plains beyond them enclosing ancient monarchs in their bosom, their foundations on kingdoms their pinacles in the clouds their declivities in the waves.

But for a nation thus—situated and blessed by nature in such a high degree to suffer its privileges to be curtailed, and as a whole to be enslaved under the galling yoke of superstition, is appallingly to think upon, how greatly infatuated must a people be who for outward pomp and show, forsake the worship of the true God, for that of images, and other vain things which by no means profit the immortal soul. But in sorrow be it said such is the state of once happy Spain at this day, and while we mourn over her follies how earnestly should we pray to almightly God for grace to enable us to shun that dismal path which led her down to that low spiritual condition in which the true worshippers of our Lord Jesus Christ now behold her with weeping eyes. * * *

And there is no interest to be taken in the history of England. Its stain is that of lofty heroism it is not only diversified by incident, but pregnant with principles it is a thing of range, of marvel of moral might, like the rainbow of heaven, large in its span and wide in its embrace. But alas it tells of no departed tempests of no settled calm, the vermilion of war reddens it, and the reflection of ancient light blends it.

(C) True indeed England has come down through many struggles, and has gained many honorable victories, which causes her to shine as a blazing meteor in the world, while we gaze at her through the vail, but alas when we look beyond a bloody stream, a vermilion sea, meets the eye of the enquiring lover of history, while the thought ripens into maturity, and the expression breaks forth, such is the history of man, such is human greatness.

It is indeed a story that stands alone in the history of nations, and one pregnant with lessons of deepest interest to the faithful student of history. We have seen, the state of comparative independence and purity in which its church remained in the seventh century and how—decided was the independent position it assumed when contending for liberty of conscience and freedom of thought against the encroaching tyranny of Rome. The following century however witnessed its struggling at a disadvantage with a very different enemy.

After the overthrow of the empire of pagan Rome and the incersion of the Gothic nations of the north into the ancient kingdoms of Southern Europe Spain had experienced similar influences to those which produced such remarkable changes in the Italian peninsula. A Gothic power had gradually arisen there and was moulding the whole nation into form and consistency, when a far different current setting in from the south, and east produced the remarkable changes to which we have already alluded, as exercising so much influence in the formation of the Spanish national character.

In 711 the great battle of the Guadalete was fought near Xeres, in which the standard of the crescent was borne victoriously through the ranks of the Spanish forces, and the kingdom of the vizigoths was over thrown. But although their power was thus prostrated, the spirit that had pervaded their isle was not so easily extinguished, Spain was indeed conquered, and in the Moslems power,—Roderic, the pesoic, leader whom the Spanard still commemorates in the traditional songs and legends of his native valley, had perished in the fight, and the christians of Spain were at the mercy of the infidel. The Saracens however were by no means the barbarians that superstitious prejudice delights to picture them. They governed the conquered land with wisdom and moderation, cultivated the most valuable arts of peace, and settled themselves down as those who had come to possess and enjoy that land (q),—a land where the sun beams rest, when they promise the sons of the vale a happy and glorious morrow, they were content to enjoy that, sunny land in peace.

And can any man repel the thought that must arise here viz, that if instead of the sword the gospel of peace had beeu preached to those highly cultivated barbarians that they would have improved under the banner of Christ, and their arts and sciences would have been a blessing to the world at this day, but alas for fallen man, blood, carnage and death mark his foot steps where ever he goes. Can any numbers tell the awful amount of injuiry done to the world at the fall of a nation by the sword; in one day and at one blow, the world may sustain an injury, that will require the time of 200 years to redeem, and it may be that redemption has no power, all lost forever lost. How earnestly then should we pray, that the sword should cease to devour, and that cruelty of every kind should be done away, and that the kingdom of peace and the religion of Jesus Christ our Lord should be built up and fully established on the earth.

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For the Liberia Herald.

Buchanan Oct 30th 1852

Mr Herald,

About twenty days having elapsed since Fishtown was re-occupied, I now sit to pen you a few lines in relation to the same, for the better information of yourself and your readers. A few weeks after the return of the campaign from Trade Town in Janry, full and successive public meetings were held in this City by a vast majority of the more thinking part of our communities, for the purpose of adopting such measures as would lead to the re-settling of Fish-Town, which had been by the Legislature, a few months previously, incorporated into one settlement with this, under the name of the city of Buchanan. My health, owing to exposure during the campaign, being bad, I did not attend the first two meetings; but at the third, I was present and was much gratified in witnessing the unanimity of desire manifested for the consumation of our long cherished wish.

This latter meeting (held in March, I think,) appointed a committee to communicate with, and ascertain of President Roberts if he would make a grant of a town, and farm lot to a definite number of old settlers, if they would engage to go down as permanent settlers with the immigrants by the Zeno and Morgan Dix who had been sent expressly for Fish-town.

President Roberts in a communication to me, replied, that such a grant would be made to any number not exceeding twenty old settlers; and that such was his desire that Fish-town should be occupied—permanently, securely and immediately, as that he would assume the responsibility of allowing the immigrants, that would go down with the twenty old settlers—a farm lot in addition to the town lot they were entitled to draw.

