

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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AFRICAN AGENCY

For Transacting Business in England for Native and other Traders on the West Coast of Africa.

IN consequence of wishes expressed from all parts of the West Coast, Mr. FITZGERALD has made arrangements for selling produce consigned to him by ships to London or Liverpool; and purchasing, and shipping goods ordered against the proceeds of consignments or other effective remittances only, from either of the above ports, on a system by which the greatest possible advantage of the markets will be secured to the AFRICAN TRADER, who will not be charged one penny beyond what is actually paid, except only the commission openly debited in account.

All letters and bills of lading, whether the shipments be to or from London or Liverpool, to be addressed

F. FITZGERALD, Esq.,
121, Fleet-street,
London, W.C.

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

SEPTEMBER, 1870.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY,

ALTERATION OF DATES AND INCREASE OF SAILINGS.

Shippers are respectfully informed, that this Company's Steamers, which have hitherto left LIVERPOOL on the 4th of each month, will henceforward leave on the 6th, and also that, in conjunction with the African Steam Ship Company, an additional Line of Steamers will be despatched from LIVERPOOL on the 30th of each month, for ports on the West and South-West Coasts of Africa.

S.S. ROQUELLE will leave GLASGOW on the 30th AUG., and LIVERPOOL on the 6th SEPT. at 4 P.M., for MADEIRA GRAND CANARY, SIERRA LEONE, MONROVIA, CAPE PALMAS, CAPE COAST CASTLE, ACCRA, JELLAH COFFEE, LAGOS, BENIN, BONNY, FERNANDO PO, and OLD CALABAR.

GOODS will be received in GLASGOW up to 6 P.M. on the 29th AUG., and in LIVERPOOL not later than 6 P.M. of the 5th SEPT. Passengers will embark by Steam Tender from the Prince's Landing Stage at 3.30 P.M. on the day of sailing.

Goods for Sierra Leone will be landed there at Ship's expense, but Shipper's risk. All Goods while on board the Company's, hulk at Bonny, to be at Shipper's or Consignee's risk.

Bills of Lading of the Company's Form can be obtained from THOMAS MURRAY and SON, 91, Buchanan-street, Glasgow; and D. MARPLES, 50B, Lord-street, Liverpool. All letters must pass through the Post-office.

Commencing in January, 1871, this Company will despatch Two Steamers Monthly.

For further information apply in London to ALEX. WALKER, 158, Leadenhall-street; in Glasgow to TAYLOR, LAUGHLAND, and Co., 20, Oswald-street; and in Liverpool, to ELDER, DEMPSTER, and Co., 2, Brunswick-street.

WEST COAST STEAMERS.

ARRIVALS.

Royal Mail Steamship Company's Ship Athenian, with the monthly mails, on the 29th July.

British and African Steam Navigation Company's Ship Roquette, on the 18th August.

Royal Mail Steamship Company's Ship Lagos, on the 20th August.

DEPARTURES.

R. M. S. Co.'s Ship Mandingo, with monthly mail 24th July.

B. and A. S. N. Co.'s Ship Loando, on the 30th July.

The B. and A. S. N. Co.'s Ship Bonny, on the 6th August.

Royal Mail Steamship Company's Ship Athenian, on the

14th August, with the bi-monthly mail.

British and African Steam Navigation Company's Ship

Roquette will leave on the 6th September.

THE GAMBIA.

We are glad to learn that Colonel Anton, late Police Magistrate at Sierra Leone, has been appointed Administrator of the Gambia, vice Major Bravo. Colonel Anton was for some time in command of the troops at the Gambia, and was also for some time Acting Administrator. We hope to see all necessary official reforms carried out under Colonel Anton's administration.

PAPER ON THE REPORTED CESSION OF GAMBIA.

By THOS. F. QUIN AND THOS. BROWN.

On the debate on Sir John Hay's motion in the House of Commons for papers July 16, 1870, Mr. Monsell made certain statements which, not being in our opinion correct, we, the undersigned, submit for the information of Members of both Houses of Parliament the following replies:—

MR. MONSELL'S STATEMENTS.

1. The settlement has been in our possession 280 years, and comprised only thirty-nine males and eight females.

2. Mr. Monsell, in quoting a letter of Mr. Brown's, August, 1859, desired to show a discrepancy between the statements therein contained and Mr. Brown's statement of facts as to the population of these settlements.

3. The question of the cession of the Gambia was suggested by the Governor-General, Sir Arthur Kennedy, and his statement of March 13, 1869, was still more specific, that it would be for the interests of the colony to cede the Gambia; that the situation of the settlements rendered it unhealthy for four months in the year.

4. In the Blue Book published in 1866 or 1867 there was a statement that between the years 1867 and 1866 the number of births was about 1,200, and the number of deaths 2,300.

5. Sir Arthur Kennedy went on to say that the revenue depended mainly on the export of gold dust (*sic* in report), meaning probably ground-nuts, which must be precarious and fluctuating.

6. The deficiency of the revenue in 1869 was 3,667*l*. The value of the imports to the Gambia in 1869 was 94,207*l*, and of the exports 91,000*l*, about one-fifth of which came from Great Britain.

7. So far as regarded the feelings of the native population, Sir Arthur Kennedy had made inquiries on the subject, and was of opinion they would not offer any serious opposition to the transfer of the colony to France.

REPLIES.

1. The hon. Member has gone back to the reign of Elizabeth, who, in 1588, granted a patent to some merchants of Exeter to trade there; this was subsequently abolished, and the present settlement was formed on the Island of St. Mary's in 1816, that is, 54 years ago instead of 280. It is clear that Mr. Monsell entirely ignores the existence of the coloured and native population when he says the settlements did not contain more than 39 males and 8 females; even for the white population the last census gives 117 males and 14 females. Numbers, however, should not influence the discussion of the principle involved.

2. The date of the letter is 1869 (not 1859), and if the hon. Member had given the letter in *extenso* no discrepancy would have appeared, because in the letter of 1869 Mr. Brown was describing only the Island of St. Mary's, and the number of its inhabitants; whereas, in the statement of facts quoted by Sir John Hay, the number of inhabitants given comprised those of all the settlements—viz., Bathurst, British Combo, Fort Bullen, Albreda, and McCarthy's Island.

3. What can the opinion of Sir Arthur Kennedy be worth? He never spent ten days in the Gambia, never went up the river beyond Bathurst, knows nothing of the trade and resources of the river, or of the different tribes inhabiting the banks of it. Why should not the opinions be taken of such men as Sir Richard Graves McDonnell (now Governor of Hong Kong), who spent over eight years in the colony, filling respectively the offices of Chief Justice and Governor, thoroughly knew the character of the natives, as well as the resources of the river and the trade thereof; or Sir John Isles Mantell (now one of the Spondiary Magistrates for Manchester), who for twenty-seven years resided in the Gambia, holding the appointments of Queen's Advocate, and subsequently that of Chief Justice; or Brigadier-General O'Connor, who for over six years was Governor of the Gambia, and is now Commander-in-Chief in Jamaica; or of Col. S. J. Hill (now Governor of Newfoundland), who resided for some time at McCarthy's Island and at Bathurst, and subsequently held the appointments of Governor of Cape Coast and of Sierra Leone; or of Daniel Robertson (late Colonial Secretary of the Gambia), who resided there upwards of thirty years, and has now retired on his well-earned pension? These gentlemen have all held high official situations, and, from their long residence and local knowledge, are far better able to give an opinion upon

the question of the proposed cession than an officer having so little personal experience as Sir Arthur Kennedy.

4. The Blue Book for 1867 gives the number of births for Bathurst and McCarthy's Island at 118, and the deaths at 66. No register is kept for British Combo, Barra, or Albreda.

5. Sir Arthur Kennedy is incorrect in so stating. Take the revenue for 1867—the last one published—and it will be seen by the Blue Book at page 15, that the revenue raised was 21,641*l*. 5*s*. 10*d*., of which only 4,783*l*. 6*s*. was on ground-nuts, the balance being from other sources. Of course, ground-nuts, like all cereal crops, are dependent upon the seasons, the harvests being good or bad in all countries in proportion as the weather is favourable or otherwise.

It is notorious to every one connected with the Gambia that 1869 was a very exceptional year, and owing to native wars, famine, cholera, and the early cessation of rain, there was an immense failure of crops. It is not, therefore, fair to form an estimate of the Gambia trade on the result of such an exceptional year. According to the Blue Book for 1867, the total imports to Gambia were 193,420*l*. 10*s*. 8*d*., of which the imports from the United Kingdom amounted to 104,367*l*. 8*s*., whilst from France it was only 37,565*l*. 13*s*. The total exports were 214,382*l*. 7*s*., of which 157,643*l*. 11*s*. 6*d*. went to France, not wholly as the proceeds of French trade, but chiefly of English, because Marseilles is a better market for all oleaginous seeds than England. The money for the English portion came to England for the purchase of goods to be again employed in the trade.

7. The whole of the British population of the settlements on the Gambia, European as well as native, are strongly opposed to the proposed cession, and expressed themselves so to Sir Arthur Kennedy. The aborigines are well known to be against it to a man.

THOMAS BROWN.
THOMAS F. QUIN.

Thatched House Club, St. James's-street,
July 26, 1870.

GAMBIA CESSION.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRANCE SUSPENDED.

On the evening of July 28, the Secretary of State for the Colonies intimated to those who opposed the cession of Gambia to the French, that owing to the war between France and Prussia negotiations relative to such cession would not for the present be proceeded with.

