

The African Times.

"FOR GOD, AND GOOD TO AFRICA AND HER PEOPLE."

"If any Colonist suffers from injustice, whatever may be his class, his condition, or his colour, he has a right to redress at the hands of the Colonial Minister in this country."—EARL OF CARNARVON, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES
AUGUST 2, 1866.

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The Capital of this Company has been fully subscribed.

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

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

West Coast of Africa was	£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 £9,801,356

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).

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

The African Company's steamer Calabar arrived at Liverpool on Thursday, April 4. Her dates were: Benin, March 5; Fernando Po, March 1; Cameroons, March 1; Old Calabar, February 28; Brass River, New Calabar, and Bonny, March 4; Lagos, March 7; Accra, March 9; Cape Coast Castle, March 10; Cape Palmas, March 12; Monrovia, March 14; Sierra Leone, March 17; Bathurst, March 20; Teneriffe, March 26; and Madeira, March 28. The Calabar brought 2,205 oz. of gold dust, 4,190 dollars, and 631 sovereigns in specie.

At Cameroons, Fernando Po, Old Calabar, and Bonny trade was brisk.

At New Calabar, owing to hostilities having commenced in the interior, trade was dull. Health was generally good.

GAMBIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Bathurst March, 18, 1867.

Sir,—It is asserted here that a dispatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Admiral Patey, our Administrator, enjoined the latter to inquire into the facts of the alleged assault of Drs. Oakes and Elliott on Mr. Harry Finden, and send a report home.

We thought this might have been the case after what you have done in the matter in England, but up to this time no communication on the subject has been made by his Excellency the Administrator to Mr. Finden.

We hope he has not become tainted with Colonel D'Arcy's system of administration here, and that he will look into things with his own eyes, and not through the coloured spectacles of two or three interested officials who have been supporters of past injustice and evils of all kinds against the natives.—Yours truly,
WHISPER.

GAMBIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Bathurst, March 20, 1867.

Sir,—The state of affairs here is deplorable; everybody complains; even the Government people themselves say things are in a shameful state. I only repeat what everyone says, when I affirm that Governor-General Blackall is the most incapable and unfit person that could have been selected to fill the post he holds; he has knocked down everything on the Coast, and he is unable to substitute anything in place of what he has upset. In a word, he is a real humbug. He was here a few days ago, and went up the river as far as McCarthy's Island; but he never set foot on it; he neither landed nor took the slightest interest in anything, but cleared out with all despatch.

Then, again, Lord Carnarvon has sent out a Mr. Chalmers, who seems to be a quiet sort of man, to be Stipendiary Magistrate, Chief Justice, &c., &c., as I believe; but the best of the joke is, he has been sent out without commission, or powers to act or to do anything—so here he is like the fifth wheel of a coach. Everybody who can think and feel is sick of this sort of mal-administration, in which Downing-street and Blackall seem to vie with each other; as to the latter, he can pass ordinances for the abolition of juries, &c., but laws for the good government of the Coast he cares not a fig about; indeed, it is said he boasts of doing nothing.

The public health is satisfactory here now, and the fever has died out at Goree, I am told, having first killed but too many victims.

We are really drifting fast into anarchy. It is shameful. We pay high for government, &c., and we ought to have something worthy of the name for our money.—Yours truly,

SIERRA LEONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

March 17, 1867.

Dear Sir,—We have been very quiet here of late, with the exception of the unmistakable expression of public opinion about saddling the colony with the expenses of those appeals in which Mr. Shaw, &c., have been defeated in England, by the adverse judgments of the Privy Council. The Governor-General has been absent, having been on a voyage to Goree, the Gambia, Bulama, &c. The state of public feeling about the "Shaw's costs" business is very well shown in the following extract from the *African Interpreter* of yesterday:—

"An exhibition of public feeling was dexterously avoided by Governor Blackall's Councillors a few weeks ago. It seems that his Excellency, whether, in his own language, he thought the business too 'nasty' for him to perform which was contemplated to be done in Council—viz., an attempt to saddle the colony with the enormous costs of Mr. Collector Shaw's official ignorance and his advisers—or whether more urgent business

called him away, left in the colonial steamer for Gambia, appointing as President of the Council during his absence Mr. Huggins, the Acting Chief Justice. Mr. Shaw went along with his Excellency, and some days after a meeting of the Legislative Council was called, at which of course President Huggins presided. Nothing of greater importance characterized this meeting than the rumour that somehow or other it was contemplated at the next meeting to propose that the expenses incurred by Mr. Shaw should be defrayed at the expense of the public. But this was enough. The rumour flew, and with its spread higher and higher rose the indignation of the people. If Governor Blackall had been here then, possibly he would have had a deputation, including every taxpayer in the colony, waiting upon him or obstructing the entrances at Fort Thornton. There was no mistaking the alarming seriousness and determination on almost every countenance of the great body of taxpayers. Pay who might, they were resolved, with every constitutional means in their power, to resist an imposition upon them of Mr. Shaw's most unjustifiably incurred expenses. But the Acting Chief Justice would not run the risk of hazarding the proposal, and on the next day of meeting adjourned the Council *sine die*."

But his Excellency returned, and we have had our regatta, at which Commodore Hornby was also present; and more than this, yesterday afternoon, Saturday (the mail goes to England to-day, Sunday), Governor Blackall called a Council, and himself moved a resolution that Mr. Shaw's expenses should be saddled on the colony. The Acting Chief Justice seconded it; Mr. Pike, one of Shaw's bondsmen, of course voted for it, as equally of course did Captain, Judge, and Magistrate Bravo, and Mr. Huggins, the Queen's Advocate, who advised the seizures which the Privy Council have condemned.

I have no time to write more, except that we have had a public meeting, and think of sending two delegates to the Anti-Slavery Conference in Paris; and also that, as you will see by the newspapers, we are getting up a *Niger Steam-Ship Company*, with a capital of 25,000*l.* in 1,250 shares of 20*l.* each.

Yours truly,

FREETOWN.

SIERRA LEONE PETITION AGAINST GOVERNOR BLACKALL'S ORDINANCE ABOLISHING TRIAL BY JURY.

(Concluded from our last number.)

However, your Lordship, immediately after the Colonial Surgeon compounded for the enormity mentioned, the Queen's Advocate, who, as we have stated, was the Doctor's counsel, framed a bill introduced into Council, the effect of which was that persons bringing actions *ex delicto* into the Supreme Court were to give security for costs. It was concluded at once, and we think reasonably and justly, that this measure was only for the purpose of disabling poor men who had been ill-treated, like those above alluded to, by the rich and powerful from bringing their cases in future before the Supreme Court, and subjecting them to the greatest atrocities of men of arbitrary will and ungovernable passions, while they would gratify their dispositions with impunity, virtually. Strenuously, therefore, and righteously in your petitioners' opinion, this bill was opposed. It was pertinaciously accompanied by the deprecating hue and cry of the impartial and justice-loving community. Two petitions were successively forwarded against it to the local government by the community generally; and the press of the colony, both here and in England, endorsed and sustained the sentiments in those petitions regarding it. It ultimately fell, after a lengthened struggle on the part of its authors and the sparse number of its supporters, before this strong, decided, and determined weight of just opposition brought to bear against it. Nearly a year has gone by, and no other public measure has been adopted all this while to enforce its pernicious principles in the community until now, in 1866, when this Ordinance No. IV. of 1866, these principles, are again sought in a more ruinous and extensive manner to be enforced against the community.

From and under the foregoing disgraceful circumstances, your Lordship, your petitioners believe this Ordinance has arisen. And can so excessively objectionable a measure, originating from such unworthy causes, ever obtain your Lordship's countenance or support? Your petitioners trust that they can confidently assert, on your Lordship's as well as Her Gracious Majesty's advisers' part—NEVER.

Your petitioners do not believe that your Lordship needs to be reminded that, after the impartial, searching, and full inquiry made during last year by the Select Committee on the West Coast of Africa into African affairs, and the very marked and careful attention which they gave to the subject of the working of the judicial system in Sierra Leone, especially to the portion relating to trial by jury, the very able and eminent gentlemen composing that committee did not feel that they would be

justified in recommending the abolition of trial by jury here in civil cases. Nor need we draw your Lordship's attention to the very important evidence of Sir B. Pine, who for seven years resided here, filling meanwhile the highest judicial offices, and those which rendered him best qualified to speak on this subject. Sir B. Pine said he found no difficulty when he was Chief Justice here in getting the juries to exercise their functions fairly. They did it very fairly on the whole. Pure negroes sat there. With respect to his answer to question No. 3,179, by Mr. Chichester Fortescue, the consideration that Sir B. Pine has been from Sierra Leone for about seventeen years involves an effectual reply to his answer, which, however, need not be expressed.

However, your Lordship's petitioners would draw your attention to the peculiar adaptation of the jury system to this colony, whose inhabitants are not British and other subjects of civilised States only, but many of them subjects of the surrounding countries. Your Lordship will then perceive at once the superiority of trial by jury here over every other plan for the administering of justice. It is impossible that a judge or judges could, without the assistance of a jury, adjudicate justly in many civil actions which would be brought before them here, and the most wide-spread and serious dissatisfaction would certainly be the result of their erroneous judgment.

Before concluding, your petitioners would request your Lordship, in the event of any facts which you may deem material being urged against any matter or circumstance connected with this petition, that an opportunity be afforded them to reply.

And now, your Lordship, seeing that this Ordinance No. IV. of 1866 is destructive to your petitioners' rights and liberties, that it abolishes the civil branch of the most precious institution of the colony—viz., trial by jury in civil actions; that no justifiable reasons whatever have been adduced for such abolishment; that this Ordinance never proceeded from the people, is contrary to their wishes and detested by them; that the most illegal and unconstitutional means have been used in bringing it about; that it cannot be shown to be for the better administration of justice, and that, on the contrary, facts and circumstances which clearly seem related and to have given rise to it stamp it with the characteristics of an infamous party-measure, your Lordship's petitioners humbly pray that for all and singular of these reasons, or for whatever portion of them you may approve, with such others as will readily suggest themselves to your Lordship's mind, you will advise the non-confirmation and withdrawal of Ordinance No. IV. of 1866 to Her Gracious Majesty, or those of her Ministers whom it may concern, as well as duly lay this our petition before them.

