

Registered for]

[Transmission Abroad.

The African Times.

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

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

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

AUGUST 2, 1866.

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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.

JULY, 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 CONGO is intended to be despatched from GLASGOW on JUNE 29, and from LIVERPOOL on the 6th JULY, 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 6 P.M. on the 28th JUNE, and at the Loading Berth in LIVERPOOL (North Side Coburg Dock) up to 6 P.M. on the 5th JULY. 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 LIBERIA, which will leave LIVERPOOL DIRECT on the 18th JULY, 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.

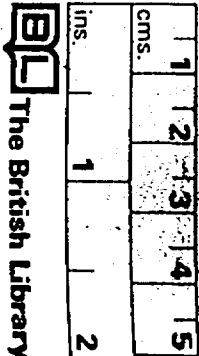
WEST COAST MAILS.

ARRIVALS.

African Steamship Company's Mandingo, May 22.
British and African S. N. Company's Loanda, May 24.
African S.S. Co.'s Lagos, with monthly mails, June 2.
British and African S. N. Company's Roquette, June 9.

DEPARTURES.

African S.S. Co.'s Calabar, with monthly mails, May 24.
African S.S. Co.'s Africa, with South-west Coast mails, May 30.
British and African S. N. Company's Loanda, June 6.
African Steamship Company's Mandingo, June 12.
Brit. and African Steam Navigation Co.'s Roquette, June 18.



APPEAL CASE FROM SIERRA LEONE.

RAINY V. BRAVO.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.—JUNE 12.

JUDGMENT IN A SINGULAR CASE OF LIBEL.—To-day Sir M. Smith delivered the judgment of their lordships in a singular case of libel—"Rainy v. Bravo"—tried at Sierra Leone. Mr. Rainy is a barrister of the Inner Temple, and practised at Sierra Leone, where the respondent (for whom was Mr. A. L. Smith) was police magistrate. He wrote a letter to his clerk, saying he had prohibited Mr. Rainy from practising until he apologised, and mentioned another advocate, who was "clever, and, what was more, an honest man." This letter was read in court, and when handed to the magistrate, was destroyed by him. Mr. Rainy brought an action of libel at Sierra Leone, and the judge eventually rejected the evidence of witnesses, and found for the defendant. The plaintiff then obtained a rule for a new trial, which was subsequently dismissed; and Mr. Rainy appealed to Her Majesty, and urged his case as one of great hardship. The judge had, after admitting, rejected the evidence of the witnesses who spoke to the contents of the letter. Sir M. Smith, in giving judgment, said their lordships were of opinion that the judge was wrong in rejecting the evidence, and that leave to amend the declaration had not been asked at a proper time. Still, however, they were willing that there should be a new trial on the payment of costs, but they recommended an end of the matter by a *set processu*, and each party paying their costs. For that purpose they would delay advising Her Majesty until the parties could communicate. If there was no *set processu*, then there would be a new trial on payment of costs.—Judgment accordingly.

FANTEE CONFEDERATION—PROCLAMATION.

By his Excellency Herbert Taylor Ussher, Administrator of Her Majesty's Settlements on the Gold Coast, &c., &c.

H. T. USSHER, Administrator.

Whereas certain ill-advised persons in this protectorate have formed themselves into an Association, styled the "Fanti Confederation"; and whereas Her Majesty's Government declines to acknowledge the said Confederation; and whereas divers illegal acts have been and are committed by the said "Confederation" and its agents:

Be it hereby made known and proclaimed that the Government of the Gold Coast will prosecute any person or persons committing any overt acts on the part of the said Confederation, especially the levying of taxes, assumption of judicial power, and molestation of peaceful inhabitants following their lawful calling.

And the Government of this settlement desires to warn all and any individual against committing any such acts, for which they will be held personally and individually responsible in the courts of justice within this settlement.

Given at Government House, Cape Coast, this ninth day of March, One thousand eight hundred and seventy-two and of Her Majesty's reign the thirty-fifth.

By Command of his Excellency the Administrator,
C. S. SALMON, Colonial Secretary.

God Save the Queen!

LAGOS MEMORIAL OF MERCHANTS AND TRADERS TO THE GOVERNOR-IN-CHIEF.

Lagos, April 29, 1872.

To His Excellency J. Pope Hennessey, Esq., Administrator-in-Chief of the West African Settlements.

The merchants and traders of the Settlement of Lagos beg to be allowed to bring to your notice the following facts, which materially affect their interests as a commercial community.

Lagos is the natural port for a very large portion of Central and Western Africa, comprising the whole of the thickly-populated and industrious kingdoms of the Jebus, Yorubas, and Egbas, including the many tribes on and beyond the banks of the Niger to the northward of Porto Novo, and Weun to the westward, and the important commercial districts of Palma and Leckie to the eastward. It is necessary, for the purpose of developing the resources of these countries, that all the roads leading to them should be kept perfectly free and open, and it is their opinion that an end so desirable can only be attained by a policy, on the part of this Government, of non-interference in the politics of the surrounding countries, in which Lagos can have no possible concern. For some time past the policy of non-intervention has been disregarded, and one of an opposite character substituted, which has led to a stoppage of the Abeokuta roads, and threats of immediate closing of others. The policy of intervention above-mentioned is exemplified by following facts.

In the latter part of 1869 a blockade of Iseheri was established by Tywo, who left Lagos openly with an armed expedition for the purpose of recovering his own debts; on his arrival, he seized

several persons (about twenty) as hostages, took them to Ikowdu, and kept them until part of his debts were paid.

The blockade lasted six months, and was detrimental to trade in Lagos, and only beneficial to Tywo himself, all business with Iseheri being stopped, and his monopoly complete. One incident occurred as follows: About thirty Lagos traders went to Iseheri, but on the way, beyond the jurisdiction of this Government, a Lagos constable challenged the party, which disavowed his authority and proceeded to the market; on their return, they were arrested and taken to Government House, and subsequently imprisoned for one month by the police magistrate.

Tywo, who is a native trader of great influence, has been further supported by this Government on many occasions, to the detriment of independent trade here. For instance, about two months ago, he stopped all Egba trade except through Iseheri, forcing Egba traders to sell at that market instead of coming themselves to Lagos, and only allowing those canoes to pass down that were directed to his factory here. A new measure of produce was introduced here, which met with great opposition on the part of the natives, but it was enforced by the constable sent from Lagos; some leading merchants here complained to the Government of this interference, and offered direct proof of the facts, but could obtain no satisfaction.

The presence of the colonial steamer Eyo in Porto Novo waters has caused great commotion among the inhabitants of that important district, the only alleged reasons for its being stationed there being sundry robberies committed beyond Badagry. A Government notice, dated Secretary's Office, Lagos, January 16 last, containing translation and copies of correspondence which took place on this subject between the Consular Agent of the French Government and this Government (copy of which is appended), proves the interference of this Government with Porto Novo, and to this interference the merchants here are totally opposed, and dread, as a consequence, the probable closing of that important market. Further correspondence took place, subsequent to the Government notice.

A petition, dated August 22, 1871, addressed to the Home Government, embodying different views to the foregoing, was presented to this Government, but this petition was circulated amongst the lower class natives, and many of the signatures thereto were attached contrary to the knowledge of some of them.

Our latest and principal grievance, however, is the stoppage of the export of munitions of war from Lagos to the east, west, and north of the settlements.

The proclamation prohibiting such export instances only the disputes in the Oil Rivers, with which Lagos does no direct trade, as the merchants therein trade direct with England and Europe; and although the disputes have been, or are in course of settlement, the proclamation is still in force, and has even been stretched to prevent carpenters' tools, hoops, corrugated iron and nails from leaving the settlement, these articles having, in certain cases, been seized on being sent up the country.

A deputation of the merchants here lately appointed to confer with the Commercial Association in Abeokuta on the causes of the stoppage of the roads there, and the best means for its removal, were not permitted to carry arms for their own protection, and in consequence the members of the deputation refused to proceed.

Notwithstanding the prohibition, various expeditions have been made by this Government with steamers, troops, and materials of war, but to what places and with what intent the merchants here are in doubt; one, they believe, was to Addo, which was fortified for the inhabitants against the Egbas; another to Igbesa. Quantities of munition of war have been lately purchased here and distributed by the Government, but for what purpose they, in consequence of the close sittings of the Legislative Council, are ignorant. They therefore desire enlightenment on the foregoing and following points on the policy of the Government, viz.:—

The political reasons for opening the new road to Ibadan.

The legal title to the land where it is proposed to establish a Government at Ode.

The cost and disposition of the Lagos police, rural and detective; and with what right and for what reason members of that body are stationed at Iseheri and many other places out of British territory.

What presents have been made since January 1, 1871, to native Government and chiefs of munitions of war or other articles; for what reason, to what extent, and whether made to Egbas, Jebus, Yorubas, or others, and if distributed solely to further the increase of trade—their legitimate object.