On Tuesday, July 26, to a deputation of the Aborigines Protection Society, Lord Kimberley made a similar statement. Mr. W. Morrison, M.P., said he thought it a very strong measure for a nation to hand over any number, however small, of its subjects without their consent. Mr. R. N. Fowler, M.P., called his lordship's attention to the fact that the population of the Gambia was largely composed of Wesleyans, who naturally objected to become the subjects of a Roman Catholic power. Mr. Edmund Sturge stated that the Anti-Slavery Society had not committed itself to a specific course of action in this matter. Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., stigmatised the traffic in Polynesians as a compound of piracy and slave trading similar to that which we have put down in connection with the Peruvian Government. Lord Kimberley, in a reply of some length, pointed out that as regarded the Gambia, the committee of 1865, which had very much guided the Government in its policy on this subject, distinctly recommended that we should concentrate our possessions in Africa as much as possible in certain spots. There was considerable difficulty in keeping the Mohammedan blacks from attacking and destroying the colony; and one reason for ceding this particular possession to the French was that, as they held the adjoining colony of Senegambia, they would be better able to protect it than ourselves. He thought that they would have an opportunity of taking the opinion of the inhabitants before anything was absolutely done.

ARTICLES FROM OTHER BARBERS ON THE GAMBIA CESSION.

Should the British Government carry out its expressed intention of ceding the Gambia to France, a future GIBSON, when narrating the decline and fall of the British Empire, will not fail to give its due importance in the line of consecutive events to that licentious cession against which we have been striving. Should a copy of the *African Times* have been preserved through the scenes of ruin and fall into his hands, we desire that he shall be able adequately to comprehend the extreme wantonness of this unjustifiable and disgraceful act; which there is not the faintest shade of national necessity to justify, nor the most paltry hope of national benefit to excuse. With this

aim, as well as for the instruction of our readers, we place before them this month other opinions on this Gambia cession as well as our own, and include copies of documents which we have used in the Parliamentary effort which has been made against it.

It is true, then, that the Government has been engaged in a design for the transfer of the British colony of Gambia to the Emperor of the French. So much was confessed last night by Mr. Monsell, whose sole plea was that of the frail lady in the story, "It was only a little one." It would be "interesting," said Mr. Monsell, for the House to learn that there were but thirty-nine European males, and one female, in the colony of Gambia. Some of Mr. Monsell's friends appear to have laughed at this as an excellent joke; but it is one, the point of which the public will fail to discern. Is it, then, an accepted rule with the Colonial office that a small colony has less claim upon the British empire than a large one? What is the minimum number of people sufficient in Mr. Monsell's eyes to make a loyal British settlement entitled to the rights and privileges of Englishmen? We might ask another question, and that is, whether Her Majesty's Government have determined to get rid of all the colonies where the whites are in disproportion to the blacks. If so, why is Gambia to be parted with, and not Barbadoes or Ceylon? Again, does Mr. Monsell mean to tell us that he takes no account of any British citizens but those with a white skin? Is not the negro "a man and a brother"—"our own flesh and blood?" It is surely an extraordinary doctrine to be broached by a Liberal Government, which usually pretends to a special benevolence in regard to the black brother, that a colony is not worth thinking of because the major part of the inhabitants are of a dusky complexion. It is true that the white inhabitants of Gambia muster only some forty altogether; but, even if there were not seven thousand blacks, these forty have, each of them, an indefeasible right to the character of British citizens. The injustice of depriving Gambia of its nationality is no less because the white inhabitants are forty than if they had been forty thousand. And the blacks have quite as much right to be considered in the transaction as the whites. A large portion, if not the whole, of the seven thousand coloured people of Gambia have been born and bred British colonists for many generations. They are to all intents and purposes as much entitled to our countenance and protection as the people of Barbadoes or Jamaica, settlements founded about the same time as Gambia, and principally composed of black people. Mr. Gladstone's assurance that nothing will be done in the matter without the approbation of Parliament is so far satisfactory in that it proves that some effect has been produced on the Ministry by the publicity which this iniquitous little transaction has attracted. But we deny that even Parliament has the right to dispose of the British citizens at Gambia in the manner contemplated. No power on earth can deprive, according to English law, British subjects of the rights and privileges which they inherit in that character. If there were only these forty white residents in Gambia to be considered, and if we threw over the seven thousand negroes altogether, as it is coolly suggested that we should do, each of these forty has as good a claim in law to be a part of the British nation as though he were a dweller in Middlesex and paid taxes to Mr. Lowe. Parliament might indeed make away with the soil of Gambia, but then it would be bound to provide a domicile for each of the forty whites who were dispossessed, and who might object to exchange the Parliamentary rule of Mr. Gladstone for the plebeian system of M. Ollivier. That it should ever be contemplated, in this wholesale and unblushing manner, to give up an ancient British settlement, merely for the sake of rounding off symmetrically the respective possessions of France and England on the Western Coast of Africa, is as monstrous a transaction in colonies as can be conceived—even of the Gladstone Government.—*Standard*.

ASHANTEE OPENING NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE.

Cape Coast, July 20.

His Excellency the Administrator arrived at Cape Coast from his tour of inspection in the Volta territories on the 5th inst., in the Royal mail steamer Athenian. It was agreeable to hear that the Voltas and Doffras, two piratic tribes in the Volta district, had been vanquished in a conflict with the allied forces. His Excellency summoned a council to consider the message of the King of Ashantee, and to send a reply befitting the importance of the movement. The council received with pleasure the goodwill of his Majesty of Ashantee, and begged that he should be informed that we are as anxious as himself for peace; but Mr. Usher particularly told them that the King had no palaver with the British Government, but with the Fantees, and he will never negotiate peace unless on the basis of immediate withdrawal from the Protected Territory on the east (Volta) and

from Elmina of his forces; that he will be ready to place at their command passages in a man-of-war at Elmina to convey those to the Volta, whence they can be escorted into Ashantee lands. The Government on the seacoast is ready to comply with the wishes of the King for an exchange of prisoners, for which purpose Mr. James Davies has been despatched to Assin to recover the King of Ashantee's Fetish gold, which was detained by the Assins, and to collect some of the Ashantee prisoners.

Major Brownell, who has done good services since his appointment as district magistrate, has been ordered up to Cape Coast, and will be entrusted with an important mission to the Praah.

After the delivery of the King's message, two cases of the best Moselle were given to the Ashantee messengers, and they spent a jolly night with their companions.

On the 25th the Ashantee messengers will leave for the Praah with Major Brownell, who has been appointed envoy extraordinary for the British Government in the negotiation now pending between the two Governments.

Ochampon, or Abjempon, the Ashantee chief at Elmina, has received permission from the French Government, through the Dutch, to pass through their territory. He will be taken on board the Dutch man-of-war to Assinee.

There is a talk in official quarters about making grand trunk roads, but nothing definite is as yet arranged.

PATRICIAN.

EDUCATION AT CAPE COAST.

We have been greatly pleased to perceive, by a work of Dr. Africanus J. Horton, S.A.S., that something real is at last to be done by the Government for the education of the people. In a letter of Administrator Usher to Dr. Horton, dated April 21, 1870, the Administrator distinctly states that he will introduce 1,000*l*. into the estimates of 1871 for education, and more if required. We therefore hope to see that not only Mrs. Moseley's admirable school, but efficient Government schools, also, will be adequately and liberally supported.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

ROADS IN THE GOLD COAST TERRITORIES.

Downing-street, July 26, 1870.

Sir,—With reference to your letter of 28th March last, relative to the formation of good roads in the Gold Coast territory, I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to transmit to you an extract of a despatch from the Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements on the subject.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
FREDERIC ROGERS.

F. Fitzgerald, Esq.

Extract of Despatch from Sir A. Kennedy to Earl Granville.
Gold Coast—No. 66.

Sierra Leone, June 22, 1870

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your lordship's despatch (Gold Coast, No. 127, April 6, 1870), transmitting the copy of a letter from Mr. Fitzgerald, Editor of the *African Times*, on the subject of formation of roads in the Gold Coast territory, and requesting my report thereon.

I have made inquiries to aid my own local knowledge, and given the subject generally careful consideration. Mr. Fitzgerald deserves thanks for the attention he has given to this subject, and the clear manner in which he has laid it before your lordship.

The soundness of Mr. Fitzgerald's views on the importance of opening up a new and uncivilised country by means of good roads cannot be disputed; but the first and chief point to consider is whether it be practicable, and, laying aside all other considerations, I shall, till I receive further instructions from your lordship, confine myself to this point.

The first obstacle is that we have no jurisdiction to justify or enable us to carry out a scheme such as proposed, and in the present state of society such a proceeding on our part will be viewed with extreme distrust by natives whose most distinguishing characteristic is suspicion of every innovation, even when it is obviously for their own advantage.

No such roads are, in my opinion, at present necessary. Africans, like North American Indians, always walk "in single file," however open the space may be. The existing "paths" are therefore, sufficient for all present traffic, and will probably be so for many years to come; all they require is to be "kept open" (*i. e.*, free passage for travellers to and fro) without the fear or certainty of being plundered by each succeeding king or chief through whose territory they must pass to communicate with the seaboard.

A road properly so-called could not be formed without much labour, and a mile from our settlements in any direction there is none else than *slave* labour procurable. A free man is always

the owner of slaves according to his means, and never "labours" himself.

Assuming that such roads could be made, one year's growth of tropical "bush" would obliterate and render it impracticable.

I greatly doubt whether the amount of concentrated and continuous labour necessary for such a purpose could be organised or obtained at any cost.

The kings and chiefs are showing a great tendency to resist foreign interference in their affairs; and at present a state of chronic war exists between Dutch Elminas and Ashantees at one side, and the numerous tribes and nations composing the "Fantee Confederacy" on the other.

Till this subsides or dies out no measure of general utility, such as those very clearly pointed out by Mr. Fitzgerald, can be successfully undertaken.

I trust I have said enough to satisfy your lordship that such measures must be deferred.

