COLONIZATION JOURNAL.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1837.

☞ All communications intended for the Maryland Colonization Journal, or on business of the Society, should be addressed to the Rev. Ira A. Easter, Home Agent, Colonization Rooms, Post Office Building.

EMBARKATION OF THE EMIGRANTS.

Seldom have we witnessed a more beautiful day than was Tuesday, the 28th of November—the day on which eighty-five emigrants embarked on board the fine brig Niobe, to set sail in a few hours for their future home in Maryland, Liberia. Many were the bright and joyous faces of the most fair and intelligent of the ladies of our city, who very early found their way to the wharf where the religious exercises were to be conducted. Many also, of the clergy, with some of the most influential citizens were present to witness the interesting scene.

The arrangements were most appropriately made by Capt. Mason, a member of the executive committee, whose experience as a seaman gives him great advantage in fitting out an expedition. The emigrants by 11 o'clock, were all comfortably seated in a large scow, placed near the wharf, while the wharves on two sides of a commodious dock with the steps leading to the second stories of the warehouses were literally crowded with a multitude of spectators anxiously waiting the commencement of the exercises. At 11 o'clock the services were commenced with singing and prayer by the Rev. Mr. Thornton, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in a deeply interesting and solemn manner. Many delightful voices were mingled in singing that sweet hymn, by Addison, commencing with the words, 'When all thy mercies, oh my God.' When the prayer was concluded, the emigrants were addressed for thirty minutes with excellent feeling and appropriateness of sentiment by the Rev. Benjamin Kurtz, editor of the Lutheran Observer. The deep interest which Mr. Kurtz has long felt in the colonization enterprise, and the care with which he has studied its important bearings, fitted him for the duty which he so admirably performed. At the close of his remarks, addressing the large and attentive company of emigrants, he most emphatically and feelingly said, 'lift up, lift up your heads, my friends, the day of your redemption draws nigh; soon you will enjoy genuine freedom in the land of your fathers.' Every eye expressed assent to the declaration of the speaker.

The Rev. Mr. Easter, in the absence of the president, who was detained by important engagements, made the concluding address. The speaker, in an animated strain adverted to some of the benefits conferred on the coloured race by the colonization scheme. He saw that nearly the half of the eighty-five emigrants then seated before him, were made freemen through this benevolent institution—that from Norfolk *ninety* more were now preparing to sail for Liberia, all of them liberated and provided with the means of emigration by their benevolent owners, through the same instrumentality—and at Wilmington, N. C. there were *sixty* persons ready to embark for the colony at Bassa Cove, through the benevolence of colonization principles—that in all this year there have been not less than *six* vessels chartered and fitted out with emigrants, teachers, missionaries, and officers, to be borne by the winds of Providence to the coast of Africa. Was all this a mere humbug, intended to practice on the credulity of the coloured race? Let the facts stated and the scene then exhibited testify. The speaker saw before him the elements out of which the statesmen, philanthropists and missionaries, would be formed, who would give laws, civilization and religion to Africa. He saw too, the elements designed by Providence to perpetuate the enterprise of colonization. There were parents, leaving their children, husbands their wives, and children their parents, to prepare homes for their beloved relatives in the land of freedom, who would then come and participate in their enjoyment. The present company were laying hold of one end of the cord of love and wafted by the winds of heaven, would bind it fast to Africa; while their friends and relatives holding on to the other, would one after another be drawn over the deep and wide Atlantic. The enterprise was never more vigorously prosecuted, nor with equal success. The friends of the cause are more numerous—their liberality continues to increase, and their sympathy is extending. The fair ladies of this city, with their noble charity have entered the field, and as an earnest of their future efforts are sending out teachers, with the present expedition, to train up the children of the colonists in the knowledge of letters.

The benediction was pronounced and the boat pushed off from the wharf, filled with the emigrants, attended by many of the clergy and other friends, ladies and gentlemen, who proceeded with them to the vessel, which lay out in the stream, two hundred yards distant. This scene was made very impressive, by one of the emigrants, who sung a hymn, and all the company joined in singing the high praises of God.

It is believed that much the larger part of this expedition consists of humble followers of Christ, and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The fervent prayers of their brethren, will doubtless accompany them to their distant home. It is difficult to conceive of any scene more impressive. Many tears were shed on the occasion, by both the white and the coloured people, and if we are not greatly deceived, the influence was decidedly beneficial to the latter class. It is scarcely possible that the frequent repetition of such scenes can fail of undermining the prejudices of the more intelligent people of colour; by little and little produce the conviction, which human eloquence could not effect. To this end let the advocates of the scheme direct their unwavering efforts, trusting to divine Providence for ultimate success.

Proceedings of the Ladies' Education Society.

It is with pleasure we state, that the Ladies' society for the promotion of education in Africa, have employed Mr. Benjamin Alleyne and his wife to take charge of a school at Cape Palmas. They went out as passengers on board the Niobe, on the 28th ult. Their labours are to be exclusively devoted to the instruction of the children of colonists, for the first year. From the acquaintance we were enabled to form with Mr. Alleyne, we confidently expect the most favourable results from his efforts. Himself and wife, are both professing christians, and have attained to that period of life, when the character is fully developed.

