

I-7

SCC
8629



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2015

T H E

African Repository.

Vol. XLVIII.] WASHINGTON, OCTOBER, 1872.

[No. 10.]

From the Methodist Quarterly Review for July, 1872.

LIBERIA, ITS STATUS AND ITS FIELD.

BY REV. EDWARD W. BLYDEN, M. A.

(Concluded from page 269.)

The Veys extend from Gallinas, their northern boundary, to Little Cape Mount, their southern boundary; and they stretch inland about two days' journey. They have invented an alphabet for writing their own language, and are enjoying the blessings of a written system, for which they are entirely indebted to their own ingenuity and enterprise. Next to the Mandingoes, they are the most interesting and promising of the aboriginal population of Liberia. Some of their learned men, adepts in the traditional lore of the country, have informed us that the Veys are closely related to the Mandingoes; that they were originally inhabitants of a distant region north-east of their present country; and that, driven away from their home by war, they crossed the mountains and came to the Coast, where they carried on successful warfare against the tribes whom they found on the seaboard. Continually pressing toward the south, driving the weaker tribes before them, and forming alliance with the stronger ones, they eventually reached the banks of the St. John's river, in the County of Grand Bassa. Having acquired an ascendant influence over the country through which they had passed, the principal men retraced their steps and settled in the region of Wakora, (Grand Cape Mount,) as a more delightful section of country than any they had seen.

We are quite disposed to credit this statement. First, because the Veys, occupying the narrow extent of country between Gallinas and Little Cape Mount, are an entirely distinct people from the Mendi, on the north of them, and the Deys, on the south. The Mendi and Dey languages have no particular affinity with the Vey. Second, because the Mandingoes and all the tribes north of Liberia have a tradition of a great and wide-spread war in their country about the close of the

seventeenth century, waged by the Foulah Mohammedans for the spread of their religion. Dr. Koelle, who lived five years at Sierra Leone, and made a collection of African stories, gives a very interesting account of those belligerent operations, gathered from the lips of intelligent natives.* It is possible that the Veys, unwilling to adopt the faith of Islam, and not able to resist the conquering hosts, retreated to the southwest and settled in their present locality, where, like the Pelasgians in Etruria, they have retained, amid so many incongruous elements, their tribal integrity.

The plan recently suggested by Bishop Payne, of occupying that country with an extensive and vigorous mission, is most important and interesting; and we venture to affirm, from our own experience in the interior of that region, that no country on the Coast presents such an opening for sanitary advantages, and far-reaching evangelical and educational results, as Cape Mount and its adjacent interior. "The Vey tribe," says Bishop Payne, "are the most intelligent of any on the West Coast. It was this people who, some fifteen years ago, invented a syllabic alphabet. They hold constant intercourse with the Mandingoes and other Mohammedan tribes in the far interior, and these intelligent neighbors are fast converting them to their false faith."

The mission school which the Episcopalians have opened at Toto-Coreh, east of Boporo, through the watchful energy of Rev. G. W. Gibson, of Monrovia, is nearer to Cape Mount than to Monrovia, so that they have already planted their first outpost toward the vast interior. A mission established on Cape Mount, according to the ripe judgment of Bishop Payne, would enjoy the greatest facilities and advantages for carrying on an educational establishment; while the opportunity of visiting the stations at Boporo and beyond, in the charming hill country, within one hundred or one hundred and fifty miles, at which a missionary and his family could reside during a part of the year, would be the means of preserving health and vigor.

The next tribe of importance accessible to, and under the influence of, the Liberian Republic, are the Pessehs, located about seventy miles from the Coast, and extending about one hundred miles from north to south. They may be called the peasants of West Africa. They supply most of the domestic slaves for the Veys, Bassas, Mandingoes, and Kroos. They are hard-working and industrious. It is said that the work of a Pesseh man is worth twice as much a day as that of a Vey or Bassa. The natives in the low alluvial lands of the Coast, who are given to trade, rely for the cultivation of their lands upon the skill and industry of the Pessehs, who have practiced ag-

* Koelle's *Polyglotta Africana*. Introduction, p. 8.

riculture on the difficult slopes of their hilly country. This people are entirely pagan. No missionary effort, except that of George L. Seymour, about fifteen years ago, and which was abandoned because of his death, has ever been attempted among them. He was supported by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

A very interesting tribe, next interior to the Pessehs, has recently been brought into treaty relations with Liberia by Mr. W. Spencer Anderson, namely, the *Barline*. The Barline country, about eight days' journey northeast from Monrovia, was visited in 1858 by Mr. James L. Sims, an intelligent young Liberian. Mr. Sims describes Palaka, the capital of Barline, as it appeared at that time, as follows:

"Palaka, which contained about four thousand inhabitants, half of whom were Manni-Mohammedans, and was surrounded by a clay wall nine or ten feet high, had every appearance of being a very old town. The wall in some places was in a very dilapidated condition. The town is situated in a valley, with high mountains on the east and west. In front is a beautiful little river, with a vine bridge over it. Between the river and the town were several very large cotton trees, and a large border of black granite rock. In the center of the town was a market-square. The people were the most industrious, and apparently the most happy, I ever met with; it seemed that the whole country was one immense rice farm. The Mohammedan women had several establishments for manufacturing earthenware; while the Barline women prepared rice, palm oil, and other necessaries for market."

In describing his experiences at another town, he thus writes:

"The sun is down. From the eastern part of the town comes the sound of voices, floating on the evening zephyr, sweet, plaintive, and mournful. The followers of Mohammed are at prayer. About one-third of the inhabitants of this town are Mohammedans, who have settled in Barline for the purpose of trafficking with King Boatswain's people, and some of them are very often seen in the settlements. The country of these people is called Manni. They are scattered all through the Pesseh, Barline, and King Boatswain's country."*

According to the account of Mr. W. Spencer Anderson, the latest explorer, there are no Mohammedans at present in the Barline country.

The next tribe, proceeding south along the Coast, is that of the Bassas, occupying a coast line of over sixty miles, and extending about the same distance inland. They are the great

*"Maryland Colonization Journal," vol. x, p. 212.

producers of palm-oil and cam-wood, which are sold to foreigners by thousands of tons annually. The Bassa people, numerically considered, are a very important field for missionary operations. The Northern Baptist Missionary Society established a mission among these people in 1835, conducted by Messrs. Crocker, Mylne, and Clarke, and subsequently by Messrs. Goodman and Sherman. The language was studied out and reduced to writing; as many as three schools, embracing in all nearly a hundred pupils, were organized and taught, in a great measure, by the missionaries; preaching was maintained steadily at three places, and occasionally at a great many more; and large portions of the New Testament were translated into the Bassa language. But notwithstanding this promising commencement, the mission has been now for several years suspended.

Mr. Jacob W. Vonbrunn, a son of a subordinate king of the Grand Bassa people, but a zealous Christian missionary, has just returned to his native country from a visit to the United States, with the valuable results of his experience in that Christian land, and with the assistance afforded by Christian friends, to push forward among his people the work of Christian civilization. The Southern Baptist Convention has lately resumed missionary operations among the Bassas.

The Kroomen, occupying the region of country south of Bassa, are a large and powerful tribe, and, in many respects, more remarkable than the Bassas. They extend about seventy miles along the Coast, and only a few miles inland. They are the sailors of West Africa. They are shrewd, intelligent, and manly, never enslaving or selling each other. The only missionary effort among this tribe was made by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, about thirty years ago, at Settra Kroo. This mission was very successful while it lasted, but it has long since ceased operations; and this large and important tribe is left without God and without hope in the world.

Bordering upon the southeastern boundaries of the Kroos are the Greboes, another large and influential tribe, extending from Grand Sesters to the Cavalla river, a distance of about seventy miles. It is supposed that this people emigrated about one hundred and fifty years ago from the leeward Coast. They are said to equal the Kroomen in physical development, and to resemble them in intellectual character. Indeed, the two tribes have many points in common. The same love of freedom, the same martial qualities, the same love of maritime adventure, and the same patience of exposure and fatigue, characterize both tribes.

The Greboes have been more favored than the Kroomen as to the enjoyment of Christian influence. In 1834 the first

Christian mission was established among them at Cape Palmas by Rev. John Leighton Wilson, a missionary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. This mission continued in operation for seven years, under very encouraging circumstances. A church was organized, the language was reduced to writing, of which a Grammar and a Dictionary in part were published; the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, the Life of Christ, and various other religious books, were translated into it for the use of those who had been taught to read. This mission was in 1842 transferred to Gaboon.

But the Episcopal Mission, established among the same tribe a few years previously, still continues in operation. It has passed through many seasons of suffering, sorrow, and bereavement, and is now sadly in need of laborers. But it has had its seasons of prosperity, and may be considered one of the most effective missions on the Coast. It has recently established a mission in the interior, and Bohlen, a station about seventy miles from the Coast, stands an interesting outpost in the great warfare, and a stimulating monument of the self-denying labors of the lamented Hoffman.

