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LIBERIA HIBRALID.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

January 9th, 1843.

To the Honorable, The Members of the Legislative Council.

GENTLEMEN: - On our present meeting it becomes my duty to invite your attention to the providential favors which our Colony has experienced during the past year, in the unusual degree of health dispensed to its inhabitants, in the rich abundance with which the earth has rewarded the labors

of the farmer, in the success that has attended the efforts of our enterprising merchants, in the extension of the influence of the Colony, over the minds of the heathen tribes around us, and in the progress of general improvement favorable to the prosperity of our infant republic-with these blessings, have been necessarily mingled the inconveniences and vicissitudes incident to all new countries. Still there is just occasion for our mutual congratulations and thankfulness to that beneficent Being who in his goodness has been pleased to favor us with such distinguished mercies.

our friendly relations with foreigners or with the Table to most every reasonable wish of the people.

In compliance with a resolution of the Legisla! ture at its last Session, I transmitted to the Board Society, they have nevertheless shared a goodly subject; but I cannot force recommending to your of Directors of the A necican Colonization Society, degree of public patronage-confidence in the utiliall the facts that have come to my knowledge relative to the disputed claim of jurisdiction over cer. tain territory in the vicinity of Grand Bassa-generally known as Bassa Cove, or Grand Bassa Point., Many of these facts had been transmitted prior to sures of high importance to the Colonization cause, settling estates shall be required to give bond and adjournment of the Legislature, I received from the Board an elaborate communication fully approving the measures adopted by the authorities here to sustain the laws of the Commonwealth by compelling all persons within the jurisdiction of the Colony to submit to the Majesty of the laws. This communication will be laid before you, and will no doubt give you much satisfaction to find with what promptuess the Board have taken up the subject, and their determ. action to sustain as fir as practicable the institutions of the Colony,

I hoped that this perplexing question had terminated with my correspondence with Captain Denman, in this, however, I was mistaken. In July last, Capt. J. Oake of Her Majesty's Sloop "Ferret" re- resolution of the last Council authorizing me to newed the correspondence by proposing a series of have compiled and published in one volume all questions relative to the jurisdiction of the Colony, to the segure of certain property by the collector at sensibly the importance of such a compilation-Grand Bassa belonging to Mr. Dring, of the British brig "Ranger" and relative to the detention of a certain amount of money, in the hands of Honorable Louis Sheridan, claimed by one D. Murray. To whom I considered competent to discharge such all of these, I responded, and I believe succeeded in satis ying Capt. Oake, of our priority of chain to, and right of jurisdiction over the territory in dispute as also the justice of the seizure of Dring's goods, and the detention of the amount claimed by Marray. This correspondence the Secretary will lay before you.

The subject of territorial limits, gentlemen is becoming one of considerable importance, and deserves vour de liberate and imme liate considera ion, recent developments are sufficient to convince us that unless some speedy and efficient efforts are made to secure to the Colony a greater extent of territory- men to the propriety of expunging aftering or so imigration must cease or soon we shall not have amending the 4th section of "a bill for the regulation anarchy. The condition of our race, too in other sufficient territory to carry on our agricultural pur- of towns and villages in this Commonwealth"-18 parts of the world and especially of the inhabitants suits. Foreign traders are still making encroach- ; to make it the duty of the Governor or of the Gov- of this heathen country should be motives to rouse ments upon us, and some of them have been guilty ernor and Council to appoint from time to time us to greater diligence, that we may show to the of the most unprincipled artifices to destroy our commercie and in produce the trade. They use to carry into effect the provisions of that act mental improvement as any other. At present there every manis however dishonorable, to prejudice the natives against in . Commy -pro upting the n to commit depredictions and the property of colon- countes and villages in the Commonwealth of Libe- control of various religious institutions in America, your ial traders; speaking disrespectfully of the colonial government, representing it as being unable to

protest its citizens or enforce its laws. Should this state of things continue, in a few years we shall find ourselves involved in unpleasant controversies with foreigners, and perhaps in a war with our neighbors. I know that this question has given birth to a variety of opinions and speculations with regard to the propriety of extending the jurisdiction of the Colony along the coest beyond our

