

The African Times.

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

"Talk to me anywhere of Power, and I'll tell you of Protection. Mention a Magistrate, and the idea follows of Property. Show me any Government, and you are to see the proposed interest of those governed. Power constituted otherwise is a monster that is impossible in every system where there is any notion of the justice of God or the good of mankind."—EDMUND BURKE.

"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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A CHRISTIAN VIEW OF CHURCH DISESTABLISHMENT, ETC.

THE ROAD TO NATIONAL RUIN.

Addressed to every Protestant Christian Parliamentary Elector.

By the Editor of the *African Times*, Author of "The Kingdom of Heaven," "Course of Divine Love," &c., &c.

Printed for the Author by W. J. Johnson, 121, Fleet-street, London. Price 2d.; for distribution among Electors, 12s. per 100.

WEST AFRICAN MAILS.

The African Royal Mail Company's steamer, with the West African monthly mails, arrived at Liverpool on the 1st August, and the bi-monthly mail steamer on the 14th August, each mail being thus two or three days before the time at which it was marked as due.

THE GAMBIA ORDINANCE OF THE 2ND DECEMBER, 1867.

Proclamation by His Excellency Charles G. E. Patey, Administrator of Her Majesty's Settlements on the River Gambia.

Whereas Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria has been pleased to approve and confirm the undermentioned ordinances passed by the Administrator and Legislative Council of these settlements (of which ordinances copies are hereto annexed)—viz:—

An ordinance passed on the 2nd day of December, 1867; An ordinance to amend the laws relative to jurors and juries in the settlements on the River Gambia;

An ordinance passed on the 2nd day of December entitled an ordinance to regulate procedure in the Court of Civil and Criminal Justice of the settlements on the Gambia;

These are therefore to promulgate the said ordinances with confirmation thereof for the information and guidance of all whom it may concern.

Given at Government House, Bathurst, this 24th day of June, 1868, (Signed) C. G. PATEY, Admiral, Administrator.

THE SIERRA LEONE WHIPPINGS—PETITION TO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

The following petition to the Secretary of State was in course of being signed by the principal inhabitants of Sierra Leone when the mail left:—

To His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Colonial Affairs.

The humble petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Settlement of Sierra Leone,

Showeth,—That your Grace's despatch of the 8th of June, 1868, in reference to the two petitions to your Grace from this settlement which preceded the present, and which were on the same subject as the present, has been communicated by his

Excellency Governor Sir Arthur Kennedy, C.B., to whom it was addressed, to some of the leading persons among those who were the petitioners on those occasions, and has in consequence become generally known throughout the colony; and your petitioners beg to state that as it appears from its contents that, notwithstanding the entirely well-founded representations which were made by those petitions of most grave misconduct on the part of Mr. Huggins, establishing, as was humbly conceived, beyond all reasonable question his incompetency and unfitness to be the holder of a judicial post, the settlement has still the alarming prospect before it of having a bad state of the administration of justice inflicted upon it for a long course of time by his remaining in such a post. It has occasioned so much apprehension, that it is felt to be of vital necessity that the matter should be again brought before your Grace, the more especially as it has now become necessary that another grave charge should be brought against Mr. Huggins, even still further evincing his unfitness to be the holder of a judicial post. Your petitioners beg to say that they are desirous of not overstating anything which they have to bring before your Grace; and that in speaking of Mr. Huggins' holding a judicial post as being an infliction on Sierra Leone of a bad state of the administration of justice, they are not exaggerating, but simply referring to a state of things which is already and has been now too long in actual existence; which all classes in the colony have actually in view before them, and of which and its cause they are all sensible. For that in the court in which Mr. Huggins officiates there is, and has been ever since he first officiated in it, a bad state of the administration of justice, and that it arises and has all along arisen from his insufficiency and incapacity, there is but one voice in the colony from all classes.

The further and very grave charge which your petitioners are now placed under the necessity of bringing against Mr. Huggins, is that to procure a decision in his favour he has been guilty of untruthfulness and deception—that he has in fact misled and deceived your Grace by alleging what is utterly false. It was from your Grace's despatch that your petitioners learned that this had been the case. The part of the despatch referred to is that to the effect that Mr. Huggins showed "that the sentences passed by him which are complained of, were strictly in accordance with sentences which had been regularly imposed for a long course of years by former Chief Justices at Sierra Leone." What Mr. Huggins is, in this passage within quotation marks, stated to have shown, your petitioners allege, your Grace, to be utterly false, and they are prepared to prove it to be so. The sentences Mr. Huggins is charged with unlawfully passing were sentences which imposed punishments greatly exceeding the punishments prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offences the persons sentenced were charged with in the indictments or informations against them, and of which only they were convicted; and your petitioners aver that sentences of this character have not at any time since the Supreme Court of this settlement has been in existence, been imposed by any judge at Sierra Leone but Mr.

Huggins; and that Mr. Huggins never either heard or saw, or was present at, or in any manner witnessed, the passing of sentences of this character by any judge at Sierra Leone but himself.

The calendars (duplicates of which are regularly transmitted to the Colonial-office) of the various sessions or sittings which have been held of the Supreme Court are sufficient of themselves to establish what your petitioners have just alleged; but if further evidence than the calendars should be thought requisite, then your petitioners claim from your Grace's justice that an inquiry before duly-authorised functionaries may be directed to take place within the colony, to ascertain whether sentences of the same character as those passed by Mr. Huggins, imposing punishments greatly exceeding those prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offences the persons sentenced were convicted of (as all those passed by Mr. Huggins that are complained of did, and this being the ground of complaint against them, and with which those passed by him were in accordance, were ever passed by any former Chief Justice or Judge at Sierra Leone during all the number of years which have elapsed since the Supreme Court was established; and that at this inquiry there may be opportunity for evidence to be adduced in the usual manner on the part of both parties, on the part of your petitioners, as well as on the part of Mr. Huggins, and care will then be taken that the indictments or information, as well as the calendars, shall be given in evidence, and they will fully confirm all that appears in the calendars and that is alleged against Mr. Huggins with respect to this charge. Your petitioners beg leave to suggest with regard to such an inquiry, if further evidence than the calendars should be thought requisite, that it would be better it should be limited to the time during which the Act of Parliament of the 24th and 25th years of Her Majesty's reign, cap. 96, which now forms the chief part of the criminal law of this settlement, has been in force in it, under the provisions of the Ordinance of the Local Legislature, No. 3 of 1862, as the punishments prescribed by that Act are different from and milder than those prescribed by former Acts of Parliament, the legislative alterations the criminal law has undergone having, as is scarcely necessary to be remarked, greatly ameliorated it; and if the inquiry were to embrace a time when the scale of punishments prescribed was different from that which is now prescribed, there would be considerable danger of its having the effect of misleading. In illustration of what is here meant it may be mentioned that after the 24th and 25th Victoria, cap. 96, on the 1st of August, 1862 (now nearly six years ago), came into force in Sierra Leone, there were no sentences of whipping imposed by former Chief Justices, for by that Act the punishment of whipping was nearly abolished. There were, however, sentences of whipping imposed by former Chief Justices before the 24th and 25th Victoria, cap. 96, came into force, for whipping was before that Act a lawful punishment in cases in which it is not so now, and was, consequently, a part of the law which in such cases former Chief Justices had to administer. Hence, if it were not kept in view that down to the 1st of August, 1862, sentences of whipping such as the former Chief Justices imposed were lawful, and that after that date it was unlawful to impose sentences of whipping in similar cases, misapprehension and mistake would be the almost necessary consequence. Your petitioners, however, beg to say that though, for the reason which has been mentioned, it is conceived it would be better that the proposed inquiry should be limited to the time during which the Act 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 96, has been in force in this settlement, an examination has been made of the calendars of all the sessions or sittings of the Supreme Court which have been held, and that the result is that such sentences as those passed by Mr. Huggins, imposing punishments exceeding the punishments prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offences the persons sentenced were convicted of, are not to be found in them; and that there have not been the slightest grounds since the Supreme Court was established for alleging that sentences of such a character have been regularly passed by anyone at Sierra Leone but Mr. Huggins himself; and if what Mr. Huggins is, in the above-quoted passage of your Grace's despatch, mentioned to have shown should prove, as it certainly will, to be utterly false, your petitioners then respectfully submit that they shall be doubly entitled to claim from your Grace's justice that Sierra Leone shall be relieved from that very great evil under which it is suffering, of having a bad state of the administration of justice in it in consequence of there being such a person in it as Mr. Huggins in a judicial post. First, because by passing unlawful sentences in so great a number as upwards of twenty cases imposing punishment greatly exceeding the punishments prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offences charged in the indictments or informations against the persons sentenced, and of which only they were convicted, he has manifested his incompetency and unfitness to be the holder of a judicial post to so great an extent that your petitioners respectfully submit that were there nothing against Mr. Huggins but

his having done this, he should not be permitted to remain in such a post; and that if in England a person who might be temporarily in a judicial post, as Mr. Huggins was, should manifest his incompetency to an equal extent by passing an equal number of sentences imposing punishments contrary to Act of Parliament, it would be impossible for him to remain in such a post. And next, because anyone who could be guilty of such falseness and deception as Mr. Huggins has with regard to this matter could not be fit to be the holder of a judicial post. And your petitioners, with respect to this, also respectfully submit that were there this only against Mr. Huggins, the colony should be relieved from the evil it suffers from him, by his not being permitted to remain in a judicial post in it.

