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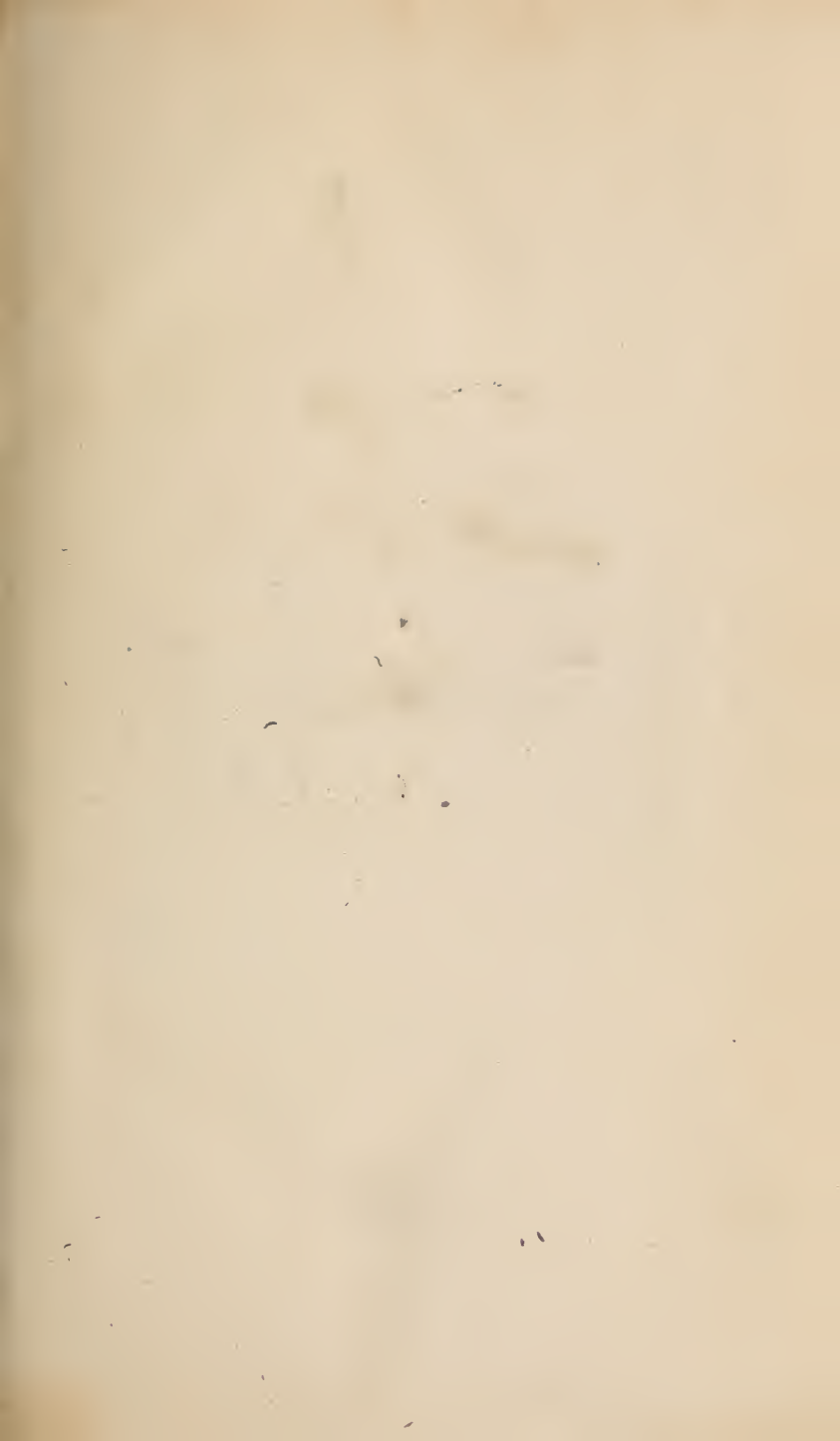
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T.

Thanksgiving Day in Liberia....



# THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

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## CAPTAIN SPEKE AND NYASSA LAKE.\*

The volume before us probably owes its existence to the interest excited by the *Journal of the Discovery of the Sources of the Nile*. It contains an account of the steps by which its author gradually approached the solution of his great problem; and although the first attempts were in one sense failures, it is plain that the experience gained in them of the habits and feelings of the populations of tropical Africa contributed in no small degree to the ultimate success which rewarded his perseverance. A considerable portion of the work originally appeared in the pages of *Blackwood*; but a natural desire to establish his title to one of the most remarkable geographical discoveries of the age against all conflicting claims induced Captain Speke to recast his narrative, and to exhibit the connexion of his early attempts with his final success. For this purpose the most important portion of his book is the last 170 pages, containing an account of an expedition to the north, in which he started from Kaze—the centre of the caravan traffic carried on by the Arabian merchants of Zanzibar with Central Africa—and was rewarded by a view of the *southern* extremity of the lake Victoria Nyanza, from the *northern* end of which, four years afterwards, he saw the stream of the Nile issuing. But perhaps the part most interesting to an ordinary reader is the account of two most perilous attempts to penetrate the country of the Somali. This is a large territory of the shape of an irregular triangle, of which the vertex lies nearly on the Equator and the base coincides with the southern coast of the Gulf of Aden. Of the interior, a part consists of a rich grain-producing red soil, entirely devoid of stones,

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\* WHAT LED TO THE DISCOVERY OF THE SOURCES OF THE NILE. By John Hanning Speke, Captain in Her Majesty's Indian Army. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh.

and with water near the surface; and there are also large grassy prairies, abounding in game and cattle. But no European has hitherto been able to explore these favored regions, access to which is entirely barred by the jealous savage tribes of the coast, of which the most important are Somali, a mixed race—Captain Speke calls them “Ham-Shemites”—which seem to unite the cunning of the Arab with the impulsiveness of the negro.

In many respects they resemble the Kabyle population of Northern Africa. They are divided into clans, each under a petty chief, and carry on continual feuds with one another. Many of them resort to Aden to trade, or to act as porters and donkey drivers, and their quarrelsome and violent natures have compelled the authorities there to disarm them.

The commercial Somali, on arriving in Aden, adopt the gown and trousers of the Arab, but on the African shore they disdain the character of a *gens togata*, and revert to the simple costume of a rectangular cloth about eight cubits in length, worn after the fashion of a Highlander's plaid. The women are somewhat better covered than the men, but, although Mahomedans, they wear no veils. The government of each clan is patriarchal, and blood feuds prevail among them, as among all uncivilized races. These are terminable, however, by the payment of a *weregeld* in the shape of cattle, whenever the hostile parties can arrive at an agreement as to its amount.

The central depot of the Somali trade is Berbera, a town on the coast situated on the same meridian as Aden. This place, being within the region of monsoons, can only be entered by vessels during about five months in the year, when the sun is in the south. At this time (that is, from the middle of November to the middle of April) it is the resort of Arabs and men of Cutch, who import cloth, dates, rice, beads, and iron, to exchange for the cattle, ghee, (clarified butter,) ostrich feathers, hides, and matting made from grass and palm-bark, which are brought by the Somali in the caravans from the south and southwest. At all other times in the year the place is entirely deserted.

It was from this point (Berbera) that the expedition into the interior under the command of Lieutenant Burton, with whom Captain Speke was associated, was designed to take place. At the end of March, 1855, a considerable number of camels, ponies, and other appliances for African travel had been assembled there, together with an escort of about a dozen men of mixed races armed with sabres and muskets. Lieutenant Stroyan was to perform the duties of surveyor of the country through which the route passed, and Lieutenant Horne to investigate its geological character. On the 9th of April the southwest monsoon commenced, and the fair began to break up, caravan after caravan left the town, and at last the great one for Ogahden, of which the English travellers had proposed to form part, prepared to depart. Unfortunately some in-

struments, which were on their way from England for the use of the expedition, had not arrived. It was necessary to decide either to proceed without these appliances, or to wait for them and travel without the protection which the caravan afforded. Unhappily the worse alternative was chosen, and on the 15th of April our travellers and their attendants found themselves alone on the seashore.

It is the invariable practice of travellers in this part of Africa to put themselves under the care of a native of recognized position, to be their *Abban* or protector. This functionary, in fact, under one name or other, has existed in all ages among tribes of imperfect civilization, who enter upon commercial relations with their neighbors. The *Abban* introduces his client to the chiefs of the clans with which he has to do, and is the referee in all cases of dispute. Naturally enough this position gives him enormous power for peculation, upon which, considering the current morality of barbarians, there is little check. Without the permission of the *Abban*, the traveller can neither make a march nor purchase any article of necessity. But bad as the custom of *Abbanage* is, it is one which is universally accepted, and the profit which it brings to a large class of persons is of itself an insuperable obstacle to its being waived at the will of a stranger. Most unfortunately Lieutenant Burton, with a pedantry that is rarely found in military breasts, conceived the idea of suppressing it in his own case. The *Abban* is in effect a sort of travelling custom-house, the trader or traveller paying to him a certain per centage on all the merchandise which he parts with, even though it be in barter for provisions. Now, as the Somali had access to Aden without the payment of customs, the English ought not (thought the Lieutenant) to be subject to any equivalent tax in the land of the Somali. Accordingly, he refused to take with him any accredited person in this capacity. The effect of this proceeding, combined with the relinquishment of a place in the great caravan, was to put the expedition in the position of outlaws. Before they even commenced their march they were fallen upon at night by a band of Somali, Lieutenant Stroyan killed, Speke captured after receiving some severe wounds, and the whole camp plundered. By a most providential coincidence a small Arab vessel had put into Berbera the night before, and the three surviving Europeans (Speke having contrived to escape from his barbarous captors) were conveyed in her safely back to Aden. Speke had lost more than £500 of private property, and received eleven wounds in his body. But though Aden is considered nearly the worst place in the world for a convalescent, so beneficial proved the abstemious life which he had been leading for several months, feeding on dates, rice, and sour curds, that in the space of three weeks every wound had closed, and he was able to walk at large. The next year a British vessel of war blockaded Berbera at the time of the fair, and redress to some extent was obtained at the hands of the tribe to which the marauders belonged; but all hope

of access to the interior through Berbera was terminated by the outrage.