present possessions which indeed are very limited. Commonwealth—to be refunded in such way and Some speak of the plan of lining the coast with | manner as you may think proper to provide—withchristian settlements as visionary and impractica- out entering into any arguments to prove to you, ble. Some as being impolitic-unless we had the who must be equally convinced of the fact, the a more extensive territory along the coast, it would 'quently in this respect our towns and villages have be useless and consuming your time to no purpose, for me to enter into any arguments to prove the fallacy of the above objections. But would recommend that a proper representation from the citizens of Liberia through the American Colonization Society-be made to the Governments of Great Britain. and the United States, setting forth the importance, to the Colony, of allowing its jurisdiction to extend suppression of the slave trade, and for the extension acquiring jurisdiction over the territory named, but will protect us from the improper interference of tthose who are doing all they can to injure and rearl the progress of the Colony.

Managers by the schooner "Herald" in April last ple of the Colony"

reason to expect from recent movements in the been induced to credit. Something gentlemen must informed on this subject this subject to the been induced to credit. Something gentlemen must informed on this subject that the been induced to credit. Since the meeting of the Legislature in April United States-with regard to Colonization-that be done to correct this evil or its demoralizing the prosperity of a people. Some an latest will last, nothing of importance has occurred to disturb the day is not distant when the Society will be influence will be left severely at no distant day. natives of the country we inhabit. Peace and har- For not withstanding, that the deranged and de- " ations generally made in the statute laws of the pressed conditions of the finances of the United States have operated most powerfully against the ty, the magnitude and grandeur of the scheme is increasing throughout the union.

At a Colonization convention held in the city of Washington a few months ago were adopted mea- provide that persons assuming the responsibility of friends are resolved to prosecute it with new vigor and to seek from the general Government are required of alumistrators in the 4th section of then away with it, before we are called to experof the United States countenance and protection | said Act; and futher that all executors, ad ninistra--and from the State Governments cooperation tors or others having the management of estates and support. The humane and pious every where shall be compelled at each session of the probate are coming forward to their aid, and no doubt court to render an account in writing of their doings very soon the resources of the Society will be so in relation to any estate or property of which they pidly diministrate, where the poison is still dealt augmented as to enable them to carry on more may have had the management. And futher, at out in small quantities, to the injury not only of colsuccessfully and vigorous'y their operations, both present we have no statute laws regulating the onists—some few of whom will not give up the of removing imigrants to Liberto, of opening the apportionment of widows dowers-but have been practice of taking it at stated times-but to naresources of the country, and in making such pub- conforming to a custom in the Colony, how obtained | tives, and to foreigners whose health is materially lic improvements in the Colony as may be nescessary for our protection and convenience.

I regret gentlemen to inform you that I have the statute laws of the Commonwealth. Feeling goon after the adjournment of the Legislature I made several efforts to have the work attended to. but without success, every application to gentlemen duties was refused upon the ground, that the r private engage nems were such as to prevent them without serious injury to their own business especially, at that season of the year, from giving that attention to the work that would insure success. Finding the year so far spent before could procure the services of competent persons. and thinking that the present Legislature would. more than likely make some necessary and maportant alterations in the present code, I concluded to defer the compilation until after the present session. I would here call your attention gentlecommissioners—with an equitable consideration— world that the African race is as susceptible of instead of the commissioners appointed in the 6th are schools established in several of dur towns and section of the "Act to provide regulations for the villages; these however are under patronage and ria" passed in August and September 1839, and and may be discontinued at any moment, it therefore futher that it shall be the duty of the commissioners becomes us to make an effort to assist ourselves in an appointed to see that at stated times he streets in this great work of improvement, that we may be the towns and villages are cleared of under brush prepared for any emergency; we can do something, and noxious weeds, and that in the event of persons | and should do something-let us put our shoulders | proceed forthwith to clear up any such neglected are enlisted in our favor, especially with regard to "huzza for Washington!"

means of guarding and protecting them-otherwise | deleterious effects that the growth of noxious weeds they say we will be responsible for every outrage in our streets must have upon the health of the committed by the natives. Others insist that the community-I will only remark that under the settlers should push their way immediately into the present arrangements the responsibility imposed by interior, giving up all idea of ever, extending the ju- the 5th section of the article referred to has rendered risdiction of the Colony along the coast-convinced it most difficult to procure the services of proper gentlemen as I believe you are, and as every Libe. persons-especially without an adequate conpensarian must be of the great importance of acquiring | tion-to undertake the duties of the office, consebeen shamefully neglected.

