POET'S DEPARTMENT.

From the Star Gourn sey

THE VOICE OF THE FALLING LEAVES.

A friendless minstrel walked alone,
Where the autumn twilight lay,
Cold on the woods and leaves were strewn
By thousands in his way;
He thought of the promise-breathing spring,
And of summer's rosy eves,
And he said—"Alas, for the withering
And the time of falling leaves."

The music of birds and breeze had passed
From the woodlands hushed and dim;
But there came an answering voice at last
From the dying leaves to him;
And it said—"Oh, thou of the sleepless thought
In thy musings sad and lone,
Weep not the close of our tearless lot,
But rather mourn thine own."

"For the greenness of early spring was ours,
And the summer's palmy prime,
And the glowing tints that decked the bowers
In the glorious harvest time;
And have not we seen the roses die?
For their splendours might not stay,
And the summer birds are gone, then why
Should not leaves too pass away?

"Yet the flowers may fade, the leaves may fall,
And the glory of woods, depart,
But mourn in thy sorrow, more than all,
The withering of the heart;
And the soul's young brightness dim'ed so soon
'Twas a glory early o'er
For time hath taken that blessed boon,
But time can ne'er restore.—

"And mourn for life's perished hopes that died
While the spring was flowery still,
For the stainless love which the grave hath hid,
Though it could not change or chill,
For the weary eyes that have looked for ligh
Which never met their gaze,
And for all who have lived through storm and blight
But saw no summer days."

The winds in their lonely power awoke,
As the night came darkly on.
And the voice which in twilight stillness spoke
With that twilight hour was gone,
"And oh," said the minstrel, "strange, in sooth
Are the spells which fancy weaves,
For now she hath given a voice of truth
To the fading, falling leaves."

HEALTH AND BEAUTY.

HOW TO SECURE THEM.

The tenderest care, the utmost solicitude, which we can bestow upon woman in seasons of sickness, are but a light payment of the debt we owe her—a debt contracted in our cradles, and constantly accumulating until we die. No man has more faithfully discharged that debt than the great English physician Professor Holloway. His remedies have probably done more to relieve the various diseases especially incident to the sex, than all the potions and external applications with which medical practitioners have afflicted them since the commencement of the Christian era. Drastic aperients, pernicious stimulants, and poisonous lotions and emulsions, have ruined the constitutions and blighted the loveliness of thousands of the gentler sex; but we trust that the day when the lives of those who are dearest to us could thus be trifled with is past. At length wives and mothers begin to understand the danger of being subjected to such treatment. The mild, soothing and restorative influence of Holloway's great internal and external remedies, in all the complaints to which woman is subject, are now generally admited. They have been administered with marked and unvarying success in those disturbances of the system which occur in the various stages of adolescence, during the season of maternity, and at a later period of life. Every disorder, bodily and mental, incident to this sequence, seems to be relieved and modified by the gentle and purifying effect of Holloway,s Pills.

We should not venture, in a matter of such vast importance, to hazard an opinion on questionable grounds; but we cannot hesitate to believe the testimony which has been placed before us. Ladies of the highest respectability, rightly thinking that squeamishness is out of place where health and life are concerned, have certified to the efficacy of the remedies in nearly all the complaints to which the sex is liable, and have recommended them in the strongest terms as preservatives of that external beauty which depends upon health, as well as of health itself.

If it be true—and who so insensate as to doubt it?—that

"The world was sad, the garden was a wild,
And man, the hermit, sighed till woman smiled,"

surely it behoves us to point out and urge upon her attention the means of relieving her sufferings and turning her sadness into joy.—*New York Herald.*

For the Liberia Herald.

Mr Herald,

It is somewhat gratifying to Elijah Johnson that the thoughts he threw together on "Protective duties" &c. has brought to our Public Library, at *least one work* on Political Economy. Elijah Johnson had never read such a work, neither was he an adept in the kind of writing he attempted. The idea was to "try," yes "try," to set down on paper what he thought he had long witnessed as acting to the injury of Liberia as a New Republic of strugling people.

