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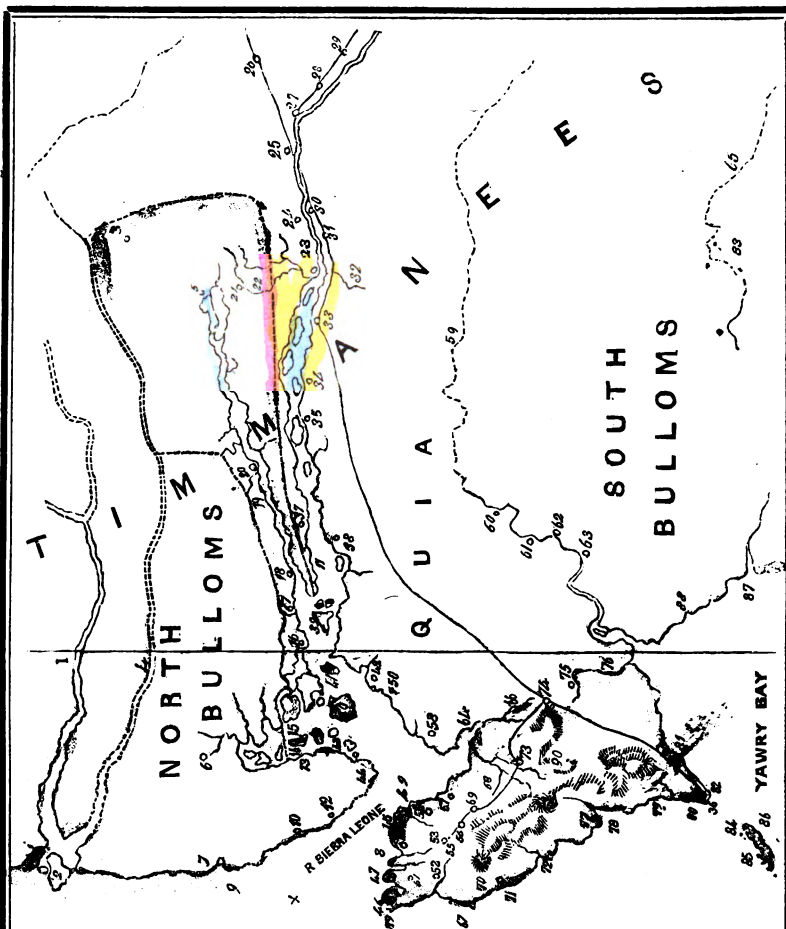


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SIERRA LEONE.



1. Gt. Scarcia River.
2. Corneio Island.
3. Rabine or Kere.
4. River Scarcia.
5. Port Lago or Pa.
6. Port Lago or Pa.
7. River Scarcia.
8. King Tom's Pt. & Waterman's Bay.
9. Leopard Island.
10. Kere River.
11. Kere River.
12. King George Th.
13. Yama.
14. Barber Island.
15. Buller River.
16. Perempu.
17. Ro Bump.
18. Making or Pa.
19. Port Lago Cr.
20. Mafare.
21. Contia.
22. Contia R.
23. Mafare.
24. Mafare.
25. Macbele.
26. Macbele.
27. Macbele.
28. Macbele.
29. Macbele.
30. Rokelle.
31. Rosa.
32. Rokelle Cr.
33. Maheny.
34. Maheny.
35. Smart's Town.
36. Cape Skilling.
37. Cape Skilling.
38. Cape Skilling.
39. Tamba I.
40. Tasso I.
41. Prince I.
42. Prince I.
43. Paniller I.
44. Tagreen Pt.
45. Thomson B.
46. Aberdeen.
47. Murray.
48. River Scarcia.
49. Porah B.
50. Ro Barca.
51. Wilberforce.
52. Linsley or Den-
53. Gloster.
54. Kissy.
55. Regent T.
56. Regent T.
57. Wallurst.
58. Ro Barca.
59. R. Kates or Ca-
60. sumanza.
61. Scarcia.
62. Old Ribble.
63. Ribble.
64. Shell I.
65. Shell I.
66. Bance R.
67. Bance R.
68. Hog R.
69. Hog R.
70. Sugar Loaf M.
71. Hamilton.
72. Bumpatook P.
73. Hastings.
74. Hastings.
75. Campbell Th.
76. Calmont Brook.
77. York.
78. Hale B & R.
79. K. K.
80. Dunham Th.
81. Tumbo.
82. Kent.
83. Kent.
84. Milnges Port.
85. Milnges Port.
86. Bantia's Port.
87. Cumaranca R.
88. Cumaranca R.
89. Cumaranca R.
90. Mount Horton.

Red denotes British Territory.

SIERRA LEONE.

A DESCRIPTION
OF THE
MANNERS AND CUSTOMS
OF THE
LIBERATED AFRICANS;
WITH OBSERVATIONS
UPON THE
NATURAL HISTORY OF THE COLONY,
AND
A NOTICE OF THE NATIVE TRIBES,
&c. &c.

BY ROBERT CLARKE, M.R.C.S. EDIN.

Senior Assistant Surgeon to the Colony of Sierra Leone.

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"O'er Africa the morning broke ;  
And many a negro land revealed,  
From Europe's eye, and Europe's yoke  
In nature's inmost heart concealed."—MONTGOMERY.  
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PREFACE.

The observations contained in the following pages are the result of upwards of five years' residence in the Colony of Sierra Leone; the object sought being rather to supply information on subjects which have hitherto escaped that attention they deserve, than to travel over such as have been repeatedly described.

The inducement, therefore, to the publication now ventured upon, arises from the conviction, that many interesting facts connected with the Natural History of the Colony, its Topography, Productions, and the Traditions current amongst a portion of the Liberated Africans, are still unknown to the British public. The Medical portion of the work has been divested, as much as possible, of professional technicalities; and it has been the writer's endeavour to convey in a popular, clear, concise, and correct manner, a knowledge of the subjects treated of.

It is well to remark, that the description of the Natural History, Productions, &c., of Kissy

Village, applies, with very little difference, throughout the Colony. The works of such authors as have been consulted, are freely acknowledged, when quotations were thought desirable in elucidating any matter referred to.

In conclusion, the writer hopes that the time thus occupied in conveying any additional information relative to a Colony so inimical to European health, has not been misapplied, if it stimulates more competent enquirers to explore to a greater extent a field abounding in such rich materials as this portion of the Soudan of Africa.

The only apology the writer can offer for the imperfect way in which the task has been performed, arises from the numerous interruptions incident to the arduous duties assigned him.

London, 1843.

SIERRA LEONE.

CHAPTER I.

SIERRA LEONE—Scenery—Peninsula—Free Town—Banana Islands—Colony divided into Districts—Road to Kissy—Kissy Village—Romantic Appearance—Soil—Productions—Mangroves—Grasses—Roads—Huts—Natives, their habits—"Cruits"—Cattle—Wild Cattle—Statistics—Horses—Want of Mules—Mode of feeding Horses—Climate—MR. RANKIN—Diversity of opinion—Climate injurious to Children—Rules to be observed—Temperature—Meteorological Table—Tornadoes—Harmattan—Society in the Colony—Present Inhabitants—Population—Places of Worship—Races and other Amusements—Promenades—"The Sierra Leone Watchman."

THE territory of Sierra Leone, first ceded to England by the Native Chiefs in 1787, consists of a rocky peninsula, bounded on the north by an estuary of the same name, which separates it from the Bullom Country; on the west, by the Atlantic Ocean; on the north east, by the Bunce River,^a and on the south, and south-east by the Sherbro Country. Two projecting points, one on the northern termination of the Bullom shore, called Leopard Island, the other on the north-west extremity of the peninsula, and distant from each other about twelve miles, form the entrance to the Sierra Leone estuary.

The beauty of the scenery of the western coast of Africa has been much extolled by many travellers, and in this respect they cannot be accused of exaggeration. There are few tropical regions which, at first sight, present more allurements. On approaching Sierra Leone, the coast for some leagues to the northward and southward,

The Bunce Inlet, though denominated in the Sierra Leone Charter, and in common parlance "*river*," terminates, in reality, in a small *brook*.

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is low and level, the trees with which it is fringed appearing to reach to the water's edge. A very striking contrast is, however, presented by the chain of mountains which traverse the peninsula; the endless diversity of their peaks and declivities, perpetually clothed in a variegated and luxuriant attire—below, the beautiful and commodious bay of Sierra Leone—with the picturesque hamlets of the liberated Africans peeping here and there upon the mountain slopes and banks of the river—form a *coup d'œil* upon which the European, approaching, for the first time, from sea-ward, gazes with untiring admiration.

To this feeling, as he approximates the land, is super-added the effect produced by the multiform canoes managed by negroes, many of them nearly naked, passing to and from the Bullom shore, or voyaging to or from the Gallinas, Sherbro, Mallicourie, &c. laden with rice and other produce, or busily occupied in fishing; whilst close in shore, boats and other craft, seen engaged in loading or unloading the several vessels at anchor, enliven the picture with a scene of incessant activity.

The peninsula extends from north to south about 18 miles, and from east to west about twelve. It is triangular, and consists of a range of nearly conical and serrated mountains, from 2,000 to 2,500 feet in elevation, which extend inland for twenty miles, and along the shore about five-and-twenty to the east and west of Free Town. They are wholly unconnected with any other mountainous range.

Free Town, the capital, lying in 8° 29' north latitude, and 13° 14' west longitude, stands on a gentle acclivity on the northern coast of the peninsula, and occupies a space between two and three miles in circumference. The town is well constructed, and adapted to the climate. The entrances to it are good, and the beauty of its position is perhaps unrivalled, being situated at the termination of a commodious and well sheltered bay, hemmed in by lofty verdant mountains, constituting a prominent feature in

the back ground. These, however, prove a fertile source of disease, by arresting the noxious vapours of the opposite shore, as well as those generated near them; and hence the idea of salubrity, conveyed to the stranger by the splendid scenery by which he is surrounded, is dispelled by further experience and observation.

I should here mention, that the Colony is divided into districts, viz. Eastern, or River District, Western, and Mountain, and these sub-divided into parishes. The villages comprised in these districts are, in the first, Kissy, Wellington, Newlands, Allen-town, Denham, Hastings, Fraser-town, Rokelle, Waterloo; in the second, Hamilton, Goderich, York, Kent; in the third, Gloucester, Leicester, Regent, Bathurst, Charlotte, Aberdeen, Wilberforce, Murray, besides the villages of Dublin, and Ricketts in the Banana Islands.

On leaving Free Town to sail westward, a person viewing the town he has just left, hardly thinks it possible that it could present anything compared to the fine feature it occupies in the landscape around him. The first objects that strike the eye are the new built houses of the liberated African department, Jail, and Merchants' residences rising from the water's edge; a little above, the church presents a noble appearance, with a tower, which renders it very conspicuous. On the same gradual ascent is seen the Government House, and on the summit, are Tower Hill Barracks. As Free Town is built on the edge of a bay, a person sailing in a small boat soon loses sight of what just before he had been admiring, and nothing more is seen but the rocky shore and chain of mountains; Signal Hill, being readily distinguished by the Station House and Flag Staff beside it. As we sail on, the land is observed on the mountain slopes to be less cultivated, but the interspersed reclaimed patches, under cultivation, shine to great advantage amidst the natural shrubbery surrounding them. About ten leagues from

Free Town, we reach the village of York, which is built on the acclivity of the mountains, and contains a population of about 3,000. Two leagues further, we arrive at Kent, from which are seen the Banana Islands at right angles with Kent, and about three miles distant, these islands are generally supposed to be of volcanic origin, and are situated south of Cape Sierra Leone, in latitude $8^{\circ} 30' N$. They are generally considered to be two islands, although intersected at three different points; the larger one is but apparently divided. From their salubrity they may be fairly entitled, in relation to the colonies, to rank with Madeira and the Isle of Wight. The Eastern portion of the largest of these lands is called Dublin, and is an extremely fertile plain, overlooked by two hills, one of them 800 feet, the smaller (Mount Leven,) about 500 feet above the level of the sea. The soil is a dark loam, with patches of red clay. There are two harbours, one on the north of this island, the other on the south. The latter is of considerable extent, with safe and convenient anchorage. The northern harbour is much smaller, and contains several detached rocks. The western of the Banana Islands is much smaller than the eastern. The villages are Dublin, or Clarkson, and Ricketts; the former containing a population of about 500, the latter about 300; a vast number of palm trees grow around the latter.

The productions are coffee, rice, (which in these islands is exceedingly productive,) abundance of peppers, yams, cassada, guinea corn, arrow root, cucumber; a few almond and date trees also thrive well, and the lofty pullom and cocoa trees. Fruits are likewise grown in abundance, similar to those of the Colony. Turtle of enormous size are frequently caught; and the goats reared in these islands, yield more milk, and are otherwise superior to any of the other breeds in the Colony. Indeed it is remarkable, that the undoubted advantages these islands possess, have not been more appreciated.

Being stationed at Kissy, in the Eastern District, I shall beg the reader to accompany me thither, referring him, for details respecting Free Town, to the works of HOLMAN, RANKIN, and others.

The road from Free Town to Kissy Village, in which are situated the Hospitals for the Liberated Africans, winds along the range above mentioned. On either side, the country residences of the Europeans, with the Christian Institution of Pourah Bay, give to the scene a milder aspect, when contrasted with the rude grass-covered huts of the natives. About one mile from Free Town, the road skirts more closely the mountains' base, leaving the race-course to the left. A little further on, a vale is passed, which is reached by a pretty steep descent. The road is girt on the north side by a bubbling brook, which descends from the mountain sides, tumbling from the height of 2,000 feet over the shelving rock. In surmounting these rugged projections, and leaping from crag to crag, the water throws off a spray, which in the rainy season has the appearance of linen spread out to dry. During the rains, however, it becomes an impetuous muddy torrent, roaring as if chafed in its struggles to flow over the hard bed of rock, which in many places is perforated, as if by attrition. Below the bridge which here crosses it, is a fall of about twenty feet. This brook empties itself into Granville Bay creek.^a Here, on the mountain sides, the plantain and cocoa grow among the stumps and roots of old forest trees.

On arriving at Kissy, about three miles from Free Town, the road diverges into three different directions; one leading, by a gentle slope, to the Lazaretto, or Lower Hospital; another proceeding in an easterly direction to the villages of Wellington, Hastings, and Waterloo, interspersed with numerous hamlets; whilst the third, turning

^a Passing at a late hour, this brook, called the *Big Brook*, used to be much dreaded, and not without some reason, many persons having been murdered there.

to the south, leads, by the previously mentioned ascent, to the Upper Hospital, which stands prominently forward on its brow. From this, the path winds upwards between the different peaks of the mountains, till it joins the main road from Free Town to the mountain district.

Kissy is partly built upon the south side of the mountain. Its site above the river, and sloping situation, allows the rain to drain off rapidly; while the sea-breeze is, however, much interrupted by the abutting portion of the mountains by which it is nearly encircled, preventing to a great degree, a free current of air, and necessarily rendering it hot. A dry situation, however, abundance of good water, and proximity to Free Town, thus render Kissy a most desirable and convenient location for the liberated Africans; advantages not equally enjoyed by the other villages in this, the most unhealthy district of the Colony.

Its appearance is romantic: mountain-peaks, with projecting crags surmount the village in the back ground; the majestic estuary of Sierra Leone calmly glides along, interposing a breadth of about seven miles between its shores; the eye wanders over the enchanting view presented by the numerous wooded islands, scattered over the vast basin, formed by the junction of the Port Lokkoh and Rokelle rivers; ^a from the hill above the village, the islands of Tasso, Bance, Yella Makakum or Bats' Island, Yella Wuor, or Fillemtambah Island, are seen reposing sweetly on its surface. In fine clear weather, the Bullom shore may be viewed illuminated by the blaze of the bush, fired preparatory to commencing agricultural operations.

^a The Port Lokkoh runs to the eastward about sixty miles. The source of the Rokelle is about 200 miles from Sierra Leone, but the streams are not navigable more than sixty miles. This river affords considerable advantages for trade. The Bunce River, or estuary, runs a little beyond Waterloo, about eighteen miles from Free Town. There is only one Pilot for the Rivers, whereas there ought to be three at least; if buoys, however, were laid down, with the usual threats held out if they were meddled with, Pilots might almost be dispensed with.

The view eastward extends to the distance of twenty miles, and about fourteen to the south-east. Pourah and Granville Bays, add much to the beauty of the prospect.* To the north-west, the view is bounded by Leopard Island, between which and Cape Sierra Leone, the estuary disembogues itself into the Atlantic.

The soil consists in some parts of a brownish loam, or patches of argillaceous clay, as occurs in the vicinity of Waterloo village; in others, it is rocky and gravelly, with a very large quantity of ferruginous intermixture, scattered amongst detached masses of a close-grained bluish granite, (hypersthene;) strewed about which lie fragments of rock. These insulated boulders are mostly spheroidal, and blackened by the weather, which has rounded their edges and angles. They appear to have been dislodged from the mountain sides, where are studded similar masses; the mountains are cultivated even to their summits. Although abundance of magnetic iron-stone is found scattered in pretty large masses throughout the peninsula, yet no veins of the metal are discoverable, as was proved by the investigations of the late MR. WHITE, Colonial Surveyor. A diligent search was in vain instituted on the mountain sides, both at Kissy and other villages.

The staple vegetables raised here, are the several varieties of Yams, Sweet Potatoes, Cassada, Indian Corn, Cocoa, and the various kinds of the Capsicum and Leguminous family, with the usual intertropical fruits. It is, however, lamentable to observe the fine lands belonging to the Settlers and Maroons lying waste; lands perfectly capable of producing Coffee, Cotton, Cinnamon, Ginger

* The eastern point of land, which forms Granville Bay, is the rendezvous of such gentlemen as meet to settle affairs of honour. These *rencontres* have hitherto proved bloodless, no instance being known of any of the belligerents having received the slightest injury during forty years of duelling.

Arrow-root, &c. To remedy this neglect, in some measure, an act was passed in council, during SIR JOHN JEREMIE's life-time, allowing the occupation and culture of uncultivated lands to whomsoever they belonged, if left untilled for a period of three years.

Among the variety of shrubs and plants, may be observed the Marygold, Squill, Jalap, Indigo, and Castor-oil plants. The Acacia, Aloe, and Tallicoonah trees are also seen here, together with a black Thorn and Briar. Flowers of splendid tint, bloom on the thin layer of mould spread over the rock; and the Sensitive plant vigorously springs from its native soil, while the lime and woodbine diffuse through the surrounding air their grateful fragrance. Several varieties of bulbous plants, resembling the Crocus and Tulip, are also met with.

The mangroves (*rhizophora gymnoriza*,) first make their appearance on the muddy banks between Kissy and Wellington, fringing the creeks and rivers. These trees like the Indian Banian, shoot their branches downwards into the soil, where they become so firmly rooted as to resist the rushing torrents of rain, and the impetuous tide currents. Marshy situations are best adapted for their growth, the ooze and mud deposits (*pottah pottah* as it is called by the Africans,) adhere to the roots, and emit during the heat of the day and in the evening, an unpleasant, heavy, sickly odour. The Mangrove is much cut down, and is employed as posts or supporters to huts, as it resists the attack of the termites and other vermin. The bark is manufactured into rope. One variety of oysters found in the Colony, attaches itself to the branches of this tree, and thence are called Mangrove oysters. The Mangroves do not border the banks of the rivers higher up than the brackish water, and are succeeded by an impervious barrier of tall trees tangled with creeping plants, bush-wood, and the most rank vegetation. Here and there beautiful small cleared gaps may be seen farmed by a

native, gleaning an uncertain wretched subsistence, and continually in dread of being attacked during the night by the lawless people around him.

In many parts about Kissy, the soil is covered with bush, and the broad-leaved grass, called "elephant's" or "guinea grass," some of the stalks of which are from eighteen to twenty-one feet in length. On the common, near the Lower Hospital, a fine silky grass also grows, which is used to stuff mattresses. It grows on a light reddish semi-vitrified stone, covered with a thin layer of earth. A very tiny and delicate variety of the cowslip shoots up from among the grass, and affords a fine contrast to the surrounding verdant herbage. In the month of January, the villagers turn out, in a body, to cut down the common grass, which they use to thatch their huts.* A rush also grows here to the height of three feet, and is used to manufacture mats, &c. In England its pith would be used in oil-lamps. A minute Rice, called "Fundì" or "Fundungi" is here successfully cultivated, a description of which will be found in detail in another part of this work.

The roads are kept in repair by the labours of the Colonists; six days being the period this tax is enforced, commutable, however, for the sum of 7*s.* and 6*d.* per annum. The following process is adopted for clearing the public roads of the hypersthene—the soil around the stone is cleared away, so as to form a trench in which bundles of wood are deposited, which are set on fire, and kept burning for one or two days; when the stone is highly

* A variety of grass called the "American grass," grows on the Free Town parade ground, and well merits to be introduced more generally over the Colony. The grass is permitted to grow in the streets of Free Town, as it prevents their being cut up by the rains, and is rather beneficial to health. Formerly it used to be rooted up, but being very partially cleared off, and rotting, it was carried about by the rains, and became a source of disease.

heated, cold water is poured over it, which causes it to contract and fracture.

The huts of the natives which stud the mountain sides, are generally square, having a front piazza. The floor is plastered with clay, over which and the wall a thin coating of cow-dung is occasionally rubbed, with a view of preventing the fly from depositing its ova. If this precaution be neglected, its larvæ, which are called "Tumbah,"^a varying in length from a quarter to half an inch, and of a white colour, crawl from their retreat, and create great irritation of the skin by fastening upon it like leeches. The envelope forming its encasement, is nearly transparent, and is composed of concentric overlapping rings; it is armed on the head, back and belly with prickles, which on the latter surface serve to assist progression.

The Africans sleep on mats spread on the floor of their huts, which fact has led many commentators of the Bible to believe, that the sick person ordered by our Saviour to take up his bed and walk, lay upon a mat. They are huddled in groups indifferently, head and foot, with no other covering, save the invariable country cloth. A hammock of network swings, generally, in the front piazza, in which the head or some member of the family or visitor is ensconced, both during the day and night. It is, however, incorrect, to say, that they sleep unclothed, and in the open air. The African dreads the *rheumatize* (as they call rheumatism) too much to do so; indeed they invariably sleep in a circle round the fire during the rains, closely wrapped up in their country cloths and other garments.

This circumstance did not escape the attention of that accurate traveller, Mungo Park, who states that the Africans are sensible of the smallest variation in the temperature of the air, and frequently complain of cold when a European is oppressed with heat.

^a The general name for grub.

Many of the huts have small stalls, composed of wicker work, on which are exposed for sale such articles as Kola nuts, smoked and fried fish, &c. The industrious inhabitants often suffer much from the plundering habits of the newly-captured negroes, facetiously called "Cruits."^a

There is not much cattle in the Colony. Horses are brought from the surrounding countries. Asses do well. Goats are plentiful; and a few lean long-legged sheep, marked with black and white patches, may be seen straying about; they are clothed in a coat of rough hair similar to goats, and seem to suffer from heat. Ducks and muscovy ducks thrive well; there are a few geese and turkeys, with guinea fowl, reared. The spur-winged goose is brought from the Sherbro country.

The breed of cows is similar to the horned Alderney

^a A gentleman wishing to cross the mountains from Charlotte to Kissy, asked the way of several individuals, but was totally unable to comprehend the *lingua franca* in which the direction was given; at last one sagacious old man came to the conclusion: "I think this man *he na cruitu*, he no *savay heary Ingliss*!" He is a recruit, (a newcomer,) and does not understand English. *Savay* is invariably used instead of understand, or comprehend, as "I *savay*,"—"I understand." Written scraps of paper, a letter, &c. they call "books." The word live is used for *is*. As for example: "the *book* no live there," the book is not there.

The liberated African, when speaking of a deceitful person, thus expresses himself:—"Ah Daddy, Dat man tand all same as snake in de grass."

To flatterers whom they suspect, they say:—"Dat man can put honey too much on he mouth, he talkee sweetie mouth too much."

If you try to obtain information on any subject they wish to conceal, the usual expression is:—"Ah Daddy no go try for pick my mouth."

If hurried, the usual phrase is:—"No go for drive me Daddy; spose you want go catch monkey, you must safly, safly."

They say of a proud person:—"Dat man ha big heart too much." Obstinate persons they designate as having:—"Tronger hard head, too bad." Of a silly, ignorant, or bad man, they say:—"Dat man wery waw waw man." The liberated African lengthens out, and adds the syllable, oh, when speaking, as "Dadee, oh,"—"Come, oh." Of a madman or idiot, they say:—"Poor fellow, he headie done poil."

variety; the general colour dun or brindled. They are pastured on the commons adjoining Free Town and the several villages, being generally tended by Foulahs, who are the most pastoral people of the Colony. Fifty head of cattle may be owned by a dozen individuals, who each pay a trifle to the herd, say two or three shillings a month.^a A great many are brought from the Foulah country, and they sell at from four to eight dollars, many of them are polled. Milk is good, but an expensive article, a wine-glassful costing a penny. Goat's milk is much used. Butter is made principally by the Foulahs, who bring it to the Colony for sale. It is generally rancid.

I recollect seeing a living specimen of wild cattle, which, in appearance, resembled the buffalo. The skins of these interesting animals are occasionally offered for sale. The buffalo is still found on the smaller Banana Island.

In 1841, there were in the Colony, 80 horses; 588 horned cattle; 261 sheep; 1,020 goats; 14,713 pigs, and 13,315 heads of poultry.

The following is the price of cattle and provisions at Sierra Leone; horned cattle, £3 per head; sheep, from 17s. to £1.; bread, per lb. 6d.; beef, 4d.; mutton, 6d.; fowls, 8s. 8d. per dozen; chickens, half the price; rice 2d. per lb.; coffee, West Indian, 1s. per lb.; groceries and other European stores are 30 per cent. above the market rate in England.

Most of the horses used in the Colony are sorry hacks, not as they have been described, exhibiting the

^a Mr. Rankin observes, that the natives call cows "bulls;" but I think, he must have been imposed upon by some wag. The liberated Africans, in speaking of cattle, use the expression "cow," and apply the term equally to both sexes, distinguishing them as the "man cow," the "woman cow." It is a singular fact, that, in 1841, a disease prevailed among the horned cattle, very similar to the murrain, which proved so destructive to these animals in England.

“fleetness of the beautiful little Arab horse obtained from the Foulahs.” Indeed it is a most difficult matter to get a sure-footed animal. They are small in size, and very indifferently bred; the majority entire. Those brought from the adjoining countries of the Foulahs and Soosoos, and from the Gambia, have been generally injured by being employed in carrying heavy loads of camwood; and their mouths made callous by the heavy mandingo bit in general use on the coast. The Creoles also cause them great injury by their furious driving.

It is much to be regretted that mules are not in general use; they are particularly adapted to the Peninsula, the roads of which are, as previously noticed, so gravelly, rocky, and in some parts ill constructed; whilst the bridges are but planks laid side by side, so as to cross the brooks; and it not unfrequently happens, that the horses’ feet break through the timber. Mules could easily be obtained from the Cape de Verde Islands.

