LIBERIA HERALD.

NEW SERIES.

(FOR OUR COUNTRY.)

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LIBERIA HERALD

Published Semi-Monthly.

The Liberia Herald is published in Monrovia on the First and Third Wednesdays in each month, at One Dollar *per annum*, payable in advance.

The rates of advertising in the Liberia Herald, are,—

For a single square, one insertion, $" 37 1-2c.
For half a square, one insertion, $" 25c.
For each subsequent insertion, $" 12 1-2c.

Five lines or less, constitute half a square, and ten lines a square. If an advertisement exceeds a square the price will be in exact proportion.

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Voluntary correspondence, containing interesting or important news, solicited from any part of the Republic.

No notice will be taken of anonymous communications; nor will rejected communications be returned.

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BENJ'N COATES. WALTER BROWN

COATES & BROWN,

Wholesale Dealers in Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods,

No 139 1-2 Market street, North side, between Third and Fourth streets. PHILADELPHIA.

NEW GOODS!

And almost every thing else in use!!

To tell you Liberians about them would be, perhaps, exercising very your patience, or to doubt the veracity of the statement or that of the true existence and action of your own senses.

Therefore, come and both hear about, and see what you want.

In every case payment down.

Yours most Respectfully

E. J. ROYE.

Monrovia Feb. 21st 1851.

LAST NOTICE.

All persons indebted to the estate of Diego Evans, deceased, are hereby notified and requested *for the last* time, to come forward and pay the claims said estate has against them in all of this month, or they will be proceeded against according to law, in such casesmade and provied.

Further lenity cannot and will not be granted. Said debts must be paid in cash, or bills of exchange. By order of June Session of the Probate Court.

D. T. HARRISS
P. HENRY,
Administrators.

June 4th, 1851.

AFRICAN COLONIZATION.

Speech of Mr Clay

In the United States Senate, on Wednesday, Jan. 15. Mr. Clay rose and said:

Mr PRESIDENT—I have several petitions which I desire to present. Two of them are on the same topic, signed by a large number of citizens of the State of Indiana. The petitioners state that they are anxious to remove from our land the greatest cause of discord, and to secure the future welfare, harmony and permanency of the Union—having in view an object upon which they believe the great body of all parties and of every section of the country can unite—and respectfully pray that Congress would pass a bill providing means to remove from our country all that portion of the African race who are both willing and ready to emigrate to Africa: also, that suitable provision be made for their real wants for one year after their arrival in Africa; and, as a greater inducement for them to emigrate, that a bounty in land be given them on their arrival upon which they may, with industry and economy, support themselves, and make such other provision as may be most desirable.

I have another, Sir, bearing some analogy to the former, and one which I take particular pleasure in presenting, both on account of the distinguished and respectable source from whence it emanates and on account of the prayer of the petitioners. It is a petition from Rhode Island and is signed by a large number of Senators, and most of the members of the House of Representatives, and by a great number of ex-Governors, ex-Senators, and ex-members of the House of Representatives, as well as by many of the literati of that State, heads of colleges, and by many private persons. This petition, Sir earnestly invites the attention of Congress to take measures for the more effectual suppression of the African salve trade. In their petition, in frightful, but I think not exaggerated colors, they depict the horrors of that trade. They state that the measures which have been adopted by the three great powers—Great Britain, France, and the United States combined—to suppress that trade, by means of keeping a stationary squadron on the coast of Africa have totally failed of accomplishing that object. They say that the only effectual remedy—and, Sir, I am happy to be able to confirm that statement from the records of the American Colonization Society—thus far the only effectual remedy for the suppression of the slave trade has been found to be the establishment of colonies upon the western coast of Africa; that these colonies now occupy about one-third of the western coast of Africa; and so far as they occupy that coast, and wherever they have been planted, there has been an entire and universal suppression of the African slave trade, so far as that portion of country is concerned. They, therefore, sir, pray that a line of steamers may be established, or a line or sailing packets, for the augmenting of the inhabitants of the colnies, with a view to the furtherance of the object they desire to see accomplished.

Mr. President, will the Senate pardon me for availing myself of this occasion to add a few observations upon the general subject? Sir, a document was laid before the Senate a few days ago—I think it is No 6—containing the correspondence between our public functionaries at Rio de Janeiro and the Department of State. It well deserves the attentive perusal of every member of this body, and I have given it such. It appears from that document, Sir, that notwithstanding all that has been done by the three great powers to which I before referred, the slave trade is now carried to perhaps a greater extent in the Empire of Brazil than it has ever been before. During the years 1846, 1847, 1848, and 1849, within the single province of Rio de Janeiro 178,000 slaves were imported. The number imported into the island of Cuba I do not know, as I have no data before me to show; but I believe that the number is not greatly diminished. It is equally extended in other portions of Brazil, beside the province of Rio de Janeiro.

