

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 justies 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.

JANUARY, 1875.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The Steamers of this Company now leave Liverpool every alternate Saturday. Goods will be received at the Loading Berth (North Side Coburg Dock) until Noon on Jan. 1, 15, and 29; and Parcels up to 6 P.M. on those days.

The Royal Mail Steamship BONNY is intended to be despatched from LIVERPOOL on the 2nd JANUARY, for Madeira, Teneriffe, Bathurst, Sierra Leone, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar.

The next departure is intended to be the Steamship CAMEROON, which will leave LIVERPOOL direct on the 16th JANUARY, for Madeira, Teneriffe, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Half Jack, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar.

The following departure will be the Steamship BENGUELA, which will leave LIVERPOOL on January 30th, direct for Madeira, Teneriffe, Bathurst, Sierra Leone, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar.

Passengers by above Packets will embark by Tender from Prince's Landing Stage at 1.30 P.M. on Jan. 2, 12 noon on Jan. 16, and 11 A.M. on Jan. 30.

The above Packets 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.

Goods for Sierra Leone will be landed there at Ship's expense, but Shipper's risk. All Goods while on board the Company's hulks at Bonny, to be at Shipper's or Consignee's risk. Goods for Loanda will be charged an additional 5 per cent. on Freight and Primage to cover Lighterage.

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, LACCHLAND, and CO., 24, Oswald-street; and in Liverpool, to ELDER, DEMPSTER, and CO., 48, Castle-street.

WEST COAST MAIL STEAMERS.

ARRIVALS.

African Steamship Company's Steamer Elmina, Dec. 2.
British and African S. N. Co.'s Steamer Cameroon, Dec. 11.
African Steamship Company's Steamer Africa, Dec. 16.
African Steamship Company's Steamer Soudan, Dec. 19.
British and African S. N. Co.'s Steamer Bonny, Dec. 27.

DEPARTURES.

British and African Steam Navigation Company's Steamer Congo, Dec. 5.
African Steamship Company's Steamer Biafra, Dec. 12.
British and African Steam Navigation Company's Steamer Loanda, Dec. 19.
African Steamship Company's Steamer Elmina, Dec. 26.

THE AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS.

It is stated that the settlements at Sierra Leone and on the River Gambia are to be constituted one Government, to be called in future the "West African Settlements," and that Mr. C. H. Kortright has been appointed Governor.

ACCIDENTS TO MAIL STEAMERS.

The African Steamship Company's steamer Soudan, which left Madeira on December 7 for Liverpool, was compelled to put into Falmouth, short of coals. She experienced terrific weather for five days, and had her boats, wheel-house, and engine-room skylight smashed. The same company's steamer Africa, which arrived in Liverpool on the 16th December, also experienced very heavy weather, and had two of her boats smashed. The gales in the Atlantic of late have been very severe, and it is expected we shall hear shortly of more disasters.

DEPOSITION OF THE KING OF ASHANTI.

KING COFFEE KARRI-KARRI AT A VILLAGE, IN ASHANTI, CALLED QUAWMOAH.

About the 21st October King Coffee Karri-karri was deposed by his people. The causes assigned by his subjects are, that he never listens to counsel, and that since he ascended the throne the kingdom of Ashanti has known no peace, but continued wars. He has, therefore, brought disgrace on the kingdom of Ashanti, and proved himself unfit to rule it. His principal tributary chiefs refused to continue their allegiance with Ashanti so long as he remained king. Yow Bèku, Chief of Quacoofo, of the royal blood of Ashanti, on this account summoned the chiefs of Ashanti to Kumasi, the capital, and a solemn conference was held; and it was agreed that Coffee Karri-karri should be deposed. The whole of the tributary chiefs, with the exception of Asafagey, King of Juabim, were present.

A public meeting was held, at which the King was summoned to appear, and Yow Bèku informed him that as the other chiefs of the kingdom were opposed to him, and his remaining as king would lead to civil war, it had been decided that he should no longer remain as king. The King told them, in reply, that when Adoo Bofoo went to Creepee and was victorious—brought in a lot of slaves and booty,—they did not then blame him; also, when Quamina Ejèpon went to Boyèh to war, and was successful, and brought back a great many prisoners, the whole of them rejoiced; but now that the expedition to Fanti was unsuccessful and disastrous, they put the blame on him, and said it was his fault; he said, therefore, that he was ready to vacate the throne, since the whole of them blamed him.

It should be stated, that when he first heard that it was decided that he should be dethroned, and that a secret meeting was held, in which the chiefs had arrived at the conclusion of seizing on his person at the first available opportunity, he got alarmed, and came to the determination of blowing himself up, with the throne and other valuable royal property. He therefore placed the throne in the centre of the royal residence, surrounded it with barrels of gunpowder, and was about setting it on fire, when an alarm was given, and the people rushed in and rescued the stool.

After agreeing to be dethroned, he was asked to point out the number of persons and property he would choose to have; he selected sixty wives and 500 of his servants, gold ornaments, rich Ashanti cloths, embroidered silk, &c. The next day after the meeting, on a Sunday, he left Kumasi, carried in a royal chair, hammock or travelling chair, accompanied by 500 followers, many of whom were chiefs of importance, promoted during his reign. He was very much liked by a great many of the people, many of whom accompanied him several miles on the way. Three of his principal chiefs (dukes) relinquished their stools, and joined him in his retirement.

After his departure, Yow Bèku summoned all the chiefs and people in the different parts of the kingdom to meet at Kumasi. All agreed but Asafagey, King of Juabim, and a great many came, except those under the influence of Asafagey. A meeting was held, and it was agreed to send ambassadors to inform the Governor of what had taken place, and that when another King is appointed and enthroned, another ambassador will be sent down to inform him of it. When the ambassadors left no one had been appointed, but it is rumoured that Karri-karri's brother, Mensah, would be elected.

EXPLORATION IN AFRICA.

ARRIVAL OF DR. LIVINGSTONE'S JOURNALS AT ZANZIBAR.

The following telegram to the Foreign-office, from Aden, dated 28th November, 1874, has been transmitted to the Royal Geographical Society, and forwarded to us by Sir Henry Rawlinson:—"Letters received from Cameron state that he has sailed round the southern end of Lake Tanganyika, and has dis-

covered an outlet which he believes to be the Congo. Was about to leave Ujiji on the 20th May; hopes to strike the river about Uyanyme (Manyema?); to reach Yellala Falls in six months. Writes in excellent health and spirits. Livingstone's journals have reached Zanzibar safely. Mr. Stanley left for Bagamoyo on the 12th Nov.—POLITICAL AGENT, ZANZIBAR."

SLAVERY ON THE GOLD COAST.—MESSAGE FROM THE QUEEN.

CAPE COAST CASTLE, Nov. 7.—A meeting of all the kings and chiefs of the western and central positions of the Gold Coast was held at the Castle of Cape Coast, in the Palaver Hall, on the 3rd of November, 1874, when his Excellency Governor Strahan spoke as follows:—

"Kings and Chiefs,—I am pleased to meet you. Most of you present have been old allies of the Queen, and some were allies of his Majesty the King of the Netherlands. In times past there were disputes between you. If I speak of those, it is to tell you that all these disputes must cease for ever, and be at an end. Now all of you are under one flag—the flag of England. The Queen desires me to inform you of her wishes and those of her people in England; but before doing so I will first speak of what has transpired in your history, and which has brought about the relations at present existing between you and her Government. Few of you probably can remember how your country was disturbed by Ashanti before Sir Charles McCarthy's time. King Osai Totoo Quamina made war on you; your armies were defeated, your women and children taken captive to Ashanti, and you had to pay much gold as tribute. You know that then Sir Charles McCarthy was sent from England; you also know how he pitied your condition, and gave you arms and ammunition, and supported you in every conceivable manner; yet though he lost his life, in the end the Ashantees were defeated, and were forced to retire from your country, and Osai Totoo Quamina was forced to make peace, and you had peace during the remaining years of his reign. I will not say much of what occurred during Quacoo Duah's reign, though you still stood in fear of Ashanti and its might. But at the beginning of last year an army of 40,000 Ashantees invaded your country, under a general who was a member of the Royal Family. This army defeated and scattered your forces, and devastated the country around with fire and with sword. This army attempted attack the English forts on the coast. Of course, it would have been easy for Her Majesty's land and sea forces here to have driven back the enemy, but your country would have still been at their mercy. As your forefathers were scattered and troubled by the Ashantees, so were you by Coffee Kalcali. Then the Queen sent out a general with officers, and an army composed of some of her land and sea forces, to deliver you from ruin. The general attacked Ashanti on one side, and another captain on the other. The Queen's general and army fought your battles for you. This force drove the enemy out of your country, followed them into theirs, beat them in three large battles, took Kumasi and burnt it, and forced the King to sign a treaty. In this way you were relieved from defeat and misery. The Queen accomplished all this without your assistance. Her Majesty sent out these men in ships from England, at a cost ten times greater than all the gold there is in Ashanti, Akim, and Wassaw. Some of these officers and men died in battle, and others from disease. Now why do I tell you all this? Is it to tell you that the Queen wants you to pay back any portion of the money she has expended for you? Is it to tell you that you must pay for your freedom from Ashanti? Is it to tell you that as she has done so much for you, you must do what you can for yourselves, as she can do no more? Is it to tell you that as she has saved you from your late danger, you are to expect no farther protection from her? No. All she requires and expects from you is obedience to her wishes and those of her people in England. In return for these benefits the Queen requests your aid in putting an end to a thing she and her people abhor. This thing is against a law which no King or Queen of England can ever change. I have pointed out to some of you that the English people buy sheep, fowls, and other live stock, but not men, women, and children. The Queen is determined to put a stop at once to the buying and selling of slaves, either within or without the Protectorate, in any shape, degree, or form, and she will allow no person to be taken as a pawn for debt. (This last passage was repeated, with considerable emphasis.) The Queen desires to make you as happy as her own people. This buying, selling, and pawning of men and women and children is wrong, and no country where it exists can be happy. The Queen does not desire to take any of your people from you; those of them who like to work for, and with, and to assist you, can remain with you. If they are happy, and continue to live with you on the same terms as now, no change will be forced upon you; but any person who does not desire to

