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.

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Monrovia, January 28 th 1852

Job Printing neatly and promptly executed at this office, at moderate prices.

LIBERIA HERALD

August 1st 1851

LIBERIA HERALD.

Cuba—Climate of the Island—Its population, Products and Resources.

The island of Cuba lies between 23 deg. 12 min. N. lat. and 74 deg. 48 min. N. lat. Its length is 775 miles; its breadth varies from 25 to 91 miles. The greatest distance one can get from the sea is about 43 miles. About two thirds of the island are from 60 to 80 miles in breadth, and it measures on its surface about 19,000 English square miles. The eastern part is very mountainous, and some of the peaks are from 7,000 to 8,000 feet above the level of the sea. The valleys in the eastern department are exceedingly picturesque and fruitful. Cuba was discovered by Columbus on the 27th of October, 1492. In 1519 Havana was founded. The cultivation of the sugar cane was introduced about four years after. When first discovered the island had an Indian population of about 200,000. The greater part soon perished under the hardships imposed by the Europeans. Only a few half breeds remain in the eastern department. In 1755 the exportation of sugar from Havana in a year was comparatively inconsiderable. The English took Havana in 1762, and gave it up again in 1763, in exchange for other possessions and advantages. During the siege great numbers of the British fell victims to the *vomito*. Many were also poisoned or assassinated by the Cubans. The position of the island is admirable, being within a few days' sail of the Atlantic ports of the United States, and two and a half days by steam from New Orleans. The soil is generally fertile, producing the sugar cane in the highest perfection; no part of the world is more favorable for its growth, and indeed the climate and soil admit of the cultivation of all kinds of tropical fruits and productions, which might be cultivated in quantity, to reach ten times the present amount, as, of twenty four million acres comprising the surface of the island, only two millions are under cultivation, about three millions being in natural pasturage, five hundred thousand in artificial pasturage, fourteen millions woodland, and the rest, four and a half million, are barren lands. In the western department about one-fourth of the land is barren, one fourth in woodland, and the remaining two fourths are equally devoted to cultivation and pasture. In the central department about one third is barren and only one thirty seventh part is under cultivation, about an eleventh part in pasture, and more than three fifths are woodland. In the eastern department about a twelfth is under cultivation, about one fifth in pasture, two thirds in woodland, and only one-sixth barren.

Supposing the Island to be divided into 72 parts, 13 would represent the size of the western department, 31 the central department, and 28 the eastern. Of the cultivated land, one half is in the western department, one-sixth in the central, and two sixths in the eastern department. The principal agricultural productions are, the sugar cane coffee, molasses, honey, rum, tobacco, wax, rice cocoa and cotton are also produced, with many other minor articles.

In 1841, when the number of sugar estates on the island amounted to 1,238, upon which were employed, according to the census, but 138,701 persons, giving an average of 112 hands to each estate, the exportation of sugar from all the ports of the island amounted to about 850,000 boxes, according to the custom house returns, which would allow, upon an average 686 boxes to each estate, or 6 boxes to each hand; however, making allowance for the sugar not entered at the custom house, as the article then paid an export duty of $1 per box, and also taking into consideration that which was consumed in the island, the produce of each estate, upon an average, might be about 900 boxes, or 8 to each hand; nor does this amount appear too great to allow, when the best lands afford upwards of 6,000 pounds of dry sugar to the acre. In Louisiana, where the best lands produce about 3,000 pounds to the acre, the average produce of each hand is about 5,000 pounds.

Besides the cultivation of the sugar cane large quantities of coffee are produced. However, this article is not so extensively cultivated as it was some ten years since, when upwards of fifty millions pounds' weight was exported from different ports of the island. Last year (the most favorable during the last few years) showed but an export of thirty-five million pounds of coffee. Brazil has been able to furnish this produce at a low rate, and consequently that of Brazil has taken the place of Cuba coffee in the markets of the United States; therefore sugar is produced in many parts where coffee was once cultivated, or the lands have been turned over to new estates, in the fertile regions in the neighborhood of Cienfuegos, &c.