We congratulate the ladies on the early success which has crowned their efforts, both in regard to the amount of contributions, and the promptness with which suitable persons have been obtained to occupy the important field assigned them. No benevolent institution with which we are acquainted, has accomplished so much in so short a period, and as far as we can judge from the expression of public sentiment, few are likely to be more popular, or meet with better support.

THE SCALE HAS TURNED.

Abolition efforts to the contrary, notwithstanding, the day is not distant when there will be more applicants for a passage to Liberia from this State, than there will be funds to carry them. We have long said, the day must come, when this groundless opposition to colonization on the part of the coloured people, will be confined to that class of them who are utterly worthless and too degraded to possess any desire, but that of gratifying their sensual appetites. The sober, the temperate, the industrious, the intelligent part of this class of our population, must ultimately awake to the rich blessings which await them, in their 'father land;'—they must see more and more fully, what they are now beginning to perceive indistinctly, that, here they are but 'hewers of wood and drawers of water;' that what ever may be their imaginary freedom, they are in fact, but the lackeys and menials of their white masters. We speak of those now, who under the prescription of abolition doctors, are trying to persuade themselves that the time may come, even in *America*, when they will be elevated to some small honour. But who that has attained the age of maturity, and travelled beyond the limits of his native state, does not perceive in every steamboat and stage, at every tavern and public house, in all the civilities of life and by every fire-side that Cuffee still goes to the wall. And who so wise as to see, even the remote prospect of a change for bettering his condition here?

Hence the scale has turned. The coloured people who are capable of thinking justly, are calling at the colonization office and asking for a passage to Liberia. Some of the very first men of this character, have determined to seek true liberty in Africa, and more, many more, are preparing to follow. Our recent expediton carries out men who possess high moral worth, and when disencumbered of their political degradation are capable of rising high in the scale of moral and intellectual greatness.

During the past week in this city, while there were between eighty and one hundred emigrants boarding here, and making preparation for the voyage to Africa, every scheme was devised, every stratagem practised by men kept in pay for the vile work of lying by wholesale, who pressed themselves unseasonably and unasked into the boarding-houses of the emigrants, with the special design of weakening their confidence in the promises of the society, and to some extent were successful in misleading a few ignorant and credulous individuals; but to our surprise, the more intelligent spurned them from their presence, and warned them of the consequences of their conduct. Two years ago, with such efforts on the part of our enemies, it is not reasonable to suppose, that ten persons would have remained steadfast. But the tide has turned, nor will the deep and wide Atlantic stop its course, until Africa is peopled with a hardy and industrious race, from the United States, carrying with them the blessings of civilization and the gospel.

ALEXANDER HANCE.

The circumstances which have attended the visit of Mr. Hance to his native state, are well deserving a notice in the Journal. Mr. Hance, is a native of Calvert county, in this state, and was among the first to emigrate to Maryland in Liberia, taking with him his wife and two of his children, purchased by his own industry; and leaving behind in slavery, three very interesting daughters, with the determination, if spared, to return at some future period, to redeem these tender objects of a parent's love. Mr. Hance, while in Africa, received letters from his friends in this country, informing him of the high prices at which slaves were selling, and advised him if he ever designed to see his children again, to lose no time in returning to America. He accordingly came home passenger in the brig Baltimore, which carried out the spring expedition, and immediately on his arrival made known to us the object of his errand. We candidly stated to him, as he was without money, that the prospect of success was almost hopeless. But when on further information, it was known that the individual owning these children, demanded *one thousand dollars cash*, for them, and the oldest not more than twelve or fourteen years of age, it was thought almost idle even to make the attempt to raise so large a sum from benevolent contributions. But the sequel proves we did not know the thermometer of public feeling. At the request of Mr. Kennard, the society's travelling agent, Mr. Hance, after visiting his children, in Calvert, attended several public meetings on both the Eastern and Western Shore, and submitted to his coloured brethren, a plain statement of facts in regard to the prospects of bettering their condition in Africa. At Chestertown, and some other points on the Eastern Shore, his addresses were utterly disregarded, and many uncharitable insinuations made in reference to his motives. But in Calvert and the lower part of Anne Arundel, where he was raised, and his character known from his childhood, the impression was overwhelming. Many persons who had been told that Hance had long since been sold to Georgia, by the Colonization Society, now saw him standing before them, a living reality, all the way from Liberia, and he spoke words to them about Africa and liberty, that fired their hearts in such degree, as to burn out the deepest prejudice, and upon their remembrance of 'Sawney's' fidelity, they were willing to cross the great water, and see for themselves. In his travels, Mr. Hance met with some of his former friends among white people, who gave him great encouragement to expect their assistance in redeeming his children, and advised him to make the attempt to raise the sum demanded for them. Steps were immediately taken. The clergy of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Baltimore, of which Hance has long been an acceptable member, gave their valuable and efficient assistance, and seldom have we witnessed more earnest work in a noble cause, or more successful solicitations. The issue is a triumphant exhibition of christian liberality. *Hance's children are redeemed*, and on their way to join and embrace their long absent relatives in Africa. Could those who have nobly assisted in the accomplishment of this act, witness the scene that must occur on the landing of the emigrants at Cape Palmas, they would be more than repaid for every farthing contributed. But this is only a fractional part of the countless benefits which colonization is conferring on the coloured race in this country.