Mr. Fitzgerald does not exaggerate the resources of this fine country, as evidenced by the great progress made in our settlements on the Gold Coast under the most adverse circumstances.

I have read Mr. Fitzgerald's letter with great pleasure and instruction; he thoroughly understands the subject on which he writes, and I only wish I could see my way to giving effect to his philanthropic suggestions.—I have, &c.,

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

The Right Hon. Earl Granville, K.G., &c.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street, London,
August 6, 1870.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt, on the 2nd inst., of a letter dated Downing-street, July 26, 1870, enclosing, by your lordship's direction, "extracts of a despatch from Sir Arthur Kennedy, dated Sierra Leone, June 22," relative to the contents of my letter to Earl Granville, of 28th March last, urging the promotion of good roads in the Gold Coast territories; and I beg leave to offer my thanks to your lordship for having thus furnished me such extract.

It is always to me a cause of regret when, as on the present occasion, I feel that I cannot agree with the decisions or acts of his Excellency the present Governor-in-Chief of the West Coast Settlements, of whose desires to promote the well-being of those countries and their peoples I am well assured.

If I could admit the validity of the arguments and objections employed by Sir A. Kennedy against the formation of good roads on the Gold Coast, I should be compelled to suppose that there is a Divine decree that the Gold Coast territories are never to be reclaimed from barbarism—a supposition which there is not anything in the physical formation of those countries, or in their actual condition, or that of their people, to warrant or excuse. The objections alleged by Sir Arthur Kennedy against action being immediately taken by the Cape Coast authorities in this important matter of the formation of roads may be stated as political, social, and natural. They are, first: Want of jurisdiction and suspicion of natives; a great tendency shown by kings and chiefs to resist foreign interference; and the Dutch, Ashantee and Fantee troubles. Second: That roads are not necessary, natives walking single file—much labour required—nothing but slave labour a mile from Cape Coast; doubt whether continuous concentrated labour could be procured; Third: That one year's growth of tropical bush would obliterate the road and render it impracticable.

With regard to the "natural" objection, viz., that one year's growth of tropical bush would obliterate the road and render it impracticable, I can only reply by admitting that the said growth would, in the course of a few years, produce such results in the case of a road being made through the bush, and then left uncared for and untended, to be encroached upon and overrun by a luxuriant vegetation left in full power and activity at its very verge; but this is to suppose no increased cultivation or traffic, and a British executive at Cape Coast quite uninfatigable, penniless, and torpid. A road is a civilising effort of man against opposing and deteriorating natural forces. All that would be necessary for a Cape Coast road once constructed, would be a constant regulated supervision, and a gradual clearing of the bush for some distance on each side the road; and I can scarcely imagine anything likely to be more beneficial, both physically and morally, for the Cape Coast Executive than to be released from its enervating imprisonment at Cape Coast, by having a road of ten, twenty, fifty, or a hundred miles, to take exercise upon, to inspect, and to maintain. The formation of a road by a competent authority implies that such road is to be maintained and preserved by a constant war against every deteriorating agency. Dahomy is a tropical country, a barbarous country, not very far from Cape Coast; but all Europeans who have visited Abomey, its capital, have written in praise of the well-kept roads extending for some miles around it. I cannot admit that the British and Fantees combined are inferior

to the Dahomians, or that a good road once constructed cannot be kept open even in a tropical bush country by adequate care and moderate efforts. With regard to the first social objection, that roads are "not necessary, because, whether the path be wide or narrow, the natives always walk in single file," there has no doubt been good reason for the constant adherence to a narrow track becoming a native habit; but Sir Arthur Kennedy's objection supposes the continuance after a road should become a "path" of the very thing that a road would be formed to do away with, viz., the performance of all journeys on foot, and transit and conveyance of all produce and goods by natives, walking, as previously, with loads of from 50 to 60 pounds on their heads. In such a case I have no doubt the natives would make a track on the road, because such a track would be easier to pass over than other portions of the road; but in urging the formation of a road, I stated that its object was to supersede head loads by cart loads or waggon loads, to convey people and produce, and not for people merely to walk over with produce. Then as to the objection that "much labour would be required; that only slave labour is to be found a mile from the coast, and that it is doubtful whether continuous and concentrated labour could be procured," I reply that I have now urged earnestly the formation of the roads, because there is money constantly coming into the local treasury to pay for labour; that as the British Government have always abstained, and have resolved always to abstain from interfering with the slave system of the natives, no advantage in this respect is likely to be obtained by delay; and that the doubt as to procuring adequate concentrated and continuous labour is not valid, because the proposed road can of course only be carried forward at the rate of progress and to the extent for which adequate labour is procurable, any deficiency of labour affecting therefore only the period of time in which a certain extent of road can be constructed. I must be excused for saying that such objections are mere equivalents to what has been urged against progress in all ages, but which all men of action and vigour reject and despise. "There is a lion in the path!" I admit there is a lion—that ignorance, old habits, prejudices, custom, sloth, and many other peculiarities not exclusively African, do constitute a formidable "lion;" but I also maintain that it is the duty of a civilised power to attack and overcome it. This brings me to the political objections "that we have no jurisdiction, that the natives are suspicious, that there is a tendency on the part of kings and chiefs to resist foreign interference, and that there are troubles between the Dutch, the Ashantees, and the Fantees." I never proposed that the road should be pushed through from Cape Coast to Ashantee without native assent and co-operation. I distinctly said "that by regulations dating from the time of Governor Maclean, the kings and chiefs are under obligation to renew and keep open the paths when called upon by the British authorities to do so; and there can be no doubt that by judicious action on the part of the Cape Coast authorities this obligation may be extended, and by means of the Fantee Confederation lately formed he made so important an auxiliary in the construction of the road as to reduce the necessary expenditure thereof to a comparatively very small sum." I repeat this. It is practicable to obtain such co-operation by the kings and chiefs—an earnest and ready co-operation—and I look upon such co-operation by the kings and chiefs of the Fantee Confederation as important in every way. Those troubles with Elmin and Ashantee are not a preventive obstacle. They have led to the formation of that Confederation, which is not an organisation opposed or hostile to the British Government, but one that by enlightened, judicious, and conciliatory efforts on the part of the British Local Executive may be made a powerful instrument for carrying out any plans for the general good of the country. From the moment that Great Britain informed the native kings and chiefs that they must protect themselves and their country, such an organisation became inevitable whenever a period of danger, or supposed danger, should arrive. Nor can they be expected to defer to any foreign views for the pacification of the country that would leave the source of the present troubles untouched. The receipt by the British authorities of the whole revenue from commerce involves the duty of applying as much as possible of that revenue in measures for the benefit of the country and people; there is nothing that would benefit them so much as the proposed roads; there is no other measure that could be named that would afford such facilities for establishing the habit of a really combined action between the Confederation and British authorities under the initiative of the latter.

In conclusion, I most respectfully beg your lordship's permission to observe that I cannot admit the validity of any of the arguments or objections put forward by Sir Arthur Kennedy against the formation and making of roads, as proposed in my letter of the 28th March, or that they can in any way justify the British authorities, who receive the whole public revenue of the Gold Coast, in maintaining that inaction as to the opening of

roads, for the extension of agriculture, trade, and commerce, which is really a disgrace to a civilised power; and, further, to express the hope, that under your lordship's administration, that inaction may cease, and roads, as before suggested, be forthwith commenced, and carried forward as rapidly as the local revenue and the labour to be obtained by co-operation with the kings and chiefs of the Fantee Confederation will permit.—I have the honour to be, my lord, your obedient servant,

F. FITZGERALD,

Editor of the African Times.

The Right Hon. Earl Kimberley.

WAR OPERATIONS ON THE RIVER VOLTA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Before Doffor, River Volta, July 1, 1870.

Sir,—You must not expect much of an epistle from me now. I write this on the ground in a rude, hastily got-up palm-leaf hut, in mud and water, where we have been encamped for fourteen days.

I left Addah on the 18th May, with Governors Glover and Usher, in the Eko steamer, which the former had lent to our Government for two months. We arrived on the following day at Battor, where we found Hesse, Briand, and other friends, with the kings and a few personal attendants. We might have come up in three or four hours, but Administrator Glover had to sound and survey as we came, so we anchored for the night half way up.

On the 28th May Administrator Usher gave a dinner in honour of Her Majesty's birthday; the guests were (besides Administrator Glover, Dr. Jones, and Addo, who were in attendance on Administrator Usher) Kings Tackee, Cudjoe, and Narkoo, and Captain Domprey, Mr. Hesse, and myself. A very capital dinner was served up at 7 p.m. on board the Eko, to which the four chiefs did ample justice. They were exceedingly delighted and gratified with their reception and the attention paid to them. Domprey amused the company with stories of his recent campaigns, and King Cudjoe sang an English song after dinner. From May 18 to June 18 the Eko was going to and fro between Addah and Battor to afford Governor Glover an opportunity of completing his survey. During this time the Accra forces were collecting slowly at Battor. On the 15th and 16th June 3,000 men were crossed over to the opposite bank from the camp in Battor (or Battor), and on the 18th we marched for Doffor, which is an island in the River Volta, about six or eight miles from Battor. The Eko steamed up at the same time. Doffor has been, since the commencement of the Volta trouble, the focus of all the disturbances and the headquarters and stronghold of all the villains on both sides of the Volta, and being in the very centre of the river no canoes could pass except at the will and pleasure of the people holding the island. After five years' writing and talking, we (that is you and I) have at last convinced the Gold Coast Government that force alone could open the Volta, and to effect that Doffor must be taken. It is taken. On the 18th not much was done except firing a few shots and rockets from the Eko, which set fire to a very small portion of one of the towns on the island (for there were several). On the 19th, however, at noon, we embarked 600 men in canoes, and, under cover of the fire from the steamer, stormed the island and had entire possession by three p.m. We had intended to throw 2,000 men on the island, but as the canoes were making their fourth trip our camp on the main land was attacked, and at the same time another attack was made on our force at the place of embarkation. Both attacks failed, and the enemy was driven back at all points; but these two attacks prevented our sending more than 600 men to Doffor, and these 600 did the business effectually. We lost in the attack on the island 5 killed and 23 wounded; and in the two attacks made by the enemy (who had escaped from the island during the night) on our camp, none killed and 29 wounded. My brother Robert and Mr. Hesse were both very severely wounded, the former in the neck, and the latter in the left shoulder. My brother had a very narrow escape. I had just landed on the island when I saw them returning the enemy's fire at the place from which we had just embarked. The enemy's loss, as nearly as can be guessed, was as follows—viz., on the island, killed, drowned themselves, or blew themselves up with powder, 400; prisoners, 650; killed in the two attacks on the camp, 5. On the three following days we completely gutted the place. We go next to a place four hours' march from here, called Fojokoo, where the Doffors who escaped have taken refuge. Domprey was to have headed the attack on the 19th, but at the very last moment he went on board the Eko to confer with the Governor, and the steamer being under weigh and in a hurry to take up its position, this chief had not the chance of taking his usual post; but his men did their duty in his absence.