live with you on those terms can leave, and will not be compelled by any Court, British or native, to return to you. The Queen hopes to make you happy in many ways—as happy as those in her other dominions. It is right that I should tell you distinctly that if you desire her protection, you must do as she wishes—as she orders. This is the Queen's message. When the Queen speaks in this way it is not a matter for palaver, question, hesitation, or doubt, but she expects obedience and assent. I will only say that, without the Queen's money and troops, you would have been slaves of a bloodthirsty people. The Queen has paid a great price for your freedom. You, and those near and dear to you, would have been dragged hence to form a portion of the thousands who are decapitated and sacrificed by this savage race for their customs. Your homes would have been homes full of misery. I see you to-day enjoying peace, and I call on you all to join with me in the prayer, 'God save the Queen.' My message is delivered."

The Governor ceased speaking, and for a short time the chiefs were consulting among themselves what answer to give. At last King Edoe, of Mankessim, solicited permission from his Excellency to retire till the next day, so that they (the kings) might consult together as to the answer they could give. This, however, the Governor refused, and referred them to that portion of his speech or message wherein he had stated that when the Queen expressed her wishes, it remained only for them to obey; but, if they wished it, he would retire for a short time, and leave them to their deliberations. His Excellency then left the Palaver Hall, and upon his return in about one hour the kings and chiefs informed him that they were willing to cease from buying or selling slaves, but raised objection to the slaves being permitted to go free if they chose without there being any cause shown, and likewise to pawns not being allowed. After some discussion, it was decided that no slave could leave his or her master or mistress unless there was proof of cruelty or maltreatment, when such slave would be entitled to his or her freedom; and the question of pawns was settled by the debtor being held liable for the amount that the pawn had been given as security for, and that the amount should be recovered on the pawn leaving. This concluded the meeting in the Castle; but his Excellency invited all the kings and chiefs to go over to Government-house to drink long life to Her Majesty.

With reference to the above, Lord Carnarvon has sent the following for publication:—

"Lord Carnarvon, with a view to prevent any misapprehension of the precise position of the measures now being adopted for the abolition of slavery on the Gold Coast, thinks it right that it should be known that, according to Governor Strahan's report by the last mail, the Kings and Chiefs, after asking and receiving explanations, were fully satisfied with the announcement that any slave who may not wish to continue to live with his master shall not hereafter be compelled to return to him by any court, English or native.

"It is, therefore, unnecessary that cruelty or any other cause should be established; and Lord Carnarvon entertains no doubt that under this declaration, slaves will be entirely free to stay with or to leave their masters, and that any attempt to interfere with this freedom will be effectively punished.

"The proceedings, however, now reported must be looked upon as the first step of a policy which must of necessity be gradual in its development.

"December 4, 1874."

Governor Strahan left for Accra on the 5th, in the gun-boat Arel.

Messengers from King Kokofo support the rumour that King Coffee is deposed, and has retired to the villages beyond Kumasi. Quacoo Duah is proposed as his successor.

To the Editor of the Daily News.

Sir,—I see in your issue of to-day that Governor Strahan told the natives on the Gold Coast that they must give up all such slaves as wished to be free, and that "when the Queen speaks all must obey." Very good; this is the language natives understand. It appears, however, that the natives objected to losing their slaves, so a compromise was made by which slavery may be perpetuated for generations. Surely the conduct of these abject creatures has not been forgotten! After sacrificing valuable lives and a million of treasure, are we silly enough to sanction slavery under our flag because the wretched people who were too cowardly to fight, and too lazy to carry loads for our soldiers, object to part with their human goods and chattels? The natives of the Protectorate deserve nothing at our hands,

and we have no right to tolerate for an instant within our dominions slavery in any form.—Yours faithfully,

ONE WHO SERVED THROUGHOUT THE
LATE CAMPAIGN.
Army and Navy Club, Pall-mall, S.W., Dec. 3.

MISSIONS TO THE ASHANTEES.

A semi-public breakfast was held at the Royal Hotel, Birmingham, recently, in connection with the above movement. Mr. J. D. Goodman occupied the chair, and the attendance included ministers and members of most of the congregations in the town. After an address from the Chairman, Sir J. Glover, who was for several years Governor of Lagos, pointed out the responsibilities of the Christian people of England with regard to the tribes in the interior of Africa. They wished to receive the clothing and other supplies which the white men could bring them, but they had been hindered by the warlike policy of the Ashantees, who, as the intermediary brokers, had thrown various obstacles in the way, so that the trade might be still kept in their own hands. War was, no doubt, a great evil, but it had proved in this case a necessary one; and now that they were enabled to push civilization into the interior, it was their duty and privilege to work more actively in extending the blessings of Christianity into large portions of the country hitherto unexplored by Europeans. He mentioned his own participation in the important work of abolishing slavery, and described the success which had attended the labours of the Bible Missionary Society, from whom he received practical assistance. They furnished him with farriers, blacksmiths, carpenters, and tailors.—The Rev. Mr. Shrenk, one of the missionaries to Ashanti, also gave interesting and encouraging details of what had been accomplished, and of the peaceful character of the late work; it had effectually stopped a long course of chronic war and bloodshed which had hindered the extension of civilization and Christianity to the African tribes in the vicinity of Ashanti.—Mr. Ramseyer, one of the captives from Kumasi, also addressed the meeting.

OPPRESSION BY EUROPEANS IN THE OPOBO RIVER.

(No. 1.)

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Opo River, October 12, 1874.

Sir,—I must again complain to you that since July last, we, the two or three African traders in this river, have not been allowed to ship our oil. I am going to inform you of my position in this place. I had been with Jaja, when he was at Bonny, since January 5, 1865. I used to go to Lagos (where I belong to) sometimes for change on account of health, and returned to the said mentioned Jaja, and since then from the war of 1869, which brought us all to this river (Opo), when only two Europeans entered this river, Mr. Sterling, agent for Charles Horsfall and Son, came in the river and traded with Jaja and his chiefs. At first, Consul Livingstone refused to protect them, but by much complaining to the Foreign-office in London, he was obliged to protect them. All their letters regarding the same were written by me, although I am an African born; I am obliged to act on the part of Jaja; and since the war was finished in January, 1873, trading has been going on very briskly. I, myself, am only trying with what little wages I got from Jaja during the time I was working for him. I asked permission of King Jaja to try to trade a little in the only way I then could—i.e., by bringing country clothes from Lagos to Opo to be bartered for palm oil. The King agreed to this in consideration of the long time I was with him. I tried my best to pick up some few casks of palm oil with the country cloths, and against the time of my shipping oil, I took the oil on board the steamship Forcados, British and African Steam Navigation Company, to ship this oil to Liverpool. The captain refused to receive the oil, stating that the chairman in this river refused to allow him to receive any oil from us in the town, even from the natives. Since then, I have never been allowed to ship my oil to Liverpool. I did not know what to do; I had written to the agents of the Company, but received no reply. I cannot write to the Consul anything respecting it, as I believe the Consul is all for the Europeans in this river, because the Consul once asked King Jaja why he did not send away every Sierra Leone and Lagos man from his town. The King answered him, how can he drive human beings like himself from his country, since they had done nothing wrong? To this the Consul had nothing to say, only stating that he will not protect us as British subjects. Is this right on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, to insist on an African king turning out an African born man from his country? Dear Mr. Editor, I will only for the present ask you to notice these great evils in your paper, and try your very best to enable us to ship our palm oil from this river from time to time. We are poor Africans; we are in need we are trying our best to pick up a few pence for our daily

bread, and we are very sorry to see the way these big merchants are trying to ruin us poor Africans, by preventing the captains of the mail steamers from receiving poor Africans' palm oil on board of their steamers.