But perhaps the most interesting and promising tribe in the territory of Liberia are the Mandingoes. They are numerous, intelligent, enterprising, and not a few of them learned. They are found on the whole of the eastern frontier of the Republic, and extend back to the heart of Soudan. Through them Liberia at no distant day may exert a considerable influence on the great and populous interior. They have books and schools and mosques in every large town. They read and write, and many speak the Arabic language. They have diffused everywhere among the pagan tribes contiguous to and within the Republic, the idea of the presence and power of the Supreme Being.

The Imams subject the boys put under their care for instruction to long years of discipline, during which they are compelled to learn the greater portion of the Koran, and sometimes the whole, by heart. Thus a large number of youth throughout the interior of Liberia are undergoing a course of training which will fit them to receive more readily the principles of Christian civilization. Cæsar tells us that the ancient Druids carried the children of the Britons through a similar process. Indeed, the description given by that military commander in the thirteenth and fourteenth chapters of the sixth book of his Commentaries may be applied almost *verbatim* to the Mandingo priests and the communities over which they preside. The schools established by them, however inferior, have contributed in no little degree to abate the ignorance and soften the manners of the people. The doctrines of Islam, like those of

Christianity, are contained in a book accounted sacred. The study of this book, a fundamental duty inseparable from the name and profession of Mussulman, has made the use of letters co-extensive with the propagation of the faith itself. And the study of the Koran, like that of the Bible, necessarily extends beyond the contents of the volume; and, on the same principle, insensibly enlarges the mind of its followers, by opening to them other fields of research.* It is worse than useless, therefore, to send uneducated men to evangelize the Mandingoes. The most enlightened missionaries will find it as much labor as they can well manage to put down in argument many of these "benighted Africans." However, we learn that an ambitious young Mohammedan king, named Ibrahim Sisi, occupying a large city called Medina, has been conducting a series of warlike operations against the Kafirs in the surrounding regions to reduce them to the faith, with the watchword, *La ilaha ill' allahu*, &c.—No God but God, &c. Ibrahim is an able and energetic young ruler, having under his command a vast army, terrible to the powers around him. His cavalry consists of one thousand horsemen. His organizing and directing influence in the country is said to be considerable. Having within him the spirit of progress which characterizes the age, he can follow its impulse only in accordance with the light he has, in obedience to the highest code of principles known to him. He believes that the reformation and improvement of the tribes around him depend upon their religious passions, and to stimulate those passions by the introduction of Islam is his aim. But if he could learn something of the ennobling and loftier principles of Christian civilization, why should we suppose that he would not readily embrace them? It would be well if Liberia could secure his friendship and alliance. His capital is only about four weeks' journey from Monrovia.

We have now hastily glanced at the leading tribes composing the aboriginal population of Liberia. For the most part these people live in towns or villages of from two hundred to five thousand inhabitants, and in communities of eight or ten villages. In these communities, excepting the Mandingoes, they have no written forms of law, but are governed, as a general thing, by certain traditional usages, handed down from generation to generation. Nominally, monarchy is the only form of government acknowledged among them; but when closely scrutinized, their systems show much more of the popular and patriarchal than of the monarchical element. They cannot be said to be strictly pagan in the sense, for instance, in which the South-Sea Islanders were pagans. They all acknowledge one God, and they invoke his assistance, protection,

* See Foster's "Mohammedanism Unveiled," vol. ii, sec. 12.

and forgiveness. Their religion is a simple theism or monotheism. If they have not the gorgeous temples of Asia, neither have they its hideous symbolism. They have no "hereditary priesthood, wrapt up in a systematized pantheism and polytheism." "When you go to India," says Dr. Duff, "you find the national mind a vast *plenum*: where every point is pre-occupied, where every corner of the soul is filled up, where every faculty is pervaded, where every desire and every emotion of the heart is provided for, and that, too, upon Divine authority."* Dr. Macleod, who has recently paid a visit to India, informs us that "in the Bombay Presidency there are thirty thousand idol temples."† The missionary meets no such obstructions to his work in Africa. He finds rather a vast *vacuum*, to be filled with the rich treasures of which he is the bearer. He has no physical or metaphysical structure to demolish. He enters upon a vast field entirely unoccupied, or covered only with the rank weeds which during the neglected centuries nature has produced.

"Neglectis urenda filix innascitur agris."‡

This is the field into which Providence has cast the lot of the few thousand Liberian Christians, offshoots from the American nation. They are there for the physical and moral improvement of their own kith and kin, occupying the surrounding wilderness; but above all, for their spiritual well-being.

The indirect influence of Liberia upon the natives has already accomplished much. A revolution has been going on among them ever since January 7, 1822, when the first emigrants landed on Perseverance Island. A new spirit has been gradually insinuating itself among them. The "Merica man fash" has been silently undermining their superstitions. It is true that domestic slavery still exists in the interior, a circumstance which some of the friends of Liberia abroad seem to view with a degree of concern. To us, however, looking at the matter from a nearer stand-point, it is a subject of no special apprehension. It would be difficult, and perhaps impossible, for the Government of Liberia to interfere directly and effectually to any great extent with that institution. The natives all know that under the laws of Liberia every man is free. Slaves coming into the settlements or their neighborhood, and craving Liberian protection, cannot be taken back to their masters. The evils will gradually pass away as Christian influence advances into the interior. It is well known that throughout Europe serfdom or slavery, where master and

* "Address before Missionary Convention in New York, May, 1854.

† Good Words," Feb., 1869, page 98.

‡ Horace.

slave belonged to the same race, gradually disappeared as civilization advanced, as skill was superadded to physical strength, and as labor became more productive. Every improvement in art and science and industrial contrivance tends to diminish the value of the slave. So it must be in this country.

To help them push forward these triumphs of civilization and Christianity, Liberians must look to Christians abroad; and our negro brethren in America are earnestly entreated to come over with their brain and heart and muscle. We feel that Liberia has a peculiar claim upon the sympathy and assistance of the American people. We know of no country that utters a louder call to the American Church than does Africa through Liberia. God has placed Africa, as it were, at the door of American Christians. There is no other portion of the heathen world that has so large a representative element residing in a foreign land as Africa has residing in America. There is no other portion of the globe that has sent forth its children in such numbers to perform unrequited labor in a foreign country as has this aged mother of civilization. Her children, torn by millions from her bleeding bosom, are now in the United States. Having passed through the dire ordeal of slavery, they are now getting imbued with American culture. This is a tie binding the United States to Africa to which no other country can show a parallel. In view of the long and weary centuries in which her children have suffered and toiled in that land—in view of the mental training and discipline they are now undergoing, fitting them to shed blessings upon her distracted country—in view of her forlorn and desolate condition—Africa, with all the passionate love of a mother, stretches out her hands in supplication to the United States. Here are

“Tears more eloquent than learned tongue,
Or lyre of purest note.”

The wilderness and the desert are waiting for the reviving power of Western civilization, purchased by the groans and blood of generations of men. Millions of aspiring souls, groping in darkness after some higher life, are waiting to receive the quickening influence of the arts and sciences—waiting for the discipline of those circumstances which have wrought out such great changes in Europe and America.

We expect that the recovery of Africa from her protracted desolation will be rapid and sudden. “Ethiopia shall *soon*, or *suddenly*, stretch out her hands unto God.” We expect that thousands of her sons, prepared and fitted for the work, will hasten to these shores from the lands of their thralldom; that the hundreds of thousands of benighted men at home will be wakened to habits of regular industry and thrift. The diverse and conflicting tribes will be rapidly reduced to unity under

the influence of Christian principles—a tide of common life will sweep through the whole half a million immediately around Liberia, and through them regions beyond will be speedily absorbed. We expect soon to witness the beautiful scene of skillful tillage, abounding harvests, contented cottages, thrifty villages, opulent cities, the products of the spindle, and shuttle, and forge, and mill, and wheel, and boiler. Already we seem to hear

“The sound of that advancing multitude
Which soon shall fill these deserts. From the ground
Comes up the laugh of children, the soft voice
Of maidens, and the sweet and solemn hymn
Of Sabbath-worshippers. The low of herds
Blends with the rustling of the heavy grain
Over the dark brown furrows;
 While “the great heavens
Seem to look down upon the scene in love.”*

We believe that among the descendants of Africa in the Western hemisphere there is talent enough, wealth enough, and numbers enough to accomplish all this before the centennial anniversary of the American Colonization Society, if they would but earnestly give themselves to the work. O that they would feel it their duty, and could be assisted to come. Men and brethren, help!

From the (Liberia) Lone Star.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL BANQUET AT MONROVIA.

