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The African Times.

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

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

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

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AFRICAN AGENCY

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

IN consequence of wishes expressed from all parts of the West Coast, Mr. FITZGERALD has made arrangements for selling produce consigned to him by ships to London or Liverpool; and purchasing, and shipping goods ordered against the proceeds of consignments or other effective remittances only, from either of the above ports, on a system by which the greatest possible advantage of the markets will be secured to the AFRICAN TRADER; and, as time is very important to small capitalists, return goods will be sent off in all cases without any delay beyond such as may sometimes be caused by manufacturers.

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, E.C.

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

SEPTEMBER, 1871.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The Steamers of this Company will henceforward be despatched from Liverpool on the 6th and 18th of each Month.

The Steamship VOLTA, Capt. JOHN GRIFFITHS, is intended to be despatched from GLASGOW on AUG. 29, and from LIVERPOOL on the 6th SEPT., at 11 A.M., for Madeira, Grand Canary, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar; also to any other immediate Port to which inducement may offer. GOODS will be received in GLASGOW up to 6 P.M. on the 28th SEPT., and at the Loading Berth in LIVERPOOL (North Side Coburg Dock) up to Noon on the 5th SEPT. Passengers will embark by Steam Tender from the Prince's Landing Stage at noon on the day of sailing.

The following departure is intended to be the Steamship LOANDA, Capt. W. S. FOLLAND, which will leave LIVERPOOL DIRECT on the 19th SEPT., at Noon, for Madeira, Teneriffe, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Half Jack, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar; also to any other immediate Port to which inducement may offer. GOODS will be received in LIVERPOOL up to 10 P.M. on the 18th. Passengers will embark at 11 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 hulk at Bonny, to be at Shipper's or Consignee's risk.

Bills of Lading of the Company's Form can be obtained from THOMAS MURRAY and SON, 91, Buchanan-street, Glasgow; and D. MARPLES, 50s, Lord-street, Liverpool.

All letters must pass through the Post-office.

For further information apply in London to Messrs. MALCOLM, HUDSON, and Co., 5, Crosby-square; 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.

British and African Steam Navigation Company's Bonny, July 28.
African Steamship Company's Lagos, August 1.
African Steamship Company's M'Gregor Laird, August 10.
British and African Company's Volta, August 14.

DEPARTURES.

African Steamship Company's Eboe, July 30.
British and African Company's Liberia, August 6.
African Steamship Company's steamer M'Gregor Laird, August 14.
British and African Steam Navigation Company's steamer Bonny, August 18.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES BUXTON, M.P.

The first announcement of this sad event, of the death of Charles Buxton, M.P. for East Surrey, was in the following, which appeared in the *Times* of August 11: "Death of Mr. Charles Buxton.—(By Telegraph).—Mr. C. Buxton, M.P. for East Surrey, died suddenly at Lochearnhead Hotel, near Killin, Perthshire, yesterday morning. He had been in bad health for some time previously, but alarming symptoms set in only a short time before death. Dr. Todd, of Killin, who was called in, attributes his death to atrophy of the heart."

At the evening sitting of the House of Commons on August 11, Mr. Taylor called attention to the evils attending the traffic in South Sea Islanders, who are carried to Queensland in considerable numbers. In seconding Mr. Taylor's motion for papers,

Mr. R. N. Fowler hoped that next year the subject would be fully discussed. It was disgraceful that such atrocities should be perpetrated under the auspices of one of the colonies of which Englishmen were most proud. He could not help on this occasion expressing his deep sense of the loss which the House had sustained in the death of the Member for East Surrey (Mr. Charles Buxton), who took an hereditary interest in these subjects, and whose name was honourably associated with them. (Cheers.) He hoped that the name of Buxton would always be associated with the suppression of any traffic savouring of the slave-trade, and that the House might always find among its members men who would pursue the same career of philanthropy. (Cheers.)

Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen wished before he made a single observation on the subject before the House, to endorse the expressions of regret which had fallen from the hon. gentleman opposite with regard to the loss which the House and the country had sustained by the death of Mr. Buxton. (Hear, hear.) As a personal friend of his, he would only say that his public services were equalled by his private virtues, and that it would be long before those who were brought into contact with him in the promotion of philanthropic objects could forget the praiseworthy readiness with which his assistance was rendered in such cases. (Hear, hear.)

The *Times* of the 12th contained the following: "The late Mr. Buxton, M.P.—The intelligence of the sudden death of Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P., given in a brief announcement by telegraph in the *Times* of yesterday, was received at Cobham, Kingston, Guildford, and, indeed, all over the county of Surrey, with profound regret."

In Mr. Charles Buxton the people of Africa have lost a sincere friend, and we greatly regret his loss, being fully able to endorse all that the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, so feelingly expressed concerning him. Mr. Buxton held a very strong opinion as to the work the *African Times* was doing for Africa and its people, and a few years since begged us to accept the sum of two guineas annually instead of five shillings for one copy of the *African Times*. In addition we would only express the hope that the mantle of ready African advocacy which the late Mr. Charles Buxton so worthily wore will have fallen on the shoulders of the present Sir T. Fowell Buxton, so that Africa may still have one of that honoured race of her defenders to help in the struggle to obtain for her people those administrative and other reforms which are essential to their taking that place among the peoples of the earth which the lamented Sir T. Fowell Buxton predicted for them, and claimed for them as their just and certain inheritance. One by one, alas! our friends and helpers in the work for Africa disappear from the scene of earthly usefulness. The good Sir Thomas Acland has been speedily followed by Mr. Charles Buxton. May God strengthen us proportionately, that the work yet to be done for Africa may not languish, nor be inefficiently executed!

ATTEMPT TO RAISE A LOAN OF £100,000 FOR LIBERIA.

The following appeared in the City article of the *Times* of the 9th August: "Subscriptions have been invited by Messrs. Holderness, Nott, and Co. for a loan of 100,000*l.* in seven per cent. bonds of the Republic of Liberia; at the price of eighty-five, in instalments extending to the 1st of November. This is the first public loan of the Republic, and the United States Minister in Monrovia (the capital) has been nominated to receive periodically the amount of revenue accruing from certain excise and customs duties hypothecated as security."

THE CRISIS IN LIBERIA.

From the *Republican* (Liberian newspaper), Monrovia, July 10. OUR CRISIS.

That there is nothing in finance, nothing in any of the departments of industrial development which can be safely inaugurated in Liberia—or any other country—with any hope of successful duration until the good government of the country can be reckoned upon is a truth that ought to sink deep into the minds of our people. That the good government of the country depends in the greatest degree upon the character and virtue of those who conduct it, is another grand fact which, it seems, receives too little attention in Liberia. Neither changes of Legislature, nor lengthening nor shortening of the time of stay in office, are the questions which should now most press on the Liberian mind. There must first of all be a reasonable and intelligent comprehension by all, and especially by the mass of the people, the constituents of the rulers, as to the end in view, or, to put it plainer, as to what it is we came to and started this country for? WHAT ARE OUR OBJECTS?

We came here, says one, to introduce and build up a Christian negro nationality, and to civilise and Christianise our heathen brothers, by whom we are surrounded. Rather long and churchish, says another: We came here to make a free African Government, just like other civilised peoples. Well, good and short.—Let us now see how we can best do this, make a country just like other people—white people, if you like.

Now don't let any one rave and endeavour to blow us up with a magazine of words, because we have said *white people*. There are simply and unfortunately no other kinds of people on the stage of action just now whose civilised governments are much worth imitating, and we agree

"Unless above himself he can erect himself,

How poor a thing is man."

And how are we endeavouring to attain our grand end in coming and establishing ourselves on these shores? Let us see.

Have not we Liberian people too early and too rapidly left all first principles of government, and run down into a mere set of squabbles for public office; for, as it seems in some instances, the mere empty honoured name of being in office, and, as in too many instances, for want of means we get out of office! Grant that such things are done in other countries. Are they done in like proportion, taking in our circumstances of age and condition (we are yet a young people, just beginning), as they are by us? We copy too readily the vices of others, and seem desirous to copy nothing else but their vices.

In Liberia we are now, and have been for some time, on the eve of a civil fight; and, as it would inevitably end in a kill-up of a goodly number of us, and an utter break-up of nearly every thing we have. And it is simply disgusting to hear parties, on one hand, talking of the "North and South," of Paris; and a week or so ago two grave officials, one a cabinet officer, and the other, if possible, higher, were giving us a long hint based on the "Door Rebellion." Now this North and this South had some grand principles upon which they went to war. What principles have we? The retaining of a few men in offices for their personal gratification or individual profit; or to put them out in order to put in others to do as they are doing? When this North and this South, and Paris, have done killing up a few hundreds of thousands, and are through destroying a few millions-worth of property, they have yet a country left, and they have the world without—the white-world if you please—to draw on, and to soon build up again, in men and in means, and in the world's sympathy. They can reconstruct. What have you Liberians to fall back on?

