

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 Steamers	1	Cholera at the Gambia	8
Ravages of the Cholera at the Gambia	1	Mr. Justice Huggins—The Sierra Leone Whippings and the Colonial-office	8
Supreme Court of the Settlement of Sierra Leone	2	Judgment in the Action Thomas v. Mr. Justice Huggins	9
The Dutch, Elminas, and Fantees	4	Impartial Administration of Justice	10
Reported Desire to Sell the Dutch Settlements	4	Cotton Market	10
Gold Coast Mismanagement	5	A Cry for General Redress of Wrongs	10
Fernando Po	5	Opening for Worship of the First Brick Church in Lagos	10
African Emigration or Immigration	5	On Mr. Justice French Living in Barracks since his Arrival at Sierra Leone	11
House of Commons	6	Death	11
Female School at Cape Coast	6	Marriage	11
Death by Shot-drill in Bathurst Gaol	6		
One Hundred and Fifty Lashes with the Cat-o'-Nine-Tails for Stealing a Coat, Shirt, and Trousers	7		

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AUGUST, 1869.

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WEST AFRICAN STEAMERS.

ARRIVALS.

The Mandingo, with the regular monthly mails, on June 30.
The British and African Steam Navigation Company's ship Bonny, with a full cargo, on July 14.
The mail steamer, with the bi-monthly mails, on July

DEPARTURES.

June 24.—The African Royal Mail Steam Company's ship Lagos, with the regular monthly mails.
July 1.—The British and African Steam Navigation Company's ship Congo.
July 4.—The Royal Mail steamship Benin, with a mail.
July 14.—The Royal Mail steamship Calabar, with a mail.
The Royal Mail steamship Mandingo will carry out the mails of the 24th July.
The British and African Steam Navigation Company's ship Bonny will leave Liverpool for West African ports on the 1st August.

RAVAGES OF THE CHOLERA AT THE GAMBIA.

SIXTEEN HUNDRED DEATHS AT BATHURST IN THIRTY-ONE DAYS.
POPULATION UNDER 6,000.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Bathurst, June 16, 1869.

Sir,—We have had a sad time here since May 4. That dreadful epidemic, the cholera, has done sad work amongst us. The old, the young in the bloom and sunshine of youth, and even little children, have all been mowed down like grass. We had 1,600 deaths, out of a population of under 6,000, between May 3 and June 3! The most stout-hearted amongst us could not but be struck with astounding fear at such a rate of mortality. The description in Shakespeare's play given by Bottom of his dream would exactly suit our case: "The eye of man hath not seen, the ear of man hath not heard, his heart cannot conceive, nor his tongue report, what my dream was." The Greek mythological legend records the transition of the human race by grades from the golden to the iron age. We here have not had the good fortune of such transition, which, by its gradualness, inures, and, as it were, acclimatizes the nature, and thus modifies in an un-

common degree the keenness of sensibility to the evils and dangers that are generally the inseparable concomitants of any *per saltum* change for the worse either in the moral or in the physical world. We have had, as it were, a transition from our golden age to an iron age of the worst repute in a most sudden and unexpected manner. Hitherto enjoying health and plenty, we suddenly found ourselves visited by an epidemic that attacks and puts an end to the life of its victims with most awful and sudden violence. After having completed a tour of service in the upper part of the river, the epidemic began here at that part of the town known by the name of "Half Die," and accounted to be the most filthy and unhealthy in the whole place; and it increased and spread daily with the rapidity of the prophet's gourd. At first the intelligent and wealthy portion of the community were loth to admit that the place was visited by the cholera. They would fain do violence to their senses and attribute the rapid mortality to some other cause, to which, in the order of things, it is not at all likely they could ever become victims. But it took very little time to open their eyes. Every one was then astir. There were no sleeping Jonahs. From the intelligent European to the rude, untaught Serere, every one was hard at work, either calling upon his god or devising measures to counteract the violence of the epidemic. The Christian portion of the community held prayer-meetings in the house of God and in the public streets. The European portion of the community, with his Excellency Rear-Admiral Patey at their head, held consultation meetings, on the result of whose deliberations, or the aptness and wisdom of whose decisions and courses of action, I decline making any comment. Another portion of the community, who regarded brandy as a preventive, drank themselves to death, and thus, in avoiding Scylla, plunged into Charybdis. The Sereres held consultation meetings, and finally resolved to chase the epidemic out of the town. To this end they assembled in large numbers at night, and ran from one end of the town to the other as in the act of pursuit, singing aloud some rude fetish songs, and finally giving out that they had chased the epidemic out of the town—a circumstance which brings vividly before the mind the case of the Cannians of classical antiquity, who, as Herodotus tells us, determining to have no deities but those of their country, assembled of all ages in arms, and, rushing forward, brandishing their spears as in the act of pursuit, cried aloud that they were expelling their foreign gods. It is a remarkable fact, however, that the very next day after the performance of this rite or ceremony, call it which you will, the epidemic raged with more than usual violence, and the zealous, patriotic, but poor, misguided, and crack-brained crusaders of Serere learned to their cost that exposure to night draughts at such a season is one of those causes that predisposes to or excites the fatal disease. Amidst the universal flutter and trepidation mortality still went on at a fearful rate. Trenches were dug in the burial-ground, and dead bodies piled upon each other in a manner most shocking and disgusting. Every one trembled for his life, and the saying, "All men think all men mortal but themselves," became no longer applicable. Every one expected that the next hour would find him a dead man. It must, however, be remarked that the ignorance and conceit of many of the people were on very many occasions the cause of their own death. Most of them, when attacked with the epidemic, preferred guava leaves and roots boiled together to any mixture the doctor could prescribe for them, and thus dug their graves with their teeth, according to the old saying. There were not wanting, too, many amongst us who took advantage of the universal consternation to indulge in most exaggerated reports and in the grossest misrepresentations of the state of things. Like the quack who sold violent pills and patent drastic medicines, and when advised by a learned doctor if he would humbug the people to do it less dangerously and more gently, replied, "Bless your innocence, the people wouldn't believe in me unless I make 'em holler out," many, in order to make us believe in them, thought it no sin to make us "holler out." It is a matter of great surprise that the European portion of the community hardly suffered anything from the epidemic. They seemed secure under some guardian power; but they shared in the general consternation, though. Some fairly fled the place, and others who remained trembled for their lives. At present the epidemic has almost subsided. We have but very few cases now, and it is to be hoped that ere long we shall be entirely free.

The colony will long cherish with grateful remembrance the names of Staff Assistant-Surgeon Waters and the Colonial Surgeon Jeans for the public services they rendered during the epidemic. As a true physician who feels in his conscience the solemn obligations of his glorious art, these sons of Galen evinced their sympathy for suffering humanity by the skill, care, and attention justified by the success with which they treated patients attacked with the epidemic. And worthy of especial mention, too, is the name of Lieutenant F. S. Stewart, the garrison adjutant here, whose sympathy for suffering humanity was shown to be something

more than fussy, frothy talk, or the expression of a few sickly sentiments, and who laboured with his usual characteristic energy and zeal during the epidemic, going about of his own accord, visiting and dispensing medicine to the sick. May their lives be long spared, and

Their bones,
When they have run their course and sleep in blessing,
Have a tomb of orphans' tears wept on 'em.

Nor ought we to forget Messrs. Peyton, Stapleton, and Elliot, who contributed their little quota, or, rather, played their little part, in this great drama.—Yours very respectfully,

T.

SUPREME COURT OF THE SETTLEMENT OF SIERRA LEONE.—MONDAY, MAY 31, 1869.

(The opening of this case was reported in the *African Times* of June 23, 1869.)

SAMUEL THOMAS V. HORATIO JAMES HUGGINS.

(Before his Honour the Chief Justice.)

The evidence taken on both sides. Rainy for Plaintiff; the Queen's Advocate for Defendant.

The Defendant sworn: My name is Horatio James Huggins. I am Assistant-Judge of this Court, and I live in Gloucester-street. The signature Horatio Jas. Huggins to paper A is my writing. Paper A is the calendar of prisoners tried in June, 1867, on the 10th and 11th days of that month. I see one Samuel Thomas' name in the paper A. I don't know if he is the plaintiff. Paper B is an information against one Samuel Thomas. I don't know if he is the plaintiff. Paper B is dated 10th June. The person mentioned as S. Thomas in paper B is the same as that mentioned in paper A. S. Thomas pleaded guilty to the information. B. By the paper A the sentence passed on S. Thomas was twelve months' hard labour, and to be three times privately whipped. The sentence was passed for larceny, as appears from paper A and paper B. There is no previous conviction set forth in either paper A or paper B.—Question: Are you aware that there is such an Act as the 24th and 25th Vic., cap. 96, in force in this settlement? Answer: This is a question of opinion as to whether, in point of law, that Act is in force here. I don't think I am bound to answer it.—Question: Have you not frequently tried prisoners in the Supreme Court under the Act of the Imperial Parliament 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 96? Answer: Upon the ground that this question involves a point of law, I decline answering it.—Question: Have you not frequently sentenced prisoners under the last-mentioned Act. Objected to by the Queen's Advocate; objection allowed.—I am aware of Vol. 3 of Sierra Leone Ordinances from February, 1861, to October, 1867. I know the Ordinance of May 29, 1862, at p. 22 of Vol. 3 of Sierra Leone Ordinances; it is entitled "An Ordinance to Amend the Law." I have read portions of 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 96. I have read sec. 4 of that Act, also sec. 119.—Question: Have you ever read secs. 88, 57, and 56? The Queen's Advocate objects to this, and the two previous questions. Objection allowed.—I may have read the whole Act.—Question: Did you before June, 1867, read the 4th, 88th, 57th, 52nd, 119th, and 56th sections of 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 96? Answer: I don't know that I did so. I can't remember; I may or may not have read them. I thought they were sufficiently set out in the books of Criminal Practice. Before June, 1867, I had read the Colonial Ordinance before referred to, to amend the law. I think it was in May, 1865, I was first appointed Acting Chief Justice, and I acted until March, 1866, when Chief Justice Carr returned; during that time I tried prisoners for the offences they were charged with. I can't say whether I tried prisoners in May, 1865. I tried prisoners in September 1865, as appears by the calendar for September; I tried nine prisoners for larceny. In November, 1865, I tried ten prisoners for larceny; I must have tried many more for larceny at various sessions.—Question: Did you ever try and sentence any prisoners when you were Acting Chief Justice or Assistant Judge of this Court, under the Imperial Act 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 96? Objected to, as involving a point of law, and witness declines to answer it.—Question: Will you state under what law you tried the Samuel Thomas referred to in papers A and B, and sentenced him to twelve months' imprisonment and to be thrice privately whipped? Objected to on the same ground, witness declines answering. Mr. Rainy submitted the witness was bound to answer. The Court said not.—I have been lately in the gaol-yard to search the book. I did not go to search if S. Thomas had been whipped. I went to get a return of sentences passed on certain prisoners.—Question: Are you aware whether there is any law in force in England or this settlement authorising a judge of this Court to sentence a prisoner to be thrice privately whipped and twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour, for stealing one pair trousers, one coat, and one shirt, without a previous conviction being set forth in the information? Objected to by the Queen's Advocate. Objection allowed by the Court.—I don't know if plaintiff was