Even, however, if what Mr. Huggins has alleged with regard to former Chief Justices had been true instead of being false, as it is, your petitioners respectfully submit that they could not feel it to be a valid justification of Mr. Huggins passing the unlawful sentences he did, that similar unlawful sentences had been passed by former Chief Justices. They respectfully submit, on the contrary, that even were it true that former Chief Justices had regularly grossly violated the law in the manner they are alleged to have done, Mr. Huggins was bound to know what they did to be a violation of the law, and not to commit the same gross violation of the law himself.

And your petitioners also respectfully submit that they cannot feel it to be open to Mr. Huggins to allege that the persons upon whom he passed unlawful sentences imposing upon them excessive punishments, had committed other offences than those they were charged with in the indictments or informations against them, and of which only they were convicted, and that it was on account of these other offences, which they were not charged with in the indictments or informations against them, and of which they were not convicted, the excessive sentences were passed. There was no charge in the indictments or informations against the persons who were unlawfully sentenced, of their having been previously convicted, and your petitioners respectfully submit that without a violation of principle Mr. Huggins cannot be heard to allege, in reference to the excessive punishments he imposed upon them, that they were persons who had been previously convicted, or had committed any other offence than those they were charged with in the indictments or informations against them, and of which only they were convicted. If any of these persons had been previously convicted, nothing could have been easier than that they should have been indicted or informed against for having been so; and then, if convicted of this offence, they might have been lawfully punished for it. So that even supposing that any of these persons had been previously convicted there would still be nothing to even excuse their being punished for this offence without their having been indicted or informed against for it and convicted of it; and nothing to which their being so punished could be ascribed but Mr. Huggins's want of knowledge of the law and incompetency, unless, indeed, it be supposed that he acted in violation of the law knowingly and wilfully. It is needless to say that without being convicted of this offence no one could be lawfully punished for it; and it is with the utmost respect submitted, that in opposition to the fact that none of these persons were convicted of having been previously convicted, it is not by the law of the land, the law under which Sierra Leone is as well as England, open to anyone to allege that any of them had been so with respect to the excessive punishments which Mr. Huggins imposed upon them.

Care has been taken, however, since the arrival of your Grace's despatch to ascertain whether, supposing that the persons upon whom Mr. Huggins passed unlawful sentences were charged in the indictments or informations against them with having been previously convicted, and supposing also that they were convicted of having been so, those circumstances would render the sentences lawful; and it has been found that, even with the aid of those two suppositions, a considerable portion of the sentences would still remain entirely unlawful; and it is important that your Grace's attention should be drawn to this fact, as it exhibits in a strong light what is actually the case, that Mr. Huggins's want of proper knowledge of the law and competency are very considerable. Thus in the six cases of William Coker, Uriah Coomber, Tom Ginger, Samuel Thomas, William Johnson, and James Lewis, in which the prisoners were convicted of simple larceny only, the sentences Mr. Huggins passed were that the prisoners, besides being imprisoned with hard labour, should each of them be thrice whipped. But even supposing that these persons, besides the larcenies of which they were convicted, had been charged in the indictments or informations against them with having been previously convicted, and had been convicted of that offence also, the sentences passed upon them would still be excessive and contrary to Act of Parliament; for it is specifically provided by the Act 24 and 25 Vic., c. 96, sec. 7, that the punishment as regards imprisonment and whipping of a person who commits the offence of simple

larceny after a previous conviction of felony shall be imprisonment for any term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour, and with or without solitary confinement, and if a male under the age of sixteen years, with or without whipping, section 119 of the same Act providing that the whipping, if any, shall be once only, and that the number of strokes and the instrument with which they shall be inflicted shall be specified in the sentence. So that even if the persons upon whom these sentences were passed had been convicted of a previous conviction as well as of simple larceny, the sentences would still have been three whippings in each case beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament, and in the case of William Coker, who was sentenced to four years' imprisonment with hard labour, as well as to be thrice whipped, the sentences would still have been excessive and contrary to Act of Parliament, not only in regard to the whippings, but also in regard to two of the years of imprisonment with hard labour. The ages of the persons upon whom these sentences were passed, as appears by the gaol records, kept by virtue of the provisions of the Ordinance of the Local Legislature No. 18, commencing at page 147 of the first vol. of the Local Ordinances, were as follows: William Coker, 28 years; Uriah Coomber, 19 years; Tom Ginger, 20 years; Samuel Thomas, 18 years; William Johnson, 50 years; and James Lewis, 17 years. These cases are selected because there is no room for question as to the law with regard to them, and the case of Benjamin Johnson is selected for the same reason. What this man was convicted of was the misdemeanour of obtaining money by false pretences, the punishment for which offence, as regards penal servitude, is, by the Act 24 and 25 Vic. cap. 96, sec. 88, "penal servitude for the term of three years," and there is no additional punishment on account of this offence having been committed after a previous conviction, it not being the law that persons committing misdemeanours after previous convictions shall be liable to additional punishment.

But Mr. Huggins, instead of three years, sentenced this man to ten years' penal servitude—that is, to more than three times as much as the period prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence of which he was convicted—the Act 27 and 28 Vic., c. 47, providing that no person shall be sentenced to penal servitude for less than five years, it may be noticed, is, by virtue of the provisions of the Ordinance of the Local Legislature No. 3, of 1862, not in force in Sierra Leone.

Your petitioners beg to say that they will not take it upon them to contend that it was obligatory on your Grace to give a separate answer to the petitioners who preferred the first petition to your Grace on the same subject as the present, although they cannot but think that an answer should have been given to the petitioners by someone, if not by your Grace, then by the Governor, with whom it is stated in your Grace's despatch your Grace fully communicated on the subject, although the petitioners never knew that your Grace had so communicated; and your Grace's now petitioners respectfully submit that they humbly conceive that circumstances strongly evince that it would have been better had an answer been given to the petitioners on that occasion, as, had an answer been given to them, your Grace would, by the reply which your Grace would have received, have been saved from being successfully imposed upon by the false allegation that the sentences complained of were "strictly in accordance with sentences which had been regularly imposed for a long course of years by former Chief Justices at Sierra Leone."

Your petitioners now beg to annex hereto office copies of the indictments or informations in all the cases in which Mr. Huggins passed the unlawful sentences which are complained of. These office copies give also the sentences, and are arranged in the same order in which the cases occur in the lists annexed to the two former petitions, and the following statement correctly shows the extent to which the sentences were unlawful. In the first case (A), that of William Pratt, the sentence was to four years' penal servitude beyond the period prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (B), that of Henry Thomas, the sentence was for three years' penal servitude beyond the period prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (C), that of Benjamin Johnson, the sentence was to seven years' penal servitude beyond the period prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (D), that of Armstrong, the sentence was to three years' penal servitude beyond the period prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (E), that of Charles Fyfe, the sentence was to one year's penal servitude beyond the period prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (F), that of Robert Gooding, to one year's penal servitude beyond the period prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case

(G), that of Moses Jones, the sentence was to two years' imprisonment with hard labour and three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (H), that of Thomas Freeman, the sentence was to two years' imprisonment with hard labour and three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (I), that of James Decker, the sentence was to two years' imprisonment with hard labour and three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (J), that of William Coker, the sentence was to two years' imprisonment with hard labour and three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (K), that of Moses John, the sentence was to two whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence the prisoner was convicted of in this case. In the next case (L), that of Moses John, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence the prisoner was convicted of in this case. In the next case (M), that of John Allen, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence the prisoner was convicted of in this case. In the next case (N), that of John Allen, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence the prisoner was convicted of in this case. In the next case (O), that of John Allen, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence the prisoner was convicted of in this case. In the next case (P), that of Uriah Coomber, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (Q), that of Tom Ginger, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (R), that of Thomas Johnson, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (S), that of Samuel Thomas, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. In the next case (T), that of William Johnson, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence this prisoner was convicted of. And in the remaining case (U), that of James Lewis, the sentence was to three whippings beyond the punishment prescribed by Act of Parliament for the offence of which this prisoner was convicted.

Finally, your petitioners humbly submit this petition to your Grace, earnestly hoping that it may meet with your Grace's benevolent consideration. They humbly entreat that it may be considered how great a calamity it is that a colony should be surrendered to a bad state of the administration of justice for the lifetime of a man of middle age, and they most humbly pray that your Grace, in your goodness, will be humanely pleased to save and protect this community from so great a calamity.

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

REFORMS IN SIERRA LEONE—COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Sir, — From the able and devoted advocacy which you give to everything associated with the interests and prosperity of this rising settlement, I beg to address a few lines to you. During my last sojourn in England for two years, I witnessed your patriotic zeal, and have lost no opportunity of impressing upon the native gentlemen here the vast importance of the services rendered to their cause by the *African Times*. You will be delighted to hear that your advocacy of native rights is beginning to make itself felt, and that things begin to assume a more cheerful aspect. With the departure of Governor Blackall and our jury destroying ex-Chief Justice Carr, the spirit of public confidence, so essential to the advancement of a people, appears to visit us. The Judicial Bench, with one melancholy and deplorable exception, never had so high a position as at the present under Chief Justice French; and it is rumoured that Sir Arthur Kennedy, our excellent Governor-in-Chief, will infuse the genius of a complete reform and regeneration into every department of the State. You may rely upon one thing at least, that such outrages upon the persons of natives as the English Parliament was dishonoured by the recital of during last session never will occur upon this coast again. Sir Arthur Kennedy has established competitive examinations here, and by this step has, like a wise ruler, adopted the recognised spirit of the age and given an earnest proof of a sincere desire to see the loyal, industrious, and creditable natives advanced to places of position and trust. Ex-

Governor Blackall never thought of this, but, on the contrary, he created a number of new offices, into one of which he placed his son, who performed the duty by deputy, whilst the others fell to the Ashwoods, Shaws, and Primets, and a host of other toadies and sycophants who are now a standing horror and menace to the natives. Nothing will do more to create an efficient staff of officials, to purify the public service, and deal a heavy death-blow against nepotism than this system of competitive examination; and the country owes a lasting debt of gratitude to his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief for the introduction of this system into our rising settlement. One of the worst evils attendant, too, upon such miserable appointments as those to which I allude as having been made by ex-Governor Blackall, is that the officials immediately bring a perfect brood of equally incompetent persons around them in the shape of relatives and friends, and the public service goes to complete and absolute ruin.