This blow has had a great effect all round. Amongst the prisoners in our hands are three Ashantees, who on being asked

by us why they did not escape with the others, said that no one had any idea that we could take the place. There was an Ashantee captain with thirty men in the place at the time. This captain, when he found all was lost, tied all his gold round his neck and drowned himself, and most of his men followed his example. Some of the principal people blew themselves up. The Government has done its share. The Eko has been for forty-six days in the Volta in the very worst season (for health) of the year, and Glover, Usher, and Jones have all exposed themselves day and night to the sun and rain, as I can attest, having been myself the whole of one night with them in rain, and next day in the hottest of suns. It now only remains for us to finish the work begun. All the Accras are now with us and we have a good compact force of ten thousand men. We have another thousand men (Christianborgers) in Crepoe. These are all Accras. We have left Aquapims, Akims, and Croboes to watch the frontiers. I must not forget Domprey and his 200 Akims, as they are worth 1,000 of any others. The Governor left the Volta on the 27th in the Eko for Accra.

Both my brothers have gone home, one wounded, as I said before, and the other leaves Addah to-day to attend to pressing matters at home. I shall remain with the army until we have secured the submission of the chiefs who deserted us in 1866, and have otherwise effectually cleared the Volta of enemies. Aquamboe and Ahwoonah will both have their turn, and then the Ashantees in Crepoe. The Government has given us ample supplies of ammunition, and if we do not make a clean sweep now, with the prestige of Doffor to aid us, then we alone will be to blame.—Very truly yours,

E. BANNERMAN.

P.S.—We shall have to drive the Ashantees out of Crepoe before returning home, or else we shall not have finished our work. Aquamboe, however, is the most important matter on hand. Both Administrators told me that our attack on the island was the finest sight they ever witnessed and that it was well done.—E.B.

I thank God that I am as yet sound in mind and body, that is what I always pray for.—E. B.

The following is the report brought by the Lsgos, letters by which have arrived in London, Thursday, the 22nd August, relative to further war proceedings in the Volta countries. We have only time briefly to express our deep regret at the death of the gallant chief Domprey, to whose exertions alone it was owing that the Ashantees, with their allies, had not become entire masters of those countries.

In reference to the war on the Volta, the following are the latest particulars from the Eastern Districts: "The Accramen and their allies (neighbouring tribes), after the late sanguinary battle at the Island of Doffor, in which the Ashantees and other tribes were beaten, at once marched through the enemy's (Aquamboes, Awoonahs, Croboes, Doffores, Miamis, Voltas, &c.), country, driving them before them. The general of the allies (Domprey) was shot through the neck on the morning of the 19th July, the encampment having been surprised."

The Civil Commissioner of Accra, Captain Ross, after the death of Domprey, joined the allies, and by the latest reports the allies had driven the enemy, who numbered about 15,000 strong, from their position, seeking and burning the towns as they proceeded. At Accra strong hopes were entertained that the campaign would be terminated by the end of September, and that trade would then flourish on the banks of the Volta, which will cause the seaport town of Addah, which is situated at its mouth, to become the most influential commercial port on the Gold Coast.

NEW CONVENTION FOR SUPPRESSION OF SLAVE TRADE.

This Convention, which was signed at Washington on the 3rd June, was ratified in London a few days ago. It is an addition to the Treaty between the United States and British Government entered into in 1862. By it the Mixed Courts at Sierra Leone, Cape of Good Hope, and New York are suppressed, and the jurisdiction they exercised is transferred to the respective courts of both countries, a power of appeal against their decision, as in other maritime prize cases, being reserved. Any British merchant vessel captured by an American cruiser is to be taken to the nearest British colonial port, and any American vessel is to be given in charge to a United States cruiser or sent to Key West or New York. The Africans on board are to be set free on British territory. Fresh instructions in conformity with these stipulations have been forwarded to the commanders of the ships of war of both nations.

WITHDRAWAL OF BRITISH TROOPS FROM THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Governor Wodehouse, in his prorogation speech, said that all his sympathies were enlisted in the close connexion of the colonies with England, and the movements now taking place towards the dissolution of these ties were to him most unwelcome.

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The African Times.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1870.

THE GAMBIA REMAINS A BRITISH COLONY.

THE dreaded 15th August is at hand, and Gambia is not to be then transferred to the French. The colonists and natives have time to look about them, and organise their efforts for securing their continued possession of the British flag and rule. Instead of adding another portion of Africa to his dominions on this anniversary of his birth, the Emperor of the French, with his enormous armies, is engaged with the King of Prussia and his equally numerous and efficient ones, in a deadly struggle for military supremacy in Europe. Both are allies of Great Britain. When, therefore, war was finally proclaimed between them, it was at once evident that the negotiations between Great Britain and France for the transfer of the Gambia and its people to the latter must be discontinued for the present. The British Government could not, while two of her allies are at war, increase the dominions of one of them by ceding to it a new territory. The Secretary of State for the Colonies communicated this decision of the British Government to one of the London houses engaged in the Gambia trade on the 23rd July; and Earl Kimberley made a similar statement to a deputation a few days later. Mr. T. F. Quin and Mr. Thomas Brown have struggled nobly against the proposed cession, and to them and to ourself the Gambia people undoubtedly owe that the 15th August passes away and leaves them still under the dominion of the British Crown; because, but for the battle we have fought against the measure, there can be no doubt that the treaty would have been completed before the sanction of Parliament to it was asked; and then the transfer to the French would have been inevitable, as we do not believe that the House of Commons would have turned out the Ministry for the sake of an African river and settlement. The battle we fought prevented the quiet completion of the treaty of cession with the French; the members of the Government, being pressed in the Lords and Commons, found it necessary to pledge their word that there should not be any such completion until Parliament should have approved of the cession. The Government, having to seek this approval, were compelled to modify some of the provisions of the treaty, and while this was being done war was declared between the French and German people, and the treaty was necessarily shelved. May it never emerge from the Downing-street pigeon-hole in which it has been placed, and its red tape be never more disturbed! Our friends at the Gambia are safe for the present, and we know they will rejoice. But this is not all they have to do. They have been helped by a most unforeseen and unexpected event—a great European disaster, a disaster so terrible that while we write we feel our blood chilled within us at the thought of the slaughter, suffering, destruction, and woe that seem to be now inevitable. We rejoice that Gambia has been saved, but we sorrow with all our heart that it should have been saved by such a deplorable and awful event as a great war in Europe. We have no doubt about it, though we are obliged to urge it suppositiously; but if the Gambia people desire that Great Britain shall not give them up and their country to France, they must bestir themselves. The Government is now pledged not to sign any such treaty of cession with France without first submitting that treaty to Parliament for its approval. Parliament, unless called together earlier by Great Britain being about to take part in the war—which may God in His mercy prevent!—will not meet again until about February, 1871. Our friends must avail themselves of this interval of six months to prepare and send over to us their petitions to Parliament against

the cession of their country and themselves to France. There must be a petition to the House of Lords and a petition to the House of Commons. If sent to us prepared in a proper way we will take care that they shall be duly presented. We think, also, there ought to be a petition directed to the Queen, forwarded through the Administrator, of which a copy should be sent to us. It may be that this dreadful war in Europe may be of so long duration, and involve changes so important, as to put an end altogether to the project of cession. But our friends must not rely in any way on this. They must work as if such a contingency were impossible. Governments like those of France and England do not easily abandon a project once formed and almost matured, as that of the cession of Gambia to France has been; therefore we call upon them to petition! petition! petition! and let them bear this in mind—the Under-Secretary of State said in the House of Commons that the signatures to the petition to the Secretary of State from the Gambia seemed to have been all written by one and the same person. Let, therefore, care be taken that the petition to the Queen and to the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled be accompanied with such a statement of the circumstances under which they are signed as shall remove all doubt as to their being the real expression of the sentiments, feelings, and wishes of the Gambia people. So far as we are personally concerned we feel that the transfer of Gambia to the French would be a dire misfortune to its people; and we unhesitatingly express the hope that God will overrule events to the aid of our efforts against it. But we regard it not only as a misfortune for Africa, but as highly prejudicial to Great Britain. We have, therefore, a double motive and interest in opposing it; and our Gambia friends may rely on our unceasing watchfulness and efforts to prevent its accomplishment, while at the same time we expect they will do everything in their power to help us in those efforts to prevent their forcible separation from the dominions of a State which has, under God, been the great instrument for putting an end to that slave trade which for so long a period devastated West Africa.

LATER.