whipped, nor how many stripes he received.—Question: When you ordered plaintiff to be imprisoned and thrice whipped, did you also order the number of strokes and the instrument with which they were to be inflicted to be specified in the sentence? Objected to by the Queen's Advocate, on the ground that papers A and B speak for themselves. Objection allowed by the Court.—I don't know if there are any other records of the proceeding of the Criminal Court, and in this case, beyond the papers A and B, I don't know if any records are made up of the criminal trials of prisoners. I have been a barrister-at-law of Lincoln's-inn since January, 1838. I was called to the English Bar then. I was appointed Queen's Advocate from May 9, 1863, but I did not arrive here until August 9, 1863. I prosecuted prisoners here in 1863 and 1864; all that were sent up for trial.—Question: During the period you were Queen's Advocate of this settlement, did you ever prosecute prisoners for larceny under the Imperial Act 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 96.—I don't think I am bound to answer this question. The Queen's Advocate objected to the question. Objection allowed by the Court.

Robert Smith sworn: My name is Robert Smith. I am a M.R.C.S. Edinburgh. I live in Gloucester-street, and I am Assistant-Colonial Surgeon of Sierra Leone. I was so in June, 1867. I have seen plaintiff. I saw him whipped in the gaol. I can't recollect the year. I was appointed Assistant-Colonial Surgeon in April, 1866. I don't remember if any more were whipped in 1866; there were some whippings that year, but I don't know the men who got them. I attend all the whippings in the gaol. I examine each prisoner before he is whipped, and I stand by during the whippings. I don't determine the number of lashes to be given. A slip of paper is placed in my hand with the names of the prisoners and the number of lashes for each, signed by the Colonial Secretary. This is for breach of gaol discipline. The sheriff attends when the whipping is ordered by the judge. I attend also when the whippings are ordered by the judge; a paper is placed in my hands by the gaoler; this paper contains the number of strokes, but no instrument is marked in the paper. It was mentioned on the last occasion in the paper. It was the first time I noticed it. This was last week. I never noticed it before. If it had been there before I dare say I may have seen it. I did not see it there. The instrument with which the strokes were to be inflicted was not mentioned in the paper, except in a case of whipping ordered by the magistrate. The plaintiff has been flogged. I can't swear that plaintiff is the very boy that was flogged in my presence. It is difficult to say plaintiff's age. I can't say whether he is sixteen or twenty-three.

John Meheux sworn: My name is John Meheux. I am sheriff of the settlement. I live in Kissy-street. I attend at the gaol when prisoners sentenced by the Supreme Court are flogged. I received a similar calendar to paper A signed by defendant in June, 1867, and I sent it to the gaoler. I have not searched for the calendar. (The sheriff here left to search for the calendar.)

Samuel Thomas, sworn: My name is Samuel Thomas. I am now a prisoner in gaol. I know the defendant. I was tried by him in June, 1867. No one gave evidence against me. I pleaded guilty to stealing a coat, trousers, and shirt. I was sentenced by defendant to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour, and to be thrice privately whipped. I was whipped three times. I had fifty lashes a week after I was sentenced. In about four months I had fifty more lashes. The last day, when I came out, I had another fifty lashes. Before June, 1867, I was never tried in this court; that was the first time I was tried. After I was flogged the third time I vomited blood. After the first flogging I had a pain in my stomach. I was flogged before breakfast. I bled after being flogged. After all three floggings I felt pain all over my skin. I was put to work about three weeks after I was flogged. When I was whipped my back swelled. I was put in the hospital after my first flogging. I was there three weeks from the flogging. The second time I was flogged I was sent to work the same day, by the doctor's orders. I worked. I felt bad.

Cross-examined by the Queen's Advocate: I can't tell how many times I have been in gaol. I only recollect in 1867 and now. I can't tell how many times I was in gaol before I was flogged. I was never in gaol before I was flogged there. The first time I went to gaol was when I was flogged. In 1864 I was sent to gaol by the police magistrate for two months; that was for fighting. I was never in gaol before that nor afterwards, until 1867. I told Mr. Rainy to bring this action against defendant. I can't say when; it was this year. It was 1868. I don't know whether it was before Christmas or since. I don't know when it was. I first went to Mr. Rainy last year, 1868. Because they whipped me, and I felt it, was why I went to him. I went myself; nobody told me to go.

The Sheriff re-called by plaintiff: I have found the calendar paper. C is the calendar. It is signed by the defendant. This

is the authority for flogging the persons mentioned in the paper C,* but I don't know. There is only one Samuel Thomas in paper C. I don't know that the plaintiff is the person who was flogged. I was present when the S. Thomas mentioned in paper C was flogged three times. The number of lashes was at the discretion of the doctor. I suppose if the doctor had ordered them to give plaintiff 100 lashes they would have given them to him. He was flogged with a cat-o'-nine tails; the cat-o'-nine-tails is not specified in the paper C, nor the number of strokes to be received. I was only present to see the prisoners whipped. The doctor regulated the number of strokes.

James Dunstan Macaulay sworn: My name is James Dunstan Macaulay. I know plaintiff. He was tried here in June, 1867. It is the same boy. I recollect the sentence passed upon him. It was twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour, and to be three times privately whipped.

Cross-examined by the Queen's Advocate: I keep a minute of all the sentences. I know plaintiff is the boy. He was tried at the same session as Papa Bugah.

It being five o'clock the Court then adjourned.

(No evidence was given on the part of the defendant.)

JUNE 8, 1869.

(Before His Honour Chief Justice French.)

On this case being mentioned, and no appearance being put in for the defendant,

The Master of the Court stated that the defendant had gone to the Treasury, and requested that he might be sent for if required. The Chief Justice asked Mr. Rainy if he had been communicated with on the other side.

Mr. Rainy replied that he would rather not answer the question, and asked his Honour to go on with the case.

The Chief Justice directed the Master to write a note to Mr. Dougan, the defendant's attorney in this action.

Whilst the Master was writing to the defendant's attorney, Mr. Rainy left the Court, and nothing was done until Mr. Dougan's answer was received, when the Chief Justice sent for Mr. Rainy, and told him that Mr. Dougan could not attend, and he prayed for a postponement of the case until the return to this settlement of the defendant, who was on the eve of going to England, or for judgment in favour of the defendant.

Mr. Rainy replied that he was here to go on with the case, but that the Court could take what course it thought proper.

The Chief Justice said that the learned counsel might proceed with the case.

Mr. Rainy then proceeded to sum up the evidence, remarking that the learned defendant had brought a great scandal on the administration of justice in this settlement, not only by the unlawful sentence passed by him on the plaintiff, but also by the manner in which he had given his evidence. Here was a gentleman holding the sacred and elevated position of a judge of this Court, in answer to a very serious action, refusing to point out the law which justified him to order the poor plaintiff to be thrice whipped, and also declining to answer questions on the ground that he was a judge of this Court. He (Mr. Rainy) could well account for the defendant's absence on this morning, because since he gave his evidence on the 31st of last month he had no doubt reflected on what had occurred and discovered that he was indeed a ruined man, and it would be impossible for him to sit on the bench again after these proceedings were brought under the notice of the proper authorities. So he took a sudden flight, and he (Mr. Rainy) hoped the bench would be for ever relieved from the presence of such a judge. The defendant was either a most ignorant judge or a very cruel one, for causing the plaintiff to be thrice whipped without any law to justify the sentence. If he did it from ignorance he is unfit to preside in this Court; if from cruelty, he was not only unfit for his position, but he (Mr. Rainy) hoped that as the defendant was going to England by the mail, that he may be brought there to the bar of justice for the manner in which he had caused Her Majesty's subject to be illegally whipped by the officers of the gaol, who, as appears by the evidence, were left to decide as to the number of strokes and the instrument with which they were to inflict them on the poor plaintiff. After alluding to the stigma which had been attached to his (the learned counsel's) name in another place, in consequence of the part he had taken, along with his fellow citizens, to procure the removal of the defendant from his office, Mr. Rainy proceeded to say that it was not a pleasant thing for him to attack a judge in whose Court he exercised his profession, and if the plaintiff had been the only prisoner upon whom an unlawful sentence of whipping had been passed, he (Mr. Rainy) would probably have paused before taking any action in the matter. However, when he considered the large number of prisoners upon whom the defendant had passed unlawful sentences of imprisonment and whipping, as the records of the Court would show, and that some of them were still undergoing punishment,

* Paper C is the same as paper A.

he did not for a moment hesitate to act in the manner he had done, although he knew that his conduct might possibly have ruined his professional success for a time. The learned counsel then cited the cases of *Calder v. Halket*, 3 Moore's Privy C. Cases, and of *Houliden v. Smith*, 14 Q. B., and observed that it was clear that a judge of a Court of Record was liable for a judicial act if done without jurisdiction. If this be so, what difference does it make whether the judge be a Supreme Court judge? The case of *Decas v. Lord Brougham*, 6 Carrington and Payne, is almost an authority to show that an action may be maintained against the Lord Chancellor of England for a judicial act if done wholly without jurisdiction. The learned counsel concluded by asking the Chief Justice to give him a verdict, in order to check the great evil which he had brought under the notice of the Court.