The rainy season having so far advanced before an organization could be effected, and it not being deemed prudent for the immigrants to go down at that stage of their acclimation without good shelters, it was determined to postpone further action (more than going down and cutting bush occasionally) until the beginning of the dries, when the place was to be re-occupied permanently. Consequently in the months of Sept. and Oct; successive public meetings were held and the twenty old settlers and over that number of immigrants volunteered and organized themselves into a company.—Capt. Brunskin was elected Captain, A. Rudd, David Mason, and L. Morgan, Lieuts. (men whose valor has been more than once tried,) they marched down on the 11th inst. determined to maintain the strictest descipline and die to a man before they abandon the place, of which they have held quiet possession up to this day, not a fishman having shown his face as yet. For seven months, anterior to the moving off of the volunteers for Fish-town, our settlement were at least every week excited and thrown into commotion: and the inhabitants prevented from prosecuting their necessary avocations. A canoe could not be seen passing to windward, though three miles off, without a false alarm, six natives were seen coming up the beach with rice—oil &c &c; with which to feed us, before they could reach town, imagination would convert them into the enemy, and the community aroused to arms. The fishmen too used to visit the Cove once in a week or fortnight to get potatoes and cassadas and to see if the progress we were making down there were such as to preclude their hope of our abandoning the place and their re-occupying it which they contemplated early in the dries. Add to this the fact that 9–10ths of the immigrants by the Zeno, Morgan, Dix, Liberia Packet, and Ralph Cross, who came out expressly to settle at Fish-town (after once seeing that place) would not consent to settle elsewhere in Liberia, many of them proved to be men of industry and steady habits, & wished to be settled on their own land and was very unpleasant to see them of necessity walking the street, having no way to procure a livelihood, and frequently asking their brethren the old settlers, when will you assist us in possessing and occupying that place of our destination? How long shall we await your co-operation; we are ready to go down and do our duty like men;—we had better do so than remain here idle and suffer. Let us go and possess the land at once for we wish to settle no where else in Liberia; we have many friends and volunteers who will be out shortly and we wish to be preparing a place for them—of course the old settlers responded to their reasonable appeal, and soon as the weather justified commenced action; and as the executive had not authorized any expenditure in the premises, many of the patriotic, old settlers contributed (in the total over $ 200) toward the support of the settlers (until their crops could mature) and for fortifying the place. Besides this, many of the first men in the county agreed to go down and spend a week with them day and night gratuitously, and after their return home to be in attendance there, at a moments warning in case of danger. There is one thing that does not admit of a doubt in the minds of us who live here and ought by this time to understand our affairs, that is if we had not occupied Fish-town so soon, the fishmen would have attempted it this month and had they succeeded any where in its vicinity and showed themselves regularly at the Cove, at least one half of the inhabitants of Buchanan would have moved to some other settlement not in juxtaposition to a ruthless enemy, and if Buchanan is once abandoned, Edina, and Bexley, will follow in the train being mutually dependant. It would have been a shame and disgrace to the inhabitants of this county, if they did not (when they really could) prevent a heathen enemy occupying the most desirable part of the city of Buchanan—a point hardly two miles from our doors. Why Sir, the ten sentiments of all with us who have the spirit of a man are that if Fish-town, (which is not a distinct and distant settlement to Buchanan) can't be kept by the valor and patriotism of the men of this county,—If our good citizens and especially the inhabitants of Buchanan would fold up their arms—parade the streets stare each other in the face, and let a heathen enemy to come within twenty minutes walk of their doors, their wives, children & property, when we are fully able to occupy that point by which means alone the enemy is to be kept away, it would be time for every man of sense and pride to leave the county if not the country. I assure you sir that death is preferable to such a state of things and so would most men in Liberia think if their lives, their wives, their children, and property, were permanantly located here as ours are.

The foregoing facts (and not fame, nor bounty lands) are what induced the Fish-town volunteers to forego the happiness of the domestic circle and to make a sacrifice from which some will not perhaps recover for a year. They were the inducement to the liberal contribution of so many of our patriotic citizens for to secure the desirable object 9–10ths saw plainly, that the Cove must be settled, at once, or the sooner the settlement in this county abandoned the better; and as our highly esteemed President Roberts had with his wonted sagacity and magnanimity encouraged the interprise so far as his authority and the circumstances of our Government justified, it became us as patriotic citizens of Liberia to accept the will of the Government for the deed, to gratefully accept of such aid as it could render and trusting in God, go forward in the discharge of our duty which was and is plainly marked out before us. The volunteers to Fish-town have not been idle they are prepared at any moment to stand as heavy (if not heavier) battle as this place Edina or Bexley, in fact with such officers and men as are there, whom I well know not every Fishman between this and Cape Palmas can take the place, many of them bear marks of honour about their body received in defence of their country, and Even David, (Mason) who slew Goliath, (Tappler) is among them—they are all in good spirits and with the assistance of about 40 native laboures, (bush cutters) who have been employed there the last three weeks they have the surrounding wood cleared, thus presenting an open view for some distance around and have fortified the garrison admirably well, erecting shantees, planting vegetables, and by the blessing of a kind Providence will in a few months be doing as well as any community in Liberia if not better. It is astonishing to see how the immigrants' health hava improved since going down, their spirits are revived they declare they feel better than they ever did before in Liberia—they are working manfully on their own lots, but all sleep in the garrison and will for months, or untill it is deemed safe to move on their own lots, and their lands, is convenient to the garrison. Some few citizens have had to advance something independent of contributions, to assist in the support of the settlers for a couple of months & fortifying the place & having bush cut. They indulge the hope that the Govt; will reasonably consider the matter and re-imburse them, or if the government should not, they hope some other source will, and if they should be disappointed in this reasonable expectation,—why they must stagger the best they can under the sacrifice and that I hope without a murmur, I am Mr Herald as ever. Most Respectfully.