The climate and soil of Cuba in general are not so favorable for the cultivation of coffee as for the sugar cane, tobacco, and other articles; however, the eastern district appears to be well suited to the production of coffee, the crop there being more certain; and the quality of the bean infinitely superior. A hilly or rather mountainous country seems to be the most favorable to the tree.

The celebrated Mocha coffee, which is indigenous to Arabia, and that part of Africa on the opposite side of the Red Sea, grows without cultivation on the rocky sides of the mountains.

After coffee, tobacco is the next article of consequence produced. There are various kinds, which derive their different qualities from the peculiarities of the soil in which they are cultivated.

The most esteemed is that which is produced in the Vuelta Abajo, about a hundred miles west of Havana, in the jurisdiction of New Filipina; of this the finest Havana cigars are made. It costs from 40 to 120 dollars per bale according to the quality, and the crop is very inferior, so that it is impossible for a manufacturer always to supply the same quality of cigars. The next to the tobacco of the Vuelta Abajo is that called "Partido," some of which is very good, and is used in making those cigars of which astonishing bargains are very often obtained. There is another tobacco grown in the western department, in which the two classes mentioned are grown. It has a coarse leaf, and is called "De Vuelta Arriba;" also the tobacco grown in the eastern department goes by that name, of which there are two kinds, the Santiago de Cuba tobacco and the Yara. The Yara tobacco is sometimes very fine, and of this the best Principe cigars are made. Many persons have sown the Vuelta Abajo seed in the States, but never have they been able to raise tobacco from it in any respect similar in flavor to the original kind. The soil gives the flavor, and its cultivation cannot be extended even in Cuba.

The other articles of consequence produced are wax, honey, and rice. The two first of these articles are exported in very large quantities; the last mentioned article is produced to the amount of 40,000 tierces, or about 24 million of pounds, but is insufficient for the consumption of the island so that large quantities of rice are imported from Charleston, Savannah, Spain, South America. And latterly from Manilla; however, that from Charleston is most esteemed, and from that place the largest quantity is imported. Wax is produced to the amount of about 800,000 pounds, and honey to the amount of two millions gallons. Cotton is little cultivated, 650 bales being about the amount produced.

The other vegetable articles are, all kinds of tropical fruits, sweets potatoes, yams, arrowroot, cocoa, Indian corn, castor oil, and different kinds of woods; such as cedar, mahogony, lancewood, and other woods used by turners, &c.

Cattle to the number of about 900,000 head, are owned in the island, and there are about 200,000 horses, 30,000 mules, and large numbers of smaller animals.

The annual product of the vegetable and animal creation, on a moderate calculation, may be set down at about $75,000,000.

In minerals the island is very rich; of copper mines, no less than 114 have been discovered in the island, 57 in the eastern department, 18 in the central, and 45 in the western. The mine at Cobre, worked by an English company, has shipped from 27,000 to 43,000 tons per annum, valued at two and a half to four and a half millions of dollars. The other departments have not as yet shipped more than about 2,000 tons per annum. Coal, iron, silver and amianthus have been discovered.

The revenue of the island, according to Mr. T. W. Wilson from whose valuable work upon Cuba we have compiled most of the foregoing, is about $12,000,000. The population is about 1,200,000.

SCENE IN ENGLAND.

THE London correspondent of the St. Louis Intelligencer gives quite a graphic picture of the prorogation of Parliament, thus:

"All that England can boast of rank is assembled within the gorgeous House of Lords on this occasion. The lords are in their ermine cloaks, the ladies in feathers and diamonds, the bishops in full robes. I remembered last year how the old Duke entered, leaning on the arm of the beautiful Marchioness of Wellesley, whose protrait some of your readers may have seen, painted by Lanseer, in last year's exhibition of art. The Queen enters in full state, with a constellated crown of diamonds, her train carried by four pages of gentle blood. A peer bearing the crown of State, another the sword, (the duke,) another the sceptre, &c, from an interesting procession. By the side of the Queen walks Prince Albert. He takes a seat on her left—on the right of the throne is the seat of the Prince of Wales. Hitherto he has not attended. One of the bishops read a short prayer. Two counsels, in black robes and wigs demand the Queens assent to certain bills. The Queen bows each time. The counsels bow in return, and exclaim, in old Norman French, '*La Reine le veut.*'

"A rushing noise is then heard on the carridor, like a pack of Eton school boys.