LUKE WALKER.

This man appears to seek notoriety. Like most apostates, he labours to bring into contempt a cause which he has basely deserted. As he seeks to be extensively known as a deserter from the Maryland Colony in Liberia, we feel bound to render him some assistance. To our friends in Philadelphia, who sent us a message to keep our runaway colonists at home, and not permit them to go at large to the injury of our neighbours, we would observe, that it is a leading policy with the Maryland Society, to let men do as they like on their arrival in Africa. If they choose to return to the United States, with an evil report against the good land, they only play the part of the spies who returned from the land of Canaan, and will meet with their desert. The only arguments which we shall attempt to oppose to the falsehoods propagated by Luke Walker, are: 1st, the statement of Doctor Hall, the former governor of the colony, with whom Walker came passenger to this country, that he thought his character and example decidedly injurious to the colony. 2nd, Mr. Russwurm, the present governor, in a letter to the Home Agent, states, that 'Walker left the colony because he could not indulge in drinking whiskey,' and 3rd, if any there be, who want stronger proof of his immoral and worthless character, let them visit Fell's Point, in this city, where he can be seen day and night; every day in the week and all day on Sunday, living in a miserably dirty cellar, dealing out to his vagabond customers, lies by wholesale against Africa, and WHISKEY to make them palatable. He keeps a *grogery* of the baser sort, conducted as we have no doubt, on a capital furnished by *Philadelphia Abolitionists*, whether white or black we know not, but the trade and trader are black enough in all conscience. Now we have done with Luke Walker.

Donations to the Maryland State Colonization Society.

August 1st.—R. S. Hollins, $10. Orem and Morling, $5. Collections from St. Stephen's parish, per Gov. Veazey, $5. Baltimore Patriot, $5. Rev. J. C. Backus, $20. Rev. James R. Williams, $5. R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. $5. A. T. Baxter, $5. Collection by Rev. Mr. Martin, from his church, Martinsburg, Va. $5 56. Collection by Rev. Mr. Winter, Clearspring, $15 25. Thomas Kelso, $10. Casper W. Weaver $10. Rev. James C. Carroll, of Russelville county, Va. $5.

Subscriptions and donations at Light street Church, for the purchase of Alexander Hance's children.

Rev. Dr. Dorsey, $5. George Earnest, $5. Abraham Shriver, $5. D. E. Thomas, $5. Joshua Royston, $5. Richard H. Battee, $5. Wm. R. Stuart, $5. Thomas Armstrong, $5. F. Israel, $5. Rev. Thomas McGee, $5. Geo. W. Nabb, $5. J. W. Berry. $5. Thomas Flint, $5. Jas. A. Sangston $5. Jeremiah Tittle, $5. Rev. Ira A. Easter, $5. Wm. Mason, $5. J. L. Dudley, $5. F. H. Smith, $5. John H. B. Latrobe, $10. O. Holmes, Jr. $5. N. L. Woods, $5. Caleb Perrigo, $5. Caspar W. Weaver, $5. Joseph T. Ford, $5. Wm. Reese, $5. Rev. John Haesbaert, $5. W. F. Giles, $5. Rev. Mr. Hopkins, 2 gold rings. Mrs. Pru. Chalmers, $3. Mrs. Jane Fisher, $3. Miss H. Wilkins, $3. Mrs. Maria Ebsworth, $3. Mrs. Jane Hines, $3. Mrs. M. Mortimer, $3. Miss Catharine W. Wever, $3. Mr. Hines, $2. Mrs. Battee and children, $4. Dr. Keene, $2. Mr. F. Burch, $1. Maria Burch, $1. George Naylor, $1. J. E. Reese, $1. John Zimmerman, $1. Joseph Brass, $1. Mrs. Ann Hackett, $1. A lady, $1. W. Watkins, H. Watkins, $1. Mrs. E. Wood, $1. James Harris, $1. Mr. Amos, $1. Mrs. D. Robinson, $1. J. R. Hines, $1. Miss E. A. Fisher, $1. Mrs. McJilton, $1. Miss Keener, $1. H. Taylor, $1. Mrs. Watkins, $1. Mrs. Sarah Brown, $1. Ann H. Sangston, $1. Jas. A. Sangston, $1. Samuel Coulter, $1. John H. Sewell, $1. Mr. Moran, $1. John Wesley, $1. Anderson, $1. R. G. Armstrong, $5. Rev. Mr. Thornton, $5. A Virginia lady, $5. Christian Keener, $5. Collections by Rev. Mr. Furlong, $16 42. Collected by Rev. Mr. Thornton, $5. Mr. John T. Miles, $2. Rev. Mr. Hersey, $28.

