

LIBERIA.

A republic founded by black men, reared by black men, maintained by black men, and which holds out to our hope the brightest prospects.—HENRY CLAY.

BULLETIN No. I.

NOVEMBER, 1892.

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AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Colonization Building, No. 450 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.



LIBERIA.

BULLETIN No. 1.

NOVEMBER, 1892.

WILLIAM COPPINGER.—IN MEMORIAM.

Mr. William Coppinger was born in London, March 18, 1828, and came to this country when a young child. He entered the office of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society in 1838, when only ten years of age, and continued there until 1864, when he became Secretary of the American Colonization Society, and filled that position until his death, which occurred February 9, 1892.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held February 11, 1892, there were present: Rev. Dr. Sunderland, chairman; Judge Nott, Rev. Dr. Addison, Dr. W. W. Godding, Prof. A. J. Huntington, and Mr. Reginald Fendall. The following memorial paper was presented and approved:

“This meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society is certainly the saddest in all its history. Men honored and dear to our hearts have passed from our midst and left us in tears. Their places have been supplied. To-day we bow in the presence of an irreparable loss. William Coppinger was so long associated with this Society, so long did he pour into its work the energies of his strong mind and ardent heart, so long was its life his life and his life its life, that we began to feel that they were one. Perhaps never in the history of the world was a great cause and a noble man so blended into each other. For many years the history of the Society has been the history of William Coppinger. Wherever the Society is known in Africa, Europe, or America his name is familiar, and the

sad occasion which brings us together will carry sorrow to many bosoms in the three continents, and, perhaps, most of all, his death will be mourned by the distant republic to whose upbuilding he gave the fullness of his powers of mind and soul from his boyhood.

“There never was a sublimer instance of full consecration of a life to one object. He had faith in the great enterprise. He felt he had not labored in vain. He lived to see the permanent establishment of a Negro State with a magnificent terrestrial domain, with flourishing communities of happy, intelligent, Christian people fitted to impress the universal African mind and to meet the developments of the mighty future of a land of freedom and prosperity and Christian civilization. The monument of the gentle man, toiling unobserved by the world at his desk in his office in Washington, will slowly rise through the ages in the increasing happiness and power and glory of the Liberian Republic. Proud history will not note his life, but the memory of his worth and his work will be preserved forever in the records of Heaven.

“He was a man of strong intellect and great practical wisdom, of immense industry and large information. His views of the subjects brought before the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors were presented with such force that they rarely failed to convince and control the able men who from time to time composed these bodies. His papers read before the Society were rich in information, profound in suggestion, and often glowed with a simple eloquence that touched our less ardent souls, revived our languid faith, and rekindled hopes almost expiring through the indifference and cruel criticism of the world. This man bore himself so meekly that he aroused no antagonisms. He was absolutely tender and gentle in spirit, and yet no trait of his character was more marked than his manliness. What he believed was his duty he did without fear, regardless of consequences. Though small of stature and frail of structure, he confronted evil with that majesty of moral conviction that made strong men quail. We all felt the power of the moral dignity of the man, the purity of his purposes, the reality of his zeal, and the exalted earnestness of his life.

“He loved Africa for no earthly considerations. He dreamed of her future greatness not out of any aspiration for her political significance. He sought her secular welfare

because he felt that her civilization would lead to her spiritual enlightenment. The love of souls in that benighted land was the inspiration of his prayers and his labors. He looked upon this Society as the great instrument in the unfolding Providence of God for planting the rose of Sharon "where Afric's sunny fountains roll down their golden sands." First of all, William Coppinger was a Christian, a man of faith, a lover of men; and this it was that glorified his meek and unobtrusive life, and that now in this sad hour of bereavement thrills our souls with joy as we contemplate his triumph over the powers of the world, and his uplifting to that high ideal of unselfish obedience which has largely helped to make the Christ of history the Christ of our personal faith.

A meek and gentle and loving man, strong of soul, faithful to conscience, diligent in business, our honored associate, our loved friend, has joined the blessed dead in Christ. We thank God for his noble life.

PRESIDENT POTTER.

The Right Rev. Henry C. Potter, D. D., has accepted the Presidency of the American Colonization Society to which he was elected at the annual meeting of the Society held in January last.

He was absent from the country for several months immediately following his election, but since his return has visited Washington and held an informal conference with the Executive Committee.

His previous connection with the Society and his well and widely-known ability, energy, and zeal give assurance of a most worthy successor to an illustrious line of Presidents—Bushrod Washington, Charles Carroll, James Madison, Henry Clay, and John H. B. Latrobe.

FUTURE WORK OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The death of both the President and the Secretary of the American Colonization Society, coming so closely together, made it necessary for its executive committee to give closer personal attention to the details of the administration of the affairs of the Society, and while thus engaged, their investigations led them to the conclusion that the time had come for making some changes in the agencies to be employed, the work to be undertaken, and the general policy to be pursued.

When the Society was first organized domestic slavery in this country existed in its full vigor, but the foreign slave trade had been abolished by law. The leading purpose of the Society was to improve the condition of the comparatively few Negroes who were then free, or might thereafter be set free by their masters, and to provide for those recaptured from slave vessels still pursuing their nefarious and at that time unlawful traffic. Various projects were deliberately considered and it was finally decided to return them to their native land, and found a colony on the west coast of Africa. Hence came Liberia with its eventual culmination in an independent Republic, as we find it to-day, and its seventy-five years of most interesting history.

The abolition of slavery in the United States, the enfranchisement of the Negro, the equal rights and opportunities now provided by law for him, have changed his environment to such an extent that emigration to a land of freedom is no longer the indispensable requisite to the improvement of his condition that it was in the earlier days of colonization. But no legislation can abolish race prejudice and social discrimination, and it is believed that the Negro can have a freedom for development in Liberia which no laws, however just or favorable, will secure to him in this country. But aside from this ought not the success or failure of

Liberia to be a matter of especial interest to the Negro in whatever country he may choose to make his home? Is not the civilized world interested in the result of the experiment she is making? Shall it be said for centuries to come that the Negro race in and of itself is inherently incapable of taking a place among the nations founded by other races of mankind? Shall Liberia be pointed to as another evidence of the inferiority and incapacity of the Negro? How can the more intelligent Negroes of the United States expect to overcome the prejudice here, of which they so bitterly complain, if the race everywhere else on the globe, and especially in Africa, its ancestral home for centuries, is forever to be in a state of barbarism, anarchy, or servile dependence on nations who claim racial superiority?

The American Colonization Society is not now engaged in the work of soliciting or stimulating the emigration of Negroes from the United States to Liberia. It has on its records at this time many thousand applicants for passage, while it has the means to assist but a very small fraction of this number.

In the present judgment of its Executive Committee, even if it had the means it would not be wise to send out many of these applicants, for they do not answer Lord Bacon's description of good colonists, nor are they the material which Liberia now needs to develop her resources and strengthen her as a weak, young nation.

But this Society, encouraged and aided by the government of the United States, having founded the colony out of which Liberia has developed, is now bound by the highest moral obligations to stand by its progeny and give it all the aid and support in its power.

Under these circumstances the point of view is changed, and the question, how can the Society best help and strengthen Liberia comes to the front.

Of course, the work of the Society, under its charter, must continue to be essentially colonization, but this can be

6 *Future Work of the American Colonization Society.*

carried on with less reference to the pressing importunities of applicants, and more regard to the wants of Liberia ; in other words, the work of the Society may hereafter wisely be colonization for the sake of African civilization. And aside from the pecuniary aid which the Society may be able to afford emigrants, it has an important field of usefulness in supervising and guiding emigration from this country to Liberia for many years to come.

The Executive Committee has deemed it best to substitute for the publication of the AFRICAN REPOSITORY, which was commenced as a monthly, and afterwards changed to a quarterly magazine, publications of an occasional character. The REPOSITORY has ceased to bring any pecuniary return, and is believed to be of little practical use as an organ of the Society. In these days the general press furnishes channels of communication with the public much more potent and far-reaching than any special organ can possibly be. It is, therefore, proposed to issue in its place, from time to time, a bulletin of information, as the material at hand may require.

A brief statement of the views of the Executive Committee may be summarized as follows :

1. Colonists hereafter to be selected with special reference to the needs of Liberia, and to be located there with more care and to better advantage to themselves.

2. Funds held in trust for education to be applied in ways to stimulate the Liberian government to more energetic action in establishing and fostering a system of public schools, rather than to the support of independent schools.

3. To aid in collecting and diffusing more full and reliable information about Liberia.

4. To promote in every possible way the establishing of more direct, frequent and quicker communication between the United States and Liberia. Direct steam communication is now the pressing need, and it is believed to be practicable solely from a commercial point of view. There are

now steamers running to Africa from Hamburg, Havre, Marseilles, Cadiz, and Lisbon, and two a week—some as large as four thousand tons—leave Liverpool alone for the west coast of Africa. Surely here is a field for commerce worth the attention of commercial capitalists in the United States.

5. The chief end of the work of the Society to be in the line of enabling and stimulating Liberia to depend less and less upon others, and more and more upon herself.