"It is the Hon. House of Commons rushing up stairs. When this uproar had subsided, the Queen, who was conversing with Lady Londonderry, rises, and in a voice as clear as a silver bell, the metallic tones of which penetrate into every corner of the hall, reads the speech of prorogation amidst dead silence! The procession then leaves as it came; a blast of chivalrous trumpets; 'God save the Queen,' strikes up by the band of Guans; deafening cheers outside of loyal population, and the roar of artillery, close the session. It is a sight which every foreigner should endeavor to see if possible, but the tickets are very limited. All the Ambassadors attend in full costume."

BRADDOCK'S DEFEAT—HIS SASH.

From an article in the New York Literary World, reveiwing De Haas' History of Western Virginia, we cut the following interesting account of Gen. Braddock, and some incidents connected with his death:

"The great defeat of Braddock in this battle, as is well known, was his neglect of the usual Indian methods of warfare. He appears to have been a daring, undoubtedly a courageous officer, of the old 'blood and thunder' school; but his sacrifice of the lives of his men and officers was fearful. Mr. De Haas maintains, as an unquestionable point of history, that he fell by a shot from one of his own men. His memoranda of events are striking.

"In the ranks of Braddock were two brothers, Joseph and Thomas Fausett, or *Fawcett*; the first a commissioned, and the other a non commissioned officer. One of them, (Tom Fausett) Hon. Andrew Stewart, of Uniontown, says he knew very well, and often conversed with him about early times. 'He did not hesitate to own, in the presence of his friends, that he shot Braddock.' The circumstances were briefly these.

"Regardless of Gen. Braddock's positive and bodily orders, that the troops should not protect themselves behind trees, Joseph Fausett had so posted himself, which Braddock discovering rode up and struck him down with his sword. Tom Fausett, who stood but a short distance from his brother, saw the whole transaction, and immediately drew up his rifle and shot him through the body. This, as he afterward said, was partly out of revenge for Gen. B.'s assault upon his brother, and partly to get the General out of the way, and thus save the remainder of the army.

"In addition to the above, we may give the statement of a correspondent of the National Intelligencer, who seems to have been familiar with the facts. 'When my father was removing with his family to the West, one of the Fausetts kept a public house to the eastward from and near where Uniontown now stands. At this man's house we lodged, about the 10th of October, 1781, twenty-six years and a few months after Braddock's defeat; and then it was made anything but a secret, that one of the family dealt the deatiblow to the British General. Thirteen years afterwards I met Tom Fausett, then, as he told me, in his 70th year. To him I put the plain question, and received the plain reply, 'I did shoot him.' I never heard the fact doubted or blamed that Fausett killed Braddock.

"Mr. Watson (Annal of the Olden Time, vol. I. pp. 141-2) says, that in 1833, he met Wm. Butler, a private of the Pennsylvania Greens at the defeat of Braddock, and he answered promptly, one Fausett, brother of one whom Braddock had killed in a passion.'

"In 1820, Butler saw Fausett near Carlisle, where he had gone on a visit to his daughter. The Millerstown (Perry Co., Pa.) Gazette, 1830, speaks of Butler being there, and in company with an aged soldier in the town, who had been in Braddock's defeat, and that both concurred in saying that Braddock had been shot by Fausett."

"A minister of the M. E. Church, writing to the Christian Advocate, says: 'The old man died at the age of 114 years, in 1828, who killed Braddock.'

"The Newburyport Herald, of 1842, declares its acquaintance with Daniel Adams an old soldier of that place, aged 82, who confirmed the shooting of Braddock by one of his own men.

"Braddock wore a coat of mail in front, which turned balls fired in front; but he was shot in the back, and the ball was found stopped in front by the coat of mail. The venerable William Darby of Washington city, has recently stated to the author that during his early days he never heard it doubted that Fausett had killed Braddock. It seems a generally conceded fact, and most of the settlers were disposed to applaud the act.

"At the fall of Braddock, Washington with Capt. Stuart of the Virginia Guards, hastened to his relief, and bore him from the field of his inglorious defeat, in the sash which had decorated his person."

Maryland Historical Society

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B. Liberia Herald

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