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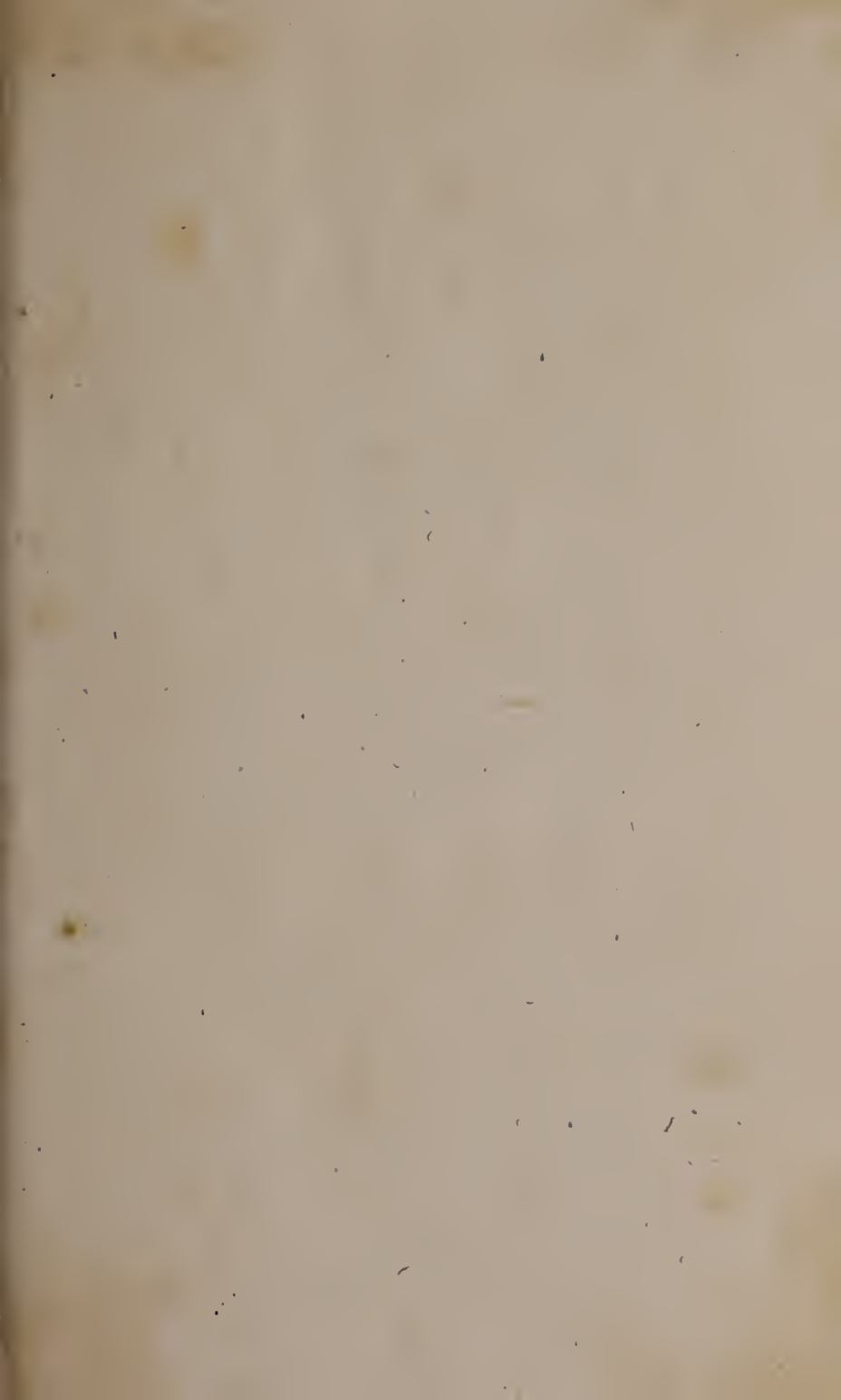
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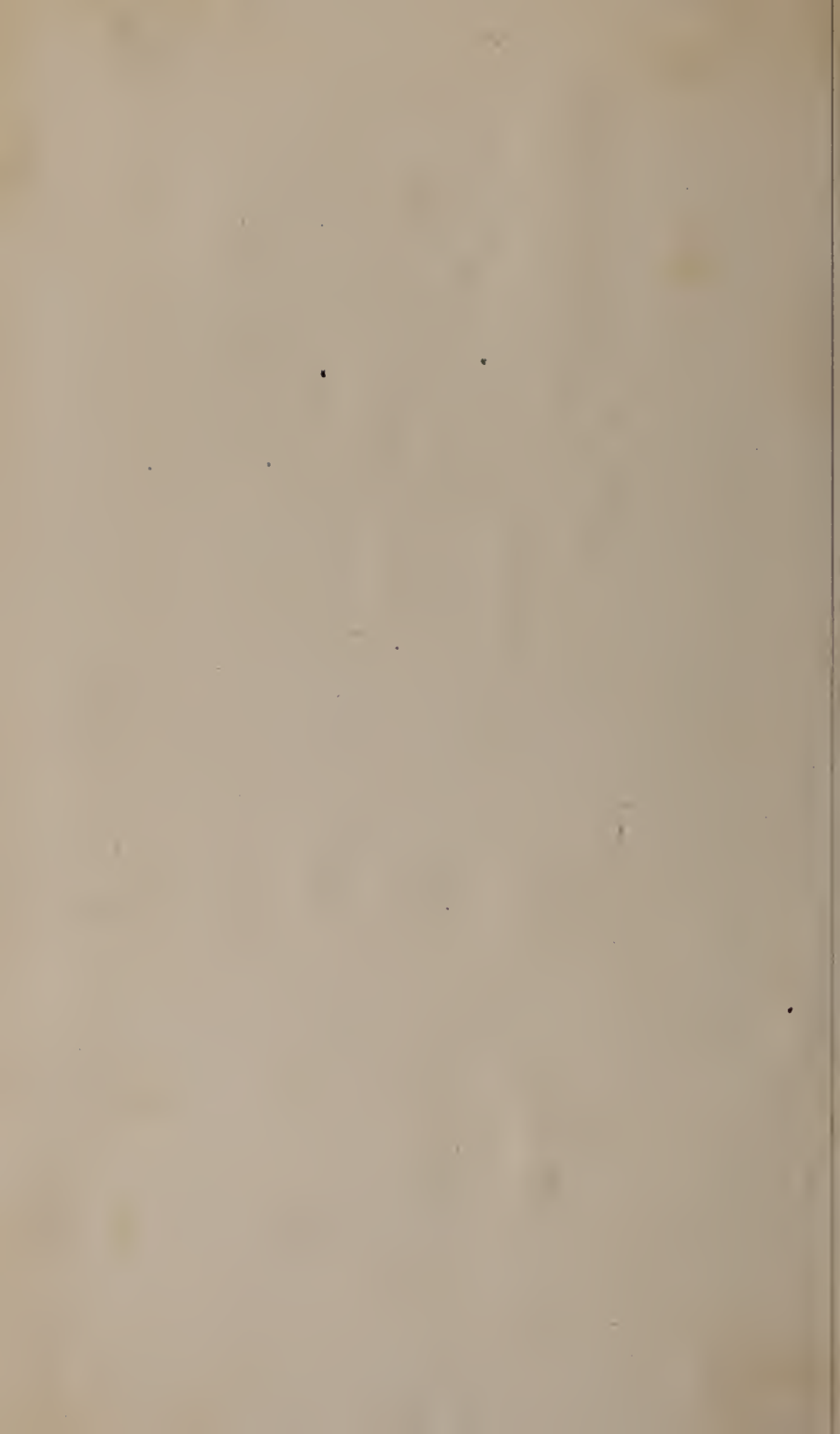
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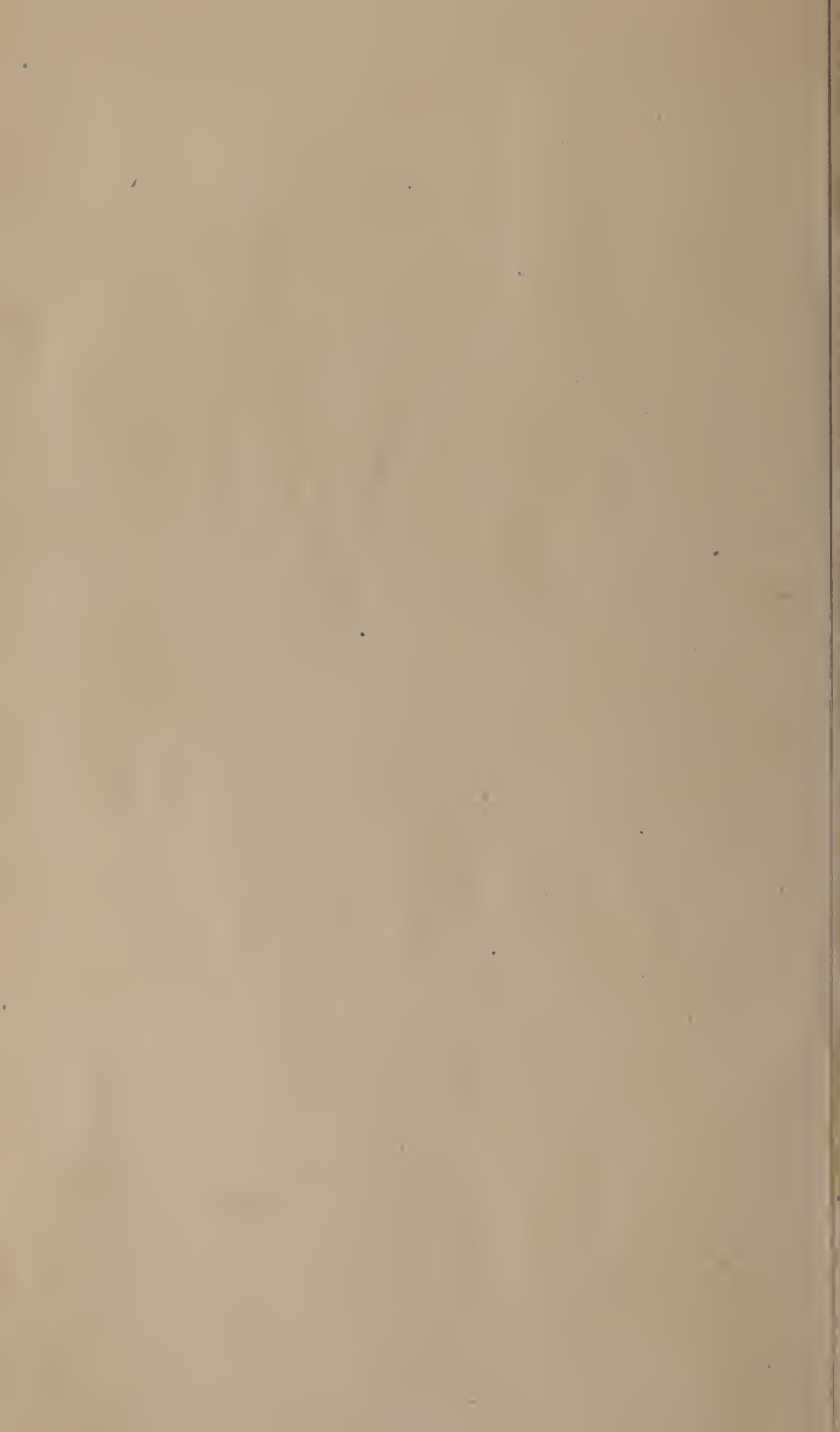
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THE THIRTY-THIRD VOLUME

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WASHINGTON, APRIL, 1857.

[No. 4.

Africa opening to Civilization and Christianity.

CENTRAL AFRICA, BY REV. T. J. BOWEN.

EXPLORATION OF THE NIGER.