The document also discloses other facts, which no American can read without profound regret. It shows that this trade in slaves is still carried on to all parts of Brazil from the coast of Africa, chiefly by American vessels. In the course of four or five years past ninety American vessels have cleared from the ports of Brazil for the coast of Africa, and most of them returned—several of them were captured—but the most of them however, returned laden with cargoes of slaves. The mode in which they accomplished that object is worthy of some notice. The American vessel is brought in one of the Brazilian ports, but she is to be delivered in an African port. She sails under American colors, is laden with provisions and other appliances adapted to the prosecution of this African slave trade. She passes over the ocean without molestation, because we have very properly, perhaps, refused to the British the right of search—not even admitting it to be exercised by any foreign power whatever in regard to vessels sailing under the American flag, although laden with articles beyond all questions adapted only to the slave trade—and the vessel arrives in safety in an African port. Well, a few days after her arrival, the captain goes on shore, meets with the agent who is to receive the vessel, delivers her papers up to him, and then returns and proclaims to the crew that the vessel has been sold, and, that her crew is to be changed, her flag—the American flag—pulled down, and another one hoisted in its place, in order to carry a cargo of slaves back to Brazil; and these poor American seamen are often left to perish on the inhospitable coast of Africa for want of means to return to their own country, and often compelled to engage in the navigation of the slave vessel, as the only means to get back to their own country.

Mr. President, it has been suggested by some of those who have had great experience in the operation of this effort at a suppression of the slave trade, that certain regulations of commerce should be made; and that, among other reasons, will, induce me, when I conclude the few remarks that I have to make, to make a proposition to refer the whole subject to the Committee on Commerce.—They propose that the grants of sea letters of vessels clearing from the ports of Brazil to the African coast shall be withheld. They declare that there is no trade whatever there, other than that connected with the slave trade, and there could be no motive otherwise to prompt American vessels to go to the African coast. They therefore recommend—our Consuls and other gentlemen recommend—that there should be a refusal henceforward to grant any sea letters or other documents enabling a ship to sail under the American flag from those ports to the coast of Africa—There are other measures also suggested, in order to carry into effect the purposes of freeing our commerce and protecting our navigation from any participation in this odious traffic. But I will not take up the time of the Senate by noticing them.

Mr. President, I believe it is the judgment of the British public; as I believe, too, it is judgment of the American public, that the keeping up of squadrons upon the coast of Africa, with a view to the suppression of the slave trade, is a failure; or, at all events, that it is attended with an enormous amount of expense, a vast and inhuman sacrifice of health and life, not justified and not compensated by any value which these squadrons have rendered to the object which the parties have in view in the suppression of the African slave trade. So strong do I think the conviction upon the British mind in relation to this subject to be, that I understand that it was with the utmost difficulty that the British Premier, Lord Palmerston prevailed upon the British Parliament to continue the keeping up of these squadrons a year or two longer. We now keep up, under the eighth article of the treaty of Washington, one squadron, amounting to eighty guns at least, upon the coast of Africa; and we also keep up, in reference to the same object, a large and expensive squadron upon the coast of Brazil. I suppose—though I have not referred to the proper sources for information—but I am quite sure I am safe in saying that we expend upon the two coasts of Brazil and Africa not less than half a million of dollars, independent of that sacrifice of life which takes place in consequence of the employment of our vessels there. I will not say, as has been said in this petition, that there has been a total failure. I believe there have been occasional captures, but there has been also a greater degree of stimulus given to the trade; and I doubt very much whether there would be less loss of African life if there were a vessel at liberty wherever it chooses the slave trade by means of these squadrons, the count of which is merely to employ and send out more ships—to induce the owners to run more chances and take more risks, in order to transport slaves to Brazil or to Cuba from the coast of Africa.

I believe there is no effectual remedy for the suppression of the slave trade, but the occupation of the coast of Africa itself, and to stop the trade at the very threshold where it begins. By the 8th article of the treaty of Washington to which I have before referred we were bound to continue these squadrons only for a period of five years. The five years have long since elapsed—they expired in '47—and yet we continue the squadron down to this time. Now, without reference to any of the objects which I have thought proper to present to the Senate, without regard to the suppression of the slave trade, without reference to the advancement of the great interests of colonization, I think, as a mere measure of financial economy, it is worth considering whether we shall expose the lives of our gallant seamen upon the inhospitable coast—expose them to the danger of that inhospitable climate, at such a vast expense to our shipping, and with so little benefit from the operation.