This is a subject of such vital importance, namely, the bestowal of Government appointments to the natives of Sierra Leone, that as soon as the great pressure of professional business admits of the opportunity, I will do myself the honour of addressing you at greater length upon it.—I am, Mr. Editor, yours truly,
W. RAINY, Barrister-at-Law.

LIBERIA.

The Hon. Charles Henry Harmon, Governor of Cape Palmas, has been pleased to appoint the Hon. James Monroe Thompson, representative for Cape Palmas, Maryland County, and captain of the Latrobe Artillery Company, to the office of postmaster and collector of customs, *vice* James Milnor Thomson, Esq., resigned, and his Excellency the President has also been pleased to confirm the said appointment.

July 1, 1868.

A MOHAMMEDAN PRIEST AT LIBERIA COLLEGE.

A distinguished native Mohammedan priest, a resident of Futa, about eighteen days' walk from Monrovia, having come into Vonsua, a Mohammedan village a few hours' journey from Monrovia, to spend the feast of Ramadhan, was induced to visit Monrovia. He arrived in town with about a dozen of his pupils, all respectfully dressed in fine flowing robes of native manufacture, and all of intelligent looks. Among the first places visited by the priest, after paying his respects to President Payne, was Liberia College. He was kindly received and shown over the building. He appeared delighted with all he saw, especially the library, which seemed to him a wonderful collection of books. The President of the College gave him, from the shelves of the library, an Arabic Bible; and, through an interpreter, earnestly and solemnly requested him to read it. He promised that he would. Several other Arabic works, printed at the American Press at Beyrout, were presented to him. He was asked whether his people would allow the Liberians to establish Christian schools among them, and whether they would send their children. He replied by all means. He remained three days at Monrovia.

THE FANTEES AND ELMINAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, July 7, 1868.

Sir,—Since the Fantees returned home from encamping against Elmina, their kings and chiefs are collected at Mankessim considering their future attack upon it again after the rains. Before the Fantee kings and chiefs left Providence for Abakram-pah, and thence to Mankessim, it appears that Mr. Freeman, who was with them as the Government agent, advised them to put the matter between them and the Elminas into the hands of the Administrator, who might settle with the Dutch Government. Mr. Freeman having finished a letter for them, which was copied by Mr. Dawson, who is the secretary to the Fantee kings and chiefs, they are said to have attested the same with their marks, and it was then sent to Mr. Usher, the Administrator, who is so very anxious to go to England, but could not do so unless he could go with something like a treaty in his hands. He immediately despatched Messrs. Simpson, the collector of the revenue, Freeman, and Dawson up to Elmina, in one of Her Majesty's Ships of War, the Pandora, to negotiate with the Dutch Governor and the King of Elmina and his chiefs, and they agreed upon terms which were greatly to the dissatisfaction of the Fantee kings, &c., and, as they say, entirely contrary to the understanding they came to with Mr. Freeman as to the conditions which the Administrator might agree to for them. The substance of the treaty is that the hostilities between them and the Fantees, and neutrality on the part of the Elminas and Ashantees, may be suspended for six months—viz., until the Administrator goes to England and returns, and that in the interim the Elminas may be allowed to have free intercourse with and through any part of the Fantee districts. These commis-

sioners went up to Elmina on June 26 last, and returned on the 29th. The Elminas, of course, were glad of such a treaty, but the Fantees would not have it at all. As soon as these commissioners returned to Cape Coast the treaty was fully prepared on parchments in duplicate, and the Fantee chiefs were invited to come down, or send their representatives, to the Sweet River, near Elmina, to sign it with the Elminas and eat fetish too. Mr. Dawson took from Mr. Freeman the minutes of the proceedings at Elmina Castle before the Dutch Governor, &c., and the provisions of the treaty, and the Fantee kings and chiefs at once refused, and sent Mr. Dawson down to inform the Administrator that they would by no means agree to such terms. The only terms that they would agree to were, as they had before stated, that the Elminas should form an alliance with them and quit the Ashantees, or else, after the rains, they would fight it out. The Administrator would not listen to this, and sent Mr. Dawson back yesterday with these parchments, and an urgent request that the kings and chiefs should sign theirs; and as to what would become of them, should they not do so, I do not know. Mr. Dawson is expected to come back on the 9th, that is the day after tomorrow. I shall write you the result by the bi-monthly mail. I think I have written you of the Ashantee messengers who were detained in Assin for some two or three months, and were afterwards released and sent down here. These men, who are twenty-two in number, are still here. The Administrator, who is anxious to send them home, does not know how to effect this in safety. The Denkeras, who have suffered very severely by the Ashantees, and many of whom have been killed and some sent to Coomassie, and more than four hundred of whom have retreated on Assin, may make it unsafe for these men to pass through to Ashantee. It is now said that the Administrator has determined to send them under an escort of military, for he says he must have the people respect the English Government, and would not allow himself to be dictated to by anybody, or, in other words, that if he so chooses the Ashantees are to murder as many as they please in the Fantee countries, and take away others to slavery or massacre at Coomassie, and that there shall be no reprisals on the part of the Fantees, because they live in a so-called protected territory, though what sort of protection this is we are all quite at a loss to understand. If he gets the Fantee kings, &c., to sign the treaty he has determined to leave here by the next bi-monthly mail steamer, when Mr. Simpson, the Collector of the Revenue, will act in his place as Administrator *pro tem*.—Yours truly,
FANTEE.

(Another Account.)

Mr. Usher is trying to have a grand peace document signed on parchment to take to England with him, and all sorts of official scheming, and not a little treachery among certain parties, has been going on to bring this about. Let me put you on your guard at once about it, and, through you, the Colonial Office, if they can look at unofficial truth as a corrective to official falsehood. The Fantee kings and chiefs repudiate the supposed authority given to Mr. Usher to make peace in their name. I will tell you all about this supposed authority by-and-by, as the whole thread of the intrigue is in my hands. The kings and chiefs were sold, but I do not believe they are men to allow themselves to be humbugged. The King of Abakram-pah was, I believe, the only one who really gave his assent to Mr. Usher negotiating, and that was given upon a certain understanding as to what should be done. Now the Fantee kings, chiefs, and people are furious, and it is possible there may be some disagreeable events at Mankessim when the kings and chiefs are again assembled. The whole country scorns the idea of peace with Elmina, unless the Elminas consent to give up the Ashantee alliance, and form one heart and soul with the Fantees. And they are right. There is no security for them while the Ashantees have alliance with places on the seaboard. If the Elminas will not give up the Ashantee alliance the cry is, "A war of extermination!" In that case the Fantees are determined to take Elmina. They will not have peace in the *Akwon-lah* fashion, and they have said so plainly to Mr. Usher's agents. The Fantees have determined on a renewal of the siege operations in three months' time unless the Elminas do what they want. There is no peace party at all. Do not believe in any "treaty" or "peace," signed or not signed, though brought by "an Administrator" in person to humbug the Secretary of State with, and hide his iniquities under the *éclat* of a supposed great service, unless it be such as I have told you the Fantees demand. Mr. Usher has been eating a great deal of humble pie in a small way, and partly at the expense of the Cape Coast Treasury, of course. He has found it necessary to take off the prohibition to sell powder, arms, &c.; he has recalled his stupid proclamation outlawing the kings and chiefs of Cape Coast; and the house and effects of various kinds, including the Bible, of course, which were burnt by his orders on a Sunday morning, as

being the supposed property of Attah, but which did not belong to him at all, are to be paid for out of the Gold Coast Treasury. Really if things are to go on as they have been of late, the Queen's Government had better have agreed with the Dutch for double the amount of duties fixed in the treaty. You have no idea how money is being squandered on officials, agents, commissioners, and what not, to cover, if possible, the imbecility and outrages of our rulers. To show you again how little thought of peace there is, unless such a one as I have said, about ten days ago the people of Cormantine (about three miles from Anamaboe, and lately Dutch) cut off the heads of three Elmina men, peaceable traders, who had been long resident there, to prove to Mr. Usher that they were not going to have peace, and did not acknowledge such a rule as his. Mr. Usher heard of it soon enough, of course, but was afraid to do anything, so it was hushed up. It is a pretty state of things altogether. I am told Mr. Usher will not dare to embark here when he goes to England, believing that he would be hooted and pelted, if not worse, if it was publicly known he was going home, so he is to go in some vessel to Accra. Perhaps, too, he wants to take a last look at poor Finlason, and consult with his friend Dr. Skues about giving the poor prisoner all the indulgence possible.* We have fallen upon times of official hypocrisy and iniquity here unparalleled on this Coast, bad enough as it has before been.—Yours,
TRUTH.

SHAMEFUL PRISON CELL AT CAPE COAST.

Sir,—You, I know, will not have forgotten that one of the eminent services rendered by poor Mr. Finlason was in exposing, through your columns, the horrid state of the prison at Cape Coast in Mr. Richard Pine's and Mr. Dooley's time. I have been obliged to visit the prison lately, to see some friends of yours, and I can assure you there is one cell at least, in which there are six untried prisoners now confined, which is simply a privy, where the poor wretches are wasting away in the fetid odours of the place. For God's sake cry out about it. I cannot understand why we have untried prisoners here month after month, with a resident chief magistrate. The whole thing wants exposing and looking into by some one not of the place.—Yours,
HUMANITAR.

