POET'S DEPARTMENT.

For the Liberia Herald.

STOP AND THINK.

Stop and think, oh sinful man !
Trifle not your days away
Gaze upon the wonderous plan,
Christ achieved your sins to stay.

Gaze and wonder as you stand,
Pause and think, your sins he bore,
When He died for sinful man,
That they may live forever more.

Think for you His blood was spilt,
On that sad and mournful day ;
To cleanse your soul from every guilt,
And wash the sinful stain away.

Pause and listen hear your God,
When He gained the wond'rous plan,
Yielding to Justice angry rod,
"I died to save rebellious man."

Sinner pause look and see!
Jesus Christ now ready stand,
You from guilt and sin he'll free,
Guide you to the heavenly land.

Hasten then your Saviour calls
"Sinner come to me and live,
I will save you from the fall
I will true salvation give."

Go then to your Saviour now,
He will true salvation give,
On your knees go humbly bow,
Look to Him and you will live.

AFRICANUS.

For the Liberia Herald.

YE MUST NOT WEEP FOR ME.

1. When it is said,
Around my bed,
That I am dead,
Shed not a tear.

2. We all must go;
The high the low
Know it is so,
Then why the tears.

3. The sad the gay,
Know every day—
Some pass away,
To the spirit land.

4. Then God of power,
Help us to soar
In that trying hour,
Up to thy right hand.

5. Death cannot sting
Nor terrors bring
Since Christ the King
Hath died for me.

6. The grave gives peace;
There tumults cease—
Man's sure release
Whose hopes on *Thee*

7. In righ'ous death,
I'd yield my breath,
To him who saith
"Be born again"

8. Why should I stay,
There's no dismay,
In coming day
With him to reign.

SAUT.

June 28th, 1856.

SPECULATION IN FRANCE.

England and France are legislating in contrary directions on the important subject of commercial association. England no longer restricts the employment of the money of many with the responsibility of all, having seen the necessity of relaxing a rigour in th[illegible] which prevented poor men from [illegible] their small capital, and favoured too [illegible] monopoly of the rich. France, on the other hand, has found the disadvantage in its present circumstances of too great a degree of liberty ; and the Emperor has been compelled to abridge, by a very severe law, the facilities for the formation of anonymous companies.

Both countries may undergo inconvenience from meddling with so great and universal an agent as money, but the motives operating in both cases are manifest enough. The continued division of property in France is such that hardly any thing can be done there by individual capital or enterprise, whereas in England the means of employing small capitals had borne no proportion whatever to the facilities for creating them.

In England has existed, time out of mind, a large and important class, possessed of enterprise and knowledge, both of which they devoted to the cultivation, quite apart from the possession, of the soil. The capital gained and accumulated in their thrifty hands has been for the greated part employed in the same industry and the same calling ; and one has but to look round with pride on the results of such individual enterprise and skill, applied to the soil of England.

France, on the contrary, has no such race. Whatever tendency may have existed in its corresponding class to farm was prevented, first, by the aristocracy, who would neither give freedom nor fair condition, and secondly, by the revolution. The cultivator of the French soil is its possessor, who, assailed by all the cares and temptations of proprietorship, seldom or ever is able to make land a foundation for commercial enterprise, or for money making. He lives on it, and that suffices. At every death one brother seeks to buy the portion of the other, and runs into debt to do so. Instead therefore of the cultivator having money to employ on the land, he is obliged to extract money to pay interest of borrowed capital, and to feed himself besides. This created a system of its own, and a bad system, no doubt : still it went on in a regular channel, and with certain ascertainable results. All who had money, or who could save money in the provinces, lent it to the landed proprietor as long as he could pay interest ; and when he could no longer do so, the rustic capitalist became proprietor himself, his children becoming indebted in their turn.

All this machinery, however, has been destroyed, and all these habits broken in upon, since the rise and extension of commercial enterprises in shares, which have absorbed not merely the money of the town capitalist in speculation, but also that of the provincial. In addition to the railroads, which of course interested each locality, and carried off great part of its money, Government itself appeared with its loans, and gathered up the savings of the peasant, who on seeing the funds rise and realising a little profit, straightway acquired the greed for stock jobbing. The result of this, and of its consequences in multiplying *societes en commandite* and anonymous companies, has been entirely to carry away the fund hitherto reserved for the necessities of the agriculturist. In short, what between failure of crops and dearth of money, increased taxes and prices and inadequate production the numerous class of French landed proprietors are in deplorable condition.

To arrest the madness of speculation, to cause to flow back to the rustic rivulet the capital which has rushed into the great town channels, forms now one of the great solicitudes of the Imperial Government ; and well it may, for its own measures and domestic outlay have immensely developed and augmented the evil. Hence all the laws submitted lately to the so called Legislative body, for giving millions to draining, for checking the erection of companies with capital in shares, and so on. All are efforts in the direction of meeting an evil most directly created by the Government itself. The Imperial system has drained the country of its men and its money, both of which it has tempted to migrate to the town. Were all such industrious gamblers and speculators, indeed, really prosperous, one might in time see the money realised by them pour back in a fertilising stream upon the country. But either the hour has not arrived, or the gambling is not really prosperous. There is a vast difference beween the genuine enterprise which creates wealth, and the mock one which consists in robbing it from one's dupes and neighbours.