Contributions made to Rev. S. R. Wynkoop, *by gentlemen in Trenton, New Jersey.*

The Presbyterian church,	$15
Stacy Potts, Esq.	5
Henry W. Green, Esq.	5
Armitage Green,	5
James Wilson,	2
F. A. Ewing,	1
B. Fisk,	5
Samuel Hamilton,	3

Colonization.—The Norfolk Herald states that the ship Emperor, sailed from that port on Sunday for Liberia, with about one hundred African colonists.

Extract from a letter, from the Rev. John Payne,

Mount Vaughan, *Cape Palmas,*
W. A. July, 1837.

You will be gratified to learn that we reached this place, the field of your future labours, in perfect health, on Tuesday, the 4th of July. Soon after coming to anchor, the Rev. Mr. Wilson of the American Board, came on board of our vessel to meet us, and as Dr. Savage was two miles distant from the Cape, kindly invited us to his house until the Doctor should arrive. By the time we reached the shore, however, our beloved brother, the subject of so many prayers and fears, about whom we almost feared to make any inquiries, made his appearance amidst hundreds of that degraded race, to save whom he had willingly sacrificed all that, in the estimation of the world, renders life desirable. No one, my dear sir, until he has experienced it, can form any adequate conception of the thrill of joy occasioned by greeting a missionary brother under circumstances like these. To me it was like meeting 'one from the dead,' for *dead*, I feared, I almost expected he was. God, however, had been better than all my fears. I found Dr. Savage not only alive, but likewise, notwithstanding the sickness and other trying scenes through which he had passed, in health, looking, we thought, as well as when he left America. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson we also found in tolerably good health, and they have proved, I think most conclusively, that ministers of the gospel can live as well as slave-traders in Africa. The preservation of the lives and health of these servants of God has been truly encouraging to our hearts, and affords us reason humbly to hope that we too may be spared to make known the gospel to the benighted multitude by which we are continually surrounded.

If we have been cheered by the circumstances I have mentioned, we have been still more so, by the appearance of the country and the prospects of usefulness before us. You have no doubt, had already from Dr. Savage a description of Cape Palmas, and the scenery in its vicinity. I shall not, therefore, trouble you with another at this time, but will only say what, without any previous knowledge of the country, would doubtless be considered very extravagant, that it appeared to be the most lovely situation I had ever beheld. Accustomed as I had always been, notwithstanding representations to the contrary, to associate with Africa nought but parching winds and sandy deserts, and poisonous vapours; its cooling breezes, its beautiful variety of hill and valley clothed in rich and ever-during verdure, and the sweet odours breathing around, perfectly delighted me. Nor was my pleasure at all diminished by a ride out to the mission house, which Mrs. Payne and myself took on Wednesday, having spent the previous day and night under the hospitable roof of the Rev. Mr. Wilson, until a room could be prepared for our reception. Our road (commencing at the Cape, and to be extended during the present year as far as Denah, on the Cavally river,) lay along through the thickest undergrowth, and the lofty spreading trees peculiar to tropical countries. After travelling this road about two miles, we came suddenly in view of Mount Vaughan, the site of our mission establishment. The description you have had of this place, will give you some conception how desirable a location has fallen into our hands. Indeed, dear sir, from the time I first set foot upon Cape Palmas, until the present time, enjoying as I have excellent health, and surrounded by nature's loveliest works, I have had the greatest difficulty in realizing that there is a dark side of the picture yet to be seen. But still do not think me carried away by first impressions and first appearances, so far as to be betrayed by them into the neglect of that prudence, earnestly and affectionately urged upon us in the instructions of your committee. Notwithstanding what I at present see and feel, I must turn a deaf ear to all that I hear of the sufferings of all African missionaries who have preceded me, *not to expect* that trials, and afflictions, and perhaps death, await me also. But my heart's desire is, that 'none of these things' may 'move me,' yea, that I may 'not count even my life dear unto myself, so that I may finish my course with joy, and the work that may be given me to do.'

It gives me unfeigned joy to inform you that the mission prospers, and our prospects of usefulness continue to brighten. We have at present in the school, fourteen boys and four girls, who will form the foundation of a class for Mrs. Payne. The neighbouring kings are becoming more and more favourable to have their children educated. Dr. Savage, will, no doubt inform you that, anticipating the instructions given to us in reference to extending our operations into the interior, he lately visited Denah, and contracted with the

king to build a school-house, he being not only willing to do this, but also to support the scholars who may be instructed, at his own expense. I learn also from Mr. Wilson, who has lately visited the town of Kay, distant about twenty-five miles, in a north-east direction from Cape Palmas, and never before visited by a white man, that Feddah, of that place, and king of the Bolobo country, is anxious to have schools established amongst his people. Thus the committee will perceive that for some reason, what it is we know not, every king within our range of thirty miles from Cape Palmas, express a willingness to receive the messengers of salvation by Jesus Christ. An unbounded field opens itself to christian effort. Thousands are hungering and dying, yet with outstretched hands imploring those who in spiritual privileges are in want of nothing, for the 'bread of life.' Oh, could christians at home realize these things as those do who are compelled hourly to behold these poor miserable beings, how much more fervently would they pray, and how much more liberally would they give, to save them from misery and death!

