos. The Egbas know this, and therefore, when requested by the Governor, they stopped their people from disturbing any one who was going from Ibadan to Lagos by that route. The Ibadans know it too; and, as a proof, we may give the following: Every day traders come and go from this place to Ibadan; *via* Ikorodu to Lagos, perhaps a caravan passes once in three weeks. Let me here state that the town of Ibadan is not so large as Abeokuta, and it contains no more inhabitants, if as many.

3. The treatment of the Egbas at Ikorodu. The facts are as follows: After the Egbas had driven home the Ibadans, the Governor prevailed upon them to go to attack Ikorodu, promising, if they were not able to take the place in ten days, he would help them. He did not help them, but let them remain there some months, then, seeing that they were about to take the place, he sent men to help the Ikorodu people. When the troops sent by him arrived there, the man in command sent an Ikorodu man—therefore an enemy to the Egbas—with a message to the Egbas to leave the place in twenty-four hours; but, as might have been expected, this man did not deliver the message sent, nor the answer returned, faithfully, but deceived both sides. In two hours and a-half the Egbas were fired upon by the British troops, and numbers killed and taken captive; many of the captives were sold in the British colony of Lagos, so the slave-trade is not stopped there.

The Governor stopped all communication with this place some time before he attacked the Egbas, and so no warning of his intention reached us. He thus exposed to danger the British subjects here. Since that time his acts of oppression are too many to notice here, but a few may be given: He would not allow any letter to go from this place to England for some months after this affair took place, so only his own account could be circulated there. He would not let the missionaries have their letters until June. He placed men to blockade the land road, who sold some who had a right to pass that way into slavery, cruelly beat others, and it is reported that some were beaten to death, while many were robbed. He publicly insulted the gentleman who went down from this place to act as mediator between the two Governments, and his men on the road threatened to strike the same gentleman. For this no redress was to be obtained. He prevents the Egbas resident in Lagos from going to their farms. So the man who has got the Egba mark on his face has to suffer, while the man with the Ibadan mark is caressed and promoted. This is done by him who professes to know no tribal distinctions, but to treat all the same. He has now issued a proclamation, in which we find that none who are British subjects are permitted to trade between the two places, thus hindering the opening up of the resources of this country, the very object which all its well-wishers so much desire to see accomplished.

If you would insert this letter in your valuable paper, you would oblige, yours truly,

ORRO.

THE BASUTOS.—*Moshesh Made to Pay Old Debts.*—Alarmed by the successful incursions which the Boers are making into the Lesuto, Moshesh sent to "Nomansland," to the care of Captain Adam Kok, 15,000 sheep, 10,000 head of cattle, and 5,000 horses. The pressure put on by the Boer commandos prevented the usually cautious chief from taking the precautionary step of first ascertaining whether Adam Kok was willing to accept the charge. The man who brought the stock also brought a request of Moshesh to Adam Kok, who received charge of them and sent back the reply to Moshesh that they would be kept to liquidate the old debt due by the Basutos to the Griquas, with the interest that must be calculated upon the original. The debt is another term for the thefts of stock which the Basutos had made from the Griquas when living in their vicinity.

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The African Times.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1865.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO AFRICAN-AID SOCIETY.

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Wm. Rosenbush, Esq., ditto.	1	0	0
C. Rosenbush, Esq., ditto.	1	0	0

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

GREAT NEWS FOR LIBERIA.—150 emigrants from Virginia were to embark for Liberia on the 1st November.

There is now reasonable hope that the slave-trade will soon cease on the West Coast of Africa. In a report of the Spanish Ministry to the Queen, published as the preamble of a Royal Decree, the Minister says that "the extinction of the slave-trade in the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico is the most imperative of the duties of the Government in the administration of the provinces," and that without that extinction all will go to ruin there.

An Ashantee messenger has been sent down by the King to a merchant on the Coast with patterns of silk damasks, &c., required by his Majesty. Strong hopes are entertained that peaceful relations with Ashantee will be again established.

The Company of African Merchants have purchased, and are about to send out, a steam vessel, for the local coast trade of Sierra Leone with the northern rivers, Sherbro, and Liberia.

One-pound bank-notes, payable to bearer on demand in Sierra Leone, have been issued there by Messrs. Rosenbush, of that colony.

It is understood that Governor-General Blackall will not leave for Sierra Leone until December 24.

There has been an insurrection in the eastern districts of Jamaica (Morant Bay, &c.). Horrible enormities were committed. The insurrection was immediately suppressed, as little or no resistance was made to the regular troops, and a great many executions have taken place.

The territory of Natal has been increased 1,000,000 acres by a new annexation of almost unoccupied Caffir lands.

GOVERNORS, AND OTHER SUPERIOR OFFICIALS, FOR THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

THERE are great difficulties in the way of efficient administration on the West Coast. This fact is always before our eyes. We never lose sight of it, or fail to allow its influence when we have occasion to expose or animadvert on omissions or commissions there. The half-written sentence is suppressed—the intended *exposé* and animadversion are deferred—and we wait and hope. We can sympathise, and that deeply, with the Secretary of State for the Colonies whenever abuses that imperil British character and prestige are reported to Downing-street. That they are sure to come unofficially for the most part, is only an added bitter in the official draught; and that we, or others through whom they may come, should be looked upon for the moment as troublesome intruders, is no more than we ought to be prepared for. Whenever a Governor is selected and sent out, it may be presumed that the choice falls upon the supposed best man within the reach or knowledge of the Minister, as also in the case of all other superior officers, that they are chosen with equal regard to the duties they will have to perform, and the position they will have creditably to sustain. We feel that it must, therefore, be a source of great pain when a Minister is forced to admit to himself that the best human judgment is so very fallible, or that the only men within his reach for such appointments are for the most part so unfitted for the delegated trust. And it is because we feel this, as well as a constant anxiety for the advancement of the African colonies and settlements, both morally and materially, that we are induced to point out one at least of the causes why men who were expected to turn out well have so greatly disappointed those expectations. The salaries of Governors and superior officers on the West Coast are not sufficient for the duties they have to fulfil and the position they are called upon to maintain. Not sufficient is, indeed, far too mild a term, for they are absolutely and indisputably inadequate. Let it be

