







Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2015



THE  
**AFRICAN REPOSITORY,**  
AND  
**COLONIAL JOURNAL.**

---

---

VOL. II.]

APRIL, 1826.

[No. II.

---

---

REVIEW OF THE  
**Memoirs of the Life of Granville Sharp.**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

IN our former number, we traced the progress of Granville Sharp's exertions up to the decision in the case of Somerset, which settled the principles of law, on the question of liberty or slavery in England. We cannot render a more just and eloquent tribute of respect to those who assisted Mr. Sharp, in this cause, or to Mr. Sharp himself, than by quoting the words of Mr. Clarkson, in his *History of the Abolition of the Slave Trade* :

“ Thus ended the great cause of Somerset. The eloquence displayed in it, by those who were engaged on the side of liberty, was perhaps never exceeded on any occasion ; and the names of the counsellors, Davy, Glynn, Hargrave, Musfield, and Alleyne, ought always to be remembered with gratitude. For when we consider in how many crowded courts they pleaded, and the number of individuals in these whose minds they enlightened, and whose hearts they interested in the subject, they are certainly to be put down as no small instruments in the promotion of it. But chiefly to *him*, (Granville Sharp) under Divine Providence, are we to give the praise, who became the first great actor in it ; who devoted his time, his talents, and his substance, to this christian undertaking ; and by whose laborious researches, the very pleaders themselves were instructed and benefitted. By means of his almost incessant vigilance and attention, and unwearied efforts, the poor African ceas-

VOL. II.—No. 2.

ed to be hunted in our streets, as a beast of prey. Miserable as the roof might be under which he slept, he slept in security. He walked by the side of the stately ship, and he feared no dangers in her hold. Nor ought we, as Englishmen, to be less grateful to that distinguished individual, than the African ought to be upon this occasion. To him we owe the restoration of the beauty of our constitution, this prevention of the continuance of our national disgrace."

This decision produced a burst of joy among the "anxious friends of human happiness," in England. "The name of Granville Sharp became the emblem of charity; he stood the acknowledged and victorious patron of African liberty." A friendly intercourse now commenced between him and the respectable society of Friends, in this country. This benevolent sect had long been concerned to ameliorate the condition of the slaves, and the intelligence that British philanthropy was at work for the same end, induced them to desire a correspondence with Mr. Sharp. An abridgment of his tract on "the injustice of slavery," had been published in Philadelphia, and widely and expeditiously circulated. On the very day when the cause of Somerset was decided, Mr. Sharp received a letter from Anthony Benezet, with whom he was closely united in spirit, and whose memory will live while virtue and benevolence are respected among men. This excellent Quaker had established a free school in Philadelphia, for the education of the coloured people, and was ever prompt to plead in their behalf. It is a singular fact, that Granville Sharp, while defending himself against the prosecution instituted in consequence of the protection afforded by him to Jonathan Strong, accidentally found a work of Benezet's, and re-published it immediately, and that his own tract (abridged) on slavery, was re-printed in Philadelphia, by Benezet, while entirely ignorant of the compliment which had been paid to him by Mr. Sharp. The first letter of Anthony Benezet to the subject of these memoirs, bears date May, 1772. It evinces the utmost earnestness in the cause of humanity, and particularly insists upon the importance of representing the iniquitous nature and effects of the slave trade, to the *King and both Houses of Parliament*:

"I doubt not," he observes, "but thou wilt, upon enquiry, find more well minded people ready to cry you 'God speed,' in this weighty service, than you are aware of. The most solid amongst all dissenters, particularly the Presbyterians, would be well pleased to see an end put to the slave trade,

and many, to slavery itself. The people of New-England have made a law that nearly amounts to a prohibition of the trade, and I am informed, have proposed to the Governor and council, that all negroes born in the country, should be free at a certain age.

“The people of Maryland and Virginia, are so convinced of the inexpediency, if not of the iniquity, of any further importation of negroes, that a prudent person who spent some time in these provinces, tells me, he thinks ten or twenty thousand people would freely join in a petition to Parliament, against any farther import.”

The reply of Mr. Sharp, is remarkable for that soberness and impartiality with which he was accustomed to view every subject connected with human rights, and the relations of human society :

“You mention the information you have received from Maryland and Virginia, that ten or twenty thousand people would freely join in a petition to Parliament against the further importation of negroes. Such a petition would retrieve, in some respects, the honour of those colonies, and be a glorious proof, that they are not destitute of christian and social principles; and it would probably lay the foundation for a total abolition of that most abominable branch of the African trade, the buying and selling of men; yet, as I have mentioned above, respect must be had to the *rights of the colonies*; and a petition from thence, *if addressed to Parliament*, ought to relate to the *slave trade* (with its bad effects and consequences) *in general*, and not merely to the importation of slaves into the colonies, because the colonies have a right, *themselves*, to prohibit such importation, respectively, in their own assemblies, with the king's concurrence; which they will be sure to obtain in this matter, if it is asked by a majority.”

In this same year, the House of Burgesses, in Virginia, implored the interposition of the king, to prevent the further introduction of slaves into the colonies. They pronounce the slave trade most inhuman, and express their apprehensions that its continuance will endanger the very existence of his majesty's American dominions. Mr. Sharp's reply to Benezet, inspired the Quakers with new energy; his letter was printed, extensively circulated, and read with avidity. The correctness of the principle maintained by him concerning the *rights of the colonies*, was at once perceived, and the mode of application to the government, recommended by him, adopted. “It deserves remark,” says Mr. Hoare, “that in this, as in other cases, the principle on which he grounded his actions was so extensive, as to embrace much more than its immediate object, and hence, when the increasing animosities in the colonies provoked them to hostile conflict, the same doctrine was forcibly brought forward *in all points*, and the

whole resistance of America to England, stood on the same foundation as that, which Granville Sharp had laid down, for the regulation of their slave laws." The principle to which we allude, was clearly stated by Mr. Sharp, in his letter to lord North, and is this, "That no Parliament can have a just right to enact laws for places which it does not *represent*."

And here, perhaps the unity, simplicity, and consequent universality of *christian principle*, merits our observation. The doctrines of expediency are varying as the changes, and contingent as the accidents of life. They destroy the confidence of human intercourse, weaken the bands of social union, and often subvert the foundations of civil society. What violations of natural and divine law, what crimes against individuals and states, have not been committed under their acknowledged authority? They have furnished pleas for every abuse of power, and apologies for the most atrocious deeds recorded in history. But the christian rule, "do unto others as you would that others should do unto you," does not allow of misapprehension, and cannot change. It is adapted to every understanding, and to all human relations; applicable alike in all circumstances, and at all times. It is the great law of order, which, undisturbed in its operation, would harmoniously adjust all the interests of the world, and guide its whole moral machinery quietly, peacefully, and majestically, to the accomplishment of the sublime purposes of human happiness, for which it was intended.

The opinions of Mr. Sharp, concerning the rights and duties of the colonies, appear to have exerted a powerful influence in America; and though it may not be easy at this day, to ascertain exactly their degree and extent, yet the plainness and explicitness with which his sentiments were expressed, and the zeal with which they were promulgated by the society of Friends, induce the belief, that they essentially contributed to the establishment of those principles which constitute the foundation of our national independence.

Soon after the famous decision of lord Mansfield, in the case of Somerset, the West-India traders sought to introduce a bill into the House of Commons, for the purpose of legitimating slavery in England. Mr. Sharp saw, at once, the sad consequences which must flow from the passage of such a bill, and vigilently,

and manfully opposed it. The motion to bring forward the bill, was overruled, and the projectors of it of course defeated.

