thing I take from him; I make school this time. Plenty country boy sava book, all same America boy. All this thing, you sava I done do for Cape Palmas people. Long time I hear grand devil name; I hear big word for country live river side; my heart say I must look him; I must hear he word, pose he be good. I done look king Tom; we mix word; I done make book for he country. That book say he country be America country this time all same Cape Palmas. That book make all country one; so they all be one people; all peak one word; every man pass where he please, no palaver live any place; every side be clear. Country man can pass, bring trade, can work for money for America man. He pickaninny can go school; American man can come bush country, go river, build house any place he please. All this palaver live book. King Tom put he name for book; all he head-men like this palaver; he done send he head-men for peak you this palaver long-side to me. You done hear their word; you done hear my word; I peak no more.'

Response.—'We done hear your word; we tink he be good; we tank you. No more, he fit we look we head; then you can hear we word.'

Upon this, an adjournment took place for private consultation. In about an hour we were again assembled, and the orator spoke to the following amount:—'We done look we head for that word you done peak. All man heart be glad. We old, old father never hear whité man peak word. That word you peak please all man; we will for that you peak. We will for you come this country for set down here; for do that fash your heart please. We will for put our name for book all same king Tom. *We thank you—we thank you.*'

DIFFICULTIES AT PLOROH.

Thus ended the palaver. After dinner, the deeds were executed. Every specification was fully explained, giving to every clause the broadest interpretation, and much wrangling ensued previous to signing. After this the dashes were produced. This business had been in their hearts from the beginning, and like civilized people, they affected to feel a great deal for the benefit of the rising generation, &c. while the present gain was the only incitement to action. At sight of the cloth, tobacco, &c., his majesty appeared quite indignant, and sulkily demanded if the whole was a dash for him or for his people. He was informed that they were intended for him and people altogether, that he could divide them as he thought proper. His conduct gave a cue to the others—a scene of confusion ensued, which can only be witnessed in an African town. I quietly waited its termination near two hours, but in vain; reason, and even words, were out of the question. Night was approaching and I ordered the goods returned to the house. They all menaced us by gestures at least, and declared that we should not go up the river, that we should go back as soon as morning came. To all of this I made no reply, and seemed perfectly indifferent to the clamour on all sides. This irritated them so much the more, and it seemed as if they would split their throats and throw their limbs from their bodies, so outrageous was their yelling and so violent were their gestures. I feared no violence from them until we should attempt to ascend the river, but I doubted much if the palaver could be quietly set. I perceived from the first, that the Half Cavally people maintained a powerful influence over the minds of many, and although they talked palaver with us in the day, I was well informed that an embassy from Cavally opposed us in the night. I had determined not to move our goods from the house in which we lodged, but to fix our swivel in the floor, capsize the roof and sides, and then clear the town, which we could easily do, as we were situated immediately in the centre, on the apex of the hill. First,

however, I thought proper to use all palliative measures. In the evening, I sent privately for king Toureh, and dashed him as if for his kind entertainment, expressed my sorrow that the palaver was spoiled, intimating that I should leave early in the morning for home. In like manner I served several other head-men, unknown to each other, among whom was the grand devil priest. He said that I must not go, that he would induce the king to set the palaver to-morrow. Early in the morrow, king Toureh dashed me a bullock, and said I must stay until breakfast. I found the Half Cavally people had been up last night, and pressed their suit to have them turn us back very strongly, but their promises of remuneration fell so far short of my yesterday's dash, that they rather lost than gained by this movement. After breakfast the palaver was again opened, and was continued among themselves four hours at least. Finally, I was asked if I wished to go up the river; I replied, that I had talked my palaver, that it was good and they knew it, that they had behaved so, that I cared little whether they accepted my dash or not; that I would add a few things more, and if they took it, well and good; if not, I should do what I pleased. They desired that the money might be again produced; it was done, and I must own it gave me much pleasure to see the king roll up his tobacco in a piece of romauls. The receiving money is their only bond to a contract.

DIVISION OF THE PRESENTS AT PLOROH.

The moment the king's money was deposited in his chest, a scene of confusion ensued that almost killed me with laughter. All hands simultaneously seized upon the whole pieces of bleached cotton, which were coiled round and round their smoky houses, and dragged in the mire of the town in every direction. Some one more fortunate than his fellows would envelope himself in half a dozen folds, slash both sides with his cutlass, and clear for the bush. Eight or ten others would half agree upon the division of a piece, when some long two-fisted fellow would dash himself into the ring, fold the whole into his arms, paw some half dozen fellows into the dirt, and make his way off. I saw one old head-man of a small town entangled in a coil of shirting. He was so corpulent as to be hardly able to waddle—a few lusty youngsters, unmindful of his situation, were tugging violently at each end; the poor old man was rolled among the mud and rocks, at once crying aloud for baft and mercy. Many other articles proved not so difficult of distribution, or rather division. The pipes and looking-glasses shortly fulfilled their destiny. Cutlasses and knives were drawn through many a naked hand. The tobacco was saved by handfulls. Many of the head-men were unable to secure even one leaf. One little fellow, a governor for a bush town, particularly excited my compassion and merriment. In the midst of the fray, they had torn off the cloth he wore from home, and he came begging for another. He was in a woful plight, indeed; entirely naked below a thick woollen roundabout, in which he was buttoned to the chin. That part of his face which appeared between this and a thick felt hat crammed over his eyebrows, indicated the deepest agony. He sobbed and whined so dolefully, that I gave him a fathom of romauls, which at least, improved his appearance.

VISIT TO HAIDEE.

The palaver was now set in good earnest, and I determined to be off while the turmoil lasted. We accordingly took a hasty leave of king Toureh, manned our canoes, gave them a parting gun, and once more, to my infinite satisfaction, turned our prows up the stream. King Gunoa of Haidee, had sent a man the night previous to escort us to his town. I took him on board my canoe. My old friend Jeammah was also one of our

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