borne in mind that these settlements are not isolated, distant, and unfrequently visited, like some islands in the South Seas. Two mail steamers per month call at each of them. There is an African slave-trade suppression squadron on the Coast, one or other of the ships of which frequently visits them. At all of them there are the well-paid agents of opulent English or other European houses or commercial companies. It is impossible for an English Governor, or other high official, to disregard what are considered to be the hospitable duties of his station. And, now, bearing all this in mind, in addition to the peculiarities of a climate which seems to be always either unduly exciting or unduly depressing both mind and body—bearing all this in mind, look at a miserable twelve hundred a-year for a Governor, who has to bring from England, at great cost, every article of food, drink, clothing, furniture belonging to the usages of civilised life. Is it any wonder that for the most part they have not sufficient self-command, not sufficient iron self-restraint to prevent their getting into debt—coming under peculiar obligations to the mercantile gentlemen by whom they are surrounded, who *féte* them and are *féted* by them; and that so falling into debt, and coming under such pecuniary obligations, they lose that independence which it is so essential to good government that they should maintain, are unable to resist improper importunities and demands, and are drawn into participation in practices which they ought to discontinue and to check? It is not a matter for surprise. Knowing how men are generally constituted, we should rather be surprised that even one out of ten keeps clear of the vicious circle which is so ruinous to efficiency and to administrative prestige! We notice this particularly at the present moment, when new arrangements are making as regards Governors and other officials on the West Coast, and we boldly maintain that every gentleman holding the position of Lieutenant-Governor there, as under the supposed new regulations, ought to have not less than two thousand a-year, and that there should be a proportionate increase in the salaries of the other superior officials. We know we shall be met immediately with the cry of, where is the money to come from? We reply at once by the principle that this great country has no right to employ, and is disgraced by employing, officers whom it cannot afford adequately to pay. But in addition to this, if it must be insisted on that no greater sum can or shall be allowed for salaries at any West African colony or settlement than is at present fixed for that purpose, we say unhesitatingly that means for the increased salaries may be found by changes that will at the same time benefit Africa and its people in other ways. Reduce the number of European officials—fill all the subordinate offices, many of which are still held by Europeans, with educated Africans at more moderate salaries—and do not allow the employment of any more of the latter than are indispensable. Much may be done by the consolidation of offices at present giving claim to separate pay, although the *excessive* (!) duties of them occupy only one or two hours a-day, or three or four hours per week. A correspondent at the Gambia showed us lately that two or three thousand pounds a-year might easily be retrenched in the Civil Service there. We cannot, therefore, admit that there would be any insuperable, or even any great difficulty in carrying into effect the changes we suggest. We desire that the characters of our superior European officials on the Coast, from the Governor downward, should stand high among the natives, whose civilization they have to promote, and we earnestly entreat the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who is known to have the best interests of the African colonies and settlements so much at heart, to embody some such changes as we have here proposed in those new regulations said to be preparing. He will then do very great good. We can have no interest but the good of Africa in such suggestions—we, who have been but too generally denounced as an enemy of the whole body of British officials on the Coast, instead of being, as we are, only the enemy of vice and misconduct in officials such as are prejudicial to Africa, and disgraceful to European character. What we say is, pay them adequately—pay them even largely, but exact in return pure and independent conduct in the discharge of the duties of their office, and a good example to the people over and among whom they bear authority. Pay them well—but from that moment let it be understood that the fact of their being in any pecuniary difficulties should be a disqualification for office, and a sufficient reason for their immediate recall.

AFRICAN PROSPECTS.

ANOTHER and an important step has been made toward the civilization of Africa. The light of dawn is deepening on her horizon. The darkness of her night has been intensified and prolonged by the foreign slave-trade, and while any portion of that traffic continues to be carried on along the coast, there can be no real day for her. Happily, the results we expected from

the struggle in America are beginning to appear. Spain frankly recognises the position she has hitherto maintained as regards that slave-trade to be no longer tenable. We refer our readers to the *exposé* of the Spanish Minister to his Sovereign, and to Queen Isabella's proclamation which follows it. The slave-trade is really to be suppressed! It is to be declared piracy!! We think that this time the promise is something more than "to the ear," and that the hope it calls forth will be realised. God grant that it may be so. We have waited long for this, but we were sure it must come; and, even to human reason, it could not have come more opportunely. Lord Palmerston, the great and consistent defender of the employment of a squadron for the suppression of the slave-trade, has been taken away from among us. Every one familiar with the political men and facts of the time knows well that but for Lord Palmerston's constant presence in the breach whenever an onslaught was made in the House of Commons against the position of the "squadron," the works would have been carried, and our efforts for slave-trade suppression on the coasts of Africa would have come to an end. And anxious men said "whenever Lord Palmerston dies, such will speedily be the result." That event has occurred; and now, at the very moment, the force of circumstances has compelled the Spanish Government to face the great question of the African slave-trade, in a very different spirit to that which it had hitherto manifested with regard to it. There is a frank confession, that not only must the African slave-trade be put an end to, but that the whole question of slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico must be dealt with, or the dominion of Spain in those parts of the world will become a thing of the past alone, to the great shame and reproach of the Spanish nation. We look now, therefore, at the African slave-trade as virtually defunct. The slave-traders may destroy their slave-pens and barracoons in Dahomey, at the Congo, and elsewhere, or convert them into factories for legitimate commerce; and the whole Western Coast will be freed from the terrible scourge. And the results in Africa cannot fail to be rapidly important as regards the spread of civilising agencies. The blood-house has been built over the grave of the predecessor of the present King of Dahomey. Comparatively few victims will henceforth be required for sacrifice at Abomey and Cannah during the lifetime of the present King; and as there will be no market for slaves on the Coast, the King could no longer obtain a revenue for himself and his chiefs by any predatory excursions against neighbouring peoples and territories. It will be recognised at once that it is of no use to get slaves for sale if no one will buy them; and it will become imperative for the King to encourage agriculture and commerce in his dominions in order to obtain the revenue he requires. The same at the River Congo. There, too, the last great sticklers for the foreign slave-trade must succumb; and the natural resources of the country for legitimate trade must be in some degree developed. The slave-trade has created in those countries a necessity for certain supplies of European and other foreign articles. The chiefs and people must and will now have those things; and as they cannot be paid for in slaves, they must and will find some rich produce of the soil to take the place of human flesh and blood. We look, therefore, for great and important changes—for a great extension of legitimate commerce with Africa, and the spread of Christian civilising agencies among the people bordering on the Western Coast.

And now Portugal must—must put an end to the slave-trade from her East African possessions—or if she is unable to do so must be constrained to withdraw from the scene and allow some one else to do it for her. The horrible slave-trade carried on by the Arabs up the Persian Gulf, from the East Coasts of Africa, must be swept away. Let due notice be given in those regions, that after a certain date all slave-trade will be treated as piracy, and then a few examples will close the infamous slave-trade history of the Arab dhows.

Yes, the dawn of the day of civilization, of Christian civilization, is deepening on the African horizon.

THE RELATIONS OF LAGOS WITH ABEOKUTA.

