

Registered for]

[Transmission Abroad.

# The African Times.

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

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

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

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## CONTENTS.

|                                                       | PAGE |                                                             | PAGE |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| West Coast Mails .....                                | 49   | Subscriptions Paid to the "African Times" .....             | 54   |
| Scheme for Gambia Government .....                    | 50   | Gambia Government Reform .....                              | 54   |
| West African News .....                               | 50   | Complaints from Liberia .....                               | 54   |
| Sierra Leone .....                                    | 51   | New European Complications—The Russian Note .....           | 55   |
| Clanbaldism and Sassy-Wood Poisoning in Liberia ..... | 51   | The French and German War .....                             | 55   |
| Wreck of the English Schooner "Julia Ellen" .....     | 51   | Liberia .....                                               | 56   |
| New Coffee Huller .....                               | 52   | Great Evils and Injustice Requiring Prompt Remedy .....     | 56   |
| Lagos .....                                           | 52   | God will Provide .....                                      | 58   |
| Infamous Africans Deserving Severe Punishment .....   | 52   | The Primitive Methodist Society's Work in Fernando Po ..... | 59   |
| The European War .....                                | 53   | Official—London Gazette .....                               | 59   |
| South African Diamond-fields .....                    | 53   | Marriage .....                                              | 59   |

## 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.

DECEMBER, 1870.

## BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The Fine New Steamship LOANDA, Captain JOHN GRAYTHORN, is intended to be despatched from GLASGOW on the 28th NOV., and from LIVERPOOL on the 6th DEC., at 9 A.M., for Madeira, Grand Canary, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jallah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar.

GOODS will be received in GLASGOW up to Noon on the 28th NOV., and in LIVERPOOL (North Side Coburg Dock) up to 6 P.M. on the 6th DEC. Passengers will embark by Steam Tender from the Prince's Landing Stage at 8.30 A.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 bulk 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., 24, Oswald-street; and in Liverpool, to ELDER, DEMPSTER, and Co., 2, Brunswick-street.

### WEST COAST MAILS.

#### ARRIVALS.

African Royal Mail Steamship Company's Ship Calabar, with the monthly mails, October 27.

British and African Steam Navigation Company's Ship Loanda, Midnight, October 27.

African Royal Mail Steamship Company's Ship Soudan, on the 13th November.

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

African Royal Mail Steamship Company's Ship Lagos on the 21st with the bi-monthly mails.

#### DEPARTURES.

African Royal Mail Steamship Company's Ship McGregor Laird, with monthly mails, 25th September.

British and African Steam Navigation Company's New Ship Volta, on the 30th October.

British and African Steam Navigation Company's Ship Bonny, on the 6th November.

African Royal Mail Steamship Company's Ship Athenian, on the 14th November, with the bi-monthly mails.

The Calabar is appointed to take out the monthly mails on the 24th.

British and African Steamship Loanda, on the 6th December.

## SCHEME FOR GAMBIA GOVERNMENT.

(Continued from page 46.)

## PROPOSED SCHEME.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |            |            |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|--|
| Administrator or President of the Council and Collector of all Customs Revenues* . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | £1,200 0 0 |            |  |
| Allowances—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            |            |  |
| Residence at Government House.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |            |            |  |
| One Horse allowance . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | £41 1 3    |            |  |
| Two Labourers . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 36 0 0     |            |  |
| Oil and Candles . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 36 0 0     | 113 1 3    |  |
| Administrator's Staff—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |            |            |  |
| Chief Clerk: to perform the following duties: Clerk of Council, Collector of all Inland Revenue and Rates, Cashier, Bookkeeper, and Postmaster . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 400 0 0    |            |  |
| One Assistant Copying Clerk and Collector of Palm-wine Duties . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 100 0 0    |            |  |
| Second Clerk—duties: all Customs indoor business, Bonded Storekeeper, and Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 300 0 0    |            |  |
| One Assistant . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 100 0 0    |            |  |
| Jola Interpreter . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 8 0 0      |            |  |
| Tide Surveyor—Harbour Master, Quarantine Officer, and all out-door Customs duties . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 300 0 0    |            |  |
| Landing Waiter and Locker . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 80 0 0     |            |  |
| Police and Gaois as at present . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1,791 7 0  |            |  |
| Maintenance of Prisoners . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 645 0 0    |            |  |
| Medical—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |            |            |  |
| Colonial Surgeon, with the duties of Coroner, but without fees, Health Commissioner, and to Visit Vessels in Quarantine. . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 400 0 0    |            |  |
| Allowances—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            |            |  |
| One Horse . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 41 1 3     |            |  |
| Dispenser, Dresser, and Clerk.. . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 150 0 0    |            |  |
| Rations for ditto . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 63 8 9     |            |  |
| Two Sick Attendants . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 48 0 0     |            |  |
| Cook . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 24 0 0     |            |  |
| Porter and Messenger . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 24 0 0     |            |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | £750 10 0  |            |  |
| Maintenance of the Sick, Medicine, Washing, &c. . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 450 0 0    | 1,200 10 0 |  |
| Inspector of Nuisances and Superintendent of Government Works . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 100 0 0    |            |  |
| Horse allowance . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 41 1 3     | 141 1 3    |  |
| Customs Boat—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |            |            |  |
| Four Boatmen . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 80 12 0    |            |  |
| One ditto, Messenger . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 21 0 0     |            |  |
| One ditto, Coxswain . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 22 16 0    |            |  |
| Head Boatman, for long service . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2 8 0      |            |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |            | 127 16 0   |  |
| Pilot Establishment as at present . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 410 0 0    |            |  |
| Clerk of Courts . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 150 0 0    |            |  |
| Beadle of the Courts and Sheriff's Bailiff . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 36 0 0     |            |  |
| Judicial—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |            |            |  |
| It is proposed that the duties now performed by the Chief Magistrate, with the exception of the delivery of the Gaoi, shall be performed by the unpaid Magistrates as before. The Gaoi shall be delivered twice a year, and civil cases involving large amounts, shall be heard before the Chief Justice or the Assistant Judge from Sierra Leone, who shall make a circuit each six months, and for each circuit shall be paid in full of travelling and other expenses, 75l. |            |            |  |
| Sluice-gate Keeper . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 18 5 0     | 150 0 0    |  |
| Sea Embankment Keeper . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 18 5 0     |            |  |
| Stationery for all departments . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 80 0 0     |            |  |
| Oyster Creek Ferry—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |            |            |  |
| Head Boatman . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 25 4 0     |            |  |
| Four Ferry-men . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 86 8 0     | 111 12 0   |  |
| Market—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |            |            |  |
| Clerk . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 80 0 0     |            |  |
| Two Labourers . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 36 10 0    | 116 10 0   |  |

\* We respectfully suggest that this officer be entirely independent of the Governor of Sierra Leone.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |             |         |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|--|
| McCarthy's—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |             |         |  |
| Manager . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 300 0 0     |         |  |
| Horse allowance . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 41 1 3      |         |  |
| Interpreter . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 12 0 0      | 353 1 3 |  |
| Combo—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |             |         |  |
| Manager . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 100 0 0     |         |  |
| Horse allowance . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 41 1 3      |         |  |
| Interpreter . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 12 0 0      | 203 1 3 |  |
| House and Police-station . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 50 0 0      |         |  |
| Barra (the ceded mile)—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |             |         |  |
| Manager . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 80 0 0      |         |  |
| Interpreter . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 12 0 0      |         |  |
| Allowance for Horse . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 41 1 3      | 133 1 3 |  |
| This we recommend to be abolished, as it may lead to difficulties with the King or Chiefs in Barra.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |             |         |  |
| Repairs of Pilot Vessel and Customs Boat, and Painting Buoys . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |             | 150 0 0 |  |
| Church—                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |             |         |  |
| Chaplain . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 350 0 0     |         |  |
| Horse allowance . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 41 1 3      |         |  |
| Clerk and Organist . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 30 0 0      |         |  |
| Sexton and Church Cleaner . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 12 0 0      |         |  |
| Keeper of Cemetery . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 25 0 0      | 453 1 3 |  |
| Charitable Allowances . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |             | 160 0 0 |  |
| Schools—Church . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 100 0 0     |         |  |
| Roman Catholics . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 100 0 0     |         |  |
| Wesleyans . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 100 0 0     | 300 0 0 |  |
| Crown Agent . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 40 0 0      |         |  |
| Office Expenses . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 12 10 0     | 52 10 0 |  |
| Pensions—These charges have arisen under the Imperial system, and should, we submit, now that all Parliamentary aid is withdrawn, be paid by the Imperial Treasury. . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1,022 13 8  |         |  |
| Government Interpreter . . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 36 0 0      |         |  |
| Street Lights, &c. . . . .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 140 0 0     |         |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | £10,596 1 2 |         |  |
| The local revenue for 1869 was estimated at £17,140. This would leave a surplus of £6,544. Taking £1,000 repairs for public buildings, roads, and bridges, would still leave £5,500 per annum, which, with a little increased taxation, might be made up to £7,000 per annum, and paid as a subsidy to the Admiralty for one of Her Majesty's gunboats to be stationed at the Gambia, or for one company of one of Her Majesty's West India Regiments, or for a local armed steamer, to protect life, property, and commerce in the Gambia, which will never be done by means of an armed local police. |             |         |  |
| THOMAS F. QUIN.<br>THOMAS BROWN.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |             |         |  |

## WEST AFRICAN NEWS.

By the African mail steamer Soudan which arrived at Liverpool 13th inst., with a full cargo, sixteen passengers, and 565 ounces of gold-dust, it was reported that the ground-nut crops on the South Coast had entirely failed. The natives of Congo having shot the supercargo of an English barque, H.M.S. Pert subsequently burnt the villages belonging to the natives. The French officials had removed the buoys marking the entrance to the Gaboon River. The brig Locomotive blew up in Opobo River, killing a number of natives. The Bonny and Opobo dispute continues. The Soudan did not call at Sierra Leone.