(From the New York Observer.)

Letter from the Governor of Bassa Cove, to the Rev. Dr. Proudfit, *Agent for the Colonization Society of the City of New York.*

Bassa Cove, *Western Africa,*
August 16th, 1837.

Rev. and Dear Sir:—We left Cape Henlopen on Saturday morning, of the week we left Philadelphia, with a fair wind,—and after two or three days of sea sickness, which nearly all of us experienced, we had a pleasant run of twenty-five days to the Cape de Verds, St. Jago. After stopping about twenty-four hours to obtain a little water, for which privilege the custom-house required of the Captain some twenty-seven dollars, we arrived at Monrovia July 28th; making our voyage forty days from Cape Henlopen to Cape Monsterado.

We found all in good health in Monrovia, but in want of supplies. The Lieutenant Governor, Williams, is well adapted, in my opinion, to his office.

I found the colonists, who were destined for Bassa Cove in a late expedition, had all landed at Monrovia, and were being acclimated, and doing tolerably well.

The copper coin I have received, for which an order is sent. I send also, a specimen of Monrovia paper money. At present, I can give no opinion about a bank or paper money, unless payable at home, as suggested by Mr. Buchanan; that plan would aid us much.

In one day after leaving Monrovia, which was on the 3rd of August, we arrived at Bassa Cove; in the morning following the night of our arrival, we landed under a salute from our little guns on board, and heavier artillery on shore. The military men were out, and received us quite *en militaire*,

I found Dr. McDowell well, and the colonists generally; the governor's house but partly finished, and the store empty. The carpenters are engaged on the former, and as you may judge, the latter being filled.

Agriculture is attended to better than heretofore, the other day I saw a fine field of rice of ten acres.

Mr. More, a very respectable man, told me that in a season of great scarcity, he supplied the whole colony with vegetables from only one acre of land; so productive is the soil if well cultivated. The public will ask, why then, do the colonists often suffer for the want of food? We reply that many of them are not industrious; and without labour we can live no where.

The society, they will allow me to say must be particular in the selection of at least a majority of the emigrants, or we shall advance but slowly in carrying out the great objects of the colonization society.

The gardens look well; here and there you see a plantation with fruit. A bunch of cotton now lies before me, which I took from a tree in the garden of one of the colonists. Bassa Cove is a most beautiful settlement; Edina equally so. The government house is in a most delightful and picturesque situation; it stands on a mound of about an acre, commanding a fine view of the ocean, of the town of Edina, and of two fine rivers, as wide as some parts of the Delaware; between Trenton and Philadelphia. On the banks of the Benson, in the rear of the house, are a few of as tall trees as I ever saw, affording a beautiful shade; indeed I must do Mr. Buchanan the justice to say that he has shown great taste and judgment in his selection of a spot for both town and government house.

On the 4th inst. I went over to Edina, and met the citizens in the Methodist church; after they had appointed a chairman and secretary, I stated to them my instructions in relation to the traffic in ardent spirits, and that, if they were not prepared to abandon it, it would be no use to deliberate a moment about coming under our government, as we could not receive them unless they complied with that condition. They at length, after some deliberation, resolved on attaching themselves to the government of Bassa Cove, (with the exception of a few, which have since come into the measure; I having informed them that they could not reside within our territories without taking the oath of allegiance.) I administered the oath and returned, and shall, as soon as convenient, organize them according to our laws.

The public farm, for want of public funds and the sickness of the overseer, is not in the most properous way. I saw a few coffee plants, a few hills of Indian corn and considerable cassada; the latter doing well. Our farmer is engaged in sowing and planting the seeds we brought.

I was amused the other day, by the simplicity of a Krooman. The captain asked, if any brandy and rum could be had on shore. He replied, 'no, he not live there.' One thing is certain, we have no intemperance *here*.

I find upon a cursory examination, that we have much to do here, and we shall want resources—the board may be assured that the means we have already shall be appropriated in the best manner that we are able.

I am informed by Dr. McDowell that up the St. John's river about six miles, is a fine healthy place for a settlement. I shall, by divine permission soon examine it, and if it is suitable, hold a palaver with the king who owns it, and purchase it, as I have understood he was willing to sell it.

I take the liberty to suggest to the board, now our territory is enlarged, a name which will embrace it all. Bassa Cove is a name for a single place - Grand Bassa would embrace all our territory, but perhaps a name more agreeable to American feeling would be preferred.

If another expedition is not sent out before you get this, I respectfully request the board not to send them without provisions for their support at least six months.

