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(From the African Repository.) Despatches from Liberia.

We now submit to the public a communication from Governor Buchanan, relating to matters of the deepest interest to the colony, and the great lour seldom surpassed. We are gratified to know that his health (which was seriously affected soon after his arrival in Liberia) is much improved, and that his administration of affairs has been very successful. His bold and decisive measures against the slave trade, must have a powerful effect in banishing its atrocities from the Liberian coast. It is high time that the authorities of this nation, whose flag of liberty is desecrated, and spread forth before the face of the world and Heaven, to pretect this outrageous commerce, should adopt p.ompt and strong measures to res- and was detained. vernor Buchanan's statements and appeals must extent and horrors of this traffic.

The enemies of colonization have frequently thrown out the idea that the colonists were lending their countenance to the slave trade, or at least, that they were exposed to temptations to ordering her off again. The very next week she two small schooners, which, with the government fifty rods from the beach, a small party of five or favour this trade, which it would be difficult, if was boarded by H. B. M. ship Harlequin in Bassa schooner Providence, were to proceed with a sup- six came out of the woods to fire at us, but withnot impossible, to resist. It is undoubtedly true, that so universal is the slave trade among the na- of which she has thirty on board. So strong was val of the land force to co-operate in such manner | sheets, and taking deliberate aim fired into the tive tribes on the African coast, that an individual there, would be avoid all intercourse with those the Harlequin, Sir Francis Russel, though aware These measures were taken on Friday and Sa- out firing a gun. In landing I got capsized, but engaged in it, must needs go out of Africa. That the Liberian colony has, from its origin, exerted a very decided influence against this traffic, is undeniable. This influence, under Ashmun, was great. It has been exerted in repeated instances since with effect. The movements of Governor Buchanan, and the zeal with which they were sustained at great hazard by the citizens of the colony, rebukes the spirit of detraction which would leave no virtue or merit in the character of the Liberian colonists.

In evidence of the spirit with which the executive committee have recently proceeded against the slave trade, we copy the following resolution,

transmitted by the last conveyance to the colony. requested to pass such laws as will most effectually prevent any communication between the citi- he attempts to justify himself on the ground that the men I took the greatest pains to impress upon I now ordered the houses without the palisades as the latter are regarded and declared by the laws of civilized nations to be pirates and outlaws, soon as he should have sold her. But the truth the discharge of an important duty. And I en- natives. This work was accomplished with great any citizen of Liberia holding communication is, she is owned at New Cesters by a regular joined upon them the duty of orderly deportment, promptitude, though the men were exposed to a with, or furnishing aid to, any slave trader, should be dealt with and punished in the same manner as are citizens or subjects of any civilized state, tion of the American authority to carry on his and feelings of the natives through whose country and make a sally into a thicket of wood, from who are guilty of dealing with or succoring an enemy in time of war. And that any colonist by British cruizers, two or three times carried line, and ready to march, I found the number had the natives from it. This duty he performed with who shall attach himself to any slave dealer or slave factory on the coast of Western Africa, or having attached himself to such slave factory, and being notified by the Governor of Liberia or other proper officer to withdraw, shall be guilty of will be a hard case if she cannot be condemned. day morning, to my consternation, I saw our small enemy kept up a continuous fire throughout the aiding in making irons, or otherwise of directly or indirectly aiding or abetting in the slave trade, shall be declared guilty of felony, and suffer the to Mr. Cresson, and consigned the vessel to his to sea. You may imagine my feelings at that two different times I headed parties in these punishment of death.'

agent of the society expressed the views of the But I hope you may be at home to give your per- my mind. Thus deprived of the assistance of the burned two small towns which were deserted, but

committee in the following language:

found in Liberia an asylum from the oppression their brethren.

the colonies of Liberia, are endeavouring to carry out their views and furnish to the world practical evidence of their correctness. The civilized world is regarding this experiment with intense interest. It must be carried on. The cupidity and baseness of a few individuals must not be allowed to defeat it, however severe and summary the laws necessary to restrain them, or however painful their execution.