A report by Mr. Payne (Sheriff, &c.), of his recent mission to the King of Jebu, has not been made public. As it is supposed this report contains the King's views on the state of our mutual trade, it is most desirable that the same be published.

Are the inmates of the prison here employed in making fascines and gabions. If so, for what purpose?

Why the gentleman appointed as stipendiary magistrate has, since his return, been employed on other services, necessitating the appointment of a substitute.

The Home Government having instituted certain legal offices in the settlement, why the important functions of chief magistrate and police magistrate have been for some time past fulfilled by gentlemen not of the legal profession; whether the reason is that the salaries are insufficient; and if so, whether it would not be advisable to increase the same, in order to insure a proper administration of justice in the settlement.

Information as to the nature, cost of maintenance, and constitution of the Houses armed for the defence of the settlement; and whether it is true that all the men are free to leave the force on a month's notice.

The merchants are led to ask information on these points, solely with regard to the future well-being and prosperity of the colony, and, in conclusion, beg to state their conviction of the necessity of maintaining friendly relations with all their neighbours, which may be easily obtained by political non-intervention with their internal affairs.

The effect of a different policy has been to cause that disaffection and exasperation amongst the native tribes of the interior who should, and would, under a different policy, be our best friends, which has resulted in the present deplorable condition of trade in the settlement.

Instead of, as usual at this season, immense quantities of produce coming in from all sides, there is an almost complete stagnation. Our ships it is almost impossible to load, because our debtors are unable to bring down the products of the country, and a continuance would lessen our chances of repayment, besides forcing us to send away vessels in ballast, to the ruin of our credit at home. In pursuance of this policy, it is our opinion that British subjects trading beyond the limits of the settlement, should be amenable to the laws of the States they are in, and abide by the consequences of any infringement. The Egbas, we are told by Bishop Crowther and others, are friendly disposed towards us, and should the prohibition to export arms, &c., &c., be removed, their other grounds of complaint against the Government would be forgotten, and we should have no reasons to fear a recurrence of the disputes.

We assert that commerce here may be developed a hundred-fold if left unfettered and made the sole aim of the Executive.

Reply to the above.

Her Majesty's Colonial Steamer Sherbro, Lagos,
April 30, 1872.

Gentlemen,—Adverting to what passed on yesterday, when you did me the honour of calling at Government House, and of bringing to my notice the present stoppage of trade with the interior, as well as other facts affecting the interests of the commercial community here, I beg leave to inform you that, in accordance with your wishes, I have this day written a friendly letter to the Alake Aghornis, Budaguns, and Para Koyis of Abeokuta.

On my return next week to Lagos, I have some hope of receiving news from Abeokuta that will lead to an immediate re-opening of trading communications.

The other subjects to which you call my attention will be carefully considered.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

J. POPE HENNESSEY, Administrator-in-Chief.

To the Deputation of Lagos Merchants and Traders.

LETTERS TO THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY ON LAGOS AFFAIRS.

LETTERS INTERCEPTED, ROADS STOPPED, ETC.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street,
May 23, 1872.

My Lord,—There being an outward mail for the West Coast of Africa, I hasten to forward to your lordship copy of a letter received by me this morning from Abeokuta.

I shall not now make any comments on this important communication, by the contents of which your lordship will not fail to perceive that many of my worst fears, formerly expressed, have been realized.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord, your Lordship's obedient servant,

F. FITZGERALD, Editor of the *African Times*.

To the Right Honourable Earl Kimberley, K.G.

Custom House-road, Abeokuta, April 8, 1872.

Sir,—Abeokuta is now surrounded with enemies, who, as I said before, have been supplied with munitions of war to attack us this season; and although news reached us that the Dahomans are on their march for Abeokuta, they are not yet in sight. The Ibadans, as we are informed, are now in arms ready for this place, or may go to the Ijebu territory if the Dahomans fail to come

forward. Of course we are not behind in our preparations. Our numerous farmers around are all in, ready to man our walls. Two of our villages, Ishala and Abo, not being aware that the Dahomans would pass by their roads, were suddenly carried off to hopeless slavery; guns and powder not being supplied to them from Abeokuta this year, which still renders these poor creatures a hopeless defence. Rumours say they will be in all about 500 souls—men, women, and children! To say nothing of the DEAD! Thus you see the evil ordinance, prohibiting and supplying guns, &c., in certain cases.

You would not be surprised to hear of our roads for produce, going down to Lagos, being blockaded on the 18th ult. Apart from the grievance before mentioned, guns and powder have been distributed to our territories below Otta by the Lagos Government; this additional evil has been the cause of the roads being finally closed up, until better understanding for peace can be arrived at between the two Governments.

All your letters for January to the Secretary of State were read to the Egbas; his lordship's reply to your letters not being favourable, and because of the implicit confidence and good faith which we have already planted in the minds of the Egbas towards Her Majesty the Queen and good people in England, the Board of Management has refrained reading that reply to His Supreme Majesty Oyekon, as it will cause grief and loss of confidence in the minds of the Egbas, who are strongly allied with the sister country, Ijebu, for peace or war against their common enemies. The people of Abeokuta have no more faith in Glover's Administration, and so long as England would not believe your letters, although truthfully and justly written for the good of Africa. I am afraid "the roads here, as well as in other places around, will remain perfectly closed, until the death of Glover or his final removal from Lagos." THIS IS THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

A messenger from the Governor of Lagos for Ibadan, with letters in reply, in Arabic, from Ibadan, was discovered, and apprehended here on his way to Lagos. The poor bearer is now in chains. The letters found in his possession are three—one addressed to his Excellency the Governor of Lagos; one to a Wm. Raffle, Yomba merchant; and one to Inspector Willoughby, of Lagos. These letters were read and interpreted in a public meeting held here on the 22nd ult. They are full of assurance to the Governor and his suite, that *Lafosa*, the head Chief of Ibadan, will fulfil the agreement of war expedition against Abeokuta and Ijebu this season; and that the Governor of Lagos must do his best, as promised, to open the roads for sufficient guns and powder to them." In the whole, if the letters you have written against this evil of the Lagos Governor take no effect at that end, they have done great good at this end, from the fact that the Governor, with all his promises, is perfectly wound up, through the exposures; and fearful of the evil being fulfilled on his head, now sends privately to some of his friends here, to influence the Egbas to open their roads for produce, and he will open his for gun and powder, &c.

Enclosed is a true copy of his Excellency's letter, written in his own handwriting, without date or signature! Those from Ibadan will be translated or sent in same Arabic, if required.—In haste to meet post, yours very respectfully,

(Signed.)

Administrator Glover's Letter referred to in the last Paragraph of the above.
(True copy.)

Open the roads through Abeokuta and Jebu; let guns, powder, &c., go to the interior, and guns, powder, &c., shall be free to-morrow. If the enemies to both Lagos and Abeokuta aliko wish to spoil the new roads—Koro, Ondo, and Ifa—open the Abeokuta and Jebu roads; keep them closed, and the new road will quickly become developed.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street,
May 25, 1872.

My Lord,—Mr. Huguesson, in reply to a question by Mr. John Laird, in the House of Commons, on the 9th inst., said that "Her Majesty's Government had not then received any official information of the stoppage of the roads to Lagos," although the fact had been for some time known to merchants here, and certainly ought to have been ere then officially communicated to Her Majesty's Government by the Administrator of Lagos.

I had this honour on the 23rd inst., when I enclosed copy of a letter received the same day from Abeokuta. In that letter it is stated that the Egba roads had been closed since the 18th March. That letter also gave the substance of intercepted letters from Ibadan to the Administrator of Lagos, with reference to concerted operations of Dahomey, Ibadan, and Lagos against Abeokuta and Ijebu; and, further, that the Dahoman inroad upon Egba countries had commenced; two Egba villages been surprised and destroyed; and 500 men, women, and children who escaped slaughter been carried away by the Dahomans into slavery.

In previous communications to your Lordship relative to Lagos affairs, I chiefly dwelt upon the important commercial aspects of

the unnecessary and unjustifiable interference with interior countries by the "Prohibition of Export of Arms Ordinance," and Administrator Glover's proceedings under it; and I cannot refrain from expressing my deep regret that your Lordship should have abstained from taking such measures as the urgency of the case was then shown to require, for preventing that disastrous interruption of the trade of the interior countries with Lagos which has now taken place, and threatens to involve many innocent persons in commercial difficulties and perhaps ruin.

But, my Lord, great though the commercial considerations were which then appealed in vain to your Lordship for prompt relief to merchants and traders from threatening embarrassment and ruin, they sink into moral insignificance when compared with the iniquitous complicity with which the Administrator of Lagos is now charged in projected kidnapping and destroying operations of savage Dahomians and Yorubas against the Egba countries, which, if the contents of that Abeokuta letter can be established to be true, has existed, and borne, as its earliest fruit, the destruction of two villages, with the accustomed slaughter, and the carrying away of 500 Egba captives, to be many of them murdered in the atrocious customs of Dahomey.