The hardy habits of the Somali are another point of comparison with the Kabyle races of the North. "What would the English do," asked a native of Captain Speke, "if the Somali came down to fight them, and then ran away back into the fastnesses of their hills? *You* cannot live a day without drinking beer and eating meat; whereas the Somali can do very well without any thing, seldom requiring even water, and not more than one morsel of meat for a whole week together." But the power of abstinence is coupled with an enormous capacity for taking in supplies when the opportunity offers. Captain Speke saw a Somali, who was half starved by long fasting, and with his stomach pinched in, sit down to a large skinful of milk, and not draw breath until the whole was swallowed, his stomach in the meantime visibly swelling in exact proportion to the diminished size of the skin. The power of enduring thirst is extended to the lower animals. Camels are in an ordinary way watered by the Somali only twice a month, sheep every fourth day, and ponies once in two days. Even when water is plentiful, the people object to make a free use of it for their animals, lest these should lose their hardihood.

The skill with which those savages take advantage of the peculiarities of the game they pursue is very curious. The little antelopes (Salt's) of the country present too small a mark for their skill in archery to hit. But these creatures cannot endure the heat of the midday sun. Accordingly, the Somali hunter watches one of them down to his lair under some tree by the side of a water course, and rouses him up. The animal trots off to the nearest shady bush, and is followed by his persecutor in a leisurely manner, but so unintermittingly as to prevent any rest. In the course of an hour or so the antelope, rushing about from bush to bush in terror and suffering, becomes completely exhausted and is captured. Ostriches are also tired down by the Somali hunter mounted on one of his slow but hardy and enduring ponies. He provides himself with provision for two or three days, and shows himself at a distance to a flock of the birds, without scaring them, but still inducing them to move off; and he follows them just within sight till night sets in. The ostrich is so blind that it cannot feed in the dark, and the hunter profits by this circumstance to dismount, feed his pony, and rest himself, resuming his pursuit with the first dawn of day. At the end of the second or third day he and the pony are as fresh as ever; but the poor ostriches are ready to drop from inanition, and their pursuer rides in among them and knocks them down one by one. Gazelles, too, in spite of their fleetness, are hunted down on the ponies of the country in the open plain. They have a tendency, whatever the direction in which they may be going, to head across their pursuers; and the Somali, taking advantage of this habit, direct their course towards



the leading gazelle, and thus induce the whole herd to describe a much larger circumference of ground than they themselves traverse. When these superfluous exertions of speed have at last thoroughly fatigued the animals, the hunters ride in upon them and kill them in detail.

Some remains seem to exist of the early Christianity of this part of Africa. Speke found the ruins of what was represented to him as a Christian church; but there seems very slender evidence for believing that the building in question was this. It is, however, the practice of the Somali to erect crosses at the head of the tombs of their dead, although themselves Mahommedans, and (as is always the case with uncultivated races) bigoted and fanatical in their formal observances. When Speke threw date stones into the fire, they looked upon it as a sacrilegious act to treat "the seed of paradisaical food" with such little respect; and when he made his interpreter cut the deers' throats lower than the point prescribed by the orthodox canon, in order to preserve the specimen, they spat on the ground to testify their abhorrence of the proceeding.

It was not till the year 1857, two years after the calamitous termination of the attempt to penetrate the interior of the country from Berbera, that the expedition commenced which has been so fruitful in results, and established the nature of the geography of equatorial Africa beyond question. Captain Speke attributes the merit of planning it to Sir George Back, the Arctic navigator, by whose influence with the Geographical Society Captain Burton was appointed to conduct it. Burton, being ignorant of astronomical surveying and of other accomplishments essential to the enterprise, pressed Captain Speke to join him, and the two set out from the Eastern coast opposite to the Island of Zanzibar, on the 27th of June, immediately after the termination of the rainy monsoon. Their immediate destination was Kaze, situate in lat.  $5^{\circ}$  S., long.  $33^{\circ}$  E., an entrepot of all the Arabian traffic with the interior. Two English missionaries, resident at Zanzibar, had constructed out of the reports of native merchants a map of Eastern Africa from the Equator to the 14th degree of south latitude, and in this there appeared a huge lake upwards of 800 miles long by 300 broad. To ascertain the dimensions, feeders, and other particulars relating to this vast collection of waters, about as big as the Caspian, was the special problem to be solved by the expedition. Having obtained whatever information they could, they were afterwards to proceed northwards towards a range of mountains marked on the maps as containing the probable sources of the Bahr-el-Abiad, the western branch of the Nile. They arrived at Kaze on the 7th of November, after various hindrances, the most important of which seems to have been an attack of fever in passing through Uzaramo, the low country on the eastern coast below the elevated plateau over which the greater part of the route

lies. Both Burton and Speke were seized with it. With the latter it only recurred at intervals after being shaken off, but in the case of the former it never left him throughout the journey, and even lasted sometime after his return to England.

At Kaze the Arabs were extremely obliging, especially one Sheikh Snay, whose commentaries upon the map of the missionaries really suggested the clue to the discovery of the source of the Nile. The huge lake of the missionary map was in reality a confusion of three distinct collections of water, one of which, on which Ujiji (another centre of Arabian traffic) lay, was to the west of Kaze. This is the lake Tanganyika of Speke's map. The second, which possessed no special interest for the travellers, was to the southward. The third, the true Nyassa, out of which it eventually appeared that the Nile rose, was to the north. To this Speke's wishes were directed, but the route was reported an extremely dangerous one, the resources of the expedition were much diminished, and Captain Burton's health was so desperate that he thought himself about to die, and desired his companion to take an account of his effects. Finally, with much difficulty, on the 10th of January, 1858, a start was made for the lake Tanganyika, Captain Burton having temporarily made over the command to Speke. It was soon found that they had got on to a decline of the country in which the streams drained westward, and the soil became deeper and the vegetation richer as they advanced, till after having made about 150 miles they began to ascend the eastern horn of a large crescent-shaped mass of mountains, embracing the northern half of the object of their search. From the summit of the *col* the great lake spread out below. But, to the mortification of Speke, he discovered that what all the rest could see he alone could not. Fever and the effect of the sun had so lowered his system as to bring on an attack of inflammation of the eyes and produce nearly total blindness. However, he soon found himself on the bank of the Tanganyika, and during the month of March was enabled to traverse the lower part of it in a rude canoe, made out of the trunk of a single large tree, and paddled by the natives. The lake is about 300 miles long, and from thirty to forty broad in its centre. It lies between lat.  $3^{\circ}$  and  $8^{\circ}$  S. and on the 29th degree of E. longitude, and its surface, as ascertained by boiling water, is only 1,800 feet above the level of the sea, whereas Nyassa was subsequently found to be about 4,000 feet. The waters of the Tanganyika are very sweet, and abound with delicious fish. The hills which surround its northern portion are not granite, like the plateau from which the travellers descended towards it, but an argillaceous sandstone of great fertility.

It was not without great trouble and some risk that Speke succeeded in obtaining the bearings of some of the most striking points on the shore of the lake, and in ascertaining its general shape and extent. Navigation on it is extremely dangerous, from

the sudden squalls which come on, and the superstitious boatmen, in their dread of these, opposed themselves to everything in the shape of an observation. They earnestly forbid his talking while in the canoe, more especially about the places of departure or arrival, lest ill-luck should be the result and they should never reach their destination. On one occasion the bad weather was attributed to his carrying alive in the boat a she-goat which had been presented by a Chief. The animal ought, they averred, to have been killed and eaten on the spot. They blamed him for throwing overboard the remains of his cold luncheon, and a servant for taking up water in a pot which had been used for cooking. In this case, however, the reason assigned was more plausible. The lake is frequented by crocodiles, which follow and sometimes attack canoes, and especially when their appetites are provoked by the taste or smell of food. Even on shore a panic terror was excited by any unusual proceeding. One day Speke showed a Chief a cheese which had been made from the milk supplied to the party, and wanted to teach the natives the art of cheesemaking. But the barbarian took fright at what he considered a magical proceeding, and, instead of being grateful, forbid any more milk to be furnished to the white men, lest by their malpractices they should bewitch his cows and cause them to run dry. As he was the only cowkeeper in the place, this was a serious calamity. But the worst inconvenience of all was one resulting from lighting a candle in the tent at night time. In an instant the whole interior became covered with a host of small black beetles. One of these crept into Speke's ear, and could not be dislodged by any means at hand, but, on the contrary, when unable to advance further, began to dig into the interior passages, and was only quieted by the introduction of a penknife blade. This, though it killed the intruder, at the same time wounded the organs, and produced an inflammation and internal suppuration that affected all the facial glands, and finally ate a hole between the nose and the ear. It indicates some optimism in our author to believe that this visitation served as a counter irritant to the inflammation which had previously attacked his eyes; but he says that no artificial appliance had ever succeeded so well in this respect.