The blowing up of the Locomotive is thus described: "The brig Locomotive, while entering the Opobo, struck on the bar, and although every effort was made by the crew to get the vessel off, she stuck fast, and was abandoned by the crew, as all hopes of saving the vessel were given up. After the crew had left the wreck the natives in the vicinity boarded the Locomotive in great numbers, and took possession. They then commenced to strip the vessel; the hatches were broken open, and a regular system of plunder commenced. One portion of the cargo, consisting of gunpowder, was being appropriated by the natives, when by some means the powder became ignited, and an explosion of a most fearful character occurred. The vessel was literally blown to atoms, and the unfortunate plunderers shared the same fate. How many natives perished was unknown, but the number at the time the steamer left Bonny was stated to be upwards of fifty, besides those who were in the canoes alongside the wreck. The Locomotive was an iron vessel of about 200 tons register, and was owned by Messrs. Wokey and Co.

She sailed from Liverpool for the Gaboon on the 21st of August last, under command of Captain Humphrey, and was proceeding on her trading voyage when the disaster took place."

## SIERRA LEONE.

OFFICIAL EXTRAVAGANCE IN A CROWN COLONY.—By the appropriation ordinances of 1868 and 1869, it will be found that something like 90,000l. was absorbed by the Government officials in the form of salaries, allowances, contingencies, pensions, retired allowances, and gratuities; so that, allowing 160,000l. as revenue for the two years, after deducting the sum which goes for official benefit alone, all that remained for public purposes was 70,000l.!

## —West African Liberator.

A NATIVE OF SIERRA LEONE TAKING HIGH HONOURS AT THE TEMPLE.—We feel great pleasure that the opportunity is afforded to us to announce that the Council of Legal Education has awarded an exhibition of the value of 20l. per annum, tenable for two years, to Mr. Samuel Lewis, son of William Lewis, Esq., of this colony, for proficiency in the Law of Real Property.

## CANNIBALISM AND SASSY-WOOD POISONING IN LIBERIA.

## SHOCKING CANNIBALISM.

The following is from an occasional correspondent on the Cavalla River, who was an involuntary witness of the disgusting and horrible heathen excess:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cavalla River, September 15.

Sir,—The Cavalla River is about twenty miles from Cape Palmas. On this river are several tribes inhabiting both sides of its banks, from the mouth to the falls, which is about one hundred miles; and there is a communication between these and civilised people who trade on the river on a very small scale. There are also several tribes beyond the falls who have little or no communication with the seacoast. Above the falls, on the falls, and a little below the falls, is a tribe called the Webboes, who occupy the right bank of the river for about fourteen miles, and extend a great distance into the bush. It is said that this tribe has from thirty-six to forty towns both in the bush and on the river. On the left bank, opposite the Webboes, is a tribe called the Carboes. Below the Carboes, on the same bank, is a tribe called the Barrawuroboes. A little distance below Webbo, on the right bank, is a tribe called the Gerraboos. The Carboes, Barrawuroboes, and the Gerraboos are allies, and are in hostilities with the Webboes for a piece of land which they alleged was theirs, and which the Webboes are occupying. This war has existed for many years. Either tribe has always been afraid to pass the towns of the other tribes, except they steal by night. Some weeks ago about seven Webbo boys came down to the beach. On their return, three were in one canoe and four in another. The canoe containing the three boys passed unseen at night by the Gerraboos and Barrawuroboes, though these tribes were on the river watching, as they heard that some Webbo boys were expected up. The other canoe, which had the four boys, as they were about to pass, were hailed by the Barrawurobo people. This was on the night of the 12th inst. The poor Webbo boys got so bewildered that they jumped out of the canoe and ran into the bush. In their attempt to get away one of the boys was caught, and cut so unmercifully across the forehead that his brains protruded. The other three succeeded in hiding themselves in the bush during that night. Early the next morning the Barrawurobo people went in search of them, and unfortunately found two of them. The other boy, who was not found, had been a schoolboy educated at the mission station at Webbo, called Bohlen Station. This school was established by the Right Rev. Bishop Payne, and is connected with the American Protestant Episcopal Church. This boy had left the school for some time; and he himself relates that the Barrawurobo people walked over the place where he had hid himself. When he saw them he said that he prayed to God in his heart as he had been taught by the missionaries, that if God would hide him from his enemies this time he would return to school and be a good boy. God heard this poor boy's prayer and hid him from the eyes of his enemies. After they had gone he made his escape to Beerbo, a tribe below Gerrabo, to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Thornton. Of the three boys who were captured, the one who was cut across the forehead, died during the night, and was cooked and eaten on the morning of the 13th. The other two were cruelly tied both hands and feet. The Barrawuroboes invited the Carboes and Gerraboos to come over and help to kill the two remaining boys. They accordingly hastened over with shouting, dancing, beating of drums, and blowing war horns. No entreaties nor cries of the Webbo boys could move the hearts of these heathen tribes. Every man went up to the poor Webbo boys and gave them a chop with his cutlass and laughed at their cries and entreaties; and then they cut off their heads and

divided the meat, each tribe taking their portion, cooked it and eat it. They also cooked rice, and put it in the skulls, mixed it up with the brains and eat it out of the skulls, which they say will make them brave in time of war. The Barrawuroboes have now determined to prevent all traders from going to Webbo, as they have to pass their towns in going up. This stops the traffic of a very extensive district.

Four years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Thornton, Liberian citizens, who were in charge of the mission station at Webbo, placed there by the Right Rev. Bishop Payne, were shamefully beaten by the Webbo people. Mrs. Thornton was stripped perfectly naked, sent aloft in a country hut, and a large fire was made underneath her to smoke her; and Mr. Thornton was swindled of a large portion of his property. The Webboes tore the Liberian flag to rags, and no question has ever been asked the Webbo people by the Liberian Government about this outrageous affair on their citizens and on their flag, although Mr. Thornton memorialised the Executive, as well as the Legislative Council, on the subject. No reply, much less redress or recompense, was ever received by Mr. Thornton.

## SASSY-WOOD POISONING.

(From another Correspondent.)

Six persons have been murdered at Cavalla, twelve miles from Cape Palmas, from January to September, by the administration of sassy wood, just in front of the mission premises of the American Episcopal Church, where the clergyman and his wife live.

At Cape Palmas Town, a stone's-throw from Cape Palmas, the Rev. S. W. Seton had very great difficulty in preventing the administration of sassy wood to one of his schoolgirls, who was forced to flee to Rocktown, a heathen town, for refuge, seven miles north-west of Cape Palmas.

Sassy wood was also administered to the "bodinas" or high priest of Cape Palmas Town, who died from the effects of it. Can't the Liberian Government be aroused from its sluggishness and moved to put a stop to this heathenish custom, and save the lives of these poor heathen?

The administration of sassy wood at the Graway towns, three to six miles from Cape Palmas, is a daily occurrence.

## THE WOMEN LATELY IN LOG.

(From another Correspondent.)

I can send you evidence if necessary of the President having been informed by letter of the sad outrages on these poor women, and of his reply, "That he could not do anything."

"The system of sassy-wood poisoning is carried on without the least attempt of the Liberian Government to check it."

## WRECK OF THE ENGLISH SCHOONER

"JULIA ELLEN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Palmas.

Sir,—This English schooner had been lying at anchor at Cape Palmas for some time, the Captain being detained by sickness. On the 15th of July heavy seas broke several of the anchors, and she was cast ashore. A guard was placed over her by the authorities of this place. The guards broke into the vessel and plundered the Captain's wine, rum, brandy, gin, &c. Another guard was placed, and the drunken one removed; these also helped themselves, and called the citizens to plunder the vessel, and they robbed nearly everything in her to a few things; the Captain and his crew's clothing were also robbed, so that they had not another change of suits. The Cape Palmas natives, on seeing the wreck of the vessel, went to assist themselves. The Liberian authorities told them not to do so, but asked the King to give them some of his soldiers to aid in keeping guard. The King did this, and called his men and told them not to steal anything from the vessel, and that they must protect the cargo. Whilst the natives were on guard, they saw the citizens plundering the vessel by wholesale, and then they also commenced plundering, but took good care to keep a list of what they took, and also the names of all the Liberian citizens who had plundered. The largest portion of the cargo was taken out of the vessel and laid on the beach, with a supposed intention of depositing them in a safe place for Captain Carey. The river was almost crowded with canoes and boats. Seeing the citizens loading their canoes and boats and steering another course, poor Captain Carey stood there and strongly protested, but without avail. No heed was paid to the poor Captain's cries, and the principal Government officers stood there and said nothing. Previous to this, when the guards commenced plundering, they got into a dispute with the natives and then ran away, for fear of having to fight, and scampered off with the goods. This was a concocted plan to run off with the goods. Women were also stealing cases of gin and pieces of cloth, hiding the latter under their crinolines. Nearly every person,