The horror such complicity of an English Administrator, a representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty, is calculated to inspire, forbids my making any comment upon what British justice and honour demand, if there has really been such complicity against Egba and Ijebu countries, preparatively crippled in their means of defence by the operations of the said Administrator of Lagos, under the powers of the "Prohibition of Export of Arms Ordinance" to which your Lordship's sanction was so unhappily given. My duty will be fulfilled when I add that the Abeokuta letter proceeds from an Egba authority; and that its statements are sufficiently precise and horrible to make it incumbent on Her Majesty's Government to institute searching inquiries as to their truth or falsehood. Such inquiries are due in justice to the Administrator of Lagos, in order that if such charges cannot be established to be true, he may be relieved from the deep and heavy condemnation with which, should they be true, he deserves to be visited; and they are due also to the character of a Christian Government such as that of Great Britain, and to the merchants and traders of Lagos, who can never expect continued satisfactory commercial arrangements with interior countries upon a good understanding, with which the prosperity of Lagos absolutely depends, so long as such charges are neither disproved nor punished.

It would seem scarcely necessary that I should add, that such inquiry could never be satisfactorily conducted without the Administrator of Lagos being first relieved of those powers which would enable him to impede and defeat it.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord, your Lordship's obedient servant,

F. FRIZGERALD, Editor of the *African Times*.

To the Right Honourable Earl Kimberley,
K.G., &c., &c., Colonial Office.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street, June 4, 1872.

My Lord,—In my letter of May 23 I had the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information copy of a letter received that day by me from Abeokuta, in which mention is made of three letters in Arabic, seized by the Egba authorities, on a messenger going from Ibadan to Lagos.

I have now the honour to enclose printed copy of translation of those letters, the Arabic text of which is in my possession, and will be forwarded should your Lordship desire to see it. My printers have not any Arabic type, or I would have printed it.

I think it right, also, to inform your Lordship that copies of the said letters were ready to be handed to his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief on his return from the Gold Coast.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord, your obedient servant,

F. FRIZGERALD, Editor *African Times*.

To the Right Hon. Earl Kimberley.

The Three Intercepted Letters from Ibadan, showing the Contemplated Destruction of Abeokuta and Jebu, by Administrator Glover, his Counsellors, and the Ibadans.

TRANSLATION.

No. 1.

This woshika (writing or letter) comes from Kakarano, and is sent to Glover.

Kakarano compliments Glover seventy thousand times, and he even compliments him times without number. Kakarano compliments Glover's companions and friends.

I, Kakarano, send this message in consequence of Abeokuta and Ijebu also. You, Glover, do not forget the bargain that is made between us—I mean between you and I, in consequence of Abeokuta. You, Glover, do not delay, for this is the time, especially this season, because I, Kakarano, believe that you will never break your word, as well as myself. You, Glover, ought to send us some powder and guns, as it appears right to use on account of Abeokuta destruction and Ijebu.

God has turned his face against Ijebu and Abeokuta. I, Kakarano, is very glad for the bargain made.

And again, I, Kakarano, compliments to Isaac, seventy thousand times and his family's. I send this letter in consequence of the bargain made between us all that you should not forget.

You, Isaac, stir up yourself for the destruction of Abeokuta and Ijebu. May God bless Isaac, and keep him from those who speak evil of him. I compliments Isaac without number. I, Kakarano, bless you.

No. 2.

This is from Kakarano to Lemomu, and the young men. Kakarano compliments them, and that times without number. I, Kakarano, compliments Magaji, Shitta, and Lemomu seventy thousand times. I, Kakarano, send this letter in consequence of the bargain made between us young men (Mahomedans); do not forget about Abeokuta and Ijebu.

No. 3.

This letter is sent to Abamba from Kakarano, and Kakarano compliments Abamba seventy thousand times, and family, and also Abayade. I send this in consequence of the bargain made between us, and I, Kakarano, receive the two Demijohns of Rum Abamba sent me, and I return my most hearty thanks.

ADMINISTRATOR GLOVER'S COUNSELLORS, ALIAS THE CONTENTIOUS BUSYBODIES OF LAGOS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Lagos, May 3, 1872.

Sir,—Permit us, through the medium of your esteemed journal, to tell the authorities at the Colonial Office in Downing-street, who are Administrator Glover's counsellors, alias the contentious busybodies of Lagos. We ask the question, Who are they? Answer: They are a band of men, about forty in number, composed of the Oyo or Ibadan class, including some of the lowest class of the Sierra Leone daddies, polygamists, petty traders, discharged soldiers, labourers, and idlers; Brazilian emigrants of the lowest class, polygamists, butchers, bricklayers, labourers, and idlers; also the lowest class of policemen and detectives, and other Ijaji and Houssa men, with the head constable as their foreman, and a notorious Bada, of disturbing-the-peace notoriety, and head of the ragamuffin detectives. Their religion of Mahomedans, Fetish priests, Babalanos, and others. They delight in beating drums, tomtoming, and dancing, to the delight and pleasure of his Excellency. They walk very grand in the streets of Lagos, and do what they like; but they look dirty, mean, and wretched; hence no one cares for them excepting their "chief." They hold meetings twice a-week (the head policeman and a shoemaker are secretaries of the mischievous and vile company), either in Odunlami-street, Faji, Balogun-street, or Balogun-square, or Oke Olowogbowo. When any ragamuffin messengers and liars come from, or are going to, the thieves at Ibadan, this band in Lagos must see them first and teach them what to say to the "chiefs." They go to Government House every three days to deliberate with his Excellency, or the "chief," if you please; they have laboured hard for years, especially from August, 1871, to curse whom God hath blessed; or destroy for ever the Jebu and Egba nations from the face of the earth, and let the Ibadans triumphant reign for ever. But what is the result now? They have brought Lagos into misery, because the Jebu and Egbas, finding all the wicked intrigues against them, and the recent expedition and occupying of some towns and places in the Jebu territory, caused them to blockade all produce coming to Lagos. The band of counsellors and their chief forget that "the triumph of the wicked is short, and the joy of the hypocrite but for a moment." Alas! shame and confusion hath now filled their faces. It is our duty now seriously to inform the counsellors and his Excellency that "he that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy. Why boasteth thou thyself in mischief, O mighty man? Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs, like a sharp razor working deceitfully. Thou lovest evil more than good, and lying rather than to speak righteousness. Thou lovest all devouring words, O thou deceitful tongue." It is impossible; you cannot undo what the Creator hath done.—Your obedient servant,
LIGHT.

LAGOS COURT-HOUSE LEAKS LIKE A BASKET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

May 6, 1872.

Sir,—It is now 11 years since Lagos was ceded to the British Crown, and we have not got a proper and good Court-house. We were summoned by the Sheriff of Courts to appear at the Sessions this day, and we attended the Court-house in Tinubu-square. The hall was crowded by twelve o'clock noon, when the Chief Magistrate, Sheriff, Crown Prosecutor, and other officers walked in, and the Court was declared open for criminal cases. The

scene that followed after this ceremony is indescribable. I began to rain heavily, and rained thus for one hour. Gentlemen of the jury, and all others in the Court, were nearly over their insteps in water. The house leaks like a basket, and every one was quite drenched. The result was that the Court business could not go on, and the Court was adjourned till next day, the 7th inst. The new Chief Magistrate must be surprised, because this was his first sitting. Administrator Glover has no money or time to give Lagos a substantial and decent Court-house, but has money and time to squander money for a parcel of thieves in the interior, and supply all their unnecessary wants. Pray enlighten the Colonial Office in this and other matters for us, and oblige. We don't want another useless and worthless canal in Lagos, where thousands of pounds have been buried without any good result.—Your obedient servant,
A JUROR.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE THREE WICKED LETTERS FROM IBADAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Lagos, May 6, 1872.

