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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.

JUNE, 1872.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

ADDITIONAL SAILINGS FROM GLASGOW.

This Company intend to despatch a Steamer from Glasgow on the 11th May and June respectively, in addition to the regular departures on the 30th of each month.

The splendid Steamship LOANDA is intended to be despatched from GLASGOW on MAY 30, and from LIVERPOOL on the 6th JUNE, at 10 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; this Steamer will also take Cargo for New Calabar, Brass, Benin, and Opobo (delivering inside the bars), the same to be transhipped at Bonny, and forwarded by branch Steamer, at Shipper's risk. GOODS will be received in GLASGOW up to the evening of 28th MAY, and at the Loading Berth in LIVERPOOL (North Side Coburg Dock) up to 6 P.M. on the 5th JUNE. Passengers will embark by Steam Tender from Prince's Landing Stage at 9.30 A.M. on the day of sailing.

The following departure is intended to be the Steamship ROQUELLE, which will leave LIVERPOOL DIRECT on the 18th JUNE, at 2.30 P.M., for Madeira, Teneriffe, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Half Jack, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, Old Calabar, and taking cargo for delivery by branch steamer inside the bars of New Calabar, Brass, Benin, and Opobo. Goods will be received up to 6 P.M. on the 17th. Passengers will embark at 2 P.M. on the day of sailing.

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

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

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., 48, Castle-street.

Shippers are respectfully informed that Cargo can now be taken by the Steamers of the 6th and 18th for delivery inside the Bars of NEW CALABAR, BRASS, BENIN, and OPOBO. The Goods will be transhipped at Bonny, and forwarded by Branch Steamer.

WEST COAST MAILS.

ARRIVALS.

African Steamship Company's Benin, April 24.
African Steamship Company's Calabar, May 4.
African Steamship Company's Africa, May 15.
British and African Company's Volta, May 15.

DEPARTURES.

African Steamship Company's Benin, April 30.
British and African Steam Navigation Company's Liberia,
May 6.
African Steamship Company's Eboe, May 12.
Brit. and African Steam Navigation Co.'s Volta, May 18.

SIERRA LEONE.

ROAD TAX REPEAL ORDINANCE, 1872.—No. 10.

Whereas the Ordinance for keeping in repair the roads and highways of the Settlement is insufficient, and in many of its provisions unjust and oppressive, and it is expedient, therefore, to repeal the same,

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, as follows:—

1. The Ordinance dated the 14th day of December, 1855, and intitled, "An Ordinance for Keeping in Repair the Roads and Highways of the Colony," shall be, and is hereby repealed; and no proceedings shall be had and taken after the passing of this Ordinance against any defaulters in payment of any tax now due under the said Ordinance.

(Signed)

J. POPE HENNESSY,
Administrator of the Government of the
West African Settlements.

Passed in this Legislative Council this fourteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

(Signed) JACOB W. LEWIS,
Acting Clerk of Legislative Council.

BANK OF WEST AFRICA ORDINANCE.

In the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. John Pope Hennessy, Administrator of the Government of the West African Settlements. March, 1872.

At a Legislative Council held on the day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

An Ordinance for the Incorporation of the Bank of West Africa.

Whereas the several persons hereinafter named and others have agreed to form a Joint Stock Company, under the name or style of "The Bank of West Africa," for the purpose of carrying on the business of banking and for conducting all business usually transacted by bankers.

And whereas for the purpose of establishing and carrying on the said undertaking, they have agreed that a capital of two hundred thousand pounds, divided into twenty thousand shares of ten pound each, shall be raised in the first instance, with power to increase such capital to the extent and in manner hereinafter mentioned.

And whereas for the better accomplishing and carrying into effect the objects and purposes of the said Company, they have applied to His Excellency the Governor and the Legislative Council of the Settlement of Sierra Leone to grant to them and all other the subscribers of such capital an ordinance of incorporation which the said Governor and Council have consented and agreed to do, under and subject to the conditions, restrictions, and provisions hereinafter contained.

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

I. This ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Bank of West Africa Incorporation Ordinance."

II. In the interpretation of this ordinance, the expression "The Governor," shall mean and include the officer for the time being administering the Government of the Settlement of Sierra Leone; and the expression, "The Company," shall mean the Bank of West Africa; and the expression, "The Court," shall mean the Supreme Court of the Settlement of Sierra Leone.

III. John George Thomas Child, Geoffrey Hornby, Henry Farnaby Mills, together with such and so many other persons as have already become, or at any time or times hereafter shall or may become, proprietors of any share or shares of or in the capital for the time being of the said Company, shall be one body politic and corporate in name and in deed, by the name of "The Bank of West Africa," and by that name shall and may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded in all courts in this settlement, whether of law or equity, and shall have a common seal, which may be by them altered, varied, and changed at their pleasure.

IV. The said Company is and shall be established for the purpose of carrying on the business of banking in manner aforesaid, in the Settlement of Sierra Leone, but subject, nevertheless, to the conditions, restrictions, regulations, and provisions hereinafter contained or to be contained in any supplemental ordinance hereafter to be passed for that purpose.

V. The capital of the Company shall consist of two hundred thousand pounds, to be divided into twenty thousand shares of ten pounds each, provided always that it shall be with power of the said Company to increase such capital to the extent and in manner hereinafter mentioned.

VI. The said Company may commence business whenever the directors shall see fit, but it shall not be lawful to and for the said Company to avail themselves of the privileges conferred under the provisions of this ordinance unless and until a moiety at least of the capital subscribed for has been paid up.

VII. General meetings of the proprietors of the said Company shall, from time to time, be assembled, not being less than once

in every twelve months; and the first general meeting of the said proprietors shall be held within twelve months after the date hereof, and at such hour and place in England as the Court of Directors shall direct, and notice of the said first general and every other subsequent general meeting shall be given by public advertisement in two daily morning newspapers, printed and circulated in London at least twenty-one days before the time to be appointed for holding the same respectively, and by notice posted to each shareholder on the register of shareholders from time to time, according to the address in such register, or in such other manner as the said Company at any general meeting shall from time to time direct, provided that the failure or omission to hold any such general meeting at the several times and in manner herein prescribed, shall not affect the validity of this ordinance, nor cause the Company hereby created to be dissolved, but that all proceedings at any general meeting which may be holden in lieu, or instead, of the meeting so omitted to be holden, shall be as valid and effectual as if such last-mentioned meeting had been duly holden and such proceedings had taken place thereat.

VIII. For the better ordering and governing the affairs of the said Company, there shall be from time to time constituted, in manner hereinafter mentioned, out of the members of the said Company a Board of Directors, not less than three nor more than seven of the said members to be called "the Court of Directors," for the ordering, managing and directing, in the manner and under the provisions hereinafter contained, the affairs of the said Company.

IX. The said John George Thomas Child, Geoffrey Hornby, and John Mayor Harris, and such other persons as they may nominate, shall be the first directors of the said Company, and may continue in office until the general meeting of members to be holden not later than in the year 1875, and at that meeting all shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election, and if before the said general meeting to be holden in the year 1875, there shall happen to be any vacancy or vacancies in the office of directors, then the Court of Directors shall from time to time fill up such vacancy or vacancies.

X. No proprietor shall be eligible or qualified to act as a director of the said Company unless he shall at the time of his election be the holder of at least 1,000*l.* of the capital stock of the said Company, and if any director shall at any time after his election cease to be the holder of at least 1,000*l.* stock, such person shall thereupon immediately cease to be a director as the case may be.

XI. The remuneration to be received by the directors for the time being for their services shall be fixed by the proprietors assembled at the first general meeting, and may be varied at any subsequent general meeting.

XII. There shall be two auditors of the said Company who need not be members, and for the first year they shall be nominated by the directors, but subsequently they shall be nominated at each annual meeting, and their fees shall from time to time be fixed at each annual meeting.

XIII. The said Court of Directors shall have full power and authority to direct, manage, superintend, regulate, and control all the affairs and concerns of the said Company, and to appoint all the agents, officers, and servants thereof, including, if they so think fit, a managing director as well in the United Kingdom as abroad, and to fix their respective salaries or wages, and from time to time to remove or discharge any such agents, officers, or servants, and to appoint others in their stead, and to make such rules, orders, and bye-laws for the good government of the said Company, and of their said agents, officers, and servants, and generally for the superintendence and management of the said Company, and from time to time to alter and repeal the said rules, orders, and regulations, or any of them in such manner as the said directors shall from time to time think expedient or proper, provided always that all such rules, orders, and bye-laws as shall from time to time be in force shall be consistent with the provisions of this ordinance, and they shall be fairly entered and written in a book or books to be kept for that purpose at the office of the said Company in London and at the head office in Sierra Leone, and be open to the inspection of the members at all reasonable times.

XIV. It shall not be lawful for the said Company to purchase any share or shares, or make any advances of money, or give securities for money, to any person or persons on the security of any share or shares in the said Company.

XV. The bank shall every week prepare and make up a full and correct account and statement, in writing, exhibiting the assets, property, credits, and securities belonging to the said Bank, and also the debts, engagements, and liabilities of the same, in the manner and form, and under the several heads particularly set forth in the schedule to this ordinance annexed,

marked A, and shall transmit such account and statement weekly to the officer acting as Colonial Secretary.

XVI. From such weekly accounts and statements so directed to be made up as aforesaid, there shall be prepared on the last day of each quarter, ending on the 31st day of March, the 30th day of June, the 30th day of September, and the 31st day of December in every year by the said Bank as aforesaid, a general abstract in writing of the average amount during such quarter of the respective assets of the Bank and of the debts, engagements, and liabilities, in the manner and form, and under the several heads or titles specified and set forth in the schedule to this ordinance annexed, marked B, to which respective quarterly abstracts shall be subjoined a statement exhibiting the amount of the capital stock of the Bank as paid up at the close of the period to which such abstracts respectively shall be so made up, or as near thereto as may be practicable, the rate and amount of the last dividend, if any, that may have been declared to the shareholders or proprietors, and the amount of the reserved profit at the time of declaring such dividend, and such respective quarterly abstracts and statements shall be verified by the declaration of the managing director, manager, chief cashier or clerk of the Bank, and shall, within one month after the close of every such quarter, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, be delivered to the officer acting as Colonial Secretary for the time being, and shall also be published in the Royal Government Gazette of Sierra Leone.

XVII. If the said Bank shall neglect to keep such weekly accounts, or make out, or to return or deliver such quarterly abstracts to the officer acting as Colonial Secretary as aforesaid, or if any managing director, manager, chief cashier or clerk, verifying any such abstract, shall deliver or return to the officer acting as the Colonial Secretary any false account or abstract of such averages, the said Bank so neglecting or making such false account or abstract shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of 100*l.*; and the managing director, manager, chief cashier, or cashier so offending shall also forfeit for every such offence the sum of 50*l.*; such penalties to be recovered respectively by action of debt in the Supreme Court at the suit of the officer for the time being acting as Colonial Secretary on behalf of the Government.

XVIII. The managing director, manager, chief cashier, or clerk of the said Bank shall, within thirty days after the passing of this ordinance, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, and also within thirty days after the 31st day of December in each and every year, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, cause a true and correct list of the names of the persons who shall, on such 31st day of December, be existing proprietors or members of such Company, with their respective places of abode and descriptions, together with the amount of capital or shares respectively held, to be recorded in the office of the Master of the Court, and the same shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times by any person requiring the same, on payment to the said Master of a fee of one shilling for each inspection; and if any such managing director, manager, chief cashier, or clerk shall omit or neglect to cause such list to be recorded in manner aforesaid, or shall wilfully falsify any such list, he shall be subject and liable to a penalty of 50*l.*, to be recovered by an action of debt in the Supreme Court by any person who shall sue for the same.

XIX. Every person whose name shall be so recorded as aforesaid shall be considered, taken, and held to be a member or proprietor of the said Bank, or until he or she shall have given notice in the Royal Government Gazette of his or her retirement therefrom; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be deemed or construed to absolve any person from liability on account of any debts incurred by the said Bank during the time such person remained a proprietor or member thereof.

XX. Every declaration required to be made under the provisions of this ordinance may be made before any Justice of the Peace or before the Master of the Court who are hereby authorized and empowered to receive the same, and any managing director, manager, chief cashier or clerk, who shall make any false declaration as to any matter or thing done under the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to such pains and penalties as are by law in force at the time as to persons convicted of wilful and corrupt perjury.

XXI. No action shall lie against any person for any offence committed against the provisions of this ordinance unless the same shall be commenced within one year from the time the offence shall be alleged to have been committed.

XXII. The said Company shall be bound to make up and publish in some newspaper or newspapers circulating in London and also in the Royal Government Gazette of Sierra Leone once in every year an account or statement showing the whole amount of its debts and assets at the close of the past year, and showing also the amounts of its notes payable on demand which had been in circulation during every month of such year, together with the amount of specie distinguishing each kind of specie and other

assets immediately available in every such month for the discharge of such notes.

XXIII. Such statement or account as aforesaid shall be audited by the auditors and settled at the general meeting appointed to be held yearly, and a copy of such statement or account shall be supplied to every shareholder on his requiring the same.