Among the most remarkable and encouraging events of the present day are the multiplied and successful attempts to explore Africa, and by means of commerce and the agency of missionaries to awaken the intellect and industry of her barbarous and semi-civilized nations, and bring them to the knowledge, practice and hopes of the christian religion. There are many causes working harmoniously and powerfully for this end. Many missionaries, of various denominations, inspired by a holy enthusiasm in view of the beneficence and moral grandeur of the enterprise, dedicate themselves unhesitatingly to its accomplishment. Among the adventurous, energetic and successful of these servants of the Most High and friends to Africa, the Rev. THOMAS JEFFERSON BOWEN stands distinguished.— A native of Georgia, but in early youth engaged in military expeditions both in Texas and Florida, he

was providentially trained for the arduous service to which he felt himself summoned, when he assumed the profession of a minister of Christ. To the great purpose of planting the christian church in Central Africa he consecrated himself. On the 22d of February, 1849, Mr. Bowen had the satisfaction to be appointed by the Southern Board of Baptist Missions, a missionary to Sudan. He was accompanied by the Rev. Hervey Goodale and Robt. F. Hill, a young man of color. With these companions Mr. Bowen sailed from Providence, R. I., on the 17th December, 1849, and arrived at Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, on the 8th of February following. Delay in obtaining an early passage to Badagry, and ignorance of the nature of the rainy season in Yoruba, induced Mr. Bowen and his companions to land at Monrovia, with the view of remaining until the next dry season, and after careful observation of the condition of

things in Liberia, subsequently to penetrate to the Golah Country, where they were informed was a large town, at which they hoped to find Pulohs or Fellatahs, and from which they might pass on if they pleased, by much frequented route, to the Niger. Mr. Goodale died at Sama, the large town of about 1 000 inhabitants in the Golah Country, and Mr. Bowen, after almost innumerable and insuperable difficulties thrown in his way by Lansanna the king, and his surly subjects, finally returned to Monrovia and sailed for Cape Coast Castle the 20th of June, 1850. For two years he was occupied in visiting and examining many points of the African coast, and the towns and cities of the Kingdom of Yoruba, acquiring a knowledge of the language, and preaching the gospel. He returned to the United States near the beginning of 1853, and with additional missionaries sailed again for Africa on the 6th of July of that year. Since that time the work of missions has been prosecuted by Mr. Bowen among the people of Yoruba, with remarkable resolution and decided success. "Our first station," says Mr. Bowen, "was founded in October, 1853, at Ijaye, which is about one hundred and twenty miles from Lagos, on the sea coast, if we travel by land, or one hundred and fifty miles if we ascend the Ogun river to Abbeokuta. In 1855 we planted a second station, at Lagos, and a

third at Ogbomoshaw, which is fifty miles further interior than Ijaye. The four missionaries already in the country have just been reinforced by three others" * * * The obstructions thrown in the way of access to the interior by the barbarians on the coast, and the fact of the superior healthfulness of the "open and elevated plains of the interior," are represented as circumstances which have materially modified the plans adopted by the Baptist missionaries for their operations. "We propose to run a line of stations from Lagos, on the coast, directly to the remote interior, and there to spread abroad our operations on all sides, in a healthy country, among a semi-civilized people, just as a miner runs his shaft directly down to the material for which he is seeking, and then extends his explorations on every side of the mine. It is most convenient to locate our stations at distances of fifty or sixty miles apart, so that missionaries' supplies, and our mails, may conveniently proceed from one to another. The physical characteristics of Sudan, as distinguished from Guinea, or the low country, begin a short distance below Abbeokuta, but are not fully developed till we reach a point a few miles north of Awyaw. Our line of stations, when completed, will probably include Lagos, Abbeokuta, Ijaye, Awyaw, and Ogbomoshaw. Hence we may properly spread abroad to Iwo,

Idoko, Offa, Ishakki, Igboho, Ikishi, Kaiama, &c. But still we propose to push forward to Sokoto and Kano. We have no doubts as to the willingness of the people to receive us. Nothing is wanting but men and money, and both of these God has given to our churches in abundance."

Mr. Bowen returned late in the last autumn to the United States, his own health having suffered from a tropical climate and excessive labor, and that of Mrs. Bowen still more severely. His recent visit to Washington afforded him the opportunity, on the Sabbath, first in the hall of the House of Representatives, and subsequently in several of the city churches, of presenting to the public before the adjournment of Congress, the results of his careful inquiries and observations during seven years, at various points on the coast, but mostly in Yoruba and the adjoining countries of Central Africa. Deep interest was excited in the minds of all who listened to his statements. The necessity of connecting civilization with the publication of the gospel, and as a condition of its perpetuity among a barbarous or half civilized population, was urged with great force. In the opinion of Mr. Bowen the exploration of the Niger (the Mississippi of Africa) should be made immediately by our Government or people, both for the benefit of commerce and the cause of civi-

lization and christianity. He invited the attention of several gentlemen of both Houses of Congress to the subject, and on motion of Mr. Toombs it was referred for consideration to the Committee on Commerce, who through Mr. Seward reported a bill appropriating twenty-five thousand dollars for the object, which was unfortunately lost in the conferences between committees of the two Houses on the last night of the session. But this measure must soon be carried into effect. The statements of Mr. Bowen have made a profound impression. They come from a very intelligent and sagacious observer, who resides, when at his missionary station, among a populous, industrious, agricultural, half civilized people, within sixty miles of the Niger.

We have before us "Central Africa, or Adventures and Missionary labors in several countries in the interior of Africa, from 1849 to 1856,"—a book of 359 pages, published in Charleston, S. C.—by Mr. Bowen; a work comprising a great amount of most valuable information, and which cannot fail powerfully to advance the interests of Africa and her children. From this able and instructive work we select at present only the following passages, embodying briefly the views of Mr. Bowen of the condition and prospects of Liberia.

"Considering the importance of the subject, and my own relations

to the African continent, I cannot permit this opportunity to pass without expressing my opinion as to the natural and probable course of events in Liberia. It is true that great and surprising revolutions are possible, both in Europe and America, but it is not probable that anything will occur in either continent which will overwhelm African colonization and its counterpart, African missions.

"Assuming, as we justly may, that the affairs of the world will continue to move on, as they ever have done, through all these changes, in obedience to the moral and social forces which are their motive power, I feel authorized to entertain large hopes as to the future of the colonization scheme now identified with Liberia. We may define the elements of a great nation to be, first, a numerous, virtuous and intelligent people; second, a wide and productive territory, and thirdly, a just and strong government.—My hopes claim all these for the future Liberia, and I believe that these hopes are authorized by existing circumstances.

"First, as to the *numerous people*; I look to America and to Africa, to the emigration of American negroes, and to the civilization of African tribes.

"It does not seem unreasonable to expect an extensive emigration of American blacks. Free blacks are already numerous in the United States, and their number will naturally and therefore almost inevitably increase. They are now prevented from emigrating by three causes; the hardships incident to settling in Liberia as a new country, abundance of food and employment in America, and their own prejudices against the cause of colonization. But all these hindrances to emigration will disappear. As Liberia

grows older, the hardships incident to settling in all new countries will cease to exist, and there will be more food and more employment of every kind for new comers.—This alone would give an impetus to emigration. But still further, the abundance of food and employment enjoyed by the free blacks in America is sure to be diminished sooner or later. Our country will at last become populous, and our peasantry whether white or black must experience that scarcity of food which is felt by the peasantry of all other populous countries.—Then we must witness a new species of antagonism, the most uncompromising and terrible of all antagonisms, a strife for bread, which is life; and still more terrible to the free negro, because it will be a conflict of races in which all the circumstances will be against him. Justly or unjustly, in a struggle for food and for existence, the white race will claim precedence, and they will enforce the claim; for ultimate sovereignty resides in the right arm of man, and the right arm is powerful in proportion to the strength of the will and of the intellect by which it is directed.—Even the slave, being at once the property and the family of the master, must have precedence over the free negro, so long as the wants of the more numerous white race will permit slavery to exist at all.—I do not say that matters will ever come to their natural extremity, but there will certainly be a powerful tendency in that direction, so powerful that the free negro will be obliged to yield, and to fly for the preservation of his existence. And whither will he fly, except to Africa? Then the land of his fathers will be his land of promise. Then the colony which he now curses will be the bright star of his hope.

Then the opponents and traducers of African colonization and African missions will be remembered, but not honored. The colonizationist foresees the coming storm, and labors, unrequited let it be, to provide a refuge which shall stand forth as a blessing to two races.— He at least is not a purblind, self-worshipping philosopher, whose brightest visions cannot reach the threshold of to-morrow.

“But there is still another view of the case from which we are led to expect that a great African nation will derive its population in part from America. The God of all the earth, without whose directing providence not even a sparrow falls to the ground, has not located so many Africans in America without a purpose. The man who looks candidly and reverently upon the principles and facts of divine government, can see more than African wars, slave-ships, and American plantations in the present relations of the white and black races. He can see millions of civilized negroes in America, better clothed and fed, and more virtuous and happy than the analogous classes of white people in some other countries. He can see tens and hundreds of thousands of evangelical christians, regenerated men and women, among these blacks, redeemed from the curse of sin in consequence of African slavery.— And finally, he can see African colonization and African missions arising from this slavery, and flowing back as a river of light and life upon the African continent. Perhaps he will say with Jacob; “Verily, God is in this place, and I knew it not.” Providence never fails for want of means; and he will find the means to colonize Africa. At present, before the fulness of the time, he employs individuals to

plant and nourish Liberia. As events roll on, and the increasing number of free negroes feel the necessity of emigration, the whites will feel it also with more and more intensity, till it becomes a great national affair. Then the federal government, and perhaps the legislatures of all the States will vote annual appropriations to aid the colored people in returning to their original seats. Such are some of Liberia's hopes from America.

“Africa too will contribute her millions of civilized men. While the success of colonization is yet a problem, some persons fear that the Liberians so far from civilizing Africa, will relapse into barbarism.— But none of these persons have considered the natural and almost inevitable result of the various forces which are acting in and upon Liberia. Neither have they acquainted themselves with the more tangible argument of facts. Liberia is full of well attended churches and schools. She has a good government, well administered under officers elected by the people from among themselves. She is steadily increasing in prosperity and in everything that pertains to civilization. And she is sustained by numerous and powerful friends who would sacrifice much, from principle, to prevent her destruction.

“The natives around and among the colonists are barbarians, but they are men, and are capable of being elevated by the same forces that elevate others. As before stated, they are moving onward toward civilization, and this motion, which is already beginning to be remarkable, is more likely to be accelerated than retarded. Some of the superior tribes, as the Kroos and Vies, will lead the way and rise up to the estate of citizenship in the republic. Then others will

follow, and yet others more and more remote from the coast, and who shall say, Thus far the influence shall go and no further?

"But we are met by the objection that the Africans are mentally and morally incapable of civilization. I have sometimes expressed the opinion that while opponents are perplexing this question by vain arguments, there are other men who will solve the problem by doing the work. Yet it is a problem at present, and our efforts to civilize Africa may fail. Of this however, I have no serious fears, provided the nations of the earth will keep sufficiently quiet to permit the continuance of our labors. Let it be granted that the dark races are constitutionally inferior to the white; and again, that education, however long continued in successive generations, cannot improve the brain and nervous system, or the innate faculties of a race,* still the believers in a future African colonization cannot act so absurdly as not to fall back on the following admitted truths:

"1. That man is everywhere capable of improvement. The most enlightened races were once barbarians, as the Greeks, Germans, French and English; and the most degraded races as the Hotentots and the negroes of Guinea are now making advances toward civilization. At Freetown, El Mina, Cape Coast Castle and Akra, the natives are so much improved that they dress respectably, and live in comfortable stone houses. The natives at any other point on the coast, or in the interior, are equally capable of being improved.

"2. The limit of man's improveability has never been ascertained.

I can easily conceive that England and America might be now considered almost barbarous compared with the highest moral, intellectual and social excellence of which a nation of our own race is capable. We may admit, and I think justly, that the negroes will never be equal to the whites, where the two races enjoy equal opportunities: for the white race, everywhere, under all circumstances, is endowed with characteristics which are not found in the negroes or in any other dark race. But this does not require us to conclude that the negro any more than the white man has reached his maximum of improvement. There might be negro nations fully as much civilized as we are at present, and there might at the same time be white nations as barbarous as the ancient Germans.

"Our own civilization is not purely the result of our own superior moral and intellectual powers. America, England, Germany, etc., depend for their civilization on Greece and Rome; Greece and Rome derived theirs from the valleys of the Euphrates and the Nile; and Egypt and Assyria were civilized of necessity, for the reason that millions of people were crowded together in fertile valleys surrounded by extensive deserts. The physical geography of the globe has been the great civilizer of man. If the deserts of Asia and Africa had not existed, and if there had been no Mediterranean sea, and no gloomy forests and rugged mountains on the north of the Grecian and Italian peninsulas, the civilized kingdoms of Europe and the grand republic of North America could not have existed.† On the other hand, physical geography has blight-

*This has never been proved, and it is certainly opposed by numerous facts.

†The Manchus, a white race, who civilized China, where themselves driven into civilization by their position on fertile spots in the Great Asiatic Desert. Want of

ed Africa with the curse of barbarism. Her immense northern deserts arose as an impassable barrier to that current of eastern civilization which has overflowed Europe and America: her climate has precluded the possibility of extensive conquest by Europeans, and her wide fertile interior has given unbounded scope to that barbarism which requires nothing but food and animal gratification.

"Still further, the physical geography of the globe has established the civilization which it called into existence. Europe could not soon, if ever, have originated civilization, but no part of the globe was so well adapted to receive it, as it existed when it was growing old, and was likely to die a natural death in Egypt and Assyria. Europe herself divided by seas and mountains, perpetually shaken by the conflicts of races, and crushed by a weight of abominable antiquities, could never have developed and perfected the civilization which she had received and preserved. America was discovered just in the right time to save Europe and the world, just at the time when it was demanded by the conflict of opinions, feelings and interests, which then, as now, was substantially a conflict of different European races. More than a thousand years of successive conquests running and returning in all directions throughout Europe, had scattered all races through all countries. But the features, feelings and habits of different families

in almost every town, showed that the old races, though *mechanically* intermixed, were not to a great extent *chemically* blended. In other parts of Europe no less than in England, there was a class of men of similar features and character because they belonged to the same ethnical family, who were distinguished by an intense feeling of personal independence, which revealed itself in a demand for civil and religious liberty. Similarity of feeling and character led thousands of this race to America,* where the physical geography of a vast region almost necessitates the existence of a nation of greater integral extent, and more powerful in the control of mankind in general, than any nation that ever has existed or ever can exist while the seas, continents, deserts, mountains and rivers of the globe retain their present form.