THE CAPE COAST TRIALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, June 25.

Dear Sir,—I hope you got my letter of the 16th.† I confirm all I then wrote. The Bannermans were brought up for trial on the 17th, though, as I then told you, they had never been examined or committed by any magistrate on the charge, and even on the 16th had not received any copy of indictment. You see we have our own way of doing things here under the new system, but they will not always go smoothly off, clever as we may be. The case broke down before it began. Mr. Charles Bartels and Mr. George Blankson defended Mrs. Smith and her son, Mr. John Smith, and Mr. James Bannerman; and Mr. Edmund Bannerman conducted his own case. The counsel objected to the indictment on various grounds: 1st, That the prisoners were not British subjects, which they were not; 2nd, That natives within the protectorate might hold and transfer slaves; 3rd, That the parties had never been charged before a magistrate, or examined, or committed for trial, and that there was no information laid against them. Some depositions of witnesses for the prosecution had been furnished to Mr. Bartels, and it appeared that two of them were taken before no one at all—there was no magistrate's name attached to them. What do you think of that, Mr. Editor? I will soon sift out all about those two depositions, and let you into the secret, because I expect that in England you will fall so much in love with our system that you will be changing your form of procedure. But please remember that we here are entitled to the honour of having found out the system, though some say it is as old as Judge Jeffery's time—but I have no library here to refer to to see if this is true. Messrs. Bartels and Blankson told the Judge that this prosecution for holding and transferring domestic slaves affects the whole protectorate, and not the accused alone, &c., which is quite true, however sad it may be. In the course of the proceedings the Judge, in addressing Messrs. Bartels and Blankson, made the following observations: "I may as well tell you that there has been an attempt on the part of the Sierra Leone authorities to usurp authority over my Court, and I do not intend to give in to them an inch, for Chief Justice French has not got any jurisdiction over this Court as Chief Justice. The Queen alone has power over me, except in civil cases involving matters over 50l. in value, and even then Chief Justice French alone has nothing to say; therefore I now warn all persons that my judgments in criminal cases cannot be interfered with by anyone, and no one

* See answer to Accra Petition.

† Published in our last number, p. 8.

has jurisdiction over this Court in such cases; and as long as I have any ability left in me I shall resist all attempts, whoever they may come from, at such interference." There are some nuts for Chief Justice French to crack, Mr. Editor. I do not mean to interfere in judges' quarrels. I think this between Sierra Leone and Cape Coast is a very pretty one as it stands, and I hope the best man will win—that's all.

I begin to think you are a great deal to blame, Mr. Editor, you and Mr. Rainy. If you would only leave us to manage our law business and other matters as we please, this would be such a nice place for officials, Mr. Editor. But you spoil things. Now look at Finlason's case. We were trying a most interesting experiment as to the extent of sufferings and privations and abominations under which a well brought-up man may continue to live in a tropical climate in the most unhealthy season—and now our experiment is to be spoiled by you. And then we were getting up such a model Government Female School, where the girls would have been instructed in all sorts of things, and elevated one by one to semi-official positions, where they would have been a great consolation to the devoted servants of Her Majesty, civil and military, existing and prospective—and it is said you are interfering in that too.

June 30.

To try and remedy the defect of their never having been examined or committed, &c., as I before stated, the two imprisoned Bannermans have been taken four times before Mr. Administrator Usher's tool, his private secretary, Mr. James Grant Elliott, J.P., who gave poor Finlason the first blow with Usher's Whitechapel cleaver. But we could not fix it anyhow, Mr. Editor; the counsel constantly protested against and exposed the illegality, as they said, of the whole thing—and so at last all the accused were brought before the Judge in Court again, and the Judge informed them that the cases were "adjourned to the 18th September, or any other day most convenient to the parties;" and all, except of course the two who are under sentence, were discharged on their own bail. My letter is too long—you must wait till next time for more particulars.—Yours, &c.,

A TREMBLER.

Second Letter

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

July 17.

Sir,—If further proof were wanting of the animus which directs the proceedings against the Bannerman family it would be found in the following: James and Edmund Bannerman are undergoing imprisonment for the alleged crime of extorting forty dollars from one William Tago, or Sago (as detailed in letter signed "Veritas," p. 21). On the 13th inst. a constable entered their cage (for it is only a cage) and served them both with summonses to appear in a civil action for the very same thing. I enclose the summons* served on Mr. Edmund Bannerman, which you will see bears Judge Parker's signature. I will not say what will be done on the 31st inst., the day fixed in the summons for the hearing, but will send you full particulars of what is done.

Copy of Summons.

No. 840—1868.—Summons to a Defendant.

Civil and Criminal Court at Cape Coast, Gold Coast.

To Edmund Bannerman,

You are hereby summoned at the suit of William Tago, of Cape Coast, to show cause why you should not be compelled by the Court to return and be paid to plaintiff the sum of forty dollars (\$40), equivalent to 9l. sterling, extorted by you from him, and to show cause why you should not also be compelled to pay the usual interest of 50 per cent. on the same.

This case will be heard in the above Court on Friday, the 31st day of July, 1868, at eleven o'clock, or at a day or hour afterwards in the order of business.

Given under my hand this 11th day of July, 1868.

(Signed)

W. A. PARKER,
Chief Magistrate and Assessor.

Costs, 4s.; fee, 1s.—5s.

Judge Parker has suspended Mr. George Blankson (who helped to defend the Bannermans) from practising in his Court as a pleader. The reason he assigned was that Mr. Blankson, when addressing him in a case on the 6th inst., folded his arms across his breast. This Judge Parker says was contempt, or tantamount to it. He told Mr. Blankson that he also was one of the correspondents of "that low, dirty paper, the African Times." I feel sure Mr. Blankson never wrote to a newspaper in his life, he loves his ease far too much to do so.—Yours, &c.,
A TREMBLER.

West Coast News continued on page 20.

* The original summons is in our possession. We have compared the signature with that in a very important letter of Judge Parker's which is in our hands, and they are precisely alike.—Ed. A. T.

NOTICES.

We have been compelled to defer the following until next month :—
 Leader—Misapplication of Gambia Revenues.
 Ditto—The Infamous Transvaal Republic.
 Review of Dr. Horton's New Work.
 A Royal Monument in Dahomey—A Road at Bonny—Native
 Principal at Fourah Bay College, &c., &c., &c.

The African Times.

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The African Times.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1868.

MR. FINLASON'S RELEASE FROM PRISON.

THE 10th of August will be a day of note with us. On the 10th of August Mr. William Charles Finlason was set at liberty at Accra, by order of his Excellency Sir Arthur Kennedy, C.B., Governor-in-Chief of the West Coast Settlements. We are always as ready to return thanks as we are to claim justice, and expose oppression and wrong; and we have pleasure in acknowledging our obligations to his Grace the Duke of Buckingham, and to Sir Arthur Kennedy, for having acted so promptly in this case of infamous official persecution. On the 1st of June we heard of Mr. Finlason's removal to Accra, and the commencement of that series of brutal wrongs to which he has been subjected. We immediately laid the whole case before his Grace the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Mr. Finlason's sorrowing wife also demanded justice for her injured husband. The mail of the 10th June carried out a communication from the Colonial office to Sir Arthur Kennedy on the subject. Sir Arthur had long before, at the instance of our noble friend Mr. Rainy, sent to Mr. Ussher, the Administrator at Cape Coast, under whose authority the unjust sentence upon Mr. Finlason was being so brutally carried out and exceeded, for an immediate report on the case. We knew well, and Mr. Rainy knew, that even the boldest official mendacity could not show the infamous proceeding in a light other than disgraceful to all the parties concerned. This report seems to have reached Sierra Leone about the time the mail of the 10th of June from England arrived, and the same mail steamer carried down the Coast the peremptory order for the liberation of the victim of Cape Coast—the tortured of Accra. No wonder the 10th of August was a day of public rejoicing at Accra at this first ray of light piercing the darkness of that reign of official terrorism under which all had been suffering, as well as at the personal relief given to the poor sufferer, with whom all Accra, except some vile and dirty official scum, had sympathised.

The curtain has then fallen upon the second act of this drama, which at one time bade fair to become a tragedy; and we hope ere long to see it fall again at the conclusion of a third act of signal and heavy retribution on the wrong-doers.

And now we call upon the people of Accra and Cape Coast, and any other place where injustice and wrong are being officially done, to do their part boldly and fearlessly as becomes men. Let them be assured of one thing. There never is any desire on the part of the Home Authorities that any official wrong should be committed in a British dependency, much less such a series of brutal and licentious enormities as have lately disgraced the British official name at Cape Coast and Accra. We call upon them to meet publicly, and without fear to lay their grievances and complaints boldly before the Governor-General by memorial, sending that memorial through the Local Administrator, and forwarding duplicate and triplicate copies to us and to Mr. Rainy by the same mail, which ought to carry the memorial itself to Sierra Leone. Let there be no softening down of any official iniquity or error because the document would have to pass through official

hands. They are bound to send it forward, and will do so when they know it cannot be suppressed; but let the memorialists take care that it does not state or allege anything beyond facts that can be openly proved if necessary. The great evil hitherto at home has been the misplaced routine confidence of the Colonial office in the honour, integrity, and decency of unworthy officials on the Coast, who by favouritism, caprice, or private interest, have crept into positions they ought never to have been allowed to occupy; and all that is needed in any case for the removal of that evil, is to show the Colonial office unmistakably that its *cachet* of authority, when thus given carelessly or in error, does not turn the villain into an honest and trustworthy man.

