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[Transmission Abroad.

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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CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
West African Mails	89	Reduction in the Army.....	95
The Gaol at Freetown, Sierra Leone	89	The Abeokuta Export Duties	95
Sierra Leone—Supreme Court.....	90	The Permanency of Evil	96
Ex-Governor Blackall and the Native Pastorate at Sierra Leone	90	A Judicial Staff at Sierra Leone for the Whole West Coast	96
Liberia	90	Signs of the Times, &c.....	97
New French on the West African Coast	91	The late Colonial Secretary.....	97
Relative to the Fantee Affairs.....	91	Gratifying Testimonial to the Captain of a Mail Steamer.....	97
The Aquamoo War still Going on—The Volta still Closed to Trade	91	Natal	98
The Judicial Assessor: How the Natives Regard Him. What He Ought to be.....	92	Coronation of the Queen of Madagascar	98
The Case of Poor Williams	92	The Dawn of Freedom for African Slaves in Cuba.....	98
Mr. Finlason's Petition	92	From the "London Gazette"	99
Abeokuta Ordinance Imposing Export Duties.....	93	Wreck of the Florence Nightingale and Dreadful Sufferings of the Crew.....	99
Subscriptions to the "African Times"	94	Cures for Snake Poisoning, Stings of Venomous Insects, &c.....	99
The Acting Chief Governorship at Sierra Leone	94	Cotton Market	99

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N.B.—Open Policies on Insurance for Produce from the Coast by the Mail Steamers; but intended Shipments should be advised if possible.

MARCH, 1869.

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This Company's Steamers are intended to sail monthly between GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, and the following ports on the WEST COAST OF AFRICA—viz., SIERRA LEONE, CAPE PALMAS, CAPE COAST CASTLE, ACCRA, LAGOS, BENIN, BONNY, FERNANDO PO, and OLD CALABAR.

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WEST AFRICAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steamer Biafra arrived at Liverpool on the 1st of February with the usual mails, a full cargo, 3,143 ozs. gold dust, 4,185 francs, 398 dollars, and 216 sovereigns in specie; 16 saloon passengers, and 15 distressed seamen of the lost barque Florence Nightingale. The Biafra lost the three blades of her screw, and arrived on the Coast under sail only.

The Steamship Macgregor Laird, with the bi-monthly mail, arrived at Liverpool on the 16th inst.

THE GAOL AT FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Supreme Court, January, 1869.

Sir,—Knowing by a lengthened experience the deep interest which you take in our settlement, and also knowing how much you have already done for us, I am induced to address you relative to the state of Freetown Gaol. Our criminal prison is a blot on civilisation. It does not act as a preventive against crime, but is positively a school for the acquisition of a fresh knowledge in guilt, and vomits forth its inmates greater criminals than they entered. The state of the criminal prisons

in England has long occupied the attention of statesmen, philosophers, and philanthropists; and the discipline established in them is of the highest and most perfect order. Their amplitude of size prevents the huddling together of criminals—a hotbed from which the direst vices arise. The silent system prevents the imparting of wickedness with all its fatal inoculation; whilst the solitary system gives time to the agonised heart to travel over the opportunities which it has abused, and bitterly to feel how dreadful it is to stand alone in the awful presence of crime. I regret to say that we have not a single one of those salutary and corrective rules established in the gaol of this city. It will cost the settlement far less to build a model prison than to continue to tolerate the wretched one we have at present—a dunghill upon whose filthy surface the vilest plants are engendered. It is unfortunately too well known that from the huddling system (eight persons being in one cell) a crime frequently occurs which desolated cities of old and awoke God's wrath in the morning of human existence. We have, though, the remedy within ourselves, as far as human wisdom and human exertions will go to check this enormous iniquity. Let additional and well-ventilated cells be constructed, and let the discipline of the English model prison be introduced within the

walls. It is high time that the attention of the Legislative Council should be called to this all-important subject—a subject so comprehensive in itself, and affecting so many interests, that even as I write it engrosses a vast amount of public attention in England.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

W. RAINY.

SIERRA LEONE.
SUPREME COURT, JANUARY 12, 1869.
(Before his Honour the Chief Justice, in the matter of
William Chase.)

WALCOTT, AN ATTORNEY.

The Honourable the Queen's Advocate moved for a rule calling upon Mr. Walcott to show cause why he should not be struck off the roll of advocates and attorneys of this Coast, and in the meantime that Mr. Walcott be suspended from appearing as advocate in any court of this settlement. In an able and eloquent speech the learned Queen's Advocate stated the grounds of his application, but we can only give the substance of it. Mr. Walcott, he said, had been committed by A. W. Turner, Esq., lately acting as police magistrate, to take his trial on a charge of perjury preferred by Mr. Rainy (barrister-at-law) against Mr. Walcott. He (the learned Queen's Advocate) had carefully perused the depositions taken before the Police-court; and, according to them, he had no doubt that Mr. Walcott had made a false statement in a certain affidavit made by it, and if Mr. Walcott were not an attorney of this Court he would have felt it his duty to place him on his trial for perjury. But perjury was a difficult charge to establish, and although a very strong case had been made out in the depositions against Mr. Walcott, he (the learned Queen's Advocate) was not quite sure of convicting him; and if the prosecution failed, he would have been precluded from dealing with another charge involved in the perjury business—viz., a gross fraud committed by Mr. Walcott on this Court. Therefore, after giving the matter his anxious consideration, he thought the ends of justice would be obtained by his abandoning the prosecution and substituting the present motion in lieu of it. He referred to the depositions taken in that case before the said acting Police Magistrate, which clearly unfolds the facts that Mr. Walcott had declared in an affidavit on which the perjury in question was assigned, that Mr. Rosenbush, who was his principal witness, had absented himself from this settlement, notwithstanding his having been summoned as witness prior to his absence, and that he (Walcott) could not safely go into his case without the evidence of Mr. Rosenbush. The Queen's Advocate here showed that Mr. Rosenbush on his oath made a statement quite to the contrary, that in his own opinion it was quite clear, although in the second paragraph there is some difficulty to make out a *bond fide* case of perjury against Mr. Walcott, his statement with reference to Mr. Rosenbush is untrue; and it could also be observed by the third paragraph that when Mr. Walcott could have issued a summons for examination from the Master of the Court in this respect, he made excuses on the ground that there was not sufficient time allowed him, that he was engaged in other matters, and so forth; while he, the Queen's Advocate, can prove that there was abundant and sufficient time allowed Mr. Walcott, and that it was all trash to say he was engaged in other business. He further stated that he had no mind to suppress the perjury in question from a mere favour to Mr. Walcott. Referring to Archbold, he contended that the ends of justice could not be safely arrived at on Mr. Walcott being put in the dock to take his trial; because the jury, before convicting him, must not only believe that he made those false statements referred to, but they must also believe that he deliberately made them knowing them to be false; nevertheless, throughout the whole business, he has enough evidence to prove that Walcott is guilty of such gross misconduct, which is a disgrace to his profession and would make him appear as a nuisance at the bar, consequently he would move that his name be struck off the roll of advocates and attorneys.

The Chief Justice, in expressing his concurrence in the course taken by the Queen's Advocate, paid a high and deserved compliment to the honourable and learned gentleman for the able and impartial manner in which he had always performed the duties of his high office.—Rule *Nisi* granted. Returnable on the 25th instant.—*The Day Spring and Sierra Leone Reporter.*

EX-GOVERNOR BLACKALL AND THE NATIVE PASTORATE OF SIERRA LEONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Sir,—As the period is connected with the dawn of that heavenly light which cast all human philosophy into the shade, and for over eighteen hundred years has enriched and beautified the world, I think it a befitting time to talk of our priesthood. Time was when a priest was the champion of the

people and the fearless shepherd of his confiding flock. With all his hatred of the Roman Catholic faith, Macaulay shows that in its day it stood between the people and the ruthless grasp of an iron despotism. "Had it not," says the great historian, alluding to the Roman Catholic monasteries, "been for these retreats of piety and of learning scattered between a trodden-down peasantry and a ferocious aristocracy, England would have been divided into two classes—beasts of burden and birds of prey." Sierra Leone enjoyed at one period a Native Pastorate who shed honour upon the country, and whilst they pointed to a more imperishable world, taught their followers at the same time no doctrines of slavery, sycophancy, or falsehood. But the destroying angel came amongst us in the shape of ex-Governor Blackall, and the great political corruptor and demoraliser saw that in a self-sustaining, laborious, and independent native pastorate his unbridled despotism would receive its greatest check. Under the false designation of "Ecclesiastical Purposes" the ex-Blackall-Huggins Government placed 500*l.* a-year on the estimates to the credit of the Native Pastorate, and from that time forth the servants of God's people were converted into the spiritual hirelings of Africa's greatest foe, who made unfounded statements in his public despatches to the Colonial-office against the defender of African jurors and the fearless opponent of the infamous party measures introduced by the ex-Governor into the Legislative Council. It was in vain that in a pamphlet which I published during his stay in England, and an extract from which is subjoined,* I denounced the ex-Governor Blackall and exposed the long train of evils that followed his disastrous rule. Major Blackall eternally referred to the Native Pastorate as witnesses as to his character. If they disapproved of his conduct the pot of porridge which, Esau like, they received in return for the forfeiture of their birthrights would be quickly taken away, and the item for Ecclesiastical Purposes would disappear from the Annual Estimates. Their political utility to the people, out of whose pockets they were sustained, was thus rendered null and void, and they became the hired dependants and drones of a tyrant, in place of being sustained by the life-giving spirit of the Gospel. This is contrary to the spirit of the age, which, in the case of the Irish Church, is resolved to sweep away a title of three hundred years, and proclaims with trumpet tongue that they who preach the Gospel by the Gospel alone must live. With an honesty worthy of his career, his Excellency Sir Arthur Kennedy, C.B., has given to this five hundred a-year missionary sop its true designation, and placed it on the Estimates under the head of "Native Pastorate." I am not amongst those who would find a fault without suggesting easy and efficient remedies. Let the grant be altogether withdrawn, by which course the people of Sierra Leone should again enjoy the spiritual labours of the priesthood of the people, or, if our distinguished ruler be of opinion that this desired object cannot be effected at present, then let the grant be conferred by an ordinance of the colony alone, and not by the individual will of any governor. We cannot always expect to be blessed by the rule of a Kennedy, and some future tyrant, treading in the unhalloved footsteps of ex-Governor Blackall, would in the fullness of time grasp at this 500*l.* a-year as a powerful, ready, and convenient instrument for carrying out equally nefarious schemes against the rights and liberty of the Africans. For the sake of the Native Pastorate themselves, who have shed countless blessings upon Africa, and whose names still live in the pious tradition of a grateful and justice-loving race, I could desire some change, clothing them in the livery of their God, and not in the menial garb of an earthly tyrant.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

WILLIAM RAINY.