About this time, a new object presented itself to the benevolence of Mr. Sharp. That the English government should propose to extirpate the poor Carribees, in the island of St. Vincents, aroused his indignation. The French had been unable to conquer these people, who possessed the best lands on the island, and yet presumed to cede the whole island to the English; while the latter, by virtue of this futile title, proposed to compel the Carribees, to abandon all their possessions. To prevent such flagrant cruelty and injustice, Granville Sharp addressed an impressive letter to lord Dartmouth, his majesty's Secretary of State, urging him, as a conscientious man, "to use his utmost endeavours, to prevent the nation from being stained by the horrid crimes of oppression, robbery, and premeditated murder, which must occasion the withdrawing of God's blessings from the king's family and the kingdom."

"The blood that will probably be spilt," he adds, "on both sides, must somewhere be imputed; for open and avowed injustice, and wilful murder, cannot be vindicated before God, by any deceitful sophistry about the necessity of such measures, to produce the nation's good, or to maintain the prosperity of our colonies; because good and evil can never change places, and because *we must not do evil that good may come.*

"These are the first and most fundamental principles of good government; so that statesmen and politicians, who thus venture to dispense with them, ought to be reminded, that such measures not only accumulate a national, but a *personal* guilt, which they must one day personally answer for, when they shall be compelled to attend with common robbers and murderers, expecting an eternal doom; for the nature of their crimes is essentially the same, and God is no respecter of persons."

To this letter lord Dartmouth made reply, and invited Mr. Sharp to an interview the next day. He then gave his promise, to speak in behalf of the injured Carribees, if he should have a favourable opportunity.

In a letter addressed by Mr. Sharp to the Bishop of London, in 1795, he states, concisely, the principal events connected with his efforts in the African cause, and candidly acknowledges, that the guilt and odium of continuing the slave trade, must be imputed to the English government. As the historical facts related in this letter are valuable, and as they exhibit the connection between the efforts to suppress the slave trade, and those political

differences which finally dissolved the bonds which held the American colonies and England ; we present it to our readers :

“ MR LORD,

“ An accidental circumstance, about thirty years ago, led me to vindicate a poor negro boy, (without having the least apprehension of the extraordinary consequences) before the chief magistrate in London ; by whose authority the boy was released from the poultry compter, where he had been illegally confined in order to be shipped a slave for the West Indies. This release drew upon me a prosecution, by a Jamaica planter, for 1200 damages ; whereby I was compelled (though I had engaged the best advice that the profession could afford me) to study the law in my own defence, in order to oppose a joint opinion of the late lords Hardwicke and Talbot, given in 1729, which my attorney brought to me, in order to show the hopeless state of any defence against the impending action ; urging also the constant practice of the court of King's bench, under lord Mansfield, who strenuously persisted in delivering up all runaway slaves to their masters. These formidable difficulties produced a very serious anxiety for my own case, which fairly superseded my natural aversion to researches in law books ; and the action being held in suspense over my head, from term to term, for about two years, I was enabled, in that time, by a careful examination of the first principles of law, to demonstrate the extreme injustice and dangerous tendency of tolerating slavery, and of admitting the least claim of private property in the persons of men in England ; whereby not only my antagonist was non-suited, but the same doctrine was also effectually urged to relieve many other poor negroes from slavery.

“ The tract which I had drawn up and printed in 1769, was soon afterwards reprinted in America by Mr. Anthony Benezet, a worthy old Quaker at Philadelphia, whose other publications had already begun to awaken the attention of the Americans to the injustice and danger of tolerating slavery.

“ In April, 1772, the assembly of Virginia stated, in a respectful petition to his majesty, the great inhumanity of the slave trade, and their fears that ‘ it would endanger the very existence of his majesty's American dominions.’

“ This warning was very remarkable, if we consider from whence it came — from the first colony, the English ever had in America, which had not long been involved in the English guilt of tolerating slavery ; and it was still more remarkable in the *event*, for the American colonies existed a very little time longer as dominions of his majesty : so that this Virginian warning against the slave trade is fairly entitled, by the event, to be deemed prophetic, especially as the doctrine of the remonstrance was just and true.\*

“ In the same year, 1772, lord Mansfield very candidly gave up his former opinion and practice, respecting the supposed legality of delivering up runa-

---

\* “The refusal of the British government to permit the Virginians to exclude slaves from among them by law, was afterwards enumerated among the public reasons for separating from the mother country.”

way slaves to their masters, and reversed the joint opinion of the lords Hardwicke and Talbot, in giving judgment in the case of Somerset, a poor negro whom I supported against the claims of his master.

“About the same time too, or soon afterwards, the freeholders and inhabitants of the counties of Somerset and Essex, in New-Jersey, presented petitions to the governor, council, and representatives of the province, against the slave trade. By the petition from the latter county, the assembly was requested ‘to obtain an alteration of his majesty’s instruction to his excellency the governor, relating to the African trade, so that his excellency may be at liberty to consent to such laws for the preventing the future importation into this province as to the legislature may appear just and reasonable.’ The inhabitants of the city and county of Philadelphia, also petitioned their assembly against the slave trade, expressly citing the example set them by the province of Virginia, in petitioning the king, ‘from a deep sensibility of the danger and pernicious consequences which will be attendant on a continuation of this iniquitous traffic.’

“But the assembly of Pennsylvania, suspecting the partiality for slavery on this side of the Atlantic, postponed their address to the throne, and, instead of it, transmitted an act of assembly for the king’s assent, whereby they laid a heavy duty on the head of every slave that should be imported; hoping that the gain of an American tax (for which in all other cases the administration were so remarkably sanguine) might perhaps overbalance that partiality which they so justly suspected. But they were unhappily mistaken, for this seasonable attempt to discourage the crying national sin was rejected: so that the guilt of persisting in that monstrous wickedness, demands indeed an atonement or repentance; but not from America.\*

“Soon afterwards, I was desired by a letter from America, to inquire for an answer to the Virginia petition; and I waited on the Secretary of State, and was informed by himself, that the petition was received, but that he apprehended no answer would be given.—*Thus I had traced the evil to its source.*”

The friends of freedom in America, now began highly to estimate the character of Mr. Sharp; they sought his acquaintance, and complied with his advice in some of their important measures. He received a respectful and complimentary letter from Dr. Rush, and enjoyed intercourse with Franklin. In a communication to America, he had avowed the “opinion, that the British parliament had nothing to do with the internal laws of the colonies;” and the strength and clearness with which this opinion was expressed, was highly agreeable to the prevailing temper of the people of this country. They accepted his arguments, circulated

---

\* In a letter of still later date, he adds, “the assembly at New-York found such another bill, and the assembly of North-Carolina proposed sending a petition to the king, of the same purport as that of Virginia.”

his letters, and adopted his doctrine as a constitutional rule for their proceedings. In reference to the investigations of Mr. Sharp, concerning the political rights and duties of nations, Mr. Hoare makes the following observations :

“To a man disposed by nature to contemplate boldly the most abstruse sources of universal truth, and eminently endowed with faculties for such a purpose, sufficient opening had been given to lead him forward in the interesting track of human liberty. With the same eagerness, with which he had sought in English statute books for the defence of individual freedom, he now turned to investigate, by a more extensive research, the natural and political rights of nations in general. The immediate motive was still the love of the *English character*. The ‘duty of an Englishman,’ says his manuscript, to maintain the just limits of law *according to the English constitution of State*, impelled me in the year 1774, to publish another tract, viz : ‘A declaration of the people’s natural rights to a share in the legislature, which is the fundamental principle of the British constitution.’