Under the pressure of a disheartening and increasing competition, the time is coming when, in obedience to one of the great laws of our nature, the more intelligent Negroes of the United States, in larger numbers, "will come under the efficient motive which propels man to all enterprises—the desire to better his condition"—and they will turn their faces towards the land from whence they came. When quicker and cheaper communication is accomplished, as it surely will be at no distant day, and the passage can be made in eight or ten days, instead of taking a month as it now does, and the people of the two countries can communicate back and forth at short intervals, colonization will begin to take care of itself, and Liberia will receive a fresh and powerful impulse. The great gain in time by direct steam communication will readily be seen from a statement of the following distances. "From New York to Liverpool, 3,115 miles; from Liverpool to Liberia, 3,250 miles—making the whole distance from New York to Liberia, by way of Liverpool, 6,365 miles; direct distance from New York to Liberia, 3,720 miles, or only 605 miles greater than the distance from New York to Liverpool."

The party of emigrants sent out in March last were selected by the late Secretary, but he did not live to see them embark. This duty devolved upon the Executive Committee. From information that came to them about that time, they became convinced that their affairs in Liberia had been mismanaged, and they decided to make a change in their

agency there. The Rev. E. E. Smith, who had highly commended himself to them while filling the office of United States Minister resident at Liberia during President Cleveland's administration, was therefore appointed agent. He reached Liberia soon after the arrival of the emigrants, and took charge of their location. He was also instructed to investigate and obtain information in regard to certain other matters, and his report is published in this bulletin.

REPORT OF REV. E. E. SMITH.

As your agent in the Republic of Liberia I beg most respectfully to submit the following report of my labors and observations in that country: I reached Monrovia on the evening of April 13th, 1892. A cordial welcome was extended to me by all whom I met. The fifty emigrants who embarked at New York for Liberia, March 10th, 1892, per the barque *Liberia*, having arrived in Monrovia on the 7th of the same month, were comfortably quartered in that city. Mr. B. Y. Payne, who had looked after them before my arrival, did, immediately upon my reaching the city, transfer the care of them, as well as the custody of the Society's stores and effects to me. I at once conferred with the representative citizens of Monrovia with reference to the most desirable section wherein to settle the emigrants. Johnsonville and Royesville were suggested, but not being acquainted with either settlement, I provided conveyance—a boat and eight men to row it—and induced some of the leading emigrants to visit both localities, so that seeing the situation and surroundings of both places, they might be prepared to choose for themselves. Johnsonville was selected. This settlement is situated in a beautifully elevated region near one of the southeast forks or branches of the Montserado river, almost due east of and some eighteen or twenty miles from Monrovia. After consulting different surveyors, the services of Messrs. Benj. Anderson & Son were secured to survey

the land for the emigrants. The surveying was begun on the 28th of April, and completed May 28th. The surveying party consisted of one man to point out the country, twelve men to cut out the way, three stakers, and two surveyors, making a force of eighteen men, all of whom were rationed at the expense of the Society during the survey. Thus something of the difficulty attending the surveying of land in tropical Africa may be perceived. I visited the settlement frequently and urged and encouraged the force to proceed with the work with as much haste as possible.

There is no law in force in Liberia regulating the allotment of public land to the native people who come in possession of such land. They are permitted to select land wherever they choose regardless of connecting with the land of others. Again, surveyors are too numerous in Liberia, and were I permitted to make a suggestion along this line to the Liberian government, I would emphasize the importance of having competent surveyors appointed by the authority of the country.

In consequence of inaccurate surveying previously done by doubtless incompetent surveyors, considerable trouble was encountered in procuring sufficient land in a body to accommodate our emigrants. Consequently, to obtain the 380 acres necessary to supply them, 685 acres had to be surveyed. This amount of extra work, or surveying, grew out of the fact above alluded to, viz., a number of Kroo people, one of the native tribes who had obtained titles for public land, had squatted in a desultory manner here and there all through the section wherein the emigrants were to be settled. Though the native people, to whom reference is made, held deeds for land, yet it appears that it had never been surveyed, or, if so, it was done very inaccurately, for in many cases their land neither joined to nor conformed with the lines of the land of others, which undoubtedly a proper survey would have regulated. Again, it was found that these Kroo people had spread themselves over much more land than the quantity for which

their deeds called. It has not been the custom heretofore in surveying land for emigrants to run all around it, but the practice has been simply to run out what is denominated the base line of the whole plat and the two perpendicular ends or sides. Then the surveyor would set stakes along on this *base* line between the land of A, B, and so on, requiring them and the other occupants of the block of land to establish their own dividing lines without any means whatsoever of determining the depth of their land, save the aforesaid perpendicular end lines. The plats of land for emigrants are usually run off in oblong sections.

This method of surveying frequently perplexed the untutored emigrant considerably, and often he found himself unable to know just where the boundary of his land was, which fact has, from time to time, given rise to contention, strife, and in some instances, bloodshed.

In the case of the emigrants in question, however, the land of each was run all around by the surveyor, and the four corners were plainly and substantially marked.

Similar difficulty, as cited above, with reference to the native people squatting indiscriminately in a desultory manner over large areas of public land, would probably be encountered, more or less, throughout the tidewater section of the country.

This difficulty of itself, therefore, would be a strong argument against locating emigrants in said section. Emigrants have been settled on or near the rivers and other streams in the aforesaid tide-water section of the country on account of being accessible by boat and canoe, which are the means of conveyance. There are few settlements in the country which are not situated as above indicated.

The time has come, I think, however, when a beginning should be made to push outward, interiorward with the settlements of the country. While some little more of expense may be incurred in settling emigrants at a distance from the streams, it will be the means of opening up roads, building

bridges, and thereby will invite trade from the interior to the seaports of the country, which is now finding its way elsewhere. Again, such beautiful, rolling sections of country as are to be seen out beyond Arthington are far more desirable to settle in than portions of the tidewater country. The water is pure and cool, the air is less humid, less enervating ; and, I think, the section is in every way more salubrious.

I would not be understood to mean that a party of emigrants should be isolated by being located at an inconvenient distance from other settlements, but I do mean that I think the settling of emigrants should tend interiorward. Let the settlements be contiguous, but interiorward.

Every possible attention and encouragement were given the fifty emigrants who came out in April, their high appreciation of which has been evidenced by their great industry. Mr. David Rivers, one of said emigrants, moved into his own frame house July 13th, just three months and six days after his arrival in the country, or one month and fifteen days after receiving the certificate giving the boundary of his land. Up to the 10th of August, two days before I left Liberia, Mr. Rivers had planted out on his own land more than five thousand coffee scions, also quantities of other produce, and a considerable amount of vegetables of different kinds.

Mr. Spencer Day and others of the same party have since moved into their houses, and are earnestly pushing forward and industriously clearing their land and putting out coffees, which, if not the only, is certainly the principal product of the country from which farmers realize money. Coffee scions one year old sell for a dollar per hundred ; those of two and three years' growth sell for two and three dollars per hundred, respectively. Thus the emigrant coming to Liberia finds that money, a little of it at least, is not only a convenient article to have, but a necessary one as well, especially if he expects to begin a prosperous career with a bright, hopeful future.

Some, when they learn that the coffee scion requires three to five years after it is planted before it bears, become de-

spondent. Others, unaccustomed to think, or unable to plan for themselves, and finding no one to direct them, no one to hire them, grow restless, become dissatisfied. Hence two families of the last party returned to the United States a few weeks since. Each family of the party, in addition to being supplied with the usual six months' allowance of rations, has also been given farm tools and cooking utensils. All save the two families that returned are doing well, and are admirably adapting themselves to the new life which they are experiencing.

The emigrants, sixty-one in number, who arrived in Liberia December 7, 1891, were located in the settlement of Barnesville, which is some twenty miles from Monrovia. This settlement joins that of Johnsonville. A number of these emigrants have in the past few months moved from the former to the latter place. Upon my arrival in Monrovia these emigrants were without rations, notwithstanding they had been in Liberia for a period of only four months, and were entitled to rations for two additional months. Consequently I furnished rations, from the supplies sent out in March, to them for six weeks. I gave them also such farm tools and cooking utensils as were left after supplying the March expedition. The doctor, too, at their request, was employed to make a visit to their sick and administer medicine to them. Three of their number have died and two have returned to the United States. They have organized in their midst a church. Their children have fairly good school advantages.

The emigrants who arrived in Liberia in March, 1891, were settled in Dixville. There were thirty-nine of them. They are doing fairly well. Some of the families have already planted out several thousand coffee scions. Each family of this expedition occupies its own house. They are satisfied.