King Freeman, of Young Lestors, dined to day with us, and I am informed that the neighbouring kings are waiting till we get settled, to pay their respects. Freeman wanted rum very much, he appeared very much surprised, to find it not *American fash*, thought it not good fash—says he will send his son and daughter to learn book. He remarked that the good Spirit had given us and not black man the book. We took occasion to show him, that God loved him as much as the white man, and that he had sent the white man to teach black man the book.

As you are doubtless aware there are but few, if any time-pieces in the colony, excepting among the whites, and if these get out of repair they must remain so, as we have no watch-makers; and as the horn only is used to call people to church; a *bell* to announce the hours of worship and other times, would greatly oblige us.

Some of my abolitionist friends expressed a desire to hear from me, doing me the honour to say they would believe *me!!* If the information is worth giving, you will please say, that now I see with my own eyes, and hear with my own ears—that instead of changing my views, I am more a colonizationist than ever.

Give us some of your best coloured men—men of some property, religion, and enterprise, and I would answer for the cause of colonization. What could not a little yankee enterprsie, industry, and economy, do here? What a garden might this country become? How soon would civilization and the gospel spread until,

> 'The dwellers in the vale and on the rocks,
> Would shout to each other, and the distant mountains,
> Catch the flying joy.'

I am instructed by the board to keep a colonial journal, and transmit quarterly, copies of it to the boards, which if God spares my life and health, I will do with pleasure. And now, my dear sir, I must bid you farewell, earnestly soliciting an interest in your prayers. You find these despatches imperfect, they have been written and copied in the midst of a pressure of other duties, I must therefore beg your indulgence.

My very respectful and affectionate salutation to each member of the board of managers.

With great respect, I am yours, &c.

John J. Matthews.

(From the Liberia Herald.)

THE RIGHT WAY TO INDEPENDENCE.

Monrovia, *May*, 1837.

Agriculture.—There is nothing to which we advert with greater pleasure, than to the subject of agriculture, and to the sense of its deep importance to our welfare as a community, with which the people of Liberia seem at length to be impressed. An unfortunate concurrence of circumstances has hitherto sustained the erroneous opinion, that farming, even on a limited scale, is altogether impracticable, by the amount of means in the possession of any colonists. Alarming difficulties were supposed to attend the very commencement of farming, and to oppose its progress throughout every stage; and should these formidable difficulties be overcome, adequate returns for the labour and money expended, were thought by no means certain. With all the evidence which the face of the country spontaneously furnishes, of its fertility and productiveness, in every thing that is good for food, and many that are good for commerce too, the wonder is, not that impressions so erroneous, should retain their hold on the public mind so long, but, that they should ever have been received at all. The laziness of the natives is proverbial, yet they raise an abundance of rice for their own consumption, after extensively supplying foreign vessels. Coffee, cotton, and sugar-cane are natives of the soil, and are found in spontaneous abundance in the mountains and forests, while the meadows and plains teem with all the choice productions of the tropics. Yet in the face of this accumulated evidence—evidence which we could not but see whenever we cast our eyes around, we have without an effort contented ourselves with the belief that we cannot *live by farming*. Happy are we indeed, that we are at length convinced we cannot live without it; for we are firmly of opinion, that so soon as the conviction becomes general, the supposed difficulties and hazards, (the enervating offspring of irresolution, to use a modest term,) will vanish; agriculture will receive a new impulse, and want with its train of wretched concomitants, will forever flee the colony. An agricultural company has lately been formed in the colony, as will appear from its constitution in this number of the Herald, with a proposed capital of $5,000. The object of the association being clearly set forth, in the preamble to the constitution, renders it unnecessary for us to say anything about it here, The committee appointed to select a suitable tract of land for the purpose, have not as yet, fixed their choice upon any spot. Millsburg has been mentioned as possessing superior inducements to those of any other place yet known. Among these, an elevation, a short distance in the rear of the settlement, is by no means the least. This eminence, overlooking the surrounding country, offers a convenient location for a wind-mill, which in the operation of cane-grinding, would greatly reduce the expense which must necessarily be incurred if the process was carried on by animal power. It gratifies us, to be able to state that many of our most enterprising citizens have entered heartily and enthusiastically into the scheme, under the conviction that it is not only practicable, but comparatively of easy accomplishment. If any should sneer at the amount proposed to be raised, we would have them recollect that $5,000 bear as great a proportion in a numerical point of view, to the number of inhabitants of Liberia, that $20,000,000 do to the population, white and black of the United States. We would farther remind such of the age of the colony, of the pecuniary embarrassments under which the people have had to labour, and the numerous disadvantages with which they have had to contend ever since their arrival here; and we feel confident, that by every candid and liberal mind, this beginning will be considered as reflecting honour on those engaged. However, it may be in reality considered, the amount is by no means considered as immovably fixed. On the contrary, it is intended to be increased as soon as our long-tried, constant, and warm-hearted friends and patrons in America, shall extend to this specific object, the helping hand, either in the way of donation or by becoming interested in the scheme as stockholders, for which the constitution of the association makes provision. We are rendered confident in our expectations of assistance, from the conviction that no other scheme, promises more speedily the accomplishment of the great object of colonization, and the wishes of the friends of Africa, than a plan similar to the above. It will combine in itself all those energies and functions, which in the successful employment of other means must be separately and individually exerted, and that by an extended and continued expense. The scheme which is now proposed, combines the important considerations of enabling the friends of the colony to enlarge their benevolence, and of indemnifying them against pecuniary loss, in the large returns, which on the most moderate calculation will result from it. With a view to obtain the great object, many plans are proposed. Among them is an association in America, with commercial views, with a proposed capital of $25,000, to be denominated the African Association. For this and for all other assistance, to extend our trade and commercial connections, we feel grateful; but this, like all other schemes, as yet contrived, will fail to be of public and general good. Excepting those who may be personally engaged in the business, but few may be benefitted. To be benefitted by commerce, our circumstances like those of all other people, require that it should be supported by agriculture or manufactures. It would be visionary to think of the latter; and to carry on trade without the former, would be to prepare for the whole community a grave of bankruptcy. With our opinion therefore, on the subject, the result of a long residence in Africa, and some little attention to events, if we might venture to suggest to our friends the way in which they can the most easily arrive at their object, we would humbly recommend in place of a commercial, an agricultural association; and if separate and independent action should be preferred, send out from America, responsible men, acquainted with the cultivation and preparation of tropical productions. To them the property of the association might be confided, as well as the entire supervision of its affairs; let a suitable tract of land be obtained in the limits of the colony, commence the cultivation of the soil, on an extended scale by the employment of colonial and native labour, and then an important step will be made toward the great object in view. By this plan the poor labourer and mechanic would find employment, the wild and untutored African would learn the habits and arts of civilization, his mind from constant association with others of a different mould, would undergo an insensible assimilation, and be gradually weaned from heathenism, and a new life would be infused throughout all ranks of the community, by the inspiring example thus set before them.