Supreme Court, Sierra Leone, Jan. 11, 1869.

LIBERIA.

OPENING OF THE CAVALLA RIVER.—This important river, coming from the far interior to Cape Palmas, and in which much of the wealth of Liberia lies, it being immensely rich in undeveloped resources, was ascended by Colonel Cooper, with thirty men, "to open the river," which has been closed for several years. Mr. W. R. Brown, agent for the firm of Dolloner, Potter, and Co., of New York, instigated this meeting, and gave 200 dols. towards the expenses. We hope the river will now be kept open always, for it has been the practice of the natives, known by the name of the Hiddiah tribes, who are living on the river, to close it at their own pleasure, though the Hiddiah tribes do not number over 100 men. This they have done by preventing canoes from coming down and going up the river.

ARMY REFORM.—There is to be a considerable reduction of the staff in the colonies. The 4th West India Regiment is to be disbanded, a company being added to each of the other three regiments.

* Extract in our next.

NEW FRENCH STATION ON THE WEST AFRICAN COAST.

THE FRENCH AT BEREBY.—Bereby is about sixty miles below Cape Palmas. It is one of the most important trading points to Liberian traders on the Coast. It abounds in rice, corn, palm-oil; and it is reported that gold is found in its neighbourhood. Recently the French have been visiting the place, engaging more and more in trade. They have within a few weeks past made some treaty or purchase of territory, raised the French flag, and sent out from France a house to be erected at the place.—*Caralla Messenger.*

RELATIVE TO THE FANTEE AFFAIRS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, January 7.

Sir,—I understand that owing to a promise said to have been made by the Governor-General, that he would undertake to destroy Elmina Town on his return from the Leeward Coast, because the Elminas have disdainfully refused to take his advice and proposals for peace with the Fantees when he went up to that town, the arrangements intended by the kings and chiefs of the Fantees for attacking the Elminas were not discussed again at Mankassin; but when they come to know that there was no foundation for this rumour, no doubt they will soon reassemble to talk about it. Messengers were sent to the different kings in the interior—viz.: Assin, Wassaw, Denkerah, Ackim, and Fantee, by the Governor-General, promising them protection against any Ashantee invasion; and at the same time he asked them to come down to meet him on the 11th inst. (but he left here on the 27th ultimo for Sierra Leone, so I am sure these kings could not follow him up there). One of these messengers of the Governor-General, John Mayah, of this town, sent to Wassaw, has not yet returned; he has been away nearly two months. On Wednesday, the 30th ultimo, a party of Dutch soldiers from Elmina went up to Agoo-afull—for what particular purpose, we have not as yet been able to ascertain; but it appears this was the third time within eight or ten days that they had done so. Agoo-afull, which is about eight or ten miles in the interior, and was abandoned by its inhabitants, who fled to Elmina during the Fantee invasion against that town, is some three miles further in the interior, beyond Agoo-nah, which is Fantee district. People of this place were suddenly alarmed by the cry and scream of a woman of the approach of an enemy; the men at once armed themselves, went forward, and with a few shots drove away the soldiers, killed their sergeant and the principal officers they had, took three of their breechloading rifles, captured seven men (and five women, who are supposed to have been carriers). The jawbone of the unfortunate sergeant, and one of the breechloading rifles were brought down here a day or two after and shown to the Acting Administrator. The people of Agoo-afull, since the cessation of hostilities, had gone away from Elmina (leaving their King behind them), to Agoo-nah, and sworn allegiance with the King there, and are now living there as Fantee people. They joined in the attack against the Dutch soldiers.

My dear Sir, with regard to bringing complaints and grievances before the Governor-General, which you so strongly urged upon us in order to obtain redress, my private opinion is that it is all wind. The uneducated people, whom he particularly preferred here to the educated, obtained no redress even for the trivial grievances they brought before him, although a few words might have done what they required. He left them in the hands of their Administrator, telling them, that he will do for them all that was necessary; and this, after all the fine talk and fine promises of hearing every complaint and giving redress to all. I know from my own experience, that no native could ever obtain any redress for any wrong done him or them by any official, let his case be ever so good.

The people of Cape Coast are still anxiously looking forward to hear from you about King Aggeri. On the arrival of every mail steamer many anxious inquiries are made as to how matters connected with him are progressing. I sincerely trust that some of the influential members of the new Parliament may interest themselves in this unfortunate affair of the poor persecuted King (former King, I suppose I must say) of this place.

A duty of 1*s.* per load of goods is now levied on every load passing through any thoroughfare to the markets of Prahsue or Ackim. The Ashantee trade with Assin is now stopped.

"FANTIE."

THE AQUAMOO WAR STILL GOING ON—THE VOLTA STILL CLOSED TO TRADE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Accra, January 6.

Dear Sir,—The free navigation of the Volta has been our great object; for this we have spent our labour, time, and money, and again have been disappointed.

The Aquamoos have got a reinforcement of 1,500 men, and are now going to make another raid upon our poor cotton growers in Krepee, the Aquamoos having assured their Ashantee allies that this Krepee is a nice field for slave-hunting expeditions.

Unhappily the peace made by Sir Arthur Kennedy is only at the mouth of the Volta, between the Addas and Awonlahs; the most important parts for us—Aquamoo, Kporing, &c.—seem to have been forgotten or not enough cared for. For want of faith on both sides, there has been no navigation of the river as yet. The Administrator has not sent any men to the towns on the banks, to see if the treaty is complied with. Reports from Crobbos confirm what I have already said about Krepee; there has been some scuffle already, the Ashantees having made their appearance among the Crobbos plantations. It has been reported to Cape Coast; but the Administration will do nothing, they have so many ways of eating up the revenue there. We are really almost in despair.—Yours,

ACCRA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Accra, January 6.

Sir,—Reports continue to come in unfavourable to any prospects of permanent peace on the Volta. It is a sad mistake on the part of our Government, that it has no experienced, judicious civil agent on the spot, to watch the progress of events in that neighbourhood, to follow up the good done by the late visit of the Governor-General to the Volta, and to ascertain the real truth as to what is going on. If any mercantile establishment on the Coast were thus to manage its business, its affairs would soon wind up in ruin.

There are reports, also, of movements on the part of the Ashantees against the Eastern Districts, and that the people of Annam, between Aquamboe and Krepee have been attacked and driven from their towns by an Ashantee force. How much of this may be true is uncertain at present; but the aspect of things is decidedly sinister, and there is no one on the spot to observe what is going on.

There is not any satisfactory news from the Western Districts, but from Cape Coast, you will doubtless receive the latest reliable intelligence on that head.—Yours truly,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Accra, January 6.

Dear Sir,—Our two kings have complied with the Governor's request. They arrived on the 2nd inst., and were received in state by the Commandant, chiefs, and principal native and European residents at the late Dutch Fort, Crève Cœur. And so the great deposition and outlawry end! The credit of bringing them up is due chiefly to William Addo, a native merchant, who is also fool enough to be Government interpreter at a paltry salary. The Governor-in-Chief, no doubt, has done much good by going to Addah himself and seeing the chiefs, but they would never have come up had not the merchants of Accra sent Mr. Addo down to them with a letter. Sir Arthur gave the kings eighteen days to return to Accra, when he would receive and acknowledge them as kings, but otherwise he would adopt very severe measures against them; and he left orders with Captain Russell to send Phelps to Ningo (just half way between Accra and Addah), three or four days before the expiration of the eighteen days, so that if they came, he might escort them up to Accra. The eighteen days would expire on the 3rd January. We all knew that the King had resolved not to come, the Ashantees having appeared in force in Aquamboe and Crepee. On Christmas-day, Captain Russell received a letter from them asking for further time, but this was not possible; everyone saw the danger of the situation, but no one thought of acting. In the evening, however, Mr. Walker (in Mr. Irvine's absence) gave a small dinner party to Hesse, Briandt, Addo, and Edmund and James Bannerman. It was there agreed to call a meeting of all the European and native merchants, and residents for the following day. When all met at Mr. Addo's, it was decided that a letter should be sent to the kings, signed by us all, showing the trouble that would arise if they did not return to Accra. The native chiefs coincided with us, and Mr. Addo offered to go down at his own expense with our letter. He did so, and returned on the 1st January, having succeeded in bringing Takkee and Cudjoe to Ningo, where he left them with Lieut. Phelps. They arrived here on the morning of the 2nd, when they told us all that had occurred since the 15th April, 1866. Takkee declared to us, in the presence of the King of Christiansborg and all his people, that if it had not been for the message and letter of the gentlemen of Accra, and the man whom they picked out to convey it, he would never have returned to Accra until he had finished the war; but that he had come up, and now wished to see what the Governor was going to say to the Aquamboes; and certainly the Government have not now any excuse for not interfering actively on the Volta, in putting down the Aquamboes.—Truly yours,

ONE OF THEM.