And the heads of our Government, indeed the very chief executives, if they took a proper view of things, we do not think they would condemn us, or with a sneer or some sarcastic personal allusion toss our paper aside. Where does the honour, the dignity lay in holding for year after year any position, where progress and advancement are the main ideas, without being able to show some signs, to leave some proofs of having been in this position, by marks of progressive improvement left? It is all very well that sugar and coffee are being grown in the country, and rum being manufactured, palm-oil exported, &c., and, because these things gradually increase, to write—"Liberia is in

a better condition to-day than she ever was." We speak politically, and we deny that Liberia is, in a governmental point of view, making any advancement. Facts are stubborn things. True, the doctrine of the inexpediency of telling the truth at all times is old and formidable, yet this doctrine is dangerous, it is unsafe, especially when applied to the affairs of a State. Men roll the sweet morsel of self-sufficiency under their tongues; they compare themselves with themselves until they get fairly to believe their own delusions, and they will argue all is well, all is secure, until they fall to pieces from their own whitewashed rottenness. France, cried the Napoleonic journals, is all safe. "The Empire means peace," was the Emperor's watchword. The people are all with us, hear their *plébiscite*, said the Royal Family, and the next hour the Royal bed-chambers are sacked by the people, hunting to the destruction the royal "us." And the people, delighting by fire and sword to destroy all reminiscences of the Emperor, defy him to show his face again among them. Thus easily can men shut themselves up to their own delusions, simply to be destroyed by them.

Before we rush heedlessly into the thick of fight—such a fight as the party of the Government tell us we must have if the people attempt to convene a Legislature or inaugurate a President next session—let us take a little counsel of common sense.

First.—What principle are you going to fight for? We mean you of the Government; for the side in favour of election, of the meeting in session of the new members of the Legislature, of the inauguration, do not wish to fight, nor to be made to fight, so we understand it—"For the retention two years longer of Mr. Royle as President, who, we believe, is lawfully entitled so to be," answer some. But, says the other side, why fight for that? What great principle advancing the interest of Liberia, or facilitating her attaining her desired end, is annulled by not longer retaining President Royle? What great unfinished interests for the good of the nation has he on hand. Two years, short as they are, are at least time enough to begin. What is it that the Administration has begun? This Administration put Mr. Payne out on the very same doctrine of having had time enough to start at something, but he had failed even to start. Now, we will not go into the low-isms of the then Royle party journal (*True Whig*), which then first pronounced and promulgated this doctrine, but we do ask what has President Royle started which he wants time to finish? The loan, answers one. Well. The loan.

Let us see of this loan. Is it not reasonable to suppose that if the loan was a genuine, fair, out-and-out transaction, and something depending on President Royle alone, that President Royle would have attended to it among his first things, or, if no one but him could negotiate it, he would have attended to it when in England himself? Again, if the loan is an honest transaction, of honest meaning, with an honest intention to benefit the whole, why afraid to let it, its terms, and all come honestly before the public? Why, the very commissioners, Messrs. Anderson and Johnson, up to the hour of leaving for England, deny and try to hide the whole thing. Who is it engaged in a scheme to benefit his fellow-citizens in these days, but will let it come to light?

And again, would it not be a very poor valedictory for a parting executive—that, because you would not retain me longer than two years I would not start any good thing for you?

It is presumed, that when men set up for the chief office in this country, they see and know the position, they accept the situation, and that they have their plans all matured. If at the end of two years an executive starts nothing, it is further presumable he has nothing to start.

A LIBERIAN VIEW OF THE LIBERIAN LOAN.

OUR ENGLISH LOAN—ITS FEASIBILITY.

The extract from the leading article of the *Philadelphia North American and United States Gazette*, as to be found on our second page, gives so lucidly and positively our own views on the question of our contracting a heavy national loan, and thereby entering into entangling monetary alliances with as far-reaching, monopolising, and subsidising people as English speculators, that, foregoing its length, we have copied it in full in our issue of the present.

It is a duty that our statesmen at present in the direction of affairs owe the country, to see to it that they do not plunge it into difficulties and embarrassments out of which it may never come.

It is only too strange that President Royle, who in business sustains the highest character for his unanxiety to take or to give trust should be the first President of now five, to endeavour to get a big trust for the State; and to seem so anxious to rush headlong into the getting at money at any rates and on any terms.

First of all, unless such a judicious speculating turn-over of money is made in this country as it is simply impossible for our Government, as such, to do, the money can never be made to pay itself. Unless the money can be so handled that it will first pay its own interest and then leave a margin of profit sufficient to first lay aside a gradual sinking fund and to have still further amount to work on it is a dead losing business. And the idea to work on suggests the query, what work is projected as to be done with or upon this loan? Other countries contract loans, and only can contract loans, upon some specific, some laid-down ways, or work for the furtherance of which the loan is needed and necessary—as for instance, the building of a railroad, the running of a canal, the building of a bridge, or even the opening of an hotel, an eating-house, &c. Yet all these projects have to give in some intelligible showing how they can be made to pay. We cannot conceive that a man of President Royle's known personal and business honesty is going—even if the opportunity offered—to lend himself, much less inaugurate the scheme of borrowing one man's money simply to pay another man, with no visible chance of paying this second man when he sends in—"Borrowing money to pay a debt," we cannot believe our President will, in the reckless way as do some of his adherents, advocate, consent to. Yet the talk of borrowing money to redeem the floating cheques, currency, and Government scrip is the doctrine, and certainly that is nothing more nor less than "borrowing to pay a debt." Grant that an ignorant and non-understanding populace will take it that it is a fine, perhaps the finest thing, to tell them, and even to do it, that "for a currency dollar" they will be able to get "a gold dollar," "only let Mr. Johnson and Mr. Anderson come back from England with the money." We appeal to the Executive, to his every individual supporter in this doctrine. Is that the right view to take of the subject? Is it honest? Because men can be deluded, should I, appointed as their guide and waymark, be their deluder? Now to any man, who has made the present condition of Liberia any study, it must have become clear that mere money, mere gold or silver dollars, are not what the country needs.

How long supposes any reasonable man will a hundred or so thousands of dollars in specie stay in a country which depends for its food and its clothing to the greatest degree on foreign countries. Grant that to-morrow every man's paper dollar, every poor man if you choose that term by which you try to move the world—was "as good as gold," and every man will therefore buy him an extra pair of shoes, an umbrella, a barrel of flour, a keg of fish, and how long, think you, these gold dollars will be in returning to New York and to Liverpool? If a want of money does not bestir an individual or a state to some higher and more manly scheme than the mere idea to "borrow," what think you will be done with the money when borrowed?—*The Republican*.

ADVERTISEMENT OF THE LIBERIAN LOAN AS INSERTED IN THE *TIMES* OF JULY 9, 1871.

As we have quoted this advertisement in our leader on the subject of this most pernicious loan, we here insert it for reference and record:—

"LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT SEVEN per CENT. LOAN. Authorised by Act of the Legislature of the Republic of Liberia, Session 1870. Issue of \$500,000 (hard dollars), equal at the exchange of 4s. to the dollar, to 100,000*l.* in Bonds to bearer of 50*l.* and 100*l.* each. Price of issue 85*l.* per Bond of 100*l.* Interest payable half-yearly in London, at the banking house of Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co. Redeemable at par in fifteen years from date of issue.

"Under the Liberian Loan Act of 1870, the President of the Republic is authorised to negotiate this Loan. A copy of the Act is annexed to the prospectus.

"His Excellency the President has accordingly, by his Commission dated 27th May, 1871, under his hand and that of the Secretary of State, and under the seal of the Republic, appointed a Special Commission, and has nominated his Excellency David Chinery, Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General for the Republic of Liberia, a citizen of London, England, the Honourables William Spencer Anderson, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Henry Washington Johnson, senior, Secretary of the Interior, Special Commissioners, with full power to act in his stead, and has authorised the Commissioners to issue the Bonds for the Loan in the name of the Republic, and to pledge the general revenues and duties on imports and exports of the Republic for the payment of the principal and interest of the Bonds, and to bind the Government by any such conditions as may, in the judgment of the Commissioners, be necessary.

"Messrs. HOLDERNESSE, NOTT, and Co. are instructed by the Special Commissioners for the Loan to RECRUIT SUBSCRIPTIONS for Bonds to be issued under the above Act.

"The terms of issue are as follows:—

£10 per cent. to be paid on application.
20 per cent. on allotment.
25 per cent. on 1st September, 1871.
30 per cent. on 1st November, 1871.

Total £85 per cent.

"The Loan will bear interest from the 1st August, 1871.

"Subscribers have the option of paying the instalments in anticipation, and will be allowed a discount of 5 per cent. per annum; but in default of due payment of the respective instalments all previous payments will be liable to forfeiture. In cases where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned without deduction.

"The present is the first public Loan of the Republic of Liberia, and is issued under the Act of Legislature of 1870, and the due payment both of the principal and interest is secured under the Act by an Excise-tax, estimated to produce 30,000*l.* per annum, and of one-fifth of the Customs duties, which, in the year ending September 30, 1870, amounted to \$95,184-00, or more than 19,000*l.* sterling.

"The United States Minister, resident in Monrovia, has been nominated by the Commissioners of the Loan to receive the proportions of revenues accruing to the bondholders in respect of the same.

"The interest upon the Bonds is exempt from all Liberian taxes, as stipulated in the General Bond.

After allotment Scrip Certificates will be issued to 'bearer.' These Certificates will be exchanged for Bonds to 'bearer,' in amounts of 50*l.* and 100*l.* each, after payment of the last instalment. The Bonds will contain a copy of the Act of the Legislature, 1870, and will be signed by the Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Liberia resident in London.

"Coupons will be attached to the Bonds, payable in London half-yearly, at Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.'s. The first half-yearly coupon will become payable on 1st February, 1872.

"The right of redemption of the above Bonds, by half-yearly drawings, is reserved by the Commissioners on behalf of the Government.

"Certified copies of the Act of the Legislature, of the General Bond, and of the Commission from the President of the Republic may be seen here by intending subscribers, or at Messrs. Fearon, Clabon, and Fearon's, 21, Great George street, Westminster.

"Forms of application can be obtained from Messrs. Holderness, Nott, and Co., St. Michael's-house, Cornhill.

"Applications must be accompanied with a deposit of 10*l.* per cent. on the amount applied for.