Mr. N. McGill excepted, in this place had hands in the plundering; those who were not directly concerned were indirectly. Captain Carey saved a box of his which was very valuable to him, containing beads which are very valuable on this coast. This only he secured and sent to his lodgings at the Honourable John Marshall's, the boarding-house keeper, and Senator for this county, by the mate, who took the said box to his room, and had his room-door locked and the key handed to the Hon. John Marshall, the proprietor of the house, and telling him at the same time not to allow any one to enter his room; but on Captain Carey's return, he found that his box had been opened and the contents were all gone. This is not the first time European gentlemen living at the Hon. John Marshall's have been robbed. Some years ago, one Mr. Tinley, of Lagos, clerk to Mr. Dunkley, of that place, came here to Palmas in search of Kroobys. He lodged at this honourable senator's house, and one evening, having been a little merry, went to bed, and the next morning every cent of his cash was gone. But before the mail came, Captain Carey, hearing of so many threats of his life being taken by a man named Adams and other roughs, went on board an English schooner which was lying in the harbour belonging to the Company of African Merchants, Captain Hannan, where he received every kindness. A public notice was posted, begging the good citizens to bring back Captain Carey's goods and they would receive salvage. One person brought back three empty bags, eaten by rats, but not the contents; another brought back a piece of handkerchief and demanded salvage. There were a few remnants of cloth which the robbers thought proper to leave for Captain Carey, and a few barrels of rum and a few other things. These were offered for sale at a public auction, and, Mr. Editor, I have never seen such doings in all my life—men, women, and children were at the auction nearly all drunk. Men had their legs thrown over the women's legs, and some women had theirs thrown over the men's legs. The auctioneer's voice was drowned by the confusion and noise. When he puts up an article and sings out seventy-five cents every person in the mart sings out \$75, \$100, &c. The rudeness of the people and their vulgarity were so immense that the auctioneer was obliged to suspend the auction for some time. On recommending the same noise and confusion prevailed. After the few articles had been sold there were a few barrels of rum to be sold. After they had robbed poor Captain Carey and his crew, and the ship's cargo, of nearly everything they claimed salvage, and the authorities paid them. The best part of the cargo saved the Liberians insisted on having as salvage. The authorities, with some honourable exceptions, are deeply involved in the robbery. It is said Judge Gibson has got about forty-seven names of the robbers. Many of them robbed the goods and hid them over at the native towns and in the bushes, whilst others had theirs in their houses. The authorities demanded the natives to return the goods they had plundered. The natives refused, and said "We shall not return ours until you make your people return theirs, and as you told us that there is no government and no law we shall keep ours quite safe until some government calls for them, and then and not before we shall give them up." The citizens who plundered the goods have threatened to shoot down any one who accuses them. The robbers are walking at large and dare any one to call their names. It is said many of the goods are sent away to trade, and that the robbers are speculating on the goods stolen. Most of them are church members—there is a preacher, and a school-teacher: and some are exhorters in church. The Rev. J. G. Auer was sent for post haste from Cavalla to render some assistance. He came, but could do nothing. A meeting was held, and the Honourable and Rev. Dr. Moore was invited. He advised the meeting that the only step to take would be martial law, but his views were not entertained and matters remain as they were. The Julia Ellen now lies a complete wreck on the beach at Cape Palmas, and has been completely plundered by the citizens of Cape Palmas and the natives. Some citizens went over to the wreck and said to the marshal who was in charge of the vessel, "I shall take a barrel of rum, you know, because I see people are robbing the vessel. I told you so, that the people will plunder so. When they ask you you can say I have told you already." The marshal answers "Yes." Another came and said "I must take some powder, for I am much in need of powder." Another came and said, "I heard that that English nigger had some nice tobacco. I want some;" and so on. Such were things, Mr. Editor, that I was disgusted to see the imposition that poor Captain Carey was subjected to. He had no protection whatever given him, for in the bright noonday men, women and children were carrying off rum, cloth, powder, &c. The Honourable John Marshall said, in a very cool manner, rubbing his hands together, "Great Britain will not make any inquiries about such a fellow as Captain Carey," and such is the opinion of many of the citizens, but they will find the contrary; and he said that "Captain Carey should bless his stars for

getting what he has got, for Great Britain knows Liberia is poor and she is to get on the best way she can." Captain Carey said he was plundered of about nearly \$15,000 (\$3,000). The plunderers have not been arrested, nor ever will, except the General Government take a move in the matter.—I am, Mr. Editor,\*

#### AN EYE-WITNESS, AND A HATER OF EVILDOERS.

##### NEW COFFEE HULLER.

Mr. William Hartley, banker, of Durban, Natal, is said to have invented a thoroughly successful and new machine, whereby the berries are at once manipulated and made ready for market. The coffee berry is hulled and peeled at one and the same time, instead of two operations as hitherto being required—viz., the removal of the parchment and of the silver skin respectively. The machine is to be patented in England. There are no rotatory spheres employed, the work being done in the compass of a small compact boxed-in machine. Another and simpler arrangement is also spoken of at Durban—viz., by the employment of circular stones, which are said to answer better than any previously known arrangement. The *Natal Mercury* says: "Upon the estate Woodville, at Wentworth, two of these stones are now in operation with the greatest success. So far from crushing the beans, as might be feared, they remove the parchment and silver-skin, but in no way injure the beans. Mr. Wilson, the energetic manager, says that during twenty years' experience in Ceylon he never saw this operation so successfully performed. Mr. Chad-dock procures his stone from a quarry near the Umgeni, and will doubtless have a large demand for stone hullers."

##### LAGOS.

##### FIVE HUNDRED HABITATIONS DESTROYED BY FIRE.

We have had a bad fire here again among the native dwellings. In about two hours 500 of these were consumed, as also the Mohammedan mosque and a small Christian place of worship. The poor people lost nearly all they possessed; two men, three females, and two children lost their lives, and some twelve injured were carried to the hospital. The small fire-engine belonging to Messrs. Banner Brothers was brought to the spot as speedily as possible, but the fire had already obtained the mastery among the crowded habitations. The fire commenced at two p.m. 6th September, and at four p.m. had burnt itself out. The sad condition of the poor houseless people was aggravated by a heavy rain which soon after commenced, and lasted throughout the night and the greater part of the following day. The losses have been serious for the people—furniture, wearing apparel, trade goods, all were destroyed, the flames having spread too rapidly to allow of many things being saved. It is hoped that the Local Government and the well-to-do merchants and traders will assist in mitigating the distress which this fire has produced.

Similar though smaller fires are but too frequent in Lagos. Our correspondent tells us that three years ago there were no less than six in that one year—seventy or eighty dwellings in one night. Last year there were also six, and this of the 6th September was the fourth of the present year. Our correspondent suggests that these fires might be prevented by all the low houses being built with flat roofs, as at Cape Coast, or if not, that there ought to be a fire-engine near every well in Government-street.

#### INFAMOUS AFRICANS DESERVING SEVERE PUNISHMENT.

"Is this evil to continue for ever?"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Old Calabar, Oct. 6, 1870.

Sir,—Daniel Josiah, formerly a washerman, at present a balance-broker, and Charles Allen, a well-known fisherman, of Wilberforce, Sierra Leone, somehow become a native of Lagos. On the afternoon of the 18th of August curiosity brought me to the residence of Daniel Josiah. I caught him in the height of beating a slave-girl, about eight years old, with a skin,\* most mercilessly. Charles Allen, who came from the street-door, snatched the skin from Daniel Josiah, and began doubling the blows on the poor girl. Some one said that they would kill the girl. Charles Allen replied, "She can die if she likes." By this time the poor girl was gasping for breath. Daniel Josiah said, "Let her die—she's my money!" A native man, who witnessed the scene, could bear the sight no longer; he rushed forward, and with much difficulty, forced the skin from their hands. The poor girl would have been dead had it not been for this native man. I should not be doing my duty were I to be silent about such wickedness. The brutal deed was reported to

\* We have full confirmation of this account, which places the principal facts herein narrated beyond all doubt.—Ed. A. T.

the European Trade Court and Court of Equity. It called David Josiah, who tried to make believe that he does not know what has become of his slave-girl—kine. I say, either he must have sold the girl; or got rid of her some other way. During the time the two ruffians were beating the girl, a large chain was round the girl's neck. I visited the house of Daniel Josiah several times, and found the poor girl still in irons, naked, under rain and sun. This wretch, Josiah, *wasn't* professing religion. When such men as he, has the mind to use his fellows thus, what will those who are beyond the missionaries' reach do? These two ruffians' brutality to the poor fatherless girl highly merits some British token. This Daniel Josiah styled himself Right Honourable, having assumed the post of magistrate in the Calabarians' balance-house. Freedom and fair-play is the motto of the present day. All the poor girl's offence was trying to run away.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

#### THE EUROPEAN WAR.

Sept. 25 to Oct. 31.—Lord Granville recommends fresh efforts at accommodation to both belligerents. M. Thiers applies to Count Bismarck for free pass from Tours to German headquarters, and to and from Paris. While waiting this, Marshal Bazaine's army, with Metz, its forts, garrison, artillery, arms, war-material, eagles, &c., are surrendered to the army of Prince Frederick Charles. Capitulation discussed, 27th; is finally settled 28th, the whole army and garrison to be prisoners of war, 3 marshals of France, 60 generals, 6,000 officers, and 173,000 men, of whom 40,000 sick and wounded. Provisions, prepared by anticipation, are immediately furnished by the Germans, and abundance succeeds at once to famine. All the prisoners are sent to Germany, except such officers as accept freedom on parole. The King of Prussia orders all the marshals, generals, and superior officers to Wilhelmshöhe, to report to the Emperor Napoleon. The Empress goes there, remains twenty-four hours, and returns to Chiselhurst. Gambetta issues furious proclamations charging Bazaine, &c., with treason. Popular demonstrations in Tours calmed by the National Guards. France stunned, but defiant. Van der Tann still occupies Orleans; Werder is advancing on Besançon and Lyons. The French army of the Loire near Tours said to be 100,000 men; army of the Rhine, 100,000; and other army corps being gathered, that in the north under General Bourbaki, head-quarters at Lille, said to be already 50,000 strong.