THE JUDICIAL ASSESSOR: HOW THE NATIVES REGARD HIM: WHAT HE OUGHT TO BE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

I believe you will bear out my statement, that this is the first time I have had the honour of addressing the *African Times*, although, under the administration of Mr. Herbert Taylor Usher, I was one of the three men *doomed* as being special correspondents of that paper, at which were so recently hurled, in his own peculiar style of language, the judicial fulminations of the Chief Magistrate of the Gold Coast. It had been my intention to forward you by this mail a full report of the almost insupportable enormities to which my family and myself were subjected by Mr. Parker in his judicial campaign against us in April, May, and June last, which, in addition to those other atrocities which you have already so ably exposed in your valuable columns, have cast a sufficiently dark stain on the administration of justice in Her Majesty's name on the Gold Coast; but as a report has just reached us from Cape Coast that *his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief has deemed it his duty to suspend Mr. Parker*, I shall refrain for the present from expressing myself on the subject of our wrongs further than to utter the hope that if the report of Mr. Parker's suspension be true, the Home authorities, in appointing Mr. P.'s successor, will not fail to bear in mind the all important fact that the million human beings who comprise the native population of the Gold Coast Protectorate invariably look upon the Judicial Assessor (the man who settles palavers in the fort) as *the Governor's lieutenant or spokesman*, their not unnatural idea being derived from the fact that the late Captain Maclean united in his own person the offices of Governor and Judicial Assessor, and that it is a matter of absolute importance that the officer exercising the functions of Judicial Assessor, in addition to an evenly balanced mind, should be possessed of honest singleness of purpose, judgment, and tact, in order so to administer the official duties of his position as to strengthen the hands of the Administrator and benefit the community at large. My principal object, however, in now addressing you, Mr. Editor, is of a more pleasing nature than the exposure of Mr. Parker's wilfully wicked acts towards my family. It is, Sir, to offer to yourself and to Mr. Rainy, B.L., at Sierra Leone, in the name of the natives of my class in the eastern districts of the Gold Coast, and especially on my own behalf, our sincerest acknowledgments of the untiring energy, zeal, strength of purpose, and disinterestedness, which you have conjointly displayed in support of our rights, liberties, and very lives, and I can but assure you that no efforts in our power shall be wanting to stimulate our fellow countrymen in following that right path which you have so nobly laboured to point out to us.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

J. BANNERMAN.

THE CASE OF POOR WILLIAMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Accra, January 5.

With regard to poor Williams, Skues wrote on the back of the ship's articles that he had ordered the Captain of the Emily to take Williams on board, and to convey him to England as a prisoner, as the *Accra prisons were unfit to confine white men in*. It was after this that Skues reimprisoned him, in the very prison he had declared was not fit for white men, and where he died. This is the simple fact. I saw and read Skues' words. To make more sure, the Emily was here last week, and Mr. Clear, the present chief mate (who was acting master in Skues' time), said, in the presence of several of us, that this was so, and that "Mr. Foster has got hold of the ship's articles, and intends to make Skues sweat for it." In a few words, Skues put Williams in jail; then he let him out, and made his remarks on the back of the ship's articles; Williams went to Mr. Irvine's house, and next day, just as he was about to go on board, Skues sent for him, and put him again in the jail he had condemned as dangerous to life, and there he died. These are the facts as they occurred.—Yours, very truly,

Justice.

MR. FINLASON'S PETITION TO BE READMITTED TO PLEAD AS AN ADVOCATE, AND OFFICIAL REPLIES.

On Sir Arthur Kennedy's late visit to Cape Coast, Mr. Finlason addressed to him a letter which our limited space will not allow us to print in full, but which was as, and to the purpose as, follows:—

Cape Coast, December 23, 1868.

Sir,—1 and 2, introductory.

3. Some time in August this year, and a few weeks after my release from prison at Accra, by order of Her Majesty's Government, Mr. W. A. Parker, the present Chief Magistrate of this Government, desired Mr. T. C. Grant, the senior justice of the peace of this place, to inform me that he would like to meet me half way, so that we might shake hands, and allow bygones to

be bygones; that he had it in his power to remove Chief Justice Hackett's interdiction, which prohibited my pleading in court, and that he intended to do so, if I would apply in the usual way.

4. Emboldened by this information, I was induced to apply to the Chief Magistrate, who, in reply, confirmed what Mr. Grant had informed me, but he desired me to know that there was a condition attached to his promise of removing Judge Hackett's interdiction, and requested me to await Mr. Grant's return from Leeward, when he would have a private meeting with Mr. Grant and myself.

5. Subsequently the *African Times* of the 23rd September, 1868, arrived in Cape Coast, and because I had exercised my privilege in its columns as a citizen to canvass the public acts of Mr. Parker in his capacity of Chief Magistrate, in reference to the imprisonment of Messrs. Hesse and Dodo, of Accra, he vowed to Mr. Grant his determination to cancel all his good intentions towards me.

6. Mr. Grant mentioned this to me some little time after, but as Mr. Parker had not informed me of his determination, I wrote him a polite reminder to the effect, that as Mr. Grant had returned from Leeward, I would be glad to know at what time it would be convenient for his Honour to convene the meeting he had himself proposed.

7. In answer to this communication, I received a letter written in Mr. Parker's own handwriting, to the effect, that certain rules would, in a few days, be published, and in consequence he (Mr. Parker) and Mr. Grant had come to the conclusion that it would be more advisable for me to wait for a few days, until those rules were published.

8. Since then, in consequence of a conversation I had with his Excellency the Acting Administrator, I applied in due course again to him, as Mr. Parker was absent on circuit, inclosing at the same time the necessary certificate from a justice of the peace, and subsequently another, signed by the Senior Magistrate of this settlement, copy of which I have the honour to enclose.

9. On the 14th of November last, I received a letter from the Acting Administrator in answer to my application to him, copy of which I have the honour to enclose.

10. By the tenor of this letter it appears that in consequence of representations made to the writer by Mr. Parker, he expresses himself as "unable to recommend the reversal of an interdiction of which the Secretary of State could see no reason to doubt the justice and the necessity." But I regret to observe that his Excellency, in quoting a passage from the Earl of Carnarvon's letter to Colonel Conran, omitted to state that the writer of the same letter expressed his surprise at the *severity* of Chief Justice Hackett's judgment, which I am justified in presuming arose from the fact, clearly proved in evidence, of the great provocation I had received at the hands of the Military Stipendiary Magistrate, who gave me the *lis* in open court while sitting on the bench, and whilst I was acting in court as a duly-certified advocate and attorney of the then Supreme Court.

11. I maintain respectfully, that as an advocate and attorney who commanded the entire respect and confidence of the public, and one who was constantly employed by the Government to perform the duties of an advocate in cases of the greatest possible importance, I was entitled to respect from Captain A. H. Hall, even though he was a military man; and it was not to be wondered at, when he forgot the respect due to himself, that I should also forget myself.

12. I am not seeking here to justify my conduct towards the late acting Military Stipendiary Magistrate, but I do respectfully mean to state that upwards of two years' suspension from following an honourable profession, which has entailed a loss of more than two thousand pounds to me, and as much more to clients whose cases I have now in hand, is more than adequate atone for a moment of irritation, caused by the greatest insult that could possibly be offered to me, who, I am egotist enough to feel, was Captain A. H. Hall's equal by birth, education, and position at the time the unfortunate occurrence took place.

13. Unfortunately for me, when this altercation took place we were governed entirely by military men, and I presume the *esprit de corps* at that time ran so high that it would have been futile in any civilian hoping for consideration at their hands.

14. I beg respectfully to state that I join issue with the learned and respected Chief Magistrate of this settlement, with regard to his opinion as to my "unfitness to plead in his Court," with &c., &c.

15, 16, 17, 18. Brings certain acts of Chief Magistrate Parker under the Governor's notice.

19, 20, 21, 22, 23. Applies to the Acting Administrator's letter (inserted below) showing the impropriety and absurdity of paragraph 3.

24. In conclusion, I hope your Excellency will pardon me if I have written anything distasteful to your feelings, but when I consider the services that I have rendered Her Majesty's

Government in 1864, which called forth a public acknowledgment from the late Governor-in-Chief of this settlement, under date 10th November, 1864, Despatch No. 98, and also from the Secretary of State, published in Blue-book, referring to the late Ashantee invasion, it will, I trust, be a sufficient reason for my thus attempting to shield my reputation from unjust aspersions.

Your most obedient humble servant,

WM. CHARLES FINLASON.

Enclosure.

(Copy)—No. 1.

Cape Coast, November 2, 1868.

This is to certify that I have known Mr. William Charles Finlason for several years, and that he is a respectable person, and a fit and proper person to be permitted to practise before the Court of Civil and Criminal Justice of the Gold Coast, and the Court of the Civil Commandant at Accra.

That he is not an undischarged bankrupt, and that he has not been convicted of any treason, felony, or indictable misdemeanour or other offence involving dishonour or *infamia juris*.

(Signed) F. C. GRANT, J.P.

A similar certificate as above was also signed by George Kendall, Esq., J.P., with the addition of a few words suggested by his Excellency W. H. Simpson.

W. C. FINLASON.

(Copy)—No. 2.

Government-house, Cape Coast, Nov. 13, 1868.