WE are not at all satisfied with what is taking place at Lagos. We have never embarrassed the actual local colonial government by a severe examination of, or strictures upon its acts and ordinances. We have never done more than gently hint, during the *reign* of the present Governor, that there were some of them we found it difficult to reconcile, to understand, or to approve, without explanations for which we sought in vain. But in the interests of African civilization, of the African people, of legitimate commerce, and therefore of Lagos itself, this sort of indulgence cannot be indefinitely extended. We have given the local government *carte blanche* for a long period—perhaps for too long a one. The late ordinance issued there makes us feel very strongly that this is the case. It is about the first time in the history and career of our colonies that we have heard, or read, or known of the fact of being a British subject constituting a dis-

qualification for carrying on trade beyond the limits of the colony. This seems to us a monstrous doctrine, or principle, or whatever it may seem fit to his Excellency to designate it. An export duty of two and a-half per cent. on British and other goods sent from Lagos for Abeokuta! and no British merchant shall be engaged in the trade!! We shall wait the arrival of next month's mail with no little impatience.

Meanwhile we insert two letters from Abeokuta which come to us with the facts they enumerate seemingly so well authenticated, that we had really no choice left about publishing them. If—we say if—the facts are really as therein stated—if there be "nothing extenuate, nor ought set down in malice," we were indeed justified in those doubts we expressed about the raising of the siege of Ikorodu, that there was something not altogether right; not altogether clear and honourable, in the dealings of the Lagos Executive with the Egbas, among whose hosts such havoc had been committed by rockets, rifles, and bayonets. The importance of Abeokuta as regards the spread of civilization, if in constant friendly alliance with Lagos and in peaceful relations with its African neighbours, is indisputable; and we cannot approve (leaving the past, reopened by the letters we have inserted, for the present unjudged) of any measures that tend to prolong the epoch of alienation after the Abeokuta authorities have made—as it seems to us that they have made—every reasonable concession to Lagos demands.

THE CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

AMONG the visible means for the accomplishment of the great work of the Christian civilization of Africa, we have ever pointed to a possible immigration into Africa of considerable numbers of American negroes released from the cruel yoke of slavery. Some people, with more energy than discretion, have from time to time carpied at this, and made it a matter for accusation against us that we should hold such a doctrine. According to them, the only civilization for which those children of African blood could have been preparing in slavery, was the civilization of, and civilization in, the United States of America. According to them, the emancipated mass starts forth a species of moral phoenix from the ashes of an immoral servitude—they are admirably fitted for an immediate assimilation of blood with the other citizens of the Republic of European origin or descent—admirably fitted for all the duties of citizenship in the great American Republic; but it can never have been intended by God that the regeneration of Africa should in any way be owing to a preparation of the agents employed, under such a system of slavery as that which has been happily exterminated in the United States. They would have that great mass of people absorbed by the greater mass, by miscegenation or some other similar process—lost as a race by admixture with that mass—and that horrible system of which they were the suffering victims stand out for ever in the history of the past an enormity out of which no good has, no good ever could be evoked.

We are never surprised when men who make no profession of Christian belief quarrel with and dispute the administrative workings of God's providence. The making evil that has been committed an involuntary agent for producing future good, is one of the mysteries of the Divine government of the world at which the unrestrained thinker is almost sure to stumble. The pride of human intellect places itself in direct antagonism with Infinite Wisdom, and cavils at its decisions. The overruling hand of God has been so plainly evident in what has been already achieved in Sierra Leone and in Liberia—in what is in progress at the Gambia, the Gold Coast, and Lagos, that only such a predetermination not to perceive it could, we think, possibly blind any reflecting man to a truth so solemnly proclaimed of old by the great inspired prophets of Israel, and so conspicuously demonstrated in the crucifixion of our Saviour, and in the great results which have flowed to the human race from that crowning iniquity of mankind. Devoted, therefore, as we are to the work of the Christian civilization of Africa, we shall never shrink from the expression of our belief that out of that great sin and shame of Christian Europe, the slave trade—now, we hope, so near extinction—out of that transatlantic slavery, which has been so foul a blot in the history of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries—God has been, and is, organising the deliverance of Africa from that dominion of evil which has, during so many ages, deluged her with blood, and made her a loathsome theatre of horrors and enormities. What has been done at Sierra Leone, now sending forth her native Christian teachers, her native traders, into other parts of Western Africa, bearing with them, however mixed they may be with the chaff of vices and errors, the seeds of Christian civilization, could scarcely have been effected, humanly speaking, but for the presence and efforts of that squadron, and its accessories, which Great Britain has, in atonement for former guilt, employed on the West Coast of Africa. Christian Liberia, again, is an offspring of American slavery. Fifteen thousand emanci-

pated slaves, or the children of such slaves, now constitute a Christian nation on the coast of Africa, with Christian laws, institutions, and teaching—a state formed after the pattern of that country in which they and their forefathers were in bondage, and where they learned the rudiments of that Christian civilization which they cannot fail to propagate until it embraces and absorbs a great variety of tribes and peoples. And, as if to afford an additional evidence of the correctness of our belief and views, there now comes to us from the United States—from that Virginia which was the chief seat of the suppressed Government of the States which seceded from the Union, but which have now again entered it—intelligence of the approaching departure of a band of voluntary emigrants for Liberia, seemingly the vanguard of a more extensive emigration. In the *Times* of Friday, November 3, the following appeared among the intelligence from the United States: "A large number of negroes living in Virginia have petitioned their former masters for money to help them to go to Liberia. It is said 150 of them will start for that colony on November 1. They say: 'We expect to leave this city on November 1 next, for our fatherland, and leave you all for no reason but the one above mentioned; none of us will carry with us the prejudices and ill-will that might arise from our being held in bondage by you, as your slaves. We know that you have been our best friends, and we feel it now the more, though we are free. You all know the peculiar situation the termination of the late war has left us in; so, therefore, we call upon you to aid us in our enterprise. We know your generous and sympathetic hearts will not let you stand aloof from us in our endeavours to do good for ourselves and people. Some of us are capable of conveying ideas of the mechanical arts; some can unfold to them, in our poor way, the marvellous light of the Gospel, and point them the way to God. We are not going to try to educate the people of Liberia, because from what we can learn they are far our superiors in intelligence, wealth, and learning; but Africa generally. Some of us have a good common education, which we think will be of value to those who have not.'"