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

J. B. Pratt, Christopher Taylor, Wm. Lewis, sen.; Wm. Cole, Joseph Jarrett, Wm. Edwin Cole, Syble Boyle, T. W. Hughes, J. B. Turner, T. G. Macanley, Wm. B. Thomas, I. J. Lake, D. Jarrett, Wm. Lewis, jun.; T. J. Sawyer, Peter Nicol, G. P. Bull, A. F. Belgrave, W. W. Osborne, Thomas Bright, Joseph Macfoy, S. G. Bidwell, Benjamin Marine, Samuel Thomas, J. H. Coker, Wm. Paris, M. G. Thompson, J. M. Sangster, J. B. Macarthy, R. M. Shepherd, Peter E. Cole, John F. Ward, Samuel Sol. Davies, John Shaw, John C. Gilpin, J. A. Sackey, T. Pilot, J. Benj. Deigh, Charles J. G. Barlett, Charles Rocks, Daniel Carpenter, D. N. Marque, Joseph Farmer, J. W. Morgan, Samuel B. Taylor, Geo. H. Shepherd, M. H. Davies, and about 750 others.

Sierra Leone, January 12, 1867.

DISTURBING PUBLIC MEETINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Sierra Leone, West Africa, Jan. 12, 1867.

Sir,—My attention has been directed to a letter respecting Fourah Bay College which occupies a conspicuous portion of that copy of your widely-circulated paper which has just arrived from England, signed, "An African who Loves his Race."

I thank your correspondent for his courteous mention of myself and "the invaluable Church Missionary Society," as he justly terms that society whose servant I am. He states I have no "prejudice to colour," and in this he is quite correct; nor need he be at all afraid, as he seems to be, that "these good qualities" of mine will be removed by the "ill-disposed;" as my friends are and will be only such persons as are the tried and steady friends of Africa.

As these are my views, I trust you will allow me to speak through your columns to my Freetown neighbours respecting the manner in which they allow their public meetings to be disturbed; in which point I confess I see large room for improvement. But as I have been at other meetings in Sierra Leone beside that in Freetown, and as they were of a truly pleasant description, I will mention those before I allude to that one on

account of which I trouble you with this communication, and perhaps it may interest your readers to learn how such meetings appeared to a person just arrived from England.

Shortly after my arrival I went to Regent to attend the annual meeting of the Rev. George Nicholl, and I became his guest during my stay there. The meeting was held in his large church, and I confess it astonished me. The building was filled with an orderly, respectable body of persons, who took the same intelligent interest in the proceedings as would be taken in England. From Regent I went to Bathurst and Charlotte, and found there somewhat smaller meetings, it is true, as these hamlets are less populous, but the spirit which actuated them was precisely the same.

Well, then, after seeing such a state of things in the mountain districts, I returned to Freetown, naturally expecting that as I got nearer the capital I should find a state of things better still. Such, I am sorry to say, was, however, by no means the case. I attended some ten days since the jubilee meeting of the Church Missionary Society, and a more disorderly meeting I never was at. While the first three persons were speaking, the presence and efforts of his Excellency the Governor, who occupied the chair, of the bishop and the leading clergy, who occupied the platform, were incapable of restraining the talking and laughing of a number of men who were for the most part in the galleries. I was deputed to propose the first resolution, and intended to speak for twenty-five minutes, surely no long time; but I had not spoken fifteen before the noise was so great that I had to stop and notice it, and at last it became so outrageous that I was fairly obliged to sit down. I shall not enlarge on what were my feelings—surprise, if I remember rightly, was the predominant; but I leave you, Sir, to imagine what would be likely to be the effect on a young clergyman, a stranger in a strange land, coming to this unhealthy country with no other view than a wish to help this rising nation in her progress to civilization, at receiving such a welcome on his first introduction to a Freetown audience.

I regret to see by your paper that so many coloured persons think themselves ill-treated by Europeans. Whether these views are correct or not I do not know; but whatever be the conduct of other white men, Africans should never forget that from the agents of the Church Missionary Society they have ever received *unmixed kindness*, and that it is to their exertions and to those of the agents of other Protestant societies they owe, under God, nearly all their present great advantages.

I appeal through your columns to the respectable people of Freetown to put down such disorderly conduct, the occurrence of which, I hear, very common at their public meetings, or else we may expect the most disastrous results. It is incumbent on them to put down at once and for ever such a grievous nuisance. In England, if ill-behaved men disturb a meeting they are handed over to the constable, and why should not the same course be followed here? The African clergy who have been to England will, I am sure, bear ready witness that they got there a very different reception among my friends from that which I have experienced here. Your correspondent closes his letter by alluding to the Anthropologists. I approve of these gentlemen as little as he does, but I venture to remind him that so long as the upper orders here allow their meetings here to be disturbed and interrupted, they are giving Anthropologists room for scoffing and cavilling.

One word on Fourah Bay College, and I conclude. I am happy to be able to say that the students who have been sent me are in many respects all that I could wish. I heard a high character of them, and my deliberate opinion, after a daily acquaintance of two months' duration, is that they are well deserving of it; and among my native clerical brethren I have met with men whom I esteem it a pleasure and privilege to reckon as my friends.

I trust, Sir, you will allow me to offer the above remarks to the consideration of the good people here.—Believe me to remain, yours very obediently,

HENRY J. ALCOCK.

Principal of the Fourah Bay College.

KING AGGERY DEPOSED, AND OFFERED A PENSIO OF £100 A-YEAR.

The following became publicly known just before the mail left Sierra Leone (on the 17th) for England. We are not in a position to state whether King Aggerly had signed the document No. 2.

(No. 1.)

Governor Blackall to King Aggerly.

Government House, Sierra Leone, March 15, 1867.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that I have received a dispatch from Lord Carnarvon, Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying his lordship's decision, as to your deposition from the office of King of Cape Coast, by Colonel Conran, the Adminis-

trator of that settlement, for your continued opposition to the authority of Her Majesty's Representative, and for the very improper letters which you addressed to the Administrator.

His lordship regrets that the injudicious course taken by you, under bad advice, has brought affairs to the present crisis; but after a patient review of all the occurrences, his lordship instructs me that it is clear to him that it would be inconsistent with the proper precautions to be observed at Cape Coast, and with that resistance which it is our duty to oppose to the renewal, under the very walls of our forts, of the cruel punishments and exactions of native chieftains, to allow you to resume your former position. His lordship desires, however, that you should be treated with all reasonable consideration; and his lordship will not object to the allotment to you of 100*l.* per annum for your life, subject to your good behaviour and to your remaining here so long as I may consider material to the interests of Cape Coast that you should not be permitted to return to that settlement. This arrangement will in no way interfere with your own private property.

I am now prepared to receive your further promise in writing not to return to Cape Coast without my permission, and on such terms to pay you the allotted pension. You must understand, however, that your return to Cape Coast without my permission would entail upon you very unpleasant consequences.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

S. W. BLACKALL, Governor-in-Chief.

(No. 2.)

King Aggrey to Governor Blackall.

Government House, Sierra Leone, March 16, 1867.

Her Majesty's Government having approved of my deposition by the Administrator of the Gold Coast from my right title, and position of King, and having sanctioned the allotment to me of a pension of 100*l.* a-year for life, in addition to any private means of my own, subject, however, to my good behaviour and the determination of the Governor-in-Chief as to my return to Cape Coast, I accept these terms, and hereby undertake to reside at Sierra Leone, and not return to Cape Coast except with the permission of the Governor-in-Chief of the West African settlements, according to the terms set forth in his Excellency's communication of the 15th inst., that should I return without such permission, or returning with such permission not conduct myself in a proper manner, or be of good behaviour in all respects, I shall in every such case forfeit such pension and render myself liable to the legal consequences of my past conduct.

LIBERIA.

EMIGRATION FROM UNITED STATES.—GOOD NEWS FOR LIBERIA.

—“Since the departure of the Golconda from Boston, applications have been received with the names of 78 persons at Winneboro, S. C.; 25 at Lagrange, Georgia; 78 at Columbus, Georgia; 178 at Newberry, S. C., and 291 at Mullins Depot, S. C.; in all, 642 for passage to Liberia. Companies are known to be forming, each promising to be at least 150 strong, at Macon, Georgia; at Florence, S. C.; at Apalachicola, Florida; and at Newbern, N. C., while smaller parties have applied from other places; among which may be named Edenton, N. C., and Albemarle county, Virginia, all hoping to set sail the coming spring for ‘Fatherland.’”—*U. S. African Repository.*

A whale went on the beach at Gerraway, thirty miles windward of Cape Palmas. Two harpoons and some balls were found in it by the natives. A barrel of the whale oil and about one cwt. of the whalebone were exported to England by Mr. J. C. Hazeley, of Cape Palmas.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, March 1, 1867.

Sir,—I find that by an ordinance passed to carry “into effect the provisions of an order of Her Majesty in Council, bearing date the 4th day of April, 1856, so far as the same relates to the administration in the Gold Coast of the property therein of deceased persons,” the following clause, numbered 7, on the 55th page:—

“Any official Administrator who shall fraudulently appropriate, or misapply, or make away with, any property in charge with him as such official Administrator, whether solely or jointly, shall in addition to any pecuniary liability be guilty of a misdemeanour; and any official Administrator occasioning by gross and wilful neglect loss in any property so in his charge, shall be liable to make good the amount of such loss.”

Now, Mr. Editor, I presume that you will agree with me that this section or clause requires very little explanation; it speaks for itself.

I wish now to take a liberty with you, and ask the following questions:—

First. Suppose a gentleman holding the position of a member of the Legislative Council and a Commission of the Peace of

these settlements were to violate the above recited clause, and was proved to have so violated it to the fullest extreme, do you think he ought to be allowed to remain a member of Council and a Justice of the Peace?

Do you not agree with me that if there be a person so situated, justice has been defeated and polluted by his not being tried for his crime, and dismissed from the positions he held?