“Of this declaration he says, in another note (July 27, 1774,) that he gave to Dr. Franklin, two hundred and fifty copies, which were sent to America, the same day ; and it will presently appear that it was there reprinted, in many different provinces, within the course of the same year.

“Various circumstances thus gradually led him to feel the most lively interest in the causes, which then began to estrange the British colonies in America, from the parent country ; and the result of negotiations, in which he was warmly solicited by the Americans, to take a share, was, a full persuasion of his mind in favour of the colonists, who, he conceived, were pleading their natural and legal rights.

“In consequence of this persuasion, he necessarily considered the war which was now on foot against their principles, as unjustifiable on the part of England. He was shortly going to give proof of the sincerity of his sentiments.”

In tracing thus far the history of Mr. Sharp’s life, we have been particularly struck with the candour, sincerity and CONSCIENTIOUSNESS, which characterized all his actions. With him christian principle was law. To ascertain by this perfect rule, what was right, appears to have been the single aim of his understanding,—to pursue his own convictions of duty, the sole purpose of his heart.

(To be continued.)

## Remarks on the Dromedary.

[FROM GOLBERRY’S TRAVELS.]

Though the dromedary and the camel, which form but one species, is well known to every one, yet this quadruped is such

an extraordinary creature, and is so peculiarly adapted, by Divine Providence, for the service of man in the sandy deserts of Africa and Asia; it is so admirably organized for sustaining the burning atmosphere in which it is doomed to exist, and so wonderfully capable of the services which it is called upon to perform; able to endure that astonishing abstinence to which it is unceasingly condemned, that it would be impossible to omit the present opportunity of presenting a few remarks on this singular animal.

The Moors, in their oases of Zaara, rear a great many dromedaries, or, more properly speaking, camels, with one bunch or protuberance on the back; they have numerous troops of them, and dispose of them to the negroes, who might however rear them themselves, though they decline this, and purchase what they want from the Moors.

The species of the dromedary is the only kind known in this part of western Africa; the camel, with two bunches, is extremely rare there, and I have even reason to believe that it does not exist.

The slavery of the dromedary, and its domestic state, may be traced to the earliest ages of the world; for this animal is not to be found in its natural or savage state, and no where does it exist on the face of the earth, but with man, and in the service of man. It is not possible to decide, whether the dromedary or the camel may be considered as the type of the species, and which of them have retained its original conformation. But we may reasonably believe, that the dromedary or camel, with one bunch, is the primitive race, and that the camel with two, is a variety of the species which has arisen from more temperate and fertile climates than those in which the primitive race of the dromedary first breathed; and in fact, it is in the northern countries of Persia, India, and China, that the camel with two bunches is most numerously found.\* The primitive race of this animal is accustomed to that climate, but it undergoes some change in its form; and it is well worthy of remark, that the dromedary-camel, though a native of the hottest regions in the world, created and particularly destined, by its structure and organization, to exist

\* This species is called *Camelus Bactrianus*, and is very distinct from the other, not only in its external conformation, but also in its habits and uses.

*Editor.*

in the burning deserts of Africa and Asia, between the eighteenth and thirty-fifth degree of north latitude, is nevertheless, by the care of man, brought to live, to procreate, and to labour, like a common beast of burthen among the Calmouks, at Orenberg, on the northern banks of the lake of Baykal, and in many other parts of Siberia, even to the fifty-third degree of north latitude, which is distant from its native country and climate near eight hundred leagues towards the north pole; and it is astonishing, that notwithstanding this considerable transposition, the camel still retains its strength, and has indeed experienced no transmutation except that of having two bunches instead of one.

I think, however, if we observe attentively the dromedary of Zaara and Arabia with the camel of the northern Tartars, we may trace some very obvious distinctions, not only in the perfection of their internal organization, but in the dryness and elasticity of their nerves and muscles, and in their capability of supporting, at the same time the most astonishing abstinence, and the greatest fatigues.

His rigid course of instruction commences a month after his birth; from that moment the little being is separated from his mother, who is no longer allowed to approach him but at stated hours, while the unfortunate youngling is thus compelled to learn abstinence; they permit it to have only a part of the milk, destined for him by nature, and which is in abundant profusion in the dugs of the mother. He dares not drink but seldom, and then very sparingly, and from the earliest days of his existence he is taught sobriety.

Soon after this they condemn him to prison and to torture; his legs are tied under his belly, and he is placed in this position, in order that he may acquire a habit of assuming it; for it is the one which he must adopt when he receives and discharges his burthen; his body is covered with carpet, or a piece of a tent, which only leaves the head and neck free, and that he may not move or rise up, the borders of this covering is fastened down by a variety of hard and heavy substances.

In this cruel prison, he passes four months; but severe as it undoubtedly is, it becomes the means of superinducing upon him a habit of squatting down, which is for ever afterwards natural. When these four months of torture have elapsed, the young camels are all of them enclosed together in a park; here they are

attended twice a day, by children from nine to ten years old, who carry them their food, which is only the milk of the female, mingled with water. It is asserted that the young dromedaries soon learn to recognize the children of their master, and when ever they see them, they immediately assemble round them.

When they reach the enclosure, where these young dromedaries are confined, they hold in one hand the vase which contains the milk, and in the other a little switch, with which they strike the animals on the legs; at this signal they immediately kneel down, and they soon learn to assume this situation at the simple sound of a whip. In fact, the obedience of the dromedary, in taking this attitude at the slightest intimation of his master all the rest of his life, is truly admirable.

At the tender age of six or seven months, they accustom the young animal to sleep with a burthen on its back; the weight of this is augmented in proportion to its strength and age; and it is thus they teach them to become, according to Buffon, "a living carriage, which is sometimes left loaded for many days together, without a single moment of relaxation."

The Moors choose the smallest and most active of their dromedaries for training to the course and the field; it is even probable that they have two distinct races, one of which is smaller than the other; the manner in which they train them for the course, is by making them run with horses, and this rivalry produces a considerable degree of emulation.

The Moorish horses, which are very spirited, always get the start in the commencement of the race; but after a few hours, the horse becomes exhausted from fatigue; he is compelled to slacken his pace, and finally to stop; the dromedary, on the contrary, pursues his road, can continue it during twenty hours, and is able to resume it for four successive days, during which time he passes over a space of 240 leagues, and this with a very quick pace.

On the occasions of extraordinary travelling, the dromedaries are nourished with balls made of millet, mixed with gum; they generally give to each animal three of these balls in the morning, and the same quantity at night; they do not weigh altogether more than two pounds: and this food, which is employed only upon particular occasions, satisfies, during four-and-twenty hours, this abstemious animal, and maintains him in perfect vigour and activity.

The dromedaries employed for burthen and travelling have only a simple halter; but those for the course and the field, which are frequently mounted, have, instead of a bit, a ring or buckle passed through the skin above the nostrils, which always remains there; to this they fasten the reins, which they use to regulate the movements of the animal.