(From the Colonization Herald.)

LIBERIA.

The great fertility of the soil and the prolific and continuous vigour of the climate causes a remarkable growth of vegetation in all its endless variety of form. An African forest is thus not only an object of great beauty, but it abounds in the material of wealth, as the large exportations of its gums, spices, and dye-woods have already shown. Before I proceed to speak particularly of these, however, I must notice a circumstance which has led some careless observers of the country into ludicrous errors respecting the appearance and natural productions.

Most of the country lying near the sea has been at one time and another cleared of its wood, and for a season brought under the rude culture of the natives: but as a rapid growth of vegetation immediately supervenes upon the removal of their crop, and covers the field with grass and bushes, it is always abandoned after the first season and a new clearance made in the woods for the next crop. In a few years the deserted farm becomes a tangled thicket of trees and shrubs bound together with the interminable lacings of a thousand vines, and almost impenetrable.

Thus a great part of the coast stripped of its ancient forest exhibits the appearance of a dense and matted shrubbery with here and there a scattered tree of partial growth, but wholly destitute of its original characteristics. As we ascend the rivers, however, an entirely different scene presents itself. The primitive forest in all its native grandeur covers the earth; the graceful palm tree waves its feathery branches in the breeze and the lofty wismoe and huge mahogany rear high their towering heads to heaven; among the green foliage is seen the gay colouring of flowers which bloom on many a stately tree, and give a magic-like variety to the deep embowering wood

The *Palm* is perhaps the most valuable tree found in Africa, certainly more various in its uses than any other. The leaves afford an excellent covering for the simple hut of the natives, and also furnish the material for cordage and cloth. Its juice is a pleasant and refreshing drink, called 'palm wine;' the nuts which grow in large clusters form an article of food extensively used and highly nutritious—oil is also made from them by expression, which besides supplying all the demand for home consumption is exported in large quantities to Europe and America; and to complete the manifold excellences of this invaluable tree its heart when boiled, forms an agreeable and wholesome vegetable resembling cabbage in its flavour, from which it is named 'palm cabbage.'

The *Camwood* must be ranked next in importance to the palm tree. This is one of the most costly kinds of dye-wood, and is an article of exportation from western Africa. That found in the Bassa country is considered much superior to that of the windward coast. About thirty miles inland from Bassa Cove commences the camwood country par excellence, where for a distance of fifty miles or more, scarcely any other kind of tree is found. When roads shall be opened to this region and the wagons of the colonists be substituted for the burden-bearing shoulders of the indolent savage, a rich mine of wealth, now nearly unavailable, will be added to the great resources of Liberia, and a new impulse be given to the enterprise of her citizens.

Barwood, and other kinds of dye-wood are found in different parts of the colony, though in much less abundance than camwood.

Teak grows in great perfection along the coast and in the interior; it is considered quite equal to live oak for ship building, and is exported for this purpose in large quantities from Sierra Leone to England. The trees are large and of a beautiful appearance.

Mahogany of a quality somewhat inferior to that of St. Domingo is found in considerable abundance. This tree may be appropriately styled the monarch of the forest: it lifts its vast body in stately pride among the neighbouring trees and spreads its magnificent branches abroad in all the pomp of majesty.