Since July, we have not shipped any oil; the King was very sorry, until the trade was obliged to stop. If the King, a heathen king, could feel that this is an injustice on the part of the merchants, how would you feel, dear Mr. Editor, to see that a black king could feel for poor people of his colour, and those great merchants, who have made dozens of fortunes, still wanted to crush those poor black Africans with their fortunes? What would they have done if bigger people than themselves had tried to squish them? What will our few puncheons of palm oil do against their thousands of puncheons? We can easily find that this is prejudice and hatred on their part. They who formed the law in England could not like this. What will people who do not know the law do? I hope, dear Mr. Editor, for the good of poor Africans, that you will communicate with the British Government about us Africans in this river, for our lives are in danger, not by the natives, but by the British merchants in the river, who threaten to shoot us. I believe you have heard of me before as Secretary to King Jaja, so I will inform you again that I am the man. The person who caused all this disturbance against us in this river, is Mr. Archibald MacEachen, agent for Miller Brothers and Co., of Glasgow. He is a friend with King Jaja, from the first time he entered the river with a vessel containing not more than 500*l.* worth of goods. The natives thought that if they were to be well supplied with palm oil, they would come up and be able to assist them, for which reason the natives, every one of them, trust MacEachen and C. de Cardi with their palm oil. After the oil reaches Liverpool, it is from five to six months before the goods come out for payment. When black people can afford to trust the European traders with their oil to send to England first, before the goods come out for payment, why may not we poor Africans or petty traders, be allowed to try the little we can with our own lawful money, on our own soil? If we are prevented reaping the benefits of our soil, of what good are we? I do believe the laws of England do not forbid any one doing trade in any part of the coast or rivers. What these European traders are doing here is too much, and should be put a stop to at once. The captain of the Company's steamer had got a bale of goods belonging to me; after entering this river, it was found in the manifest; when I went on board for the same, the captain refused to deliver the same to me, and without any reason. I asked him patiently; he refused entirely. I am about to go to Legos next month, and will inform you more about this. Why do the captains of the branch steamers thus interfere to disturb other people's trade? The sub-agents intend to carry on in this river, which leads them to try to get us out of it. It is understood from the chairman in this river, that we are not to import any goods whatever from Liverpool—nothing but native goods. If such be the case, how are we to ship oil direct to England? We do not believe that the British Government will, in any way, allow such shameful injury to be done to us.—I am, &c.,

(No. 2.)

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Opobo Town, October 5, 1874.

Sir,—The state of business in this place is very discouraging. I intended when leaving Legos to ship some oil to England for the purchase of some English goods for this place. I have been here since the 23rd September, but had no chance of shipping such oil. The branch steamers that brought our cargo here are not allowed to receive our oil on board since the month of July. The white agents and merchants in this river gave an order to the captains of the branch steamers not to take on board any oil from the native traders that are in the town of Opobo. Is not this an act of unjust partiality in the captains, or the Company of the mail steamers, when they do what the European traders thus order? If there is any misunderstanding between the traders, what has that to do with the Company of the steamers? The King Jaja, who cannot bear to see things going on in such a way as this, held a meeting on the 11th ult., when it was resolved that as the merchants and agents in this river will not allow the native traders to ship their oil, the trade must be stopped altogether; and that no oil is to be sold to the merchants or the agents, unless they allow the traders to ship their oil. This seems to have affected them, but not to our satisfaction. In reply to King Jaja, they said that if they would allow the native traders to ship their oil this time, they must not order out any English goods for this place. If we, who are from Sierra Leone or Legos, wish to do business in Opobo River, we must order native goods only,* and if we cannot do this, we must leave the river. We are, therefore, just in the same state as before. What

* Country cloths and such like.

good is there in our shipping the oil when we cannot order out any English goods? The traders are at this time preparing to leave the river. The merchants and the agents have prevailed against us, because the companies or captains of the mail steamers are in their favour. I shall wait here till next month to see if any change takes place; if not, I shall leave for Legos until next year, when, by God's help, I shall come down again.—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

GRAND BONNY.—RETURN OF THE KING'S SISTER FROM ENGLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Grand Bonny, Oct. 20, 1874.

Dear Sir,—I am sure you will be glad to hear that by the African Steamship Company's steamer Biafra, Captain Bell, which arrived here from Liverpool on the afternoon of the 1st instant, we got back amongst us the Princess Florence Cecilia Pepple, sister to King George. She is the daughter of the late King William Pepple. Miss Florence had been several years in England, and possesses all the qualities and accomplishments becoming her sex, displaying, in an eminent degree, a disposition truly amiable and agreeable. Her visit to, and prolonged stay in, England may, perhaps, be rightly placed to a desire in her brothers to fit her for the requirements of civilized society in after life, as well as to demonstrate the fact to their unenlightened people, whose ideas about the utility of female education are as yet undeveloped, that females are as capable of mental culture as males. Her educational course having been completed, she now returns to her country and people, who have welcomed her with every demonstration of loyal respect and admiration. She has acquired, from all that we could yet observe, a grammatical and colloquial use of the English language, which she speaks very fluently, together with the art of performing needle and fancy work, and other requisite branches of female industry; and, above all, it is to be hoped, the knowledge of the Christian religion, of which she makes profession. Her return has been a source of profound satisfaction and pleasure to her brothers, who may be justly congratulated on having been instrumental in introducing among their people one who bids fair to be a pattern to the native female community, an ornament to her sex, and a blessing to her country.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY ON MISSIONS.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, on Monday, Nov. 30, the day of intercession for foreign missions, preached at Trinity Church, Tunbridge Wells. The Archbishop said that to Christianity we must look as the great civilizer of the world. All those who were anxious for the civilization of the human race ought to be anxious for the spread of the pure Gospel of Christ, for all experience showed that there was nothing which so tended to raise the human race as the spread of the Gospel in lands where it had hitherto been unknown. Should civilization be promoted by conquest and by war? God forbid, though good so often came out of evil, that any one should deliberately bring upon the nations the miseries of war with the view of extending civilization! Should we look to a well-organized system of colonization? What would that avail unless the men who went forth in our colonies had their minds raised by the Gospel of Christ? What influence would they have on the heathen among whom they dwelt if they did not carry with them those truths which were the support and glory of man, and through which man was able well to perform his destiny in this life and in preparation for eternity? Had not experience taught us that colonists who had not religion in their hearts were very apt to sink to the level of those among whom they dwelt, instead of raising themselves among whom they were from the position which they occupied before? Or could we look at commerce as the civilizer of the world? Alas! what stories had we read within the last few years of the degradation to which even Europeans and Englishmen might sink when seeking gain! They were not restrained from trafficking in the bodies and souls of those among whom they went, and they spread, not the blessings and powers of commerce, but the curse of love of gain. No, there would be no prospect of the world being civilized unless the missionary took it in hand, and we aided missionary efforts to spread among the races of mankind the pure Gospel of Christ. Our colonists would be blessed in proportion as there was a missionary spirit among those who were colonists; the miseries of conquest would be alleviated in proportion as the true Christian spirit took possession of our soldiers and our sailors; and our commerce would best prosper when it was conducted on Christian principles. Those who left home in search of a livelihood by commerce abroad should take with them that blessed Gospel which was a comfort to those who prospered in the highest sense at home. Now, who were those who made real efforts to raise degraded man?

He did not think we should find any great examples, except among those who considered it a sacred duty to their Lord and Master to spread the knowledge of His Gospel throughout the world—those who felt that they had a commission to preach Christ crucified, and to look on the Gospel of Christ as the great civilizer of the world. He had once got into great difficulty by saying publicly that if we did not convert the heathen there was some danger of the heathen converting us; and he adhered to that opinion, for he believed that if we were not convinced that our Gospel was the very truth, and if we were not led to spread it among those who at present knew nothing of it, we should be very likely in this age to come to a sort of mutilated view of Christianity. Look at the way in which Mahomet was spoken of in the present day! Some of our people seemed to think it was quite an open question whether it was not, upon the whole, just as well that large masses of the human race should be Mahomedans or even Buddhists. Mahomedanism was chosen because it proclaimed, like Christianity, the unity of the Godhead. Were we to believe that there were large sections of the human race whom Mahomedanism, as God's ordained instrument, had raised into a state of civilization? If we were to believe those who knew most of the matter, and not those who merely gained their knowledge from books, we should, he thought, come to the conclusion that, if Mahomedanism was to be for a large portion of the human race the best specimen of civilization they were to receive, they would never rise very high. What were the stories which we read of the atrocities of the slave trade still perpetrated on the Eastern Coast of Africa? What was the origin to which those who knew most of the matter attributed these atrocities? Was it not to the very existence of Mahomedan civilization? The slave trade and slavery were a necessary part of the system, and while Mahomedanism existed slavery would never be eradicated. Was it not slavery of the most degrading kind that lowered women in every Mahomedan country, and was it not certain that in the very core of the system there was that which prevented a high elevation of civilization such as the Gospel of Jesus Christ enjoined? It was true that at one time Christians themselves were traffickers in the bodies and souls of men, but it was against the whole spirit of their system. Christian efforts had actually removed the taint of slavery from the Western Coast of Africa, and, please God, in a few years, by His mercy, if we persevered, we might stop it on the Eastern Coast also. But this would be in spite of Mahomedan civilization.