Sir,—For the sake of peace, which is the ultimate wish of all in Lagos excepting the Executive and his wicked counsellors, we beg you to publish, in large type, the three intercepted letters from Ibadan. The letters were sent by a chief of Ibadan, named Kakarano (he is not the principal or head chief of Ibadan; the head chief refused the wicked plan of Glover and his counsellors), and on reaching Abeokuta the authorities intercepted the letters in the hands of the messenger, who is a Lagos man. This messenger, who is now a prisoner at Abeokuta, was sent from Lagos with wicked verbal messages, and Arabic letters of destruction to the chiefs at Ibadan, with considerable presents. They passed without being detected, but as God would have all bad secrets and deeds revealed, spies were sent by some of the Ibadans to apprise the Egbas and Jebus to look out for a certain messenger coming from Ibadan. In reply to your letter Earl Kimberley says he approves of the efforts of Glover to open roads for the purposes of trade. His lordship would not believe that it was for ammunition to go to Ibadan for the wicked trade of destruction. Well, what will his lordship say now, as the chief at Ibadan proves that they only want powder and guns for the work of destruction, according to the bargain and agreement made between them, Captain Glover and his counsellors in Lagos, and not for trade. True it is, man proposes, but God disposes. Oh! societies of Christian Missions, behold one of the chief great causes of the hindrances to your good work in this part of Africa. Prayer and patience have surmounted all the difficulties; since the Secretary of State does not think it becomes just and necessary to check the pride and ambition of Captain Glover and his wicked counsellors in Lagos, who, without resistance, would enslave and oppress the natives and people, who delight in peace, agriculture, and commerce. God, who says to the sea, "Thus far shalt thou go, and no farther," has thought it fit to set bounds to the violence of this "set of persons." The letters addressed to Glover (Englishman and Administrator), Isaac (Oyo creole, and head-policeman at Lagos), Lemomu (native of Houssa and Mahomedan Bishop of Lagos), Shitta, Abamba, and Abayade (emigrants from Sierra Leone, of the Ibadan tribe, and petty traders and grog-sellers), Magaji and the young men (natives from Ibadan, and resident in Lagos, petty trader, labourers, and idlers). With the exception of two, their religion consisted of Mahomedans, Pagans, and Polygamists. There is one memorandum, written by an Executive to the chiefs at Abeokuta, telling them to open the way to Ibadan for ammunition, and next day he will open the blockade on ammunition in Lagos. This memorandum is not signed. A copy has been taken, and brought down to Lagos, and the merchants' deputation handed it to the Administrator-in-Chief. It would take volumes to expose the intrigues of an Executive and his counsellors. The merchants had met and agreed to certain series of questions to lay before the Governor-in-Chief, but, on the very morning that the deputation was going, Mr. A. H. Porter, a merchant's clerk, dissented from asking questions why Glover supplied unnecessary ammunition to Porto Novo ex-chiefs and people, to go against their king; and Egba subjects, of Offa, to go against the Egba Government, and Jebu subjects on the mainland to go against their king and Government; and ammunition sent to the Ibadans secretly, to go against Ijebu and Abeokuta, &c., &c. For what reason did the Administrator's nominee dissent at the last moment, after he had helped to frame it? Because he is afraid the empty title of (dis) "Honourable Member of Council" will be snatched away from him. He admitted himself that he scarcely said anything in the Council. He was there when that one-sided ordinance passed all its stages in one sitting. We assure you that a man came overland from the Niger, and on reaching Ibadan he noticed one lot of 500 kegs of powder and a

quantity of guns and jack-knives, brought there from Lagos by a secret route; the Ibadans told him that our Executive sent them. Another lot of ammunition was taken to Porto Novo, and 120 Ibadans went there for it. After they got a long way from Porto Novo the Dahomians lay wait and captured all the men and ammunition. Thus, we say, they are all fallen into their own devices. Under all these circumstances, and wresting towns and villages in the territories from Jebu and Egba, and forcing Egba to take certain measures for their palm-kernel trade, they all stop their respective trades from coming to Lagos. Mr. Porter won't lose by it—he is a salaried clerk.—Your obedient servant,
GOLDEN RULE.

LATEST NEWS OF LIVINGSTONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Sir,—I beg to inform you that the following message has just been received by our chairman, John Pender, Esq., M.P., from our agent at Aden, dated 4.30 P.M., June 13 (Greenwich time): "Stanley arrived at Zanzibar, having left Livingstone alive and well."

W. T. ANSELL, Traffic Superintendent.
Submarine Telegraph Companies to India (Limited),
66, Old Broad-street, June 13.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

MAY 25 TO JUNE 1.

PALM-KERNELS.—920 bags, part 12l. 5s. and 12l. 10s. per ton. PALM-OIL.—No change to notice in the tone of the market; 550 tons sold; Irregular at 32l. to 35l. 15s.; Pram Pram at 35l.; Accra at 35l. to 35l. 5s.; Bonny at 35l. 7s. 6d.; Benin at 35l. 10s.; Old Calabar at 35l. 12s. 6d.; and Lagos at 36l. to 36l. 2s. 6d. per ton.

COTTON.—In active demand throughout the week, and prices further advanced.

Price of Lagos Cotton, 9d. to 9d. Fair and good fair. Sales of the week, about 92,500 bales.

JUNE 1 TO JUNE 8.

COTTON.—The demand has continued active, and prices have slightly advanced.

Sales of the week, 106,000 bales. Price of fine Lagos, 9d. to 9d.

JUNE 8 TO 15.

PALM-KERNELS.—352 bags, Lagos and Monrovia, 12l. 10s. per ton.

GROUND-NUTS.—128 bags, damaged, 14l. 2s. 6d. per ton.

PALM-OIL is without material alteration, prices remain steady, and 350 tons sold; Irregular at 31l. to 35l.; Accra at 35l.; Bonny at 35l. 7s. 6d.; Old Calabar at 35l. 10s. to 35l. 12s. 6d.; Lagos at 36l.; and Brass at 39l. per ton.

COTTON.—Market quiet, quotations rather easier.

Sales of the week, 71,000 bales. Price, Lagos, fine, 9d. to 9d.

JUNE 15 TO JUNE 22.

PALM-OIL is quiet, and 200 tons sold; Irregular at 30l. to 34l.; Bonny at 35l. 7s. 6d.; and Old Calabar at 35l. 10s. to 35l. 12s. 6d. per ton.

COTTON.—Market quiet, at declining prices.

Sales of week, about 58,000 bales. African Cotton, fine Lagos, 9d. to 9d.

THE GROWING COTTON CROP IN AMERICA.

It is stated by agricultural authorities in the United States that the extent of land under cotton cultivation this year is greater by 13 per cent. than last year; also that at present the crop promises to be a fair average. If the above statement as to the relative quantities of land under previous and present cultivation be correct—and the crop should prove to be a fair average one—there will, of course, be an increase of 500,000 bales at least in the crop of 1872 over that of 1871, which, we should imagine, will prevent prices going ahead of their present limit.

FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE."

DOWNING-STREET, JUNE 8.—The Queen has been pleased to appoint Captain William Henry Towry Miles Cooper, R.M., to be Collector of Customs for the Settlement on the Gambia; and Wm. Henry Simpson, Esq., to be Collector of Customs for the Settlement of Lagos, on the Western Coast of Africa.

The religious world will regret to hear of the death of the Rev. William Ellis, so well known for his missionary labours amongst the inhabitants of the Southern Ocean and Madagascar.

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5s., 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.

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1872.

GENERAL WEST COAST AFFAIRS.

IN the absence of all intelligence since that brought by the Roquette, on the 8th inst., we think it right to abstain from remarks we had purposed making in our present number on matters connected with the cession of the Dutch Possessions, and the course pursued by the Governor-in-Chief and Mr. Ussher as regards the Fanti Confederation. We publish a "proclamation" by Mr. Ussher issued immediately on his return from England, which certainly has no savour of friendliness toward the Confederation on his part; and that is all we need say at present.

LAGOS AFFAIRS.

THE memorial presented to the Governor-in-Chief by the merchants and traders of Lagos, contains the first written statement we have seen of the alleged official reasons for the adoption and promulgation of the Prohibition of Arms Ordinance—that fatal ordinance which has led to the cutting off of Lagos from the produce supplies of the interior since the 18th March. Until the Colonial-office shall furnish the correspondence with the Lagos Executive, asked for by Mr. Laird in the House of Commons on the 9th May, we shall not know whether this alleged reason for the ordinance—viz., to prevent the supply of arms and ammunition to the Oil Rivers—originated with the Governor of Lagos or the Earl of Kimberley. Whether we turn to one or the other of these as the author of it, we find ourselves surrounded with difficulties. On the one hand, it would seem to be impossible that the idea could have originated at the Colonial-office, because every one there, from Lord Kimberley down to the lowest writer on the establishment, must have known that large quantities of arms and ammunition were being constantly supplied direct from Liverpool to the Oil Rivers by almost every vessel that left the Mersey for that destination; and that anything in the shape of arms and ammunition sent from Lagos to the rivers could, therefore, be but as a drop in the bucket of supply to the native belligerents there. On the other hand, when we look at the way in which the Governor of Lagos has applied the said ordinance—when we know that he has, when such has been asked, granted permission for arms and ammunition to leave for the Oil Rivers; and has used all the offensive stringency of the ordinance against the neighbouring native countries on which all the trade of Lagos depends, even to stopping the supply of iron hoops to Abeokuta for hooping the oil casks there, it seems impossible to believe the alleged reason could have originated with this Governor; because to believe it, would be in an indirect way to accuse him of a most infamous deceit practised on Her Majesty's Government—a deceit that would make it impossible, we should think, to continue him in any way in Her Majesty's Colonial service. We can, therefore, only patiently wait until we get the papers, which must establish either a most abominable ignorance on the one side, or a still more abominable perfidy and deceit on the other. Meanwhile, however, the merchants and traders of Lagos with England, and the English houses here connected with them, are subjected to all the loss and inconvenience which the suspension of a large trade like that of Lagos cannot fail to produce. And here we must confess to a great disappointment. When we received at the end of last month the account of the interview of the merchants and traders with the Governor-General at Lagos; and heard that the Governor-General had opened amicable communications with the Egba authorities; and that a mercantile deputation had gone up to Abeokuta to second the amicable message, we