"To this nation the appointed arbiter of earth, God has brought the barbarous negro race, and from this country he is leading them back, civilized and christianized to Africa. In the mean time, African barbarism has run its course, and is growing old and decrepit. The savage exuberance of the soil has passed away, and the character of the people has necessarily changed. Almost everywhere they are congregated in towns, some of which are of immense size. Throughout half the continent, they are civilized on their own basis, to a degree which surprises every one who

room to expand by emigration forced the Manchu civilization upon the prolific Mongolians of China, a race of men who probably have never made any great discovery or invention.

*There are many American of other races and accordingly they have other countenances and other feelings. It is not climate and circumstances which have given a national face and character to the American people. They are more nearly an original ethnical race than most other white nations, and hence the national features and national character which exist everywhere, and has ever existed since the States were colonies.

becomes acquainted with the fact. They cannot retrograde now, for that would be contrary to the geographical, moral and social causes which are moving them forward.—Just at this time, precisely when needed, precisely when the people see their necessities and long for assistance, the allied causes of African colonization and African missions, backed by America, by Christendom, and by the irresistible demands of modern commerce, pledge themselves to the redemption of Africa. Now we look again at the physical geography of that continent. Her first condition of isolation and savage fertility, inevitably produced its result, but these circumstances are gone forever, beyond the possibility of restoration. Steam unites her to the rest of the world, and four thousand years of cultivation have effectually denuded her of forests.* The next condition of her physical geography to be noticed, is seen in her great rivers, piercing to the heart of the continent, and in the immense undulating plains, whose innumerable streams and fertile soil, infallibly indicate the uses of her great rivers.

“Let us now turn to feeble Liberia, and ask if there is not hope? Where shall we fix her future boundary? In this case, the extensive fertile territory, which is one condition of her greatness, is so extensive that we cannot venture to claim a fourth part of it even for a great nation. As to the just and strong government which is necessary to her success, we have no reason to fear. She has begun well by modeling her government after the great exemplar for the nations, the Constitution of the United States. When despotism shall have

perished in Europe, which it is sure to do, we need not fear its existence in our own Liberia. That African colonization and missions may meet with reverses, or at least with serious difficulties, as all human affairs must do, I freely admit, but it seems to me that their perpetuation and their ultimate triumph are guaranteed by moral and social causes, which are as irresistible as the physical laws of nature.”

We here give two letters from Mr. Bowen on this subject:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 1857.

Dear Sir:—Permit me to submit a few brief statements in reference to the proposed exploration of the Niger.

Its importance to science, and especially to general history, is too obvious to require comment. The zoology, botany, and geology, even of Western Africa, are but imperfectly known, and we may expect a transition to fields of great interest as we proceed into the interior. So far as plants and birds are concerned, this transition is distinctly marked at Illorin, about two hundred miles from the slave coast.

I have seen many natives from distant parts of Sudan—as Sangano, Bambarra, Hausa, Burnu and Cobbe,—and especially from the countries east of the Niger. They all agree in stating that these regions generally, are elevated, nearly free from forests, well watered, productive, and populous. Yoruba, and the adjacent kingdoms which I have seen, are truly a beautiful and delightful country. Nothing has surprised me more than the extent of some African towns. The city of Abbeokuta, which we measured with a perambulator, is about four

*The forests of Guinea are a small portion of the continent; the rest is prairie, the result of cultivation.

miles in length, and little less than twelve miles in circuit. Ibaddau, Illorin, and from report, Ileshah and Ohwah are still larger. We are acquainted with about a dozen other towns not much inferior to these, and we have heard of others.

The traditions, mythology, and customs of the people, point to the East. In Yoruba they have three principal gods, and the serpent symbol is common on the doors of their temples. Their Iboni institution, a sort of Free-masonry, must be very ancient.

My Yoruba vocabulary now extends to more than ten thousand words, most of which are derived, in one way or another, from about one hundred and twenty primitive verbs, and a few hundred primitive nouns. We find many curious coincidences between these primitive words and those of several ancient languages:—For instance, in Yoruba, *sufe*, to whistle, (of Arab *sifr*;) and again, *luwe*, to battle, in Fellatah, *loto ef*, the Greek *luo*, and Latin *lavo lotum*.

I have more than a thousand Fellatah words in about three hundred sentences. The grammar of that language points to an origin beyond the boundaries of Africa; but that of Yoruba is purely African.

The Fellatahs (properly Pulo) affirm that their ancestors were formerly white men; and most of them from the Senegal to Burnu exhibit unmistakable evidences of a Caucasian innervation.

The celebrated Aggra beads, which are dug from the earth in Yoruba and Juku, appear to me identical in form and quality with the bluish beads on the mummies in the British museum.

I would here refer to the curious extract from the Sultan Belbo's book as given in the appendix to Denham and Clapperton's Travels.

These facts are indications of the

manner in which we are to account for the degree of civilization which exists in Sudan, and which, according to the recent reports of Dr. Livingston, is found among the central nations of the continent far south of the line. It seems that we have been mistaken in regard to the extent of African barbarism. According to the natives of the country, the Kingdom of Yoruba is the least civilized of all the nations which we, as they, refer to Sudan. And yet in Yoruba they smelt and work iron with some skill, and are acquainted with many little arts, as weaving, dyeing, soap-making, and the manufacture of clothing, saddles, &c. The dress, and the houses, and the people, are similar to those of the Moors. Many people at Illorin can read and write Arabic. I was surprised to see considerable quantities of writing paper for sale in the markets, together with ink, inkstands, and ready-made pens, which they call *calamo*. There are three towns in Nufe where they manufacture glass, one of which is west of the Niger.

Heretofore all these curious facts, and probably others of still greater interest, have been almost concealed from the civilized world. But I trust that the time has come around when these distant countries shall be better known. The people themselves desire intercourse with white men; partly for the sake of receiving our cloth, tobacco, and other merchandise, in return for their gold, ivory, gums, and palm oil; and partly, as some have said, because they wish to become acquainted with our knowledge, which they regard as the secret of our rumored greatness.

There is probably no country in which civilized philanthropy may effect so much as in Central Africa. The people generally acknowledge

their ignorance, and express a desire to improve. The physical condition of their country, denuded of its primeval forests by long-continued cultivation, and the subsequent annual burning of the grass; and their social condition, crowded as they are in large towns, and divided into mutually dependent classes of farmers, artisans, and graziers, and, in brief, the general condition of the country and people almost preclude the possibility of a retrograde to deeper barbarism.—Necessity, the great civilizer, has laid her hand on these nations, and their onward progress is demanded by the laws of physical and moral nature.

At present our best information in regard to Central Africa falls on the public mind like vague rumors. An exploration of the Niger would convert these rumors into authentic facts, and the result might be a traffic with that country which would bring in immense blessings upon the people.

It is very possible that a single voyage up the Niger would not be profitable. The commercial resources of the country are not accumulated on the river, but in the large towns on the caravan routes to the Mediterranean and to the Atlantic. To divert this traffic to its natural channel, and to develop the resources of the country, we must establish permanent trading houses on the Niger and its branches. The traffic at these points would gradually increase, till the laborious and expensive caravan trade would be broken up, and the Niger would become the grand highway for all the imports and exports of Sudan.

Respectfully yours,

T. J. BOWEN.

Dr. Joseph Henry,
Chairman of Committee
to promote exploration of Niger.

To the Committee on Commerce, H. R.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 1857.

Dear Sir:—Your note of yesterday has been brought in this morning, and I proceed at once to answer your enquiries.

The extensive country of Sudan, or Central Africa, lying on both sides of the Niger, is very different in most respects from Western Africa, or Guinea. The surface of the country is generally undulating, the soil more or less productive, the streams numerous, clear and rocky, and the scenery beautiful. Most of the country is open and grassy, with scattering trees, which give it very much the appearance of the muskitt prairies in western Texas.

So far as I have seen and heard from native travelers, there are no chains of mountains of considerable length; but short chains and patches of mountainous hills are common in some districts, and we frequently meet with isolated hills, some of which are immense masses of granite, arising abruptly from the plain. The elevation of the land, as we proceed from the coast, is gradual, so as to be favorable to the opening of roads, and yet so rapid that Capt. Clapperton saw *frost* and *ice* in the Hausa country within twelve degrees of the equator. The Puloh (or Fellatah) people, who inhabit that country, have told me of ice, which they call *galada*. Wheat is a common crop on the table lands of Hausa and Kanike (or Burnu.)

The people of Sudan are of two classes, called in that country "black men" and "red men." The latter may be described as woolly-headed Indians. They are numerous on both sides of the Niger, amounting perhaps in all to twenty or thirty millions. Some of them, as the Pulohs, are Mohammedans, but others, mentioned by Caillé, like many of the blacks in Sudan, are

heathen. Central Africa includes numerous kingdoms, most of which acknowledge the authority of the Puloh Emperor, who resides at Sokoto. These countries are generally populous. Some of their numerous towns are very extensive, but we can scarcely make a satisfactory conjecture as to the number of inhabitants.

Abbeokuta, about sixty miles from the sea, in the little kingdom of Egba, has been measured. It is nearly four miles in length, from one and a half to three miles in breadth, and perhaps twelve miles in circuit. Our estimates of the population vary from sixty thousand to one hundred thousand. Between Abbeokuta and the Niger—that is, within a distance of one hundred and sixty miles—there are more than a dozen large towns, some of which are more populous than Abbeokuta. The greatest of these in reputation if not in size, is Ilorin, the capital of a little Puloh kingdom of the same name. Here are many red or light colored people, and thousands of men who can read and write Arabic, the only kind of writing known in Sudan. Large towns are found in Barba (or Borghoo,) Nufe, Jakabu, Hausa Kanike, and various other kingdoms. But according to the people of Ilorin, the largest of all African towns is Ohwoh, six days' journey—say one hundred miles—beyond the Niger. We have not yet been able to visit this town, owing to the pressure of other business.

Central African houses are built in Moorish style, large and low, with many rooms opening into an interior court. The walls are made of clay, which bakes hard in the sun, and the roofs are generally thatched with grass. A single house contains from twenty to one hundred persons. In some respects the

Sudanese are considerably advanced from mere barbarism. Whether heathens or Mohammedans, they are clad in trowsers and tunics. They are remarkably courteous in their social intercourse. Their women do not labor in the farms. Several rude arts are commonly practiced, as the smelting of iron, and in some places of copper and lead; the manufacture of hoes, axes, adzes, knives, and swords; the spinning of cotton and silk, (the latter a new article worthy of our better acquaintance,) weaving and tailoring, both of which are regular professions; dyeing blue, yellow, and red; soap-making; brewing corn and millet; making palm and grass hats; also saddles, bridles and sandals, and a sort of shoes and boots. Three towns in Nufe have the art of working in glass, and they produce an article which it is said cannot be successfully imitated in Europe.

But the great business of the people is agriculture, in which they are far more skillful and industrious than we have supposed. The farms of some large cities extend to a distance of twenty-five miles from the town walls. The principal crops are Indian corn, the same as our own, and the tropical yam. But they also plant cotton, sugar cane, beans and peas, sweet potatoes, cassava, ground peas, ginger, red pepper, &c., and the country is admirably adapted to coffee and other tropical productions of great value to the civilized world. The domestic animals are the same as our own; a fine breed of cattle, two kinds of sheep, the bearded ram being peculiar to that country, goats, hogs, horses, asses, &c. Some of the horses brought to Ilorin by the Moors and Arabs, have sold, as I am assured, for one thousand dollars, but the price of a pony varies from fifteen to thirty dollars.

The Sudanese are not an indolent people. They rise early, and their daily markets are stocked with provisions, animals and all other articles known in the country. Another great branch of industry in Sudan is traffic. In my first journey to Ilorin I traveled with a caravan of traders, which could not have numbered much less than three thousand persons. Large caravans are constantly arriving at Ilorin from all directions, and the same is going on at all the other great centres of Central African trade. Their merchandise consists of innumerable things provided in the country, from the simple water gourd to the large elephant's tooth which it requires two men to carry; and of many articles from Europe and America, from the tobacco pipe to the piece of red velvet worth sixty dollars. Some of the principal exports from Sudan, if the trade were opened, would be gold, ivory, gums, palm-oil, vegetable butter, hides, cinnamon, and indigo of unrivalled quality. Some of the imports would be various kinds of cloth, blankets, felt hats, coral beads and other ornaments, tobacco, which is used by every body, male and female, guns and gunpowder. All the millions of Central Africa desire to buy something, and all by one means or another could pay for it. At present the principal foreign trade of the countries beyond the Niger is carried on across the great desert by means of camels—(see McCulloh's Commercial Dictionary, and other similar authorities.) Moorish and Arabian merchants penetrate to every part of the country, and sometimes remain for years, till they have grown wealthy. I saw persons of this class at Ilorin, who professed to have been at Constantinople and Alexandria. One of them told me he had seen the flag of my country on the Mediterranean.

The people of western Sudan trade principally to the coast of Guinea. Being afraid to risk themselves among the savages along the coast, they meet them at such intermediate points as Kumasi and Gonga, and exchange the productions of Sudan for the manufactures of civilized nations. As the barbarians of Guinea derive great profit from the trade, they are anxious to preserve it, not only by keeping the Sudanese away from the coast, but by preventing white men from entering Sudan. When I attempted to reach the interior from Liberia in 1850, I met with much trouble from this jealousy, and was finally compelled to return after penetrating the country to a distance of ninety miles. This double fraud upon commerce injures both the Central African and the white man, while it is really no advantage to the Guinea man, whose debauchery and barbarism increase with the increase of his wealth.