The Christmas banquet of W. F. Nelson, Esq., merchant, of this city, to the children of the Episcopalian and Wesleyan Schools, on the 26th of last December, has elicited thanks and acknowledgments, and redounded to the reputation and honor of the liberal donor. On a fine open spot of land, adjoining Mr. Nelson's dwelling, was erected a spacious palace of the evergreen branches and foliage of the celebrated palm-tree. The brilliant, gorgeous, and variegated flowers and foliage of the sunny tropics adorned and beautified the pleasant structure. All along on both sides of its extending palmy roof floated the bright colors of the various nations of the world. The grand entrances or arched doorways were formed by two pillars of decorated evergreens, some thirty feet high, supporting the motto, “GOD GRANT US ENERGY!” and from the middle of these, on a staff in height about twenty feet, gayly floated the private signal of Messrs. A. S. & W. G. Lewis & Co., of Boston, the wealthy firm with which Mr. W. F. Nelson is connected, this signal being protected by the Liberian standard, towering some fifteen to twenty feet above.

The banquet board for the occasion was laid in the form of

* Bryant.

the letter T, within a few feet from the top or head of which stood the attractive Christmas-tree, studded with sweet and bright little gifts for the glad-hearted children around, every one of whom took two or more of these on their departure as a souvenir of that happy gathering and of their liberal entertainer. Near the centre of the table played a miniature fountain, the construction of Mr. W. F. Nelson, which elicited the admiration and applause of his guests. At the head of the banquet hall, a few feet beyond the Christmas-tree, was a raised dais, upon which were arranged seats, handsomely decorated, for the ladies and gentlemen present. A superior-toned piano, one of Hallet, Davis & Co.'s best and most celebrated instruments, a splendid harmonium, and other admired musical instruments, were provided for the entertainment of the company. Elegant pictures hung around and about here, among which were highly-skilled paintings of industry, kindness, and harvest. Through the kindness of Captain Macfarlane, the Guards, in charge of Lieutenants White and Evans, were in attendance; and under their escort, preceded by their inspiring band, Mr. Nelson's juvenile guests marched in public procession, bearing flags and banners, from Trinity church school-house to the banquet place, where they arrived at a few minutes before two o'clock. The silken banner bore the devices, "Wisdom is better than riches," "Unity is strength," executed in a highly artistic manner by Adjutant E. W. Roberts and Mr. James Dennis, son of our esteemed Secretary of the Treasury, Henry W. Dennis, Esq.

As is usual on such occasions, there was a large gathering of spectators near and about the place of entertainment, whose welcome to the children and remarks and lively sallies considerably heightened the pleasant excitement of the time. But we must now observe that at this period a very large collection of the élite of Liberia had assembled. There were President James S. Smith; the venerable President of the Senate, Senator J. Marshall; Senator and Mrs. Blackledge; Mrs. McGill, widow of the late Dr. Samuel F. McGill; Miss Benedict, daughter of the late Commodore Benedict, who so bravely put to flight the Spaniard when he attempted to rescue a vessel, which had been engaged in the slave-trade and which the Liberian Government had captured; Miss Catherine Moore, daughter of one of our merchant princes, Gabriel Moore, Esq.; Hon. Ellis A. Potter; J. W. Hilton; Chief Justice Parsons; Professor and Mrs. Freeman; the Misses Payne, daughters of the lately deceased Attorney General; Mrs. Cordes, wife of the Prussian Consul; the Misses Johnson, daughters of the late Attorney General, H. W. Johnson, Esq.; James Yates, Esq., late Mayor of Monrovia; Rev. Alexander Crummell; Miss Rose

Savage; Mrs. Williams; Hon. Henry Neyle; Hon. Crusoe; Miss Johnstone, sister-in-law to our esteemed physician, Dr. C. B. Dunbar; the Misses Barclay; Mrs. Waring; Mrs. Evans, the widow of our late Postmaster General; Rev. G. W. Gibson; Captain E. Barclay; Hon. W. H. Lynch; J. T. Wiles, Esq., late Postmaster General; Adjutant E. W. Roberts; and Lieutenant F. G. Payne.

Miss Barclay and Miss Johnson performed on the piano, accompanied at times by Master Urias McGill on the harmonium, or by Captain Barclay, or J. T. Wiles, Esq., on the flute. Several pleasant songs were sung, among which, "Let me kiss him for his mother," sung by Miss Johnson, at the piano, accompanied by Master McGill, was admired. The National Anthem, in the singing of which the whole company present was requested to join, was sung with much enthusiasm, the entire audience uncovering, save one foreign gentleman who refused to do so, and withdrew, in consequence, from the company. The anthem was the signal for the discussion of the profuse rarities extending from one end to the other of the long, literally *oppressed* banquet table. The thousand grateful odors of the delicious viands, the delicate and correct taste of the cuisine preparer of them, and their gratifying nature, were, it is sufficient to state, calculated to banish the mere scruples of any of the most epicurean taste; and pleased with everything around, Mr. Nelson's juvenile guests sat down to the entertainment. How happy were the tones of youthful merriment that burst forth from innocent young hearts at this hospitable board! How many affectionate hearts gladdened or saddened as those clear young voices rung in merry peals on the ear! Mr. Nelson's young guests fully enjoyed themselves.

We cannot refrain from particularly referring to the kind bearing of the esteemed wife of Mr. Nelson throughout the whole of the pleasant business of that pleasant day. Mrs. Nelson was indefatigable in making her husband's entertainment a *success*, and we feel the greatest pleasure in being able to say that her wish was fully realized; and that, well known as Mrs. Nelson's affability is, she on this day surpassed her former self. We are sure that her endearing and kind attentions to her youthful guests will leave lasting impressions on their susceptible hearts.

The banqueting being over and the children having expressed their gratification at the entertainment, they were addressed by some of the gentlemen present.

Mr. Nelson's adult guests subsequently repaired to his mansion, where the remainder of the evening was agreeably spent in enjoying a sumptuous dinner.

From the Missionary Advocate.

AFRICA ARISING.

We are looking with eager eyes toward Africa. Rev. Charles A. Pitman will bear with him to his native home a profound conviction that the work of God in Africa must advance or the Church in America will scarcely feel rewarded for her expenditure of means and efforts in that far-off region. Africa is, however, a precious field, sanctified to the Church by many tears, much treasure, and several most precious lives. Cox's voice is yet ringing in our ears, "Let a thousand fall, but let not Africa be given up!" and till that reverberation is hushed, it will not be easy to give up the field. Never can it be done till the American Church shall feel that Africa, for her own sake, must be thrown upon her own resources. Earnest words will be addressed to Bishop Roberts upon this subject, and we hope for a quickening in our long-loved Liberia.

Let us, however, be just. A great missionary work is on hand in Africa, and it is being prosecuted under unparalleled difficulties. Think of a Conference five hundred miles long and fifty broad, with few hospitable centers for homes for the man of God in his journeys, and you have the outline of the picture. The trade of Liberia is limited, the manufactures almost none, the enterprise of the people small, and our Church in the Republic does not find it easy to rise superior to these disadvantages. It has, perhaps, partaken too much of the prevailing torpor.

Yet here is the only hope of Central Africa. We must have the Coast before we can go into the interior. The interior is far more healthful than the Coast, perhaps far more promising. Travelers of the Caucasian race penetrate the continent with comparative impunity, and find peoples advanced beyond those of the Coast. Could we plant a vigorous, enterprising church in Liberia, the slowness of its growth might find a rich reward in the consequent and more rapid spread of the Gospel in the fairer lands and among the more cultivated tribes of the interior. We must inspire the Methodism of Africa, not abandon it, for the hope of a continent depends upon it.

The native work is quite extensive within the Republic and the bounds of the Liberia Conference. In Mesurado county, the most important county in the Republic, all the towns are native towns, and our work all heathen work, except Monrovia, New Georgia, Upper and Lower Caldwell, Virginia, Clay-Ashland, Louisiana, Millsburg, Arthington, and Carysburg. In the Monrovia district of the Conference the following appointments are natives towns: Queah Mission, Ammon's Station, Heddington, and Robertsville Mission. The proportion of native work in the other districts is greater than on this one,

so that we are, even at present, doing a large amount of heathen work within the Republic. Our cry should be, perhaps, "BACK FROM THE COAST!" for Africa must be redeemed.

Bishop Roberts, besides episcopal supervision, is doing circuit work on the St. Paul's. He is a godly man, of sound judgment. But he has heard the voice of the Mother Church, and it will stir his soul anew. Our oldest Mission must not fade from the affections of the Church. It is not a hopeless field. The day may be just before us when the sons of Africa, disenthralled from American bondage, are to play a momentous part for the redemption of their fatherland. We may well wait, and peer most prayerfully into the few years just before us.

From the Home and Foreign Journal.

MISSIONARY HYMN.