Speke returned to Kaze from the expedition to the Tanganyika towards the end of June, in a much improved state of health, although his companion was still suffering severely. The accounts which he had received of the Northern lake were so interesting that he determined to visit it, Captain Burton remaining, in the meantime, at Kaze to recover his strength and to collect information from the travelled Arabs who passed through that place. Many difficulties occurred at starting. The Belooche guard demurred to going any further, and when they at last consented, bargained for an increase of pay. Even Speke's "Man Friday," a negro of singular intelligence and unparalleled fidelity, rejoicing in the name of Bombay, took part



in the opposition, and would not move without the payment of a month's wages in cloth on the spot. The immediate cause of the trouble was a very curious one. Both Bombay and the Belooches had bought some slaves, and, so different is the actual tenure of this kind of property in Africa from what it is believed to be by European philanthropists, were obliged to keep them in good humor by continually making them presents, lest they should desert. Bombay had purchased one tall, athletic fellow "to be his adopted brother"—a relation which seems to be something akin to that between lord and vassal in the Middle Ages, or master and fag at an English public school. It is entered upon by a formal ceremony. The two men sit down face to face on a cowhide, with their legs stretched out as wide as can be managed, one pair overlapping the other. They then place their bows and arrows across their thighs, and each holds a leaf in his hand. A third person, holding a pot of butter, makes an incision just above their knees, and the blood that proceeds from each, mixed with butter, is put upon the leaf of the other, who thereupon anoints himself with the same. After this the two recite the names of their several relatives together, and swear to protect each other to the death; and then the fraternization becomes complete. The position of "adopted brother" is, of course, quite an exceptional one; but still the general condition of slaves, if not transported, but living in the service of their Arab masters, is, according to Speke, one in which they willingly remain, and by no means demanding commiseration.

Once started, the expedition to the northwards progressed very favourably on the whole. The Belooches seemed to have warmed to their work, and to have kept the *pagazis* (porters) to their duties with an alacrity which elicits the warm praises of their master. As they proceeded further, the fertility and resources of the country increased, and on the 30th of July the travellers descended on a creek, which proved to be the southernmost portion of the now celebrated Nyassa, known by the Arabs under the name of the Ukerewe Sea. The soil for two or three days before reaching it was a sandstone impregnated with iron, and nearly all the tools and cutlery used in this part of Eastern Africa are here produced. Captain Speke brought some specimens of the manufactures away with him, and calls the district the Birmingham of the land. His men bartered their cloth for iron hoes, which they proposed to take South with them to Unyanyembe, where they would be saleable at 100 per cent. profit.

The furthermost point northward was reached on the 3d of August. It was a small hill on the southern shore of the lake. Due east appeared another landmark, estimated by Speke as forty miles distant. To the W.N.W. nothing but a sea horizon was visible. The altitude of the surface of the lake was estimated at nearly 4,000 feet\* above the level of the ocean, and presented the appearance of

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\*In the second expedition the level was found to be 3,740 feet.

a large sheet of water lying flush with the basal surface of the country. Local accounts represented it as very deep; but its appearance in that part which Speke witnessed did not favor the idea. The islands which studded it stood out like paps, precisely similar to the prominent parts of the country through which he had been traveling, and which if inundated would, he thought, have presented exactly the same aspect. It must, however, be remembered that this lake, if identical, as seems all but certain, with the one of which in his subsequent expedition he visited the northwest and north shores, extends in length over nearly four degrees of latitude, and that the upper portion of it lies much nearer to a high range of mountains, the streams from which descend into it. The general character of depth may, therefore, be generalized from this part.

The expedition returned to Kaze in exactly six weeks from the day on which they had left it, in excellent health and spirits, and, in the opinion of their chief, completely successful. The provisions they had taken with them had exactly lasted out, and the time occupied in the march precisely coincided with that which the Arab traders had led them to expect. The total road distance out and back amounted to 452 miles, and it took Captain Speke sixteen days to return, the Arabs having assured him that he would require from fifteen to seventeen. Their information in this particular proving so correct gives considerable authority to their statements as to the magnitude of the Nyassa, and the nature of the country which surrounds it.

It is due to the labors of Captain Speke not to terminate this notice without giving all possible currency to his decided opinion, formed upon an experience which may be called unparalleled, that the most important expedition which can now be undertaken is to cross the continent of Africa as near as possible to the parallel of the Equator. When the coast ranges are once crossed, the traveller reaches a high plateau, which, from its elevation, insures a moderate temperature and comparative security for health. The great danger arises in all cases from the fevers which infest the coast, and, this obstacle being once overcome, there appears every prospect of obtaining a complete knowledge of a region of which the resources are very great and as yet entirely undeveloped.

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From the Foreign Missionary.

## THE SABBATH ON HEATHEN GROUND.

“And call the Sabbath a delight, the Holy of the Lord, honorable.”—ISAIAH lviii., 13.

Those who live in a Christian land do not know how to value the Sabbath as do those who live in a land where that holy day is not known. When it comes you know the day; you seem to breathe an air different from other days. The bells ring solemnly, and troops of

children are seen collecting in schools, and lines of people are wending their way to church.

Here it is not so. The people do not know what day is Sabbath; all days are alike to them. If persons come to me on Saturday to sell something, and they say, "To-morrow I will bring some more," and I say "to-morrow is the Sabbath," the reply is, "*Hu yowe*" (we did not know; that sometimes means we did *not care* to know.) You will see on Sabbath morning women going by with burdens on their shoulders or backs, for women do all the work, carrying their *mevanda* (cassava) to soak at the springs, or with a basket and a cutlass going to work in their plantations. You will see the men going out into the woods as usual, with a gun to shoot squirrels, or to shoot enemies if they should get into a quarrel. And very probably they may get into a quarrel, for they have their bottle, which they will fill with palm wine, (the juice running from the wounded trunk of the palm,) which, if they drink a great deal of it, will make them drunk. Some do not know it is the Sabbath, but others who do know may be seen carrying their chests and boat sail to the beach to commence a trade journey.

They say, "This is a good day, so I will go on my journey to-day, and will have good luck." They do not understand that it is a good day for God's works, but a very bad day for man's business.

The hearts of missionaries are very sad when they see these things. I have longed for the quiet of an American Sabbath; for the bright, clean, happy faces turned churchward; for the chimes of the many bells of a city, or the single note of the one village church, as it is echoed over the plain and down the valley. I have thirsted until my eyes paid for the heart's pain, longing for the joys that comes from association with many Christians in a Christian air. You cannot understand what that means, what that joy is, until you have lived away from that air. Then God has come into my heart and said "Peace;" and all was peace. Sometimes there has been sent joy for the tears, as sitting of a calm Sabbath morning and looking out on the placid sea, with a fresh cool breeze sweeping from the land, I have dismissed the sounds and the thoughts of sin that have here made man "vile," and seen only the "prospects" that please. There the gently heaving or white-capped sea, there the blue sky above it, all around the tropical verdure all green, but with many shades, from the pea of the plantain to the almost brown of the bomba, and I felt that God had "made everything beautiful in his time." Then I sang most heartily "The rosy light is dawning," "Let rivers of salvation in larger currents flow." Led thus back to thoughts of heathen degradation, I felt no more the heavy pain, but an exultation, for I knew that surely, though slowly, a "beautiful light" of the Gospel, like the rosy light of morn, was creeping over this sin-stricken land's hills and vales.

R. H. N.

*Corisco, W. A.*

## THE SOURCE OF THE NILE.

On November 14th the Royal Geographical Society recommenced its meetings in London for the season, Sir Roderick I. Murchison, presiding.