We may hope that before many years the commerce of Central Africa will be diverted from the paths of the desert and the forests of Guinea to its apparently natural outlet, the Niger. If this, or something analogous, cannot be done, one of the finest countries within the tropics must still remain cut off from the civilized world without a development of its great natural resources.

It is still a problem, however, whether the Niger can be made available for this purpose. Perhaps its navigation may be rendered impossible by rapids; or the climate may be fatal to white men; or the people might rob and murder our traders; or the productions of the country may not be worth the cost of getting at them. All these are questions which nothing but facts can decide. Seven years ago the prospect of establishing Christian

Missions in Central Africa was pronounced chimerical; nearly four years was consumed in exploration. Our line of stations, commenced three years ago, now extends to the furthest border of Yoruba, the first division of Sudan. The problem has been solved, and our hopes more than realised.

One of the steamers in Laird and Oldfield's expedition, ascended the Niger to Rabba in Nufe. With them exploration was a secondary object, and they made no attempt to proceed farther. If their design had been to explore the river to the head of navigation, they might perhaps have moored their boat at Sego or Kaba, 2,000 miles from the sea, and have returned in triumph; but now their expedition stands recorded as a paralyzing failure.

The only place at which we have reason to fear obstruction, is near Busa. Unfortunately the Landers made but few careful observations; but we learn from them that the river here is not so rapid, but that the natives are in the constant habit of paddling up it in their canoes. Lander himself went in a canoe from Busa to Yami, and descended thence to the sea. According to Caillé the Niger above Timhuctu is still several hundred yards in width, and affords good navigation. Park descended from above Timbuctu, in a vessel which he called a schooner, and lost his life at Busa, through the mistake of firing on the people, who are now known to be a harmless, well disposed race.

It is very probable that a light draught steamer could ascend the Niger to Sego, more than 1,500 miles from the sea, at almost any season.

The delta of the Niger is very sickly, but a steamer can soon pass through the swamps to an open and rocky country, similar to that which we now occupy in Yoruba. Laird

and Oldfield, intent on buying ivory, remained far too long in the low country, and the mortality of their men is plainly attributable to other causes besides malaria. The Chadda expedition, in 1854, returned to the coast without the loss of a single man by disease or accident.

There might be some danger of an attack from the Moors at Timbuctu, but a very little powder and ball would probably bring them to terms. At the worst there could be no real danger to the steamer: and judging from the spirit of the Moors whom I have seen in Africa, those of Timbuctu would hail the arrival of the steamer with joy. There is nothing to fear from the blacks. I live among them, within sixty miles of the Niger, in perfect security of life and property. We could reside on the bank of the river in equal safety.

Neither Laird and Oldfield, nor the late Chadda Expedition, were able to make money by the adventure. The reason of the failure in this respect is very obvious. The centres of trade, where the valuable commodities of the country are accumulated, are not on the Niger, but at various distances from it, in the large cities which are sustained by the caravan traffic across the desert and to the western coast. The navigation of the Niger would create new centres of trade, which would call the productions of the country to the banks of the stream, and the caravan trade to Tripoli and Guinea would be broken up. Every year would add to the civilization of the country and to the development of its resources, until finally the traffic with the millions of people in Central Africa would be worth millions of dollars per annum.

Truly yours,

T. J. BOWEN.

Hon. E. B. Washburn.

We believe these letters of Mr. Bowen, and his book which has just appeared, cannot fail to excite mightily both the commercial and philanthropic energies of our countrymen. They will be aroused to emulate Great Britain—never slow to avail herself of advantages laid open to her commercial enterprise, by those who have explored Africa or other unfrequented regions of the globe. The Sierra Leone *New Era*, of the 23d of August last, publishes a memorial of Sir Edward Buxton, to Lord Palmerston, for the propagation of civilization in Africa. The memorial states :

“ 1. That the trade with the west coast of Africa, independently of its beneficial influence in suppressing the slave trade, is of great and increasing importance to this country; for the confirmation of which they beg to refer to the statistical returns appended to this memorial.

“ 2. That the published accounts of the successful expedition up the rivers Niger and Tshadda, in the year 1854, undertaken at the instance and under the auspices of her Majesty's Government, show that great advantages would accrue to the commerce of west Africa, if this natural highway into the interior of that continent were effectually opened and kept open for a few years.

“ 3. That the late expedition has also shown that the fatality which attended the expedition in 1841, may be, in a great degree, at least, obviated by choosing a proper season of ascent, and by improving medical treatment; since, though the expedition was for nearly four

months in the rivers, not a single case of serious illness occurred to a crew of twelve Europeans and fifty-four natives

“ 4. That it appears to your memorialists that all the prospect of introducing civilization and christianity into Africa, by the navigation of the rivers Niger and Tshadda, which led her Majesty's government to send out at a great cost the expedition of 1841, still exist; and that they should be promptly improved by this country, before they are closed by any change of circumstances, or taken out of our hands by other nations.

“ 5. Your memorialists are convinced that it is essential to the success of any plans for the attainment of this object by means of native agency, that her Majesty's government should establish, or promote the establishment, of a regular steam communication between Fernando Po and the confluence of the Niger and Tshadda rivers, in order that native traders may be assured that the way will be kept open; and also, that her Majesty's government should, at periodical intervals, extend such communication further up the two rivers, with a view to the extension of geographical discovery, of commercial enterprise, and of religious civilization in the interior of Africa.

“ 6. That, should her Majesty's government accede to this proposal, there is every prospect of the completion of the great and benevolent object in view, by the spontaneous commercial enterprise of liberated and other Africans in the various settlements upon the west coast, and by the zeal of missionary societies.

“ 7. That the prospect of thus introducing lawful commerce, civilization, and christianity into this part of Africa, are greatly strength-

ened by the example of one powerful and enterprising nation, called the Yoruba nation, whose country occupies the chief districts lying between the Bight of Benin and the river Niger, which, within the last ten years, has made rapid progress in social improvement, chiefly through the immigration of their liberated countrymen from Sierra Leone, and by the residence of missionaries amongst them. A statement respecting this nation is appended to this memorial, and your memorialists have reason to know that there are large numbers of this tribe, and of the Ibo tribe, now in Sierra Leone, ready to take advantage of the opening of the Niger to lawful commerce, by immigrating to those parts for the purposes of trade.

"8. Lastly, in the prospect of an extension of the west African trade, that it will be of great importance to make Sierra Leone a free port, it being the only harbor upon a coast line of at least 2,000 miles. A letter from Macgregor Laird, Esq., upon this point, is appended to this memorial.

The memorialists submit the following measures as especially conducive to these ends :

(1.) To maintain the African squadron in the state of efficiency which it had attained before the breaking out of the Russian war, when the slave trade along the whole west African coast was reported to be virtually extinct.

(2.) To provide as a branch of the duties of the west African squadron, or in some other way, the sending of a small steamer up the Niger, to the confluence, each season, for the next five or seven years, to give confidence and encouragement to any trading settlements which may be formed of emigrants from Sierra Leone, or other

parts of the coast; and to protect lawful traders from the marauding tribes which infest the Delta of the Niger.

(3.) To secure to British traders a free use of some port, either at Fernando Po, by a commercial treaty with Spain, or in some other locality, of which several have been selected in the neighborhood of the Cameroons, as an entrepot for British merchant ships.

(4.) To place a small war-steamer upon the river or lagoon on which the island of Lagos is situated, which would give the command of the waters running parallel to the coast for nearly 200 miles—which are now used by slave-boats to dodge and escape the cruisers on the coast.

(5.) Lastly, in the prospect of an extension of the west African trade, to make Sierra Leone a free port."

The Commercial Advertiser expresses much regret at the failure of the Niger bill in Congress, and contrasts the policy of England, whose naval force stationed upon the African coast of twenty-seven vessels, mostly steamers, carrying one hundred and seventy-three guns, with that of the United States, whose present force is two sloops of war and a brig, carrying forty-six guns. The substitution of steamers in the place of sailing vessels in our African squadron, has been urged with invincible reasons by Commanders Lynch, Mayo and other naval officers.

"England has lines of merchant steamers to the west coast and to South Africa, and subsidizes the former with \$110,000 per annum; the United States have not one steamer, merchant or national, in that trade.

"England pays for her African mails, by steamers, liberally; the United States send tons of letters and papers to Africa and pay not one cent, but tax every letter received by private vessels, 5 cents.

"England admits all African products free of duty; the United States tax all.

"England has treaties of commerce with the Republic of Liberia and recognizes it as a civilized Government; the United States have no treaty and will not receive the representative of Liberia.

"English commerce with west Africa alone, last year was worth \$25,000,000; the commerce of the United States with *all* Africa was less than \$5,000,000.

"Our treaty with England, relative to a squadron for suppressing the slave trade, demands in its spirit if not by its letter that steam vessels should be employed. The currents of the Guinea coast render it almost impossible for a sailing vessel to go up or down the coast against them, hence sailing vessels are comparatively inefficient."

Says the Commercial Advertiser, most justly:

"The immense increase of British commerce on that coast is itself a proof, but even more effective is the fact, that at this moment the British Government is pledged to an annual exploration of the river Niger by steamers, up its western and eastern main stems alternately for several years, and that simultaneously a large company is organized in London to extend the steam lines to the coast. The particulars of this latter organization are given in the following extract from a letter from Mr. Gerard Ralston, of London, who inherits from his father that earnest devotion to colonization, which induced the

former in 1817, to render Samuel Mills such encouragement and aid in organizing the first State Auxiliary Society in the free states. The letter is dated London, January 30th, 1857—

'There is a very large company being formed here, which will have a large capital for the purpose of the extension of trade with the west coast of Africa. They will have six large steamers to ply between England and the coast, and they will have a number of small steamers to run on the coast, and go up the rivers and collect palm oil and other merchandise, and bring them to the shipping ports to be put on board of the large steamers for England. These facilities for the export trade of Africa will give an immense impetus to the import trade from Great Britain, and thus the relations between England and Africa will be excessively extended. One of the principal stations for this extended traffic will be Monrovia, in Liberia. Thus you see the Americo-Liberians will be more and more united with the British, and become more and more alienated from the Americans, who are and ought to be considered their fellow countrymen with whom it is very desirable to continue the most cordial relations. I am sorry that the enterprising commercial interest of the United States do not establish a line of fortnightly steamers to run from the Chesapeake Bay to Monrovia. By no other course of policy will the interesting Republic of Liberia be prevented from being separated and alienated from the mother country—America.'

"The increasing number of clearances from New York for western Africa is noticeable; and should the United States Government proceed to explore the Niger, at an expense of less than one-half that

already laid out in exploring rivers in South America, there can be little doubt that in the articles of hides and ivory alone, from Hausa, Boman and Yomba, the outlay would be repaid tenfold.

"The Legislature of our own State should also be admonished that it is time that its policy concerning Africa looked to the promotion of our commerce with that great continent, instead of being governed by the hostile prejudices of those to whom all allusion to Africa is deemed an insult. Looking to the immense temporal benefits of African civilization, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, and many other states have, by legislative aid, encouraged the emigration of free colored men to Africa—but this great Empire state, whose commercial interests are equal to all the others, has not taken one step in that direction.—Is it not time that something should be done?"

Our main object now is to invite all who feel interested in African colonization, and civilization, to read Mr. Bowen's book. We select the following passages from a just and well considered notice of the work in the *National Intelligencer* :

"In ten years from now the centre of Africa will be as inviting a field for the oriental tourist, and the country as open as Syria and Egypt are now. — pages might be filled with extracts from this rich sketch book of several years original research in the rarest of the worlds fields for new investigation. So peculiar is that characteristic of a true explorer just alluded to, that the most thorough student of African colonization in Liberia, is struck with the entirely new yet perfectly simple and truthful views

of things seen there, and of principles legitimately drawn from observation. Truth is never appreciated until its connexions are seen: and the colonization of Western Africa, seen in or out of its connexion with Central Africa, is as different in aspect as American colonization has appeared to a man of the seventeenth and another of the nineteenth century. Africa, in Bowen's narrative, and that by the simplest style of statement, grows from infancy to maturity, and looks as Virginia now would to Captain John Smith, if he could wake from the sleep of generations."

The *Journal of Commerce*, of Mar. 20th, pronounces Mr. Bowen's work one of much interest, and well calculated to create a public conviction in this country, not only of the practicability of establishing commercial relations with the interior tribes of Africa, and opening the resources of that comparatively unknown quarter of the globe, but of its expediency. Having stated the plan of Mr. Bowen, to establish a line of missionary stations from Lagos, through Yoruba, to the nations still more interior of Central Africa, and his purpose of opening a road from Lagos to Ogbomoshaw, where he resides when at his missionary home, the *Journal* adds :

"Besides a station already planted at Lagos, there are two others, located one hundred and twenty and hundred and seventy miles inland respectively. And it is in behalf of this fertile and promising country, through the heart of which the great river Niger flows, that the project for an American steam exploring expedition was recently in-

roduced to our national legislature. No part of the Yoruba kingdom is much more than a hundred miles from the sea on one side, and the Niger on the other. This favorable position, its healthfulness, and the facility with which roads may be constructed, all combine to make it one of the most important portions of the African continent.— Mr. Bowen says, if colonized by civilized blacks from America, and properly conducted, it would soon command the trade of all Central Africa, to which it is the natural key. Almost the whole of Yoruba is an open prairie, scattered over with small trees and occasional forests and rivers. The easterly

portion, bordering on the Niger, is almost without inhabitants, (those who formerly occupied it having been driven off by a hostile tribe,) but is represented as a very fine country, capable of giving ample sustenance to 300,000 colonists, and possessing unusual advantages in regard to soil, climate, and facilities for traffic."