THE SOUDAN RAILWAY.

In an interview granted by the Khedive of Egypt to some European gentlemen who desire to raise a monument to him, commemorative of the great efforts made by his Highness on a late occasion, when the waters of the Nile had risen to an extraordinary height, producing a rupture in one of the banks, the Khedive spoke of the recent successes of the Egyptian arms in Darfour. "That country," he said, "is now annexed to the Egyptian dominions, and thus the population over which I rule has been increased some 5,000,000 souls." In the course of five years he hoped that Darfour and Central Africa would be united with Egypt by a line of railway, but the cost of its construction would be defrayed by the resources of Darfour and Central Africa alone, without any recourse to foreign capital.

On this the *Times*' correspondent very judiciously remarks, "It may well be that his Highness is forming a somewhat too sanguine estimate of the Central African Railway; and it is, to say the least, improbable that the cost of its construction can be furnished out of the resources of Darfour and Central Africa, especially after what seems to have been a very obstinate war. Orders have, however, been issued for its construction as far as Khartoum; for the Khedive declares that as the population of the Soudan and its outlying provinces amounts to some fourteen millions, a railway, the great means by which the vast natural wealth of those regions can be brought within reach of civilization, has now become a necessity."

The account states that "the Khedive now fully understands what are the atrocities of the Central African Slave trade, and that very severe measures will be taken to put an end to it." We can only express the hope that this will prove to be correct. The Khedive can put an end to that slave trade if he chooses to do so. As to the construction of the proposed railway by means of resources to be drawn from the countries through which it is to pass, we can only say that all experience is against the probability of any such resources being obtained. That the development of resources to which the railway, when constructed, will powerfully aid, will be such as to fully justify the construction of the road even in a financial point of view, we have no doubt; but the means for constructing the road are, we think, much more likely to be derived through contracts between the Khedive and some of the European financiers whose agents at Cairo are, it is said, offering him a loan of ten millions sterling.—Ed. A.T.

ARRIVALS PER STEAMER AFRICA.

Mr. C. A. Strawbridge, from Old Calabar; Captain Johnston, Bonny; Mr. Sparrow and Captain O. Brandhoff, Madeira; and seventeen distressed seamen.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Nov. 20 to Nov. 27.

GUM COPAL.—136 barrels, at 5*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
INDIA RUBBER.—5 tons, African, Ball, 1*s.* 4*d.*; tongues, 1*s.* 2*d.*; and mixed, 1*s.* 3*d.*
CAMWOOD.—36 tons, at 33*l.* to 33*l.* 10*s.* per ton.
PALM KERNELS.—561 bags, at 14*l.* 10*s.* to 14*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*
GROUND NUTS.—840 bags, at 14*l.* per ton.
ADANSONIA.—218 bales, at 12*l.* 5*s.* to 12*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton.
PALM OIL.—550 tons sold; Accra at 31*l.* 15*s.* to 32*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, Cameroons at 32*l.* 10*s.*, Bonny at 32*l.* 15*s.*, Lagos and New Calabar at 34*l.*, with Irregular at proportionate rates.
COTTON.—Good demand, but freely supplied, and prices unchanged. Sales of the week, 86,000 bales. African, 6*d.* to 6*d.* 3*d.*

Nov. 21 to Dec. 5.

GUINEA GRAINS.—40 bags, at 18*s.* 9*d.* per cwt.
GUM COPAL.—36 barrels, at 5*d.* per lb.
INDIA RUBBER.—50 tons, African, at 10*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*, according to quality.
EBONY.—3 tons, Gaboon, at 14*l.* 10*s.*
PALM KERNELS.—140 bags, at 14*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton.
PALM OIL.—500 tons sold; Irregular at 29*l.* to 32*l.* 10*s.*, Bonny at 32*l.* 10*s.*, Benin at 33*l.* 5*s.*, New Calabar at 34*l.*, and Niger at 34*l.* 10*s.* per ton.
COTTON.—Market dull, supplies abundant, prices barely maintained. Sales of the week, 71,000 bales. Prices, African, 5*d.* to 6*d.*

DECEMBER 5 TO 12.

GINGER.—100 bags African, at 56*s.* per cwt.
INDIA RUBBER.—100 tons African, at 10*d.* flake, 11*d.* to 11*d.* mixed, 1*s.* 2*d.* tongues, 1*s.* 4*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* for ball, 1*s.* 7*d.* for niggers, 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb. for thimbles.
EBONY.—20 tons, at 8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* for flat, to 15*l.* 10*s.* for large.
CAMWOOD.—4 tons, at 32*l.* 10*s.* per ton.
PALM KERNELS.—176 bags, at 14*l.* 10*s.* per ton.
PALM OIL.—Inactive, and rather lower; about 500 tons sold; Irregular at 28*l.* to 32*l.*, Bonny at 32*l.* to 33*l.* 10*s.*, Old Calabar at 33*l.* to 32*l.* 15*s.*, Benin at 33*l.*, New Calabar at 34*l.* to 33*l.* 15*s.*, Brass at 34*l.* 10*s.* to 34*l.* 5*s.*, and Congo at 35*l.* to 34*l.* 10*s.* per ton.
COTTON.—Market depressed, and quotations reduced. Sales of the week, 66,000 bales. African, 4*d.* to 6*d.*

DECEMBER 12 TO 19.

INDIA RUBBER.—2 tons African thimbles, at 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb.
GUINEA GRAINS.—33 bags, at 18*s.* 9*d.* per cwt.
GUM COPAL.—25 bags, at 5*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.
PALM KERNELS.—680 bags, at 14*l.* 10*s.* to 14*l.* 15*s.* per ton.
PALM OIL.—Rather more doing at easier prices: 800 tons sold; Bonny at 31*l.* 10*s.* to 30*l.* 10*s.* (closing at 31*l.* 5*s.*), Irregular at 28*l.* to 31*l.* 10*s.*, Benin at 32*l.*, Old Calabar at 32*l.* 10*s.*, Lagos at 33*l.*, and Brass at 34*l.* per ton.
COTTON.—Market heavy, and prices generally reduced. Sales of the week, 66,000 bales. Prices, African, 5*d.* to 6*d.*

DECEMBER 19 TO 26.

GUINEA GRAINS.—20 bags, at 18*s.* 9*d.* per cwt.
CAMWOOD.—A small lot, at 32*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton.
PALM KERNELS.—386 bags, at 14*l.* 10*s.* to 14*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton.
ADANSONIA FIBRE.—81 bales, at 12*l.* 10*s.* per ton.
PALM OIL has been in good request, and 800 tons sold at prices rather in seller's favour; Irregular at 28*l.* to 31*l.* 15*s.*, Bonny at 31*l.* 10*s.* to 31*l.* 15*s.*, Cameroons at 32*l.*, Benin and Old Calabar at 32*l.* 10*s.*, Lagos at 33*l.* 10*s.*, New Calabar at 33*l.* 10*s.* to 34*l.*, and Brass at 34*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

COTTON.—Market weak, and some quotations slightly reduced. Sales of the week, 50,000 bales. Prices: African, 5*d.* to 6*d.*

THE GOLD RUSH IN SOUTH AFRICA.—By the Cape mail steamer Roman advices state that the Transvaal gold-fields have created extraordinary excitement in the colony. There had been a great rush of diggers, and, according to the reports, considerable quantities of the precious metal had reached Cape Town, including some enormous nuggets.

DOWLING STREET, December 28.—The Queen has been pleased to appoint John D'Auvergne Dumaresq, Esq., Colonial Secretary of the Bahama Islands, to be Colonial Secretary for the Gold Coast Colony.—*London Gazette*, Dec. 29.

According to the *Globe*, news has arrived from the West Coast of Africa that a vessel from Cuba has been seen cruising about with the view of shipping slaves for that island, where a great demand for labour has arisen. Her Majesty's ship *Beacon* is, however, stated to be closely watching the movements of the vessel in question.

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 6s. per annum for each copy, payable in advance.

NOTICE AS REGARDS DATE OF PUBLICATION.