During a journey by land, which I made in 1786, from the island of the Senegal to that of Goree, and of which further notice will be taken in some succeeding chapters, I traversed one of these uninhabited and vacant countries, which are frequented only at intervals by man. I travelled for five days over a desert region enclosed on one side by the solitary ocean, and on the other by arid and uncultivated downs, where nature is absolutely destitute and exposed; where the heat of the solar rays is actually insupportable; where a sandy and sullen horizon presents to the traveller neither trees which may afford him shelter, nor a source of pure water, which may calm his thirst, nor any individual object which can recall the idea of living nature.\*

\* The poetical reader will compare this description of Golberry with the beautiful and impressive lines of the sometimes sublime and neglected Collins:

“In silent horror, o’er the boundless waste,  
The driver Hassan with his camels past;  
One cruise of water on his back he bore,  
And his light scrip contained a scanty store;  
A fan of painted feathers in his hand  
To guard his shaded face from scorching sand.  
The sultry sun had gained the middle sky,  
And not a tree and not a herb was nigh;  
The beasts with pain their dusty way pursue,  
Shriil roar’d the winds, and dreary was the view!”

\* \* \* \* \*

“Ye mute companions of my toils, that bear  
In all my griefs a more than equal share!  
Here, where no springs in murmurs break away,  
Or moss-crown’d fountains mitigate the day,  
In vain ye hope the green delight to know,  
Which plains more bless’d, or verdant vales bestow;  
Here rocks alone, and tasteless sands are found,  
And faint and sickly winds for ever howl around.”

\* \* \* \* \*

“O cease my fears! All frantic as I go,  
When thought creates unnumber’d scenes of woe,

In these situations, we almost imagine ourselves as totally cut off from the civilized world; we feel a strong sensation of melancholy, which I endeavoured to dissipate with those who shared my fate.

I had with me a number of dromedaries, and in the silence of this solitude I observed and pitied their unhappy fate; children of a sterile earth, born amidst the sands of the desert, and destined to become wanderers all their lives.

It was here I admired the obedience, the resignation, and the unalterable patience, of this animal, the first companion of man, and his oldest servant; for his servitude may be dated from the earliest existence of the world, and from that period ungrateful man has exercised over him all the harshness of his inexorable character, has subjected him to the yoke of his tyrannical authority, and condemned him to eternal servitude.

My dromedaries travelled at their usual rate, but I wished to know also their different paces. This animal has three; the walk, the trot, and the gallop. Its pace is a kind of amble, which fatigues the rider very much, unless he has been long used to it. When he walks, he advances nearly together, the two feet of the same side, and then those of the other, from which results a kind of equilibrium extremely harsh; the loins of the rider suffer considerably from these repeated joltings, and I was unable to sustain the fatigue of it longer than two hours at a time;

What if the lion in his rage I meet!  
 Oft in the dust I view his printed feet;  
 And fearful oft, when day's declining light  
 Yields her pale empire to the mourner night,  
 By hunger roused he scours the groaning plain,  
 Gaunt wolves and sullen tigers in his train;  
 Before them death with shrieks directs their way,  
 Fills the wild yell, and leads them to their prey.  
 At that dead hour the silent asp shall creep,  
 If aught of rest I find, upon my sleep;  
 Or some swoln serpent twist his scales around,  
 And wake to anguish with a burning wound."

*Vide Eclogue II.*

If any thing can add to the beauty of these lines, it is that they unite the importance of truth to the embellishments of fiction. As Collins knew how to draw from nature, he knew also how to adorn with the splendor of imagery, and the elegance of language, even the most barren topics of human knowledge.—*Editor.*

but I had with me two Moorish horses, which I mounted occasionally as a relief.

At their ordinary pace, my dromedaries travelled three thousand three hundred and sixty French toises per hour, or the seven-fifths of one of our leagues of two thousand four hundred toises : this is their natural pace, which they can continue during ten hours per day, without being fatigued. At this rate, we can easily perform journies of fifteen leagues by travelling only six hours in the morning, and a little more than four in the evening, besides being able to rest each day fourteen hours.

Hence, with good dromedaries, strong and healthy travellers may, without any extraordinary labour or fatigue, arrive in fifty days at the very centre of Africa in its widest extent ; and the most considerable diameter of this continent, from Cape Verd to Cape Gardesu, which is fifteen hundred leagues, might with dromedaries, if there existed no other obstacles, be traversed without fatigue in four months.

The equanimity, the slowness, or the utmost rapidity of pace of the dromedaries in a march, are entirely dependent on those who conduct them ; indeed obedience to the voice of their conductors is a capital point in the discipline of these animals, whose life is passed in travelling.

They proceed either quick or slow, according to the tone and movement of the song of the camel conductor, who is always placed at the head of the caravan : they follow in a file, with a pensive and melancholy air, without ever wandering or deviating from the direct path, and observing the cadence of the song which is sung by their leader, who, when he wishes either to slacken or increase their pace, slackens or increases his ditty accordingly.

Often in these variations of progression, they are roused by a tone of voice more elevated, or by a slight whistling. These trifling intimations are immediately perceived, and attended to ; so perfect is the submission of this good animal, who spurns at injurious treatment, who becomes stubborn when the whip or the spur is applied, but who brightens into activity at the song of man, who forgets his pain at the sound of an instrument, and who bending beneath hunger, thirst and fatigue, resumes his courage at the voice of his master.

I wished to try the trot of the dromedary, but it appeared to

me insupportable. It must either be an Arab or a Moor, who can trot this animal for any length of time. I could not support this torment for more than a quarter of an hour, which was sufficient to make me sore all over the rest of the day, and even an access of fever was the consequence of my curiosity. It is impossible to form an idea of a jolting more horrible and painful; nay, the power of keeping one's self on the animal, when it is going a full trot, appeared to me extremely difficult.

It is nevertheless with this trot of their dromedaries, that the Moors, like the Arabs, execute those journies of sixty and seventy leagues per day, which they continue sometimes for five days together, and by means of which they gain, in that period, a space of more than three hundred leagues, between them and those whom they have pillaged and despoiled.

It is from their education and barbarous mode of living, that they are enabled to support these violent fatigues, which however never take place but when they wish to escape quickly from an enraged enemy, and to shelter themselves from his vengeance; or when they surprise a caravan, or a village, which they pillage, and then endeavour to avoid the pursuit which may result from these acts of violence.

The numerous quarrels which take place between the Moorish tribes of Zaara, are decided by the fate of battle, and these contests are generally concluded, by the conflict of warriors mounted on dromedaries.

This kind of cavalry forms the *corps de reserve*, and is never used but when it is necessary to decide the victory. These charges are made at a full trot; the two adverse parties meet, commingle, and fight arm to arm.

The Moors say, that in these battles the dromedary shews the greatest courage; that he rushes furiously upon the dromedary of the enemy, striking him violently on the head and breast, biting him with rage, and tearing off whole mouthfuls of flesh: they never quit the attack, till one of the two is disabled; and on these occasions they are so much more determined and intrepid than their masters, that nothing can check their fury and impetuosity. It is difficult to believe, that an animal so mild and patient in every other respect, should be in war so uncommonly courageous.

The gallop of the dromedary is the most rapid and lively of

all his motions ; it is less painful to the rider, than the trot, but more fatiguing to the animal, who cannot continue it longer than one or two days at the most. The Moors declare that, at this pace, they can easily travel a hundred leagues in twenty hours. After the first course, they repose four hours, and the dromedaries are fed with those balls of millet already mentioned, and are allowed to drink fermented milk, which they carry in leathern bags. The men take only a few ounces of gum, mixed with the gravy of meat, which forms their entire food ; they never make their dromedaries gallop, but after having lost a battle, and when they are anxious to escape from a conquering and enraged enemy who would massacre them without mercy if they were overtaken. When they foresee that they are likely to have occasion to gallop their dromedaries, they prepare them for it some days previous, by exercise and good nourishment.