SPECIAL GOVERNMENT INQUIRY INTO OFFICIAL CONDUCT ON THE GOLD COAST.

MR. FINLASON, as already announced in another leader, is at liberty. While he was yet in the power of his vindictive and unscrupulous enemies our chief efforts were directed to his liberation. We did not, however, neglect to make others for those who were involved in later extraordinary proceedings on the part of the Gold Coast authorities, but at the end of the month of June, and since, have urged strongly upon Her Majesty's Government the absolute necessity of a general inquiry by Sir Arthur Kennedy, as Governor-in-Chief (or some other authority equally independent, and invested with sufficient power to protect all those who should give evidence before him), relative to official proceedings, administrative and judicial, on the Gold Coast since the appointment of Mr. Ussher as Administrator, and Mr. Parker as Chief Magistrate and Assessor. We have shown that such is the reign of terror actually existing there, that it would be absurd to expect individuals should volunteer, or in any way give evidence inculpating official persons, while those persons retained the uncontrolled power to effect their ruin. And we now publicly urge the immediate institution of such inquiry by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, who, as we are informed, is entrusted with ample power for the purpose. The accusations against officials at Cape Coast of inefficiency, general misconduct, waste of the public revenues, and an arbitrary and excessive abuse of power, so that no one who incurs official displeasure is safe, either as regards person or property, are so heavy and numerous that it is due to the officials themselves, as well as to the public on the Gold Coast, and to the honour of Her Majesty's rule, that such a Court of Inquiry should be at once opened. If there had been any doubt previously as to the absolute necessity of this Court of Inquiry, it must, we think, have been removed by the following assertion said to have been made by Judge Parker in his Court at Cape Coast on the 6th July, when he concluded a long tirade against the "half-educated lawyers" pleading before him by saying, "I WAS TOLD AT THE COLONIAL OFFICE THAT I MIGHT PUT ALL LAW ON ONE SIDE, AND DO AS I PLEASED IN MY COURT." These words, we are assured, were taken down at the time by Mr. Bartels and Mr. Blankson, the pleaders, and other persons in the Court. Under such circumstances it is of course useless for us to clamour against proceedings, judgments, and sentences in that Court as illegal, and to ask for the statutes under which they may have been supposed to be justified. Supposing it, as we have every reason to do, to be correct and capable of proof that Judge Parker made use of these words, here we have at once a direct issue between Judge Parker and the Colonial office in England. And it is not an indifferent or unimportant issue. We deny the power of any Secretary of State for the Colonies to hand over the people in any one of Her Majesty's settlements abroad to the unlimited power of any man as magistrate or judge, whoever that man may be. That would be the very way to make a Judge Jeffreys in such a settlement as that of the Gold Coast; and we dare not believe that the Earl of Carnarvon, who appointed Judge Parker to Cape Coast, could have so exceeded the powers with which he was entrusted by Her Majesty for the welfare of the people in the colonies and dependencies

of the British Crown. It is manifest that only a superior Court of Inquiry, such as one under the Governor-General, could deal with such a case as this, where a servant of Her Majesty is said to claim what the Queen herself dare not claim, and would never think of claiming—a power above all law. So much for the Judge. Then as regards the Administrator and his pliant and ready tools, the official and other J.P.'s of his creation. Finlason's case has proved that so far from the Administrator affording any protection against any abuse of power by the Judge, who thus asserts that he is superior to all law, he and the obsequious magisterial tools of his creation seem to fancy that if the Judge is superior to all law, they must necessarily be so too; and thus almost the whole official tribe (we are bound to say we have never heard one word yet against Mr. Simpson) become arrayed against the rights and liberties, the lives and properties of people who fancied they were living under the protection of the British Sovereign, and of British law. Now either all this is fact or it is false; and it devolves upon Her Majesty's Government and the Governor-in-Chief of the West Coast to find out which it is, so that when the whole case comes before the House of Commons they may be able to speak with authority on the subject. And this they can never do by merely calling upon the individuals concerned for an explanation. We have seen something of this before; we know how the whole matter of testimonials, and certificates, and official evidence, is worked up at such a place as the Gold Coast when the conduct of superior officials is in question. They can only find out what is true and what is false by such a Court of Inquiry as we now again call for. In what other way could the Governor-in-Chief or the Home Government arrive at the full knowledge of the floggings of untried prisoners in Lieutenant Bolton's time, of which we have had such sad accounts; and of all possible enormities practised later, under a rule where the magistrate who commits to prison, the Government inspector of the prison, and the medical officer of the prison, is one and the same person, who holds also other official positions? No; there is no possible whitewashing of official rule, administrative and judicial, on the Gold Coast but by an open Court of Inquiry, held on the spot by the Governor-in-Chief of the West Coast Settlements; and we conjure Sir Arthur Kennedy, as he values his fair fame, which, in his position of Governor-in-Chief, is compromised by the charges brought against his subordinates while these are not disproved, and as he values the prosperity of the settlements on the Gold Coast, and the safety and prosperity of Her Majesty's subjects and others under her rule and protection there, to make that inquiry without delay.

JUDICIAL EULOGY OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

HAPPILY for us we are not within the judicial jurisdiction of Cape Coast, like our poor unfortunate and persecuted correspondents, Mr. Finlason and Mr. Edward Bannerman. But as we could not be put on our trial personally in the model court over which Judge Parker presides—as we could not be made recipients personally of any portion of that peculiar amenity for which Judge Parker has become eminent, our paper has been pronounced upon by him from the judgment seat. Remember that the eulogy passed upon the *African Times* and which we are now about to place before our readers, is not an opinion privately expressed by him, but one authoritatively delivered in open court. In the course of some late proceedings there, Judge Parker alluded to the *African Times* as that nasty, dirty, stinking, pettifogging paper. This was the judicial thunderbolt launched at us from the Civil and Criminal Court at Cape Coast. Our eagle, who was watching proceedings, caught it in his talons (it could not have been very hot) and bore it over the ocean to us. Changing latitude operated on it as it came, and the bird deposited it in the shape of a wreath upon our editorial brow. And we wear it with pride. If we had been praised by Judge Parker, we should have doubted if we could possibly be doing our duty and defending the lives and liberties of our African friends—but to

know that his judicial lips pronounced from the height of the judgment seat that the *African Times* is a nasty, dirty, stinking, pettifogging paper, is to our mind one of the highest compliments we could have received—at least from such a quarter; and we cannot, with our feelings of gratitude, do less than commend this "elegant extract," this wonderfully gentleman-like delicacy from judicial utterances at Cape Coast, to the especial attention of his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos as really giving Judge Parker an additional claim to removal from a locality where his beautiful light is in danger of shining unappreciated. Edinburgh is the only fitting place for a brilliancy so dazzling and so rare.

THE ASSISTANT JUDGE AT SIERRA LEONE.

WHEN we commenced the *African Times* one of the absolute rules laid down by us for our guidance was never to enter into controversy with any other journal. Our work for Africa is too serious to allow us to be turned aside by any hostile comments. But the question of the fitness of Mr. Huggins for the post of second judge of the Sierra Leone Supreme and Appeal Court is of such vital importance for Africa that we should betray our trust did we not briefly notice the observations of the *Sierra Leone Observer* of July 11. It is scarcely necessary for us to say that our opposition to Mr. Huggins, of whom we know nothing except by his public acts as a paid servant of the colony, is one of principle. Mr. Huggins was one of the willing co-operators in robbing Sierra Leone and the whole West Coast of trial by jury in civil cases. We considered this a crime against the West African people, and most unhappy results have fully justified this conviction; and when we found the same person insinuating in official letters that it might be advisable to get rid of juries in criminal cases also, it became of especial moment to examine the public doings of a man then aspiring to be Chief Judge of the Sierra Leone courts, and who desired to be invested as judge with powers so dangerous to the community at large. We were informed that he had not been called to the bar. Although we had the fullest confidence in Mr. Rainy's statements to this effect, which had been so long before the public of Sierra Leone uncontradicted by Mr. Huggins, we did not rest on these in a matter of such importance, because we maintain the judges of the Supreme Court of Sierra Leone should at least have had that legal training which the being called to the bar implies. We took the course we should have taken as regards any other person claiming to be a barrister. We must here quote from our leader of June 23: "We did not make this assertion lightly. We applied to counsel learned in the law here as to whether the name of Horatio James Huggins was amongst them as a member of their fraternity. Their answer was always 'No; there is no barrister of the name.'" All this passage in italics the *Observer*, when assuming to quote our entire statement, most disingenuously omits. The truth of the matter is that the counsel to whom we applied took the usual and proper course—they consulted the recognised Law Lists, and Mr. Huggins not being therein, they were justified in stating, even as Mr. Rainy was justified in staking his professional reputation as to the truth of the legitimately supposed fact, that Mr. Huggins had never been called to the bar. We deeply regret that Mr. Huggins's injudicious friends should impose on us the obligation of saying *ichy* Mr. Huggins's name was not on the lists, and why we were all thus led into involuntary error. When we find it right in the interests of Africa that we should protest against the appointment or conduct of an official, we do so as mercifully as we can. We do not strive to pile "Pelion upon Ossa" to crush him. And so with Mr. Huggins. His judicial conspiracy with Carr and Blackall against the rights and liberties of the African people, and a list of illegal sentences pronounced by him, we thought sufficient to justify our extremest open endeavours to obtain a rectification of the error committed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his appointment as Puisne Judge of the Courts of Sierra Leone. We therefore did not think it necessary to state that it was entirely the fault of Mr.