XXIV. It shall be lawful for the said Company to make, issue, and circulate at and from any town or place (except as herein-after provided), at which they may have opened or established any bank, branch, or establishment under, or by virtue of this ordinance, any bank-notes or bills payable on demand for 1*l.*, 2*l.*, or 5*l.* sterling each, or for any greater sum than 5*l.* sterling each, but not for any fractional part of a pound sterling unless otherwise authorised by the Governor-in-Chief of the Settlement of Sierra Leone.

XXV. All such notes and bills shall bear date at the town or place at and from which the same respectively shall be made and issued, and the said bank shall keep a register of all and every such notes or bills showing the date, amount, and signature, and the date of issue, and also the date when cancelled and re-issued, and all such notes or bills shall be payable in coin current in Great Britain, or other coin lawfully current in the said settlement to the bearer on demand, and when made and issued at and from any branch, bank, or establishment not being the principal establishment of the said Company at the seat of Government of any of the said settlements, the same notes and bills shall be made payable only at the principal banking establishment of the said Company in the settlement, within which such notes and bills shall be made and issued. And none of the said principal banking establishments of the Company in any of the said settlements shall be liable to be called upon to pay any such notes or bills which may have been made and issued by the said Company in any other settlement unless payment thereof shall have been refused at such principal banking establishment as aforesaid, at which the same were made and issued, and in that case payment thereof shall be made at such other branch or establishment as the said Company may direct, or in default of such direction, then at any one of the principal banking establishments of the said Company, where payment thereof may be demanded.

XXVI. The total amount of the notes and bills of the Company in circulation and payable to bearer on demand shall not at any time exceed the amount of the capital of the Company actually paid up, and there shall always be kept by the principal establishment in Sierra Leone an amount of specie equal to one-third at least of the notes and bills of such principal bank at any time in circulation.

XXVII. The total amount of the debts and liabilities of the Company, of what nature or kind soever (other than such incurred against securities held by them), over and above the amount of deposit on banking accounts with the Company's establishments, shall not at any time exceed three times the amount of the capital stock subscribed and actually paid up.

XXVIII. If at any time there shall be a suspension of payment of any of the notes or bills of the Company, it shall not be lawful for the said Company from and after the commencement, and during the continuance of such suspension of payment, to make any fresh issue of notes or bills.

XXIX. The Company shall not discount, or in any manner advance money upon bills of exchange, promissory notes, or other negotiable paper, in or upon which the name of any director or officer of the Company shall appear as drawer or acceptor, either on his individual or separate account, or jointly with any partner or partners, or otherwise than as a director or officer of the Company, to an amount exceeding one-third of the amount of the sum for the time being under discount, or advanced by the Company, nor shall any director be allowed to obtain credit on his own personal security.

XXX. It shall be lawful for the said Company, notwithstanding the statutes of mortmain, or any other statutes or laws to the contrary, to purchase or take on lease, and hold and enjoy to them and their successors and assigns in the Settlement of Sierra Leone such houses, offices, buildings, lands, and other hereditaments as shall or may be thought necessary or proper for the purpose of managing, conducting, and carrying on the affairs, concerns, and business of the said Company, but not for the purpose of investment or speculation.

XXXI. It shall not be lawful for the said Company to invest, lay out, or employ, advance, or embark any part of their capital or funds in the purchase of any lands, houses, or other real or leasehold property whatever in Sierra Leone, save and except such as may by the Governor be considered as necessary or proper for the purpose of managing, conducting, and carrying on the affairs, concerns, and business of the said Company, nor in any trading mercantile speculation or business whatsoever not usually considered as falling within the ordinary and legitimate

purposes and operations of a banking establishment. But, nevertheless, it shall be lawful for the said Company to take and accept any lands, houses, or other real and personal property, in satisfaction, liquidation, or payment of any debt absolutely and *bona fide* due and owing to the said Company, and also to take any mortgage or other security on real or personal property as aforesaid as collateral security for or against a general account, whether by way of advances on bills discounted or otherwise, or for any moneys absolutely and *bona fide* due to the said Company, or for which parties may have rendered themselves liable to the said Company, and to hold such lands, houses, and real property respectively for such reasonable time only after the said Company shall have acquired an absolute interest therein, as shall be necessary for selling or disposing of and converting the same into money. And also it shall be lawful for the said Company to sell, or otherwise convert into money, any goods, wares, or merchandise which shall or may be taken by them in satisfaction, liquidation, or payment of any debts, and to sell and convey any lands, houses, and other real property whatsoever, or any shares, goods, wares, or merchandise which they shall or may have acquired in manner aforesaid.

XXXII. It shall be lawful for the said Company from time to time, after the whole of the aforesaid capital shall have been subscribed for as aforesaid, and at least one half thereof paid up, to extend or increase their capital for the time being by the creation and issue of new shares, such new shares to be created and issued with the consent of a general meeting of the shareholders of the said Company, to be specially called for that purpose.

XXXIII. At least one-half of the amount of the increased capital shall from time to time be actually paid up before any extension of the dealings of the said Company in respect of such new capital shall be commenced, and until half of such new capital shall be so paid up, and shall be duly certified to the satisfaction of the Governor to have been paid up, the dealings and affairs of the said Company shall be carried on in all respects as if such extension of capital had not taken place.

XXXIV. If the Company shall become insolvent, every proprietor for the time being of shares in the capital thereof shall be liable to contribute to the payment of the debts, engagements, and liabilities of the Company, not only such parts of the shares held by him or her respectively in the capital of the Company as shall not have been theretofore called for and paid up, but also such further sums of money not exceeding the amount of the shares so held by him or her, as shall be requisite and necessary to satisfy and discharge the debts, engagements, and liabilities of the Company.

XXXV. The Board of Directors of the said Company shall, if and whenever they shall be required so to do either by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies or by the Governor, produce and submit to him or them, or to such other persons or officers as he or they may appoint for that purpose, for his or their inspection and examination, the several accounts and statements which have been directed to be made and furnished as aforesaid.

XXXVI. That on any suspension in the payments of the said Company for the space of sixty days in succession, or for any number of days at intervals which shall amount altogether to sixty days within any one year, or if the said Company shall not well and truly maintain, abide by, perform, and observe all and every the provisions and directions herein contained, then and in any of such cases it shall and may be lawful for the Legislature of the Settlement of Sierra Leone, without any further proceedings, by an ordinance duly passed to revoke and make void this ordinance and every matter and thing therein contained.

XXXVII. That, subject to the special provisions herein contained and hereinafter mentioned, the said Company shall have all the powers and privileges, and shall be subject to all the duties and liabilities comprised in the several Acts passed by the Imperial Parliament, and now in existence for the regulation of Joint Stock Limited Liability Companies, as far as the same are not inconsistent with the special provisions herein contained, and all the rules, provisions, and regulations comprised in the said Imperial Acts of Parliament relating to Joint Stock Companies, shall be in force and applicable to this Company in the same manner as if the said Company had been constituted and registered in England.

XXXVIII. Subject as aforesaid, the said Company may be wound up by the Supreme Court of the Settlement of Sierra Leone in its equitable jurisdiction, and the provisions of the Acts of the Imperial Parliament, intitled "The Companies' Acts, 1862 and 1867," with respect to the winding up of companies registered thereunder, shall apply to this Company as if expressly re-enacted in this ordinance, save and except in such respects as the same may be altered or modified as hereinafter mentioned or provided for:—

1. The circumstances under which the Company may be wound up are as follows—that is to say—

(a) In the event of the Company being dissolved, or ceasing to carry on business, or carrying on business only for the purpose of winding up its affairs.

(b) Whenever the Company is unable to pay its debts.

(c) Whenever the Court is of opinion that it is just and equitable that the Company should be wound up.

2. The Company shall be deemed unable to pay its debts—

(a) Whenever a creditor to whom the Company is indebted, at law or in equity, by assignment or otherwise, in a sum exceeding 50*l.* then due, has served upon the Company by leaving the same at the principal place of business of the Company, or by delivering to the manager or some director or principal officer of the Company, or by otherwise serving the same, in such manner as the Court may approve or direct, a demand under his hand requiring the Company to pay the sum so due, and the Company has for the space of three weeks succeeding the service of such demand neglected to pay such sum or to secure or compound for the same to the satisfaction of the creditor.

(b) Whenever execution or other process issued on a judgment, decree, or order obtained in any Court in favour of any creditor, at law or in equity, in any proceeding instituted by such creditor against the Company, is returned unsatisfied in whole or in part.

(c) Whenever it is proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the Company is unable to pay its debts.

XXXIX. On the determination of the term of twenty-one years from the date of this ordinance the powers and privileges hereinbefore conferred on the Company shall cease, unless the Legislature of the Settlement of Sierra Leone declare to the contrary and by an ordinance to that effect authorize the Company to continue incorporated under the aforesaid provisions for a further term of ten years, or for such period and under such provisions and conditions as may be contained in the said ordinance.

XL. This ordinance shall not come into operation until it shall have received the Royal confirmation.

CONDEMNATION AND SUBSEQUENT ESCAPE, AND DEATH BY DROWNING, OF THE LATE PRESIDENT ROYE.

A new Liberian paper gives the following account of the last days of President Royce, and of what subsequently occurred. After stating that the High Court of Impeachment sat day by day until the 11th February, when the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, it proceeds as follows:—

"He was then taken back to gaol to await sentence of the court, but at about 7.30 p.m. the alarm was given that Ex-President Royce had escaped from gaol; and on search being made, it was found that not only he, but his son, E. F. Royce, late Secretary of the Treasury, who had been a fellow-prisoner, had also escaped. The most reliable information with regard to the escape is that it was effected by means of a rope, which had been clandestinely conveyed into the prison to the younger Royce by a reputed paramour of his; and that with that his father and himself lowered themselves down from the back window of the gaol or prison, which window opens on a spot of land adjoining a street or thoroughfare. Having succeeded in effecting their escape, they proceeded to Krootown, in search of a boat to take them on board of the mail steamer, which was then in port. The younger Royce offered a pound to be taken off, but the Kroo-men refused it, informing him at the same time that orders had been sent to Krootown that no person should be taken off from there. By this time Ex-President Royce, who, on failing to find his own Kroo-boys, had also made application to other Kroo-men to be taken off, got recognised by some; and the Kroo-men, becoming apprehensive of their own safety under the circumstances, gave information of his escape. Upon this, the drums rolled forth the alarm; the guards sprang to their arms; the hue and cry was up; every loyal citizen joined in the chase, and all Monrovia was at the escaped prisoners' heels. The pursuit was kept up, with varying success between the prisoner's chances of final escape and their pursuers' chances of capture, until on Sunday afternoon, between the hours of two and three o'clock, when Ex-President Royce, seeing that from his situation he must be captured or shot by his pursuers, after divesting himself of his apparel, in a state of perfect nudity, save a piece of cloth fastened around his waist, plunged in the sea, and made for a boat (the *Towers*, of Liverpool) lying off at a short distance from the shore. He made several attempts to be taken or to get into this boat, but was beaten off, the boat at the same time increasing its distance from the land, until at last he sunk (we understand), and was drowned. His son, E. F. Royce, was captured a few hours subsequent, after a stray shot had grazed him in the eye, while concealing himself in a thicket on a lot of land, and taken back

to gaol. A bag of money which the accused had fastened either about his neck or waist, facilitated, it was represented, his destruction.

"The news of this sad occurrence travelled with lightning-like rapidity throughout the town just as the hour for afternoon service had arrived. The day, the time, the circumstances, and the solemn nature of the event, made a strong and sad impression on dispassionate, thoughtful, well-regulated minds, which could not be concealed. The services in the various churches were suspended—no congregations, in fact, attending. The long and strongly-excited passions of the populace not only seemed to have lost all their recent vehemence, but they themselves, like an over-bent bow, seemed to lack the strength to harm on this holy Sabbath afternoon, as following in uncertain moody silence the lifeless body of him, once their ruler, so lamentably misled, so deplorably ambitious, borne in all the nudity of barbarian garb to the prison which scarcely four-and-twenty hours before he had left, animated doubtless by most sanguine hopes. So perished the deposed President, E. J. Royce, fifth president of Liberia—an example, we heard a guard remark, to other presidents how they act when in office.

"The body of the deceased was, at his family's request, given up to them, and was buried on the next following afternoon."

ELMINA AND THE OTHER LATE DUTCH POSSESSIONS ON THE GOLD COAST, NOW UNDER THE BRITISH FLAG.