I would call your attention to another subject that deserves consideration, and which must be provided for if we expect to maintain the purity of our institutions-I allude to the great difficulty with which public officers are able to collect the fines and forfeitures imposed by the courts in the Colony, and the indifference with which civil and military orders from G and Cape Mount to the Assince-River. I are sometimes treated by a certain portion of our believe that just so soon as those governments can community, according to our present system most fine to go into the hands of the school committee be made satisfied of the importance of settling chris- military delinquencess, and many offences against for the benefit of the school." Now gentlemen tian colonies along this coast for the more e Feetinal | the municipal laws of the Commonwealth are punishable only by fines, and as our laws allow noof christianity, among a heathen and barbarous peo- imprisonment for debt, a certain class of individuals ple. They will not only grant us the privilege of regardless of consequences-having nothing upon which the officer can lay his hands, of which some of them make their boast, wantonly refuse or neglect to do those duties required by law, and that good and responsible citizens are compelled to per-In my official communication to the Board of form, thereby throwing the burthen of certain public duties, that should be born by all on a part of the I mude an aliusion to a resolution that had just community. One or two instances have occured in the passed the Legislative Council-seliciting of the colony when public officers have been defied; I am Society a loan of several thousand dollars to assist happy to state however that, that resistance was conthe colonial authorities to make such public im- | fined to a very few, and of the class of individuals reprovements in the Colony as our own resources | fered to above, viz: persons without property, consewould not warrant - n reply to this part of my quently, regardless of consequences, it is not letter the Rev. R. R. Gurley under date 20th | untrequent to hear them say when brought up June says"-as the proceedings of the Council before a tribunal to answer for any misconducthave not been transmitted I will only say-that | "well fine me and then get the money when and with every disposition to meet such a proposition | where you can, I have nothing you can seize--vithout a larger increase of our resources-it | you cant sell my house, nor have I more personal will be out of our power. I shall not cease to chattles than the law protects from seizure" merhope that our income at no distant day will be chants and others suffer from this very class of such as to meet every reasonable wish of the peo- individuals-how frequently have I heard the bitter complaints of citizens with regard to the We too gentlemen may hope and have great shameful conduct of such persons whom they have naits to prave to you gentleman, var are so well

Opposed as I am to the many changes and alter-Commonwealth at each session of the Legislature. I am almost disposed to say nothing futher on this consideration the propriety of one more a neudinent; viz, that of so altering or amending "a bill to prevent frands in the management of intestate and other estates" passed August and September 1839, as to security for the faithful performance of their duty as I know not, of allowing the widow one third of all | injured in this climate by its frequent use. I would the real estate Whether solvent or insolvent; this | therefore recommend that the duty on ardent spirright, should the estate be insolvent—has been its &:. &:. be considerably more sed, and that the not been able to carry into effect an important | questioned, therefore to avoid future misunderstand- | special license to retuiers be not less than one haning, I would recommend that some definite regula- | dre l dollars.

tion be made with regard to it. The subject of common schools gentlemen is one that deserves your atttention-its importance is well known to you, and I believe will have your consideration. For if we expect as I have no doubt all of you do-that Liberia is destined at some future day rate into a wretched democracy which must end in streets to be paid out of any funds belonging to the this subject, and when it is known abread that we

