LIBERIA HERALD

MONROVIA SEPTEMBER 26, 1855

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE

By the late arrival of the British Mail Steamer, from Europe, we were put in receipt of English papers to the 25th of August.

From the Seat of War there is noexciting intelligence. With the exception of a few skirmishes between portions of the Russian and Allied forces nothing has been effected of any importance. since the capture of the Russian strong holds in the Sea of Azoff.

About this time last year, when the Allied armies, consisting of thousands of brave and efficient soldiers, first made their appearance on the Crimean shores—and particularly, after they had achieved the brilliant victories of Alma, Balaclava and Inkerman, we were sanguine that it would not be long before the *Union Jack* and Tricolored banner would wave in triumph over the great fortress of Sebastopol. We did not imagine that the defect in the system of British warfare,—occasioned by years of peaceful habits—was so great as to occasion such a dilatoriness as has taken place. It is now impossible to augur when, and how the siege of Sebastopol will terminate. It is said that like the Greeks at the beleaguring of Troy, the besiegers have constructed small towns of their own, *en attendant* the capture of the hitherto impregnable city.

A correspondent of the *London Times* relates the following anecdote illustrative of the uncertainty, and [illegible] of the operations of the Allies "I heard, [illegible] few days ago, from a French officer of a[illegible] that General Pelissier—commander of th[illegible] forces—being asked when offensive [illegible] would be again resumed said. "Well [illegible] now, the Russians are losing every day [illegible]0 men by sickness, If we wait a week [illegible] will have lost a brigade; if we wait a month they will have a *corps d'armee.*"

THE BALTIC—After long waiting the Allies have struck the Russians a severe blow in the Gulf of Findland, which will reverberate from St Petersburg to Moscow. Sveaborg, the second naval fortress in those waters, and the third in the Rusian empire, has been destroyed by the Allied fleets. The loss of the latter in men and *materiel* is said to be insignificant." Great enthusiasm prevails among the Allies—and the capture of Cronstadt, that most terrible of Russian strongholds in the Baltic, is eagerly anticipated. The London News referring to this success of the Allies says; "As a naval and mari-"time power, Russia is annihilated by the mere "presence of our squadrons in the Baltic and the "Black Sea, and neither her hostile fleets nor her "peaceful merchant vessels dare to show them-"selves in any sea or ocean of the globe with "the sole exception of the landlocked Caspian."

The most interesting intelligence and the latest which we have received is the visit of Her Britanic Majesty to the dominions of her illustrious Ally, Napoleon 111. The *Illustrated London News* of August 25, is entirely devoted to descriptions and illustrations of the very magnificent and enthusiastic reception tendered to her Majesty, by the Emperor and his subjects—The *News* concluding an article on this subject says; "The visit of Napoleon 111, and the Empress Eugenie to London, endeared the one to the judgment, and the other to the affection, of the English people, Queen Victoria's visit will exert a similar influence on the still more excitable feelings of the French; and will long be commemorated by both nations as the most gratifying and splendid incident in their mutual history."

BRITISH PARLIAMENT—Slave Trade—There was a vote in the House of Commons of £12,000 for bounties to British Seamen and for captured slaves which led to a conversation, in he course of which Lord Palmerston stated that the slavetrade in Cuba had considerably diminished as compared with its amounts several years ago, though, perhaps not so much as compared with the last two or three years.

North West Passage—A vote of £10,000 por the discovery of the North West Passage—£5000 to Captain McClure, and the other £5000 to other officers and crew of the *Investigator*—was voted amid general approbation.

Sir C. Wood then moved a vote of £800 to the memory of Sir John Franklin and his crew It was proposed to erect the monument at Greenwich Hospital.

LORD RAGLAN—The body of Lord Raglan late commander of the British forces in the East having been conveyed to England, was interred with great honors.

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE

From different numbers of the *London News* we gather the following items of American news; The Prohibitory Liquor Law in the State of New York was the most exciting topic of the day. The public mind seems to have settled upon the conclusion that the whole affair is an unadulterated humbug. In the rural districts, and in some portions of Long Island, the liquor traffic has been generally abandoned or the law is enforced, but in all the large cities it is a dead letter. Wherever the liquor interest is strong enough to resist the enforcement of the law, the authorities seem unwilling to meddle with the dealers. The question, as to the intoxicating properties of *lager beer* is attracting much attention. The recent seizure of lager at Poughkeepire is the more singular as Judge Strong, of that district, has decided that lager beer is not an intoxicating drink.

Political—In political circles the Spanish question, which had revived in the State Department by a speech of Mr Jefferson Davis, Mississipi, was the all—engrossing one. This gentleman is stated to have observed that he would, on the first pretext, raise the standard of the United States in Cuba, and to have expressed an opinion that while all the Powers of Europe were at war was the moment for the work. It is said that, although Mr Marcy, Secretary of the State, had prepared all the documents for settling the relations amicably, the President was in doubt whether to go with him and the North, or with Mr Davis and the South.