STEPHEN A. BENSON.

DIED.—At Buchanan, Grand Bassa, November 4th, 1852, about 10 o'clock at night, Miss Ellen Cleopatra Ray Johnson, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. C. R. Johnson, aged 9 years, 11 months and 3 days. And on the 18th, of the same month, Miss Adlaid Louisa Ray Johnson, daughter of the same parents, aged 4 years, 4 months and 26 days.

Communicated.

Buchanan, Nov. 19th 1852.

LIBERIA HERALD.

MONROVIA, DECEMBER 1st, 1852.

As we have repeated evidences of the interest which our friends abroad feel in the educational training of the youth of Liberia, and as it is a subject in which every Liberian should feel a deep concern; we have no doubt but that the following facts will be interesting to our readers generally. During the past year two fine institutions of learning have been opened in our City—the *Alexander High School*" under the tuition of Rev. D. A. Wilson of the Presbyterian Board of For: Missions—and the "*Bastion Seminary*" under Rev. Francis Burns of the Methodist E. Mission. Both of these institutions are well attended.

We learn that the annual examination of Mr. B. V. R. James' school (an institution well known to our readers) took place on Tuesday the 23rd ultimo. The pupils had made encouraging progress. Among the institutions of learning in Liberia this school holds a respectable position, and, so far as numbers are concerned, takes the lead of every other. Mr. James has been under the necessity of obtaining the assistance of a female teacher who takes charge of the smaller children. During the past year the school numbered upwards of 70 scholars with an average of 60 in regular attendance; all the energies and efforts of the teachers were, as a consequence, in constant demand. On Wednesday the 23rd, being the anniversary of this school, the usual "Exhibition" was held in the Baptist Church. The house was densely crowded. The exercises being opened with prayer by Rev. E. W. Stokes, the choir sung the beautiful tune "Coronation," the hymn beginning!

"Come children hail the prince of peace"

After which the children began to recite, several interesting pieces were recited, among which were a few original. We were particularly pleased with the piece entitled "*The Bible*" recited by a girl whose name we did not learn. The speaker seemed to enter into the spirit of her subject, and spoke very impressively. The exercises were concluded with an address on the benefits of knowledge by Mr. Edward Blyden.

The whole affair was quite interesting and reflects creditably on the talents and diligence of the conductor. We were well entertained, and left the house pleased that we had spent the evening so agreeably.

We cordially wish success to this institution and all others of a similar kind in Liberia. We hope that those who are engaged in the work of teaching the young, amidst all the labors and toils, may gather encouragement from the fact, that theirs is a "*labor of love*," that in the training of youth they are rendering an important service to their country and to the church—and thus, instead of feeling it laborious to teach they will be able to adopt as their motto those lines of Thomson—

"Delightful task! to rear the tender thought,
To teach the young idea how to shoot,
And pour the fresh instruction o'er the mind."

President Roberts had completed his business with Her B. M's Government, and he expected to leave for Liberia in Her Majesty's steam ship "Dee," on the first of November.

The Legislature will meet on the 6th: inst.

NAVAL.

November, 24th, Arrived, U. S. Brig Bainbridge, Captain Manning, 19 days from Porto Praya. She sailed on the 28th, for the leeward.

November, 23th;—Liberia Government schooner Lark, R. Cooper, Esq, Lieut. Commanding, for the windward: she returned to port on the 26th;—and sail for the leeward on the 27th.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

Nov: 19th,—American brig Helen, Scott Hughes, master 60 days from Baltimore; -21st, American barque Gem, R. E. Lawlin, from Sierra Leone; passenger Honorable J. B. Mc Gill, from England; —22nd, American brig Oriole, Frederick S. Brandt, 48 days from New York, consigned to John B. Jordan & Co: passengers, Colonel B. P. Yates, Rev. J. W. Roberts & lady, Mr. John B. Jordan & lady, and 34 emmigrant passengers;—28th, English brig Arab, James Long Merrit, master 43 days from Bristol England, to U. A. Mc Gill & Bro:—28th, English brig, British Empire, Henry Whitfield, master from Sierra Leone; to D. B. Warner, passenger John Eppenhousen, Esqr;—29th, Hamburg brig Freitag, J. Fredricksen, master; 63 days from Hamburg.

December 1st,—Arrived, American schooner Charlotte Ann, George Brymner, master, 57 days from New York, via Sierra Leone.

Further Shipping intelligence left out for want of room.

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

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