We trust that the legislative council will not hesitate to pass the necessary laws, and provide for their most vigorous execution, inflicting condign punishment on every offender.'

The following note will show how the Euphrates came into the possession of Governor Bu-

H. M. BRIG FORESTER, Aug. 17. her leaguers* much resembling in appearance, those which I found first on board of her four months since, but during the time she was said to be in the rice trade, there were merely casks of a smaller size. In addition to which, I have received positive information that she was on or about a given day, to take in afresh her leaguers at Galinas, and fill with water, and then proceed to New Cesters, (at which place her slave cargo had been landed,) and ship her slaves. It was two or three days after this date that the Harlequin fell in with her on her road to New Cesters, and gave her up to your Excellency's authority. was myself at that time on my way there to look out for her. I have the honour to remain,

sir, your most humble and obed't serv't, FRANCIS G. BOND, [Signed,] Lt. Commanding H. M. B. Forester. To his Excellency Gov. Buchanan.

> GOVERNOR'S HOUSE, MONROVIA, August 10, 1839.

My Dear Sir :- You will be surprised to receive

the evidence of her guilt, that the commander of as might appear advisable. without doing violence to my conscience, allow | Cape that day. her to depart on her nefarious voyage, but kept her to be sent home and tried.

the ground of her being under American protec- thusiasm in favour of the expedition.

matter-how deep thy debt to poor Africa!

States under my orders for trial. I am not igno- | positively refused to leave. The slaver in the | providentally, he had just landed and lallen among rant of the responsibility I have assumed in seizing | mean time having obtained renewed assurances | the enemy, who, discovering his real character, a vessel under American colours, not actually hav- of protection from the native princes, began to were about to despatch him with their knives, ing slaves on board, but my heart is sick with the daily exhibition of my country's flag protecting adding to his stores, and making every arrange- and compelled them to a hasty flight. The fellow this traffic, accursed of God, and loathed by all ment for a large and permanent establishment. who held the sailor, and who was busy with his good men, and I am determined to know, even at And to my further remonstrances he now paid no knife at his throat, was shot down, and the poor my own risk, whether the American Government attention, feeling himself too strong and well sailor was thus happily released at the last mocause of humanity. Governor Buchanan has shown a degree of independence, energy and va- of humanity when fairly brought to the test.

backed to fear my authority. In this juncture I ment. After the canoe left with my letter, I becould not hesitate as to the course to be adopted, came so impatient to give those ashore our assist-The Euphrates is one of a number of vessels | and determined at once to maintain the rights of | ance, that I could not wait the return of the canoe, whose names I forwarded in May last to the Se-cretary of the Navy as engaged in the slave trade, soon made, and, without any previous intimation knowing if successful she would have conveyed and awaiting their cargoes of human beings on the this coast under American colours. All the others 18th ultimo at 7 o'clock, P. M. When the men the shore, I mustered our little party in two boats mentioned at that time in my communication to were assembled, I stated to them briefly what had and pushed off. The canoe returned first after Mr. Paulding have sailed with full cargoes of occurred, and declared my intention of proceed- we had started. The Kroomen seemed highly exslaves for the Havana, and the Euphrates was on | ing immediately against those foreign violators | cited, and told us they had been fired upon in the eve of embarking between three and four of our laws. To my call for forty volunteers landing, proof of which was given by a ball-hole hundred slaves at New Cesters, when most provi- who were willing to hazard their lives in defence through both sides of the canoe. As we apdentially, as I must think, she fell into my hands of the government a ready response was given, proached the shore, we could observe distinctly and I had the pleasure of soon seeing my number | the movements and position of the combatants. cue it from this reproach. The people, we believe, will demand action on this subject. Go
From the description received of this vessel more than complete. The next day I despatched an order to New Georgia for twenty-five volunce coon was lined with natives concealed by the close ordered her away on her touching here in May | teers to be ready that evening if required, to join | bushes, and the surrounding wood seemed literally arouse all good men from their insensibility to the last, forbidding her at the same time from again the Monrovians. These faithful fellows, (recap- alive with them. Along the path thus guarded by appearing in our waters. Some time afterwards | tured Africans,) who are ever ready at the call of | a watchful and savage enemy, we had to pass; she anchored again in our roads, and, had I been | their adopted country for any service, turned out | it was a fearful gauntlet, but no man faltered. in a condition to capture her then I should have to the number of thirty-five, and reported them- We kept boldly onward to the shore, each man done so, but I was obliged to content myself with selves ready for instant duty. I then chartered with a loaded musket on his knee. When about Cove, while in the act of filling her water leaguers, ply of ammunition by sea, and be ready on the arri- out awaiting their salute, I rose in the stern

