LIBERIA HERALD.

NEW SERIES.

(FOR OUR COUNTRY.)

VOL. II. MONROVIA, LIBERIA, (WEST AFRICA.) MAY, 6th 1852 NO 9.

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.

Marriages and Obituary notices are charged 25 cents for one insertion. Payments in all cases, in advance.

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.

All communications must be addressed to "Liberia Herald."

BENJN 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

A supply of merchandize just opened and for sale, at the usual rates and terms of the subscriber at his old stand!!

Which stock embraces extensively, the requirements of the Liberian market, whether staple and fancy dry goods, or provisions be regarded.

EDWARD J. ROYE.

Monrovia, January 23 h 1852

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

LIBERIA HERALD

August 1 1851

NOTICE!

The undersigned contemplating to visit the United States of America by the first favorable opportunity, hereby gives notice to all whom it may concern, that in such event, J. B. Philips Clay Ashland, and Dr. J. S. Smith Esqr, Buchanan, are herby authorized and empowered to transact any and all business for me until my return.

D. T. HARRISS,
Pleasant-View, Clay-Ashland.

April 1st, 1852.

LIBERIA HERALD

Intemperance and Taxation.

There never has been a time in the history of this country, probably, when the subject of intemperance, in its social and civil aspects, has awakened a deeper or more general interest than at present. Legislation is beginning to recognise its importance as a great political mischief, and a disturber of the social economy. In several of our State Legislatures, measures have been in agitation for its suppression. Winconsin took the lead some year or two since. Main has followed in the same track, and to-day the sale of liquor within the State is a crime against her laws. Ohio has incorporated her condemnation of the traffic in her constitution. Connecticut and New Hampshire have had the subject before them, and probably will soon take their place in the ranks. This general movement is indicative of one thing, and that is, that sensible men, in the community are beginning to feel that it will not do to ignore and neglect a great social and civil evil, so long as reaching and suppressing it by statute is a probability. It is a simple act of self-defence. Society is constituted for the common welfare; and whatever wars with this, strikes a blow at the rights and security of every member of the whole body. No man has a right to injure another—to seize on his lands or purse or good name—to disturb his peace or threaten his life, and we make laws to prevent doing it. To carry this out we frame our constitution, and devise our legislation, and elect our rulers. But intemperance thrust itself upon this arrangement, and in the person both of the vender and the buyer, says, it shall not be so. I will compound my brutifying poisonous mixture as I please—I will label them as I please,—I will dispose of them as I please. For a satisfaction in gold or siver, I will take your young men, full of hope and promise, and turn them into paupers, and tax you so much a week to support them. I will take your strong framed artisan and make a beast of him, and lay him in the gutter, that you may look at him with disgust and shame and horror, as you walk the streets. I will go into the quiet of the family circle, and rob those happy homes of their grace and ornament; I will make that son a sot and a disgrace to his name. I will put a burning blush on that sister's cheek when she turns and calls him brother. I will wring that mother's heart till every pulse throbs with agony, as she says—my son. Nay, more, I will take that group yonder, now talking together in the greatest good humor, and of one, I make a leering fool; of another a loathsome lump of debauchery—of another an insulting, noisy bully—of another a hair-brained maniac, and of still another a reckless murderer; and if one must be tried, and another imprisoned, and another hung, you shall pay the judge, and build the prison, and erect the gallows. On the ground of my rights, I claim and demand of you—Society—to do all this, and leave me unmolested.

Who can deny that this is the attitude in which intemperance stands towards the great social and civil interests of the community? It levies *black mail* at will. There is no interest too precious for its sacrilege to spare. More than two thirds of our taxes for crime are due, directly or indirectly, to its pernicious influence. It is hard to find a murder or a deed of violence which did not owe to it the inspiration with which it was perpetrated. It does more probably than any other single evil to injure the community—to render life unsafe, and property insecure; and law nugatory, and society itself a burden. The question in regard to how it shall be treated, is simplified into this—that society take a living viper to its bosom, even though torpid now, and warm it into his? Shall she lay her heart bare to the deadly fang that strikes at it? Shall she submit to the imposition that claims as a right the privilege of murdering her piecemeal, and defeating every end for which she was constituted? "By what right," any man might ask of our legislation "by what right do you open the sluices of the deluge, and then demand of me toiling for my bread in the sweat of my brow, that I with bucket in hand, shall bail it back by pailfulls? Why do you take it upon you to license the making of paupers and thieves and murderers, and then tax the hard gains of my industry to pay for taking care of them? When one man strikes another, you levy damages on the aggressor. But here, you tax my innocence, as well as my security, that the offender may pocket his gains, and continue his piracy. Is this right? Is this the end for which society was constituted? In the name of law and justice where do your find the principle that justifies it? I pay my tax. It is large; it is exorbitant. I pay it for causes of expense which Society should legitimately suppress. I pay it to society when the individual, who should demand my purse under no better pretext than that which takes me for the rum sellers' profit, or the drunkard's lust, should be met merely by a *knock down* argument. And now I demand protection, and what do I receive? My own father, brother, or child, goes out in street, and, seduced within the reach of a man, who would sell his own soul, as he does others, for sixpence a glass is persuaded to drink what I should have preferred to have been Prussic Acid, and I have no help for it. If he had felled him with a blow, I could have recovered damages. If he had stabbed him to the heart, I could have borne him to the grave and found some consolation, in thinking that my tears fell not upon a *thing* that rum had tainted. But he does for my peace what a midnight assassin never could—he robs me of that hope for the departed, which will plant flowers on the sod of any grave but that of—a drunkard. Where is my protection? Am I not entitled to it? Is justice dead that she does not hear, or has the circle of a groggery transformed her to a brute?

