tropical character, stretches round their bases and through their valleys, with its profusion of palms, creepers, and dye-woods. These hereafter will form the commercial wealth of the country, affording oil, india-rubber, dye-stuffs, and other useful productions.

The wild animals of Africa belong to plains and to loose thickets, rather than to timbered forests. There is a gradation in the height of the head, among the larger quadrupeds, which indicates the sort of country and of vegetation suitable to them.

The musket, with its "villanous saltpetre," in the hands of barbarians is everywhere expelling from the earth its bulkier creatures, so that the elephant is disappearing, and ivory will become scarce. Fear tames the wildest nature; even the lion is timid when he has to face the musket. The dull ox has learned a lesson with regard to him; for when the kingly brute prowls round an unyoked wagon resting at night, and his growl or smell makes the oxen shake and struggle with terror, they are quieted by the discharge of fire arms.

When Europeans first visited the shores of Africa, they were astonished at the tameness and abundance of unchecked animal life. The shallow bays and river lagoons were full of gigantic creatures; seals were found in great numbers, but of all animals these seem the most readily extirpated. The multitudes which covered the reefs of South Africa are nearly gone, and they seem to be no longer met with on the northern shores of the continent. The manatee, or sea-cow, and the hippopotamus, frequented the mouths of rivers, and were killed and eaten by the natives. They had never tamed and used the elephant: that this might have been done is inferred from the use of these animals by the Carthaginians. But as the Carthaginian territory was not African in the strict sense of the term, it may be doubted whether their species was that of Central Africa. This latter species is a larger, less intelligent looking, and probably a more stubborn creature than the Asiatic. The roundness of their foreheads and the size of their ears give them a duller and more brutal look; the magnitude of their tusks, and the occurrence of these formidable weapons in the female as well as in the male, are accommodated to the necessity of conflict with the lion, and indicate a wilder nature.

Lions of several species, abundance of panthers, cats, genets, and hyenas of many forms, mainly constitute the carnivorous province, having, as is suitable to the climate, a high proportion of the hyena form, or devourers of the dead. A foot of a pongo, or large ape, "as large as that of a man, and covered with hair an inch long," astonished one of the earliest navigators. This animal, which indicates a zoological relationship to the Malayan islands, is known to afford the nearest approach to the human form. The monkey structure on the east coast of Africa tends to pass into the nocturnal or Lemurine forms of Madagascar, where the occurrence of an insulated Malayan language confirms the relationship indicated above.

The plains with bushy verdure nourish the ostrich and many species of bustards over the whole continent. Among the creatures which range far are the lammergeyer, or bearded eagle of the Alps, and the brown owl of Europe, extending to the extremity of the south. Among the parrots and the smaller birds, congregating species abound, forming a sort of arboreal villages, or joint-stock lodging-houses. Sometimes hundreds of such dwellings are under one thatch, the entrances being below. The weaving birds suspend their bottleshaped habitations at the extremities of limber branches, where they wave in the wind. This affords security from monkeys and snakes; but they retain the instinct of forming them so when there is no danger from either the one or the other.

Reptiles abound in Africa. The Pythons (or Boas) are formidable. Of the species of serpents probably between one-fourth and one-fifth are poisonous; but every thing relating to them in the central regions requires to be ascertained. The Natal crocodile is smaller than the Egyptian, but is greatly dreaded.

[From the Ohio Democratic Expositor.]

LITTLE CHARLEY, THE MARYLAND EMIGRANT.

In one of the lower counties of the State of Maryland there lived, many years ago, an honest and pious free man of color by the name of Stephen Smith. He had married, when quite a young man, a slave girl of very light complexion, whose master owned a large plantation, and many servants. Celia was a house-attendant, and being constantly about the person of the mistress, and seeing much of the refined and superior society who visited her master's residence, became herself intelligent and cultivated, and a woman far above the common field-hands who labor on the farm. Smith was a blacksmith by trade, and, while pursuing his vocation, found no difficulty in supporting himself, and adding to the necessaries of life which his wife and family received, many of those little comforts, and to them luxuries, which are not generally bestowed on persons in their sphere of life.

After a lapse of years, these pious parents, both of them members of the M. E. Church, found themselves with a family of five children around them, and, of course, five slaves added to the possessions of the mother's master. Smith began to reflect seriously on his situation, and the prospects before his family. He saw plainly that so long as he continued in Maryland, so long would it be impossible for him to acquire the means of emancipating his wife and children—and he saw, too, that there was no probability of their becoming free by any other means than his hard labor and industry. At this crisis in their history, the father hears of the scheme of African Colonization. Maryland had taken a deep interest in the enterprise. Land had been bought at the coast of Africa for a colony. The State Legislature had nobly appropriated the liberal sum of $10,000 for twenty years in succession, towards settling the free colored people of the State of Maryland, in Liberia. "This is the place for me," cried Smith, "I will go to Africa, and, God being my helper, I will work and save, and economize. I will bear absence from my beloved wife and children for their future welfare. I will try if I cannot earn money enough to make them all free, and then take them to the only land where the man of color can be free indeed."

The plan was no sooner submitted to the wife than she immediately fell into it. "Go my husband, and God go with you and bless you. I will willingly endure your absence for two or three years, if after that you may be able to place us in a country where our children can be free, can be educated, and be something in the world."

Smith went to Cape Palmas, the seat of the Maryland Colony. He worked at his trade and prospered. His fervent prayers there, and those of his devoted wife in Maryland, went up and mingled together at the same Throne of Heavenly Grace. God, the creator of the African, as well as of the Anglo-Saxon, heard those prayers and answered them. Smith, after an absence of not more than two years, returned to America, and paid down the sum of $1,000 to the master of his family for his wife and three of his children; but, poor fellow, his means did not reach the whole of them. Two children had to be left behind, with the hope that the time would soon come when their father would be able to return and purchase them also.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
A. Maryland Colonization Journal

2. June 1841 (n.s. I, 1)--May 1861 (n.s. X, 24)

1855