Captain Burton read a paper "On the Present State of Knowledge respecting the Source of the Nile," in which he called in question many of the statements and inferences that had been made by Captain Speke. He denied, in the first instance, the existence of so large a lake as the Victoria Nyanza where Capt. Speke had described it to be, and consequently he disputed that the Nile took its source from that lake. He assigned several reasons for disbelieving that there was such a lake. He asserted that the level of the lake was not sufficiently high for the source of so large a river, and from the testimony of the Arabs, a road passed through what was said to be the center of the lake. Another reason why he thought the Nyanza could not be the source of the Nile was that the periods of the alleged greatest elevation of the water did not correspond with the overflow of that river. The word Nyanza is applied by the African tribes to any body of water, Nyaza and Nyanza being indifferently used with the same signification. The Mountains of the Moon, which were laid down in some of Capt. Speke's early maps, had, he said, really no existence, or, at least there was no range of mountains of such a magnitude as had been described. The lunar mountains were represented to be of the form of a horseshoe, and to inclose the north end of the Lake Tangansika, some of the mountains being said to be ten thousand feet high. He did not deny that there were some hills in that direction, but they were not continuous, and Capt. Burton contended that from the north of that lake a river flows into the other lakes to the northward, and finally into the Nile, the Lake Tangansika, situated much further to the northwest, being the source from which the chief waters of the Nile are derived. He denied, however, that that or any river took its source from a lake, the real source of the Nile being the rivers that fed the lake from which the stream issues. Capt. Burton said he was far from wishing to detract from the great merit which was due to Capt. Speke as an intelligent and adventurous explorer, but he thought that it was desirable that further explorations should be made to settle the question of the source of the Nile, which he considered had not yet been determined. He inclined to think that a lake situated to the north-east of the reputed Victoria Nyanza is the source of the White Nile, and the Assnara, which flows from it, was mistaken by Capt. Speke for a tributary, when it is, in fact the main stream.

Dr. Livingstone confirmed some of Captain Burton's views respecting Lake Tangansika. He said when travelling to the west-



ward of that lake he saw several rivers flowing toward it from a high plateau upwards of two thousand feet high. He agreed with Capt. Burton as to the general signification of the word Nyanza, and he said he had intended to call the Lake Nyaza by that name, but finding that the latter term had been used, he did not wish to change it. The north of Lake Nyaza had not been explored, owing to the borders being in possession of hostile tribes; but Dr. Livingstone considered it not improbable that a river flowed from it into the more northern lakes. He was of opinion that the Nile originated from several lakes in that part of Africa, and that it could not be traced to any one source.

Mr. Galton defended the statements of Capt. Speke, and contended that the objection to the Lake Nyanza being the source of the Nile, founded on its low level, was removed by the knowledge of the fact that the instrument with which level was taken was very imperfect, and could not be depended on.

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### VERMONT COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The Forty-Fifth Annual Meeting of this Society was held in Montpelier, on Thursday evening, the 20th of October, 1864, the President, Hon. Daniel Baldwin, in the chair.

Rev. Ezra H. Byington, of Windsor, read the 2d Psalm and led in prayer. Rev. J. K. Converse, the Secretary, read extracts from the Annual Report of the Board of Managers.

The Treasurer, Geo. W. Scott, Esq., presented his report, from which it appeared that \$2821 had been contributed to the cause during the year, including collections, subscriptions and legacies.

The audience was then addressed by Henry W. Johnson, a colored lawyer, of Canandaigua, N. Y. The aim of the speaker was to show, that with the most favorable legislation, and all that the friends of the colored people may do to elevate them in this country, they can never rise here to their true manhood, and enjoy equal social and civil rights with the white race.

The following named gentlemen were elected the officers for the ensuing year, viz :

President—Hon. Daniel Baldwin.

Vice Presidents—Hon. Samuel Kellogg, Hon. Lewis H. Delano.

Secretary—Rev. John K. Converse.

Treasurer—George W. Scott, Esq.

Auditor—John A. Page, Esq.

Managers—Henry Stevens, Esq.; His Excellency, John G. Smith, Hon. Norman Williams, John B. Page, Esq., Freeman Keyes, Esq., Rev. W. H. Lord, Rev. C. C. Parker, Rev. F. W. Shelton, Hon. Erastus Fairbanks, Hon. Paul Dillingham, Johnson A. Hardy, Esq.

At the meeting of the Board of Managers, the following resolution was discussed and adopted:—



*Resolved*, That, though for obvious causes, Emigration to Liberia is for the present impeded, the claims of our educational and missionary work in Africa and a just regard for the present and prospective calls for passage, demand the vigorous prosecution of our enterprise, and that we pledge our cordial co-operation with the Parent Society in its endeavors to increase its funds.

We present the following extracts from the Annual Report :

“Forty-two years ago an adopted son of Vermont, the brave and pious Ashmun, landed from the brig Strong on Cape Messurado, with a little band of sable men and women. He shared their perils, instructed them in their great work, and led them in their defence against hostile barbarians. On every side, except upon the sea, he was surrounded by people who had super-added to the common vices of a savage state, all those that savages were capable of learning from long intercourse with pirates and slave traders. His little band pitched their tents upon a coast which had been for a century the chief seat of the slave trade, and from which, but the year before, “twenty thousand slaves had been shipped to hopeless bondage.”

Who were these pilgrims? And for what purpose had they come, periling health and life, by land and sea, and among false brethren? They were the exiled children of Africa. They had come with an object before them, clear and well defined. They had come to establish a civilized nationality amid the scenes of cruelty and barbarism. How were they fitted for such a work? They had no prestige of social elevation here. Like the pilgrims of the Mayflower, the fathers of Liberia were few in number, and poor in the wealth of this world. But God had trained them for their work in the school of affliction, as He trained the Israelites in Egypt to qualify them to take possession of Canaan; and as he trained the Puritans to Christianize this continent. Some of these African pilgrims were intelligent Christian men. They carried with them the English language, Bible, laws manners and customs. They carried with them all the lessons in respect to civil, social and religious liberty, and the government of a State, which our fathers had learned in two hundred years. This garnered experience of the working of a republican government was all their own.

The brief space of forty-two years has passed, and what do we see to-day as the result of these humble beginnings? We see the slave trade abolished over a section as large as the six New England States. The cries and groans of the pirate's victims have given place to the voice of Christian worship, and to the cheerful sounds of voluntary industry. We see a stable and well ordered republic, with a constitution like our own, administered wholly by colored men. We see churches and schools, and a college, with twenty-three students and a faculty of liberally educated colored men. We see thousands of re-captives, rescued from slave ships, associated with the settlers, assimilated to Christian habits and received as citizens into the bosom of the State. We see there the steam engine, the sugar mill, the cotton gin, and the printing press.

Such results hath God wrought through the humble, but efficient agency of Colonization. And truly may we say, "The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death, Light is sprung up." Matt. 4:16. This language of inspiration, indicating a great change in the moral condition of a people, has seldom, if ever, found a more fitting application than in the case before us.

May we not then—shall we not give thanks to God for these glorious results of our work, and take courage to labor and pray more, and to give more liberally for extending these benign results over that whole domain of sin and suffering. And to the doubting and prejudiced, who have opposed us, or stood aloof, we would put the question, "What think ye of this, our work? If *you* do not approve it, has not God approved it, and set to it the seal of His approbation, as *His chosen agency for the redemption of long neglected Africa?*" We may thank God that we have been permitted to bear some humble part in this work. At the same time we should feel humbled that we have done so little.

The excitement of the times—the increased taxes growing out of the war—the urgent claims of many other benevolent societies, and the impression that our government had appropriated a fund that might be used in sending emigrants to Liberia, have all operated to diminish our ordinary collections. The Secretary has spent a few Sabbaths in presenting the claims of the Society in Chittenden county, and Rev. Franklin Butler has visited some portions of the State. Mr. Butler reports that wherever he has presented the subject, the people have responded with commendable liberality, and that while, for the time, the public eye is fixed upon other things, the liberal have devised liberal things, and that the faith of the friends of our cause was never stronger than now.

Professor Martin H. Freeman, who addressed us at our last anniversary, took passage for Liberia, with his family, in the "Thomas Pope," on the 13th of September last. Mr. Freeman is a native of Rutland, Vt., and graduated with honor at Middlebury College. We may regard him, with his wife and children, as emigrants from Vermont. He intended to sail last January, but while preparing for his departure, he fell and received a serious injury, and was thereby reluctantly detained.

Mr. Henry W. Johnson, now resident of Canandaigua, N. Y., expects to sail for Liberia in the next expedition. Mr. Johnson also is a Vermonter by birth—a native of Ferrisburg, and is forty-two years of age. By great industry, in the midst of a laborious calling, he acquired a good education,—has recently pursued a course of Legal studies, and been admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of New York. Mr. Johnson is an able debater and an eloquent speaker. In educating and sending forth such men as Messrs. Martin and Johnson, we are bestowing a rich gift upon the African Republic.

The Report then proceeds to detail the operations of the Parent Society

during the year—the expeditions sent out—the condition and progress of things in the African Republic. It is anticipated that in the state of things that must soon exist, African colonization will be like English colonization to Plymouth and Jamestown, and like Irish and German emigration to this country,—and that it will ere long be seen by all, that in planting colonies of colored men on the fertile continent of Africa, God has *mercifully* been preparing for the exigencies of the present crisis.

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## THE RECAPTURED AFRICANS IN LIBERIA.

It may yet be a question among the best friends of the Colonization scheme whether the introduction and diffusion among the citizens of Liberia of the thousands of recaptured Africans, taken by the United States squadron in 1860, have been or not any benefit to themselves or to the Negro Republic.

Having been familiar with the whole of the thrilling scenes connected with the landing of the unfortunate Africans, and their subsequent history, I propose to submit a few thoughts to the friends of Colonization through the medium of the African Repository.