It is estimated that three millions of people speak the Yoruba language. How vast the importance of an exploration of the Niger.— We trust Mr. Bowen will see measures adopted for this great end before he leaves the country.

Latest from Liberia.

WE submit herewith several of the most recent letters from Liberia, among them two from the Special Agent of the Society, the Rev. John Seys, showing his energetic and successful labors towards laying the foundations of an interior settlement. The site selected by Mr. Seys, for this very important enterprise, is among a quiet and peaceful people, on a mountain of moderate but sufficient elevation, easy of access from Monrovia, and combining many advantages for health and agriculture. It is not remote from the most northern part of the New Jersey district, if not actually within it, and can readily, should it be deemed a matter of any importance, be made a portion of the district, when judged expedient by the Society.

The vital question is for the

friends of the Society to consider how means shall be obtained effectually to carry out the work which the Directors enjoined upon the Executive Committee to prosecute in the establishment of this settlement, with the view especially of ascertaining the salubrity of the mountainous regions of the interior, as compared with the lands on the sea shore and the margin of the rivers near the ocean. Nor is the necessity less of sustaining the newly founded settlement at Cape Mount, and the community at Sinou, who have suffered so severely from the late war.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

Monrovia, Jan. 3d, 1857.

Rev. and Dear Sir:—It is with much pleasure I acknowledge the receipt of your favor of 1st October, which I have perused with much interest, especially the portions which refer to explorations

and important discoveries being made on this continent. I feel almost unlimited interest in whatever respects this continent, and especially its inhabitants, with whom I feel identified.

I think the Interior Road Company organized here will succeed in doing something, though the progress may be slow for want of means and men. I will give it all the encouragement of which I am capable. As Mr. Seys will no doubt write you, I need not advert to his operations. Our Legislature is in session, and are getting on most harmoniously. I had expected to receive the promised document from you ere this: I mean in reference to the co-operation of this government in the management and care of immigrants after their arrival. Perhaps the Legislature, in the absence of such a definite communication from you, will give an expression on the subject; if so, I will forward it to you immediately. You will be able to get all the news from the *Liberia Herald* and the letters you will no doubt receive from your various correspondents. I will try to address you more detailingly and interestingly after the Legislature rise. I am so pressed with business just now, and have been for the last six weeks, as that I have scarcely time to write you a page. I must express my thanks to you for the files of the *Congressional Globe* and other interesting pamphlets you so kindly sent me by the Shirley; I found them very very interesting. It is with pleasure, I inform you of the safe return on the 18th ultimo of our highly esteemed fellow citizen, the Ex-President and family; who arrived and continue in good health. Our public affairs are moving on smoothly and encouragingly. I close by subscribing

myself with high regard, your most obedient servant,

STEPHEN A. BENSON.

Rev. R. R. Gurley,
Cor. Sec. A. C. S.,
Washington City.

ZODAH QUEE'S TOWN,

Queah Country, Dec. 27, 1856.

Rev. R. R. Gurley,

Rev. and Dear Sir:—I wrote very fully to the Rev. Mr. McLain, from Millsburg, on the 6th instant, since which I have received your kind favor by the Moses Shppard, of November 7th, two letters from Mr. McLain, and one from Dr. Lugenbeel. These evidences that I am not forgotten, though far away in these wilds, that dear christian friends still think of, will continue to write to, and thus to encourage me in a work so arduous, so full of peril, of deprivation and wearisomeness, is inexpressibly cheering and satisfactory, and can only be fully appreciated by the lonely exile.

Being detained by circumstances of a providential character, we did not leave Millsburgh with our effects and supplies, until Saturday, December 6. Before leaving, however, my company of sawyers, clearers, and carpenter, had cut through a fine wide road from Mr. Washington's, our commercial depot at the head of navigation, on the St. Paul's river, so as to intersect the path from White Plains to Robertsville, lessening the distance $\frac{1}{2}$ mile on our interior route.

On arriving at Robertsville that afternoon, where we must needs spend the Sabbath, I despatched a native express, to my old friend Zodah Quee, telling him that I was on my way to his town, and to send me twenty carriers on Monday morning, as those who came with us from the river could not be hired to go further. After a very pleasant

and quiet Sabbath spent with Rev. Mr. Diggs, at this Methodist station, and preaching to his native congregation, the Monday came, and at 10 A. M., twenty-four men were at my command from Zedah's. We fed the men, and at 12, started amidst their shouts, blowing of horns, and other wild expressions of joy. A walk of three hours and forty minutes, brought us here, and the old man was so rejoiced to see me, that he threw his arms around me. A large hut was appropriated to the use of Messrs. Campion and Clarke, and all our stores, goods, tools, &c., while one of an oval shape seven feet by thirteen, the earth its floor, was given to me, as I preferred to be alone.

On Wednesday our whole company of operative's arrived, and we have all been driving away with the utmost vigor. To get ready for the pioneers at this late hour is a most herculean task, but I feel by no means doubtful of the issue.

As I cannot go into details, on account of the short notice I have had of the opportunity, and my carrier leaves early Monday morning, you will excuse my brevity, the more especially as I purpose, the Lord permitting, to write again by the Mail Steamer *via* Liverpool on the 10th proximo.

A meeting of kings, chiefs, headmen, &c., being called, resulted in the signing of a deed in which twenty miles square, beginning at a certain very remarkable tree, which is on the very top of *Mount Fawblee*,* and running north and south ten miles each way, then from those points due east and west ten miles each way, forming a square of which said tree is the centre, has been secured to the American

Colonization Society for its uses, (these are all specified,) subject of course to the laws, regulations, and government of the Republic of Liberia. For this I am to make *Gayison and Zedah Queen* a present on the arrival of the ship and settlement of the pioneers, of one hundred bars, equivalent to \$40 in money!

The road to the mountain is done! Zedah with perfect enthusiasm took the lead of twenty men, and cut to our astonishment a wide road, as near an air line, as he well could, and avoid low places and ravines, and for several days continued on until he reached the very tree alluded to. He has also cut down the underwood and bush of quite a large space, while our men follow with the American axe and cross-cut saw, and where their sound was never heard before, the giants of the forest are prostrated before them.

I have reason to be more and more pleased, every additional opening, or vista, we make in the dense forest around our site, with the selection I have made, and the prospect from the top when the woods are cleared away will be unrivalled.

By the new road, the streams we cross being securely bridged with large and substantial trunks of trees, the only way to effect it with mere manual labor, the distance can be walked from here in 1 hour and 45 minutes.

On the 22d instant, we cleared the spot for the first house, and planted upwards of twenty posts.— It is to be of thatch roof and bamboo floor, but both for despatch and security sake, I preferred to have it weather boarded, as our expert sawyers have furnished us with

**Faw*, an elder son of old King Governor. *Blee* a place, i. e. *Fawblee*, Faw's place. He having a town in the valley below many years ago.

more than one thousand feet of excellent poplar boards. This house is thirty feet by eighteen and will be our future store room, though our dwelling for the present. We hope to move into it next week.

I have a promise of the use of rooms in the Mission House at Robertsville, for the occupancy of our pioneers the first night after their arrival, and early in the evening of the next day, I hope to place them safely on *Mount Fawblee*.

I am, my dear sir,

Yours most respectfully,

JOHN SEYS.

—
MOUNT FAWBLEE,

Queah Contry, La.,

January 6th, 1857.

Rev. R. R. Gurley,

Rev. and Dear Sir:—I had the pleasure of writing fully to Rev. Mr. McCluin and yourself, from Zedah Quee's town, on the 27th and 28th ultimo, by the Kingfisher of New York, and promised to send you a few additional lines by the British Steamer which leaves Monrovia on the 10th instant.

I am happy to say that my health continues most excellent in every respect, save a sore and badly bruised hand, which, while aiding in lifting a log, was jammed between it and a stump, but I hope a few days will restore it.

It gives me pleasure to say also, that though we have to deal with natives who cannot be hurried, set no value on time, care nothing about the violation of promises made to come and work, that still I expect to be quite ready for the comfortable accommodation of our pioneers by the M. C. Stevens. I am now writing to you in our Receptacle on this magnificent elevation, and though the house is not yet done, yet a few days more will complete it.

I am astonished at the vast difference in many points of view, between these higher table lands and the sea board. As to the climate, nothing can be finer. I send you an extract from my thermometrical journal of the last four weeks temperature. This morning at daylight the mercury stood at 64, yesterday at 63, at *George's Town*, to which place I removed on the 30th, from Zedah Quee's, for the more easy access to my operatives and work. This little village is situated on the plain below, and about forty minutes walk from the Mount—What the temperature will be here, 140 feet or more above Georgetown, with a sweep of country around to be seen in some directions to a distance of twenty to thirty miles, we shall know in a few days.

I was not aware, until examination, of the great variety of splendid timber abounding in these regions. Our mountains and the dense forest on and around it, beside several very fine kinds of wood that neither native nor American knows the name of, contain poplar, hickory, teak, bastard mahogany, wismore, brimstone, walnut, (the nuts are excellent,) locust, peach, sassy-wood, mangrove (the upland, and a species of giants) red wood, mulberry, and two kinds of oak, red and white.

To clear such land by mere manual labor, without even a yoke of oxen, is no small undertaking, but I have a set of picked men from Millsburg, and they give me the utmost satisfaction.

Permit me to add that "the best of all is God is with us." From the first day we all arrived at Zedah's, a variety of religions meetings have been regularly, faithfully, and undeviatingly kept up, which have had the most salutary effect upon us all. Every morning at 7, and evening at 7½ o'clock, at the

ringing of a bell, public worship is held, and to it all are invited, natives as well as Americans. The Scriptures are read in regular course, a hymn of praise sung, and prayer sent up to the Great God who reigns on high. On Thursday evening a public lecture. Friday a general prayer meeting. On Sunday morning at 7 a Methodist class meeting is held, as all but one of our little band are of that denomination. At 11 public preaching to the Americans, or natives, by an interpreter, alternately. At 3 P. M., a general Sunday School, in which men of years, as well as little boys, Americans and natives, come to be taught. Sunday evening preaching again or exhortation.—It is a blessed work, thus, while we introduce civilization in these wilds, to bring with us the "Glorious Gospel of the Blessed God," and show these degraded native polygamists and idolaters, "the life, and the truth, and the way."

I am perfectly divested of all fear, though we have the means of self defence. The moral influence which is thus exercised is most powerful, and we all feel as though the Lord God, whose work we are engaged in, will be our "Sun and Shield," and protect us from all molestation.

I beg leave to conclude by assuring the committee, through you my dear sir, that my life being spared and health continued, their object in this deeply interesting experiment shall be most faithfully carried out, the Lord being my

helper. With the highest esteem, I am yours very respectfully,

JOHN SEYS.

Thermometrical Journal kept in the Quak Country, Liberia, from December 10, to January 6.

1856.		Dec. 24.	M—72
Dec. 10.	M—70		N—86
	N—76		E—82
	E—72	" 25.	M—72
" 11.	M—70		N—85
	N—80		E—82
	E—76	" 26.	M—72
" 12.	M—68	Cloudy—	N—84
	N—82		E—81
	E—76	" 27.	M—74
" 13.	M—68	Rain—	N—82
	N—84		E—80
	E—76	" 28.	M—73
" 14.	M—66	Rain at	N—86
	N—84	night	E—82
	E—80	" 29.	M—74
" 15.	M—68	rain &	N—84
	N—84	cloudy	E—82
	E—80	" 30.	M—73
" 16.	M—68	Cloudy—	N—85
	N—84		E—83
	E—82	" 31.	M—72
" 17.	M—67		N—84
	N—86		E—82
	E—74	1857.	
" 18.	M—72	Jan. 1.	M—72
	N—86		N—80
	E—82	Heavy	E—76
" 19.	M—73	Rains	" 2.
	N—84		M—68
	E—83		N—74
" 20.	M—73		E—72
	N—86	" 3	M—68
	E—83		N—82
" 21.	M—72	" 4.	M—68
	N—86		N—82
	E—84		E—80
" 22.	M—74	" 5.	M—63
	N—86		N—85
	E—80		E—80
" 23.	M—76	" 6.	M—64
Rain—	N—87		N—84
	E—80		E—

Fair and bright weather, with very heavy dews at night.

The Mary Caroline Stevens.

NEXT EXPEDITION TO LIBERIA.—The return of the Society's ship, the *Mary Caroline Stevens*, may be expected from the 5th to the 10th of this month, and im-

mediate preparations will be made for her departure from Baltimore with emigrants on the 1st of May. Her arrival at Cape Mount (by latest intelligence received

from the coast) had been announced at Monrovia. We may or may not receive further information from her before her return. We have already 405 names on our list of applicants by this expedition, and it is very probable that information may be received of others before her departure. The present number exceeds the capacity of the ship, but as usual, some few may prefer to remain until the autumnal expedition.

