list, yet when Liberia shall have grown to be a great republic, and the friends of colonization receive their due honours, we are of opinion, that nothing which Mr. Smith has done, or is likely to do, will exhibit his character to posterity in a more amiable light. Indeed, his whole course, since he abandoned and denounced the society, has been rather indicative of a certain degree of mental derangement, than of wisdom and sobriety of mind. But we are only concerned with the character of this gentleman while he was connected with the American Colonization Society, during which time he was an active and efficient friend.

The following communication from the pen of Dr. Randall, before his much lamented end, is contained in a private letter to a friend, giving an account of a short journey up the St. Paul's. Its date is February 15, 1829.

"I have at length got through this much-talked-of African fever; and after all, do not think it any great thing. A Carolina or Georgia fever is just as bad; and as for an Alabama fever, it would be worth two of it. I continued to use precautions, and take medicines for six weeks after my arrival, and enjoyed perfect health; but I at length became tired and careless, and the consequence was, the fever. I was well taken care of, and had every attention that could be afforded; and since I am through with it, I am glad to have had it, as it will exempt me from it entirely hereafter.

"As soon as I had finished my business with the Shark, and she had sailed, I determined to set off on an exploring expedition, up the St. Paul's, which had hitherto been unexplored by civilized man, except to Millsburg, the head of safe navigation. The river, from its mouth, is most beautiful. Its banks are high and broken, and covered with the most dense and variegated verdure. Along the banks, here and there, we discovered an African town, with the thatched huts intermingled with the broad green leaf of the plantain, of which the beautiful pea-green colour distinguishes it from all surrounding verdure. On our approach to one of those villages, which is always announced by our boatmen, with their African boat-song, we generally found all the inhabitants, men, women, and children, assembled on the beach, to see and receive us. If you stop, you are immediately carried to the king or head-man's house, where you are expected to make him a *dash*, or present, before

any thing is said or done. If on a friendly visit, it is small, and returned by a dash on the other part. But if on business, and you have any great object to effect, your *dashes* must be larger and more numerous, and then you receive nothing in return. After passing half a dozen of these villages on the St. Paul's, and ascending twenty miles, we arrived at Millsburg, where we slept in country fashion, but had a good supper from our store basket. In the morning early, we left the settlement with our little party, as the natives say, 'to go into the bush.' One of the most enterprising of our settlers had penetrated along one of the branches of the river, by following the paths made by wild cattle, for about two miles, and we determined to follow the same path, as far as it would lead us. As the underwood here is the most dense and close that can be imagined, the course of procedure is, to send forward, to clear the path, two or three of the natives with their short straight cutlasses, with which they open the paths with great facility. By thus cutting a passage through the underwood, without cutting the large trees or shrubbery, a perfect alcove is formed, and you are entirely protected from the action of the sun, which is only now and then visible through the opening of the trees. When we had advanced in our route about two miles, we came to a place where the St. Paul's was joined by a considerable stream, which we at first concluded was a river from the north; but on ascending the river to a higher point, we ascertained that it was only a branch which had separated above, and was reunited at this spot. We were exceedingly anxious to cross the river, to survey the beautiful island opposite; but as there was no other means of getting over except by a native bridge, we abandoned the idea. The native bridges are constructed of rattan, or country rope, and consist merely of cords drawn across the river, to prevent the current from sweeping the swimmer down, and are sometimes, to the unskilful, more dangerous than useful. I was astonished to find the St. Paul's here most clear and limpid. Most of the African rivers are said to be turbid and muddy; but in the St. Paul's, the bottom was visible at twenty feet, and the fish, which were numerous, could be seen for many yards from us. As we advanced further on our route, up the northern branch, which we were determined to pursue till we came to the main stream again, our path was crossed by many more recent wild cattle tracks, all leading to or from the river;

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XIV. Books
3.
A History of Colonization on the West Coast of Africa
by Archibald Alexander, Philadelphia, 1846