Nov. 1 to 5.—A corps of General Werder's troops take Dijon. M. Thiers enters Paris, 30th. Of Prince Frederick Charles's army 50,000, it is said, go at once to Paris, 50,000 toward Lille, 50,000 toward Bourges and Lyons. At Tours, on the 3rd, news from Paris from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 by balloon. All the Paris journals of 31st, except *Reveil* and *Combat*, favourable to the proposed armistice. The ultra-Republicans make a demonstration, imprison the Defence Government at the Hotel de Ville, and name "Committee of Public Safety and of the Commune." National Guards deliver General Trochu and his companions. Trochu issues proclamation that the armistice will be beneficial. As a compromise with the ultras, the Defence Government order public election of maires and deputy maires for all the twenty arrondissements of Paris on the 5th Nov. On the 3rd all Parisians to vote on the question, "Does the population of Paris maintain, 'Yes' or 'No,' the powers of the Government of the National Defence?" Werder's troops marching from Dijon on Chagny. The French commanders do not act in concert with Garibaldi.

November 7 to 14.—M. Thiers received instructions from Paris to break off the negotiations for an armistice, and leave the German headquarters at Versailles. The Parisian vote of confidence in the National Defence Government on the 3rd was, ayes, 442,000; noes, 49,000; with Mobile Guards, &c., 557,970 ayes, and 62,638 noes. After this election M. Jules Favre repeated, "The Government has sworn not to yield one inch of territory and will remain faithful to its engagements." This of course explains the rupture of negotiations for an armistice. Nothing of importance in military affairs to the 7th, except the surrender to the Germans of Fort Mortier, the detached fort of New-Breisach, with 220 prisoners and five guns. The destination of the Germans from before Metz is reported as follows: The 1st Army, under General Manteuffel, is to go to the north. It consists of the 1st and 8th Corps, the 7th Corps being left to occupy Metz. The 2nd Army, under Prince Frederick Charles, goes, it is said, south. It consists of the 3rd, 9th, and 10th Corps, and marched on the 1st November. The 2nd Corps has already marched towards Paris. Verdun surrendered on the 8th. Nicu Breisach capitulated on the 10th; the Prussians took 5,000 prisoners and 100 pieces of artillery. Belfort is strictly invested.

\* Cowhide, like the slave-whips of the Southern States of America formerly, no doubt.—Ed.

Montmedy again besieged, and to be now bombarded. On the 9th the Army of the Loire, under General Paladin d'Aureilles advanced upon Orleans, which the Bavarians, under Von der Tann, evacuated, retreating on Toury, where they effected a junction with the troops of General Wittich and those under Prince Albrecht. The King telegraphs that the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg with his corps will join these on the 11th. Fresh meat at an end in Paris on the 11th or 12th.

November 14 to 22.—The Duke of Mecklenburg and General Von der Tann have retreated a further seven miles towards Paris. State of affairs complicated by Russian note withdrawing from some of the conditions of the Treaty of Paris. France animated by hope of allies and the late victory at Orleans, where the whole loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, is stated at near 4,000 men.

November 21.—General Manteuffel's army on the one side, and that of Prince Frederick Charles on the other, are said to be now in communication with the Duke of Mecklenburg and Von der Tann's army, and the French are said to be moving southward to avoid being surrounded. It is not believed that there will be any sortie at present from Paris. Ricciotti Garibaldi is reported to have killed or captured a Prussian detachment of 800 men.

November 22.—No intelligence of importance.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN DIAMOND-FIELDS.

These fields, on the Vaal River, are situated about 500 miles from Port D'Urban, Natal.

There appears at the last accounts to have been about 11,000 people at the diggings, which now extend along the Vaal for a distance of twenty miles on either side of the "great camp." Buildings of a more permanent character than canvas structures were being put up; stores were abundant, amusements plentiful, and provisions cheap.

The diamond news continues very satisfactory. Every week's mail reports numerous fresh discoveries of precious stones, and the proportion of valuable gems found is described as being unusually large.

The *Natal Mercury*, in giving the above, calls, however, special attention to the fact that this diamond seeking is a "lottery." A lottery it is in every sense of the term.

Of the many who are toiling on the banks of the Vaal River only a certain, perhaps a small percentage can be called successful. It is true that professional lapidaries have declared their opinion that these new diamond-fields are richer and more extensive than any that the world has yet known. It is true that the number of large and valuable gems, as compared with the number of diggers at work, exceeds recorded experience in Brazil. But it is also true that very many parties work on week after week, even month after month, without finding anything rich enough fairly to reward their exertions; for the toil is peculiarly laborious, and no person should sacrifice certain employment for the chances of diamond digging.

Long lists are given of persons who have found large and beautiful gems. Of course small, very small, stones preponderate, one statement estimating the diamonds found at 1,000 per week. The Free State *Friend* adds the following:—

"The Vaal River fields are in their babyhood. Enough, however, has been ascertained concerning them to indicate that they are the richest known in the world. Mr. Unger, the diamond merchant from Hamburg, who is now buying up precious stones in our Golconda, says: 'The size of the stones, and the area of the fields, is a matter of the greatest wonder, surpassing, in these respects, all hitherto discovered regions.' It must be admitted that Mr. Unger is well competent to speak upon this subject; consequently his words deserve weight."

The *Natal Mercury* adds:—

"Several parties are now on the fields for the purpose of purchasing diamonds, and the diggers seem to experience no difficulty in disposing of their diamonds for cash."

"We hear that a vessel has been laid on at Mauritius to convey passengers to Natal, en route to the diamond-fields, and that fifty passengers had already engaged berths in her."

"A report, awaiting confirmation, has been made that a beautiful diamond has been found in Weenen County."

"The appearances of the ground at Olivier's Hoek are said to be very similar to those at the diamond-fields, and it is not at all improbable that ere long diamonds may be found in this colony."

The Cape and Natal papers are full of this diamond theme.

Messrs. S. W. Silver and Co. have published a little pamphlet on this subject, which is well worthy the perusal of every one whose thoughts are turned towards diamond-seeking or mineral exploration in South Africa. The title is "South Africa and Its Resources," pp. 28; with an admirable map, price 1s.



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## The African Times.

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## GAMBIA GOVERNMENT REFORM.

In our last we published a correspondence between the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Thomas F. Quin and Thomas Brown, Esqs., merchants of the Gambia, which we now supplement by the "Proposed Scheme" therein mentioned, for which we could not before find space. The hasty and inconsiderate action of H.M. Government and the Coast authorities, has compromised the security of the colony. Determined to transfer the Gambia to France as a commencement of the Imperial renunciation of the West African Settlements, the troops were withdrawn without any other arrangement being made for the public safety. The trade of the River and the lives of the population of Bathurst, &c., were left to the tender mercies of the heathen inhabiting the contiguous territories. We do not say there was an intention to place the colony in this defenceless state. The Government had not calculated upon that enlightened and patriotic opposition to their projected cession in which we took the lead; and it therefore entered into their plans that the French Government should provide for giving that protection which they had themselves withdrawn. When we and the Gambia merchants had enlightened the country and the Houses of Parliament upon the flagrant injustice and impolicy of the surrender to France of an attached colony and an important coaling station, and the outbreak of the Franco-German War had afforded H.M. Government an opportunity for backing out of the false position in which they had placed themselves and the country in this matter, we expected that the very next mail from Liverpool would have conveyed instructions to the Coast for an immediate and repeated visit to Bathurst and ascent of the River, by one of the gunboats on the West Coast Station. Successive mails, however, arrived in this country with intelligence that there had not been any such visit or ascent; and that as regards public security and the safety of merchants and native property, the colony was in a very unsatisfactory state. To have allowed this to continue without remonstrance or suggestions for a reorganisation of government that should give security, would have been suicidal on the part of the merchants principally concerned. It will have been seen that the Earl of Kimberley threw in their teeth (if we may be pardoned for using so inelegant, though expressive a phrase) the appearance in the yearly Imperial estimates of 1,500*l.* last year and 1,000*l.* in this present, as grants in aid to the Gambia. Alas! how are the mighty fallen! The Government of Great Britain, whose colonial empire had extended to every part of the habitable earth, pleading these ridiculously small sums as burthens on the National Exchequer! It became a duty, then, on the part of those gentlemen with whom the Colonial-office urged such weighty considerations, to reply that such grants in aid must have been entered on the estimates for some Imperial and not Colonial consideration, seeing that there was a surplus Gambia revenue invested in New Zealand Bonds, even under a shamefully extravagant system; and to propose some practical and practicable change in the Gambia expenditure, by which the colony might be able to subsidise the mother country for assisting in its protection. The scheme we now lay before our readers was, therefore, brought by them under the consideration of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies. We believe we are correct in stating that the Colonial-office has not yet expressed any opinion relative to this "Proposed Scheme" of