Do you consider that a man of this stamp is a fit and proper person to be the bosom friend and adviser of a British Governor?

When you have answered the above questions, which I apprehend will not give you much thought or trouble, I may possibly have recourse to your assistance again, as I find we are getting very obtuse on the Gold Coast. I would have taken the liberty to put the above questions to the Earl of Carnarvon, but I am afraid he would ask me to apply to the grandee impeached for replies. I therefore deemed it expedient to apply to you, as the most impartial source I could go to, and I do hope that you will lay open a curse that has been allowed to rest undisturbed on one of the branches of an otherwise spotless and respected Government.—I am, yours truly,

P.S.—If anyone requires proof of there being such a person, let him search the records of H.M. late Supreme Court on the Gold Coast.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, West Africa, March 8, 1867.

Sir,—The people of the Gold Coast have not troubled themselves about the base attempt that has been made at Sierra Leone to deprive them of their rights and privileges, by abolishing the ancient usage of trial by jury in civil cases, because they are fully convinced that Her Majesty's Government at home will never sanction so great an injustice. What does Sir William Hackett, the late Chief Justice of the Gold Coast, say in reference to juries? On page 263 of the Report of the last Committee of the House of Commons on the West African Settlements, I find the following answers by Sir William to the Chairman of the Committee:—

Question 6,489, by the Chairman: Do you find them honest and intelligent as jurymen?—Answer, by Sir William Hackett: Yes, I think they are tolerably honest, so far as my experience goes: I have no reason to complain of their verdicts.

Question 6,490, by Chairman: Either as corrupt or as unintelligent?—Answer, by Sir William: Neither.

On page 264 of the same report I find the following question, asked by Mr. Cheetham and answered by Sir William Hackett:—

Question 6,550: Have you found practically that the native jurymen invariably give their decisions in favour of their countrymen?—Answer by Sir William: No, I have not found that.

Now what occasion is there for petitions after the above? Let the Colonial Secretary's attention be drawn to the above, and ask him to turn to the pages indicated, and, as far as I am concerned, I have not the least doubt that Her Majesty's Government will never sanction such an outrage on the feelings of a people who have hitherto rejoiced in being permitted to enjoy the greatest boon that can be possibly be bestowed on an otherwise oppressed race of men. Now is the time for Africans, colonists, and others to experience the promise made by the Earl of Carnarvon on the 2nd August, 1866, “If any colonist suffers from injustice, whatever may be his class, his condition, or his colour, he has a right to redress at the hands of the Colonial Minister in this country.”

If the African and the colonist do not stand in need of redress now, then I am safe in saying they never did, and never will.

The hour has come, and we wait patiently to see what will be done.—Yours truly,

WM. CHAS. FINLASON.

CAPE COAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

March 8, 1867.

Sir,—I have been looking over the letters inserted in the last Report of the Committee of the House of Commons. At page 438 I find Lord Stanley,* then Secretary of State for the Colonies, writing as follows to Lieut. Governor Hill, under date of November 22, 1844:—

Paragraph 1. “The Royal Instructions, you will perceive, also provide for the appointment of persons having authority to exercise the powers given by the 6th section of the 6 and 7 Vict. c. 94, relative to the transportation of convicts, but you will clearly understand that although it has been considered expedient to provide by the instrument the machinery necessary for bringing into operation all the powers conferred by the Act, yet that you are not to consider yourself at liberty, in any case, to exercise or permit the exercise of that relative to transportation without special instructions from the Secretary of State.”

* The present Premier, the Earl of Derby.

Paragraph 2. “Although, likewise, the instructions, as before observed, provide for the exercise of the office of assessor by several persons jointly, as well as by one person, you will not on that account make any alteration in the practice which has hitherto prevailed of leaving the duties to be executed by one person.”

Paragraph 3. “You will bear in mind that the power of the assessor, in his judicial capacity, is not derived from either of the Acts of Parliament above referred to, or from the Order in Council; and further, that it cannot be exercised by him as such within Her Majesty's dominions. It must be founded on the assent and concurrence of the sovereign power of the State within which it is exercised, either express, as in the case of the treaty transmitted by you in your private and confidential despatch of the 6th March last, or implied from long usage, as in the case of the long and general acquiescence which can be shown in many districts in the authority hitherto exercised by Mr. McLean.”

Paragraph 4. “You will understand that the system upon which Mr. McLean has proceeded in the exercise of judicial powers over the natives is to be taken as a guide for the exercise of the powers of the assessor for the future.”

Paragraph 5. “It consists, in fact, in combining with an impartial investigation of the cases brought before him, a mitigation of the severity of the sentences which in such cases would be awarded by native judges in the event of conviction. I need not, therefore, instruct you to caution the assessor of the necessity for a lenient exercise of the discretion entrusted to him; but in the event of his deeming capital punishment in any case inevitable, you will instruct him that the execution must be carried into effect by the native authorities, and take place in the country in which the offender is tried.”

And I find on page 439, Governor J. S. Hill, in a letter to Earl Grey, on the 2nd paragraph of this letter, informs the noble Earl that as the British Government possesses no territorial jurisdiction, and the natives are not British subjects, it was out of his power to frame any ordinance affecting them.

How comes it, then, that Colonel Conran outraged all law and justice by seizing and shipping away to a foreign country a legally constituted king in his own country? In barbarous countries we are led to expect that might is right; but living under the protection of one of the most enlightened Governments on the face of the earth, we fully expected that we should not be subject to anything antagonistic with humanity and natural justice. The manner in which the Gold Coast has been governed by Colonel Conran was enough to cause a general insurrection; and if it were not for the confidence reposed in the Queen of England's Government at home, Colonel Conran would have had much more disastrous news to communicate to Downing-street than has often fallen to the lot of any British ruler.

We are now anxiously awaiting the arrival of the next mail, which will tell us whether our hopes and confidence had been misplaced or not. It is to be hoped Colonel Conran will not omit to inform the Earl of Carnarvon of the universal rejoicings of the 8th February last, when he left the shores of Cape Coast amidst five thousand curses. Never, perhaps, in the annals of the Gold Coast history was there such an exhibition of universal disgust as on the day above referred to. God grant that such a visitation may never again befall us! Mr. Usher is now the occupant of Government House. We should have wished for some more experienced man, or, if such cannot be had, for none at all.—Yours truly,

PATRIE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, March 9, 1867.

Sir,—Mr. A. B. McIntyre, Member of the Legislative Council, and agent for Messrs. Forster and Smith, of London, at Cape Coast, has resigned his commission as a Justice of the Peace, because (?) he could not succeed in persuading Colonel Conran or Mr. Usher to demand the commission of Mr. Samuel Collins Brew, who has petitioned to be declared a bankrupt, and who is in the commission of the peace at the present moment.

The facts are simply these: Mr. Brew has petitioned to be declared insolvent, but he has not been declared so, and as he is a useful magistrate, doubtless the Government want to keep him in the commission of the peace as long as they can. Mr. Brew is indebted to Messrs. Forster and Smith, and although Mr. McIntyre (up to a few weeks ago, when he was giving balls and dinner parties) did not think it beneath his dignity to invite Mr. Brew and Mr. W. Z. Coker to meet British officers at his table, yet now, at the eleventh hour, he finds out that he cannot sit with Mr. Brew as a brother Justice of the Peace.

To show you how contemptible this Government is now, and how little British prestige is valued, I will give you the latest news. Mr. Usher, the present Administrator, sent to Apol-

lonia a few days ago a British officer (Lieut. Hamilton) to find a chief, who is subject to the King of Apollonia, and to arrest two parties living there. It appears that after several threats Lieut. Hamilton arrested the two men, and proceeded to the sea coast. At Apollonia he embarked in a boat with his prisoners, but no sooner was he off the beach than five canoes, with armed Apollonians, pursued him; but on account of their perceiving that he was armed, they gave up the chase, returned on shore, and made prisoners of Lieut. Hamilton's hammock-men and carriers, fourteen in number, whom they now hold as hostages.

Now, just fancy such an act as this being perpetrated in the time even of Governor Andrews, Ross, Pine, or Jones. Why, such a thing would be looked upon with the greatest alarm and concern by the whole protectorate. Now, what difference does it make? Why, scarcely anyone knows about it. It is kept as a sort of secret at Government House and the Fort, and well it might be!

What I have all along said has come to pass. The British Government exercises no more influence over the kings and chiefs of the Gold Coast Protectorate than the writer of this letter; and, as far as my long acquaintance goes with these people, I cannot come to any other conclusion than that it would be to the credit and advantage of the Home Government either to send out gentlemen, and men of education and experience, to govern this so-called protectorate, or allow the natives to do it themselves. We are plunging deeper and deeper in difficulties every day. Colonel Conran by proclamation says British rule does not exceed fifteen miles in the interior. Mr. Usher sends up an expedition a few weeks after some eighty or ninety miles in the bush to settle some petty dispute between two chiefs, whilst human sacrifice is permitted to have full swing at Akropong, eighteen miles from the British fort at Accra. Your correspondent “X. Y. Z.,” writing under date 23rd October last, may well say “No one can imagine what possible excuse the local authorities can frame for looking on with their hands in their pockets whilst these wholesale public murders are being committed under their very noses,” particularly when a British civil commandant and magistrate reprimands, in open court, the policeman who gives evidence of these disgraceful facts, of which he was an eye-witness.

I could relate facts as startling as the above, but as I find no attention is given to representation at Downing-street, I look quietly on to see the end of these things.

May the British Government never have cause to regret the extreme apathy it has shown in all matters that have for their object, not only the good of Africa, but the reputation and glory of England as connected with Africa.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

VIDE ET CREDE.

P.S.—When Colonel Conran left the beach of Cape Coast on the morning of the 8th of last month, upwards of five thousand people went to the landing-place, and as he put his foot in the boat as many curses rent the air. I never saw such general and universal joy. The poor natives ran along the beach, as if following him with the vilest curses.

ACCRA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

March 8, 1867.