believed that the Governor-General possessed full powers to direct that the "Prohibition of Export of Arms Ordinance" should be suspended and annulled, leading to an almost immediate reopening of the roads and markets for produce to Lagos. When the Governor-General left for Cape Coast after the interview, &c., above alluded to, his return was expected in a few days; at which time the work of friendship with the surrounding countries was to be perfected, and the pent-up produce set free to find its way to England, where it is so much wanted. But our last advices from the Coast show the Governor-in-Chief still at Elmina on the 21st May; and state the possibility of his remaining there until the 1st of June, when he would again go to Lagos. We, therefore, fear that the Governor-in-Chief thought it necessary to refer to England as to the annulling of the "Prohibition of Arms Ordinance," and that the Elmina delay is to give time for the sanction to arrive from England. This ought not to have been. We enter our strongest protest against it. A Governor-in-Chief on a special mission, such as that entrusted to Mr. Pope Hennessy, ought to have been armed with full powers. From the representations we had made to the Colonial-office, the authorities there ought to have comprehended that there was a case of life and death as regarded the commerce of Lagos; and mercantile interests of great magnitude ought not to have been kept in suspense, possibly to the ruin of many, while reference should be made to Downing-street. While writing we wait anxiously the arrival of further intelligence, but with very faint hope of having the agreeable news to give this month of the reopening of the markets and Lagos trade with the interior. Meanwhile we have thought it our duty to place before the Secretary of State for the Colonies the translation of Arabic letters taken in Abeokuta from the person of a messenger going from Ibadan to Lagos. In doing this, we have not hesitated to denounce in very strong terms the great offence against humanity which is implied by the contents of those letters. If it be indeed true that the Governor of Lagos has been engaged in stirring up strife between Ibadan and Abeokuta—strife in this case meaning an incitement to murder, pillage, and kidnapping, capturing and carrying off men, women, and children into slavery—we say that if it be indeed true that the Governor of Lagos has been engaged in stirring up such strife, he being at the same time the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty in Lagos—the representative of this Christian empire of Great Britain—there is no official condemnation too heavy for him; while at the same time, if he be innocent of such wicked and cruel deed, he ought to be relieved by the result of an impartial inquiry, from the imputation of so deep a moral and official guilt. We alluded in our last to the good he has done at Lagos in many ways; and shall be glad to see his reputation as an official and a man, cleared from the charges above alluded to, which the contents of the Arabic letters, if correctly translated as they are now published by us, seem, we are sorry to say, to support. The merchants and traders of Lagos, in their memorial to the Governor-General, state their full conviction that the commerce of Lagos is capable of very great and rapid extension, should the constant policy of the Lagos Government be that of friendly relations with the surrounding countries—the true and only justifiable policy in a commercial emporium such as Lagos, the trade of which depends entirely upon the produce cultivated in those countries. And we fully endorse their opinion. With a Governor in Lagos respecting whom the surrounding countries should feel confident that he had no ideas of annexation (as the British Government certainly has not) and no desire to aggrandise one native people at the expense of another, we feel certain that the commerce, and consequently the revenue, of Lagos would soon be doubled. And this we want to see, both for the sake of commerce and revenue; nor for these alone. With fully established confidence, and an increase of native wealth by means of increased production, the work of civilization will make progress throughout the Egba and Yoruba countries, to the great increase of human happiness, and the furtherance of those infinitely greater objects, which must be ever kept in view by the Christian.

THE RECENT DEBATE ON CUBA.

IN our present issue we complete the report of the discussion in the House of Commons, which took place on the 9th of last month, upon the motion of Mr. Thomas Hughes, "That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty that she will be graciously pleased to urge upon the Spanish Government the fulfilment, without further delay, of those treaty obligations in respect to the slave population of Cuba which have been so long neglected." Want of space and pressure of other matters compelled us last month to restrict ourselves to the publishing of only a portion of this parliamentary debate, and to defer, until our present number, any comment upon the proceedings. The unfortunate permanence, however, of the evil system to which it was Mr. Hughes's object to call attention, in a measure renders of less importance our delay in offering such observations upon the subject as we purpose to submit to our readers.

In the first place, we must express regret that the honourable member's motion did not assume a more practical form. As a rule, it is unwise to deal gingerly with any radical evil, and to attack it only indirectly when demanding a remedy for it. The terms of Mr. Hughes's motion were far too vague, and even contradictory, to lead to any useful practical result; for such, certainly, cannot be called the withdrawal of the motion. Not thus was the abolition of the slave-trade and slavery carried when these great questions were submitted to the British Legislature; nor thus are other important public measures decided at the present day. If a remedy for an admitted evil be held to exist, the only mode of obtaining it is persistently to demand it until it is given. This, we venture to assert, Mr. Hughes's motion did not even suggest. Long neglect of treaty obligations in respect to the slave population of Cuba, is, in concise phraseology, the charge the motion conveys against the Spanish Government. Now, our treaties with Spain were for the suppression of the slave-trade to Cuba, and did not confer upon the British Government—as was very pertinently remarked by Viscount Enfield—any right to interfere with the status of the thing slavery as existent in Cuba at the time those treaties were concluded. Under them, however, we have indirectly acquired a decided, unquestionable right to make a certain formal demand of Spain, and that demand is the immediate, unconditional, absolute emancipation of all negroes held as slaves in that island, who have been introduced into it since 1835, the date of the last convention between the two Powers. We would even go further, and claim the liberation of all slaves introduced since the year 1817, the date of the first treaty with Spain; for our right is as clear under the first as under the last, the only difference being that by the establishment of the Mixed Commission Court—never other than an almost useless tribunal in Cuba—the Spanish Government contracted the additional obligation of restoring to liberty negroes surreptitiously introduced, and by that court constituted *emancipados*, with a right to absolute freedom after a five years' term of apprenticeship, "to fit them for freedom." Not that the Spanish authorities ever troubled themselves in the least to conform to treaty stipulations; they simply, and with consistent pertinacity, wholly disregarded them, and no "urging" on the part of the British Government has yet succeeded in awakening them to a sense of their obligations and responsibilities. It is thus quite clear that Mr. Hughes's motion asked that Her Majesty might be solicited to urge Spain to do something which Her Majesty had no right to urge that Power to do under our treaties, and that it did not meet the requirements of the case. Under these circumstances, it is not to be wondered at that the debate, or discussion, or conversation, assumed a disjointed character, and that the treatment of the miserable Chinese immigrants, the cruelties of the Spanish volunteers, the public opinion of the Spanish people as expressed in various ways, the political condition of Cuba, should have become hopelessly mixed up in an inextricable tangle; and the cause damaged by Viscount Enfield's scandalous apology for Spain, nor less scandalous assertion "that the treaty obligations with Spain, so far as regarded the African slave-trade, had been fairly and

honestly fulfilled." Treaties honestly fulfilled! This in the very teeth of the notorious fact that since those treaties were entered into, the British Government has not ceased addressing remonstrances to that of Spain against the systematic, flagrant, open violation of those solemn "obligations;" that the despatches of Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, at Havana, are full of complaints against the local authorities for countenancing and directly abetting the slave-trade; and that the anti-slavery party in England has, year after year, for many years past, up to the present time, urged the British Government to action against Spain for dereliction of duty. Deeply is it to be deplored there was no one in the House to contradict, upon the very spot and at the very instant, the astounding statement made by the Secretary for the Colonies; not even the proposer of the motion did so. If Spain has so fairly and honestly fulfilled her treaty obligations with regard to the African slave-trade into Cuba, how comes it that Viscount Enfield gives only five years ago as the date when it ceased, "since when no authentic record exists of the landing of any fresh slaves?" When, we would ask, has ever any authentic record been kept of a perpetual crime? The least unreliable record of surreptitious slave-landings in Cuba is kept by Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, who always adds one-third to cover the number acknowledged by those who supply him with his information to have been landed, but which record is always denounced as false and calumnious by the local officials in their despatches to their superiors in Madrid. Yet worse than his shameful apology for the turpitude and delinquency of the Spanish Government, Viscount Enfield presently contradicts himself by affirming that 40,000 negroes were, for a series of years, annually imported into Cuba; a most remarkable illustration, forsooth, of the fair and honest way in which Spain has conformed to her treaty obligations! It is simply deplorable—not to employ a harsher term—that such statements should be made by a British Colonial Secretary, whose knowledge of this subject ought to be at least substantially accurate. Of a similar fanciful kind was the honourable Viscount's effort at contemporaneous history, when he informed the House that the disturbances which broke out in Cuba in 1823, and have been periodical since, had reference to this general question of the fulfilment of treaty obligations; which we must understand as meaning the suppression of the slave-trade. It is notorious that the disturbances of 1823, that the excitement which had for some years preceded them, that the troubles which have never ceased since, and which eventuated in the insurrection of December, 1868, had their origin in the discontent of the Creole or native Cuban party engendered by the despotic rule of the Spanish or home party; and that although many of the disaffected were in favour of the abolition of the slave-trade and of slavery, these questions did not enter into the settled programme of the disaffected, whose object was independence, or annexation to the United States. This is so true that even when Cespedes raised the standard of the revolt which has cost Spain so much blood and treasure, those slaves alone were declared free who should join the insurrectionists, and it was not until a much later period—we believe in March, 1869—that the Revolutionary Committee declared the emancipation of all the slaves in the island to be an essential part of their policy. Again was Viscount Enfield most egregiously in error when he explained that "although opinion was very much divided among the political factions which had sway in that country, there was one feeling which united them all, and one determination which influenced their action—namely, that until the insurrection was suppressed they refused to carry out their treaty obligations at all." The honourable Viscount so jumbles up—according to the report before us—one class of facts with another, that it is difficult to arrive at his meaning. What he is reported to say as of Cuba is alone true of Spain. In Cuba only two parties are in opposition—Cubans and Spaniards. In Spain itself the political factions are legion, in a sense; and whilst the nation is anti-slavery, the Government is the very reverse, is callous to public opinion, and obdurate to remonstrance and entreaty in favour of emancipation. The Provisional Government