Under the erroneous heading of "Our New Colony," a Liverpool paper gives the following account of the transfer of Elmina and other Dutch possessions to Great Britain, which, as we find it in accord at all points with the advices we have received, we copy as a fair record of the important event:—

Advices by the African steamer Calabar state that the great event on the Gold Coast was the cession of Elmina and the Dutch possessions on the Coast to the English Government, and a correspondent, writing from Cape Coast Castle, gives the following account of the ceremony:—"The transfer of the possessions of his Majesty the King of the Netherlands on the Coast of Guinea to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland is now an accomplished fact. So said his Excellency Governor Ferguson, the Dutch Governor-in-Chief, when he handed over to Mr. Pope Hennessy, as representative to Her Majesty, the baton of the Governor of St. George did Mins. The ceremony was of a most interesting and impressive nature throughout. At nine o'clock on the morning of the 6th ultimo, the Governor-in-Chief and the Governor of Cape Coast embarked on board their respective yachts at Cape Coast, and steamed along up towards Elmina. The Governor-in-Chief's yacht, the *Sherbro*, led the way, keeping slightly inshore, with H.M. ship *Rattlesnake* Commodore Commerell, C.B., V.C., abreast of her outside; the Administrator's yacht followed, with H.M. ship *Seagull* abreast of her in a line with the commodore's vessel. At half-past eleven, having arrived within the prescribed distance of the anchorage at Elmina, the commodore's ship saluted the Dutch flag, and the salute was duly returned by the Dutch ship *Citadel* of Antwerp, and also from the forts of St. George and St. Jago. Immediately the ship anchored, marines and sailors from the *Rattlesnake* and *Seagull*, to the number of about 120, together with a detachment of the 2nd West India Regiment, were landed, and formed up in front of the castle, close to the bridge. Immediately afterwards the Governor-in-Chief landed in his steam launch, followed by the Administrator of the Gold Coast, Mr. Usher, accompanied by the Colonial Secretary and his private secretary; and they were received by a salute of seventeen guns. A procession, headed by the band of the *Rattlesnake*, was then formed, and proceeded towards the castle, followed by an immense crowd of natives; and it was with great difficulty that the Dutch marines and soldiers could prevent the people from filling the castle to overflowing; as it was, there was hardly room to move about, and the galley hall was like an oven. It was in this 'steaming' room that the business of the day was actually done; and here was assembled the chiefs and the captains of Elmina, including the deposed, or rather unacknowledged king. The Dutch Governor having explained to these chiefs the object of their being present, proceeded to read the treaty, which was duly interpreted; and his secretary then read a proclamation in Dutch, notifying to the chiefs that, by virtue of the treaty, it devolved upon him, the Dutch governor, as representative of the King of the Netherlands, to hand over the Dutch possessions there, and then to his Excellency Governor Pope Hennessy, as representative of the Queen of England. The Colonial Secretary of the Gold Coast then read a proclamation by Governor Hennessy, acquainting the Elminas and the tribes hitherto dependent on them, that he had, with the full consent of themselves, previously obtained, taken over the Dutch possessions in the Queen's name. Immediately after this the British flag was hoisted on the forts

in union with the Dutch colours, followed by salutes of 101 guns from the Castle of St. George, and the Dutch ship of war and H.M.S. *Rattlesnake*, whilst the troops and blue jackets of both nations, who were drawn up in the courtyard, presented arms, the bands playing 'God Save the Queen.' The salutes being over, Governor Ferguson was accompanied to the wharf by Governor Hennessy, Governor Usher, and the commodore, and escorted by the whole of the marines, blue jackets, and troops, where he embarked on board the *Citadel* of Antwerp. For the present Captain Teuton, of the 2nd West India Regiment, will act as civil and military commandant at Elmina, Captain Shepherd as commandant at Axetier, Lieutenant Wilkin commandant of Chambi, and Lieutenant Hopkins commandant of Dixcone."

WEST AFRICAN NEWS.

The Africa and the Volta steamers arrived at Liverpool, within a few hours of each other, on the night of the 14th and morning of the 15th inst.

OLD CALABAR.—It is stated there has been a serious gunpowder explosion here, but the details have not yet reached us.

ACCRA.—There have been several shocks of earthquake here.

ASHANTI.—There are rumours of a civil war having commenced at Kumasi, the capital. The withdrawal of the Dutch from the sea-coast, and the organisation of the Fanti Confederation, rendering it impossible for the Ashantis to make any more successful attacks on the Fanti countries, are very likely to set them fighting among themselves; and we look forward to such a change in Ashanti as will allow civilizing influences to obtain an entry into that valuable country.

ALTERATION OF DUTIES.—DUTY ON SPIRITS DOUBLED—DUTY ON COTTON GOODS, PROVISIONS, &c., ABOLISHED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, April 21, 1872.

Dear Sir,—Elmina was taken over by us on the 6th inst. without a murmur. There are murmurs now, however. The duty on spirits, that was 6*d.* per gallon, is raised to 1*s.* per gallon; on wine and beer it is to be 6*d.*; on guns and powder same as before; on Manchester goods, lumber, building materials, provisions, &c., there is to be no duty; duty is on these altogether abolished. The duty on cotton-goods, 4 per cent., *ad valorem*, produced 4,000*l.* last year; but the quantity of spirits imported was nearly 800,000 gallons. Now that we have taken over all the Dutch possessions, the quantity will, of course, be much larger. I should not be surprised if spirits alone produce 50,000*l.* a-year. The dissatisfaction of our new subjects, the Elminas, at this increased spirit duty is very great—so great that Captain Turton, our Commandant at Elmina, and other English officers, were pelted with stones at the very gate of the castle. But you must bear in mind that until 1868 they paid the Dutch no duties at all. It was no doubt bad enough, in the eyes of the ignorant King and some of his people, that their Fetish and other abominations were no longer to be encouraged and pensioned as they had been by the Dutch—to their deep disgrace be it said; but now, a shilling a-gallon duty on their darling rum and Geneva caps all, and there has been a great rallying of the people to the King, who had not above 200 or 300 followers before this. I dare say the Governor-in-Chief thought the matter well over first; but I cannot help thinking it would have been better to have put off this change for some six months. Of course, under these altered circumstances of great unpopularity, the few troops we have cannot be removed this year. If Mr. Cardwell had such an intention, he must abandon it for the present.

FANTI CONFEDERATION.—It will, I should think, be gratifying to you to know that your views are entirely adopted by the Governor-in-Chief, even to the very letter. This gives great encouragement to the Mankessim plans for carrying out their government in the interior; and it is said that by this very mail the Governor-in-Chief is recommending Her Majesty's Government to apportion them a handsome revenue out of the chest. With some modifications, he highly approves of their scheme; so, you see, you have succeeded. Mr. Pope Hennessy condemns in strong terms, if report speaks the truth, the conduct of Salmon and Mr. Chalmers, and their harsh measures with your friends of the Confederation, and poor Mr. Blankson and Fynn and others; but if so, then why does he not have them dismissed or promoted to *St. Helena*? Remember the wrongs they have committed here; their outrages on some of the best of the educated natives are too gross and odious to be forgotten or forgiven.

Ashanti, they say, is in a troubled state, but I do not know whether it be true; but as regards the Gold Coast countries their sting is drawn now that the Dutch have gone, and the Fantis are in confederation. I shall have much to write to you about by next mail. "HOPE."

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE BLANKSON, JUN.

The death of Mr. George Blankson, jun., at Cape Coast, on the 7th March, is an event that we deeply deplore having to record in our columns (where we had intended it should have appeared last month). It will be in the memory of our readers that this gentleman was one of those so arbitrarily and unjustifiably arrested and imprisoned by the late Acting-Administrator Salmon, in his insane chase after some treasonable documents of the Fanti Confederation, that had no existence save in the dark recesses of his own brain. In communications we have received his death is alleged to have been really caused by that arrest and imprisonment, from the shock of which, and the deep sense of the unmerited indignation of which, he is said never to have recovered. Here we see another of the lamentable results of entrusting the governing power, even for a time, to men such as Mr. Salmon. The other victims of his arbitrary proceedings ask—and hitherto ask in vain—for compensation. But where is the bereaved father, the Hon. George Blankson, to look for compensation for this grievous loss of a son in the full prime of early life (his age was twenty-eight), who was giving daily proof of abilities that might have made him eminently useful among his people, in whose love and esteem he held a very high place. There is no compensation for a father thus bereaved. All that we can do is to assure him of our heartfelt sympathy. We are indeed sorry for his great loss.—Ed. A. T.

STOPPAGE OF THE EGBA ROADS—ADMINISTRATOR GLOVER AND HIS RUINOUS POLICY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

April, 1872.

Sir,—Captain Glover's policy is ruining the trade of Lagos to a large extent, and as he has nothing to lose, we are bound to speak, for we have suffered (i.e., the merchants and traders of Lagos), and are suffering a great deal, owing to the depression of trade. Captain Glover has been fooling the Colonial-office, in Downing-street, with all sorts of reports, to make sure of his promotion, as he said and believes the more people talk against him the better he will be esteemed by the Secretary of State and other superior authorities. Captain Glover is so mean in his dealings with the lowest class of natives as to make them believe that he has only to deal with the Queen, and that no other power can question what he is doing. He sets nation against nation, country against country—divides friends against one another, and, to crown all, he holds the destiny of Lagos and the interior in his hands. Acting on the powers reserved to him in the prohibition of export of arms and ordinance, he sent lots of ammunition to all the ex-chiefs and princes of Porto Novo, to fight against their lawful King, and to cause civil war there; he dealt out guns, powder, shot, swords, knives, and other implements of war, to all the surrounding tribes, Western and Northern, to fight against the Egbas; and the natives in the Eastern part to fight against the Jebus at Ikno-du; and last, not least, he shipped ammunition by night to the Ibadans by a round-about route. We say, Mr. Editor, all this is done at the expense of the settlement, contrary to the true interests of the settlement; and can it be strange that we are all in danger of being ruined? The consequence is that all the surrounding countries refuse to treat with him, because of his deceitful and treacherous acts; and the Egbas have closed their road for as long as Glover is in Lagos. Captain Glover now said he had opened a new road in the Eastern district to go to Ibadan. He invited the merchants; we went, and saw nothing. We reported this to him; he got annoyed, and determined to open a bush road, by force of arms, to get fame! He is trying to be Governor-in-Chief. He wants to be knighted, and to be Sir John Glover. Alas! false reports to the Colonial-office will no doubt get this for him. We believe in it. Again, when the Government seized some cases of gin from the French vessel Conception in 1867, the Secretary of State ordered the seizure money to be returned to Regis Aindé, at Lagos. The amounts were paid thus: the Collector refunded his share, and the Treasury refunded that of the Colony; Captain Glover, as Administrator, never refunded his share of 340l.; he made the Colony pay it; and in the name of honesty we solemnly protest against this. Captain Glover has not paid or refunded that 340l. from 1867 to this month of April, 1872. Alas! Captain Glover, if no human being is capable of checking you, have you forgotten that the Creator sees you, and you shall have to give an account? We tax-payers cannot afford to allow the Colony to pay this 340l. for you, and the Secretary of State ought to order you to pay it immediately. We say, moreover, that you ought to refund all the expenses you incur in supplying unnecessary ammunitions, &c., to the natives to excite them to rebel against their countrymen and sovereign. We tell you in plain terms your policy tends to our ruin. You may fool the authorities, and know how to play the game to get promotion, as you say, but we say it is not right. It is said that when any public officers are abused, then the Colonial-office is sure to pro-

note them; and so you are certain you will be promoted. We should not care about this, but we object to be made to pay the piper. Pray, Mr. Editor, publish this, and oblige your obedient servant,

MERCHANT.

Note.—We think our correspondent must be in error about that 340l. Captain Glover has great and ruinous faults, and has shown himself unfit to rule over a commercial settlement like Lagos, where everything depends on good accord with all the neighbouring native tribes and kingdoms. But we do not think him capable of appropriating to his own use what does not belong to him. Our correspondent may be excused because of the improper secrecy that has been observed with regard to the accounts of the West African settlements, but we feel confident he must be in error about that 340l.—Ed. A. T.

LETTER TO EARL KIMBERLEY ON THE REPORTED STOPPAGE OF THE ABEOKUTA ROADS.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street, E.C.

April 25, 1872.

My Lord,—I regret to have again to trouble your lordship relative to the affairs of the settlement of Lagos.

By a letter from a mercantile correspondent at Lagos, dated March 27, and received this day per Benin, I am informed as follows:—

"Abeokuta Road.—By report I learn that the Egbas have stopped produce coming down from Abeokuta to Lagos, on account of the Government having stopped guns and powder from going up to them. Indeed, there is a great confusion in the state of things here at present, which I fear will prevent shipments of cotton and Beni-seed for some time to come."

The worst fears of the merchants and traders of Lagos as to ruinous complications being likely to arise from the Administrator's recent measures—which apprehension I laid before your lordship in December last—seem thus to be, unhappily, in course of realisation.

I have the honour again to state to your lordship, on the authority of many correspondents, that whatever may have been alleged by the Administrator to your lordship as a means for obtaining your lordship's sanction of the prohibition of export of arms ordinance, and other injurious measures adopted by him against the authorities and people of countries on the mainland opposite Lagos, there have not been any just or good grounds for such ordinance and measures, which threaten effects most disastrous to the trade and commerce of Lagos, and ruinous to those connected therewith.

In the name, therefore, of the merchants and traders of Lagos, as well as in my own, I earnestly entreat you lordship to take immediate steps for putting an end to a state of things which, if continued, must cause very great loss to the mercantile and trading interests of Lagos, and so embitter the relations of Lagos with the interior countries as to place a new obstacle to the spread of civilization among these people.

I have also the honour to enclose copy of another communication, dated Lagos, March 16, relative to a petition or testimonial from one Taiwo and others, said to have been forwarded to your lordship by the said Administrator of Lagos in support of his late proceedings.

Beeching your lordship's interference to prevent that ruin which again threatens the traders of Lagos through the acts of Her Majesty's Administrator in that settlement, I have the honour to remain, my Lord, your obedient servant,

FERDINAND FITZGERALD,

Editor of African Times.

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley, K.G., Colonial-office.

Inclosure in above.

(Copy of letter dated Lagos, March 16.)