We have nothing to do with the expressions of kindly feeling toward their former masters, and will not, therefore, leave a loophole through which even malevolence could seek to make us advocates of or apologists for the abomination which from the very first days of the late civil war in America we maintained must necessarily be put an end to, whatever might otherwise be the issue of the conflict. What we have to do with is the fact of the proposed emigration, and the declaration by the emigrants of the nature of the work which they believed it devolved on them to perform in Africa. And we may be allowed to confess that we hope we see in this seemingly voluntary movement toward Africa among the lately-emancipated slaves in America the first-fruits of an impulse which may possibly raise within a very few years the civilised population of Liberia from 15,000 to 100,000 souls. There is room in Liberia for an immigration to ten times that amount from America, and no one who has watched (as who is there among us who has not?) the enormous emigration from Ireland to the United States during the last twenty years—an emigration to which those States have been indebted for very much of the material development which has made their resources now so great, can deny the possibility of an emigration from thence to Africa of hundreds of thousands of their emancipated negro population. This little band may be like the cloud no bigger than a man's hand which the servant of the prophet beheld on the horizon, and which his inspired master knew to be the sign of the approach of that "abundance of rain" so necessary then to the refreshment of a parched-up land. We only say, we hope that it may be so. Liberia has as much need of such an influx of population, if her great work of Christian civilization in Africa is speedily to become effective, as the land of Israel had of the water which had been for so long a time withheld from it. Yes, humbly waiting for God's time, *we hope!* And it may yet be that those who have desired to cast ridicule on the efforts of the African-Aid Society and of the *African Times* for the moral, material, and Christian regeneration of Western Africa, will have to confess that we have not hoped or laboured in vain.

INSURRECTION IN JAMAICA.

It is with great pain we have to record the fact of horrible excesses among the Jamaica negro population in the eastern districts of the island, such as deserved, and have brought down upon them, the severest retribution. The outbreak at Morant Bay on the 10th October will fill a dark page in the history of the island; and has exhibited a portion of the negro population in such a light, that many further evil results to them cannot fail to flow from it. By the latest news yet received, up to the 25th October, at which time the insurrection had been effectually suppressed, and it is said above two hundred of the guilty wretches hung, it is asserted to have been established, by most conclusive evidence, that this outbreak was a premature ex-

plosion; that a widely-organised conspiracy had been entered into, for a general massacre of the whites and mulattoes on Christmas-day next; and that the excesses which have providentially led to the discovery of that atrocious scheme only took place at the time already mentioned, because one of the local leading conspirators had got into some trouble with the authorities about other matters, and therefore hastened the explosion, for his own especial private ends. The intention was to make another Hayti of Jamaica. It will perhaps be remembered by some of our readers that we alluded, two or three years ago, to the pernicious doctrines emanating from the American agents at New York for organising and conducting an emigration of the free coloured people to Hayti. Their inflammatory productions were widely circulated through the West India Islands, the whole of which these productions asserted ought to be, were destined to become, and must be erected into, a great federal black republic. We showed how dangerous such doctrines might become when preached assiduously to populations only twenty or thirty years ago freed from the yoke of slavery; and who might be made to believe the absurdity that such a power as that of Great Britain would allow those islands to be thus wrested from her. Our fears have now, unhappily, been realised. It is clear that such an absurdity has been credited by an ignorant people, who have been instigated to an imitation of the vilest excesses committed in St. Domingo, when an oppressed slave population rose against their taskmasters under the exciting influences of the French Revolution—its proclamations of "liberty, equality, and fraternity"—and its reign of blood and terror. The free negro population of Jamaica cannot plead such circumstances or such exciting causes in extenuation of their heavy crime; and unless it can be entirely disproved that any such general conspiracy for a massacre of the whites at Christmas did exist, the negroes must remain under the ban of European opinion. They who sow the wind must expect to reap the whirlwind; or, if they do not expect it, they have no reason to find fault with the crop when it comes, however hard it may be to bear it. There is no real advance of Christian civilization possible without security for life and property, and these cannot exist where a population exhibits such tendencies as those partly exhibited and further alleged in Jamaica. We cannot, however, refrain from one remark. Many public writers have commented upon the late disastrous intelligence as if the commission of such barbarities were a peculiarity of the African race. This is unjust, and contrary to the teachings of history. We shall not go, however, into a catalogue of other enormities. We have no desire to diminish by one iota the feelings of horror which those of the Jamaica negroes have aroused; and we are glad that the punishment has been quick, sharp, and decisive.

ANAMABOE.

A meeting of the committee of the Anamaboe Temperance Society was held on the 6th inst., President R. I. Gharthey in the chair. F. C. Bannasko, Temperance schoolmaster, was elected vice-president of the society. Two advocates for the cause were appointed. It was reported to this society that eighteen persons have joined by signing the pledge at Kuntu. The society is about to enlarge their temperance well. King Coffee Apfary, of this place, has determined to give them all the assistance in his power to finish it, as at present the town of Anamaboe and all the adjoining villages receive their supply of water from it.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

October 11, 1865.

Sir,—I beg to enclose you papers to be inserted in your journal respecting the death of poor James Annaman, our late vice-president, who died on the 13th September last. He died in the Lord, so our loss is his eternal gain. He lived as a Christian, died as a Christian, and will rise again as a Christian at the resurrection day:—

DEATH OF MR. JAMES ANNAMAN.—It is with deepest regret we communicate the loss of Mr. James Annaman, one of the respectable gentlemen in this town, a leader and a local preacher of the Wesleyan body, an advocate, treasurer, and vice-president of the Anamaboe Temperance Society, who died at half-past nine o'clock P.M. on the 13th September, 1865, and was interred in the Wesleyan Cemetery on the 14th idem. His remains were accompanied to the Wesleyan chapel by a large body of people from the town, and some from distant places, to pay their last respects. The chapel could not contain them—young and old, Christians and heathens. One of the local preachers, after appropriate hymns, delivered an address showing the character and the faithfulness in the offices and positions he filled of the lamented brother deceased, and then repeated his last words, uttered a few hours before he departed this life. When he was questioned, he answered, "I am among the same travellers. I was a sinner. My hope is in Christ. I have prepared for Jesus." The Temperance Society have lost one of the most influential and useful

men in the place. He left behind him a widow and six children. The Rev. T. Laing preached his funeral sermon from Rev. xiv. 13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord," &c., on Sunday, September 24, to a large congregation.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

By the arrival of Her Majesty's steamer Tamar, from Simon's Bay, on Tuesday, Nov. 7, news has been received from the Cape of Good Hope to the 23rd of September.

The Basuto war was not settled. The Boers were, however, tired of their campaign, and some of them were talking of retiring to their farms, and divisions had taken place among them through want of confidence in their officers. The second Whitworth cannon had burst.

President Braund had been sent for to negotiate with Mosheesh. George Mosheesh was at Aliwal North, with dispatches for the Governor. He acknowledged that the Basutos were beaten, but said they would not give over their country to the Boers, although they would to the English. He remained awaiting the Governor's reply.