But I own that the subject of colonization, important as I think it is, in view of the great object of the suppression of the slave trade, commends itself to my mind by other and additional considerations. I declare to you, Sir—I may perhaps be extravagant in my views—but I think, of all the projects of the age, there is none which is to be compared to that great project of transporting the free people of color, with their own consent, from the United States to the coast of Africa. What is to be done with them? I ask again, what is to be done with them? They are here under our very noses; and in this District in the course of the last ten years they have doubled. In a number of the States laws are being passed—rigorous laws—of exclusion of them from their Territory. Some States, indeed, are introducing into their fundamental laws, into their Constitutions, provisions against the reception of any free people of color within their borders. What is to become of them? I ask again. In the name of humanity and justice, what is to become of them? I see no other remedy than that of sending them back to the land whence their ancestors were taken; and I can conceive of no interest of any portion of the people of the United States that will not be benefited by such a transfer of the free people of color from the United States to Africa. The whites at the North will be benefited—the whites at the South will be benefited—the Slaves at the South will be benefited—the poor creatures themselves will be benefited; for instead of remaining in a country where they never can be elevated to the high social and political condition of the whites—where they must forever remain a degraded, corrupt, and dissolute class—they can be carried to the country of their ancestors, and rise into an importance there which they never will attain here. Every conceivable interest will be promoted—commerce will be promoted, civilization will be promoted, religion will be promoted by the transfer of the free people of color, with their own consent, from the United States to Africa. And what portion of the population of the country will be injured by the transportation of these persons? None whatever.

Sir, I will not detain the Senate longer upon this subject. I would be extremely glad if the honorable Senators would turn their attention to the executive document to which I have referred, and give some consideration to the suggestions I have made. And if we could only give up—if we could only renounce—those unhappy subjects of agitation which have disturbed our country so long and so greatly—if the people of the North would only allow the people of the South to manage their own domestic affairs in their own way, unaffected and unmoved by them—if they would only reflect that if slavery is fraught with evils, the evils are not felt by the people at the North, but they are confined to the South where the slaves are—if they would only cease to agitate each other and our country, and endanger our Union itself, by continuing these unhappy subjects of strife and controversy, and all would came together upon this great common object, in which the free States are just as much interested as the slave States, uniting all our energies in sending the free people of color from the shores of America to that place where they can enjoy real freedom, and pursue their own happiness, what a glorious result would it be for our country!

Sir, I beg pardon for this occupation of the time of the Senate. I move to dispense with the reading of the petitions, and that they be referred to the Committee on Commerce.

They were accordingly so referred.

From the New York Daily "Tribune."

AFRICAN COMMERCE.

The *Colonization Journal* for January, contains several carefully prepared tables giving an interesting view of the commerce which England and the United States carry on with Africa. This commerce is already large, and, more than any other, is capable of being indefinitely increased. During fifteen years ending with 1841, the imports of England from the West Coast of Africa, amounted to nearly fourteen millions and a half of dollars, or nearly one million yearly. The principal articles were gum senegal and ivory, of each of which above a quarter of a million of dollars were imported yearly. Next to these in importance were beeswax palm oil, teak and other woods, hides, rice, spices and coffee. During the same period the exports of British goods to the same region, amounted to a little more than twenty-three and a half millions of dollars, or above a million and a half yearly. The heaviest item of these was manufactured cottons, of which the average annual value of $654,984 was taken yearly throughout the whole period. Next to this arms and ammunition were in demand, the expenditures in this being to the amount of $446,000 yearly. Among the other items, were cotton articles, iron and steel yearly, $70,556; empty casks and staves, $58,419; hardware and cutlery $48,315; haberdasher's articles, $42,214, brass and copper manufactures $41,461; rum, $26,203; soap and candles $12,751; &c. &c. As one step time the British exports of foreign articles amounted to nearly half a million of dollars yearly, the larger portion of which consisted of East India cottons, though near one fifth of the same was tobacco, produced in Maryland and Virginia. And since the year 1841 the trade between England and Africa has become considerably larger. From 1839 to 1844 inclusive, McCulloch estimates the exports to the Western Coast at $2,300,000 a year and to the whole of Africa at $7,000,000, a year, and his figures are probably under, rather than over the truth.

The trade of the United States looks small compared with the above. In the six years ending with 1849 we had of African products the value of three millions three hundred thousand dollars, or more than half a million yearly. The largest item in the list is hides and skins, of which we have taken yearly $182,556; next to this is ivory $86,778, ivory $18,983; coffee $16,203; rice $18,471; oil $8,589; copper $3,214; dates $3,436, &c. &c. During the same time we have exported to Africa yearly $643,136 of our own products and $69,833 of foreign merchandize. The chief exports were tobacco $151,195, cotton fabrics $148,998, rum $107,953, gunpowder $52,997, flour $43,419, &c. &c.

The fact that both Great Britain and the United States export a great deal more in value to Africa than they receive thence is striking. The British imports from Africa during the fifteen years above mentioned were $14,421,569; the exports to Africa $23,636,086,—the former amounting to less than two thirds the value of the latter. So with the United States; in the six years referred to, the exports to Africa were $4,223,824, while the imports from there were $3,317,572, a difference of nearly a million. In the case of England this difference may easily be accounted for by the fact that the bullion brought from Africa is not included in the returns, and by the heavy expenditures made by the army and naval establishments kept up in Africa. These expenditures are made in the form of bills of Exchange which go back in payment for cargoes of goods. But in the case of the United States there is not such a reason for the discrepancy, which it must be remembered does not include the profits made by our dealers on the ventures they send out. Our ships no doubt spend money on the coast, but not enough to cover the difference in

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
B. Liberia Herald

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