Shortly before going to press we learn that there is reason to believe the Lords of the Admiralty have become convinced of the importance of the River Gambia as a coaling-station for the Royal Navy in time of war—a fact which our readers will have perceived we have constantly and strenuously urged upon the consideration of Her Majesty's Government and the House of Commons. But our Gambia friends must not therefore say "We are secure," and go to sleep about a matter of such vital moment to them as the retention of the Gambia by Great Britain. The petitions we have recommended to be sent to England must be prepared, and no possible effort be left untried to prevent that cession to France which the Colonial and Foreign Secretaries of State had firmly resolved upon, and would have accomplished but for the resistance made to it by ourselves and other friends of Africa, and the war between Germany and France, which is now costing the lives of so many tens of thousands of brave men. Petition—petition—petition!

GOLD COAST ROADS.

We publish our latest correspondence with Her Majesty's Government relative to roads on the Gold Coast. It is time now for the kings and chiefs of the Fantee Confederation to take action in this important matter, and manifest their willingness and desire to co-operate with the Administrator of the Gold Coast in works which will insure the rapid development of the great natural resources of their countries. We shall refer to this at large next month.

THE WOMEN IN LOG AT CAVALLA RIVER.

SINCE our notice of the sad fate of the poor native women in log at Cavalla River, we have received communications from Liberian Consular officers in England deprecating the remarks in our May number, and containing assurances

that the President of the Republic of Liberia, and Mr. Johnson, the secretary, both now in London, had never heard of any such distressing events, and entirely disbelieved their correctness. The information on which we have proceeded came however from such sources, that the ignorance of the President and Mr. Secretary Johnson relative to such circumstances could not shake our faith in the correctness of the alleged facts we had published, and only served to increase the pain such occurrences within the Liberian territory had produced; because if, as we are bound to believe, the President and Mr. Secretary Johnson had never heard of them, there seemed to be no hope of any measures of relief having been adopted by the Government of which they are the most prominent members. We, however, refrained from any further allusion to the sad events, in the hope that the poor creatures would have been relieved by some local action consequent upon the exposure we had already made. A letter we now publish proves, however, that we were not justified in such hopes, and that the American Africans of Cape Palmas are only courageous against their own Government and unoffending officials that it may have appointed. Shame on them! We cannot admit the validity of the extenuating arguments of the new Liberian journal, the *Liberia Register*, though we are delighted to see that so ably conducted a newspaper has been established, and wish it a great success. What we have complained of and especially commented upon is the inaction of the Liberian authorities, both general and local, in the matter. Of course if the President and Mr. Secretary Johnson had never heard of the disgraceful occurrence they could not have done anything for the poor helpless victims; but while fully believing this, because of the assurances we had received from consular agents for whom personally we have a very strong regard, we could not conceive how it was they had not heard of them, seeing that our informants, on whom we know we can rely, alluded to preliminary inquiries made by the Liberian Government in the matter. But the *Liberia Register* in its second number shows us how such a thing may be supposed to have happened. The editor exposes a culpable silence on the part of the preceding Liberian Administration in the matter of the demands made by the Government of Sierra Leone, viz.—that of the facts and demands having been definitely laid down by the Foreign-office in London; so that a most erroneous impression with regard to the attitude of the Foreign-office in London had been allowed to prevail in Liberia. The correspondence was not on record, or regularly filed in the State Department, like other papers. Are we not justified in assuming that the Cavalla River atrocities, and the cry of the Cape Palmas Town people for help, were treated in the same fashion as the despatch of Earl Clarendon setting forth the demands of Great Britain for reparation to British subjects alleged to have suffered wrong and loss from the Liberians? The sooner such a system is put an end to the better. The first duty of a government is to look its difficulties boldly in the face and to exert itself to remove them. We hope that of Liberia will so act, if they have not already done so, in this matter of the poor imprisoned and outraged women of Cape Palmas Town. The Government of Liberia cannot plead ignorance of it, since the contents of our May number were brought under their notice, and we shall no doubt soon have to record the pleasing intelligence that by some vigorous intervention on its part an effective relief has been given. We repeat that it is our very anxious desire to see the Republic of Liberia take a high stand among civilised states; but it can only do this by a very different course on the part of its Government to that which it has pursued in the matter of the British claims (as exposed by the editor of the *Liberia Register*) and the Cavalla River atrocities.

THE FRENCH AND GERMAN WAR.

THAT dreadful war, the commencement of which we announced last month, has since been running its deadly course with almost unexampled fury. When we wrote a month ago the French troops had begun to mass upon the

German frontier, and the work of preparation was going on in Prussia, and throughout Germany—Bavaria, Wurtemberg; and Baden, having declared in favour of Prussia. The war became, therefore, a French and German, and not a French and Prussian one, and the general expectation of Europe was that, at least in its early stages, it would be waged on German territory. Yet, strange to say, scarcely a French soldier has been touched by any French soldiers, except as prisoners. True, the French, the Emperor being present, as also the Prince Imperial, made the first move by driving some three thousand Prussian soldiers out of Saarbrück by a cannonade from the heights of Spicheren; but they never occupied the town, which was commanded by other heights held by the Prussians. This was on the 2nd of August. The Emperor and Prince Imperial returned to Metz. We do not yet know why those great French armies remained as if spellbound on the German frontier, instead of dashing, as every one had expected, towards the Rhine. Perhaps it was in some degree owing to Bavaria and Wurtemberg having declared against France, and that this had not entered into French calculation. But, whatever the cause, there they remained as if asleep, until all the German preparations being completed, they had a rude awakening. The forces of the Crown Prince of Prussia crossed the Rhine into French territory on the 4th, and stormed the heights of Weissenburg, destroying General Douay's Division. Marshal M'Mahon, to whose corps d'armée Douay's Division belonged, pushed forward to retrieve this disaster, but, attacked by the Crown Prince's forces on the 6th at Woerth, it was almost annihilated. At the same time General Steinmetz's troops drove the French from Spicheren, and so badly defeated General Frossard's Division, that the latter could only rally under the guns of Metz. The German armies were now fairly in French territory; the French did not defend the passes of the Vosges Mountains; the paralysis seemed to continue, except that they were concentrating at Metz; all the German armies pushed forward—General Steinmetz and the main army toward Metz, the army of the Crown Prince toward Nancy, on the road to Chalons. It then became evident that the armies of General Steinmetz and the main army under Prince Frederick Charles, with which was the King of Prussia, were purposing to envelop Metz with its 150,000 men, under the command of the Emperor and Marshal Bazaine, who at last decided on a retreat to Chalons via Verdun. But if we may decide by present appearances, they had deferred this too long. The Germans were not disposed to allow a juncture of Marshal Bazaine's army with the French reserve army at Chalons. The French began to leave Metz on Sunday the 14th, and so soon as a favourable opportunity presented itself were attacked on that day by General Steinmetz's division. The Emperor and Prince Imperial left the army for Verdun and Rheims, but were near being captured by the German cavalry. On the 16th the German armies of Prince Frederick Charles and General Steinmetz again attacked the whole French line in order to prevent their retreat. It was a most destructive battle. The retreat was stopped for the time, yet Marshal Bazaine claimed a victory. But while the Parisians were greatly rejoicing on Friday night on account of the alleged victory of the 14th, the telegram from Germany which we have printed elsewhere announced to us in London that on the 18th the Prussian armies had again attacked Marshal Bazaine's position, defeated him, and driven him back toward Metz, while the army of the Crown Prince had reached Bar-le-duc, only fifty miles from Chalons, and Strasburg was being bombarded from the German side of the Rhine, while invested by a German force on the French side.

It would be difficult to give an adequate idea of the excitement caused in London by these rapid and unlooked-for German successes—this wondrous collapse of the French military system. People seem almost to live upon newspapers, of which two, three, four, five, and special editions are daily published, every scrap of telegraphic or other news from the armies or Paris being greedily devoured. Even those who most deeply condemn France and its Emperor in this war, which has such disastrous

effects upon European industry, trade, and commerce, and horrifies most men by its dreadful carnage, cannot avoid expressing some pity for both people and sovereign. Whatever may be the ultimate results, both are at present suffering under heavy punishment.

THE EUROPEAN WAR.

July 26.—News of the Prussians having blown up a railway viaduct in French territory.

July 28.—It is said the concentration of both armies is now nearly completed. Denmark, Austria, Russia, and Italy have declared neutrality; and Holland, Belgium, and Switzerland have placed their armies on a war footing to preserve theirs. The French troops are to leave Rome.

August 6.—Parliament has granted 2,000,000*l.* for placing the Army and Navy in an efficient state, but Great Britain will be strictly neutral if possible. The French troops have left Rome. On the 2nd instant the French in great force drove a small Prussian corps out of Saarbrück. On the 4th, the troops under the Crown Prince of Prussia attacked the French position at Weissenburg (French territory) and gained a victory, taking 18 officers and 800 men prisoners. The French General Douay was killed and one French gun was captured. The French have not occupied Saarbrück.

August 13.—On the 6th, the Crown Prince, following up his success at Weissenburg, defeated the division of the French under General McMahon at Woerth, and on same day the division of the main Prussian Army drove the French out of Saarbrück, and from the heights which commanded it; the French division under General Frossard was almost annihilated; the residue escaped with difficulty to Metz. McMahon's force was so awfully cut up that the residue could only be got together at Nancy. The prisoners taken by the Prussians in these two actions exceeded 12,000 men. They have been very humanely treated in Prussia. On the 12th—the war being now carried on entirely in French territory—the Prussian armies were threatening Metz and Nancy, and Strasbourg was besieged. Napoleon has 150,000 men at Metz, another 100,000 are said to be near Nancy, and 70,000 are hastening from Paris. Important events are hourly expected. Paris has been greatly agitated—the Chambers have turned out the Ollivier Ministry, and another has been formed under Count de Montauban; 40,000,000*l.* sterling has been voted for the war; all men up to thirty-five are to take up arms; and the Bank of France is only to pay in paper money—no gold.