A scheme was afloat in the eastern province for colonising Basuto with English settlers. The speculation was expected to turn out very profitable.

FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

Marseilles, November 16.

Intelligence received here to-day from Madagascar announces that the Hovas persisted in requiring the French commandant to give up the treaty concluded with M. Lambert to be destroyed, and that France should renounce all her rights in the country. Commandant Tricault had therefore left the island, declining to accept the indemnity offered upon these conditions.

SUPPRESSION OF THE SPANISH SLAVE-TRADE.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Important documents, comprising the report of the Spanish Ministry to the Queen upon the advisability of suppressing the slave-trade, and her Majesty's decree consequent thereupon, have just been issued. The report says:—

The extinction of the slave-trade in the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico is the most imperative of the duties of the Government in the administration of those provinces. Unless the importation of slaves from Africa be given up in all parts, it will be fruitless to seek any kind of conservative or pacific solution to the difficult problem of slavery, as, sooner or later, those provinces and your Majesty's Government would be subjected to a ruinous solution, which would sweep away and destroy for ever the moral and material interests of our race in the Antilles.

Deeply convinced of this, the present Government included in its political programme the proposition which they now begin to realise of submitting to your Majesty all measures rendered by circumstances indispensable for the extinction of a traffic no less baneful than inhuman. Some of these steps cannot be adopted without the concurrence of the Cortes, and the Government will therefore lay before that assembly for consideration at its next session a bill for supplying the deficiencies and increasing the responsibilities of the penal law of 1843, to the extent of declaring many of the steps resorted to in order to realise and favour the slave-trade in our dominions as actual piracy. Vigilance on the coasts is another means of repression, which is at present adopted with perseverance and success, and it is only necessary to augment its efficiency by increasing the number of vessels employed in this service in American waters, for which purpose the Government has already made suitable arrangements.

But, your Majesty, legal penalties and vigilance on the coasts are not sufficient. The evil must be sought and followed up to its very foundations. Measures for this purpose will form the object of other administrative resources already prepared, and some of which are specified in the present decree.

Nothing claims a more urgent solution in the complicated question at issue than the fate of negroes who have been emancipated and taken from slavery by the Spanish authorities and forces. These individuals, already free, only remain under the guardianship of the administration for a period which cannot be indefinite, and it is requisite that they should recover the free disposal of their actions as soon as the interests created by their legal position permit. There is no reason, therefore, granting this to be the case, for restricting the liberty of negroes apprehended anew from the moment that the Government removes them, as freedmen, to any other Spanish possession where no slavery exists. The regulations which apply in general to free labourers of their class are, consequently, the only ones by which they can be affected, if they do not prefer being restored to their native country.

At this very time, your Majesty, these principles may be acted upon with regard to 103 negroes, recent victims of the slave-trade, who were captured in September last, owing to the in-

defatigable zeal of the chief authority of the island of Cuba. Once brought to Fernando Po, where the laws do not permit slavery, they will be able to choose between returning to Africa and remaining in that island under contracts, like free labourers.

The other emancipated negroes at present in the Spanish provinces of the Antilles merit equal protection, and ought to obtain it the day their present engagements (*consignaciones*) terminate, which, according to the arrangement in force, cannot last more than five years. As the negroes will then return to the depot to be employed in public works alone, the Government will be enabled to leave at liberty all those who can count five years' residence in the islands of Cuba or Porto Rico, permitting them to remain therein under the same conditions as other negroes of their class, or conveying them to other parts which may be designated by themselves.

From the moment the Government leaves the emancipated negroes in complete liberty to dispose of their actions, nothing can be allowed to trammel their freedom. The fate of these unfortunate persons deserves, notwithstanding, every protection possible while resident in Spanish territory; while, at the same time, the admirable purposes of the treaty of 28th June, 1835, are being fulfilled, equally with regard to the emancipated negroes comprised in that agreement, as in the case of those to be governed exclusively by the laws of Spain, dependent upon the manner and place of their apprehension.

In proposing to your Majesty an act so much in conformity with the noble sentiments of your august mind, the Government flatters itself with the hope that it may be permitted to bear witness to the good faith with which it purposes fulfilling the solemn compacts which, no less than its own conviction and the good name of the Spanish nation, compelled it to prosecute the slave-trade, and stamp it with the seal of the most absolute reprobation.

These measures will, moreover, be an evident proof of the special and assiduous attention which your Majesty's Government pays to the arduous and delicate questions which have to be resolved in the colonial provinces with both prudence and resolution. In view, therefore, of all the considerations expressed, and in accord with the Council of Ministers, the undersigned Ministry has the honour to submit to your Majesty's approbation the accompanying draft of a decree.

(Signed)

ANTONIO CANOVAS DEL CASTELLO.

"ROYAL DECREE."

"In conformity with the reasons laid before me by the Minister of the Colonies, and in accord with the Council of Ministers, I decree as follows:—

"Art. 1. The 103 negroes taken from a Portuguese vessel which the agents of the Spanish authorities captured in September last at El Gato, within the limits of the jurisdiction of San Cristobal and Pinar del Rio, shall be conveyed at the expense of the Government to the island of Fernando Po, or to any other of the Spanish possessions of the Gulf of Guinea.

"Art. 2. Furthermore, dating from the publication of the present decree, all negroes of every class, whom the Spanish authorities or forces may apprehend, in conformity with the treaties with foreign nations, and the laws and regulations of the kingdom prohibiting the slave-trade, shall also be conveyed to the same possessions.

"Art. 3. A special regulation shall determine the condition under which slaves resident in the island of Cuba or Porto Rico may pass from one island to the other, and shift their ground. Negroes apprehended under different circumstances, not coming within the category of fugitives, shall be dealt with according to Art. 2 of this decree.

"Art. 4. The removal of negroes referred to in the three foregoing Articles shall be effected immediately the tribunals or competent authorities have declared them to be emancipated, leaving them at the disposition of the superior civil governors. Her Majesty's Government will adopt fitting steps to have the declaration made out with the least possible delay, whatever may be the nature or character of the proceedings instituted by virtue of the capture.

"Art. 5. Negroes conveyed to the Spanish possessions in the Gulf of Guinea shall be completely free on their arrival therein, and shall be taken to any port they may designate on the coasts of the continent of Africa, unless they prefer remaining in the Spanish possessions under the protection of the Government, or engaging themselves as free labourers in the way adopted by the Kroomen, and for the term settled by the regulations.