"A petition has been got up by one Taiwo, of Isheri Market notoriety, in favour of Administrator Glover, because the two have generally held sweet counsel together in benefiting Taiwo, and helping the Administrator with cunning things to irritate the Egbas. Taiwo got about eighty ragamuffins to put their marks in the petition, against their own conscience. Those who refused are set down for revenge. The petition was got up privately, and the signatures were put in without the knowledge of most of the people, who were absent in the market. As soon as they returned they were told, 'We put your name in the paper, because if your name is not there it is not good.' This is how the names were put down. It was after the last mail left that we heard it was sent to the Secretary of State. We have nothing to do with it. We desire nothing but peace and trade. We are not warriors, and do not want to be taught fighting without cause."

"THE EXO PEOPLE."

Downing-street, May 6, 1872.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge

the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, relative to the affairs of the Settlement of Lagos.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.
F. Fitzgerald, Esq.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MAY 2, 1872.

Mr. John Laird placed the following notices of questions on the Journal of the House:—

"To ask on Thursday, May 9—

"1. Whether Her Majesty's Government have sanctioned, or intend to sanction an Ordinance of the Legislative Council of Sierra Leone, granting incorporation to a proposed Bank of Deposit and Issue at Sierra Leone and elsewhere in West Africa, under the title of the 'Bank of West Africa,' and whether Her Majesty's Government will lay on the table—before giving their sanction to the said Ordinance, if not already given—copies of all correspondence, memorials, protests, &c., relative to the said Ordinance and proposed bank."

"2. Whether Her Majesty's Government have received information that the Egba Government have stopped produce from coming down to Lagos from Abeokuta, to the great injury of Lagos traders, in retaliation for the prohibition of export of arms ordinance of 11th September last, and other measures of the Lagos Government; and whether Her Majesty's Government will lay on the table copies of correspondence with the Administrator of Lagos, relative to the passing, sanction, and publication of such Ordinance, and of objections made thereto by or on behalf of persons engaged in the trade and commerce of Lagos."

MAY 9.

In reply to Mr. Laird,

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HOPKES said an Ordinance of the Legislative Council of Sierra Leone, granting incorporation to a proposed Bank of Deposit and Issue at Sierra Leone and elsewhere in West Africa, was still under the consideration of the Government, and had not been sanctioned. When the correspondence in relation to the subject should have been completed he would communicate with the hon. member. No official information had been received to the effect that the Egba Government had stopped produce coming down to Lagos from Abeokuta in retaliation for the "prohibition of export of arms ordinance" of 11th of September last, and other measures of the Lagos Government. It would not be desirable at present to produce the correspondence with the Administration of Lagos.

MAY 14.

EAST AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. GILPIN asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if the Government had taken any and what steps towards carrying out the recommendations of the Committee of last Session on the East African Slave-trade.

Viscount EXETER said that, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Select Committee of last Session, the Governments of Germany, France, the United States, and Portugal were invited to co-operate in the suppression of the slave traffic. The Government of the United States expressed their willingness to assist the Government of this country in their object. The Government of Germany had expressed their sympathy, but stated that they thought it best to send to Hamburg for a report, because the merchants of that city were chiefly interested in the Zanzibar trade. From the Government of Portugal no answer had been received.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

APRIL 19 TO 26.

BENI-SEED.—148 bags at 57s.

PALM-OIL without change, and about 530 tons sold; Irregular at 34l., Bonny at 35l., Benin at 35l. to 35l. 5s., Old Calabar at 36l., Lagos at 36l. 15s., and Brass at 38l. 10s. per ton.

COTTON.—Market dull throughout the week, prices 1s. 8d. lower. Sales of the week about 68,000 bales.

APRIL 26 TO MAY 4.

GERMAN GRAINS.—46s. per cwt.

PALM-KERNELS.—150 tons, Benin, 13l.; 339 bags 13l. and 13l. 2s. 6d.

COPRA.—25 bags at 16l. per ton.

PALM-OIL.—

COTTON.—Quiet market, prices about $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lower. Sales of the week about 73,000 bales. West African cotton 8d. to 9d.

MAY 4 TO MAY 11.

PALM-KERNELS.—8 tons at 12l. 12s. 6d. ex quay.

PALM-OIL.—The market is firm, owing to reduced stock, and 500 tons sold; Irregular at 33l., Accra at 34l. 15s. to 35l., Bonny at 35l. 5s. to 35l. 10s., Benin at 35l. 10s., Old Calabar at 36l. 15s., Lagos at 36l. 5s., and New Calabar at 37l. 5s. per ton.

COTTON.—Market depressed throughout the week; quotations reduced $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. Stock in Liverpool, 900,000 bales. Sales of the week, above 64,000 bales.

MAY 11 TO MAY 18.

PALM-KERNELS.—13l. per ton.

PALM-OIL.—The market continues firm, with a good demand, and the sales reach 1,600 tons on the spot and to arrive; Bonny, on the spot at 35l. 10s., Benin at 35l. 10s. to 35l. 15s., Old Calabar at 35l. 15s., Lagos at 36l. 5s., and to arrive, Bonny at 35l., Benin at 35l. 15s., Brass at 38l. 15s., Old Calabar at 36l., and New Calabar at 37l. 5s. to 37l. 10s. per ton, both on the spot and to arrive.

COTTON.—The market, after being very dull, has recovered, and the week closes with an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb.

Sales of week, above 96,000 bales West African cotton; Lagos quality, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$.

LAGOS LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS TOWARDS MR. CHAMEROVZOW'S TESTIMONIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Sir,—The following are the names of persons in Lagos who promised to contribute to Mr. Chamerovzow's testimonial. You will therefore please to insert the list in your paper for general view, as some of the parties decline paying what they had faithfully promised.—Yours faithfully,

J. B. CARROL.

Haray Pratt, Esq., 2l. 2s.; J. W. Cole, Esq. (paid), 2l.; Thomas Joe, Esq., 2l. 5s.; W. S. Thomas, Esq., 10s.; James A. Cole, Esq. (paid), 1l. 1s.; W. Reffell, Esq. (paid), 5l. 5s.; J. P. L. Davies, Esq. (paid), 10l. 10s.; Charles Foresythe, Esq. (paid), 10l. 10s.; John A. Payne, Esq., 10l. 10s.; W. R. King, Esq., 1l. 1s.; Benjamin J. Gilpin, Esq., 1l. 1s.; W. C. Pratt, Esq., 10s. 6d.; W. R. Harding, Esq., 10s. 6d.; E. F. Harrison, Esq., 5s.; A. L. Hetherett, Esq. (paid), 5s.; J. F. Jones, Esq., 10s.; Joseph S. B. Cole, Esq., 10s. 6d.; John A. R. Williams, Esq., 2s. 6d.; E. P. Lower, Esq., 5s.; Jonas W. Robert, Esq., 5s.; Samuel S. Cole, Esq.; 10s. 6d.; R. B. Blaze, Esq., 10s. 6d.; P. W. Christian, Esq., 7s. 6d.; Robert O. Bishopton, Esq., 2s. 6d.; W. E. Cole, Esq., 5s.; J. B. Carrol, Esq. (paid), 5l. 5s.; Thomas G. Hoare, Esq. (paid), 2l. 2s.; Thomas F. Cole, Esq., 4l. 4s.; J. S. Bucknor, Esq., 10s.; Henry Robbin, Esq. (paid), 5l. 5s.; M. Campbell, Esq. (paid), 1l.; John T. Ashley, Esq. (paid), 10s.; John L. Baptist, Esq. (paid), 5s.; J. D. E. Z. McCauley, Esq., 10s.; J. R. Sutton, Esq., 1l.; J. S. Leigh, Esq. (paid), 5l. 5s.

N.B.—The accounts marked "paid" in the above list, have been remitted to Mr. Chamerovzow, and are now in his possession.—Ed. A. T.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE WEST AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS.

PARLIAMENTARY RETURN FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1870.

Revenue.		Expenditure.	
Sierra Leone.	Gold Coast.	Gambia.	Lagos.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1866...62,209 0 7	No return.	19,079 13 4	23,823 3 10
1867...64,871 6 3	10,839 13 11	22,415 0 8	30,183 8 11
1868...69,272 13 5	15,404 10 11	22,083 7 0	33,686 8 6
1869...69,617 5 11	24,127 4 4	15,518 15 0	40,622 11 6
1870...67,185 12 1	30,851 15 0	18,969 4 1	42,875 5 16
Revenue.		Expenditure.	
Sierra Leone.	Gold Coast.	Gambia.	Lagos.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1866...60,639 2 9	No return.	17,681 11 6	23,692 9 8
1867...70,931 17 7	10,923 5 3	18,664 7 9	30,185 0 3
1868...55,694 13 10	11,631 13 3	17,082 12 7	33,711 14 6
1869...70,465 5 1	18,336 3 9	20,224 16 11	39,431 0 6
1870...68,083 8 7	35,609 10 4	21,937 0 4	42,379 0 10
Amounts in Public Chest and hands of Crown Agents, Dec. 31, 1870.			
Sierra Leone.	Gold Coast.	Gambia.	Lagos.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
P. C...2,782 17 8	5,348 1 2	832 12 3	496 4 11
C. A...919 7 2	194 8 6	6,915 5 4	
The Lagos Account with Crown Agents, Dec. 31, 1870.			
Overdrawn £1,515 6s. 6d.			

Observations on the above by the Editor of the African Times.

Revenue.		Expenditure.	
Sierra Leone.	Gold Coast.	Gambia.	Lagos.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
a. Includes Parliamentary Grant for Governor's Salary			23,874 4 7
b. " " Colonial Steamer, Governor's Yacht, " "			3,032 10 0
c. " " Parliamentary Grant for Governor's Salary			6,000 0 11
d. " " Advance Repaid " " " "			2,000 0 0
e. " " Parliamentary Grant in this, but Advances Repaid			295 7 6
f. Includes Parliamentary Grant			619 11 2
g. " " Special Receipts " " " "			8,320 8 2
h. " " No Parliamentary Grant in this, but Advances Repaid			9,857 5 9
i. " " Includes Parliamentary Grant			42,623 1 8
j. " " Special Receipts " " " "			4,272 17 6
k. " " Parliamentary Grant			1,579 15 10
l. " " Parliamentary Grant			2,392 18 10
m. " " Special Receipts " " " "			41,235 5 11
n. " " Parliamentary Grant			1,731 10 1
o. " " Special Receipts " " " "			6,531 17 10
p. " " Bill of Exchange in aid of Revenue			4,272 17 6
q. " " Parliamentary Grant			1,000 0 0
r. " " Parliamentary Grant in aid of Revenue			773 14 10
s. " " " " " "			1,227 2 1
t. " " " " " "			759 0 0
u. " " " " " "			1,000 0 0
v. " " Parliamentary Grant			1,660 0 0
w. " " " " " "			1,000 0 0
x. " " " " " "			2,875 0 0
y. " " No Parliamentary Grant			
z. " " " " " "			

And £4,400 invested in Government Securities.

NOTICE.

We regret that a great press of matter again compels us to defer our Leader on the late Cuba debate until our June number.

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5d., STAMPED.

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

The African Times.

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1872.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID.

C. J. George, from July 1868 to July 1872, 11s.; Robert E. Jones, for year 1872, 5s.; Hawkins James McCauley, November 1870 to November 1872, 10s.

THE SIERRA LEONE ROAD-TAX.

We have only space for a few lines in which to express our gratification at the Ordinance (Sierra Leone) repealing the obnoxious and iniquitous road-tax. The Sierra Leone people are, however, so accustomed to overlook the real authors of benefits of this kind which they receive, and to give all their fulsome adulation to Governors and mock Legislative Councils for them, that we think it right at this time to remind them that they owe the repeal of that infamously oppressive tax to the Rev. Mr. Tregasis, Mr. Rainy, and ourselves. Had the matter been left to spontaneous action by Governors or Legislative Councils, they possibly would not have got rid of it until the "crack of doom." We repeat that we think it necessary to call the attention of the Sierra Leone people especially to this, because of their proverbial forgetfulness and ingratitude toward those who labour for their public interests. They must get rid of this pernicious weakness or vice in their character, or they will never rise to be a great people.

THE ENTIRE GOLD COAST UNDER ONE EUROPEAN POWER.

The people of a regenerated Gold Coast, arrived, whenever this may take place, to a full appreciation of the divers steps or stages of civilization among them, will keep the anniversary of the cession of Elmina and the other Dutch towns to Great Britain, as of one of the most important days in their history. They will be able to trace much of their onward progress clearly up to the 6th April, 1872, when the Dutch flag was lowered and that of England hoisted in its place amid salvos of artillery and other fitting demonstrations. The whole of the sea-coast from Asinee to Popo is now under one sole and only protection and jurisdiction. One of our great desires is thus realized. There is now no longer a European patron of Fetish and many other abominations on one side of a river, and on the other another European power, which, whatever its faults and shortcomings, has persistently endeavoured to put an end to such horrors wherever its powers could be made to extend. The evils caused, and the possibility of good prevented by the presence of the Dutch on the Gold Coast, it would be difficult to overstate. It is indeed, therefore, a matter for congratulation that they have definitively withdrawn from all their former possessions there, and that there is at least no longer any European influence to neutralize such efforts as Great Britain may make, and encourage to be made, for promoting the spread of Christian civilization and the development of the magnificent resources of countries which we feel sure are destined to furnish rich supplies to the ever-craving markets of Europe. A sincere and generous recognition and adoption of the Fanti Confederation as a co-worker under British auspices, will do much to hasten both the civilization and development. We are glad, therefore, to learn that, so far as can be gathered from the utterances of the Governor-in-Chief, Mr. J. Pope Hennessy, at Elmina, there is reason to believe that the views we have enunciated in our letters to Earl Kimberley, and articles in our journal, are approved by the Governor-in-Chief, and recommended to Her Majesty's Government

for adoption. There can be no doubt whatever that the present enviable position of Great Britain on the Gold Coast as sole guardians of the sea-board, would not have been obtained without that very effective impulse given by the military operations of the Fanti Confederation, which, ready to be resumed at any time, made it impossible for the Dutch to remain, except at an annual cost which it did not suit them to incur. We accept this as a good augury. Success in first operations tends greatly to strengthen new institutions. The Fanti Confederation had a great success, and we believe that, by God's blessing, it will, under British guidance and with effective British support, show us also within a short time magnificent victories of peace—victories tending to avert war in the future, and to introduce a wide-spread happiness among populations which have been for ages past victims of the most deplorable calamities.