"London, St. Michael's-house, Cornhill, 7th August, 1871."

On examining the prospectus of the loan, as issued by Holderness, Nott, and Co., we find, in the extract therein given from the "Liberian Government Loan Act, 1870," that what is designated above as an *excise tax*, which is to produce 30,000*l.* a-year, is in reality a *POLL TAX* of "one dollar per annum on all male citizens, to be reserved as a sinking fund for the payment of the principal of the loan." Anything more delusive than this it is difficult to conceive. We refer our readers to various letters in our journal as to the state of the country, and question if there be 5,000 males in the country instead of 150,000, which the loan prospectus supposes, from whom the Government will be able to extract this poll-tax dollar. The total of the so-called *civilized Liberian citizens*, consisting of emigrants brought from America by the American Colonisation Society, and their descendants, do not we believe much exceed 15,000, and excessive love of industry not being a characteristic of these people, there is a great amount of poverty, distress, and want among them. A sinking fund of 30,000*l.* a-year from such a tax is an insane delusion or worse.—*Ed. A.T.*

THE PROJECTED DUTCH GOLD COAST CESSION.

ROTTERDAM, July 30.—As yet nothing is known of what our Government will do in respect to the treaties with England. As your readers are aware, the first (the cession of the Coast of Guinea) was agreed to, and the second (settling certain disputes in some parts of Sumatra) was rejected in our Second Chamber; both by a small majority, whereupon the third (concerning the immigration in Surinam) was withdrawn, on the plea of the "connexity" between the three. For this same reason the Coast Treaty has till now not been brought before the First Chamber, and it is rumoured that our Foreign Secretary is busily engaged in persuading the English Government either to give up the "connexity," and to consider each treaty separately, or to conclude a new one, instead of the second, which may stand a better chance in our Parliament. In both cases the cession of the Coast will be a *fait accompli*, and the "costly jewel" that once De Ruyter won for the General States of Holland, will be disposed of now that it has become a burden to

our treasury. Of course, this theme has been duly worked out by the Opposition in the Chamber, and one of the hon. members, Mr. Sypesteyn, of the Hague, made a powerful speech to denounce this policy. "If every possession is to be sold unless it adds something to our revenue," he said, "why then not sell our West Indian Colonies as well? Why not the greater part of our East Indies, and why not our museums, our antiquities, and our statues?" "But one thing will never be sold," he added, "not even to an Englishman; it is the seal that De Ruyter used when he informed the States of his conquest!" And this old-fashioned but precious seal, now in his possession, which he produced and showed to the Assembly, made no slight sensation. But you see that Mr. Sypesteyn is a Conservative, and so the impression of his words on our Liberal Deputies was not lasting. The Treaty was approved, and most likely will be so too when it is brought under the consideration of our Peers.

LIGHT ERECTED ON JAMES FORT, ACCRA: LIGHTED FROM JULY 1, 1871.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.—NOTICE TO MARINERS.

His Excellency the Administrator directs it to be notified, for general information, that a light has been erected on James Fort, Accra, lighted from July 1, 1871.

DESCRIPTION.—White light, fixed dioptric; visible about eight miles.

DIRECTION.—Latitude—5 deg. 31 min. 48 sec. N.; longitude—11 min. 31 sec. W.

By command of his Excellency the Administrator.

C. S. SALMON, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial-office, Gold Coast, July 4, 1871.

CAPE COAST GAOL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

"I will a plain, unvarnished tale unfold."—*Othello*.

Cape Coast, June 29, 1871.

Sir,—In reading your useful and interesting journal, to which I have been a subscriber from the beginning, we frequently see mention made of Cape Coast Gaol and Gothic House. Now, I beg to inform you that Cape Coast Gaol and Gothic House are identical, or, rather, Cape Coast Gaol is in Gothic House. I have thought a concise description of the premises, and the multifarious purposes to which they are appropriated, would not be uninteresting to many of your readers. The description may amuse some—only a select few, I trust; displease others—those who should hide their heads for very shame, and not stir up their choler; shock the nerves of many—yourself amongst others, the intelligent public, and readers of the *African Times* in general. I shall not indulge in any criticism, or make any comments. I leave that to you, Mr. Editor. I shall give you a description "veluti in speculum" as in a looking-glass—

"Nothing extenuate or ought set out in malice."

Gothic House was built during the years 1843-4-5 by the late Mr. Thomas Hutton, a native of Cape Coast, and an intelligent, enterprising, and energetic merchant. He lost his valuable life at Legos in the month of October, 1856, by the upsetting of a boat on his passage from the shore to one of the mail steamers of that day, with a view to return to Cape Coast.

Gothic House has a very imposing appearance on the exterior; but the inside, so far as regards the needful for a comfortable or convenient residence, is very deficient in arrangement. There are four large halls. One is used as an office for the Custom-house clerks, with one end with a bow window partitioned off as a post-office; another hall is the office of the colonial secretary and collector of customs; the third is the entrance-hall, and has one end of it partitioned off as an office for the first clerk of the Customs; the fourth large hall contains the Colonial-office and Custom-house records. In addition to these, there are on the first floor two other small rooms, one used as a stationery depot for the Colonial and Customs Departments, the other as a dispensary and surgery for the colonial surgeon; and at the extreme back there are three other small rooms, occupied by the gaoler and the first turnkey. So much for the first-floor arrangements. On the second floor are three smaller rooms, which are occupied by the colonial secretary and collector of customs. These two appointments for some three or four years past have been merged into one, and, consequently, only represented by one person. So much for the dwelling part of Gothic House.

On the ground floor—which was originally only intended as a warehouse and cellars for the storing of goods and merchandises, and, therefore, good ventilation has not been very particularly attended to in its architectural arrangements—is the famous, so-called, Gothic House Gaol. This consists of three rooms, corresponding to the halls above, not particularly well ventilated; and here the male convicts are at night locked up in the inner room, the front room facing the courtyard, and the only really airy room of the three, being left unoccupied, except by the mosquitoes

and a lamp left burning all night. There is, then, a small passage or other room at the end of this outer room, where common debtors are detained, all leading one into the other, and closed by one common outer gate. There is only one outer yard, or court-yard, as already said, and here, during the day, common debtors, burglars, common thieves, and chain-gang and shot-drill men, and youngsters who, for a first offence, are only detained as a sort of corrective for their juvenile misdeeds, and female prisoners, young and old, are huddled together, and take common exercise. Adjoining and in front of this yard is an open space formerly used by the late Mr. Hutton as a small flower-garden, with a small building (a summer-house) at one end, some thirty feet long by twenty feet wide. *This is the colonial hospital, and inside the gaol!* And neither you nor anybody else will feel inclined to believe it, but such I assure you is sober fact, there is no other colonial hospital for a colony that pays 25,000*l.* to 30,000*l.* per annum, in taxes, customs, and excise dues, into the colonial exchequer; and for people residing in town there is no access to this so-called hospital except through the common gaol-yard. Sailors, seamen, and mariners, and any other strangers that are sometimes obliged to be sent to the hospital, have to go to prison alike, criminal or not. In this hospital, thirty feet by twenty feet outside measurement, or thereabouts, are usually six or seven beds for patients, all occupied now; but during the time (three years) that the notorious Mr. Thomas Jones was colonial surgeon not half a dozen persons ever visited the hospital. Tom Jones used to punch their heads and kick them out. *He* had no time to attend to the niggers, and sometimes for days he never went near the hospital at all. He, however, visited the surgery nearly every day, and the average time of his attendance was about fifteen minutes, and for this he received between 300*l.* and 400*l.* a-year. At the other end of this open space, or former flower-garden, and in this twenty yards of the hospital, is a small brick building about eight feet long by three or four feet wide; this is the water-closet, kept rigorously locked, of course. At the back or side of this small building, however, and within sight of the hospital (the hospital is only on the ground floor, level with the flower-garden) is placed on the ground a long box or trough, broader at top than at bottom, about six feet long and twelve inches high, more resembling a coffin, indeed, painted black and all (the invention, I understand, of the clever and astute Mr. Thomas Jones). There is no cover to this arrangement, and the prisoners have to balance themselves as they best can against the edge of this box, trough, or coffin, to relieve the calls of nature. Early in the morning this machine is carried by two men to the beach, to windward of the Castle, of course, so that the garrison may enjoy the benefit of the morning air.

The female prisoners are allowed the luxury of a tub, resembling an American beef or pork barrel cut in two, and no further mechanical skill wasted upon it to render it more convenient. A few feet from the above-mentioned eight-feet-by-four brick building, and within sight of the box, trough, or coffin, is a screen of boarding about eight feet square. Here the male and female prisoners take it in turns to bathe themselves. Crossing the courtyard at its further end is an archway conducting to three or four small rooms. Here the gentlemen debtors and small-pox patients are usually confined. Beyond this is a small yard and room, formerly used as a kitchen. In this yard and room the female prisoners are detained at night, but during the day they may loiter where they please. Political prisoners are in a long room adjoining the women's quarters. They also are locked up at night; but during the day every class of prisoners, without any manner or shade of distinction whatsoever, mix up promiscuously, male and female; and most revolting acts of immorality and unchastity have sometimes been perpetrated.