Sir,—Since I last wrote I have been to Addah (at the mouth of the River Volta). I found it quite lonely there, and not unhealthy, but it is unhealthy when the rainy season begins. Trade has been quite destroyed there by the Awoonah war. Nothing can come down the river, and it is dangerous to send goods up the country. The thirty men of the West India Regiment who were here so long en route for Addah are now there. I am told their instructions are to remain entirely on the defensive. They are to do nothing! This the Government people seek to justify by saying that these thirty men, by remaining inactive, will be there to protect the Addahs, should they be beaten in the conflict which we suppose will soon take place, and be forced to retreat to their town.

It is reported that Governor-General Blackall is coming down shortly to make peace. The only way I can see for him to do it—and he could do it easily in that way—would be to threaten the Awoonahs that he will bombard their towns if they do not accept his terms, and then to carry his threat into effect if they still refuse. This would settle the business in no time.

I suppose some of your Cape Coast friends will give you a detailed account of Colonel Conran's embarkation. The people hooted him on the beach, threw sand toward him, and danced a regular jig all round the town. There never was such a departure of a Governor before, in these parts of the world. People of all classes, Europeans and natives, rejoiced at his going.

Mr. Parker, the judicial assessor, has been here, and has tried some criminal cases to our great satisfaction. They had been waiting long enough for somebody to come and try them.—Yours, &c.,

O.

CAPE COAST FEMALE NATIVE SCHOOL.

Mrs. Joseph Moseley acknowledges gratefully the following further donations:—
 Amount already published . . . £416 19 9
 The Rev. Henry Venn, C.M.S. . . . 2 0 0

THE BAZAAR.

Patronesses: Her Grace the Duchess of Argyll; Viscountess Frankfort de Montmorency; Lady A. S. Churchill; Lady Emma Cust; Lady Gilbert Kennedy; Lady Alicia Bristowe; Lady Anna Maria Tollemache; Lady Georgiana Needham; Lady James Stuart; Lady Ella Stuart; Mrs. Goode, The Deanery, Ripon; the Misses Lushington; Mrs. Malcolm, Glen Morag, Argyllshire.

We have now the pleasure of informing our friends that the bazaar in aid of the Protestant Native Female and Industrial School, Cape Coast Castle, Gold Coast, will be held (p.v.) at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Tuesday, April 30, Wednesday, May 1, and Thursday, May 2, 1867. The bazaar will commence each day at noon. A great variety of useful and fancy articles will be exhibited for sale, with various curiosities from Jamaica and Africa. Admission: First day, 2s. 6d.; children, 1s. Second and third days, 1s.; children half-price. A band will be in attendance on the first day; pianoforte music on the two following days. N.B.—Refreshment stall. We earnestly beg our Christian countrywomen to aid in this good work.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NUMBERS of our enlightened friends on the West Coast urge an enlargement of this journal, and an increase in price, which they say would be willingly paid. We have no doubt this would be the case with them and many others; but, as a general measure, if we may judge by the arrears still due from the Coast for subscriptions up to July, it would not be advisable. If our friends will set vigorously to work to double the number of our subscribers, and increase our advertisements (the monthly list of Births, Marriages, and Deaths ought to be a long one) we should soon risk enlarging the paper without any increase of price. This, or a general imitation, by those who can afford it, of what has been spontaneously done by some of our earnest and enlightened friends, of themselves engaging to pay 1l., 2l., or 3l. a-year subscriptions, is the only way that we see open for obtaining AN ENLARGEMENT OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

PREPAYMENT OF LETTERS.

All letters and communications must in future be post-paid, or they incur the risk of rejection at our office.

PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The seventh year of this journal will commence with our July number. Subscriptions for the seventh year will then become due, and should be immediately paid to our several agents on the West Coast of Africa, or remitted to this office by English subscribers.
 4, Coleman-street-buildings, Moorgate-street, E.C.

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5s., STAMPED.

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WILLIAM EDWARDS, Financial Agent,

4, Coleman's-buildings, Moorgate-street, London, E.C.

The African Times.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1867.

MISCELLANEA.

The papers moved for by Charles Buxton, Esq., relative to the abolition of trial by jury at Sierra Leone, &c., were laid on the table of the House of Commons on Friday, April 5. To be printed.

In last month's paper we expressed in a note our hope that the arrival of Mr. Chalmers at Bathurst would put an end to magisterial and judicial irregularities there. We since learn from the Coast that he was sent out "without instructions or powers." What a satire upon the mode of conducting affairs at the Colonial-office!

By the division in the House of Commons on clause 3 of the Reform Bill, on the night of the 12th, or rather morning (two p.m.) of the 13th inst., in which the Government obtained a majority of 21 votes (310 to 289), the passing of the Reform Bill is supposed to be assured; and, consequently, the stability of the present Ministry also—at least, until after the general election,

which must necessarily soon follow on the passing of a Reform Bill admitting so many persons to the franchise.

THE JAMAICA PROSECUTIONS.—It is said that the Jamaica Committee have now resolved to prosecute Mr. Eyre for misdemeanour, under the provisions of the Colonial Governors Act.

In consequence of the success of the Prussian needle-gun in the late war between Prussia and Austria, it is estimated that 20,000,000l. sterling is now being expended in improved armaments by the European Powers. Money, so scarce for good, is always abundant for evil.

There is a most general impression that the disagreement between France and Germany relative to the continued occupation of the fortress of Luxemburg by North German troops can only be settled by the deplorable arbitrament of war.

Mr. Carr has retired from the Chief Justiceship of Sierra Leone, after twenty-five years' service, upon a pension of 1,000l. a-year.

There seems to be now no doubt that the differences between Great Britain and Spain will be amicably settled.

SIERRA LEONE JURY ABOLITION ORDINANCE No. IV., NOVEMBER, 1866.

PRINTING exigencies connected with Easter and its holidays compel an early preparation of articles this month, and up to the time of writing this, the papers relative to Ordinance No. IV., moved for by Mr. Charles Buxton in the House of Commons on the 8th March, and which were laid on the table of the House on the 5th inst., have not yet been distributed to the members by the Government printer. The Colonial-office will, of course, have supplied all that can throw light upon the course pursued by Governor Blackall and his Council, all that may have governed Her Majesty's Government in any decision to which it may have arrived, and therefore we purposely abstain from further remark until we see what these papers really are. Publication has been given in London to a reply of Mr. Adderley, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, to a protest of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, dated 2nd March, against Ordinance No. IV.; and Mr. Adderley therein states that "Lord Carnarvon had considered it his duty to advise the confirmation" of that Ordinance. It might have been inferred from the above-mentioned reply of Mr. Adderley, dated the 7th March, that the confirmation advised by Lord Carnarvon had been given by Her Majesty, and that the confirmed Ordinance had been sent out by the mail steamer of the 23rd February for publication in the colony of Sierra Leone. But although that steamer arrived in Sierra Leone on the 11th April, and the return mail was not dispatched for England until the 17th, no publication of the Ordinance had been made there, nor had it "leaked out" in any way that news of the confirmation of the Ordinance had arrived. We choose to presume, therefore, that the Crown had not then, and has not yet, acted upon Lord Carnarvon's advice. We shall be very much disappointed if it has done so, as well as profoundly grieved. The Colonial-office were aware on the 20th February that Mr. Buxton would ask in the House of Commons for papers, and the question was only deferred to the 8th April in order to give time for the authorities at the Colonial-office to decide what papers the Government would supply. Under these circumstances we are bound to presume that such advice must have been given to the Crown by Lord Carnarvon prior to the 20th February, but that action upon it has been suspended in consequence of Mr. Buxton's notice of intention to ask for papers. In a matter respecting which no plea of urgency could be put forward (as we have not received intelligence of any new brutal assault by Government officials on natives for which an action for damages could be brought), it would, we believe, be considered unusual, if not disrespectful to the House of Commons, to have proceeded to confirmation by the Crown in the face of such an application for papers made with the evident intent of bringing the whole matter under the consideration of Parliament should such a course be found necessary.

Individually we have no faith in protests, or petitions, or memorials to any Government department from societies or individuals in this country in matters relative to colonial administration, and more especially as regards the conduct of affairs on the West Coast of Africa. We have therefore preferred, and shall always prefer, direct parliamentary proceedings in every instance in which it may seem to us that the rights and liberties of Her Majesty's West African subjects are in jeopardy through projected or effected encroachments on them by local British authorities. In this way the questions at issue are more likely to be decided on their merits, as they will not become mixed up with others which, however analogous in some respects, cannot be regarded as precisely identical. Although sympathizing with the oppressed African race everywhere, we consider our especial mission to be the West Coast of Africa. After long and prayerful examination and reflection, we were led to believe that it was essential for the advancement of the highest West African interests that West African affairs should be treated without refer-

ence to what might be passing in any other part of the world. We have suffered not only heavily in purse, but also in consideration, even on the West Coast of Africa itself, because of the course which we in consequence adopted; but our decision remains unaltered, and our West African friends must expect that at all times we shall be guided by it.

THE CASE OF KING AGGERY.

THE two documents which we publish, page 115, will show the latest information we have received in the matter of King Agger's deposition and deportation by Colonel Conran to Sierra Leone. By No. 1 it will be seen that Her Majesty's Government sanction the deposition and deportation of King Agger, and convert the latter into compulsory permanent exile at the pleasure of the Governor-in-Chief at Sierra Leone for the time being, although they do not adopt Colonel Conran's untenable charge of high treason. We were prepared for this decision of H.M. Government, and upon the grounds on which it is ostensibly given.