LAGOS AFFAIRS—PROHIBITION OF EXPORT OF ARMS ORDINANCE.

In other parts of this paper will be found copy of a letter addressed by us to Earl Kimberley on the reported stoppage of produce by the Egbas; as also a question on the same subject in the House of Commons by the hon. member for Birkenhead, and Mr. Hugesen's reply, "It is not convenient at present to produce the correspondence." We believe that it never will be convenient; that the correspondence could not bear the strong light of unofficial truth that we could bring to bear upon it. There was not, there never could have been any just grounds for putting in force such an ordinance during the past few months. But this denial of placing official correspondence on such local matters before the House of Commons, which has now become a constant Colonial-office practice, is one that cannot be in any way justified; one that we protest against; and one that we shall make all possible effort to put an end to. It is so absurd that it will not bear examination, that in matters connected with small crown colonies and settlements such as those of West Africa, the Colonial-office should place itself on a par with the Foreign-office; and in matters which affect only the appreciation of conduct of a local administrator in his relations with the people over whom he rules, or the uncivilized countries adjoining, and which are alleged by the persons interested in the trade of the place to be most dangerous and disastrous to their legitimate pursuits, should be allowed to avail themselves of the same reasons for the non-production of papers, that the Foreign-office are allowed to plead regarding incomplete negotiations with powerful civilized states, which may possibly involve the peace of the world. It is, we repeat, ridiculous and unworthy a member of a British Administration, to place such a plea on record, in such a matter as whether there were sufficient grounds to justify Her Majesty's Government in permitting their servant at Lagos to endanger the prosperity of trade, in a place so entirely commercial, by such a course as he has of late pursued with regard to neighbouring native countries, on good accord with which the commercial prosperity of Lagos wholly depends. This denial of papers in such cases, possibly until after the erring local official shall have done irreparable injury, ruined the fortunes of many honest traders, and caused serious losses to those connected with them, is so great a grievance that we do not despair of getting it brought under the consideration of the Legislature, in a way that will lead to the adoption of some reasonable bounds for the practice, if not to its being got rid of altogether. With regard to the unsatisfactory reply to which we have above alluded, we have since elicited that the whole matter of the Porto Novo and Egba relations with Lagos, the prohibition of export of arms ordinance, and our complaints and representations on behalf of the trading interests of Lagos and of the Egba Government against the course pursued by the Administrator of Lagos, has been referred to his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to inquire into and decide upon. Mr. Pope Hennessy must ere this, we suppose, have done this; and it will be the fault of the trading community of Lagos if they have not fully justified us, and obtained such a change of measures as will have freed them from those

alarms and apprehensions which they have so vividly brought before us in soliciting our efforts on their behalf. Not that we expect Mr. Pope Hennessy to condemn and censure the course pursued by Captain Glover. We have had too long experience of official and other men and things to allow of our entertaining any such foolish belief. When a physician is called in, as a last resource, to visit some dying patient, even if it be clear to him that the local medical man has been fatally in error, he finds, after a conference, that exactly the proper course has been pursued up to that moment, although he may then find it necessary to prescribe an entirely opposite one. So the most that we can expect from the Administrator-in-Chief is that he shall find that the measures, or precautions, or whatever he may choose to call them, taken by Captain Glover are now, happily, no longer necessary, and may be discontinued. This is the way crown colonies are governed; and so that we obtain relief, we must not quarrel with the terms in which it is dispensed or given; until we can work out that reformation which the public depositories of national power will resist so long as may be possible.

WEST COAST FINANCE—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE returns of Revenue and Expenditure, &c., of the West Coast Settlements up to 31st December, 1870, have been laid on the table of the House of Commons. They were kindly asked for by Mr. W. M'Arthur, M.P., on the 20th February last (as recorded in our paper), and granted immediately by Mr. Huguesson. These returns reach us at too late a date to permit of full remarks upon them. We are very glad, however, that we sought for and obtained them, as, although they are not all we could desire, they do give much valuable information—valuable, because dependable as far as it goes. We hope to get the returns to end of 1871 during the present Session. Increasing in importance and revenue as some of the British West Coast Settlements now are, and governed, as all of them are, without any real participation of any portion of the people in legislative matters, it is most necessary we should have these accounts every year; and we have no doubt that in course of time we shall get more explanatory details than are at present given. In another part of this paper we publish the annual Revenue and Expenditure of each of the settlements from 1866 to 1870 inclusive, and have appended observations of our own, showing some important particulars necessary to be borne in mind for arriving at the amount of real ordinary revenue. These returns show how rapidly the two more southern settlements—the Gold Coast and Lagos—are advancing, in comparison with Sierra Leone. Our impression is that with the One Shilling Spirit Duty, now that our revenue system extends over the old Dutch possessions, the Gold Coast revenue, for the present year, will quite reach 45,000*l.*, and for 1873 be at least 60,000*l.* Lagos has nearly doubled since 1866, and is now above 40,000*l.*, while very little perceptible increase has taken place at Sierra Leone, notwithstanding the increase of trade at the Sherbro. We purpose returning to this subject next month. Meanwhile, however, we cannot avoid giving praise where praise is due. It has been, and is, our duty to denounce, in the strongest terms, the erroneous and wicked policy pursued by the Governor of Lagos in his relations with the neighbouring native States. It is impossible to use words of condemnation too strong for such policy on the part of a Governor of a purely mercantile and trading colony, totally depending on those neighbouring States for an outlet for its imports, and for produce to make returns to Europe—in a word, for its whole trade. But we feel it to be our duty, at the same time, to renew our praise of Administrator Glover in other particulars. He is not *un roi fainéant*, but an active, energetic man—a man who could have got rid of the pestiferous filth of Cape Coast, Accra, and other Gold Coast towns in a very short time, had he been at Cape Coast instead of at Lagos. The returns laid before Parliament give evidence of this commendable activity of Administrator Glover. They show the carrying on of purification and improvements in all directions: No

wonder that Lagos has become, under his auspices, a really healthy settlement for Europeans, as well as for natives. But this only makes it the more to be deplored that he should be at the same time sapping the very commercial life of the place by a crooked and evil exterior policy—a policy which, from our point of view, makes it indispensable that he should be removed to some other sphere of operations, because he has so identified himself with it that none of the neighbouring people can, or will, ever feel any confidence in him. And they are right; for he is a man incapable of change, and having once taken a fatal bias, it would be impossible ever to get him to go straight forward in a right direction.

THE BANK OF WEST AFRICA.

We have got the precious document at last. The Sierra Leone Ordinance for the Incorporation of the Bank of West Africa now lies before us. We maintain that it is impossible for Her Majesty's Government to sanction that ordinance. We will presently explain why. Meanwhile we cannot resist pondering a little over earlier stages of this scheme, after it had been conceived in the fertile brain of Child, Mills, and Co. We have heard wonder expressed as to how Sir Arthur Kennedy became a pledged partisan of this bank. But we have not now learned, for the first time, that gastronomy plays a not unimportant part in the financial and speculative schemes of this busy age. With all desire to think well of a bank of deposit and issue for West Africa, we cannot take the same view of the one now proposed to be founded, that the late Administrator-in-Chief, Sir Arthur Kennedy, seems to have taken. Certainly our *point de vue* is not the same as his was. There is all the difference in the world in examining projects of this nature calmly in the study, or over a *recherche* dinner-table at a London club, while reason and senses are captivated by mullet, truffled capon, and grouse, and the delicious wines of Champagne and Burgundy. But with all deference to Sir Arthur Kennedy, it does not necessarily follow that the men who can satisfy the palate at a club dinner, are therefore the right men to monopolise the action of a bank of deposit and issue; or that because their viands and wine were delicious, their scheme must be one that a wise Governor ought to thrust down the throats of the people over whom he ruled. Many a scheme that is good for the originators, or at least that answers their purpose for a time, may be destructive to a multitude of other people and interests. And such, we fear, is this proposed bank. We can now write of it without reserve. We have already said a copy of the Ordinance of Incorporation is now before us. We are not indebted to the promoters for it. Messrs. Child, Mills, and Co., in their letter to us, which we published last month, in which they decline to give us a copy, say that they "have been favoured by the promoters with a copy." Seeing that the promoters were none other than Messrs. Child, Mills, and Hornby, this was no doubt a great act of politeness on their part to Messrs. Child, Mills, and Co., or in other words, to themselves. Were we not justified, then, in saying that we had been "mystified"? It is pleasing to see that Child, Mills, and Hornby, the promoters of the bank, have no secrets from Child, Mills, and Hornby, the merchants, in this matter. We never thought that they had. The whole scheme bears on the face of it the impress of an effort to obtain additional mercantile resources, by means of a so-called bank. We publish this Sierra Leone Ordinance, which Sir Arthur Kennedy left ready cut and dried to be passed in Legislative Council by his successor. Look at it. There is not even an attempt to justify it in preamble as being necessary or desirable for the people, the traders, and merchants of West Africa. It comes forth baldly as a mere mercantile speculation. Where, then, is its title to an Act of Incorporation by the Government? We cannot discover any such title. The scheme is at least so far honest that it makes no pretence of anything of the kind. It does not even say that it is desirable to provide for future club dinners for Governors and Administrators who may be on leave of absence in Great Britain. There is not even this very lowest ground of necessity alleged. It

commences, "Whereas the several persons hereinafter named, and others, have agreed to form a joint-stock company," &c.; then further, that they have agreed that a capital of 200,000*l.* shall be raised, &c. Mark this well, "shall be raised;" then further, that the Governor-in-Chief and the Legislative Council have consented and agreed to give a Charter of "Incorporation," &c. Now, that preamble is all very well for registering a joint-stock company, and we should be among the last to take exception to it, if we were examining such a document. But a Charter of Incorporation—for Ordinance of Incorporation is but another word for the same thing—aye, that is a very different matter! It proceeds: Child, Hornby, and Mills are the promoters. The capital is to be 200,000*l.* in 20,000 shares of 10*l.* each. The bank (and now we are at the important sixth clause) may begin business whenever the directors think fit, but they may not avail themselves of the privileges of this ordinance (issue of notes to bearer on demand) "unless and until a moiety at least of the capital subscribed for has been paid up." In our reprint we have omitted the marginal references. Now the marginal reference to this clause completely took us in at first. It says, "Company not to enjoy privileges conferred until half capital paid up." Come, we exclaimed, this is not so bad; half the capital paid up; well, if shareholders be found to give 100,000*l.* in hard cash (with liability for another 100,000*l.*) into the hands of these directors to trade with, we think the bank may go on; when it comes to grief it will be only the shareholders' money gone. Clause 6 became at once a pet clause in our eyes, and we plunged into it with pleasure at the thought that we might be freed, after all, from the pain of opposing a project put forth, it may be supposed, to benefit the West Coast. Alas! judge of our dismay when we came to the words, "until a moiety at least of the capital subscribed for has been paid up." But we would not condemn hastily; perhaps we might find further on an obligation that all the capital shall be subscribed for. Let us see. Clause 8, "Directors to be not less than three, nor more than seven." Clause 9, "First three directors (until December 31, 1875), to be Child, Hornby, and John Mayor Harris;" and these have power to nominate the other four directors if they choose to do so. Clause 10, "Does not prescribe that these three and their nominees shall be holders of any given amount of capital, but only that directors elected after 1875 shall hold each 1,000*l.* stock of the company." But we will take it as granted that these three, who are not compelled to nominate any other to act with them, are each to hold 1,000*l.* Let us see; anything further? We look all through. Nothing. So then the bank may begin business with 3,000*l.* subscribed for by Child, Hornby, and Co., and nothing paid up; but must not issue notes till 1,500*l.* of this is paid up—that is, paid by their right hand to their left hand—then it may issue 1,500*l.* in notes, keeping 500*l.* in specie to pay them with (Clause 26), and issue bank bills in addition for another 3,000*l.* (Clause 27). And this is a Charter of Incorporation of "The Bank of West Africa"? Can it be wondered at that Clause 6 has lost all its charm for us, and that we are thrown back on our first impressions—when Messrs. Child and Mills refused us a copy of the ordinance—viz., that it is a thing against the maturing of which it is our duty, as Editor of the only press guardian of West Africa, to offer the most strenuous opposition. We have seen too much of the iniquity that can be practised under an official cloak in West Africa, to believe that such a bank could be kept pure there, even under the sole management of Mr. John Mayor Harris (since it is not to be supposed that either Mr. Child or Mr. Hornby contemplate acting in Sierra Leone). Our disenchantment at Clause 6 shows us that there is so radical a vice in the whole thing, that we do not think it necessary to dilate upon the dangerous abuses to which Clauses 29, 30, and 31 open the door (considering how the bank is to be constituted), while professing to exclude them. We are compelled by our sense of duty to oppose this projected bank. We know that if once Her Majesty's Government sanction that ordinance of the Legislative Council of Sierra Leone, that bank will become associated in the uninformed or half-informed minds of men on the Coast