Those sent out in 1890, fifty-two, were located in the settlement known as Fendall, which is possibly less desirable to live in than either of the above-mentioned settlements, in consequence of its inaccessibility and the difficulty encount-

ered in reaching it. Of these fifty-two emigrants six have died and twenty-three have returned to the United States. Of the twenty-three who remained in Liberia the major part of them have moved into other settlements ; in fact, only three families of them remain in the Fendall settlement, and the wife and five children of one of these had to leave the sick and almost helpless husband and father in their thatched house in Fendall to seek shelter and bread at the hands of Rev. David A. Day at the Muhlenburg Mission. At the request of the gentleman just mentioned I called on this devoted mother and faithful wife on the premises of the mission on the 6th of the present month, August, and gave her some nourishing food, etc., from the stores of the Society, as I had done previously to others of the same expedition.

The emigrants sent out in 1889 were settled at Grand Bassa. These are doing well, and the county is very anxious to welcome more.

Those sent out in 1888 were settled at Harpers, Sinoe County, and at Robertsport, in the Cape Mount section. Both of these expeditions are doing remarkably well. They are living in their own houses, have their fowls, pigs, and cattle, also their vegetables in abundance, as well as their widening coffee farms, from which many of them are beginning to gather and export. All these ask that the Society say to their brethren in the United States that Liberia is a goodly land and a desirable country in which to live.

Emigrants are beginning to make their way to Liberia *via* Liverpool. Since April last emigrants from the United States have arrived in Liberia, at their own expense, at four different times. The first consisted of a man and wife and five children, who came in April ; the second, a single man, who came in May ; the third, of a man and wife and six children, who came in July ; and last, a single man came also in July—making, in the last five months, a total of seventeen emigrants who paid their own expenses from the United States, by the way of Liverpool, to Liberia. The government gives them land and allowances, such as are given to those sent by the Society.

IMMIGRATION TO BE FOSTERED.

The government of Liberia is becoming alive to the importance of encouraging immigration. To this end it is beginning to bestir itself actively. Prior to the last session of the legislature, which adjourned about the 1st of February of the present year, no official act had at any time been passed to aid the cause or even invite immigration. The session of the legislature to which I have alluded took the initiatory step in this direction by appropriating the sum of \$6,000, to be expended each year by the direction of the American Colonization Society to assist in the work of emigration. Though the sum is not large, it is by no means to be despised on that account. But the friends of Liberia everywhere will regard the appropriation as deserving of commendation. As the result of exercise and activity is growth, so also will be the result of Liberia's effort to increase her population.

The government of Liberia engages to make known to those who may desire information respecting the country as far as possible something of the resources of the country. The government further engages to co-operate heartily and fully with the American Colonization Society in its earnest endeavors to perpetuate Liberia, so that the Negro may have a field wherein he may exhibit to the world his capacity and ability.

President, J. J. Cheeseman, who was inaugurated in January last as the Chief Executive of Liberia, is a man of varied information, of great decision of purpose, and executive force, a christian gentleman; and in the persons of Hon. G. W. Gibson, Secretary of State; Hon. H. A. Williams, Secretary of the Treasury; Hon. A. Barclay, Postmaster General, and Hon. H. W. Grimes, Attorney General, his cabinet members, he has a corps of learned advisors, men of whom the Negro race may well feel proud; and yet, Liberia has room for more true, earnest men, who are proud that they are Negroes. I am sure that such men will be welcomed to Liberia by President Cheeseman and by his administration.

AGRICULTURE.

The chief agricultural industry in Liberia is the culture of coffee, which is growing more and more in favor with the citizens of the country in general. From the best sources of information obtainable it is learned that the exportation of coffee from Liberia covers only a period of thirty-five or forty years; that in 1855 there were less than 5,000 pounds exported; in 1865 the quantity sent out of the country was 23,400 pounds; in 1875 there were more than 100,000 pounds exported; in 1885 the quantity exported had increased to more than 800,000 pounds; and in the present year, 1892, there will have been exported more than 1,800,000 pounds.

There are at present few male citizens of Liberia who do not own and operate a coffee plantation. Old coffee farms are being pruned, improved, and enlarged, while new ones are being opened up and planted out in almost every section of the republic. Possibly more young coffee scions were put out during the months of June, July, and August of the present year than have been planted out in any three months before in the history of the country. The young men of the Republic are bestirring themselves in a commendable manner in opening up and planting out coffee farms. They are inspired by practicable object lessons furnished by the success achieved in the coffee industry by ex-President Johnson, Vice-President Coleman, Messrs. Moses Ricks, T. C. Lomax, Sol. Hill, Rev. June Moore, J. S. and Sidney Washington, Hogans, Decossey, Taylor, Col. Jones, and a host of others too numerous to mention. Each of these gentlemen gathers annually from 10,000 to 25,000 pounds of coffee from his own farm. This coffee finds ready market in Monrovia at from 18 to 20 cents per pound. Now, when it is ascertained that the culture, gathering, cleaning, and placing this coffee on the market costs less than six cents per pound, it will readily be seen what Rev. June Moore, who went to Liberia in 1872, is doing, or what he has been doing to enable him to gather from 20,000 to 30,000 pounds of coffee a year.

There is no good reason why there should not be in the next few years 50,000,000 pounds of coffee exported from Liberia annually. The country seems most admirably adapted to its growth and culture; and now that the young men of intelligence are awakened to the coffee industry, its success is assured. Wild coffee trees are found in the forests from the seashore to the sections of country where the mountainous or hilly lands descend into the grassy plains hundreds of miles interiorwards.

While coffee culture is the principal agricultural industry of the Liberian farmer it is by no means the only one. Rice, ginger, and cocoa are also cultivated in the country, to say nothing of the long list of vegetables and fruits which are produced in abundance. Doubtless the culture of cotton could be made a remunerative industry in Liberia. But the cultivation of cotton will require the horse and plow, also the cotton gin. These will come as the number of *men* in the country increases.

SCHOOLS IN LIBERIA.

Liberians do not claim for their system of free public schools perfection, but frequently and publicly express their dissatisfaction with the inadequacy of the school facilities, and also with the inefficiency of many of those who teach in the public schools. Consequently the authorities of the Republic, with the co-operation and assistance of the active, intelligent citizens throughout the country, are beginning to awaken to the importance of bettering the educational facilities, and are bestirring themselves to improve the condition of the schools.

There seems to be great need of well-qualified instructors for the public schools, of which fact it is gratifying to know that the authorities are by no means insensible, as is most clearly evinced by the strenuous endeavors which are being made to place the college again on a firm basis, and annex thereto a normal department for the instruction and preparation of teachers for the public schools.

It is to be sadly regretted that there exists a rupture between the trustees of the college who reside in the United States and those who live in Liberia; and it is, therefore, to be most earnestly hoped that any friction which at present exists and prevents the boards of trustees from working concurrently and harmoniously may soon be removed.

However, Liberians seem fully alive to the realization of the fact that if the Republic is to enjoy the benefits and blessings of wise and judicious laws equitably administered, the end must be attained by placing at the head of the various departments of the different institutions men of ability, learning, and information. The fact becomes more and more patent to every thoughtful Liberian that the Republic needs more men—men of soul, of purpose, and determination, men of sterling worth and education. If the Republic is to enjoy the advantage of the presence of such men, Liberians believe they are to be largely the products of the institutions of the country; hence the determined effort to resuscitate, operate, and sustain the college with or without foreign aid.

With this commendable end in view provision has been made by legislative enactment for the maintenance of the college; Rev. G. W. Gibson, the worthy rector of Trinity P. E. Church, and also the efficient Secretary of State of Liberia, is President of the college; Arthur Barclay, Esq., a leading attorney at law and practitioner in the different courts of the State, also Mayor of the city of Monrovia and Postmaster General of the Republic, is professor of languages and mathematics; Mr. H. D. Brown, chief clerk of the Senate, is professor of history, sciences, and English literature; Mr. D. F. Ware, a commissioned officer of the military of the country and chief clerk of the House of Representatives, is principal of the primary or preparatory department; Mr. G. W. Rose is instructor in vocal music in the different departments of the college.

Thus the imperative need of more men of scholarly attainments in Liberia is apparent at a glance when the number

Montserado County—continued.

District.	Free.	P. E.	M. E.	Presby.	Bapt.	Luth.	A. C. S.	Priv.
Vaunswah.....	1							
Congo Town.....	1							
Clay-Ashland.....	1	1		1			1	
Louisiana.....	2							
Millsburgh.....	1							
Arthington.....	1							
Crozerville.....	2							
Careysburg.....	2							
Robertsport.....	1	1			1			1
Marshall.....	1							
Barnersville.....	1							
Dixville.....	1							
Johnsville.....				1				
Grassdale.....				1				
Mount Olive.....			1					
Muhlenburg.....						1		
Zodakie.....					1			
Gardenville.....		1						

Grand Bassa County.

Upper Buchanan.....	1	1						
Centre Buchanan.....	1							
Lower Buchanan.....	1							
Edina.....	1							
Bexlay.....	1							
Kingsville.....	1							
Hartsford.....	2							
Fortsville.....	1	1						
Farmington.....	1							
Paynesberry.....	1							
Orange Grove.....	1							
Bulah.....		1						

Sinoe County.

Greenville.....	2	1						
Farmersville.....	1							
Poe River.....	1							
Lexington.....	1							
Louisiana.....	1							
Bluntsville.....	1							
Ashmond.....	1							
Wanah.....				1				
At different stations.....			3					

Maryland County.

