guage correctly". But James Strong Esqr of L. I. says it is no such thing in any one of these particulars; and gives as a proof, the manner in which we learn to speak this language in infancy,—"by imitation." "Penmanship is no part of grammar." We pass over all the first parts of speech, and take the verb,—the part Mr G is said to have misused, and which Goold Brown says is a word that signifies to be, to act, or to be acted upon. The same critic says, "Here the same tautological mode of defining in a circle is observable, as in the case of the noun," and asks Does "*I love*" signify either to be, to act, or to be acted upon? Again, Mr Lindley Murray in his arrangement of regular and irregular verbs, says, that the verb To *be* should be in this form.

Present Am, *Imp:* was *Perf: participle* Been, but Goold Brown says " *Be* " *was* " *Been* with many other such variations and shifting; as for instance,

Murray—*hang hanged hung.*
Brown—*hang hung hung.*

Upon these grounds I think every man should have a right to make his own grammar, for we see that no two grammarians agree as to the true mode of writing the English language correctly. It is hard for one to be obliged to be made in his youthful days, akin to the carcass which Sampson found honey in, to get a knowledge of grammar, and then in old age in order to keep pace with people's fancy be compelled to have their brain liquified in studying another mode of grammar.

Our poet says "who diedst for even I." Africanus, says that expressior is not grammatical—well let us see.

I am a sinner, and Christ died for sinners, therefore he died for I; why should we change the pronoun, as some people term it, and say *me* a "Pronoun is used in stead of a noun" than why not throw away the noun;—why this superfluous number of times?

Our poet is censured for comparing himself to a "boar" why? I think it is said that the evil spirits that were cast out of certain men went in to the swine, certainly they wished to change a bad place for a better one, for as soon as they entered the swine, they being less sinful and filthy than man, could not endure so much wickedness in them, therefore they ran head long into the sea.

Again, he is accused of "making love to a Baboon," "an unsightly creature." We are emphatically told by a certain writer that some of the races of men sprang originally from baboons. After Africanus had kicked up all this dust he gets one side and says to Gibson go on, so say I, and.

Hear an old experienced sinner
Instructing thus a young beginner.
Consult yourself; and if you find
A powerful impulse urge your mind,
Impartial judge within your breast
What subject you can manage best;
Whether your genuis most inclines
To satire, praise, or humorous lines,
To elegies in mournful tone,
Or prologue sent from hand unknown.

* * * * *

To statesmen would you give a wipe,
You print it in italic type

* * * * * *

Your poem in its modish dress,
Correctly fitted for the press,
Convey by penny post to Lintot
But let no friend alive look into 't
If Lintot thinks it will quit the cost,
You need not fear your labour lost.—
And how agreeably surprised
And you to see it advertised

* * * * *

Be sure at Will's the following day,
Lie snug, and hear what critics say;
And, if you find the general vogue
Pronounces you a stupid rogue,
D's all your thoughts as low and little
Sit still and swallow down your spittle
For critics have no partial views,
Except they know whom they abuse.
Once more, and then I'm done with G.
I have been, I know, too lengthy—
Be mindful when invention fails
To scratch your head and bite your nails.

ÆTNA.

Meonrvia Sept: 1855

For the "Liberia Herald."

Mr Editor:—

I am aware that your paper is not theological in its character, but, presuming that you will grant me a space in your columns for two questions on which I have lately heard some discussion, but with regard to which I am not decided I send them, perhaps some of your learned correspondents may be able to throw some light upon them.

1. Were the fishes of the Sea destroyed in the universal deluge?

2. Are the grounds for believing that the creature which beguiled Eve, in the garden of Eden, was a serpent less numerous and satisfactory, than those upon which Dr Adam Clarke founds his hypothesis that it was of the monkey or orang-outang species?

Respectfully Yours.
ENQUIRER.

Monrovia Sept 1855.—

LIBERIA HERALD.
MONROVIA SEPTEMBER 10, 1855.

LIBERIANS TRADUCED.

The enemies of Liberia are restless, in view of the steady prosperity, which, notwithstanding their malevolent desires, slanders, and evil forebodings, is attending our country; and in violent despair, created by their ill—success in opposing the course of this child of Divine Providence "are having recourse to every possible expedient without reference to its moral character, to advance their unprincipled designs.

We transfer to the columns of our present number, from the *New York Tribune*, a letter of Geo T. Downing,—a warm antagonist of Liberia and Colonization—relative to certain statements made in Mr Washington's letters which were referred to by President Roberts in a letter to a gentleman in Philadelphia.

It is needless to say that the whole article manifests a most inveterate prejudice against Liberia, and a malicious intention on the part of the writer to injure the reputation, and arrest the influence which this rising Republic—the colored man's true and only home is exerting upon the thinking portion of the colored people in the United States.

Mr Washington, the writer of the letters, to whom allusion is made, has not, as Mr Downing "anticipated," been induced to give the same (letters) a very different meaning;" but he thinks it no more than justice to a whole community, whom his letters, without any intention on his part, have, in many respects, misrepresented, to say, that he wrote his "first impressions," gathered during his acclimating process, before he had acquired by careful, and discriminating observation and reflection, a correct knowledge of things. We have not the least doubt that were Mr W. to write to the United States now on the same subject, he would not reiterate the same things.