with the Government which has thus attached its name and given its credit to the thing. And this might lead to very serious and deplorable consequences. But we return to what we wrote at the outset—"we maintain that it is impossible for Her Majesty's Government to sanction that ordinance." Why? Why, not only because the whole scheme is unworthy to have the name of Her Majesty's Government associated in any way with it, but because it has none of the indispensable requisites to any concern asking a Charter of Incorporation. The Bank of West Africa is at this present time—a nothing. We were about to call it a shadow; but a shadow implies substance; and here there is no substance at all. And we say that Her Majesty's Government cannot incorporate a nothing. We can understand persons having subscribed 200,000*l.* in shares, and paid up half of this in cash into the Bank of England in proof of actual substance, coming to the Government and asking for a Charter or Ordinance of Incorporation, even without being able to allege that the operation was necessary or desirable in the public interests. But we could never understand, nor we believe would the House of Commons understand when the matter was brought before them, that the Government—Her Majesty's Government—should have granted a charter, by approving the Sierra Leone Ordinance of Incorporation, to a thing not at present in existence, but sought to be brought into dangerous existence by virtue of the possession of such charter; which would enable the projectors to tout in all the money resorts of the kingdom, with representation that it is impossible to imagine Her Majesty's Government would have granted such privileges, had they not seen the utility, the necessity, the advantage of such a bank to the whole people of the West Coast. Such a thing would be a scandal and disgrace, and establish a gross dereliction of duty in the high authorities who opened the door to its existence; and for this, among other reasons, we again affirm our conviction "that it is impossible Her Majesty's Government should give their sanction to that Sierra Leone Ordinance of Incorporation, of that actual myth, but perspective danger—The Bank of West Africa."

INTERESTING ANNUAL WESLEYAN MISSIONARY MEETING, ACCRA, GOLD COAST. TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

James Town, Accra, March 7, 1872.

Dear Sir,—The Wesleyan Missionary Anniversary for the James Town Circuit, Accra, for 1871, was held at the Wesleyan Chapel in this town on Monday last, the 4th inst., at seven p.m. The meeting was opened in the usual way with singing and prayer, and the chair was then taken by Captain Lees, Civil Commandant of the Eastern Districts.

The neighbouring Basle Mission, at Christiansborg, was represented on the occasion by the Rev. Mr. Fritz—the Rev. Mr. Schenk, the senior resident missionary at Christiansborg, being absent on a visit to one of their stations on the Aquapim Mountains—and by Messrs. Binder and Kopp, two of the lay brethren of that mission.

The Chairman having opened the business of the meeting in a very appropriate and practical address, the Rev. Mr. Wharton gave a partly verbal and partly written report of the state of the work in the circuit. He also furnished the statistics of the Gold Coast district for the previous year, as published in the last report of the society. The James Town Circuit contains six out-stations, all of which, as also the central one here at Accra, passed under review.

Although there have been new converts brought within the pale of the Church, they had been more than counterbalanced as to numbers by withdrawals and expulsions; and there has been consequently a decrease of thirty-nine members during the past year. This painful circumstance was mainly accounted for by two causes: First, the unfortunate tendency of the young men of the town to go to the Leeward Coast as coopers and stewards in trading vessels ere their religious principles are matured and fixed, and there losing their piety, and eventually returning home in a state of indifference to their souls' salvation; second, the paucity of well-trained and appointed native agents to conduct with piety and ability the work at some of the out-stations.

After the conclusion of the report, the large and attentive audience sang some verses of the 483rd Hymn, with much apparent feeling, and especially the fourth verse—

All are not lost and wandered back;
All have not left Thy Church and Thee.

The Rev. Mr. Fritz, of the Basle Mission, then gave a truly fervent pastoral address, in which he urged upon the members of the Church to seek to be strong in faith, giving glory to God, as the grand means of personal usefulness and blessing to their fellow-men around them.

The other speakers were Mr. J. O. Brown, Mr. Francisco Ribeiro, Mr. Robert Bruce, Mr. James Bannerman, and Mr. T. B. Freeman, sen. Mr. Ribeiro's was the leading address of the evening, and was frequently interrupted by the applause of the audience. When called by the Chairman to take his place as a speaker in the order of the programme of the evening, he commenced by stating, with a *naïveté* which immediately attracted marked attention, that he owed his education entirely to the Wesleyan Mission, having been one of the native scholars during the early energy and fervour of the Mission during the decade from 1840 to 1850; and he then reminded others of the audience that they like him had derived their education from the same source, and are now enjoying, as men of business, &c., many great practical advantages arising therefrom.

He then asked permission from the Chairman to depart so far from the routine of the evening as to propose a resolution which he had brought with him to the meeting. It ran as follows:

"That this meeting, while gratefully recognising the benevolent labours of the Wesleyan Missionary Society in Accra during the past thirty years, begs respectfully, through the Rev. Mr. Wharton, to call the attention of the Wesleyan Missionary Committee to the present inadequacy of the existing day-schools in James Town to the wants of the extensive native population by which their Mission is here surrounded."

"Since the amalgamation of formerly English and Dutch Accra, in 1868, into one town as it now exists, it has a population of at least (or about) 20,000 souls, while the daily average attendance of scholars in the boys' and girls' schools at the Mission-house, the only schools in the town, does not exceed, both together, ninety children, out of the very extensive population here mentioned."

"The main cause of this immense disproportion is doubtless the inadequacy of the means hitherto available for raising and employing masters, mistresses, and teachers; but there may be other causes, embracing practical difficulties much better known to Mr. Wharton than to any others of the gentlemen taking part in the business of this meeting; and the meeting therefore begs that Mr. Wharton will give this vital question his earliest practical attention, and make to the committee such representations and propositions as the importance of the case demands, inasmuch as it may be fairly assumed that in no other native community within the range of the operations of the Wesleyan Mission on the Gold Coast can such an immense disparity be found existing between the extent of the surrounding population and the existing educational operations."

"This meeting is of opinion that as education in the English language—now the great business language of the world—is highly popular among our native people generally in all the Coast towns, there would be no difficulty, on that score, of raising the average daily attendance of scholars from ninety to three or four hundred."

After reading this resolution, Mr. Ribeiro interpreted it in the native language, making, as he proceeded, sundry apposite remarks and explanations, and closed his address by declaring that the great desideratum for the elevation of social life in Accra is a state of society based on Christian principles.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Robert Bruce, and supported by Mr. James Bannerman, with very appropriate remarks thereupon, and was then put to the vote and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Wharton, on the resolution being handed to him by the Chairman, with the earnest request of the meeting that he would bring it under the notice of the Committee, answered that its substance vibrated on every chord of his heart, and he would do all he could in its advocacy.

Mr. Freeman (the last speaker) then remarked (it was now 10 p.m.) that the strikingly practical addresses of the Chairman and other gentlemen, and Mr. Fritz's warm pastoral, had left nothing further to be said, and called attention at once to the collection. It was said in the Book of Revelation, "The earth helped the woman." The woman there mentioned is the Church of Christ. It behoved the audience, the sons and daughters of earth, to help the Church on earth with all the gold and silver they could throw into its treasury, to aid in the extension of the Gospel, and look for remuneration in the gracious promise, "The Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones; and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water whose waters fail not."

The collection was then made, and amounted, including subscriptions from the out-stations of the circuit, to 106*l.*

The usual votes of thanks were then passed, and the meeting,

a deeply interesting one, was closed with the Doxology and Benediction.—I am, dear Sir, yours, &c.,

SEMPER FIDELIS.

IMPORTANT FANTI CONFEDERATION PAPERS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, 18th April, 1872.

Sir,—I herewith enclose you certain documents, and you are at liberty to make such use of them as may appear to you fit and proper.

I have not time to comment on these by this mail, nor to advance such additional arguments in favour of the recognition of the Confederation as we have.

His Excellency gave us a most gracious reception, and discussed matters with us in a way that was to be expected of one who has such a well-earned reputation.

He has taken one step in advance of his predecessors; instead of paying us a flying visit of two or three days, he has thought it worth his while to remain at Elmina for nearly two weeks, and has been accessible to all who have complaints to lay before him, or any matters to bring to his notice.

Elmina was taken over by him on the 6th instant. The sight was worth seeing (so I was told), and the ceremony imposing. Not having been present, I can say nothing on those heads. So the whole of the Dutch and British settlements are now under one flag.

His Excellency's demeanour has been so conciliatory, and he has exhibited such an evident desire to grant the people of Elmina whatever they demand, within proper limits, that they speak very highly of him, and scarcely regret the cession. If his policy is carried out by his subordinates, there are hopes of things progressing favourably, and of the country making some strides in advance. But, then, how long will his Excellency be Governor-in-Chief of these settlements? He may leave tomorrow; and what then will become of the policy he has inaugurated? We may have someone else at the head of affairs whose notions of government and the wants of the country may differ materially from his; and where shall we be? It is of no use moralising; we must be doing. So much for the present.—I am, Mr. Editor,

A CONFIDANT.

P.S.—Time has pressed so much that we have not been able to forward a copy of our memorial to the Governor-General by this mail; by next it will be sent.

A COSM.

Communication from Mr. Pope Hennessy to Mr. Brew.

Castle of Elmina, 12th April, 1872.

Sir,—I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency Governor Pope Hennessy, to forward to you, for the information of the gentlemen who waited on him yesterday, the enclosed minute, which his Excellency has drawn up on the subject you brought before him.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant
(Signed) ROSE. S. TUARON, Capt., P. Secretary.

J. H. Brew, Esq., Elmina.

Certified a true copy,

J. H. BREW.

Minute by his Excellency Governor John Pope Hennessy, Administrator-in-Chief of the West African Settlements.

I have listened with much interest to the clear and able statement of Mr. Brew and the other gentlemen who did me the honour of coming to Elmina to explain their views about the Fanti Confederation.

I should be very sorry to discourage any legitimate efforts of the Fantis or other protected tribes to establish for themselves an improved form of government; on the contrary, I should be glad to foster all efforts of the kind.

As long, however, as the Fantis or any other protected tribes live under the protection of Great Britain, it will be necessary to consult the protecting power about any new institutions that may be proposed.

I have no objection to any persons meeting together and drawing up a scheme of the kind, to be submitted, before anything else is done, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I have no hesitation in saying that in some parts of the scheme described verbally by the deputation to-day, I entirely concur; as to others, I am not at present in a position to form any opinion. But when the whole scheme is sent to me, I shall consider it with a favourable disposition, and transmit it with my report for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

(Signed) J. POPE HENNESSY,

Administrator-in-Chief, West African Settlements.
Castle of St. George, at Elmina, 11th April, 1872.

Certified true copy,

J. H. BREW.

Scheme to be submitted to his Excellency Governor Pops Hennessy and the Home Government for their approval as regards the Fanti Confederation.

Before proceeding to lay before your Excellency the main points of our scheme, we must ask your indulgence, should we at any time digress therefrom, and bring to your notice what may appear to be extraneous matter. This we are under the necessity of doing, inasmuch as the question now before us is of vital importance, and is pregnant with the destinies of tens—of hundreds—of thousands of our fellow-countrymen, who acknowledge Her Majesty's gracious and benign protection.

It will be our duty to attempt to show, in as brief and concise a manner as is consistent with the gravity of the occasion, how the Fanti Confederation came into existence; and to do so, we will take our starting-point from the Ashanti invasion of 1863.

We will not here discuss how Her Majesty's Government assumed the protectorate of the Fanti and other tribes on the Gold Coast, nor the moral and legal responsibilities that attached, and, as we say, still attach, to that Government in consequence thereof; suffice it, however, that Her Majesty's Government did exercise and enjoy certain rights, privileges, &c., and that it was looked up to by all the tribes on the Gold Coast as the protecting and ruling power. Such was the state of affairs when the Ashanti war broke out in 1863.

The disastrous consequences of that war are still evident, and are now matter of history; and that war had this great effect of causing the natives to perceive, for the first time, that the British Government on such occasions would let the full brunt thereof fall on them. This came out during the investigation set on foot to inquire into the conduct of Mr. Richard Pine, at that time Governor of these settlements; Mr. Pine himself informing the kings and chiefs assembled at Cape Coast that he had received positive instructions from the Home Government not to interfere with any disturbances in the interior, nor in any quarrels between the King of Ashanti and the natives of the protectorate; and that the kings and chiefs should be thus told, and also be left to settle their own differences.

Mr. Pine further informed them that he had received instructions to return to Europe, but that he was determined to wait until he had formed a compact between them (the kings and chiefs) before he would leave Cape Coast.

Unfortunately, the state of his health became very bad, and he was compelled to embark before anything could be done. This, Sir, was the very first of the idea instilled into the minds of the kings and chiefs of the necessity of a Confederacy amongst them; and our people were then taught, for the first time, to depend entirely on themselves.