It cannot be denied that their recapture by our vessels-of-war was a blessing to them, unless we admit that slavery in Cuba is a condition preferable to freedom in their native country. But the question is, when recaptured where could a home be found for them the most conducive to their mental, moral, and spiritual development and improvement? Where could a spot be found in which they could be brought in contact with influences the best calculated to make them industrious and contented, and to foster aspirations to the acquisition of all the nameless necessities, comforts, and even luxuries of civilized and refined life? Where could a people be found among whom the love of home, of family ties, and domestic relations, could be best inculcated in them? I answer unhesitatingly, LIBERIA; and I think facts will warrant this conclusion.

In Liberia the recaptured Africans carried there by our Government cruisers are *free, and secure in their freedom*. The laws of the Republic are such that once they press its free soil they are thenceforth freedmen, and can never again be remanded to a state of bondage. As soon as his apprenticeship is out he is at liberty to go to any one of the other settlements or towns, engage in any business he likes, learn any trade he may prefer, and is thus master of his own time, and enjoys “the inalienable right of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” Mr. Anderson, one of the largest sugar planters on the St. Paul’s river, employs a number of these Congoes. Some plant and raise fields of sugar cane, others chop and cart wood, and some have learned the cooper’s trade, and make barrels and casks for sugar out of the rude materials growing in abundance in the forest. So with Mr. Charles Cooper, Jesse Sharpe, and a number of other Liberian farmers. Mr. Yates conducts his very profitable saw mill at Marshall, on the Junk river, chiefly by two or

three Congo youths, who are steady, faithful, and honest, and acquired the knowledge of the entire *modus operandi* of the machinery and work of a circular steam saw mill in a most incredible short time after being employed by him in 1860.

At Sinoe a large number of these captives, landed there by the "Star of the Union," became agriculturists, and it is most pleasing to see the amount of plantains, bannanas, eddoes, yams, peanuts, capavas, sweet potatoes, and various kinds of fruit that they carry daily into Greenville for sale to the Liberians, who are thus left to commercial pursuits, or to the culture of the more valuable products of coffee, sugar, cotton, and cocoa, or to follow the mechanical arts.

One of the young females of the "Storm King," named after a member of the writer's family, was solicited in marriage by a Congo man, who was taken when a little boy in the "Pons" in 1846. To make good his suit when he applied for permission to marry this young woman, he assured me of his ability to support her, "*for he was a shoemaker, and could make a pair of shoes every day in the week.*"

In Liberia these recaptured Africans *have opportunities on every hand for mental culture*. Besides the schools supported by the various Missionary Societies of the United States, a benevolent Christian gentleman of Baltimore authorized the writer, during his last residence in Liberia as "United States Agent for Liberated Africans," to establish schools for native children in several settlements to a certain amount, and draw on him for the means to support them. It was done. In Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Bassa, Sinoe, Marshall, and New Georgia, schools were established especially for Congo children and youth. In 1863 the semi-annual examination of the "Frey School No. 1," taught by Mr. John A. Clarke, himself a native, but naturalized citizen of Liberia, was held in the writer's house, and was witnessed by the Hon. A. Hanson, United States Consul General. This gentleman expressed himself as being exceedingly gratified with their improvement. Could the friends of Colonization have listened on this occasion to the spelling, reading, recitations, catechisms, singing, and dialogues of that examination, they would have praised God for having prompted them to found colonies on the coast of Africa for persons of color and poor recaptured slaves, and have blessed the United States Government for sending the Congoes of the "Storm King" and "Erie," the "Bonito" and "Cora," and "Nightingale," as well as those sent out from Key West in the "Niagara," "Castilian," "South Shore," and "Star of the Union" to Liberia. Not to St. Croix, or any of the Danish settlements in the West Indies, nor to Chiriqui, or any other South American province, but to LIBERIA, the black man's HOME—free, happy, independent Liberia—the land where the descendants of all Africans from all parts of the world may find an asylum from oppression and prejudice.

So free are these people that in some cases they have preferred to come



out from the large settlements of the Republic, build towns, and collect communities of themselves, where they cultivate the soil around them and live peaceably and happily.

In Liberia *these recaptured Africans become lords of the soil*, acquire the privilege of the elective franchise, obtain deeds in fee simple for town lots or farm lands, and become parts of the body politic. It is most cheering to the philanthropist and friend of this oppressed race to hear them on election day going to the polls, cleanly and neatly dressed, and singing out most lustily "Hurrah for Roberts," or "Benson," or "Warner," as the case may be, and in accordance with the preferences they may have acquired. The stranger in Liberia asks in pleasurable surprise "who is that good-looking, well-dressed, and genteel man who came out of church just before us?" and is amazed when told "he is a Congo; would you believe it? He was bound" to the ex-Mayor, Hon. B. V. R. James, or to the Rev. B. R. Wilson, or to either of a score of citizens that might be named, "and his time is just out."

In Liberia *the recaptured Africans acquire the knowledge of God*, and many unite with the different branches of the Christian Church established there, and live godly lives in Christ Jesus. No let or hindrance *there* with regard to spiritual things. *There* they worship God under "their own vine and fig tree, and none dare to molest or make them afraid." No sooner is a little town built up near some settlement, some "Congo town," but up goes the little chapel—Baptist, Methodist, or any other—and the list is out, giving all good people the privilege to help them with a donation; and then the ministers of our holy religion make regular visits to them, preaching the "glorious gospel of the blessed God," and starting Sunday schools among them. Not unfrequently in times of revivals, when a number of candidates for baptism and admission into the Church present themselves, we hear it said there were "so many Congoes too among the converts."

Let us now consider whether the people of Liberia have been benefited by this addition to their population.

The great want of that country is a more general development of its internal resources, and especially those of the soil. They want producers. The natives around them of the tribes adjacent to the settlements produce their own rice, palm oil, and other stuffs, but as neighbors, foreigners, who desire to trade or barter with the Liberians for what *they* get from the United States or Europe. The Congoes or recaptives, on the other hand, make a portion of themselves, and help to develop their own wealth. Every acre of land redeemed from the primeval forests of Liberia by these liberated Africans and put into coffee, or sugar, or cotton adds to the aggregate wealth of the country. Every tree felled and converted into building materials by these naturalized citizens increases the Liberian's capacity for the reception of their brethren from the United States and other countries. In war the neighboring tribes may be allies or neutrals, but the Congoes are rallied

into their armies, and go out with them in regular companies to battle with one common foe.

That there have been some cases of wrong and oppression and neglect on the one part, and ingratitude and treachery on the other, must be admitted. Not every citizen of Liberia has done his duty to these adopted children of the Republic. Some deny them even the few hours *per diem* to attend school and improve their minds. There have been those who have illtreated them in other ways. But on the other hand cases have not been rare when the utmost care and attention have been given to them, and when the kind-hearted and generous Liberian has been looking for some return for protection, clothing, education, and parental care, afforded irrespective of any remuneration from a third party, the Congo man or woman, boy or girl, has run off, and basely carried with them whatever they could lay their hands on. But apart from these cases, the future history of these people will prove that the best which could have been done for them, under the circumstances, has been done, and that their commingling with and diffusion among the freemen of Liberia has been rendered, in the wise Providence of God, a general blessing to both.

JOHN SEYS.

SPRINGFIELD, O., December 8, 1864.

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## THE BARBADOS COMPANY FOR LIBERIA.

A spirit of emigration to Liberia is reported to exist in St. Kitts, Demarara, St. Thomas, and other islands of the West Indies, while in Barbados it has assumed an organized form, with the above title. Letters have been received at this office invoking aid in behalf of the Company, and the statements of Mr. Joseph S. Attwell, one of its active members, now in this country, represents that, were a free passage provided, several hundred of worthy and industrious Barbadians would gladly and immediately seek the attractive shores of the African Republic.

Liberia needs an intelligent and producing population. In imitation of the uniform policy of the United States, emigrants from all countries are invited. We doubt not that many will go from Barbados and other West India Islands. Those intending to emigrate are represented as not having the means to meet the expenses of removal, but can provide themselves with an outfit, including a supply of tools and agricultural implements. The Constitution of the American Colonization Society restricting its work to the "colonizing, with their own consent, the free people of color *residing in our country*," the Executive Committee of the Society have commended Mr. Attwell and his mission to the kind countenance and liberal support of the philanthropist and Christian. We append Mr. Attwell's appeal, and trust he may meet with the success he covets:

"URGENT APPEAL IN AID OF EMIGRATION, ETC., FROM BARBADOS TO LIBERIA.

The Island of Barbados, West Indies, with an area of one hundred and-

sixty-six square miles, has a population of nearly one hundred and sixty thousand persons, of whom one hundred and thirty-six thousand are colored. It will readily be perceived, therefore, that this class of its population is excessive, and the natural consequence of which is EMIGRATION! Several thousands have already gone to neighboring Colonies; but there are hundreds of poor, yet intelligent and respectable mechanics, cultivators of the soil and directors of agricultural pursuits, with their families—Christian people of the Episcopalian, Wesleyan, and Moravian Churches who are desirous of emigrating to Liberia for a two-fold reason:—One, the improvement of their condition by diligent labor—the other, the noble desire of assisting to elevate their fatherland, or “building up a Nationality,” without which they consider their race can never attain to their proper position in the family of nations.