There may be what some might consider an undue degree of warmth in such language as this, and yet the objection which it sets forth is plain and palpable. Every man has a right to be protected in his proper and useful calling. To tax him for that from which he receives no benefit is extortion. Every citizen under a free government has a right, moreover, to know why he is taxed, and for what objects. He has a right to investigate the character of those objects, and see and judge for himself whether he contributes to those that are worthy. We believe that such an investigation as this is demanded of us as citizens and patriots, and shall hail the day when we can feel that society protects as well as taxes us.—*N Y. Sun*

HOW A POOR BOY BECAME A LORD.

There lived in the city of Boston, some years ago, a portrait painter whose name was Copley. He did not succeed very well in business, and he concluded to go to England and try his fortune there. He had a little son whom he took with him, whose name was John Singleton Copley.

John was a very studious boy, and made such rapid progress in his studies that his father sent him to college. There he applied himself so closely to his books, & became so distinguished a scholar, that his instructors predicted that he would make a very eminent man.

After he left college he studied law: and when he entered upon the practice of his profession his mind was so richly disciplined by his previous diligence, that he almost immediately obtained great reputation. One or two causes of very importance being intrusted to him, he managed them with so much wisdom and skill as to attract the admiration of the whole British nation.

The king and his court seeing what a learned man he was, and how much influence he had acquired, felt it to be important to secure his services for the government. They therefore raised him from one post of honor to another till he was created Lord High-Chancellor of England—the very highest post of honor to which any subject can attain; so that John Singleton Copley became Lord Lyndhurst.—About sixty years ago he was a little boy in Boston. His father was a poor portrait painter, hardly able to get his daily bread. Now, John is one of the most distinguished men in talent and power in the House of Lords and regarded with reverence and respect, by the whole civilized world. This is the reward of industry. The studious boy becomes the useful and respected man.

Had John Singleton Copley spent his school boy days in idleness, he would probably have passed his manhood in poverty and shame. But he studied in school when other young men were wasting their time; he ever adopted for his motto, *Press onward* and how rich has been his reward!—*Tenn Baptist.*

Duration of the Earth

The following views, by a correspondent of the Puritan Recorder, upon the "Duration of the Earth," as indicated by astronomy, will be read, we think, with interest:

The evidence which geology affords of the great antiquity of the earth, turns thought to the evidence which astronomy furnishes of its striking continuance. From the many striking resemblances between the bodies that compose the solar system, we infer from them a common origin and a common destiny. The earth, then, will probably live while the system lives, and no longer. What its particular destiny may be, and by what means brought about, we stop not here to inquire. Our only purpose now is to consider some intimations furnished us by the system itself, that it is fashioned for a long duration. This is indicated by the immense length of some of the periods involved in this system. According to the commonly received chronology, the planet Neptune has had but thirty six of his years since the creation of our race. If the analogy between the earth and that planet holds good, then the first generation of his inhabitants has hardly passed away. Some comets have not yet had one year since the date of Adam's creation. But there are periods of greater length still. The earth's perihelion is slowly creeping around the orbit from west to east, at a rate which will require 111,000 years to complete the circuit. The perihelion of Mercury is moving in a similar manner, at a rate which will require two hundred thousand years to complete it. Other planets exhibit the same movement. Now if all the planets in the system were arranged along in a line, on the same side of the sun, and all in their perihelion, i. e, all in that point of their orbits which is neares the sun, and then all their orbits are set revolving according to their present laws of motion, millions of years must elapse ere all of them would meet again under the same circumstances to hold their family fesival, preparatory to another revolution of the same length. The earth's orbit is now an ellipse, but is slowly becoming circular; and its present rate of change, will become a perfect circle in about half a million of years from this time. Then it will begin to resume its elliptical form, becoming more and more elliptical for some millions of years, when—having obtained the maximum of ellipticity—it will begin again to shape itself into a circle. Corresponding with its change and caused by it, is a change of the period of the moon's revolution. Its period is now slowly shortening; its motion in revolution, of course, increasing; and this rate of increase is such as will make it gain a little more than its diameter in a thousand years. This shortening of her period and increase of velocity will continue until the earth's orbit becomes a perfect circle, and then she will slowly reverse her movements and gradually return to her former condition. From this mutual retraction of Jupiter and Saturn, their orbits are passing through similar changes, the orbit of one becomes more and more circular, in consequence of which motions, the period of one is lengthening while that of the other is shortening. This oscillation requires more than 70,000 years for its completion.

The sun has what is called a proper motion, i, e, the sun, with all its dependant household, is sweeping through space at the rate of 22,000 miles per day, or nearly half its own diameter. It is supposed by good astronomers that all the stars have a similar movement, all revolving together in the plane of the milky way, about some common center; that the orbit described by our sun in this grand march is so large that this inconceivably rapid motion, continued for years, forms practically a straight line; in other words, the orbit is so large that the arc of it described since this motion was first observed is so short in comparison with the whole orbit, as to seem to be no arc at all; at least, no instruments are, as yet, accurate enough to detect and measure its rate of deviation from a straight line. Herschell intimates that the elements of this orbit may perhaps be determined after thirty or forty years' observation, with the nicest instruments. Of course, many millions of years must pass ere this vast circuit can be fully described by the sun. We grant there is some little of conjecture attaching to this last illustration, which belongs not to any of the previous ones; and yet it is so much in keeping with those demonstrated facts, that it can hardly be called improbable. Although these periods are inconceivably long, still they are none the less periods. They are as truly periods, as if they were completed in one day or hour. The fact that our life is short in comparison, and that we cannot in our best estate have any adequate conception of them, is any more of an objection to their existence, that it is an objection to Neptune's period that insects die after a few hours' existence.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
B. Liberia Herald

February 1842(XI,4)--February 18,1857(n.s. VII,4)

1852

NEW SERIES NO 2