But this decision, unless accompanied by some other fixing definitely the course in future to be pursued by H.M. Administrator on the Gold Coast with regard to the affairs of the whole protectorate, is only a postponement of the difficulties which have arisen (some of which culminated in King Agger's arrest), and is unjust to all concerned, administrators, judges, and other officials, the educated natives, and the kings, chiefs, and people in general. We are strongly tempted to enter at once fully upon this subject; but, as in the case of the Sierra Leone Ordinance No. IV., Nov., 1866, we abstain until the papers laid on the table of the House of Commons on the 5th inst. shall have been distributed by the Government printer. We do not advocate ephemeral interests—we have no private interested motives to advance—we want a well-defined, comprehensive, and comprehensible system of governmental and judicial administration for the whole of the territories, such as can alone insure progress, and stability in progress, material, moral, and Christian—that is, in all which constitutes real Christian civilization. We therefore for the present abstain, but our Cape Coast friends will understand at the same time that we are watching and striving for their interests. They have known from the commencement how much we have disapproved of, and how strongly we have condemned, King Agger's letters (especially the last) to the Administrator, as likely to be prejudicial in every way to native interests at Cape Coast. But this will not deter us from endeavouring to obtain for the "Petition" that inquiry into its allegations and merits which it seems to us ought ere this to have been instituted by Her Majesty's Government. We hope the papers alluded to will be in our hands in the course of a few days. The almost engrossing extent to which the House of Commons will be occupied with the Reform Bill for the next month or two is adverse to our plans with regard to West Coast affairs generally; but we will do all that circumstances will permit for the advancement of the great interests we have in charge.

H.M. SHIP BRISTOL.

H.M. ship Bristol, having been refitted in England, arrived at Sierra Leone early in March, to become again the flag-ship of Commodore Hornby, who is in command of the West African Squadron, and whose flag had been hoisted on board the Greyhound during the absence of the Bristol.

We enter our solemn protest against this proceeding on the part of the Admiralty. There is perhaps scarcely a ship in the British Navy more unfitted by construction and internal arrangements for service on the West Coast of Africa than is H.M.S. Bristol. Our readers cannot, we think, have forgotten the account we gave of the ravages of yellow fever on board this ship, which compelled her being sent home, without her having done any service whatever on the West Coast. Competent persons who have inspected her have expressed their wonder and indignation that the Admiralty should have ever sent her out to the West Coast. What can we say, then, to her being dispatched again on the same service? Unfortunately, there is nobody responsible at the Admiralty, or we should say that we held them responsible for the lives of the officers and men which may be sacrificed in that ill-selected ship.

In addition to her dangerous unfitness, we have another and a serious objection to urge to her employment in the West African Squadron. She is unnecessarily large for the service, and entails a great and unjustifiable expense. The Rattlesnake, which carried the flag of Commodore Wilmot, and in which he did such good service on that Coast, is all that ought to be demanded for a flagship on the West Coast; and the saving that might be effected by the employment of the Rattlesnake, or some equally good ship of her class, would be very considerable. We must earnestly call the attention of our Parliamentary friends to this important subject. The expenses of the West Coast Squadron

ought to be kept down to the lowest figure compatible with its efficiency, and no ship ought to be sent out to a fever climate that is not so constructed as to give the strongest possible guarantees for the preservation of the valuable health and lives of Her Majesty's sailors. We believe that the naval returns for 1866 will show a most unusual amount of death and sickness in the West Coast Squadron, and feel convinced that the greater portion of those lamentable deaths and invalidings were owing to the employment of the Bristol. We hope, therefore, that some member of the House of Commons will ask for a specific return as regards each vessel employed. This is most essential.

THE JAMAICA PROSECUTION.

THE indictment of Colonel Nelson and Lieut. Brand for the murder of Mr. Gordon, executed under sentence by court-martial during the Jamaica troubles of 1865, has afforded the learned Lord Chief Justice of England an opportunity for a masterly *exposit* of the law with relation to depriving British subjects of the protection afforded by the ordinary forms of procedure in courts of criminal justice. The *Times*, in its observations on Lord Chief Justice Cockburn's Charge to the Grand Jury (which occupied five hours in delivery), says that "the charge of the Lord Chief Justice of England has vindicated one vital principle of English justice. Martial law, it has often been said, is the suspension of all law, and the high authority of the Duke of Wellington is cited in support of this ambiguous doctrine. There is a sense in which such a proposition cannot be contradicted, for in a state of war the will of the general is practically supreme. It has been supposed, however, that martial law, in a far more specific sense, may be proclaimed by virtue of the Royal prerogative in cases of emergency, and that, having been proclaimed, it overrides and supersedes the action of civil tribunals. It was against theories of this kind, which received an apparent sanction from Mr. Disraeli's reply to Mr. Mill last session, that Chief Justice Cockburn's luminous exposition of the law was chiefly directed. The opinion of the Lord Chief Justice is decisive against the existence of any prerogative enabling the sovereign to declare martial law. He takes all the alleged precedents, one by one, and shows elaborately that no such position can be founded upon them. The earlier annals of English history are full of illegal proclamations and sanguinary reprisals, but nothing like a judicial recognition of martial law can be found in them. The inference which the Chief Justice draws from the whole course of English jurisprudence and legislation is that martial law is not so much the suspension as the negation of all law, and warrants nothing which could not be lawfully done without a recourse to it. While he points out the popular error which confounds it with military law as now administered under the Mutiny Act, and formerly under ordinances and articles of war, he defends military law itself against the charge of being an arbitrary system, governed by no fixed principles or rules of procedure. Still more emphatically does he protest against the notion that martial law differs from military law in being more capricious, more shadowy, and more dependent on the conscience and discretion of the tribunals constituted under it. Upon the whole, he arrives at the conclusion that martial law is a mere figment, that no power but Parliament can suspend the common law rights of civilians, and that even soldiers are not amenable in time of peace to so despotic a jurisdiction as that of courts martial has been described. The only plea which can avail a military officer who has put a British subject to death is a plea which would equally avail a police-officer or even a private citizen. It is the plea, not of martial law, but of necessity. There are cases in which an individual may take the law into his own hands in self-defence; there are cases in which, for the protection of society, all loyal subjects, and still more those who may be specially charged with the maintenance of order, may execute the higher law of public safety; but there is no case in which a mockery of justice can be rendered valid by a proclamation of martial law."

Our limited space will not permit of our giving Lord Cockburn's elaborate charge, but there are some points too important to British colonial subjects to be suppressed. His Lordship referred to the celebrated "Petition of Rights" in the time of Charles I., which subsequently took the form of a statutory enactment, and proceeded to say that "to his profound astonishment he had lately seen in print a statement that the Petition of Right was of no efficacy beyond the shores of Great Britain, and had no application to the martial law proclaimed by the Governor of Jamaica. Whoever wrote that statement must have wholly misconstrued the character of that statute. The Petition of Right was not an enacting statute, but put a limit to the prerogative of the Crown, and declared what was the law and Constitution of this country. It expounded the common law of England, which was applicable, as he had already shown, to the colony of Jamaica. Military writers had asserted that what was called martial law

could be arbitrarily established and enforced; but for the most part they had been misled by an erroneous reading of Blackstone." The Lord Chief Justice here distinctly lays down that the same limitation of the Royal prerogative which exists in Great Britain itself, exists also in the colonial possessions of Great Britain. What the sovereign cannot do *here*, a delegate of the sovereign cannot do in the sovereign name in a colony. It is only an Act of Parliament that can invest with this power of proclaiming military law. The Lord Chief Justice showed how the Crown became invested with this power in Ireland by the Irish Statute of 1798, and again in 1832 by English Statute; and also that the Jamaica Act of 1780, for calling out the Militia in that island, enabled the Governor, if necessary, to proclaim martial law; and so also did the Colonial Militia Act of 1845, passed in the ninth year of the reign of the present Queen. He then quoted Mr. Montgomery Martin's "History of the Colonies" to show that "between the settlement of the colony and the year 1832, a period of 154 years, there had been no less than 28 insurrections of the negroes, being an average of one insurrection in every 5½ years, and that these had been put down with a degree of violence and barbarity at which any man might well shudder. In 1760 no less than 1,000 negroes were executed or put to slaughter of every kind and description under martial law, and in the rebellion of 1831-32 a large number of executions took place, and punishments of the most extreme severity were resorted to; and therefore it might be taken that according to the views of the inhabitants the Governor had authority to proclaim and enforce martial law under the statute to which he had already alluded."

Reviewing the facts of the apprehension, removal, trial, condemnation, and execution of Mr. Gordon, his Lordship felt "that there had been a lamentable miscarriage of justice;" but in his humble opinion, "if ever there was a case which called for the application of martial law, looking at the consternation and alarm which pervaded the whole island—looking at the circumstances in which the whole of the white population were placed—looking at the small military force available—and, further, looking at the consequences which might have ensued, this was the case." All the points involved were stated very clearly by his Lordship to the grand jury, whose decision we give in another column. We do not see how they could have arrived at any other after his Lordship had so clearly pointed out that the Jamaica Act of 1780 and the Act of 1845 had created an exceptional position as regards Jamaica. But we do not think that in future any Colonial Governor, however stupid he may be, will talk lightly of his power to "establish martial law by a mere scratch of his pen." Governors of colonies will be in future called upon for undeniable evidence of an overwhelming necessity for superseding the ordinary action of the law, and by summary execution "depriving the Crown of its highest prerogative—the prerogative of mercy."

THE CASE OF COL. NELSON AND LIEUT. BRAND.

FINDING OF THE GRAND JURY.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT, APRIL 11.

The bill against these gentlemen was not presented to the grand jury until late in the morning, and it was expected at one time that it would not be considered by them until all the other business had been disposed of.

About twelve o'clock, however, the bill was sent up, and the several witnesses were called in and examined.

At half-past one o'clock the grand jury came into Court, and returned both bills as "Not Found."

There was great difficulty in repressing a burst of applause in the Court.

ANAMABOE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

March 9, 1867.

Sir,—The educated Africans are really striving here to do some good for the town. They have had conferences with the King and headmen, and are now collecting money for the purpose of obtaining a better supply of good water than we have had hitherto. I hope they will succeed in this.

Wesleyan missionary meetings have been held at Anamaboe, Salt Pond, Cape Coast, &c. Anamaboe and Salt Pond contributed 208*l.*, an amount never got before this time. The Hon. Mr. Grant took the chair at Salt Pond, and Mr. Ghurty at Anamaboe.—Yours, &c.,

A NATIVE.

NEGRO VISITORS TO THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The French transport Pomone has left Oran for Madeira to receive a number of negro passengers coming from Senegambia to visit the Exhibition at Paris. They belong to the high aristocracy of the districts under the sovereignty of France, and have been taken to Madeira by one of the war vessels on the Senegal station.