Mr Downing brings forward in support of Mr Washington's statements—which he takes for granted are all correct—the testimony of one Mrs Morse whom he calls "a Christian lady of intelligence." This lady may have been in Liberia, but we know nothing of her; nor do we know anything of the time when she emigrated hither. We have made inquiries, but none of the old settlers of whom we have inquired has been able to furnish any definite information respecting her. If Mrs Morse was ever in Liberia it is highly presumable that her stay was transient, and her opportunities for observation limited She probably belonged to that unfortunate class of persons, who, coming to Liberia, expect to find an El-Dorado or Elysium—abounding in all the comforts and conveniences of old and long established communities; and who, when they fail,—as of course they must—to realize their extravagant anticipations, become disheartened and dissatisfied, and return to the United States laden with evil reports concerning this good land.

The next testimony which Mr Downing adduces is that (*Mirabile dictu!*) of Capt Stanhope—a man of most unenviable notoriety among the people of Liberia, whose authority with them is *prima facie* ground for discrediting the truthfulness of whatever is related. He is "skilled in the pharmacopocia of falsehood, and has practiced the art so long that he can tell to a fraction the exact measure of truth, which, to be palatable, every scientifically compounded lie must contain" This man—this notorious Stanhope—told Mr Downing that "*he never left Africa but that he was importuned by numbers begging him to bring them from their misery to merica,*" The "father of lies" could never have concocted a more atrocious mendacity; and doubtless this came from him through his very faithful and active medium Capt Stanhope. There is no man who has lived in Liberia any time, possessing a soul within him, who would not, no matter how circumscribed in material wealth, spurn the idea of returning to the United States to reside, much less would he condescend to the degradation of begging a passage of Capt Stanhope. No; to every colored man—that is a man—the liberty enjoyed in Liberia, "weak and dependent," and isolated from other parts of the world as she is, is infinitely preferable to the privilege of bowing and scraping to a dominant race, though it be done on the fair shores of Columbia.

Near the close of his letter Mr Downing has the following sentences! "Why will the Colonization Society persist in its deceptive efforts." *We are not going to Africa,* The Liberian government will be abandoned, "&c &c—Mr D. is certainly a wiseacre of wonderful sagacity and foresight; and, judging from the boldness with which he utters his vaticinations, one might be pardoned for coming to the conclusion that he is also among the prophets"—the son of a prophet and the father of prophets. But he exhibits an ignorance of the history and condition of Liberia unpardonable in a man of his intelligence, when he says the "efforts" of the Colonization Society are "deceptive," A little over thirty years ago, the first band of emigrants, about eighty in number, left the United States, for this barbarous coast under the patronage of the American Colonization Society, just then formed, amid persecution abuse and opposition from different quarters. After various unsuccessful attempts to establish themselves, the pioneers obtained a permanent foothold on Cape Messurado.

Their number has since swelled to thousands and they now form a free and independent Republic. Through their influence, the slave trade, the fruitful source of our degradation as a race, has been suppressed for several hundred miles along the coast; while the blessings of the redeeming, elevating, and dignifying religion of the gospel are being felt by many a sable son of the forest. Will Mr Downing in the face of those facts, assert that the "efforts" of the Colonization Soc; are deceptive!" The lasting good which those "efforts" have accomplished are too obvious to tolerate so serious a charge; the benefits that have accrued, and are every day accruing from them, are too evident, to leave in the mind of the fair and candid any doubt as to their philanthropic and unfeigned character. The "deception" is on the side of M Downing; he must first emancipate himself from his strong prejudices—rid himself of the tremendous "beam" with which he has voluntarily obstructed his vision with reference to Colonization and Liberia, before he can be prepared to render a correct judgment.

But Mr Downing says further—of himself no doubt; for he is not the exponent of the views and feelings of all the people of the North—*We are not going to Africa.* Well, this is not surprising, if, as seems probable, he is possessed of a spirit which finds a more congenial atmosphere in that house of bondage, under the lashes and chains of the whites, than it would in Africa, where the colored man, standing erect, cringes to no man on account of his complexion; but where, (fortunately perhaps) there are no "flesh pots"—no leeks and onions, "no gold and silver to attract that numerous and enterprising thing whose motto seems to be, "There is no God but Mammon." The people of Liberia do not invite Mr Downing hither; they invite colored *men*—those possessing a qualification which does not shine very brightly in Mr D. but which is indispensably necessary to a useful residence in Africa—A SOUL. To such they cordially tender their invitations; such they earnestly bid to come home and be free; such they urge to come and assist in building up—and establishing an African Nationality When such refuse to come then they feel grieved, then they regret that accessions so important and valuable are withheld from this infant Republic, But Mr D. may remain in America—and pursue his accustomed avocation—"a servant of servants." His not coming to Africa will not stop the progress of Liberia; she will continue to go on; nor will his refusal to come arrest the tide of emigration which is setting with increasing force towards these shores. No; we cannot suffer ourselves to indulge for one moment the idea that the colored people of the North have sunken to such a state of degeneracy as to be dragged, by Mr Downing, and others like himself, in a course which, their judgment as well as long experience, teaches them is impracticable, resultless, and utterly opposed to the end in view.