that the American flag protected her against him, turday, (the first intimation of the expedition hav- though nearly drowned, I held on to my musket would not let her go, but brought her up here and | ing been given on Thursday evening,) and on | and carried it ashore safely. delivered her to me. Besides, the prima faciæ | Monday morning, the 22d ultimo. at 9 o'clock, | The revulsion of feeling among those in the baracter and business of the vessel, that I could not, and heavy current prevented their passing the up, and loud and repeated huzzas greeted me as I

Resolved, That the Governor and Council be deed, the captain does not deny but that was the was only to employ the assistance of the military new zeal in returning with interest the heavy fire object of her being brought to the coast, though force in the last extremity. In my addresses to from the woods. zens of Liberia and the slave traders; and that she has not yet had slaves on board, and that he them the idea that the expedition was not for war to be destroyed. Of these there were some 15 or should have left her with her colours and papers as or plunder, but solely to sustain a civil officer in 20, which had hitherto afforded a fine cover to the slave trader, and this fellow, Captain Molau, is | obedience to their officers, and the strictest dis- | galling fire while engaged at it. I then directed only a sham owner, using the sanction and protec- cipline, particularly in reference to the property Mr. Johnson to take a party of thirty or forty men vile traffic. She has been boarded fifteen times | they might pass. When the men were formed in | which we were most severely annoyed, and drive into Sierra Leone, and cleared in court only on swelled to about a hundred, so great was the en- his accustomed bravery, and cleared the woods.