"Art. 6. When negroes who have been removed prefer, in the exercise of their liberty, to remain in Fernando Po, or in any other of the possessions expressed in the foregoing articles, the Spanish authorities shall, in order to realise the admirable purposes of Supplement C of the treaty of 28th June, enforce the due fulfilment of Articles 1 and 4 of the above supplement, and of the regulations of the Government with regard to slaves who have obtained their free papers in the islands of Cuba and Porto

Rico, equally with respect to slaves emancipated by decisions of the tribunals of justice as in the case of those declared free by the Spanish tribunals.

"Art. 7. The authority formerly conceded to the Superior Civil Governors of colonial provinces where slavery existed, of compelling the labour of the negroes (*consignar*) is henceforth revoked.

"Art. 8. In proportion as the freedmen fulfil the term of their existing engagement, they will enter the depôt, where the Government will provide everything necessary for their subsistence and remuneration, occupying them on the public works as an obligatory task, so long as they remain in this state.

"Art. 9. The Government may declare free all emancipated slaves who have entered the depôt, and can count more than five years of residence in the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, authorising them to remain therein under the conditions determined by the regulations, or conveying them to one of the Spanish possessions of the Gulf of Guinea, or to any other place which they may designate.

"Art. 10. The faculty of extending the existing engagements of emancipated negroes is hereby prohibited. Henceforth the actual legitimate owners of emancipated slaves alone shall answer to the Government for the fulfilment of all the obligations arising from the engagement.

"Art. 11. The Minister of the Colonies shall dictate fitting instructions for the speedy and most exact execution of the present Royal decree.

"Given at San Ildefonso, Oct. 27, 1865.

(Signed)

"ISABELLO.

(Countersigned)

"ANTONIO CANOVAS DEL CASTELLO,
"Minister of the Colonies."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

October 4th, 1865.

Sir,—From time to time I have read with interest the exposure you have given in your valuable journal to the wrongs done to Africa communicated to you. Encouraged by your impartiality in giving publicity to any communications of the kind, I have taken up my pen to solicit your inserting this letter in your columns, in order to give some explanation about the Ikorodu affair, of which you have been misinformed.

Since that affair has taken place there is no one that reads the communications sent to your paper from Lagos month after month who will not arrive at the conclusion to which you have come—viz., justifying the Governor of Lagos in his proceedings towards Abeokuta. You will remember that after he had accomplished his "well-known policy" he prevents all communications from this place reaching England, thereby preventing any other account being circulated. If criticism never conquers truth, why did he put such a restriction on us?

Let me also inform you that the opening of the road to Ikorodu was not the object for which the Ibadans and the Abeokutans had been engaged in war, nor was that the cause that induced the Governor to carry an expedition against the Abeokutans, as the following narration of facts will serve to show:—

In the latter part of 1860 the Ibadans sent an expedition against Ijaye, in order to destroy it; and as that town was an ally of Abeokuta, they were bound to assist it. In that war the Ibadans gained the victory, and Ijaye was destroyed. The Egbas, on returning home, proceeded to Makun, a town which assisted the Ibadans against them, and destroyed it. On the Ibadans hearing this they got exasperated, and sent out another expedition against the Abeokutans between Ogere and Iperu. It was when the Ibadans were routed at these places that Governor Glover called at the Abeokutans' camp to congratulate them on their success over the Ibadans, and solicited them to make an immediate attack upon Ikorodu, who had wronged them by kidnapping their people when they were under British protection. He told them that British protection was withdrawn from the place, and in order to induce them to proceed he told them he would place a steamer on the Lagoon, so as to prevent them from escaping to Lagos; those who had done so he promised he would order to return. Both these promises he fulfilled. When the Abeokutans hesitated to comply with this request, he sent more than twice to hasten them to attack the place at once, stating that if they could not destroy the place after ten days he would assist them. He also gave them a British flag to make use of whenever he might visit them. It was intended as an ensign to show their attachment, or friendly relations, to the English. Some of the chiefs, suspecting that the Governor was setting snares for them, gave their opinion to the contrary. This, of course, brought a division among the chiefs and people, when at length all agreed to gratify the Governor's wishes. They were not at Ikorodu long before they knew by sad experience that the Governor was supplying their enemy with ammunition, &c. And when that town was

on the eve of being taken, on a sudden, without any due information, he took all the troops he could muster to Ikorodu and fired at the poor unfortunate Abeokutans with rifles, shells, and rockets, and thereby caused them to sustain the loss of some hundreds of men. The people of Iperu, whose town the Abeokutans had been defending against the Ibadans, took advantage of their flight and caught as many as fell into their hands. The Governor had sent privately to apprise the Ibadans of his intention against the Abeokutans, and requested them to lie in ambush on the day the attack was made. It is said the Governor gave the Abeokutans twenty-four hours' notice to raise the siege. This, they said, they would not have objected to, though it would have been a matter of impossibility to accomplish their removal within so short a time. But the messenger sent to apprise them was one of their enemies. He brought a wrong message to the people, and carried equally false ones to the commanding officer. The day and hour at which the people were ordered to quit the place arrived; they, suspecting no danger whatever from any superior power, saw some Europeans and some soldiers proceeding towards their camp; the British flag given to them by the Governor was put up according to the Governor's previous instruction. They then gave information that their people should assemble, as white men were coming to converse with them, or to settle the matter; when, to their great astonishment, they saw rockets and shells passing over their heads. Some thought it was play (not having seen it before). Others thought it was war declared upon them. This did not last long when rifles and shells began their work. The people do not think that it was in order that they should leave Ikorodu the Governor had taken this stealthy expedition against them, because they say that could have been obtained by his simply sending two despatches, one to the chiefs at the camp, and the other to the elders in the town. Besides, they say, if he did not wish to be at that trouble, he should have allowed their friends in Lagos, who knew of his proceedings, to give them the information. But he first cut off all means of communication by a blockade. The only direct information that would have reached them was when Tyero, a native trader in Lagos, prevailed on the Governor to allow him to inform the Egbas of what would take place if they did not retire from Ikorodu on a certain day. It was calculated between the Governor and Tyero that the bearer would reach it on the fourth day (because it was not safe to take the direct road), and if they did not remove on the fifth day the Governor would force them.

The bearer had only accomplished *two* days' journey when he met the scattered Egbas by the way, bewailing their losses, and stating how the Governor had "sent them to climb a tree and secretly cut it down." This act of the Governor had placed the lives and property of all British subjects in this country in danger. The people returned home in a rage against us, and intended to revenge themselves on us, because they thought we were privy to the Governor's conduct and refused to inform them. And the very existence of Christianity and civilization in this place was left to the mercy of the chiefs. But the Lord interfered on behalf of His infant church, and we were saved. Many days together no civilised man could walk out of doors freely. It is a matter of question now when Europeans will regain that influence which they once possessed in this country. I have forgotten to add that the Governor not only encouraged the Egbas to destroy Ikorodu by placing a steamer on the Lagoon, &c., but he gave Ogudipe, a chief, *two false rockets (which the chief now has in hand)* to make use of!