Sir,—I have received a reply from the Chief Magistrate to your application for an attorney's licence, dated the 28th September, 1868, which I had forwarded to him, and I have to inform you that his Honour is unable to recommend you as a fit and proper person to practise before the Courts.

2. Having regard to the decision arrived at by Lord Carnarvon in February, 1867, upon the interdiction pronounced by Chief Justice Hackett against your "ever practising in any of Her Majesty's Courts on the Gold Coast, either as advocate or as attorney or agent, or in any manner whatever," to the records of the Court, both on the civil and criminal side subsequently to the date of that decision, and to my own personal knowledge of your conduct since my arrival in this settlement, and failing to observe any indication whatever of contrition on your part or of amendment in your conduct as a citizen, or towards the officers of the Government, I am unable to recommend the reversal of an interdiction of which the Secretary of State could see no reason to doubt the justice and the necessity.

3. I would take this opportunity to remind you of the implied promise conveyed by your petition dated the 20th June, 1868, to his Excellency Mr. Usher, wherein you state (*inter alia*): "I have made up my mind *very shortly* to leave the Gold Coast, and for these reasons, &c.," you pray his Excellency's clemency. Under the circumstances, I do not hesitate to hold you to your pledge, and to urge upon you the propriety and necessity of its early fulfilment.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. H. SIMPSON,

Acting Administrator.

To W. C. Finlason, Esq., Cape Coast.

(Copy)—No. 3.

Cape Coast, November 14, 1868.

Sir,—I have received your communication dated 13th inst., and in reply I have the honour to inform you that I am quite aware of the fact (as yourself and his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief admitted the other day) that neither Chief Justice Hackett or the Secretary of State for the Colonies have it in their power to prevent me, or any British subject, from appearing in any of Her Majesty's Courts as the commercial agent of anyone.

With reference to your Excellency's observations relative to the civil and criminal records against me, I, in justice to myself and in the interest of truth, must most emphatically deny the correctness of the allegations conveyed to you, and as in every probability the Secretary of State for the Colonies will, in the ensuing Parliament, be called upon for the production of all papers and documents bearing upon matters referring to myself, I think it right at this juncture to make your Excellency acquainted with my positive and unqualified denial of the correctness of the statement furnished to you.

I am aware that so long as Chief Justice Hackett's interdiction is in force I cannot legally appear in Court as an advocate, or can I make any charge in that capacity for pleading before the Court; but as to my constitutional right to give advice in chambers, and transact other business that does not necessitate appearance in Court as an advocate, I shall continue as usual to adhere to.

With regard to your Excellency's suggestion as to the propriety and necessity of my carrying out some vague and implied promise to Mr. Usher to leave the Gold Coast, I beg most respectfully to inform you that so far from having any idea of carrying out any such intention, I have lately been at the expense of furnishing a house I have taken on lease, having made certain

real promises, and arrangements, which will make it imperative on me to spend the remainder of my life in the very place that your Excellency desires I should leave.

Sincerely regretting that I cannot comply with your Excellency's very unreasonable, unprecedented, and extraordinary request, I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

WM. CHAS. FINLASON.

To His Excellency W. H. Simpson,

Acting Administrator, Cape Coast.

(Copy)—No. 4.

Government-house, Cape Coast, Dec. 24, 1868.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated Dec. 23, 1868, transmitted through the Acting Administrator.

The object of that letter seems to be your reinstatement as a practitioner in the Courts of this settlement.

I find upon inquiring that you were deprived of that privilege by Chief Justice Hackett, and that his decision was approved and confirmed by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies. Under the circumstances I am sure that you will see that it is beyond my power to reverse that decision.

With reference to various statements contained in your letter, they will, as far as they come within the scope of my duty, form the subject of careful enquiry.—I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, Governor-in-Chief.

W. C. Finlason, Esq., &c., Cape Coast.

ABEOKUTA ORDINANCE IMPOSING EXPORT DUTIES.

AFRICA SHALL RISE.

In the fourth year of the establishment of the Egba United Board of Management, &c., &c., &c.

In order to carry into full effect an ordinance passed at a special committee held at the late Bashorun's Hall on the 11th October, A.D. 1865, and confirmed on the 23rd March, A.D. 1866, for the civilisation and improvement of this country, and for the interest of commerce and protection of the property of merchants and others, it was proposed and agreed unanimously to authorise the levy of an export duty on all goods and produce leaving Abeokuta for Lagos and elsewhere. For Abeokuta, from her position with regard to Lagos and the sea, and the agricultural development she has already attained, ought to become, and must become the great centre of influence over the surrounding countries; but for this she must have organised government, in order to avoid complications with Lagos, or any other civilized government. The Directors and Members of the Board of Management, in a special committee held at the Assu's (head chief of Abeokuta) on Monday, the 12th day of October, 1868, have, therefore, thought it requisite that the Laws and Regulations for the collection of said duty in Abeokuta and its territories be permanently maintained from and after the 1st day of March, 1869.

These Laws and Regulations are as follows:—

1. That it shall be lawful for any African (either acting for himself or for any white person or persons) to have free access in Abeokuta for the purposes of trade, and to export therefrom any goods or produce passing from Abeokuta to Lagos, by the River Ogun or elsewhere, subject to the Regulations hereinafter mentioned.

2. That on all goods exported from or below Abeokuta by the River Ogun or elsewhere there shall be paid the following duty in cowries or produce at the time of such exportation—viz: Ivory, 3 strings of cowries on every lb. (equal to 1d.); Shea Butter, 1 string of cowries on every lb. (1-3rd ditto); Cotton, clean or seeded, 20 cowries on every lb. (1-6th ditto); Bennisseed, 10 cowries on every lb. (1-12th ditto); Palm-kernels, 10 cowries on every lb., 1-12th ditto; Palm or Nut-oil, 2 strings of cowries on every gallon (2-3rds ditto).*

3. That all other goods not named shall be charged or chargeable with a duty of 3 per cent. on the marketable value of such goods and produce at Abeokuta at the time of such exportation.

4. That such duty shall be payable and paid at the Custom-house, at Abeokuta, on all such goods and produce as shall be intended to be exported by the River Ogun, and that on such payment a permit for the export thereof shall be granted by the collector, deputy collector, or such other person or persons as shall be duly appointed for that purpose, and that such permit shall be sent with, and accompany such goods or produce on their exportation, and shall be produced if required by any person or persons in charge of such goods or produce; and that the payment of the duty on goods and produce exported overland or from the farms below shall be payable at such places as shall be from time to time appointed.

5. That any goods or produce exported from Abeokuta by the River Ogun or elsewhere for which a permit shall not on demand be produced to any person appointed for the examination of such

* The English monies are ours, and do not appear in the Abeokuta document.—Ed. A.T.

permits, shall and may be seized; and on proof before the Board of Management or any four justices of the peace appointed for that purpose, and the non-production of such permit, the goods or produce shall be declared forfeited; and on sale, the proceeds of such sale shall, after deducting the necessary expenses, be paid as follows—viz: One-third thereof to the seizer and collector, and the balance to the Treasurer of the Board of Management for the use of the Egba Government.

Given at the Asalu's House in the kingdom of Abeokuta, this 1st day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine.

By command of the Directors Board of Management,
JOHN W. JOHNSON, Secretary.

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The African Times.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1869.

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THE ACTING CHIEF GOVERNORSHIP AT SIERRA LEONE.

We felt often greatly oppressed by the question continually recurring to our mind as to who would be entrusted with the chief authority at Sierra Leone during necessary absences of Sir Arthur Kennedy from the headquarters of his government. So many evil results had before attended the placing of the supreme power for the time being in the hands of the commanders of troops in garrison, that while we were ardently desiring Sir Arthur's visit to the Gold Coast on account of the administrative and judicial excesses which had been for some time disgracing the British rule there, we were, on the other hand, full of apprehension as to the consequences that might flow from his absence at Sierra Leone, should it lead to a renewed, even though only temporary, preponderance of the military power in that place. And this was the more painful to us because we thought it would be intrusive and disrespectful on our part to make any observations on the subject while Sir Arthur's intentions were yet unknown. We felt, therefore, an indescribable relief when we found that, the new Colonial Secretary having arrived, Sir Arthur had appointed him to the Acting Governorship during his absence. The Colonial Secretary is what may be called the "official hand" of the Governor; he is, or ought to be, at all times, an individual selected and sent out by the Colonial-office as one qualified for that important post; and it is a most monstrous and indefensible thing, except in cases of proved gross incapacity on the part of a Colonial Secretary, that the military commander of the troops accidentally in garrison should be placed in authority over him. A Colonial Secretary is a portion of the machine of Government, and necessarily supposed to be cognisant, like the Governor himself, of the desires, views, and policy of the Home Government with regard to those territories and possessions to the second post in the administration of government in which he has been by them appointed; while the military head of the troops in garrison is not supposed by the Home Government to be responsible for anything more than his