Fearing that you might be possibly away from | vessels putting back around the Cape, having | day from different points, though whenever we Washington, I have sent copies of the depositions | been about sixty hours in vain attempting to get | charged upon them they fled precipitately. At care, (until she is turned over to the U.S. Mar- moment; I can never describe them. The worst charges, and made excursions of nearly a mile In communicating this resolution, the general shal,) requesting his attention to the business. apprehensions for the fate of the expedition filled through the woods and along the beach. We sonal attention to this matter, so interesting and schooners, their small supply of ammunition and could not get near enough the enemy to do him 'The strongest hold which colonization has important to me. Indeed, the acquittal of the provisions would soon be exhausted in an emer- much injury. had on its patrons for years, has been the belief vessel might amerce me in damages I could illy gency, and they might be left in the midst of ene- Soon after my arrival at the baracoon (as we that it was the only effectual remedy for the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but the slave | meet, but the slave | meet, but this holy warfare against the slave | meet, but th trade; and it was natural to believe that those | calls for some risks. Could you see, my dear sir, It was at this moment of gloomy forebodings that I ordered the Kroomen to commence shipping the who had returned to the land of their fathers, and as I see, the multiplied miseries that this devilish | Sir Francis Russell arrived, and put the fine, fast- property seized by the marshal; and this work traffic is daily inflicting upon this unhappy coun- sailing schooner Euphrates into my possession. was continued industriously all day, while the of slavery, would wage unceasing war against try, you would, like me, forget every pecuniary My plan was adopted on the instant, and landing rest were as industriously fighting and guarding this system of cruelty, so long practised upon consideration in your desire to destroy it. At her captain and crew, I went on board with arms, the Kroomen in their labour. At dark we drew this moment the whole country along the northern ammunition, &c. and proceeded immediately in up the boats and canoes within the barricade and 'For ages, adverse opinions have been enter- bank of the St. Paul's river is involved in bloody person to Little Bassa. Within two hours and a closed the gates, when the firing ceased on both tained with regard to the moral and intellectual wars. Whole districts are laid waste; towns are half of the time I received her papers, I had her un- sides, and our wearied men were permitted a little capabilities of the coloured race. Colonizationists | burned. The old and the young who are unfit for | der way in her new service, from the harbour. At | rest, which was taken however upon their arms. believe them capable (under equally favourable the market are butchered, and hundreds and daylight on Friday morning, the 26th ultimo, we The next morning at sunrise the battle was recircumstances) of the same degree of elevation | thousands are driven in chains to the coast, or | were at anchor off Little Bassa, and before we | newed by our indefatigable enemy, who gave us attained by the white man; and in establishing compelled to fly the country. Within the past could distinguish objects through the early dawn thus early a full salute from a dozen places at month a whole tribe, including several kings, on shore, I despatched a canoe to learn the state once. I occupied the upper story of a native built have fled their country and come to us for protec- of affairs, and to acquaint our people with the house, the walls and partitions of which were of tion. But I cannot tell you the ten-thousandth news of my arrival. In a few moments the open- matting, and afforded no other protection than that part of the evil. Fire, famine, blood and chains | ing day began to reveal a scene of thrilling and of concealment. At every discharge from the are the necessary elements of the slave trade, and | fearful interest. In the midst of a small opening | enemy, their slugs and balls rattled through and every conceivable combination of these elements | in the forest, about a hundred and fifty yards from | through it like hail. are daily produced in this wretched land. Oh, the beach, stood the baracoon. A circular palli- This morning Mr. E. Johnson led a party through my country! how enormous is thy guilt in this sade fence, about ten feet high, enclosing some the woods into an open rice-field, where he enhalf dozen houses of native construction, from the | countered a considerable party of natives, and I must now call your attention to another im- sides of which we could distinctly see the flashes after a brief contest routed and drove them off. portant occurrence in our recent colonial opera- of guns following each other in quick succession, but not without sustaining some injury. He retions against the slave trade. Little Bassa, as | while from the woods around a continuous blaze | ceived himself two wounds, and three of his men you are aware, has been for years the theatre of | burst forth toward the baracoon from every quar- | were wounded, some in two or three places, but considerable business, carried on both by the colo- ter. Here was war in open view, closely and none seriously. An examination being now made nists and foreigners, and the subject of colonial | fiercely waged; but of every thing else we could | of the state of our ammunition, I was astonished to jurisdiction over the country has been the theme only form conjecture, whether our friends were in find the stock growing low, so immense had been of much discussion here and in America. But, the baracoon or the woods—the besieged or the the consumption of this article during the last four Sir:—At your Excellency's request I have though the right of soil claimed by the govern- besiegers—was matter of the most anxious doubt. hours. Fearing a scarcity should the fight be conbeen on board the schooner Euphrates, and find | ment here last year was questioned by the board, | Soon, however, we were relieved from one source | tinued much longer, as seemed probable, I deter-(and, in my opinion, justly,) I believe they have of anxiety by the return of the Krooman, who had mined to return to Monrovia for more. Accordnever forbid the right of jurisdiction, which has | landed a short distance below the baracoon, and | ingly, about noon I embarked in the government been clearly acknowledged as belonging to the obtained information from the Kroomen there of schooner Euphrates, and sailed for this place. I colony in several treaties with the native princes | the progress of the battle. His first words were, | arrived here at 11 o'clock that evening, and imand headmen. On my arrival here in April last, when within hailing distance, "Dem live for fight | mediately gave orders to get the necessary supassumed the right of our jurisdiction over the dare now: 'Merican man had baracoon-country- plies. The next morning our town presented an territory along the seaboard, as to foreigners espe- | man lib woods all round-Fishmen stay brack. | un-Sunday-like appearance. Drums were beating. cially, as indisputable, and ordered a slaver who Pose you go shore, Gobeno, you catch prenty soldiers gathering, the boats were plying on the had established himself there to leave within a balls." It was now a matter of some doubt what water, and all was bustle and excitement both ingiven time on pain of having his property confis- | course to pursue. The Euphrates was well known | doors and out. So great was the expedition used cated. This trader had been some months here, as a slaver, and should we attempt to land in a in the despatch of business, that at 2 o'clock, P.M. and had been ordered away in November previous | body, our own people, taking us for Spaniards | we had on board forty more volunteers, two field by Mr. Williams, the acting governor, and again | coming to reinforce the enemy, would certainly | pieces, fourteen thousand ball cartridges, with all a short time before my arrival, both of which or- fire on us, and perhaps retreat from the baracoon. | the necessary et ceteras, and were again weighing ders he treated with contempt. To my message, To convey information to them, then, and learn anchor for the scene of action. however, he saw fit to return a very courteous | their position and wants, was an object of the first | The reason for my taking such a reinforcement answer, promising obedience, but alleging the interest. An American seaman volunteered to of men, was, that information which I thought want of a suitable vessel to remove his goods, and | carry a letter to the baracoon. I told him it was a | could be relied on, had been given me on Sunday requesting time for that purpose. I replied that | mission of danger. He answered, "never mind, | morning, that Lang, the Englishman, whose facsuitable time would be granted on condition that I will go." Accordingly, I despatched him, with tory at Little Bassa we had destroyed, had obhe desisted from the further prosecution of his bu- a note to the commander of our force ashore. As tained the co-operation of the Prince of Tradesiness, and again positively forbade his buying or I had foreseen, the appearance of the Euphrates | town, and was on his way to join the natives at selling slaves while he remained there. About had caused great alarm among our people, and Little Bassa. The character of Lang rendered the same time an English trader established when they saw a second canoe from her landing a this probable, and so many other circumstances this by the slave schooner Euphrates, and proba- what is here called a factory for regular trade, and white man, it was at once concluded that it was concurred to corroborate the information, that I bly your surprise will not be lessened when you put a small amount of goods ashore in charge of a for the purpose of concerting measures with the could not doubt it. Every thing depended, then, know that this slaver is a prize sent to the United | native factor. Him also I ordered off, and threat- natives for a combined attack on the baracoon. upon our reaching the battle ground, and making ened the seizure of his goods in case of refusal. | Consequently, Mr. E. Johnson made a sally from our arrangements first. Contrary winds, how-.Water casks, of the capacity of two hogsheads each. He treated my message with great rudeness, and the baracoon to cut off the white man, and, most ever, prevented our getting there ur.il Tuesday