It is exceedingly important to strengthen by additional emigrants both the settlements, Cape Mount and Sinou, and should means be duly furnished, to send out several houses to the latter place for the accommodation of those destined to that place. Provision also must be made for the interior settlement, of which Mr. Seys gives such an encouraging account in this number. It is hardly necessary to remind the friends of the Society, of its dependence, for all ability to do good, upon their contributions. If but little is accomplished, the cause is the want of pecuniary means to accomplish more.

An almost boundless field for benevolent and christian effort, in Liberia, and other wide regions of Africa, is spread out, open and inviting before us, but who will supply the means for bringing this field under the culture of civilized industry, the protection of good laws, and the holy influences of christianity? The several States, the churches, humane and christian men throughout the Union must answer. Our readers may judge of the progress of improvements in Liberia from a paragraph copied by the *Colonization Herald*, from a letter from the Commander of our African Squadron, Commodore Crabbe, dated Monrovia, December 1st, 1856:

“The city of Monrovia, which I have visited, shows signs of energy and civilization, which certainly were not to be expected in such a climate. The commerce of the place appears to be gradually increasing, and from what I hear of the agricultural improvements in the interior, I should judge that the inhabitants were making considerable and steady progress, while from the satisfied appearance of the people of the town generally, I have no doubt that they must be prosperous and happy.”

Intelligence.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IOWA STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

AN adjourned meeting of the Colonization Society of the State of Iowa, was held at the Capitol in Iowa City, on the 22d day of January, A. D. 1857.

Hon. Joseph Williams, President, being absent, on motion of Rev. Samuel Storrs Howe, Hon. J. C. Hall, of Des Moines County, was appointed President *pro tem*.

Mr. Howe, from the committee appointed at a previous meeting to revise the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society, reported sundry amendments, which were adopted.

The following officers were then appointed by the Society for the ensuing year:

President—Hon. JOSEPH WILLIAMS, of Muscatine.

Vice Presidents—Hon. Wm. W. Hamilton, Dubuque; Col. Thos. W. Claggett, Keokuk; Stewart Goodrell, Esq., Fort Des Moines.

Directors—D. W. Kilbourne, Esq., Col. Wm. Patterson, and Hon. J. H. Sullivan, Keokuk; J. C. Hall, M. D. Browning, and J. F. Henry, M. D., Burlington; J. H. Wallace, Esq., and Dr. J. S. Horton, Muscatine; G. C. R. Mitchell, Esq., and W. H. F. Gurley, Esq., Davenport; Hon. Benj. M. Samuels, and Rev. S. Newberry, Dubuque; Hon. A. Saunders, and J. B. Lash, Mt. Pleasant; Hon. D. H. Solomon, Glenwood; Hon. D. W. Scoville, Osceola; Hon. E. Sells, Secretary of State, Geo. W. McCleary, Esq., Rev. P. S. Van Nest, Rev. F. A. Shearer, Rev. W. H. Barris, and M. J. Morsman, Esq., Iowa City.

Corresponding Secretary—Rev. Samuel Storrs Howe, Iowa City.

Recording Secretary—R. H. Sylvester, Iowa City.

Treasurer—Morgan Reno, Iowa City.

Executive Committee—George W. McCleary, Esq., Hon. Elijah Sells, Rev. P. S. Van Nest, Rev. F. A. Shearer, and Dr. Moses J. Morsman, Iowa City.

The Executive Committee reported the names of members, and the amount paid into the treasury as follows:

Amount paid in - - -	\$32 00
Paid for printing notices -	3 00
Balance in the treasury -	29 00

On motion the report was adopted.

Mr. Gurtley offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we deem it advisable to call the attention of the Parent Society to the vast influx of population in North-Western States, and to the rapidly increasing influence of these States in our national councils; and would suggest the importance of having the cause of colonization presented to this region by some suitable person or persons.

The following resolution was offered by Rev. S. S. Howe, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Society would earnestly recommend to the friends of colonization, throughout the State, the "African Repository," as the organ of the Parent Society, published at Washington, D. C.

The address of Col. T. M. Claggett, not having been reported at length, is necessarily omitted.

George Lindley, Esq., of Iowa City, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the best interests of our country, and the success of African Colonization requires, that a line of Governmental Mail Steamers should be established between this country and Liberia.

The meeting was addressed in a very able and impressive manner by George Lindley, Esq., of Iowa City, J. H. Wallace, Esq., of Muscatine, and by the Hon. J. C. Hall, of Burlington. Col. William Patterson offered the following as the closing resolution:

Resolved, That the Constitution and By-Laws of this Society, the Annual Report of the Directors, and the proceedings of this meeting, be published under the direction of the Secretaries for general circulation throughout the State.

When, on motion, the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

J. C. HALL, *President pro tem*.
Geo. W. McCleary, *Secretary*.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS.

In making their report, the Directors are happy to state, that the organization, begun two years ago, has been finally consummated by the adoption of a Constitution and By-Laws.

No system of agency, however, has been adopted, as yet. So that the com-

mittee have the simple receipts from membership only to report.

The Directors feel it to be most important, that some plan of agency be adopted both for the collection of funds, and for the diffusion of intelligence on the subject of African Colonization. And they hope to have the hearty co-operation of the Society, and of the community at large, in carrying out some systematic efforts for these ends.

The great principle of colonization has always been the basis of national extension, in ancient and modern times. The Assyrian, the Persian, the Medo-Persian, and the Roman Empires, were extended over the world by colonization; until, at the Christian Era, the Roman empire embraced nearly all the organized nations on the globe.

In modern times, England, the most powerful nation of Europe, has planted colonies over both hemispheres and the islands of the sea; until, it is literally true, that on the kingdom of Great Britain, encircling the world, the sun never sets.

But it has been left for the citizens of the Republic of the United States—once colonies—to establish by colonization, on the ground of benevolence, a colony in Africa—an independent republic—already acknowledged as a free and independent nation by Great Britain, Prussia, and the Hanseatic States of Germany. And it is enough to make an American blush to remember that Liberia has thus far failed to be acknowledged as an independent state by the government of the United States. May speedy justice be done by our government to this infant republic in Africa.

The history of American colonization in Africa may be briefly given. As early as 1802, Thomas Jefferson suggested the idea of African colonization. About 1810, Paul Cuffee; a colored ship owner of Boston, carried the first colonists from the United States to the Cape of Good Hope, or two several companies of colored persons, like himself, back to their fatherland. About 1816, Dr. Finley, of New Jersey, and others, including Samuel J. Mills, of Connecticut, took measures which resulted in the formation of the American Colonization Society and the settlement of the colony, now Republic of Liberia, in Africa.

Liberia has seven hundred miles of sea coast, and extends its influence over two hundred miles into the interior, or embraces a territory nearly twice as large as Iowa. It has a population (of Africans from America or their children) of ten thousand souls, or as large as the population of Nebraska Territory, besides a na-

live population of three hundred thousand souls subject to the laws of the republic.

The Republic of Liberia has an established government, with a legislature, a judiciary, a militia, and a navy—or at least a ship of war, the gift of Great Britain; a system of currency begun, a school system, that rivals our own, and a public periodical press. Already it has a college projected, of which the first President, Hon. J. J. Roberts, a man of color but of eminence and excellence, is now President. To it liberal bequests have been made and large donations, in this country; and President Roberts has visited England to secure additional funds. The present incumbent of the Executive Chair, in Liberia, Hon. Stephen A. Benson, is a worthy successor of the first President of this new Republic, having been a resident of Africa since the sixth year of his age, and being almost a native.

The productions of Liberia are chiefly coffee, sugar, cotton, and ivory by exchange with the natives of the interior. And already a considerable commerce with this country has sprung up. So much so, that for this commercial purpose, but more especially for transporting emigrants from the United States, a vessel has been found necessary for the American Colonization Society. The State of Maine undertook to supply one. When delay occurred, Mr. Stevens, of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, made the magnificent donation of a vessel at a cost of over \$30,000. This vessel will now perform regular trips to and from Liberia, as a commencement of a line of communication, which the Congress of the United States has been in vain solicited to establish, lest the increasing trade of Liberia should be altogether diverted to Great Britain and Europe.

Emigrant houses, also, have been sent out for the better accommodation of the emigrants during the period of acclimation. Already these facilities of emigration have reduced the mortality ninety per cent.

Seldom, if ever, has colonization, anywhere on the face of the earth, been attended with more happy results. Already a nation, a republic, has been born on that dark Ethiopian shore, stopping the horrors of the slave trade for seven hundred miles of sea coast. Already, unassisted by the arm of the civil government at home, has African colonization from America taken possession by purchase of a vast territory, and extended wholesome laws over a population nearly as large as that of New Hampshire, one of the old thirteen States of our Union, at its formation. And yet, forty years have not elapsed since Ameri-

can colonization went into successful operation. What may not the next forty years accomplish for Africa, in the way of opening the interior of that continent to the world, where cities that vie with London, and Paris, and New York, as to size, are already known to exist? What may not yet be hoped from Africa, with her golden sands, with her native iron, malleable even without the forge, and with her diamonds—as the most useful and valuable treasures of the world?

When emigration of Africa's exiled sons shall flow back to their fatherland, as the sons of Erin and the exiles of Europe tend to this land of the free; or rather when, with their own free will, Africans shall desire to go to the home of their fathers; and the facilities of emigration shall be greatly increased, what grand results may be seen? Europeans flock to the United States, by the half million a year. May not the day yet come, and that soon, when hundreds of thousands of the colored race shall return to the golden shores of their ancestry, in a single year, realizing, in some degree, the exodus of the Hebrew nation from Egypt into the promised Canaan?

In behalf of the Directors:

S. STORRS HOWE.

Notice.—All letters relating to the State Society operations, may be addressed to the Rev. Samuel Storrs Howe, Corresponding Secretary, at Iowa City; and all moneys may be remitted to Morgan Reno, Esq., Treasurer, at Iowa City, Iowa.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to the Independence of Liberia.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That our senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives be requested, to use their influence to have the independence of Liberia, in Africa, acknowledged by the Government of the United States.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be forwarded by the Secretary of State to each of our senators and representatives in Congress.

SAMUEL MCFARLAND,
Speaker of the House of Reps.
W. W. HAMILTON,
President of Senate.

Approved January 29, 1857.

JAMES W. GRIMES.

Office of Secretary of State, Jan. 30, 1857.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy from the original roll on file in my office.

ELIJAH SELLS,
Secretary of State.

A public meeting has been held in Jamaica, to protest against the slave trade in Cuba, and the encouragement given to it by citizens of the United States. It was resolved to send petitions against the trade to both Houses of Parliament.

THE Mississippi Legislature makes unnecessary cruelty to slaves an indictable offence, and prohibits any owner of slaves from punishing them with more than nine and thirty lashes at any one time and for any one offence.

WE learn that a new sugar mill is about to be sent to Liberia by the friends of the cause in New York. The value of the mill will be about \$6,000.

The True Union, printed at Tuskegee, Alabama, advocates the re-opening of the African slave trade. Possibly fifty persons in that State, one or two hundred in the whole South may agree with the Union. But for the spread of the idea, it is too late in the day.

SLAVES AND COOLIES IN CUBA.—The large profits realized by the sugar planters of Cuba, have greatly stimulated the imports of Asiatic coolies and African slaves during the past winter. The landing of cargoes of Africans is now but very slightly concealed, and we have accounts of them almost every week. In the cargoes of coolies arriving there is a wide difference in the mortality in different ships, if the reported number of deaths is to be relied on. Dates to the 8th March state that within the previous fortnight a cargo of 600 Africans had been landed between Cardenas and Sierra Morena—Three cargoes of Asiatics under contracts for eight years service had also arrived, one of the ships, the *Cora*, owned in New York, but wearing Peruvian colors, having lost 290. The other two ships were Dutch, and reported losing, one only ten, and the other only eleven. A stock company, under the lead of Messrs. Torrice, Puents & Co., which have imported 7,600 of the Chinese coolies, have reported of known deaths on the passage 1,197.—*Boston Traveller*.

A LIBERIAN CARAVAN—The growing traffic of the Liberians with the interior is strikingly seen by the following fact, which was mentioned in the postscript of a recent letter from President Benson :

“Perhaps it may not be uninteresting to you to know that George S. Seymour, sent down from the Pessey country to the city of Buchanan, Bassa county, in November last, a caravan of two hundred and fifty persons, laden with valuable produce. He and his family and some others are permanently residing in that country. He informs me that it is a fine cotton producing section of the country. I furnished him with a cotton gin (government property) a few months ago, with the hope and belief that it will soon be put in extensive requisition.”—*Colonization Herald*.

Extract of a letter received by the last steamer from England, dated Monrovia, Liberia, January 11th, 1857 :

“The Trustees of Liberia College visited Clay Ashland on the 11th of January, to determine upon a suitable location for the college, and propose to take the place known as King Bromleys—on the north bank of St. Paul’s river, about 12 miles northeast of Monrovia,—giving a much larger river front, with better land, and entirely free from the objections to the former place.”

FROM THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—By the arrival at this port of barque *Fleet Eagle*, we have Cape of Good Hope papers to the 30th of Dec. The Port Elizabeth Herald contains an account of a dinner given in that place by Mr. Huckins, formerly U.S. Consul, to the mercantile firms and others, in return for the kindness and hospitality shown to him. The Hon. Mr. Fleming presided. Among the toasts were “The health of Queen Victoria,”—“The health of the President of the United States, and the prosperity of the Great Republic,” (received with great enthusiasm) “The health of Mr. Huckins,” (by Mr. Fleming, the President, in which he took occasion to pay a high but merited compliment to the American people.) “Prosperity to the trade with America,” &c.