Time would fail me to relate all the deeds of wrong that have been perpetrated by the Hausa soldiers stationed to blockade the road to Abeokuta. Suffice it, however, to say, Abeokuta men have been mortally wounded, some have been flogged to death, women have been shamefully abused, and others have been sold to hopeless slavery; and what is surprising, *scores of Egbas have been sold in the British colony of Lagos*. Some have arrived here, redeemed by friends. The Governor, not contented with what had taken place, encouraged the Ibadans, Ikorodus, and Iperus, to kidnap in Abeokuta farms, so that most of the oil and cotton of which your Lagos correspondence speaks as coming from Ibadan, through the celebrated road of Ikorodu to Lagos, was oil and cotton stolen by them. Ill-treated as this people have been, they refused to take any revenge on Lagos, or on any British subjects, for two reasons. First, for England's past kindness in liberating their children when stolen, and sold as slaves, taking them to Sierra Leone; and when they were regarded as past recovering, permitting them to return to their country and their friends. Secondly, because they were made to know that England is still their friend. The Governor of Lagos not only did what I have here charged him with, but prohibited all black men, be they missionaries, traders, or others, receiving their letters from England and elsewhere. It was the intention of this people, as soon as the blockade should be taken off, to represent their case to the Home Government, to see if they

could obtain redress. But when a European gentleman here offered to be a mediator between the two Governments, and was accepted by the Governor, who expressed a strong desire to have peace with Abeokuta, the people yielded to every reasonable term which he proposed for that end, without alluding to the wrongs he had done them, inasmuch as they are unable to help themselves. Notwithstanding this, the Governor is still imposing on the people, and forbids British subjects residing in Lagos and Abeokuta to trade in this country, though the authorities here have told him that their country will admit all merchants, and promise to afford them every protection. Leaving these facts to speak for themselves, let me ask, Mr. Editor, are these wrongs to be done to Africa, and left unknown, while your paper, which is the only advocate of the African race, is in existence?—I remain, yours, &c.,
A NATIVE PATRIOT.

SELF-GOVERNMENT AT SIERRA LEONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Sir,—Will you do me the favour to allow me to make a few remarks upon what I consider the most important part of Mr. Rosenbush's admirable letter printed in your August number—namely, that of self-government in Sierra Leone. Now, what do the people of Sierra Leone mean by self-government? I believe I express the mind of my countrymen when I say that by self-government we simply desire some of those invaluable rights enjoyed by almost every community of British subjects—that is to say, to have the honour of saying nay or yea to those laws or rules of action by which our whole conduct as a people is guided, and most especially to have the privilege of managing, to some extent at least, our pecuniary affairs. In fact, Sir, the power or self-government for which we crave is but a shade better than what is termed in this country "local," or "parochial." It is very far from our minds to diminish the power of the Council. Let them exercise their present authority to the fullest extent, and check any incursion we may dare to make into the laws through having power put into our hands. Nevertheless, Sir, we would pray and supplicate that Her Majesty's Government be pleased to grant and confer upon us an almost uncontrolled management of our "local" affairs. Without questioning for one moment the kind feelings of the honourable gentlemen of the Council of Sierra Leone, I contend that, from the very nature of their appointments, being liable to be removed from one place to another, it is impossible for them to take the same interest in the colony as the native inhabitants. It naturally becomes a matter of very little importance to them whether any material improvement takes place in the colony or not; having to leave it in a comparatively short time. The painful consequence of this is, that we see many important schemes which might be for the well-being of the inhabitants of Sierra Leone are left undone. Mr. Editor, need I remind you of the intelligence which is brought to us by almost every mail, of the havoc the various kinds of fever are making amongst the different classes of the inhabitants of the colony? Is it, Sir, I ask, that these gentlemen are not aware of the principal cause of all this mischief? Do they not know that all this evil arises from the total absence of drainage and general sanitary improvements in the colony? It is not possible to conceive this. In fact, I should consider it an insult to every individual concerned to charge them with ignorance with respect to this matter. And yet, Sir, we see these most material improvements untouched. And why so? The answer is what I have intimated: It is not natural to man to labour for the sole benefit and enjoyment of others. And who will deny that if some of the native gentlemen, who know that the probable lengthening or shortening of their days hangs upon the existence or non-existence of these improvements, had the power of carrying them out, they would use their utmost efforts to do so? I am sure, Sir, your readers will not understand me to be overlooking the overruling power of God. These remarks hold good for many other drawbacks in the colony. Dear Sir, "No one knows where the shoe pinches, but he who wears it." We know our wants and requirements (by we, I of course mean those of us who have had the privilege of knowing better), and I presume to say, that none are better judges as to the best mode of meeting these desiderata than ourselves. In suggesting measures of any kind we should have two objects in view, which the white man cannot have but in his own country—besides our own immediate selves, we should consider how far any plans of ours would affect our posterity.

I trust, Sir, from these few remarks you will at least be able to catch an idea of the kind of self-government the people of Sierra Leone require and desire. In a word, Sir, we want a *Colonial Board of Works*, composed principally of native gentlemen. The very important position Sierra Leone is about to take amongst the colonies on the West Coast of Africa (as far as we are able to judge from reports), would almost tempt its inhabitants to ask for a House of Assembly of their own; or one where delegates from the other colonies on the Coast might meet and

consider the affairs of the Coast. But we would let this part of the matter alone, at any rate for the present, and content ourselves with the privilege of managing some of our "local" affairs, to be able to suggest with effect measures tending to the general welfare of the country. It is my firm conviction that the health of Sierra Leone, nay, of all the colonies on the Coast, could be much improved by a little more attention to sanitary improvements. As far as the physical character of Sierra Leone is concerned, saying nothing of what the ingenuity of man surmounts, there is everything necessary to facilitate the carrying out of such improvement. Mr. Rosenbush has said sufficient to show that men are to be found, native gentlemen, in Sierra Leone, capable of holding and maintaining the position of members of such a board. And any further remarks of mine on this point would be superfluous. I beg further to state that these gentlemen would fulfil their functions with as much loyalty to the Crown as any body of Englishmen. The sum total of these few remarks is:—

1. That a public mechanical institution would be highly beneficial to the colony.
2. That we should very much like to have some voice, if only in the bye-laws of the colony.
3. But most especially that we desire a *Colonial Board of Works*.