In addition to the foregoing, a liberal invitation from the President of the Republic of Liberia, through a proclamation issued in March last, reached Barbados most opportunely—this, together with the hope of receiving aid from the American Colonization Society, by way of a passage in their ship, induced about fifty families, comprising some three hundred persons, or more, to sell their cottages, give up their rented land, &c., and put themselves in readiness for embarking at the shortest possible notice. But this expected source of obtaining a passage having been cut off, and there being no ship running between Barbados and Liberia, sad disappointment has befallen this poor but well meaning Company, and unless means can be raised for the charter of a vessel, their object cannot be realized. It is a settled point that this cannot be accomplished without foreign aid; for according to the most accurate calculation, it will take, besides what can be realized in the Island, by this humble class of individuals, not less than twenty thousand dollars, (\$20,000,) to effect the charter and provide provisions requisite for the voyage, and their settlement in a new country. We are aware of the difficulty of raising so large a sum under the existing state of affairs here, but we are encouraged to hope that two or three thousand dollars may be obtained, to assist in the immediate transportation of at least one hundred persons, who would be greatly relieved thereby, and what is more, would be the means of opening the way for a subsequent emigration on a larger scale, which would ultimately greatly enhance the prosperity of the Republic of Liberia.

An earnest appeal is therefore now made to every benevolent friend of benighted Africa for pecuniary assistance in this noble cause, which we trust, under Divine Providence, will result in a general good—benefiting those who leave Barbados, those who are left behind, and last, though not least, the African race upon their own continent.

With earnest hope of receiving assistance from benevolent and Christian friends who sympathize with us for Africa's regeneration, we beg leave to state that all contributions will be most thankfully received and acknowledged, and may be forwarded to the undersigned, through any member of

the American Colonization Society, at their rooms, Washington, D. C., or through the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, at their rooms, 609 Walnut street, Philadelphia.

With respect and esteem,

J. S. ATTWELL,

Agent of "The Barbados Company for Liberia."

December 5th, 1864.

COLONIZATION ROOMS,  
Washington, D. C., Dec. 5th, 1864. }

Mr. Joseph S. Attwell, the accredited Agent of "The Barbados Company for Liberia," and his praiseworthy mission, as set forth in his appeal of this date, are commended to the liberality of the friends of the colored race.

By order of the Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society.

HARVEY LINDSLY.

*Chairman Executive Committee.*

WM. McLAIN,

*Financial Sec. American Col. Society.*

WM. COPPINGER,

*Cor. Sec. American Col. Society."*

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## A GUNBOAT FOR LIBERIA.

The Government of the United States has rendered friendly and valuable aid to Liberia from its very beginning, and without which it may not have been founded. But for its active co-operation the first company of settlers might have been absorbed in the British Colony of Sierra Leone, or they might have perished at Sherbro Island.

When the ship Elizabeth, with the pioneer emigrants, sailed from New York, February 6, 1820, she was, by order of the Government, Mr. Monroe then being President, convoyed by the sloop-of-war Cyane, not only for their protection on the voyage, but to secure a friendly reception at Sierra Leone, where she arrived March 9th. In 1820 the United States ship John Adams arrived, and rendered important assistance. In September, 1821, the United States schooner Shark, Lieut. M. C. Perry, anchored in the same harbor. December, 1821, the United States schooner Alligator, Captain Stockton, arrived—all which shows the great interest felt and evinced by the Government for the welfare of the emigrants. Captain Stockton and Dr. Ayres made an exploring voyage down the coast for a more healthy place than Sherbro



Island. They anchored at Cape Mesurado 11th December, and determined to make the settlement there. They landed, made a treaty for the purchase of the territory 15th December, 1821. The next day the headmen refused to confirm the sale, when Captain Stockton and Dr. Ayres, putting their lives in their hands, went to another meeting, and finally succeeded in their agreeing to the sale.

Vessels of the United States Navy continued to call at Monrovia by order of the Government, and gave the Liberians important aid for many years in arms, ammunition, provisions, boats, tools, &c., and their presence had a beneficial effect upon the natives by impressing them favorably towards the settlers, seeing they had powerful friends.

The kind notice of Libéria and recommendation for its benefit by President Lincoln, in his recent Annual Message, may be considered as a continuation, in this regard, of the policy of the Government. His language is as follows :

“ Official correspondence has been freely opened with Liberia, and it gives us a pleasing view of social and political progress in that Republic. It may be expected to derive new vigor from American influence, improved by the rapid disappearance of slavery in the United States. I solicit your authority to furnish to the Republic a gunboat at a moderate cost, to be reimbursed to the United States by instalments. Such a vessel is needed to secure the safety of that State against the native African races, and in Liberian hands it would be more effective in arresting the African slave trade than a squadron in our own hands. The possession of the least organized naval force would stimulate a generous ambition in the Republic, and the confidence which we should manifest by furnishing it would win forbearance and favor towards the colony from all civilized nations.”

Soon after the declaration of independence by Liberia the British Government presented to that Republic a small man-of-war, the “Lark.” Subsequently the same power replaced it by a more powerful vessel, the “Quail.” These constituted the navy of Liberia, and they have rendered good service in preventing the seaboard tribes from engaging in the slave traffic, and in fostering and protecting legitimate commerce. A gunboat from this country would be a practical exhibit of friendly regard on the part of our national authorities, while it would prove of inestimable value to Liberia.

On Tuesday, December 13th. in the Senate, a bill was intro-

duced, authorizing the Government to furnish the authorities of Liberia with a gunboat, to be paid for in instalments not extending over a period of ten years. The bill subsequently passed. Considering the objects to be attained and that our National treasury will be saved the expense of the maintenance of the vessel, we could wish that it had been made a present to the young and flourishing Republic.

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### ANNUAL MEETING.

The American Colonization Society will hold its next Annual Meeting on the third Tuesday, (17th) of January, 1864, in this City. The Board of Directors will convene on the same day, at 12 o'clock, M., at their rooms in the Society Building, corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Four-and-a-half Street. We trust that "the wisdom that is from above" may animate and guide the deliberations of the Officers and Directors.

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### THE HEADWATERS OF THE NIGER.

In a recent communication from the enlightened and efficient Consul-General of Liberia in London, Gerard Ralston, Esq., occurs the following items of information:—

"Captain Burton called upon me to receive a letter from the Secretary of State, Mr. Blyden, to request him to visit our little Republic to explore, in a Northern direction from Monrovia, the headwaters of the Niger, which Captain Burton thinks he can find within a short distance, say two or three hundred miles, from the Coast. I hope he will succeed. President Warner is very anxious for Captain Burton's visit. I have encouraged him as much as possible, and I shall be rejoiced that such an eminent Traveller and Geographer should examine our Liberian State and describe it to the world."

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### ETHIOPIA'S REGENERATION.

We have been favored with a pamphlet copy of a sermon preached in the Second Presbyterian Church, Wabash, Indiana, October 16, 1864, by the pastor, Rev. William B. Browne, from Psalm 68: 31—"Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto

God." An important step in the coming elevation of the African Continent is thus stated :

Africa is to be redeemed, Prophecy declares it, and the signs of the times indicate their speedy fulfilment. Travellers from Europe and elsewhere, have been lately traversing that continent in all directions, and developing the secrets of a country hitherto almost unknown. All civilized nations are awaking to a deep interest in that benighted and long down-trodden and neglected land. A prosperous and independent nation has sprung up on the western coast, where the black man flourishes but the white man dies. This nation has been recognized by thirteen of the leading Powers of the world, including France, England and the United States. It has already brought under its control 200,000 of the aborigines, besides 6000 recaptured from slave ships. It has turned more than 500 miles of coast from being a horrid slave mart to the peaceful and honest pursuits of agriculture and commerce. The planting of that nation and its progress are as auspicious fully as that of our own nation during the same length of time from the landing of the Pilgrims on Plymouth Rock, and there appears no reason why it should not make as great and rapid progress as we have done.

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### AN AFRICAN MERCHANT.

Is all the money spent by Great Britain in the suppression of the slave trade lost? Let the following fact reply. Years ago, a little black boy was stolen from his home in Africa, and carried away captive into the Yoruba country. After enduring much suffering, he was, when about sixteen years of age, sold as a slave to the Portuguese. No one can describe the horrors of the slave-ship into which the young African was forced, with hundreds of fellow-slaves. After being some days at sea, the slaver was seen by a British man-of-war, and, after a good chase, was secured as a prize. The vessel was taken to Sierra Leone, and the slaves liberated. The poor boy, to whom we refer, was apprenticed to a European merchant. By diligence, attention and perseverance, he proved a valuable servant, and, on the expiration of his apprenticeship, he was employed in various stations of trust by English merchants. Step by step he advanced. He sought and found Divine help and guidance. Through the kindness of Thomas Dove, he was enabled to begin business on his own account, and God has prospered the work in his hands. He is now one of the most influential of the Sierra Leone merchants. He is one of England's best customers, importing into Africa, as he does, *many thousands of pounds'* worth of our manufactures. John Ezzidio, of Sierra Leone, for such is the name of the gentleman whose career we have briefly sketched, is not only promoting commerce, but we rejoice to add, is using his influence and his money in extending the blessings of the Gospel among his countrymen.—*The British Workman.*

## DR. THOMAS HODGKIN.

We have had occasion to refer repeatedly to this modest but truly eminent English Philanthropist, whose generous donation will be seen in this number. For many years has Dr. Hodgkin been deservedly enrolled on the list of the Vice-Presidents of this Society, adhering to its principles of enlarged benevolence, and amid all changes of opinion and times, confiding in the wisdom of Him who sees the end from the beginning, and from humble and well intended efforts achieves remote but grand results. We are informed that the first agents of the American Colonization Society, Messrs. Mills and Burgess, (in December, 1817 and January, 1818,) were encouraged by him and other members of his philanthropic Society. Thirty years ago, when that enthusiastic but efficient and devoted friend of the Colonization Society, Elliott Cresson, Esq., of Philadelphia, urged its claims upon the British public, he found a friend and generous advocate in Dr. Hodgkin, and derived essential aid from his voice and influence. Never has this able and amiable man ceased to stand before the people and authorities of England as the counsellor and friend of Liberia, to advance her interests and rejoice in her progress.