At the conclusion of Mr. Rainy's speech, his Honour the Chief Justice said that as he had not had the advantage of hearing the other side, he must look carefully into the authorities before giving his judgment.

Mr. Rainy: There are several prisoners in gaol under unlawful sentences, and I shall be much obliged if your honour would come to a decision in this case as quickly as possible, in order that we may take it on appeal before the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in England if your honour decide against my client. It is of the last importance that the appeal be taken before their lordships rise for the long vacation.

Chief Justice: I will give my decision as soon as possible. The Court was then adjourned.

June 14, 1869. Verified by me, Wm. Rainy.

(A)

The paper marked (A) alluded to in the evidence is the calendar of the prisoners tried in the Supreme Court, Sierra Leone, on the 10th and 11th June, 1867, on which appears the name, Samuel Thomas, larceny; plea, guilty; sentence, twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour and to be thrice privately whipped. It is signed, "Horatio James Huggins, Chief Justice," and properly attested.

(B)

Settlement of Sierra Leone.—To wit: Be it remembered that Thomas Marston, prosecutor for our Sovereign Lady the Queen, who, for our Sovereign Lady the Queen, prosecutes in this behalf in his proper person, comes into the Supreme Court of the settlement of Sierra Leone on Monday, the tenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, and for our said Lady the Queen gives the Court here to understand and be informed that Samuel Thomas, on the fifth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, feloniously did steal, take, and carry away one coat, one pair of trousers, and one shirt of the goods and chattels of Samuel Frazer, against the peace of our Lady the Queen, her crown and dignity; and therefore the said prosecutor, for our said Lady the Queen, prayeth the consideration of the Court here in the premises and that due process of law may be awarded against the said Samuel Thomas in this behalf to make him answer to our Lady the Queen touching and concerning the premises aforesaid.

(Signed)

THOMAS MARSTON,
Crown Prosecutor.

Verified by me, W. Rainy, June 14, 1869.

(C)

In the Supreme Court of the Settlement of Sierra Leone. The twenty-fifth day of September in the year of our Lord, 1868.

Settlement of Sierra Leone.—To wit: Samuel Thomas, by William Rainy his attorney, sues Horatio James Huggins, who has been summoned to answer the said Samuel Thomas by virtue of a writ issued on the seventeenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, out of Her Majesty's Supreme Court of the Settlement of Sierra Leone; for that the defendant assaulted the plaintiff, and caused the plaintiff to be thrice whipped on divers times and days, whereby the back of the plaintiff was lacerated, and the plaintiff became sick; and the plaintiff claims 300l.

On the sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1868: The defendant, by Robert Dougan his attorney, says that he is not guilty.

The seventh day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1868. The plaintiff takes issue upon the defendant's plea.

Therefore let this cause be tried before his Honour the Chief Justice according to the Ordinance in such case made and provided.

(D)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAW.
Whereas it is expedient to extend to the said Colony of Sierra Leone such alterations and amendments of the laws of England as have been made since the first day of January, 1857.

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor and Council as follows:—

I. From and after the first day of August next, Section III of an Ordinance dated the 21st day of February, 1857, and intitled "An Ordinance to Amend the Law," be and the same is hereby repealed.

II. All laws and statutes which were in force within the realm of England on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, not being inconsistent with any royal charter in force in this colony, or with any letter or letters patent, or Order in Council issued, in pursuance thereof, or with any Ordinance in force in this colony, or with any rule made in pursuance of any such Ordinance, shall be deemed and taken to be in force in this colony, and shall be applied in the administration of justice, so far as local circumstances will permit.

III. No Act of Parliament that was not in force in England on the first day of January, 1862, shall be in force or applied in the administration of justice in this colony, unless the Act shall contain words which by legal construction would extend the Act to this colony, or unless the Act shall be extended to this colony by an Ordinance of the Legislature of this colony.

IV. This Ordinance shall commence and take effect on the second day of August, 1862.

STEPHEN JOHN HILL,
Governor.

Passed in the Legislative Council this twenty-ninth day of May, in the year of our Lord 1862.

(Signed)

WILLIAM HILL,
Clerk of the Council.

SUPREME COURT OF SIERRA LEONE, JUNE 19, 1869.

MR. JUSTICE HUGGINS DECLARED NOT TO BE LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ILLEGALITIES AS A JUDGE.

(Before His Honour Chief Justice French.)

THOMAS v. MR. JUSTICE HUGGINS.

His Honour the Chief Justice now gave judgment in this important action, which is fully reported in our last issue, and without expressing any opinion as to the lawfulness of the whipping, held that it was a judicial act, for which the learned defendant could not be sued in this action.

Judgment for the defendant accordingly, with costs.

Immediately after this judgment was pronounced, Mr. Rainy laid before his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief a letter, addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, for transmission to the Colonial-office, enclosing the evidence given in the action, and asking for redress.—*West African Liberator*.

THE DUTCH, ELMINAS, AND FANTRES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, June 8.

Sir,—At the end of May a Dutch man-of-war, the *Amstel*, anchored off Commendah. A boat with two Dutch officers and nine marines was sent off to ply near the shore and make certain observations. A heavy sea suddenly arose and capsized the boat. Five were killed or drowned between the boat and the rocks, the others swam ashore, and were immediately captured by the people of Commendah. Two, it is said, are since dead, or have been killed, and four are alive in the camp of Commendah, where, I understand, great attention is paid to them, the Commendahs believing that they will obtain through them a heavy compensation for their losses, &c. Our Acting Administrator sent, on the 6th inst., Doctor Jones, the Acting or Deputy-Assistant Collector-General, and Lieutenant Warner, his private secretary, also Mr. Davis, a native, to obtain these men from the Commendah people. The road to Commendah camp is so bad now, owing to the rains, that it will take them two or three days to get there. I doubt these men being delivered up so readily, because the Commendahs had already refused to send them to the Acting Administrator by previous messengers whom he sent.

We hear nothing more of the Ashantee movements, but trade between the Assins and Ashantees is brisk. We are indeed glad to hear that Mrs. Moseley is in good health, and has strong hopes of getting out here this year.—Yours faithfully, FANTRE.

REPORTED DESIRE TO SELL THE DUTCH SETTLEMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, June 15.

Sir,—There is an absurd report here that the new Dutch Governor of Elmina, Natglass, has come out with full powers to sell the Dutch settlements to the British for 40,000l., as if such transactions could ever be settled anywhere but at head-quarters. When the exchange of territories and increase of duties took place, I remember you said there would be ample resources for effecting good if they were not dissipated by misgovernment. Alas, that is! The resources have become large, but they are being dissipated in the most foolish manner. I do not know how much Mr. Simpson has spent in rum for the six companies of

the town, or how much in his ill-conducted trip to Aquamoo, where he narrowly escaped with his life, and was only spared through Ashantee contempt or absurdity at Accra (your correspondents there ought to tell you something about this); but when he went up to Mankassim lately, to do no earthly good, he made presents to the chiefs of some 400l. worth of merchandise, for which he managed to get in return some sort of an "address," utterly valueless, and a gold stick worth about 18s. 6d.!

It is not to be wondered at that Mr. Simpson and "Mr. all-offices Jones" are in great disrepute with all the Europeans and respectable natives, though of course they are flattered by the ignorant people among whom they lavish their rum and silks, to the waste of the public revenue. Our only hope is that they will not be eternal fixtures here. You will see by some papers I send you that they could not let Finlason come back here in peace, though it was only to settle his affairs and get away afterward to Sierra Leone, where we are told he is in future to reside. They made him a solitary exception to the rule which allows passengers by the steamers to land in the Government boat, and, when he did so land, trumped up a charge against him of trying to defraud the revenue. They were beaten in the Magistrates' Court, though I can't understand why the magistrates did not give Finlason his costs. You will see whether any of the papers I send are worth publishing in aid of your noble struggle for us against injustice and oppression.—Yours, CAPE COAST.

GOLD COAST MISMANAGEMENT.

From our Special Correspondent.

Accra, June 7, 1869.

Sir,—Nothing has taken place here deserving special notice since my last, but we are now beginning to reap the fruits of what was done two months ago. When Mr. Administrator Simpson returned from Aquamoo in March he notified to Kings Tackee and Oudjoe that he desired to have an interview with them and their brother of Christiansborg. They accordingly summoned all their subordinate captains and headmen and the educated natives to consult with them as to what suggestions they should offer to his Excellency at the approaching interview on the subject of the Aquamboe and Ashantee invasion of the Crepee districts, and it was then resolved that the three kings should on no account have any interview with the Administrator on public matters at which their subordinate chiefs and the educated natives were not present.