RIOT in Kentucky—A very serious conflict between American citizens and foreigners took place at Louisville on the morning of August 7th during which some twenty persons were shot, and twelve buildings were destroyed by fire, many persons, it is stated, perishing in the flames. After some time the military succeeded in restoring order. The cause of the out break is ascribed to electioneering quarrels.

Slave Trade—Captain James Smith, who was tried and found guilty in the United States American circuit Court o. trafficking in slaves, had been sentenced by Judge Ingersoll to pay a fine of 1000 dols and to be imprisoned for twenty months.

CALIFORNIA—A fire had occurred at San Francisco which destroyed property to the amount of 45,000 dollars. The mines are reported as yielding plenty of gold to the diggers in every part of the State and all classes of mines are doing better than they have ever before done in any period. Business was far from being brisk or prosperous; but, in consequence of the reported prosperity of the mines, a better feeling prevailed among the merchants.

CUBA—Nothing new of a political character had occurred. The public mind was entirely tranquil respecting Filibuster movements.

MEXICO—It is stated that Santa Anna and the whole of the capital were in a state of gloom The people are panting for liberty.

HAYTI—Advices from the Haytien Empire to the 29th of June states that a very favorable change had taken place in the islands since the departure of General Count de Dalmarie, who had aspired to the succession of the empire of Soulouque, and with a view to the object had excited a revolutionary movement among the mountaineers; The feeling of the town, however, is so strong in favor of Soulouque, that the demonstration failed, except so far as it produced a total stoppage of trade, which was fast reviving. It is generally reported in Port-au Prince that amicable arrangements will speedily be made with the Spanish part of the island, the effect of which will be to unite the whole under the flag of the Empero. Soulouque.

MARYLAND IN LIBERIA.

We are gratified in being able to record the steady, though quiet progress which this new State is making. We have received, for publication the message of Governor Prout, delivered before the Legislature in August last. This document is interestingly written, and affords a pleasing account of the state of affairs in the Young Republic.—It will appear in our next.

Literature—*Russwurm Institute:* A correspondent, writing from Harper, informs us that the citizens of Cape Palmas, under a lively and increasing conviction that the safety and prosperity of any Government—especially Republican, depend upon the intelligence of its citizens, are making great efforts for the diffusion of knowledge; and the promotion of literature among themselves. A literary institution denominated "*Russwurm Institute*" has been organized for purposes of "debate, deliberation and conversaziones." A fine library has been presented to this association by a similar institution in the city of Baltimore. We wish it abundant success.

Judicial Decision—Sometime in May last the English Cutter, "Earl of Liverpool" Capt Geo. Harris being wrecked near Garroway, was plundered by the natives. Among other things they took a chronometer and mariner's compass which they sold to a citizen of Cape Palmas. Capt Harris, having ascertained the whereabouts of his nautical instruments, applied to the purchaser, in order to their recovery; but he, being unwilling to return the articles, the Captain then made application to H. B. M. Consul of this city who, immediately, by an official communication to the authorities of Cape Palmas, urged an interference on their part to secure the return of "British property to its rightful owners." The matter was formally laid before the highest judicial tribunal of the "New Republic," on the ground that citizens of the Common "wealth of Cape Palmas are responsible to their Government for acts of wrong and injustice wherever "committed; and that the property in dispute being "obtained by plunder, the purchaser, with a knowledge of that fact, had no right to retain it,"—The decision of the Court was, that the "valuables, being of right, the property of British subjects, must be given up."

They have, accordingly, been sent to the British Consul to be returned to their rightful owners.

We invite the attention of our readers to the communication of "A Correspondent"———giving an account of the demonstration made by the people of Grand Bassa, during the recent visit of President Roberts to that county, in view of his relinquishment of public life in January next,—to express their satisfaction with, and gratitude for the numerous and able service which, as a statesman, diplomatist, and soldier, he has rendered to Liberia. By his devoted patriotism, his ardent zeal, his self—denying and untiring efforts to advance the interest of their country and to elevate her in the scale of respectability, both at home, and abroad, President Roberts has cultivated the esteem and won the affection of all the people of Liberia,—old and young, male and female. His name, despite the slanders and misrepresentations of his enemies, will descend, green and fragrant with the blessings and prayers of a grateful people, to the latest posterity.