I may here describe the mode of feeding the horses used by the Colonists. In the morning, at six o’clock, the horseman, after carefully grooming his charge, leads or rides him to the brook, where the animal is washed. On his return, he is fed on a quart of paddy, generally mixed with either guinea or Indian corn and cassada, a little salt being sprinkled over it; the same quantity is given at noon, and repeated in the evening. In the interval, grass (during the rainy and part of the dry season) is the fodder used. Towards the termination of the dry season, the ground-nut leaf is also given; and some of the Colonists find the compressed cake of the ground nut very wholesome, when given in small quantities. The sugar cane cut into pieces is an excellent fattening food for bringing them into condition. In travelling from one part of the settlement to another, it is customary for the horseman to carry sufficient provender to last during the

period of his absence. Some of the Colonists only shoe the fore feet of their horses, as, from the badness of the roads, they frequently stumble; indeed such is very often the case during the rains, when the roads are covered with slime,^a and at which time the horses are generally rough-shod. When the grass becomes scarce, they are often attacked with staggers, worms, &c. If afflicted with worms, the Africans employ as a remedy lubi, or potash, got by incineration of the casava, croton tiglium, papua, or other trees and shrubs.

Regarding the climate of Sierra Leone, so many different statements have been made by various medical and other writers, that I shall not occupy the reader's time by going through the whole subject. Suffice it to say, however, that all agree as to its general unhealthiness, although it is true that some years have proved by far less fatal than others. Writers are at variance, with respect to the causes which render this Colony so deadly to Europeans. Besides swamps, sudden alterations of temperature, &c. one cause, I think, has been overlooked, namely, the electrical influence of the atmosphere.

Mr. Rankin observes, that the unhealthy reputation of Sierra Leone is "maintained by policy on the one hand, and ignorance of the truth on the other." Now I cannot allow this statement to be at all correct, for neither policy, nor ignorance, would have deterred adventurers from resorting to its shores, or have succeeded in blinding them to advantages they could not possess at home. Has such been the case? Most assuredly. But as they arrived, flushed with hope and expectation, one by one they dropped into an untimely grave, or perhaps have lingered

^a During the rainy season, the communication with the Western, or District of York, is principally by sea, the roads being rendered almost impassable by the impetuous bubbling and foaming of the brooks, swollen into large streams by the descending torrents of rain.

out an existence, stamped in their sallow, pallid or jaundiced looks, emaciated limbs, and tottering gait.

As an example of the diversity of opinion which exists, I may here introduce the following replies given to queries addressed to two medical gentlemen long resident in the Colony. I quote from Dr. Madden's Report, which contains much valuable information respecting the western coast of Africa.

Query. Do you conceive the health of the settlement has improved, or the contrary has happened of late years?

Dr. F. I think it has improved.

Dr. A. I do not conceive it has improved of late years, particularly since 1837.

Query. Are the natives subject to many, or few diseases?

Dr. F. Comparatively few.

Dr. A. Yes, to many.

Query. Are diseases of the lungs common?

Dr. F. Not common.

Dr. A. Very common.

A few days before Judge Rankin was attacked with the illness which carried him off, he was talking to a medical friend of the improved healthfulness of the Colony, which he said, could be advantageously contrasted with the West India Islands. With how much correctness such a conclusion was arrived at, his own case will testify. But thus it is, with those who have been fortunate enough to survive one or two attacks of fever, as was the case with the gentleman in question.

Lieutenant Macpherson, about forty-five years of age, arrived during the dry season of 1839, to join the African Colonial Corps, now 3rd West India Regiment. Shortly after his arrival, he made a tour through the Peninsula, and was fascinated with the beauty of the scenery. In

this agreeable delusion he addressed a letter to the *Morning Herald*, launching out into a high panegyric on the beauty and healthfulness of the Colony. Being soon after sent to the Gambia, he was seized with fever and died ; thus forcibly illustrating the strong, but correct picture of the Western coast of Africa, published in the *Medical Gazette* of April 14th, 1838, wherein the writer observes, "Of the Western coast of Africa, the less that is said the better ; no statistical writer has yet tried to distinguish the bones of medical men in that vast charnel house, or to give the minutest fraction representing the chance of a Surgeon's return."^a

To European children the climate is particularly injurious, as they are early attacked with enlargements of the spleen, and general derangement of the alimentary viscera, soon become exhausted with repeated attacks of ague, and if not removed to a more genial atmosphere, become cachectic and drop into an early grave.

It is worth noting, that all the German wives of German missionaries in the Colony, died of fever soon after their arrival, while their husbands endure the climate better than Englishmen. Ladies, however, in general stand the climate better, from being less exposed than men.

To persons living in Sierra Leone, early rising, say 6 o'Clock, a. m. and retiring early to bed, say 9 or 10 o'Clock, are great preservatives of health. In the morning, the use of the tepid bath is exceedingly beneficial in removing the feverishness and langour always following a restless night. The use of tea or coffee on getting up,

^a I have, during my absence from Sierra Leone, learnt with regret, the death of Staff Assistant Surgeons, Bird and Steward, the former at Sierra Leone, the latter at the Gambia ; and also that of Mr. Stafford, one of the Assistant Colonial Surgeons, all occurring within the brief period of a twelvemonth.

also tends to invigorate the system, and to render it less liable to attacks of fever. I would advise the European settlers to use the simplest food, avoiding fruits and pastry; to sleep in large well-ventilated apartments; but to avoid sleeping on the ground-floor, and in piazza bedrooms; to take daily out-door exercise in the cool of the day; to wear flannel clothing, carefully avoiding exposure when perspiring; and lastly, to avoid all sources of mental inquietude.

For further information on this subject, I would refer the reader to the luminous directions so ably laid down by Dr. James Johnson.^a

Much diversity of opinion also prevails, as to the average difference of temperature in the summer months, between the hottest time of the day and coldest time of the night; one authority stating it to be 60°, and another 40°, also as to the variation of temperature between January and July; one affirming, that no difference exists, while the other holds, that it varies 30°. Others have described the heat as overpowering in the extreme. One writer, "rather stretching a point," describes the effect on his arrival, as that of a "furnace presenting to him its parched mouth;" and says, it was with great difficulty he could proceed. The thermometric average is 84°, though it may, at times, reach to 94°; and therefore, it is not likely to produce so *very* powerful an effect.

The year is divided into the dry and rainy seasons, and is further sub-divided by the Negroes into lunar months, or moons. The time of day is noted, by pointing to the sun. "The sun is gone into the water," denotes the time from sunset to midnight, or "he lives in the bush," from midnight to sunrise. The longest day at Sierra Leone consists of twelve hours, twenty-nine

^a On Tropical Climates, Art. Tropical hygiene.

minutes, and forty-five seconds; the shortest is only 11h. 30' 14". The sun, in setting, resembles a large globe of fire; while twilight is of short duration, but enlivened by a concert, composed and sustained by the croaking of frogs, the grating of crickets, and the buzzing of swarms of cock-roaches, beetles, &c. After a heavy rain, the sun appears through the fog, a thick steam being raised from the surface of the earth, which frequently rests for some time upon the sides of the hills, and envelopes their summits. The natives call these appearances smokes, and they are thought to be highly noxious. They are sometimes of a reddish hue, and then believed to be at their maximum of malignity.

The rainy season on the Gold Coast, begins, and is nearly over, before it commences at Sierra Leone, and it has set in there six or eight weeks before it begins at Senegal. At Sierra Leone it sometimes rains continually for thirty hours; but more frequently twelve hours of heavy rain is followed by twenty-four, or thirty hours, or even a longer period of clear and pleasant weather. This period, from its coolness, is most agreeable, but also the most unhealthy season, being ushered in and carried off by tornadoes. The moon is sometimes seen within twenty-four hours of the change.

Subjoined is a Meteorological Table, handed in to me by the Pilot of Sierra Leone, MR. ANTHONY ELLIOT.

Yearly Meteorological Table of the winds which prevail in the Colony of Sierra Leone:—

MONTHS.	WINDS.
January.	Harmattan commences.
February.	Ditto continues.
March.	East breeze in the morning according to the tide, that is, the changing of the moon quarterly, and full moon.
April.	North breeze generally according to the tide.
May.	Tornado commences.
June.	East and South West breezes and rain, according to the tide.
July.	South West breeze ; very strong with rain, squall.
August.	South West breeze with heavy rain, according to the tide.
September.	As in August.
October.	Tornado commences.
November.	East breeze with light sea breeze, according to the tide.
December.	As in November.

The mean temperature for the year, is calculated to be— $81^{\circ} 7' 30''$.

I cannot do better than insert Dr. Madden's excellent description of the tornado.

"The tornadoes precede and follow the rainy season; as they extend along the coast from the line to Portendic, they become moderated in force. Their approach is generally preceded by a sudden fall of the mercury, of in some

cases about ten degrees. They generally commence, from north east, or east north east, and shift round to east south east, and when they reach south east, the storm is at its height.

“The clouds at the commencement of a tornado, heave up pile upon pile, till one dense lurid sulphureous looking mass gathers over head, and seems to hem in the horizon. The grandeur of this scene, and the awful silence of its formation for 10 or 15 minutes previous to the bursting forth of its fury, is increased, as the heavy masses of clouds grow darker and more densely compacted; at length the whole horizon is one great scene of gloom, which is gradually lighted up along the edges of the clouds, and is followed by vivid flashes of forked lightning, in rapid succession, and thunder claps which give one the idea of the crash of brazen clouds, for the din is more like that which the encounter of great metallic bodies would occasion, than the booming sound of the conflict, from the sudden shock of aëriform masses.”

I have often thought the lurid sulphureous flickering, and, at intervals, blazing light, produced by the electric fluid, resembled a huge furnace in operation. Dr. Madden thus continues—“As the fury of the tempest begins to be expended, an arch is now formed at the verge of the horizon, which rises gradually till it attains its greatest height, when a torrent of rain, the rattling kind of rain of a tropical sky, begins to fall. It is just previous to this, when the violence of the tempest seems to be at its greatest height, when the thunder is loudest, the lightning, both sheet and forked, most vivid, and all the fury of the element seems to be let loose.

“Before this crisis, there is a dead calm for a few minutes, and no sooner has the rain poured down, and in the course of five or ten minutes ceased to fall, than the

wind shifts round by degrees to the west south west, and the sky becomes as serene as ever."

The rumbling sound heard simultaneously with the thunder clap, and perceptible along the earth, appears to have escaped the Doctor's attention. Tornadoes generally occur at the turn of the tide. In 1838, a tornado occurred which caused considerable destruction of property and loss of life. The oldest inhabitant could not recollect ever witnessing anything like its terrific impetuosity. It lasted about forty minutes, the average duration being from twenty to twenty-five minutes. In its progress, gigantic trees were up-rooted and hurled several yards; many of the native mud-huts were blown down or unroofed, vessels were driven from their moorings, the sea lashing the banks which it over-topped, and scattering the foam over the crests of the turbulent billows, with the fury of a whirlwind. The buildings of Tower Hill Barracks were considerably damaged; many of the slates covering the roof were torn off and blown to the bottom of the hill, and several individuals were killed by the lightning; whilst the alteration of temperature was so sudden, that the bell of Kissy village was vertically cracked, by the sudden contraction and expansion of the metal.

The Harmattan winds, as will be observed by reference to the table, prevail during December, January, and February; invigorating the constitution of the newly-arrived European, but being a fertile source of annoyance to many of those longer resident in the Colony, as it produces in them and the natives rheumatic attacks, and in the latter principally, severe and often fatal pulmonic disease. At this season, indeed, very many of the negroes are cut off; and in many, the germs of complaint are then laid, which ultimately terminate fatally. The drying effect of the Harmattan is well known.

Before proceeding to a description of Kissy Village, it may not perhaps be out of place, to give a slight sketch of society, as it exists in the Colony.

In none of the dependencies of the British empire would a stranger sooner expect to meet with more concord and unanimity, than among the Colonists at Sierra Leone. And why? Simply, because there cannot be a better field to unite men in the close bonds of friendship, than where a common danger threatens, or where mutual assistance and sympathy are so often called for, to alleviate and mitigate the insidious and baneful effects of a most unhealthy climate. But the reverse is, unfortunately, the case; and the picture, divested of its flimsy web, exhibits perpetual jealousies and dissensions. So much indeed is this the case, that very few European residents in the Colony will be found to have towards each other, more than the outward semblance of friendship; they are in fact divided into cliques.

At balls and other public entertainments, the lights and shades of the moral character are indistinctly jostled together. The Europeans freely mingle with persons of every dye, from mustee to black, and joyously trip on the "light fantastic toe," with the sable nymphs. But, tell it not to Father Matthew, these ladies will recruit their energies, not by sipping the fragrant mocha, nor spicy negus, but by modestly swilling off Hodgson's and Taylor's, to the amount of one or two bottles in the course of an evening, besides champagne, &c.

The inhabitants of Free Town and the villages, are composed, besides Europeans, of Nova Scotians, located in 1792; Maroons, descendants of the Coromanties, from Jamaica in 1800; and disbanded soldiers from the West India Regiments.

A few Tinnehs, Mandingoes, and Foulahs, as per-

manent residents, and a number of Kroos, who also form part of the population. The Europeans do not average generally 150. Seventy-three Refugees from Liberia, are also resident in Free Town.

The following was the population of the Colony in 1839:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Coloured Population. . .	21,754	17,280	
White ditto.	75	24	
Aliens, Kroomen, Mandingoes, Foulahs, &c.	927		
Total. .	22,756	17,304	40,160

Dr. Madden, however, thinks the Aliens amount to 2,800, being 1,873 more than is set down in the above return.

In 1839, the population in the various districts, to the square mile, varied from 59 to 109; and in Free Town, it amounted to 826. It is estimated by the Colonial Secretary, in the first Eastern District, at 90; in the second ditto, at 109; in the first and second Mountain District, at 86; and in the Western District, at 59.

The Colony possesses 16 places of worship of the Church of England, and 39 Dissenting Chapels; the number of persons generally attending them, being estimated at 9,000. In 1839, the number of Baptisms was 464; of Marriages 542; and of Burials 241; exclusive of those interred in Hospital grounds. In proportion to the population, the total number of children educated, is about one fifth.

During the Christmas holidays, horse-racing takes place, which is the subject of much conversation for a few weeks previous to the *grand essai*. The Hippodrome is

most carefully prepared by labourers, the copse wood being burnt down, and the course properly rolled over. The racers, which are used in driving and riding, present but a *triste* appearance. This exercise is practised at a time when the thermometer is at about 80° or 84° in the shade. Booths are erected, where ale, ginger beer, &c. are retailed.^a

In the cool of the evening, the race course, the Pa-Demba Road, and the Battery, are frequently resorted to by the Europeans, and the more wealthy of the coloured population; the former seeking to invigorate their health by a ride or drive, and to dispel the languor and debility, which are more or less perceptible in the countenance of every European in the Colony.

On the Queen's birth-day, the Militia and Troops are reviewed by the Governor, which attracts a promiscuous crowd, *feux-de-joie* are fired off, to the great delight of the spectators.

In July, 1842, the first number of an English Newspaper, the "Sierra Leone Watchman," was published under the auspices of the Wesleyan Methodist Society. If ably conducted, it might become the depository of much valuable and interesting information; a former paper, the "Sierra Leone Gazette," has been given up for many years.

Letters for England, or elsewhere, cannot be paid in the Colony; they are dispatched by the Colonial Secretary, and are forwarded by the Timber Traders, and occasionally by any of Her Majesty's vessels proceeding home. During Sir J. Jeremie's administration, an attempt was made to have Post Offices at the residences of the

^a At this season of the year, the Liberated Africans are very importunate in their requests for "*Chismas* boxes," as they call these friendly donations.

Village Managers, but it was found impracticable—For example, but one letter was sent through the Post, situated in the Waterloo division of the Eastern District of the Colony, during the last quarter the experiment was tried;—one halfpenny being the revenue derived—whilst the sum of £1 6*s.* was paid to the letter carrier.

√

KISSY.

CHAPTER II.

POPULATION. Christian Religion—Missionary Societies—Native Teachers—Sunday in the Colony—Mahometanism—Schools—Education taught—Sunday School—Inspector's Report—Government Schools—Creoles taught separately from Liberated Africans—Suggestions—Streets of Kissy Village—Pursuits followed by inhabitants—Provision made by Government to Liberated Africans—Merry people—Peculiarities in pursuit of certain occupations—Creole Settlers—Maroons—Akoos—Mahometanism—Witchcraft—Kroomen—Swearing in Court—Religious opinions and customs—Sherbros—Pagan Liberated Africans—Distinguishing features—National Marks—Crania—Physical Structure—Negro Skin—Medical opinions—Snuff-taking—Mental Capacity—Liberated Africans a temperate people—Country beer—"Otto"—Palm-wine—Food—Palaver Sauce—Flesh of ground Pig, &c.—Vegetable-diet—Jinjin-billy—Dancing Night Meetings—Peculiar Dances—"Curre Palaver"—Africans addicted to thieving—Murder—Horrible case—Negro-fighting—Destructive Fires—Case of poisoning—Free Town Jail—Jail Allowance—Escape of Joseph—Liberated African Yard—Hospital—Duties of Colonial Surgeon—Slave Trade—Slavers—Price of Slaves—Destruction of Baracoons—Kidnapping among the natives—Emancipated Negroes—Friendship.

THE population of Kissy Village in 1841, amounted to
Males. 1,330.
Females. 1,096.

Total, 2,426.

It consists of liberated Africans, the Akoo and Eboe race being most numerous ; hence part of the Town is called Eboe, part Akoo, indeed, the desire to live separately is strongly manifested by the liberated Africans : thus we

have Moco, Bassah Town or Hamlets, Congo, Bambarrah, Kroo, Kossah, throughout the Colony where are located these various nations. There are also a few Mandingo and Foulah families, with some discharged soldiers from the West India Regiments.

The Christian Religion, in the Church of England and Methodist forms, is professed by a considerable number ; the remainder are Pagans or Mahometans. There are at present established at Kissy, one European ordained Clergyman, and a catechist of the Church Missionary Society, besides the native teachers. A Wesleyan Clergyman also preaches during the week, and on Sunday in the Chapel. The natives have derived much benefit from the judicious religious instruction communicated to them, by the worthy members of both societies.^a

Much has been advanced in favour of those native teachers, unconnected with either the Church Missionary, or Wesleyan Societies. These men are, doubtless, well meaning and industrious individuals, in their several callings, but I doubt much their competency to expound the sublime truths of christianity, and without any hesitation, affirm, that true religion has grievously suffered under the ministration of men, who permit in their chapels the exciting exhibition of finding the Lord, &c. I am happy, however, to give my testimony to the control exercised, by the above mentioned societies, in preventing such scenes ; and I must also add, that their coloured teachers, who occasionally expound to the people, are men better trained, and better instructed, than those of any other religious class in the colony.—One of them, an Akoo, who formed part of the late expedition to the Niger,

^a Between March, 1804, and August, 1825, 89 Church Missionaries arrived at Sierra Leone ; and in that period 54 had died, and 14 returned to England, shattered in health.

has been instructed under the care of the Church Missionary Society, and has been ordained since his arrival in England.

The Clergymen and Catechists of the Church Missionary Society, are controlled by a Local Committee and a Secretary, who are elected from amongst themselves, their acts being subject to the approval of the Parent Society.—The Wesleyan Clergy are regulated by a superintendent, chosen by Conference.

At certain periods, in both societies, the Clergymen or Catechists exchange stations, more especially on the arrival of additional Missionaries.

Sunday, throughout the Colony, is very decorously kept; indeed, the day is strictly sanctified by the religious masses of liberated Africans; and it has invariably happened, that when one wished on that day to purchase any article, a fowl, vegetables, &c., a decided refusal has been given, such a proceeding being held a desecration of the Lord's day. The matter is, however, sometimes compromised, by asking the party to lend the article wanted, and to call the following day for payment.

Many of the liberated Africans have become converts to Mahometanism, through the proselytizing zeal of the Mandingos and Foulahs, who are Mahometans, and it cannot be matter of wonder that they should so readily embrace doctrines, alike gratifying their vanity and sensual desires; it has indeed been suggested by competent persons, that were a distinctive badge to be adopted by the native Christians, it would do much in promoting Christianity among the Pagans, by assailing them on a vulnerable point, their vanity.—In the north-eastern suburbs of Free Town, two mosques have been erected, on the site of one pulled down in 1839, by an alleged mistake of the police; the propriety of this demolition was much canvassed at the time; it being maintained, that such a pro-

ceeding was injudicious, as affording the nations professing the Mahometan religion, a fair pretext for refusing to tolerate our religion in their own countries.—On the 26th of November, the negro Mahometans walk in procession to the Government house, and through Free Town, being the feast of Rhamadan.

Schools are attached to both the Church Missionary and Wesleyan Societies, at Kissy, and they are well attended.—Two hundred and seventy boys, and one hundred and ninety three girls are on the list of the Church Missionary School, making a total of four hundred and sixty-three. The average attendance is three hundred and ninety. The attendance at the Wesleyan School is seventeen boys, and seventy-seven girls, making a total of forty-four.

The branches of education taught at these schools are reading, writing and arithmetic ; sacred music is likewise taught, which the children take great delight in acquiring, and the girls are instructed in needlework by the school-mistresses.

The following routine is observed at the Church Missionary School. At nine o'clock, upon the opening of the school, the first class of boys and girls receive instruction by the teachers in reading, spelling, and writing from dictation, till half past ten o'clock, the rest of the children are kept in the gallery as infants, from 9 to half past 10 o'clock, when all are let go to their respective classes till 12 o'clock. At this hour, the very little ones are dismissed to their homes; and the girls who are capable, are set to sewing, till 2 o'clock. The boys remaining in the school, are divided into four distinct divisions, and these pursue the several branches of instruction appointed for them, till 2 o'clock. On Friday, the whole school receives instruction in singing, from 9 till half past 10.

In the Sunday School, adults of both sexes discover every disposition to receive religious information; and fathers and mothers of large families, may be observed eagerly endeavouring to acquire knowledge from children of seven or eight years of age.

The march of improvement in education, has but just begun to be felt in the Colony; the Government Schools in the several districts, are now regularly inspected by an officer appointed to perform that duty; those situated in the mountain, and first division of the eastern districts, being inspected once a month; those in the western and second eastern districts, once a quarter.

The present inspector, Dr. Ailken, deserves much credit for the very able manner in which he has conducted his duties; and his valuable suggestions have been acted upon with great advantage.

The late Inspector of Schools observes in his report, dated February 1st, 1841, that 700 Liberated Africans' children were then in the school, viz., 495 boys and 205 girls; but this number necessarily fluctuates, from apprenticing and placing them in families, and by additions of new people brought into the Colony. The inspector remarks, that they were chiefly Akoos, Koosoos and Eboes, the former decidedly the most intelligent, the Eboes the least so. The Government Schools are situated in the following districts:—

Boys' School at Gloucester,	mountain district.
Boys' and Girls' do. at Charlotte,	ditto
Boys' do. at Aberdeen,	ditto
Boys' do. at Lumley,	ditto
Boys' do. at Goderich,	western district.
Boys' do. at Hamilton,	ditto
Girls' do. at York,	ditto
Boys' do. at Kent,	ditto
Boys' and Girls' do. at Dublin,	Banana district.
Boys' and Girls' do. at Riketts,	ditto
Girls' do. at Wellington,	Eastern district.
Do. do. at Hastings,	ditto
Boys' do. at Rokel,	ditto
Do. do. at Calmont,	ditto

In all these schools, the Lancastrian, or Monitorial system, is pursued, by dividing the pupils into small classes. The children's lessons are taught by constant repetition, and they are initiated in writing, by practising on slates. They assemble about 10 o'clock, and the first three hours are occupied in reading, spelling, writing, cyphering, and in singing psalms and hymns, and repeating the Catechism. Needlework is taught the girls in the afternoon; and in some cases, the boys are instructed in arithmetic and geography. Such of the children as are Liberated Africans, are boarded at the Manager's, or at the School-House.

The morning, previous to entering the class, is devoted to singing psalms, cleaning the premises, and carrying wood and water, &c.; the afternoon to bathing^a and

^a Men, women, and children, bathe or *mush* (as they term it,) once, at least, every day. The youth of both sexes are dexterous swimmers, an

recreation, mending of clothes, or working the farms in some cases attached to the school. The allowance for maintenance is $1\frac{1}{4}d.$ the diet being similar to that of the hospital.

The Bible, New Testament, and Hymn books, with easy lessons of a religious character, are those used in reading. The pupils are of all ages, from 4 to 17, the teachers are all colonists, and persons of colour, their salary varying from £12 to £36.

To the Church Missionary and Wesleyan Schools, children born in the colony, or Creoles, are alone admitted. The pupil's time is devoted almost exclusively to religious instruction, with the addition of the *elementary* branches of general education.

In the Missionary, and some of the Government Schools, a small fee is required, which has tended to increase the attendance; and in this manner, the liberated Africans have contributed the sum of £628 towards educating their children; a fact highly creditable to their ambition, and desire of improvement.

It will be observed from the above, that the Creoles are taught in schools separate from the liberated African children. This distinction inspires the Creole children with ideas of their own superiority, which they discover on every occasion; and to such an extent is this feeling fostered, that I have often heard the Creole boy or girl when they quarrelled with one of the liberated African children, call them *niggers*, which is to the latter the most opprobrious of all opprobrious epithets. This separation,

accomplishment of much value to persons voyaging in canoes, which are so liable to be upset. To look upon women whilst bathing, is punished by slavery, amongst the Soosoos, and some other African Nations. The law orders that the individual who happens to be passing where the women are bathing, shall either turn back, or look aside. A European gentleman infringing the law, was a few years ago severely flogged.

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then, of the Creole from the liberated African children, has not only tended to depress and stupify the latter, but has given the former unjustifiable ideas of superiority, so much so that the two classes will not associate.

The acquisition of knowledge is, however, too much limited to Scriptural readings and religious exercises, to the exclusion of elegant general literature, so that the pupil feels himself perplexed by the metaphysical sublimities which he is so constantly called upon to contemplate. This feeling not unfrequently produces disgust for these important subjects, so that leaving school, without having acquired a taste for other study or pursuit, he becomes the companion of the vicious, and the imitator of European amusements and dissipation. In some, such an exclusive course of study has led to fanaticism, and the individual often becomes the preacher and teacher of the people, for which his attainments most certainly do not qualify him. When the wives of the managers or missionaries associate with their husbands in instructing the children, the influence is obvious in the neatness of their dress, &c.

The influence of the climate on the manners, laws, and religious opinions of the nations, is very marked, and I beg to quote the following judicious remarks from Dr. Madden's Parliamentary Report on this important subject. He observes, "it will be seen by all the answers the Missionary gentlemen in our different settlements have given to my queries respecting the mental capacity of Negro children, that they are considered universally, in that respect, equal to European children, and by some men quicker in their perceptions, and more lively in their powers of apprehension." This is observable from the ages of 5 to 12 or 13 years; but from that period of life to the age of 18 or 20, it becomes less strongly marked, and there appears to be less activity in the mental faculties. Dr.

Madden attributes this fact to the exclusive overstretched cultivation of the powers of memory; especially the premature developement which the climate leads to, is stimulated by this system of teaching. He is of opinion that we should exercise the powers of judgment more, and those merely of memory less, in the schools we establish in climates like Africa.

