legislator, in addition to the estimate which he has of himself, has the highest opinion of the greatness and destiny of the republic, and speaks of it in comparison with England or the United States, in a tone which shows that he at least does not think it inferior to either, if he does not consider it superior. Speaking of the wants of Liberia, in conversation with an American, one of these gentlemen is reported to have delivered himself in this strain:—

"It is not gentlemen that we want here—we have gentlemen enough, and gentlemen of cultivated tastes and habits. No, sir, it is not gentlemen we want; what we require is bone and sinew—bone and sinew, sir, is what we are most in need of. The class of emigrants we desire from your country (he had been a barber himself in some part of the United States) are farmers—men, sir, who till the soil; farmers, sir, from the south and southwest—men who have a thorough practical knowledge of the cultivation of the soil. As for gentlemen, sir, Liberia, I assure you, will never want for them."

The American complimented him on the appearance of Monrovia and its situation, when he launched forth as follows:—

"Monrovia is a very good place as a town—a very good place as a town; but, sir, it is not fitted for the capitol of a great nation—a great nation, sir. In fifty or a hundred years hence, when the republic shall have extended itself on every side, it will not do at all, sir, for the capitol. Just think, sir, what a position we would be placed in if we ever got into a war with any of the powers of Europe, or your country, by having the capitol where it is at present. Why, sir, the very wadding of your guns would be blown into our city. Why it is absolutely preposterous to think of it. It is true we hope to remain at peace with the rest of the world, but should we ever get into a war with any of those nations, sir, we might be forced to leave it, sir, as President Madison was obliged to leave Washington. No, sir; our motto is in time of peace prepare for war, and therefore I say we should have our capitol at least a hundred and fifty miles back from the coast.

"But," said the American, "you know that it is not in fortifications that a city's best means of defence lie. Sparta, you may remember, required no walls but the breasts of her citizens to repel the foe."

"Oh, yes," he replied, "that might do very well for Sparta, but it wouldn't answer at all for Liberia."

On the subject of amalgamation with whites he was not inclined to be unfavorable, although he had his doubts as to the benefits to be derived from it.

But, although this legislator was a tolerably fair specimen of his class, it must not be inferred that they were all like him—for there are some men of ability, judgment and high personal character among the members of the Liberian Congress, and they were doing all they could, with a sincere desire for the benefit of the country."

It is scarcely necessary to say that there is a spice of caricature in the above reported colloquy, between an officer of the Navy and a Liberian *gentleman*, which we find in one of the New York papers; still we recognize in it more or less of true Liberian swagger, and we fancy we could come near naming the individual represented as uttering it. We were mortified with the like rodomontade, not unfrequently, on our late visit to Liberia, not from the most intelligent to be sure, but from those

occupying important positions, connected with the government or in the Legislature.

But let this not be set down as characteristic of Liberia, or of the colored man. It is only characteristic of human nature. We venture to say, that the boasting of many a Yankee in Europe has to quite as great an extent excited the astonishment and risibilities of his auditory, as did our Liberian friend those of the writer. Hence the "Abijah Pogram," "Mrs. Hominy" and the like, of Dickins and other humerous caricaturists.

The reports of our Congressional proceedings, especially the grandiloquent declamations of the South Carolina fire eaters, not unfrequently offer specimens quite as rich as the above. But, we do wish our Liberia friends would weigh more judiciously their real importance, and know that, *only in their weakness is their strength*, that their very existence is but an experiment, as yet of doubtful result,—that, independent of the hopes of the future, of elevating a continent, an entire race of men, Liberia and its citizens are nothing, less than nothing in the brotherhood of nations—in the world.

[Continued from February Number.]

INTERIOR OF AFRICA—A LIBERIAN'S EXPLORATIONS AND SETTLEMENT.

In the third place, I would remark, that the agricultural interest of the Republic would be enhanced by interior operations; for, in the first place, the residence is beyond the inducements to enter into trade, as encouraged on the coast; for every intelligent mind can see that it will require an outlay beyond the ability of ordinary individuals, and that very fact will secure that branch to a few, who may be capable to prosecute it with vigor—a condition of things that should characterize every prosperous community. In the second place, they would be in that part of the country where the cotton plant grows most luxuriantly, and assumes the character of a good-sized tree, producing the best staple in the world;—and who does not know that Liberia must be a manufacturing country before she can be out of the bounds of imposition; and the whole world may send their surplus cloth goods to Africa for many years yet, and still the cry will be not enough. Agriculture, as conducted in Liberia at this period, taxes the energy of but a few; whereas, to be profitable, everything should be cultivated that will add to the comfort of a people—and for two important reasons for Liberia: and that is, first, it will save a very heavy outlay for foreign articles annually; and, in the second place, it will afford the means of public improvement. Whereas, the present state of affairs is an inducement to indulgence, and in process of time, perhaps to crime; and nothing will, in my opinion, so soon and so effectively revolutionize the present condition of things in Liberia as the pursuit of agriculture in the interior. These elevated, healthy, cool, and salubrious regions are well adapted, very likely, for the introduction of a large variety of grains, vegetables and fruits: for it is admitted that Africa is one of the garden spots of the world; and that every thing can be procured from the soil, that a reasonable body can want in this climate, is beyond dispute, and that, too, in superabundance.

In the fourth place, I would remark, that the commercial interest of Liberia is in a precarious state, and the causes of the present condition of

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