This meeting, which I attended, took place on the evening of March 18. It was understood that due notice was to be given by the kings of the day and hour at which they were to meet the Administrator, so that the principal people might be in readiness to accompany them. The following day, the 19th, at 10 a.m., I was informed that the kings and chiefs had gone to Mr. Simpson's hotel. I immediately proceeded thither, not as one of those individuals who have a voice in the public affairs of Accra, as I have, but simply as a reporter to the *African Times*. I went straight to the hall, where I saw the Administrator, Mr. Addo, and the three kings standing at a table. The kings had just attached their marks to a paper which the Administrator held in his hand, and which I believe he had also signed, Mr. Addo's signature being attached as witness. I at once made it my business to place myself in possession of the contents of the document in question, and the circumstances under which it had been signed by the three kings. Having first paid my respects to his Excellency and congratulated him on his escape from the hands of the Aquamboes, and gone through the same ceremony with the kings, who were just taking their leave, I inquired of them what had taken place, and one of them handed me a paper which purported to be a copy of the one they had signed. By this the three kings had bound themselves to despatch a force of 2,000 men immediately to Crepee to act on the defensive against the Aquamboes and Ashantees, and unless first attacked these 2,000 men were not to act without the orders of the Administrator for the time being. There were no signatures to the copy shown me by them, but I saw the three kings signing the original. Of the five individuals present only one, the Administrator, can read or write; even the party witnessing the signatures is unable to read or write. Having obtained this information, I proceeded to the verandah outside, where there were assembled some eighty or a hundred of the principal men of the place, grumbling loudly at the conduct of their kings in leaving them out there in the lurch. Several of the educated natives were also there, but, it being mail day, it is very possible they came on business connected with the steamer, as the captain was in the hotel at the time. They all appeared utterly astonished at what had taken place, especially after the meeting of the evening before. The three kings looked exceedingly ashamed of themselves, and muttered something about having been sent for suddenly and taken by surprise, but they omitted to say anything about the 150l. which the Commandant had

orders to give them out of the public chest. It is now nearly three months since they promised to despatch this force, and as yet not twenty men have left.

I believe I wrote you at the time that the policy which Mr. Simpson was pursuing was a very false and ruinous one. The result has proved that I did not say so unadvisedly. His object ever since he took office appears to have been to separate the chiefs and uneducated natives from the educated. He has mispent several hundred pounds out of the chest, both at Cape Coast and Accra, in furtherance of this insane and suicidal policy, only to find out that he has reckoned without his host. As to his success amongst the Fantees, you will hear from your Cape Coast correspondents; but I can safely say that all his efforts to move the Eastern districts without the aid of the people themselves, and especially of the educated natives, will be in vain. Our chiefs will accept his money and his rum, but they cannot help him without the consent of those whom he affects to despise. He has spent some 500l. amongst them, and now he finds they have done, and can do, nothing. He is constantly inquiring if they have despatched the 2,000 men, and they are at their wits' end what answer to give; meanwhile the Ashantees are gaining ground daily in Crepee. What Mr. Simpson's object is in endeavouring to "put down" the educated natives I can only guess. When one comes to consider that it is the supposed present policy of the Home Government to raise them up, increase their numbers, and render them fit for aiding in the government of their country, it really does cause a certain amount of surprise why its agents out here should, to serve their own unworthy ends, pursue a policy directly opposite.

At present affairs stand thus. The Eastern portion of these districts is threatened by the Ashantees, Aquamboes, and Ahwoonahs. Mr. Simpson comes down here as Administrator, and finds out, almost at the cost of his head, that such is really the case. He calls the kings (kings only in name, for Accra is virtually a republic, the kings being simply the mouthpieces of the people) and gives them so many hundred pounds from the chest, and orders them to despatch a force to protect Crepee. They take the money and promise everything; they proceed to divide the money, and when at length called upon to act up to their promise, they call their people to meet them, and no one obeys, after the experience of the meeting of March 18. The consequence is, matters remain *in statu quo*. The kings have at length found out their mistake; but whether they will go the right way to rectify it I can't say. You must admit that so long as the agents of the British Government out here make it their business to sow dissension amongst the several classes of people the country will never advance.

THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT AT ACCRA.

FERNANDO PO.

ARRIVAL OF THE 250 POLITICAL PRISONERS FROM HAVANNA.

Advices, per the African Royal mail steamer *Mandingo*, Capt. Davies, state the arrival, at Fernando Po, of 250 deportados, or political exiles, from Havanna, in the Spanish Government transport *Borja*. These exiles—mostly men of high position and wealth—complain bitterly of the cruel treatment they experienced whilst on board the *Borja*, especially from the volunteer soldiers who mounted guard over them, and, to quote from the words of the despatch, "their sufferings were such as to cause them to hail with delight their being landed at this island (Fernando Po), in spite of all the horrors which they anticipated from previous description." They also complain of the high prices they had to pay for anything out of the way of their ordinary allowance of coarse provisions, a dollar being charged for a bottle of beer, and other things in proportion. Shortly after they landed the island was placed under martial law, and even people connected with or belonging to the mail steamer were prohibited from visiting or leaving her without a special permit from the governor.

AFRICAN EMIGRATION OR IMMIGRATION.

Under this heading the *Standard* publishes a letter dated "New University Club, July 6," and signed "Henry J. Hood," in which the writer advocates the enlistment in Africa under contract of labourers to work for three, five, or seven years in JAMAICA. The following extract will suffice to show the spirit in which this letter is written: "The negro is an efficient labourer. He is strong and intelligent to a certain degree. He can acquire simple knowledge more quickly than a European. But he is lacking in reflective faculties. The conformation of his skull will convince the metest tyro in phrenology that it is hopeless to attempt to make him self-sufficing in his present condition. If he is to be raised at all it must be by a laborious process. He must be brought into contact with civilised races, and must not only imbibe their feelings, but must also receive an infusion of the blood. This cannot be done by any system of education which shall keep the negroes in their own country." What an exquisite moral training! Faugh!

NOTICES.

POSTPONED TO OUR NEXT.

Letter, Cameroons. Proceedings, The Crown at the suit of Thos. Jones v. Finlason.

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5s., STAMPED.

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The African Times.

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1869.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NOTICE ENTERED JULY 7.

On going into Committee of Supply on Friday, July 23. Mr. Henry B. Sheridan.—To call attention to the case of Samuel Thomas v. Horatio James Huggins, Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court at Sierra Leone, a report of which appears in the *African Times*, June 23, 1869.

On going into Committee of Supply on Friday, July 23. Mr. Charles Buxton.—To call attention to the cruel treatment of prisoners in the gaols of the British West African settlements.

FEMALE SCHOOL AT CAPE COAST.

We have thought that we cannot better commence the ninth year of our advocacy in this journal of African interests, and our efforts for African advancement, than by bringing again before our readers the question of that African Female Christian and Industrial School which God hath put it into the heart of that most worthy Christian lady, Mrs. Moseley, to establish, and by an entire self-devotion personally to conduct at Cape Coast. We rejoice to think that we have reason to hope that this desire of our heart, the establishment of that school, will during the present year become an accomplished fact. If we have been silent for some time past respecting this great object, which we have had so much delight in endeavouring to promote, and to which we have always gratuitously given our columns and our advocacy, it has not been because our ardour has diminished, but because the noble project had arrived, through the blessing of God upon the unceasing labours of Mrs. Moseley, at that stage when public advocacy had to give place to more private exertion. The subscriptions received and promised had reached an amount which, with the anticipated and promised labour assistance of the chiefs and people of Cape Coast, would, it is calculated, suffice for the erection of the buildings absolutely necessary to be provided before any pupils could be received, and the labour of Christian and industrial tuition commence. But in a work of this nature, intended not to be ephemeral, but to be permanent, there is something more to be done than the mere raising of the funds for the necessary buildings and installation. There must be some provision for carrying on the work. Whence was this to be derived? Endowment there is none; subscriptions to be annually raised would be a most precarious and uncertain resource; and the only dependable one, at least in the infancy of the institution, and, we may add, the natural and proper one, is the public chest of the colony. If there be one duty more imperative than others on the Imperial Government, after providing for the maintenance of security and order, it is surely, in such a settlement as Cape Coast, that of promoting the Christian and industrial education of the young people; and whatever difficulties might in the first instance oppose the obtaining of a fixed and adequate annual grant from the Government, we felt certain that the might and power of TRUTH would sooner or later prevail, especially since the increase of revenues by the augmentation of duties had removed all ground of valid excuse on the score of inadequate public resources. Before that augmentation, Colonel Conran, as administrator at Cape Coast, acknowledged the great need of such an effort as that of Mrs. Moseley at Cape Coast if any advance of the people in civilisation was deemed to be desirable, and stated that he would give personal assistance and recommend an annual