The date of Monthly issue of the AFRICAN TIMES was originally fixed for the 23rd of each month, because there was at that period only one steamer per month leaving Liverpool for West African Ports, her day of departure being the 24th. During the progressive development of steam communication with the West Coast, under which we have finally attained to five steamers per month, an effort has been made to approximate as nearly as possible to the original publishing day. This has of late been found to be attended with much inconvenience to many Subscribers in England. It has, therefore, been now decided that the date of the AFRICAN TIMES shall be in future the First day of the Month. As closing with the old system, the present number will, therefore, be that of the "31st December, 1874, and 1st January, 1875." The next following number will be dated the 1st of February, and successive following numbers will be 1st of March, 1st of April, 1st of May, &c., &c. The AFRICAN TIMES will, under the new arrangement, be always published in time for transmission by the West African steamer leaving Liverpool on the first Saturday in each successive month.—ED. A. T.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The AFRICAN TIMES having now entered upon the Fifteenth year of publication, the Editor feels himself justified in calling on all his Subscribers, who may not yet have so done, to pay up without delay their arrears of subscriptions, with one year's subscription in advance. When the Editor assures them, as he now does, that, to the disgrace of some of the West African people, he has had to write off lately as bad debts subscriptions in arrear at only one of the West African Ports to the amount of between fifty and sixty pounds, they will, he thinks, be moved to immediate consideration and action in this matter. There does not now exist any "suspension of trade," or "war," or other impediment to regular trading operations along the West Coast; and Subscribers cannot therefore have any good present excuse for non-payment. The Editor hopes that this call by him on his Subscribers will be so responded to, that in the number of the 1st of January, 1876, should his life be thus long spared, he may have found just cause to praise them for a better performance of their duty as regards this publication, devoted so entirely to their interests.

AFRICAN TIMES Office, 1st Jan., 1875.

The African Times.

DECEMBER 31, 1874, and JANUARY 1, 1875.

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FOUR.

It is not often that years so fulfil the promises of their early days, and the hopes born of those promises, as the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-four has done. A few more sunrises and sunsets, and before these lines come beneath the eyes of our readers, a year of rare fertility in expectations, and rich in its harvest of results, will have descended, with its ineffaceable records, into the great mundane catacombs of perished time. In our retrospect, it is not alone from a West African point of view that we have to regard—we have to look also from a Christian and an Imperial one; and from one and all we find cause of rejoicing and of praise. When writing in December, 1873, we had before us the fact of almost matured preparations on the Gold Coast for a march into Ashanti, within the territory of which all that remained of a late invading army had withdrawn. The Prah was to be crossed on the first days of the new year, provided the important question

of supplies for the advancing army could be satisfactorily solved. Haters of war, we, for that very reason, desired with all our heart that the advance might be made. We had not any of those fears which beset the minds of some of our eminent public men. With us it was a foregone conclusion that if the army could, and was allowed to, advance, there was no enemy, however naturally brave, that could successfully withstand it—there were no obstacles that it could not overcome—there was no resisting power that could survive the British hostile impact. There was, perhaps, a slight tinge of fear on our thoughts that temporary political considerations might triumph over Imperial and West African interests—that some overtures might be made by the enemy, and fatally accepted, with a view to the announcement at the meeting of the Imperial Parliament that the Gold Coast operations had successfully terminated, and our forces were on their homeward march. The tinge, however, was but slight and transient. We had faith in the ignorant obstinacy of the Ashantees; and that faith was fully justified. The enemy slipped away from all the encouragements offered him to propose or accept suitable terms of accommodation. The British forces, with their few dependable and effective African allies, advanced, fought, conquered, and took and burnt Kumasi. The Ashanti power was thenceforth at an end, as we had always felt convinced that it would be. The King thought to free himself from his difficulties and recover his lost prestige by sundry diplomatic wriggings; but the fatal word of High Heaven's decree, had been traced on the smouldering ruins of his hideously blood-stained capital, and no earthly power nor earthly blunder could efface or revoke it. As M. Bonnat, the French prisoner of three or four years at Kumasi, has very justly and correctly expressed it, the Ashantees, according to African ideas and customs, now considered that they belonged to the conqueror. He had overcome them; they were henceforth his, and their only wonder would be his declining to avail himself to the fullest extent of his rights by conquest. That the conqueror has not yet done so, we deplore; that he will yet find it necessary, and be therefore compelled to do so, we do not hesitate to affirm. Ashanti—all the combined and tributary states and kingdoms known under that name, from the Prah to the summits of the Kong Mountains and to the frontier of Dahomey—belongs, according to all native African precedent and ideas, to Great Britain; and she may effectively possess, rule, and govern it whenever it may seem good in her eyes for her to do so. As Great Britain has declined for the present to interfere among the lately combined kings and tributaries, further than to advise them to be at peace one with another, they have, according to our this month's advice, deposed their King, Koffee Kalkali, who has submitted to a decree he had not the power to resist. They are now endeavouring to form combinations for a new general organization; but any such organization in native Africa, that has no power to surround itself with the prestige of great military success, is but a rope of sand. We scarcely need say that if we could have our will, Great Britain would not confine herself to the mere rôle of unimpassioned observer and occasional adviser at so important a time as the present. She has the power to shape the future course and rule the future destinies of those countries. Unsought, unwished for, God has given them into her hand; and it is her duty to fulfil the trust thus confided to her. While that issue was being fought out in Ashanti, a series of unexpected occurrences led to a change of the occupants of political power in Great Britain. The Government who had made the Ashanti War had passed away in their hour of victory, and Lord Kimberley was succeeded by Lord Carnarvon. The Gold Coast War had brought into prominence many facts before unknown or disregarded, or wilfully ignored; and the new Ministry comprehended that West African affairs, after such Imperial sacrifices as had been made in the late war, could no longer be allowed to drift as they had heretofore done, no one knowing or caring whither. Since it was determined that we could not cease to occupy, it was also determined that we must govern, and must have some distinct and comprehensible policy. Though not vigorous enough in this nineteenth century, to accept the full

responsibilities of our involuntary position, the Gold Coast, with a new Ashanti at its back, was clearly not a settlement to be any longer administered in chief by a centralized Government at Sierra Leone; paying it an occasionally hasty visit, for the most part to endorse what some inefficient Lieutenant had bunglingly performed. The advisability of the Gold Coast having also physical resources to draw upon elsewhere in case of need, had been demonstrated; more especially as the old intention of sending away the West India troops was still adhered to. That step, so fraught with great results in the future, of erecting the Gold Coast, with Lagos, into a Colony, altogether independent of Sierra Leone, was resolved upon and effected. The policy to be pursued was declared to be the speedy abolition of that abominable domestic slavery which had even ventured on the purchase of captives from the Ashantees, and was thus carrying on an active slave trade in presence of the British Flag; the education of the people; the opening of roads toward the interior, and rendering communications generally more safe and easy; and to stimulate industrial progress for the increase of trade and commerce. Captain Strahan, Administrator of Lagos, was appointed first Governor-in-Chief of this new Colony, while Captain Lees was appointed to be his Lieutenant-Governor residing at Lagos. Our opinions as regards these measures, and the Government resolutions touching the administration of justice, in the new Colony have been so fully expressed that we need not introduce them here. In another article in this number of our Journal we have commented on what has already been done at the late interview of Chiefs and Kings with Captain Strahan, touching the fulfilment of the promise to put an end to domestic as to all other slavery; and we look on this, and the previous extension of British administration into the trans-Volta sea-coast districts, as an earnest of that progress which has been promised and for which we patiently watch and wait. We do not think that any one who reflects seriously on these great changes already effected since the 1st of January, 1874—changes which have yet scarcely begun to operate—can avoid confessing that we have cause of rejoicing and of praise, in a Christian and African point of view. As regards the Imperial point of view, it will be seen at once that we have cause there also. A great change has come over the minds of many of our public men, and a spark or two of the old fire has been elicited. We have suddenly ceased to hear the voices of those who wished to inaugurate and develop the new and destructive policy of not only refusing, under any circumstances, to extend the colonial empire of Great Britain, but also that of separating Great Britain, as soon as possible, from the entanglements of her existing Colonies. We have so changed our position on the Gold Coast, that we have virtually annexed (for that is what it must come to) all that portion of West Africa lying between the sea and the Kong Mountains, opening thus a vast field for the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ Jesus, and for the operation of those civilizing agencies which are inseparable from the rule of Great Britain. Great Britain has since accepted the cession of the Fiji Islands, as the only practicable means of destroying an infamous slave trade which had sprung up in the South Pacific; and our latest news tells us of a small extension in South Africa, which will territorially unite the colonies of the Cape of Good Hope and Natal. East and Central Africa are being penetrated by ardent and capable explorers, on whom the mantle of the great Livingstone seems to have fallen. Have we not, therefore, ample cause of rejoicing and of praise in an Imperial point of view; believing as we do, in the inmost recesses of our heart, that the extension of British empire is the extension of Christianity; and the only known means by which multitudes of the most degraded of the human race, may be freed from those vile and abominable influences and practices, which debase and degrade humanity? All honour and glory, then, to Eighteen Hundred and Seventy-four!

THE WEST AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS.