DAHOMY.

We announced in our March number that the King of Dahomey left his capital on January 31 last, on a slave-hunting expedition, and that he was understood to have gone in the direction of Abeokuta. The following from Abeokuta of the 2nd March shows that our intelligence was unhappily correct, and that several towns and villages have been visited by this scourge. One of them seems to have been a great slave-trading town:—

"On Sunday morning the news arrived of another raid made by the Dahomians in this neighbourhood. Two villages, upper and lower Ijaka, were first seized, and then a town called Ishalla, said to be larger than Oshielle, was attacked and carried without resistance. The news of the attack made on Ijaka was communicated to the Ishalla people by the report of a few guns; they had no mistrust of Dahomians, but thought they were from the Egbas.

"A few armed men went out from Ishalla with this belief; they met Dahomians instead, and being pursued by them they entered Ishalla together, and the place was lost. Others state that the Dahomians held a parley with the Ishalla people and said they had no intention of doing them any harm, they being on their way to Abeokuta, and then begged water, which being given them they rushed in and destroyed the place. It was a trading town, and it is said many slaves were bought and sold there; now slaves and their masters are carried off into the like slavery."

GABOON.

February 21, 1867.

The Ba-Fans continue to plunder our boats as usual, and lately fired upon the French Government steam tender, wounding the commandant severely; the fire was returned, but no further steps have yet been taken to punish the aggressors.

Trade is so stagnant that it really looks as if the river has been quite "used up."

Many letters due by the last mail, the Lagos, are missing, and many of those delivered have been wet, but we do not hear of any accident to the steamer.

The Admiral, M. Fleuriot de Laugle, is duly expected. It is supposed he will settle the "duty and licence" question, as he will probably have received replies from France to his dispatches, with definite instructions. If the duties and licences be persisted in nearly every merchant will leave the place. Many of them are already erecting establishments in neighbouring native territories, as a matter of precaution.

FEZ.

Contrary to the decrees in force, the present Governor, Halim Bey, promotes the commerce in slaves in a most open manner. Since the commencement of his rule, the horrible traffic in slaves has so greatly increased, that caravans arrive at Mourzouk from Egypt at only a few days' intervals for the purchase of negroes. At this time there must be nearly 2,000 there on sale. The prices vary from 20*l.* for a strong young woman to from 25*l.* to 35*l.* for handsome young girls. The mortality experienced in bringing the poor creatures from Timbuctoo, Kano, &c., is of course very great.

RIVERS BETWEEN SIERRA LEONE AND THE GAMBIA.

The trade in the Nunez River is brisk. The various factors are now engaged in getting in all the produce they can before the expected ships arrive. Since the French established a little colony on the bank of this river, the state of things is more tranquil. One great good has been accomplished by the occupation of the French; that Government do not allow their subjects to purchase slaves; indeed I have heard from good authority that the Commandant of Goree has expressly told the natives that his Government do not tolerate slavery in any shape amongst the traders. I am sorry to say that the slave-trade is still dragging on its slow pace. It is doomed, I trust, to die a natural death; but there is now a depot of slaves kept at Cassini, a little north of the Nunez, by a *Sierra Leone* man, for the King of the Nunez. Many of these slaves came from the Rio-Pongas, sent by French traders when they heard of their Government's intended occupation of the Pongas River. There are three large rivers south of the Nunez, and each of these leads to large extent of countries, where the commercial enterpriser may carry on a thriving business. Among these is the Pongas River, having two entrances to it, called the Mud and Sand Bars. This river is now occupied by the French for commercial purposes. The French merchants for many years, it seems, were continually writing to the Senegal Government asking for protection, and representing themselves as hostilely treated. To these demands the Government replied by sending a man-of-war at sundry times to demand satisfaction. I need hardly state that these expeditions were merely expenses incurred to little purpose. It then occurred to the Senegal Government to enter into a com-

mercial treaty with the chiefs in this river, and the merchants are to pay 4 per cent. on every kind of produce exported. The Government pay for the use of the river for the purpose of trade 500 dollars per annum. All ships entering the river are to pay. The chiefs disputed the right of the French to receive pay from English ships, since it was plainly stipulated that as the English treaty was in existence long before, and the treaty money is annually paid, therefore English ships were exempted. This subject was discussed in January last, when His Excellency the Governor of Senegal replied: "We shall not quarrel about this. The Emperor's Government and the Queen's can very easily settle the matter." Traders, however, would like to know whether the Sierra Leone Government intend to assert the rights of British subjects on this point. The native chiefs have done their part; they have acted nobly. How will the Government act? There is a steam cutter in the river, having a Custom-house officer on board, who is to collect the duties. No produce or article of trade escapes the vigilance of this officer; mats, sheep, &c., all have to be paid for. It is very laughable to see the working features of these gentlemen when they have to pay so dear for what they enjoyed before without paying anything; they have not even the poor consolation of seizing the natives for debt, a usage vetoed by the Governor of Goree.—*The African Inter-pret.*

HAYTI.

LIVERPOOL, Wednesday.

On the 27th March a public proclamation was made banishing the late President Geffard and his family from the island for ever. Six of his followers were exiled for ten years. General Salnave, the leader in the late Cape Hayti disturbances was expected to take Geffard's place. The new representatives were to be elected on the 8th inst., and the President on the 19th. Large numbers of Northern troops were in Port-au-Prince, and Her Majesty's ship Cadmus was in the port watching British interests. The British consul refused to grant protection to Geffard's son unless he went on board the Cadmus. Business was active.

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY MEETING AT CAPE COAST.

The yearly meeting of this highly successful mission society was held at Cape Coast on Monday, the 11th February, his Excellency H. J. Usher, Acting Administrator, in the chair.

Amongst the gentlemen on the platform were the Rev. Mr. Blake (Colonial Chaplain), Major Mendes, Lieut. Sayce and Hamilton, of the 2nd West India Regiment; T. B. Freeman, F. C. Grant, Esq.; Revs. Messrs. West, Wharton, Solomon, Fynn, and a host of other Wesleyan ministers.

The proceedings opened with prayer by Mr. West, after which his Excellency the Acting Administrator addressed the meeting, showing the great good that has resulted from the efforts of Wesleyans, and in a most impressive manner contrasted the days of human sacrifice and bloodshed on the Gold Coast with the comparative happiness that prevails now, and which he traced directly to the efforts of the Wesleyan Society. His Excellency, after passing some well-deserved encomiums on the Revs. Mr. West, Mr. Wharton, and the other Wesleyan ministers, concluded by soliciting the aid of all present, alluding in a most touching and beautiful manner to the parable of the widow's mite. The Rev. Mr. West then read the report for the last year, which showed results far exceeding those of the previous one, both as regards success in the work and in a pecuniary point of view, and proved that the admirers and supporters of this excellent society have not degenerated. The amount collected for the Gold Coast district exceeded the sum of 800*l.*, being an increase of 200*l.* over last year.

His Excellency, after the report was read, rose and complimented Mr. West on the success of this year's labour, and called upon the Rev. Mr. Taylor to address the meeting, which he did in a most amusing speech, which created loud bursts of applause and laughter. His Excellency then called upon T. B. Freeman, Esq., to address the meeting. At this announcement the utmost silence prevailed, as it was well known that one of the greatest orators that ever graced an African platform was about to give utterance to words that would charm and delight the audience. Mr. Freeman rose, and whilst doing so a breathless silence pervaded the vast assembly.

Mr. Freeman said: It is now twenty-eight years since I had the high honour of addressing audiences such as these, and on this very spot, and when I contemplate the past, and reflect on the associations that have wedded my heart and soul to this great and good society, I find that words are inadequate to express my gratification. The Rev. Mr. Taylor has told you that the Wesleyans on the Coast of Africa are still to be compared to an overgrown child, whose period of life induces its parent to expect that it should walk, and so relieve its mother of the trouble

of carrying it. I must, however, join issue with my friend Mr. Taylor, and, in doing so, ask him to take himself back to the year 1839, and contrast the present state of society with those dark and dismal times of human sacrifice and misery which owed their origin to the fact that God was not known to the heathen nor were his precepts followed by them. Now what do we see? Why, through the length and breadth of this vast protectorate chapels and missionary stations are being planted, and I bless God that I have had the honoured privilege of raising up many of those temples, and of dedicating them to that God who is alone able to accomplish the great work of spreading the religion of his dear Son. When I saw the misery and woe that prevailed in my travels through this benighted country, when I was forced to look upon the bloodstained streets of the Ashantee and Dahomey capitals, bleeding heads and mutilated bodies, rendered so to satisfy a restless Fetish, and a most depraved and senseless religion, it was then that I felt keenly the responsibility of missionary labour; it was then that I, with more earnestness than I ever before possessed, fell down at the footstool of my God and prayed for the success of missions in Western Africa. It was then that I realized fully the necessity, the urgent necessity, of planting here the religion of Jesus Christ; because I found out that no medicine, no physician, but He who died for us, and rose again for our justification, could heal so great a malady. Depend upon it, my friends, if you wish to elevate this unfortunate country, if you wish to pull down superstition, paganism, and idolatry, this is your only way, by supporting this noble society in raising up the cross of Christ and Him crucified—by earnestness in your prayers, and unflinching exertion in every effort, so that your goodness be not as the morning cloud or the early dew which goeth away. Rather let it give place to that happy state of belief: "For as the rain cometh down and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so shall my word be, that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace. The mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir-tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle-tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign, that shall not be cut off." Hasten, oh Lord, the time when there shall be a new heaven and a new earth, and permit us to realize that beautiful portion of our prayer, "Thy kingdom come."

Several other missionaries addressed the meeting most eloquently, and after a vote of thanks to his Excellency the meeting closed with the Doxology, and the Benediction from Mr. West.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

REGULATING APPEALS FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF SIERRA LEONE TO HER MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

No. 2.