grant. Colonel Conran's death put an end to all dependence on the aid he had promised. Mr. Ussher replied to an application made to him in similar terms. But the anxious friends of the cause and of Mrs. Moseley in England did not think it advisable that she should proceed to Cape Coast upon the faith of promises which might fail of being realised at the critical moment through the death, or removal, or personal change of feeling of an Administrator. The assistance to be given by the Government must not entail any dependence that would impair the efficiency or militate against the success of the work; and must not be rendered precarious by a new Administrator having power to annul or suspend a grant in its aid made by a predecessor in office. The importance which the present estimable Governor-in-Chief, Sir Arthur Kennedy, was known to attach to education as a civilising power in Africa, encouraged hopes that when thoroughly convinced that the noble project was not the mere offspring of some transient enthusiasm, but the fixed and settled resolve of a heart full of faith and trust in God, and of conviction that this was a work he had specially appointed to be done, he would not fail to give it his official support. Mrs. Moseley and the friends of the great cause she has so nearly at heart have not been idle. Not only have proper applications been made by them to Sir Arthur Kennedy and adequate explanation given, but the noble Secretary of State for the Colonies has also been petitioned to give the desired Government aid. Earl Granville has, we believe, referred the matter to Sir Arthur Kennedy as Governor-in-Chief. We cannot allow ourselves to doubt for a moment what the reply of such a man as Sir Arthur will be, and therefore it is that we have felt justified in stating that we have reason to hope that this desire of our heart, the establishment of the projected Cape Coast Female School, will soon become an accomplished fact. It surely cannot be any longer doubtful. The necessity of Government aid to education at Cape Coast cannot be denied, and has, indeed, been universally admitted; the duty of the Government to give that aid so far as the revenues of the settlement would allow has been fully recognised by successive Administrators; those revenues are now such as will admit of the Secretary of State for the Colonies charging them with a moderate annual sum for the desired object during Her Majesty's pleasure. If the Government neglected such an opportunity as is now afforded by the self-devotion of a lady so every way unexceptionable—so every way qualified—so extraordinarily gifted for this work as the widow of the late Chief Justice Moseley, who has by the most untiring exertions obtained from private benevolence the amount necessary for the preliminary buildings and installation, it might within a short time have the whole work to do at, perhaps, a great expense and with far, far inferior agents; and we do therefore feel that Cape Coast is on the eve of receiving the great benefits which the loving friend of its inhabitants, Mrs. Moseley, has designed for it. We pray God that it may be so; that the names of Earl Granville and Sir Arthur Kennedy may be permanently associated with the noble and hopeful work; that the blessing of God may be upon it; and that Mrs. Moseley's life may be spared for many years to behold the civilising influence which a number of educated young women cannot fail to exercise in the community of which they will form so important a part. It is too often, alas, our duty to blame the action or inaction of the Executive; and our joy will be greater when we are enabled to record that the hopes we have cherished and expressed are realised.

DEATH BY SHOT-DRILL IN BATHURST GAOL.

THERE has been nothing whatever in subsequent advices from the River Gambia to affect in the slightest degree the judgment we expressed last month as to the death of Joseph Gordon by shot-drill and treadmill in Bathurst Gaol. There can be no doubt that all the depositions, printed by us last month, and on which our judgment was based, reveal the exact truth; there was no medical examination to certify the fitness of any prisoner to undergo the severe extra labour imposed by Admiral Patey, either by his sole will, or under strict orders, as he alleged, from the Duke of Buckingham; there was a diet alto-

gether inadequate for prisoners performing the additional labour thus arbitrarily imposed, even had there been medical certificate of fitness to perform it; it was exacted even of prisoners confined for a few days for simple larceny or assault, at periods of the day and under circumstances which could scarcely fail to make it, sooner or later, fatal to the major portion of the natives subjected to it, three-fourths of whom, on the average, are said to be ruptured, and all deficient in that vital endurance which enables Europeans, whom medical officers certify as being free from any incapacitating disease, to perform it. It may be that death so caused by the application of additional labour of the most exhausting kind, without any precautions for safety, and with a seemingly fiendish calculation of making them trebly effective by subjecting the poor wretches to them at hours when their physical powers were at their lowest ebb, through long fasting and previous toil, may be only manslaughter in the eye of the law; but, morally, it is cold, un pitying murder, which ought to bring down severe retribution on the perpetrator. We are therefore very glad to see that Mr. Chas. Buxton has given notice that he will call attention to the cruel treatment of prisoners in the West Coast prisons, with the view of putting an end to atrocities which so deeply disgrace the British name.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY LASHES WITH THE CAT-O'-NINE TAILS FOR STEALING A COAT, SHIRT, AND TROUSERS.

WE feel that a simple, honest-minded British reader would have difficulty in believing that there could be any truth in the heading we have placed to this article. "What! 150 lashes with the cat-o'-nine tails, in addition to twelve months' hard labour, for stealing a coat, shirt, and trousers, by a civilian?" and this under sentence from a British judge in a British court of justice! Impossible; why the worst enormities of martial law could not exceed this! But it is true; a plain, simple statement of fact, without exaggeration or falsehood in any shape. The "Impossible!" of our readers would be quite true as regards culprit, crime, court, and punishment within the four seas of Britain. In a British Crown colony, however, though nominally under British law, administered by judges appointed by a British Secretary of State for the Colonies, the impossible, as regards any enormity of punishment is simply the utterance of a happy, but, we contend, criminal ignorance; criminal, because it is the duty of Englishmen to know how the colonial possessions of this country are ruled. Impossible! Why it was only by a great effort that we saved the life of Finlason last year at Accra, by obtaining his liberation from a most tyrannical and murderous imprisonment, under an illegal sentence of Mr. Parker, then Chief Magistrate of the Gold Coast, applied with exceptional and flagitious barbarity by Mr. Ussher, then Administrator there, and his ready official tools and accomplices, Elliott, Skues, and others. Impossible! Why we cannot regard the then chief authority at Accra, Dr. Skues—at the same time, by virtue of his office, committing magistrate, gaol governor, and gaol medical attendant—as guilty of any lesser crime than that of manslaughter in the case of poor Charles Williams, the English mate of an English ship, who perished in the fetid prisons of Accra, also last year? Impossible! Why, have our readers not perused the evidence published by us last month and our editorial comments relative to the death of Joseph Gordon by shot-drill and treadmill in Bathurst Gaol? Impossible! when all these and too many other similar enormities can be committed with impunity, and more than impunity, by officers to whose hands the British Colonial-office entrusts the lives and properties of British subjects in Crown Colonies, by whom a Mr. Turner, at Lagos, and a Mr. Lovell, at Cape Coast, both Englishmen, may be illegally and filthily incarcerated, as exposed in our April and May numbers, without the smallest hope of redress? Impossible, when the Mr. Parker who thus illegally sentenced Finlason, and who made a lap-dog give personal security to keep the peace for twelve months with his turkeys, by having his paw dipped

in the ink and applied to the document, is, instead of being dismissed, promoted to be Chief Justice of St. Helena—when Dr. Skues was immediately whitewashed by the Colonial-office—when Mr. Ussher and his myrmidons are still known to be expecting other employments under the Crown, and the arbitrary oppression of Mr. Turner and Mr. Lovell are not known to have been in any way called to account for their arbitrary illegalities toward those gentlemen, much less subjected to censure or reproof? Impossible! No; let our readers once for all know and comprehend that there is no amount of arbitrary illegality impossible under the present system in the Crown colonies, of this country, or at least in those of the West Coast of Africa, which come more especially under our own observation. We implore our readers to make themselves fully acquainted with this *Sierra Leone whipping case*. Thomas, the man who was thus whipped, has brought his action for damages against Judge Huggins for these 150 lashes of a cat-o'-nine-tails, illegally inflicted on him under a sentence by Huggins. Let them first read the opening speech of counsel, reported in our last, and then pass at once to the examination of the defendant, the judge, who was examined by the prosecution as a witness against himself; of the surgeon, the sheriff, the gaoler, and of the plaintiff himself. Judge Huggins admits that the plaintiff is the same person whose name appeared in the calendar, and whom he sentenced to be thrice privately whipped without specifying the number of strokes he was to receive or the instrument with which they were to be inflicted, and he did not attempt to justify that sentence in reply to questions put to him. The doctor saw the plaintiff whipped three several times under that sentence, fifty lashes of the cat each time. The plaintiff details the cruel punishment he received, and its effects. "I had fifty lashes a week after I was sentenced; in about four months fifty more; the day I came out fifty more." In his first flogging he bled—his back swelled—he was obliged to be kept three weeks in hospital before he could be put to work. "The second time I was flogged I was sent to work the same day by the doctor's orders. I worked. I felt bad." "After I was flogged the third time I vomited blood." The Sheriff produced the Calendar. He was present at the floggings. "The number of lashes was at the discretion of the doctor. I suppose if he had ordered them to give the plaintiff 100 lashes they would have given them to him"!!! The plaintiff deposed that he had pleaded guilty to stealing a coat, trousers, and shirt. No one gave evidence against him; it was for this he was sentenced, and then whipped and imprisoned for twelve months with hard labour. The plaintiff asks 300*l.* damages; we wish he had asked 3,000*l.* This evidence was given May 31. The further hearing of the case was postponed by the judge (the colony was robbed of the protection of juries in civil causes two years and more ago, partly at the instigation of this same Judge Huggins) to the 8th June. When the Court met on the 8th June, Mr. Huggins did not appear, nor his advocate, nor his attorney on his behalf. He had simply requested that he might be sent for if required. The plaintiff's advocate asked that the case might be proceeded with. The course of justice was stopped by Mr. Chief Justice French until Mr. Huggins and his attorney could be communicated with. The attorney sent word he could not attend, and asked that the case might be postponed until Mr. Huggins should return from England, as he was on the eve of going there on leave, or that judgment should be given for the defendant Huggins. The plaintiff's counsel said he was ready to go on if the Court thought proper, and being instructed to do so summed up the evidence. We must again refer our readers to our report, (page 2), confining ourselves here to the notice of a few points. We quite agree with the learned counsel, and we think our readers will do the same, that "the learned defendant had brought a great scandal on the administration of justice by his sentences and his evidence." Here was a gentleman holding the sacred and elevated position of a judge of this court, in answer to a very serious action, refusing to point out the law which justified him in ordering the poor plaintiff to be thrice whipped, and also declining to answer questions, on the