There are four public or government schools in Maryland County, and forty-three mission schools. Of the latter, seventeen mission stations are conducted by or are under the auspices of the M. E. Church, and are known as Bishop Taylor's Missions. Twenty-six mission schools in said county are supported by and are under the auspices of P. E. Church. There are in Liberia, therefore, in addition to the college, fifty free public schools supported by the government ; thirty-six maintained by the Protestant Episcopal Church ; twenty-three operated by the Methodist Episcopal Church ; five sustained by the Presbyterian Church ; three by private subscriptions ; one each by the Baptists of Liberia and the colored Baptists of the United States ; one by the Lutheran Church, and one by the American Colonization Society ;—making a total of one hundred and twenty-one schools operated in the country exclusive of the college and its annex for females.

I visited a number of these schools ; the smallest number of pupils I saw present in any of the schools I visited was fifteen ; the largest number was one hundred and fifty. The largest number of teachers I saw in any one of the same schools was three.

DOES THE SYSTEM OF APPRENTICESHIP IN LIBERIA SAVOR
OF SLAVERY ?

The question is sometimes asked, does slavery exist in Liberia ? In the early days of Liberia's history men went there who had been nearly crushed by the iron heel of slavery. They had been scourged by the lash and had paid with their blood for any evidence that they were possessed of manhood. These men have published to the world that they sought in Liberia an asylum from this deep degradation. All the latent aspirations for the enjoyment of a true manhood, all the longings for home and for association with free people of their own race found expression when they realized that they were actually on African soil. They eagerly, it would seem,

sought out native youths whom they could receive into their families and train in the habits of civilization. These youths would constantly run off, and others would be secured in their places.

Why did they run off, do you ask? Poor creatures, they were ill-treated, is your mental reply! But no, this was not the case. Native Africans had been encouraged by the foreign slave-dealer to kidnap and sell their fellows. They had learned to consider their fellow-man as property, and to estimate him according to a market value. The exportation of slaves from Africa had received a check, so they considered this a splendid opportunity to revive the trade with these "quedeas." *

Finding that the settlers made them no offer of money for these youths their parents and others would decoy them off in the hope that to get them back again the settlers would offer to buy them. When this custom, growing out of their cupidity, became known it appears that some of the Liberians would make the parents a "dash"—present—in order to satisfy them. These native children are to this day being thus received into christian families where they are trained to habits of civilization. To say that none of these children are mistreated would be to say that all Liberians are citizens such as Bellamy dreamed of. But in the free-public, private, and mission schools throughout the country, they are taught side by side with the children of the family, or by the fireside at night when their guardians do not send them to school.

There were, it appears, native children living in the families of the colonists at the time of the memorable battle of December 1st, 1822. From the earliest days of Liberia's colonial history the interest of the people in their native, heathen brethren surrounding them has been that of the missionary. Lott Carey, Elijah Johnson, and others served as missionaries to the heathen.

On the assumption of independence the Liberian legislature passed an apprentice law, years ago, requiring appren-

* A general term used by the natives to designate civilized people.

tices to be taught some useful trade or craft, and to be furnished with the necessary tools or implements of their trade, or an equivalent.

Since the civil war in the United States emigrants to Liberia have engaged in agricultural pursuits more extensively than did their brethren who preceded them, hence their desire to secure permanent hands. Native men from the interior came in formerly as they do now every year to secure job work on the farms, but they returned home in a few months. Permanent labor on the farm being an indispensable requisite, and such being desired by those whose all is wrapped up in their farms, native lads are sought because their services can be secured for a longer period than that for which the men will engage to work. Often the lads are engaged or secured for a term of years. Most people securing these boys have them bound or indentured until they attain their majority; others do not go to the expense. But the fact is that the one class is no more secure in the possession of their native servants than the other, for when these boys determine to run off, they do so. Coming from regions fifty or a hundred miles off they are secure from being overtaken. To your inquiry how can they return such a distance to their homes, I reply, easily enough. To understand it you must see for yourself the situation of affairs. I have remarked that laborers came in annually to secure work on the Liberian farms. Besides these there is a constant going and coming of single native travelers or bands of them spying out the land. The boys, anxious to return home, are all the while on the alert, and succeed in meeting with men from their native towns or neighborhoods.

In the families of the Liberian farmers native boys are brought up to manual labor, and become efficient farmers; the girls are taught housework. A small proportion of these young people are taught to read and write, and some of them become useful and prominent citizens of the State. If these youths run off before they reach their majority they are free

to do so. If they remain with their guardians until they are grown they become free.

The idea that slavery exists in Liberia is absurd. If the people of that country desired to enslave their benighted brethren they would have—first, to import blood-hounds; second, to provide trained slave-catchers; third, to manufacture chains, fetters, and handcuffs; fourth, to maintain a large armed police force; and fifth, to build more prisons. The public mind there seems averse to slavery and all of its connections.

It is estimated that there are at least 3,000 native youths in the homes and under the care of Liberians. The average length of time which these youths remain with these families is seven years, after which they go out from Christian communities into their heathen homes again. They carry with them no slavish fear, no new ideas of slavery learned in Christian communities, but ideas of freedom and habits of civilized labor. Many do not return to their native homes; others return to visit father and mother, and often parents and children settle down on a piece of land and cultivate little farms of their own. All of the native tribes within many miles of civilized settlements know the value of coffee, and are gradually turning their efforts to its culture.

It is related in Liberia that Ashmun took a company of men in 1823 and destroyed a slave factory at Little Cape mount. The news soon reached King Boatswain's country, and from that day it became known to all the tribes that Liberia was a foe to slavery.

“I ask no monument tall and high
To arrest the gaze of the passer by.
All that my longing spirit craves
Is, bury me not in a land of slaves.”

I submit herewith, as relating to the subject-matter of this report, a communication from the Hon. G. W. Gibson, Secretary of State for Liberia, and one from Messrs. Benjamin Anderson & Son, surveyors.

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA,
MONROVIA, *Aug. 10, 1892.*

SIR : Referring to our interview a few days ago touching the subject of the emigration of colored people from the United States to this country in connection with the American Colonization Society, I have the honor to say that the views of said Society, as set forth by you, have had the careful attention of the government.

The President appreciates very highly the new departure about to be taken by the Society in this matter, and is prepared to co-operate most heartily with that body in carrying out the same.

The idea of having the companies of immigrants to this country larger and better cared for is very important. If possible, they should come out in numbers ranging from 150 to 400 and 500, preparations having been made beforehand for their accommodation. The government engages to have sufficient quantities of good land laid off into town sites and farming districts in the several counties for their occupation. It is also very desirable that every such company be attended with at least one physician, to reside in the same place with the settlers, so as to afford them efficient medical service.

Touching the query as to whether or not it be advisable to suspend emigration for the next two years, I have to say, the government does not favor any interruption of the influx of immigrants, except so far as may be necessary while procuring funds and conveniences for transporting them in greater numbers.

Alluding to the inquiry relative to the toleration of slavery by the Republic, I beg to say that the unequivocal language of our Constitution forbidding the nefarious traffic, and the many valuable lives of the best citizens of the State, to say nothing of the large proportion of the public revenues that have been sacrificed from time to time to destroy this evil, which had been fostered by foreign traders for many years before the establishment of the Republic, furnish a reply to all save the most inveterate slanderers of our race.

Other matters referred to in our conference relative to the importance of preparing statistical reports and general information of the country for circulation among those who are looking forward to Africa as their future home, will have due attention. Measures are already on foot pointing to this end.

I take this occasion, Mr. Agent, to express the high appreciation on the part of the government and people of Liberia, of the unabated interest manifested by the American Colonization Society in the welfare of this State, and beg to assure you that no efforts will be spared on our part to aid in the promotion of an enterprise so intimately connected with our national growth.

Accept, sir, assurance of very high consideration, while I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. W. GIBSON,
Secretary of State.

Hon. E. E. SMITH,
Agent A. C. Society, *Monrovia.*

MONROVIA, *June 17, 1892.*

To Hon. EZEKIEL E. SMITH,
Agent American Colonization Society in Liberia.

SIR: Under the direction of your chief manager, Mr. Harrison W. Witherspoon, for the immigrants now settled in Johnsonville, we have surveyed 685 acres of land, 380 for the immigrants and 305 acres for the natives—Kroo people principally—whose land, on account of their previous occupation, is unavoidably mixed up with the immigrants' allotments.

The settlement of Johnsonville is near one of the southeast forks or branches of the Montserado river. This locality is much nearer the seaboard and Monrovia than many places where immigrants have been settled, as it was judged that it would better consult the interest and welfare of the immigrant to have him within reach of a seaport town, where he can easily procure necessaries for the comfort of his family, than to place

him too far in the interior, where he would have to undergo many inconveniences. Besides the want of good roads, bridges, burden-carrying animals, etc., is another reason, and a strong one, for not removing the immigrant too far from the precincts of help, assistance, and civilization.