26th Feb. 1867.—Whereas by an Act passed in the 6th year of Her Majesty, intituled "An Act to enable Her Majesty to provide for the government of her settlements on the Coast of Africa and in the Falkland Islands," it was enacted that it should be lawful for Her Majesty by any order or orders to be by her made, with the advice of her Privy Council, to establish all such laws, institutions, and ordinances, and to constitute such Courts and officers, and to make such provisions and regulations for the proceedings in such Courts, and for the administration of justice, as might be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of Her Majesty's subjects, and others within the said settlements; and whereas Courts of civil and criminal justice have been established by ordinances in Her Majesty's settlements on the Gambia, the Gold Coast, and of Lagos in Western Africa; and it is expedient to provide a Court of appellate jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals from the said Courts respectively. It is therefore ordered by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice of the Privy Council, as follows:—

1. That the judges for the time being of Her Majesty's Supreme Court of the settlement of Sierra Leone shall be, and they are hereby constituted, a Court of record to receive, hear, and determine appeals from the Court of civil and criminal justice of the settlement on the Gambia, the Court of civil and criminal justice of the settlement on the Gold Coast, and the Court of civil and criminal justice of the settlement of Lagos in Western Africa, and such Court of appeal shall be styled and called "The West Africa Court of Appeal."

2. That it shall be lawful for the plaintiff or plaintiffs, defendant or defendants, against whom any sentence, judgment, or decree or order of any of the said Courts of civil and criminal

justice shall be given, for or in respect of any sum or matter at issue above or exceeding the value of fifty pounds sterling, to appeal therefrom to the said Court of appeal; and the party or parties appealing from such sentence, judgment, decree, or order shall, within fourteen days from the passing thereof, give notice to the adverse party or parties of such appeal, and within fourteen days from and after such sentence, judgment, decree, or order, enter into sufficient security, to be approved by the chief or other presiding magistrate of the Court in which such sentence, judgment, decree, or order shall be given or made, to satisfy and perform the said sentence, judgment, decree, or order, in case the same shall be affirmed or the appeal dismissed, together with such further costs as shall be awarded thereon, and in all cases of appeal where notice shall be given and security perfected as aforesaid, execution shall be stayed, and not otherwise; and the said Court of appeal shall and may inquire into, hear, and decide all questions whether of law or fact arising upon any such appeal, but shall not admit or receive any evidence which was not tendered to the Court from which such appeal may be brought on the hearing or trial of any such suit or action therein: Provided always, that whenever at the hearing of any such appeal the judges of the said Court of appeal shall be equally divided in opinion, the judgment of the Court of civil and criminal justice from which such appeal shall be brought shall stand confirmed, and be deemed and taken to be the judgment of the said Court of appeal.

3. That it shall and may be lawful for the judges of the said Court of appeal, and they are hereby authorized and required, to make and establish such rules, orders, and regulations as to them shall seem meet, touching and concerning the forms and manner of proceeding to be observed in the said Courts of civil and criminal justice respectively, the practice and pleadings in all informations, actions, suits, and other matters civil or criminal to be therein brought, the process of the said Courts, and the mode of executing the same, the admission of barristers, attorneys, solicitors, and notaries in the said Courts respectively, the proceedings of the sheriffs and other ministerial officers, the fees and poundage to be paid to any officer, costs of suits and the taxing thereof in the said Courts respectively, and touching and concerning all such other matters and things necessary for the proper conduct and despatch of business in the said Courts respectively, and in the said Court of appeal, and all such rules, orders, and regulations from time to time to revoke, alter, amend, or renew as occasion may require: Provided always, that all such rules, orders, and regulations shall forthwith be transmitted by the judges of the said Court to the Governor-in-Chief of the said West Africa settlements, to be by him transmitted to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, for her or their approbation or disallowance.

4. That it shall be lawful for any person who shall think himself aggrieved by any final judgment, sentence, decree, or order of the said West Africa Court of Appeal, to appeal to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, in her or their Privy Council, against any such final judgment, sentence, decree, or order of the said Court, and such appeals shall be made subject to the rules, regulations, limitations, and conditions which for the time being shall be in force respecting appeals to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, in Council, from any judgment, sentence, decree, or order of the said Supreme Court of the settlement of Sierra Leone, and subject to such other regulations and conditions as Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, shall be pleased to direct.

That the said Courts of civil and criminal justice shall in all cases of appeal to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, in Council, execute and carry into immediate effect such judgments and orders as Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, shall make thereupon, in such manner as any original judgment of the said Courts respectively can or may be executed.

5. That for the purpose of this Order in Council any person lawfully appointed to act for the time being as Chief Justice of the said Supreme Court of the settlement of Sierra Leone shall be deemed and taken to be a judge of the said Court of appeal.

And the Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon, one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, is to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

CLIMATE OF WESTERN AFRICA.

(From a Correspondent many years resident on the Coast.)

In reference to your remarks upon the African climate, and also in reply to the letter signed "One who has Escaped from the Jaws of Death," I may, as a resident of very many years on the West Coast, give it as my humble opinion that the climate is by no means so bad as many would wish to make it appear; New Orleans, some parts of China, and other places are more unhealthy. I could give you a list of a dozen or more personal friends, mostly traders, who have been on this Coast from ten

to twenty years each, and are still strong, healthy men: it is true they have occasionally visited Europe during that time. Many young men shorten their lives by excess, carelessness, and exposure; but I doubt if they would live long anywhere if they led such dissipated lives as they do here. "Climate" is a common slang term for "brandy," and is frequently employed ironically in that sense, because it is so much the fashion to attribute every death to "that horrid climate," when those better informed know that a large proportion of Europeans hasten their own end by drink. One officer included among the victims of the Ashantee war was found dead in his bed, with a brandy bottle, nearly empty, under his pillow—at least, so ill-natured people said. Another victim of the said war died of epilepsy at Lagos, poor fellow! in fact, the "war" had to bear the blame of every death occurring among the troops at the time.

The much-abused traders, or "palm-oil ruffians," as naval and military gentlemen politely term them after eating their dinners, drinking their wine, and perhaps winning their money, certainly undergo as many hardships and privations on many parts of the Coast as do their countrymen of the red coat and blue jacket; but by care and avoiding dissipation they manage to weather the "climate" for many years. I do not, however, wish to make any invidious comparison between the two classes; there are sober and steady, as there are dissipated and debauched, of each; how, then, is it the trader survives when the officer succumbs? Perhaps he who has escaped from the "jaws of death" (as I have done also several times) would say it is the consoling hope of reaping "pecuniary benefit." It is at any rate somewhat strange that the traders who cannot run away from their business every time they are attacked by fever or dysentery should live, when the officer, who generally experiences little difficulty in getting invalided, should die. And I think this fact is a strong argument against those who abuse the traders and say they kill themselves with drink. One of the foremost in the rank of those who revile the traders was a certain "young man about town," who came to "faner in the virgin forest," "kiss pretty savages," &c., and who experienced nothing but kindness and hospitality at the hands of the traders whom he met. But I am somewhat wandering from my subject.

I am not singular in believing that healthy Europeans coming to Africa to reside may do so with comparative safety, if they will only take proper precautions to preserve their health. The day is past when patients were killed by bleeding and by calomel. The late outcry and "furious attack," as you justly term it, is in a great measure originated and fostered by those who dislike the country as a station and their friends. This dislike is very natural in naval and military officers, who, frequently idle, must find time hang heavily on their hands; but why not be honest, and state the true grounds of their abuse of the country? When the slave-trade was brisk, and prizes and prize-money plentiful, naval men did not revile the "Coast" and climate as they now do.

I perfectly agree with you that the Coast of Africa may be made at least as healthy as the West India Islands, aye, and more so. Yellow fever is not a frequent visitor on this Coast, and at many places it is fortunately unknown. Let Governors and Administrators imitate the example partially set them of late at Lagos and Cape Coast, and improve the sanitary condition of the places under their rule; and let the Europeans, instead of abusing the "climate," adapt their habits to it, and there will soon be a vast diminution in the number of "victims!"

ON THE SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE EMANCIPATED SLAVES IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF THE GOLD COAST.

A LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE REV. W. LOCHER.

Christiansburg, Accra.

Sir,—As the question of slaves and slavery and their emancipation is the current topic among the educated community of this place, and as the resolution adopted by your last conference was to the effect that the catechists under your tuition shall immediately emancipate the so-called slaves, and knowing this question will, sooner or later, bear upon the members of your congregation and the educated community at large, I hereby beg you will pardon my intrusion in offering some observations on this subject. Be sure that I am animated by no interested motive, but by a true and lively Christian feeling, in order that I may be able to put the matter in a proper light before some perplexed minds.

I admit with you that slavery and slave-owning is odious and inhuman, and that no man, especially Christian, ought to exercise unlimited dominion over the will and actions of his fellow-creature. But I want to point out to you the relative position of the so-called slaves of this place. The relation in which a slave stands to his master here is that of a son to his father, with one unrestricted exception, that is, a master can force his slave against

his will; but even in this he can obey or disobey. I have seen many instances in which slaves have refused the service of their masters with impunity. The master, on the other hand, is responsible for the actions of his slave as he is for his own son. The slave can marry any member of his master's family, and thereby become naturalised in the family; in this case the slaves here are more free than servants in some enlightened places, who are chained to the will and wishes of their masters.

But this is not my object in writing to you, allowing, as I do, slavery and slave-owning to be inhuman, unchristian, repugnant to the Word of God. I want to know what will become of the social condition of the so-called slaves after their emancipation? To whom shall they go after they are emancipated? They have no home, no friends here; who shall take care of them when they are sick? and when they die, who shall bury them? Are there any institutions for this purpose? Or may we cast them adrift on this wide ocean of the world? I want to know if you have given this question a full thought, and have made some provision for them after they are emancipated. Unless this point is thought of, discussed, and provided for, I am afraid we are on the point of doing more moral mischief in the condition of the so-called slaves; we shall emancipate them to become the slaves again of the cruel heathen. I have known slaves that have become slaves again after their emancipation!