ground that "he was a judge of this court." That the defendant was "either a most ignorant judge or a very cruel one—if the former he ought to be dismissed; if the latter, he ought to be brought to the bar of justice in England!" Dismissal! bar of justice! Yes, if, as we hold, there is no statute or ordinance by which Mr. Justice Huggins can justify himself as regards such sentences, one or both of these is his just due. And, be it remembered, this case of Samuel Thomas does not stand alone; there are sixteen or seventeen other unfortunate wretches, upon whom similar illegal sentences of the capricious and indefinite amount of this cruel punishment by whipping have been passed by Mr. Justice Huggins. The learned counsel for the plaintiff Thomas alluded forcibly to this in his summing up, and in his subsequent appeal to Mr. Chief Justice French to give his decision in this case as quickly as possible, in order that if given by Mr. Justice French in favour of Mr. Justice Huggins, the case may be taken before the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in England." Alluding to the extreme unpleasantness of having thus to attack a judge in whose court he exercised his profession, he said he had been influenced to do so by the large number of prisoners upon whom the defendant had passed unlawful sentences of imprisonment and whipping, as the records of the court would show; and that some of them were still undergoing the punishment. The case is indeed urgent—it has long been so—and we hope, before this goes to press, to hear that Mr. Justice French has given his decision, which he postponed on the ground that he had not had the advantage of hearing the other side, and must look carefully into the authorities (as to whether an action will lie against a judge in such a case) before giving his judgment. Considering that there were so many other unfortunate wretches, some of them still undergoing punishment under similar sentences, we do not think Mr. Chief Justice French had, in what he then stated, sufficient grounds for delaying his decision. If Mr. Justice Huggins had not been heard it was his own fault; and Mr. Justice French must, we should think, have been pretty well satisfied that the Court was competent when he declined, at the request of the defendant's counsel, to dismiss the cause at the outset, on the ground of want of jurisdiction. The cries and sufferings of many victims appeal for justice—and we believe that such an appeal cannot be disregarded by a British House of Commons.

CHOLERA AT THE GAMBIA.

We are happy to state that, according to our latest advices, the terrible epidemic, Asiatic cholera, which had committed such fearful ravages at Bathurst and through all the Gambia districts, seemed to have passed away. The death of 1,600 persons in Bathurst between May 3 and June 3, out of a population of less than 6,000, sufficiently proves its intensity. It is most satisfactory to learn that the Colonial Surgeon and other medical officers did their duty nobly; but the general voice is still strong in condemnation of Admiral Patey, the Administrator, for his alleged neglect of proper measures to prevent the invasion of this fell disease, and to mitigate its severity among the terrified natives.

MR. JUSTICE HUGGINS—THE SIERRA LEONE WHIPPINGS AND THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

We offer no excuse for bringing this question again before our readers, to the temporary postponement of other important matters. It is time that it should be authoritatively settled whether judges, magistrates, and administrators on the West Coast of Africa in the Crown colonies, are to act according to their will and pleasure, or to be assured that they are acting under the restraints and subject to the penalties of British law. Mr. H. B. Sheridan, the hon. member for Dudley, has given notice that he will bring the recent trial at Sierra Leone, *Thomas v. Huggins*, for damages for illegal whippings, before the House of Commons on the 23rd inst. In the name of the people of all classes, officials excepted, on the West Coast, we

give him our sincere thanks. This notice of Mr. Sheridan opens a large question, and we hope it will be fully gone into. Our readers are familiar with it; we have been demanding justice for more than two years; but on so important an occasion we think it right to bring all the facts once more before them. While Mr. Chief Justice Carr was in England settling his retiring pension, Mr. H. J. Huggins, then the notoriously inefficient Queen's Advocate of the Colony, was made Acting Chief Justice *pro tem*. Governor Blackall was then carrying on the intrigue, in conjunction with Mr. Carr and Mr. Huggins, which eventually deprived the West Coast of the rights of trial by jury in civil causes. When the Colonial-office published in their Blue-book all that they chose to publish on these matters, it appeared that Mr. Acting Chief Justice Huggins did not hesitate to state it as his opinion that it would be advisable to deprive the people of the right of trial by jury in criminal cases also; leaving them, therefore, in these, as in civil causes, entirely at the mercy of the judge. This flagitious attempt on Mr. Huggins' part to deprive the people altogether of the great safeguard, trial by jury, placed us from that moment in direct antagonism with him. We should have failed in our duty to Africa and to our own conscience, if it had not done so. We expressed our feelings and opinions freely, as is our wont, and had then soon submitted to us the first list of alleged illegal sentences passed by Mr. Huggins, which we printed in our number of July 1867. We had these duly examined by competent authority, and they were all declared to be most grossly and cruelly illegal. In his rewards to his official co-conspirators against the liberties of the people, Governor Blackall had, under the new arrangements for the administration of justice on the West Coast, nominated Mr. Huggins to be Chief Justice, and Mr. Algernon Montagu, of Sierra Leone (formerly of Tasmania, but dismissed there), to be Assistant Judge. It was sought to have these nominations confirmed by the Colonial-office. It would have been a monstrous thing that Mr. Huggins, so ignorant as a lawyer, and who passed such illegal sentences and Mr. Montagu, against whom there were very serious allegations, should have been made thus supreme over the law and justice of the whole West Coast. We therefore strongly opposed the confirmation—we urged the impossibility of the Colonial-office making Mr. Huggins a judge, while those sentences were on record; the Court of Sierra Leone being also made a Court of Appeal for the whole Coast, we contended for a sufficient bench of learned and upright English judges. The nomination of Mr. Montagu was, happily, not confirmed—but Mr. Huggins was made Assistant-Judge, with Mr. French, of Lincoln's-inn, as Chief Justice. We contended, and we contend still, that with those judgments on record, and with petitions from *Sierra Leone* against his appointments, the Duke of Buckingham acted most unjustifiably in thus appointing Mr. Huggins, who was gazetted March 30, 1868. We said at the time, and we say so still, that "a more wanton and abominable outrage on a people by a Government is rare;" that it was a shameful abuse of the powers of government, to the injury and danger of a whole people. These people had no other resource but to continue to petition the Colonial-office for inquiry into these sentences and other allegations against Mr. Huggins, and for his removal. They continued to petition, and we continued our labours. In June, 1868, we published a second list of illegal sentences, in which the name of this very SAMUEL THOMAS appears; and in July the ages of all the prisoners in the two lists, showing that all were above the age of sixteen when condemned; and that there had never been any statute or ordinance in force in Sierra Leone authorising such whippings, whether the criminals were under or above the age of sixteen. Our next number, August, 1868, contained a copy of a most important petition to the Secretary of State from a large and influential number of the people of Sierra Leone, in which the Colonial-office reply to the two former petitions, is answered by showing that Mr. Huggins had "misled and deceived the Duke of Buckingham," that it was "false that the sentences complained of were in accordance with sentences regularly imposed," &c., and finally

setting forth, one by one, the said sentences, showing the extent and amount of illegality in the case of each separate one in this list of sixteen wretched victims of Mr. Huggins' ignorance or cruelty. Mr. Rainy, a barrister practising at Sierra Leone, had brought another serious charge against Mr. Huggins. Mr. Adderley, then Under-Colonial Secretary, said boldly in the House of Commons, in reply to Mr. Sheridan, that "the communications from Mr. Rainy and the matters set forth in petitions from Sierra Leone had been inquired into, and found not to be facts," and our number for October, 1868, contained a demand by Mr. Rainy on the Secretary of State for the Colonies of an impartial inquiry at Sierra Leone, that he might have an opportunity of establishing the facts, as no inquiries had been made by the Colonial-office except of Mr. Huggins himself; but this was never granted. In December, 1868, we published the fourth petition from the inhabitants of Sierra Leone; and in our last number—viz., June, 1869—a fifth important petition, this being to Earl Granville, in reply to his despatch of February 26, 1869, showing the errors contained in the Earl's reply, the justice contained in their demand, and reiterating their desire that Mr. Huggins should be removed; and in the said number for June, and now in this for July, 1869, we have given in *extenso* the hearing of the cause *Thomas v. Huggins*, the details of which constitute the ground for Mr. Sheridan's renewed notice in the House of Commons of these shameful, illegal, and barbarous whipping judgments, which cover a British tribunal with disgrace, and have no doubt exercised a most unhappy influence over other British officials, who fancy they perceive, in this continued support of Mr. Huggins by the Colonial-office, as in the promotion of Mr. Parker, of Cape Coast notoriety, a determination, on the part of the authorities in Downing-street, to uphold all their nominations of officials, however obnoxious these may be, and justify these in all their proceedings, however illegal and oppressive, odious, tyrannical, barbarous, and unjust. We admit that these are strong words, but they are fully justified by facts. Let our readers look at the instances we have briefly alluded to in our leader headed "150 Lashes with a Cat-o-nine-tails" for a few items; and, as regards these sentences by Mr. Huggins, let them bear in mind that, by the detailed *resumé* of the sentences on the sixteen convicted persons, as given in the petition contained in our number of July, 1868, the EXCESS of punishment beyond what is authorised by Act of Parliament constitutes a total of

21 YEARS OF PENAL SERVITUDE,

6 YEARS OF HARD LABOUR,

44 WHIPPINGS, OR 2,200 LASHES WITH A CAT-O-NINE TAILS,

and that this is a *minimum excess*, because it appears a cat-o-nine-tails is used in default of any instrument for whipping being specified; because fifty lashes in each of the forty-four whippings seems to have been the regular number given in default of any number being specified in the sentence; and because, according to the sheriff's evidence in the present number, 100 lashes each time would be given if the doctor so pleased. We need not add another word in support of Mr. Sheridan's action in the House of Commons; if an excess in sixteen sentences of

21 YEARS OF PENAL SERVITUDE,

6 YEARS' HARD LABOUR,

AND 2,200 LASHES WITH A CAT-O-NINE TAILS,

is not considered worthy of notice by the House of Commons, and is not sufficient to disqualify a judge, the sooner the British people leave off to prate about their love of justice and humanity, and the sweetness of the attribute of mercy, the better. But we look to the House of Commons with confidence to place a limit on the criminal patronage and criminal toleration of Government officials in Crown colonies by the authorities in Downing-street, who, we are convinced would in all cases do justice, if an obstinate official prejudice did not close their eyes and minds to a clear view and appreciation of facts, such as those it has been our painful duty to bring prominently forward.