There is great expenditure in France, especially in Paris, there is great activity, great increase of prices, most abundant accumulating of saturies, in a word, there are all the external signs of prosperity. But every one can see that nothing of this reposes on a solid basis, on the real creation or economy of wealth ; and it remains to be seen whether the laws by which it is now sought to check the mania of speculation will bring any effectual remedy for the [illegible] and growing evil.—*The Examiner.*

[illegible] following [illegible] from the Sierra Leone "New Era" of August 23rd, being a memorial of Sir Edward Buxton to Lord Palmerston, for the propagating of civilization in Africa. This memorial says the "New Era" met with a very favorable reception.

THE undersigned having long taken a deep interest in the Christian civilization of Africa, and its effectual deliverance from the evils of the Slave Trade, beg leave to submit to her Majesty's Government the following Statement:—

1. That the trade with the West Coast of Africa, independently of its beneficial influence in suppressing the Slave Trade, is of great and increasing importance to this country : for the confirmation of which they beg to refer to the Statistical Returns appended to this Memorial.

2. That the published accounts of the successful Expedition up the rivers Niger and Tshadda, in the year 1854, undertaken at the instance and under the auspices of Her Majesty's Government, show that great advantages would accrue to the commerce of West Africa, if this natural highway into the interior of that Continent were effectually opened and kept open for a few years.

3. That the late expedition has also shown that the fatality which attended the Expedition in 1841, may be in a great degree, at least, obviated by choosing a proper season of ascent, and by improved medical treatment; since, though the expedition was for nearly four months in the rivers, not a single case of serious illness occurred to a crew of 12 Europeans and 54 Natives.

4. That it appears to your Memorialists that all the prospect of introducing Civilization and Christianity into Africa, by the Navigation of the rivers Niger and Tshadda, which led her Majesty's Government to send out at a great cost the Expedition of 1841, still exist ; and that they should be promptly improved by this country, before they are closed by any change of circumstances, or taken out of our hands by other nation.

5. Your Memorialists are convinced that it is essential to the success of any plans for the attainment of this object by means of Native agency, that Her Majesty's Government should establish or promote the establishment of a regular Steam Communication between Fernando Po and the confluence of the Niger and Tshadda rivers in order that Native Traders may be assured that the way will be kept open ; and also that her Majesty's Government should, at periodical intervals, extend such communication further up the two rivers, with a view to the extension of geograpical discovery of commercial enterprize, and of religious civilization in the interior of Africa.

6. That should Her Majesty's Government accede to this proposal, there is every prospect of the completion of the great and benevolent object in view, by the spontaneous commercial enterprize of liberated and other Africans in the various Settlements upon the West Coast, and by the zeal of Missionary Societies.

7. That the prospect of thus introducing lawful commerce, Civlization, and Christianity, into this part of Africa, are greatly strengthened by the example of one powerful and enterprising nation, called the Yoruba nation whose country occupies the chief districts lying between the Bight of Benin and the River Niger which, within the last ten years has made rapid progress in social improvement, chiefly through the immigration of their liberated countrymen from Sierra Leone, and by the residence of Missionaries amongst them. A statement respecting this nation is appended to this Memorial, and your Memorialists have reason to know that there are large numbers of this Tribe, and of the Ibo Tribe, now in Sierra Leone, ready to take advantage of the opening of the Niger to lawful commerce, by immigrating to those part for the purposes of Trade.

8. Lastly, in the prospect of an extension of the West African Trade, that it will be of great importance to make Sierra Leone a Free Port ; it being the only harbour upon a coast line of at least 2000 miles. A letter from Macgregor Laird, Esq. upon this point, is appended to this Memorial.

Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray, that Her Majesty's Government will adopt measures both for promoting British commerce and civilizatin, and for effectually suppressing all remaining Slave-trade, upon the West African Coast; and they submit the following measures as especially conducive to these ends

(1) To maintain the African Squadron in the state of efficiency which it had attained before the breaking out of the Russian war, when the Slave Trade along the whole West African Coast was reported to be virtually extinct.

(2) To provide, as a branch of the duties of the West African Squadron, or in some other way, the sending of a small steamer up the Niger, to the confluence, each season, for the next five or seven years, to give confidence and encouragement to any trading settlments which may be formed of emigrants from Sierra Leone, or other parts of the Coast ;—and to protect lawful traders from the marauding tribes which infest the Delta of the Niger.

(3) To secure to British Traders a free use of some Port, either at Fernando Po, by a commercial treaty with Spain, or in some other locality, of which several might be selected in the neighborhood of the Cameroons, as an entreport for British Merchant ships.