The soil of Johnsonville itself is similar to that of the cape, being a heavy, pebbly soil of the debris of granite and oxide of iron, and in other places of a dark, heavy loam of sand and clay; this is our strong coffee soil. The land is at present covered with a heavy shrubbery of four or five years' growth, except where the rice and cassada farms have been made.

The indiscriminate and vagrant habit of farming practiced by our natives has stripped many acres of land in this neighborhood of large forest trees. Their custom is to remove annually their crop farms from one place to another, and to slaughter forest after forest as they go; and as they always set fire to or burn their farms to clear them off, the devastation of valuable wood may be guessed. This should be prohibited by law. There is but one thing that saves a noble forest, and that is the deep swamps and the wide, winding, and long creeks which are to be found in some sections of our country. In such a situation farming is out of the question, and the trees are preserved.

But heavy timber can also be procured on the mountain ridges, and most any kind of lumber, such as black gum, cherry, brimstone, walnut, greasy peach, burr wood, etc., etc., can be had near the creeks and swamps.

Our Kroo people, having perceived the goodness of these lands, secured themselves as well as they could by squatting in a very desultory manner here and there, and this gave us a great deal of trouble in the survey, since they had to be changed about in many cases, so as to make their lands conform to the lines of the survey. Pains were taken, however, to do them the amplest justice. The place never having been occupied or surveyed in a regular manner, the Kroo people had spread themselves over much more space than was pre-

scribed in their deeds, and they greatly disrelished being made to dwell cheek by jowl with their civilized brethren. But they had no other alternative. To stay with us and take the land as science and right directed was plainly for their good for all time, while to go back to their own country would be an evil forever; so, after sulking and grumbling, they settled down and began to realize the benefits and advantages of a juxtaposition with people so much more civilized than themselves; and they have grown to be as tenacious of their holdings as any civilized man. This was a necessary example, and as wholesome as it was necessary. It has been a check upon that licentious and wild desire to occupy and destroy lands, and has served to convince them that a civilized man will make twenty-five acres of land far more productive than they, after their fashion, can make 500 acres.

Nothing has happened more expedient and timely than this mixture of Kroos and our immigrants. Our Kroo people see, know, and feel that they must either go into the grooves of our civilization or go back to their own country; they have chosen to stay with us.

As we have before mentioned, there is every variety of timber, more fit, however, for the manufacture of furniture than to be used for house building. Nothing would be better than a portable saw mill easily movable from one section of woodland to another. No country is better watered. There is hardly a square half mile that is not traversed or intersected by streams of the purest water. This region of country is varied by prairies of wild rice, succeeded by heavy timbered ridges and table lands, and then come again the ever-recurring prairies. This kind of landscape extends from the head of the Montserado River to Grand Bassa County, where it ends in the bolder and more rugged formation of the Finley Mountains.

While surveying the lands for the immigrants my stakers reported the north 79° east line, which we were then running, to be in the neighborhood of the former party of

immigrants, and this made us anxious lest we should run in on them. I therefore visited these immigrants and learned that their surveyor, Captain George, had only run out the middle line or main road, but had not given their back corners. I therefore ordered the stakers to stop our lines and to double on our initial points. It has been the habit to survey immigrant allotments too narrow for the length, making them five-eighths of a mile long and only two-eighths of a mile wide. In early days this might have been necessary in order to keep them close together for mutual protection ; but as the same difficulties and dangers do not now exist where we are locating the immigrants, I have thought it better to widen the lands and shorten their lengths, and to especially set out their four corners. By the former method many persons farming in the rear of their front corners could scarcely tell whether they were on their own lands or on their neighbor's. This uncertainty has been obviated by our giving the lands greater width and shorter depth, and setting out fully their four corners, significantly marked by soap-sticks, an evergreen plant of great vitality and endurance, and universally used in this country for land marking.

Surveying lands in equatorial Africa is not like surveying lands in the United States (the temperate portion, I mean), where you can see for miles around you. Here every foot of way and line of sight is won and cleared by hard hewing and cutting. There is not a yard but what is an impassable thicket to the eyesight every way you may turn. The land we have surveyed has for many years been cleared of the heavy forest and then farmed over and over again, yet the four or five years thereafter, in which it has lain fallow, have covered it with an obstructive thicket of vegetation. Such surveys cost, therefore, more time and labor than surveys of land in the United States.

The present survey began on April 28th and ended May 28th. The immigrants have all been furnished with their certificates of boundary and corners, twenty-five acres for

families and ten acres for single individuals. A rule has been exercised in giving children near their majority their single apportionment of ten acres each. This was the old rule, and we have revived it in order to encourage and incite the immigration of families by enlarging their homesteads as much as possible. Nothing remains now but for the immigrant to make good his claim by deed, which only costs \$1.50—one dollar to have it made out by the register of public lands, and fifty cents to have it registered in the public records—so in case it gets destroyed by any accident it can be renewed again. Four copies have been made of the plottings of the survey. One for yourself, one for transmission to the Society, one for the use of the sub-agent, Witherspoon, and one for the Government in the State Department.

The next party of immigrants, if located here, will have to be placed further out, course nearly dead east by north, *i. e.*, N. 80° east, but in such vicinity as to give the touching hand to their neighbors. It is thought prudent not to crowd them too close together, but to give them ample room, so that they may be helpful, assisting, and conveniently at hand to each other for all emergencies. The planting of far-off and isolated settlements of immigrants can not be recommended.

There is a great cry from various settlements for immigrants, but even the welfare of these settlements is not to be enhanced at the expense, comfort, convenience, and the lives of the immigrants themselves. There are many places craving immigrants who have neither good roads, bridges, nor any other facilities to even bring the immigrants to them, much less means to support them and contribute to their subsistence and comfort after they get there. It is, therefore, recommended to consult entirely the comfort, convenience, and safety of the immigrant as prime factors to be considered in any case. If any settlement is so importunate for the coming of immigrants among them it should be able to guarantee to your satisfaction the rational requirements of the immigrants' welfare.

It was the endeavor in this survey to put the immigrant on his land as quick as possible.

It is greatly to be desired that the Government itself shall take a more active part in the survey of public lands for immigrants. It would be well if, upon being advised of the coming of immigrants, certain tracts of land should be assigned and laid out before their arrival, so as to enable them to enter on their possessions immediately after their arrival. Mr. Witherspoon, in view of thus facilitating the entry of immigrants on their lands, recommends this plan; and, in view of future operations, has selected a site in every way suitable for the purpose, a place finely watered and heavily timbered.

The last party of immigrants have cause to congratulate themselves on their lands having been already cleared for them; and as Mr. Witherspoon is a lumber merchant himself, he will for a very reasonable consideration furnish them material to build their cottages.

Yours, respectfully,

BENJ. ANDERSON & SON,
Surveyors, Montserado County.

Receipts and Disbursements of the Treasury Department of Liberia for the quarter ended June 30, 1892.

RECEIPTS.	DISBURSEMENTS.
Montserrat Co..... \$19,078.19	Montserrat Co..... \$19,154.88
Grand Bassa Co..... 22,538.30	Grand Bassa Co..... 19,798.56
Sinoe Co..... 5,036.92	Sinoe Co..... 4,624.14
Maryland Co..... 4,440.76	Maryland Co..... 2,529.28
<hr/>	<hr/>
\$51,094.17	\$46,106.86

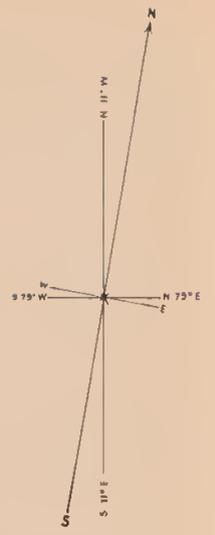
Being an excess of receipts over the June quarter last year of \$10,285.91, an excess of disbursements over the June quarter last year of \$8,149.01, and an excess of receipts over disbursements for the quarter ending June 30, 1892, of \$4,987.31.

North 79° East. Base Line = 57½ CHAINS = 57½ 80 MILE

North 11° W. 20 CHAINS.	4 th R N° 7 10 A 5 CHAINS	4 th R N° 6 10 A 5 CHAINS	4 th R N° 5 10 A 5 CHAINS	FOURTH RANGE N° 4 25 ACRES 12½ CHAINS	FOURTH RANGE N° 3. 25 ACRES 12½ CHAINS	4 th R N° 2. 10 A 5 CHAINS	FOURTH RANGE N° 1. 25 ACRES 12½ CHAINS	
	<i>Hester Hopphine</i>	<i>Mary Swinton</i>	<i>Aggie Swinton</i>	<i>William Swinton</i>	<i>Engema Walker</i>	<i>Thos. Blasingsgane</i>	<i>J. Blasingsgane</i>	
	N° 4. THIRD RANGE				N° 3. THIRD RANGE		N° 2. THIRD RANGE	
	<i>Gay Doquaee alias Lons Moore</i> (a native chief) 50 ACRES				<i>A.B. Parker</i> 25 ACRES		<i>Chas Rice</i> 25 ACRES	
25 CHAINS WIDE				12½ CHAINS		15 CHAINS		

PLAT
OF
LANDS
LOCATED IN THE SETTLEMENT
OF
BOHNSONVILLE
ON THE NORTH EAST BANKS
OF THE
MESURRADO RIVER
COUNTY
OF
MONTERRADO

Scale: 10 Chains = 1/10 of a foot.