Tune: Scotland.

Go, carry, ye heralds, the news of salvation,
As Christ has enjoined you, to all the creation;
We would not detain you, tho' heart-strings are breaking,
For the life of lost heathen your country forsaking;
Dear, dear are the friends and the home you are leaving,
But you bear to whole nations the bliss of believing.

"To you it is given to suffer" and labor,
Placed foremost in battle—chief mark of His favor—
Oh! how sweet the reflection, the joy, oh, how thrilling!
That to bear *all* for *Him*, He hath made you so willing
That scourgings, and prisons, and death cannot shake you;
Stand firm on the promise, "I will not forsake you."

In your hands the Saviour the honor reposes
To change the wild desert to gardens of roses;
Where late grew the brier, to make spring the myrtle;
Change the wolf to the lamb and the kite to the turtle;
The infant unharmed with the cockatrice playing,
All heaven with joy the sweet vision surveying.

Blest eyes that shall witness the glad transformation;
Blest tongues that shall publish the sound of salvation;
Blest feet that shall carry the news of God's pity,
And guide back the wand'ers to heaven's bright city;
Those wand'ers by thousands to Christ shall ye gather
The heritage promised the Son by the Father.

Be with them, oh, Jesus! to life's latest hour,
For Thine is the kingdom, the glory, the power;
Unstop the deaf ear, to the sightless give vision,
Bring forth hosts of captives from Satan's foul prison;
Lo! the night is far spent, and the morn is appearing,
All the crowns of the earth for thy brow are preparing.

MISSIONARY WORK IN AFRICA.

We take the following from an able and interesting speech made by Rev. Joseph Gaskin, Missionary from South Africa, at the Anniversary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, held in Exeter Hall, London, April 30, 1872:

Thirteen of the best years of my life have been spent in the most interesting labor to which a man who preaches the Gospel can devote himself. Now, I have a book in my pocket which states something very remarkable respecting that great Continent. I find that a French philanthropist, who has studied very closely and deeply the condition of Africa, especially with respect to the present state of the slave-trade, has come to the conclusion "that Africa is a land of abundant fertility, but this fertility produces comparatively nothing. The African race is one of the most numerous, but this race is not at present reckoned in the human family. Thus our world is too large by one quarter, since we regard it as nought." He says: "Do we accept such an impious conclusion as this? At present there are not only assassinations, but exterminations: populations are annihilated; there are victims who call aloud for help, and whose claims are never heard; and there are men who commit crimes without being punished as criminals, and who expect to make fortunes out of their deeds." That refers to the slave-trade—to man-hunting—the wholesale assassination which goes on in the heart of the Continent, in order that men may be taken from their homes and families, transported, and kept in hopeless slavery. I look upon Africa as an African missionary. I look upon it as the most interesting sphere of labor, I confess, upon the earth.

The whole of the centre of that continent is unknown—an impenetrable region. We have skirted from the Damara country to the Western Coast, right away down to the Cape of Good Hope, and from thence to Natal and the Zulu country. How many people are brought under the influence of the Gospel by our means? Just about half a million, and no more. The great masses of African people are beyond the Cape Colony, and beyond the eastern provinces of Natal, in a region almost unknown. Moffat was almost at the extreme. (Hear, hear.) Livingstone was there, and looked into that unknown region, (applause,) and could not bear to think that it should remain a region of utter darkness, so he plunged into the interior. When I look to the other end of the Continent, you have fifty thousand people gathered together on the diamond fields. Fifty thousand people have gone there to seek the jewel, and to try and find prosperity with it, if they can. God has sent them there. I believe that Providence has in view the open.

ing of the Continent in the north, as in the south, so that the Word of the Lord may run into that region and be abundantly glorified.

There she lies—the oppressed of ages. Ever since I was a little boy I remember seeing Africa symbolized in a little child, hands chained and uplifted, asking why it should be oppressed—why its sons should be enslaved—why the rights of humanity should be denied to her people? And I ask to-day, why? The whole world is her debtor. Asia owes her what she can never pay. Europe owes her a debt which is incalculable. America has grown fat upon her groans and labor. What is Asia going to do? What is European Christianity going to do and continue to do for Africa? What is America going to do for Africa? Your toil is repaid there. Nowhere else in the world have you such gratitude and love as you have from those sable sons of Africa. Send your missionaries to them, and they welcome them and rejoice in them. They are glad to hear the Gospel of our salvation. I know they are dark; I know they are degraded; I know we have different work amongst them than that which is undertaken by your missionaries in other parts of the world; I know you have no grand system of idolatry, no great idol temples, to bring down in Africa; I know that you have no subtle systems of philosophy to overturn: but you have dark and spiritual degradation; you have deep and humiliating brutality in Africa. You have to go and raise these men, and make them children of God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

INTERESTING LETTER FROM DR. LIVINGSTONE.

The Toronto (Canada) *Globe* publishes a letter from Mr. John Livingstone, who lives in Listowell, enclosing a letter from his brother, to whose determination, persistence, and endurance, the world will soon probably owe the complete solution of the problem over which scientific men have differed for ages, the location of the sources of the Nile. The brother says: I enclose extracts from a letter just received from my brother, Dr. Livingstone, of the date of Ujiji, November 16, 1871, which I presume came along with Stanley's dispatches. On the envelope is written, "This leaves Unyam- yemba 14th of March, 1872."

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S LETTER.

UJJI, November 16, 1871.

MY DEAR BROTHER: I received your letter in February last, written when the cable news made you put off your suit of mourning. This was the first intimation I had that a

cable was successfully laid in the deep Atlantic. Very few letters have reached me for years, in consequence of friends speculating as to where I should come out: on the West Coast, down the Nile, or elsewhere.

The watershed is a broad upland between 4,000 and 5,000 feet above the sea and some seventy miles long. The springs of the Nile that rise thereon are almost innumerable. It would take the best part of a man's life to count them. One part, 64 miles of latitude, gave 32 springs from the calf to the waist deep, or one spring for every two miles. A bird's-eye view of them would be like the vegetation of frost on the window panes. To ascertain that all of these fountains united with the four great rivers in the upper part of the Nile valley was a work of time and much travel. Many a weary foot I trod ere light dawned on the ancient problem. If I had left at the end of two years, for which my bare expenses were paid, I could have thrown very little more light on the country than the Portuguese, who, in their three slavery visits to Cazembe asked for ivory and slaves, and heard of nothing else. I asked about the waters. Questioned and cross-questioned, till I was really ashamed and almost afraid of being set down as afflicted with hydrocephalus.

I went forward, backward, and sideways, feeling my way, and every step of the way. I was generally groping in the dark, for who cared where the rivers run. Of these four rivers, into which springs of the Nile converge, the central one is called Lualaba, and is the largest. It begins as the river Chambeze, which flows into the great Lake Bangwolo. On leaving it, its name is changed from Chambeze to Luapula, and that enters Lake Moero. On coming out of it the name Lualaba is assumed, and it flows into a third lake, Kamolondo, which receives one of the four large drains mentioned above. It then flows on and makes two enormous bends to the west, which made me often fear that I was following the Congo instead of the Nile. It is from one to three miles broad, and never can be waded at any part or at any time of the year. Far down the valley it receives another of the four large rivers above mentioned—the Lockie or Lamame, which flows through what I have named Lake Lincoln, and then joins Central Lualaba. We have then only two lines of drainage in the lower part of the great valley—that is, Tanganyika and Albert Lakes, which are but one lake, river, or say, if you want to be pedantic, lacustrine river. These two form the eastern line. The Lualaba, which I call Webb's Lualaba, is then the western line nearly as depicted by Ptolemy in the second century of our era. After the Lamame enters the Lualaba, the fourth great lake in the central line of drainage is found; but this I have not yet seen, nor yet the link between the eastern and western mains.

At the top of Ptolemy's loop, the great central line goes down into large, reedy lakes, possibly those reported to Nero's centurion, and these form the western or Petherick's arm, which Speke and Grant and Baker believed to be the River of Egypt. Neither can they be called the Nile until they unite. The lakes mentioned in the central line of drainage are by no means small. Lake Bangwolo, at the lowest estimate, is 150 miles long, and I tried to cross it and measure its breadth exactly. The first stage was to an inhabited island, 24 miles. The second stage could be seen from its highest point, or rather the tops of the trees upon it, evidently lifted up by mirage. The third stage, the main land, was said to be as far beyond, but my canoe-men had stolen the canoe, and they got a hint that the real owners were in pursuit, and got into a flurry to return home. Oh, that they would! But I had only my coverlet left to hire another craft, and, the lake being 400 feet above the sea, it was very cold. So I gave in and went back, but I believe the breadth to be between 60 and 70 miles. Bangwolo, Moero, and Kamolondo are looked on as one great riverine lake, and is one of Ptolemy's.