In concluding this subject, I conceive that the boys, both Creoles and liberated Africans, should be taught together, and that each of them should be either instructed in agriculture on a model farm, attached to each school, or apprenticed to such mechanical trades as seem best suited to their inclinations and abilities. I may here mention, that some of the neighbouring Timneh and Soosoo Chiefs send their sons to be educated at the Wesleyan Mission House, or at the Church Missionary Society's Institution at Pourah Bay; they do not, as has been stated, permit them to be servants to the European residents.

The streets of Kissy village intersect each other from the four cardinal points, and are named as first, second, third, &c.; they are throughout regular, and in width from twenty-five to thirty feet. To each tenement there is an allotment of seventy-five feet in depth, and fifty feet in front, hedged in by the croton, or tigliament shrub. The market is held in an open shed, at the foot of the ascent leading to the upper hospital, and here the wives of the villagers expose for sale, rice, palm and nut oils, fruits, vegetables, &c.

The bulk of the inhabitants cultivate their own farms, the produce of which is disposed of in the village, or carried to Free Town. The men and women carry,^a at day-

^a In Sierra Leone every thing is carried, or as they term it "*totted*" on the head, from a single bottle to a *blie* or basket containing heavy articles, both being balanced so equally as to leave the motions perfectly free and unembarrassed.

break, from the villages to Free Town, the juicy fragrant fruits, manufactured articles, such as mats, straw hats, baskets, palm, thatching, which many of them hawk about, poultry, palm oil, &c., which they purchase of the Timnehs, Soosoos, Mandingoes and Bulloms. A few of them follow mechanical pursuits, being blacksmiths, carpenters, tailors, shoemakers, &c. Many of them are hired as labourers, their wages being from four pence to one shilling. Kroomen, however, employed in the stowing away of timber in the rivers, receive much higher pay, and are fed.

The newly-located liberated Africans are furnished by the Government with clothing, and bedding, a cutlass, hoe, and a few cooking utensils. When in hospitals, unless carefully watched, they are sometimes in the habit of tearing their shirts and trousers, and sewing together the fragments with the fine fibres of grass, from the matting on which they lie, or with thread unravelled from the cloth itself. The bags which they make from these fragments they call *Kooti koos*; they serve to contain money, food, &c. Some of them are ingeniously divided into compartments, and are usually suspended from the neck or shoulder. A sharp thorn, or *Tookeh-took*, as they term it, serves them as a needle; they will also destroy the matting to make brooms to drive away insects from their sores.

The Africans are perhaps as light-hearted a people as any upon earth, entertaining a keen sense of the ludicrous, as the loud peals of laughter with which they make their dwellings resound will testify. Their merry faces are continually on the grin. The laugh of the Negro race is easily distinguishable from that of the European by a peculiar heartiness; the last syllable being lengthened out, and attended with a chuckling sound.

The liberated Africans very frequently meet at one another's houses, where groups of merry people spend their time in conversation, carried on amidst hearty peals of laughter, amazing vociferation, volubility, and gaiety. This prattling chit-chat is often prolonged for hours together, and is so seducing that they separate with reluctance. Occasionally they entertain each other with droll tales, or the wonderful powers of some witch-man. A cheap rum, called by them, Kurring-Kerry, sold at 1s. 1d. per bottle, is often drunk on these occasions. These meetings are sometimes carried on in the piazzas, where children, wife, and husband may be observed intently listening to these stories, while occupied in searching for a nameless parasitical insect. In fact, the African, in general, like many of his European brethren, endeavours to gratify his desires with the slightest exertion, seeking rather to remain in careless tranquility, than to hazard his happiness by trying to possess those things he does not require; and when attacked with fatal illness, he meets his death with the calm resignation of a stoic.

The manners and customs, however, of several of the Negro nations, in many points of resemblance might bear a comparison with those of the Europeans:—thus we might compare the Kussoh to the volatile Frenchman; the industrious and enterprising Akoo to the Scots or Swiss, &c. &c.

It is a curious circumstance, that the natives of some of the nations of liberated Africans here, display a delight and taste in the pursuit of certain occupations which are irksome, and seldom followed by the natives of the other nations about them. I would, for instance, notice the number of Kussoh women, who earn a livelihood by washing; the attention the Eboes bestow in the rearing of pigs; and the great neatness with which the Sherbros and

Mocos manufacture table and other mats, grass clothing, reticules, &c.; whilst the working of iron and gold, and the manufacture of leather beautifully dyed, chiefly red and black, is almost entirely in the hands of the Foulahs and Mandingoes; the culture of rice and Fundungi is equally the care of the Foulah, Bambarra, and Joloff nations. The liberated African has always, in fact, discovered a spirit of enterprise, whenever there has been any temporary demand for any article under cultivation, as ginger, arrow root, peppers, &c.

Dr. Madden very justly observes, that, if the liberated Africans were not a patient race, inured to suffering, and accustomed to bear privation, it certainly would be impossible to keep the population that is located in the villages in these places. They would abandon their farms, and flock into Free Town, &c., and this is actually the case, numbers of them take up their abode in Free Town, becoming pedlars, porters, labourers, or boatmen.

Of the Creoles, many of them are employed as shopmen in Free Town. They manifest the utmost contempt for agricultural pursuits, and the same feeling would seem to actuate the half educated liberated African lads. It may be pleaded, however, in extenuation, that this dislike may arise from the transition stage of Society. Very few of the Creoles marry; the great facility of concubinage, and the moral tone of society, which sees no impropriety in such connexions—dispense with the marriage ceremony. Women indeed appear to be esteemed by the Negro, not as individuals possessed of sentiment, but as the mere creature formed to gratify his desires and to minister to his wants. That intelligent traveller Mungo

* The tanning and dyeing of hides is brought to great perfection—Acorns, the fruit of several kinds of trees I am unacquainted with, are used by the Foulahs, &c., for this purpose.

Park, has very truly remarked of the African women, that "they are regarded as an inferior species of animals ; they seem to be brought up for no other purpose than that of administering to the sensual pleasures of their imperious masters. Voluptuousness is considered as their chief accomplishment, and slavish submission as their indispensable duty."

The Creoles designate their children as "piccaninny," a little one; "tittie," a little girl; and "bubboh," a little boy.

The *Settlers* of the colony are the descendants of the Sherbro-Bulloms, and speak the Bullom dialect. The cause of degeneracy among them may be traced to their indolent and expensive habits, which will not admit of their competing with the enterprising liberated African, whom they, very erroneously consider to be their inferiors. They, however, gladly allow their daughters to wed respectable liberated Africans. The Settlers are either West African Wesleyans, Baptists, or members of Lady Huntingdon's connexion.

The *Maroon* is easily discernible. His head and face are well proportioned, the nose generally being well elevated, nay, hooked. They converse with much point, and are humorous and witty. The women are exceedingly fond of "*cutting Yangah*;"* and so far from shoes and stockings being unfashionable, as has been asserted, they are among the most acceptable presents that can be made to these sable ladies. Among the Maroons and Settlers, a handsome girl is called "Puss," as "Puss George,"—"Puss Millington," &c.; it is a term of endearment.

Many of the Maroons are useful and industrious

* "*Yangah*" is the term used indiscriminately by all classes of blacks to designate a well dressed individual.

members of society. In April, 1841, seventy of them embarked for Jamaica ; and since that period, many other families have followed their example.

The *Akoos*, who form a great proportion of the liberated Africans, are pre-eminently distinguished for their love of trading, and occasionally amass large sums. I would cite the case of Mr. Wills, the chief of the *Akoos*, who died in 1840, worth two thousand pounds, invested in houses, &c. An Eboe, by name Ogoo, died in 1841, possessed of a large amount of property amassed as constructor of Kissy Hospital, Liberated African Yards, and Gaol. This worthy man speculated largely in cattle, rice, &c. From their frugal and industrious habits, the *Akoos* are called the *African Jews*. They club together their money to purchase European commodities, w ich they most perseveringly hawk about the streets of Free Town, and in the villages. Many of them have settled beyond the colonial territory, and have formed a thriving settlement. Many *Akoos* have lately returned to their native country, in vessels freighted by themselves, having obtained from Government passports to that effect. I understand they landed at Badagry. Many of these individuals were zealous followers of christianity, and will doubtless carry with them the doctrines and rules of civilized life. May civilization and religion mark their footsteps ! The *Akoos* are by far the most intelligent household servants of the colony, and are accordingly preferred to the other natives.

Great numbers of the *Akoos* have assumed the garb and religion of Mahomet, but they are readily distinguished from the Mahometan Foulahs or Mandingoes, by the peculiar cuts on the face, and by the poverty of their dress ; the beard is also much more scanty in them than in the Mandingo or Foulah races. By the Maho-

metan law, a man may have four wives, and as many concubines as he may be able to maintain; the Mahometans believe in witchcraft, incantations and charms, using "*lassymanny*," to impose on the minds of the weak and credulous individuals; the lassymanny charm consists in writing upon a table generally in use among them, with a pernicious infusion or ink obtained from the bark of a tree, texts from the Scriptures, or Al-Koran, which is then washed off and bottled. With this lassymanny they wash themselves before asking favours, &c.

The Kroomen occupy a distinct part of Free Town, to the westward, called "Krootown."^a They come to the colony in quest of employment, and are in great request in the stowing of timber, and as domestic servants. By local acts their number is limited; they cohabit with the liberated African women.

^a The Kroo country is situated on the Grain Coast. With regard to the Kroos, the Bassa people and the Fishmen, the Hon Captain Denman, in his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, says, "the Kroomen occupy only 5 towns upon the west at different places between the rivers Cestros and the Grand Cestros; to the northward of that, the Bassa people lie intermixed with the Fishmen; and, occupying all the west to the southward of the Grand Cestros, are the Fishmen, a different people from the Kroomen; they are often confounded with them, but there is a broad distinction between them. Intermixed with the 5 Kroo towns, are many Fish places. The Kroomen occupy the interior of the Country more than the Fishmen; the Fishmen are entirely upon the coast. Below Grand Cestros, they are all Fish towns. The Fish people are much more numerous than the Kroomen." He states that the Fishmen are more employed in the ships along the coast than the Kroos, with whom they are always quarrelling. Both Fishmen and Kroos are exempt from becoming slaves; but at the Sleuce factories, along the coast from Sierra Leone to Cape Palmas, the work was principally carried on by the Fishmen. The Kroos and Fishmen employed on board men of war, are under the management of a headsmen of their own tribe, who receives all their wages. The headsmen has generally about 20 men under him, the connexion is not compulsory, but is rather for the purpose of protection.

"The Kroomen," says Dr. Madden, "are pagans, neither the Christian nor the Mahometan religion, has ever made the slightest progress in their country; and there is not, I believe, a single instance known of a Krooman in Sierra Leone having been converted to christianity."

The Kroomen bury their dead on the beach, near King Tom's Point, and this very superficially, which adds, in no slight degree, to the noxious exhalations produced by the mixture of stagnant fresh water with that from the sea. In connexion with these people, I would here notice their mode of swearing in court; the officer of the court presents to the witness a small quantity of salt, of which the latter picks up a minute portion on the tip of his finger, which he then elevates with reverential awe to heaven, and stooping down looks with fixed gaze on the floor, mixing its dust with the salt, finally he carries the mixture to his tongue. The usual oath, is always, however, also administered.

The following queries addressed by Commissioner Madden to a Krooman, will show many of their religious opinions and customs.

"Query. When men die what do you do with the dead body?

A. Put them in the ground.

Q. Do dead men stay in ground always?

A. No, him tomack (his stomach, that is his spirit,) goes to God.

Q. Where do they go to God?

A. Them go-up (pointing to the sky.)

Q. Suppose him one bad man, where him go then?

A. Another great one take him—God no take him.

Q. Where he go then?

A. Him go up to another man. Some Kroomen have palaver about it, some say when one bad man die, moon take him up.

Q. Do Kroomen say there is one God only, or two or three Gods above?

A. How Kroomen savay that—Kroomen no go up alive to savay that.

Q. Do Kroomen often make juju (religious worship,) in their country?

A. Oh yes make juju very much.

Q. Are the juju men (the priests) very good men?

A. Oh! very good men.

Q. Who cure sick men in Kroo country?

A. Juju men.

Q. How do you make Juju?

A. Kroomen go and take one cow to Juju man; him make great palaver over cow, then cut his throat.

Q. Why him cut his throat?

A. To make God glad very much and do Kroomengood.

Q. What does the Juju man do then?

A. Cut off cow's feet and some of belly for himself, throw him head away, head no good. Kroomen no chop (eat) head never; then people come and take the rest, boil him meat and eat the Juju.

Q. What do you do with the blood?

A. Let it run on the ground, no man chop blood.

Q. Do women eat some of the cow when you make Juju?

A. Oh no, don't let women come near Juju; keep women far off, no good for women to make Juju.

Q. A long time ago have you never heard in Kroo country, that big waters come and drown all the world?

A. No we never hearie that palaver.—We hearie long time ago very much: four Kroomen go away in canoe to go to other country, when fourteen days pass, big waters come and upset canoe, and four men just go down, when two Porpois come and carry them ashore; all Kroomen know that for true palaver.

Q. How many wives do Kroomen marry ?

A. Some six, some eight, some ten, some plenty, many wives.

Q. How does a Krooman here get one wife ?

A. My fader give her fader four or five or six bullocks, if he has them, and I give her some dash (present) to buy things for herself.

Q. You ever hearie of women having two piccanninies, born sometimes in your country ?

A. Yes, me hearie that.

Q. What do Kroo people do with the two piccanninies born same time in your country ?

A. Oh Kroomen not like Bonny men, in him fashion Bonny say not good two piccanninies, born same time, so kill both piccanninies, and some kill mother too. Kroomen no do that.

Q. Do Kroomen do like Bonnymen, with white piccanninies born in their country, and say, "this country wont bring up white men's piccanniny," and kill them ?

A. No, Kroomen no kill piccanniny, no say that mouth, that's a very *waw*, *waw* mouth, (a very bad word.)

Q. When women die in Kroo country, where your people say they go ?

A. Where him go (somewhat angrily answered) where him go for time, where all men go up.

Q. But why no women make juju with men when cow is killed to make God glad as you say, and to do good to men in Kroo country ?

A. Women mind piccanniny, mind him house ; don't know how to mind that thing."

The Rev. Mr. Schon, gives the following answers respecting the Sherbros.

"Query. What is the religion of the natives of the adjoining country ?

A. The inhabitants (of the Sherbro country,) are

Pagans; they know that there is a Supreme Being, the Creator of all things, but do not worship him; they worship the evil spirit, and try to make him propitious, through sacrifices.

Q. Are their superstitions based on a belief in the general influence of a good and evil principle?

A. The Sherbros believe in a being whom they call "Hobbah Querry," to be the author of every good thing, and every blessing; and another being, whom they call "Min-nyamuny," the author of all evil.

Q. Are their rewards blended with a future state of rewards and punishments?

A. They believe that good people will go to their forefathers who are building houses and cities for them in the next world, and that the wicked will never see their ancestors. They sacrifice animals as well as vegetables to the evil spirit, and entertain a notion, that the spirits of their departed parents or relatives, are maintained by the same.

Q. Are human sacrifices on the death of their kings and chieftains, ever practiced among them?

A. I was told on good authority, that in time of public calamities one or more females are sacrificed.

All the Pagan Liberated Africans, as will be observed in my notes on the Akoos, and from the foregoing replies, have an obscure idea of the existence of one Great Deity, by whom the whole world was created, and to whom all good men go when they die. They have an ill-defined belief in the goodness of that Deity, but they believe his care and providence does not extend to the human race in this world, the government of which, is delegated to the evil spirits; so that they offer no homage to the Deity, but only seek to ingratiate themselves into the favour of his ministers.

There are many distinguishing features among the different nations of Liberated Africans in the colony; for instance, the Moco is easily known by his receding forehead, the head bulging upwards and backwards very considerably over the parietal protuberances; the skin is of an indifferent black, in some individuals coffee-coloured; the eye-lids pretty accurately defined; the lips thick, the upper one generally pouting; the *alae nasi* considerably expanded.

The true Guineaman, or those Africans from the southward, as the Bights of Benin and Biafra, are in general rather round-lipped, flat-nosed, and have the other well known peculiarities of the negro race;—whilst the Foulahs, Mandingoes, Maroons, and some of the Akoos approximate nearer to the European.

Many of them are distinguished by peculiar marks on the body. The national marks of the Kroos, consist of a black stripe proceeding from the hairy scalp along the ridge of the nose, over both lips to the chin. At the outer corner of each eye are similar lines. The body is tattooed with curious figures of stars, &c. The figure of an anchor is also sometimes traced on their arms; a practice adopted from the English seamen with whom they associate.

Kussoh mark.—From the top of the spine to the first dorsal vertebra, cuts sweep in three lines across the sides to about an inch below the mammary glands. Occasionally the women are marked differently, raised cicatrices proceeding from the scorbiculus cordis to the abdomen, forming a figure bearing some resemblance to the letter X in this way, ✕ ☉

Popoh mark.—A line drawn from the angle of the eye-brows, with raised cicatrices stained, about one inch in length, of a blue colour, on the left side of the cheek,

six horizontal lines similarly stained, proceeding from the angle of the ear, to that of the mouth. Three short cuts begin at the superior angle of the mouth, terminating beneath the lower lip. On the right cheek are eleven cicatrices situated just below the eye.

The Mozambique or Yanibany national mark.—Two separate cuts proceed in an oblique direction from the anterior border of the ear to the eye-brow. These cuts are raised, and carried a little beyond each eye-brow; a perpendicular cut also proceeds from hairy scalp to the lobe of the ear.

The Akoo head is wedge-form, the forehead being considerably compressed, and the face generally projecting. I have observed in great numbers of Negro skulls the auditory process, or ring of bone surrounding the external auditory canal, to project, and overlap as it were the auditory foramen, much more than the same structure in the European.

In some of the Eboes, the forehead is deeply marked by unsightly scars—small flaps of skin in some cases overlap the eye-brows, nose, and corner of the eye. These individuals are called "Bretchie." The operation, a kind of scalping, is endured with the most unflinching fortitude,—from the rank it confers upon the person who is fortunate enough to survive its effects.

Opportunity was afforded me, as Surgeon of the Liberated African Hospital, of forming a collection of the crania of some of the African tribes, which, with several crania of European seamen who died in the hospital, in all amounting to forty-three, I forwarded in 1840, to Sir James McGregor, and they are now deposited in Chatham Hospital. The following are some of their dimensions, taken upon an average of twelve men of each nation.

	Poph.	Kroo.	Eboe.	Akoo.	Kussoh.
From upper portion of auricle across the vertex	$11\frac{1}{4}$	$12\frac{3}{8}$	$12\frac{1}{8}$	$11\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{1}{8}$
Circumference in a line along the upper surface of the eye-brows.	$19\frac{1}{8}$		20	$21\frac{1}{2}$	$14\frac{1}{4}$
Circumference middle portion of frontal region.	$20\frac{3}{8}$	$20\frac{1}{4}$		21	$21\frac{1}{4}$
In a line including upper surface of frontal and occipital regions.	$17\frac{1}{8}$	$11\frac{1}{2}$	22 nearly	$21\frac{1}{8}$ nearly	
Antero posteriorly.	$14\frac{1}{4}$ nearly	$14\frac{1}{8}$	15	$15\frac{1}{8}$ nearly	20

When lately in Scotland, I was informed by an intelligent Draper, that he was obliged to procure a smaller sized hat both for the Fishermen of Nigg and of Cromarty—and at Cambletown, Fort George, similar care must be used in furnishing the Fishermen of that village with Chapeaus,—thus shewing that both the European and African are subject to equal degeneracy, when subjected for a long period to neglected cultivation of the mental faculties.

Of the women, the Jollofs are remarkable for their easy and dignified deportment, heightened by the elegant dresses in which their symmetrical figures are enveloped. Some of the Moco women are very beautiful. The Foulah women are handsome, and of a sprightly temper, and their countenances are more regular than those of many of the other tribes; the hair is also longer and less woolly.

At an early age, the mammary glands become flaccid and pendent; and I have observed the curious fact, of these organs being sometimes as much developed in adult males, as in those of the opposite sex. The Popoh women have the nymphæ and clitoris generally enlarged.

In most of the Africans, the heel projects. From the skin of their feet being often of a horny hardness, sandals appear to me much better adapted than the shoe—as it allows of greater flexibility and movement.—Laurence, in his “Lectures on Man,” says, that the calves of the leg in the Negro race are very high, so as to encroach upon the hams. His observation I can fully corroborate, as well as Dr. Winterbottom’s remark respecting the largeness of the feet, and the thinness and flexibility of the fingers and toes.

The colour of the Negro skin, varies through every diversity of shade, from the deepest glossy black to light yellow, nearly approaching in colour the skin of the Mulatto. Sometimes it is dotted with irregular blotches of a dirty white colour, probably the result of disease. Albinos, or White Africans, are occasionally met with; their peculiarities have, however, been so fully detailed, that it is not deemed requisite to notice them further here.

The unctuous softness of the skin, and the peculiar odour exhaled from the body of the Negro, arise, according to Dr. Copeland, from the skin of the Black, being a more active organ of depuration than that of the White;

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and in another place he states, that those materials which require removal from the blood, are eliminated by this surface, which, in the African especially, performs excreting functions, very evidently in aid of those of respiration and biliary secretion.

Dr. James Johnson, in his valuable work on tropical climates, says of the Hindoos, and it equally applies to the African:—"Certain it is, that the action of the per-spiratory vessels too, is different from that of the same vessels in the European, at least they secrete a very different kind of fluid, being more of an oily and tenacious nature."

The sagacious blind traveller, Holman, observes, "The women who came on board, clustered round the breakfast table, which was not very pleasant, from the strong smell emanating from their bodies." This odour possesses a faint musky smell, but becomes exceedingly disagreeable from inattention to cleanliness, or disorders of the abdominal viscera. Dr. Stark, in the *Philosophical Transactions*, states, that circumstances led him to institute enquiries to determine the relative proportion of affinity with which different colours imbibe odours, and he found that black possessed this property in the greatest intensity, white in the lowest degree; he therefore asks, "May not the disagreeable effluvium which is known to proceed from the skins of the Negroes, be in some way connected with this theory."

Mr. Flourens maintains, that there is in the skin of the Black race, an apparatus, which is wanting in that of the White race. The two, therefore, form two essentially and specifically distinct races; and these not only distinct by a character of form, as the characters drawn from the conformation of the cranium and face are,—they are so by a character of structure, by a special and very com-

plicated apparatus, which exists in one of the two races only.

I have observed, that the true Guinea men, to the southward of Sierra Leone, as the Eboes, Papaws, Mocoës, &c., have this odour more developed.—The skin of the hands and feet of some of the Guinea men is hard and horny, resembling in some instances, the epiderm of the domestic fowl's foot. The teeth are white and finely set, being assiduously cleaned with pieces of soft sticks, that of the guava for instance. The Jebu and many other tribes point them like an awl.^a

The Liberated Africans anoint the skin with palm or nut-oils, sometimes using ourie, or nechock, a vegetable butter, which practice moderates and preserves an equable flow of perspiration, and soft pliability of the skin. Most of them have the skin of the face, arms and body, scored, and gashed sometimes into raised skeins, as in the case of the *Kakundas*, or cut into stripes running in all directions, or else dotted with stars, squares, &c. The children often imitate their parents by painting their faces in similar patterns, chalk, charcoal, mortar from the wall, or the juice of an astringent berry found in the bush, being indiscriminately employed. I have noticed some Timnehs, Sherbroes, and Liberated Africans, to coat the eyelids, and part of the face with chalk, as a remedy for ophthalmia.

Taking snuff by the mouth, is much practised by almost all the Liberated Africans, Maroons, Settlers, &c. and communicates to the breath an offensive smell. I have noticed its use cause corrosion of the gums, and loose-

^a The Rev. Mr. Schon mentions that among the Eboes, if a child happens to cut the teeth of the upper jaw first, the infant is killed; as it is considered to indicate that, if the child were allowed to live, it would become a very bad person.—To say therefore "you cut your top teeth first," is as much as to say "Nothing good can be expected from you."

ness of the teeth. The snuff is generally placed between the lower lip and teeth, or on the tongue. It is used by both sexes. They are also great smokers.

They have the faculty or organ of language well developed, as they acquire in a few weeks a sufficient smattering of English to be able to communicate their ideas.

The answers given to Dr. Madden by Secretary Macdonald, and Drs. Fergusson and Aitken, respecting the mental capacity of the natives, will in some measure show the opinions entertained by individuals long resident amongst them.

Query. Is there any peculiarity in their physical structure that would justify the opinion of their being a distinct, or in a mental capacity, that would justify their being considered an inferior race?

A.—Mr. Macdonald, (about 12 years resident at Sierra Leone.) I cannot say, but the best proof of their mental inferiority is the fact, that out of the whole Maroon, Settlers, and Liberated African population, there are scarcely twelve individuals to be found, fit to hold the most Junior Clerkship in any office in the Colony.

Dr. Fergusson.—A. No.

Dr. Aitken.—With respect to the mental capacity of the natives, my experience is too limited to enable me to arrive at any conclusion, but I should say, judging from what I saw at Mabelly, on the Rokelle River, in the years 1836 and 37, when numerous chiefs of uncontrolled minds, from various parts, had assembled to meet the Governor of the Colony—that the specimen I there saw displayed, of their mental capacity, was such as caused me to come to the conclusion, that had they had equal advantages with the European, they would not be inferior, and with reference to their physical structure—there are admitted peculiarities between the Native and the European.

The majority of them are a temperate people ; water is their ordinary drink ; and I never witnessed the entrance of spirit shops in Free Town blocked by rum drinkers, as is stated by the author of the "White Man's Grave." He justly describes the Maroons, as being generally careless and lazy ; but that they are so utterly regardless of religion, as to run from their chapel, Jehovah Shallum, to a rum-shop, is incorrect, as is likewise the alleged situation of such a place of resort. In the village of Kissy, there was but one or two confirmed drunkards, although even there, there is a spirit shop. Ale is the favourite beverage, which they on all occasions prefer to spirits.

The country beer, called "Otto," is prepared by them in the following manner.—Indian Corn, after being macerated for three days, is spread on leaves till the process of fermentation begins; the grain is then shifted to mats, and exposed to the sun; when dry, it is bruised and put into a pot, cold water being poured over the contents. It is then stirred for a couple of hours, and allowed to boil for near a whole day. On the following day, it is again boiled, the liquor being strained off, and then, when cold, it is ready for use, being kept in large calabashes. It is also made from Guinea corn of different species, and likewise from the pine apple.

Palm wine, procured by tapping the palm tree, is in general use as a beverage, and also as a substitute for yeast in the preparation of wheaten bread.

The wine is extracted by incising the tree at the bottom of every cluster of nuts. Fresh palm wine resembles whey—and has a sweet agreeable taste;—but it soon ferments.

The food of the Liberated Africans, consists principally of yams, rice, (their favourite food,) coco, or tania, cassada, maize, &c., with meat or fish, which they do not

object to eat when in a semi-putrid state, palm-oil being universally eaten with it, which is flavoured with capsicums, shallots, &c. The yams are boiled or roasted.—When dug up they are hung in vertical parallel rows, in wattled wicker racks, so constructed as to admit a current of air; they are screened from the heat of the sun by fern leaves introduced between the wicker work.