appreciate learning, and are doing all in our nower to obtain it and can not succeed, then and not till then, shall we have the efficient aid of our friends abroad, and he able to establish permanant schools for the education of our youth. On this subject I scarcely know gentlemen what course to recommend to your consideration. An Act regulating common schools passed August and September 1839 makes every provision necessary for the government of schools, but a very inadequate provision for their maintainance, the 3d section of that Act provides that the sum of three dollars per year be paid by all those who may be admitted into these schools or by their parents or guardians, if they be able—the said amount to be paid to the school committee or any person appointed by them, of course for the support of the school. The 8th section provides, that all persons shall be bound by law to send their children to school-provided their ages vary from five to twelve years, and whospever fails to comply with the above regulation shall without excuse be compelled to pay a fine of three dollars said this is the only provision for the maintainance of public schools, how then could it be expected that competent teachers could be procured; especially when in no one settlement are to be found more than thirty or forty children whose parents or guardians are able to pay even a small account fowards their tuition, no, under such circumstances teachers could not be procured, nor have we been able the past year to supply even those settlements that are entirely destitute of schools with a public teacher, nor shall we be able until the Commonwealth will take the responsibility and provide more effectually for the pay near of

An other subject to which I would call your attention is the demoralizing indiance that tipling sliops must have in any connainty, and especially in a community like ours, at such places are always to be found the idle and the worthless, who are not backward for the sake of a dram in enticing the young und the theughtless, who after a few visits and thew glasses like their selucers become slaves to the intoxicating cap, and so in a reproach to their fundies and to society. I feel that it will be altogether unecessary for me to enter into any argu curl the lip, and sav, that we have no cause of a lar n in Liberia, that a more to northe people exists no where—that gentle non here to ich the glass very cautionaly, and that dem'ang to excess is 30.1hist to a few solitary experients in the wille Cinnarvealth. Lalinit all this to be true, but dies it ple id any thing in lav ir of thing artest spirits, certainly not, for if the prople are so te aperate as not to indalge the use of it is all, then of cours we have ar use for the acticle, all every one will say let it In and if the people are only so tenberare as to indulge in occasional glasses, and as all will admit the danger of its in reason; in lance if used at all. ience more of its pernicious consequences; touch not, taste not, handle not the liquid poison. The fact is gentlemen there are establish nents in Liberia, I am happy however, to say their number is ra-

(Concluded on our Fourth Page.)

THE HUZZAS OF POSTERITY.

A little boy near Higerstown, in Maryland, was to take a stand among the nations of the earth—we one day pointing out to ne a copse of trees as the must educate our children, the rising generation place where Washington, at the head of the Virmust be informed, for on them depend the erection | ginia rangers, fought a battle long before the wir of the fabric-the foundation of which you are now of the revolution, with some Indians, led by the commencing, a right education alone can raise French from Fort Diquesuc, nov Pittsburgh .-- Pins man to his true and proper dignity, and without little fellow had some balls of lead that had been it we must ever remain cast out and degraded. Our fired in that battle, chopped from the ceaties of the peculiar situation demands that we too should make | now massive and age looks. I saw that the suna strong and vigorous effort to improve our own j be un of some sublime moral emition was in his minds, if we expect to maintain and hand down to beyes, and I asked him further of Washington, the posterity unimpaired the purity of our republican brave youth who led the Virginians into that thickinstitutions. You know gentlemen that in an ig- et when the war-whoop shook its boughs, and the norant community republicanism will soon degene- rifle rung in its gloom. His mind seemed to glance like lightning through the illustrious deeds of arms in which Washington, had been engaged, and settied down at the closing scene of Yorktown. H; told me of one circumstance only. Said he, "when the British troops were marched out of their entreach nents to lay down their arms, Washington told the American army, "My boy, let there he no insults over a conquered foe! when they lay down their arms, don't huzza: posterity will huzza for

I could have hugged the little boy to my bosom. Although he had not probably been able to read more than four years, yet his mind had drank in the moral greatness of the act of sparing the fee ling- o atallen fee. I asked him what it was that W will igt in sa d refusing or neglecting w clear the streets contig. to the wheel, and when we have done all that we that posterity would do? he quickly ans yered, huzza. unus to their respective lots -then and in that case can do, I pledge myself there will be no lack of "Huzza! then," said I, and he sent me clear, wild it shall be the duty of the sud commissioners to aid, the sympathies of the benevolent every where shout into the battle-wood, and I shouted with him,

[Mirror)

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