Redwood, or as it is called by the natives fancy wood, is a fine and beautiful wood susceptible of a high polish, and much esteemed for elegant cabinet work. It abounds throughout the coast, and is one of the finest trees of the country.

The *Tamarind*, is a lofty tree of very rich foliage, and is valuable as well for its ornamental appearance and fine shade as for its pleasant fruit. I have seen it flourishing in great perfection and laden with fruit in the gardens of Monrovia.

The *Cocoanut* tree is a species of the palm: though common on some parts of the coast, I have never seen them in Liberia, except in a few instances where they had been introduced by the colonists. They are tall graceful trees and make a fine appearance along the side of a walk or street.

Caoutchouc, or the India rubber tree is common about Bassa Cove and with a little attention may be rendered an important article of export.

Gum Senegal and *Copal* are abundant; great quantities are exported from different parts of the coast.

The *Watervine*—One of the most remarkable provisions of Providence in adapting his bounties to the wants of his creatures, is found in this singular vine which abounds every where in the woods. It is hollow and full of pure cold water, which runs out in a stream when the vine is cut. In the dry season when many of the springs and small streams are without water, the thirsty traveller is always certain of a plentiful supply by applying his knife to the vine.

Coffee, of which several kinds are indigenous, grows every where throughout the country. Every one who has tasted the coffee of Liberia, pronounces it superior to the best Java or Mocha. This valuable article is beginning to receive the attention it deserves from the colonists, and in a few years it will undoubtedly become an important source of wealth to them. Within two or three last years, many persons have made plantations of considerable extent in nearly all the settlements.

Cotton, of a beautiful staple is indigenous. Instead of being as elsewhere an annual, this plant is here of perennial growth. It bears crop after crop, in regular succession, for twelve or fourteen years, when it begins to degenerate and needs replanting.

Sugar-cane, in several varieties is indigenous, and may be cultivated to any extent with very little expense and manifold profit. Within a few years this valuable article has excited considerable attention throughout the colony, and recently a company with a capital of $5,000, has been organized at Monrovia, for the prosecution of this business more vigorously. So we may hope to see Liberian sugar in our market before long.

Oranges, Limes and Lemons, of a quality superior to the West Indian, are abundant, and may be raised in any quantities with scarcely an effort.

Plantains and *Bananas*, of uncommon size, and great richness, grow plentifully in all parts of the country.

Pine Apples are among the most abundant productions: every where along the coast they are found covering whole tracts of land. They are very large and of a delicious flavour, superior to any I ever tasted elsewhere.

Malaguetta pepper, the red pepper, cinnamon, ginger, and many other spices grow plentifully.

Indigo, of a very excellent quality, grows wild and in great abundance.

Pawpaw, Sousop, Guava, the *Maunna apple*, and many other pleasant and useful fruits might be added to this list, already I fear too long for the patience of your readers. Before I close, however, I must mention some of the most important productions of the garden and the farm, together with the principal articles of commerce, not already enumerated.

Rice is the universal grain of the country. From the luxuriance of its growth, and the great quantities produced in the vicinity of Bassa Cove, that part of the country has obtained the name of 'the grain coast.' In its cultivation there is an irrigating process necessary, as in America; it grows equally well on high and low land and requires no care when once sown until it is ready for the sickle.

Cassada.—Next to rice this is the article of food most common among the natives. Indeed, though less prized as a luxury, it is more generally depended on as an article of permanent and substantial use. This is chiefly on account of its easier cultivation, not requiring to be replanted oftener than once in three years. It resembles the Irish potato somewhat in flavour, and is very nutritious.

Yams grow in great perfection, and constitute an important item of African horticulture.

Sweet Potatoes of a large but inferior kind are indigenous, but the Carolina potato introduced by Gov. Pinney, is even better than it is found in that country.

Indian corn, millet, peas, beans, tomatoes, beets, carrots, radishes, melons, cucumbers, squashes, pumpkins and cabbage, are cultivated by the colonists, and brought rapidly to perfection. The Lima bean continues bearing like the grape for several years in succession. I have eaten beans from a vine which had been yielding its regular semi-annual crops for four years, and at this time gave promise of many more fruitful seasons.

Ivory is one of the principal articles of commerce and is procured in considerable quantities throughout the whole western coast.

Hides are occasionally brought to the colonies, but as a general thing the natives, particularly those in the Bassa country, prefer eating to selling them. About the Gambia and Pongas rivers great quantities are exported.

Gold abounds to the northward of Liberia, and also to the eastward along the gold coast, but as yet none has made its appearance in our villages as an article of traffic. At Sierra Leone an extensive trade has been carried on for some time in it. Some years their exports of this metal have amounted to $60,000.

The natives manufacture rings and other ornaments of gold, which at times exhibit great taste and skill.

Iron ore of a rich quality is found in the high lands a few miles back from the coast. The natives of the interior manufacture their own iron, which is wrought into implements of domestic and warlike use. They have a method of tempering their blades admirably.

T. B.

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