In 1786, I saw near two hundred men belonging to the army of Hilly-Koury, fly thus after being defeated by Hamet Moktar ; they passed within sight of fort St. Louis of the Senegal, mounted two and two on their dromedaries, and crossing with prodigious rapidity, the tongue of sand which separates the river from the sea. They had fled before the end of the battle, as soon as they perceived the victory was decided against them. They had only to make a journey of twenty hours, in order to reach the mouth of the Senegal in the environs of St. Louis ; they swam across the river, and took refuge in the territories of Damel, an ally of the vanquished monarch. The dromedaries swim badly, and consequently many of them would have perished in this passage, had not the Moors opportunely arrived, and conveyed them safely into the territory of Cayor.

In the journey which I made with dromedaries I had also an opportunity of observing their astonishing sobriety ; it can indeed hardly be conceived to what an extent these animals are accustomed to observe abstinence.

But this faculty of withholding from drink for a number of days and of sustaining the most rigorous sobriety in the midst of the greatest fatigues, is not merely the effect of education, but results principally from the conformation of this animal, and which may in this point of view be considered as a phenomenon.

It is known that independently of the four stomachs which all ruminating animals have, the dromedary possesses a fifth,

which serves him as a kind of cistern ; this last stomach he fills by immense draughts, when his good fortune presents him with a spring of fresh water, a thing very rare in the sandy deserts of Africa ; in this receptacle the water is reserved quite pure, and as wholesome after having remained there a month, as it is the first day.

This fifth stomach is large enough to contain a considerable quantity of liquid, and is so constructed that the other aliments cannot mingle with it, by which means whenever the animal has occasion to moisten the herbs, with which he is nourished, and which is almost always burnt and dry, and thus prepare it for deglutition, he forces a part of this water into the œsophagus, by a simple contraction of the muscles.

This astonishing mechanism, though very well known, must yet for ever be admired ; for it is in consequence of such a conformation, that the dromedary is enabled to live without drinking for the astonishing space of ten days, in a country burned by a glowing sun, where thirst is the most dreadful of all torments ; by this organization also, it is enabled to drink a prodigious quantity of water at one time, and which remains a long while limpid and pure in this reservoir.

The Moors who travel through the desert also affirm, that either from instinct, from a sense of smelling, or from some other cause, the dromedaries, when they have passed eight or ten days without drinking, smell water at the distance of more than half a league, and that the moment this olfactory power, which is doubtless in high degree delicate, warns them of the existence of wholesome water, or of a fresh spring, they run towards it at a very quick trot, and in a direct line. This fact has likewise been affirmed by every one who have performed extensive journies over this desert.

In order justly to appreciate the importance of the benevolence of the Creator, in giving the dromedary to that ramification of human nature which is doomed to traverse these immense solitudes exposed to the most imminent perils, and even to destruction, let us only figure to ourselves, the dreadful situation of some travellers who have lost their road in the midst of an ocean of moving sand, agitated and whirled about by impetuous winds. The horizon is no longer visible but by a weak and uncertain light ; the sun is obscured by clouds of dust, which fill the space

of Heaven, and incessantly gravitate again towards the earth ; through this obscurity, the eye vainly endeavours to catch some indicative sign of the road which must be followed in order to reach an haven of security and rest. The water which the dromedaries carry enclosed in leathern bags, is either evaporated by the action of the solar rays or consumed or corrupted ; the men and animals, exhausted by reiterated fatigues and successive days of travel, abstinence, and anguish, proceed onwards with a faint and weary step. One part of the dromedaries have already been sacrificed, and their sides opened to procure that water which has remained pure and wholesome in these living reservoirs ; but barely will it suffice to prolong for a few minutes expiring nature ; the dromedaries which have survived these massacres, enjoined by imperious necessity, are reserved as a last resource ; this resource must ultimately be employed ; all is then lost, and they have nothing before their eyes but despair and death. When at the last moment of these cruel extremities, the instinct of the dromedary warns them of the proximity of a fountain ; instantly he starts, his courage is re-animated, and his convulsive motions inform the despairing travellers, that the moment of deliverance is at hand ; they all spring forward towards the source which is to save exhausted nature, and the dromedary, that holy, that sacred animal, thus preserves, in these dreadful circumstances, the life of man !

The feet of the dromedary are peculiarly adapted for sandy soils ; they are furnished at the end with two little nails, and the under part is large, fleshy, and covered with a soft, thick and callous epidermis ; these feet are cloven horizontally at the bottom, about two thirds of their length. The foot of the dromedary, being thus supple and fleshy, accords admirably with the fine moving sand, for which he has been created ; had it been covered with a thick horny substance, the friction of the sand would soon produce a degree of irritation in the foot and leg ; the horn, burnt and dried up, would become scaly, which would successively be disengaged from the foot, and the animal would be no longer able to walk ; but enclosed as it is, in a soft fleshy matter, permeable by the nutritive juices, and to the humors which fly off by perspiration, it preserves all its elasticity, and is even better adapted than the foot of man for walking in those sands, which he is destined to traverse all his life.

The legs and neck of the dromedary are very long; the legs must be thus, as they frequently sink two feet in the sand, and if they had not a considerable elongation (which however is very disproportionate to the rest of the body, and has a disagreeable appearance to the eye,) the belly of the animal would come in contact with the sand, and thus deprive him of the means and power of proceeding.

The length of its neck is also equally indispensable and necessary; it forms a balance, by means of which the equilibrium of the body is maintained; it is in fact a moving lever, the movements of which are requisite to render the fall of the animal gradual, when he bends his legs to lie down, and more easy when he rises up. Its head is small in proportion to its body; its nose is elongated, and cleft like that of a hare; its eyes are of a middling size, and the whole physiognomy of this animal impresses strongly the idea of calmness and humility, intermingled with a deep melancholy aspect. Nor is this astonishing, when we reflect, that from the first days of its existence, it is condemned to torture and oppression; that at no moment of its life is it allowed to taste the pleasures of liberty; that it is the only animal which, from its birth, is deprived of maternal attention, and the happiness of sporting round its mother; that all its days are passed in a series of privations, sufferings and fatigues; that its whole life is laborious and painful; that it never enjoys a single moment of independence; and that it is impossible to experience the hardships of perpetual servitude with less pity, from those who inflict them, than this unfortunate animal.

The dromedaries which are reared by the Moors are in general either brown, red, or ash-coloured. It does not appear that these savages pay much attention to keeping them clean, or maintaining them in such a manner, as to obtain from hence a fine pithy hair; they nevertheless employ it for making stuffs for clothing, and other domestic purposes; they also manufacture with it tents, the texture of which is so thick and close, that it is impervious to the rain; they even make vases or round sacks, of a foot in diameter, and eighteen inches in depth; the upper part of these vases is strengthened by bands of the same stuff, to the depth of about four inches, so that they remain naturally open. The Moors use them for fetching water, and likewise carry it in them when going on a journey, the same as we do in our wooden

buckets ; to the sides of these vases, near the aperture, and opposite each other, are attached a kind of handle, through which long poles are passed, and by this means they are carried. These vases of hair are so well made, that they retain the water as well as a metal or an earthen one.