The other is the Tanganyika, which I found steadily flowing to the north. Geographical predecessors must have gleaned their geography from men who visited this very region. The work of trying to follow the central line of drainage down has taken me away from mails or postage.

I was sorely tried and hindered by having half-caste Moslem attendants; unmitigated cowards, and false as their Prophet, of whose religion they only imbibe the fulsome pride. They forced me back, when almost in sight of the end of my exploration, a distance of between four hundred and five hundred miles, under a blazing vertical sun. I came here a mere ruckle of bones, terribly jaded in body and mind.

Yours, affectionately,

DAVID LIVINGSTONE.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH WEST AFRICA.

We hail with pleasure every movement having for its object the union of the Continent of Africa with the Christian world. We therefore gladly give place to the following announcement of the two English Steam Company lines to the West Coast of Africa, affording more than weekly communication from Liverpool:

THE AFRICAN STEAM SHIP COMPANY'S fast and commodious steamers, Nigretia, (new,) 1,856 tons, Captain George Corbett; Africa, 1,650 tons, Captain J. W. Davis; Yoruba, 1,625 tons,

Captain A. J. M. Croft; Soudan, 1,550 tons, Captain H. Burleigh; Benin, 1,500 tons, Captain E. Addison; Biafra, 1,300 tons, Captain R. Stone; Mandingo, 1,284 tons, Captain G. F. Sunet; Lagos, 1,284 tons, Captain D. Weston; Calabar, 1,208 tons, Captain D. Crook; Eboe, 750 tons, Captain E. S. Haram; Ethiopia, 1,750 tons, building; Monrovia, 1,260 tons, building; are intended to leave Liverpool on the 12th, 24th, and 30th of each month, except when those dates fall on Monday, when the departure is deferred to the day following.

The Packets of the 12th usually proceed to Madeira, Grand Canary, Sierra Leone, Cape Palmas, Grand Bassam, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Whydah, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar.

The Packets of the 24th proceed to Madeira, Teneriffe, Bathurst, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, Old Calabar, and Cameroons.

The Packets of the 30th usually proceed to Madeira, Cape Palmas, Bonny, Gaboon, Black Point, Landana, Congo, Ambrizette, Kinsembo, Ambriz, and St. Paul de Loanda.

The ports of call of the Packets of the 24th are fixed by contract with H. M. Postmaster General, and cannot be varied except by express permission; but the Packets of the 12th and 30th are open to call at other ports, in addition to those named, and may omit calling at some.

THE BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY dispatch two steamers monthly to the West Coast of Africa. The fine new screw steamers Bonny, Roquelle, Congo, Liberia, Volta, and Loanda, will sail twice monthly between Liverpool and the following ports on the West Coast of Africa (calling at Madeira,) viz: Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar. The days of sailing from Liverpool are the 6th and 18th of each month.

TOTO-COREH, NEAR BOPORO.

Letters from this station, under date of June 16th, leave Mr. Tucker, the catechist, in good health. He had suffered considerable inconvenience from his temporary captivity among the Bondie people, by whom he had been taken with the prisoners of war from this station. As soon, however, as it was ascertained by the belligerents that he was the Liberian teacher, instead of an enemy, they treated him kindly and became anxious to return him. While they were preparing to do so, Quella, the new Boporo king, brother and successor

of Mormoru, raised a strong force and sent to Meta, charging them to secure and bring back his American protege, lest he and his people become involved in difficulties with the Liberians. The effort was successful, and Mr. Tucker was soon back again to his station unhurt, to the great satisfaction of both parties. Nearly everything that he possessed, however, was stolen during his absence.

Quella has since obtained complete victory over the rebellious tribes, slain Meta, and is now, with his brother Fahqueque, dictating terms of peace to the conquered foes. The new king sends assurances of deep interest in the missionary efforts among his people, and pledges co-operation and protection to the agents. There are good reasons for supposing, that after the settlement of this matter, that portion of the country will enjoy unusual quietness and peace. May it be so for the progress of the Gospel.—*West African Record*.

THE "SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY."

On the morning of the 1st of June, the Royal Mail steamer "Sir Arthur Kennedy" arrived in our harbor under the command of Captain Benjamin Capper. She steamed slowly from Cardiff to Freetown in three weeks, having stopped twenty-six hours at Madeira for coal. She can make ten miles an hour, and consumes about five tons of coal a day.

She is a side-wheel steamer, of 202 tons burden. Her hull was built by Messrs. Hamilton and Co., of Port Glasgow. She is propelled by an engine constructed by Messrs. Kincaid, Donald and Co., of Greenock, fitted with improved expansion gear, a cylinder 22½ inches in diameter, and a stroke of 4 feet, with a tubular boiler, having all the recent improvements, capable of being worked at double pressure with great safety. She draws 8 feet of water when loaded, and 3 without cargo.

The "Sir Arthur Kennedy" has been put on this Coast by an enterprising English firm, under a subsidy from the Government, to connect Freetown, Sherbro, and the Gambia by regular postal communication.

It is evident that this craft will supply a pressing need on this part of the Coast. She is a great advance upon the means of intercourse between the colonies upon which we have been hitherto dependent. But she will confer a greater boon than simply facilitating travel. Governor Kennedy, who set the scheme in motion, and after whom the steamer is appropriately and suggestively named, was influenced by a strong desire to promote native production, and discourage disturbances and native wars.

The resources of Sherbro and the neighboring country of

Gallinas, as well as those of their proximate interior, have been but imperfectly explored. Those resources, known to be valuable, will now be rendered more and more available by the facilities for rapid transportation to market which the little steamer will afford. Cheap English cutlery, cotton prints, and tobacco, are increasing in demand among the inhabitants of the Coast and their inland neighbors; and it is clear to any one who has visited the interior, that the people are not without the means of paying for any commodities they require.—*The Negro.*

THE BANK OF WEST AFRICA.

On the 4th of March, 1872, an ordinance for the incorporation of "the Bank of West Africa" was passed by Governor Hennessy and the Legislative Council of Sierra Leone, authorizing the establishment of a Company "for the purpose of carrying on the business of banking," subject to certain "conditions, restrictions, regulations, and provisions."

It is a matter of congratulation, which augurs well for the future, that the advancement of our people thus far has been owing mainly to their own persistent industry and frugality, only partially or indirectly assisted or accelerated by special legislation. And it is a "sign of progress," as our correspondent "Fair Play" intimates, that the Colony has now advanced so far as to make it apparent to the leading merchants and to the Government that the establishment of a bank is a commercial desideratum. We do not enter on a discussion of the special commercial aspects of the question as they may present themselves to different portions of the trading community; we only remark, that just at this moment all classes are agreed as to the necessity of some reliable banking establishment; and we feel sure, that under the auspices of the men who have undertaken this enterprise, with the countenance and sanction of the Government, the "Bank of West Africa" cannot fail to secure the confidence of the people generally, and be of great assistance to men of energy in carrying on the numerous enterprises which, with the application of a little capital, might be made very profitable.

There is ample scope here for industrial and commercial development; and we are persuaded that any aid afforded by liberal and judicious legislation to the current of our pursuits and industry, would enable it to throw out broad and swelling branches into the interior and along the Coast, and hasten the healthy and permanent civilization of the aboriginal population by increasing their productive capacity.—*The Negro.*

From the (Monrovia) Republican, July, 1872.

AFFAIRS IN LIBERIA.

THE MONTH.—July gave us in the beginning much rain; now, however, it appears that the middle dries have fully set in. The imports and exports for the month have increased over those of last month. The British mail steamer took over two hundred casks of palm-oil, besides other freight, and the subsequent steamers of the month found freight. From our farmers we have most encouraging news of success, and our usual crops may be expected to show an increase over the last season.

There begins a little talk among the politicians as to who will or may be ex-Representative Hilton's successor. We hear Mr. I. C. Dickinson, Mr. J. B. Yates, Mr. B. J. K. Anderson, and Capt. John E. Jones, of Robertsport, all spoken of, but of no one yet definitely settled upon. There has been no Convention yet. We are unable to say who may be the choice of the National Republican party. Whoever he may be, however, we hope he will be one chosen from considerations of ability and honesty, and to act up to the principles of the party, and we are prepared to lend him our feeble aid.

The celebration of the twenty-sixth of July, a ceremony which always breaks the monotony of the rainy month, was pleasant; more so, we venture to say, than has been the case for a few years back. The zeal and zest with which the citizens entered upon this remembrance of their natal day, as contrasted with that of say even last year, inspired us with a confidence in the perpetuity of Liberia. For we have but little faith in gasconading and fulsome harangues upon race pride, national pride, &c.: we interpret tangible demonstrations.