The universal custom amongst the Liberated Africans, is to eat soon after getting up. Akcarah, Chappulah, Aggedi, or perhaps a portion of some fruit as pine apple, banana, &c., according to the taste of the individual, are the articles usually taken.—Breakfast is eaten about half past 10 or 11 o'clock, a. m.—Dinner is with them a very unimportant affair, but if taken at all, 4 or 5 o'clock, are the hours selected. Supper is the principal meal, at which all the family meet, and which is abundantly seasoned with much jocularity and good humoured fun.

Their favourite dish is called *Palaver Sauce*, which they prepare with smoked fish or meat, or both together. The vegetables used are ocro (*hibiscus esculentus*,) seasoned with capsicum pepper, the yabah or shallot onion; or with ground nuts, coco, or tania leaves, a kind of sorrel, attah, ammomum, malaguetta pepper, being the condiment. Palm oil constitutes an essential ingredient in Palaver sauce, and imparts to it the *gout* for which it is relished.

They prepare their rice by beating it with long poles in large wooden mortars. It is winnowed, and repeatedly very carefully washed, before being cooked.

The flesh of the ground pig and rat, are esteemed, and to be had in the village markets, skewered on small sticks ready for sale. During the visitations of locusts, in 1841-2, the Eboes, Macoes, Callabars, &c., might be seen busily occupied in catching them; for eating they

were parched or stewed. This is, however, by no means peculiar to the Africans, as locusts are equally eaten by the Arabs. It has been stated, that among the Kroos, the flesh of dead dogs is their greatest delicacy, but this, I believe to be untrue. I recollect being told by Mr. J. Thomson, of a singular circumstance regarding their *cuisine*, which fell under his notice at Tombo Island. Strolling about, he unperceived approached a party of Kroos, seated near a fire, regaling themselves with their favourite food—rice. During the repast, Mr. Thomson was surprised to observe them pass round a cow-horn, which had been singed or burnt, and more so, to observe each individual, as he ate the rice, inhale with much gusto the empyreumatic odour. This circumstance might suggest, that minute odoriferous particles of matter, inhaled and conveyed to the brain, may in some measure satisfy the craving appetite for animal food.

I here subjoin a list of a few of the vegetable articles of diet prepared by the Liberated Africans, and which are hawked about, and sold in the markets by the women and children, whose different cries have a very singular effect upon the ear of an European. *Myh Myh*, is made from the bean of a creeping plant, which is beaten in a mortar, to remove its cortex, washed, pounded, and afterwards mixed with palm-oil, shallots, and capsicum pepper. It is finally rolled up, when it is ready for use. *Myh Myh*, is of a deep red colour.

Toofoo, or grated cassava, or cassada farina, is made up into balls, and sold at one halfpenny each. *Toofoo*, after being boiled, is dipped in palm oil, and thus eaten; it is also the common “poultice” used in the hospitals, and throughout the colony.

Akiukuh. Indian corn, or maize flour, mixed with sufficient water to form a mass, Cayenne pepper having

been previously mingled, when it is formed into rolls, each roll being about four inches long. Akiukuh is eaten with palm or nut oil.

Akcarah, is prepared from the flour of a black bean, palm-oil and pepper being mixed with it. It is stained of a deep red colour.

Chappalah or *Obalah*. Ground rice mixed with palm oil and red pepper, wrapped up in a leaf to be strained.

Aggedi is a sub-acid preparation of Indian corn, somewhat like the Scotch "Soens," when cold it forms a white blancmange. It is sold wrapped up in plaintain, banana, or water-dock leaves.

Ekrukuh is prepared from the white bean of a creeping plant; the beans being divested of their husk, pounded and mixed with palm oil, shallots, Cayenne pepper. *Ekrukuh* is eaten with *Aggedi*.

Soosoo rum, or *Jin Jin Burrah*, is made from the root of a plant, which resembles the columbine flower, and is called by the Soosoos Jin-jin-billy. It grows amongst the grapes, its root resembles cassada, and is dug up in December, January, February, March and April. The Jin-jin-billy plant shoots out its branches soon after the copse-wood is burnt down. The following is the process used in the making of the spirit Jin Jin Burrah.

Into a large circular hole, four or five feet deep, and from six to seven feet in width, large faggots of wood are heaped and set fire to, and when reduced to glowing charcoal, from ten to twenty baskets of the Jin-jin-billy roots are thrown upon it, the opening is then covered over with leaves and dust, cold water being poured on the fire so as to steam the roots. In a few days, the softened roots are taken out and spread upon the earth, and are then pounded in a mortar, straining off the juice through

a large funnel, which is exposed to the sun two days, when a bitter root called BUM-BUR is added. The Jin-jin-billy is then ready for drinking.

All classes of the Africans are very fond of dancing, in which they avoid violent and fatiguing exertion, the amusement in this climate being confined to a series of easy gestures. A circle is generally formed, from which two of the group of opposite sexes step out, waving the arms, clapping the hands and singing, whilst they move towards each other, the man bending the body in no very decent way as he approaches his partner, who jerks the hip from side to side. One by one, others join the dancers, till the excitement becomes general, whilst the drums are fast and furiously beaten, and continual accessions pour in on all sides, wherever the music is heard, in order to participate in the joyous festivity. The young Creole girls attend the dance with the hair generally neatly plaited, whilst staid matrons stand looking on, with their piccanninies, either in their hands or swathed to their backs, their head-dress being the general one, consisting of a kerchief gracefully arranged.

The "Sing" or Song, amongst all of the Native population is an extemporary expression of any passing occurrence. Many evenings are passed by some of the Creoles in chaunting Sacred Music, and playing on the flute. It is more particularly during the tranquil moonlight nights, that the amusement of dancing is pursued, when all nature breathes repose, and the sound of the tom tom reaches the ear mellowed by distance, breaking up as it were the monotony of the scene. On such occasions, the song raised by a merry and joyous band of youths and maidens, may be heard accompanying the music, as it is borne along the still atmosphere. The chorus, chaunted by some score voices, bursts on the ear in fullest swell or

shrillest tones, according as the music varies. This amusement is called by the Maroons "Fullulah," by the Settlers "Konking," by the liberated Africans simply "a play," The song and dance are often kept up with the utmost vivacity till dawn, and for several successive nights, the excitement being sustained, and fanned into an almost maddening intensity by deep potations.

The frequency of these meetings, can only be injurious by producing a taste for drinking, and perhaps unfitting the persons attending them from pursuing their ordinary occupations. In other respects, they may be beneficial. By local acts of the Government, these drummings must cease by ten o'clock, but this law is seldom enforced. A few years ago, one of the Catechists of the Church Missionary Society, interfered with some Mahometans thus engaged, pointing out the sinfulness of such heathenish practices, but instead of being listened to, his clothes were nearly torn off his back.

The Tapuahs dance to the rattling of pebbles or seeds enclosed in calabashes. There is generally a circle or ring, formed around the performers; they chaunt in a melancholy tone, differing both from the boisterous mouth of the Akoo, Kroo, or Eboe song, and from the lovely strains of the Settlers and Maroons. They mark time, by rattling the pebbles contained in the calabashes.

The Popoh dance is very similar to the Tapuah, without the accompaniment of the calabashes. Wakes are also very attractive, and are invariably kept up for several successive nights. The humming of psalm tunes in every discordant tone, mingling with the jabbering of human voices, is anything but suitable for the occasion, whilst amongst the youth of both sexes, passion runs riot.

The Liberated Africans are continually squabbling amongst themselves. These bickerings often terminating

in abuse, or "curse palaver," the worst being to curse their mother; a blow will much sooner be forgiven than this term of reproach. "Strike me, but don't curse my mother."—"You scowl me much, why you can curse too bad," are common sayings amongst them. They are very litigious, and constantly summoning each other, on the most trivial occasions. A frequent bone of contention is caused by jealousy, leading to the elopement of their wives; but it is a fact, worthy of being mentioned, that husbands are more frequently abandoned by their wives, than wives by their husbands.

Where women are held in no respect or esteem as moral agents, or partners of affection, on equal terms with each other, jealousy becomes an instrument of degradation and cruelty, which women in these countries are subjected to; and the punishments which supposed or suspected infidelity is visited with, are superstitious, savage, and severe. The ordeal of red water is employed before the priest, when a charge of infidelity is preferred by the husband. This red water is an infusion of the Melley, or Gris-gris tree, or of some poisonous berries. The priest then administers the oath of imprecation, which consists in the woman taking in her hand a calabash bowl of the red water, praying that the contents may prove fatal to her if she do not tell the truth. If she dies, her guilt is considered proved; if she survives, her innocence is at once established. Vomiting, purging, succeeded by collapse, the fore-runners of dissolution, are the effects of the sickening drafts of the red water. The barbarism and savage ferocity, interwoven, as it were, amongst all the judicial institutions of the natives of the tropics, may, in some measure, be traced to jealousy, suspicion, or quickened sensibility, disposing the mind to sudden emotions of anger, and recurring fits of irritability, which

also powerfully contributes to the prevailing practice of polygamy. Crimes are considered in a personal light, and not in relation to the interests of the community.

A recent writer observes, on cannibalism in Sierra Leone, a belief founded on a few weeks sojourn there, "The existence of cannibals in Africa has been disputed, "with scarcely a better reason, it appears to me, than "that of the old man Ansumana Camara, at Magbilly, "who maintained the utter impossibility of water becoming hard from cold, *because he had never seen it.*" Ansumana's disbelief, was but the ignorance of an uneducated man; the author's conclusion unfounded. A story, it appears, told him of a man at Regent Village, having pounced upon a townsman, killed him, and afterwards subsisted on the body, confirmed his belief in cannibalism. Certainly there is no such custom, nor did I ever hear of its ever having been practiced amongst the heterogenous assemblage of tribes in the colony, who form, as it were, an epitome of all the nations of the western coast of Africa.

A large proportion of the Liberated Africans, are remarkably dexterous in the art of purloining. The time selected to commit robbery, is more particularly during the heavy rains of a tornado, when a footstep is scarcely heard. When they proceed on a thieving expedition, they grease their skin, and being entirely naked, they generally slip through the fingers of any one laying hands upon them. The constables, however, appear to be more intent on the impounding of hogs, than in ferreting out thieves. They receive a small sum for every hog taken up prowling in the streets. The grass field, is the St. Giles' of Free Town.

Many of the Liberated Africans wear a long straight knife, hung in a sheath, on the right thigh, which serves for eating, cutting their way through the bush, or for defence.

The inhabitants of Free Town were much shocked, a few years ago, by the perpetration of a cool-blooded murder by a European, named Coulson. This adventurer, it appears, served with much credit, on board H. M. S. Bonita, and his nautical conduct and general deportment were so correct, that, in 1837, he was entrusted with the charge of the barque, "Augustus Cæsar," on her way to England. On his return to the colony, Coulson took a shop, and commenced retailing various articles, as butter, tobacco, spirits, &c. Unfortunately, however, he indulged too freely in the latter article, which gradually impaired his intellect, rendering him, at the same time, suspicious and gloomy, with violent bursts of passion. A young man, named Sacchi, a Soosoo, was his shopman at the time, and was suspected, not without some grounds, of covertly plundering his master, which the latter, on several occasions, taxed him with, causing many words between them. These bickerings, however, were but momentary, and did not lead to the removal of Sacchi from Coulson's employ, with whom he wished to continue, hoping, thereby, to get possession of the remainder of his benefactor's property. A desire of revenging these peculations, appears to have taken a strong hold of Coulson's mind; for early on a Sunday morning, while Sacchi was looking over the open piazza, Coulson stepped behind and shot him dead. It appeared from the evidence of a boy, the only person in the house at the time, but who was too much frightened to give any alarm, that the murderer then sat down on the floor and applied a pistol to his head, but the pistol not exploding, he rose up, and having deliberately hammered the flint, again sat down, and discharged the contents through his right temple. A verdict of *felo-de-se* was returned, although there was abundant evidence to prove, that Coulson had, for some time previous, laboured under mental derangement.

Murder is of not unfrequent occurrence among the Africans. A case of an atrocious nature occurred in July, 1839, and was the cause of a most serious riot.

A Maroon timber factor, named Jerrat, being in Ma-madebundahs territory, was murdered by an Eboe boy, his servant. It appears Jerrat had meddled with a young woman, to whom the lad was attached, who feeling much annoyed at his master's conduct, entered his apartments at an early hour, and with a gun, shot him dead, as he lay in bed. Intelligence of the murder being communicated to Jerrat's relations in Free Town, they obtained an interview with Governor Doherty, and urged the propriety of bringing the boy, a British subject, to justice. The Governor replied, that as the murder occurred beyond the colonial jurisdiction, he declined to interfere in the matter, but suggested that they could see the Chief of the country, Ali-Kurli, who doubtless would afford them justice, by trying the boy by the law of the country; this suggestion was immediately acted upon, the Maroons left the quay of Free Town, blowing their war conchs, in canoes, laden with presents for the chief, and were but too successful in gaining his consent, to the inhuman atrocities, which were forthwith perpetrated on the unfortunate young man.

On being delivered up to these miscreants, the Eboe was carried to a field near Farrudago, in the Quiah country, where he was fastened to a pole, and faggots set round his person, being well smeared with tar. Portions of his fingers, toes, ears and privities, were then severed from his body, and crammed down his throat. In this state they set fire to the faggots, and there left him in the agonies of the most horrible death. His skull was afterwards used as a drinking cup.

The Eboes throughout the colony were much excited,

on learning the fate of their countryman, and, assembling in a body, they marched into Free Town, determined on having revenge on the Maroons, the men shouting their war cries, the women tearing their hair, and rending the air with their wailings; the excitement was so great, that the military were ordered out, and communication was immediately made with the Commander of one of H. M. brigs, then lying in the harbour, to co-operate with the troops in suppressing any hostile movement. Accordingly, the brig was laid close in shore, and the sailors and marines turned out. The panic-struck Maroons, hid themselves where they best could; whilst some of the European merchants had cannons planted before their premises, to protect them. Fortunately, the rioters dispersed sooner than was anticipated. Some of the most active were apprehended and punished. One of the respectable Maroons of the Colony became so alarmed at these proceedings, that he resigned the situation of Coroner, and retired to the Bullom shore until the storm had blown over. Jerrat's brother was soon afterwards heard to say, that the poor Eboe lad ought not to have been put to the torture.

The Negroes, when fighting, butt with the head, and disable their antagonists by grasping and squeezing the genitals. The female, if struggling with the male, also practises this abominable plan of attack.

I recollect a person admitted to the Hospital, with the testicle hanging out of the scrotum, having been bitten, in a scuffle, by the husband with whose wife he had illicit intercourse.

Both rape and arson are of frequent occurrence among the Liberated Africans. Persons are often brought to the Police Office of Free Town, and to the Managers of the several Districts, accused of violating the persons

of children, of the early age of eight years, and cases have even occurred, where the child's age was not more than four or five years.

In consequence of general destructive fires, which occurred in Free Town, an order exists, forbidding grass thatching in Free Town; bamboo, or plated palm leaves (articles not readily combustible,) being substituted.

In May, 1840, an attempt was made to poison a gentleman holding an important official appointment. It appears that some arsenic had been carelessly left out, which had been employed in preserving specimens of Natural History. On the morning of the day the event occurred, Mr. T. had charged his house boy, an apprentice, with theft, the articles stolen being found in his chest. He was at the same time severely reprimanded for leaving the premises at night, which he was in the habit of doing. Much annoyed at his detection and exposure, the lad meditated revenge—which he carried out by mixing a large quantity of the above mentioned arsenic, in some pea soup that was preparing for dinner, shortly after partaking of it, Mr. T. and his housekeeper were both seized with vomiting; and medical aid being procured, every assistance was afforded to obviate the effects, and with success in the case of Mr. T. and his housekeeper; but the guilty boy died early the following morning; the cook and a Mozambique lad, also an apprentice, recovered but slowly. I may mention, that a short time afterwards, the legs and feet of one of the survivors became swollen, and covered with blotches and scabs. At the inquest, it was fully established, that the deceased had died in consequence of eating soup containing arsenic, which he had introduced to poison his master! A curious instance of negro drowsiness occurred at the inquest, the foreman of the jury falling asleep during the proceedings, for which conduct

he was justly censured by the coroner, who had awakened him by a smart tap on the face.

Capital punishment is of rare occurrence; the last took place in 1838.

Free Town Jail is a large building, situated at the west-end of the town, on the south branch of the debouchement of the Sierra Leone Estuary. It stands nearly in the centre of a very considerable yard, surrounded by a lofty white-washed wall. The lower, or basement story, is divided into twenty separate cells, for the reception of individuals about to be tried for heinous offences; part of the second story is set apart for debtors, and criminals charged with less guilty offences; the uppermost story is used as a civil, admiralty, and criminal court.

The jail allowance for Africans, is one quart of rice and a quarter of a gill of salt per diem. Europeans are allowed one pound of beef, and one of bread, or vegetables. It is the duty of the Colonial Chaplain to visit the jail, and to perform divine service on Sunday.

In 1838, a person, named Joseph, who had been condemned to banishment for life, for slave dealing, escaped from the jail. Joseph was remarkably mild in his demeanour, and in fact a very intelligent individual. After his conviction, his conduct was so correct, that he was permitted to walk freely along the galleries or passages leading to the different cells. Taking advantage of this privilege, he effected his escape over the wall, from the top of an out-house. The jailor and sub-jailor being suspected of conniving at the matter, were forthwith dismissed. Since that period, greater vigilance has been exercised to prevent the recurrence of a similar circumstance. Joseph had formerly been a servant of Governor Turner's. He is now, I believe, busily occupied at the Rio Pongos, in collecting slaves.

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On the eastern side, forming one side of the jail-yard, stands a large stone-built shed, which is used as an hospital, where there is good and sufficient accommodation for about twelve patients. The Colonial Surgeon visits regularly every morning, the jail and the two yards appropriated for the Liberated African labourers, and newly debarked slaves. After prescribing for those persons in hospital, or on the sick lists, the out-prisoners complaining of ailments are brought to be examined; and it is astonishing to observe how they attempt to impose on the medical officer by feigning illness, rendering it thereby difficult, in some cases, to distinguish between real and counterfeit. After this inspection of the sick in the Liberated African yard has taken place, the Surgeon numbers the party, and such of them as labour under serious affections, are sent for medical treatment, with an admission note to the accountant of Kissy Hospital. Similar notes are sent by the managers of the different villages to the same official, when any of the school children, or village paupers, of their stations, require removal into the hospital.

The Colonial Surgeon lays before the Governor, daily, weekly, and quarterly returns of the individuals under his medical care, either in the jail or yards. He makes his official visit every monday morning. He also grants medical sick-certificates to such of the civilian officers as may require them; no officer or juryman being permitted to be absent from his duties, unless on sick certificate from the Colonial Surgeon.

SLAVE TRADE.

THE following extract from a letter addressed to the Rev. Mr. DOVE, will serve to shew the present state of the odious Traffic in Slaves.

"The Gallinas has been destroyed, but still there have been 650 unfortunate Slaves shipped from thence, since the destruction of that place. According to Mr. Lawrence, Whydah contains 500 liberated people, and he urges its re-occupation, in order to afford these poor people protection. Its population is about 10,000, who are under the controul of the King of Dahomey;—Whydah being in the charge of the headman Jangrine; and the noted Slave dealer, Da Souza, resides there." He further, adds, "Whydah, is the central Slave point of the trade, in the Bight of Benin; Bassoa, and the Rio Pongos, to the north of the colony, are noted places for Slave-dealers." He then says, "I believe you will find no more of the Slave trade from the Gallinas, until you come to Otocco, on Cape St. Paul's, where a factory stands; thence to Arvey, thence to Quita, thence to Segru, thence to little Popo, which is a place of note; thence to Augua, and Great Popo, and thence to Whydah. This last is the most formidable place on the whole coast, and there are more Slaves shipped from it, than from any other that I am acquainted with."

Some of the clipper-built schooners and feluccas employed in the Slave-trade, are often sold with spars, canvass and rigging, for £200, at times, even below that sum. The first freight generally repays the purchase money.

According to Dr. Madden, "In the vessels having Slaves, which were adjudicated by the mixed commission

in 1838-39, the average proportion of male to female Slaves, was $21\frac{1}{8}$ to 1." The price of Slaves varies from £5 to £6 10s., but in the Rio Pongos, they often sell for 60 dollars, or £13. The wages of the seamen on board of the Slavers, are said to be in some cases even as much as £9 a month. Hence their indomitable cunning and perseverance.

The destruction of the Barracoons at the Gallinas,* as referred to in Mr. Lawrence's letter above quoted, is narrated as follows, in the *Friend of Africa*.—"Capt. Denman, of H. M. B. "*Wanderer*," being engaged in blockading the river, was informed that a Liberated African female and her child, were held in Slavery by the son of the King, in the river Gallinas; Capt. D. having demanded their restitution, they were given up. The King afterwards requested Capt. D.'s assistance to expel the Spanish, French, and Portuguese Slave Traders, who had become so powerful, that they overruled his authority. The required aid was given, and eight Slave Factories were burnt to the ground, the Slaves, amounting to 976, being delivered up for emancipation at Sierra Leone. The property destroyed, was said to amount to £200,000."

Since 1819, 59,331 Negroes have been emancipated. In 1840, 37,029 were living, viz:—males, 20,709; females, 16,320. According to the records of the Liberated African department, there were in 1840, 2,251 apprentices.

There can be no doubt that the Foulahs and Mandingoes do sometimes succeed, in kidnapping the Free Blacks of Sierra Leone. I recollect two boys in the hospital, both of whom were kidnapped from, re-captured, and re-taken to the colony. The following case will show the daring of such parties as pursue the system of kidnapping.

* The Gallinas is within 150 miles from Sierra Leone.

The island of Tombo, about 30 miles to the eastward of Free Town, and within the colonial jurisdiction, was visited at noon of the 23rd of May, 1840, by five canoes, full of armed men. It appears that a person named Brahminah, residing at Rosanks, near Medina, 30 miles above Tombo, had a debt due to him by a brother of one of the islanders, named Poh Soh, amounting to ten bars, the payment of which had been refused. Brahminah, therefore, determined to seize on the person of Poh Soh's sister, by name, Pulih, in which attempt he succeeded, in spite of Poh Soh's struggles to free his sister. They also carried off a young married woman twenty-five years of age, named Yah Betty.

It not unfrequently happens, that such Liberated Africans as have arrived together at Sierra Leone as Slaves, contract an eternal friendship, which is beautifully displayed in their coming from great distances to attend one another's funerals. This noble sentiment, developed under circumstances of the most intense misery, may be aptly illustrated, by comparing its growth to the oak, which strikes its roots more firmly into the soil, the more intense the shocks which it sustains.

The pictures of some Slave dealers in some recent novels, as Tom Cringle's Log, the Cruise of the Midge, &c., convey the idea, that a ferocity of character must be acquired while prosecuting this disgusting traffic, but many of those persons disclose to their poorer fellow-countrymen, feelings of kindness, which the scenes of misery ever before them would be supposed to obliterate.

KISSY HOSPITAL.

CHAPTER III.

HOSPITAL BUILDINGS.—Scenery—Cemetery—Lazaretto—Medical Superintendence—Tact of Liberated Africans—Persons admitted in Hospital—Victims to Fever—Cause of Mortality—Lodging-houses—Allowance to Patients—Returns—Difficulty presented to Medical officers—Slaves—Emaciated state of—Principal diseases treated—Small-pox—Africans not liable to protracted Fevers—Cases of Fever—Contagious nature of Fever—Queries on subject of contagion—Warburg's Fever Drops—Mercury, its use and abuse—Rheumatism—Dropsy—Splinitis—Paralytic affections—Ophthalmia—Syphilis—Scorbutic affections—Severe injuries—Man seized by Alligator—Krooman and Shark—Lethargus—Scrofula—Kra-Kra—Frambæsia—Yaws—Lepra—Elephantiasis—Enlargement of Scrotum—Gonorrhea—Noli me tangere—Witchcraft—Singular cutaneous affection—Guinea Worm—Professional opinion, case of *Dracunculus*—Europeans subject to Worms—Dry Belly-ache—Timneh remedy—Ulcers—Concluding notice.

THE buildings of the Upper Hospital, consist of a large house, nearly quadrangular in form, constructed of stone, with semi-circular additions at both ends; a male and female ward built from east to west; and a cooking house, together with quarters (now in progress of erection,) for the Hospital Accountant, Medical Attendant, and Matron. The male and female wards are long buildings, the former having a front piazza.

The back of the female ward looks into the yard appropriated for the unfortunate lunatics, who are confined in apartments on the basement floor, in which are separate cells for the male and female patients. Part of the centre buildings is generally set aside for sick destitute European seamen, and for the colonists.

These buildings are enclosed in an area of two hundred feet square, and are surrounded with a nicely white-washed wall, about 14 feet in height, and are capable of containing on mats, five hundred individuals.

The Lazaretto, or Lower Hospital, is built half-way up a projecting point of land. Its proximity to Free Town, the river, and sea districts, facilitates the conveyance of infirm and debilitated patients. The land immediately adjoining the Lower Hospital, is very partially cultivated: and is in part covered with bush, and a tall broad leaved-grass, called Elephant's-grass. A common of about two hundred acres, here stretches westward to Grenville Bay, and eastward towards the village of Wellington, intersected, however, by a ravine. On its eastern side there is a creek, where, on the reflux of the tide, a considerable quantity of clayey or slimy matters is deposited. At high water, when the tide rises from nine to twelve feet, Sharks, and occasionally Alligators, may be observed gambolling about. At low water, millions of crabs and other crustacea, with numberless blenies, cover the mud. A beautiful brook falls into this creek, whose precipitous banks are clothed with a variety of shrubs and plants.

At a short distance from the Lower Hospital, on the slope inclining towards the river, the humble village Cemetery is situated. A few of the Missionaries and their wives, with my friend and colleague, Dr. Alexander Stevenson, are here interred. The latter fell a victim to the climate, a few weeks after his arrival in the Colony. Side by side repose the ashes of the mixed Ethiopic races, mingling their dust with their slave-dealing oppressors; natives of Portugal, Spain, America, &c. A few monumental tablets, scattered amidst the rank grass and other vegetation, mark the resting place of many respectable

Europeans and Liberated Africans. This Cemetery is walled in.

On the promontory, and at the back of the Lower Hospital, there is a considerable space of unconsecrated ground, where such Pagan Liberated Africans as die in the Hospital, are interred. It is to be regretted, that this burial place is not walled in. These Pagans are interred without coffins.

The Lazaretto, or Lower Hospital, is surrounded by a wall about six feet in height; it is a stone building, erected from north to south. There is here a grass-house, for the reception of cases where the cure is tedious, and on the western bank of the creek, there stands another grass-house inhabited by a constable, to prevent the Hospital patients from being carried off to the opposite, or Bullom shore, and to examine every boat, or canoe, on their landing. There is also outside the Hospital wall, a wattled grass-house, for the reception of persons affected with small pox. The Lower Hospital, with wattled grass-houses, is capable of containing upwards of two hundred patients, but has been unoccupied since 1840, from the diminished number of patients.

The Hospitals are under the medical superintendence of the Colonial, and Assistant Colonial Surgeons. The Assistant Colonial Surgeons reside close to the Hospital. They inspect the Government School children medically every month, and are subject to give evidence on all inquests.* There is an Hospital Accountant and Assistant

* Inquests are frequently held on the bodies of poor destitute sick liberated Africans, who often stray into the bush, or expire by the waysides. In 1837, a poor wandering creature thus situated, expired in my kitchen, no person being aware of the circumstance, till the following morning, when the body was found. In 1838, I was called upon by the manager of the first-eastern district, to examine the bodies of three individuals, who had been dead some time, at Hastings, Rokelle and Waterloo, the two latter having died in the open air.