The dromedary is not completely formed until its fourth or fifth year, when they first begin to employ it, but with a great deal of care, and they are extremely cautious not to overload it ; towards the sixth year, the Moors consider them as arrived at the age of puberty, and when they are eight years old, they are supposed to have attained their utmost vigour.

The ordinary price of a dromedary of this age was, in 1786, two hundred and fifty livres ; four fifths of this sum were paid in pieces of guinea, and the residue in glass trinkets, gunpowder, balls and musket flints.

The Moors know the age of a dromedary by unequivocal signs, and which never mislead them ; but as they are the only people who rear and sell these animals in all the western countries of Africa, between Zaara and the line, they preserve inviolable the secret of the signs by which they know their age, and never divulge it either to the blacks, or the Europeans who trade with them.

From hence it often happens, that in buying dromedaries persons are deceived, and the Moors sell those of five years old, which they declare to be eight. I have seen many tricks of this kind played, and one of my own dromedaries died after seven days journey, in proceeding from the Senegal to Goree, merely because it was too young ; for its burthen was by no means heavy.

I am persuaded that we should run less risk of being deceived by the Moors, were we to buy from them dromedaries of an advanced age, instead of young ones, for it is easy enough to distinguish by the physiognomy, the form of the body, the quality of the hair, and the callosities of the legs and breasts, whether a dromedary be fifteen or twenty years old : but it appeared to me very difficult to discover, the difference between a dromedary of four or five, and one of eight years of age.

The Moors say that this animal preserves all its vigour for forty years, and that after this age its strength begins to diminish, though they commonly live to be sixty ; some have been much older, but such examples are rare.

When the dromedaries become aged, and they are no longer serviceable, the Moors eat them; nearly all the kings in the vicinity of the Gambia have dromedaries, which they purchase from the Moors, who sell also a great number to the Mandings.

Six hundred armed men, exercised after the European manner, properly instructed in the service which would be expected from them, supported by light artillery, composed merely of four pounders, howitzers, &c. and commanded by an able and resolute general, might drive before them 20,000 Moors, and still more surely, 50,000 negroes. These people, destitute of all defence, and attacked by well disciplined troops, would be unable to stand against our musquetry, and still less could they endure the fire of our artillery.

If a dromedary can carry ten *quintaux*, he will very easily be able to support six soldiers; but a single dromedary might carry twelve soldiers, six of whom might march five hours per diem, while the other six might ride upon the dromedary, and *vice versa*. Hence fifty of these animals would be sufficient to convey 600 soldiers.

A piece of light artillery weighs from six to seven hundred pounds. A man might mount a dromedary carrying this burthen, which would only augment the weight by a hundred and sixty pounds; so that the animal might still convey a hundred and forty pounds of powder.

The carriages of these pieces not being intended for much work, and being used only in the time of battle, it would not be necessary to construct them so solidly as those usually made in Europe, and a dromedary might therefore carry two of them. Two hundred dromedaries would be sufficient to perform a very considerable undertaking; all the other circumstances, which would be necessary in order to insure the success of such an enterprize, would require details by far too numerous for this work; but it may be confidently affirmed, that a small army of six hundred men, arranged, organized and directed, according to the manner which I have laid down, might have a power and importance in Africa, which is almost incalculable; and what I have above said, relative to the dromedary, will easily shew, that with its assistance, it would be possible to undertake some very important expeditions; and whether we sought to make some warlike enterprize, or to render the intercourse easy and convenient between the countries

which the Senegal ought to command, or to perform some journey into the interior, or to make some commercial connections by land, or to attempt the civilization of this considerable part of Africa; or finally, to obtain some exact, detailed, and much wished-for information relative to it; whether we would undertake one or all of these, it would be highly advantageous to form studs of dromedaries and to be enabled to employ a vast number of these valuable and useful animals.

---

### Memorial of the American Colonization Society, to the several States.

The American Colonization Society has been enabled by the liberal patronage of their fellow-citizens of the several states, (and it numbers among these friends and contributors many of the citizens of ) to explore the coast of Africa to find an asylum to which the free coloured population of our country might be safely removed.—The annual reports of their proceedings, (accompanying this memorial) will show what their labours have effected.

These labours, they have now the happiness of declaring, have, by the favour of Providence, been conducted to a successful issue: and they now present themselves before you, with the power of shewing, that all that could reasonably be expected to be done by their instrumentality, has happily been accomplished.

A Colony of free coloured persons from the United States, amounting to several hundred, has been planted on one of the most eligible situations upon the coast of Africa. The difficulties and dangers necessarily attendant upon such enterprizes, have been overcome: and they are now in the peaceful occupation and cultivation of a fertile and extensive territory, possessing every advantage for their own comfortable subsistence, and for carrying on an advantageous commerce with other parts of the world.

Every circumstance calculated to promote a rapid increase of population, is to be found connected with this settlement. The vast mass of inhabitants of this description in our country, their depressed and unfortunate condition among us, the continually

decreasing expenses of transportation, their own desires to seek a home, with their brethern, in the land of their fathers, and the obvious interest of every portion of our community to aid and encourage them, give every reason to expect that emigration to Montserado, will only be limited by the capacity of the country to receive and subsist the Colonists.

And this capacity is almost unlimited—a climate suited to the constitutions of the descendants of Africa, a soil adapted to their wants, producing two crops of corn within the year, and rice almost without cultivation, whose forests abound in cotton, coffee, dye-woods, spices, and every tropical production: and such a country, thus abounding in resources for the subsistence of man, destitute of men, depopulated by the slave-trade, must invite, must admit and provide for, a more rapidly increasing population than has perhaps ever yet been witnessed.

Such is the situation, and such are the prospects of the establishment your memorialists have been enabled to make.—A private association of individuals can do little more.—The work now becomes too vast for their powers, too important to be trusted to any hands, save those, to whom, as guardians of the public, the great interests of the public are committed.

Your memorialists have long looked forward to the period that has now arrived, and deliberately considered the duties it would impose upon them. In the discharge of these duties, they now appear before you, and make their appeal with confidence to the legislature of a state, many of whose citizens have already evinced their readiness to promote the success of the cause in which they have engaged.

They are already prepared to lay before the Congress of the U. States, the work they have effected, and to call upon them, as representing the great body of the American nation, to take into their own hands, the consummation of an object, worthy of national patronage.

Whether the General Government of the United States will consider this a concern of national interest, to which the power and resources of the nation are to be applied, or as more proper for the consideration of the states, in their several capacities, it is not for your memorialists to determine. Their duty is to place it before all, who have the power to accomplish it, and to trust that the wisdom and patriotism of those to whom it is committed, will devise the most proper and effectual means for its success.

Should the state of \_\_\_\_\_ feel an interest in this great object, either as it affects her own prosperity or that of the Union, her able representatives in the national councils can speak her wishes: and should it become necessary for the several states to provide the means for its accomplishment, she can then apply her own power and resources in its behalf, to such extent and in such way as her interest and duty may demand.

It is with these views and for this purpose, that the American Colonization Society now proceeds in the course of its duties, to claim from the several states, their solemn consideration of this most interesting subject. They hope that, in doing so, they may be excused for endeavouring to offer some suggestions, applicable to the difference in situation and circumstances of the several states of the Union, in relation to their coloured population.

The United States contain, dispersed in various proportions, among them, upwards of 250,000 free coloured inhabitants.— That their removal to the colony now established in Africa, would be a blessing to themselves and a relief to us, is too obvious to our feelings and interests to require argument. It is also evident that, notwithstanding all the impediments to emancipation in the slave states, and all the disadvantages attending such a condition, a great addition is annually made to this number.