Still it strikes me, that there is, in the annals of political economy, such a subject as "Protective Tariff," which has in view the specific purpose of nurturing, and encouraging home industry and economy. Elijah Johnson had not had the privilege of seeing into F. K. Bastiat's "little book," and would very much like to own the production of a French, or any other "political economist" so highly approved by an English statition and economist as G. Porter, himself, al so a distinguished author. This is to many no doubt authority enough. But should E. J. ever see this work refered to, he feels confident that the good common sense of the writers patriotism would cause him to demur against seeing his own country wholy in the hands of strangers in a commercial light, without a due consideration, or proper remuneration; so would both F. K. Bastiat and G. Porter, *protest* against seeing both England and France as Liberia is in fact, reduced to the condition of a standing army—by an indirect impressment, and that without pay—but to guard at their own expense, at the risque of their very existences very often except, insurrection raised, is pay, and insurrection suppressed is profit, insurrection too raised by the false managers of transient trading strangers, to be surpressed by the people they visit, when at the same time, that trade militates in my humble opinion, against their whole interest as a nation and as a people in many respects.

Is not the trade of Liberia now almost wholy in the hands of foreigners? Furthermore, is it not so in the hands of foreigners, that it is of but little benefit to us? Have they not a system, matured and strengthened, as an iron chain that can hardly be bent or broken, which gives those foreigners whose love for our prosperity and political possession is the love of satan for a saint? And are not these undue influences wrong, and often distructive, in its impression upon all points of our coast? Power once gained, backed by money which is also power and influence, is not so easily removed by weakness, in want of Power, unless we as the just rulers of this soil, fall back upon a power, outside of trading and monitory influences, to gather breathing, privilege, and elbow room. I agree with Elijah Johnson, that a foreign system of trade governing us, keeping us in necessitous circumstances, which lessons not the price of foreign shoes, but which makes them to us one hundred per cent dearer. If it made our shoes sure to us at $2, and thus saved us from paying $3, we could not complain so much; but the foreign system so kills off the native manufactor, who might if protected sell at $1,50 and keeps the shoes at $3,00 thus taxing us $1,50 on each pair, by this system of extortion, which power and money gives their system, the power to keep, operating crushingly upon us. No F. K. Bastiat. or G. Porter, would go for this for England or France; the book will take ground no dorbt, for justice in trade, and protection at home. Therefore the fallacy rests in the reasoning from premises in England and France, and not in Liberia; he knows not that the price comes down just long enough to kill off the poor shoe maker and taylor, and then runs up to two three, and five hundred per cent. The bate acts upon our mechanics as *nunx vomica* upon the wolf; it kills them and sends them off their benches and counters, so as to give foreigners room to extort, in any way they see fit, and the way they do see fit to act is like the Turk in power, acted by the powerless Jew. The spirit is "bleed him." "life is sweet, and all that a man has will he give for his life," food, raiment, and shoes, are life! the foreigner, by his system has gained this life, and we pay dearly for it. Liberia is as an ass couched between two burthens, and unable to rise without protection; on one side is destruction of home manufacture, for purposes of extortion, and on the other necessity, brought on by this system of foreign extortion.

We must complain, while the foreign merchant brings a ready made article; it may be shoes or some other garment; our manufactures are poor, they are not rich capitalists, they are strugling for an existence, and manufacturing footing; and the system that sell them *leather very high* to manufacture, on one hand, and sells shoes on the other a little lower than our manufacturers can sell them, until, and only until they are impoverished and killed off, and then up goes the price of shoes, or any other garment, to prices, one, two, and three hundred per cent above. what Liberian consumers could be furnished at home, by a course of steady protection. The mistake of Dr Hodgkins—and his writers on Political Economy lays, in not knowing the workings of this curious African transient trading system by Foreigners. They ought to have wrote in Africa, and not in nations with power to repell agression, or with manufacturing skill, wealth and ability to come, without protection of Law, against foreign importation by what might be manufactured at home.

This Mr. Herald is our own native opinion, arising from what we see, and feel, and see clearly—and feel keenly—It was our opinion without ever reading the deductions of any foreign political economist.