JUDGMENT IN THE ACTION THOMAS v. MR. JUSTICE HUGGINS.

SHORTLY before going to press we have received intelligence of the judgment pronounced by his Honour Chief Justice French, in the Supreme Court of Sierra Leone, in the important case of *Thomas v. Mr. Justice Huggins*, in which, as stated in other portions of this journal, *Thomas* sued Mr. Justice Huggins for 300*l.* damages for sundry barbarous whippings that had been inflicted on his person under an alleged illegal sentence of Mr. Huggins. This judgment was delivered on the 19th June last, when we are informed that—

"His Honour the Chief Justice, without expressing any opinion as to the lawfulness or unlawfulness of the whipping, HELD THAT IT WAS A JUDICIAL ACT, for which the learned defendant could not be sued in this action. Action dismissed with costs."

To us this appears to be most unsatisfactory. When his Honour refused the application of the Queen's Advocate on behalf of Mr. Justice Huggins to stop the action on the ground "that it appeared in the opening statement of the counsel for the plaintiff that the defendant had been sued in this action for an act done by him in his judicial character" (see *African Times*, p. 138), we, in our legal ignorance, conceived that his Honour had decided that the defendant could be sued. If not, why hear the cause at all? We rejoice, however, that it was heard, as we have now the sworn evidence to appeal to in this one of many cases of what, in the absence of any justification by the defendant, we continue to denounce as a grossly illegal and infamous excess of punishment, ordered by him in his capacity as judge. The decision of Mr. Chief Justice French involves very serious consideration, especially for British subjects and others in British Crown colonies. The appointment of judges in these colonies by the Colonial-office, differs essentially from that of judges in England where persons are selected whose public career marks them out by public opinion, as well as by the decision of the Government, for the sacred and highly responsible office. No such verdict of public opinion acts with the Government in the selection of judges for the Crown colonies; and especially for such very despised ones as those of the West Coast of Africa; Settlements to which more than one Colonial Secretary of State has admitted that, as a general rule, only comparatively official refuse is despatched for any class of official service. We do not for a moment question the earnest desire of every Secretary of State for the Colonies to appoint good men as judges, &c., to the West African Settlements; we only say that, as a rule, they lamentably fail in fulfilling those desires; and it is indeed a serious consideration for all who live in these settlements, that every ignorant or tyrannical judge, administering so-called justice among them, is *virtually, if not absolutely, irresponsible* for any judicial enormity he may commit touching the lives and liberties of Her Majesty's subjects, and foreign merchants and agents residing in places subject to his jurisdiction. No one can therefore, we think, deem it unnecessary that the subject should be brought under the notice of the House of Commons. If the decision of Mr. Chief Justice French be a correct and proper one, and if the authorities of the Colonial-office uphold Mr. Justice Huggins in the illegal barbarities that he has judicially committed, there will be no limit to the tyranny and oppression of executive and judicial officers on the West Coast. Mr. Chief Justice French, in deciding that Mr. Justice Huggins cannot be made amenable to law for the infliction of 150 illegal lashes of the formidable cat-o-nine tails on the plaintiff *Thomas*, has *virtually* absolved Mr. Justice Huggins as regards the other 2,050 lashes and the twenty-one years excess of penal servitude and six years of hard labour inflicted on the other fifteen prisoners, and would have equally absolved him had all these men died under the lash, or as a *proven* result of illegal punishment. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that we await with intense anxiety the result of the appeal by the hon. Member for Dudley, to the House of Commons.

Growler, Commander E. H. Seymour, fitted at Devonport for service on the West Coast of Africa, has received her crew, and will shortly leave for her destination.

THE BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

We have watched with very great interest the performance of the ships of the British and African Steam Navigation Company, which have at last courageously come between the sufferers on the West Coast and the old company, which was not content with monopolising the trade, but made that monopoly most grievously oppressive to all the traders and passengers who were compelled to ship and travel by their vessels. The new Company's ships have now proved themselves most worthy in every way of public patronage; their voyages have been performed under the average time; and all our advices testify to the efforts made by the officers to serve and please those who employ them. The interest that the traders everywhere along the Coast now have, in adequately supporting the new Company's ships, is so clear, evident, and great, that they ought not to need our pointing it out to them; but there is so much at stake for them in their making this new Company's ships a success—in their enabling the new Company to prevail against the efforts which the old Company will make—the temptations it will not fail to offer—and the enduring power it derives from its postal subsidies, and the "fat" it has been accumulating at the public expense—that we must return again and again to our exhortations to all our friends, to take care first that the new Company's ships have at all times full and good cargoes; and having provided for this, if they can fill the others also so much the better. But they must, even at some little personal inconvenience, if necessary, one and all determine that the new line of steamers shall be a fully successful one.

IMPARTIAL ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

SUPREME COURT, JUNE 10, 1869.

Before his Honour Chief Justice French, without a jury—trial by jury is abolished in Sierra Leone.

PRISCILLA LEWIS v. MR. JUSTICE HUGGINS.

On this case being called on for trial, Mr. Rainy said that he appeared for the plaintiff.

No one appeared for the defendant, but after the lapse of a few minutes the defendant appeared in person at the bar, and was about to address the court, when the Chief Justice said that the proper place for the defendant to address the Court from was the bench.

The defendant then ascended the bench, and moved for a postponement of the case, on the ground that both his counsel and attorney were unwell, and he (defendant) was going to England in the course of a few days.

Mr. Rainy: This is an extraordinary application, and I must respectfully protest against it. I have received no notice of this motion, and no affidavit is before the Court to support it.

The Chief Justice: Let the case stand over until to-morrow morning.

JUNE 11.

LEWIS v. MR. JUSTICE HUGGINS.

The Chief Justice having taken his seat on the bench, the defendant soon entered the court and took his seat on the bench also. He was attended by his clerk (a son of the Chief Justice), who brought him some papers.

The learned defendant then rose and moved an affidavit that this trial be postponed, *without costs*, until his return to this settlement. His counsel and attorney were both unwell, and could not attend the trial, and he (defendant) was going to England by the mail.

Chief Justice: How long will you be away?

Defendant: I have obtained three months' leave of absence, and I may get it extended in England.

Mr. Rainy: I have received no notice of this motion, and a copy of the affidavit has not even been furnished to me. Notice of trial was given in this action on March 30 last, for the present sitting, and it seems hard, after my client has gone to the expense of bringing her witnesses here, that we should be met by an application of this nature without any previous notice. I am not surprised at the course the defendant is pursuing—seeing that this action would reveal the fact that when the defendant was Acting Chief Justice he ordered some *convicts* to remove my client's fence and trespass on her ground, which is adjoining the residence of the defendant.

Chief Justice: Will you consent to a postponement upon payment of costs until after the criminal trials in September next?

Mr. Rainy: I cannot give my consent—but if your Honour see fit to postpone the case, I am bound to submit.

Chief Justice: Let the trial be postponed until after the criminal sittings in September next, upon payment of costs.

COTTON MARKET.

The revival reported in our last has been sustained and progressed, prices having advanced. The market at the time of our going to press is more quiet, but well sustained. Prices for African may now be quoted 8d. to 11d.

A CRY FOR GENERAL REDRESS OF WRONGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Lagos, June 3, 1869.

Sir,—I have been a silent observer of the great wrongs, and injustice from time to time wantonly practised upon coloured men by officials, Europeans in authority. I will not mention any particular locality or individual, for in every British settlement in Western Africa these evils exist to a greater or less extent. I believe that the people of Great Britain do love justice and the due administration of it, and it is to be regretted that the local authorities, their representatives in this part of their dominions, have abused, and are shockingly abusing, the trust and responsibility placed in their hands. In your much-esteemed journal coloured men have a noble advocate and friend. I do not think any will dispute or contradict what you publish except those who are enemies of justice and humanity, and we believe you will eventually triumph in your good work. We regret that the Colonial Secretaries in Downing-street seemed always inclined to believe the misrepresentations contained in official despatches sent by our authorities here, rather than our petitions and the representations of the *African Times*. The perversion of justice here is a monstrous evil, and there is, Mr. Editor, that prejudice of colour which every European has against coloured men. We are regarded as inferior, absolutely inferior, from our colour and intellectual capacity; we are even degraded to a level with the brute creation, for some are known to stigmatise us as apes, gorillas, &c. It is more than useless to dwell upon these absurdities. One thing is certain—we are human beings, equal to them as regards the same nature, and that our mental powers, however feeble at present, are capable of being developed and brought to the same perfection as those of our European brethren. This fact is fully borne out by the attainments of not a few coloured men who have had the privilege of sound education. Colour and facial malformations are only the external effects of climate, condition, and circumstances. There is nothing material in them to justify our being degraded and excluded from obtaining justice. We hope that the home authorities will some day, and that soon, do us justice, and give due attention to our just wants. They have been too much misled by the authorities here, and we hope we may not be left any longer at the mercy of those who abuse the powers given to them, ruling, or, rather, tyrannising over us by their own arbitrarily assumed powers.—I am, Mr. Editor,

A COLOURED MAN.

OPENING FOR WORSHIP OF THE FIRST BRICK CHURCH IN LAGOS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Lagos, June 18, 1869.