At Cape Palmas trade was brisk. The English man-of-war "Torch" had been there recently to inquire after some alleged ill-treatment to Kroomen on board one of the mail steamers—the "Biafra," we believe. The commander, says our correspondent, strongly urged upon the local authorities the propriety of having all Kroomen shipped under some specific regulations. The twenty-sixth of July was well celebrated. Hon. D. F. Wilson, Speaker of the House of Representatives, delivered the national oration, and Mr. Jones read the Bill of Rights.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT.—Mr. Henry Cooper has just completed and is now occupying a fine new store on the waterside, near his old premises. Any one who will reflect upon Mr. Cooper's first days in this country, can but acknowledge that he is a fair sample of what hard labor, energy, and perseverance will do. We are no puffers, but it is meet that we

take a passing notice of such men as by dint of indomitable energy achieve for themselves merited notice.

NEW VESSELS.—Messrs. McGill Bro. purchased last month the schooner "Summerside," 120 tons. The Summerside was formerly of Bristol. The Messrs. McGill have also sold to Mr. W. F. Nelson their schooner "Cupid," preferring this than to send her away the second time to England for repairs. The cargo, which had been ready for the Cupid's trip to England, 38,000 gallons of oil, was shipped by the steamer "Africa" to England.

THE DUTCH CONSUL.—On the 3d inst. His Netherland Majesty's man-of-war steamer "Het Loo," Captain O. A. B. D. Ryk, arrived in our harbor from Sinoe via Grand Bassa. The "Het Loo" brought up from Sinoe Capt. N. J. A. Maarschalk, of Rotterdam, who resides in this country as the agent of the Rotterdam firm of H. Muller & Co. On the day after his arrival Mr. Maarschalk presented his credentials and received his exequatur as Consul to Liberia for his Netherland Majesty's Government. The "Het Loo" remained in port several days, its commander and officers spending pleasant times, being everywhere well received. She sailed from here for home. Liberia must expect, from its peculiar circumstances, among which the chief is a want of capital to engage extensively in agriculture, to draw principally of its revenue from its commerce, in order that it may get the means to enable it as a Government to develop its agricultural and other resources. Whatever, then, tends to legitimately extending this commerce we hail as a good. As yet our commerce with Holland has not been extensive. At present it is confined to the single house of H. Muller & Co. referred to. We hope, however, that the closer relations into which the two countries must be brought by this new appointment, may have its due effect in making each more acquainted with the other, and increasing trade and friendly intercourse between them.

DINNER PARTY.—Hon. J. Milton Turner, U. S. Consul General and Minister Resident, gave a dinner party on the afternoon of the 6th of August. Among the distinguished guests were President Roberts, Secretaries Johnson and Dennis, Professor Freeman, Rev. Fuller, (M. E. Church,) Rev. Gibson, (Trinity,) Mayor Nelson, Ex-Vice Consul J. E. Moore, Ex-Mayor J. B. Yates, High Sheriff S. C. Fuller, H. Cooper, Treasurer of Common Council. Drs. Cooper and Dunbar were unavoidably absent, as also Ex-Presidents Warner and Payne. We were represented in person as well as by our chief printer. The venerable Jonas Cary was also present. We are not able to give a report of what each gentleman said in toasts, but we do say that all

things proved highly agreeable. We are just going to press, and will give more fully the proceedings in our next.

PERSONAL.—Mr. B. J. K. Anderson contemplates a tour to the interior. Dr. Cooper is preparing a paper upon the African fever. It will afford a series of publication in our paper, and afterward assume a pamphlet form. Mr. John L. Crusoe (senior member of Crusoe & Bro., Bassa) left for England in the steamer of the 27th. inst. Mr. J. T. Dimery was in Liverpool and in good health when last heard from. He was going to America.

VACANCIES.—There must be three new elections: one in each of the counties of Montserrado, Bassa, and Sinoe, to fill the following vacancies: Montserrado County, to the House, J. W. Hilton, resigned; Bassa County, to the Senate, J. D. Preston took the Superintendentcy; in Sinoe, vacancy in the Senate by Montgomery's death.

ROUGH WEATHER.—The weather on our Coast has been quite rough during the month, several marine disasters occurring. The Hamburg bark "Titania," and Dutch brig "Elise Susane" lost their cables in Grand Bassa harbor. The "W. Brooke," C. T. O'King's schooner, has returned with a loss of masts.

BEHIND-HAND—ITS ADVANTAGES.—We have taken advantage of an unavoidable delay in this, our July issue, to anticipate a little of the August news, as brought by the English mail of the 3d August. So that delays have their advantages as well as the stereotype danger always ascribed to them.

THE TWENTY-SIXTH OF JULY.—On Friday, the 26th inst., was celebrated the 30th Anniversary of Liberia's Independence. That is to say, the 30th year since the people of this country, dissolving themselves from the rule of the American Colonization Society, which planted them here, took the management of the Government upon themselves. The celebration was what we would pronounce a fine one. The weather was dry and fair, and the procession full and orderly. At 10 A. M., the procession, having formed at the old Mansion House, received President Roberts and his Cabinet, Mayor Nelson, and the members of the City Council, Representatives of foreign Governments, and a large concourse of citizens generally, escorted by soldiery, under command of Lieutenant Colonel B. J. K. Anderson, who was assisted by Mr. A. H. McFarland, to Trinity church. At church, after a few introductory remarks by Mr. A. B. King, Principal of the Alexander High School at Harrisburg, the National Bill of Rights was read by him, and, with suitable interspersions of prayer and music, the exercises were closed by a few remarks by W. H. Lynch. The procession returned in order to the Mansion House, and was dismissed. The remainder

of the day was spent with the usual hilarities and joy of the occasion. The officers of State, foreign representatives, leading officiators, (marshal and speakers,) and some of the most distinguished gentlemen of the city, partook of refreshments with the President. After which they repaired to a luncheon which had been prepared by the City Council for them, where the choir was also present. Mayor Nelson and lady entertained a select company at an evening party.

PENNSYLVANIA COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society was held at the Society rooms, 609 Walnut street, on Tuesday afternoon, September 10, Hon. Eli K. Price, Chairman; Rev. John W. Dulles, D. D., Recording Secretary. Prayer by Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D. The Corresponding Secretary, Rev. Thomas S. Malcom, presented facts of much interest, in regard to the prosperity of Liberia under its present excellent President, Hon. Joseph J. Roberts. Two newspapers are now published in Monrovia—*The Republican*, and *The Lone Star*. Two young men from Liberia were introduced to the Board—James R. Priest and John H. Roberts. The first is a graduate of Liberia College, and has come to this country to study medicine. His father was twice chosen Vice-President of the Republic. He will enter the Medical Department of the Howard University at Washington, D. C. The second is the nephew of President Roberts, and is a student of the Lincoln University at Oxford, Pennsylvania. Messrs. Pettit, Perkins, and Gebhard were appointed a Committee to prepare a suitable minute in regard to the death of Dr. John Bell, one of the founders of the Society and for many years a Vice-President. Another expedition will leave for Liberia in a few weeks. Donations are greatly needed to send even one-tenth of the applicants. The excellent Miss Dix has secured a number of one hundred dollar subscriptions toward sending out one of the ministers and his family who wish to go and advance the evangelization of Africa.—*Philadelphia North American*.

HON. RALPH I. INGERSOLL.

Hon. Ralph I. Ingersoll died in New Haven, Conn., August 26, after a short illness, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. He was for many years a leading lawyer of that city. He represented New Haven in the State Legislature during seven consecutive years from 1819. He served in Congress four consecutive terms from 1825, and was upon important committees,

including the Committee of Ways and Means. After his Congressional career he resumed the practice of law in New Haven, and was State Attorney. He was offered the appointment of United States Senator, but declined, not wishing to re-enter political life. He was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia by President Polk, and remained abroad for two years. He was an enlightened friend of Africa, and since January, 1853, one of the Vice Presidents of the American Colonization Society.

DEATH OF DR. JOHN BELL.

The decease of this eminent medical writer and long-tried friend of our Society, which took place in Philadelphia on the 19th of August, deserves more than a simple announcement. He was born in the County Monaghan, Ireland, June 16, 1796. The death of his mother when he was but sixteen months' old, and the emigration of his father about the same time for the United States, left him in fact an orphan, under the care of a pious aunt. When nine years of age he was placed at school near London, where he remained five years. He sailed from Belfast in the latter part of the year 1810 for New York, and proceeded to Petersburg, Virginia, where his uncle, after whom he was named, was engaged in business, and who sent him to a school of note at Richmond, under the care of Mr. Girardin. Here he remained a year, and then entered his uncle's counting-room at the beginning of 1812. The failure of his uncle caused him to take a farm in Frederick County, Virginia, and, after a year of actual working farmer's life, he embraced the suggestion of his father that he should study medicine. He became the pupil of Dr. Draper, and after his death, in 1813, of Dr. Grayson, both of Winchester, Virginia. He then attended the lectures in the Medical Department in the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, in the winters of 1815, '16, and '17, and took his Degree of Medicine April 9, 1817. He soon after sailed as surgeon to a merchant ship for Canton, China, by way of the Mediterranean, by which he was enabled to visit Italy, and to make excursions from Leghorn to Florence, Rome, Naples, and Belgium. He spent five months of the year 1818 in Canton, and returned in another vessel of the same Philadelphia firm to Rotterdam, Holland, where, leav-

ing her, he directed his course to the Hague, and then to Brussels and Paris. He spent thirteen months in the last-named city, in study and attending private courses of lectures, and some of the great hospitals. After spending several months in the same way in London and Edinburgh, he embarked from the former for New York, arriving there January, 1821.