Gambia Expenditure. We also refrain at present from any expression of opinion, except that the framers of it seem to us to have made therein ample provision for the public service, Justice excepted. We shall no doubt soon receive the opinions of our other friends at the Gambia about the respective items of which it is composed; and when we have their ideas and those of Her Majesty's Government before us, as all the parties concerned will be then in presence, we shall have no difficulty in giving our verdict. Meanwhile, we hail with pleasure anything like a practical scheme of economical and administrative reform in a West African settlement or colony. We hope to see the example followed by other settlements suffering under the undeserved reproach of being a burthen to the mother country. But there are one or two points respecting which it is not necessary that we should reserve our opinion, or rather the expression of our opinion. These are the salary of the Governor and the charges for pensions. There is an Imperial interest in the preservation of the Gambia to Great Britain, and it is not too much to demand that Great Britain should pay her representative authority there. The "pensions" have accrued while the colony was acknowledgedly retained for Imperial considerations, and under a system for which the Imperial Government alone was responsible, the local public not having been allowed any voice in the matter. The transfer of this 2,300*l.* to the Imperial Exchequer would increase the available surplus revenue of the colony for protection and public improvements, according to the scheme under consideration (including the little additional taxation stated to be practicable), to the sum of between 9,000*l.* and 10,000*l.* a-year, which, if properly expended, would, we are convinced, afford such protection to the commerce of the River as it has not lately enjoyed, and as will lead to a considerable increase of trade and revenue.

## COMPLAINTS FROM LIBERIA.

It is with unfeigned regret that we have from month to month to bring forward evidence disproving that rose-coloured view of Liberia which it has been so much the fashion to put forward, and in which we ourselves have not been blameless. But we fear that the people of Liberia have been injured instead of benefited by that continual laudation of which they have been the objects, and their works in the great path of Christian civilisation the subjects. A few men, really eminent in talent and acquirements—men who might fairly challenge a high position in any civilised state—have brought a renown to her which was only deserved because they individually were worthy. And this has led those who are interested in her welfare to expect too much from her. We have heard of an emigrant population of 15,000 from the United States having brought 600,000 aboriginal natives contentedly under the steadily progressing influences of a Christian civilisation, radiating from Monrovia and Cape Palmas, until we at last believed it. Such accounts as that of the poor women whose liberation was provoked by our notice of their position, and as those which appear in our columns this month, necessarily dispel some of the illusions that have been entertained. But what then? Is Liberia, therefore, a failure? Far from it. It is only the indirect eulogies of her friends that have placed her in a false position, and so inflated even the sober and talented men of whom we have been writing with national pride, as to bring her into easily avoidable difficulties; such, for instance, as that with the British Government to which we lately alluded, and that new one which will undoubtedly arise out of the lawless proceedings in the matter of the wreck of the Julia Ellen near Cape Palmas. It is we and other friends who were wrong, in believing it to be possible for this emigrant population of 15,000 United States Africans, not chosen from among the most talented, educated, or wealthy, but principally from among the poor and despised—it is we who were wrong in believing that such a population, whatever its form of government, could bring 600,000 native African heathen under the restraints of civilising influences and Christian laws, or be themselves obedient to them. It will

be long, we fear, before cannibalism, sassy-wood poisoning, and other heathen atrocities will disappear, killed by the onward stride of Christian civilisation. It is time we should tell the citizens of Liberia that they have yet of themselves done next to nothing—that they have everything to do; and we shall have the greater hope of them if they become modest workers, instead of egregious and offensive boasters. In the same way that what has been done in the path of Christian civilisation at the British settlements along the coast has been done by agencies and help from England, so all that has been done in Liberia has been done through United States influences, and with United States devotion, and labour, and money. And it is for this that we feel so deep an interest in the work of the Colonisation Society in America, with its periodical despatch of United States Africans to Liberia. The 15,000 citizens Liberia already possesses, with the machinery of representative government at work, form a promising nucleus for the great radiating army of civilisation, which we hope will ere long flock into her from the United States, and spread out from Monrovia and Cape Palmas, and other occupied points along her boasted 600 miles of seaboard, and deep into her illimitable, or at least undefined, interior. As she is now, she wants much, very much, without which progress is slow, difficult, and painful. Her revenues are really insufficient for very modest requirements of government; for what is 30,000*l.* a-year for a country undefined as regards the interior, with 600 miles of seaboard, and 600,000 heathen aborigines? She wants her rivers improved, ordinary roads, railroads, breakwaters, and other harbour facilities, everything, in fact, which constitutes the difference between a barbarous and civilised country. She cannot—it is impossible—create the means for these, which are not only indispensable as wealth creators, but also as aids to civilised executive government. She cannot create these save by very slow and painful degrees. She must get these means from abroad, or wait a weary time for them, if she ever succeed in getting them at all, which we much doubt, by home instrumentality. And as her citizens are so ultra-American it seems as if they must come from the United States. We were pleased to see, therefore, that the formation of a railroad in Liberia—a road of 300 miles—into the interior, was lately mooted there by Mr. President Royce during his late visit to America, although it seems to us altogether impracticable in the manner proposed. We shall have more faith in its formation, when we see an exodus of 100,000 Africans from the United States, and among them (as there ought now to be if they understood their true interests and independence) men who have acquired money in industrial pursuits—good working engineers, and that array of well-taught mechanics and labourers, without which no such works can be accomplished.

## NEW EUROPEAN COMPLICATIONS—THE RUSSIAN NOTE.

AFTER rumour had for some few weeks been busy about clouds rising on the Eastern horizon of Europe, the Russian Government despatched a note to its various representatives at foreign courts for communication to the respective governments to which they were accredited, in which it declares some of the stipulations of the Treaty of Paris which limit offensively its position in the Black Sea to be no longer supportable, and that it must therefore withdraw from them. As it had been long expected in political circles that Russia would demand some modification of those stipulations, the surprise felt was not so much at the desire of Russia to be freed from them, as at the mode and terms in which that desire is officially made known and the time chosen for making it known. It has been for some time surmised or understood that Prussia would support Russia more or less in her Eastern policy, as a recompense for the friendly neutrality of Russia during the Prussian campaigns in Austria and France. The *quid pro quo* was to be on the side of Turkey, but it was not supposed that Russia would exact it until the Franco-German War should have ended; however dark the

Russian cloud might become, it was not expected that the lightning would issue until Europe was once more at peace. While we are writing, European diplomacy, sorely troubled, has not been able to solve the enigma, of why the precise time that has been chosen by Russia, was chosen. We, however, like all other persons, we suppose, who are interested in such questions, have our solution. This flash was made from St. Petersburg on the 19th October, when it was well known there that the rendition of Metz was certain to take place within a few days—and when it was consequently believed that the complete Prussian triumph in France was at hand. Had Russia been previously ignorant on the subject, which is not at all likely, the late disclosure of the *pourparlers* between Prussia and France as regards compensation for the neutrality of the latter while Prussia was carrying out her plans in 1866, must have shown her how little Prussia could be depended upon for the *quid*, after she had irrevocably obtained the *quo*; and therefore deemed it prudent to disclose what her *quid* was to be, while yet Prussia was dependent on the continuance of her friendly neutrality. This is the only solution we can imagine, although, notwithstanding the little faith we have in Prussian promises, we think the Russian assumption of Prussian *mala fides*, which alone seems to us to explain her action may have been unfounded. For it ought to be borne in mind, that there was what might justly be regarded as a sufficient excuse for the seeming *mala fides* of Prussia with France after the successful campaign of 1866. Prussia no doubt owed her great success to the friendly neutrality of France; but in the moment of Prussia's triumph French vanity stepped in to neutralise or limit, as far as possible, the advantages Prussia looked for as the fruits of her success. It is well known how sore Prussia felt at the conditions imported by France into the Treaty of Prague—conditions the more offensive since France had not taken any part in the conflict, but only abstained from taking part—and it may therefore well be, that if French vanity had not thus interposed Belgium would have become French, and other territorial changes, as indicated by the secret negotiations, would have been effected. We do not, therefore, deem it at all certain that Prussia would have cheated Russia as regards compensation; but until some better solution be given we must continue to believe that Russia feared she might be tempted to do so, and therefore hurled her thunderbolt at astonished Europe. We have always denounced the policy of Great Britain in her determination to uphold at all cost the Mohammedan Empire. We look upon that policy as in every respect unwise, and in a Christian point of view quite indefensible. Earl Granville has given a very dignified reply to the Russian note, and while we write an English envoy, Mr. Odo Russell, so long at Rome, is at Versailles, to ascertain to what extent Prussia identifies herself with the Russian demand. With the sickening horrors of the Franco-German War brought home daily to our hearts by the public press, we have now the apprehension that a wider field of slaughter may be opened, in which British blood may be poured out; but still we venture to hope that wiser counsels may prevail, and pacific arrangements be effected.