From the moment when Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies announced the decision to erect the Gold Coast and Lagos into one administrative

colony, to be called the "Gold Coast Colony," it became evident that there must be some new regulations as regards what had been often termed the Metropolitan Colony of Sierra Leone, the Settlement on the Gambia, and that at Sherbro'. We fully agreed in the necessity of a totally independent executive administration for what is now the Gold Coast Colony, which could not be effectively governed from Sierra Leone, if there was to be any departure from the old do-nothing-good policy at Cape Coast. If we are to give credit to what has been now all but officially stated, the present administrative vacancy at Sierra Leone is to be filled up by the appointment to that place of the actual Administrator at the Gambia, Mr. Kortright; who is there to have the title of Governor of the West African Settlements; the Gambia being executively united with Sierra Leone and the Sherbro' under him. But why should these dependencies be united administratively—and executively, as we hope they will be—under such an exceedingly vague and indefinite title? Why should the name of Sierra Leone, which has been fostered into something akin to metropolitan importance, be thus contemptuously set aside; and Sierra Leone, the Gambia, and Sherbro', figure only in future as a group of West African Settlements? Is it that Her Majesty's Government, sensible too late of the irrevocable and irremediable faults in the past, whereby the commercial future of Sierra Leone has been so compromised and restricted, look upon Sierra Leone as doomed to comparative stagnation and insignificance, while the Gold Coast shall be developing in wealth, power, and dominion? It may be so. There is very much of this aspect about the adoption of such a title, as designating a group of unimportant places which the British Government may find it, in the course of a few years, advisable to retire from, to drop, or to dispose of. We strove heartily, some few years since, to rouse the Sierra Leone people to a sense of their actual and prospective position, and to the true and lasting interests of their country. But Sierra Leone has been too much wrapped up in self-conceit. She thought it enough to puff her cigar and twirl her cane in public promenades, and to await with self-sufficient complacency what, according to ancient heathen parlance, the gods might provide. We have strenuously advocated her right to a metropolitan position as regards the administration of justice on the West Coast; but what voice has been heard in or from her in support of the pretensions we have put forward in her behalf? Alas! alas! enervated by Government expenditure, and the concentration of European educational energies within her, she has become politically and industrially decrepit in her very youth; and we feel bound to confess that we are full of apprehensions with regard to her future. We hear of fiscal and other measures of which we cannot approve, and which can scarcely fail of injurious results; but the intelligence reaches us without those details which are indispensable to a right appreciation of them. We hope the union with the Gambia will be such as to give her that new impulse, which her continued existence as a place of any pretensions or importance on the West Coast, seems to us imperatively to require.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF SLAVERY ON THE GOLD COAST.

The French people have a very expressive phrase which they apply as regards brief periods of doubt, misfortune, or suffering, happily passed away. It was with them "*un mauvais quart d'heure*." We had our "evil quarter of an hour" after the receipt of the mail from the Gold Coast by the Elmina. Our quarter of an hour was, in fact, some twenty-four hours. We read with unmixed admiration and delight the allocation of Governor Strahan to the assembled Kings and Chiefs of the Western and Central districts of the Gold Coast, at Cape Coast Castle, on the 3rd of November, although there seemed to us to be many very grave and serious omissions. It was, indeed, impossible that we could be other than delighted—we, who wrote in the month of August last, when urging the imperative necessity of putting an end to slavery on the Gold Coast: "In the first place, we would accord a free emancipation,

without payment, to every slave applying to the constituted authorities for it." (Pawns we regarded as slaves under another name.) "No fugitive slave shall ever again be compelled to return to his or her possessor, from whose service or control he or she has withdrawn. No sale or transfer of slaves should in any way be permitted or recognized. In case of death of a possessor, none of the slaves held by him or her should descend to the heir, or be allowed to be bequeathed, but should by that death become absolutely free." This was what we proposed, in order (as we at the time wrote) "to avoid risking the attendant evils which seem to us to be inseparable from a forcible general emancipation." We have had too much experience in public affairs to admit of our expecting at any time a full, heaped-up measure of satisfaction. If not a heaped-up measure, this at the Gold Coast was at least a tolerably well-filled one; and, as already stated, we were delighted. That delight, however, was but of short duration; and the temporary pain was the more bitter because of the general tone of the Governor's allocution. That tone was precisely what we should have desired it to be. We gave lately some extracts from accounts published by Mons. M. J. Bonnat, late captive at Kumasi. In a further paper he uses this expression, when giving his opinions as to what should now be done by the British Government in Ashanti: "All that is required is that England should speak with her great loud voice and say, 'Such is my pleasure!' (*Je veux!*) and she will be immediately obeyed. I know the Ashantees well. They have been defeated and conquered. They know this. They look upon both themselves and their country as now belonging to England. This sentiment of their position is in conformity with their laws; and they will be greatly astonished if England does not make them feel this." Mons. Bonnat would, no doubt, if asked, have added, "And this is true of all Africans; it is in the African nature." Governor Strahan's address was, therefore, as we fully agree with M. Bonnat, as above, in the right tone and spirit. What, then, was our dismay when we found it stated that, after deliberation among the Kings and Chiefs, and a discussion between them and the Governor, it was decided "that no slave could leave his or her master or mistress unless there was proof of cruelty or maltreatment, when such slave should be entitled to his or her freedom"! Where, alas! we exclaimed, is the "great loud voice" now? Was it, after all, only a vain and empty boast, with no intention on the part of the Governor, or the country that he represents, to insist on obedience? We saw before us the imperative duty of an earnest and determined protest; while our heart sank within us at the unavoidable conviction, that the reign of vacillation and weak and temporizing indecision was not yet at an end. If Great Britain, we exclaimed, will not insist on obedience now, when she has just bought these people and their land by an unsparing sacrifice of blood and treasure, what can we expect as the memory of this great purchase becomes dimmed by time? If no slave is to have his or her emancipation, except on proof before some legal authorities of cruelty or maltreatment, the "great loud voice" had better not have spoken at all, as it has only made itself ridiculous and worthy of contempt; since slavery, with all its attendant evils—its degrading, demoralizing, and civilization-impeding results—will be fixed more firmly than ever in the land. It is necessary that others should feel, as we feel, how almost insurmountable an impediment that slavery offers to the progress of Christian civilization and industrial development, before they can fully understand how great was our grief and disappointment. Happily, however, it did not endure. The noble lord the Secretary of State for the Colonies hastened to our relief. Lord Carnarvon must, we think, have felt something of the disappointment which had fallen so heavily on us; or at least he could not fail to perceive how supremely ridiculous such a speech as that of Captain Strahan to the assembled Kings and Chiefs must appear to every one, if only such results as had been reported were to be obtained—if so large a mountain as the British Government, after such dreadful throes of labour as were made known by Captain Strahan, should have produced only so very small a mouse. In the communication of Lord Carnarvon, which was dis-

tributed to the press some four-and-twenty hours after the publication of the Cape Coast report, we have the right issue set before us. There is to be no longer any impediment in the way of any Gold Coast slave or pawn, male or female, obtaining his or her entire freedom, at any time; and all sale or transfer of slaves is henceforth prohibited within the Protectorate (of course under severe penalties for transgressors.) It may be said by some that this could be a matter of very little importance, seeing that as slaves can at any time declare themselves free, no one would be likely to purchase. We do not agree with this view. The prohibition cannot be made too stringent, or be too widely and authoritatively proclaimed. It was indispensable that the Coast should know and feel that it had unconsciously entered on a new era; that the dignity of human nature would henceforth be jealously guarded and vindicated; that while we did not allow the people of the Protectorate to kidnap slaves from beyond the frontier, so neither could the predatory excursions of trans-frontier tribes be any more indirectly encouraged, through allowing or winking at the purchase of their miserable victims by persons under British rule, whether for fancied increase of dignity, for profit, or lust. While we rejoice at the change which the measures thus enunciated must produce; while we thank God that He has permitted us to see the fulfilment of this ardent desire of our heart (for any retrograde step, any going back, is for ever impossible), we cannot but feel that the Kings and Chiefs must have a very inadequate idea of the results that will flow from those measures. It had become so much the fashion to say that slaves were so much better off as slaves than they would be if free—that if set free, they would give themselves back again into slavery, merely that they might be sure of food,—that we have very little doubt that the slave-holders console themselves by the belief, that but few of their slaves will claim the freedom now offered and secured to them; that although, theoretically, there is a great change, yet that, practically, things will go on pretty much as heretofore; that a succession of slaves will be raised out of the present stock, before the desire of freedom will enter into many hearts, or lead to any considerable emancipation. We are convinced that they will soon find themselves greatly mistaken. Freedom, secured by firm, just, and beneficent institutions, must, it is in the very essence of things, must be contagious, and speedily exert a contagious influence. While the atmosphere was slavery, sloth and unmanly dependence, with the most debasing female submission, were natural results. Now that the atmosphere is freedom, manly self-dependence and womanly self-respect, will as naturally be generated and produced. The ratio in which these new and noble qualities shall be produced will, of course, depend on the wisdom or otherwise of subsequent measures to be adopted and carried into execution by Government. If that step forward—that great step forward in the path of Christian civilization and industrial progress—were not to be followed by others in the same direction—if it were intended to be a mere spasmodic effort, made only to gratify and disarm a Christian feeling in England, and taken with the idea that Her Majesty's Government having thus washed their hands of the foul stain produced by connivance at slavery, and freed Great Britain from a deep reproach, no further interest would be taken in Gold Coast affairs, and nothing further need be done by that Government,—then, indeed, we should have to be prepared for slow results, for confusion, and disappointment. But the Christian people of Great Britain do not so understand the step thus taken by their Government, and the authorized exponent of their views and executor of their designs, on the Gold Coast. They expect, and will insist, that this first great step be resolutely followed up by others equally decisive, equally asserting supreme power to be exercised for the general good; and such as, in fact, are absolutely indispensable in view of the altered status of the great body of the population. We have indicated some of these when we were urging Her Majesty's Government to the great first step which they have now so happily taken. This having been made, we shall bring forward, without delay, our ideas as regards further and immediate progress. We hope to commence in this present number, which terminates the year 1874

and opens that of 1875; but if we should not be able to do so, we purpose not delaying longer than until our issue of the 1st of February. Meanwhile, we again offer our sincere congratulations to Her Majesty's Government, to the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, and not less to the Kings, Chiefs, and other slave-holders, as well as to that great body of human beings hitherto deprived of that freedom, that individual liberty, which lies at the very root of all healthy human progress.