Base Line North 79° East 33 1/2 W. Base Line = 1 1/4 Miles, or 107 1/2 CHAINS.

North 11° W. 20 CHAINS.	N° 6 5 CHAINS	N° 4 5 CHAINS	N° 3 12½ CHAINS	N° 2. 7½ CHAINS	N° 1 REVERSED 15 CHAINS	N° 1 10 CHAINS	N° 2 10 A 5 CHAINS	N° 3 10 A 5 CHAINS	N° 4 10 A 5 CHAINS	N° 5 12½ CHAINS	N° 6 15 CHAINS	N° 7 12½ CHAINS	N° 8 12½ CHAINS	N° 9 15 CHAINS	N° 10 5 CHAINS	
	<i>Maria Wallis</i>	<i>Charles Wallis</i>	<i>William Smith</i>	<i>Thos. Brown</i>	<i>Jun Brown</i>	<i>Marret Rivers</i>	<i>John Rivers</i>	<i>Lula Rivers</i>	<i>India Rivers</i>	<i>Alex. Field</i>	<i>Willie Redhead</i>	<i>Spizaa Redhead</i>	<i>Raymond Jenkins</i>	<i>Walter Jenkins</i>	<i>Elizabeth Jenkins</i>	
	N° 6 REVERSED		N° 3 REVERSED		N° 2	N° 1 REVERSED	N° 1	N° 2	N° 3	N° 4	N° 5.	N° 6		N° 7		
	FIRST RANGE		FIRST RANGE		15 A 10 CHAINS	FIRST RANGE	FIRST RANGE	11 A 10 CHAINS	11 A 10 CHAINS	11 A 10 CHAINS	11 A 10 CHAINS	FIRST RANGE		FIRST RANGE		
<i>William Warr</i> 30 ACRES		<i>William Warr</i> 30 ACRES		<i>St. M. Lewis</i> 15 CHAINS	<i>Jun Brown</i> 30 ACRES	<i>David Rivers</i> 25 ACRES	<i>Page Rivers</i> 12½ CHAINS	<i>Ed. Rivers</i> 15 CHAINS	<i>Spencer Day</i> 15 CHAINS	<i>Robert Lindorf</i> 15 CHAINS	<i>Thos Brown</i> 30 ACRES		<i>Thos Cronsoe</i> 30 ACRES			
12 CHAINS		12 CHAINS		15 CHAINS		12½ CHAINS		15 CHAINS		15 CHAINS		15 CHAINS		15 CHAINS		

South 79° West 81½ CHAINS = 13/160 MILES

← 20 MILES TO MONROVIA.

Roll of Emigrants.

Roll of emigrants for Johnsonville, Liberia, by bark "Liberia," from New York, March 10, 1892.

Names.	Ages.	Occupation.	Church.
1. David Rivers	47	Farmer	Methodist.
2. Amanda Rivers	36	.....	Methodist.
3. Pagie Rivers.....	15	.....	.....
4. Harriet Rivers	65	.....	Baptist.
5. Julia Rivers.....	26	.....	Baptist.
6. Lulu Rivers	18	.....	Baptist.
7. Indie Rivers	15	.....	Baptist.
8. Alexander Redfield	39	Farmer	Baptist.
9. Ara Ann Redfield ..	32	.....	Baptist.
10. Eliza Redfield.....	18	.....	.....
11. Willde Redfield	17	.....	.....
12. Preston Redfield ...	7	.....	.....
13. Weston Humphries	58	Farmer	Methodist.
14. Raymond Jenkins ..	37	Farmer	Baptist.
15. Larcena Jenkins ...	37	.....	Baptist.
16. Mattie Jenkins	12	.....	Baptist.
17. Willie Jenkins	10	.....	.....
18. Addie Jenkins	8	.....	.....
19. Arena Jenkins	6	.....	.....
20. Oliver Jenkins	4	.....	.....
21. Bradie Jenkins.....	8 mos.	.....	.....
22. Meddie Jenkins.....	15	.....	.....
23. A. B. Parker.....	43	Farmer	Baptist.
24. Calla Parker.....	26	.....	Baptist.
25. Anna Parker	13	.....	Baptist.
26. John Glassengen ...	40	Farmer	Baptist.
27. Martha Glassengen..	37	.....	Baptist.
28. Thomas Glassengen	15	.....	Baptist.
29. Matt'w Glassengen	7	.....	.....
30. Beckie Glassengen..	4	.....	.....
31. Esther Glassengen..	2	.....	.....
32. Eugenie Walker.....	57	.....	Baptist.
33. Alice Walker.....	10	.....	.....
34. Robert Lindsey	39	Preacher and farmer.	Baptist.
35. Charles Rice.....	50	Farmer	Baptist.
36. Dovie Rice	48	.....	Baptist.
37. Edward Williams ..	26	Farmer	Methodist.
38. William Swinton..	42	Farmer	Baptist.
39. Cora Swinton.....	39	.....	Baptist.
40. Aggie Swinton.....	17	.....	.....
41. Mary Swinton	15	.....	.....
42. Evans Swinton	14	.....	.....
43. Wm. Swinton, Jr...	12	.....	.....
44. Ma tie Swinton.....	8	.....	.....
45. Columbus Swinton	6	.....	.....
46. Goldrie Swinton ...	2	.....	.....
47. ——— Swinton	7 mos.	.....	.....
48. William Smith	66	.....	Baptist.
49. Rosalie Smith.....	52	.....	Baptist.
50. Spencer Day.....	(no particulars.)	.....	.....

NOTE.—The foregoing-named persons make a total of 16,399 settled in Liberia by the American Colonization Society.

DIRECT STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH AFRICA.

The most important subject to be considered by the American Colonization Society at the present time, in my judgment, is the establishing direct steam communication with the west coast of Africa, running regularly and adapted for carrying first-class and steerage passengers and transportation of a considerable cargo.

Liberia, patterned in its organization after the form of government of the United States, has existed creditably as an independent Republic for forty-five years. It is closer to us in sympathy than any other nation of the earth. Is it not, therefore, good policy that the United States get into closer and more intimate and direct communication with her? African exports are large, and her imports would increase year by year. Of these Great Britain, Germany, and France have nearly all, though, with direct means of carrying, her trade would naturally flow in this direction. How can such communication be established? Could interest and capital be obtained in Liberia, with aid of the Societies here and commercial men in this country, to establish a line of one or more steamers to sail under the Liberian flag?

If so, the problem is solved, and Liberia would become better known and recognized by all nations. The commercial advantages to both countries would be large. The Island of Madeira, the Canaries, and the Cape de Verdes would be on the route. Madeira, the Paradise of Earth, with a temperature varying from 64 to 78 degrees, and now only reached by the way of England, would become a resort, and her orange groves, vineyards, and gardens of flowers would be alive with sufferers from lung diseases, for whom no climate is so improving. Liberia would then be nearer to the colored race here, who would soon learn that no place there is too high for his reach, and all are equal. England, Germany, France, Spain, and other nations have long been fixing their settlements in Africa. Liberia has great opportunities of expansion toward the interior, possessing now a

long seacoast. Her exports and imports would be largely increased, emigration to it would become attractive, and the Republic be greatly strengthened by kindly and frequent intercourse with this greater free nation

A. W. RUSSELL,
Pay Director, U. S. N.

Mr. Laird originated the English-African Steamship Company. This was a venturesome undertaking, and proved in the beginning to be rather uphill work. All who had concerned themselves in such undertakings had been disappointed. The greatest commercial authorities of those times informed the world that African trade was not only very limited, but not likely to increase. They assigned as a reason for their opinion that a savage people living in a climate where clothing was unnecessary, and where food could be procured with little or no exertion, would not trouble themselves to procure imported articles which they did not absolutely require. It was under these circumstances that Mr. M'Gregor Laird and his sturdy co-workers began their enterprise of establishing the African Steamship Company. Not only were they not allured by any glittering visions before them, but they were depressed by the gloomy results of past efforts behind them. The darkness before and the gloom behind was enough to damp the ardour of any but the most intrepid spirits. But they ventured. They saw what others could not see, and heard what others could not hear. They read over the portals of that long-abused and dreaded region words of encouragement and hope. In the year 1852 the African Steamship Company was organized, and received its Royal charter, under which it performed a monthly mail and passenger service to West Africa, the Government granting an annual subsidy of £30,000. It has continued an unbroken service ever since, and year after year has added numerous fine vessels to its fleet. In 1891 it amalgamated with the Liverpool firm of Elder, Dempster & Co., and at the present they have a combined fleet of

fifty-three vessels. The African Steamship Company, in addition to maintaining a regular service of mail, passenger, and cargo steamers to West Africa, including the Oil rivers, has also explored various waterways, and their ocean-going steamers now enter magnificent rivers and streams, and charts of the places made by the commanders of the companies have been accepted by the Admiralty. Besides this geographical and commercial work, the companies have done an important educational work. They have trained thousands of Kroomen in the use of the English language and practical seamanship and engineering. The motto and device adopted by the company in the initiation of the enterprise was modest but encouraging. The motto was "*Spero meliora*"—"I hope for better things." The device was commerce, drawing aside a curtain and displaying a few African fruits, with Africa on bended knee imploring patronage. The motto and device are no longer appropriate, considering fifty-three steamers are regularly engaged in transportation of goods and produce between the two countries. Africa now gives more than a few melons and potatoes—and the better things hoped for have been more than realized.—*Liverpool Journal.*

CLIMATE AND HEALTH IN LIBERIA.