Clerk attached to the establishment, who furnish the Government, through the Colonial Surgeon, with the daily, and monthly casualties. The enumeration of the patients, both by the Accountant and Apothecary, daily, and by the Assistant Surgeons three times a week, is an important part of their duty. The Accountant transmits daily to the Liberated African branch of the Commissioners, a detailed account of the number of men, women, boys and girls from the several villages, with an abstract of the amount of provisions necessary. This document shows the number of individuals on Government allowance as school children, and indigent or paupers; the fact of many of the patients endeavouring to escape from the Hospital, renders their *daily enumeration of the utmost importance*.^a The Assistant Surgeons also furnish daily, monthly, quarterly, and yearly returns of all cases treated in the Hospital. A quarterly and half yearly board, is held on all Hospital Accounts. The Medical Attendant or Hospital Apothecary, (together with the Dressers and Hospital Apprentices,) accompanies the Surgeon at the visit hour, compounds the medicines, and enforces cleanliness. These latter are mostly Liberated Africans, and it is astonishing how soon these partially educated individuals become acquainted with the compounding and dispensing of medicine, and the great tact which they discover in the proper application of bandages, &c. The duties of Dressers, Matrons, Gatekeepers and Labourers, are too obvious to require any description. During the day, the Assistant Surgeons are generally consulted by numbers of the villagers. The Europeans admitted to the Hospital, are destitute British and Foreign Seamen. Many of these people were admitted during the rains of 1839, and the

^a There was no Junior Assistant Surgeon till January, 1842, Mr. Stevenson having died in 1841.

dry season of 1840. The foreigners are generally natives of Spain, Portugal, France, America, Italy, Denmark, &c. I have also seen Lascars, and the race called Manilla men, and, in one instance, a true Asiatic Tartar.

The Africans who have been under medical treatment at Kissy Hospital, belong to the several following nations :—

Foulah.	Mandingo.	Kroo.
Akoo.	Callabar.	Eboe.
Popo or Mahae.	Appa.	Timneh.
Kussoh.	Sherbro or Bullom.	Benin.
Housa or Ahgarrah.	Moco.	Soosoo.
Joloff or Felops.	Kakunda.	Tapuah.
Madagascar.	Mozambique or Yambang.	Bakonkoh.
Bambarra.	Kissie,	Bassa.
Congo.	Coromantin.	Fantee.
Attam.	Ashantee.	Pessah.

The Liberated African is prone to change his name, and consequently every patient admitted into the Hospital, has a tin ticket suspended from the neck; on which is stamped a number corresponding to that in the Hospital admission book. Among other regulations, no person is permitted to visit the sick, without an order from one of the Surgeons.

The inferior class of British merchant seamen, who arrive in this Colony, fall victims, in great numbers, to fever, often brought on from gross indulgence in ardent spirits. A recent writer on the diseases of this Colony affirms, that the water drinker is as much exposed to fever, as the person who uses spirits; his words being, "However much the assertion may be at variance with the conclusion arrived at, by some other writers and observers, it may be confidently stated, that the abso-lute water drinker is in as dangerous a predicament,

"when once seized with fever, as is the absolute drunkard." This is an extreme opinion, but I must admit, that the temperate use of vinous and malt liquors are beneficial, and *that even the moderate use of spirits* is not so injurious, as has been sometimes represented. The high price of ale and wine, however, limits their consumption among the seamen and others prone to the intemperate use of ardent spirits. The opinion that persons addicted to drunkenness frequently resist fever, is very questionable, but once a drunkard is attacked by it, there is little chance of his recovery. The opinion quoted, moreover, has not been confirmed by my own experience, and I find its accuracy also questioned, by an eminent authority on tropical climates, Dr. James Johnson, but still it is astonishing how many drunkards escape fever. Dr. Ferguson, in his reply to Dr. Madden's query, "Are the deaths very frequent from Delirium Tremens," says, "I never knew a case among the native population during the last eleven years. I have seen nine fatal cases among Europeans."

I recollect the master of one of the timber vessels, in 1840, being nailed to the flooring (through his clothes,) by his drunken companions while in a state of intoxication. This man proceeded the following day to his vessel, was attacked with fever, and in a few days was a corpse.

The employing Kroomen, or Liberated Africans *solely*, in the stowing of timber in the rivers, would lead to the annual saving of the lives of great numbers of merchant seamen, who are there generally seized with fever. The facility afforded to European merchant seamen of indulgence in drunkenness will be apparent, when it is known, that those persons keep up their debaucheries to a late hour, when the heavy dews and vapours are most abundant, and when the partial collapse

succeeding the carousal has supervened. The men but follow the example too often set them by their masters, in leaving the ship. They take every opportunity of doing so. Another great cause of the mortality among the merchant seamen, arises from the want of a merchant seamen's Hospital in Free Town, for that class of men; Kissy Hospital, being at too great a distance, to admit of the conveyance to it of individuals labouring under acute fever. The rates of attendance established in lodging houses are also much complained of; for example, a seaman is charged four shillings and four-pence per day; a mate six shillings and sixpence, and the master eight shillings and eight-pence. It would be expected, that a corresponding attention would be given to the patients' comfort, but the contrary is notoriously the fact; and I am sure this statement can, if necessary, be corroborated by any or all of the medical gentlemen, who have been painful witnesses of the reckless indifference of lodging house keepers, towards their patients' welfare. In 1839, Mr. A. Ray, bequeathed five hundred pounds towards the erection of a suitable building in Free Town, for a Merchant Seamen's Hospital, but this sum is insufficient, if otherwise unaided.

The Europeans arrive at the Hospital in the advanced stage of remittent and intermittent fevers; whilst the natives of India, and its Archipelago, are rarely affected with the former on this coast; they in general suffer more from the aguish paroxysms. The Colonial Surgeon, Mr. Aitken says, in his reply to Commissioner Madden—"Of sixty-one cases of fever of Europeans, of all classes, "attacked with fever, between the 1st of January, and 30th "June, 1840, sixteen have died." Dr. Madden, however, is of opinion, "that if all the deaths were stated, that occurred in the period of convalescence, within six months

“after the period specified among those who were attacked between January and the 30th of June, 1840, and who went away apparently convalescent, the mortality would have amounted to fifty per cent.” Mr. Aitken in his replies to Dr. Madden, says, *“that out of 83 European residents, 12 died in the year 1840, 10 of bilious remittent fever, one of interitis, and one of mania; seven between the ages of 20 and 30, two between the ages of 30 and 40, and three from 40 to 50. He considers the proportion of deaths of persons under 40 years of age, to the whole number of fatal events, as three to one.”*

Each patient at Kissy Hospital, was formerly allowed two-pence per day, but on account of the increased price of provisions, the allowance was raised to three-pence, which is expended by the Liberated African department in purchasing rice, palm-oil, salt, beef and vegetables. In this three-pence, are not included wine, sugar, and arrow root. Excellent soup is made from the beef, thickened with the leaves of the coco, or jamia and other greens, to which palm oil, salt, and capsicum peppers are added. This soup is poured over either the yams, cassada, rice, cocoas or foofoo, as one or other of these articles may, for the time, be the diet, into mess kits, capable of containing a portion sufficient for five individuals. This mess is eaten by taking it up with the hand in small portions, and is, in fact, palaver sauce.

The Hospital scale of diet is:—

Rice	$\frac{1}{2}$ a pint.
Palm oil	$\frac{1}{4}$ of a gill.
Salt	$\frac{1}{4}$ of an ounce.
Beef	$\frac{1}{4}$ of a pound.
Vegetables	1 pound.

The allowance of wine is one gill, of arrow root two ounces, to such of the patients as the Surgeon, in his judgment, may order these extras. The wine is furnished

to the Hospital, at the contract price of five shillings per gallon. The expenditure incurred in dieting distressed European seamen, is limited to one shilling per diem, unless circumstances should render it necessary to exceed this sum, when an explanatory report of the circumstance must accompany the monthly account of expenditure. The diet as laid down in the Hospital scale for natives, is exceedingly well adapted for the purpose. The surgeon being allowed to vary it, provided the stipulated sum of three-pence is not exceeded. Fire-wood is also supplied to the Hospital by contract.

The average number of patients in Kissy Hospital, from 1837 to 1840, was five hundred, the maximum 750, in 1837. In 1841 and 1842, the average was 150. Sub-joined are returns of patients admitted into the Hospital during the years 1838,—39,—40 and 41.

Return of casualties in Kissy Hospital, from the 1st of January to 31st of December, 1838.

Description.	Admitted.	Deaths.	Discharged.
Men	1,024	652	475
Women	194	133	80
Boys	1,019	439	491
Girls	507	285	218
Totals	2,744	1,509	1,264

Return of patients admitted into Kissy Hospital, during the year 1839.

Quarters.	Admitted.	Died.
1st Quarter	577	419
2nd ditto	735	270
3rd ditto	1,008	374
4th ditto	453	72
Totals	2,773	1,635

Yearly Return of Cases treated in Kissy Hospital, from 31st of December, 1840, to 31st December, 1841.

Classification.	Specific diseases.	Remained on 31st December, 1840.	Admitted.	Total Treated.	Recovered.	Died.	Absconded.	Remained on 31st December, 1841.	Remarks.
Fevers.	Intermittent Fever	"	27	30	23	7	"	"	
	Remittent Fever	"	27	28	10	18	"	"	
	Measles	"	2	2	1	"	"	1	
Diseases of the Lungs.	Pleurisy	2	28	30	17	11	"	2	
	Inflammation of Windpipe	"	1	1	1	"	"	"	
	Spitting of Blood	"	1	1	1	"	"	"	
	Cough	"	9	9	6	3	"	"	
	Consumption	"	6	6	4	2	"	"	

Dysentery.	44	161	205	70	125	10
Diarrhoea	27	112	139	93	44	2
Mal d'estomac	"	1	1	"	1	"
Dry Belly Ache	"	1	1	"	1	"
Constipation	"	1	1	"	1	"
Worms.	"	3	3	2	1	"
Palsy	1	9	10	1	9	"
Epilepsy	2	8	10	2	4	4
Mania	11	20	31	10	9	12
Concussion	"	1	1	"	1	"
Ascites, Anasarca	28	216	244	80	159	4
Jaundice.	"	1	1	1	"	1
Syphilis	3	16	19	11	7	"
Gonorrhæa	1	7	8	6	2 ^a	1
Ulcer	67	237	306	198	61	"
Rheumatism	3	25	28	20	7	47
Wounds	2	3	5	4	1	1
Splenitis	"	2	2	2	"	"
Contusion	"	3	3	3	"	"
Scrofula	7	14	21	13	3	5
All other Diseases.						"

^a These individuals though entered on the Hospital books died of bowel complaints.

Yearly Return of Cases treated in Kissy Hospital, from 31st of December, 1840, to 31st December, 1841.

Classification.	Specific diseases.	Remained on 31st December, 1840.	Admitted.	Total Treated.	Recovered.	Died.	Absconded.	Remained on 31st December, 1841.	Remarks.
All other Diseases.	Lepra.	5	29	34	25	7	"	2	
	Dracunculus	1	"	1	1	"	"	"	
	Framboesia.	16	100	116	70	8	"	38	
	Noli Me Tangere	3	5	8	5	1	"	2	
	Kru Kru	6	22	28	18	9	"	1	
	Debility.	10	17	27	19	8	"	"	
	Caries.	2	3	5	4	"	"	1	
	Prolapsus Ani.	1	"	1	"	1	"	"	Died of dysentery.
	Ichthyosis	1	"	1	"	1	"	"	

All other Diseases.

	4	6	10	5	4	1	Died of Pulmonic disease.
Emaciation	4	10	5	4	1	1
Ophthalmia	2	5	3	1	"	1
Abscess	1	4	3	1	"	"
Hernia Scrotal	"	1	1	1	"	"
Amaurosis	"	1	1	"	"	"
Tumour	"	1	1	"	"	"
Injury	"	1	1	"	"	"
Toothache	"	1	1	"	"	"
Fracture	"	5	3	1	"	"
Deafness	"	1	1	"	"	"
Hydrarthrus	"	1	1	"	"	"
Cynanche Tons.	"	1	1	1	"	"
Amenorrhœa	"	2	2	"	"	"
Ambustio	"	3	2	1	"	"
Retention of Urine	"	2	2	"	"	"
Caligo	"	3	3	"	"	"
Gangrena Sensilis	"	1	1	1	"	"
Incont. of Urine	"	2	"	2	"	"
Total.	256	1181	1437	753	541	1	142

Before entering upon a notice of the diseases treated in these large Hospitals, it is well to remark, that nine tenths of the patients, (recently captured slaves and pauper^a colonists,) arrive in the last stage of exhaustion ; many from the villages even expire on their way. It is a fact, well known to all conversant with the African character, that they are averse to having recourse to European methods of treatment, until they have tried all the native remedies with which they are acquainted ; consequently their diseases have, previous to coming under the Surgeon's notice, assumed a serious and often chronic character. There is also a great difficulty presented to the medical officers, in the almost total impossibility of arriving at a true diagnosis of the case, from the very imperfect information they are able to obtain.

Great numbers of individuals landed from the slave vessels, arrive at the Hospital so deplorably emaciated, that the skin appears to be tensely stretched over, and tied down to the skeleton. The expression of the countenance indicates suffering, moral and physical, of the most profound and agonizing nature. Occasionally, among the newly arrived group, all sense of suffering is found to be merged in melancholic or raving madness. The wizened, shrunk, and skinny features, are lighted up by the hollow, jetty, and sparkling eye. The belly is as it were tacked to the back, whilst the hip bones protrude, and give rise to foul sloughing and phagedenic ulcers. The hand and skinny fingers seem much elongated, by the great and neglected growth of the nails, which in such cases resemble talons. The squalor, and extreme wretch-

^a Pauper Liberated African Colonists, disabled by disease, or accident, receive from the government five shillings per month, on obtaining a medical certificate from the Assistant Colonial Surgeon, confirmed by the Colonial Surgeon, and approved of by the Governor.

edness of the figure, is heightened in many cases, by the party-coloured evacuations with which the body is besmeared. The legs refuse to perform their functions, and with difficulty support the emaciated, tottering and debilitated body. Many of them labour under extensive gangrenous ulcerations, situated on the extremities, often detaching the soft parts from the bones, which becoming carious, are exfoliated. This truly pitiable state of the newly arrived Liberated African, must have been observed by every member of the profession, who has had any opportunity of seeing them.

The principal diseases treated at Kissy Hospital, are dropsical,^a dysenteric, pulmonic, and rheumatic complaints of long standing, and of the most intractable nature, with inveterate cutaneous affections often complicated together at one and the same time, in the same individual. The contagious disease, small-pox, often commits great ravages amongst the Liberated Africans, who are particularly obnoxious to this complaint. In 1837 and 1839, this scourge raged with much virulence in the Colony. Unfortunately, vaccination, the best preventative of small-pox, often fails in Sierra Leone, either from the lymph being destroyed by climate, or some other unascertained cause. Crusts or bulbs are found to succeed best. If the medical officer does, however, succeed, difficulty is experienced in inducing the parents to return with the successful cases, in order to propagate the conservative remedy amongst their friends. I recollect the case of a gentleman's child, where three medical gentlemen, on three different occasions, failed to produce the vaccine pustule, although every possible precaution was

^a The term *Pourah Pourah*, as used by the Liberated Africans, signifies bowel complaints.

adopted. In 1837, I and another individual, vaccinated, without success, sixty children stationed at Hastings.

The Liberated African lubricates the body of the patient labouring under small-pox, with palm or nut oil, the patient nestling close to the fire, which is always kept burning, during the progress of the complaint. The eyes are very frequently attacked, and blindness is often the result of their improper treatment. A strict cordon is enforced whenever this disease prevails.

The Africans, like the other dark races of man, indeed the whole coloured population, are not liable to the infection of remittent and yellow fevers. In them, the stage of fever is of short duration, whilst the second stage terminates, generally, in discharges from the skin or bowels. I have heard of negroes taking yellow fever, but I never saw it, nor have I met with any of my medical brethren on the coast, who could point out a genuine case as having occurred amongst them, in their practice. It is a curious circumstance, that yellow fever and small-pox prevailed at the same time, both in 1837 and 1839, the latter preceding, accompanying, and disappearing nearly at the same time as the former. "In November, 1838, Lieutenant Kellett, of H. M. S. Brisk, entered the River Pongos, at 6 o'Clock, P. M., with two boats containing twenty-two European men, and returned to his vessel, which had previously been quite healthy, by ten o'Clock the next night. On his return, sixteen men were attacked with fever; seven died, and several remained unfit for duty. *Of six Kroomen employed in the boats, not one was attacked.*"

Those medical gentlemen whose opportunities of seeing fever in this colony have enabled them to judge, are severally of opinion, that fever when epidemic, is highly contagious, and susceptible of being conveyed from one

person to another; and from one settlement to another. The question of yellow fever being contagious, has been necessarily, from its great magnitude and importance, so often discussed, by some of the most talented professional men, that any attempt to grapple with this subject here, would not aid in dispelling the uncertainty which surrounds it. I apprehend, however, there can be little doubt of the capability of fever being excited, in persons exposed to the concentrated exhalations of the malarious gasses emitted from putrescent vegetable matters collected in ravines and swamps, attached to the Mangroves, or generated in ill-ventilated sick chambers.

The following queries and answers extracted from Dr. Madden's report respecting fever, will show the opinions entertained by two medical gentlemen of great experience, on the subject of contagion.

Query.—Are they thought to be contagious?

A.—Dr. Fergusson, (18 years resident at Sierra Leone.) Not the endemic diseases; I believe, however, that the yellow fever is susceptible of being conveyed from one person to another, and from one settlement to another, and that it has been so conveyed on several occasions.

A.—Dr. Aitken, (ten years resident at Sierra Leone.) When epidemic, highly contagious.

Query.—Is it believed that the miasma could lie dormant in the clothes or effects of such persons, and, at the end of that period, break out in fever?

A.—Dr. Fergusson. No data whereon to form an opinion as to this.

A.—Dr. Aitken. Yes.

Query.—Is it found that the separation of the sick from the sound, tends to prevent the fever, or dysentery from spreading?

A.—Dr. Fergusson.—As a general principle, such a

separation is always practised, when practicable. I cannot affirm, however, from observation, that it has prevented the spreading of fever or dysentery.

A.—Dr. Aitken. Yes.

Query.—Are there any particular periods at which fever is more virulent than others?

A.—Dr. Fergusson. Yellow fever is always more virulent than the common, endemical remittent, but I have not observed any particular periods at which the endemical disease is more virulent than at others.

A.—Dr. Aitken. Yes.

Query.—Is it more virulent at the commencement of the sickly season, than towards the end of it?

A.—Dr. Fergusson. No.

A.—Dr. Aitken. At the commencement.

Query.—Is it more virulent when southerly and easterly winds prevail?*

A.—Dr. Fergusson. Not that I have observed.

A.—Dr. Aitken. Yes.

Query.—Is it more fatal amongst persons in early life, than amongst those advanced in years?

A.—Dr. Fergusson. Not that I have observed.

A.—Dr. Aitken. On those advanced in life.

Query.—Is it more fatal amongst persons of intemperate habits than others?

A.—Dr. Fergusson. Not that I have observed. It is truly astonishing how drunkards escape.

A.—Dr. Aitken. Yes.

The empirical remedy, Warburgh's fever drops, were tried in the epidemic fevers which prevailed, in 1839, and 1840, but failed to allay the vomiting, so dangerous a

* During the epidemic in 1840, the winds blew in the morning—east south east; after sunset, from the east; major part of the day, from north west to west.

symptom of yellow fever, or to produce the slightest alleviation of the other distressing symptoms. In ague, however, it has occasionally given relief, but it seems to have utterly failed in yellow or remittent fevers; at least, in the colony of Sierra Leone, it has been totally inefficacious. Creosote has also been applied over the stomach, when formed into an external ointment, and was administered internally, but without any benefit. The judicious use of mercury has not been over-rated, and fully justifies the adage, *Quod mercurius non sanat est incurabile*.—I repeat the *judicious use* of mercury, for if indiscriminately continued, without reference to symptoms in every stage of the disease, and merely to salivate the patient, it not unfrequently causes such rapid depression of the powers of life, that it often defies every effort used to rally the sinking constitution. Experience has proved, that an early salivation is an unfavourable symptom, but if the patient is not salivated by the seventh day, great danger may be apprehended; for it has been observed, that the critical days, as to the fate of the patient, are the third, the fifth, the seventh, and the ninth. If there be no appearance of salivation on the eighth or ninth day, but little hope can be entertained either of its occurring, or of the patient's recovery. Although mercury is the chief remedy in the bilious remittent fevers of this colony, it is not alone to be depended on. The application of leeches to the head, blisters over the stomach, to nape of neck, or calves of the legs, mustard cataplasms, the warm bath, &c., according to circumstances, are powerful auxiliary remedies. The mild purgative castor-oil (if the bowels, as generally happens, are constipated,) is to be assisted by enemata at short intervals, and they are never to be neglected. If, however, the evacuations are scanty, and of an unsatisfactory character—croton oil is to be combined with

calomel, and the compound extract of colocynth or castor-oil, continuing the glysters, and inunction of the mercurial ointment, but intermitting the internal use of the mineral. Vomiting and thirst, may be, in some degree, alleviated by the free use of saline draughts, the effervescence being allowed to subside. Sponging the face, hands, and feet, with vinegar and cold water, or lime juice and water, during the paroxysms of fever, is found to be exceedingly refreshing. Bleeding is never practised but in the early stage of fever, and then only in the case of plethoric individuals recently from Europe. Although I advocate the use of mercury in the treatment of remittent fevers at Sierra Leone, I feel bound to admit that this remedy, though necessary to the preservation of life, yet bequeaths the patient, as a legacy, a pre-disposition to liver and spleen affections, with a long train of dyspeptic complaints, not to mention carious teeth, &c. Fortunate and rare indeed is the case of the patient, who feels he has sustained no injury from the thorough saturation he has undergone, in endeavouring to save his life by the use of mercury.

Europeans long resident on the coast, are liable to attacks of the harrassing complaint rheumatism, more especially during the prevalence of the harmattan winds. Among the natives, chimpanzie fat and bones are much esteemed as a remedy, the former they use as an emollient.

It will be observed in the return, that cases of mania and epilepsy, were frequent subjects of treatment; dyspepsia, though not there enumerated, is very common. If any pre-disposition to those complaints exist in the constitution, it becomes much increased by the acquired constitutional irritability and debility, the result of a residence on the western coast of Africa. This susceptibility is readily produced by mental inquietude.

The European residents suffer much from spasmodic cramps of the lower extremities. This most painful affection, is generally induced by the lodgement of acrid bilious, or other irritating matters; the remedy being simply their dislodgement. The secretions, particularly that of the perspiration of Europeans on the coast, becomes very acrid, so much so, that the odour is easily detected.

Dropsical effusions are of frequent occurrence amongst the Liberated Africans, and generally succeed to the severe dysenteric purging. Their constitutions are so shattered by the barbarous treatment they receive when penned up in the Barracoons, or nearly suffocated on board the slave vessels, (many individuals indeed have been known to be stifled,) that a tendency to pulmonic, bowel complaints, and dropsies is then formed, which is easily excited by very trivial causes; and thus they experience, during life, the effects of the cruel treatment received in the slaver. I may here further observe, that they do not well bear the operation of tapping. In forty eight cases in which it was performed, only two recovered, being one twenty fourth of the number operated on. I have almost invariably observed, that the Liberated African women and children, brought to Sierra Leone, are comparatively stronger and less shattered. This arises from the close confinement to which the adult male slaves are subjected.

Splenitis, called by the Liberated Africans "Fever Cake," generally succeeds repeated attacks of intermittent fever, and, in the case of Europeans, requires change of climate for its removal. Croton oil is the best counter-irritant in this disease. All classes of the colonists are liable to its attacks. In some cases, hæmorrhage from the nose is one of the symptoms.

Paralytic affections often succeed an apoplectic attack, to both of which complaints the Africans are very subject, and the latter is rarely shaken off during the individual's life-time.

Ophthalmia and *paralytic* complaints, with chronic inflammation of the membranes of the nose and mouth, are of frequent occurrence in Free Town Jail.

Syphilitic disorders are of frequent occurrence, although denied by a recent writer, who observes "At Sierra Leone, the Colonial Surgeon only met with two cases which he pronounced to be, and treated as syphilis, during a period of four years."—In a period a little longer, five years and some months, very many cases of syphilis fell under my observation at Kissy Hospital.

Exomphalos, or Umbilical Hernia. Every third or fourth of the children one sees running about, is affected with this protrusion, which is esteemed by the Liberated Africans, rather as an ornament, than as a deformity.

Obstructed Menstruation is rather a common complaint, the word "*Foot*," or "*Footing*," is the term used by the negroes to signify this condition of the female.

To tooth-ache the negro is very subject, and also to Erisipelatous inflammation.

To *Scorbutic affections of the gums, and relaxed Uvula*, the Liberated Africans are very subject. To cure the latter, they tie up a small bunch of hair on the top of the head into a *toupet*, which gives the sufferer a grotesque appearance. Polypus of the nose is a rather frequent disease.

Very severe injuries, as gun-shot, lacerated and incised wounds are occasionally subjects of treatment. Many persons in attempting to pilfer from their neighbours, are severely chopped by the cutlass. Gunshot wounds received in bush fighting, are more dangerous from the

projectiles being jagged, as pieces of old iron, broken pots, &c. Many cases occur of laceration of the perineum, with complicated recto-vesical fistulæ.

The following cases will exemplify the severe injuries, occasionally subjects of treatment.

On the 8th May, 1839, an individual named John Williams, was brought to Kissy Hospital, from the village of Hastings, having been seized by an enormous alligator, whilst collecting mangrove oysters. The integuments of the lower third of the anterior, and external aspects of the thigh, were lacerated to the extent of seven inches; the ragged wound running spirally round the limb, deeply dividing the muscles of the thigh, and exposing the tendinous sheaths of those of the ham. The reptile had evidently seized two or three times, as the thigh and left hip were much torn into denticulated wounds. There was but little hæmorrhage. Every assistance was afforded the unfortunate man, but he was attacked with tetanus, which cut him off at noon of the 9th, thirty-hours after the reception of the injury.

Another case was that of a fine athletic Krooman, by name "Bottle-of-Brandy," about 19 years of age, employed in loading the barque, Jane, with timber. Whilst carelessly dangling his legs over a raft fastened to the vessel, a shark seized his left leg at its lower third, fracturing the bones, and mangling the soft structures, exposing the tendons. The monster endeavoured to drag his victim off the raft, and partially succeeded; the latter, however, held by the raft, loudly crying for assistance, and trying to shake off his powerful antagonist; but whilst clambering upon the raft, the fish, relinquishing the left limb, seized the right foot, which it abruptly divided across the instep. At the time the accident occurred, (noon,) the men were off work, dozing, and the master was unwell in

the cabin. On being lifted into the vessel, every assistance was afforded the sufferer, and he was conveyed to the Hospital at Kissy, in an almost collapsed condition. There was but little hæmorrhage from the wounds, the coats of the vessels having been so much ruptured, as to prevent it. On the following day, the right leg was amputated below the knee. He bore the operation almost without a murmur, and was recovering from the effects of the wounds and amputation, when he was attacked with dysenteric purging, which cut him off in six weeks from the date of his admission into the Hospital. From the want of success in the case just narrated, it is not to be inferred, that surgical operations performed at Sierra Leone, are generally so. Many successful cases occurred of capital operations, which fell under my care.