The Emperor and French Army began to retreat from Metz on the 14th; the rear attacked by two Prussian corps while crossing the Moselle. Heavy battle. Other Prussian forces were then near Nancy.

August 22.—On the 16th, the Prussians attacked Marshal Bazaine's army in force with the object of preventing its retreat upon Verdun, and junctured with the corps d'armée at the Camp of Chalons. The battle lasted eleven hours, and it is reported that about 120,000 men on each side were engaged. The French claimed the victory; but the Prussian telegrams state that the French retreat had been effectually checked. The slaughter is said to have been appalling.

On the 18th the Prussians renewed the attack, and at eleven o'clock on Friday night the following telegram was published by London papers:—

Despatch of King William to the Queen.

Berlin, August 19.—The Queen has received the following telegram from the King:—

Bivona near Rezanville, August 18, 9 p.m.—The French army, occupying a very strong position to the west of Metz, was to-day attacked under my leadership, and after nine hours' fighting was completely defeated, cut off from its communication with Paris, and driven back towards Metz.

The Emperor and Prince Imperial had left Metz before the battles of the 16th and 18th, and although closely pursued by Prussian cavalry to near Verdun, subsequently reach Reims in safety.

The effect of this prevention of Marshal Bazaine's retreat with the French army at Metz has been to leave the Prussian corps d'armée under the Crown Prince free to push on without interruption towards the camp at Chalons, where we presume it will attack the French reserve, should this accept the combat, which, however, we do not think it will do, but retreat on Paris, which the French Government has been actively fortifying during the last fourteen days.

The Prussians commenced bombarding Strasbourg from Kehl on the 18th. Siege artillery was arriving from Germany in Alsace and Lorraine for the reduction of other fortified places.

August 22.—No change in military positions, except that the army of the Crown Prince of Prussia is near Chalons.

August 22, Evening, 2.30.—By latest telegrams the Crown

Prince of Prussia is marching on Paris by the Valley of the Aube. The camp at Chalons is broken up.

THE POOR WOMEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

River Cavalla, Cape Palmas,
July 7, 1870.

Dear Sir,—These poor innocent women are still in stocks at Cavalla since January, and no movement on the part of the Government as yet; the cries of the people have not moved the hard-hearted authorities at the Cape here, and after they (the natives) have eaten rice, the destiny of these poor women will be known. The horrible deeds, and the detention of these poor women has moved the bowels of the bush people in the interior, who have been down and are now down trying to settle the palaver to get these women released. The interior people have been down now three times; the first and second times they failed, and now they have come again; and here sits the Liberian Government hard-hearted authorities unmoved. Their object is to let the natives fight and weaken themselves.

The natives of Cape Palmas wanted to petition Sir Arthur, the Commodore of the West Coast, and the Secretary of State, the latter through you, for humanity's sake to rescue their women from being butchered or sold to slavery. It is thirty-six years since Liberians have settled here, and they have never educated one native youth. Had it not been for the missionaries, Rev. John L. Wilson and Bishop Payne, not one native born or aborigine would know the alphabet. A law was made three years ago to have schools amongst the natives, and there it ended; that of course was done as so many other things are, that is, that the ordinance or law made may be seen by the civilised world, and that they may think the Government and people are doing wonders here for the natives; but since that law was made they have not erected a school-house even amongst the natives for a school; their policy is not to do it, but to keep the natives from being educated. There are many young men here who, after being educated by the mission are taken out of the mission and obliged to go to sea as Kroo boys, or return to heathenism. You will not find an educated native in any of the merchants' stores as clerk, or employed in the Government. What! they will ask you, employ a raw native? No, Sir; they will not do it. Hence they have kept themselves afar off from the natives and look down upon them as inferior creatures. The natives are heathens now as they were fifty years ago; the only thing they don't do is to sell slaves to foreigners; this you know was stopped by your men-of-war; but they go naked about town, the women with a piece of cloth just over her front part. They continue the administering of sassa wood regularly—and all these things in the eyes of the Liberian Government! O! the horrible sights one witnesses! How can the Liberian women be worth anything as regards morals, when such exposure of their sex is daily before their eyes, and they don't try to remedy it? The natives themselves have repeatedly said they are tired of devil worshippers and devil doctors, in whom they believe; they know they deceived them, but what are they to do? Suppose they leave off these ways, upon what can they build their foundation, with no backstay? The Liberian Government can do no good for them; they still live as they were before, with their multiplicity of wives. If a man has many wives and cows he is considered to be a rich man, and so iniquity and misery go on, and the country is almost in a state of insurrection and starvation.—Yours, sad in heart, A LIBERIAN.

P.S.—Our President has gone to England; you may see him or correspond with him. He is hated in Liberia because he has what they call English views, and wishes to improve the country; and this they don't want.

THE HUGGINS SCANDAL.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

Sierra Leone, 23rd June, 1870.

The minds of the inhabitants of Sierra Leone have been too deeply stirred up by the atrocities of Mr. Justice Huggins to bow in passive submission to the answer given by Mr. Monsell to Sir John Gray in the House of Commons, relative to the barbarous severity of that whipping judge, who is in every way suited to be the administrator of the laws of Draco. It is really alarming to people here to discover that, after all the complaints which they have made for grievous wrongs which they have suffered, the Colonial-office should show so little inclination to redress them; but what is far worse is, that it should make strenuous efforts, in defiance of the most convincing proofs of Mr. Huggins' guilt, to cover him from deserved punishment. There can be no mistake that, apart from being a cruel man and a barbarous judge, Mr. Huggins is one who does not scruple to make disgracefully false statements, well knowing them to be false. Look at what he did in the affair of his clerk's salary.

After getting his clerk to sign the Government pay list for 20*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, he pocketed 18*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* of the money and kept it for nearly three years, during which time he denied owing the clerk, first to the Acting Governor, Colonel Chamberlayne, to whom his conduct had been reported by the clerk; then to Mr. Rainy, who, on his return from England in January, 1868, was employed to take legal proceedings against him for the recovery of the money. His denying the debt did not take well, however, with Mr. Rainy, who seems to have had his own opinion as to the amount of credit due to anything that Mr. Huggins said, and therefore commenced the action against him in good earnest; on perceiving which Mr. Huggins quickly paid the money, which he denied owing on two distinct occasions, and to two distinct persons. But his falsehood does not terminate here; his conduct in the matter is reported to the Colonial Minister by Mr. Rainy, when he, the unjust judge tells the Secretary of State that he had partitioned the salary between two clerks, whilst he and everybody else here knew that he had done no such thing, but had kept the whole, minus two pounds! Again, the petitioners of this settlement charged Mr. Huggins with passing sentences of whipping in cases where the law sanctioned no whipping, and excess of imprisonment on prisoners tried before him whilst he was Acting Chief Justice at Sierra Leone; and, further, that he did not specify the number of strokes and the instrument with which they were to be inflicted in such sentence. To this he replied by telling the Secretary of State that the statute 24, and 25 Vic., cap. 96, was not in force in this colony, and that he had acted under 7 and 8 George IV., c. 28, s. 11. Now it has turned out, by his own showing, that this statement of his was also untrue, for in an information just discovered against one William Randall, tried before and sentenced by this same judge, before the petitions were sent to the Colonial-office, the following is found:—"Nine months imprisonment with hard labour within the gaol, and to be once whipped with the cat with twenty-four lashes." A sentence like this could only have been passed under 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 96, for there is no other statute specifying the number of strokes and the instrument with which they should be inflicted in force in Sierra Leone. How in the name of all decency can such a man be intruded upon public forbearance after such wicked, false statements? Where does the statute of George IV. give him authority to specify the instrument and number of strokes? and if it gives him no such authority, then under what law did he act in passing this sentence? Once more, it will further be remembered that Mr. Huggins told the Colonial Minister, "the sentences passed by him were strictly in accordance with sentences which had been imposed for a long series of years by former Chief Justices of Sierra Leone." Is this true? Certainly not; and he knew it to be untrue when he made the statement. Mr. Huggins has been challenged over and over again to furnish from the records of the courts a single instance in which any judge has acted like him. All these abominable falsehoods have been exposed and brought under the notice of the Colonial Minister, still Mr. Monsell makes an attempt at sheltering a man who is a dishonour to the Government. Surely this is enough to demoralise any people. It is all absurd to boast of the freedom of a people whose government shows so little inclination to listen to their complaints and to do them impartial justice. Were the people of the West Coast of Anglo-Saxon origin, instead of being cursed with a *sable skin* (and who is to blame for this?) their interests would not have been trifled with in this manner, not even by the Colonial-office itself. It cannot be denied that the indifference exhibited by this department to the rights of coloured British subjects in British colonies has given rise to much unpleasantness and discontent. Trace the Jamaica riot to its source and you cannot stop till you reach the door of the Colonial-office. An Eyre could have been saved from going about in the world with the brand of Cain on him; and Gordon and others could have been rescued from cruel martyrdom (inflicted by Briton's sons) if only the Colonial-office was alive to a sense of impartiality. Africans do not claim for themselves unlimited forbearance, and they ought not to be imposed upon by such petty shuffles as those made use of in this disgraceful business of Mr. Justice Huggins. If this policy is persisted in there is not the slightest doubt but that it will be productive of serious consequences. If after ten petitions to the Colonial-office the people can get no redress, then their only hope now lies with the House of Commons, in which they look forward to some sympathising friends to see justice done to a cause for which they have honestly struggled.