Before I went to Africa I was thoroughly imbued with the widespread, erroneous idea that the coast of this continent was a region of lowland, rather marshy, covered with dense vegetation and full of deadly miasmas; that therefore but few blacks and fewer white men could live there with safety. The life insurance people declined to risk their money on the heads of those who should venture to live on shore. The patent medicine men sent us lots of nostrums, highly recommended as infallible against the African fevers. No one seemed to have ever heard of any white man visiting that coast except at the peril of his life, and every one had long

stories to tell of the missionaries who had either died or returned home with broken constitutions. As newspapers chronicle the sensational and extraordinary but leave the ordinary routine for the bulletins of the Census Bureau, so human memory seems to be impressed only by the dreadful trials of African explorers and to forget the ordinary daily works, duties, and pleasures.

When I finally sailed along that coast from Sierra Leone to Cape Town ; when I considered its glorious sunshine, its bold hillsides and cliffs, the steady sea-breezes, and its sparse vegetation, I soon discovered that there were really only very few spots where the white man could not live as well as the black. A large portion of the United States is intrinsically as unhealthy as any part of the African coast. One suffers as many chances of sickness in going from New England into Michigan or Louisiana as he does in going to Liberia. Even those who come to Washington complain of that as a malarial climate. The pessimist may describe the whole of our Atlantic sea-board, from New Jersey to Alabama, as a lowland infested with malaria and typhoid diseases, liable to very hot, sultry, and enervating weather throughout the spring and summer, and to special days of such weather in the fall and winter, while back of this lowland lies the Appalachian mountain range in which a vigorous, healthy climate is found. Precisely the same description would apply to the west coast of Africa, and for that matter to very many other continents and large islands. A climate or a region is not in and of itself unhealthy ; human beings are so constituted that out of any community a respectable percentage can always be found of such as easily adapt themselves to a given climate, and a still larger percentage found of those who have sufficient intelligence to know how to ward off injurious influences, whether climatic or otherwise.

The climate of any locality depends, strictly speaking, upon the temperature and moisture of the air and the

amount of wind, sunshine, cloud, and rain. The variations in these meteorological conditions, in so far as they bring discomfort, can be mitigated by proper houses, clothing, and in cold climates fire, but in hot climates shade ; together with these, however, must go a special adaptation of our food and exercise. The whole constitutes a system of hygiene, whose rules, if carefully followed, will carry us safely through any climate and any exposure to the ordinary germs of disease. It is these latter germs that are the source of ninety-nine per cent. of the diseases that we so much dread, whether in Africa, in Europe, Asia, or America. It is by destroying these germs that the most terrible epidemics are kept out of the country, as in the recent combat of the New York quarantine authorities with the Asiatic cholera or in the combat of the Department of Agriculture with epidemic pleuropneumonia. By the neglect to combat these disease-germs human beings have, in their ignorance, brought it about that one part of the world is more sickly than another. In the present state of our knowledge of hygiene it is perfectly possible for any intelligent white man to live in Liberia. The rules that he, and the colored man as well, must observe in order to retain perfect health and vigor, may, I believe, be summed up in the following :

1. As correctives to the climate, if he comes there from a cooler and dryer climate and finds himself perspiring freely, he must wear considerable thickness of flannel or cotton clothing, avoid sleeping in a draught, and wash thoroughly ; we thus remove the chance of neuralgic troubles.

2. In most cases we need the addition of a slight quantity of alkali, such as magnesia or lithia, to our food or drink in order to keep the skin and perspiration in its normal alkaline condition.

3. Direct exposure to the sun in the middle of the day should, at first, be carefully guarded against in order to prevent inflammation of the skin and spinal or cerebral meningitis, which latter is an inflammation of the lining

membrane that separates the bony parts of the skull or spine from the nerves and brain matter within. Probably the white man, with his thin skull and hair, will always find it necessary to wear some form of turban or cork helmet or equivalent protection for the brain, but with these he may safely work at midday under the fiercest sun, as I and many others have done.

4. The tendency to lassitude must be counteracted by a determined systematic bodily activity; to sit still, or lie down, or swing in the hammock all day induces a sluggish circulation of the blood and a mental laziness that is contrary to all the traditions and necessities of the Anglo-Saxon race; muscular activity carries with it mental activity, good digestion, and a quiet frame of mind; in this condition the body is best able to overcome quickly such germs of disease as may attack it.

5. With regard to these disease germs themselves it may be said that they are destroyed both by heat and by extreme dryness. They themselves float in the air we breathe, or in the water we drink, or stick to the outside of the fruits that we eat. Therefore, in order to avoid injury from them, we boil our water, cook our food, pare the fruit, and thoroughly clean the exterior of whatever we put into our mouths; in extreme cases we wash the hands, the lips, and the food and the drinking utensils in a dilute germicide; we put our beds as high above the ground as possible, with a well-washed, clean mosquito bar over the bed; we have a fire, if only for a few minutes, in the room in order to dry the walls and kill off the fungi and germs that rest upon them. All these, however, are the same rules that should be practiced by us in America. They are less necessary in our dry climate than they are in the moist regions of Europe, India, and Africa, but they are really essential to perfect health all over the world.

6. If at any time your appetite fails and you think you need a stimulant, avoid the alcoholic drinks; it is a well-

established fact that alcohol is not eliminated from the system except through the skin, where it interferes with the normal processes of perspiration ; this does comparatively little harm in cool and dry climates, but in moist climates where perspiration is heavy and evaporation slow the alcoholic drinks are certainly pernicious. The sanitary regulations of the British army and navy are emphatic on this point, and substitute the best of lime juice for the former ration of rum. Of course every man craves the latter, from the Anglo-Saxon officer down to the blackest Krooman, and if it were possible to give each one a teaspoonful it might be beneficial, but as no one cares to take it under such restrictions, it is found best to leave it out altogether. The shaddock, the lime, the pineapple, the cashew, the mango, and some other fruits offer a juice and flavor that abundantly satisfy the appetite of a healthy man in the tropics, and if he is in such a condition that these do not meet his needs it is probable that a dose of quinine, or of mandingo, or of Indian cholagogue is the proper prescription.

7. Ignorant and willful abuse of the most ordinary rules of good health has been the main source of sickness and disease not only on the part of sailors, soldiers, and natives, but frequently, I am sorry to say, on the part of the missionaries themselves, who have often gone into these new lands with the best of intentions and the kindest of hearts, but the most imperfect comprehension of their duties to themselves and the community. Cases have come under my notice in which men and women, stricken down with fever after drinking foul water, have obstinately refused the simplest medical treatment, saying : " No ; if it is the Lord's will I shall get well, and if not, I shall die. He has stricken me with this disease and I will rest my case in his hands." What a perversion of that noble religion which teaches us that He careth for us ! If the missionary is to do good to the natives through his religion, his schools, his energy,

his medicine, and general intelligence, how important it is that he should practice what he preaches.

I must conclude by affirming that those who enjoy fair health in the hot weather of the United States can, with impunity, live and work on the west coast of Africa, provided, only, that they observe the rules and advice of the many medical officers and boards who have taught us the fundamental principles of hygiene.

The experience of the past three thousand years has taught us that it is the superior intelligence of the Aryan races, added to their energy, that has brought them to occupy the leading place among all the nations of the world in the matter of permanent colonization; they no sooner overran Europe, America, India, or Australia than they adapted themselves to the climate, introduced their own crops and animals and acclimatized them, and then proceeded in a steady growth that finally absorbed the remnants of the original inhabitants. I doubt not that the same process will go on in Africa, and that three thousand years hence that country will be as thickly peopled by this race as are Europe and America to-day.—*Prof. Cleveland Abbe, Weather Bureau, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, October 26, 1892.*

West Africa has, from interested motives, been represented as unhealthy for Europeans. This illusion is being rapidly dispelled by disinterested travelers. The Englishman, through unhealthy habits, may dig his own grave even in England, as so many thousands do annually; besides, were London as innocent of sanitary arrangements as Freetown, it would soon become the white man's grave in grim reality. A man unaddicted to drink and gluttony may live, and does live an enjoyable life in West Africa; he enjoys it so much that, like Emin Pasha, he refuses to be rescued.—*F. Buxton, in Fortnightly Review.*

AFRICA IN A WORLD'S CONGRESS.