possessing the ability to maintain, and maintaining, the constant efficiency and discipline of the soldiers, that they may not become a dangerous nuisance to the people among whom they are there temporarily located; and may be always ready for the public service and the public protection whenever called upon to act by the supreme civil authority. The necessary subordination of the military to the civil authority is provided for by the Home Government, in making the Governor Commander-in-Chief also of the military stationed in his colony; and it is only necessary to bear this in mind, even apart from the important administrative reasons above given, for any man of common sense to perceive in a moment how highly improper it is, wherever there is a Colonial Secretary in residence, that the judicious and intended subordination of the military to the civil authority should be put an end to, for however short a time, by intrusting the functions of Governor to the military commander of the troops in garrison. Happily Sir Arthur Kennedy has had too much colonial experience to allow of his falling into so gross an error. We should have been very sorry to have back again the times of Acting-Governor and Chief Justice Bravo. The West Coast has been most shamefully oppressed by military acting-governors and military acting-chief justices and magistrates. While there is in England the old proverb, "that if there be a fool in a respectable family, the army is his proper place," it has been too much the practice of those in political authority to act as if an officer in the army must necessarily be a heaven-born governor; that the man who by accident, or purchase, or interest has risen to the command of a regiment or a battalion, or even a company, must possess those nice talents and that knowledge which is required for the exercise of civil authority over populations the members of which are not under the provisions of the Mutiny Act, and cannot be ordered summarily to be placed under arrest at his supreme will. While admitting that there are many officers of great intelligence and tact and fitness for administrative functions in our army, we enter our protest anew against the absurd supposition that they must necessarily possess these qualifications, or even that the odds are in favour of their being found to possess them. The career of Captain Bravo, Captain Hall, and others of like stamp on the Coast, has set this question at rest with us long ago; so much so that when we hear of officers of the West India regiments being made civil commandants, magistrates, &c., we are from that moment expecting some unhappy results. How much more so when we hear of their being entrusted with the functions of governors. Sir Arthur Kennedy will necessarily have to be occasionally away from Sierra Leone, but we hope, and indeed feel confident, that the wise precedent he has put on record by appointing the Colonial Secretary Acting Governor-in-Chief during his absence will in future be rigidly adhered to. If, during his absence, the Colonial Secretary should misbehave in the exercise of his delegated authority, Sir Arthur could, and it would be his duty to do so, represent to the Colonial Secretary of State in England the unfitness of his subordinate for the important position he occupies, and this, we presume, would speedily lead to a remedy being applied; but he could not do thus, and there could not be such a remedy applied, if the delegate were the commander of the troops of the garrison, as it could not be expected that the War-office would remove a regiment from the Coast, at great expense and inconvenience, solely because the commanding officer was not one to whom supreme civil authority at Sierra Leone could be safely entrusted. We hope, therefore, that we shall never again hear of the duties of Governor being delegated to the officer in command of the garrison in the event of the temporary absence of a Governor-in-Chief in West Africa, or even a so-called administrator or lieutenant-governor; and, at least, we feel quite confident that it will never be our unpleasant duty to protest against any such appointment being made by such a man as Sir Arthur Kennedy, whose conduct gives continual evidence of how deeply he has at heart the welfare and wellbeing of our West African colonies and settlements and their too-long abused people.

REDUCTION IN THE ARMY.

We believe it is not only quite settled that the 4th West India Regiment is to be disbanded, a measure which has the hearty approval of all who know anything of the four West India regiments, but also that there will be a reduction of the troops on the West Coast. It has long seemed to us that the only use of the greater portion of them, since the change of policy consequent upon the recommendations of the House of Commons Committee, has been to afford a continued pretext for charging the West Coast with being very costly to the Imperial Exchequer, and to poison the stream of justice at its source, by entrusting the dispensing of it to military hands, in the persons of officers notoriously unfit, by education or habit, for the discharge of such duties. We would not have one soldier, beyond what is absolutely indispensable, detained on the West Coast. Lagos does not need them; they are useless at Cape Coast and Accra, under the present policy, in any greater number than half a company in the Castle; and, therefore, a very moderate number at Sherbro, Sierra Leone, and Bathurst will suffice for all the wants of the Coast. We shall treat of this subject more at large in our next number.

THE ABEOKUTA EXPORT DUTIES.

It is quite clear to all who know how public affairs are administered in the nineteenth century, that no people can rise to the dignity of being regarded as forming a STATE or NATION until they inaugurate a public revenue. This may be called the first step to their being received into the family of nations or states; and it is therefore, without entering into the merits or demerits of the particular mode of taxation adopted in this instance, that we insert with pleasure the Abeokuta Proclamation or Ordinance imposing certain duties on exports, to be enforced on and after the 1st March, 1869, within the territories of Abeokuta. Something of the kind was attempted a couple of years ago. If it had not then a full success this result was, we believe, to be attributed to the late Bashorun being accessible to certain influences of a personal nature, which he allowed to interfere with what was intended for the public good. The new chief authority, the future king, is said not to be accessible to such pernicious personal influences; and as the chiefs generally are also advancing in the knowledge of what is necessary to constitute a nation, it is to be presumed that the Ordinance now promulgated, and which we publish in this number, will be regarded as a law binding on all parties, and be systematically and equitably enforced. We look upon this effort at a vindication of claims to nationality with great respect; we shall watch its progress with great interest. Abeokuta is now to us a new star just emerging from darkness, just appearing above the horizon of civilisation, rising gradually to take its place in the heavens of earthly order, among the brilliant national constellations that now attract the gaze, occupy the attention, and excite the interest of mankind. We hope it will rise steadily, and shed a lustre over the countries from the ocean to Rabba—from the confines of Dahomey to the whole course of the right bank of the Niger, from its delta to the rocky band which forms the first real obstacle to the navigation of that river from the sea. We have no doubt that those who have incited to the adoption of this measure in Abeokuta are fully alive to all the governmental obligations and duties which it involves. Merchants and traders do not pay duties for nothing; in return for these they are entitled to State protection for themselves and their property, and to all possible efforts on the part of the State to give increased facilities to trade. The merchants and traders in Lagos have received these, though not to the extent they ought to in return for the import duties levied there. We say not to the extent they ought, because the revenue has been too much eaten up by unnecessary and overpaid officials, and wasted in measures by which the trade of Lagos could not be benefited, and which, if they really were the carrying out of an imperial policy, ought to have been paid for out of imperial and not local resources. We do not, of course, expect that simultaneously with their beginning to levy the new duties, the Abeokuta

authorities should commence a series of public works for the accomplishment of the objects indicated. They must first know what their revenue from these new sources will amount to; and this they cannot know until after the expiration of one full year from the 1st of March, 1869, on which day the said duties will commence to be levied. But even while this is being ascertained, there are some things which the Government may do and ought to do, in evidence that they understand and recognise the obligations which the levying of such duties involves. The road from Abeokuta to the shipping places on the river ought to be made a really good, solid, level one, fit for wheeled carriages to pass over. Some of the members of the Egba Board of Management have been in England, and know what roads are, and the immense advantages which they confer in an industrial point of view. It is needless, therefore, for us to dilate on this point. But, in addition to the formation of a good road, and keeping it in thorough repair at all seasons, it is equally incumbent on them to show the traders and people by evidence, what an immense loss of labour, and consequently of money, is involved in the present mode of conveying palm-oil, cotton, kernels, ground-nuts, &c., to the shipping places on the river. Abeokuta is not like some other parts of Africa where horses seem for some unaccountable reason not to thrive, or even long to survive. The Yoruba Country has good breeds of horses, for traction as well as for riding; and no time ought to be lost by those who are exercising the civilising influence in the Government, in introducing from England one or two carts and waggons of simple construction, adapted for the conveyance of produce to the river for embarkation. At the same time, the places of embarkation ought to be carefully improved, so as to facilitate in every possible way the transfer of goods from the land to the boats, and *vice versa* with those imported. When the utility of the conveyance of produce and goods in carts and waggons is once perceived by the people (and it will become immediately evident) the training of horses for this employment and the construction of other carts and waggons will soon follow. We are not to be supposed, in any thing we have here said, as expressing any approval of the system of raising revenue by the levying of export duties on produce; they are in many respects objectionable, but they are no doubt in the case of Abeokuta the easiest and most convenient form in which the operation of raising a regular public revenue could be commenced, in the same way that the collection of revenue by import duties at Lagos was, we suppose, thought or known to be the best or only practicable mode there in the infancy of the colony; although we hope ere long to have LAGOS A FREE PORT, which it must eventually become when the constantly augmenting trade shall have created a wealthy native commercial class, who will see it to be their interest to submit to direct taxation for the annual amounts indispensable for Government public service and improvements, instead of continuing a tax of 4 per cent. and upward upon the whole commerce of the interior, as at present, simply for affording facilities for exchange and import and export of commodities. As infants cannot be subjected to the same treatment as men, so infant states cannot endure what is best and right in more mature ones. We have only one or two remarks to make on the scale of duties imposed. We cannot understand why shea butter, which has not an equal commercial value with palm-oil, should be subject to a much higher and seemingly discouraging duty. We can understand that in imposing the same duty on cotton in seed as on cleaned cotton there may be a policy involved—viz., that of preserving the cotton-cleaning process for the beneficial employment of the people of Abeokuta, instead of its passing into the hands of the labourers in Lagos—but there is no such policy involved in the case of shea butter *versus* palm-oil, &c., although perhaps there may be some equally satisfactory reason with which we are not at present acquainted. But all these things are trifles compared with the great fact of Abeokuta giving that incontestable evidence of an advancing civilisation, which is afforded by the inauguration of a systematic effort to create a public revenue. The

Church and Wesleyan schools of Sierra Leone have indeed performed a great work in raising up, by education and mental cultivation, a class of men who, on their return to the country of their forefathers, thus endeavour, by the legitimate influence of education, to bring into the path of civilised progress a people and a State, destined as we believe, to play an important part in accelerating the development of the rich native resources of the whole of the Yoruba countries.

THE PERMANENCY OF EVIL.