group, upon which they scattered instantly with-

evidence of her character exhibited by her water | the men took up the line of march under com- | racoon, from the greatest alarm at the approach of leaguers, (which in every such case is considered | mand of Mr. Elijah Johnson, (the veteran hero | a supposed enemy to sudden joy on finding a reabundant to insure the condemnation of Spanish of the memorable defence of Monrovia,) and in inforcement of friends with supplies of ammuniand Portuguese vessels,) I had collected such an a couple of hours afterwards the little fleet put to tion, and having command of the harbour, was, as amount of testimony, and knew so well the cha- sea in gallant style, though a strong head wind may be supposed, extreme. Caps were thrown crossed the threshold of the baracoon. For a mo-Mr. William N. Lewis, the marshal of the ment all seemed to forget the presence of the enecolony, was charged with the direction of the ex- my, and even the shower of balls which came You will see from the copies of depositions I pedition, and in the execution of my orders, rattling around them, were unheeded in their eager have taken in this case that there is not the small- (which were strictly of a civil character, as you rejoicings. But it was only for a moment; each est doubt of this vessel being a slave trader-in- | will see by referring to documents Nos. 1 and 2,) | man again rushed to his post, and engaged with

when a party of axemen followed, and soon letion. She is as well known on the coast for a The wind continued unfortunately to blow up | velled it, so that we now had a considerable space slaver as any vessel ever in these waters, and it | the coast the whole of Tuesday, and on Wednes- on three sides clear of bushes and houses. The