I will conclude the medical portion of this work, with a short notice of Lethargus and other diseases. The Liberated Africans, and other African inhabitants of this Colony, are very subject to a fatal Lethargic drowsiness, which makes its approaches very insidiously, but at length attracts the notice of the individuals with whom the patient associates.

The attention of the medical profession, was, I believe, first directed by Dr. Winterbottom, to the frequency, and often fatal termination, of this disease, but the description given in his work, both of the symptoms and treatment, is much too meager for practical purposes.

Dr. Mason Good, in his work upon the study of medicine, has placed this disease among the class, *Neurotica*, but as developed in the cases which have come under my notice, I submit, that it may be classed under the variety, *Cataphora*, or short remissive Lethargy. The person affected with this disease, is observed to become fat. The appetite generally in the first stage is keen, but

after the disease has existed for some time, it declines, and towards the latter stages, the patient becomes emaciated. The tendency to stupor is so uncontrovertible, that the patient falls asleep even while eating.

It is, however, a curious fact, that many individuals affected with this complaint, do not sleep well during the night, although exposure to the noon day glare and heat, immediately produces deep Lethargic sleep. Squinting, convulsions, with a tumefied condition of the glands of the neck, are sometimes present. Partial deafness, with paralytic tremour, and a shuffling and unsteady gait, are almost invariable symptoms. The skin feels sometimes like slightly moist earth. In some cases, I have observed enlargement of the head. The Africans call the disease, the "Sleepy Dropsy," and administer for its removal, drastic purgatives, and sudorific medicines.

Among the various causes of Lethargus, are lost balance of the circulation, depressing mental emotions (as Nostalgia,) severe bodily labour, unwholesome scanty diet, functural derangement of the nervous system, producing insufficient action or energy to resist the approach of sleep, even without its concomitant exciting causes, &c. One perhaps of the most common causes, is exposure to an attack of *Coup de Soliel*.

It may be observed that when Lethargus is once fairly developed, no known remedy is available, in preventing a fatal termination. Dr. Winterbottom observes, that the slaves from the bight of Benin, are those most subject to this disease, and that it prevails much among the Foulahs. I have observed it also to be equally prevalent among several other tribes, inhabiting parts of the continent far inland, and several cases have likewise occurred among the Creole inhabitants of the Colony. For further information respecting the disease Lethargus, and

treatment of cases, I must refer the reader to a contribution of mine in the London Medical Gazette, of the 18th September, 1840.

Scrofulous affections of the skin are very common. Enlargements of the glands of the neck are frequent, and occasionally cases of goitre present themselves.

Kru Kru. This disease is characterized by an eruption which first appears in small pustules between the fingers, on the wrists, arms, hams, legs and feet; these pustules becoming confluent, are ultimately spread over the body. It, however, sometimes occurs in separate patches on the neck, breast, back and hips, &c., when it is known among the Liberated Africans, by the term Krooman's Kru Kru. The itching and irritability are very great, which might be expected in a climate where so many debilitating causes exist. Yaws are often associated with this complaint, and it is worthy of observation, that Leprotic disease not unfrequently follows a severe attack of Yaws. Kru Kru occasionally occurs, in the persons of Europeans.

Frambæsia or Yaws, are too well known to require more than a brief sketch of their appearance. Yaws are elevated excrescences resembling the raspberry in shape, occasionally appearing in continuous clusters about the arm-pits, arms, groins, anus, face and eyelids, and discharging a thin corrosive ichor. I have sometimes noticed this complaint to appear over the body, in the form of millet-like granules. Those warty excrescences drop off, whilst fresh crops push forward. No acute pain is felt from these tumours, unless pressed upon, as occurs when the soles of the feet are attacked. The ulcerated yaw is called the mother yaw, often spreading out, and becoming extensive, with bleeding, deeply excavated, jagged edges. The cuticle of such yaws as are situated

on the soles of the feet, are often of a bluish colour. Symptoms simulating Rheumatism, with fever, usher in an attack of yaws. Yaws and Sibens, or Sivens, have many characters in common.

Lepra appears generally in brownish blotches scattered over the body, covered with furfuraceous deposits; gradually mis-shapen lobulated tumours appear on the nose and ears; the eye-brows become thickened, the conjunctival lining rheumy, vision is impaired, and occasionally destroyed, whilst the eyes look muddled. The toes and soles of the feet become ulcerated by the corrosive serous fluid discharged, the former dropping off, year after year, whilst the latter are gouged into deep fissures and furrows, or scooped out into ugly sores. The nails become brittle, and split up, in some cases falling off. Defoedations are exuded from the cuticle, ulcers appearing after slightly scratching the pimples, which are occasionally very numerous on the body. The generative organs are in most cases shrunk, whilst the mammary and groin glands, become very protuberant. The uvula, tonsils and fauces become thickened; the patient's voice being generally very ropy, tongue sometimes ulcerated. The constitutional symptoms are foetid breath, and other dyspeptic affections. The leper is generally believed to be very salacious, but from all I could learn, and judging from what I have seen, impotence is rather common amongst them; nevertheless, persons affected with leprosy intermarry. This horrible disease frequently occurs in debilitated persons of both sexes, even at the early age of eight years. It is hereditary, but can be communicated by inoculation. During its progress, the patient greedily devours large quantities of food, reposing after meals like a gorged snake. The mental powers are much weakened.

Elephantiasis. I subjoin the following admeasure-

H

ments of the limbs of a man named Acho, 20 years of age, affected with Elephantiasis.

Right Leg.	Dimensions		Left Leg.	Dimensions	
	Feet	Inch		Feet	Inch
Circumference of the Leg at the calf	1	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	Circumference of the calf	1	3
At the ankles	1	1	At the ankles	1	4
Including heel and toes	2	2	Around instep	1	5
			Including heel	2	3
			Toes of this foot destroyed by less ulceration.		

In the year 1838, a man of the Appuh nation, named Commodoh, about 45 years of age, and a lunatic, was under my care, affected with an enlargement of the scrotum. His mental disease did not permit me to ascertain how long it had existed. The tumour depended within a few inches of the knees. The penis was concealed in the skin of the scrotum, the spermatic cords were normal; the testes were of natural size, and were felt at the upper part of the tumour close to its neck; the skin of the lower third, and base of the tumour, was deeply rugous and tuberculated. Commodoh suffered no other inconvenience, save from its bulk. The following were the dimensions :—

	Feet	Inch
Neck of Tumour, greatest circumference	„	13
From pubis along anterior and posterior raphe	2	„
Circumference of Tumour opposite penis . .	„	19 $\frac{1}{8}$
Greatest circumference of Tumour	„	20 $\frac{1}{4}$
Weight of Tumour 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.		

Gonorrhea frequently baffles the ordinary treatment,

and a troublesome gleet often remains. In such cases, the liberal use of palm wine is found exceedingly beneficial.

Query.—Is the benefit derived, to be ascribed to its terebinthinate properties? A decoction of the cola leaves is also said to be highly beneficial in such cases, but I cannot speak from professional experience of its virtues.

Impotence is a common complaint on the coast, for which medical men are sometimes consulted. By some of the natives, cantharides is much employed, for purposes which cannot be here noticed.

In many of the liberated African boys, it occurs, that the testes are retained in the abdomen, indeed the circumstance of one being so situated is not uncommon.

The belief is general over the western coast of Africa, that certain individuals can bewitch, or by potent *gris-gris* infect those persons with whom they may have had a palaver or quarrel, with disease of difficult cure, as Lepra, Noli Me Tangere, &c. The sufferer from those disorders almost invariably believes, that he has been poisoned through the malice of "the witch man," as he is termed.

Noli Me Tangere occurs in the most aggravated form, as will be seen by the following case :—

Anninah, a Coromantin man, about 40 years of age, stated that, about twelve years prior to admission into the hospital, he was bitten about the nose and hands by a monkey. The wounds on the latter healed kindly, whilst the injury of the nose took on an unhealthy malignant action. The late Colonial Surgeon, under whose care he came, vainly endeavoured to arrest the destructive ulcerative process, which coursed along the bones of the face, large portions of which exfoliated. The Œthmoid, palate, uvula tonsils, the whole of the upper and the greater portion of the lower lip were removed; whilst the right eye was wholly destroyed, the eyelid of the left was

so corroded as to leave the eye unprotected. The four remaining teeth were loosely attached to the jaws. He articulated with much difficulty: the outlines of the bones of the base of the skull were plainly visible. The saliva constantly dribbled over the chin. The disease remained stationary during the last two years of his life; an attack of dysentery cut him off in November, 1840. Anninah firmly denied that he was ever affected with any venereal disease. The skull of the patient is in the possession of Dr. James Johnson, Pall Mall East.

A singular cutaneous affection, which, as far as I know, is hitherto undescribed, has frequently fallen under my notice. The cuticle of the hands, arms, back, thighs, hips, hams, legs and feet are chequered over, not unlike the shading of prints, by intersecting lines, being more visible where the cellular membrane abounds. A whitish furfuraceous scurf is sprinkled over the skin, which is invariably devoid of moisture. Sometimes large scabs appear upon the extremities. The skin, when touched, is so dry and rough, as to excite a sensation not unlike that experienced from parched leather.

Dracunculus, or Guinea Worm, prevails more on the leeward than windward coast. It is a filiform white worm, with a dark coloured head, insinuating itself between the muscles, sometimes, however, it is entwined round the tendons and bones, more especially those of the feet. I have frequently met with cases where it has appeared in the scrotum, ham, thigh, and, in one case, on the face above the eyes. Its general length is from one to four or five feet. Formication, attended with some constitutional disturbance, as heat of skin, wandering pains, &c., with a painful tumefaction, indicate its approach to the surface. To these symptoms, a pustule, or rather a slight elevation of the cuticle resembling a blis-

tered surface, succeeds. The general opinion of the profession is, that the germ of the worm is introduced from wading or bathing in muddy pools or ponds, or is contained and swallowed in the water drunk; but nothing satisfactory is yet known on the subject. Contractions of the tendons and muscles are sometimes the result of this disease. The best plan, I apprehend, to get rid of the worm, is that pursued by the natives, viz., attaching a thread to the protruded portion of the worm, which is then wound round a piece of stick, or simply tied around the limb, to prevent its retreating, using great care not to over-stretch or break it, least it retreat beyond reach. This enables the sufferer to withdraw it gradually. Incautious meddling with the worm, so as to break it, inflicts on the patient excruciating suffering. The patients, however, are quite competent to extract the worm themselves, when placed in such situations as permit their doing so. A poultice over the worm, is all the treatment required. In the case of a Housa boy, aged eleven years, worms were extracted from the right thigh, sole of the left foot, anterior edge of the right ankle, dorsum of right foot, entwined amongst its bones, five in all—the largest measuring three feet. This case was published in Johnson's *Medico-Chirurgical Review* for October, 1840.

All classes of the Colonists are very subject to worms, I have never indeed failed to find them in the intestinal canal, after death, of the European or African. Many cases have occurred, where the patient, after a few hours illness, has died, the symptoms during life resembling colic. Dissection reveals the cause, namely the presence of worms in great numbers.

Amongst the Europeans, fatal cases have also occurred from the same cause. The late Colonial Surveyor, a few hours previous to his death, which speedily followed

a counterfeit attack of colic, voided a tape worm twelve feet in length.

Both the Natives and Europeans are very liable to a peculiar kind of Colic, called "The Dry Belly-ache." This disease is generally caused by constipation—the disease yielding when the bowels are acted on. To relieve the tormina or griping pains, which accompany colic, the Timnehs and liberated Africans, cause one of their friends to drum gently over the abdomen with the fingers of both hands; a kind of shampooing in fact. This manipulation, I can state from personal experience, affords much relief.

Ulcers. Slight injuries, as the bites or stings of insects, or scratches, will often spread into large ulcers. In some instances, these ulcers have the regular characters of the Fernando Po Phagedenic ulcer. Amputation in such cases was very unsuccessful from the great debility, and the generally attending pulmonic or abdominal complaint, particularly dysentery; if amputation was performed, the oozing of blood from the vessels of the cut surface of the bone, was suppressed with much difficulty, and sometimes proved fatal; Europeans are also very subject to ulcerations.

The Colonial Apothecary supplies the Free Town Jail and paupers with medicines, for which he receives £100, and £199 as a salary. He is also bound to supply the Government Officers with medicines at fixed prices. A quarterly supply of medicines is issued to each of the Dressers stationed in the several districts, for the use of the Government School children and paupers.

In concluding this notice of Kissy Hospital, and the diseases treated therein, I would beg to suggest that, if regular Lectures on Surgery and the Practice of Physic, were delivered at the Hospital to intelligent Creoles, so as

to inculcate the principles which guide the Surgeon's choice of remedies in either of these practical branches of the profession, an immense benefit would result, in removing those deep rooted prejudices,^a which now prevent the African from seeking efficient medical assistance.

^a The liberated Africans rely on country remedies, and the natives of the surrounding nations seldom resort to the Colony for medical advice, believing in the efficacy of *gris gris*, and *amulets* or charms, which inspire them with confidence.

NATURAL HISTORY.

CHAPTER IV.

Variety of Birds—Sun Birds—Sparrows—Kite—Sea Eagle—Pelican—Numerous tribe of King Fishers—Parrots—Runu—Ox-bird—Grallatorial tribe—Touraco—Swallows—Palm-birds—New Genus—Bee-eater—Poor Peter Hill—Tradition—New species of the genus Pitta—Bats—Beasts of prey—Monkeys—Chimpanzee—Alligators—Lizards—Turtle—Snakes—Insects—Curious Moth—Ants—Locusts—Mr. Rankin's sufferings—Leeches—Mode of catching them—Parasitical plants—Fish—Oysters—Sargasso weed.

BIRDS of various kinds are ever on the wing, or hopping among the branches of the trees and shrubs in search of insects or seeds. The fairy sun bird, (*Cinnyris*), with plumage unsurpassed in brilliancy and variety, flits from flower to flower, perching on their petals in quest of insects. To attempt here to describe in a faithful way their superb colours, which change almost under every diversity of light, would be a difficult task; suffice it to say, that dazzling metallic tints, with different hues of glossy copper red, green, purple, dark blue, scarlet, violet, lilac, crimson, and yellow, are the general colours of the plumage of those elegant little birds. They build on the outer branches of the copse, without the slightest attempt at concealment. The note of the sun bird, repeated in a hurried manner, is short and sweet.

The sparrow, pert and voracious, as when the bard of Olney sang, obtrudes itself on the eye, seeking, like its

fellow in England, to snatch a morsel from the dunghill, or from the mess doled out to the poultry^a in the yard.

There are three kinds of sparrow, one identical with the house sparrow, (*Pyrgita*,) except that the throat, instead of being black, is of a lead colour; another a diminutive variety, sometimes seen in confinement in England, called the Venus Sparrow, genus *Amadina*, (*Fringilla Sanguinolenta* Semm:) the third variety is also very diminutive, bill short and thick, upper mandible black, lower of a dirty bluish white, head and neck black, but lightly glossed with green, back of neck mouse colour, breast and belly white and speckled grey white and black, back of wings ash colour, patches glossed of a green tint on the scapulars and sides, wings ash colour. This sparrow associates in flocks, with the venus sparrow, and when disturbed, takes to the bushes, clustering so close together, that a dozen may be easily shot at one time. I have noticed this variety to build their nests of coarse dry grass, close to the huts of the natives in the lime, lilac, orange, or among the clusters of the papua fruit; and much to the credit and good feeling of the villagers, they are seldom disturbed.

The Kite, (*Milvus*,) and hawk, (*Accipiter*,) hover round the yard during the day; and in the paths at evening, the night-jar or hawk, (*Caprimulgus*,) and that most curious bird of the same genus, the Leona goat sucker, (*Macrodipteryx Africanus* of Swainson, or studding sail bird,) may be seen during twilight, fluttering its most curious appendages. It is a bird of migratory habits, it arrives in December, and disappears about the end of April. The enormously long feathers, one in each wing, are inserted between the primary and secondary quills,

^a Many of the fowls have their claws cut off, to prevent them from scratching up seeds, &c.

and measure from seven to seventeen inches in length. The ground colour of the plumage, (according to Swainson,) is of that peculiar light ferruginous brown, which is almost restricted to the African species, varied with the usual dark freckles.

The sea eagle, (*Haliaetus*,) and fish hawk, (*Pandion*,) are occasionally seen perched on decayed trees by the side of the estuary, near the site of the small Timneh hamlet, called Rosunt.

From the adjoining thickets, and in the stillness of night, the screechings of the common and horned owl, (*Strix*,) may be heard, the pair often responding to each other's call. The plumage of some of these birds is grey, variegated with ferruginous and black. The head of the African Passerine owl, as described by Swainson, is thickly covered with round white dots, tail brownish, with seven pairs of white spots, margined with black.

Two varieties of the Pelican, the white and the grey, are found upon the Bullom banks, and higher up the river. In searching for its food, it appears to prefer the muddy shores and banks; when seizing its prey, it darts its bill obliquely; the syren or jumping fish, is the usual object of its voracity. When the tide is beginning to flow, it sometimes skims the surface of the water, or hovers over it at a moderate elevation, to enable it the more readily to precipitate itself on the finny tribe. The whirl and agitation of the water occasioned by the movements of such a bulky bird, so astounds and stuns the fish, that it is easily enabled to fill its capacious pouch.

The numerous tribe of King fishers may be watched calmly squatted on the bushwood, which borders the rugged channel of rock, over which most of the brooks flow, ready to dart with an arrow's speed on their scaly prey, which they swoop on with a sudden circular plunge.

If the fish is small, it is swallowed immediately, but if it be too large, the bird bears it to its perch, and kills and devours it with its huge bill. The plumage of some of the larger varieties, as the Great African King-fisher (*Ispida gigantea*) is dark cinereous, thickly covered with white spots, the middle of each feather is more or less black, the head having a black crest. The male of one of the largest varieties (*Alcedo Senegalensis*) has the upper mandible of a rose colour, which becomes blackish towards the point; the lower mandible is black, the head grey, eye-brows and lines of the eyes black, back azure blue, breast blue, belly white, rump azure blue, inner edge of the long-wing feathers fringed with white to nearly three fourths of their length. Tail blue and consisting of twelve feathers. Feet red. The female is smaller, bill shorter, head, throat and breast creamish ash colour, belly and under surface of wings black; rump rufous, back black and lightly tinged with white. Dorsal surface of the wing feathers, similar to those of the male. The two smaller varieties of this bird are not larger than the English wren. The first has a rose coloured bill, and the most brilliant azure plumage. The latter is drest in a rich purple, set off with dusky red, and ornamented with a high pointed crest. The total length of the largest of these birds is $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bill from the front $3\frac{1}{4}$, wings 8, tail beyond 2, ditto from the base, $4\frac{1}{4}$.

It is, however, impossible, here to describe the elegant and richly-glowing plumage of the innumerable King-fishers, which adorn and beautify the banks of the streamlets and creeks of the colony.

The Crow, (*Corvus leuconotus*,) has the neck and breast white; it is generally in pairs, but sometimes a number may be seen straggling together, or perched on the palm or other lofty trees, cawing. Mr. Fraser, of the

late Niger Expedition, informs me, that during his short residence at Fernando Po, he generally saw these birds in flocks of about twenty, but sometimes flying singly, at which times their flight so much resembles that of the Kite, as at first to be mistaken for that bird.

The Grey Parrot, (*Psittacus Erythacus*), is occasionally seen in the neighbourhood of Free Town and the villages, but more frequently in the solitudes, its harsh and discordant screams alone disturbing their solemn stillness. The grey or ash coloured parrot of Cape coast, was one of the earliest imported of the African species, and is remarkable for its docility. The Senegal Parrot, (*Psittacus Senegalensis*), also occasionally visits the colony.

The Runu, (*Centropus Senegalensis*), may be observed darting from bush to bush. It utters a hooting sound, which has procured for it the soubriquet of the "Scotsman." The note resembles the Scottish exclamation, "Hoot-toot-toot, Hoot-toot-toot," the bird drooping its head on its breast while raising its song.

The Fishmen (Kroos,) at Cape Palmas, call it the Doo-doo, from the peculiarity of its note; the voice gradually falling from the commencement, being at the end, almost inaudible; the tone is so peculiar, as generally to deceive strangers as to the situation from whence it springs. This bird is common along the coast, as far as the mouth of the Nun.

The Ox-bird, with plumage of snowy whiteness, (a kind of Crane,) may be observed, either walking near the cattle, or perched on their backs, busily engaged in picking off the insects infesting their skins. Those birds will permit individuals to approach them within a few yards.

The Gull, Curlew, Snipe, Sandpiper, and three or

four varieties of the Heron, Stork, Duck, and many other varieties of the Grallatorial tribe, frequent the mud and sand banks. The Green Plover, and Red-legged Partridge, (Perdrix,) Quail, (Coturnix,) are occasionally seen on unfrequented commons, and both the grey and green Water wagtails, with the Lapwing, are to be found in fields where cattle are kept.

Near the brooks, especially of such as are well clothed with bush, the Water Hen may be seen wading about. In the bush, the grey headed, black bodied, and elegant Carpenter Woodpecker, (Picus,) with a bird resembling the Jay, are not uncommon.

The Ring Dove, (Columba,) abounds in the copse or bush, and the large green Wood Pigeon, resembling, except in colour, the English bird, and two varieties of Turtle Doves are also common, one of which, is of an olive colour, the breast being white, and is about the size of a Sparrow. Their gentle cooings issuing from the thickets they love to frequent, harmonize well with the awful stillness of places so distant from the busy haunts of man.

The Touraco, crowned with a green crest, composed of a number of delicate hair-like feathers, not unlike an ancient helmet, though *rarely found in the Colony*, deserves a more minute description than the brief notice here set down, but such description is amply supplied in Swainson's works. There are several varieties of the beautiful group, (Corythaix.) They frequent the top branches of the highest forest trees, where they display the most perfect elegance in their movements and attitudes, united to the utmost agility.

There are three varieties of the Swallow, (Hirundo,) besides the Martin, (Cypselus,) and a small variety, bearing the same proportion to the common Swallow,

that the Venus Sparrow bears to the House Sparrow. This variety is a small black squat-shaped bird.

About the beginning of September, the Cardinal bird may be observed busily gleaning up the old rice, and fundungii. The elegant scarlet plumage of this bird, renders it a highly conspicuous and attractive object. The officer bird, or Fundi bird, and crimson-crowned Nutcracker, (*Pirenestes Senegalensis* Sw :) with the rice or palm bird, often accompany the Cardinal bird. The Officer bird, so called by the natives, from its guiding as it were the other birds to their food, (*Euplectes Flam-miceps*, Sw :) is about the size of a Sparrow, bill black, the whole crown and occiput being of a rich scarlet, bordered with deep blue black on each side, a short way under the bill. The back is of a tawny orange, the tips of the feathers running into scarlet, rump deep scarlet, tail feathers short and black, the fifth, sixth and seventh lightly fringed of a dirty white colour, and marked with white: belly a deep blue black colour, vent and thighs dusky yellow.

The beautiful Palm birds may be watched, as ever and anon they enter their pendant nests, which are so closely clustered, that the vitality of the cabbage-like head of the Palm, with its elegant feathery leaves, and finally the whole tree, is destroyed. This bird is about the size of a Lark; the feathers of the head and neck are intensely black, whilst the back and wings, are of a remarkably pure yellow tint. Both the Officer and Cardinal birds, arrive in the Colony about the beginning of September, and leave in February.

The thrush, (*Turdus*), warbles in the neighbouring copses, the note and plumage closely resembling those of the English bird.

The beautiful Blue Cap, and the well known Whidah Finch, (*Vidua Paradisea* Car,) decorated with long tail

feathers disproportionate to their size, and impeding their flight, are very abundant. There are two varieties seen here, a larger and smaller ; the latter differing from the former, not only in size, but in having a bluish black bill, and white breast.

There is a bird, which in size, shape and movements, resembles the Goldfinch. The wings and the head have the black marks found in that bird, but the golden drops near the tip of the wings, and the rose coloured breast are wanting.

The Golden Cuckoo, (*Chalcites Auratus* Less :) is sometimes seen in the village ; I am not, however, acquainted with its habits.

In the cool of the day, an apparently new genus among the Muscicapinæ is heard. This bird pours forth, at intervals, a singularly loud wailing note, is of a short squat appearance, with a very depressed bill, (somewhat like *Mega Lophus*,) exceedingly short stout tarsi, and feet of a bright yellow, the general plumage deepest blue black, with a white spot on the primaries, the lower part of the belly being white ; the feathers of the head being capable of erection, in the form of a crest. Its habits are so shy, and its endeavours to conceal itself so successful, as it flirts behind the foliage, that it is discovered with difficulty. Like many other birds, it possesses good ventriloquial powers. This bird is more frequently seen at the turn of the tide, as if its food was then more easily found.

The Spectacle Flycatcher, (*Platystera lobata*, Swain.) is seen among the shrubby hedges, generally at the commencement of the rainy season, beguiling and cheering that dull season with his short, high, sharp grating song. The plumage of the male, "is glossy blue black, with an "angulated stripe of white on the wings ; beneath white, "with a black bar upon the breast ; lobe of the eye red.

"Female is above cinereous, chin white, throat chesnut," (Swain :) The peculiarity from which the Spectacle Tody derives its name, is a scarlet cere or lobe above the eyes, which is very rarely seen in the perching order.

The Bee Eater, (*Merops Apiaster*), or as it is called by some of the Europeans, the Cut Throat, by the natives Christmas, or Sluggard bird, from its slow heavy flight, arrives in the Colony about the beginning of November. It is pleasing to watch it performing its short aerial evolutions. The general plumage of this bird is green; the throat is surrounded with a patch of black feathers. It may be observed, perched on the copsewood, fence, or rail posts by the road sides, dressing its plumage.

The Poor Peter Hill bird, (*Genus Malaconotus*), is about the size of a lark, bill black and straight, upper mandible hooked at the point, and slightly notched, crown of the head and occiput black, temples yellow, cheeks and lines of the eyes black, back of the neck brown, throat and breast light ash colour, rump ash colour, wings rusty brown, tail long, and consisting of twelve feathers, black and tipped with white. Some of the natives of Bornou, and also some of the Liberated Africans, entertain feelings of superstitious dread of this bird. If when about to undertake a journey, they should happen to hear this bird, and suppose his song to be unpropitious to their performing it, they will defer it till another period. In this superstitious feeling they resemble the Ancient Greeks and Romans, who took many of their omens from the flights of birds on occasions very similar. Its note is clear, full and mellow, and consists of syllables repeated at short intervals, which the natives interpret as follows :

Peter Hill, poor soul,
Flog him wife, Oh no, Oh no.