Neither did the writer expect that any one who lived by this system of Foreign oppression or by one kindred to it, would agree with him, because where power is obtained, that power unless converted by a patiotism not always found in those who have the advantage, will operate vigorously against opponents. Now Mr Herald, it was never expected that the views of Elijah Johnson were all correct, or that Liberia was ready for all he said; the design of the writer was simply to call attention to the points, and to make inquiry, and to stir up Liberia to make ready—to get herself into a state of readiness—to stand upon her own feet—to look at her own interest, and to her own future independence for which she has struggled so lustily,—fought so bravely, and to use the right to rule, which she has purchased so honestly from the aboriginees, the sons our Fathers.

Most Respectfully
DANIEL HAWKINS.

EXTENSION OF AFRICAN TRADE.

For years past we have urged the importance of a greater degree of attention being paid to the trade with Africa. The various reports of coasting and inland travellers—the great increase in palm-oil and other legitimate articles of commerce—the mineral discoveries in the South and West—the fruitful lands and dense population in the interior recently visited by intelligent explorers—all show how essential to our interests is the interchange of products with the natives of Africa.

From the Colonization Herald, we learn that a deputation, comprising many of the well known friends of Africa, recently had the opportunity of an hour's conference with Lord Palmerston during which such facilitieswere sought for as would open up that mighty continent to lawful commerce. The points submitted, and in which the co-operation of the government was sought, many be thus briefly stated: that Sierra Leone should be made a free port, in being the only good harbor upon a coast line of at least two thousand miles; that the use of Fernando Po, or some other suitable locality near the Equator, should be secured by treaties for British merchants; that the naval commander of the West African squadron should be instructed to send a small steamer up the Niger to the confluence each season, for a few years to come, in order to give confidence, security and encouragement to settlers and traders; and that a small steamer should be placed on the river or lagoon upon which Lagos is situated, so as to have a control over the slave boats emerging from the contiguous waters.

Mr. Macgregor Laird, the pioneer and advocate of the exploration, extended commerce, and postal communication with Western Africa, furnished Lord Palmerston with some practical information. He stated that, with its various commercial advantages of situation and splendid harbor, if the custom house charges were removed and the port made free, Sierra Leone would become a great *entre port* for the whole coast from the Gambia to Cape Palmas, and that the French, American and other traders would resort to it. Monthly steam communication is already extended from Plymouth and Liverpool to Fernando Po, and this intercourse will tend, as it has already done, to increase trade with the interior. London, Bristol and other houses in the African trade load many a ship in the year at the Bight of Benin; but the extension of civilization, and intelligence, and experience, into the interior, by the channels of the large rivers, would do much to promote commerce, and greatly hasten the dispatch of cargoes of country produce to the coast.

There can be no question that vast commercial advantages would accrue to the commerce of western Africa, if the Niger and Tschadda, the natural highways into the interior to Timbuctoo and other large cities of the continent, were effectually opened and maintained for a few years. The last expedition is a proof that, under judicious management, and at the proper season, there is no greater danger to health, in a navigation of those streams, than of other rivers in Brazil and our southern States. While the British export trade with different parts of the world has only increased in the last twenty years fifty per cent., the export trade to Western Africa has more than doubled. British manufactures are mainly dependant on that quarter for several articles, especially vegetable oils and ivory. The yearly export of palm oil has risen to the value of nearly two millions pounds sterling, or ten millions of dollars. Ground nuts, for oil, are a leading article of production. Dyewoods are important. Of the whole imports of ivory into Great Britain, Africa supplies one-half. When it is noticed what has been done in stimulating the cultivation of coffee, sugar, spices, and other staples in Liberia, there is no reason why a great stimulus may not be given also to the countries bordering on the rivers of the interior.