## THE FRENCH AND GERMAN WAR.

AGAIN we have to commence our monthly notice of this disastrous war with the failure of negotiations for an armistice. Stimulated confessedly by Count Bismarck's circular, alluded to in our last, the British Government made an effort to bring negotiators of each belligerent once again in presence, with a view to an armistice for facilitating the election of a Constituent Assembly in France. Five-and-twenty or eight-and-twenty days was to be the duration of the armistice if conditions could be agreed upon. The French National Defence Committee insisted on being allowed to revictual Paris during the armistice, without offering any equivalent. This was refused, and the French Committee broke off the negotiations. If our readers remember the conclusion of our last month's notice, they will at once

perceive that this could not cause us any surprise; and was only calculated to bring anew to our mind the hackneyed heathen aphorism "that the gods first make mad or foolish those whom they purpose to destroy." France, it was true, had everything to gain by an armistice; but, on the other hand, it is currently believed that the National Defence Committee would have everything to lose by it, through the action of that Constituent Assembly for facilitating the election of which the said armistice was proposed. The news of the surrender of Metz to the Germans, a check received by the Parisians near St. Denis, and the negotiations for an armistice being simultaneously known in Paris, was too much for the extreme Red party, which endeavoured to dispossess the Defence Committee, and establish the government by commune. General Trochu, M. Jules Favre, and others of the Committee were some time captive at the Hotel de Ville; the Moderate National Guards came to their rescue and restored them to the exercise of their functions. They then demanded of Paris a plebiscitary vote of confidence, which they of course got, making at the same time the concession of permitting the election of mayors and deputy mayors throughout Paris, the functionaries who would become the depositories of power should the "Commune" be installed. The rupture of the armistice negotiations followed immediately on these elections. Although Paris and its besiegers then resumed their full liberty of action, there was not any immediate renewal of active hostilities between them. But on the 9th and 10th the Army of the Loire, reformed and augmented to 150,000 men, moved against General Von der Tann at Orleans, who, after repulsing attacks by the French right and left wings, fell back upon Tours, where he effected a junction with the troops under General Willich and the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg. The French General, having failed in cutting Von der Tann off from his supports and Paris, remained inactive in and near Orleans for several days. Meanwhile, a sortie on a grand scale from Paris, some 120,000 men with 1,000 pieces of artillery, was daily expected. Prince Frederick Charles, with part of the army lately before Metz, was known to be marching in a direction which would allow of his operating against Tours if deemed necessary, and something of the feverish anxiety for news which prevailed in England at the commencement of this momentous war was again felt. Day after day passed without the excitement being appeased by any important news. Meanwhile the Russian note relative to the positions of Russia and Turkey in the Black Sea (to which we have elsewhere alluded) came in to add a new warlike entanglement to public affairs throughout Europe. Is Prussia a party to this? how far is Prussia a party to this? is it made at this time and in so insulting a tone with her connivance or without her being consulted? War or peace for all Europe hung and is still hanging in the scales, though Spain has at length found a king in the person of the Duke of Aosta, son of Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy, who has been elected by the Cortes and has accepted the long vacant throne, the finding an occupant for which has been made an excuse for this horrible Franco-German war. Now that the principal divisions of the German army of Metz are in communication with the army before Paris and that confronting the army of the Loire some important events must be impending. In conclusion, we can only express the hope that with our Christmas number we may have the happiness of resuming our notice of the war with the announcement that this great scandal to Christendom has been brought to an end.

#### LIBERIA.

WRECK OF THE JULIA ELLEN NEAR CAPE PALMAS—RETIREMENT OF MR. GERARD RALSTON FROM THE CONSUL-GENERALSHIP OF LIBERIA IN ENGLAND.

As some of our most true relations of deplorable occurrences at and near Cape Palmas have been unwisely and untruthfully impugned, we think it right to notice that the particulars given to Her Majesty's Government by Captain Carey in his claim for redress and compensation to be demanded from the Liberian authorities, substantially confirm the statements of our cor-

respondents as to the plundering of the Julia Ellen and stealing the effects of the captain and crew. The person most complained of by Captain Carey, both as regards his own personal conduct and the evil influence he exercised, is a man having the rank of lieutenant and adjutant in the Liberian Army; but it is only justice to add, that Captain Carey speaks most highly of the kindness and assistance received by him from Mr. R. McGill, Colonel Cooper, and a few of the leading men, as also of the kindness shown to some of the crew by Mr. John Marshall. We have never felt any doubt that the respectable citizens of Cape Palmas have greatly deplored the excesses of the "rowdy" element among them; as well as the inhuman abandonment to their wretched fate of the poor women so long held in filthy captivity at Cavalla and Rocktown. But we would urge upon them for the sake of their country's reputation, which is very dear to us, to exert themselves, in conjunction with the Government, to bring those compromising rowdy elements into proper subjection. It is not well for Liberia to have claim after claim made upon her for injuries sustained by British subjects. There are but too many men in all countries of Europeans and their descendants, ready to sneer at a negro nation laying claim to a place among civilised communities, and who forget the records of history as to the early national life of their own particular people. We deplore, therefore, when we are compelled to place our finger upon a Liberian blot; but the Liberians may rest assured that those are their best friends who plainly point out their misdeeds with a view to their amendment. While on this subject of Liberia, we cannot avoid expressing our deep regret at the retirement of Mr. Gerard Ralston from the Consul-generalship of Liberia in this country. We do not hesitate to say that the services he has rendered to Liberia entitle him to the highest rank among the friends of the African Republic, and his memory to undying respect among now living Liberians and their descendants to remote generations. One of their first duties so soon as the national finances are set in order, will be to erect a statue or memorial to the man whose untiring energies in their behalf have obtained the recognition of Liberia in treaties by all the European powers. It will be difficult to find a worthy successor to such a man.—Ed. A.T.

#### GREAT EVILS AND INJUSTICE REQUIRING PROMPT REMEDY.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

"I pray you, Sir, match me its fellow."—BEN JONSON.  
"My Lords, taxation without representation is simply robbery."—THE GREAT LORD CHATHAM.

Sierra Leone, September 1, 1870.

The governor-generalship of the West Coast of Africa is a complete failure; experience shows that it does not work well, while it entails a great expense on Sierra Leone, and the only compensation she gets in return is to be called Head-quarters. The Governor-in-Chief of the West Coast, whose principal time ought to be occupied in dealing with matters of Sierra Leone, with which he is directly connected (owing to the additional employment given him, to superintend the affairs of the minor settlements), can scarcely find time to attend to matters connected with his own immediate government with any degree of satisfaction; for when he should be at his seat regulating and adjusting the public machinery of Sierra Leone, he is away to some other place, settling some petty disputes between some petty chiefs—disputes with which he is as incapable of dealing as the Lord Mayor of London. What does the Governor-in-Chief, who resides at Sierra Leone, know of the manners, customs, and habits of the Fantees and Ashantees to qualify him for dealing with matters connected with those tribes? He governs over a people dissimilar in every respect, and is governed only by hearsay information, which is very often at variance with facts. The local administrators who dwell among these tribes, and who have thereby the opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with the laws and customs of these people under their immediate control, ought, if proper care be exercised by the Colonial office in its appointments, to be more competent to adjust matters between them than any governor-in-chief of Sierra Leone, who has come among them on a flying visit, and with no other knowledge than such as he calls on the way. You would perhaps laugh right out if you were told that the King of the Bulloms was authorised to regulate the government of Sierra Leone; but surely this is not more ridiculous than giving the Governor-in-Chief power to meddle in the matters of all the various tribes on the West Coast. The new system, then, is of no practical utility, but rather a great disadvantage to Sierra Leone. There was some hope in the beginning that it would be the means of great improvements, but it has been fairly tried and has failed, sadly failed; and what is left now is that it is necessary to do away with it, and confine every governor to the im-

mediate settlement over which he rules. This running about of the Governor, too, forces on the people of this settlement a vast and unjust expense to keep up a ruinous system. Take it how you may, Sierra Leone is the loser, and she does not see the force of contributing funds for the convenience of the sister settlements, when they are in a prosperous state and able to provide for themselves. If the truth were known, these settlements would rather that we keep our Governor-in-Chief to ourselves, and not trouble them with him. For the last nine months there has been no sitting of the Legislative Council, and all is owing to the Governor-in-Chief having to attend to the affairs of Gambia, Cape Coast, and Lagos. There is but too much dirt at our own doors to be swept away; and it would be far more desirable to attend to this first, before being anxious about the doors of other people.