So far as regards the pain inflicted at the moment, a man may laugh at the puncture of the serpent's tooth; and yet have received a deadly poison in his veins. It is not too much to say that to the gross misconduct of a military magistrate on the bench, Mr. Finlason who disregarded it at the time, owes the greater portion of the persecutions and misfortunes that have since fallen upon him. He had got on very well as an advocate in the Supreme Court where legal men were presiding as Chief Justices; but when he had to appear before a stipendiary magistrate in the person of an officer of a West India regiment, Captain Hall, there came a total change in the aspect of affairs. The military magistrate disregarded and grossly violated the courtesies of the bench; the pleaders who had known him at the mess-table of his regiment resented the affront and insult, and replied to them in corresponding terms. The case was brought before Judge Hackett, of the Supreme Court, who just then returned from England. Judge Hackett, now Sir Wm. Hackett, of Singapore, according to the report of the matter in the *African Times* of September, 1866, condemned the conduct of both in a long speech, and, addressing Captain Hall, said: "I do not think it right that a magistrate should use language of that kind in Court; in fact, he ought to abstain from using language which is unusual among gentlemen." Finlason had offered to apologise, if Captain Hall would do the same. This Captain Hall would not do, although he was the first offender. And what then? Why, wrong or right, Her Majesty's servants must of course be supported—"hawks will not pluck out hawks' e'en." The above reprimand was considered enough for the offending officer and magistrate, but Finlason, who had not the claim to the immunities which such a position conferred, was prohibited from ever again pleading in court. We entered our protest against this at the time. We said that we considered Judge Hackett to be guilty of an error in judgment. "If Captain Hall merited the remarks said to have been addressed to him by Judge Hackett, there were sufficient grounds to justify him in putting an end to the whole affair, with a caution to all parties concerned that such proceedings and such language would not be tolerated in any of the courts at Cape Coast while he retained the office of Supreme Judge, &c." Beyond this we thought, and think still, he ought not to have gone. But Cape Coast was then under military rule; the despotic Colonel Conran, who begun fairly but finished so badly, was then Governor or Administrator. Judge Hackett lived and messed with the officers in the Castle, and of course the military element, whatever provocation it might give, must be supported in all its proceedings. The Secretary of State also, as a matter of course, approved what the Judge had done and what the Administrator confirmed and defended, and Finlason was "left out in the cold." From that time he became a mark for all to aim at. Resenting the injustice with which he had been treated and which was persisted in, he was not over flattering to the authorities—an evil animus prevailed—and when Judge Parker, with his strange ideas of law and justice, came upon the scene and acted in concert with the offended official dignitaries, the results were such as the readers of the *African Times* for the last eighteen months are but too well acquainted with. And we are sorry to say that gross injustice still continues to be practised against this man, whose unjust imprisonment, almost unto death, ought to have wiped out a whole catalogue of offences—if offences these really were. Soon after his liberation from Ussher, Parker, and Skues'

den at Accra, by order of Sir Arthur Kennedy, the Governor-in-Chief, to whom our claim for his release had been referred by the late Secretary of State for the Colonies, there were appearances of an intention that the injustice should be put an end to. But it was all illusory. Finlason was still a correspondent of the *African Times*, and upon that rock he split—magistrates and administrators had sworn to crush this curb in the hard official mouth—and the more than half-proffered permission again to practice in the courts was withdrawn. We publish some correspondence on this subject, and cannot conceal the expression of our regret that this restriction to plead in the Gold Coast courts was not removed by Sir Arthur Kennedy during his late visit to Cape Coast. We believe that it is capable of full circumstantial proof that upon giving a pledge never again to have any relation with the *African Times* he would have again had a licence to plead. Now we feel the conviction that if Sir Arthur Kennedy was fully assured of this he would remove the restriction under which Finlason so unjustly suffers; because if he would be eligible to plead in the courts if not a correspondent of the *African Times*, his being a correspondent of this paper ought not to be a ground, and cannot be a just ground, for withholding this privilege from him. We still hope to see justice done in this case. Finlason may not be so temperate at all times in his language as could be desired, but he has an honest indignation at injustice and oppression. He has rendered in past times essential service to the Government at critical periods; to his denunciations we owe that the atrocities of the Cape Coast prisons were put an end to, and that other abuses have disappeared; and however unpalatable all this may have been to vicious authorities, we are sure it cannot be a title to disfavour with the present Governor-in-Chief.

A JUDICIAL STAFF AT SIERRA LEONE FOR THE WHOLE WEST COAST.

We should probably have postponed to next month the continuation of our remarks on this all-important subject of a judicial staff for the whole West Coast, but for the fact of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies having sanctioned an increase of 300*l.* per annum in the greatly inadequate salary of Chief Justice French. This is a graceful act, and we thank the Secretary of State for it; but we cannot help adding thereto an expression of regret that he did not go farther in the same direction. Some would say we ought to be thankful and satisfied with small mercies. But what we asked for are not mercies, even when we treated merely of the insufficient salary heretofore allotted to Chief Justice French, who possesses qualities as a judge which had not before been exhibited on the West Coast of Africa, and which alone have prevented the administration of justice on the West Coast from becoming altogether odious, tyrannical, and contemptible. We thought, and we had hoped, that there would have been an increase of 500*l.* in the salary of Chief Justice French; and we should be glad to see that the Legislative Council of the colony when voting this sanctioned 300*l.*, append thereto an expression of desire that having regard to the best interest of their community at large, the sanction to a further advance of 200*l.* should also be gracefully accorded. It is not a slight service that Chief Justice French has rendered in dragging law and justice out of the abyss into which they had fallen under Acting Chief Justices Bravo and Huggins, and not only making them respectable, but giving them a before undiscovered lustre in the eyes of the people of the metropolitan colony and of the whole West Coast. And then, also, he deserves a recompense in another point of view—viz., that he is the only judicial depository of legal knowledge in those countries; while no one who had watched justice had been administered and law elucidated by Mr. Justice Huggins can contend for a moment that he possesses any; and it always seems to us that for a judge like Chief Justice French to be tied to such a coadjutor as Mr. Huggins, who is totally incapable of assisting him in the solution of any legal problem whatever, is something like the unhappy position of a criminal in the

classic ages of the world, chained to, and compelled to bear about with him, a dead and offensive corpse. The late Secretary of State for the Colonies turned a deaf ear to all the representations made to him from Sierra Leone* to relieve Chief Justice French of this appendage, which he is compelled to drag about with him at every sitting of the Supreme Court; and we can but think, putting all other considerations out of the question, that an addition of 500*l.* a-year to his official salary is not at all too much for being compelled to endure such an official *mésalliance*. But however such a deserved increase of official salary may serve to soften the hardships of the Chief Justice's judicial position, and although we think he is entitled to it, this alone will not meet the pressing requirements of the West Coast as regards the general administration of justice there. What we ask for are not mercies great or small: what we demand should be supplied are urgent wants—are deep necessities of position. Trial by jury in civil causes having been cruelly abolished at the instance of Mr. Huggins and others, the Supreme Courts extinguished everywhere but at Sierra Leone, and that being made a court of appeal for all the settlements, what Sierra Leone wants, and what the whole West Coast wants at Sierra Leone, is an enlightened and upright bench of three judges—she wants justices, both chief and puisne, in whom all can confide as regards legal knowledge, well-balanced minds, unimpeachable honour, and strict moral principle. She knows that she cannot have these without paying adequately for them, and we believe that the whole Coast is ready and willing to do this. They have had enough, and far too much for their safety and well-being, of military and incompetent legal acting chief justices, of military stipendiary magistrates such as Captain Hall, of cheap chief magistrates such as have been inflicted on them since the other Supreme Courts were demolished, and of such acting civil commandants as Mr. Skues, of Finlason and poor Williams' notoriety; and the growing revenues, the increasing importance of commercial interests, the expansion of educational attainments, demand something that they can look up to with confidence and respect. It is, we should think, scarcely necessary for us to urge again on those who have the fate of the Coast as regards this matter in their hands, that a Court of appeal of only two judges is a practical absurdity; and that when one of these two, as at present, has shown a manifest incapacity and unfitness, it is even worse than an absurdity. There is a principle at stake—the liberties, lives, and fortunes of the people are at stake—British honour and consistency are at stake in this great matter; and we feel convinced that it is only because the subject has not yet received due consideration in Downing-street, that some such change as that we have been and are advocating has not yet been decreed. It must be made, and the sooner it is made the better. We apologise for making a suggestion, but could not Mr. Justice Huggins be sent to join Governor Blackall in Queensland; and some place where they cannot do harm, be found for the three chief magistrates of the Gambia, Cape Coast, and Lagos? Then the Court of Appeal could be constituted by the appointment of two other judges qualified to act with Chief Justice French in appeal, and to go circuit to the settlements. If the delay be only owing to a feeling of tenderness on the part of the Colonial-office, because the money for paying those judges must come out of the pockets of the people on the Coast, we implore them not to hesitate any longer. We fear it was only a tenderness of this kind which prevented their authorising an increase of 500*l.* instead of 300*l.* to Mr. Chief Justice French; they did not like to act with the liberality they would have exercised if the money had to come out of imperial and not local revenues. It is, therefore, necessary that some absolute step in advance should be made by the people who pay. The Legislative Council at Sierra Leone, although there is too little of the popular element in it, is no longer a closed council. Thanks to the wise and prudent Sir Arthur Kennedy, its

* We have already published the petitions, &c., re the unlawful flogging sentences passed by Mr. Huggins, and shall now give in this or our next the official correspondence re Fyfe v. Huggins.—Ed. A. T.

sittings are now open—the people know what they are enacting at them; they are in some degree under the control of public opinion—and if the Legislative Council, gratefully voting the 300*l.*, ask that they may also be authorised to vote the other 200*l.*, that will be a step in advance. It would show the Colonial-office what the temper of the people really is on this important matter, and as is the temper of the people of Sierra Leone, so would the temper of those at Bathurst, the Gold Coast, and Lagos be. We hope to find time and space in our next to give our idea as to the mode by which the unpaid local magistrates in those places could be kept under constant and efficient check by the judges of the Court of Appeal during the intervals between their sessions. Prompt action would do so much good, that we confess the delay creates in us a feeling of impatience.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES, &c.