of 1868 was not less so, and every successive Administration walks in the same miry path trod by its predecessors of whatever political hue. If, however, according to Viscount Enfield's affirmation in front of Europe, Spain has fairly and honestly fulfilled her treaty obligations with regard to the African slave-trade into Cuba—the only ones in question—what are those treaty obligations he also affirms the Spanish Government "refuses to carry out at all?" The simple fact is, they are one and the same; notwithstanding that, speaking with the authority and the prestige of a British Colonial Secretary, the honourable Viscount asserts emphatically, in the same breath, that Spain has fulfilled her obligations and refuses to fulfil them: a paradox he alone is probably gifted with sufficient genius to elucidate.

Why, too, "must" we "sympathise with the peculiarities of the position in which the Spanish Government is placed at the present moment?" The proposition—inversely presented though it be—is not one to command the smallest sympathy from any right-minded man. If Spain finds herself confronted by a formidable insurrection, she has herself alone to blame. Why did she not, or rather, why did not the Revolutionary Government at Madrid extend to the inhabitants of the Queen of the Antilles the rights and privileges that were declared to be conferred upon all Spanish subjects as their own indefeasible birthright, and the refusal to confer which upon the citizens of Cuba, weary to death of despotism, drove Cespedes and his brother patriots to raise the standard of revolt against Spanish rule and to demand independence or their *fueros*—that is, right of self-government. To deny justice to the slave, on the pretence that the insurrection interferes to prevent it, is a mere subterfuge. There was no insurrection in Cuba in September, 1868; nevertheless, the Provisional Government, though urged to follow the noble and memorable example of France in 1848, would not take that course, its excuse being that it had no right to interfere with the question of slavery without consulting the wishes of the citizens through their representatives. And this was gravely said in the teeth of the most flagrant interference with every right and privilege a free citizen is entitled to! So disinclined was the Government which succeeded the Provisional one, to touch the question of slavery, that it refused to insert into the new constitution a clause declaring the abolition of that detestable and accursed institution, and was even resolute in its repudiation of an amendment to the clause, designating as a Spanish citizen any man born on Spanish soil, the amendment bearing the simple addendum "irrespective of colour." This was the moment—whilst Spain was dispatching to Cuba the troops and volunteers who have rotted off in the unwholesome districts where the insurrection still maintains itself—of which the home administration—influenced, probably paid, by the pro-slavery party—took skilful advantage to declare that so long as the rebellion remained unsubdued the question of slavery could not be meddled with; and this is the plea Viscount Enfield endorses as reasonable, and submits to the British public as one entitling the Spanish Government to its sympathy. Shades of Thomas Fowell Buxton, Joseph Sturge, Brougham, and your goodly fellowship of coadjutors, where were you when this audacious plea was urged?

Viscount Enfield further informed the House that the Spanish treaties were designed to secure, amongst other privileges, the return to their country of captured negroes: another imaginative statement, yet one which passed uncontradicted. There was no stipulation of the sort. The captured negroes were simply brought before the Mixed Commission Court and transferred as apprentices, for the term of five years, to the highest bidder. But then the Honourable Secretary for the Colonies, drawing upon his own special sources of information, assures the House of collective wisdom that Spain has now also done her duty with regard to these *emancipados*, than which a less truthful statement has never been deliberately uttered. Had the very honourable Viscount taken the trouble to get up the subject upon which he spoke so glibly with authority, he would have learnt that one of the principal delinquencies laid to the charge of the Spanish authorities is that no ac-

count of these *emancipados* could ever be obtained, notwithstanding the persistent inquiries of the British Government through its representative at Havana; and that in 1853 that official sent a record, furnished by the local authorities, showing, indeed, certain figures, accounting for the number of this class carried into that extraordinary tabular statement, but in which the reported "dead, disappeared, become maroons, &c.," outnumbered in the proportion of five to one those whose whereabouts was affirmed to be known. He ought also to have known that dead negroes were, as they still are, replaced by living *emancipados*; that this class is apprenticed over and over again; that O'Donnell, when Captain-General of Cuba, invented the lucrative system of exacting, for the private benefit of himself, a fee of five or more doubloons for every re-apprenticeship of this kind; and that it is more certain than simply presumable every slave at this moment in Cuba is entitled to be regarded as an *emancipado*, having a right to his unconditional liberty. The treatment of this unfortunate class is even more to the discredit of the Spanish Government than its disregard of treaty obligations; and the Cuban authorities, pushed into their last corner by the persistent demands of our Consul-General, have been driven to the humiliating confession that the *emancipados* are so hopelessly mixed up with the slave-population proper as to render all attempts to trace them utterly useless. Yet, according to Viscount Enfield's statement, the Spanish Government has done its duty with respect to these very *emancipados*!

But to return to Mr. Hughes's motion. We can conceive of none framed so unfortunately as this one, if any practical result were contemplated. The proof is furnished by Viscount Enfield's reply, affirming the fair and honest fulfilment of the treaties the motion asserts to have been flagrantly violated; and by the divergence of the conversation—for debate it cannot be called—from the main point into wholly side issues. The real question was the violation, by Spain, of her Slave-trade Treaty obligations; the rest was "all leather and prunella." Has Spain violated these treaties, or has she not? Can it be proved, or can it not, that since 1817 vast numbers of negroes, newly brought across the ocean from their African homes, have been imported into Cuba, and this with the connivance of the local authorities and the guilty complicity of the Home Government? Either all the despatches of the British Resident at Havana must be denounced as impudent and calumnious inventions, or Viscount Enfield's statement must be repudiated as unvarnished. The balance of testimony is in favour of the official documents, which Parliament has accepted as authentic for so many years; and we may, therefore, safely proceed upon the assumption that they are the records of admitted facts, and that when the Colonial Secretary affirmed the honesty of Spain in this matter of her fulfilment of treaty stipulations, he was labouring under some unaccountable temporary hallucination. Admitting the fact, then, of the violation of treaty stipulations, as established by this official correspondence—hitherto unchallenged—and also admitting that the British Government has for years been persistently entreating that of Spain to conform to its treaties with us, without our having obtained justice for the negro unlawfully held in bondage in Cuba—the question arises, what was the object of the motion under notice? Clearly—according to the terms of our treaties and conventions, which were for the absolute suppression of the slave-trade—we have no direct right to demand anything else, and our right ceases with the cessation of the Act upon which it rests. Did the motion of Mr. Hughes go further than this? and if it did, why was not its real purpose clearly expressed? The fact is, we have, under these treaties and conventions, a clear acquired, though indirect, right of interference with the present status of slavery in Cuba, and this right is derived from the violation by Spain of those international engagements. It will not be disputed that since 1817 every fresh cargo introduced into Cuba has been so introduced in the teeth of treaty stipulations against such introduction, and therefore, that Great Britain has a right to demand the liberation of all the slaves who may be presumed to have been imported subsequently to that date. It is presumable that there are now very few left of the class 1817; and though