The judges, too, are paid by us here for settling the disputes of other settlements. It is rather a hard matter for Sierra Leone to be saddled with all this burden, seeing she does not get the exclusive benefit; the other settlements should pay the salary of Mr. Justice Huggins, or of whoever replaces him here, since they benefit by the services of our judges; and it would not, perhaps, be amiss, under such circumstances, as you counselled when advocating the appointment of a third judge, to send them on circuits, as is done in England. This would give them active employment during the lengthened period they take to consider the verdict they would give in a simple case, as of trespass or assault and false imprisonment. If the Home Government were bearing all these expenses, as in former times, there would be no complaint, for the money would be theirs and they would be at perfect liberty to do what they pleased with their own; but we find that the money spent for the purposes above-mentioned is from the revenue raised from the people of this colony, and the Government have no right to squander it as they please without even consulting the feelings of the people on matters of expenditure. It would seem that the desire to have the unlimited control over the people's money is that which prompts the Government to hesitate in granting the people the right to elect and send representatives to the Legislative Council. Survey all the British colonies, and there is not to be found one, except Sierra Leone, with a revenue of 80,000*l.*, without representative institutions. All that Sierra Leone can boast of, to her shame, is a narrow council, composed almost exclusively of Government officials, who are bound by their very position to vote with the Governor, who is President of the Council. The three unofficial members are only councillors in theory; any opposition on their part would be ineffectual, for the Government always takes care to keep up a majority on its side; besides this, these unofficial members are appointed by the Crown, and were they to give any trouble in withstanding any Government measures, the Colonial office would at once get rid of them by removing them from the Council Board. You will perceive, then, that practically the Governor is the Council, *ergo*, by conversion the Council is the Governor. In such a constitution what protection are the interests of the people likely to have? None whatever. What does the Government care about the coloured people of the West Coast Settlements? Has not Mr. Monsell told you this openly in the House of Commons, by stating that it would be "interesting" to know that in 1869 there were only thirty-nine European males and eight females at the Gambia, and impliedly gave the world to know that this lack of European element in that settlement was a sufficient reason for bartering away Her Majesty's coloured subjects without any regard to their feelings? This is Downing-street policy, and it is followed by all connected with or dependent on its infallibility. The Colonial office does not care a straw about the rights or feelings of the coloured race; it has said so in the plainest possible terms, and its statement has been borne out by its actions toward the native people of the West Coast Settlements. The settlements are only used as fat pastures for European officials, too many of whom are unfit for any employment at home. The coloured inhabitants are to work like galley-slaves to contribute money for the support of England's refuse; and after this these very people are abused and told they are mere chattels to be dealt with at will, and to be disposed of to the highest bidder. With what feelings must this people view any Government which is capable of giving utterance to Mr. Monsell's sentiments? If we are of so little importance to Great Britain, then why not leave us alone altogether to manage our own affairs? The little protection we get from her is dearly paid for, God knows! We pay not only for what we really need, but also for what is of no use to us, and for which we would gladly pay to be rid of—*e.g.*, blundering and cruel Mr. Justice Huggins, and illiterate and presumptuous officials. The people here can no longer, except under protest, contribute 80,000*l.* to be dealt with as heretofore. They call for representatives of their own choice to determine the manner in which their money should be handled for the future. It is not right that the

Government should be allowed to use such freedom with what does not belong to it; it is merely a *trustee* for the public benefit, not absolute owner of the revenue; and therefore the Government cannot justly dispose of that revenue without consulting those for whom it holds it in trust. It is a great injustice to tax the people without their consent, and then to deny them a voice in the disposal of what they contribute. The executive here, made up, for the most part, of Government officials, who have no interest in the community beyond their monthly salaries, not only impose taxes without the consent of the people, but when in their easy-going nature the people raise the money, these few officials take it under command and do with it what they think proper. Look at how the estimates are passed; they are introduced while the Council is actually sitting, without previous notice being given, or without their being printed and circulated among the members, to allow them time to think the matter over. This manner of doing the business allows of no debate, and before the public are aware that a Council is sitting, the entire business is transacted at a single meeting. This is the way things are done in Sierra Leone, and on the West Coast generally. The people are now justly dissatisfied with Government measures; they have long been intruded upon and unfairly dealt with. In days gone by their ignorance unfitted them to have a voice in public affairs, but since then they have advanced in education through missionary exertion and their own perseverance, and they have a right now to deal with all public matters affecting their interests. Neither the Colonial office nor the Local Government manifests any disposition to keep pace with the temper and growing intelligence of the people of the West Coast Settlements; both seem to be jealous of the progress of the Africans, and are more inclined to use repressive measures to keep them down than to lead a hand to push them onward to independence. Every obstacle is put in the way of constitutional liberty, and no means are left untried to deprive the free coloured subjects of the use of their privileges. By the most dishonest manoeuvres trial by jury has been taken away, and when the people complain in nine petitions of the cruelty, injustice, and oppression which have resulted from the withdrawal of such a safeguard, they are told in the most unfeeling manner that these furnish no grounds for restoring the time-honoured institution. Can such treatment fail to produce discontent, and is it not enough to alienate the people from the Government? Is it astonishing that authority should be regarded with distrust, and officials viewed in the light of enemies to the welfare of the people?

The popular voice is calling loudly for popular representation in order that the abuses of these many years may have a stop put to them. But the people do not want the Government to appoint representatives for them; they desire to have the appointment in their own hands. Experience has taught them not to trust so vital a matter in the hands of the Government, for it would take care to choose its own creatures, who would bow to its will, and then things would be in a worse state than before. Independent men are required to represent the people, men who have minds of their own in the colony, in common with their fellow citizens, and who will guard those interests with the greatest vigilance. The experience of late years has shown the danger of entrusting the rights of the people to the hands of officials. The Blackall-Huggins Government vilified the people, robbed them of their trial by jury, and attempted by what was called a "Bill" to bring poor Africans under official thralldom. That same Government harassed the colony with something like 5,000*l.* to pay damages and costs incurred by Mr. Collector Shaw in making illegal seizures. This was most unjust, and will ever be a disgrace to the Government that granted the public money for the purpose. To say the least of it, the expenses ought to have been divided proportionately between the Governor, the Collector, and the public. Had the seizure been a successful one to the Government, the Governor and Mr. Shaw would have pocketed their share of the spoil, and no argument would have induced them to give up the spoil for the benefit of the public; how, then, can it be consistent with fair play that when the seizure proves a failure the public alone should be made to pay for the rapacity of a Customs House officer and the blunders of an ignorant Queen's Advocate? The whole transaction was vile from first to last; it could never have been successful but in a council composed of Government officials sitting with closed doors. This is a fact well worthy of being recorded and sent to the civilised world, in order to show what daring outrages can be perpetrated by the Government on Africans on their own soil. It is to avoid a like scandal, and to curb Government freedom in dealing with the public revenue for objectionable purposes, that the cry is raised for popular representation; and if there is any intention to act fairly by the people what they ask for will not be withheld. Almost every act of the Local Government throws suspicion on the purity of its motives. Competitive examinations for Civil Service ap-



pointments are confined exclusively to the natives, and these, whatever may be their qualifications, are chained down to inferior posts with very small salaries; whilst the European lad, transported from behind the counter in England, leaps into high and lucrative offices here, with no examination at all, and after three months' service obtains leave of absence to visit England on half salary.

You, too, at home, have an aversion to prison whippings, as appears by the inquiry recently made in the House of Commons respecting one George Maw, who had been whipped in Durham Gaol. Do you mean that it should be understood that public sentiment is against this isolated case? Then what would be the feeling if, like Sierra Leone, this reckless whipping was carried on almost daily in your prison-yards? With us the Colonial Secretary is armed with unlimited power in this respect; he can do more with impunity than even the Chief Justice dare attempt. Hence prisoners in our gaol are subjected to the lash day by day, by the order of the Secretary, who is only controlled by his own discretion, for any breach of the prison discipline. George Maw had an influential member of Parliament to inquire about him, but who here gives a thought to the poor victims of daily torture? Our poor wretches are cursed with a sable skin, and perpetual servitude and barbarous treatment would seem to be their unchangeable destiny. It is a foul blot upon any nation which professes to set its face sternly against slavery to countenance the greatest of the evils of slavery. How long will these settlements be left to the merciless disposition of local European officials who detest the poor Africans? Among all the philanthropic members of the British Parliament is there no one to be found sufficiently interested in the affairs of these settlements to call upon the Colonial Minister to account for the reasons why these unlawful whippings are permitted to disgrace a people said to be free? Is there no one to demand a return of those who have been subjected to the lash? Dark indeed are the official doings of Sierra Leone; dreadful are the revelations yet to be made, at which humanity will shudder and Justice veil her face in sackcloth. There are some things behind the scene too atrocious for the pen to depict; indeed, if they were to be written and published to the world neither you nor the British public would be inclined to believe them; they must therefore be left to be developed by time, the unerring revealer of all things, when it will be seen the one half of the atrocities committed upon the people of Sierra Leone and the sister settlements on the West Coast have never before been recorded. How can the whole truth be told when only the insignificant portion connected with Mr. Justice Huggins' barbarities and unblushing misrepresentations have been discredited? His offence is a venial one compared with some which have not yet been brought to light. These are the causes which arouse the people to call for representatives of their own, to root out the abuses which have been made public scandals and to throw a covering over those which have not yet been held up to public gaze.

I cited Mr. Collector Shaw in a former part of my letter in order to show what can be done here by officials; but, before dismissing the subject altogether, I think it well to give you their Lordships' opinion of Mr. Shaw as expressed in the Privy Council by Lord Chief Justice Turner: "Again, notwithstanding what is said by Shaw, we consider it to be sufficiently proved that it was customary to admit the importation of goods from vessels outside upon the payment of duties, and it is admitted by Shaw that he saw the vessels outside on the 12th. It is surely most improbable that he should have granted the permit on the evening of that day, should have received the report and entries on the following morning, and should even have allowed some of the goods to have been removed from the Custom House sheds on that morning, if he had then believed the vessel to be within the jurisdiction. Such conduct on his part goes far to show that he did not then entertain any such belief, whatever he may have thought afterwards.