Following this, we then have the proclamation issued by Col. Conran, then administering the government of these settlements (in 1865), limiting the extent of British jurisdiction to within five miles from the sea-coast or gun-range from the forts.

This proclamation, which the Right Hon. Mr. Cardwell ordered to be recalled,* was, in spite of such orders, permitted by Colonel Conran to stand.

We have next the evidence of the Parliamentary Committees of 1865 which sat on West African affairs, in which it is shown that Her Majesty's Government is not legally possessed of, nor does it claim, a foot of territory outside the gates of its forts; but that it exercised a species of protection and "irregular authority" which could not, and cannot, be strictly defined.

For the two or three years following, the Local Government restricted its authority within very narrow limits, never permitting summonses, writs, orders, proclamations, &c., to be sent into the interior of the protectorate; and confining itself as closely as possible to the sea-coast towns. We now come to 1867—a year memorable in the history of the Gold Coast as that in which the Fanti Confederation sprang into existence.

In this year (1867) a convention was entered into between the British Government and that of the Netherlands, for the exchange of territory, by which convention certain of the tribes (Wassaw, Denkizas, Chiffule, Commendahs, &c.), who had hitherto lived under British rule, were handed over to the Dutch.

These tribes were opposed to such a transfer, and the Commendahs flew to arms in consequence thereof. The kings and chiefs of Fanti, as soon as they heard of the proposed exchange, convened a meeting at Mankessim, and there entered into a solemn compact to render every assistance to their fellow-countrymen, should the Dutch attempt to coerce them into "accepting the Dutch flag." The Dutch bombarded Commendah, and as these tribes were the natural allies of the Fantis, they were compelled to take the field on their behalf. The Fantis took a largo force to the seat of war, and, together with these other

tribes, besieged and blockaded Elmina, the head-quarters of the Dutch possessions on the Coast of Guinea. This was in the early part of 1868. At this time Mr. Ussher held the reins of government, and by active measures succeeded in inducing the Fantis to raise the blockade and retire. The kings and chiefs of Fanti, and their allies, proceeded direct to Mankessim, and there laid the foundation of the Fanti Confederation. Whilst they were there assembled Mr. Ussher addressed a letter, of date 18th July, 1868, "to the Presidents and other chiefs of Fanti at Mankessim," in which, after dwelling on various circumstances connected with the Elmina war, he proceeded to state: "Your conduct has been such that I can no longer have any relations with you;" and "as you voluntarily throw off your allegiance, you must not be surprised that I accept your act, and treat you, until you come to your senses, as apart from Great Britain;" further, that "in case of a war with Ashanti, as you will have provoked it, you will bear the brunt thereof without help from Government." Mr. Ussher shortly afterwards leaves for England, and Mr. Simpson becomes the chief of the Executive. Mr. Simpson follows closely in Mr. Ussher's footsteps, until he realises the fact that unless the rupture between the Government and the Fantis be healed up the progress of the country would be materially retarded.

With this in view, he proceeds to meet the kings and chiefs at Mankessim, in 1869, and there recognises the Fanti Confederation, by giving it himself the style and designation of the "Fanti Confederacy;" at the same time recognises and approves of the appointment of its principal officers, and acknowledges its authority over the interior districts of the protectorate. On Mr. Simpson's return to Cape Coast he had to seek the interference and mediation of the Confederation, for the purpose of ransoming certain Dutch naval officers and sailors who had been captured by the Commendahs; and the treaty, convention, or whatever one may choose to term it, as regards the ransom so to be paid to the Commendahs, through the Fanti Confederation, was ratified by Mr. R. J. Gharthey, as the representative or President thereof, and by Mr. Simpson, for the British Government, and Governor Nagtglas, on behalf of the Netherlands.

Subsequently Mr. Simpson invited Mr. Gharthey, and the late Mr. G. Blankson, jun., who was at the time Secretary to the Confederation, to Cape Coast, for the purpose of deliberating as to the form of Constitution best suited to the Confederation. Some progress was made in it, but before its completion Mr. Ussher resumed the reins of office. Mr. Ussher, on his resumption of the government, gave the Confederation the same practical recognition as Mr. Simpson had given it before him, and likewise invited Mr. Gharthey to come to Cape Coast and assist him in drafting a Constitution for the Confederation.

Both these officials addressed Mr. Gharthey as President of the Fanti Confederation, or the representative of the kings and chiefs composing the Confederation. So matters continued till Mr. Ussher's departure for England in the earlier part of 1871, and so they remained for some months after. On Mr. Ussher's departure, Mr. C. S. Salmon became Acting-Administrator of these settlements, and it was during his government that the meeting at Mankessim, which resulted in the Constitution that forms part of the subject-matter of our present discussion, was held.

On the 16th October, 1871, a meeting of all the kings and chiefs of the Fanti Confederation, and the educated natives, was convened for the purpose of maturing a Constitution for the Confederation; and on the 24th November following the Constitution already laid before Her Majesty's Government was framed and passed by such of the kings and chiefs as were present or represented, together with some of their educated brethren. This Constitution they instructed and deputed Messrs. Davidson, Amisab, and Brew to lay before Mr. Salmon to forward to the Governor-in-Chief at Sierra Leone, to place before the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the approval of Her Majesty's Government. How Mr. Salmon deputed himself, and what steps he took on presentation of the Constitution and other documents to him, are matter of public notoriety, and will be dealt with by us on a more fitting occasion. Certain of us were imprisoned by him for being concerned, as he alleged, in a "conspiracy," against whom, and for what purpose, the warrants did not specify. In the meantime, during our incarceration, and after our release, Mr. Salmon sent messengers, and instructed Mr. George Blankson, sen., and Mr. C. W. Benthall, to despatch messengers to such of the kings and chiefs as had not been present at the framing and passing of the Constitution, and who had not then signed it, to induce them, by threats, cajolery, and bribery, to repudiate any connection with the movement, and invited some of them to come here to try us, telling them that that was the only way to obtain the good countenance and favour of Her Majesty's Government. Mr. Salmon's letters to Chief Orkill we left in your possession on the 11th instant, together with Mr. Ussher's letter to King's Adoo and Arfoo Oloo, and we have hopes of being able to lay other documents

before you. The bribe of 10*l*. Mr. Salmon offered to the kings and chiefs at Mankessim, and the instructions he gave Mr. Isaac Robertson, are well known to your Excellency. We trust also to be able to lay before you some of the verbal messages he sent to the kings and chiefs.

The steps taken by Mr. Salmon to lead the kings and chiefs to believe that Her Majesty's Government discountenanced and opposed any such movement, are too mean and flimsy for us to enlarge upon. His conduct speaks for itself.

That the kings and chiefs of Fanti were not misled by us, and that they all, more or less, had connection with the movement, your Excellency has ample proof in the letter which Mr. Isaac Robertson brought from the kings and chiefs when Mr. Salmon sent him to Mankessim.

That letter, your Excellency will perceive, is signed by many of the kings who did not sign the Constitution, they not being at Mankessim at the time it was framed and passed, and who, Mr. Salmon says, repudiate any connection with us. We have omitted to state that one of the kings, Ackennings of Eekoomfie, when called upon to disown connection with the kings and chiefs at Mankessim, declined to do so, but was subsequently compelled by pressure so to do.

Mr. Ussher arrived here on the 3rd or 4th of March last, and again resumed the reins of office, and a few days after his arrival issued the proclamation we laid before your Excellency on the 11th instant. So much for this part of our subject, which has been brought to your notice with the view of showing to your Excellency that the existing state of affairs has not been brought about through disloyalty towards Her Majesty's Government, but that the position has been forced upon us.

We have now to deal with the most important questions, and shall endeavour to discuss them as clearly as possible; and we now lay them before your Excellency for submission to the Home Government, and its approval.

1. In the first place, for the Fanti Confederation to be of real practical use in the amelioration, development, and civilization of the country, it must have the recognition, countenance, support, and hearty co-operation of Her Majesty's Government, and its friendly aid and advice.

We do not for one single moment pretend to be able to carry on a government in the interior without such recognition and assistance; for without that the interests of both might clash, and a collision with the Local Government could not in any way further our object, and could have but one result—the breaking up of the Confederation, and the checking of all further progress towards the material improvement of the country for some years. It is, therefore, imperative that the Confederation should have such recognition and co-operation, and that the Local Government should not, by intrigue or other devices, endeavour to sow dissension amongst the members of the Confederation, and should not countenance, uphold, or protect any king or chief, or other person, who has once joined the Confederation, in any acts or deeds against its laws and customs.

2. That the jurisdiction of the Fanti Confederation shall be recognised and acknowledged to extend and be exercised in and over all tribes, peoples, provinces, or districts choosing to join it; and that its authority and jurisdiction, and that of the Local Government, be clearly and strictly defined in judicial and other matters.

3. That any person or persons committing any offence or crime within the jurisdiction of the Confederation, and escaping into the sea-coast towns, shall, on representation, be handed over by the local authorities to be tried in the courts of the Confederation, if the offence or crime be within their jurisdiction; if not, the person or persons so escaping shall be tried in the courts of the Local Government, on evidence being furnished; and in like manner any person or persons committing an offence in British jurisdiction, and escaping into that of the Confederation, shall, on representation from the Local Government, be handed over to them for trial. Further, that any prisoner or prisoners escaping from Her Majesty's gaols on the sea-coast into the jurisdiction of the Confederation shall, on representation, be handed over to the local authorities, *et cetera*.

4. That the courts of the Confederation be recognised as the courts of first instance in all matters or disputes between its subjects, option being allowed parties dissatisfied with the judgments of such courts to appeal to the British courts, as provided for in the 4th Sec. of Art. 38 of the Constitution.

5. That in case of any complaints against any officials of the Confederation being made to the British authorities, the complaints so made be referred in the first instance to the Executive of the Confederation for investigation, and to report thereon to the local authorities.

6. That the Vice-President of the Confederation and four other gentlemen, natives or residents of the Gold Coast, be appointed members of the Legislative Council of the Gold Coast, in addition to the present members; and that these gentlemen be elected by

the people, and not nominees of the Administrator. In fact, the cession of the Dutch settlements affords a favourable opportunity for making an addition to the Council, and the number could be increased with advantage to the country. In dealing with this question, we are aware that we are somewhat travelling out of our province, but we are emboldened by the attention your Excellency has given us to bring it to your notice. It is a well-known fact that the members of the Legislative Council are chosen and recommended by the Administrators of these settlements for other reasons than the knowledge they possess of the country and its requirements. The mercantile portion of the community is in no way represented in the Council; and if so, but improperly; the other interests of the country are in no way represented at all. The appointment of the Vice-President of the Confederation, who from his position would be placed in possession of the requirements of the country, and such informations as very few others could have, and the addition of one or two of the principal merchants and influential men, such as the people could rely upon for properly and effectually representing their interests, would tend to the material progress of the country, strengthen the hands of the Government, and be productive of much good. These elections should be made in the eastern and western districts of the protectorate, so that the interest of both might be fairly represented.

We now come to the question of questions—the financial. No government can be administered without a revenue from some source or other; and the Fanti Confederation, if it is to assist in the great work of civilising and regenerating the interior of the protectorate, must have the aid of that powerful auxiliary. On drawing up a rough estimate, and on considering the vast improvements to be made in the country, the extent of the Confederation if recognised by Her Majesty's Government, the vast efforts to be made to open up the country for traffic and other purposes, the want of good and substantial roads, the backwardness of education, and the immense exertions which will have to be made to spread civilisation and to diffuse knowledge over the country inland,—we find that the Confederation must have a revenue of some 20,000*l*. It is proposed that one-half of this sum should be placed at the disposal of the Confederation out of the revenue of the Gold Coast, and the other half be raised by the Confederation itself. The amount to be raised by the Confederation would be by way of court-fees, fines, &c., the Confederation paying the kings and chiefs certain stipends in lieu of the fees and fines received by them, in consideration of the kings and chiefs foregoing same and giving up their right to settle palavers or disputes of any kind; and it has been rudely estimated that a revenue of some 10,000*l*. would be derived from this source. The Confederation would establish courts of justice in every district, and dispense justice far more impartially, expeditiously, and at less cost than the present native courts, in which suitors are, as is well-known, generally mulcted in twice or thrice the amount in dispute. As regards the sum to be placed at the disposal of the Confederation by the Local Government, the Government would by it be relieved of the trouble and expense of governing the interior of the country, of making the improvement necessary therein, of establishing schools, erecting hospitals, of making roads, canals, and other like material works, and be able to turn its undivided attention to the improvement of the sea-coast towns, the constructing of such works as are really necessary, and yet be able to check any reckless or useless expenditure, which it could do by appointing someone to audit the accounts of the Confederation at stated periods.

This revenue would be devoted, first, to the pay of officials, "to the payment of stipends to the kings and chiefs, and the expense of collection; and then to the public good, in the education of the people, the improvement and extension of the judicial system, in affording greater facilities of internal communications, an increased medical aid, and in such other measures of improvement and utility as the state of social progress may render necessary."

These were the questions submitted to your Excellency at our meeting on the 11th inst.

On the 12th we waited on your Excellency, in company with Chief Acquonoo of Mankessim, who was deputed by the king and chiefs who signed the Constitution to represent them together with us.