it is difficult to comprehend upon what principle Viscount Enfield insists so strongly upon the treaty of 1835 as the one which gives us a right to make any representation to the Spanish Government, we will, for convenience sake, limit our argument to that date. If, however—as the honourable gentleman asserts—Spain has fairly and honestly fulfilled her Slave-trade Treaty obligations, it is impossible to conceive what justification the British Government has, of any kind, for interfering, by representation or otherwise, in this matter. There is in this statement an incomprehensible inconsistency, the most striking and forcible comment upon which is to be found in the speaker's own account of the manner in which Spain has so fairly and honestly kept her pledged promises. He states that from 1835 to 1868 the number of slaves annually landed in Cuba was 40,000—a total of 1,320,000. A similar statement was made by Earl Russell a few years ago. The official returns do not give so large a number, but they are admittedly inaccurate, and the local authorities deny the introduction of anything approaching to that figure—a denial obviously in the interests of those authorities to make, but none the less unfounded in relation to the fact. It is not here the place to enter into the vexed question of the amount of the slave-population of Cuba, but in a memorial to Marshal Espartero, presented to him by the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society* in 1854, some very curious illustrations of Spanish census records will be found quoted, which demonstrate the utter unfaithfulness of documentary evidence issued by the Spanish Government in all matters relating to the slavery question in Cuba. It is no part of our business to attempt to reconcile the flagrant discrepancies those records bear upon their own face. It is sufficient for our present purpose to state that the late Earl of Aberdeen denounced them as false, and affirmed that the slave-population of the island was notoriously far in excess of the number announced by the Government of Spain. The very last returns made by the local authorities were one-half below those of the ecclesiastical authorities, who, for purposes of their own, keep, and have the means of procuring, more authentic records. In 1868, when the abolition of slavery was being pressed upon the Provisional Government at Madrid, the number of slaves in Cuba was affirmed not to exceed 400,000; which, if true, and if true also the reported importations from 1835 up to 1868—according to Earl Russell and Viscount Enfield's affirmations of the fact—would exhibit an average mortality of 30 per cent. per annum. We believe the actual slave-population of Cuba to be nearer 800,000 than 400,000, leaving out the *emancipados*, and all of these have a right to their immediate and unconditional liberty. The position the British Government might be urged to assume is to assert our treaty-rights, and upon the strength of them to demand the freedom of the Cuban slaves. Had Mr. Hughes's motion been framed with this one object, the country would have been made to comprehend exactly the circumstances of the case, and its judgment asked, not in favour of Spain, but of those unfortunate hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children, held in bondage in Cuba—an iniquity for which the British Government, for the last thirty-five years through, is in a great measure responsible. We are prepared to admit that a motion so framed and pressed to a division would have left the mover in a minority, but the weight of facts, the force of argument, and, greater than either, the right and the justice would have been on his side. We know that when a power violates its treaty engagements, the other party to the contract has a right to constitute such a violation a *casus belli*, and it is remarkable that the late Lord Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, and other occupants of the Foreign Office in Downing-street, averted pressure, when it was demanded against Spain, by submitting to the applicants the uncomfortable query: "Would you have us go to war with Spain?"—a question involving the acknowledgment of the delinquency of that Power, and the helplessness—ought we not rather to say, the unwillingness—of the Governments of the day to deal with that Power as a delinquent. Whilst we do not advocate war, we may allow ourselves to record the fact, that it has been waged for objects infinitely less righteous, and we

ought not to omit to refer to the Don Pacifico claims, when the doubtful rights of a private individual nearly involved us in a war with Greece, because Lord Palmerston thought proper to indulge in a special bit of vapouring against a weak State. We assert that diplomacy possesses resources—short of war—which can be rendered effective against a delinquent Power. In the case of Spain, mere representations were laughed at; for, in spite of her shameful conduct, she never asked a favour, but it was granted. She was placed, in every respect, on the footing of the most honourable and most favoured nation. Her slave-grown products—which ought to have been excluded from our markets—were admitted to compete with those of our emancipated colonies, contrary to the protestations and representations of the anti-slavery party, and in defiance of all reason and justice. Whilst the slave-trade was rife, the clause in the Washington Treaty of 1842, empowering Great Britain, the United States, and France to proceed actively against Spain, because her wilful contempt of her slave-trade treaties compelled these Powers to maintain a costly cruising system, with its expensive paraphernalia of Mixed Commission Courts, was never brought into operation—was, in fact, a dead letter rather than any of that class of defunct literature. Were it now asked that it be applied, the answer would probably be, "Since 1868, we have no authentic record of any slaves having been landed in Cuba; and Spain has fairly and honestly fulfilled her treaty obligations, therefore we have no case against her." Why, even according to Viscount Enfield's admissions, it is only since 1868 that the slave-trade into Cuba has ceased, and this is not by any means so certain. It was in the early part of December in that year, that the Cuban insurrection broke out. If cargoes of Bozali have been landed in the parts occupied by the insurrectionists, the fact would not reach any "authentic source of information." The other parts are in the power of the Spanish party, almost to a man in favour of the old order of things; and if cargoes of fresh slaves have been discharged, on the sea-board their forces, combined with those of the mother-country, command, the chances are a thousand to one in favour of the fact not being revealed. We hold it, from a private source, that the slave-trade continues, not to so great an extent even as in 1866, but sufficiently to establish a continuous violation of treaties.

We would not be understood as conveying the reproach of a total want of earnestness on the part of successive British Governments and statesmen in their endeavours to suppress the Spanish slave-trade, but the earnestness seems, to us, judged by the light of facts, as partaking far more largely of sentimentalism than of sentiment. The desire to see the abominable traffic in human beings suppressed undoubtedly existed; the will to deal with it as an evil absolutely to be got rid of as speedily as possible has not existed, or the thing would have been done long ago. It is not by apologising for Spain, and seeking to enlist for her, in her present position, the sympathies of the British nation, that that shameless Power is to be made believe we are in earnest in our endeavours to make her put an end to slavery and the slave-trade in her Antilles; nor is it the way to influence public opinion in this matter in the right direction. For years the Spanish Government has ceased to believe we should employ any kind of vigorous action against it, and it has simply made grand promises, boldly told and written the most astounding falsehoods to shield its delinquencies, and snapped its fingers at every remonstrance and every attempt to bring it to a sense of its obligations. We consider that Mr. Hughes's motion was lamentably unpractical, though its intent was excellent, and that it will delay any further Parliamentary action in this grave matter for an indefinite period. The ventilation of the sundry facts brought out will not enlighten the few hundreds of active anti-slavery men, to whom every phase of the question is familiar, and will tend to mislead the mass as to the true character of our case against Spain. It elicited exactly the kind of reply from the representative of the Government which might have been expected, though not that the Honourable Secretary for the Colonies would stand up as the apologist of Spain. His anticipations of the excellent results of the

recent law, emancipating all children born after the date of its promulgation, and all slaves above sixty years of age, are simply illusory. The latter, though free, will, if past work, become a burden upon their friends or upon the public, and the emancipated infants, being subject to apprenticeship to the masters of their parents, will remain slaves until the age of twenty-three. The utter futility of all such laws has been proved over and over again, and the flattering unctious the honourable Viscount lays to his soul, with respect to this matter, is simply the result of a lamentable ignorance of the working of the slave system wherever it has existed. But even this credulous anticipation does not appear to be so entirely satisfactory to the honourable member as one might be led to imagine; for he intimates a doubt that the law—imperfect as it is—will not be carried out until the insurrection is suppressed—in other words, that there are grounds for supposing that at the present time it is a dead letter; and this, in fact, as we have already intimated, is the ultimate fate of all such laws.

The Secretary for the Colonies assured the House that Her Majesty's Government would continue to press upon the Spanish Government the performance of its obligations; this, after stating that the said Government had fairly and honestly fulfilled them, and after a statement that with regard to the *emancipados* class "the engagements of Spain had not been fulfilled in the manner their country had a right to expect!" Far better had the honourable Viscount told the plain fact, that Spain remained a delinquent; and added, that our Government felt itself helpless to deal with that Power.

With regard to Mr. Layard's assurance in support of the good intentions and honesty of the Spanish Government, we can only say he believes just what is told him. We consider his appointment to Madrid as one most unfortunate for the anti-slavery cause, however good it may be upon other grounds, but of which we have no means of judging. We do know that his course with regard to the anti-slavery question has been simply obstructive, and that he has never been at a loss to furnish plausible reasons for his conduct. His predecessor, Sir John Crampton, did little enough in this direction; but was not, as far as we remember, obstructive. We regret to have to record an unsatisfactory opinion of Her Majesty's representative at the Court of the new King of Spain; but, if rumour is to be credited, the dynasty of Savoy owes much to Great Britain in the matter of the latest Spanish succession, and Mr. Layard's attitude is not wholly without reference to the interference and the position of our Government in relation to the occupancy of the Spanish throne. It is not the first time history presents an example of the sacrifice of the highest interests to political considerations.

We feel bound to state, in conclusion, that we have not the smallest degree of faith in the intentions of the Spanish Government to deal in any satisfactory manner with the question of slavery in Cuba, notwithstanding its reiterated assurance to the contrary, and that we have none in the result of the policy our own is pursuing to bring Spain to reason. Mere remonstrances are of no avail. The remedy for a case of this flagrant kind it is for diplomacy to suggest, and if our Government were really, *bona fide* in earnest, that remedy would not be long in forthcoming.

We submit, as a problem to be solved by Viscount Enfield himself, the elucidation of the following statements made by him in the course of the discussion under notice: "The question is really one of the fulfilment of treaty obligations."

"Until the insurrection in Cuba is suppressed, they (the Spanish Government) refuse to carry out their treaty obligations at all."