Huggins himself that we had asserted he did not belong to the Bar. We treated Mr. Huggins *delicately*, as we should have liked, under similar circumstances, to have been ourselves treated, and forebore to say that, owing, we supposed, to inadequate resources, Mr. Huggins had, we believe, omitted to make certain rather heavy payments to Lincoln's-inn, which could not and would not therefore publish his name on their list until this omission was rectified. Nor should we have stated this even now, had it not been published that we were "compelled to make an ample apology," when we merely made that voluntary and unsolicited acknowledgment of error which every gentleman ought to make when wrong—had it not been made a ground of unjustifiable attack on Mr. Rainy, who is rendering a public service to the Colony of Sierra Leone in seeking to obtain Mr. Huggins's removal from his judgeship—and had it not been ostentatiously put forward that Mr. Huggins's silence, when he could at any moment have stated the period at which he was called to the bar, and the Inn of Court to which he belonged, was because of his "contempt" for those who said he had not been thus called. It is no disgrace to a man who has just gone through expensive legal studies that he should be short of cash, and we sympathised with Mr. Huggins in this matter, as was shown by the voluntary and unsolicited *amende* we made; but it is a disgrace that Mr. Huggins's friends should state that his silence was owing to his "contempt" of those who erred in good faith in what they put forth respecting him, when it was really caused by his inability or unwillingness to discharge his liabilities to Lincoln's-inn. And now we have done with this matter for ever. Mr. Huggins is a member of the Bar, and as we presume he will have now paid his debt, because the authorities know where to apply for it, his name will be in the next Law List. But as we before said, this has nothing to do with Mr. Huggins's unfitness in other respects to occupy the position he now holds. Were he a member of fifty Inns of Court, that fact would not legalise the sentences passed by Mr. Huggins in Sierra Leone, to the grievous injury of the bodies of men whom he had no more right thus to flagellate by deputy than any Sierra Leone man would have to knock down, and kick, and otherwise ill-treat Mr. Huggins in the streets of Freetown. Mr. Huggins seems to plead in justification, and the Colonial-office by some extraordinary aberration of mind seems to allow the plea, that similarly illegal sentences have been passed by others. We do not think that this plea or its allowance by the Colonial-office will hold good when the matter is regularly brought before the House of Commons next session by motion, and not by mere question, which an under-secretary may contemptuously evade. The matter cannot rest where it is. It is like the Cape Coast Judicial Question. There must be some authoritative decision superior to that of the red tape-bound Colonial-office, which would rather that a British subject should be murdered in prison by illegal severities in the execution of an unjust sentence, than that there should be any departure in his behalf, and in efforts to save his life, from those time-dishonoured formalities* which have so long hedged in official misdoers in British colonies from that retributive punishment which ought to fall like lightning upon one who abuses his delegated authority to the oppression, instead of using it to the protection of the subjects and dependents of Her Britannic Majesty.

TRIAL OF JAMES AND EDMUND BANNERMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

"A plain unvarnished tale, I will unfold."—OLD PLAY.

Gold Coast, July 17, 1868.

Sir,—Some time in the month of April last, the Chief Magistrate, the Honourable W. A. Parker, having entirely recovered his health after a short trip to Old England, and feeling strong enough to undertake any amount of work, even to the cleansing of the Augean stables, proceeded down to Accra, to hold the half-yearly sessions, reform abuses, and mend the people's manners. His Honour found things all at sixes and

* Although the Colonial-office did communicate promptly with Sir Arthur Kennedy as regards Finlason's imprisonment, they did not at all approve their being forced to do so by the very *unofficial* course that we adopted in the hope of saving Finlason's life, and, thank God, with success.

sevens; the Commandant, Lieutenant in one of the West India regiments stationed on the coast, had allowed people to do much as they liked, choosing to be led by the nose, and guided by their caprice, rather than exercise the little common sense with which nature had endowed him.

The Chief Magistrate, on the first day of the sessions, praises the commandant and local magistrates for the very efficient and impartial manner in which justice had been administered, says a few words of encouragement to the pleaders, and has a smile for almost everybody. The Accras were delighted at the pleasant humour of his Honour; each congratulated the other, and augured that "the good old times were coming, boys." But soon a change came over the spirit of their dreams. Something, during the night, had disagreed with the judicial stomach, for next day, or the day after, in Court, the magistrates were in a bunch stigmatised as corrupt and unworthy; the commandant a —; the pleaders little removed from footpads; and Accra, generally and especially, going galloping to the bad. What was to be done to bring about a reform? One magistrate was lugged out of his bed at eleven o'clock at night, and cast into prison in company with a couple of felons, on a charge of having assisted a quiet and inoffensive married lady to break into the prison. He was released, however, in the morning, being told "it was entirely a mistake." All the local magistrates in a body at once sent in their resignations. Some respectable residents were imprisoned on various charges—of holding domestic slaves, of having domestic slaves in their possession, or having disposed of them, or bought, or inherited, or kidnapping, or pawning, &c. A very reign of terror convulsed the otherwise calm and peaceful little town of Accra. At last the thunderstorm of judicial indignation lighted on a fitting subject for signal vengeance.

There is a powerful and influential native family at Accra, the Bannermans (men and women), who have always been loyal and useful members of society, and on many occasions rendered signal services to the local Government, as documents in their possession can testify.* In the course of a few hours six members of this family were arrested—namely, Mrs. Smith, an elderly respectable widow lady; and her son, Mr. John Smith; her sister, Mrs. John Mills; and her three brothers, Messrs. James, Edmund, and Robert Bannerman; all descendants of the late Hon. James Bannerman. They were all shipped on board H.M.S. Dart and conveyed to Cape Coast, to be tried on various charges (that the judicial mind had incubated), along with some fifty or sixty other persons, prisoners and witnesses, although the Supreme Court was holding sessions at the time at Accra, the place where the supposed offences were alleged to have been committed.

Thus far I have given you, Mr. Editor, a very rough sketch of the late doings at Accra, but my business is now with the trial of James and Edmund Bannerman for "extortion, false personation, gross cruelty, and illegal restraint of one William Tagoe, a native of Accra," &c. So said the indictment. The facts of the case are these:—

In the month of January last Mr. James Bannerman had reason to believe that his wife, the mother of his four children, had been unfaithful to him, and that the above-named William Tagoe was the culprit who had seduced her. James Bannerman at once took out a summons for 200*l.* damages against this Tagoe, and handed his case over to his brother, Mr. Edmund Bannerman, who was a licensed pleader at the Court at Accra. Mr. E. Bannerman learns that this Tagoe was under an engagement to leave Accra in a few days, as steward on board a Liverpool vessel bound for the Rivers, and would be likely to remain away some two or three years. A warrant of apprehension was procured against Tagoe, on the plea that he was about to quit the jurisdiction of the Court (and which Tagoe himself admitted as true at the trial). Tagoe was arrested, and being unable to procure bail for his appearance when called upon, was cast into prison. Here Tagoe, in conjunction with some six or seven other prisoners, was guilty of mutinous conduct, and was flogged by order of the commandant, Mr. Bolton, in consequence of which he (Tagoe) got seriously sick. Mr. Bannerman's own friends and Tagoe's family make representations to him, that if Tagoe remain in prison in his present condition the consequences may become painful and serious—in fact, prove fatal. Mr. James Bannerman replies, "Well, I want to punish the rascal, not kill him; and, under the circumstances, whatever arrangement my attorney can make with Tagoe I will abide by." Mr. E. Bannerman, the counsel, discovers that Tagoe has not got a rap in the world, that his mode of livelihood is serving as cook or steward on board any vessel bound for the Rivers, saving up every penny of his wages, and at the end of two or three years returning to Accra, with his pockets full of cash, then and there spending his money like a lord, and leading the life of a beast, for a few weeks, until his means are exhausted, then seeking another engagement. Mr. E. Bannerman, under the circumstances, made this proposi-

* We have already published some.—Ed. A. T.

tion to Tagoe, that if he would repay the money his client was already out of pocket, namely—Cost of summons for 200*l.* damages, 6*l.* 1*s.*; subsistence of Tagoe in prison, to date, 1*l.* 16*s.*; affidavit 2*s.* 6*d.*; and warrant of apprehension 5*s.*—total, 8*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*; which, at 4*s.* 2*d.* per dollar, was \$39 52*c.*, or \$40 in even money, and sign a document promising not to show himself in Accra for four years, the prosecutor should relinquish his suit and give him his freedom. Tagoe cheerfully assents to these terms, signs the bond, and is released from prison, and in a few days pays the \$40 demanded, as amount of expenses incurred by prosecutor.

On the arrival of the Chief Magistrate at Accra in April last, some person or persons induced Tagoe to lodge a complaint that he had been compelled to pay the forty dollars against his will. On this without more ado James and Edmund Bannerman were arrested and placed in *close confinement*, and subsequently, as already stated, brought up to Cape Coast to be tried; his Honour the Chief Magistrate alleging that he was afraid he would not get a jury in Accra to convict them (although jury cases were being heard at the Court at Accra nearly every day).

