or 20,000 plants, may calculate, with a good degree of certainty, on a large quantity of coffee in three years from the time he commences operation." It is, he very justly adds, absolutely a disgrace to us to have to inquire of foreigners, when they arrive, "have you any coffee? or can you spare me a little sugar? It must give them a most unfavorable opinion of our good sense and industry, when they hear that the trees and plants that produce these articles are scattered with a liberal profusion through our woods, almost within our very doors."

Of the general aspect and state of things in the colony the managers have nothing of very special interest to communicate since the last year. Thomas H. Buchanan, Esq., commissioned by the New York and Philadelphia societies to superintend their settlement and concerns at Bassa Cove, on his arrival in the colony at the commencement of the year, writes:

"I find a state of things here altogether better than I had ever anticipated, even when trying to imagine the brightest side of the picture; but with my present imperfect ability to detect the errors of first impressions, shall withhold the remarks which my feelings would prompt. I visited New Georgia, Capetown, and Caldwell, on Tuesday last. With all these towns I was much pleased, but this term is too feeble entirely to convey the delightful emotions excited by the appearance of things in the two first-named villages, which are the residences of the recaptured Africans. Imagine to yourself a level plain of some two or three hundred acres, laid off into square blocks, with streets intersecting each other at right angles, as smooth and clear as the best swept sidewalk in Philadelphia, and lined with well-planted hedges of cassada and plum; houses surrounded with gardens, luxuriant with fruit and vegetables; a school-house full of orderly children, neatly dressed and studiously engaged; and then say whether I was guilty of extravagance in exclaiming as I did after surveying this most lovely scene, that had the Colonization Society accomplished nothing more than had been done in the rescue from slavery and savage habits of these three hundred happy people, I should be well satisfied." Again he remarks: "Liberia far exceeds, in almost every respect, all that I had ever imagined of her; nothing is wanted, I am persuaded, but a better system of agriculture, and the permanent establishment of schools, to bring the peopla of Liberia at a very early day to the very highest point in the scale of intellectual refinement and political consequence."

The Rev. Beverly R. Wilson, (whose name has been already mentioned,) under date of April 26, writes: "When I was in the United States, I said many things in favor of the colony; but I find that I said not half enough. Here is our home; the colony is in good health. Farming is going on well, and all is quiet at this time. Many of the farmers from Mississippi are doing well, and think they will be able to ship produce from here to the United States in less than three years; they are much engaged in their present crops. There is no doubt but we shall do well here. For my own part, I have never been so perfectly contented with my own situation in all my life. I am now at home."

David Moore, a very intelligent emigrant from Mississippi, under date of the 25th April, writes to the Rev. Mr. Butler, of Port Gibson: "I am glad to inform you that myself and family are well, and generally have enjoyed as good if not better health than in the United States; indeed, our expedition has suffered very little with the fever of the climate, and the proportion of deaths has been less than if we were in America. I assure you, Rev. sir, that I do truly thank God and my kind friends who directed my

feet to this land of liberty, with its concomitant blessings. We have, although a few privations to undergo, many of nature's blessings, and I expect in a few years to be able to say that we do then live in a land of unrivalled plenty and luxury."

James Brown, a worthy free man of color from this city, who has resided about two years in the colony, under date of July 27, writes: "I say now, as I have in former letters, and with more experience too, that nothing is required but proper management to make this one of the most desirable and happy places in the world. When I view the natural advantages of Liberia, I am ready to say, surely the benevolent God of nature intended it a happy asylum for the returning sons of Africa, and therefore the natural advantages of this country are more than would compensate them for their trouble in former days."

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On the 6th of November, of last year, a treaty of peace was concluded with the atrocious chief, Joe Harris, (whose war upon the unarmed settlement of Bassa Cove, and massacre of a number of its unoffending inhabitants, was described in the last report,) by which he is bound to restore any property taken by him from colonists, and now in his possession; to pay for such as has been consumed or destroyed; to grant to the New York and Pennsylvania societies all land belonging to him south of Benson's river; to refer all questions concerning hostilities, and between himself and three other native chiefs in his vicinity, to the colonial authorities; and to abandon the slave trade. Although this chief agreed to the terms of this treaty with the outward show of penitence for his crimes, he is not to be trusted, and is said to have lost his influence with his own people, and to have been forced by other chiefs into measures of peace to save his life.

A part of the unfortunate emigrants who had fled during the war from Bassa Cove, and found refuge in Monrovia, immediately returned to that place, and re-established their settlement. In a letter dated December 22, 1835, to the secretary of the New York society, the colonial agent observes: "I have laid out the town in squares of seventeen rods, containing four lots and a highway. The streets run east and west, north and south, by the compass. Fifteen town lots are already cut down, and one large thatched house nearly completed. This place, for salubrity and healthiness of location, cannot be exceeded by any spot on the western shore of Africa."

Two valuable tracts of land have been added to the territory of the colony during the year. The first, a small tract in the neighborhood of Edina, and on the margin of the bay that forms the outlet of St. John's river, was purchased of a native chief named Bob Gray, a faithful ally of the colony, who desires that the children of his tribe may learn the language and customs of the settlers. Between Edina and Bob Gray's town is a beautiful hill, on which, with permission of the society, the Baptist missionaries propose to found a mission school, on the manual labor plan, that may afford instruction both to the children of the native town and Edina. The second tract is near the mouth of Junk river, and embraces the very eligible spot upon which stands the village or town of Marshall. This tract had been bought by the former agent, Mr. Pinney; but the validity of the title granted to the society was not acknowledged by the Junk people; and it was thought best to conclude negotiations which will prevent all difference and contentions in future between the colonists and the native inhabitants.

Marshall stands upon an open, cleared, and rising plot of ground, between

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XIV. Books

2. Report of Mr. Kennedy, of Maryland
H.R. report no.283, 27th Congress
3rd session, Washington, D.C. 1843