The number of male prisoners seldom exceeds 70 to 80, and females 20 to 25, but the usual average may be put down at about 50 males and 6 to 10 females. Small-pox is now raging inside the prison. Three prisoners, one male and two females, have died, and three or more are now laid up with this loathsome contagion, and are kept in the three or four small rooms above-mentioned, where gentlemen debtors are usually detained. There is no other possible arrangement under existing circumstances, and, but for the care, prudence, and foresight of the present Acting Colonial Surgeon, the P. M. O. Army Surgeon of the garrison, the disease has hitherto been confined within the precincts of the gaol. He (the present Acting Colonial Surgeon) is one of the most humane and kind-hearted men I ever knew; and I am sure must in his heart sadly deplore the present state of Gothic-house Gaol, being powerless to make any improvements; being merely a *locum tenens* until a successor be found to Mr. Thomas Jones.

It seems to me, Mr. Editor, that this is not a very desirable state of affairs. If a ruling power undertakes the protection of a community, something more is required than merely devising schemes and expedients how the revenue may be augmented;

and I do not understand what the Government means by keeping locked up a surplus revenue of some fifteen or twenty thousand pounds in the colonial chest, and occasionally forwarding a few hundred or a thousand pounds to England to be invested in the Three per Cents for the future benefit of the colony, while Cape Coast Town is literally a heap of filth and ordure with the exception of the space (about 500 yards) between Government House and the Castle. No hospital, no public latrines, no nothing!

I have now given you, Mr. Editor, for the benefit of your readers and the public generally, a plain and pretty accurate description of the state of the local prison here in Cape Coast, and this, I beg to state, is the best regulated of all the gaols on the Gold Coast, with the single exception of the Dutch Settlement at Elmina, where debtor prisoners are detained in an entirely separated building on the top of the St. Jago Hill. There, at least, a distinction is made between political prisoners, common debtors, juvenile delinquents, and the incorrigible criminals. Here, where all classes of prisoners—debtors, male-factors, and young delinquents—are confined in one and the same place, no minister of the Gospel or clergyman of any denomination has visited the place for many long months, and the want of such ministrations is much felt. A few Sundays ago I saw one of the turnkeys reading a chapter out of the New Testament to the prisoners, and expounding it in the Fantee language, that all might understand; and I can assure you, men, women, and children listened to him with great attention. He then read a short sermon out of a printed book—(but I dare not enter into further details, lest, after this appears in your journal, a general order should by the authorities be promulgated inside the prison, forbidding all such riotous meetings on the Sabbath afternoon; and perhaps the too-zealous turnkey will be mulcted of six days' pay, for inciting a mob to a breach of the peace inside Her Majesty's Gaol on the Sabbath-day).

Formerly, during the absence of the colonial chaplain from the colony, the Wesleyan ministers and preachers were allowed to visit the prison on the Sabbath-day, but that little benefit was suddenly stopped by a strange incident. Current report says that a worthy old soldier, but a very bad governor, ruled the destinies of these settlements in those days. There had been no colonial chaplain in Cape Coast for many, many long months. The zealous and persevering Wesleyans had, it would seem, made some impression, on the long-term men in particular, and one unlucky morning these fellows (the long-term men) managed to frame a petition to his Excellency, begging that they might have a short morning service before being turned out to work on weekdays. "I'll morning service them, the malingering vagabonds!" says the gallant son of Mars, and forthwith, and until now, the whole affair was knocked on the head.

I am afraid I have trespassed too long on your time and space, so will conclude with a promise of more on this subject another time.—Yours, &c.,

SENTECA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, 17th July, 1871.

Sir,—In my communication of the 27th June in *re* Gothic House, and Gothic-house Prison, I reported that there was no other colonial hospital in Cape Coast, than the miserable, small building, the summer-house in the prison-yard; but as some change has since been made, allow me to give you a little additional information. In 1866 Colonel Conran took the lease of the house of the late Mr. William Gordon Ammamoo, a fine large building facing the sea, with twelve or fourteen good-sized rooms on the second floor, intending it for a colonial hospital, so much needed, and the words "Colonial Hospital" were painted in black on a white ground, in letters nearly two feet long, so that it could easily be read from on board a vessel in the roads. For a space of a few months, during Administrator Conran's rule, the building was used as a colonial hospital. After his departure (Conran's) the patients were turned out, and the building was converted into a so-called "Colonial Government School for Girls," under the care and charge of a young widow, whose only qualifications were her good looks and extreme affability, for she never had more than a dozen pupils, and for the last two or three years only five or six pupils, including one little girl of eight or nine years, her own child by her deceased husband; while, in the missionary schools, between 200 and 300 children may be seen at their lessons any day in the week.

For the last two months Mr. Usher has been down at Accra for the purpose of settling the long-pending and unfortunate disputes and wars between the Awoonahs and the Accras, and, I believe he has happily succeeded; and there is no doubt in my mind that, let his faults be what they may, he has at last done some good towards quelling the political disturbances of the country, and last Sunday he received a very handsome recognition, in the shape of an address from the principal inhabitants of this district. Mr. Usher, on his return from Accra, finding

that the small-pox was raging in the prison at Gothio House, had the patients removed to Conran's Hospital, as it is called; and the handsome widow has, I suppose, had to remove her school elsewhere. The Government were paying 100*l.* a-year rent for the house in question, and the widow schoolmistress got a very decent salary, I do not know the amount, but I believe about 75*l.* to 100*l.* a-year out of the colonial chest; besides which the handsome widow made an additional income by her private industry.

In giving you the above information my object is to put you on your guard, because so soon as it appears in the *African Times* that the small summer-house is the only colonial hospital here the officials will stoutly deny the same, saying there is a very suitable building appropriated to that purpose, and you might imagine I had not stated the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, in my former letter to the Editor.

With sentiments of the sincerest regard, I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

P.S.—Up to the 10th of this month, or thereabouts, Ammamoo's house was still in possession of the handsome widow as a colonial school for girls.

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5*s.*, STAMPED.

You are earnestly requested to allow your name to be added to the list of yearly subscribers. Price 5*s.* per annum for each copy, payable in advance.

The African Times.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1871.

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OUR ELEVENTH YEAR.

We confess to a feeling of deep sadness in commencing another year of this journal. There is much to discourage us in our work for Africa and its people. It is so difficult to make those who, for themselves and their posterity, are most interested in the results we may achieve comprehend how hard the task of social and administrative reformation is; and that it is their and our duty to persevere in efforts to obtain and secure it, in spite of all the obstacles that vice and egotism, long enthroned evils in West Africa, may marshal against us. Vicious authority is rampant, insolent, and seductive, and its scoffs and sneers and bribes are not without effect among the victims at whose expense it exists, thrives, and debauches; and it is not difficult for it to induce many of them to range themselves on its side, and against those the best part of whose lives is being consumed in constant and unrewarded exertions to procure for them those changes which are indispensable to their social and national progress. Occasionally our path is cheered by some enthusiastic testimony to the good we are effecting; but for the most part we have to complain of a seeming apathetic indifference, which greatly dishonours those who evince it. We are entitled, after eleven years of unrequited labour, to say, that it is a flagrant disgrace to every African who can read and does not subscribe to this paper and pay for it. Men ought to feel ashamed to borrow it of their neighbours when they can themselves procure it by paying the modest sum of five shillings a-year for it. The letters which appear in this present number show the urgent necessity of administrative reforms as a means of obtaining what is of vital importance; these reforms must be forced upon the Government, Imperial and Local, as they will never be spontaneously accorded; and the only way in which they can be thus forced is by the publicity

given to the evidences of need of them, in the columns of the *African Times*. There are doubtless some of the most intelligent of the educated Africans in every settlement who fully comprehend all this—and to them we say, they do not perform their duty by merely subscribing to and reading our paper; they ought to form themselves everywhere into committees for furthering subscriptions to it. Of course we can only expect this from independent, high-minded men, who are indifferent to paltry official bribes, and fearless of official disfavour; but surely there are some of these to be found in every British settlement on the West Coast, and we leave the matter for the present in their hands.

SENECA'S SECOND LETTER FROM CAPE COAST.

WITH reference to the second letter of "Seneca," which will be found in this number of our paper, and the nominal girls'-school therein mentioned, it is right we should say that this is the school which we have over and over again denounced as a shameful and immoral waste of Gold Coast revenue, to the extent of some 200*l.* a-year for school and mistress. We are glad to hear that Mr. Administrator Ussher, who returned to England a few days since on sick leave, is thought to have effected some good of late; but nothing can atone for the continuance, up to the time of his departure from the Coast, of this atrocious scandal to his administration of the Gold Coast. We hope we may accept this reappointment of "Conran's Colonial Hospital" to its original purpose as an indication that Mr. Administrator Ussher does not contemplate a return to the Gold Coast; and that a *real man* will be sent there—one who will not find such old-womanish objections to the formation of good main-roads as were put forward by the Governor-in-Chief, in reply to our letter to the Colonial office on this important subject. As to the addresses voted to Mr. Ussher, this is the old game, so often denounced in this journal, and they are not worth the paper on which they are written. Acts—not paper testimonials—are what will count in history. The new "light" on James Fort, Accra, is worth five hundred addresses such as are got up in West Africa settlements to departing governors and other officials.

THE LIBERIAN LOAN.