The cause of all the wrongs inflicted on us is to be attributed to the want of popular representation in the Legislative Council here. Until the right of having a voice in their own affairs be given to the people, lamentable abuses will never be rectified, and the administration of justice will always be foul. The Local Government is represented, for the most part, by men of Mr. Huggins' stamp; how then can any good be expected to result from it? These make themselves fat on the 80,000*l.* revenue,

raised principally by the native people (for the European population does not exceed one hundred persons), whom they treat with cruel barbarity, denying to them the right of spending their own money. To say the least of it this is unfair; and to talk of preparing these settlements for self-government is regarded as all *boah*. Actions, not words, are what people look to. With a Council so limited and partial as that with which Sierra Leone is hampered, how are the people to advance more than they have? The only wonder is that they should have made any advancement at all under such a grinding-down system. It is annoying to think that an important settlement like this, with about 50,000 native people—industrious, intelligent, and peaceable—should be left to the caprice of a few Government officials, who have no will of their own, to legislate for it. I question very much the right of any government which boasts of freedom to call upon the people to contribute money for public purposes, and afterwards deny them the equitable right of having a voice in the disposal of the money so contributed. Were your Home Government to attempt such an injustice on the British people, it is to be feared that a like scene as that acted in the time of Charles I. would be again witnessed in England; but what the Home Government will not dare even to suggest to the English people, they unhesitatingly impose on British subjects on the West Coast of Africa. The signs of the times show that this very indifference to the claims of her colonies will be one of the causes of Great Britain's fall. She is sensibly declining, however blind she may be to the fact. Who, fifty years ago, would have thought that Great Britain would have submitted to the arbitration of the President of the United States? Yet the year 1870 furnishes such a fact, and there is every reason to believe that the prediction of Macaulay—himself a Briton—will be fulfilled to the very letter unless a better line of policy be pursued with respect to the colonies.

The inhabitants of this settlement are fully competent and prepared to elect men from among themselves to represent and uphold their interests, and all they ask is to be allowed the free exercise of a constitutional right. There are able men here who can boast of intellectual and property qualifications, and who are willing to devote their time and talents to the good of the country; why, then, should hindrances be placed in their way? Only let the experiment of popular representation be tried, and to a certainty it will be attended with pleasing results. The scandalous doings of a Mr. Justice Huggins, or Crown Prosecutor Montague, of Tasmanian notoriety, would no longer harass and perplex the Colonial Minister, nor bring reproach upon the administration of justice. A Chief Justice, with a salary of 1,800*l.* per annum, would not be allowed to live in barracks, on the sufferance of military officers, at an expense of five shillings a day, when this cheap but humiliating way of living tended to sink him to the lowest depth of corruption. A Local Council in which the people were fairly represented would keep a check on all abuses arising on the part of the government; and complaints, instead of being referred to the Colonial-office, would be settled by the Legislature here, except in extraordinary cases. Look at the manner in which the people of this settlement were plundered of the right of trial by jury in civil actions in 1866. A mock Council, composed of a few Government officials, the mere creatures of ex-Governor Blackall, with closed doors, passed in a single hour a Bill which had for its object the bringing of the coloured race into what may be termed *disguised slavery*. Since the perpetration of this constitutional outrage nothing has gone on well; and how can it be expected, when the very foundation of the Constitution is undermined? Abuses have come in like a mighty flood, and although petitions after petitions have been sent to the Colonial-office, setting forth real grievances under which the people suffer, yet no redress is given; not even a disposition is shown to remove the cause which gives rise to complaints. The only answer vouchsafed to those labouring under the burden of oppression is, that their statements are "unfounded." What is this but injustice and cruelty, displayed by those, too, who ought to guard, with the greatest vigilance, the interests of the colonies? A reference to your own files will bear out these statements. The officials, seeing that they are unrestrained in their cruel and oppressive acts, believe that the Colonial-office sanctions all their vicious deeds—a belief by no means destitute of a show of reason. Only look, again, at what has recently occurred. Major Bravo, one of the conspirators against the jury system, a man known to every one here to be too *illiterate* to compose any ordinary English sentence, has been made Acting Governor of the Gambia—an appointment that sheds anything but lustre on the Colonial-office. Why, the very ignorance of the man disqualifies him for being the representative of England's Queen, whilst his overbearing insolence brings him under well-merited contempt. In order that you may form an estimate of his sense of decency and public morality it is only necessary to be told that this Major Bravo, as soon as he had entered into his undeserved position, sent for the *notorious*, un-

certificated insolvent, William Chase Walcott, and placed him on the Supreme Bench of Justice at the Gambia, although Major Bravo himself had only a few months before, as police magistrate of Sierra Leone, taken bail for Walcott on a serious charge of perjury, and he well knew that the then Queen's Advocate (Mr. Phillippo), on abandoning the prosecution for perjury and moving to have Walcott struck off the roll of attorneys and advocates, had publicly stated that Walcott had, by a false affidavit, committed a foul case of fraud on the Supreme Court. People here cannot possibly understand the intimacy between Major Bravo and the notorious Walcott, unless it be from the fact that Major Bravo, who is known to be a most illiterate man, is forced to keep up the intimacy for the purpose of getting Walcott to scribble despatches for him.

This is the same Walcott in whose favour, a few days after his liberation from his cell, Major Bravo, with full knowledge of the man's character, wrote the following letter, ordering the police clerk to read it openly in the police court to the audience there assembled—a letter containing a wicked libel on Mr. Rainy, and which could only have emanated from the pen of an illiterate buffoon: "Tell Gilpin that I am detained at Government House and that his case is remanded to the following day, and that he required no lawyer; but if he is so foolish as to employ a lawyer he need not employ Mr. Rainy, as I have prohibited him from practising in my court, but he can employ Mr. Walcott, who is a clever lawyer, and what is more, he is an honest man."

For this scandalous and premeditated libel Mr. Rainy brought an action against the ignorant Major Bravo, which action was tried before Chief Justice French, and resulted in his giving a verdict in favour of Major Bravo on the ground that Mr. Rainy had not proved the contents of the letter, which, by the way, Major Bravo took good care to destroy immediately after it had been read. Such a verdict ought not to be surprising, for Judge French lived at the barracks on the suzerainty of this officer when he was in command of Her Majesty's troops here; then, again, it must be remembered that Major Bravo is acting Administrator of the Gambia, and men devoid of moral courage think it safest to keep on good terms with one who threatens to become a little Nero. Judges on the West Coast possess neither the integrity of a Denman nor the laudable independence of a Hall. The verdict of Chief Justice French has been the cause of Mr. Rainy's taking the case to the Privy Council, and the time is anxiously looked for when their lordships will determine it. But the most ridiculous part of this Bravo's business is that in connection with poor Metzger, the clerk, who read the letter by the express command of his superior. Mr. Rainy took an action against him too, and at the trial the same Judge French held that the letter was a libellous one; that Metzger was not justified in reading it. The result was that poor Metzger was mulcted in 200*l.* damages, besides the costs, for doing what he was told to do. With what rich fun their lordships would have been supplied if only Metzger, too, had appealed against the verdict given in his case! A rare specimen of Sierra Leone judicial consistency would have been exhibited. But Metzger is an African, whilst Mr. Rainy is a man of colour, and this bears out my former remark to you a short time ago, that where men of colour are concerned nothing can be more satisfactory than Mr. French's decision; but a coloured man against a European official does not appear to have any chance of justice at his hands, and the two cases I have illustrated fully bear out my statement.

But to return to my subject. What respect for the feelings of the people of the Gambia can Major Bravo have when he intrudes upon them as chief magistrate a William Chase Walcott, fresh from the felon's cell, with the smell of a foul fraud still on him? Is not this an example of the daring insults which West Coast officials, dressed up in a little authority, offer to the native people? Suppose we had a council in which the people were literally represented, could Major Bravo have attempted thus to trifle with public forbearance, and manifest such utter contempt for public morality? Or could Mr. Justice Huggins have dared to outrage justice and humanity?

But I pass on to another subject. You may recollect that Mr. Rainy has repeatedly shown the uselessness of two new offices, namely, that of inspector-general of police and that of auditor-general. These were both created by Major Blackall, the one as a snug berth for his own son, and the other as a compensation for one Mr. Primet, who had assisted the wily ex-Governor to get rid of trial by jury in civil cases. These two offices, with their staff, cost the colony upwards of 2,000*l.*, and to show you how recklessly the revenue, raised principally from the native people, is wasted by the Government, you need only be told that both the holders of the two offices are away from the colony, and that a gentleman who is at the head of the Commissariat Department is performing the duties most efficiently in conjunction with those of his own office; but what is more, in addition to all these he

attends to the duties of the harbour-master, which he discharges as though they were the only ones in which he was engaged. Now can there be any doubt that these two offices are sinecures? If one man can do the work of both, together with other distinct duties, why should the colony be burdened with an officer with an extravagant salary for each of these offices separately? They are no mortal good, and ought to be dispensed with. People here are anxious to give up this legacy which has been bequeathed to them by Ex-Governor Blackall, and should be a thousand times richer by being deprived of it. A sergeant in the army with 250*l.* a year is all that is required at the head of the police, while two of our leading merchants can always be appointed quarterly to audit the public accounts. It is really a farce to have an official to audit the accounts of another official on the West Coast of Africa; there are only a few of them, and they link together and cover each other in all their acts. Attack one and you offend the whole. Look, for instance, at Huggins. He is supported by all the officials, not because they consider him a good man—on the contrary, they know him to be a disgrace to the bench, and despise him in the secret of their hearts—but because they know that they are capable of committing foul deeds too, and will require his help when their turn comes. You are not ignorant of the manner in which this same Mr. Huggins covered Goldworthy in the case of Moses Shepherd. Such is the game played here by the officials. It is disgraceful to have 80,000*l.* a year squandered away on such men to enable them to form themselves into what Mr. Rainy not improperly designates a clique; but what is still worse is, that these very men should have the exclusive right of dealing with the public money. With all these gross irregularities on the part of the officials, it is all meaningless talk to say that these settlements are being prepared for self-government. If the people of this settlement were to demonstrate, as the merchants at the Gambia have demonstrated, that Sierra Leone could easily be governed with only half the revenue raised, the Colonial-office would regard such a demonstration as an attack on its infallibility, and would revenge itself by advising the giving up this settlement, as it has done in the case of the Gambia.