While the enthusiasm of the people of Grand Bassa, on this occasion, was universal and unbounded, it was not unmingled with feelings of sorrow and solemnity in view of the dissolution of the relationship which they have long delighted to maintain with President Roberts. Nor was his Excellency free from such feelings. He is not a stranger to roars of applause—to exuberant expressions of the esteem of the people of Liberia. He is accustomed to behold the happy and delightful countenances of grateful crowds—vying with each other to bestow upon him merited honors, but he had never met his fellow citizens, at any previous demonstration, under exactly the same circumstances. At no former manifestation of popular feeling, had he been called to bid *fare-well*. The circumstances were peculiar; the occasion was solemn. It is no wonder that while the speaker addressed him at Buchanan (as we are informed by a correspondent) his Excellency was seen to shed tears; he evidently felt the importance of the crisis which is approaching in the political history of Liberia. May a wise and understanding heart be given to his successor!

Disaster at the Gambia.—The abolition of domestic slavery among the natives on this part of the coast is not easy to be effected, The slave trade between them and foreigners may be, and has been suppressed. Slavers, owing to the vigilance of men—of war, and the authority of the British and Liberian Governments are deterred from prosecuting their nefarious traffic; but no foreign influence, apart from that exerted by Christianity, can eradicate the evil of the domestic slave trade, carried on in the interior. And we are the more convinced of this as we notice the determined hostility, with which the aborigines regard any attempt to bring about a reformation in this particular. This is illustrated by the recent catastrophe at the Gambia,—the great destruction of property and sacrifice of human life, which grew out of an effort on the part of the authorties of that place to interfere with the "domestic institution" An account of the unfortunate affair, taken from the "New Era" may be found on our fourth page.

We republish the recantation of the people of City-Ashland by the request of the Attorney General.

Mr Herald

The citizens of Edina being fully satisfied that His Excellency J. J. Roberts had justly merited all the honor that could be bestowed upon him by them; and feeling that they ought to give some visible demonstration of the gratitude due to him for the many services which he has rendered this government, during his administration, resolved to set apart Wednesday the 1st Sept in honor to His Excellency and that he be notified to that effect, and respectfully solicited to participate in the festivities of the day.

The notice and invitation having been extended and favorably responded to by His Excellency, the citizens generally the Literary institution (Young Men's) and ladies were busily engaged in making preparations for his reception and entertainment.

The morning at length arrived and the grateful hearts of the citizens of Liberia were filled with lively emotions of joy as the roar of canon announced that *Sol* had peeped from behind the Eastern horizon to shed forth his brightest rays upon the day on which they delighted to honor his Excellency J. J. R.

By the ladies two arches were erected in good taste, (for little ornaments ladies beat all creation) one at Howard's corner on 1st St and the other at Merchants corner on 3rd St. The young Misses prepared a garland of flowers to be suspended by two of their number for his excellency to pass through after being received at the wharf of Thomas Moore Esqr.

At 1 o'clock. The President and members of the Town Council,—the young men's literary institution and a number of respectable citizens repaired to the wharf of Thomas Moore Esqr to await the arrival of his excellency. Cannon roared while his excellency accompanied by his honor S. A. Benson crossed the river from Buchanan to Edina.

On his arrival at the wharf, the following address was delivered in behalf of the young men's literary institution and citizens generally, by a gentleman of our acquaintance.

"Sir:

I have the honor in behalf of the Young Men's Literary Institution and the citizens of Edina generally to welcome your Excellency into our Township and could only wish that I had the ability to do that justice to the occasion that it demands.

When we retrospect the past history of Liberia at least for the long period of Fourteen years under your administration first as Governor of the colony, and then as President of the Republic, and notice that during that period, notwithstanding the difficulties growing out of our peculiar circumstances, Liberia has steadily advanced and to day far exceeds the most sanguine expectations of all her friends; we feel truly grateful to the Arbiter of all good and to you as his instrument.

The enemies of Liberia soon after the new organization predicted her early downfall regarding the man of color as being incapable of self government; and why? Was it that the colored race, because differing in complexion from the Anglo Saxon were an inferior order of beings? This could not be, since Divine Revelation positively declares that "God made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth." Then why? We presume the only reason that can justly be assigned is that they had only known the man of color, as degraded in the hand of his exile and ever associate degradations with the race

How cruel! how unjust! after oppressing and confining the minds of men under the iron pressure of unequal laws—after depriving men of every means of intellectual developement to pronounce them insusceptible of improvement or self government.

But thanks be to kind Heaven a star has arisen in the east; the star of freedom; and we feel proud that the foul stain of infamy has been removed, and we have before us one, even Joseph Jenkins Roberts a descendent of down trodden Africa, whom we delight to honor as the Father of his country.

Now sir: In welcoming you into our Township we beg leave to say in the first place, that we as citizens of Edina truly appreciate the many services you have rendered this Government during your administration and are fully satisfied of the conscientiousness with which you have performed them.

2 We are fully persuaded that in discharging your duty, you have been prompted by the pur-

Maryland Historical Society

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