A LOAN for Liberia! No little paltry 25,000*l.* either, like the Sierra Leone Loan for building a landing-wharf for the steamers, but 100,000*l.* at one fell swoop, and without any reproductive object in view whatever. We owe to America the vulgar but suggestive phrase, "Go the whole hog," and the Americanised Africans who form the civilised portion of the Liberian population have, under the able tutelage of his Excellency David Chinery (late of the defunct London and African Company), Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General for the Republic in London, and the Liberian Commissioners, Messrs. Johnson and Anderson—both honourables, of course—adopted the system, if not the phrase. Happy, thrice happy Liberian Government officials, if the booty can be obtained! Arrears of pay may be rubbed off, and there will be, for a time, at least, though but for a short time, a sea of specie to wallow in—a luxury hitherto unknown in Liberia. How luscious the dreams!—how ecstatic the visions in the small Government and other public official circles in Liberia, since the steamer from England brought out the delicious news of subscriptions having been publicly invited in London of 100,000*l.* to a Loan for Liberia, under the high auspices of "his Excellency David Chinery, Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General for the Republic of Liberia, a citizen of London, England, and the Honourables William Spencer Anderson, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Henry Washington Johnson, senior, Secretary of the Interior, Special Commissioners," &c. In reading this in the advertisement inserted in the *Times* of the 9th inst., we were forcibly reminded of the passage, "Where the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." But although we can imagine that when the glorious news reaches the more vain than industrious population of Liberia, there will not any longer remain the shadow of a shade of doubt there of the precious dollars

being obtained in England, since the name of Liberia, coupled with that of such high-sounding dignitaries, must necessarily render failure impossible, yet we would humbly beg to suggest to the expectant host eager to devour, that the carcass is not yet definitively given up to their voracious appetites. The British investor, at a period of money plethora, is no doubt often extremely eager and foolish—and foreign loans have now for some time past enjoyed especial favour in the English market; yet the bird cannot be always caught by an attempt to put salt upon his tail. The notorious Mrs. Glasse wrote, "First catch your hare," as a preliminary to cooking and eating the animal, and we would just say to the Liberians, in humble imitation of that distinguished and useful lady, "First catch your loan." For Liberia has been greatly stirred up about this loan. The actual President, it seems, is to be turned out of office, if the loan—the precious loan—be not obtained; and we can imagine but one feeling of regret at present in Liberia in the confidence of success which we are sure will prevail, and that is, that a good round million sterling was not asked for, and of course taken, instead of a mere poor nominal 100,000*l.*, the *effectiveness* of which will give but a short breathing time of abundance and felicity. Suppose there should be 75,000*l.*, or, in other words, 375,000 silver dollars available out of it for Liberian uses, how much of this will remain, when the hitherto hopeless arrears of official salaries are paid, when the now stinking-shin-plaster currency is redeemed, and when the British claim which has been allowed to stand over under the Liberian plea of absolute penury of the exchequer, together with the new claims for the pillage of the Julia Ellen, and that of Mr. Rolle for his plundered and destroyed factory, shall have been paid? None of it, of course. And the *permanent* benefit which the loan could confer on Liberia as a State, would be as small as this residuum. This is not our opinion alone. One of the articles which we reprint in this issue, from the *Republican* newspaper published at Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, fully confirms our opinion and belief. The *Republican*, it will be seen, calls it "borrowing to pay a debt." "Grant," the editor adds, "that an ignorant and non-understanding populace will take it that it is a fine, perhaps the finest thing to tell them, and even to do it, that 'for a currency dollar' they will be able to get 'a gold dollar,' only let Mr. Johnson and Mr. Anderson come back from England with the money." "How long supposes any reasonable man will a hundred or so thousand of dollars in specie stay in a country which depends for its food and clothing to the greatest degree on foreign countries? Grant that tomorrow every man's paper dollar—every poor man, if you choose that term by which you try to move the world—was 'as good as gold,' and every man will therefore buy him an extra pair of shoes, an umbrella, a barrel of flour, a keg of fish—and how long think you these gold dollars will be in returning to New York and to Liverpool? If a *want of money does not bestir an individual or a State to some higher and more manly scheme than the mere idea to 'borrow,' what think you will be done with the money when borrowed?* We can answer the editor's question. Much of it will be squandered. There is absolutely no guarantee for its proper application any more than there is for payment of interest and repayment of principal. And the remainder will not produce any permanent good in the country. It will only whet the appetite for more money to be raised in the same way. As deeply anxious for the progressive advance of the West African communities in wealth and civilisation, and in good repute, the latter of which is at present so much needed, we protest against and denounce this attempt to extract 85,000*l.* from foolish English people, to satisfy for a moment the hungry void which exists in Liberia, and especially among the excellencies and honourables who are its high officials at home and abroad. We have said there is no guarantee for the application of the money to any useful national purpose—none for the payment of interest or repayment of principal. The advertisement in the *Times* lies before us. It is a precious document. In it we read that the President has "authorised the Commissioners to issue the bonds for the loan in the

name of the Republic, and to pledge the general revenues and duties on imports and exports of the Republic for the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds, and to bind the Government by any such conditions as may in the judgment of the Commissioners be necessary." Full and ample powers these, undoubtedly, so far as the President is concerned; but are they such as any State authorities of a nation would give, where payment of interest and repayment of principal was ever contemplated? The present, it is stated, is the first public loan of the Republic of Liberia, and the interest is secured under the Act by an excise-tax, estimated to produce 30,000*l.* per annum, and one-fifth of the Customs duties, which in 1869-70 amounted to more than 19,000*l.* sterling. Now, this excise-tax, and no one knows it better than the hon. Commissioners, is pure moonshine. There is no power in the people of Liberia to pay excise-taxes of 50,000*l.* or even 5,000*l.* a-year over and above the Customs duties, which have also been augmented with a view to a favourable impression as regards this loan. We exposed in a previous number the system upon which duties are collected, and any intending subscriber to this precious Loan would do well to read that *exposé*, as well as the quotations from the *Republican* in our issue of this date, and compare them with the terms of the prospectus. "The United States Minister [we understood until this announcement that he was only Consul] has been nominated by the Commissioners of the Loan to receive the proportions of revenue accruing to the bondholders in respect of the same." What guarantee, we would ask, does this afford to the bondholders, should there ever be any such? "The Commissioners have nominated him to receive the proportion of revenue"—that is, Messrs. Chinery, Anderson, and Johnson have informed the President that he may inform the United States Consul that he may receive whatever the Liberian Government chooses to pay over to him. Surely this paragraph was drawn when it was hoped to raise this much-coveted money in the United States. What liability has the United States Consul in a West African country as respects British bondholders? This is followed by a statement that the interest is to be exempt from Liberian taxes. What a generous concession! Imagine an income tax in Liberia, when the whole revenue of the country is nominally about 30,000*l.*, dwindling almost to nothing when the costs of collection, and speculation, &c., are deducted. All this is bad enough—but what strikes us as the grand climax in besotted impudence is the glorious insinuation that within fifteen years the happy bondholders may be paid off at par, a clear gain, of course, of 15*l.* upon the 85*l.* which they may have advanced. The precious paragraphs run thus: "Redeemable at par in fifteen years from date of issue. The right of redemption of the above bonds by half-yearly drawings is reserved by the Commissioners on behalf of the Government." Now mark, this loan is not a loan for any reproductive work, the results of which may be such direct benefits or such indirect benefits, by increase of trade and production and general wealth, as to supply the means of redemption of the loan. The proceeds of the loan are as we are informed, and as is a matter of public notoriety, and indeed public engagement and promise in Liberia, to pay Government salaries in arrear, and to pay in coin the at present worthless paper currency. The so-called civilised population of Liberia, that is, the immigrants from America who have been sent over by the American Colonisation Society, number about 15,000. These having, for the most part, indeed, almost universally, come into Liberia without any capital, there never has been enough of money in Liberia, notwithstanding the gifts of American and other missionary societies, and other contributions from the United States—never enough of money to pay the current expenses of the Government. A paper currency—nominally redeemable in specie, but to redeem which the Government had no power, *i.e.*, no available means—was the remedy; and issues of this inconvertible, though though nominally convertible paper have been made for payment of official salaries and other public expenses, until it has become utterly worthless, except in so far as it has of late been receivable in certain proportion with specie in payment of Customs duties. The new Excise

duties we have already stated to be moonshine, and only intended as delusive moonshine; and the present Customs duties are so oppressively heavy that they will not be an augmentation, and that if not speedily reduced they will lead to a falling off instead of an increase of revenue. Whence, then, is any money to come to pay the interest of the proposed loan? and, above all, to redeem the principal in fifteen years? There is no attempt, it seems, to create a sinking fund for any such payment. The abstraction of any portion of the precious dollars, if they can be got for such a purpose, would be most unpopular in Liberia. We have thus stated the grounds on which we have felt it to be our duty to denounce and to protest against this loan. The West Coast of Africa does not, at the present, enjoy such an enviable reputation that we can afford to see any of its people deliberately engaged in what must bring disgrace, first on themselves, and then, though unjustly, on the countries and people around. We foresee the necessity of large loans in England for public works of a reproductive character in the British West Africa Settlements, as well as in Liberia, when the proper time arrives, and we would not have a prejudice against such loans created in advance by such sad results to subscribers as, we feel persuaded, must attend this projected Liberia loan, should it ever unhappily be realised. When the late President Benson was in this country, we had long conversations with him on the subject of a loan to Liberia. We consulted then eminent capitalists, who were most warmly disposed toward Liberia; but the result, as we have explained, and as we believe they explained to President Benson, was that no proper or sufficient security existed in Liberia for any such loan, even though, as then contemplated, the entire proceeds were to have been devoted, under British inspectors and paymasters, to some productive works greatly needed by this young nation. Sierra Leone can give ample security out of her income of 80,000*l.* for the 25,000*l.* she has borrowed for erecting a public wharf, &c., and yet we are not the only persons among the true friends of Africa who feel that this 25,000*l.* ought to have been obtained by reduced official expenditure instead of by loan. We hope this attempted Liberia loan will die a natural death; but in any case we have performed our duty, and wash our hands of the whole matter.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, AUGUST 2, 1871.

THE SLAVE TRADE IN CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

LORD ENFIELD informed Mr. Mundella that there was no reason to believe that the new Government of Spain intended to withdraw from the abolition policy in the last session, and that at the last election of the Cortes an increased number of abolitionists has been returned.