"The treaty obligations with Spain, so far as regarded the African slave-trade, have been fairly and honestly fulfilled."

"The engagements of Spain towards the captured negroes have not been fulfilled in a manner this country had a right to expect."

"The regulations for ensuring the freedom of the captured negroes had not been carried out in a strict and literal sense."

"Mr. Layard writes to say that the Spanish Minister assures him the Law of 27th July, 1870, with regard to the *emancipados*, has been strictly fulfilled, and they are in full enjoyment of their liberty."

"But they have been forced to contract for employment; contracts were still going on, and as much as 70*l.* per head is being paid as a *douceur* to the authorities to secure the services of their free men. There is danger, therefore, of these men being mixed up with the slave population of the island."

"But although such contracts had been made, it would be impossible to deduce from them that they constituted a real state of slavery."

"He felt sure that Her Majesty's Government would continue to press on the Spanish Government the performance of its obligations."

With the presentation of this bundle of contradictions, we leave the subject for the present.

PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, MAY 31, 1872.
SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. R. N. FOWLER rose to call attention to the affairs of South Africa, and to move "That in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that facilities should be afforded by all methods which may be practicable, for the confederation of the colonies and states of South Africa." The question of confederation had already been discussed in that House, and it had been a great deal discussed in the South African colonies, as was evident from the papers which had been presented on the subject. One question which had created much discussion, and on which the most eminent statesmen of this country had given their opinion, was that if responsible government in the Cape were given, the government should include all the South African colonies, and not alone the government of the Cape of Good Hope. South Africa was now divided into several rival states, and he thought it would conduce much to the interest of all if they were confederated, so as to put an end to rival interests. A strong opinion in favour of confederation was expressed by Governor Sir George Grey fourteen years ago, when he described the unsatisfactory and unsettled state of affairs under the existing system. With regard to Natal, he wished to pay a passing tribute to the native Minister, Mr. Shipton, to whom the colony and this country were deeply indebted for his exertions in maintaining satisfactory relations with the natives, and he hoped that Her Majesty's Government would place that gentleman in a position which would enable him to carry out his views for the improvement of the native races. He trusted also that the Government would give their best attention to the subject of railway communication in that colony. The present roads were mere tracks, and the loss caused by the detention of waggons was very serious. A scheme of railway communication had been proposed by Mr. Welbourne, and it had the support of the Legislative Council and of all the most distinguished men in the colony. With regard to the Orange Free States, he was glad to see from the papers that Her Majesty's Government adopted the policy of not permitting interference by any foreign Power on questions affecting these colonies, and he trusted that they would continue to pursue that policy. From a letter which he had received from a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church in the colony, he was glad to find that the state of public opinion had much improved there in reference to slavery, the "commando" system, and wars between the native tribes, to which there was now a greater aversion than there had formerly been. As regarded the diamond fields, the proclamations which had been issued by Sir Henry Barkly, the Governor of the Cape, evinced great wisdom on his part in the settlement of the affairs of that country. There was one point to which attention had been called by Sir Powell Buxton, and that was the passing at the diamond fields of a very severe resolution, which rendered the purchase of diamonds from the natives punishable with fifty lashes in the public market-place. He trusted that the Government and Sir Henry Barkly would use their best exertions to prevent the infliction of such punishments. With regard to the general question, he was glad to see by the papers that the Government had been giving Sir Henry Barkly their support, and he hoped that they would continue to do so, and that it would be the good fortune of that eminent servant of the Crown to establish in South Africa a system of government similar to that by which our North American colonies had been united. (Cheering.)

Mr. M^cC. TORRES seconded the motion.

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGHES said the Government were so impressed with the desirability of the consummation at which the hon. gentleman aimed, that they were willing to accept his motion in order to show their sympathy with the object. (Hear, hear.) This did not rest merely upon his own assertion, for it

would be seen by reference to the public despatches that his noble friend at the head of the Colonial Department had stated his approval of the principle of confederation. That being the case, the question was now left for discussion in the Colonial Parliament. (Hear, hear.) In reference to the speech of the Governor, to which the hon. gentleman had alluded, he had to observe that the report which had appeared of it in the London papers was an incorrect one, and that the true version would be shortly published, with some other papers bearing upon the same subject. It should be remembered that last year a proposal that had been made to the Cape Legislature in favour of giving more power to the Crown had been rejected. It then became evident that the Constitution was not workable, and the only alternative seemed to be that a system of responsible government should be adopted. As to confederation, he was convinced that it and responsible government should go together. (Hear, hear.) The question of confederation was a very large one, and the House should remember that last year a commission was appointed to consider the very subject. It had but just reported, and the report would soon be taken into consideration. In the event of confederation, it would be necessary that the Imperial Parliament should confer on the Legislative Assembly of the Cape the power of making such alterations in their Constitution as they might think necessary. (Hear, hear.) He felt sure that the more the subject of confederation was discussed, whether here or in the colonies, the more the advantages of it would become clear. With reference to the Orange Free States and the Transvaal Republic, he would only say that he earnestly believed that it would be of the very greatest advantage to both these states if they once more came under the jurisdiction from which, in his opinion, they never ought to have been separated.

An Hon. MEMBER here moved that the House should be counted, but as more than forty members rushed in at the sound of the bell,

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGHES continued his remarks. The Government was most desirous to promote confederation, and would be prepared to take all proper and reasonable steps for that purpose. The question of railways was one that vitally affected the whole of South Africa; and the colony of Natal especially was undoubtedly suffering very severely from the want of internal railway communication. (Hear, hear.) Under those circumstances it was natural that a variety of schemes should be put forward, and should be perhaps approved of in the colony with injudicious promptitude. But the scheme of Mr. Welbourne had won the most general acceptance, and it had occupied the attention of the Colonial office for months past. The colony had adopted a Bill in favour of it, and in consideration of the peculiar circumstances of Natal, the Government—though it was of the opinion that in general it was most desirable that such works should be undertaken by the Local Government itself—had yet decided that it would not be justified in refusing to entertain the proposal that Natal should resort to the promotion of its railway communication by the means of a subsidised company. (Hear, hear.) It had, however, insisted on certain stipulations; especially on this—that the company who undertook the work should be duly and properly formed, and should prove its capability of carrying out the undertaking before it was committed to it. He hoped that this statement would be considered sufficient evidence of the willingness of the Government to promote the interests of the colonies in this matter. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. GILPIN was sure that this debate would exercise a wholesome influence on the colonies, and would prove that the House of Commons was not indifferent to them. If he was to take exception to anything said by his hon. friend, it would be to his allusion to the railways. He considered that the colonies were themselves the best judges of such matters, and while the Colonial office were no doubt right in laying down certain preliminary conditions, yet it seemed to him that, if a colony were agreed in favour of a particular plan, the great probability was that that was the plan which ought to be adopted. Undoubtedly, the whole of Natal was in favour of Mr. Welbourne's scheme. Even the two bishops, who could agree in nothing else, had agreed in signing the memorial in support of it. He knew personally that there was the strongest wish for the carrying out of this scheme, and he rejoiced that the Government was prepared to sanction it under certain conditions. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. EASTWICK asked when the papers referred to by the hon. gentleman opposite would be laid on the table.

Mr. M^cC. TORRES had heard with great pleasure the observations of the hon. gentleman on the Treasury bench, and he believed that the report of the debate would have a most beneficial influence when it reached the colonies. He knew that the want of railway communication in the colony of Natal especially was enormous, but at the same time he fully recognized the wisdom of the Home Government taking all precautions against the adoption of premature plans.

Mr. M^cARTHUR expressed the great satisfaction with which he had listened to the speech of the Under-Secretary for the Colonies, which would afford much gratification in South Africa, and especially that part of it relating to the railway, for no better assistance could be given to our dependencies than by developing internal communication.

The motion was then adopted.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21.

COLONIAL GOVERNORS' PENSIONS BILL.

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGHES, in moving the second reading of this Bill, said it would not throw any additional charge upon the Imperial revenue, but would place colonial governors in a more satisfactory position. The Bill had received the sanction of the Treasury.

Mr. DICKINSON said he was of opinion that the Bill would considerably increase the present pension list, and as he condemned the principle upon which these pensions were to be given, he moved that the Bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. R. N. FOWLER was of a different opinion. The scale of rewarding colonial governors was far too low. He should like to see them far more liberally rewarded.

Mr. RYLANDS said the Bill was intended to allow the Secretary of State to give pensions for infirmity of mind or body at an earlier age than sixty, and at an increased rate. The present pension list contained the names of persons who had been pensioned for infirmities of mind or body, and it was a well-known fact that many of them had since recovered and were capable of discharging public duties.

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGHES, in answer to the remarks which had been made, must say that in all his experience he had never known of any appointment from that house or elsewhere unless the gentlemen nominated were perfectly qualified for their duties. (Hear, hear.) Looking over the whole range of our colonies, it must be admitted that the salaries of the governors and other officials were not excessive.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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