If the Colony at Liberia becomes capable of drawing off, annually, portions of this population from the various states, so that it gradually diminishes and finally disappears from among them, and if those, who hereafter become free, are also thus disposed of, will not these states have attained, by this disincumbrance, a great moral and political benefit, fully justifying even a considerable expenditure of their funds?

The amount of that expenditure may even now be calculated, though it is certain, that it will fall below any estimates that may be predicated upon the present cost of transportation.

The first emigrants cost the Society about fifty dollars, each, the last, about twenty. And when the vessels in which they embark, can return freighted with the African products, which the industry and enterprize of the Colonists will collect, it is certain that the mere subsistence during the passage, and for a

few months afterwards, in the cheapest country upon earth, will constitute the sole expense.

And when this description of persons see, as they soon must, the great advantages of emigration, may not vast numbers of them be expected to provide for themselves, the means of transportation? Who can doubt this, that considers the great accession to the population of this country, annually made by the arrival among us, of the most destitute classes of foreigners, multitudes of whom only pay for their passage by their labour?

Those states, then, that at present labour under the disadvantages of such a population, can obtain relief; and at an expense not beyond its value. And if this was all—If a wretched outcast people should be thus made happy, and, not confining the blessing to themselves, should become a light to that land of darkness, to which we owe such a retribution for past wrongs; if a work thus beneficent to man and acceptable to God, can be made from materials not only useless but injurious where they are, there would be motive enough, excited by patriotism, benevolence and religion, to encourage us to such an effort.

In the course of its endeavours to interest the citizens of the different states in favor of this object, the Society has had to encounter, and in some degree, still has to encounter, an opposition arising from the most contradictory objections.

They have been denounced by some as fanatical and visionary innovators, pursuing, without regard to means or consequences, an object destructive of the rights of property, and dangerous to the public peace. While others have looked upon them as a mercenary and selfish association, which, regarding the free people of colour as impediments to the profitable use of their slave property, sought, by removing it, to rivet the chains of slavery.

The Society would conciliate, if possible, these opposing opponents. They doubt not the sincerity and good intentions of both of them, and trust that time and experience will do, what their assurances may now be unable to effect, remove the apprehensions of the one and the suspicions of the other.

The sole object of the Society, as declared at its institution, and from which it can never be allowed to depart, is “to remove, with their own consent, to the Coast of Africa, the free coloured population, now existing in the United States, and such as

hereafter may become free." That such a removal is practicable, and would be highly beneficial, both to the subjects of it and to ourselves, seems now scarcely to admit of a question.—What its effects might be in relation to another class of our coloured population, and those who lawfully hold them as their property, must of course be more doubtful. But that such effects would be injurious to either, seems by no means probable. That it would tend to mitigate the evils of slavery, and offer facilities and inducements to voluntary emancipation, seems almost certain : and it cannot be doubted but that this may be done without impairing the rights of property or the safety of society. Whatever influence then it may have upon the question of slavery, must be a beneficial influence, and cannot therefore be considered as an objection against it. That every measure which either directly or indirectly affects this delicate question of slavery, should be managed with the greatest care and circumspection, must be conceded. But it cannot be reasonable to insist that, every measure, however important and beneficial, is to be denounced, because it may in its consequences, lead to a removal of the obstructions to voluntary emancipation, and act favourably upon the state of slavery.

In pursuing their object, therefore (although such consequences may result from a successful prosecution of it,) the Society cannot be justly charged with aiming to disturb the rights of property or the peace of society.—Your memorialists refer with confidence to the course they have pursued, in the prosecution of their object for nine years past, to shew that it is possible, without danger or alarm, to carry on such an operation, notwithstanding its supposed relation to the subject of slavery, and that they have not been regardless, in any of their measures, of what was due to the state of society in which they live. They are, themselves, chiefly slave-holders, and live, with all the ties of life binding them to a slave-holding community. They know when to speak and when to forbear upon topics connected with this painful and difficult subject. They put forth no passionate appeals before the public, seek to excite no feeling, and avoid, with the most sedulous care, every measure that would endanger the public tranquillity—they could have obtained friends and resources by such appeals, but they seek nothing at any hazard, and prefer that their work should advance slowly, or even stand still for a season, rather than that it should make its way by any means calcu-

lated to excite dangerous discontents in one class, or just apprehensions in the other.

Yet on such occasions as the present, when they who are delegated to watch over the public welfare, are to be invited to examine and consider this great subject in all its connections; it cannot be inconsistent with the Society's declared object, or any of its duties, to endeavour to shew, that nothing injurious or dangerous need be apprehended, either from the measure itself or any of its consequences.

If it be said that this subject of slavery is to be so respected, that no purposes of public benefit, no matter how remotely connected with it, or how favourably they may operate upon it, must ever be touched, even with the greatest discretion; it may be asked what is to happen if all matters thus related to it, are never to be touched? If we could prevent the utterance of a word, or the rising of a thought that might call up this fearful subject forever, what would be our gain from this insensibility? We could gain nothing, if we could stifle thought and enquiry—but thought and enquiry, and effort upon such subjects, in such an age as this, are not to be stifled. Who does not see in the times in which we live, when a new impulse seems to be awakened in man, and just conceptions of his rights and of his duties are calling forth all the energies of his nature, that there is nothing left but to guide with a steady hand the spirit of improvement, and direct its operations to such results, as may conduce to the general welfare?

If discreet and prudent measures are to be forborne, because their consequences may lead to a diminution of the evils of slavery, what shall restrain the inconsiderate, dangerous, and direct efforts that may be made upon the subject itself?—And if, therefore, it can neither be let alone, nor rashly dealt with, what remains but that those who feel and understand it; those, who from habit, situation and interest, know all its bearings and connections, should be allowed to prosecute a useful object, although thus connected, and conduct it with the care and caution it requires? And if its consequences shall lead to the supposed conclusion, shall open a way, without violating the rights of any, to deliver us from a still greater evil, is it an objection that can be urged against its prosecution?

To those who charge the Society with the contrary motive of

designing to perpetuate slavery, they would beg leave to say, that it is not reasonable to infer such purpose, from the circumstance of the Society's confining its operations to the free people of colour. The Managers could, with no propriety, depart from their original and avowed purpose, and make emancipation their object. And they would further say, that if they were not thus restrained by the terms of their association, they would still consider any attempts to promote the increase of the free coloured population by manumission, unnecessary, premature, and dangerous.

They hope that more correct views are now entertained throughout our country, of the manner in which all subjects, in any way connected with slavery, should be considered and conducted.

It seems now to be admitted that, whatever has any bearing upon that question, must be managed with the utmost consideration; that the peace and order of society must not be endangered by indiscreet and ill-timed efforts to promote emancipation; and that a true regard should be manifested to the feelings and the fears, and even the prejudices of those, whose co-operation is essential.

The Managers of the Society perceive with gratification, that these considerations begin to be felt and appreciated in those states where slavery is only heard of, and where perhaps the perplexities of its operations upon society, and the necessities it creates and imposes, have not been generally understood.

From the situation of the Society, and its constant intercourse with the citizens of some of the slave states, they have had abundant opportunities of witnessing the progress of opinion upon this subject, and of accurately knowing its present state. They are convinced, that there are now hundreds of masters who are so only from necessity, who are prepared to manumit their slaves, whenever means are provided for their reception and support in the Colony; and they believe that this disposition, even without any legislative enactments, will increase far more rapidly, than the means for its gratification can be afforded.