Of a family highly esteemed in the Society of Friends, Dr. Hodgkin has long shone as one of the brightest lights in that communion, so active and distinguished for works of charity, and whose ministers visit all countries to enlighten and bless their inhabitants. While Dr. Hodgkin, in his religious faith and practice, strictly adheres to the rules and workings of the Society of Friends, he cherishes a liberal regard for all upright Christians, and is disposed to co-operate with all endeavors for the relief of human misery, the enlightenment of ignorance, and the elevation and improvement of mankind. In truth, Dr. Hodgkin has a mind too enlightened and a heart too large to be confined within the bounds of mere sectarianism—religious or political. In the spirit of the great Master of all Christians, he seeks to do good to all men as he has opportunity, and especially to add something to such movements in the progress of our race as will grow and increase in utility forever. Thus all the large charities of England have found in him an active and generous friend. The Aborigines Protection Society, blessing remote races in Australia, the Islands of the Pacific, and the wildernesses of America, has known him as one of its earnest and generous advocates.



## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Advices from Capetown, South Africa, show that a spirit of intelligent enterprise is at work there which in time will render the *Cabos des Tormentos* of the early navigators true to something more than its later name.

The prominent domestic matter is the construction of a railway from Natal to the interior, extending as far as Maritzburg, one hundred and sixty miles from the coast. The Natal Parliament passed a bill guaranteeing a yearly amount not exceeding £42,000 or \$210,000, limited to fifty years. Within ten years the road must be carried from Natal, one hundred miles beyond Maritzburg, at an estimated cost of two million sterling. This is to be the trunk line, and every effort is to be made to draw the trade of the interior by organizing systems of communication in different directions. A new iron bridge has been built over the Umgeni river, at a cost of £17,000. Iron bridges have been voted beyond Maritzburg, and more are to be built. The eastern province is proposing a railway from Port Elizabeth to the free States.

The customs receipts of Capetown for August were £9326 17s. 4d, and the wharfage dues £1366 3s. 3d.—a sum considerably exceeding \$50,000 per month, or \$600,000 per annum. The first steamer of the new Messageries Imperiales, running between Mauritius, Reunion and Suez was hourly expected. She left Marseilles on the 9th of June. Port Elizabeth formed a joint stock company, with a capital of £1500, in shares of £25 each, for the purpose of importing and domesticating the alpaca, allowing £150 for importing each animal from South America.

Small as this intelligence is, it is the precursor of more and more important. Such advantages as that country has will sooner or later be improved. The railways now building or projected will be completed to Namaqua Land, beyond the outposts of the Boers, and will bring wealth to the port which will gladly send wealth in return. Already immigration has become a feature of the sea-shore towns, and it is among the arguments employed for pushing forward the railways, that just so fast as the interior is opened, subdued and rendered safe, immigrants will arrive from Europe to plant vineyards, to engage in general agriculture and manufactures, and render the whole land as beautiful and as productive as its great natural endowments allow it to be.

"Blessed to Give."

The kingly sun gives forth his rays;  
Asks no return; demands no praise;  
But wraps us in strong arms of life,  
And says distinct through human strife,  
"If thou wouldst truly, nobly live,  
Give—ever give."

The rustic flower, upspringing bright,  
And answering back that regal light,  
Fills all the air with fragrant breath,  
And writes in myriad hues beneath,  
"If thou wouldst gaily, gladly live,  
Give—ever give."

The merchant rain, which carries on  
Rich commerce 'twixt the earth and sun;  
The autumn mist; the springtide shower;  
All whisper soft to seed and flower,  
"We know no other life to live  
But this—we give."

Suggestive warnings crowd the earth;  
Glad sounds of labor, songs of mirth,  
From creatures both of field and air;  
Who, whilst they take their rightful share,  
Still truly chant, "We chiefly live  
To give—to give."

Oh man, the gem and crown of all,  
Take thou this lesson: Heed the call  
Of these less-gifted creatures near;  
The rather—that Christ's voice most dear  
Once said, whilst here He deign'd to live,  
"Blessed to give."

—*London Good Words.*

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**OUR LIBERIA CORRESPONDENCE.**

MONROVIA, LIBERIA, October 5, 1864.

DEAR SIR: The rains are still upon us, and rarely have we had them so continual and so fierce as during this season. An aged citizen, who has been a resident here many years, told me the other day that he had never seen the St. Paul's river so swollen and so high as it was a few days ago. There is every indication, however, that the rains will soon cease. Though violent as ever when we do have them, still the intermissions between the

storms are more frequent and wider apart, and the first tornadoes of the coming season have already commenced.

This plentiful moisture of the ground ensures us abundant and full-grown crops. All the reports from the farming districts are cheering; indeed, I hear that two or three planters have already commenced grinding their cane—a step, by the way, somewhat injudicious, for doubtless the cane at this time must contain an excess of water. A considerable number of coffee trees have matured this year, and their fruit will enter the market the coming season. Very large numbers are being removed from the nurseries into the fields, thus showing that cane has not altogether absorbed the interests and the activities of our citizens.

More than usual concern is felt just now in agricultural affairs, chiefly in consequence of the monetary difficulties which now exist in the country. For a common hope is everywhere entertained among us that the increase of our exports will prove the solution of these difficulties. Just now there is a continual drain of gold and silver from the land, which has already had the effect of increasing and expanding the interior trade of the country, and also of turning the attention of many to the wealth which lies in the unturned soil. While this is true, especially in this (Messurado) county, it is true also of the other counties to the leeward. I am assured that more attention is being paid to farming in Sinou and at Cape Palmas than at any former period.

Other lines of business are also being sought out. Very rich and valuable woods are to be found everywhere through the wilderness, but which, heretofore, have only served for fuel. There is a likelihood that a considerable quantity of logs, of different varieties of woods, will soon be brought into the market for export. The incipient steps have already been taken for the carrying on of this enterprise—wood-cutters engaged, the particular spots selected, roads being opened, and a depot chosen for the collection of them. It is hoped that at the least six or eight thousand may be gathered in for exportation early in the coming season.

There is also a likelihood that large quantities of rice will soon be exported from our shores. Preparations are being made to purchase this article on a large scale, and to send it to America in its rough state. If this business is but once commenced, it will, without doubt, become a permanent source of emolument. The natives all around us, and far in the interior, are great and extensive rice growers. Sometimes they have the yield of two or three years stored away in the granaries. This year very large rice farms were planted, and large quantities are already being brought to market: and, just now, it comes in in abundance to our towns and villages. The purchase of it on a large scale for exportation will serve to stimulate native industry, and cannot but have a most favorable influence upon our surrounding tribes. Nor will this influence be confined to the country people. There is almost a certainty that immense quantities of rice can be obtained in the interior, at the distance of one hundred and fifty or two hundred miles from the coast.

All that is needed is an energetic movement of our citizens, or the Government, to open at least one good road to the back country, by which not only rice, but cotton, hides, palm oil, and other valuable articles, instead of passing by Liberia, interiorwards, to Sierra Leone, may come to our own settlements, or find their way into the market of Monrovia.

An enterprising fellow-citizen, Mr. George L. Lloyd, has entered upon this enterprise, and expects to send away some thousands of bushels of rice before the close of this year. Perhaps the grain will prove inferior in size to your Carolina rice; but I have the impression that it will be highly valued for its superior substance and body. In this respect it is generally regarded here as superier even to the American article; and I remember a New England gentleman, who once resided on the coast, who told me that he annually imported a small quantity of African rice for his private use, because he thought it a better article than that grown in the United States.

The value and importance of the palm kernel trade is constantly increasing, and the business has become a settled one. The oil, as you are aware, is superior in quality to that made from the outer surface of the nut, and commands a greater price. Bushels upon bushels of it are constantly coming into our towns to our traders and merchants. Both the natives and emigrants are busily engaged in the gathering and purchase of them. The English seem disposed to take the Coast, and are monopolizing all this trade; both their trading vessels, which are now increasing in number on our coast, and a few small Liberian boats, which are carrying large quantities to Sierra Leone. I mention this fact because our American friends do not seem aware of the value of this new article of trade. The demand for them in Sierra Leone is great; and not only our small coasters, but even little fishing boats come down from Sierre Leone in quest of kernels and other articles of trade. I was informed the other day that a contract has just been made between Sierra Leone merchants and some three or four enterprising young men at Bassa, for the latter to supply them at an early day with several thousands of bushels.