EXPLORATION IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

The following despatch from Lieutenant Cameron was received by the Earl of Derby on the 12th inst. :—

"Kawellé, Ujiji, May 14, 1874.

"My Lord,—Since I last wrote from here I have made a successful voyage round the southern part of the Tanganyika, and have discovered its outlet in a river named the Lukuga, a little to the south of the group of islands visited by Captain Speke in 1859. I think, also, from what I have heard from the Arabs here, that the Lualaba is the Congo. My reasons for saying this are fully stated in the letter and journal I am now sending to the Royal Geographical Society, who will no doubt afford every information on the subject. One important fact (if true) mentioned by my Arab informant requires looking into. He said he met no English merchants, although he heard of them and of our men-of-war, as all the white merchants he met traded in slaves. This, if true, would point to the Spanish and Portuguese merchants on the Congo. Of the vast importance to the trading community of England of the Congo and Lualaba proving one, there is little for me to say, but I will glance over the principal articles of export. The Guinea palm extende, I believe, from the West Coast to here; india-rubber is abundant in Manyuema; sem sem (from which much so-called olive oil is extracted) grows well wherever cultivated; the castor-oil plant grows almost wild; ground nuts the same; copper and gold are found in Katanga; cotton grows well, and of two or three kinds; coffee is reported to grow wild; ivory, it is well known, mostly comes from this portion of Africa; there are many sorts of fibrous substances which might be exported with advantage, and the various millets and maize grow in such abundance that they would form a profitable export; rice also grows most luxuriantly wherever cultivated. The only obstacles to a free water communication of which I know are the Yellala Falls and the rapids on the Lualaba, a short way above the Nyangwé; the Lukuga is at present obstructed with grass, but a way might easily be cut through that. The trade at present is, about here, entirely in the hands of Arabs, who, when in Manyuema, live nearly entirely by plunder, and who take the wretched inhabitants as slaves to carry their ivory and other goods. The efforts of England will, I trust, be successful in putting down the slave trade by sea, but at present they leave untouched an equally crying evil, the internal trade, which is rapidly depopulating vast districts. In going round the lake I was constantly shown places where villages had been, and when I asked where the former inhabitants were, invariably received the same answer, 'Killed or carried off for slaves.' The price of a slave is only 5 doits (20 yards) of calico, while the hire of a passage is 5½ from Unyanyembe here; so that it is far cheaper to buy slaves than to hire porters; besides which, no porters are obtainable in Manyuema, and the whole trade there is carried on by means of slaves. The Arabs take with them a horde of Wangwana, or freed men, armed with muskets, and carry a few stores by means of domestic slaves; and the ivory, of which they obtain large quantities, is all brought by fresh-caught slaves to Ujiji. The numbers of Arabs settling in the country is constantly increasing, and they all have large numbers of slaves for domestic purposes, for cultivating their gardens, and for porters. Many of those employed as porters only receive rations whilst on journeys, and when not travelling have to live by plunder. Of the relations between the various tribes there is little to be said; the agricultural people seldom make war on each other, unless they get mixed up with the quarrels of the Arabs, to any great extent; the predatory tribes prey on all others indiscriminately, carrying off slaves, and murdering all who attempt to resist. The cattle they slaughter at once, and find a ready market for their slaves among the Arab traders and tribes with whom they are not actually warring. I am afraid that stopping the export of slaves, although it will diminish the evil in the districts round the Nyassa, from whence Kilwa draws its principal supplies, will only exacerbate it elsewhere by causing many now engaged in that trade to settle in the interior, where they will become slave-holders and traders afresh. In conclusion, let me add that, in my belief, this internal slave trade will continue to increase until proper means of communication are opened up, and the

country brought under the influence of civilization and legitimate commerce.

"Trusting that these remarks may prove of use and interest, I have, &c., (Signed) "Y. LOVETT CAMERON."

EXTRAVAGANT EXPENDITURE IN TURKEY.

The hon. member for Hastings (Mr. T. Brassey, M.P.), who is on a cruise in his yacht, the Sunbeam, has sent home for publication a series of letters relating to his voyage. Dating from Constantinople, he writes, relative to the Government of Turkey: "The authorized civil list of the Sultan is about 1,200,000*l.*, and by means of various more or less arbitrary grants it is actually little short of 2,000,000*l.*, a-year. All along the shores of the Bosphorus vast palaces and elaborate kiosks occur in succession at a distance of a little more than a mile apart. Some of these buildings are furnished in the most costly style. The daily dinner of the Sultan—he always dines alone—consists of 94 dishes, and ten other meals are prepared in case it should be his fancy to partake of them. He has 800 horses, 700 wires, attended and guarded by 350 eunuchs. For this enormous household 40,000 oxen are yearly slaughtered; and, according to Murray, the purveyors are required to furnish daily 200 sheep, 100 lambs or goats, 10 calves, 200 hens, 200 pairs of pullets, 100 pairs of pigeons, and 50 green geese. Between the profligate luxury of the establishment of the Sovereign and the miserable poverty of too many of his subjects, the contrast is truly melancholy. The incomes of the principal Ministers of State are such as would grievously shock the radical reformers of our own country. The salary of the Grand Vizier is 30,000*l.*; of the Minister of Finance, 15,000*l.*; of the Minister of Public Works, 11,000*l.*, and so in proportion for the other principal Ministers."

HORRIBLE PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

(From a Leader in a Daily Paper.)

In its warning references to the unsettled condition of Continental Europe, the speech which Mr. E. J. Reed addressed to his constituents at Pembroke Dock last Monday harmonizes with many of the recent utterances of our more observant public men. Amidst much which is of uncertain import in the aspect of Europe, one fact stands out round and full to cast its dark shadow over the coming years. The two Continental nations most famous in arms are devoting themselves with an energy which knows no bounds, and a perseverance that is unremitting, to preparations for renewing the grandest conflict which modern history records. Neither nation wishes to precipitate the encounter, for each wishes to have time to collect and organize forces which, in their number and means of destruction, shall vastly exceed any armies which the world has hitherto seen. It is to a great Armageddon, that France and Germany are looking forward—a struggle which is to make an epoch and shape the course of history for generations. The expectation may be a vain dream, but in the meantime its effects upon the two countries are most real. The interests of 70,000,000 of the most civilized people of the world, the commerce of France, the thriving industry of Germany, are now subject to military requirements which already weigh seriously upon them, and may suddenly overwhelm them in confusion and ruin. Mr. Reed referred to this state of armed preparation as furnishing reasons why England should maintain her belligerent efficiency by sea and land. We believe that on the part of the public there never was less disposition than at present to withhold from the Government whatever can be shown to be necessary in order to maintain the Army and Navy in a condition answerable to any demands likely to be made upon them; and it cannot be said that the nation is slow to do honour to those who have served it before the public enemy. Of late, the country has cheerfully submitted to an augmentation of its burdens in order to open a more advantageous career to military merit, nor is it likely to repeat of its liberality.

MORE RAILWAY REFORMS.—On and after January 1 there will be considerable alterations and reductions in the fares charged by the Great Northern, Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, and London and North Western Lines, between all towns and places where there is competition. The fares will be—first class, 1½*l.* per mile; second class, 1*l.*; and third class, 10*s.* This is a great reduction as compared with the present rates, which are in some instances as much as 2*d.* per mile first class. In local fares there will be no material alteration at present, but they will shortly be revised, so as to remove any possible anomalies as between such stations and the competing points. Return tickets will be continued as at present; but an important feature in the new arrangements will be that third class season tickets will be for the first time available as well as first and second. All new third class carriages will have separate compartments; and the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Company, and possibly the Great Northern, will run carriages on the Pullman system,

NEGRO AND CHINESE SLAVERY IN CUBA.