(4) To place a small War-Steamer upon the River or Lagoon on which the Island of Lagos is situated, which would give the command of the waters running parallel to the coast for nearly 200 miles—which are now used by Slave boats to dodge and escape the Cruisers on the coast.

(5) Lastly, in the prospect of an extension of the West African Trade, to make Sierra Leone a Free Port.

[redacted]

FRANCE.—PARTIAL RESTITUTION TO THE ORLEANS FAMILY.—The Government has resolved to make a certain extent of restitution, at the public expence, to some of the members of the Orleans family, who were stripped of their property by the confiscation decree of 1852. The bill now before the Council of State proposes that from the 22nd, inst., the following sums shall be inscribed upon the grand book of the public debt, 200,000fr. Rente in the names of the heirs of Marie Therese d'Orleans, Queen of the Belgians ; 200,000fr. in the name of the the Princess Marie Clementine d'Orleans, Duchess of Saxe Coburg-Gotha, and 200,000fr. in the names of the heirs of the Princess Marie Chirstine of Orleans, Duchess of Wurtemberg. The *expose des motifs* sets forth as the reason for the measure the conditions of the marriage contracts between Louis Philippe and his sons in-law. There are a great many lawsuits pending, which would have caused the the Government great annoyance by continually bringing the confiscation question on the tapis. It has therefore been thought prudent to make the state pay a good round sum to make things pleasant.—*Ib.*

STATE OF AFFAIRS IN LOMBARDY AND NAPLES —Accounts from Milan of the 11st, mention that a movement on a large scale, indeed on the whole line of the Italian Peninsula, is in course of preparation Copies of incendiary proclamation exciting to pillage an assassination, are circulated throughout Italy. Letters from Naples describe the King as more determined each day to decline the counsels of the Western Powers and refuse the reforms demanded from him as the only chance of saving his States from violent, commotion. He has become more morose and less communicative, and will not listen to any advice. He flatters himself, however, that he will be able to resist what he terms "the oppression of the Western Powers," with the help of the Lazzaroni in whose fidelity he has every confidence. A fresh political trial, known by the name of the "Processo Mignogna," commenced on the 7th, of the month, before the Criminal Court of Naples, and was still going on on the 14th. The accused are eleven in number, among whom were two lawyers; two priests, one friar, and one woman. The details disclosed during the trial are shocking. As an instance, the following was stated in public court (and not contradicted by the Attorney General) by one of the accused, who had been a prisoner in the Bagno di Procida. It is necessary to premise that no person confined in that bagno may send a letter without its being stamped by the governor of the gaol. One day the governor of the Bagno di Procida, being drunk forgot to stamp many letters which were sent out. The official at the entrance of the bagno who is charged with the control of the letters, seeing that some letters were not stamped, took them back to the governor, who, forgetting that he was the real cause of the neglected formality, ordered all the prisoners to receive 100 blows of a stick in the course of five hours. The number of those persons amounted to seventy-two ; so that in five hours 7,200 blows were inflicted on innocent men.—*The Examiner.*

AMERICAN OFFICIAL COSTUME.—A *contretemps* occurred at the Queen's levee on Wednesday, the facts of which are stated by the 'Daily News' to be these:—Mr. Dallas and his diplomatic subordinates were in their ordinary diplomatic costume. The United States Minister was accompanied by the Professor of Military Science in one of the United States professional establishments. This gentleman wore his ordinary and proper military uniform, consisting of a military frock coat, white waistcoat, and black stock, such as he presents himself in before his military superiors, and that he especially selected this as the proper costume in which to appear at her Majesty's levee, for presentation by the Minister of his Government. On being refused admission by the Master of the Ceremonies, Mr. Dallas retired, with great regret at the occurrence. The conduct of the Queen on the occasion was exactly what might have been expected from her excellent sense and presence of mind. When informed by Lord Clarendon of what had happened, her Majesty at once replied, 'Let the gentleman be admitted : I shall be happy to receive him in any costume. Unfortunately, however, before the Queen's gracious directions could be delivered, the party had left the Palace."—*Ib.*

THE EMPEROR'S OPINION OF BOURSE SPECULATIONS.—The Emperor has sent the following letter to M. Ponsard, author of 'La Bourse,' the successful comedy lately produced at the Odeon, on the occasion of that gentleman having sent to his Majesty a copy of the work :—"Palace of St. Cloud, 15th, June. Monsieur—You thought it advisable after the first representation of 'La Bourse,' to withdraw it from the felicitations of the public and from mine. The presentation of a copy of your new work now gives me an opportunity of congratulating you, which I do most willingly, for I have been really happy to hear you denounce and combat with all the authority of your talent, and under the inspiration of the most noble sentiments, the deplorable mania of the day. I shall therefore peruse your piece with the same pleasure that I experienced at its first performance. Persevere, Monsieur, in that path of morality to which your success binds you, but which is perhaps too rarely followed on the stage, though it is worthy of authors destined, like yourself, to enjoy a great reputation. Believe in all my kind wishes.—NAPOLEON."

Maryland Historical Society

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XII. Newspapers
B. Liberia Herald

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