Thus you will see that we have among us the small beginnings of things, which, by and by, with God's blessing and great human energy, may tend to the advancement of this young nation. They are small; in other lands they seem insignificant; they serve but in a very small degree to move with elastic power even our own communities. By many they are not even noticed; but they seem to me to deserve some notice, tiny as they are, in the hope that they may swell ere long into greater importance. There can be no doubt of the ultimate success of these movements, so long as the people of this country seek great moral ends, and strive to live under the control of religious principles. In this respect there are great deficiencies, and I think a *growing consciousness* of great deficiency on the part of religious leaders. Never before, since I have been in the country, has there been more anxiety about the character of religious teachers, more real concern about moral delinquences than at present. That ere long it will assume a more



positive form and expression than mere concern, I have no doubt. The season for the meeting of conferences, synods, and church conventions is nigh at hand, and I shall be better able than to say what progress has been made during the year in religious discipline and in missionary zeal.

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## ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

REV. DR. ORCUTT, Travelling Secretary of the American Colonization Society, occupied the pulpit of the Fourth Presbyterian Church yesterday morning, delivering a very forcible address. He showed the peculiar adaptation and efficiency of the negro to carry the Gospel to those nations inhabiting the inter-tropical regions, by the failure of the whites to withstand the effects of the climate, and the great progress in civilization made by Liberia. His description of the institutions of the Liberian Republic, together with letters from educated Africans in this country and officials in Liberia, were of very great interest. If delivered as a lecture, Dr. Orcutt's discourse could not fail to attract and interest many. We would call the attention of those interested in having a course of lectures here this winter to the fact that the subject which Dr. Orcutt presented to the congregation of the Fourth Church yesterday would, if treated by one of his experience and knowledge, prove of great interest to all, especially in these times. We hope he may be invited to repeat it in some more public manner.—*Trenton (N. J.) Monitor, Dec. 19.*

DEATH OF PROFESSOR SILLIMAN.—The New Haven, Conn., papers announce the death, November 24, of the eminent Chemist, Professor Benjamin Silliman, of Yale College, at the age of 85 years. He was born in North Stratford, now Trumbull, Connecticut, on the 8th of August, 1779. He graduated at Yale College in 1796, and studied law, but devoted the greater part of his time to chemical research, then in its infancy in America. In 1802 he was appointed to the Professorship of Chemistry at Yale, and after two years of preparation, entered upon his duties. He retained the position until June, 1855—more than fifty years. His career was identified with the progress of national science in the country, and his private worth remarkable as the extent and depth of his knowledge. Few men were more beloved or will be more sincerely regretted. Prof. Silliman was a steadfast friend and eloquent advocate of our cause, and for many years was a Vice President of the American Colonization Society.

DR. ROBERT R. REED, one of the early and steadfast advocates of this cause, and a Vice President of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, passed to his rest on Wednesday, December 14. The service which he rendered for Africa's sake was performed not only with the most rigid fidelity, but with a cheerfulness that won to him all those with whom he came in contact, and with pleasure to himself that he could in this way, as well as by his gifts, aid in the operations of the Society.

HON. WILLIAM L. DAYTON, whose death at Paris the country regrets as that of an upright and faithful servant, was a Vice President of the American Colonization Society, and an enlightened and able advocate of the best welfare of the colored race. Mr. Dayton was born at Basking Ridge, New Jersey, February 17, 1807, and since 1837 filled several important and responsible positions, the most recent being that of Minister of the United States to France.

FOR WEST AFRICA.—The enterprising firm of Yates & Porterfield, 115 Wall street, New York, will despatch the trader Greyhound, Capt. Yates, for Liberia and the coast of Africa, on or before January 1, 1865. Letters or papers sent to their care or to this office, will be forwarded.

THE ASHMUN INSTITUTE, at Oxford, Chester county, Pennsylvania, was commenced a few years ago for the education of colored young men for the ministry and for teachers among their race here and in Africa. A number have graduated. From one class three went as missionaries to Liberia. The accommodations of the Institute are so limited, and the teachers so few, that only twenty-five students can be accommodated. It is proposed to raise funds to enlarge the building and establish another class of instruction, so that one hundred and fifty may enjoy its privileges.

JULES GERARD.—The reported death of this world-wide known "lion killer" proves at last only too true. M. Malte-Brun, the well-known geographer, read a letter recently to the Geographical Society of Paris, which he had received from the French Consul at Sierra Leone, announcing that the celebrated hunter had perished in attempting to cross one of the flooded rivers of Western Africa, after vainly endeavoring to reach the centre of the country by passing through the Kingdom of Dahomy.

M. DU CHAILLU.—A fact of much interest in connection with African exploration is given in a recent letter from Rev. Mr. Walker, Missionary at the Gaboon, as follows: "M. Du Chaillu is now starting from the Fernand Vaz river for the Nile and Egypt. I think his success possible, which is all he expects. Perhaps no living man is better prepared for the undertaking than Du Chaillu."

AMERICAN ZULU MISSION.—The twenty-ninth anniversary of the American Zulu Mission was held in Durban on the 18th of May last and the five following days. All the members of the mission then in the colony were present, with their families, and were, with one or two exceptions, most hospitably entertained in the families of friends in the town. The business meetings were characterized by earnestness and unanimity. Definite steps were taken to establish high schools for the education of native assistants and for the education of females. The mission has long felt the need of such schools, but up to the present time the way has not seemed clear to their permanent establishment.

**EQUATORIAL AFRICA.**—In consequence of the sudden death of Captain Speke, the proposed Ethiopian Mission is abandoned for the present, and it is said that the aid which would have been rendered it from Sweden, will be tendered the Zambesi Mission.

**GABOON MISSION.**—Nine persons were received into the church by profession, in 1863, and at the close of the year there were forty-five members in good standing. Some have been added since. There are between twenty and thirty pupils in the girl's school, and from thirty to forty in that for boys. Of the three missionaries on the ground at the Gaboon, one has been connected with the mission twenty-two years, one twenty, and one sixteen.

**THE QUEEN'S GODCHILD.**—A Dahomian slave girl, some years ago, was taken to England and educated at the expense of the Queen. Two years ago she married Mr. Davis, a colored merchant on the Gold coast of Africa. The Queen, by proxy, stood godmother to her first daughter, presenting it at the same time a gold knife, fork, and spoon, and a beautiful gold cup and salver, on which was the inscription, "To Victoria Davis, from her godmother Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, 1863."

## RECEIPTS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

*From the 20th of November to the 20th of December, 1864.*

MAINE.			
By Rev. F. Butler, (\$2):....			"as a testimonial for Africa" .....
Waterville—A Friend.....	\$2 00		1 00
NEW HAMPSHIRE.			18 00
By Rev. F. Butler, \$31:...		(Received and expended by	
North Conway—Rev. Reuben		the Vermont Colonization	
Kimball .....	2 00	Society, \$133.20, viz:	
East Conard—Mrs. Lydia		Rutland—Hon. John B. Page	1 00
Kendall .....	5 00	Montpelier—Hon. D. Baldwin,	
Manchester—Hon. G. W. Mor-		Geo. W. Scott, Esq., each	
rison, Col. J. S. Cheney,		\$5; Hon. E. P. Walton, \$3;	
Friend, each \$5; P. K.		Hon. T. P. Redfield, \$2;	
Chandler, \$1.....	16 00	Rev. W. H. Lord, \$1 50;	
Nashua—Friend, \$5; J. A.		S. Wells, J. T. Thurston,	
Baldwin, L. W. Noyes, Ziba		each \$1; A Friend. 50c....	19 00
Gay, each \$1.....	8 00	Waterbury—Mrs. D. Carpenter,	
Frances' town—Legacy of Wm.		Rev. C. C. Parker, ea. \$1	2 00
Bixby, by Col. E. P. Emerson,		Pittsford—Hon. S. H. Kellogg,	
ex'r, \$1,000, less Govern-		\$2; J. C. Wheaton, A. A.	
ment tax \$50; and premi-		Nourse, A. Hammond, ea. \$1	5 00
um on draft, \$1 18.....	948 82	Hardwick—Hon. L. H. Delano	3 00
	979 82	Johnson—Cong. Ch. & Soc.,	
VERMONT.		\$27; Mr. Dow, \$2; Mr.	
By Rev. F. Butler, (\$18):.		Belding, Mr. Knight, ea. \$1	31 00
Theford—Cong. Ch. & Soc.,		Milton—Con. and Meth. Ch's	16 70
balance to constitute Hon.		Westford—Individuals .....	10 00
Simeon Short a L. M. ....	15 00	Burlington—John B. Wheeler,	
St. Johnsbury—J. C. Bingham,		L. Conner, Mrs Francis, Mrs.	
Elkannah Cobb, each \$1...	2 00	Buel, G. W. & G. G. Bened-	
Windsor—Rev. M. Douglass,		dict, each \$3; R. G. Cole,	
		Rev. J. K. Converse, H.	

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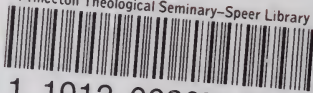




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