A TRIUMVIRATE IN SPAIN.—MADRID, JAN. 31.—In presence of the attitude of the reactionary party, and of the difficulty in choosing a candidate to the throne acceptable to the whole nation, all the fractions of the Liberal party have decided to place the supreme executive in the hands of a triumvirate; and General Prim, Marshal Serrano, and Senor Rivero will most likely form that directory. Through this decision the Republic may, by implication, be considered as proclaimed in Spain.

THE PAPAL STATES.—CIVITA VECCHIA, FEB. 6.—French transports continue to arrive here, and disembark large quantities of rifles, powder, and cannon.

LISBON, FEB. 13.—Many seditious proclamations in favour of an Iberian Republic have been secretly circulated in Portugal.

MADRID, FEB. 14.—Telegrams have been received from General Dulce, the Captain-General of Cuba, urging the despatch of reinforcements, the insurrection having spread to the neighbourhood of Havana, and requesting Government to introduce into the Cortes a Bill sanctioning the contraction of a loan of 400 millions of reals for Cuba.

THE LATE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

It seems it was not we and our West African friends alone who had reason to complain of the Duke of Buckingham's abominable neglect of letters and want of proper courtesy to their writers. The Bishop of Capetown, in a letter to a friend, says:—

"During the vacation I repeatedly wrote to the Secretary of State to request, &c., and when his answer was delayed, to pray that, if his Grace had changed his views about the matter, he would let us know."

"At length, having been informed that several of my letters had miscarried, and had never reached his Grace, I recapitulated their contents, and waited, still in vain, for an answer."

Then the Bishop complains to Mr. Disraeli, and he adds:—"It is no part of my business to comment on the proceedings of the Duke of Buckingham, or to say whether his delay is to be attributed to inattention to business, or uncertainty of mind, or personal feelings."

Finally the Bishop receives an acknowledgment of his letters, when he is "on the wharf at Plymouth, and about to embark" for the Cape of Good Hope!

We have thought it right to give this account because of the seeming neglect by his Grace of communications relative to the West Coast; and because it shows how strong must have been the efforts we made in poor Finlason's case, to achieve the results obtained.

GRATIFYING TESTIMONIAL TO THE CAPTAIN OF A MAIL STEAMER.

On the last homeward voyage of the African Royal Mail steamer Lagos, the passengers, learning that Captain Lowry intended on his return to this port to resign his position as commander of the Lagos, determined to show their appreciation of his uniform kindness and courtesy by presenting him with a tangible token of their esteem. The testimonial, which consisted of a handsome silver claret-jug and salver, was presented to Captain Lowry, with the good wishes of the passengers for his future prospects and success. Captain Lowry, who has been for many years connected with the African Mail Service, has endeared himself to all with whom he has been brought into contact, not only for his high personal qualities and thorough gentlemanly demeanour, but for his coolness, self-reliance, and courage as a commander. Captain Lowry's reason for resigning the captaincy of the Lagos was to take command of the Bonny, the new steamer which left Liverpool on the 25th January, as pioneer of the British and African Steamship Co.'s new line of steamers to West Coast of Africa.

NATAL.

MOSELEKATSE.—The famous Moselekatsé, King of the Matebeti, country of the new gold-fields, and thence to Tette, is dead. His son Koromann was proclaimed King by Moselekatsé when he found he was dying. The new King was brought up among the *Ringkoppen*, a tribe all but exterminated by Moselekatsé, and who have hitherto had no intercourse with the white man—no hunters ever having penetrated thus far. Ringkoppen, following the manners and customs of his ancestors, is reported to have killed all the brethren and relatives he could get hold of. The white men in the country have not been in any way molested, and the new chieftain being now firmly established, is likely to continue friendly to them.

GOLD.—The search for gold, both within the colony and in the *Murch*-discovered goldfields, is being ardently carried on—hitherto not with any great success.

CROPS.—Good showers having fallen, the crops look very promising.

FINANCE.—The colony is petitioning the Queen for a reduction of the high salaries of the officials, which are a grievous burden on the colony.

CORONATION OF THE QUEEN OF MADAGASCAR.

The following extract from a letter written by the Rev. W. E. Cousins, and published in the *English Independent*, will be read with interest:—

"On Thursday, September 3, we found Andohalo crowded, with the exception of the roads preserved for the Queen and her attendants. Every piece of ground on the rising ground surrounding it was filled with spectators. Soon after nine guns announced that she had left the palace, and soon parts of the procession began to arrive. All the female members of the near branches of the royal family were clothed in scarlet from head to foot. The wives of the officers, &c. (some 100 or 150), were dressed in European clothing, some of them looking very nice. Then came two brass cannons—then soldiers in their different uniforms. Great advance has been made in the dresses of the soldiers since we have been here, and they really looked very well. Then came the officers of higher rank, in most expensive dresses, velvet of all hues, and gold lace in profusion. Then came the Queen in a handsome gilded palanquin, with the scarlet umbrella and her usual attendants. When she reached a stone, upon which for generations it has been customary for new sovereigns to stand, she alighted, and, walking over the stone, accompanied by the Prime Minister and other high officers, she went to the throne prepared for her. The canopy under which she sat was in excellent taste. The pillars were of green with gold moulding, and the hangings of green and gold too. The dome-shaped roof was of scarlet velvet, prettily ornamented with silver spear-heads crossed at the corners. Beneath the dome were inscribed on the four different sides the following words: 'Glory to God—Peace on earth—Goodwill to men—May God be with us.' At the side of the Queen's seat was a small gilded table, upon which was placed a very handsomely-bound Malagasy Bible and a copy of the laws of Madagascar. As soon as the Queen had taken her place the scarlet-clothed ladies above mentioned were taken to seats to the south of the Queen on the platform, and the French and ourselves were placed on the north side of the same. We thus had a very honourable position, and one from which we could see the whole proceedings. The Prime Minister, as first subject, took his place among the people below. He was dressed in a white velvet suit trimmed with gold with blue leather boots. A little boy about twelve or fourteen acted as his shield-bearer. Behind him stood some 200 officers, dressed chiefly in velvet. As soon as the firing of cannons had subsided the Queen stood up and delivered her speech. The sentence, in which she alluded to Christianity, was as follows:—

"And as to the praying, it is not compulsory, nor is there any hindrance, for God made you."

The Queen was very collected, and spoke distinctly, but of course she could not be heard by the thousands who were present. We are happy to know the speech is to be printed and circulated freely. After the Queen's speech the laws were proclaimed, upwards of eighty in all, and these, too, are to be printed. After this the presentation of 'basina' commenced. The heads of the different tribes came forward in parties, and made their short congratulatory addresses one by one, and presented their dollars. The dresses of some of these chiefs were most rich and yet grotesque; the colours of some of their lambas were magnificent, and many wore coloured silk turbans.

"After some few had presented their basina, first the French and then we did the same. Speeches and assurances of loyalty continued till nearly three, and were closed with a most energetic and well-received speech from the Prime Minister, and then the proceedings terminated, having lasted about five hours. The mass of people was a splendid sight as we looked down upon

it. It was variously thought to comprise from 300,000 to 500,000. On the day following the coronation the Queen went down to Imahamasina, which was filled with people gathered together to hold what is called a laouana, a kind of festival or time of general rejoicing. As soon as the Queen had taken her place, a general dancing commenced (or what is called dancing). Hats and hands were waved, and everyone's body was in motion, the Queen standing up, and answering the people by a continual motion of her hands. This was kept up for about five minutes, and then all was still again. The effect of this dancing was very strange. There was not the energy and enthusiasm of English cheers, but it was rather exciting, nevertheless.

"For about three hours different parties came and danced before the Queen, and then the assembly broke up."

THE DAWN OF FREEDOM FOR AFRICAN SLAVES IN CUBA.

"Coming events cast their shadows before," and when we find such articles as the following on "The Cuban Revolution" in a New York paper, the *Tribune*, we believe the morning of freedom for the African slaves in Cuba has already dawned:—

"The news which reaches us by cable from Cuba is such only as her Spanish masters see fit to send or feel unable to suppress; yet it fully justifies the conviction that the days of her colonial vassalage are numbered. If, in the face of Dulce's bounteous proffers of amnesty and liberty, and the fair promises made from Madrid, including the concession to the colonies of representation in the Cortes, and the loudly trumpeted capture of Bayamo, the insurgent capital, the people of Havana raise the cry of 'Viva Cespedes!' (the insurgent commander-in-chief) in the theatre and proceed to sing the revolutionary hymn, provoking and returning a fire from the guardians of 'Order,' we may be sure that bloody work is imminent. The reports of a 'riot' at Regla, a 'disturbance' in the streets of Havana, of 'shots fired' in various quarters, &c., &c., all indicate the approach of a decisive struggle. The Cubans evidently comprehend that 'a fire in the rear' will compel Dulce to keep a large force in and near Havana, and thus reduce the pressure on their compatriots in the field.

"The Spanish Provisional Government acts as though devoid of energy and forecast. While the insurgents have decreed and proclaimed the abolition of slavery, we are telegraphed from Madrid that 'the subject or the abolition of the slave-trade to the different colonies of Spain is already engaging the serious attention of the Government.' A proposition declaring all vessels engaged in this traffic as pirates is under consideration, and will probably prevail. That is to say: Spain is seriously considering the propriety of conforming to the recognised public law of Christendom! But has she not, for the last twenty years, pretended to interdict and punish the slave-trade? Has she not professed to liberate all negroes imported into Cuba in violation of her treaty stipulations? And now—after the Cuban insurgents have proclaimed slavery dead—she is giving 'serious attention' to the abolition of the slave-trade! How completely this parallels our Southern Confederacy's attempt, when in the agonies of death, to raise black regiments to fight against the Union, must be obvious to every reader.