"The excuse which is made for this course of conduct on his part is that he was told that the goods came from Mellicourie; but it is clear from the evidence that it was the custom to insert Mellicourie and other places in the entries of the Custom House when the goods came from vessels outside; and we cannot readily believe Shaw to have been ignorant of this practice, to say nothing of there being two witnesses (Barlatt and Macrae) who distinctly state that they told him that the goods were coming from the vessel outside. There are also these further facts in favour of the appellant's case, that the character of the boats was of itself almost, if not fully, sufficient to show that the goods had not come from Mellicourie; that no Custom House officer was put on board the Belus on the 13th, which, as we apprehend, would have been the ordinary, if not the necessary course, had she been within the jurisdiction; and that the monition was not issued till so long a time after the Belus had

left the colony, and the appellants had lost the benefit of testimony which they might otherwise have been able to adduce."

In the face of these damaging reflections on the conduct and character of Mr. Shaw, a council of officials, whose deliberations were conducted in secrecy, not only voted thousands of pounds to pay the damages and costs in which he was personally condemned by their lordships, but also sanctioned his being enrolled a member of the Council, at the nomination of Major Blackall, with the approval of the Colonial-office.

#### GOD WILL PROVIDE.

By F. FitzGerald, Editor of the "African Times."

(Continued from page 47.)

And yet he doth his will among the angels of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth. This is as certain as that the sun is shining at noonday. Although clouds may obscure the face of the heavens and hide him from our view, he is fulfilling his glorious mission in all the beauty of his imparted splendour, diffusing light and heat and preparing abundance and comfort. We know this. We realise this. We do not imagine he has disappeared from the system of which he forms so important a part, because we are unable to penetrate the vapoury accumulations that have spread themselves between us and him. If we could only extend to that which our eyes have not seen, the same degree of faith that we give to the visible, we should have no more difficulty in imagining the continuous and uninterrupted action of an eternal, almighty, predisposing cause, than we have in tracing the constant performance of their assigned duties by the appointed natural agents of the Divine power. But men lose sight of the principal in the agents. In millions who do not deny a God—who are unable to resolve in their minds that this world and all they behold, and all of which they find indications, though they cannot behold, are the fortuitous results of multiform combinations by the self-operating elements of matter—the belief in a supreme intelligent cause extends no farther than an importance of general laws to those recognised elementary agents and substances, in obedience to which they have persistently worked out and are working out an original definite or indefinite purpose. They employ the terms of revelation occasionally to describe operations which they determine to have been conducted in a manner totally different from that in which revelation describes them. They maintain that existing forces are the same that they ever were, not only in their nature, but degree; that their operations have not varied in intensity or speed, and were never more rapid than at present; that from the union of the first atoms of the components in a system until now, the action has been uniform; and they reason up from this to an inconceivable eternity of progressive development in past and future matter, acting by its own forces and in keeping with its own inherent or received laws and character, appearing in successive formations, in an interminable series, through an endless duration.

In this way God is expelled from any actual present participation in the government of the world. He has at most set a machine in motion that will act regularly and eternally, and that requires no great interference by his hand. But this is not the belief inculcated by the Holy Word of God. His having given laws to matter does not there interfere in any way with his continuous interposition. By the light of revelation we are taught to view this world as formed especially for a habitation of the human race, respecting which there are great and eternal purposes to be fulfilled; that God therefore exercises a constant superior control, while this human race is working out the great end of its existence, making everything subordinate to the accomplishment of his design, in which his honour and glory, and even felicity, by his own choice in making it dependent thereon, is concerned; that although he does not generally interfere in what are called the operations of nature, but leaves them subject only to the laws he has given to it, he does interfere in the application of the results of those operations, compelling them to be ministers to his specific intents; that he thus produces both general and particular results among the nations of the earth and among individual men, that are not the results which would under other circumstances have been obtained; that the directing principle in this interference is love to the human race as a whole, and in especial to particular members of it; that while leaving to man his free agency, except inasmuch as he is subject to the operation of universal laws, he has issued his commands for the regulation of his conduct, which man may obey or disobey, subject to the rewards or penalties that attach; that he offers to all men an assisting, controlling power by the operations of his Spirit within them, to enable them to conform in all things to his will, which assistance they may also accept or reject, the

one with assured blessings, the other not with impunity; that those who thus accept and reciprocate his eternal and unchanging love become objects of his special love and care; that, further, he will interfere in a particular manner for specific and special purposes and ends connected with their present and their eternal happiness, controlling and directing secondary causes, operating even on the hearts and affections, and thrusting his hand among the works of other men, to make them agents for good (and this often when evilly working out an evil personal intent) to those objects of his especial love and care; that to them he assures, while they remain true and faithful and obedient to him in love, that his faithfulness and truth shall never fail; that they shall never seek in vain his supporting power; that he will be ever with them, in answer to prayer, to protect and preserve them; that nothing can or shall happen to them without his direct appointment or permission; and that the result, though the means may be painful and the purpose inscrutable, will be invariably blessing—in the language of the great Apostle, "That all things shall work together for good to them that love God, and that are the called according to his purpose;" that when they err, though he may punish—and he will punish their iniquities with stripes—he will not take his loving mercy from them; that in the firm assurance of his watchful care, his unlimited power, and his unceasing love, they may be calm in confidence, and are in duty bound to be so, where the hearts of other men would fail and care overwhelm them, or they would have recourse to expedients that may increase their trouble and their sorrow; that in proportion to their steadfast faith in him and in his promises will be his effectual interposition on their behalf; that while they are bound to employ and use all means that do not involve disobedience to his laws and precepts and revealed will, or distrust in him, he is equally engaged to further their views at the time and in the way that his unerring wisdom determines to be best for them; that his aid shall never be wanting, and that the end shall be peace and joy.

It is thus that, in seasons of difficulty and danger, those who are partakers of this precious faith in God through Christ, to whom has been committed all things in heaven and in earth, realise the fact of the overruling providence and constant presence of God with them. God will provide is not then a mere phrase, but the expression of a living and operating conviction. It is not the mere assent to a theory, but a practical application of the belief which that theory enunciates. And happiest he who is enabled with the strongest faith (which, however, in human creatures must be ever imperfect) to say, God will provide!

[To be continued.]

#### THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST SOCIETY'S WORK IN FERNANDO PO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Fernando Po, Sept. 5, 1870.

Dear Mr. Editor.—Through your columns I beg to inform the public and your English readers of the progress making on this island by the Primitive Methodist ministers recently appointed to labour here. Their arrival here on the 21st of February last was hailed with gladness by the respectable classes, excepting the pusillanimous, who feel displeased because time will not countenance their pernicious ways any more under the light of the blessed Gospel.

The two young men sent out as ministers are the right men in the right place; their preaching is very acceptable. May their useful lives be long spared for labour here. A day-school has been opened in the island by the said Society. It is especially respecting this that I now write to you, as you are the only person to make our several wants known to the good people in England. Please to bring the subject of this school prominently before the Parent Society of that mission, and ask them to make it capable of giving the young generations of this island a sound and practical education. Let them render this school more beneficial to the people than the one formerly maintained here by another society for many years. There was some defect in that which caused it to be without any benefit to the people. Perhaps the Parent Society may ask how the wants of this people are to be met on this head. You will please tell them that unless a teacher be sent out from England for tuition purposes, the present school will be of no permanent use whatever to the people. Say to them that the life of African missions is in their respective schools on the coast. To the Church of England and Wesleyan schools all the advancement of the Africans hitherto may be ascribed. Mr. Editor, it is now a proper time to raise up another society, to follow the example of the Church of England and Wesleyan Societies. The present mission on this island must follow the same course if they desire to do any good to the Africans.

"Sympathy is good, but really effective help is better." Preaching is very good, but the mind wants proper culture. "Knowledge is power," said one in his sermon last evening; then ignorance must be a very weakness of the mind. The present teacher of the school had his moral training from the Church Missionary School at Sierra Leone. This is sufficient to show the present mission that if they desire to improve the condition of the black races they must give their children good education. "Africa must be evangelised by her sons," said the late great Mr. Wilberforce. Mr. Editor, reading and spelling will not suffice for the Africans of 1870; the present race requires sound and complete education or training; without that they cannot rise.

Help us to pray the Parent Committee of the Primitive Methodists to improve the present school on the island, so as to make it capable of giving a higher education to our offspring.—Yours truly, "ONE VERY ANXIOUS."

#### OFFICIAL.—LONDON GAZETTE, Nov. 11.

DOWNING STREET, Nov. 10.—Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint the Rev. Henry Cheetham, M.A., to be ordained and consecrated Bishop of the See of Sierra Leone.

#### MARRIAGE.

On Thursday, November 3, at the Parish Church, St. Mary le Stratford, Bow, Middlesex, by the Rev. G. T. Driffield, Rector, Charles Foresythe, Esq., Postmaster of Lagos, West Africa, to Clementina Mary Ann Williams, of 7, Mornington-road, Bow-road, only daughter of Alexander C. Williams, Esq., merchant and Government contractor of Sierra Leone.

A YACHT VOYAGE FROM BRISTOL TO THE COAST OF AFRICA.—On Wednesday afternoon, November 2, a small yacht, measuring only about 26 feet from end to end, left the Bathurst Basin, Bristol, on a voyage to the Coast of Africa. She is said to be fifteen tons burden, and she left Bristol with a cargo of ten tons of salt, about 8 cwt. of pig iron for ballast, and two or three casks of water and provisions. She is commanded by Capt. Langdon, in addition to whom there are the mate and two men on board. She is cutter-rigged, and if favoured with good weather will make her voyage in about six weeks.

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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. LAMPOUGH'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."

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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. LAMPOUGH'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.

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