He sings when perched on a tree or bush, and like the Lark, sings when flying. On rising from his perch, he strongly flutters his wings, while he warbles forth his song. He builds in the brushwood, in September and February, a circular nest formed of dried grass, nicely bound together with a coarser description of the same material, lined with feathers, using great precaution to prevent discovery. He feeds on crickets and termites, and when on the ground, hops like a sparrow. The female is said to lay two eggs, (more probably four,) spotted blue and white. The name Peter Hill, was given this bird by the Maroons, from the circumstance of its having perched on the gallows, just before a noted rebel of that name was turned off, during the Maroon rebellion in Jamaica. On finding the bird in Sierra Leone, they jumped to the conclusion, that it had followed them from Jamaica.

A bird also resembling the Bunting, (*Emberiza*,) and the Peppe bird, (*Malaconotus*) strikes the ear delighting the stranger with its clear mellow notes. There are two varieties of this bird, one of which is called the Bush Pepper Bird.

The Pulih, or mocking bird of Western Africa, though only found in the Timneh, and adjacent countries, may not be passed over without notice.

The following account of this new species of the genus *Pitta*, or ground Thrushes, was read, by Mr. Fraser, before the scientific meeting of the Zoological Society of London, December 13th, 1842.

Professor T. Rymer Jones in the Chair.

Pitta Pulih—*Pitta notâ nigrâ a mandibulæ superioris basi, super verticem usque ad collum eductâ, et utrinque notâ latâ cervinâ marginatâ, plumis auricularibus et colli lateribus nigris; dorso, tectricibusque alarum majoribus metallice viridibus; tectricibus alarum minoribus, tectri-*

cibusque caudæ singulis, ad apices pallidē cœruleis, instar cyani; primariis, secundariis, rectricibusque caudæ nigris; primariis tertiâ, quartâ, quinta et sextâ per medium albo fasciatis; gulâ ferê albâ, corpore subtus fuscescente, aurantiaco, rubido apud abdomen imum leviter tincto; rostro, tarsis, digitis, unguibusque apparenter rubris.

“For this extremely interesting bird, I am indebted to my friend Robert Clarke, Senior Assistant Colonial Surgeon, at Sierra Leone, who received it from Mr. Thomson, the translator to the Church Missionary Society, who has recently gone into the Foulah country, with the following note—: ‘The Pulih, or mocking bird, is only found in the Timneh country, its own note is so sweet, that, when the Timnehs would pay an orator or poet the highest compliment, they say, he is a perfect ‘Pulih.’

“I have said, this bird is *extremely interesting*, not because it proves to be a new species, but on account of the locality from whence it came, all the known species of this splendid group, being confined to Continental India, the islands of the Indian Archipelago, and Australia, and now for the first time, we find it extending itself to Africa, and at the same time find it has the power of imitation.’

“It is most closely allied to *Pitta brachyura*, (Auct.) but differs from that bird, in having a red bill and feet, a band over the eye, which is tawny instead of olive brown; in the uniform colouring of the primaries, secondaries and tail feathers, the two former not being tipped with white, nor the latter with green, and finally in the absence of the red vent.

“The following description will serve to recognize the species:—*PITTA PULIH*. A black mark extends from the base of the upper mandible, along the top of

“the head, to the neck; bordered on each side by a broad
“one of tawny; the ear-coverts and sides of the neck
“black; back and greater wing-coverts, metallic green;
“each of the feathers of the smaller wing-coverts as well
“as of the tail coverts, has the apical portion of a pale
“blue colour, a tint very nearly resembling that of the
“turquoise stone; primaries, secondaries, and tail feathers
“black; the third, fourth, fifth and sixth primary, having
“a white fascia across their centre; throat, almost white;
“the whole of the remaining under surface, brownish
“orange, with a slight reddish tinge on the vent; bill,
“tarsi, toes and nails appear to have been red. Habitat,
“the town of Port Lokkoh, Timneh country, Western
“Africa. The specimen from which the above description
“was taken, belongs to George Mackay, Sutherland,
“Esq., of Udale, near Cromarty, N.B.”

The Wren, Stone-shaker, Tit Lark, and Lark, or as the natives call it, the Grass-field bird, with an innumerable group of Finches, are also seen here.

It is a curious fact, that many birds are to be seen, with only one leg, the other having apparently dropped off, or been amputated by being caught in a trap.

Four varieties of Bats are to be seen fluttering about in the evening, one exactly resembling the small Bat of Europe, another about twice as large; a third is the fox-headed or Vampire Bat, which is of great size, sometimes thirty-six inches from tip to tip of the wings, and a fourth and hitherto undescribed variety. There are several other species, specimens of which I was not able to obtain.

The beasts of prey met with in the neighbourhood of the Colony, are Lions, Leopards, Hyenas, &c. The Elephant is also seen, in the adjoining countries.

There are several kinds of Antelopes, many of the group named Neotragus, being so diminutive in size, as to measure not a foot from the shoulder. One of them is of beautiful brown, spotted with white; another of the same species, and very destructive to the crops, is of a leadish grey colour, called "Fillemtambah," (*Antilope Philamtambo Og*.) In the vicinity of Waterloo, the bush antelope, (*Antilope Sylvicultrix*,) or as it called by the natives the bush goat, is found in considerable numbers. It usually quits its cover in search of food about sunrise. The flesh is delicate, and nearly equal to venison.

The Hog Deer, or Harnessed Antelope, when full grown, stands one foot and a half in height, and three from the point of the nose to the tip of the tail. Its colour is of a very beautiful brown, with white spots on the back and legs, and striped with white on the sides. The ears are short; the tail resembles that of the deer; the head is small in comparison with the body, being only six inches in length; the eyes are large and beautiful, and the hoofs resemble those of the hog. This animal is known to the Timnehs, as the "Borromoh."

Weasels, Bush, and Musk Cat, (*Viverra Civitta*,) may be observed among the underwood, fringing the rocky banks of the river; there are two species of Musk Cats, one of them producing an inferior kind of musk to the other.

The Cut Grass, or Native Rabbit, (the former being its common name among the Liberated Africans,) is hunted by the mongrel dogs which the Africans train for the purpose. Like the Rabbit, the Cut Grass burrows.

The Mangrove Monkey, (*Circopithecus fuliginosus Geoff*.) may be observed among the thickets, chattering and swinging from branch to branch. The Red Monkey, (*Circopithecus ruber*,) used to be found near Cape Sierra

Leone, but has left those haunts for more secluded ones to the westward. The White Tailed Monkey, (*Colobus Polycomus*,) or four-fingered Monkey, is found between Kent and Waterloo villages. At Cape Coast, they are to be met with in great numbers. In a state of confinement they languish and die. Campbell's Monkey, (*Circopethecus, Campbellii Waterh.*) is a native of the Sherbro country, but is occasionally seen in the neighbourhood of the Colony.

I recollect the curious circumstance of a poor maniacal Liberated African woman having suckled a monkey, to which she became much attached. She was unmarried, and as the circumstance of the milk having flowed on the mere effort of suction is confirmatory of the fact of such a stimulus being able to produce such an effect, where à priori it could not be expected. I allude to it, as it might be practically useful.

A Baboon, the Dambo, (*Cynocephalus Papio Desm.*) is kept by many of the Colonists. Its habits, when domesticated, are exceedingly sensual and disgusting.

The Chimpanzee roams among the jungle in the Sherbro, and some other countries on the Guinea coast, and is even shot at no great distance from the settlement of Kent, or between that place and Waterloo. When full grown, it is nearly five-feet in length, with long thick black hair on the back, short and thin on the breast, and belly white; the face is partly bare, and set as if it were in a frame work of long hair or whiskers. Such of my readers as have seen this Ape in the Zoological Gardens, will recollect its resemblance to an old man. The hair of the head is, however, straight. In confinement, the animal is often attacked with Dysentery, and with Pulmonic and Scorbutic diseases.

The timid Field Mouse, and Shrew, are often seen

peeping out from the long grass ; and a variety of Squirrels are met with in the thickets, and among the forest trees.

The Mungouste, or Ichneumou, resembles the Marten in form, and is about the size of a Cat ; it is easily domesticated. Reptiles and Mice, with the eggs of the Crocodile tribe, are eagerly sought for and destroyed by these animals. In the Western Districts, this animal is frequently found.

The Pangolin, (*Manis*), a smaller species of Ant-eater, has sometimes been offered me for sale. It is covered with pointed leaf-like plates lying on each other. They feed on Ants and other insects.

The Porcupine, (*Atherura Fasciculata* Cuv :) is hunted and highly esteemed by the natives.

The Alligator and Hippopotamus, the former basking on the river banks, the latter issuing from the river, to devour the rice and other crops, prove troublesome and dangerous visitors in these localities. Some of the Alligators measure from 14 to 18 feet in length. It has been asserted by Mr. Rankin, I suppose on the authority of the Timnehs, that the Alligator's bile is poisonous. He observes, "The Alligator's bile is so deadly, that no native may kill the animal, unless in the presence of witnesses, before whom he casts away the gall upon the ground." Desirous of discovering the truth of this statement, I procured the gall of a full grown Alligator, and mixed the bile with some soup, which I gave to a healthy dog, that had purposely been kept without food. The dog was then tied up, and carefully watched. After the lapse of half an hour, he vomited, but soon after regained his wonted playfulness.

On another occasion, I administered the bile on chopped beef, but with very similar effects. The expe-

riment was repeatedly varied, and my belief is, that Alligators' bile is not poisonous.

The Guana, sometimes three feet long, may be seen lurking near the edges of the brooks, in search of Cray fish, &c.; while the ever changing Cameleon may be observed, at intervals, darting out its tongue, to seize such insects as alight within range.

Many varieties of Lizards and Contoes, clothed in their scaly and glittering armour, are everywhere observed pursuing flies and other insects. There is a very singular Lizard, which is only met with in out-houses. Its body is shorter, thicker, and more rounded than the common Lizard, whilst the cuticle is dotted over with elevated tubercles roughening the head, back and legs. Upon the belly and thighs, they are succeeded by scales of a dirty yellow colour.

A peculiar Lepidopterous insect of this shape, ♂ and of a greyish silvery lustre, adheres to the walls and boarding, and is to be found in almost every house in the Colony. They attach themselves by the mouth, and even after they are apparently dead, cling to the walls by their peculiarly constructed and retractile head; the head and neck is grooved or shelved round.

Green Turtles, and those called Hawk's Bill or Logger Heads, are both very common, and are of immense size, sometimes weighing several hundred pounds. The largest and finest Turtle I have seen have been brought from the Island of Ascension. Fresh water, mud and land Turtles abound, especially the latter.

Snakes are numerous, but accidents from them are of rare occurrence.* The most venomous of them is from

* A few years ago the lady of a functionary in the Colony, was bitten by a snake while strolling over the grounds of a gentleman's residence, near Free Town. Great constitutional and local irritation supervened,

twelve to fourteen inches in length; it is of a greyish colour, the belly of a dirty yellow, dotted with black. Persons bitten by this snake, die as the natives say, "ere the sun goes down into the bush," but instances are not wanting, where the person has died within two hours after the injury has been received. Some of the snakes haunt out-houses in search of poultry.

The species of snake called the Whip Snake, is very common, and of every variety of colour. In the brooks, small water snakes are found in considerable numbers. There is a tradition among the villagers, that an enormous serpent, probably the Boa Constrictor, had divine honours paid to him by the first Liberated African inhabitants of Kissy, the Kissi Kissi people. The monster, they state, lay coiled up in a cave over-hanging the watering place, whose waters it guarded. The Boa Constrictor, sometimes of an enormous size, is found among the bush-wood near Waterloo village.

A species of snake is often carried about for sale, and freely handled by the natives, called Mandingo Snake. It is generally coiled up, and is about three feet six inches long, dotted with black, on a ground of a dirty yellow. From the careless way the natives handle it, its fangs must have been extracted.

Little that is new can be added to the account of the insects of the Colony, given in Dr. Winterbottom's learned and interesting work on Sierra Leone. There is a Moth, however, which appears to have escaped the observation of all the naturalists who have treated upon this subject, and which was first observed by myself and a friend, during a heavy fall of rain in 1840. This Moth,

but happily, however, her constitution resisted the effects of the poison, but it produced great debility and exhaustion. Many of the Negroes tip arrow and spear-points, with the poison extracted from the poison *sac*.

from its mode of feeding, may be called the humming-bird moth. Like that bird, it does not alight on those flowers which furnish its food, but introducing into their calyces its long and double-tubed proboscis, hovers over them with a vibratory motion of the wings, producing a humming sound like that of the Humble Bee. The body is one inch and a half in length, while the proboscis exceeds two inches. The colour of its body is dark brown, the wings are beautifully variegated with fawn-coloured streaks, six annular rings or segments compose the abdominal parietes. The eyes are large, and of a brownish purple colour. It seems to prefer the Shoe or Four o'clock flower, as it is called by the natives, from unfolding its petals at that hour, but I have also observed it collecting its food from many other flowers.

The Shoe flower is a convolvulus plant of the order *Pentandria Monogynia*. The petals, when rubbed between the fingers, produce a beautiful vermilion tint, and is said to form a favourite cosmetic at the toilet of European ladies in India.

There is an almost endless variety of bees, both large and small; one of them every way resembling the English Bee, (*Apis Mellifica*,) builds in the hollow of the rocks, and the cavities of decayed trees. There is also a very minute species. In the month of March, swarms of bees may be seen gathering their food from the flowers of the yellow plum tree. Those bees furnish excellent wax and honey.

Cockroaches, Crickets, Ants, Sand Fleas, a great variety of Spiders, amongst which is the formidable Tarantula, Scorpions, Centipedes, with the Glow-worm, are very numerous. No leather-work, woollen, or linen clothing, can be preserved without great care from the attacks of the cockroaches. The organs, both in the Go-

vernment and Missionary Churches, have been rendered useless by their ravages, and even the hose of the fire engine was so much destroyed, as to be almost useless. To the list of reptiles may be added the Tree Frog.

There are several varieties of Ants, viz., the *Termes Bellicosus*, or warlike ant, *Termes Mordax*, *Termes Atrox*, *Termes Arborum*, *Termes Viarum*. The first rears a nest of a reddish earth to the height of from nine to fourteen feet, with a base wide spread, and distributed among the thickets in numerous heaps. The tree, or red ant, forms a tunnel of clay from the ground, up the trunk, and along the boughs to its wasp-like nest. A third variety builds a conical nest not unlike a mushroom; while the travelling ants or *Formicæ Viarum*, will occasionally march into houses, where they devour every eatable they can find, ridding them of cockroaches, &c. &c. During my excursions through the Colony, I have often been assailed, in some tracts, by a highly fœtid odour, emanating from the copsewood skirting the road sides; the odour not unlike the stench proceeding from the carcase of a dead horse, being as it were concentrated in one particular place. The natives invariably speak of the stench described, as proceeding from the dense masses of travelling ants, near, or at the locality. Large barnacles abound, and are very destructive to ships without copper bottoms.

In May and July, 1841, the Colony was visited by myriads of large Grasshoppers, or a smaller species of Locusts. On the ground, the female was observed covered by the male, and having its abdomen thrust into the earth; whilst minute elongated ova escaped, which were then carefully covered up, and in a few weeks subsequently, developed insects made their appearance in dense swarms. During the year 1842, they also appeared in swarms; in the morning of the 25th of April,

and in the evening of the 30th of April, and 3rd of May, their average length was two inches, colour of the body yellow, ferruginous, lead, or brown, some were of a fawn colour. Their flight both in 1841 and 1842, was from the south-east to the westward. At Cape Sierra Leone, their flight was arrested by the wind.

The crops of Rice and the Cassada Foliage, in 1841, were nearly destroyed in the Timneh, Kussoh, and Mandingo countries. From this cause, there was a very great scarcity of rice throughout the Colony, which then sold at fifteen shillings per bushel, the usual price being one dollar; and the Farina prepared from Cassada root, rose in price from thirteen pence to 3s. 6d. per bushel. I may conclude this notice, by quoting the magnificent language of the Prophet Joel, respecting this insect:—

“A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of
“cloud, and of thick darkness, as the morning spread
“upon the mountains a great people and a strong; there
“hath not been ever the like, neither shall there be any
“more after it, even to the years of many generations.
“A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame
“burneth; the land is as the garden of Eden before them,
“and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and no-
“thing shall escape them. The appearance of them is as
“the appearance of horses, and as horsemen so shall they
“run. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of the
“mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of
“fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in
“battle array.”—“The earth shall quake before them,
“the heavens shall tremble, and the stars shall withdraw
“their shining.”—“How do the beasts groan, the herds of
“cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture,
“yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.”

I cannot, however, dismiss this subject, without re-

ferring to the suffering experienced by Mr. Rankin, from the insects of the Colony. He says that, while "simmering upon his hard mattress," he was tormented by numerous cockroaches crawling over him, which by the way, he remarks, nibble the ends of the fingers, thereby causing dangerous wounds. The flying mantis, bug-a-bug, Tarantulas, Crickets, Musquitoes, &c. were added to his other torments. It is evident, that the apartments in which Mr. Rankin was exposed to this host of invaders, cannot have been kept in a very cleanly condition; but it is more probable, that our author suffered from an attack of the common house bug which abounds in the Colony; the plumping of Locusts, Crickets, Flying Mantis, &c., into his soup plate, or wine glass, may be equally taxed with exaggeration.

The Eboes, Macoes, and some of the other Liberated Africans, eat those insects, when stewed in palm oil.

The Horse Leech, (*Hirudo Sanguinosa*,) abounds in the brooks, and grows to a large size; the medicinal leech is small, but readily bites on application to the skin, and is procured for the use of the hospitals, from Banguemmah; it is also brought from the Timneh and Bullom countries. Banguemmah is distant about four miles from the village of Waterloo; the marsh or swamp covering several acres of ground. The water flows in a north-east direction, and is collected in drains, varying from two to five feet in breadth; the sides of these drains are generally on a level with the water, particularly during the rains, when it inundates the surrounding soil. A dense and impervious underwood effectually opposes any attempt to walk on the boggy ground; the footing is insecure, the feet sinking deeply into the soft and warm mud, the haunts of the leech; the beds of the drains are composed of a non-tenacious mud, mixed with decayed vegetable

matters, as roots, leaves, and even the trunks of fallen trees; the water is soft, and in taste and colour, resembles that found in peat mosses in Scotland; the negroes, in collecting the leeches, simply wade along the drains, when they adhere to the skin. In some parts of continental Europe, the leech gatherer lures them to the surface, by launching on the pools freshly flayed sheep skins, to the surface of which the leeches attach themselves. The *Equisetum Pallustra*, and bullock's liver, are also said to serve the same purpose. Long experience has made the gatherer aware, that the leech, during the forenoon, and noon day heats, retreats to its muddy bed, and also in cold weather; but immediately before a tornado, when the atmosphere is close and shifting, they approach the surface: to insure success, it is therefore necessary to visit the pools at five or six o'clock in the morning, and subsequently not sooner than three o'clock of the afternoon; they are best procured at the beginning, and termination of the rains, when the young leeches may be seen trying to swim, or attached to the back and belly of the parent leech; the spawn of fish and frogs, constitute their food; this leech discovers no disposition to attack its own species, whereas, the horse leech alike devours its own species with the *Hirudo Medicinalis* and *Vulgaris*.

Minute aquatic plants float loosely on the water of these drains, and appear kept as it were in a state of suspension. The drains are overshadowed in many places, by ever-green arches; these are formed by the tall bamboo, gracefully bending over the water, and embraced by the prickly arms of the mimosa shrub. A variety of creeping plants, and innumerable orchidea, stretch their tendrils across, becoming interwoven into the most fantastic and luxuriant festoons.

Parasitical plants open their gorgeous flowers, displaying the richest and most delicate variety of colour, and contrast well with the masses of vegetation which everywhere appear in the utmost exuberance. Magnificent creepers in some places depend from the silvery stem of the caoutchouc tree; the swamp is bordered by the cork-wood tree, saucy, sulphur and teak trees, and cubeb shrubs.

The olibanum, or frankincense, drops its fragrant resinous gum from the stem and bark of the tree, called *Boswellia Serrata*; the gum frankincense sold in this Colony is known among the natives by the term "boony boony."

Fish is plentiful, and is regularly supplied to Free Town in the afternoon by boats, which proceed in the morning to the Bullom shore, and even as far as the Banana Islands. The fish market is erected near to King James' Well, a spring of excellent purity, from which the shipping is supplied. A purling stream flows past the market place, which is situated at the terminus of a ravine, overlooked by the Liberated African buildings on the one side, and close to the fish market on the other.

Fishes^a are in great variety both in the sea and the river; the spermaceti whale has been sometimes found at Sierra Leone, but is more frequently caught to the southward. Besides the whale, dolphins, sharks, the

^a The following mode of fishing is practised amongst the Soosoos. They collect a quantity of the leaves of several narcotic plants, called by them, "Makey Jeakey, Jur," &c., and pound them, when they proceed to the banks of the river, and spread the mass over the rocks and stakes by the water edge. As the tide rises on the mass, the water becomes saturated with the narcotic principle of these plants, and in about half an hour the effects are perceptible, the drugged fish floating to the surface in great numbers. If successful, the women and children, who alone follow this occupation, raise a general shout.


stinging ray, mackerel, tarpoons, cavallios, mullets, eels, snappers, white and black; soles, yellow tails, oldmaids, oldwife, ten-pounders, mangrove perch, Jew fish, skate, shin-nose, barracoota, and the manati, much resembling in taste beef, cat fish, groupers, jumping fish, menii (a kind of sprat,) craw and crab fish abound. During the dry season of 1841, shoals of a kind of herring appeared on the coast, and were taken in great numbers. A kind of sponge is picked up on the Bullom shore.

Besides the mangrove oyster, of which mention has already been made, there are two other varieties, the larger and smaller rock oyster; there being no limestone in the Colony, the oyster shell is burnt and used as a substitute; the principal kiln is at Gambia Island.

At the village of Hastings, vast mounds of these shells exist, furnished by annual accumulations; the people, it is stated, used to repair to this station and remained there until harvest time; subsisting on the shell fish of the adjacent banks. Beds of shells also are found in several other creeks; the heaps at Hastings Creek, it is believed, will supply the Colony with lime for a number of years.

The Sargasso, or Gulf Weed, is stated in a recent work on Sierra Leone, to be in such quantity at York village, that on the author's landing, "it floated by, harassing the oars with its dense network of yellow leaves "and capsules," of the seamen conveying him ashore; this is entirely a mistake, as is also the assertion of its spreading over immeasurable fields, until the eye becomes weary of it; the first statement is incorrect, as the seas washing the shores of York, are far distant from the parallel of latitude in which the Sargasso weed is produced, even allowing for storms drifting it; for it is well known soon to sink; the second assertion is also untenable,

and at variance with the fact of its being always seen, either in circumscribed patches, or resembling half inundated fields of gorse; the same writer evidently leans to the opinion of its being generated, and fructifying on the water. Did the author ever examine it? if he had, he would have perceived that each of the stalks had been abruptly torn off.

Ample opportunity having offered for observing the Mollusca abounding in warm latitudes, I trust the following notes taken on the homeward voyage, whilst the vessel was surrounded with them, may not prove uninteresting. These translucent masses were beautifully traversed by veins of the most delicate ruby, violet, reddish, or yellowish brown colours; in form, sometimes pectinated or cuneiform, again vermiform, globular, or rather the agglutination of a number of globules, not unlike a bunch of stemless grapes. A few floated past, curled spirally up like a belt, others, more minute, might be compared to a fine net work, to a drop of water, cylindrical glasses, a lady's ruff, cap, or to a mushroom torn up by the roots. In some, a loose tassel depended from the upper border, resembling in colour red sealing wax, whilst a filiform-like process, or tentacle, stretched forward from the same point. Numbers were linked together edgeways near the upper orifice, by a gelatiform band, in double parallel vertical rows or layers, easily separated, of compressed tubes about one inch long, and comparable in lustre to crystal, and conjointly forming a tubular chain from half a foot to twelve feet in length. Reddish brown spots of this form  appeared on the upper border of each tube in the median line, close to the lobulated fringe of gelatiform nodules. These spots were found to consist of minute granules beaded together, probably pouches forming the circulating organs. Pediculi were found between the layers, or in

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the corrugations probably entangled by their contractions. The pipe fish swimming amongst them, were observed to attach themselves to those gelatiform bodies, and were most probably in quest of these parasites.

PRODUCTIONS.

CHAPTER V.

Principal productions of the Colony—Rice—Coffee—Cassada—Bread made from it—Millet—Maize—Peculiar rice—Fundi—Growth and cultivation—Very productive—Might prove valuable addition to farinaceous articles of food—Tobacco and Indigo—Vegetables—Potatoes—Peas—Ground nuts—Peculiarity in their growth—Cocos—Pumpkins—Hibiscus Esculentus—Fine Tomatas—Variety of Peppers—Fruits—Manjo—Papua—Plantain—Alligator pear—Great variety of plums—Guavas plentiful—The Fruit of Tamarinds—Peculiar Fruit—Cream Fruit—Little attention bestowed on Grapes—Inferior to European—Abundance of sour and sweet sops—Spices—Several kinds of Oak—Teak grows to great size—Tallow tree—Cotton, Pullom and Tallicoona trees—Sapon—Turmeric—Dyes—Exports from Sierra Leone in 1839.

THE principal productions of the Colony of Sierra Leone, are Rice, Coffee, Cassada, Guinea Corn, Maize, Yams, Plantains, Ground Nuts; various kinds of Pepper; and many varieties of fruits, Pine-apples and Melons being most common.

Rice grows best in low and inundated places, but will thrive on elevated tracts of land, though it becomes smaller and thinner. There are two kinds of rice, the large-grained, Mandingo rice, and the red or Sherbro kind. A good deal of both varieties is brought to market, but imperfectly husked; strictly speaking, but little rice is grown within the actual limits of the Colony; it being chiefly supplied from the Soosoo, Timneh, Foulah, and Sherbro countries. The rice-fields are prepared during

the dry season, and the seed sown in the Tornado season. It comes to perfection in four or five months.

The *Coffee* grown in the Colony, if properly *cured*, would equal the far-famed Mocha; but from inattention, or ignorance, and from its being used in its green state, it is bitter, and is apt to affect the bowels disagreeably. It is sold at from 4*d.* to 6*d.* per pound, paid for in goods. The Foulahs, &c., import it in large quantities.

Cassada is planted from cuttings, on heaps about one foot apart; these cuttings are placed obliquely round the heaps, the leaves shooting out from their joints. In the course of three or four months, the roots can be dug up for use, being then very delicate, even when uncooked; the natives gather them when required. In general, however, they clear their farms of the *Cassada* towards the termination of the dry season; the bread made from its farina, is generally sour; but some of it is prepared in a very superior way, which frees it from acidity. Labourers often breakfast on *cassada* cakes, with parched ground nuts. When burnt, *cassada* stems yield potash.

Millet, or *Guinea Corn*, (*Holculanatus* and *Mollis*,) is but little cultivated. The white and red varieties are brought from the adjoining countries. It sells at from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* per bushel.

Maize, or *Indian Corn*, of which there are several kinds, is grown plentifully, and from the circumstance of its ripening in three months, several crops may be grown in the year. The young and tender ears, boiled or roasted, are a favourite dish among the colonists and natives; the grain, boiled in salt water, is buttered and eaten like green peas, or when ground, made into pottage and puddings. The leaves are attacked with avidity by stray goats and sheep, which much annoy the villagers. To horses and cattle they are fattening.

A minute species of rice, called *Fundi*, or *Fundungii*, is successfully cultivated; this species, I apprehend, is hitherto very little known in Europe.