"In fact, the attempt of revolutionised Spain to suppress the revolution in Cuba is a solecism. The new rule in Spain is avowedly based on the sovereignty of the people. But if that be a good rule for Spain, why not for Cuba also? If Bourbon despotism, corruption, and imbecility was intolerable to the Spaniards, why may not colonial vassalage and negro slavery be detestable to the Cubans? How can those who expelled Isabella impose a successor on protesting Cuba?

"Cuba has been prized by Spain largely because of the revenue derived therefrom, and the convenience of pensioning off needy or troublesome servitors of the powers that be by giving them judgeships, places in the customs, &c., &c., in the colonies. If Cuban representation in the Cortes is to be no sham, Cuba must cease to be a preserve for Spanish officials. In short, Spain is either about to fall back into a despotism which the Cubans detest, or she is on the eve of advancing to a realisation of freedom and equal rights which must deprive the possession of Cuba of all substantial value. It is better for all parties that Cuba should now be allowed to decide for herself, not merely who shall be her legislators, but where they shall legislate, and what shall be the nature of her institutions. She has been in leading strings quite long enough."

LAUNCH OF THE BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM SHIP COMPANY'S SHIP ROQUELLE.—On Saturday, Jan. 30, another splendid screw steamer was launched from the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. Randolph, Elder, and Co., Glasgow, for the British and African Steam Navigation Company. This new vessel is named the *Roquelle*, and is sister ship to the *Bonny*, now on her maiden voyage to the West Coast of Africa. The *Roquelle* will be commanded by Captain J. Griffiths.

FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE."

FOREIGN-OFFICE, December 22.—The Queen has been pleased to approve of M. Louis Edouard Braouzeo as Consul for the English Settlements on the West Coast of Africa, to reside at Sainte Marie de Bathurst, for his Majesty the Emperor of the French. The Queen has also been pleased to approve of Mr. Bruno von Rauchhaupt as Consul at Lagos for the North German Confederation.

WAR-OFFICE, Feb. 16.—3rd West India Regiment.—Major G. J. Barnard, from the 4th West India Regiment, to be Major vice J. E. D. Hill, who retires upon temporary half-pay; Lieut. A. M. Fisher, from the 34th Foot, to be Lieutenant, vice W. F. C. Gray, who exchanges.

4th West India Regiment.—Ensign J. W. McKay has been permitted to retire from the service by the sale of his commission.

WRECK OF THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, AND DREADFUL SUFFERINGS OF THE CREW.

The *Florence Nightingale* left Bathurst, Gambia River, for Sierra Leone, on the 24th Dec., with seven females, two priests, two Kroomen, and nine ship's crew. On the night of the 26th the barque unexpectedly struck on a sandbank, not marked in the charts, and which was not at the time surrounded by broken water. In attempting to get her off two boats were stove in, and one of the Kroomen drowned. All hands then set to work and made a raft, on which some provisions, brandy, and sherry were placed, but the captain in the hurry forgot water and his charts and instruments. After trying for some time to tow the raft by the aid of a small boat—17 feet by 6 feet—they were forced to leave it and crowd into the boat. The provisions were soon exhausted, and under a hot sun, without water, they all took to drinking salt water. This soon made one seaman, named Brown, crazy, and so violent that he had to be forcibly kept at the bottom of the boat. The captain bled him twice, and each time he did so the blood was greedily sucked up by the others, who were very quarrelsome and violent. They at last resolved to draw lots who should kill Brown. The lot fell upon a coloured boy from Bathurst, who, however, refused to act. Just then the captain providentially caught a fish 3lbs. weight, having made a fish-hook from a woman's hair-pin, and baited it with a small crab caught in some floating seaweed. This was eagerly devoured; as were also some crabs and butterflies, which showed that land was near. In fact they soon after reached the Isle de Los, where Captain Curran, of the whaler S. A. Paine, of Provincetown, Massachusetts, not only treated them with the greatest kindness, but took the crew on to Sierra Leone, whence they were sent home in the *Biafra* as distressed British seamen. These twenty persons were nine days in an open boat under a tropical sun, with only 20 lbs. of provisions and no water; they drifted in that time over two hundred miles.

CURE FOR SNAKE POISONING, STINGS OF VENOMOUS INSECTS, ETC.

Our African friends ought all to know of the efficacy with which LIQUOR AMMONIÆ FORTES has been applied in the East Indies, and other tropical countries, for the cure of persons bitten by venomous snakes, insects, &c.

For Snake Bites, the ammonia may be applied direct to the wound, being made to enter it; but now, in the East Indies, it is generally taken internally in doses as under. (The remedy should be taken as soon as possible after the bite has been given.)

LIQ. AMMONIÆ FORTES.

Doses taken internally for Snake Bites.

Adult	35 drops in wineglass of water.
12 to 15 years	20 or 25 drops in $\frac{1}{2}$ ditto.
8 to 12 "	15 to 20 " rather less than above.
4 to 8 "	10 to 15 " $\frac{1}{3}$ of a wineglass of water.
Infants	3 to 10 " " "

The Liquor Ammoniae Fortes is said also to be a cure for hydrophobia.

For bites of venomous insects, such as wasps, bees, hornets, &c. (and we should think of scorpions, centipedes, &c.), the ammonia should be applied with the point of a needle exactly over the puncture; and if a very delicate or tender part, may be wiped over with a damp sponge about a minute after application. The effect of the ammonia upon the poison is almost magical; the moment it enters the puncture the excruciating pain ceases, the inflammatory action subsides, and in half-an-hour all appearance of a sting has vanished. The ammonia should be kept in a stoppered bottle, tied down, and in a cool place.

The steam troop-ship *Urgent*, with military invalids and time-expired men from the Cape of Good Hope and West Coast of Africa, arrived on the 14th, and left on the 17th for Portsmouth.

COTTON MARKET.

Jan. 26.—Demand slow; $\frac{1}{4}$ d. reduction on Friday's prices.
 " 28.—Moderate demand. Further decline $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb.
 " 27.—Tone of market more cheerful.
 " 28.—Demand less active; prices steady.
 " 29.—Market steady and firm.
 " 30.—Market very active.
 Feb. 1.—Market very active. Advance, $\frac{1}{4}$ d. since the 26th.
 " 2.—Market very active at extreme rates.
 " 3.—Demand unabated at $\frac{1}{4}$ d. advance.
 " 4.—Market again active at $\frac{1}{4}$ d. advance.
 " 5.—Market less active, but prices generally maintained. Manchester telegrams report the market for goods as very firm, but little business doing.
 " 6.—Market about the same as yesterday.
 " 8.—Market again quiet, but prices tolerably steady.
 " 9.—Market opened dull—then improved—prices steady. In Liverpool $\frac{1}{4}$ d. advance.
 " 10.—Market quiet. Middling Orleans, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.
 " 11.—Quiet market, without change in prices.
 " 12.—Market quiet—moderate inquiry—prices unaltered.
 " 15.—Market on 13th very dull, and no improved demand to-day.
 " 16.—Quiet market and very irregular prices.
 " 17.—Flat, easier, and at irregular prices.
 " 18.—Demand languid; prices lower.
 " 19.—Market depressed; prices about $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. lower than last week.

LEPROSY.—It is stated that in the Bombay Presidency (East Indies) one in every hundred of the population is a leper, and the disease is said to be steadily on the increase.

SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—It is most gratifying to see a warm tribute of praise following a governor from a country he has ruled, after the people have had time and opportunity for comparing him with a successor. Such a tribute has followed Sir Arthur Kennedy from Western Australia, and we only regret that our limited space prevents our copying it from the *Perth Gazette*. It speaks volumes in favour of the sterling qualities and noble and upright character of the present Governor-in-Chief of West Africa.

THE SLAVE-TRADE AND SLAVERY IN CUBA.—A Madrid letter says the intelligence respecting the declaration of emancipation by Cespedes turns out to have been unfounded; but a Ministerial telegram sent within the last two days to Dulce, suggests that the time has come when slave-trading ought to be declared piracy. The Policy of the Ministry is to let the Cortes deal with the question of abolition, but the abolitionist party is constantly urging the Government to do so at once. In a circular directed to the governors of districts, the Minister commits the Provisional Government to non-interference with the question of abolition until the Cortes meet, and can have the advice of the colonial deputies. It is certain the solution of this grave matter cannot be long delayed. The struggle will be for the time and manner. The act itself is certain.

AFRICAN EXPLORATION.—A short time since Mr. Winwood Reade, of the Anthropological Society, left England with a great flourish of trumpets, under the auspices of the Geographical Society, with the purpose, it was said, of penetrating to the Kong Mountains by way of the French settlement at Assinee. Although we have no regard for Mr. Winwood Reade, we regret exceedingly that he did not succeed in effecting a passage to these unexplored mountains via Assinee. He subsequently visited Whydah, and our last advices left him at Lagos, where he showed his contempt for the Africans and his well-bred courtesy to Sir Arthur Kennedy and Captain Glover by appearing in nickerbockers, and otherwise apparelled like a Dutch ship steward, at an evening party which they honoured with their presence. It was said he was there en route for the Niger countries. We do not see that he can effect anything in that direction. A man of very different calibre is required to increase our knowledge of those parts.

BOOKKEEPER AND ACCOUNTANT.

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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 Effervescent 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 C. 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.

SPECIAL AGENTS FOR LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE:—

Messrs. ORR & Co., Madras; Messrs. THACKER, SPINK & Co., Calcutta; Messrs. TREACHER & Co., Bombay.
CANTOR and CO., SIERRA LEONE.

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