FIFTY DIVORCED CASES IN ONE SITTING BY THE LIBERIAN LEGISLATURE—STARVATION AND IMMORALITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Mesurado County, Monrovia, Liberia,
April 4, 1871.

Sir,—Our Legislature met in December, 1870, in this county, and adjourned in February. The business they did was chiefly in giving divorcements, and trying to impeach the Vice-President and Secretary of State, in which they failed. The Legislature, some years ago, made a law to this effect: that all persons requiring a divorce should go through the quarterly court, but, without repealing this law, they have leaped over it and given divorce. In one Legislature fifty women have been divorced from their husbands. There are one or two remarkable cases among them. One of these women had been despatched to America by her husband, and as soon as she was gone her husband petitioned the Legislature for a divorce and obtained it, the woman not being here to defend herself. Another case was that of a man whose wife was said to have committed adultery about twelve years ago, and thereby had a child. The husband lived with her during this long period as man and wife, and when he finds he is in a little better circumstance than he had been, he petitions the Legislature for a divorce for the adultery she committed twelve years ago, and the Legislature grants it. It is

* See observations of the Editor below the Loan Prospectus, p. 15, by which it appears that there is a nominal and delusive sinking fund.

said that some of the legislators were bribed. Bribery is common here, but, whether they have been bribed or not, they have thrown on the country fifty women to become prostitutes. We have got enough prostitutes already in the country; silver money and calico prints, &c., &c., are great temptations to our women, and there are only a few women who will not throw themselves in the way of men for these articles, both married and single women. There are cases here where men and women have been caught committing adultery in churches, and nothing has been done to them than making a few days' talk of it. And also there are cases where persons have married one week and divorced the next, and also of persons who divorced their wives, and in a few weeks or months turned around, courted the same wife, and married her. Again, women lying about in the streets, in the bushes, and alongside of churches at night, cohabiting while services are conducting in the churches, is a common thing. But what are the poor women to do—no work for them to do—the Government has no money to issue to the people. Starvation is severely felt in the country. People are in rags and tatters. The Government lays heavy burdens on the people which cannot be borne; they raised the duties exceedingly high to prevent foreigners from coming to our shores. I have seen people daily staggering about the streets from pure hunger. The Government, the Government—yes, the Legislature—have brought all these evils and distresses on us. They have made laws to debar the progress of the people and the country; and you should see some of them, Mr. Editor, boasting of the great work they have done by giving divorces to fifty persons without seriously considering that they have thrown fifty women into this small place to become prostitutes, for they must certainly become prostitutes before they can live. If any person wants the Legislature to do anything for them here he makes a little dinner, having something extra that the legislators are not accustomed to have in their homes; lays before them his wishes at the table, and there and then they will decide on giving it to him. Some of the few merchants and the so-called well-to-do folks tell the people not to vote for the opening of the Constitution, for if they do the white men will become citizens, and take away our country, picturing to them the cruelty they received from the white men their masters in America, and that the white men will again make slaves of them if the Constitution be opened; and the bulk of people in Liberia are so ignorant that they are blinded to their own interest and welfare. This is the present state of Liberia, and it is getting from worse to worse every day.

A LIBERIAN.

FERNANDO PO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

9, Vicinity of Sawyer's Lodge, Calle de Armoro,
Santa Ysabel, Fernando Po, June 26, 1871.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Allow me to bring or give to the public a few scraps of information respecting the present state of Fernando Po. This country, which, ever since the Baptist Mission was driven out of her, had sunk into a state of deep degradation, is now coming, I can assure you, Mr. Editor, to a state of importance. Fernando Po, which had lost the sweetness of the Gospel of Christ for upwards of eleven years, has now been allowed it again. She is now furnished with three able missionaries from the Primitive Methodist Connexion in England, two of whom are for its metropolis and the other for a very beautiful part of Fernando Po called North-West Bay, very splendid for an English settlement. A temporary chapel has been occupied, and a day-school has been established. The day-school is increasing by degrees, and, under God's protection and blessing, is making a very rapid improvement. Thank God, Mr. Editor, that from what we see of the school at present there is nothing to be complained of. The school is governed by the two able young men from that blessed peninsula of Sierra Leone who gave themselves entirely to that mission to work for God. We wish that the people of Sierra Leone will pray for these their children. We also hope that by God's grace all the hidden part of this vast island will enjoy the light of the Gospel. Truly, Mr. Editor, if Africa is ever evangelised it will be by her own sons. From the state and from what I study of the town at present, I can say with confidence that nothing can bring a degraded country to a state of civilisation but the Gospel of Christ. Christ's Gospel is bringing Fernando Po to a state of civilisation, especially its capital, Santa Ysabel, the seat of government, and the place where all business transactions are carried on. Allow me to lay an open question to the public. What do the public think will bring the inhabitants of the interior to Christianity? I, for my part, say that nothing but prayer, and I believe that God, who has brought the inhabitants of Madagascar to his fold, will surely bring them. We hope that from the Primitive School at Fernando Po young men will be raised, by God's grace, native pastors, who will have in time to come the field in their

possession, under European superintendence, and that the names of the first labourers will never be forgotten in the history of Fernando Po.

We must not forget you, Mr. Editor, who is known to be an "African father." We hope God will bless and prolong your life for us.—I remain, dear Mr. Editor, your humble servant,
JACOB ALEXANDER SAVAGE.

CAMEROONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Bethel-station, Cameroons, Jan. 29, 1871.

Sir,—In my last to you from Fernando Po I briefly hinted that before the lapse of many months from the date of that correspondence those who had slanderously alleged my dismissal from mission work at the Cameroons, would have been convinced of the contrary, to their own shame. You will now perceive from the date of this that such is already the case.

I feel grateful to you for giving in your April number my denial to those allegations. But as there are those who are unremitting in their zeal and fixed purpose to injure my reputation, I should not be surprised to see them resuming their hostilities in some of your future numbers. In that case I should feel still more grateful to you if you will kindly give both my letters to you, at different times; a publication, if you could afford time and space for the purpose, as well also as those letters which your notice implies contained serious charges against me. I think I can confidently and safely say that I am prepared to meet and rebut those charges.—I am, Sir, yours very truly,
J. WILSON.

THE EAST AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

The Select Committee on the East African slave trade state in their report that they are strongly of opinion that all legitimate means should be used to put an end altogether to the slave trade on the East Coast of Africa. They believe that any attempt to supply slaves for domestic use in Zanzibar will always be a pretext and a cloak for a foreign trade, and they recommend that it should be notified to the Sultan of Zanzibar that, the existing treaty provisions having been systematically evaded, Her Majesty's Government will, unless further securities can be obtained for the entire prohibition of the foreign slave trade, feel itself compelled to abrogate the treaty, and to take such further legitimate measures as it may find necessary to put an end to all slave trade whatever, whether foreign or coasting. The Committee think that an increase in the consular establishment is necessary, and that there should also for a time be an increase in the strength of the naval squadron, which ought, if possible, to be provided with efficient and trustworthy interpreters. If the Sultan will enter into a new treaty the Committee recommend the formation at Zanzibar of a depot for liberated adult slaves; but if the Sultan opposes this step, the Committee suggest that a depot should be established at the Seychelles Island. The Committee recommend that the services of the present acting political agent at Zanzibar should be retained, and that no technical rules of the service should be allowed to interfere with his appointment as political agent. They also suggest that the co-operation of the Governments of Germany, France, America, and Portugal in the suppression of the slave trade should be invited, and that negotiations should be entered into with the Persian Government to secure, if possible, for Her Majesty's officers greater facilities for searching vessels suspected of carrying slaves.

TRIAL TRIP OF A STEAM LAUNCH.—An interesting trial trip took place on the Thames on Saturday of a steam launch. The novelty of the present boat is that it is for hauling nets in sea fishing, more especially for the pilchard fisheries on the south-west coast of this our island. Those who have visited the Cornish and Devonshire coast will know the vast number of hands these fisheries give employment to. The method adopted is that on a shoal of pilchards being seen approaching the shore, a boat pulled by hand power is sent out with a large net called a seine, with the object of passing the net round the shoal and securing the fish; the process naturally occupies some length of time, and it frequently occurs they are lost altogether. The object of this little steamer is to pass the net round the fish, and surround them before they can escape. The craft is very similar to those built by the same firm for passenger traffic, but is of considerable beam, to withstand a rough sea. It is 37 feet in length, 9 feet in breadth, is built of teak and coppered, and is provided with a large well or hold at the stern for holding the fish. The engine and boiler are attached together, and are very simple in construction. The draught of water on the trial was three feet, and the speed nine miles an hour, the consumption of fuel being at the rate of 50*lb.* per hour. [This boat, if not too expensive, seems to us a grand desideratum for Africa—for Lagos and some of the rivers. We, therefore, propose to inquire further into its cost and other particulars.—Ed. A. T.]

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

At the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on the 8th May, the following dispatches forwarded by Dr. Kirk to Lord Granville, and by Lord Granville to Sir Roderick Murchison, relative to the movements of Dr. Livingstone, were read by Sir Henry Rawlinson, who occupied the chair in the absence of Sir Roderick Murchison:—

"Zanzibar, March 10, 1871.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to forward translation copies of letters just received from Ujiji, from which it will be seen that up to five months ago Dr. Livingstone was at a place named Manakoso, and only awaiting the men and supplies sent off by me last year, and that they have now reached him, or at least been forwarded from Ujiji to the place where he is. It being now time to close letters for transmission by the present occasion, I shall not be able to make inquiry among the Arabs acquainted with these parts as to the position of the places named, but which I suppose are on the western side of the lake.—I have, &c.,

"JOHN KIRK.