“In former years Europeans used to steal Africans from Africa; now they are trying to steal Africa from the Africans.” This from Dr. Robert N. Cust.

“How could we combine to become unprovoked aggressors, to imitate, in Africa, the partition of Poland by the conquest of Morocco for France, of Tunis for Italy, of Egypt for England, and how could England and France, who have guaranteed the integrity of the Turkish Empire, turn round and wrest Egypt from the Sultan?” This from Lord Palmerston, writing to Napoleon III.

It is impossible to arrest this political and commercial drift. The only question in practical politics is, can this be regulated—dominated—by a benevolent intent? Who shall attempt it,—America who, received the stolen goods, the Africans, or Europe, who is stealing Africa?

The splendid diplomacy of holding a great council on this newly-revealed Africa is to be tried in connection with the World's Fair in July, 1893. Would that it might create sentiment that would thunder as a moral army and navy, force crowned contestants to accept it as a mighty empire, or create a concordat, not of text, but of a one-hearted master passion, which should hold the nations in leash from greed of might and greed of gain, and oblige a regenerated Europe and America to accept the task and seize the opportunity to concentrate all the accumulated experience, intelligence, and benevolence of the Christian centuries in one gigantic effort to make the noblest and loftiest experiment of the race, the creation of another “*New World.*” The twentieth century should see this experiment far toward a successful issue.

Perhaps the policy that ought to be formulated could scarcely be better outlined in part than in Mr. Cust's language: “(1) To develop the self-governing aptitudes of African nationalities either as kingdoms or republics. (2) The European powers should be just and unselfish to the

populations, which have by violence and by brute force been brought like a flock of helpless sheep under their influence. (3) The resources of the region should be developed by methods not calculated to destroy the indigenous population. (4) The introduction of legitimate commerce (exclusive of spirituous liquors and lethal arms) and the gentler virtues of education and social culture."

Of course it will be impossible to lay the foundation of a true policy without considering Africa past and present, the African at home and abroad, Africa's influence on letters and language, commerce and politics, and the influence of the outer world on Africa. What Africans have done and can do as manufacturers and tradespeople, as agriculturists, in medicine, mechanics, or the fine arts, we judge, are to find prominent place and able presentation in the proposed African Congress at Chicago, and there are some Africans who can forcibly treat these topics. Rev. James Johnson, a member of the Legislature of Lagos, and Bishop B. T. Tanner, of America, are well furnished to discuss the sociology of Africa and the Africans.

African philology is of much wider interest than the limits of Africa. Dr. Robert N. Cust has already catalogued upward of five hundred of these African languages, and if he should present a paper on the subject in general it will be the rich result of years of special study of African philology. Then our own American, Lewis Grout, the author of a Zulu grammar, a man who has devoted strength and time to the whole subject of the relative place and power of these several families of African speech, Bantu, Swahali, and all the rest, can ably discourse on the relation of these severally to the development of Africa. Others eminently qualified to discuss allied themes will surely take part.

The history and geography of Africa, ancient history as well as modern, the influence of Madagascar on southeast Africa, Egypt, and the Soudan, the progress of the modern

unveiling of the continent, are fruitful parts of the general subject, and men specially adapted and willing to treat them can be found. It is given out as probable that such officials as the Premier of Cape Colony, James Stevenson, of the African Lakes Company, Dr. Ward, of the *Independent*, and even H. M. Stanley, are to be invited or have already consented to discuss important matters of African civilization, colonization, and commerce; and that Hon. John A. Kasson, ex-United States Minister to Germany at the Berlin Conference, may write of the function and power of the Congo Free State in the redemption of Africa. Other great sub-departments of the political and social sphere will challenge the ablest thought of eminent specialists.

The department of religion in Africa is quite extensive enough to have a week to itself, for the African religions are of great varieties and marked by strong characteristics.

The ancient Egyptian religion with its "Book of the Dead;" the ancient christianity of Egypt, Abyssinia, and Nubia; the Mohammedanism of the north half of the continent; the work of the modern missions of the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches in the Dark Continent, are of foremost interest. We are given to understand that archbishops, bishops, and secretaries are among those likely to present papers on the great subject of the evangelization of Africa; while ex-governors and senators, jurists and statesmen will present various phases of Afro-American culture, opportunity, responsibility, and progress.

The Advisory Council of this, which is technically termed "an African Ethnological Congress," numbers a strong host of able men in America, Europe, and Africa. The administrator of Bechuanaland, the commissioner for Basutoland, and a large list of other important functionaries in South, West, North, and East Africa, at Zanzibar, Natal, the Gold Coast, Algeria, Tunis, Zambesia, and every other important point, are members of this Advisory

Board; De Brazza, Wissman, Schweinfurth, Du Chaillu, Carl Peters, Sir Samuel Baker, and other eminent explorers of the continent, members of the Royal Geographical Society, Capella and Ivens, Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Rome, Sultans and military men, with many foremost ministers of America and of Europe, have all pledged their patronage to this council and become members of it. It ought to arrest attention even amid the whirl of the Columbian Exposition. The anticipation is that the papers will be published hereafter, in full text, even should the twenty-five minutes or so allotted to their reading be too restricted for the entire essay.

Africa is a vast continent. Lay its western edge on our Pacific Coast and it would cover land and sea to the coast of Ireland. It has perhaps four times the population of the United States; it is the coming continent! Great opportunities are offered the Christian Church for its evangelization. Missions, and, as it now seems, missions only, can ameliorate the condition of the barbarous races of three-fourths of this vast continent. The African problem is a perplexing one, but its resolution is hopeful and assured.—*Rev. J T. Gracey, D. D., in "The Missionary Review."*

LIBERIA—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

If we make allowance for the errors and mistakes of an untrained and inexperienced people, the history of Liberia may be regarded as a demonstration of the capacity of the race for self-government. Upon the capability of individuals is reflected the highest credit. The opportunities for a rounded-out and fully-developed culture afforded by the peculiar conditions of life in the Republic produced a number of men who deserve unqualified admiration. From the earliest days of the colony, when Elijah Johnson upheld the courage of the little band in the midst of hostile swarms of savages, to the steadfast statesmanship of Russwurm and the

stately diplomacy of Roberts, there have stood forth individuals of a quality and calibre that fill with surprise those who hold the ordinary opinion of the possibilities of the Negro. The trials of the Republic have afforded a crucial test in which many a character has shown true metal. It is not too much to assert that the very highest type of the race has been the product of Liberia.

There are other aspects in which our tropical offspring has for us a vital interest. Perhaps the most important is the connection it will have in the future with what is called the Negro Problem in our own country. There have been and are thoughtful men who see in colonization the only solution of its difficulties. Others ridicule the very suggestion. It is a question into which we do not propose to go. But there is scarcely any doubt that when the development of Liberia is a little more advanced, and when communication with her ports becomes less difficult, and when the population of the United States grows more dense and presses more upon the limits of production, there will be a large voluntary migration of negroes to Africa. And no one will deny that the existence of a flourishing Republic of the black race just across the Atlantic will react powerfully upon all questions relating to our own colored population. —*Johns Hopkins University Studies, "History of Liberia,"* by J. H. T. McPherson, Ph. D.

Whether we look at what has already been done or lift our eyes to the future and cast them down the long vista of coming time, when we may anticipate, as we are warranted to do, the dissemination over a large part, if not the whole, of Africa, of our own free principles of government, our love of liberty, our knowledge of Christianity, our arts and civilization and domestic happiness—when we behold those blessings realized on that continent which, I trust in God, we are long destined to enjoy on this, and think how the hearts of posterity will be gladdened by such a spectacle, how ought our own to exult in hope and to swell with gratitude.—HENRY CLAY.

AN ANNUITY IN AID OF COLONIZATION
GRANTED BY THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT.

At the last session of the Legislature of Liberia a joint resolution was passed granting to the American Colonization Society an annuity of six thousand dollars a year to aid in colonization.

This act of the Liberian Government is appreciated as a graceful and substantial acknowledgment of the services rendered by the Society. It is highly creditable to Liberia and encouraging to her friends.

After full consultation it may be deemed wise to expend this appropriation, or a part of it, in taking care of immigrants and aiding them in making a start after their arrival there.

THE LIBERIA GAZETTE.

We have received copies of "*The Liberia Gazette*," a newspaper just started, to be published at Monrovia on the second Thursday in each month. The first number is filled with highly interesting matter, fresh news, and valuable information.

It promises to be decidedly the best newspaper published on the west coast of Africa. Subscription price, \$1.25 per annum and postage, payable in advance.

All communications to it should be addressed to "*The Liberia Gazette*, Monrovia, Liberia, W. C. A."

*Receipts of the Government of Liberia for the year ended
September 30, 1891.*

From Imports	\$120,029 02
Exports.....	16,076 06
Tonnage.....	279 75
Light.....	12 00
Anchorage	36 00
Liquidation	14,644 96
Shipping.....	863 10
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$151,940 89