There is some talk of re-annexing the little Republic, beyond the Orange river, to the Cape colony. The colony is rapidly advancing in prosperity. At Port Elizabeth, the exports of wool alone, have advanced from ten million pounds in 1855, to twelve millions in 1856. The total custom house receipts of the colony for the year, are estimated at nearly one million dollars.

THE NEW JERSEY COLONIZATION SOCIETY held its annual meeting on Wednesday

evening, but the proceedings were brought to a speedy close by the breaking out of the fire in Mr. Quimby's coach factory, which was close to the place of meeting. The Newark Advertiser gives the following sketch of the proceedings:—

Hon. J. C. Hornblower presided, in the absence of Gov. Newell, who was detained at home by illness in his family, and after an invocation of the divine blessing by Rev. Dr. Abeel, the annual report was read by Dr. J. G. Goble, the Secretary.

The report is an able document, commencing with an allusion to the recent violent political agitations which absorbed the public mind, and expressing the hope that the scheme of African Colonization will now move on, contributing its influence to consummate the mighty work which so many of the wise and good of our country have been so long engaged. The great principles which underlie the whole scheme are Christianity, political expediency and pure patriotism. Forty years ago it was thought, and is now, that the African could never rise here to equality with the whites in social condition, and it was apparent that they must be removed to a more independent sphere, on their own original soil. The result was the founding of the colony in Liberia, where we now behold a Christian nation. Liberia, it says, is now a well constituted and prosperous government, with a constitution modelled after our own, and the successful experiment is doing much to redeem the race from the imputation of mental imbecility, and suppress the slave trade.

The prospect that the efforts of colonization will ultimately relieve our country from the evils of slavery is ably argued, and the opinion expressed that some of the national and State Governments should be enlisted in the cause, and they should at once recognize the Liberian Republic, and establish diplomatic relations with it.

The New Jersey Society has no salaried officers, nor any agent to collect funds, but depends upon the good will of friends and appeals to churches, and of all the State Societies not one is conducted with greater economy than this. The whole expenses last year were only \$146.34, and the receipts were \$5,129 09, of which \$1,000 was a legacy from Rev. S. Dod, and \$3,000 from the State treasury; \$4,957 64 have been sent to the parent society, and \$25.01 remains in the treasury.

A strong appeal is made for means to send forward emigrants, and repair losses from attacks of a ferocious native tribe upon the colony. It is contended that the General Government should appropriate some

of its surplus means to benefit Liberia, and establish steam communication with it; and the report concludes by noticing the honorable position which New Jersey holds in the history of African colonization.

Dr. Goble also read a despatch from Hon. J. B. Latrobe, who was to have addressed the meeting, stating that he was detained by the rise in the Susquehannah river, which obstructed the lines of travel.

Ex-Gov. Pinney of Liberia, Secretary of the N. Y. Society, then commenced an interesting address, describing the progress and present state of Liberia, when the proceedings were brought to a sudden close by the large fire in the immediate vicinity of the church.

FROM THE AFRICAN COAST.—The steamship *Gambia* arrived at Plymouth, England, Dec. 4. She brought dates follows:

Cape Coast, Nov. 11; Liberia, Nov. 15; Bathurst, Nov. 21; Goree, Nov. 25; Teneriffe, Nov. 30, and Madeira, Dec. 2.

Disputes, chiefly between the native, appear to prevail all along the coast.

The British Consul visited the Cameroons in the steamer *Gambia*, and held a palaver between the contending tribes.

The *Gambia* brought from Fernando Po to Teneriffe several members of the Spanish missions and four colored youths for training. Affairs at Lagos are quiet, but an outbreak is hourly expected. The gun vessel *Minx*, 3, commandered Koe, continues in the harbor, waiting any contingency. Oil plentiful, trade brisk, and the people healthy. Both here and at Acera the conflict between the Ashantees and their neighbors near Cape Coast Castle, is not yet at an end, and only 400 pounds of gold could be shipped in consequence.

According to the *African*, the Fellah town of Conscofi was attacked on the 3d of October by the Junmano, who killed 3,876 on the field, and took 100 prisoners. Alpha Mohammed Limi has lost his life, with most of the chief men of his party.

A severe engagement commenced on the 15th, and ended on the 17th of October, at Nassaiamee, between Barmoi and Sultan Lahai, whose forces were completely routed. Many were killed, and fifty taken prisoners. Preparations for hostilities were making at Lokkoh, and there are rumors of an expected disturbance at Barra, on the Gambia, to the north of Bathurst.

SUGAR MILL IN LIBERIA.—It gives us pleasure to state that on the Sugar Farm of Mr. J. M. Richardson, on the St. Paul's river, about 16 miles above Monrovia, there is about 70 acres of cane now in cultiva-

tion—with very favorable prospects; its appearance is highly spoken of by those who have seen it.

Mr. Richardson has lately built a sugar house of brick, 60 feet by 30 feet, and 16 feet high, in which he hopes to have sugar the present year.

A FRIEND OF LIBERIA.

A bark of American build landed 600 Africans on Tuesday, of last week, about fifteen miles East of Cardenas: they have been distributed as usual. The bark got off the coast after the landing, in safety. The discovery of guano islands on the South side of Cuba, is now exciting the public attention, and the protective care of the government. Health good. B. Y.

A GRATEFUL NEGRO.—“When Mr Jonathan Cross, superintendent of colportage, was at the north collecting funds for the Tract Society, he was publicly catechised in various places on the condition of the slaves in the south. On one occasion he was asked, among other questions, what the negroes thought of their own position. He replied by mentioning the case of an old servant in North Carolina, more than a hundred years old, who had been brought from Africa in his youth, and converted to the christian religion in this country, and who, every time he said his prayers, poured forth his devout gratitude that he had been stolen away from a heathen land.”

In answer to this apology for kidnapery, we may say, that we thank God that Christ died, though he was “crucified by wicked hands.” Joseph, doubtless, was devoutly grateful to God that he had been, as he said, “stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews,” though the Jewish law condemned the man-stealer to death. We may not justify evil, though good may come out of it.—God sent Joseph into bondage before his father and brethren “to preserve life,” but it was in wrath and wickedness that he was sold into slavery. It is well that God reigns in mercy, and makes our wrath turn to his praise, or long ago our iniquities would have been our ruin.—*Presbyterian.*

PETER NASSAU, a colored man, and a resident of Woodstock, Vt., has reached the extraordinary age of 126 years! and is doubtless the oldest living man in this country. His history has been traced out by N. Haskell, town clerk of Woodstock, and it appears he was born two years before Washington, was 46 years

old at the date of the Declaration of Independence, and long before the second war with Great Britain broke out he had passed the three score years and ten!

AFRICA.—As one of the first important results of Dr. Livingston's extensive explorations, the Directors of the London Missionary Society have determined to take immediate measures for the commencement of missionary operations in the newly explored regions. Two principal stations are to be established in the first instance; one on the north of the great river Zambese, among the Makalolo, where it is expected Dr. Livingston himself will be welcomed as a resident christian teacher; and the other on the south, among the Matabele, the subjects of Moselekatsi. To this station Mr. Moffat is expected to remove. Fellow-laborers are to be connected with both these veteran missionaries.

Bishop Payne of Liberia, of the Episcopal Board, has called the attention of the Committee to the importance of establishing two new stations,—one “on Na-Tea-Su, sixty miles in the interior, among the mountains, above the falls of the Cavalla River,” and one on Mt. St. John, or D'ja Mountain, about twenty miles from Upper Buchanan, at an elevation of from five hundred to six hundred feet, “sufficient to test the comparative health of the marshy coast and the highland interior.” Appropriations have been made for the commencement of both these stations.

EMINENT LIBERALITY.—The Financial Secretary of the Society has received, (just as our number is going to press,) through the House of Henderson and Company, of New Orleans, from the venerable David Hunt, Esq., of Rodney, Mississippi, a check for \$25,000. Mr. Hunt has for many years been foremost among the benefactors to this Society, nor less distinguished for benevolence in other directions. Thanks to the Author of all good, who has granted to our distinguished friend, the disposition and means of such large beneficence, which in the consciousness of good done and the Divine approbation, will find its best reward. We have space only to express our gratitude for this princely gift with prayer for a Divine blessing upon the donor.

Death of Friends to the Society.

MOSES SHEPPARD, of Baltimore, a member of the Society, has passed from life at the age of 84. He is represented as a man of "great business energy, a prudent thrift, and undeviating rectitude."—He rose from humble circumstances to great wealth. He was a man of quick observation, much sagacity and distinguished benevolence. He was the protector and benefactor of orphan children, enabled many to engage in business in a moderate way, but usually so dispensed his charities as to leave those who received them, ignorant of the source from which they came. A writer in the *Baltimore Patriot* says of Mr. Sheppard: "He was a plain blunt man; quiet in his habits, vigorous in thought or speech, but yet concealing beneath a calm, passionless exterior, the sweetest and tenderest sympathies." He was a decided and active friend of the Colonization cause.—Dr. McGill, of Liberia, was educated at a medical institution in Massachusetts, by Mr. Sheppard, and assisted by him to emigrate to Liberia, where having become a prominent merchant, to a vessel lately built for him, he gave the name of his liberal benefactor. Mr. Sheppard was never married. The principal part of his large estate, estimated at \$600,000, is left to several trustees for the purpose of founding in the vicinity of Baltimore an asylum for the insane.

WILLIAM MAXWELL, Esq., of Virginia, one of the Vice Presidents of this Society, and from its origin an able, eloquent, and active friend, a ripe scholar, of most agreeable manners, and by powers of conversation, eminently distinguished, above all dedicated in heart and life to the interests of philanthropy and religion, has been called recently, to that rest which remains for the people of God. He had filled

several highly responsible positions with honor and usefulness, and the closing years of his life were devoted to the interests of the Virginia Historical Society. His numerous writings, and many eloquent discourses, were ever in furtherance of the interests of humanity and the cause of God.

THE REV. CALVIN COLTON, D. D.—This gentleman, so well known as the author of the life of Mr. Clay, died a few days since at Savannah. He was at all times a warm and steadfast friend of this Society. True, yet tolerant, remarkable for persevering energy in literary labor, following earnestly his convictions, but ever with kindness and charity, he leaves abundant evidence of the purity of his motives, and the patriotism, philanthropy, and piety of his purposes.

The venerable JOHN HAM, of Bangor, Me., well known as a friend and benefactor of this Society, whose name was on the committee to obtain a ship for the Society, and whose memory will be cherished by all who knew his interest in the cause of Temperance or of Africa, has passed to his heavenly home.

ZINA HYDE, of Bath, Me., was to the hour of his recent decease a firm and liberal friend to the Society.

And while we write, preparations are making for the funeral of NOAH FLETCHER, Esq., for more than forty years a citizen of Washington, and for several years, previous to the last, occupied with important duties, discharged at all times with great ability, and the strictest fidelity, in the office of this Society. Mr. Fletcher, was a native of Massachusetts, and was 71 years of age. He maintained an unblemished reputation during his long life, many warm affections clustered around him, and his decease fills with sadness many hearts. But the memory of the just is blessed.

Receipts of the American Colonization Society;

From the 20th of February to the 20th of March, 1857.

VERMONT.

Orwell—J. Hall. 5 00

MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge—By Rev. J. Orcutt:
By parishioners of Rev. John
A. Albro, D. D., to constitute
him a life member of the A. C. S. 30 00Cambridgeport—By Rev. J. Orcutt:
By parishioners of Rev. S. R.
Mason, to constitute him a life
member of the A. C. S. 30 00Haverhill—By Capt. G. Barker:
Samuel Chase, \$10, Mrs. Kel-
ley, \$3, W. R. Whitier, \$2. . . 15 00Newburyport—By Capt. G. Barker:
Capt. Micajah Lunt, Wm.
Cushing, Mrs. Thomas Hale,
each \$20; Joshua Hale, \$15;
Mrs. S. W. Hale, \$20; E. S.
Rand, \$10; Josiah Little, \$4;
William Stone, \$5; Mrs J. C.
Marsh, Hon. S. W. Marston,
each \$3; Miss F. B. Banister,
\$2; A. W. Miltner, Mrs. S.
Little, each \$1.50; Jas. Webster,
Capt. Spring, Jacob Stone, ea \$1, 128 00Lowell—Mrs. D. G. Godden, to
constitute George G. Snedecor,
Rev. J. B. McLelland, and
Mrs. Sophia B. Hayes, of
Mississippi, and Miss Mary
Elizabeth Godden, of Lowell,
life members of the A. C. S. . . 120 00

323 00

RHODE ISLAND.

Providence—Hon. A. C. Barstow,
by Rev. J. Orcutt, \$5;—By
Capt. G. Barker: Usher Par-
sons, M. D., \$30; S. Hutchins,
\$10; Z. Allen, John Whipple,
Hiram Kendall, Wm. G. An-
gell, F. Wayland, each \$5;
Charles Dyer, Dea. W. An-
drews, each \$4; H. L. Ken-
dall, H. P. Knight, L. A. Waite,
Benj. White, each \$3; Miss
Halsey, Mrs. Kingsbury, each
\$2; R. Angei, \$1, Cash \$1, 96 00

CONNECTICUT.