The case came on for trial on the 9th of June, at eleven o'clock A.M., and was adjourned at eight P.M., was continued on the 10th at ten o'clock A.M., and lasted until six P.M., thus occupying fully eighteen hours. Mr. Charles Bartels (the leader of the Cape Coast Bar) and Mr. George Blankson, Jun., were counsel for the defence, and performed their arduous task well and ably. In fact, after the closing of the case, when Mr. Bartels addressed the jury, the very able and eloquent manner in which he dissected the very flimsy and conflicting evidence brought against his clients, I am sure there was scarcely a single spectator in the Court (and it was crowded) but what felt convinced that the prisoners would have been acquitted, and very justly too. But Mr. Bartels had fearful odds to contend against, for after the junior counsel had made a few very sensible and appropriate remarks, the Hon. W. A. Parker, who acted as prosecutor as well as judge, proceeded to sum up on the merits of the case. But it was no summing up at all; it was a reply purely and simply of the counsel for the prosecution to the speech of the counsel for the defence, dilating on the hardships that an *innocent* man (Tagoe) had been subjected to, amplifying every little circumstance, and all but commanding the jury to find a verdict of guilty—that Sir William Hackett had always praised the Cape Coast juries, and if they did not do their duty that day he (Judge Parker) would never have faith in a Cape Coast jury again, and a good deal more talk to the same effect, but there was no judicial, impartial summing up in the meaning of the phrase. It is therefore not to be wondered at that the jury, after deliberating an hour and a quarter, returned a verdict of guilty. The Judge passed sentence of twelve months' imprisonment on James Bannerman, the injured man, with such hard labour as the doctor shall allow; and Edmund Bannerman, who simply did his duty as an attorney, to six months, ditto, ditto.

I leave you, Mr. Editor, and the discerning public who shall read this narrative in the columns of your valuable paper, to make your comments on the same.—I remain, yours,

VERITAS.

INFAMOUS TREATMENT OF L. HESSE, ESQ.

(LATE J.P.)

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Christiansborg, Accra, July 20, 1868.

Sir,—In your June number you gave an account, under the above heading, of the shameful and violent arrest of L. Hesse, Esq., and the dangerous indignities to which he was subject. This case of Mr. Hesse is much talked of here, and caused a very ill feeling against the British authorities. The Coast, from Christiansborg down to Quittah, and the interior at its back, were, until 1850, under the protectorate of Denmark. They were then ceded in that year to Great Britain. Mr. Hesse and Mr. Briandt, born under Danish protection, had and have great influence over the people, and before going to the Angola war, Colonel Conran, then Administrator, appointed both Hesse and Briandt leaders over them, in order to facilitate communication with them, and thereby avoid any misunderstanding. Mr. Hesse, of course, was made a magistrate, which position he had creditably filled more than two years, until Mr. Parker's late judicial proceedings in Accra, when, to the horror and disgust of the whole people, on a Sunday night, contrary to all usage, six constables were sent to seize this acknowledged British representative between the Government and the people, and thrust him into a prison with felons, for what no one can yet understand.

To show you what was Hesse's position with the people I shall only add that in January last, at the session of Fort Creve Cœur by the Dutch (which Mr. Usher, with unparalleled impudence and vanity, had christened *Fort Usher*—a name by which it will never be called here), Hesse, as possessing the confidence of both authorities and people, was made interpreter for the occasion;

to convey the British meaning to the minds of the people, and by the influence of this gentleman and others bloodshed was prevented. Is it not shameful that, after obtaining the power to levy duties here (so long desired) the British authorities should thus outrage and dishonour those who have served them? I assure you this has sunk deep into the hearts of the natives.

We were surprised to see that in your June number you did not mention the arrest of Mr. John Dodoo, whom you knew in England—a man much esteemed and respected, and engaged in forming a large plantation. *He was arrested on the 11th May, and cast into a dungeon, I say without cause; and there the authorities have him locked up in their filthy cell to this day, and without his ever having been once examined before a magistrate or committed for trial. Is not this infamous? Does not this call loudly for retribution?* You do not seem to have been told that when it was found that no one preferred any charges here against the Bannermans (since condemned at Cape Coast), the Chief Constable was actually sent round the three towns in Accra, *with a large bell*, to proclaim that if any of the people had any complaint against any of the Bannermans they would be listened to at once. This does not want any comment from me.—Yours, truly,

ACCB.

ADMINISTRATOR USSHER'S REPLY TO PETITION FOR FINLASON'S RELEASE.

[Copy.]

Government House, Cape Coast, June 26, 1868.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from yourself and of a petition from sundry inhabitants of Accra praying for the release of prisoner W. C. Finlason from his confinement in Fort Usher.

2. I am not insensible of the plea of ill health on the prisoner's behalf, but I must remind you that a medical man is within call of his cell, and that he receives every indulgence which can be afforded to him. He is in nowise in solitary confinement,* but should Dr. Skues† consider it necessary I have authorised him to extend indulgence to the prisoner as he may find suitable and necessary. The report of his health is at present very satisfactory.

3. As to the release of the prisoner I regret that his own proceedings should have taken the matter out of my hands. In a petition containing grave misrepresentations and slanders respecting myself and judicial officers of this settlement, in an address to the Governor-in-Chief, Mr. Finlason prays for his release, and I need scarcely inform you that were I disposed to grant the prayer of yourself and other petitioners the prisoner's own act has removed the matter entirely from my hands. To interfere while the petition is under Sir A. E. Kennedy's consideration would be a breach of etiquette on my part.

4. Under these circumstances you will see the impossibility of my complying with the request contained in your petition. I should be happy when passing through Sierra Leone to bring your intercession under the consideration of the Governor-in-Chief.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

H. T. USSHER, Administrator.

To the Rev. H. Wharton, Wesleyan Missionary, Accra.

HOW THE GOLD COAST REVENUES ARE GOT RID OF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Accra, July 5.

Sir,—H.M. steamship Dart had the honour of bringing down to this place Mr. Usher, the Administrator, and Mr. Parker, the Chief Magistrate, on the 18th of April last. The Administrator remained here for the benefit of his health for eighteen days, and the Chief Magistrate forty days. Mr. Parker, during his *lengthened* stay here, managed to put the whole place in an uproar, and succeeded in getting the same ship (the Dart) to convey to Cape Coast most of the respectable native inhabitants of Accra, under warrants, they having been imprisoned here for some weeks, cash bail even being refused in one instance, most of the charges being for domestic slavery, and other frivolous things. After taking these people away from their businesses, and likewise the witnesses, for nearly forty days, I hear that their cases had been abandoned, and it is reported that the brig Astarte, belonging to Messrs. Forster and Smith, of London, has been chartered by the Government to bring the "slavedealers," as they were termed in their indictment, along with their numerous band of witnesses, numbering together, I believe, something like fifty, down to Accra again. This is attendant with not only

* Mr. Usher does not say that he had only modified the confinement since he had received the Governor-in-Chief's order to send a report relative to the trial, sentence, and the mode in which the sentence was being carried out.—Ed. A. T.

† Dr. Skues, respecting whose relations with Finlason see *African Times*, is Acting Commandant, Gaol Inspector, Gaol Surgeon, Postmaster, &c., &c., at Accra.—Ed. A. T.

great expense to the Government, but severe loss to the prisoners as well as witnesses, who were the principal traders in Accra; but for which, I suppose, they must get some redress, and which must also come out of the colonial chest.

Of course, during the time Mr. Parker was getting up the evidence against these alleged "slavedealers," he was drawing two guineas a-day extra; and I believe an allowance of three guineas is also made to Mr. Usher for every day away from Cape Coast.

Probably this will account to some extent for the empty state of our chest, the wretched state of our streets, roads, landing places, prisons (I ought to say loathsome dens), and public places—such as the burial-ground, which is disgraceful, more than one quarter of the wall being level with the ground, and pigs rutting the place up, to say nothing of the hyenas, and other wild beasts.

I believe the hard-labour prisoners are engaged in clearing Parker's Point, a piece of ground belonging to the Chief Magistrate.

VERITAS.

THE ACCRA MAGISTRATES' RESIGNATION.

Notice is hereby given that Nicol Irvine, Edward Walker, John Jardine Clayton, and Lebrecht Hesse, Esqs., having tendered their resignation of their commissions as justices of the peace for the Gold Coast, his Excellency the Administrator has been pleased to accept of the same.

(Signed) F. M. SKUES, M.B.,
Acting Civil Commandant.

Fort Usher, Accra, May 11, 1868.

THE INJURIOUS TRADING OPERATIONS OF THE BASLE MISSIONARIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Christiansborg, Accra, July 6, 1868.

Sir,—You cannot be surprised that we feel continually sore about the Rev. Mr. Schrenk's most unjustifiable letter about us educated natives that was published in the *Anti-Slavery Reporter*. If the letter had been written by one of the Basle mission commercial agents it would be bad enough, but that Mr. Schrenk should have written it is a most reprehensible thing. We are all ruined by these Volta troubles, we want them permanently arranged that we may recover again, and Mr. Schrenk maliciously represents the whole community by writing that we are crying for war to avoid payment of our debts. He knows very well, at the same time, that it is through their missionary interference that the Awoonlah war is not settled—the war by which we are ruined, while his commercial brothers of the Basle mission are getting all the trade and cotton from Krepee, *via* the route on the other side the Volta, to Quittah for shipment there; and while we are crying to put down the war by force, they are reaping all the benefit by misrepresenting matters to the Government in order that this state of things may last for a century, and so they get the whole advantage of the country.

I think you have been a good deal mistaken as to the general work of the Basle Mission here in its two aspects—missionary and commercial. It gives a good education to those it intends to make Christian teachers of, but the general education they give here is of a very low class. The extent of education they give is Bible reading in the vernacular tongue, a little writing, ciphering up to compound division, very little English language, and plenty of singing.

This is the kind of education given to the rising generation of the place. They have declared publicly they will not give us a better one to better our condition by enabling us to become merchants, lawyers, doctors, &c. The Wesleyans, on the contrary, give us education in every branch of learning (though not like the Church Missionary Society at Sierra Leone), so in the western district, where they operate largely, one, comparatively, meets better scholars than he does in this place.