It may, it is true, require a long time to remove the prejudices against Liberia which, from persevering misrepresentations, their minds have become imbued; yet from present indications, it is clear that the intelligent and thinking portion of them are not indifferent to their real position and prospects in the United States, and to the superior advantages which Liberia holds out to them as a people. There are many, we are persuaded, who, throwing off their prejudices will follow the leadings of Providence, and resort hither. Such will find, to their joy and comfort, an asylum of freedom—an extensive field of usefulness—a theatre for the exercise and development of those faculties with which the "Common Father" has endowed all mankind; while those who persist in their oppugnation to the manifest will of Heaven, will remain to be "hewers of wood, and drawers of water", in that land of "most grinding oppression."

DULL TIMES.

Some months ago our advices from abroad informed us of remarkable pecuniary embarrassments in various parts of the commercial world, suspension of labor, stagnation of trade, and the difficulty of procuring the ordinary conveniences of life, consequent on the European war, failure of crops &c. We cannot boast an exemption from these trials; the same state of things prevails among us, with the exception that provisions are as a general thing plentiful.

As regards foreign manufactures (tobacco and powder excepted) our market is well supplied. The barque "Estella" landed here a few weeks ago, a large cargo of bread stuffs, Beef, Pork, Herring, and Mackerel; subsequently, the three masted schooner "*Alex Mitchell*" of a consignment of Provisions, Tobacco &c which is still in market for sale. Our merchants would not have their hands so full, however, and would not feel so pressed, were it not for the extreme scarcity of money, added to the interruption of the interior trade occasioned by the almost incessant rains which we have had for several months past.

The oldest settler is unable to recall any time when there has been such a pecuniary dearth as at the present juncture. The frequent auctions which have been held during the last six months at some of which nearly whole cargoes were sold, have tended, not a little, to aggravate the evil, and to bring about the existing state of things.

But we hope, from the present flattering indications, soon to have propitious weather, when the palm—oil and camwood trade will be revived. About the middle of next month business in every department will likely be in brisk and active operation.

RECANTATION OF THE PEOPLE OF CLAYASH LAND.

We cheerfully call the attention of the "Wide wide world," to a full, free, and unequivocal recantation on our first page, made by the people of Clay Ashland, of certain defamatory statements published by them in the "Liberia Sentinel" of June, having reference to certain officers of the Government

It is right, just, and honorable, and to our interest as a small and growing community, that we should, now that the political storm has abated, endeavor, by the rectification of wrongs, and the reparation of injuries committed during the heat of political agitation, to close the breaches that may have been made in the social organization.

We are happy to observe that, notwithstanding the intense excitement which attended the last election and the personal alienations which the character of the contest was calculated to engender, all party strife, jarring and contention have passed away, and peace harmony and quietude now prevail.

THE WINTER OF THE HEART.

Let it never come upon you. Live so that good angels may protect you from this terrible evil—the winter of the heart.

Let no chilling influence freeze up the fountain of sympathy and happiness in its depths no cold barren settle over its withered hopes, like snow on the faded flowers; no rude blasts of discontent moan and shriek through its desolate chambers.

Your life path may lead you amid trials, which for a time seem utterly to impede your progress and shut out the very light of heaven from your anxious gaze.

Penury may take the place of ease and plenty; your luxurious home may be exchanged for a single, lowly room—the soft couch for the straw pallet—the rich viands for the coarse food of the poor. Summer friends may forsake you, and the unpitying world pass you by with scarcely a look or word of compassion.

You may be forced to toil wearily, steadily to earn a livelihood; you may encounter fraud and the base avarice which would extort the last farthing, till you well nigh turn in disgust from your fellow beings.

Death may sever the dear ties that bind you to earth, and leave you in fearful darkness.—That noble, manly boy, the sole hope of your declining years, may be taken from you, while your spirit clings to him with a wild tenacity, which even the shadow of the tomb cannot wholly subdue.

But amid all these sorrows, do not come to the conclusion that nobody was ever so deeply afflicted as you are, and abandon every sweet anticipation of "better days" in the unknown future.

Do not lose your faith in human excellence, because your confidence has sometimes been betrayed, nor believe that friendship is only a delusion, and love a bright phantom which glides away from your grasp.

Do not think that you are fated to be miserable because you are disappointed in your expectations, and baffled in your pursuits. Do not declare that God has forsaken you, when your way is hedged about with thorns, or repine sinfully when he calls your dear ones to the land beyond the grave

Keep a holy trust in heaven through every trial; bear adversity with fortitude, and look upward in hours of temptation and suffering.—When your locks are white, your eyes dim, and your limbs weary; when your steps falter on the verge of Death's gloomy vale, still retain freshness and buoyancy of spirit which will shield you from the winter of the heart.—*Olive Branch.*

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)

1855

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