Dr. Bell began his professional career in Philadelphia in the latter part of the same year. He was physician to the Philadelphia Dispensary for thirteen years, and at several periods of the Small-pox Hospital. In 1850 he was called to the Chair of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati, which he filled for two winters; but his health failing, he found it necessary to resign and return to Philadelphia.

Dr. Bell was one of the founders of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, which was organized October 23, 1826, and of the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania, organized April 9, 1834. The relations of the latter with the Parent Society at Washington, and the New York State Colonization Society, with which it formed a union for certain purposes, and the care of its Colony, Bassa Cove, in Liberia, requiring frequent meetings and much deliberation and decided action, consumed much of his time and labors, and, as we have heard the Doctor say, in referring to this period, cost him a work on Physiology, for the publication of which he had made the requisite arrangements.

The chief editorial duties of the *Colonization Herald*, from 1835 to 1837 inclusive, were performed by Dr. Bell. Success and the exigencies of the cause led to the issue of the paper weekly, with him as editor. It was published for one year—1838—when it was changed to a monthly of pamphlet form, and discontinued with the June number of 1839. In April, 1843, it was again brought out as a paper by the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, under the same immediate editorship, until its temporary suspension, October, 1849.

During all the years of his connection with the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, Dr. Bell, as Manager and as Vice-President, was a regular attendant at its meetings, and participated in its discussions, and this notwithstanding the strain

to which he was continually subjected by his professional and literary labors. He was elected a Vice-President of the American Colonization Society, January 16, 1850.

Few men have maintained for so long a period a character so thoroughly untarnished. The amelioration of the condition of the poor and the temperance reformation shared in his sympathies and profited largely by his writings. In addition to this record of his public life, we take great pleasure in recording our high appreciation of his eminent merits as a man, as a philanthropist, as a Christian, and as a fellow-laborer in the work of African Colonization.

REV. R. R. GURLEY.

The following was adopted by the Executive Committee at the meeting held September 6, expressive of their sentiments on the death of our late beloved colleague. Many of those who knew and loved him well will be gratified to learn that his friend and pastor, Rev. Mr. Noble, has accepted the invitation thus extended him, and a befitting testimonial may confidently be expected :

“The Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society have learned with deep regret the decease, on the 30th day of July last, of the Honorary Secretary of the Society, and one of its esteemed Vice Presidents and Life Directors, the Rev. Ralph Randolph Gurley, in the 76th year of his age.

“The Committee hereby records its profound regard for his services and memory, its gratitude to God for the rare gifts with which he was endowed, and for the strength and steadfastness and uprightness of purpose with which these were consecrated to efforts for the amelioration of the condition of the colored people of this country and the Christian civilization of the millions of Africa, embracing, with brief intermissions, the last half century, not only throughout the United States, but in England and the Republic of Liberia.

“*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mason Noble be invited to deliver a memorial discourse, at such time as may best suit his convenience.

“*Resolved*, That we tender our sympathies to the relatives of the deceased, and that a copy of this minute be transmitted to the family.”

OUR FALL EXPEDITION.

We expect to send an expedition to Liberia next November—as soon after the Presidential election is over as it is practicable for the people to assemble for embarkation. The wishes of many of the proposed emigrants cannot be gratified: the means at our disposal being sufficient only to afford passage to a comparatively small but carefully selected company. We need hardly allude further than we have already done to the expense about to be incurred by the Society, or again invite the pecuniary aid of its friends.

SHALL THEY GO FORWARD?

The applications for the means of settlement in Liberia come to us with a constancy which is distressing, because of our inability to respond favorably. We can move no faster than the friends of the Society bid us. It is right to tell them that such demands are made, and sometimes to let those who ask for help plead for themselves. We present a late letter, simply adding the earnest question, Shall these young men be enabled to “go forward?”

TRENTON, N. J., *August 16, 1872.*

DEAR SIR: You must, as a stranger, excuse me for writing to you, but I am tired living where I am forever reminded of the scorn and prejudice with which my race are held in this country, and with but feeble hopes of amelioration. I have read several of your magazines, (REPOSITORY,) loaned me by a Quaker, and have come to the conclusion that Liberia is the only place for our race to do much good, and become a great people. I have always lived in the Middle States. Myself and a young friend have concluded to leave America. He is aged 20 years, and is a farmer. I am aged 24 years, and am a blacksmith, but can turn my hand to almost anything, namely, clerk, engineer, moulder, &c. We are both healthy, sober, and can give the best of recommendations. We have, both of us, a pretty fair education, and are willing to do hard work.

THE EAST AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

It appears that the British Government is at length in earnest to secure an entire abolition of the slave trade in Eastern Africa. Successive administrations have slept over it long enough. Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton called attention some forty years ago to its horrible enormities. In an edition of his work on the African Slave Trade, published in 1841, he gives,

“Exported by the Imaum of Muscat.....	30,000
Carried across the Desert.....	20,000
	<hr/>
	50,000
Loss by seizure, march, and detention.....	50,000
	<hr/>
Annual victims of the Mohammedan slave trade..	100,000”

“Across the Desert” probably means to Tripoli, Tunis, and Algiers, whence some of them were shipped to Constantinople. The French occupation of Algiers has probably closed that route.

In a foot-note, speaking from later information, he says that the export from the Eastern Coast—meaning Zanzibar—is 50,000 annually, instead of 30,000: so that the export was 20,000, and the destruction of life 20,000, and the whole number of victims 40,000 greater than he had stated.

We do not know the date of the British treaty with the Imaum of Muscat, or Sultan, as he is called at Zanzibar, nor have we examined its text. Perhaps several treaties have been made, not exactly alike, as with some other African powers. It is certain, however, that in 1849 the British Consul at Zanzibar forbade and prevented the exportation of slaves from that port. But they were still exported from an island a short distance to the south, probably Monfia.* And in 1853 Dr. Krapf, a German missionary, saw twenty Arabian ships at “Mukdishah,” Magadonu, engaged in smuggling slaves into Arabia. By treaty with Great Britain, Dr. Krapf says, the slave trade is prohibited, except for ten degrees south and two degrees north of the equator. Magadonu is about four or five north, and so not within the excepted limits. The excepted Coast,

*AFRICAN REPOSITORY, January, 1850, page 8.

however, includes Zanzibar, from which the British Consul prevented shipments in 1849. Perhaps a new treaty had been made, by which the Sultan was allowed to ship slaves to his own dominions in Arabia, from which they might easily be sent over other parts of Asia, and even to Mohammedan British subjects in India.*

But there is a large exportation of slaves from Africa to Asia, not noticed by Buxton and other prominent English philanthropists, though the evidence of its existence has been before the British public at least since 1844. They are sent across the Red Sea into Arabia, and through Egypt to Constantinople. It was then known that not less than 96,000 pounds sterling was received annually for those shipped from the four ports of Berbera, Zeyla, Tajure, and Massowa. Their number is not known, but may be conjectured from their price. A few of them were Galla girls, worth from a hundred to a hundred and twenty-five dollars each. But their common price at Enarea, some six hundred miles from the Coast, and near the region where they were captured, was less than a dollar each, in salt or European goods. At Shoa, well advanced on their journey to the port of embarkation, it was from ten to twenty German crowns. If it was twenty dollars each at the port, which seems quite high enough, their number must have been about 24,000 a year.† If the British stop the trade at Zanzibar, it will of course be driven northward into this channel, and the exportation from these four ports will be vastly increased. If they mean to do anything effectual, they must see to that.

We hope our Government will do its part in this matter. Our trade with Zanzibar is larger than many seem to suppose. We believe it is mostly from Salem, Massachusetts, where some men have become rich by it. We have usually had a Consul there, and, we presume, one now. Its commerce is capable of enormous development. The interior is well watered and healthy. We have no doubt that American influence there would be worth something in negotiating the needed treaty, and in destroying a traffic which is a disgrace to Christendom.

*AFRICAN REPOSITORY, October, 1860, page 202.

†AFRICAN REPOSITORY, January, 1850, pages 11 and 12. For the authorities, see page 2.

ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

ANOTHER VESSEL FOR LIBERIA.—The colored merchants of Liberia, West Africa, manifest their growing prosperity by ordering vessels for the African trade. The *A. Lincoln* and the *Edina* were built in New York. Others have been purchased. Last week the *Petronila*, built in Baltimore, a fine schooner of 450 tons, left New York for Monrovia, Liberia, purchased by Yates & Porterfield in behalf of Sherman & Dimery, who will keep the vessel in use on the West Coast of Africa. Samuel Young, recently of Philadelphia, went out on this vessel.—*North American*.

SUPPRESSION OF THE EAST AFRICAN SLAVE-TRADE.—The Queen of Great Britain, in the speech proroguing Parliament, said: "My Government has taken steps intended to prepare the way for dealing more effectually with the slave-trade on the East Coast of Africa." Her minister accordingly asked assistance from the United States. She was informed that the United States steamer *Yantic*, at Norfolk, was destined for the East India squadron, via Suez, and en route would comply with the request of Earl Granville. Orders were promptly issued to Commander Byron Wilson, commanding the *Yantic*, to stop at Muscat and notify the Imaum that the interests of civilization demanded the immediate abrogation of so much of the commercial treaty with Great Britain as reserved the right to transport domestic slaves by sea within certain limits of their own territory, and that the American Government cordially joins with Great Britain in desiring to see cancelled the treaty, which has been used as a cloak to shield and continue the slave-trade.

DIAMOND FIELDS.—A Natal correspondent writes that the diamond fields on the Vaal river cover so large an extent of ground, that to effect a thorough search would occupy twenty thousand men one hundred years. From this assertion it might be supposed that the diamonds lie very deep; but the contrary seems to be the case, for we are told that they all lie comparatively near the surface, the diggers seldom going down deeper than seven feet. The copper in Namaqualand is likewise found near the surface, and stone implements are also found in a similar position. This is accounted for by the fact that the country is fast wearing down. These implements and other indications of former habitations appear to be abundant in Basutoland. Upon digging several feet below the surface, near any of the occupied villages of the Basuto people, stone implements are found, and at a less depth the remains of fire-places, broken pots (clay,) and ash and cinder heaps are discovered. These remains are very abundant throughout the whole of Basutoland.—*Nature*.

CUBAN IMPORTATION OF SLAVES.—Rumors that small batches of slaves had are blanded had reached the British Consuls; but upon investigation these rumors had turned out to be unfounded. Up to 1868 no fewer than forty thousand slaves were annually imported into Cuba; but since 1868 the return had been *nil* in that respect.

Receipts of the American Colonization Society,

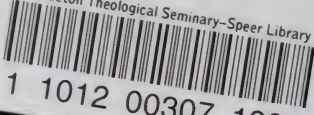
From the 20th of August to the 20th of September, 1872.

MAINE.		Griffin and Rev. A. J. Lyman, Life Members.....	60 00
By Rev J. K. Converse, (\$27.50.)		By Rev. D. C. Haynes, (\$212.49.)	
<i>Brunswick</i> —Rev. Dr. Woods, Hon. Chas. A. Gilman, ea. \$5; Miss E. Weld, \$4; Prof. A. S. Pack- ard, \$3; Prof. Sewall, \$2 50; A. F. Boardman, Edwin F. Brown, Asher Ellis, ea. \$2; A. H. Thompson, W. S. Perry, ea. \$1	27 50	<i>Canton Centre</i> —J. H. Foote.....	5 00
	27 50	<i>Collinsville</i> —H. S. Collins, \$10; W. G. Wood, \$5; H. W. Goodwin, \$1	16 00
NEW HAMPSHIRE.		<i>New Britain</i> —Mrs. Rogers, \$4; E. B. Eddy, \$2 Others, \$9.44.....	15 44
By Rev. J. K. Converse, (\$25.50.)		<i>Meriden</i> —Charles Parker, \$20; John Parker, \$10; Lyman Clark, \$5; Mrs. Miller, \$2; Mrs. Booth, \$1.....	38 00
<i>Exeter</i> —H. C. Moses, Prof. E. S. Stearns, Mrs. Chas. Bell, F. M. Davis, ea. \$5; Mrs. J. C. Long, Dr. Gorham, ea. \$2; Cash, \$1; Cash, 50c.....	25 50	<i>Birmingham</i> —Mrs. Sanford, D. N. Bassett, G. W. Shelton, J. Arnold, E. N. Shelton, ea. \$5; C. E. Clark, W. E. Downs, Mr. Somers, ea. \$2; L. L. Loomis, W. S. Brown, Capt. May, ea. \$1	34 00
	25 50	<i>Norwalk</i> —Chief Justice Butler, \$15; Geo. Kissam, Rev. S. B. S. Bissell, Rev. C. M. Selleck, James Sherwood, ea. \$10; Mrs. Curtis, \$6; Geo. B. St. John, Mrs. M. E. Betts, George Mar- vin, W. L. Barr, ea. \$5; A. Hill, \$4; Rev. O. W. Gates, J. L. Am- bler, ea. \$2.50; F. Clark, \$2; Others in M. E. Ch., \$8.95; Others in Baptist Ch., \$3.....	104 00
VERMONT.			12,675 33
By Rev. J. K. Converse, (\$123.75.)		NEW YORK.	
<i>Winooski</i> —Col. Cong. Ch.....	15 00	By Rev. Dr. Orcutt, (\$45.00.)	
<i>Middlebury</i> —Col. Meth. Ch.....	8 50	<i>New York City</i> —Robert M. Oly- phant	25 00
<i>Brandon</i> —Byron Stevens, \$30; Mrs. A. B. Goodrich, Dr. F. Ross, ea. \$5; Hon. E. N. Briggs, \$4; W. W. Reynolds, \$2; John H. Vail, Dr. Thomas, Dr. Dyer, ea. \$1	49 00	<i>Poughkeepsie</i> —William C. Ster- ling, Hon. Geo. Innes, ea. \$10.	20 00
<i>Brattleboro</i> —Additional—Dea. J. Esley, \$10; C. F. Thompson, \$5; R. Tyler, \$2.	17 00		45 00
<i>Fairfax</i> —Col. Bapt. Ch.....	21 50	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.	
<i>Royalton</i> —Col. Cong. Ch.....	12 75	<i>Washington</i> —Miscellaneous.....	293 23
	123 75	KENTUCKY.	
MASSACHUSETTS.		<i>Burlington</i> —James M. Preston...	30 00
<i>North Andover</i> —Trin. Cong. Soc., by George L. Davis, (per. Rev. Dr. Tracy).....	20 00	<i>Princeton</i> —Mrs. P. Urey.....	10 00
By Rev. D. C. Haynes, (\$96.50.)			40 00
<i>Concord</i> —Wm. Munroe, Misses Munroe, ea. \$10; Mrs. Damon, C. E. Damon, ea. \$5; John Brown, \$3; Rev. G. Reynolds, \$2	35 00	FOR REPOSITORY.	
<i>Worcester</i> —Calvin Taft, \$10; Isaac Davis, H. H. Miller, D. H. Whitcomb, N. G. Merrifield, Jerome Marble, Asa Walker, ea. \$5; A. G. Tolman, \$3; Dan'l Ward, C. G. Harrington, ea. \$2.....	47 00	NEW HAMPSHIRE — <i>Manchester</i> — S. S. Marden, to Oct. 1, 1873, \$1. <i>Peterborough</i> —Reuben Washburn, to Sept. 1, 1873, \$1..	2 00
<i>Springfield</i> —George Merriam, C. M. Knox, ea. \$5; Dr. Lawton, H. Sanderson, ea. \$2; E. S. Hoadley, 50c.....	14 50	VERMONT — <i>Putney</i> —Dea. David Crawford, to Aug. 1, 1873, \$2.60. <i>New Haven</i> —E. H. Hoyt, to Oct. 1, 1873, \$1	3 60
	96 50	TENNESSEE — <i>Philadelphia</i> —Solo- mon Bogart, James Nelson, ea. \$1, to Jan. 1, 1873	2 00
CONNECTICUT.		ILLINOIS — <i>Chicago</i> —Robert E. Lawrence, to May 1, 1873,.....	1 00
<i>New London</i> —Hon. Thomas W. Williams	100 00		
By Rev. Dr. Orcutt, (\$12,393.83.)		Repository.....	8 60
<i>New Haven</i> —Bequest, in addi- tion, of the late William Bost- wick.....	12,333 33	Donations.....	750 74
<i>Milford</i> —Coll. Plymouth and First Cong. Ch's, to constitute their pastors, Rev. George H.		Legacy.....	12,333 33
		Miscellaneous.....	293 23
			\$13,885 95

For use in Library only

I-7 v.48
African Repository

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



1 1012 00307 1885