The following returns to Parliament illustrate the increase of British exports to the West Coast of Africa, and of imports from the same region:

	Exports.	Imports.	Totals.
1850,	£639,429	£605,958	£1,245,387
1851,	654,543	794,810	1,449,353
1852,	533.725	707,024	1,240,749
1853,	901,402	749,373	1,659,775
1854,	958,809	905,634	1,864,443

This is independent of the British colonies of Sierra Leone, the trade of which amounted in 1854, to $1,421,865, and of the British possessions on the Gold Coast and the River Gambia, amounting to $1 547, 285 more, and of those at the Cape of Good Hope and in South Africa, swelling the amount $8.383,000 more; making in all an aggregate of over $23,000,000 in 1854, for the Western Coast of Africa entire.

The following table shows the trade of the United States with Africa during the seven years ending 3rd June, 1855:

	Exports.	Imports.	Totals.
1849,	$708.411	$495.742	$1,204.153
1850,	759,266	524,722	1,283.988
1851,	1,340,644	1,163.176	2.503 820
1852,	1,246,141	1,057,657	2,303,798
1853,	1 610 833	1,202,986	2.813.809
1854,	1,804 972	1,388,560	3,193,532
1855.	1,375,905	1,337,527	2,713,432

Thus it will be seen that the trade between the United States and the whole of Africa is most insignificant in comparison with that between England and simply the Western Coast. With reference to Liberia the startling fact is that, while the importations from England are increasing, from the United States they are diminishing.

This is but the legitimate result of British and American policy illustrated. In the trying days of the Republic of Liberia, Great Britain promptly threw around her the shield of sympathy and protection. She also liberally aided the young nation in various ways, by giving her the nucleus of a navy' and by other acts of kindness. On the other hand, our government has absolutly done nothing, while our revenue laws operate unfavorably, and tend materially to check commercial intercourse. Thus most, if not all, the principal products of Africa are admitted free of duty into England, but in our country the tariff demands a duty on ivory, baswood, and camwood, of five per cent, palm oil ten per cent, gum copal and ebony twenty per cent. These articles enter largely into the process of manufactures, so that the imposition of a tariff can afford no encouragement to home industry in the United States, while its effect must be to force the articles to a market where they will be more willingly received, and yield a handsome return to the merchant and trafficker. Let our government, without unnecessary delay, acknowledge the independence of Liberia, as the powers of Europe have long since done, and our national Congress legislate so as to encourage, and not ignore a trade promising the largest results.

An American steam line to Africa would be a pioneer of civilization. It would afford a rapid communication with the interesting republic of Liberia, which is proving the capacity of the Christianized and Americanized African for self-government, according to Anglo Saxon ideas and institutions. It could not fail to promote powerfully the prosperity of that young Commonwealth It would practically bridge the Atlantic in a new direction, and connect together the most progressive and the most stationary of the continents. It would soon be an effectual aid in that African exodus from the soil of the New World to the ancient fatherlands of the race, of which we now see the faint beginnings. Its realization would involve more wide reaching and beneficial results than even its warmest friends have ever hoped.

[Wm. Curnoe,]

Holloway's Ointment and Pills, certain Remedies for Rheumatism.—Henry Foot, aged 52, of St. Vincents, was a severe sufferer from this complaint, and tried a number of reputed remedies, hoping they would benefit him, but he became so bad at last, as to be entirely confined to his bed, and he was unable to move either hand or foot. While he was in this horrible condition, a friend brought him a quantity of Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which he immediately commenced to use, he soon found himself gradually improved by them, and by persevering with them for eleven weeks, he was entirely cured, and has since enjoyed the best health.

HY HEART AND HOPE.

The wide, the deep, the flowing sea
Contains a wealthy store;
Its ebb is strong, its flow is free,
Its billows fear no power.
Though storms may lash its briny waves,
They soon are lull'd asleep,
And not a foaming breaker raves
Across the silent deep.

My heart, my heart is like the sea,
A changing, flowing thing;
It sometimes rages loud and free,
When love its calm will bring.
The gales of passion soon subside,
The heart at rest appears:
The heart, which late to peace denied,
Her silent smoothness wears.

My hope, my hope is but a bark
Upon my heart's deep sea.
Sometimes 'tis toss'd 'midst tempests dark,
Sometimes at rest 'twill be.
The sea will change, the storms will rage,
And o'er its boundless scope
Be toss'd the bark, as battles wage;—
Such is my heart and hope.