"To the Right Hon. Lord Granville,"

Copy of a Letter from Consul Kirk, Zanzibar, from Sherif Pashlikh Iber Ahmed:—

"I have to inform you that on the 15th Shaban (Nov. 10) a messenger came from the people of Menama with letters from the Arabs who are there and one from the Dr., and these letters were dated the 20th Regib (Oct. 15). In answer to my inquiries they told me that the Dr. was well, although he had been suffering, and he is for the present at the town of Manshoso with Mohamed bin Gharib, waiting for the caravans, being helpless, without means, and with few followers—only eight men—so that he cannot move elsewhere or come down. We have sent off twelve of our men with American cloth, waniki, beads, sugar, coffee, salt, two pair shoes, shot, powder, and soap, and a small bottle of quinine. All that he was in need of we have sent to him, and I remain at Ujiji awaiting his orders.—Dated 20th Shaban, 1287 (Nov. 15, 1870)."

Translation to Judda Danyi from Saeed bin Majid, after compliments.

"This letter is from Ujiji, and the news here is good, and nothing but good to report; trade also is prosperous. Letters have come from the people of Menama, from Mohamed bin Gharib and his people, and they have got good prices such as please them, and the Christian is in their company, and they intend returning to Ujiji in the month of Safz (April). Sherief reached Ujiji, having with him the goods of the Christian, and we intend sending some of these goods to him, for he is destitute; the people of Sherief will accompany the messengers who take the letters.—(True extract.)

"JOHN KIRK.

Zanzibar."

"My Lord,—I have the honour to report, the information having reached me through a native, that the men sent off by Mr. Churchill with stores for Dr. Livingstone, as reported in his dispatch of the 18th November, 1870, were still at Bagamozo, a coast town on the opposite mainland, and had not taken any steps to procure porters and proceed on their journey. I determined if possible to go on myself and see them off. Captain Tucker, commanding H.M.S. Columbine, on my request, kindly offered to place his ship at my disposal for this purpose. On reaching Bagamozo I found that the men referred to were still living in the village, while Arab caravans were setting off on the same journey. It is true that porters this year are difficult to obtain, few of the people of Uyamwezi having come down, in consequence of deaths last year from cholera among their friends. However, by using my influence with the Arabs, I succeeded at once in sending off all but four loads, and followed inland one day's journey myself. The remaining four loads I arranged on my return were to be taken as far as Unyamambe by an Arab caravan, and then sent on to Ujiji by Sandbin Salim, the governor. Once fairly off on the road there is little to induce these people to delay, whereas at Bagamozo, living in good huts, and among their own people, and think that there unknown they might enjoy themselves, and earn monthly pay, had I not gone in person they might have loitered yet several months. While passing along the trade route in the short excursion I made from Bagamozo we met several caravans on their way from Unyamwezi, Urori, &c., and by questioning the natives as well as the leaders, I found that no news had been received lately at Unyamambe and Ujiji, and nothing had been heard of Dr. Livingstone. All were aware that he had gone on a journey from which he had not yet returned up to the latest dates. The country I passed through after crossing the river Kingani was like a beautiful park and woodland, full of all sorts of big game, including the giraffe, eland, zebra, hartebeeste, wilde beeste, &c., some of which I shot not more than twelve miles from the coast town of Bagamozo. The Kingani River was full of hippopotami, and on its banks are found the wild buffalo. Unfortunately, wherever the giraffe

exists in numbers, this rich and comparatively healthy region is infested by the Ictse fly, and so dangerous to cattle and horses. On my return to Bagamozo I devoted a day to the study of the French mission establishments, and their management of freed slaves. On this I shall do myself the honour to submit a separate account to your lordship. Since my visit four years ago I found the town of Bagamozo to have trebled its extent. Native huts were fast being replaced by stone buildings, and here as elsewhere on the coast the trade rapidly passing into the hands of the Kutchees.—I have, &c. (Signed) "JNO. KIRK."

Sir H. RAWLINSON congratulated the meeting on the information that they had received of the safety of the doctor.

A brief discussion followed.

[NOTE.—The above was crowded out of our paper in May, June, and July; but we now insert it, because we feel that the *African Times* ought to contain a record of all intelligence received of this illustrious traveller, whom we hope ere long to welcome once again in England.—ED. A. T.]

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN BRAZIL.

When the last mail left Rio de Janeiro for England, the Brazilian Government had just succeeded in carrying through the Legislative Chamber the chief article of their measure for the Abolition of Slavery. After eleven days' debate on the first article, which provides that all children of slave parents born henceforward shall be free citizens, it was passed by a majority of sixty-two to thirty-seven. Unless, therefore, the Opposition should succeed in prolonging the debate until the time for the dissolution of the Chamber arrives (which it is evidently their intention to do, if possible), the Government measure will become the law of the land, and entire freedom from slavery will be, ere long, secured.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

REPORT FOR WEEK JULY 22 TO 29.

Benni-seed.—290 bags, at 82s. per quarter.
Ground-nuts.—East India per ton, 107. 10s. to 151. 10s.; African, 107. 10s. to 187.

Palm-oil.—The quantity on offer being small, previous prices are maintained, and the sales are limited to 200 tons. Irregular at 267. to 321.; Bonny at 321. 15s. to 331.; Benin at 331. 2s. 6d.; Old Calabar at 341.; and Lagos at 341. 10s. per ton.

The cotton market opened this week with a large inquiry, the sales on Friday amounting to fully 20,000 bales, and on Saturday an advance of fully 1d. per lb. was established. On Monday the demand fell off, and the quotations are but little altered. Sales, 103,000 bales.

JULY 29 TO AUGUST 5.

Palm-oil in steady request, and 600 tons sold; Irregular at 271. to 321.; Opobo at 321. 10s.; Bonny at 321. 15s. to 331.; Benin at 331. 2s. 6d.; Cameroons at 331.; Old Calabar at 331. 12s. 6d. to 331. 15s.; Lagos at 341. 10s.; and New Calabar at 371. 10s. per ton.

Palm-kernels.—60 tons at 121. 15s. to 131. 12s. 6d. per ton.
Ground-nuts.—East India, at 107. 10s. to 151. 10s.; African, at 107. 10s. to 187.

The cotton market was very quiet in the early part of the week, and a decline of fully 1d. per lb. was submitted to; yesterday and to-day the demand has increased, with some advance, but the quotations are still rather below those of last Thursday.

AUGUST 5 TO AUGUST 12.

Palm-kernels.—540 bags at 131. to 131. 12s. per ton.
Ground-nuts.—African, 107. 10s. to 187. per ton.
Palm-oil.—1,250 tons sold on the spot and to arrive; Irregular at 271. to 321.; Bonny and Opobo at 321. 10s. to 331.; Old Calabar at 331. 15s.; Lagos at 341. 10s.; and Congo at 371. 15s. per ton.

The cotton market was without animation on Saturday, and reopened on Tuesday, after the Bank holiday, with a quiet tone; this has since continued, and a decline of about 1d. per lb. has been submitted to in most descriptions.

The sales of the week amount to about 70,000 bales.

AUGUST 12 TO 19.

Ground-nuts.—160 bags, at 191. per ton.
Palm-kernels.—3,350 bags, at 131. 5s. per ton.
Palm-oil.—900 tons sold; Irregular at 271. to 321., Bonny at 321. 10s. to 331., Benin at 331. to 331. 5s., Lagos at 341. 15s., Old Calabar at 331. 15s., New Calabar at 371. 12s. 6d., Congo at 371. 15s. to 381., and Brass at 381. per ton.

The Cotton Market opened very quietly this week, and prices declined 1d. per lb. Yesterday the demand increased, and to-day the business has been extensive, the trade being the principal buyers, and the quotations of last week are in most instances resumed. Sales of the week, about 98,000 bales. Price of African, 64d. to 74d.

CONFISCATION OF TRIAL BY JURY IN WEST AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

West Africa, June 10, 1871.

Sir,—I read in the English papers that the House (meaning the House of Parliament) was occupied for nearly three hours in the discussion of Mr. Lambert's Bill to alter the system of trial by jury in Ireland, by allowing the majority of fifteen jurors to find a verdict. Mr. Maguire denounced the proposal as a monstrous attempt at amateur legislation by a member totally ignorant either of the law which he desired to amend, or of the state of society in the country to which he proposed to apply his measure. Colonel French asked the House to leave Ireland alone, so that the beneficent legislation of the last two sessions might have time to tell upon the country. The Solicitor-General for Ireland, on the part of the Government, described them as altogether opposed to the Bill, although he admitted that, personally, he would be glad to see a uniform jury law for all parts of the United Kingdom. After a few words from Mr. G. Gregory and Lord Hartington, Mr. Lambert, finding no support from any quarter for his Bill, withdrew it. Has Africa no friends in Parliament to denounce the ordinance which deprived us of the trial by jury? Is there no member in the House to ask the House to leave Africa alone, as Colonel French asked the House to leave Ireland alone? Mr. Maguire denounced it as a monstrous attempt at amateur legislation; but is it not a monstrous attempt on us Africans? Is there no offspring left of William Wilberforce, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Lord Brougham, &c., upon whom the spirits of their fathers have descended—to say as Colonel French said with regard to Ireland, when he asked the House in the same manner to "leave Africa alone" to enjoy the rights of trial by jury as we do in England—that it is a monstrous attempt? Mr. Lambert's Bill was to alter the system of trial by jury in Ireland by allowing the majority of fifteen jurors to find a verdict. Here it was not to deprive the people of Ireland of trial by jury, but was only to limit them to fifteen, and to this Bill of Mr. Lambert it was cried out, "*Monstrous attempt!*" across the table by Mr. Maguire, and by Colonel French on the other side of the House, who cried out, with that military voice which attracted every one in the House, so as to summons them to the strictest silence and attention, "*Leave Ireland alone.*" How much more interest should be shown to Africa, who was not limited to fifteen jurors to find a verdict, but was totally deprived of trial by jury and left to the mercies of white judges; and though we have petitioned nearly a dozen times, yet there is none in the House or in the Colonial-office to say, "Restore to Africa her rights and privileges, and *leave Africa alone.*" May it not be argued by some of the members in the House on reading this, "Oh! there is a great difference between the Irish and the Africans; the Irish are our colour and our relations, but the Africans are not." Will these be the thoughts of the Members of the House? God forbid! but that every member in the House on reading this will think differently, and say "Let us give the same rights and privileges to the Africans as we do to England. And remember that though the Africans are not of our colour, yet we are brethren; and though no relation, yet are of the same flesh and blood."—Yours, Mr. Editor,

AN AFRICAN OF THE AFRICANS.