The only other point we were requested to submit to you was as regards the liability already incurred by the Confederation, which was said to amount to some 2,000 oz. of gold dust, equal to 7,200*l*.

Chief Acquonoo stated that the kings and chiefs were desirous of ascertaining from your Excellency whether Her Majesty's Government would place them in possession of funds to liquidate that liability, since the Government was opposed to their imposing any taxes or duties; that, as your Excellency had arrived, they trusted that the state of affairs would improve, that you would duly represent matters to Her Majesty's Government, and give them assistance in their great undertaking; and that they had

* Because Mr. Cardwell was not prepared to admit that British possession or right extended so far as this five miles, or gun range.—*Ed. A. T.*

authorised us to enter into any negotiations, and to discuss any matters with you on their behalf.

Now, as regards the Constitution itself, it has been said that we acted independently of the Home Government, that we appointed our officers before presenting it to Mr. Salmon, and that it was never submitted by us for the examination and approval of the Secretary of State, but was transmitted for his "information" only. We beg to state that the very act of the presentation of the Constitution and other documents to Mr. Salmon, to forward to the Governor-in-Chief, to lay before the Secretary of State, was virtually a submission for such examination and approval, and was in itself an acknowledgment of British rule; and as to the Constitution having been acted upon, it was actually necessary that the Home Government should have a real organisation to deal with, to which it could plainly state any modifications that might appear desirable, or any points that were objectionable—an organisation that could deal with, discuss, and deliberate upon any questions that Her Majesty's Government might wish to have solved; in fact, an organisation capable of dealing more comprehensively with any matters connected with the Constitution and Confederation than they, the assembled kings and chiefs, could have done.

We have now, however, to bring that Constitution to the notice of Her Majesty's Government, and pray its favourable consideration and approval thereof.

Having thus far trespassed on your Excellency's time, we would state briefly that without a revenue, to be derived from the sources hereinbefore-mentioned, the Confederation, if it is to exist at all, will (although fully alive to the evils of such a measure) have to resort to some taxation, or the levying of some duties, if it is to be of real practical use in the government of the interior.

But if Her Majesty's Government will not furnish it with pecuniary aid out of the revenues of these settlements, nor, on the other hand, permit it to levy such taxes and duties for the purpose of obtaining a necessary revenue, then Her Majesty's Government will have to prepare to take over the whole country, and govern it as vigorously and on the same system and principles, as it does Her Majesty's other colonies, and not permit us to be governed and ruled in the shameful and neglectful way in which we have been for years past; but give free scope to our legitimate aspirations to raise our benighted country to the same height of civilisation as other more favoured nations have attained to.

If, in dealing with these questions, our language has at any time transgressed against rules, we trust your Excellency will take into consideration the vital importance of our subject-matter, and not impute it to any want of respect.

We have to thank your Excellency for the kind attention you paid to us, the patient hearing you have given us, and pray your favourable consideration and recommendation of our scheme.

J. H. BREW,

For self and other Members of the Deputation.

To his Excellency J. Pope Hennessy, Governor-in-Chief of Her Majesty's West African Settlements, St. George's District, Elmina.

Cape Coast, 16th April, 1872.

LATEST OF THE LIVINGSTONE SEARCH EXPEDITION.

DUBLIN, MAY 21 (EVENING).—Letters were received yesterday at the *Irish Times* office, Dublin, from Lieutenant Wm. Henn, R.N., one of the two officers in command of the Livingstone Search Expedition. The letters are dated Zanzibar, April 16, and consequently are six days later than those published in some of the London papers yesterday. The letters, which are remarkably full and precise, do not give the slightest intimation of the safety of Dr. Livingstone, or of the alleged meeting between him and the American traveller, Stanley. Lieutenant Henn is a son of the distinguished Master in Chancery of that name.

FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE" OF TUESDAY, MAY 21.

FOREIGN OFFICE, MAY 20.—The Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. James Jackson as Consul-General in London for the Republic of Liberia.

"Some achieve greatness; some have greatness thrust upon them."
SHAKESPEARE.

The Queen has approved the appointment of Mr. J. Pope Hennessy, Acting Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements; and of Mr. Herbert T. Usher, Administrator of the Gold Coast, to be Companions of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, in recognition of their colonial services, and more especially on the recent occasion of the cession of the Dutch Settlements on the Gold Coast to Her Majesty.

THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Church Missionary Society held its annual meeting in Exeter-hall on April 29. The first meeting was held at 8.30 A.M., when there was a breakfast in the Lower Hall, after which there was an adjournment to the Great Hall, which was well filled. The Earl of Chichester presided, and was supported by the Archbishop of York, the Bishop of Ripon, the Bishop of Rupert's Land, &c.

The Rev. J. Fenn read an elaborate report, which stated that the total receipts of the year from all sources had been 153,697l. 16s. 5d. The Society had now 158 missions, with 328 clergymen, 16s. 5d. of whom were European, and 131 native and country born. In addition to these, it had 16 European laymen, schoolmasters, missionaries' wives, 1,928 native and country-born Christian catechists and teachers of all classes not sent from home. The number of communicants was as follows: 1863, 18,110; 1864, 18,124; 1865, 14,155; 1866, 14,688; 1867, 15,155; 1868, 16,145; 1869, 17,349; 1870, 17,943; 1871, 20,125. Complete returns from several of the missions had not as yet been received. The Society had also withdrawn from 77 stations, chiefly added to parochial establishments in the West Indies, and transferred to the Native Church in Sierra Leone, containing 10 native clergy, 4,356 communicants, and 12,866 scholars. The report entered very fully into details of the Society's operations in various parts of the world.

On the motion of the Archbishop of York, seconded by Mr. J. H. Kennaway, M.P., the report was adopted, and a committee for the ensuing year was appointed. Thanks were voted to the Rev. Canon Bernard for his sermon before the Society, and resolutions were adopted commending the Society to extended support on the part of the Church.

PARLIAMENTARY.

Lord Enfield's Speech, April 19, continued from our last.

Rumours that small batches of slaves had been landed had reached our consuls, but upon investigation these rumours had turned out to be unfounded. Up to 1868 no fewer than 40,000 slaves were annually imported into Cuba, but since 1868 the return had been nil in that respect. Having said so much in favour of Spain, it would not be just if he were not to say that the engagements of Spain towards the captured negroes, had not been fulfilled in the manner this country had a right to expect. By Article 4 of the Treaty of 1835 provision was made as to the treatment of captured negroes, who were to be delivered over at any place where there was a Spanish court of justice, the Spanish Government undertaking that they should be treated strictly according to regulations promulgated with a view to giving the emancipated negroes the enjoyment of their liberty. The fifth article of the treaty provided for the registration of all emancipated negroes, and for a copy of the register being delivered every six months to a British and Spanish mixed commission. Now, if these regulations had been fairly carried out the freedom of captured negroes would have been ensured, but he could not disguise from himself the fact that these regulations had not been carried out in a strict and literal sense. The emancipated had been subjected to the caprice of their masters; they had to perform the same work as the slave population of Cuba had to perform; they had to undergo the same hours of labour; and he feared that, under the pretext of being transferred to other masters, they had been bought and sold many times; and they had been made to take the place of deceased slaves. He read, however, a communication from the Spanish Minister made two months ago to our representative at Madrid, Mr. Layard, which stated that the law of July 27, 1870, with regard to emancipation, had been strictly fulfilled, and that they were in full enjoyment of their liberty. The Spanish Minister, however, added that the superior civil government of Cuba, in order to avoid vagrancy and obviate the inconvenience which they might cause to public order, had urged them to contract for employment, but that though such contracts had been made it would be impossible to deduce from them that they constituted a real state of slavery. It was perfectly true that the exertions of the British Government on behalf of these emancipated had not been so successful as could have been wished, and many who felt disappointed at their futile result would, on looking back at the papers presented to Parliament on the subject, see that this Government had never ceased to impress on the Spanish Government to fulfil its obligations towards these emancipated. The number of these people in Cuba in March last, according to the latest dispatch, amounted to about 6,000, and according to the law which was passed on the 27th of July, 1870, they should be at present in the enjoyment of their full liberty. Contracts for their services were still going on, and sometimes as large a sum as 70l. per head had been paid as a douceur to the

authorities in order that the services of these free men might be secured. There was danger, therefore, of their being mixed up with the slave population of the island. The most substantial hope that House could have for complete freedom in Cuba would be found in the recent law which had been passed, declaring that all children born in the island should be free, and that all slaves who had passed sixty years of age should also be free. If that law were fully and fairly carried out—and there was reason to believe that when the insurrection was suppressed the Spanish Government would carry it out—the whole slave population of the island would in the course of time become free. He felt sure that Her Majesty's Government would continue to press on the Spanish Government the performance of its obligations, and that being so, he earnestly hoped that his hon. and learned friend would not press his motion and put the House to the necessity of dividing on a subject which Her Majesty's Government regarded with feelings of the deepest interest. He could not, on behalf of the Government, assent to any address to the Crown being moved in the terms of the motion now before the House.

Mr. T. HUGHES said that, after the statement of the noble lord that the Government had been pressing, were pressing, and would continue to press their treaty obligations upon the Spanish Government, he should not think of dividing the House, but he hoped that papers would be laid before them.

Lord ENFIELD wished to add to his statement that papers would, in the course of the year, be printed in reference to the slave-trade question.

The motion was then withdrawn.

Note.—We shall offer some comments in our next on this most unsatisfactory debate.—Ed. A. T.

OBITUARY.

Died at Lagos, on Thursday, the 7th day of March, at the Colonial Hospital, Mr. William A. Taylor, native of Benguema, Sierra Leone, the beloved husband of Mrs. Sarah L. Taylor, and the bosom friend of Mr. John F. Macaulay, native of same place, whose body was interred at Lagos Cemetery on the same day, 7th March. His funeral was attended by all his friends and acquaintances, who deeply bemoan his loss. "Alas, alas, he sleeps!"

Died at Government House, Sierra Leone, on the 23rd March, 1872, aged six years, John Pope Hennessy, son of his Excellency the Governor of Labuan and temporary Administrator-in-Chief of the West Coast Settlements.

PAPER ISSUED BY THE PEACE SOCIETY.

NATIONAL INFLUENCE.—There is a kind of influence which England may, and we believe, in large measure does, exercise over the nations, which we must all desire to see maintained and extended to the utmost. It is the influence she can exert by her religion, her philanthropy, her literature, her commerce, and, above all, her example. The example which England offers to other countries, of institutions in which the problem of combining liberty and order has, in some degree at least, been solved; the example of growing prosperity, of peaceable progress, of great activity in works of charity and mercy, and we will add, the example she has lately given of minding her own business, without meddling in other men's affairs, and reaping the reward of her abstinence by saving her blood and treasure—all this cannot fail to tell powerfully upon surrounding nations, if we leave that influence to its natural operation, without attempting to force ourselves obtrusively and offensively upon them. But this is by no means what too many even of our leading statesmen mean by "influence." What they want is something loud, aggressive, dictatorial, menacing—the influence that is to be sustained by an officious and swaggering diplomacy, and by having a large army and navy in the background to threaten and command. "English influence abroad" was one of the conjuring phrases with which Lord Palmerston so long deluded his countrymen; and the idea it embodied, if it can be said to embody any idea, formed the cornerstone of that meddling and mischievous policy by which, without in any appreciable degree affecting the current of European affairs, he made the name of England hated all over the world. No better way could be taken to bring into discredit this vile phrase than by tracing its effects when reduced to action by Lord Palmerston. We have not the time or space to do it now very fully. But we refer to a few illustrative facts. In 1840 he used the influence of England to form the Quadruple Treaty, the only effect of which was to deliver Syria over to a much worse ruler than we had to depose, and to bring us to the very verge of a war with France, from which we were only saved probably by the timely succession of Lord Aberdeen to office. In 1849 he used the influence of England to pick another quarrel with France on the question of the Spanish marriage, on which the events that immediately followed formed

so bitter an ironical comment. In 1848 he used the influence of England to encourage an insurrection in Sicily, and then withdrew his protection, leaving the unfortunate Sicilians to the tender mercies of the King of Naples. In 1850 the pretext of upholding English influence led him to that quarrel with and attack upon the little kingdom of Greece, which excited the execration of all nations, brought upon him and upon us a humiliating lecture from Count Nesselrode, and a great increase of Russian influence in the East of Europe, led to that breach of faith with the French Government which issued in the recall of the French Ambassador from London, and to such exasperation of feeling throughout France as probably would have led to war, if their hands had not been full with the business of re-organising their own Government after the Revolution. And so we might go on with a succession of events in which the "influence of England" was put forth as an excuse for a policy of intervention, the principal effect of which was to irritate the Governments of Europe against us, and to betray the people who had trusted us.

ARRIVALS BY THE STEAMERS FROM AFRICA.—Administrator Callaghan, from the Gambia, by the Calabar; Governor Ferguson, late of the Dutch Settlements on the Gold Coast, from Elmina, by the Africa.

AN AFRICAN KING.—A communication from Bordeaux announces the arrival there, by the steamer *Gulenne*, of an African king, attended by a numerous suite. His sable Majesty, whose name is Ransalalulu, is accompanied by his Prime Minister, several dignitaries, and a cook. He has alighted at the Hotel de Princes, where he occupies the whole of the first floor.—*Galignani*.

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