The authorities must be plainly told that the people are entitled to a voice in their own affairs, and this they can only procure by having representatives of their own election in the local councils. The affairs of this colony will never be carried on well as long as we have a Legislative Council composed chiefly of Government men; nor will there ever be any improvement if the Government be allowed to select non-official members to add to the Council; for they will be sure to select such as they know would be compelled to go along with them from force of circumstances, while they would take care to exclude independent men possessing minds and wills of their own. Ten petitions against abuses have been sent to the Colonial-office; these abuses have been proved to be real, but what has been the result? Why, the petitioners have been snubbed, and told that their allegations were unfounded.

The whole sum and substance of the matter is this, believe it—peace and prosperity will never visit Sierra Leone, confidence in the Government will never be restored, till Mr. Justice Huggins is taken away, the jury box replenished, and an infusion of democratic element let into the Legislative Council. As for legislation, we have had none since 1862, except the attack on the jury system and the constant call to raise supplies. Our statute book is a disgrace, and if allowed to survive will prove a rare specimen to descend to posterity. When we come to review the history of Sierra Leone from the year 1862 to 1870, and give the heading of each Act passed, there will be the disclosure of a fearful state of things in connection with Sierra Leone legislation.

One word more. You may recollect that when the petitioners reported Mr. Justice Huggins for passing so many unlawful sentences of whipping and excess of imprisonment, that judge's defence was that he had acted under 7 and 8 George IV. cap. 28; in this he was supported by Earl Granville, who, although he condemned six of the sentences as being *unlawful*, a condemnation which in itself ought to have been sufficient to have hurled Mr. Huggins from the bench, yet justified Mr. Huggins under the above Act (vide Earl Granville's despatch, 26th February, 1869). For argument sake let us take it for granted that the Act pleaded as a set off, both by the illustrious Minister and Mr. Huggins, was in force; then any violation of that Act would be unlawful and unjustifiable, and therefore subject the violator to punishment. Mr. Huggins has stated that he acted under 7 and 8 Geo. IV., cap. 28, by which he passed sentences on prisoners here; the Colonial Secretary condemns six of the sentences so passed, and how under such a condemnation can he possibly justify Mr. Huggins under the same Act and continue to keep him in office? Why, this very condemnation of Earl Granville is a confirmation of the petitioner's statements, and the plea that the sentences were passed under 7 and 8 George IV., Cap. 28,

places them (the petitioners) in an advantageous position, much better than they were at the beginning. Owing to the leisure consequent upon the long legal vacation, Mr. Rainy, the legal adviser of the petitioners, has entered into correspondence with the Colonial-office on this "Huggins Scandal," and there is every reason to believe that before that correspondence is closed some still darker revelations will be made in connection with Mr. Huggins than those which have already gone before the world.

If 7 and 8 George IV., Cap. 28, was really in force in Sierra Leone, and not 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 96, then, notwithstanding these days of high civilisation and merciful disposition, Mr. Huggins could under another Act, passed on the same day with the former, viz., 7 and 8 George IV., Cap. 29, have ordered a man to be hanged for burglary or for housebreaking and stealing therein any sum to the value of 5*l.*, or for stealing a sheep, &c. vide sections 11, 12, and 25 of the last-mentioned statute. If Mr. Huggins's statement, that he acted under 7 and 8 George IV., Cap. 28, were true, why did he not pass sentence of death on a prisoner, by the name of John Allen, who was tried before him for burglary and stealing? His nature is barbarous enough to have allowed such a sentence, if only the law under which he acted had permitted it. Or why did he sentence the prisoner Dowdar to eighteen months' imprisonment with hard labour for the above offence, and one Sabinah Cole to nine months' imprisonment with hard labour in the house of correction for housebreaking and larceny, if Mr. Huggins had acted in accordance with the statute pleaded? All these prisoners, whose names appear in a calendar, an office copy of which Mr. Rainy has just forwarded to Earl Granville, ought to have been sentenced to death under the Act passed on the same day as 7 and 8 Geo. IV., Cap. 28. The statement of Mr. Huggins was clearly untrue; he never acted under the statute he alluded to, but rather under 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 96, as the particular case of Randall, whose name also appears on the calendar referred to, most unmistakably proves. He fished up an old statute of no force whatever in the colony on account of being too sorely pressed by the petitioners, and having told one wicked untruth he has been compelled to go on adding to it ever since. Come now, to what shifts will Mr. Justice Huggins betake himself to get out of the web which he has woven. How can Mr. Monsell charge the petitioners with unfounded statements, when Earl Granville pronounces those statements true in the very same despatch in which his lordship tries to throw a veil over Mr. Huggins's atrocities? The Under-Secretary forgets that by persisting in upholding Mr. Huggins's acts he virtually condemns that part of the despatch of 26th February, 1869, which declared six of the sentences unlawful. It is hard to account for the conduct of the Colonial-office in upholding Mr. Huggins in the face of so many proofs; and it is to be lamented that it should so compromise itself in supporting so undeserving a man as Mr. Justice Huggins, who has brought dishonour on the bench, and involved in serious difficulties every one who has attempted to espouse his cause. The inhabitants of this colony are dissatisfied, both with Mr. Huggins and the course pursued by the Colonial-office. On this there can be no mistake. They feel that they have not been fairly and justly dealt with; and every fresh attempt at whitewashing this Mr. Huggins adds to their dissatisfaction. The frequent petitions show that a growing discontent exists; and if the people of this place were European colonists instead of liberated Africans and their descendants, their wrongs would have been fairly inquired into, and promptly redressed. What responsibility can a judge have, when, after subjecting a man to unlawful whipping and an action is brought against him, as in the case of Thomas v. Huggins, the poor victim of cruelty is told that there is no redress for him, because the act was a judicial one? Is not this heartrending to think of? Yet it is sanctioned by the Colonial-office, which gives licence to this system of things on the West Coast of Africa. Take the matter how you will, all the official sins committed in these settlements lie at the door of that department; there they have not only been winked at, but even encouraged, and it has, by its appointments, imposed upon us some of the worst men that ever brought disgrace upon the British name.

THE "STANDARD" ON THE NEW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

The *Standard* in a leader says, when discussing the ministerial changes consequent on the death of Lord Clarendon: "So far as we were able to detect any trace of an original idea in Lord Granville's colonial policy, it was the idea of dismantling the distant possessions of England, of narrowing the circle of British dominion, of repudiating the liabilities and restricting the duties of the empire. Is Lord Granville to carry these same ideas into the Foreign-office, and inculcate them after the same fashion which he adopted in the colonies? As to the other appointments, they seem to have been made upon the old Whig principle of consulting, not the interests of the offices to be filled, but of the men who have to fill them. There may be a reason, perhaps,

why Mr. Forster—who is by far the best man of his party for the Colonial-office, and who is credited both at home and in the colonies with more of true national heart and sentiment than any of his colleagues—could not be spared from his work of coaching the Education Bill through Parliament. But we utterly fail to understand why Lord Kimberley's claims to what the *Times* calls the 'seals of the Colonial-office,' should be 'irresistible.' What is meant, we presume, is, that Lord Kimberley's claims to preferment in the Gladstone Ministry are irresistible; but that is quite another thing. Although the Cabinet could not afford to spare a man utterly unacquainted with their affairs, and who must either carry out Lord Granville's mischievous policy, or take the opportunity of practising some 'modern ideas' of his own. Lord Kimberley is a shrewd and tolerably able man, of much industry and official experience, but at this particular conjuncture to put him at the head of the colonies is altogether inexcusable. Seeing the condition in which the colonies have been left by Lord Granville, with one half of them in open disaffection, and the other half only too well contented with the independence which they have been permitted to usurp, only a man of the clearest intellect, of the strongest will, and of the highest patriotic purpose, can prevent the dismemberment of the Empire. It would be flattery too gross to say of Lord Kimberley that he is such a man."

SIR SAMUEL BAKER'S EXPEDITION.—A telegram from Cairo states that Sir Samuel Baker was on the 13th June at Tawfiliyeh, nine degrees north.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1871.—We are requested by Her Majesty's Commissioners to state that there is no foundation for the rumour that the International Exhibition appointed for 1871 is to be postponed by reason of the war. The first of the series of Annual International Exhibitions of Selected Works of Fine and Industrial Art and Scientific Inventions will take place next year, as already announced.

THE BRITISH HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN.—This institution, which for many years has maintained a crowded out-patient department at No. 56, Great Marlborough-street, Regent-street, and more recently another of equal extent at No. 134, Finsbury-square, has lately been anonymously presented with a 1,000*l.* Bank of England note. The committee of management have devoted this addition to their resources to the purchase of the lease of their premises in Great Marlborough-street, and to the establishment of an in-patient department. But the sum so placed at their disposal, large as it is, falls far below what is necessary for the maintenance of the in-patients whom they will shortly be ready to receive. They hope, however, by the aid of further contributions, to be enabled to utilise in the manner proposed the munificent gift that has been entrusted to them. For those who may desire to aid so meritorious a work we may state that contributions of one shilling and upwards in stamps, or by post-office order or cheques, can be forwarded to Mr. Alexander Rivington, the hon. sec., at No. 56, Great Marlborough-street.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SPECIAL AGENTS FOR LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE:—

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