Sir,—With feelings of joy and gratitude to our heavenly Father, I write to inform you that the first brick church in Lagos, the foundation-stone of which was laid on March 29, 1867, by Governor Glover, has been so far completed that it was opened on Thursday, the 10th instant. The Right Rev. Bishop Crowther, D.D., officiated, assisted by the Revs. J. A. Lamb, L. Nicholson, T. B. Macaulay, W. Morgan, and V. Falkner. The Bishop preached from Isaiah lxvi. 1, 2. The service was solemn and imposing. The Bishop, in his discourse, observed that, comparing the present with the past time in Lagos, when the slave trade was going on, the haters of Christian missions must be told that mission efforts have not been in vain, this church being one of the proofs that success has attended the work. The Rev. Mr. Nicholson preached in the evening, his text being, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." The church has cost, so far, about 2,500*l.*, in addition to which his Excellency the Administrator has given the communion rail, John A. Payne, Esq., Registrar, a harmonium and reading-desk, and H. Robbin, Esq., the pulpit. Both the right rev. prelate and Mr. Nicholson thank all who gave liberally in money and furniture, and may God bless them and grant them a double reward! for "there is that scattereth and yet increaseth." Thanks also to the Executive, who took the lead and helped in various ways, also to the kind friends in England and the ladies' sewing party in Lagos. Their work every Wednesday realised a good sum. The minister, Mr. Lamb, was indefatigable. May the Lord reward him! The church is commodious and beautiful, and we trust there will now be no excuse for those of the Europeans who never attended church hitherto. On the day of opening nearly all attended. The Wesleyan brick chapel, of which the foundation was laid on December 24 last by our Executive, who gave them the slates, is going on favourably and will soon be completed. The members gave the Governor a silver trowel, with suitable inscription, on that memorable occasion of laying the foundation. Another brick church will soon be commenced by the Rev. Mr. Nicholson, of the Church Missionary Society. The members are subscribing every Sunday towards it. Such is

the progress of Lagos. May God bless us, and prosper his work among us!—I remain, your obedient servant,

VERITAS.

ON MR. JUSTICE FRENCH LIVING IN BARRACKS SINCE HIS ARRIVAL AT SIERRA LEONE, IN 1867, AND MESSING WITH THE OFFICERS OF THE WEST INDIA REGIMENTS, AT THE RATE OF A FEW SHILLINGS PER DIEM.

When the impropriety was pointed out of a great and grave functionary of the State, with a salary of 1,800*l.* a-year, living, along with his son (who pockets another 200*l.* of the public moneys for performing the duties of clerk to the Chief Justice) and to Mr. Justice Huggins, in the turmoil which is always more or less attached to barrack life, we deemed that the able editor of the *African Times* acted more justly and kindly towards Mr. French than the *whispering calumniators of his fair fame*. The people of Sierra Leone have never denied the merit of the Chief Justice as the second great functionary of the State, but at the same time there are certain rules of decorum and propriety of outward appearance which not even a Hale or a Mansfield can outrage. In Dr. Johnson's life of the poet Savage he has expressed this thought with singular felicity: "Those who, in the confidence of superior capacities or attainments, disregard the common maxims of life, shall be reminded that nothing will supply the want of prudence; and that negligence and irregularity long continued will make knowledge useless, wit ridiculous, and genius contemptible."

We entirely agree with the great moralist, and although we are far from saying that Mr. French's conduct exhibits at all such a violation of the laws of propriety as unhappy Savage exhibited throughout his sadly chequered existence, still, in his position, we deem him guilty of a very grave error. A Chief Justice, with 1,800*l.* a-year and fees, should live in his library or in the sweet intercourse and refined amenities of private life, and certainly not in the turmoil and babel existence that barrack life invariably presents.

The ex-Chief Justice Carr, although a bad judge (who, on the eve of his retirement upon a pension, deprived the helpless Africans of trial by jury) in private life was without reproach. He lived in one of the handsomest residences in the colony (although his salary was less than that of Mr. French), and by the blameless exactitude of his life disarmed many from assailing his miserable deficiency as a judge. Thus we see how even crass dullness can command respect through the halo cast from a spotless private life. Suppose Mr. Carr had been living up the barracks at the time when an officer (Captain Pearson) of one of the West India Regiments in a fit of jealousy murdered another (a case which he tried himself), we might have had then in the person of Mr. Carr the unseemly combination of both witness and judge at the same time. What occurred once might occur again, nor should we envy Mr. French's position if any violation of law took place in what he has adopted as his home. Moreover, these officers are sometimes parties to actions which the Chief Justice is compelled to try without a jury, and we object to his Honour living in barracks at the sufferance of the commander of the troops. The fact is that the more a chief justice is removed from active life the better; he should live in a serene and cloudless atmosphere of his own, and it was to enable him to do this that Mr. Rainy so eloquently and ably pleaded for an increase in the salary of Mr. French. A chief justice, indeed, should never appear unless to strike awe into the guilty, and inspire confidence and hope into the innocent and blameless.—*The West African Liberator*.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

London, February 10.

Dear Sir,—Among the notices of the Wesleyan Methodist Society for this month, is a communication by the Rev. Mr. Grimmer, now stationed at Lagos, for the above Society. Having only just come from Lagos, I hope that you will give me a small space in your valuable journal for a few remarks.

Mr. Grimmer, in writing to the Home Society, stated his regret at the unsuccessful result in that portion of their station (or mission) at Porto Novo, headed by a Mr. Marshall, native of Badagry. He went on to say that the King of Porto Novo still continues to vent his increasing fury upon any innocent victim whom he may please to suspect, or against any for whom he may have formed a personal dislike; that the way at present seems to be as firmly as ever closed against Mr. Marshall's return; that the British subjects living at Porto Novo continue to have service at our chapel, and the school is still kept open, but the native Christians have all been banished to Badagry or Lagos. Mr. Grimmer has forgotten to mention that Mr. Marshall was expelled from Porto Novo at the same time other missionaries, Mr. Grimmer being one, had to leave Abeokuta.

I should like to ask Mr. Grimmer who it is that has brought

this trouble on the mission and the native Christians of Porto Novo? I believe any careful and sober reader in Lagos would agree with me in saying that, had Mr. Marshall confined himself to Gospel preaching, and not betrayed the sacred calling by meddling with other matters, he might have saved the Christians and himself from the misfortunes and sufferings alluded to by Mr. Grimmer. Mr. Marshall ought to be happy and thank God that the alleged offence for which he was banished was not committed in Dahomey, where his head would have been taken off. Mr. Grimmer's letter shows at once that the King of Porto Novo did not entertain any hostile feelings whatever against any of the British subjects residing in his country, although Mr. Marshall's political act had jeopardised their lives and properties.

Mr. Grimmer would have done well if he had not allowed himself to be guided by prejudice, which leads to dangerous error. He should take nothing upon trust; he should sit down with a determined resolution (as becomes a man of God) to learn impartially both sides, and to be directed by that which his reason approves. Had not some great persons divested themselves of prejudices, we had never been favoured with all those valuable improvements to which he succeeds, achieved by eminent and zealous preachers, both of the Church Missionary and Wesleyan Methodist Societies in various parts of Africa.

No man can be more a friend and advocate of his country than myself; and a patriot will at all times defend the character of his country; but when I find no fault committed by the King of Porto Novo, except such as is inseparably connected with heathenism, I say the religion of Christ is the sure cure for that, and I consider those who stir up wrath are real incendiaries, who want to create dissensions among a kind and good people, who are willing to be taught, and thus to make their benevolent benefactors conceive an antipathy against them.

I am most deeply anxious for the progress of Christianity in all those countries, as it is the only real cure for their many evils, and therefore I so much deplore that any missionary (who, to do good, ought to make himself to be surrounded with love and respect) should by anything he does stir up the heathens' wrath, which burns like fire.—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

NEGRO.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have had several conversations with British subjects residing at Portonovo, who express their regret for the rash communication of Mr. Grimmer in the Wesleyan Notices for February last. You will therefore see that Mr. Marshall, the Wesleyan missionary, is a right down incendiary. Dear Sir, if you love us, and that God's work should continue in Portonovo, write a short and powerful article on the subject. I regret the haste with which Mr. Grimmer has given wider circulation to such unfounded statements, without, in fairness, waiting to hear what the so cruelly wronged King of Portonovo had to say in his own vindication. Thanks to Benjamin Wey, our chief magistrate, or Portonovo would have been destroyed by the wicked designers; but Mr. Wey went himself to Portonovo and reported the exaggerations of Mr. Marshall's statements. Captain Glover, our Administrator, is now, I think, fully aware of the real facts. Mr. Marshall left Portonovo on his own account; to say that he was expelled is the very reverse of truth.

MARRIED.

At Lagos, on Monday, June 7, 1869, Mr. John Benjamin Franklin to Miss Mary McCoskry.

DEATH.

On Saturday, May 8, at his residence, Balogun-street, after a short illness, Thomas Cole, at the supposed age of 114 years, having closed his devotion to an ascription of glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, he expired with a tranquillity of mind that made a most happy impression on all present. The deceased was universally loved by all for his good nature and the good services he rendered to many in Sierra Leone, Abeokuta, and Lagos, as a native doctor. He was a consistent member of the Wesleyan Society for nearly forty years, and also held the office of a leader. His remains were ceremoniously interred in the Lagos Cemetery, and, in token of the affection which he had won, a number of the respectable men did him the honour of dragging the gloomy hearse which bore all that remained of this good old man, followed by a large and mournful procession. Thus died the venerable 'Daddy Cole,' leaving very large families and friends to deplore his loss.

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Any garment can be supplied by sending the following measures: Give, in inches, whole height of person. For a Coat—Round the breast, round the waist, from centre of back to the wrist; for length of sleeve, arm bent. For Waistcoat Round breast and waist. For Trousers—Length outside seam from top to bottom, length inside seam from fork to bottom, round the waist, round the seat.



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PYRETIC SALINE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

H. LAMPLOUGH, 118, 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.