They trust, therefore, that the object which they have endeavoured to place before the American people, and which is now proved to be attainable, will be found interesting to every portion of our country, and that no apprehensions of any evil consequences to result from it, can be reasonably entertained.

To those, therefore, whom \_\_\_\_\_ has selected as the guardians of her interests, your Memorialists beg leave to commit this important subject, trusting that their wisdom will devise the means by which the work they have thus far accomplished, may be made to promote those interests, and the common welfare of our country.

---

## Discoveries in Africa.

(From the Sierra Leone Gazette.)

His Majesty's ship Brazen, captain Willes, sailed on Thursday last, for the Bights of Benin and Biafra. Captains Clapperton and Pearce, with Messrs. Morrison and Dickson, who came out in the Brazen, went down in her, and will be landed at such part of the coast as circumstances may render most advisable. Their object will then be to reach Soccatoo, where captain Clapperton resided some time last year, when in the interior with Major Denham. We had much conversation with him, and were much gratified with his statements. They confirm (what we are sure will be more apparent the more we become acquainted with the country) that the centre of Africa is far advanced in civilization; that the further the negro is removed from the baneful effects of the slave-trade—the contamination of the coast—the more he is raised in the scale of humanity: the more intelligent, honest, and industrious does he become. We understand that on reaching Soccatoo, some of the party will remain to form more intimate relations with that extraordinary sovereign, Sultan Belle, and endeavour to establish a safe and permanent communication between Soccatoo and the coast; whilst others will visit the Niger, trace its course, and follow it to the sea: with other excursions for the benefit of science, and the extension of knowledge.

We were favored with a view of a map, containing the late discoveries of major Denham and captain Clapperton, from which it seems nearly certain that the Niger, or Joliba, passing within a short distance of Soccatoo, flows into the Bight of Benin, and, we have no doubt, forms Lagos and the rivers round it. If so, what an important opening is made into the interior of Africa! With the exception of the rapids of Yaouree, a steam vessel may traverse this immense continent from the Bight of Benin to the Foulah

country—a water communication scarcely equalled in any other part of the world.

We were much gratified with captain Clapperton's account of the extent and neatness of the fences and plantations in the interior, especially of cotton and indigo, and the care with which they are kept clear of weeds. We are also struck with the circumstance, that all the gold carried to Timbuctoo and Soccatoo, is brought from the west and south west,—a strong corroboration of what is always stated by our travelling merchants, that the most productive gold mines of Western or Interior Africa are not far from us. We wish these adventurous travellers every success; but we cannot help fearing the Portuguese interest in the Bights will be too powerful for them. It is the policy of that government to keep every thing connected with its colonial establishments a profound secret. The world knows nothing of them. To this national jealousy is to be added, in the present case, the fear of the authorities on this coast, that our success, may be their loss, and especially that it may interfere with their illicit slave-trade. If the Lagos be the Niger, they must know it: and if so, we fear they will not, if they can prevent it, allow our enterprising countrymen to unravel a secret they have so long kept.

---

### Formation of Auxiliary Societies.

It gives us pleasure to announce the formation of the following auxiliary societies, and to publish the names of their respective officers.

*Hampden county, Mass. Auxiliary Colonization Society.*

Hon. Samuel Lathrop, PRESIDENT,

Israel E. Trask, Esq. VICE-PRESIDENT,

Frederick A. Packard, Esq. CORRESPONDING SEC'Y,

Hon. Justice Willard, RECORDING SEC'Y.

Col. George Cotton, TREASURER,

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Hon. John Mills,

Rev. Samuel Osgood,

Ethan Ely, Esq.

Rev. W. B. O. Peabody.

Rev. Isaac Knapp,

---

*Edenton, N. C. Auxiliary Colonization Society.*

James Iredell, PRESIDENT.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Rev. Henry Holmes,                      Rev. John Avery,  
 Henry Wills, SEC'Y.  
 William R. Norcum, TREASURER.

## MANAGERS.

Nathaniel Bond,                      John Cox,  
 Henry Flury,                      Charles E. Johnson,  
 James Wills,                      Dr. James Norcum,  
 Rev. Mr. Meredith and Mr. Kerr, Members of the Board of  
 Managers ex-officio.

*St. Louis, Missouri, Auxiliary Colonization Society.*

William Carr Lane, PRESIDENT.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Hon. James H. Peck,                      George Tompkins,  
 Gov. Coles, (of Illinois,)              William C. Carr.

## MANAGERS.

Col. John O'Fallon,                      John Smith,  
 Dr. Robert Simpson,                      John K. Walker,  
 Hon. Rufus Pettibone,                      Col. Quarles,  
 Theodore Hunt,                      Edward Bates,  
 Dr. H. L. Hoffman,                      Robert Wash,  
 Horatio Cozens,                      Thomas Cohen.  
 T. Spalding, CORRESPONDING, SEC'Y.  
 D. Hough, RECORDING SEC'Y.  
 Aaron Phule, TREASURER.

**'The African Boy,' "Jerningham."**

Ah! tell me, little mournful Moor,  
 Why still you linger on the shore?  
 Haste to your playmates, haste away,  
 Nor loiter here with fond delay.  
 When morn unveiled her radiant eye,  
 You hailed me as you wandered by;  
 Returning at the approaching eve,  
 Your meek salute I still receive.

Benign enquirer, thou shalt know,  
 Why here my lonesome moments flow:  
 'Tis said, my countrymen (no more  
 Like ravening sharks that haunt the shore,)

Return to bless, to raise, to cheer,  
 And pay compassion's long arrear.  
 'Tis said, the numerous captive train,  
 Late bound by the degrading chain,  
 Triumphant come, with swelling sails,  
 New smiling skies, and western gales;  
 They come with festive heart and glee,  
 Their hands unshackled—minds as free;—  
 They come, at mercy's great command,  
 To re-possess their native land.  
 The gales that o'er the ocean stray,  
 And chase the waves in gentle play,  
 Methinks they whisper, as they fly,  
 Juellen soon will meet thine eye.  
 'Tis this that soothes her little son,  
 Blends all his wishes into one.  
 Ah! were I clasped in her embrace,  
 I would forgive her past disgrace;  
 Forgive the memorable hour  
 She fell a prey to tyrant power;  
 Forgive her lost, distracted air,  
 Her sorrowing voice, her kneeling prayer;  
 The suppliant tears that galled her cheek,  
 And last, her agonizing shriek;—  
 Locked in her hair, a ruthless hand  
 Trailed her along the flinty sand;  
 A ruffian train, with clamours rude,  
 Th' impious spectacle pursued;  
 Still as she moved, in accents wild,  
 She cried aloud, my child! my child!  
 The lofty bark, she now ascends,  
 With screams of woe, the air she rends;  
 The vessel less'ning from the shore,  
 Her piteous wails I heard no more.  
 Now, as I stretched my last survey,  
 Her distant form dissolved away.  
 That day is past, I cease to mourn,  
 Succeeding joy shall have its turn.  
 Beside the hoarse resounding deep,  
 A pleasing, anxious watch I keep.  
 For when the morning clouds shall break,  
 And darts of day the darkness streak,  
 Perchance along the glittering main,  
 (Oh, may this hope not throb in vain)  
 To meet these long-desiring eyes,  
 Juellen, and the sun may rise.







I-7 v.2  
African Repository and Colonial Journal

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



1 1012 00307 1943