In conclusion, will you permit me to make a few remarks upon the plundering and ill-treatment of British subjects by the savage tribes around the colony, of which we have heard so much of late. It is my humble opinion that if a line or two of railway were laid throughout the entire length of the colony (the breadth of it is very narrow), so that a body of men could be brought to bear upon any invaded point at almost a moment's notice, those horrible atrocities would be greatly checked. Of course such a provision could never protect British subjects who venture very far beyond the boundaries of the colony. Such men should bear their own risks.

Pardon me, Sir, for troubling you with this long letter. I know you will readily do so when I state to you my motives—rather my encouragements—under the present circumstances. In the first place, I know that you, as well as all those whom you represent, are always ready and willing to take up any cause relating to the good of Africa. Secondly, the present situation of the affairs of the colonies, which seems to impel me to speak (I must not overlook Lord Churchill's kind wish in your July number). And, lastly, the sense of duty towards my country—Sierra Leone—which, as you know, has long been designated, with apparent justice, "The white man's grave." I think it is high time, Sir, to wipe off this stigma.—I am, Sir, your humble and obedient servant,

AN AFRICAN OF SIERRA LEONE.

F. Fitzgerald, Esq., Hon. Secretary of African-Aid Society, and Editor of *African Times*.

INIQUITY DETERMINED TO DIE HARD.—It is reported in Madrid that the sum of 125,000 dollars (£31,000) has been sent there from Paris, to be employed in such a manner as to obtain that the projected emancipation measures in relation to Cuba shall not prejudice the slave-owners of that island. It is added—and this has excited much indignation—that this sum is to be devoted especially to gain over the public journals, either to defend slavery, or to observe silence on the subject of its abolition. *La Correspondencia* of the 7th current repudiates the transaction, in its own name and that of its colleagues, and states that the course it and they have already taken in favour of emancipation will suffice to absolve them from any suspicion as to the motives which influence their course. The credit for the above amount has been opened on a well-known firm in Madrid, and in favour of an equally well-known representative of the Cuban slaveholders now in that city. Great efforts are being made by the pro-slavery party to induce the Government to recal General Dulce, the present Captain-General of Cuba, but it is asserted that the determination of the Government is to keep him there.

DESTITUTION AND MORTALITY.—In the district of Columbia, United States, in which Washington, the capital, is situate, some 39,000 coloured people are said to be now congregated, and the following is a late account of privation, suffering, and death among these poor creatures: "The most frightful mortality exists, as many as eighty coffins per week being furnished by the Quartermaster's Department, most of which are for children. It is the opinion of physicians practising among them, and of other close observers, that three-fourths of these children die from neglect and want. In the family of a soldier who lost his life in battle, five out of the ten children have died since March, 1865, from the above causes. In another, three out of seven children of a soldier drafted in December last have starved to death in the last three weeks. The mothers, in both cases, were prostrated with sickness. In the same square mothers and sons,

as she says, were starved out in Frederick, Maryland. They have neither bed, table, nor chairs, nor any household utensils, save a frying pan, out of which they all eat with their fingers. These cases might be multiplied to scores and hundreds in and around the national Capitol."

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.

17, COWPER STREET, CITY ROAD, LONDON.

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For freight or passage apply to HENRY B. LOMAS, 46, Lime
Street, E.C.

JOHN WALLER GOOD, now of Cape Coast, on the Gold Coast of Western Africa, and **JAMES FAUSTUS AMISSAH**, now of Salt Pond, on the Gold Coast, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that from the 1st OCTOBER NEXT ensuing they will be PARTNERS in business as AFRICAN MERCHANTS, under the name and style of **GOOD and AMISSAH**.
Place of Business : No. 3, SALT POND ROAD, CAPE COAST.
Cape Coast, September 12, 1865.

BEADS.—Agras, Seed, Corals, Popopipes, Pounds, and every other description.

other description.

PROVISIONS.—Jams, Sardines, Potted Meats, Potted Fish, Potted Soups, Biscuits (tins), Geneva, Brandy, Rum.

SUNDRIES.—Muskets, Cowries, Flint, Glass Goods, Combs, Clothing, Crockery, Stationery.

AGENCIES.—Rimmel's: Pomades, Essences, and Perfumery.
Forbes': Provisions of every description. Lamplough's: Drugs
and Medicines.

All orders addressed to M. L. LEVIN, 1, Bevis Marks, London, E.C., will receive attention per return mail.

WEST COAST of AFRICA, MADEIRA, and TENERIFFE.
—The African Steam-ship Company's vessels (carrying H. 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 depôt, 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 fast and powerful steamship CALABAR, G. F. SNART, Commander, will leave LIVERPOOL on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, at NOON.

Passengers embark by steam tender, leaving the North Landing Stage at 10.30 A.M. punctually. Goods and heavy baggage must be alongside the ship at the loading berth, Huskisson Dock, not later than noon of the 22nd. No goods or parcels can be shipped without pre-payment of freight.

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

TERMS.

For Board, a thorough English Education, instruction in the French Language, Laundress, Seat in Church, Use of Piano, Books, &c., FORTY-TWO GUINEAS per Annum.

Home comforts, liberal treatment, and parental kindness are certain.

Three months' notice required previous to the removal of a pupil.

THE undernoted Goods, now on hand for immediate shipment, being only of the well-known brand of FORBES, Aberdeen and London: Sardines, Preserved Salmon, ditto Lobsters, ditto Oysters, ditto Herrings, ditto Mackerel, ditto Haddocks, ditto Turbot, Dried Codfish, ditto Lingfish, High-dried Herrings, Salted Salmon, ditto Herrings, ditto Mackerel, Preserved Fish Soups, Herrings à la Sardines, Preserved Soups, ditto Meats, ditto Poultry, ditto Game, ditto Vegetables, ditto Milk, Potted Meats, Anchovy Paste, Jams, in Tins or Jars, Fruits, Bottled and Dried, Pickles (Pure), Sauces, Mustard, Oatmeal, Barley, Corn Flour. The above may be had in any package or size; also Hams, Bacon, Cheese, and Butter.

Priced Lists and all other information may be obtained of Mr. M. L. LEVIN, 1, Bevis Marks, London, Sole Agent for West Coast of Africa, and all orders forwarded him will receive immediate attention per return Mail.

LAMPLOUGH'S FERRETIC SALT.
Effervescent 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 effervescent 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.

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

LD 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, S. M. Cantor and Co.; Messrs. Biden and Gardner, Cape Town, who are appointed also for the sale of the

Superior and more agreeable than Quinine, it truly contains all the elements of the Cinchona Bark, dissolved out by a peculiar process, the 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 LAMPOUGH, Chemist, 113, HOLBORN-HILL, LONDON, W.C.

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Published by him, for the African-Aid Society, at S, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, London.—
NOVEMBER 23, 1865.

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