As the only possession in the Western Seas which retains the cruel African slavery that heretofore absorbed, year by year, so many tens of thousands of the natives of West Africa, Cuba must now be a country deeply interesting to the educated West African. The Gambia, the Grain, Gold, and Slave Coasts; Lagos; the Niger; the so-called Oil Rivers; the Gaboon; the Congo—at all of which the foreign slave traders made, throughout a couple of centuries, their abominable purchases of the poor kidnapped children of Africa, for the supply of the sugar and cotton fields of the Antilles, the United States, and Brazil—are now, happily, freed, thanks to the persistent and costly efforts of Great Britain, from the presence of the foreign dealer in human flesh and blood. Legitimate commerce has, in all these places, been making of late a very satisfactory progress; and a number of educated Africans constantly advancing in intelligence and wealth, give the lie to those sneerers at the universal brotherhood of man, who, because of the opprobrium which had fallen on the African race, as a natural consequence of their exposure from age to age as victims in the slave markets of the world, denied them those rights of humanity to which all but the black-skinned negro were admitted to be more or less entitled. It is one of the many great glories of the nineteenth century to have rolled away the stone from the door of the sepulchre of long-buried human rights in Africa; and we confidently believe that long ere the first sunrise of the twentieth century shall gladden the earth, all African slave trade and slavery will have become unknown, save in the dreadful records of the past.

We, the Editor of the *African Times*, are led into these remarks by a notice in the *Daily News*, on this last day but one of 1874, of a work recently published by Captain E. Trench Townshend, who has been lately in the Island of Cuba, and may be depended on as a faithful witness of the sad condition of the poor African and Chinese slaves employed, or rather in constant process of being murdered, on the Cuban plantations. Surely the prayer of every Christian West African ought to rise daily to heaven, in supplication that God will avenge the innocent blood, and free the captives from their hideous thrall. The following are the remarks above alluded to:—

"The brief reference to the affairs of Cuba in President Grant's late Message to Congress has recalled the attention of Europe to the condition of that island. There is probably no civilized population of which so little is known by the world at large as is known of the Spanish colony which holds the key of the Florida Gulf. Havana contains some 220,000 people, and is the head-quarters of a large trade in sugar, tobacco, and cigars, yet such is the jealousy of the Spanish rulers of Cuba, that less is heard of this great city than of many obscure towns in Canada and the United States. The island itself, outside the gates of the capital, is almost closed to foreigners. A large part of it is said by some to be under the native Republican Government which sustains the insurrection; while, according to others, the insurrectionary forces are but a number of guerilla bands, holding their own in the mountains, but not venturing to approach the Spanish garrisons; a kind of Republican counterpart in the West of the Royalist insurrection which lingers among the hills of Northern Spain. Some of the latest information as to the condition of this beautiful island is contained in Captain Trench Townshend's work, just published. Captain Townshend ran over from Key West to Havana in March last, and the account of his short visit contains some startling glimpses of Cuban life. In the capital itself there were no traces of the insurrection, except the occasional appearance in the daily papers of a short story of some defeat of the insurgents. On the surface of society, at least, no sign appeared of the hatred which is said to exist between the Creoles and the Spaniards. Captain Townshend, however, noted that the manner of the Spaniards was haughty, and that of the Creoles was cringing—a fact which is accounted for by the further statement that 'nearly every Spaniard we saw wore a red and green cockade in his Panama hat, signifying that he was a volunteer.' The insurrection, as we pointed out some time since, a war of races, and the 'Spanish volunteers' have left their mark upon Havana in such outrages as the Theatre massacres, and the massacre at the Louvre Café; and the relation of the two sections in Havana is that of a race of armed masters and an unarmed subject people. Towards the end of March news arrived from Puerto Principe of an insurgent victory, which of itself looks like something more than a guerilla warfare. A body of Spanish cavalry had been routed, and the enemy had captured five hundred horses, and killed four hundred men. The news created great excitement, and the value of paper money went down fifty per cent. Yet Captain Townshend thinks there is but little doubt that the war might long ago have been ended had Spanish generals and officials done their duty to their country. He was assured that 'by the prolongation of the war, civil and military officers gained

such pecuniary advantages that their very last wish was to crush the insurrection.'

"The most striking portions of Captain Townshend's account of Cuba are, however, those which describe what he saw of slavery. Wishing to see the slaves actually at work, he visited the sugar plantation of Tolosa, near the town of Marianao, ten miles from the capital. Captain Townshend was received at the gate of the plantation by an old negro armed with a musket, who examined his pass before allowing him to proceed. Driving through immense fields of cane, he reached the 'ingenio' or manufactory, and was received by an English overseer. It was fitted up with the best and most modern machinery from England, France, and the United States, and was regarded as a model of its kind. The first glimpse of slavery was a group of from fifty to sixty negro children, apparently from six to twelve years old, and of both sexes, occupied in piling the canes on the elevator which conveyed them to the crushing wheel. 'Toiling away for their very lives in the broiling sunshine, the poor little wretches kept a constant eye on a formidable cow-hide whip wielded by a negro who stood by, ready to crack it across their bare backs if they attempted to idle or eat the sugar-cane.' Inside the building, negroes, negresses, and Chinese were tending the machines or standing in the vats treading out the lumps in the hardened sugar with bare feet, their unclothed bodies streaming with perspiration. But it was in the negro barracks that the hideous features of this 'sum of all villainies' came out. The dwellings stood round a large square, which was entered through double iron gates. 'As we passed in,' says the writer, 'two ferocious-looking Cuban bloodhounds chained, one on either side of the gate, sniffed suspiciously near our legs, but being trained to run down or attack negroes only, did not molest us.' On the ground floor were the negroes' rooms, secured by heavily-barred and padlocked doors. These rooms were veritable dens, walls black with dirt, uneven floors about fourteen feet square, no means of letting in air or daylight, and the whole in a condition impossible to describe. 'In each of these pestiferous dungeons a whole family lived, in a condition more foul and degraded than any beasts of the field.' 'We looked into several, and found them all alike.' Mounting a staircase, at the foot of which another bloodhound was chained, they found themselves in a gallery running round the court, out of which opened large and tolerably ventilated rooms, used as sick wards, nurseries, and for other purposes. Here were scores of children of every shade 'from jet black to nearly white,' happy enough in their childish ignorance, 'playing,' says Captain Townshend, 'with some bloodhound puppies, little thinking of their unhappy lot, or of the use to which these same puppies would shortly be put.'"

REVIEW.

Christmas Number of the "St. James's Magazine." One Shilling. "The First Foot in the House." An English Legend, in Five Steps. By L. A. CHAMEROVZOW. Sampson, Low, and Co.

Our African friends will recognize in the name of the author of this ingenious and admirably written tale, an old friend, to whom in times past they were, as Africans, very much indebted. The arduous efforts of Mr. Chamerovzow, in his capacity of "Secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society," to put an end to negro slavery everywhere, need not any renewed eulogy from us; they are matters of history, with which every educated African is, or ought to be, well acquainted. Our very contracted limits prevent our giving such a review of this Christmas book as we should like to give. It is founded on the superstition popular in England, that much of the happiness and prosperity of people during any given year, depends upon *whose foot* it is that first crosses their threshold to enter, when an old year has just departed and a new one has begun; and the great moral of the work, is to set forth the infinite wisdom and benevolence of that Divine decree, which so impenetrably conceals our future from us. Some hasty readers would probably find fault with the broad provincialisms which characterize some of the dialogues, particularly those of the Old Bell-ringers of the Tower, of St. Mary Grace, or "Grace Mary;" but we think they will enjoy the tale the more for these, when they have once mastered the peculiarity. Under the diffusion of education, these old *patois* of the provinces are fast dying out; and the School Board system will, we suppose, in the course of another generation, put an end to them altogether. With this supposition we feel grateful that some of them are preserved from oblivion by Mr. Chamerovzow. The characters of Dr. Ratcliffe, and of the granddaughter of Old Silas Whortleberry, are charmingly conceived and drawn. We can and do recommend our friends to possess themselves of this little work; not only because we love, and they ought to love, the author, but because they can scarcely fail to get both amusement and profit, from the dainty dish of mystery he has provided for them.

BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

The Ashanti War. By Captain Henry Braekenbury. Two Vols., 8vo. William Blackwood and Sons.
The Story of the Ashantee Campaign. By Wenwood Reade. One Vol. Smith, Elder and Co.
Through Fantee Land to Cocomassie. By Frederick Boyle. One Vol. Chapman and Hall.

THE GABOON AND OGOWI RIVERS.—The report made by the Marquis de Compagnie and Mr. Marsh is encouraging, and more than confirms that of Mr. Walker, the English tourist, respecting the great length of the river Ogovi, which they ascended considerably farther than he did, and discovered three large tributary streams. They return to France for a season, but expect to come back next year to prosecute their exploration.



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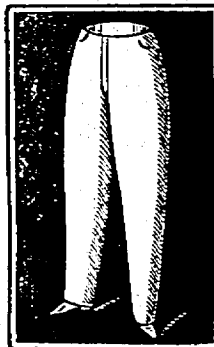
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