By Rev. William Warren:

Greenwich—Miss S. Lewis, \$25;
Augustus Mead, Mrs. S. Mead,
each \$10; Mrs. E. Mason, S.
Mead, Z. Mead, W. F. Domi-
nick, R. W. Mead, each \$5;
Rev. M. Mead, \$2 50; Capt.
Lyon, O. Mead, Dr. Mead,
each \$2; E. Mead, S. Mead,
Dr. Linsley, each \$1. 81 50Stamford—S. Fergusson, E. Moore-
wood, G. Elder, J. Betts, each
\$5; Dea. Rice, Dea. Daven-
port, J. D. Werks, each \$2. . . 26 00New Haven—L. Candee, \$25; T.
Bishop, \$20; A. Heaton, W.
Southworth, Dr. J. Day, A.
Ingersol, Misses Gerry, each
\$10; E. Atwater, \$6; W. Bost-
wick, C. A. Judson. S. D.
Pardee, W. Johnson, W. W.
Boardman, A. R. Street, W.
H. Elliott, E. C. Read, De-
Forest & Hodgkiss, D. Kim-
berly, Mr. Brewster, S. Foote,
Mrs. E. Whitney, sen., each
\$5; S. Gilbert, M. G. Elliott,
J. Nicholson, Prof. Goodrich,
each \$3; L. Hodgkiss, S.
Noyes, H. N. Whitlesley,
each \$2; J. E. Wille, C. Ro-
binson, each \$1 (\$293.50) . . . 186 00
By Rev. J. Orcutt:Hartford—Thomas S. Williams,
Thos. Smith, Jas B. Hosmer,
Rev. W. W. Turner, each \$50;
Rev. Dr. Wheaton, Loyal
Wilcox, Austin Dunham, each
\$25; L. C. Ives, Charles Sey-
mour, Fr. Parsons, Alfred
Smith, each \$20; A. W. But-
ler, R. Mather, each \$15; Lu-
cius Barbour, E. N. Kellogg,
Cash, Cash, H. A. Perkins,
W. T. Lee, D. P. Crosby, Jos.
Trumbull, Calvin Day, Bishop
Brownell, C. C. Lyman, Wood-
ruff & Beach, each \$10; H. &
W. Kency, \$8; H. H. Barbour,
\$7; Daniel Phillips, H. L.
Porter, J. F. Judd, B. C.
Hooker, Cash, T. M. Allyn,
Miss A. Goodman, Cash, Ste-
phen Spencer, D. F. Robinson,
T. Belknap, J. W. Seymour,
S. S. Ward, T. Wadsworth,
Chester Adams, H. Fitch, E.
T. Smith, Mrs. Chas. Pond,
Chas. Hosmer, C. H. North-
am, J. Warburton, C. Spencer,
R. G. Talcott, Elisha Calt, D.
Watkinson, Mrs. Thos. Day,
W. L. Collins, N. Case, Al-
bert Day, W. W. House, Mis-
ses Draper, D. Hillyer, Job
Allyn, David Werson, C. H.
Bramard, T. K. Brace, C.
Boswell, Jas. Goodwin, Hun-
gerford & Cone, Eben. Flower,
Charles Cheney, Mrs. Ely,

Seth Terry, each \$5; E. G. Ripley, E. W. Bolles, Mrs. R. G. Talcott, Walter Stillman, J. W. Bull, Charles Benton, E. Goodwin, Z. Preston, E. A. Bulkeley, Jas. Bartholomew, O. Allen, E. Taylor, Miss Julia Seymour, Miss Emily Seymour, Mrs. Joseph Morgan, A. Hosford, each \$3; G. Collier, E. Fessenden, S. Tuttle & Sons, Cash, Cash, J. F. Morris, Cash, F. L. Gleason, T. A. Alexander, R. S. Lyons, C. T. Hillyer, A. Gill, L. F. Robinson, G. F. Davis, S. D. Sperry, Henry Holmes, Thos. Skinner, Charles Goodwin, each \$2; R. G. Drake, H. C. Judd, H. L. Bidwell, H. Hooker, George W. Corning, E. W. Parsons, J. A. Butler, Geo. Burnham, E. Deming, S. W. Griswold, A. R. Hillyer, W. W. Roberts, L. Sheldon, Cash, P. Jewell, W. H. White, Dr. Taft, H. L. Miller, Mrs. Geo. B. Corning, J. M. B. McNary, R. Swift, Cash, G. Robins, H. W. Taylor, S. P. Kendall, E. T. Goodrich, Cash, M. Lord, H. French, J. C. Walkley, N. Harris, Chas. E. Fox, Mason Gross, J. G. Mix, H. L. Fuller, each \$1; H. E. Robins, \$1.50..... 855 50

New London—Wm. C. Crump, \$25, in full to constitute himself a life member of the A. C. S..... 25 00

New Britain—F. H. North, H. Stanley, each \$25; Oliver Stanley, C. B. Erwin, H. E. Russell, each \$10; T. F. Stanley, Mrs. E. N. Rockwell, Mrs. Henry North, J. B. Talcott, Elnathan Peck, G. M. Landers, each \$5; H. Butler, \$3; S. Carpenter; O. H. Seymour, O. S. Judd, I. N. Lee, C. M. Lewis, each \$1..... 118 00

Rockville—Alonzo Bailey, \$10, A. Hammond, C. Winchell, each \$3; Geo. Kellogg, \$2; Wm. Butler, D. Loomis, Wood & Brown, each \$1..... 21 00

Ellington—John H. Brockway, \$5, Dr. R. Patton, B. Grant, Noah Pease, Rev. Dr. Tucker, Rev. T. K. Fessenden, Rev. Chas. Hyde, each \$2; N. E. Chaffee, H. C. Griswold, each \$1..... 19 00

Centre Brook—Congreg'l Church, *Windsor Locks*—Rev. Mr. Allen's Society..... 20 00

Plymouth—Ed. Langdon, \$10, in part to constitute Mrs. Edward Langdon a life member of the A. C. S..... 10 00

New Haven—James Fellows, R. S. Fellows, each \$15; C. Cowles, Mrs. Salisbury, Eli Whitney, R. J. Ingersol, G. Hallock, Henry White, each \$10; T. Sherman, \$8; James Brewster, E. C. Read, C. M. Ingersol, N. Peck, Mrs. L. Chaplin, C. Wilcox, Mrs. Sarah Bristol, A. F. Barnes, Cash, L. A. Thomas, President Woolsey, each \$5; C. F. Selden, Mrs. Maltby, Mrs. R. Hotchkiss, Miss Mary Dutton, E. H. Peck, A. Blackman, each \$3; D. W. Thomas, H. W. Thomas, Cash, Mrs. Butterfield, A. C. Twining, A. Treat, Miss Frances R. Day, J. Bowditch, Dr. Jewett, Mrs. T. D. Wheeler, Henry Ives, Briggs & Smith, each \$2; Rev. D. L. Ogden, E. Benjamin, C. B. Whitteley, C. Bostwick, T. H. Pease, H. Fitch, Cash, M. Tyler, Cash, each \$1(\$1288.50) 204 00

1582 00

NEW YORK.

New York City—Donation of a friend to constitute Mrs. Harriet N. Bell, of Jackson, Miss., a life member of the A. C. S., by Rev. J. B. Pinney..... 30 00

NEW JERSEY.

West Bloomfield—Rev. Abner Brundge, by Rev. W. Mitchell..... 10 00

GEORGIA.

Augusta—Miss H. B. Longstreet, by R. Campbell, Esq..... 10 00

TENNESSEE.

Knoxville—Rev. Thomas W. Humes..... 10 00

OHIO.

Collections by Rev. B. O. Plimpton, as follows:

Carrollton, \$15; *Auburn*, \$6; *Wellsville*, (Mrs. Jennings.)—\$10; *Unity*, \$15; *Fairfield*, \$17; *Brooklin*, \$5..... 68 00

Canton—John Harris..... 5 00

By J. C. Stockton:
Adam's Mills—Matthew Scott, \$10; James Scott, James E. Robinson, each \$2; C. Mar-

quand, \$1.50; H. Scott, S. H. Scott, Catharine Scott, James Bell, Wm. Godfrey, each \$1; Miss Jane Deane, 50 cents.	21 00
<i>Coshocton</i> —Hon. Wm. K. Johnson and brother, \$5; Dr. Saml. Lee, Misses Spangler, each \$2; Rev. W. E. Hunt, Dr. A. L. Cass; Humerick-house, H. N. Shaw, each \$1.	13 00
<i>Murkingum</i> —Washington Adams, \$5, Collection in church, \$1.50.	6 50
<i>Dresden</i> —J. H. Egbert, \$3 50; W. H. Cox, \$3; Mr. Martin, J. S. Crane, W. A. Smallwood, C. R. Copeladd, Dr. Cone, Dr. Cass, G. Copeland, J. H. Bainter, M. Dorsey, O. Dorsey, each \$1.	16 50
<i>Granville</i> —Rev. A. Sanford, S. N. Sanford, each \$5; A. Pritchard, \$2; Rev. C. S. Doolittle, R. Granger, Mrs. G. B. Johnson, Mrs. E. P. French, D. Humphrey, each \$1.	17 00
<i>McKean</i> —J. P. Diviny, Edward Nichol, Wm. H. Nichol, Semar Wood, each \$1; Others, 50 cents.	4 50
<i>Liberty</i> —Collection in Fletcher Chapel.	4 07
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	155 57

INDIANA.

<i>La Porte</i> —J. Early.	15 00
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ILLINOIS.

<i>Jacksonville</i> —By Rev. J. C. Finley: William Brown, Esq., \$100; Matthew Stacy, S. V. King, each \$5.	110 00
<i>Springfield</i> —By Rev. J. C. Finley: Joseph Thayer, \$30; Benj'n Edwards, J. L. Lamb, each \$10; E. B. C. Hawley, \$5; D. A. Brown, \$25.	80 00
	<hr/>
	190 00

WISCONSIN.

<i>Beloit</i> —Third installment of legacy of Mrs. L. Colton, by Rev. A. L. Chapin.	250 00
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Total Contributions, \$2,426 57

FOR REPOSITORY.

MAINE.— <i>Hartland</i> —Kingman Han, to April, '58.	1 00
VERMONT— <i>Union Village</i> —Estate of John Hall, to Jan. '57.	4 00
MASSACHUSETTS.— <i>Haverhill</i> —By Capt. G. Barker: Mrs. A. Kitt-ridge, \$1, to Jan. '59; Dr. M. Nichols, M. D. George, W.	

R. Whittier, Leonard Whittier, each \$1, to May, '58; Rev. Arthur S. Train, \$3, to Jan. '58. <i>Newburyport</i> —Josiah Little, Mrs. Eben Hale, each \$1, to Jan. '57; Hon. S. W. Marston, R. Robinson, Dea. Caldwell, William Gunnison, each \$1, to Jan. '58; Nathan Horton, \$1, to May, '58.	15 00
RHODE ISLAND.— <i>Providence</i> —By Capt G. Barker: Menzie Sweet, Charles Dyer, Dea. W. Andrews, Young Men's Christian Association, Colored Shelter, Mrs. J. H. Read, each \$1, to Jan. '58; Mrs. Elisha Dyer, \$3, to Jan. '58; Alexis Caswell, Earl Carpenter, H. L. Kendall, Henry P. Knight, each \$2, to Jan. '58; Thomas Eddy, Hon. Elisha Harris, each \$1, to Jan. '57.	19 00
CONNECTICUT.— <i>North Haven</i> —Solomon A. Orcutt, for 1857, \$1. <i>Centre Brook</i> —Dea. W. Redfield, to Jan. '57, \$1. <i>Greenwich</i> —Z. Mead, for 1856, by Rev. W. Warren, \$1. <i>Hurford</i> —Seth King, to Jan. '54, by Rev. J. Orcutt, \$1.	4 00
NEW YORK.— <i>Annaquascook</i> —Mrs. A. Brackett, to Jan. '58.	3 00
MARYLAND.— <i>Baltimore</i> —Henry Patterson, for 1857.	1 00
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.— <i>Washington</i> —Dr. Lester Noble, for 1857.	1 00
VIRGINIA.— <i>Prince Edward</i> —Mrs. Anne S. Rice, to Jan. '58, \$5. <i>Fredericksburg</i> —S. G. Scott, to Feb. '57, \$1. <i>Wheeling</i> —Daniel Zane, to Jan. '58, \$5.	11 00
SOUTH CAROLINA.— <i>Columbia</i> —Rev. Henry Turner, to Mar. '58.	1 00
GEORGIA.— <i>Hackinsville</i> —M. McGee, to Jan. '58.	2 00
ALABAMA.— <i>La Fayette</i> —Mrs. E. Gilmer, for 1857.	1 00
TENNESSEE.— <i>Gallatin</i> —Miss Ann Banks, to Mar. '58.	1 00
KENTUCKY.— <i>Lexington</i> —Rev. W. B. Browne, to Jan. '57.	5 00
OHIO.— <i>Bellbrook</i> —Dan'l Holmes, to July, '57, \$1. <i>Cincinnati</i> —Manning F. Force, for 1857, \$1	2 00

Total Repository..... 71 00
 " Contributions.....2,426 57
 " Legacies..... 250 00

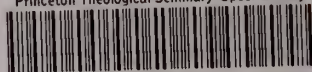
Aggregate Amount..\$2,747 57



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