NOTE.—This was written before the late debate on Mr. McArthur's notice in the House of Commons.—ED. A. T.

A FATHER'S LAST TRIBUTE TO HIS CHILD

GONE TO HER HEAVENLY FATHER'S HOME.

Engraved on the Tomb of Annie Chamerovzow.*

DEAR ANNIE'S EPITAPH.

Vain the brief record of thy youthful fame,
Though written in the annals of thy day;
Bright Genius! Star! which glitter'd, pass'd away:
A momentary blaze! then—nothing but a name.

To those who knew thee best, who loved thee most,
This tribute to thy memory has its worth;
But they once more resolved to parent earth,
Thou'lt lie unheeded 'midst a stranger host.

Yet shall this tablet one great lesson teach;
Our earthly hopes on no sure basis rest:
And from this tomb, Death's solemn voice shall preach;
Things mortal are but "Vanity" at best.

L. A. C.

* See Obituary in our July number.

SOME SHOW OF JUSTICE AT LAST.

COURT OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CAPE COAST.

In the matters of the petitions of Joseph Smith, and of the summons of John F. Smith and others against the Assignees of Joseph Smith's Estate, and the Executors of Mr. A. B. McIntyre—deceased.

The petition of the late Joseph Smith was dated November 1869, in which he prayed the Court to order a final settlement of his estate by his assignee, A. B. McIntyre, which had been delayed for the last nine years, and to compel him to give him his certificate.

The case was heard before D. P. Chalmers, Esq. Chief Magistrate and Judicial Assessor. Messrs. Edmund Bannerman and James Brew appeared for the plaintiff, and Messrs. George Blankson, Jun., and Henry Spilbury for the defendant.

The cause for Joseph Smith's certificate was opened in a clear and masterly manner by Mr. E. Bannerman, who entered fully into the injustice done to his client by the assignees from time to time appointed, who doomed him to perpetual inactivity and the means of making his livelihood for the last nine years by keeping from him his certificate. His argument carried great weight and conviction against all the rhetorical fluency of Mr. Blankson, and Mr. Smith obtained forthwith his certificate from the Court early in 1870.

In re the family house of Joseph Smith, in the summons of John Smith and others; also the prayer of the administratrix, Mrs. Joseph Smith, for an allowance to be granted from the estate of her late husband during the time he was a bankrupt. Mr. James Brew appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Charles Bannerman for the defendants, viz., Messrs. W. H. Selby and S. Davies, the present assignees of the estate.

Mr. Brew, a shrewd, hard-headed, silent man, who knew his business thoroughly, opened his case with such an invincible array of figures, showing how villainously the estate had been handled by the late assignee, that even the attorney of the present assignees, with all his acuteness, was unable to combat the formidable facts brought before him by Mr. Brew.

His Honour the Chief Magistrate patiently listened to all the arguments *pro* and *con* adduced, and in a judgment which took two hours and twenty minutes in reading, remarkable for its argumentative clearness, its unsurpassed and patient industry, ruled:—

It is decreed and ordered, Firstly, that Messrs. William Henry Selby and Samuel Davies, the assignees of the bankrupt estate of Joseph Smith, do forthwith recover the following sums for the benefit of the said estate, from the executors of Mr. A. B. McIntyre, deceased, and place the same to the credit thereof in account, viz.: a sum of 4817. 12s. 10d., being the amount of certain disallowed items specified in an order of Court of date 13th December, 1864, and a sum of 1357. 2s. 6d., being amount of commissions erroneously taken credit for a second time in his account, after having being duly credited to Mr. Moffatt, his predecessor, as assignee, and further sum of interest on these items, amounting to 1681. 8s. 6d., and a further sum of 141. 16s. 4d., being dividend taken credit for in account, but not paid, making in all the sum of 8007. 10s. 2d., which sum is hereby imposed as a charge on the estate of the said A. B. McIntyre, with liberty to his executors to recover all or any of the items thereof, from whatsoever person, if any other than the said A. B. McIntyre may actually have received and retained the said items. Secondly, that the assignees do recover from Messrs. Foster and Smith, and credit to their estate as aforesaid the sum of 4,8987. 7s. 2d., along with 1,5307. 4s. 9d., being interest thereon, at the rate of 5 per centum per annum, from 31st December, 1864, to the 31st December, 1871, making the together 6,4287. 11s. 11d., but under deduction of the sum of 6977. 4s. 9d., being deficiency of the dividends drawn by Messrs. Foster and Smith, from the amount which, under a right disposal of the aforementioned sum of 4,8987. 7s. 2d., they would have been entitled to draw, together with interest thereon, from 31st December, 1864, to 31st March, 1871, being 2187. 0s. 3d., said sums of principal and interest, amounting together to 9157. 6s. 0d., which is hereby allowed to be set off and credited to Messrs. Foster and Smith, as against the aforementioned sum, to be recovered from them. Thirdly, that out of the assets thus recovered the said assignees do pay to such of the clerks and servants who have already proved as may now come forward and claim the sum of 187. 9s. 5d., the said sum being amount of deficiencies in the dividends allocated to them for their just amounts and values, as also the sum of 147. 16s. 4d., being the amount allocated for a second dividend to the said clerks and servants, but not paid to them; these two last-mentioned payments to be made rateably amongst the persons entitled in the proportion of their said original claims respectively. And further, that the said assignees pay into court for behoof of John Francis Smith and other claimants, on the house called Smith's Hall (now Palm Villa), the sum of 5807., and further, that the said assignees pay to Mrs. Mary Anne Smith, executrix of Joseph Smith, deceased, the sum of 1847. to be in full of all

allowances to the said Joseph Smith; and with regard to costs it is ordered that the costs of the claimants and petitioner, and also a fee of 21. 2s. to Mr. William Mercer, Colonial Surveyor, be paid out of the estate, and that the costs of the assignees, so far as applicable to their plea of no assets, be paid by the assignees *de bonis propriis*, and that their costs applicable to their other pleas and answers be paid out of the estate; and it is ordered lastly, that after making an account of all the sums hereinbefore mentioned, bringing out the balance of assets remaining, the said assignees do make and bring into court a scheme for the distribution of such balance by way of final dividend amongst the creditors. I have only to add that I have thus sought to dispose in one decree of all the matters brought before me, instead of an introductory order, which perhaps might have been more for my own concern, with the purpose that either or both parties in going to the appeal Court may be able to take up the whole case at once for review, instead of having the expense and dissatisfaction of perhaps more than one appeal.

(Signed) D. P. CHALMERS,

Chief Magistrate and Judicial Assessor.

3rd day of May, 1871.

JUSTICES' JUSTICE IN JAMAICA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Sir,—I wish to put one question to Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen. Does he think that if a justice of the peace in England were to keep "a private lock-up," "falsely and maliciously," in the opinion of one of the Queen's judges, to imprison a man therein; that if another, with scandalous approval, permitted a plaintiff to be beaten till he was covered with blood in his presence while invoking his magisterial protection;—does he think that their names would be permitted to sully for a day the Queen's Commission of the Peace? And if not here, why in Jamaica? Good God! that these things should be called "of no especial public interest!"—Yours, &c., M. P.

July 21.

P.S.—RE THE LIBERIAN LOAN.

We find it has been stated at the Liberian Consulate, and at a breakfast to the Commissioners, that *this Loan has been fully subscribed*. Our opinion is not at all changed thereby; but if the money be really got, we sincerely hope our fears will prove groundless, and that a good use will be made of it.

COTTON, WOOL, and other Material, PRESSED and PACKED by WALKER'S PATENT ROTATING PRESS, in HALF the USUAL TIME. Sugar Mills for Splitting the Cane, Palm Nut Sorters, Nut Crackers, and every kind of Machine for Africa or India.

12, JAMES-STREET, CITY-ROAD, LONDON.

African Gold Ornaments, Brooches, Earrings, Rings, Chains, &c.

MR. W. R. TAYLOR begs to inform his numerous customers and the public generally that from and after the date hereof he will be prepared to execute all orders for Gold Trinkets, &c., forwarded to him, provided always that such orders are accompanied with remittances. A moderate commission of ten per cent. will be charged, and none must expect their orders to be executed unless accompanied with a remittance.

Fort-street, opposite the Castle, Cape Coast.

December 22, 1870.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

SHIPPERS are respectfully informed that this Company now despatch TWO STEAMERS MONTHLY to the WEST COAST of AFRICA.

The fine new Screw Steamers
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