In the industrial department they have joiners, wheelwrights, farriers, shoemakers, &c., but they pay their apprentices so little, to get all the profits from their labour, that many of them go down the Coast in search of better pay. The managers of the Basle Mission send out the most ignorant set, with the exception of some of the missionaries and their commercial agents. You will do well to bring these Awoonlah troubles vividly before the British public, for it has stood so long and has completely ruined others. The temptations trade and profit offer, a missionary ought not in any way connect himself with, as the work itself is of a competing nature, often creating jealousy and misunderstanding. A man of a missionary spirit should be free and exempt from it. And beside which they are doing no material good in point of trade, but harm. Since they established themselves here as *merchants* they have been imitators and not inventors; they have not conferred any boon on the public by introducing any industrial development of fresh re-

sources here. They have not lent their energy by adding to the natural wealth of this country. There is not now one educated native buying palm-oil in this place. With their large means they undersell everyone here, and by that means have wrested the trade from our hands. We go to Kpong, they follow us there; we go to Addah, they come there; we go to the far interior (Krepee), they come there. B was in Krepee in '60, '61, '62, '63, buying cotton for their benefit; they were not satisfied till they went there and established factories in opposition to him. With them "Live and let live" is not the motto. They get their goods first hand from Germany and go far to the interior. Of course they will not take the lead in anything; they go for all the profit without any inter-medium, for they want all the profit for themselves. In fact they have all the country. Even the latest (palm-nut kernel) trade they have taken from our hands. We must not live at all. They have now three vessels trading between this and Quittah. They have all the produce in this part of the Coast, yet Mr. Schrenk dares to say that we are lazy people. He said this to get us altogether out of the trade. They maintain this false peace in order to have the interior for themselves, when no one dares go there through our side of the Volta. More next time.

AN OLD ACCRA.

P.S. That wretched letter of the Rev. Mr. Schrenk's is talked of by everybody now. The three years' stagnation of trade, ruin of merchants and others, and the loss of life and property caused by those Awoonlah troubles is so immense that Schrenk's letter is likely to cause trouble; and should any misunderstanding arise the missionaries will suffer for their officiousness, as in Abeokuta. If the Cape Coast and Elmina affairs and the Volta troubles are not soon settled we shall have stormy times.

ANOTHER MILITARY MAGISTRATE AND SCANDALOUS PENSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Lagos, July 3, 1868.

Sir,—I don't often write, but I can't help it now. Your long exposure of the evil of shoving military men into civil offices on the West Coast has had no effect upon the authorities of Lagos. A few days ago a *Lieut. Brett* was gazetted Justice of the Peace, and then, in another Official Gazette, we learned he was *Acting Stipendiary Magistrate, vice Mr. Thomas Mayne, resigned under pension, owing to ill health*. Now this is too bad—a piece of scandalous jobbing, and a flagrant plunder of a colony that needs every penny of its resources. This Mr. Mayne, late Stipendiary Magistrate, came out to the Coast as steward in a trading vessel, belonging to Steward and Douglas, of Liverpool. He left the ship here at Lagos—took to selling rum in bottles and other small affairs, and afterwards became clerk to Mr. McCoskry. When the cession of Lagos to Great Britain took place, Mr. McCoskry, becoming Acting Governor, made Mr. Mayne Stipendiary Magistrate. One would have thought that 400*l.* a-year, with etceteras, was pretty well for Mr. Mayne, considering how he came here, and you may imagine what sort of police magistrate's law we have had from him. But I should not have said anything, and let bygones be bygones, but for this outrage on the community—this robbery of the Lagos revenues—in granting him a pension of some 90*l.* or 100*l.* a-year. As Stipendiary Magistrate he had no right to be engaged in trade; but, Sir, I need not tell you that *Europeans who know how to manage* may do pretty well what they like out here on the West Coast. Why, Sir, the authorities have known all the time that for years past Mr. Mayne, Stipendiary Magistrate, was trading at the same time largely under the title of John Weatherden and Co., and has weathered all our colonial storms so well that there are not a few vessels and cargoes coming in and going out of late belonging altogether to John Weatherden and Co., *alias* Thomas Mayne, Stipendiary Magistrate. As regards *health*, all I can say is he has so well maintained it that he is quite rosy cheeked in this his supposed pension-justifying illness. The *ill health* is only put on to justify to the Secretary of State this scandalous pension. The fact is that his business as a merchant has increased to such an extent as to render it impossible for him to continue any longer to hold the Stipendiary Magistrateship—but he has not the grace to retire from a position he ought never to have held without sucking 100*l.* a-year out of us, perhaps for the next twenty or thirty years, to add to his large mercantile income.

But because we do not want any more trading Stipendiary Magistrates, who, being in the receipt of large official salaries, and certain powers given them by their official position, have unfair advantages over the other merchants and traders here, it does not therefore follow that we want West Indian regimental officers to be our police magistrates. At the point to which the colony has now arrived we ought to have a well-qualified police magistrate, who knows something of law, and not be given over

into the hands of any military Tom, Dick, or Harry. We are not a company of soldiers to be kept under military rule, of which, perhaps, Lieut. Brett does know something, or ought to know something, but we are a civil community, and want capable civil magistrates. Cry out for us, Mr. Editor.—Yours obediently,

Lagos.

THE LATE DR. WM. STEVENS, OF WORCESTER.

In our last we briefly reported the death of this able and distinguished man, whose researches and discoveries as regards the human blood led to the production of that most useful remedy in fevers and cholera, *Lamplough's Pyretic Saline*. Formerly resident at St. Croix, Danish West Indies, the yellow and other malignant fevers of tropical countries became his especial study. The vitiation of the blood under these diseases, until all its life-sustaining power was destroyed, seemed to Dr. Stevens to point out the mode of treatment required for averting as well as curing these fevers; and the *saline* treatment which he introduced having saved a vast number of lives, King Christian VIII. of Denmark made him a princely gift, which enabled him to pass the residue of his life in useful ease and independence. In 1834 Oxford conferred on him the degree of D.C.L., at the same time with the equally-celebrated Sir Astley Cooper and Dr. Hume. The Middlesex magistrates presented him with a valuable piece of plate for his successful treatment by the saline remedy of cholera in Coldbath-fields Prison, which stopped its ravages there; and his writing on diseases of the blood and his *Lamplough's Pyretic Saline* insure him a long-enduring and well-earned fame as one of the great benefactors of suffering humanity.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, JULY 27, 1868.

THE ASSISTANT JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF SIERRA LEONE.

Mr. H. B. Sheridan asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies whether petitions had not recently been received from the inhabitants of Sierra Leone against the appointment of Mr. Horatio James Huggins as assistant judge of the Supreme Court of that colony; and, if so, what course Her Majesty's Government intended to pursue relative to the facts set forth in the said petitions; and whether any and what correspondence had arisen on the subject matter of these petitions between the authorities and influential persons resident in that colony and the Colonial-office.

Mr. Adderley said a memorial had been received from Sierra Leone against Mr. Huggins's appointment as assistant judge of the Supreme Court of that colony; but he could only inform the hon. member, as he informed him on a previous occasion, that after examining the charges there was found to be nothing in them to justify the cancellation of Mr. Huggins's appointment.

Mr. Sheridan: Have any been received since that time?

Mr. Adderley: No.

THOMAS LUBLEY'S OFFENCE.—A young man aged twenty-three, a native of Manchester, named George Clegg, was tried at Leeds on the 8th inst. for a similar offence on a girl of fourteen. He was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

The Lisbon (Portugal) journals state that the British Government has disapproved the conduct of the Governor of Sierra Leone, and that it is ready to give to the Portuguese Government all just satisfaction for what occurred at Rio Grande.

ALLEGED MURDER BY A TRADING MASTER.—Application was lately made before the Liverpool magistrates for a warrant for the apprehension of a man named Pritchard, who was trading master for Messrs. Hatton, Cookson, and Co., at Liberia, on the West Coast. The application was made by the steward and the cook of the barque Guildford, belonging to the same firm, which was wrecked off Liberia. The crew got ashore, and one of them, a man named Richardson, was so much ill-treated by Pritchard that he died from the injuries he received. The application was granted, and on Friday Pritchard was apprehended at Manchester. He was taken before the stipendiary magistrate on the following day, and was discharged, as there was no evidence that could justify a committal brought forward. —[N.B. The ill-treatment and murder of seamen on board British trading vessels on the West Coast is of so common occurrence that we hope our friends will send us account of such whenever they occur, that we may aid in bringing the ruffians to justice.—Ed. A. T.]

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—The African Steamship Company's fast and commodious STEAMERS 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 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 are open to call, by special arrangement, at any port on the West Coast of Africa, but as a rule they will only call at Madeira, Teneriffe, Sierra Leone, Cape Palmas, Accra, Lagos, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Cameroons.

The splendid new Steamship BIAFRA, 1,280 tons, and 250-horse power, GEORGE CORBETT, Commander, will leave LIVERPOOL on TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, at 12 noon.

Passengers embark by steam tender, leaving the Prince's 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 and transferred to floating depôts, or landed and stored entirely at Shipper's risk and expense.

NOTICE.—The Company's steamers have now free pratique at Teneriffe outwards.

Goods for Cameroons will be conveyed by lighter from Greenpatch, at Company's expense, but Shipper's risk.

All letters and newspapers must go through the post-office.

All goods by rail should be ordered to South-end stations.

NOTICE.—The MACGREGOR LAIRD will be despatched on the 10th September for Madeira, Teneriffe, Sierra Leone, Cape Palmas, Accra, Lagos, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Cameroons.

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



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L A M P L O U G H ' S

E F F E R V E S C I N G

PYRETIC SALINE.



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 **DIARRHOEA**, 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. LAMPLOUGH'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. LAMPLOUGH'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. LAMPLOUGH'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. LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE. I have used it extensively in the treatment of Diarrhoea 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.

H. LAMPLOUGH, 113, HOLBORN, E.C.

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