I will point out one or two instances. The Rev. M. Suss paid for and emancipated a boy, by name Danyamase; but what has become of the boy? He has so involved himself in debts that he is on the verge of selling himself again. Another missionary paid for a slave, and that slave worked off the claim against him; but no sooner was he aware that he was free, than he went and sold himself again, on the plea that he will be lost by himself without any protector. I could adduce many similar instances of this nature if it would not be tedious.

Make provision for the social condition of the so-called slaves after their emancipation, and many well disposed will come within the measure of your resolution; and not till then.—Yours respectfully and sincerely,

J. C. BRIANT.

IMMIGRATION TO NATAL.

We are glad to see that some steps are being taken to procure eligible immigrants in Natal. Lord Carnarvon, although but a brief time in office, has given his sanction to certain arrangements proposed by Dr. Mann, as agent of the colony for purposes of immigration. It appears there are only 3,800,000 acres of Crown lands available, and these in rather remote districts. But presuming that they are eligible for farming settlers, and that they will be put in good road communication with the central towns, Lord Carnarvon has given his assent to four plans; laying down, however, in reference to them, three absolute governing principles—i.e., 1. That all lands allotted shall front public roads. 2. That there shall be continuous occupation. 3. That perfect provision shall be made for the due reception and comfortable location of the settlers after their arrival.

Of the plans, the first is: To grant 200 acres to heads of families possessing 500*l.*; alternate lots to be reserved for purchase within five years at 10*s.* per acre. The second plan: To settlers who will pay 5*l.* towards freight, and who can certify that they have means of support for six months after arrival, 50 acres with due right of commonage. Plan the third: Pastoral farmers to have lands on lease, not more than 1,000 acres, at a total rent of 12*l.* 10*s.* per year. These to be surrendered when wanted for agriculture, at six months' notice, but holders to have pre-emptive right to purchase 320 acres at 10*s.* per acre. The fourth plan is: That the Natal Immigration Agent in England shall keep a register of all lands of private proprietors that are for lease or sale.

These appear to us to be good regulations. We attach great importance to the private lands registry; because these lands are in the more central or settled districts, and many large proprietors would do well to sell half their uncultivated lands at a very low price to good immigrants, as they would thereby make the residue greatly more valuable. Natal wants an increased European population, and as the colony offers very great advantages to settlers, we hope it will soon obtain it.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. James Jerrom Pratt as Consul in England, to reside in London, for the Republic of South Africa.

THE FATE OF DR. LIVINGSTONE.—The Secretary of the Admiralty has forwarded us the following for publication: "Commodore Hillyar, in a letter dated at Bombay, 13th March last, reports that H.M.S. Wasp had returned to Zanzibar, from Quiloa, with Mr. Seward, H.M.'s acting political resident at Zanzibar, and states that the information which that officer had been able to obtain respecting the reported death of Dr. Livingstone was chiefly of a confirmatory nature.—Admiralty, April 5, 1867."

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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.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA, MADEIRA, TENERIFFE.

—The African Steamship Company's fast and commodious STEAMERS are intended to leave LIVERPOOL on the 10th and 24th of EVERY MONTH (except that when the latter date falls on a Monday the Day of Sailing will be the 25th).

The packets of the 24th convey Her Majesty's Mails, and proceed direct to MADEIRA, TENERIFFE, BATHURST, SIERRA LEONE, MONROVIA, CAPE PALMAS, CAPE COAST CASTLE, ACCRA, JELLAH COFFEE, LAGOS, BENIN, BONNY, FERNANDO PO, OLD CALABAR, and CAMEROONS.

The packets of the 10th, not being under postal restrictions, are open to call, by special arrangement, at any port on the West Coast of Africa, but as a rule they will not call at Bathurst, Monrovia, Cape Coast Castle, Jellah Coffee, Benin, and Old Calabar. Teneriffe will be called at on the home route only.

The fast and powerful Steamship CALABAR, A. J. M. CROFT, Commander, will leave LIVERPOOL on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, at 12 noon.

Passengers embark by steam tender, leaving the North Landing Stage at 10.30 a.m. punctually.

Goods and heavy baggage must be alongside the ship at the loading berth, Coburg Dock, not later than 6 p.m. on the 22nd.

NOTE.—Goods for Sierra Leone will be landed there at Company's expense, but shipper's risk; at all other ports they must be taken from alongside on arrival, or they will be carried on, transferred to floating depôts, or landed and stored entirely at shipper's risk and expense.

Parcels addressed to different consignees, and made up in one package, will be charged freight on each parcel, as if shipped separately.

The destination, in letters two inches in length, must be marked on two sides of every package.

No goods or parcels can be shipped without pre-payment of freight.

NOTICE.—The ATHENIAN will be despatched on the 10th May, calling at Madeira, Sierra Leone, Cape Palmas, Accra, Lagos, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Cameroons.

For further information apply in Liverpool to the Company's Agents, Messrs. FLETCHER and PARR, 23, Castle-street; or at the Company's offices, No. 14, Leadenhall-street, London.

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Important to English Ministers, British Consuls, and Europeans seeking to reside in safety in Tropical and Foreign Climates. Her Majesty's Representative, the Governor of Sierra Leone, in a letter of request for an additional supply of the Pyretic Saline, states: "It is of GREAT VALUE, and I shall rejoice to hear it is in the hands of all Europeans visiting the Tropics."

Half a teaspoonful, taken in a tumbler of water, contributes more to the refreshment of the body than any known beverage; invigorating and vitalising the blood, it alleviates thirst in a most agreeable manner, and furnishes the system with those saline principles that are essential to health.

SICKNESS, HEADACHE, and NAUSEA are in most cases immediately relieved by taking a teaspoonful in a tumbler of cold water; this can be repeated once or twice in two hours, if needful.

SEA VOYAGES.—It is a very valuable accompaniment, and should on no account be omitted; it instantly allays the sickness. For BILIOUS CONSTITUTIONS, giving rise to vitiated Secretions, Indigestion, and Eruptions on the Skin—a teaspoonful should be taken daily, with the dinner, in a tumbler of water, and the same quantity on going to bed.

In cases of DIARRHŒA, put as much Magnesia as will lie on a shilling into half a tumbler of water, let this fall to the bottom of the glass, and then stir into it a teaspoonful of the Saline, and drink during effervescence.

In JUNGLE, YELLOW, SCARLET, TYPHUS, and GASTRIC FEVERS, and ERUPTIVE DISEASES, it should be given in teaspoonful doses every four hours, in a glass half full of water, or with an increased quantity of water if the patient suffers from thirst.

W. STEVENS, Esq., M.D. and D.C.L., in a work upon fevers, states that since its introduction the fatal West India Fevers are deprived of their terrors. In the Island of Trinidad alone, out of upwards of One Thousand treated on this plan, there were only eleven deaths.

It is particularly recommended to all who have at any period of life taken Calomel, or Mercurial preparations, in order to their removal. For such it is necessary to take the Effervescing Pyretic Saline for several months in small repeated doses.

N.B.—Keep the bottle well corked, use a dry spoon, and it will retain its valuable properties unimpaired by time or climate.

Dr. Septimus Gibbon, of the London Hospital, in his letter, states: "It is the best preparation of the kind I have ever met with. Its usefulness in the treatment of disease has long been confirmed by medical experience. Its superiority consists in its being rendered thoroughly anhydrous, &c., &c. I speak from adequate knowledge of the preparation, having been in the habit of using it in private practice for many years, and having taken a large quantity with me when I went as physician to the Smyrna Hospital. In hot climates, the preparation is of especial value.—August 7, 1857."

Dr. Sparks, Government Medical Inspector of Emigrants from the port of London, writes: "From my personal and professional use and knowledge of the value of Mr. LAMPLOGH'S PYRETIC SALINE, for many years past, I have great pleasure in bearing my cordial testimony to its efficacy in the treatment of many of the ordinary and chronic forms of Gastric Complaints and other forms of Febrile Dyspepsia.—August 5, 1857."

From G. D. Sawyer, Esq., M.D., 22, Guildford-street, Russell-square: "I do hereby certify with pleasure that I have tested, on several occasions, the efficacy of Mr. LAMPLOGH'S PYRETIC SALINE, in Gastric and Enteric Irritation, and also in Low Fevers, attended with Derangement of the Digestive Organs."

From Thomas Carr Jackson, Esq., F.R.C.S., and Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital, London: "I have no hesitation in recommending the compound of Mr. LAMPLOGH'S SALINE PYRETIC. It is an admirable Febrifuge, and will be found an eligible Medicine where such remedy is indicated. I am in the habit of prescribing it largely, its composition being known to me; and I have every reason to be satisfied with it. It is beautifully prepared, and can be used at a moment's notice without trouble; and is therefore particularly adapted for use in public service."

From David Morgan, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S., and L.A.C., &c., Medical Officer of the Clerkenwell Parish: "I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the medicinal qualities of Mr. LAMPLOGH'S PYRETIC SALINE. I have used it extensively in the treatment of Diarrhœa and Febrile affections generally, and have found it an admirable Refrigerant Medicine, well calculated for diseases incidental to warm climates, more particularly in Cholera and Fever, as it possesses chemical properties capable of furnishing the blood with Saline matter.—Pentonville, August 8, 1857."

Messrs. Orr and Sons, of Madras, in a letter dated September 23, 1866, state Surgeon-Major G. Murray Duff, M.D., &c., had called for a further supply of all that we could give him, and spoke of its remarkable effects in the Jungle Fever in quite enthusiastic terms, directing a further supply to be sent overland, besides what had already been forwarded by the Cape.

A case of Jungle Fever had been treated with the partial contents of one bottle with perfect success; the medical attendant, of considerable repute, likes the medicine much, and wants more.

In another case of severe Vomiting, the patient was relieved after the third dose, and fell into a refreshing sleep.

Mr. Guthrie, Army Medical Director, became a warm advocate for its use in various diseases, and had the Pyretic Saline direct from the proprietor for personal and family use.

SPECIAL AGENTS FOR LAMPLOGH'S PYRETIC SALINE:—

Messrs. ORR & Co., Madras; Messrs. THACKER, SPINK, & Co., Calcutta; Messrs. TREACHER & Co., Bombay.

CANTOR and CO., SIERRA LEONE.

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