Fundi is cultivated in Kissy village, and in the neighbourhood of Waterloo, by industrious individuals of the Soosoo, Foulah, Bassa, and Jolóff nations, by whom it is called the "hungry rice." It is about the size of mignonne. The ear consists of two conjugate spikes, the grain being arranged on the outer edge of each spike, and alternated; they are attached by a peduncle to the husk; the epicarp or outer membrane is slightly rugous. It belongs I think to the class *angiospermia*.

The ground is prepared for its reception by burning down the copsewood, the roots and stumps of which are allowed to remain, when it is cleared with a short hoe. It is sown in the months of May and June, by slightly opening the ground, and then raking it lightly over the seed. In August it shoots up, upon which the ground is carefully weeded. It ripens in September, and is then reaped with hooked knives; it grows to the height of about eighteen inches, and when nearly ripe its stem is bent to the earth by the mere weight of the grain. The patch of land on which Fundi has been raised is allowed to lie fallow, or is planted with yams or cassada in rotation. Experienced cultivators of this lilliputian grain, have assured me, that manure is unnecessary, nay injurious, as it delights in light soils, and is even raised on rocky lands, of which latter description is the greater portion of the lands in and about Kissy.

It is very productive, and when cut down, the reapers tie it up in small sheaves, which are placed in a dry situation in their huts; for if allowed to remain on the ground, or if wetted, the grains become agglutinized to the spike. The grain is trodden out with the feet, (as described in Holy writ,)

after which it is either parched or dried in the sun, to allow the chaff to be more easily removed; during the process of pounding it in large wooden mortars, it is winnowed with a kind of cane fanner on mats.

When used as an article of food, this delicate grain is put into boiling water for a few minutes, and assiduously stirred up, after which the water is poured off. The Jolloffs, Foulahs, &c., then add palm-oil, butter or milk, to the cooked Fundi. By the Europeans it is prepared as follows:—to the grain cooked as above mentioned, fowl, fish, or mutton, with a small piece of salt pork is added, and the whole is then stewed together in a close saucepan, till the gravy is absorbed. This dish resembles *kous kous*.^a It is sometimes prepared as a pudding with the usual condiments, and eaten with hot or cold milk. By the few natives of Scotland in the Colony, it is prepared either as milk porridge, or simply eaten with milk. I am of opinion that, if this grain were raised, and exported in sufficient quantities, it might prove a valuable addition to the list of light farinaceous articles^b of food in use, recommended to persons of delicate health.

^a Kous kous is only made by the Jolloffs, Foulahs and Mandingoes. The Liberated Africans use *Palaver Sauce*.

^b A brief notice on the subject of the Fundi grain, transmitted by me, was read before the Linnæan Society of London, on the 1st of November, 1842, and elicited from Mr. Kippist, Libr. L. S., the following observations on the botanical characters of the grain.

“It is a slender grass with digitate spikes, which has much of the habit of *Digitaria*, but which, on account of the absence of the small outer glume existing in that genus, must be referred to *Paspalum*.

“The species is distinguished by the following characters:—

“*Paspalum exile*. glaberrimum, caule filiformi, racemis subternis digitatis, axi partiali spiculis singulis angustiore, spiculis parvis sub-bisserialibus pedicellatis, glumis ovatis acutiusculis paleis æqualibus, foliis lineari-lanceolatis margine serrulatis.

“Grumen sub-bipedale, infernè ramosum; racemi tenues, 3—4-pollicares

Tobacco and indigo are so abundant, that they are almost considered as weeds, and neglected; the latter is very little used by the natives.

Esculent vegetables are various.

Potatoes. Of this root there are two kinds, viz.—sweet potatoes, (*convolvulus patatas*) and country potatoes. The former is raised in a loose soil; the latter, of the size of a filbert, is found in low places, with a long stem creeping around it. There is also a plant yielding an irregular tuberous excrescence, which taste like country potatoes. The leaves of the sweet potatoe are sometimes eaten as greens, or given for food to goats, hogs, &c.

Peas and *Calavanches*, both excellent pulses, are cultivated on the farms; the former being generally sown on the farm skirts.

Ground nuts, the fruit of the *Arachis hypogea*, are common. A beautiful pellucid oil, burning without any perceptible odour, is now expressed from the ground nut; it is almost equal to sperm oil, and sells at 6s. 6d. per gallon in the Colony. These nuts are also eaten as an article of food, and some of the Colonists prepare and use them as chocolate; the stalk of the ground nut bends on withering, and the pod is buried in the soil, where it ripens, and hence it derives its distinctive name. The Theabroma or Chocolate Plant could be extensively cul-

subsessiles; axes partiales angustissimæ, planæ, margine minutè denticulatæ; spiculæ vix lineales; glumæ exterioris respectu racheos, (valvulæ floris masculi superstitis,) nervi 7—9 æquidistantes; interioris 5, quorum laterales approximati; paleæ minutissimè striatæ; folia plana; vaginæ longissimæ; ligulæ truncatæ integræ."

Mr. Kippist regards the "Fundi" as an undescribed species, although specimens collected at Sierra Leone by Afzelius are in the collections of Sir James E. Smith and Sir Joseph Banks, on the former of which Afzelius has noted that it is much cultivated by the Negroes in Sierra Leone.—R. C.

tivated ; it should be planted in rows, and yields its fruit about the fourth year.

Cocos. There are three kinds of *Cocos*, the West Indian, or English Coco, as it is called ; the Country, and the Water Coco. The Country Coco possesses acrid properties ; excoriating the throat, and causing an unpleasant prickling sensation when swallowed. The root of the water coco is not eaten, being reckoned poisonous. The coco resembles the chesnut in taste.

Pumpkins, Squash, Cucumber and Water Melons, (anguisa trilobata,) arrive at the greatest perfection. I have no doubt that *capers* could be cultivated in abundance in the Colony.

The *sorrel* plant is common, but possesses distinct characters from that of the European sorrel. It is used by the natives in their Palaver Sauce.

Porcelain (Porticulata,) is found near the shore, or on the mountain sides. The natives apply it to recent wounds and contusions.

Caliboo, a most excellent substitute for spinach, is much grown, and is eaten by all classes of the Colonists.

Hibiscus esculentus, (Okro,) the flower of a shrubby plant, is much cultivated by all the Liberated Africans, Settlers and Maroons. It is one of the articles commonly used in soup, which it renders exceedingly gelatinous and nourishing. The leaves are eaten as spinach.

The *tomatas* grown in the Colony are very fine, and much used.—Of peppers, beside the several varieties of the capsicum family, four kinds of Malaguetta pepper, (*amomum grana paradisi,*) grow in the Colony ; some of them of weak flavour, others pungent, and possessing a fine aromatic perfume, both in taste and flavour, the pod being acid. There is also the true African Malaguetta pepper, which excels all the others in pungency ;—besides a spice,

mildly pungent, the fruit of a lofty tree, the virtues of which, are contained in the husk.

A plant called the *Tea plant*, a kind of sage, and thyme, are severally used as such by the natives, and grow plentifully. The beautiful palm tree, so bountifully supplying to many of the wants of the natives, is always found growing where there is abundance of water. It is well termed the "Native's friend," and affords them oil, wine, nuts, young sprouts, beside material for fishing-tackle, baskets, &c.

The *Papua*, *Plantain*, *Banana*, *Mango* and *Alligator Pear* are much cultivated, especially the three former fruits. The *Plantain*, (*Musa Paradisaica*,) and *Banana* trees are of the same class as the palm, and look like an umbrageous grove among the small allotments attached to the huts of the Liberated Africans, to which they give an air of neatness and tropical luxuriance. The *Plantains* are less clustered, larger and harder than *Bananas*, but are more regular and bent at the base; they are also less saccharine. When cooked, they are either frittered, roasted, or boiled. *Bananas* grow in clusters of above 100, and are a soft, sweet, luscious fruit. *Papaws* are closely arranged round the stem of the tree in compact clusters, and are of a deep green when unripe, but when ripe they are of a deep rich yellow colour. They are made into pies, or boiled as turnips before being ripened. The *Alligator Pear* is eaten with pepper and salt.

There is a great variety of the plum, containing one or more kernels. The yellow, or hog plum tree, resembles the ash; the fruit somewhat insipid. *Fingers*, a kind of digitated peach, grows plentifully in the bush; while the limes and oranges are of excellent quality. The climate is equally adapted for the cultivation of lemons and dates. The pomegranate has also been introduced.

Guavas, (Guava psidium,) are plentiful, they resemble in flavour the strawberry; there are two kinds of figs, one the size of a hazel nut; the other of a reddish colour and more like the true fig, but filled with gritty seeds; both are much infested with insects. When a branch of the latter is broken off the tree, a milk-like fluid of the tenacity of caoutchouc, oozes from the fractured surface.

There is a great variety of *tamarinds*, viz.: the white, brown and velvet; the brown is most esteemed; the fruit of the locust-tree is much esteemed by the natives; and also an insipid hard fruit like the tamarind, called by the Timnehs, *Massinete*. The velvet tamarind is plentiful in the Banana Islands; the locust fruit is used in several ways by the Akoos. A few cocoa trees are scattered amongst the gardens of Free Town and villages, while the cashew and marmull apples, the former an astringent sub-acid fruit, the latter different from, but not inferior to those from the West Indies, are now generally cultivated.

Cream fruit, the produce of a lofty tree in the Plantain Islands, might be grown in the Colony. The fruit is joined together, and depends from the end of a small branch, the juice resembling milk.

Very little or no attention has hitherto been bestowed on the cultivation of the grape, but the country grape might be improved, though it does not equal the European grape, from which it differs very much; it is black, small and round, with an acrid and acid taste.

A kind of *currants* growing in the bush, is tolerably good; the *cherry* excels all the other indigenous fruits. Sour and sweet *sops* are abundant, and very delicious; the former is a sub-acid fragrant fruit, and is full of stony seeds; the pulp is not unlike bundles of fine cotton-wick, damped.

The nutmeg, cassia, and cinnamon trees are found, and are capable of cultivation on the hill slopes and plains. Cardamoms are occasionally brought to the Colony from the interior, but in small quantity. A kind of bark, possessing similar properties to the Peruvian bark is found in the adjoining countries, and is a good febrifuge in ague.

There are several kinds of oak exported, viz., teak-oak, white, softer than teak, and ken-kunk, very hard and brittle; to illustrate the great size which teak attains, I may mention, that a log, shipped in 1832, from the Port Lökkoh side, measured 450 cubic feet, or nine loads, 50 feet being a load of Sierra Leone timber. A valuable trade in timber, camwood, and several kinds of wood well adapted for light fancy furniture, is carried on in the Rokelle, Bunce, and neighbouring rivers. The teak is collected in factories, situated on the banks of the river and islands in the navigable parts of the stream. The group of islands and banks on the north side of the Sierra Leone river, are Robump, Papel, Kas-anka, Upper Robump, which with Upper Tasso, Bunce Island, Tomba, Upper Tomba, Rokelama, Maquarie and Cooubli on the south side, and several other stations higher up the river, are the chief depôts to which timber is rafted for shipment. Some of these islands, with the others named in another part of the work, forming an archipelago, are low, and swampy, overgrown with mangrove and other rank vegetation, and are frequently overflowed by the tide.^a Bunce Island, formerly a great slave factory, is now used as a timber station. The timber vessels generally anchor in Tomba roads; in a sanatory point of view, I conceive

^a During the rains, the tides are very strong and regular, running from 6 to 7 knots an hour. In the dry season the ebb runs 2½ miles an hour, the flood only 2.

that the logs of timber, prior to their stowage, ought to be well washed with a solution of Chloride of Lime.

The *butter* or *tallow-tree*, is common in low lands, both in the Colony and its neighbourhood; the juice, resembling gamboge in durability and tint, exudes on the least incision. It is viscous, and of a dark colour, when coagulated. The fruit is nearly oval, with five or six seeds, the size of a walnut, which are eaten by some of the natives with their food.

On the Bullom shore, the *bread-fruit* or *monkey bread*, as the natives call it, grows very plentifully; it is somewhat similar in taste to gingerbread, losing its flavour, however, when kept; the fruit is nutritious, and somewhat larger than an apple.

The tree which furnishes the seeds from which Talli-coonah or Kundah oil is procured, is found growing abundantly in the Timneh country, and over the Colony. "It is a meliaceous plant," the Carapa Touloucouna of the Flore de Senegambie, and is figured in "Sweet's British Flower Garden." The fruit is a large, somewhat globular fine celled capsule; the seeds (of which there are from eighteen to thirty in each capsule,) vary in size from that of a chesnut, to a hen's egg: they are three cornered, convex on the dorsal surface, of a brownish or blackish red colour and rugous. At the village of Kent, near Cape Schilling, the oil is manufactured as follows:—the seeds are dried in the sun, then hung up in wicker racks or hurdles, and exposed to the smoke of their huts; when exposed for a sufficient time, the seeds are roasted and subjected to trituration in large wooden mortars, until reduced to a pulp: the mass is then boiled, when the supernatant oil is removed by skimming; the natives principally manufacture the oil to afford light, which is both good and pleasant; the leaves are used by the

Kroomen as a thatch; the tree grows to the height of upwards of twenty feet.

I believe the medicinal properties of Tallicoonah or Kundah oil are unknown in Europe. Among the Liberated Africans, the Sherbros and Soosoos, the oil is held in high estimation as an anthelmintic, the negroes and all classes of the Colonists being very subject to worms. The sort of worms for which Tallicoonah or Kundah oil proves efficacious, are the tape, lunbricus and ascarides, more especially the two former; administered, however, in the form of enemata, the oil is successful in bringing away great numbers of the latter. When employed as an enema, one or two ounces may be thrown into the bowels dissolved in warm water, of a temperature sufficient to retain it in the liquid state. I have used it in large doses (as much as ʒ iss,) in "Lethargus," a disease of the brain,* in which it is most desirable to act upon the bowels with the most powerful drastic purgatives. Some of the Colonists are in the habit of mixing with the palm and nut oils used to afford light, a portion of Tallicoonah oil, to prevent their servants from using the oil with their food.

I have employed it in cases of worms, or where I suspected their existence, in doses proportionate to the age and strength of the patient. In such cases, the dose has ranged from one ounce to one drachm, fluid measure; it is here necessary to observe, that its purgative effects were by no means always uniform; in persons of weak habit of body, and in which there existed any liability to bowel complaints, the Tallicoonah oil, from its acrid bitter properties, would prove injurious; but in persons in the opposite condition of body, I can confidently recommend this medicine as a safe and powerful anthel-

* See London Medical Gazette, September 18th, 1840.

ment. The usual way I have administered the oil, is precisely similar to the modes in which castor, or the other fixed oils are given ; if given in proper doses, its purgative effects bear a close resemblance to those of castor oil, both in the length of time that elapses before its operation, and in the bulk of the stools produced. When over doses are taken, it produces the most violent hypercatharsis, cold sweats, and vomiting succeeded by collapse, and if remedial means are not promptly employed, even death. I have observed, that the negroes also use it as an expectorant and rubefacient. The best specimens are liquid, but it is more generally found concrete. The oil is sold in the Colony at two shillings a gallon, and could be procured in abundance from the coast as an article of commerce.

“Mr. Redwood found this oil to be entirely soluble in ether, and that alcohol separated it into two parts, a concrete substance, which was dissolved, and an oil, fluid at ordinary temperatures, on which the alcohol took no effect. The former contained the bitter principle and the nauseous odour of the oil, the latter was nearly colourless and tasteless.”—“The oil owes its bitterness to an alkaloid principle, which M. M. Pelroz and Robinet, (*Journal de Pharmacie*,) found also in the bark of the tree.” (*Vide Pharmaceutical Journal*, Vol. ii. No. 5.)

The tree from which the dye called turmeric is procured, grows in some of the adjoining countries.

The *Cotton* and *Pullom*, or *Wild-cotton*, with the *Tulip-tree*, are met with in abundance over the Colony; of the former there are several varieties. The proper season to plant the cotton seeds, is May. The natives manufacture from it a narrow cloth.

A species of silk cotton is produced on the *Pullom* tree, which, from its elasticity, is well adapted for stuffing

mattresses. The tree is much esteemed by the natives.

The fibres of a creeping vine called *Sapo*, is used as a stuffing for mattresses, and from its elasticity is well adapted for that purpose. Useful cords are made from a number of fibrous plants; the banks of the rivers abounding in those of the *Phormium* genus. Very many plants and trees produce the Cautchouc or Indian rubber, and a large quantity might be readily collected for exportation.

Dyes are of a superior texture; yellow may be got from the butter fruit and tallow trees; red from camwood; blue from indigo, which grows in wild exuberance; vermilion from the shoe-flower petals.

The gums are *Copal*, and gum senegal or arabic.

A kind of flax was, some years ago, manufactured from the plant termed *Racine*. The project of cultivating it for exportation was, however, abandoned.

At the commencement and termination of the rains, very good mushrooms may be gathered on the farms.

The African procures salt from the mud crust, on which saline particles have been deposited by the sea, overflowing the low swampy land near the shore. This salt, though very dark coloured, is preferred by them. The crust of mud is collected and dissolved in water, in large earthen pots. This water being saturated with the saline particles, is boiled in brass shallow pans to dryness.

*Estimated value of Exports in 1839, from Sierra Leone, from the Report laid before
the Committee of the House of Commons:—*

Teak Timber.....	£36,567
Cam Wood.....	8,129
Palm Oil.....	7,993
Ground Nuts.....	305
Hides.....	747
Ivory.....	291
Rice.....	1,970
Pepper.....	381
Gum Copal.....	265
Arrow Root.....	77
Sundries.....	52
	<hr/>
	£58,440
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The course of mercantile transactions, or exchange at Sierra Leone for bills on the Treasury is $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., that is to say, for Spanish money, counting 4s. 1d. to the dollar, and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., (as fixed by the Treasury,) for British money. Bills drawn on the owners of vessels or merchants, to defray expenses in the Colony, are generally at par. Missionary bills are to be purchased at whatever is the rate of exchange at the time.

The amount of coin in circulation in 1839, was estimated at from £30,000 to £35,000 sterling. Vide Parliamentary Report.

The goods imported into Sierra Leone, are Blue Bufts, Satin Stripes, Roanals, Printed and Plain Calicoes, Sugar, Wine, Brandy, Rum, Gin, Malt Liquors, Gums, Powder, Hardware, and a variety of Manchester goods.

AKOOS.

CHAPTER VI.

Akoo race—Kingdom of Yarriba—The divisions—Physical structure of Akoos—Dress— Their Mythology—Human sacrifices—Devil Dance—Various kinds of Worshippers—Jugglers—Mode of detecting a Thief—Traditions—First creation of man—Separation of Whites from Blacks—Akoo Proverbs and Names—Capture of a Slave—Akoo Courtship—Names—Partiality to Music and Singing—Dramatic Entertainments.

NOTES ON THE AKOO NATION.

THE Akoos constitute the majority of the inhabitants of Kissy Village. Though known in this Colony by the name "Akoo," they are better known by the term "Eyeos," or "Yarribbeans;" they are, moreover, distinguished into tribes, bearing the names of their native localities, Deholibah, or Joliba, Jebuh, Jessuh, Jffeh, and Ebghwa, but all speaking the same dialect. The kingdom of Yarriba, lying N. E. of Dahomey, as we are told by Clapperton, holds as tributary the neighbouring states of Mahas, Badagry, and Dahomey; but if this statement was correct at the time it was written, there is reason to believe, that it is so no longer, from the progress made by the "Fellatahs," towards supreme dominion in that part of the interior of Africa.

I learnt from an intelligent Liberated African of the Akoo nation, that the country is generally low; but that in Joliba, it becomes mountainous, and possesses abundance of water. The soil is extremely fertile; whilst gold is found in the debris of the mountain streams. Iron ore

is also abundant. The common domestic animals are reared, the horse being brought from the Fellatah country. The principal states of the country are:—

1st.—Jffeh situated centrally with respect to the others, and to which they are tributary, especially Yarribah, Uribah or Yobah, and Ebghwah. The King resides at O-dayfeh, in the state of Ebghwah.

2nd.—Yarribah, Uribah, or Yobah, (the latter is the name used in common conversation,) is situated to the south of Jffeh. It is a pastoral country. The King resides at Eye-yah, the principal town.

3rd.—Ebghwah, or Egbah, to the west of Jffeh and Uribah, is a woody country. The principal towns are “A-Kay,” the King’s residence; Kumptah, where the houses are large and commodious, Ekrukuh or Ekekah, which my informant stated it would occupy a day to perambulate.

4th.—Ebummah, situated eastward of Yobah and Jffeh. The King lives in E-lah, which is the principal town.

5th.—E-je-booh, south of Jffeh, and near the water side. The King resides at a place called O-day. There are some smaller states adjoining E-je-booh, the exact situation of which my informant was unable to describe; but the names of two of them are Eg-bah-doh, (or Lower,) and Oh-tah; another called Yeshah, adjoins Ebumah. These different states lie between 3° and $6^{\circ} 30'$, east longitude, and 7° and 9° of north latitude.

The Akoos are generally tall in stature; the skin is black, or of a dark coffee or indifferent black colour. The women are often of a light yellow colour; but I cannot corroborate the statement made by Lander, that they are sometimes fairer than mulattoes. The white of the eye is either of a dirty pale colour, or wears a yellowish hue, being dotted with spots of a dark brown or hazel colour;

the iris is either of a light or dark hazel. The eye is not unfrequently bloodshot, as if from relaxation of the minute blood vessels; I have occasionally seen the iris of a dark sea green colour: eye-brows well marked; nostrils slightly expanded, elevated, and occasionally hooked; lips often thin, whilst the gums are often of a bluish tinge. The hair I have occasionally seen of a reddish brown, sometimes of a dirty sand colour, short and crisp, in some instances, slightly curled.

In Eyeo they suckle their children for three years, and they are allowed to run about naked until the approach of puberty. The female child, like its mother, is invariably decorated with strings of beads round the waist. Among the Akoos both sexes are circumcised. They suppress the hæmorrhage by applying salt, or soap, mixed with wood ashes. The operator is styled Amylunka, or circumcision man.

Tin, brass, or iron rings are often worn round their wrists, thumb, middle finger, toes, or ankles. Their carriage is dignified and graceful, both sexes being exceedingly talkative.

The Akoo dress consists of a cap, a shirt without sleeves, in fact a piece of calico through which the head is thrust, but more frequently the Ebantah, or Tuntungeh, which is a piece of cloth wound round the loins, and but just sufficient to cover their nakedness. In and about their huts, they wear the country cloth, the folds of which they dispose gracefully over the left shoulder, the feet being exposed.

The Akoos discover wonderful method in their mythology. Their several modes of worship are indicated by the devotee wearing necklaces of beads, the colour and size of the bead distinguishing the worshippers. Human sacrifices are offered in Yarribah, when they are about to

go to war, and in the dedication of a thing as an object of worship; but these dreadful orgies are intended more to propitiate the evil one, than as offerings to the eternal; for the Almighty they deem to be too wise and benevolent a being to regard the faults and failings of humanity, otherwise than compassionately. These sacrifices are also offered up when they set apart, or consecrate as it were, a place for their worship. Buildings of a square form are appropriated to the worship of the gods, at which the people assemble with the priests.

The Devil Dance is performed by one of the Priests. The Priest is dressed up in the most grotesque way in a loose gown. Spectacles, shells or calabashes, the two latter having slits, are mounted on the nose, a cowtail depends from the back, or is held in the hand. The dancing is kept up to a late hour by both sexes, to the sound of Tom Toms Flutes, and to an instrument resembling a triangle. The movements of the body are generally slow, and in many cases are highly indecent; the passions being stimulated by fermented palm wine, trade rum, and country beer.

The worshippers of thunder and lightning, wear a necklace of white and black beads, alternating with a red one. While worshipping the thunder and lightning, some of the Akoos roll around the idols wooden balls intended to represent the thunder bolts, which they believe to fall during the storm. Indeed they often previously place a hatchet in the house which may be burnt up by the lightning, which the Jugglers show as having fallen from the clouds.

On the 28th of July, 1841, two Akoos, while worshipping the thunder, were struck dead by the lightning in their huts. At Kissy Village, on this occasion, the howling of the devotees was distinctly heard high above

the din of the crashing tempest. These howlings are intended to propitiate the evil power, and to avert the calamity from themselves. The Wesleyan Mission House, and Commissariat were both struck during the storm just referred to; the latter being much damaged.

Wooden idols are only adored by the Chief, or Headman of a town or village.

Those who adore large rivers or lakes, are known by wearing white necklaces.

The individuals who pay divine homage to the palm nut, permit their Priests alone to wear beads; the necklaces consist of small strings twisted together, which are passed through large beads, ten in number, about three inches apart, their colour being white and green. When the Priests or Jugglers officiate, they are covered with a white sheet, and hold in the right hand a cowtail; the palm nuts intended to represent the Deity, are not indiscriminately selected, but those only are chosen, which have placental or four seed holes.

There are swarms of Jugglers, or Fortune Tellers. When the Priests of the palm nuts are consulted on such occasions, they count out sixteen palm nuts, having each four seed holes, which are kept very carefully free from dust. A flat wooden bowl containing yam flour is then placed on the floor of the hut. The yam is prepared for this purpose by boiling it till half cooked, when an acrid vegetable infusion is poured over the crushed yam. The Fortune Teller then calls for one of the family, generally a boy, and presents him with a bone, a seed, a shell, &c., two or three in all. He then formally calls over the name of each of those articles, pronouncing some evil, and some good. The boy, if there are three articles given him, places one in the ham. To enable him to do so, he squats down, resting the body on the outer edge of the

feet, which are thus turned inwards—a posture frequently adopted by the young of both sexes in the Akoo country. Both hands are shut, and rest clenched on the knees. The Fortune Teller then takes the nuts, and transfers them rapidly from one hand to the other; occasionally, during this manipulation, he drops some of them into the bowl, but retaining a few of them in his left hand, he stoops down, and draws with the fore and middle fingers symbolical lines on the yam flour, and carefully observes the nuts. One of the articles kept by the boy, is then handed to him. Having finished these mummeries, he informs the person consulting him of the result.

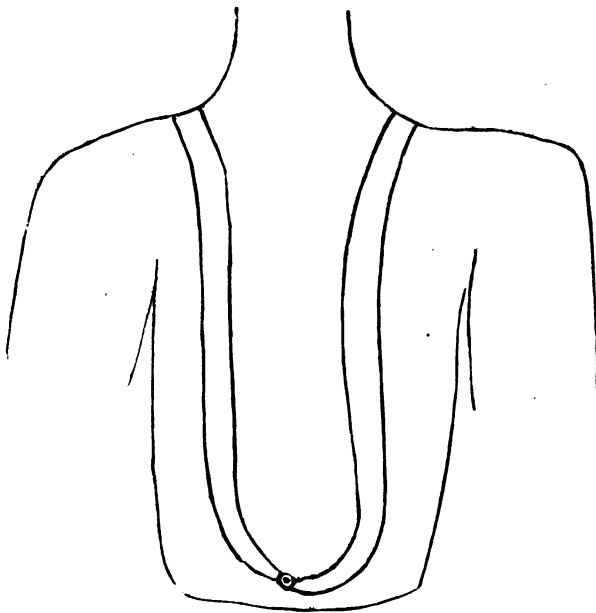
To detect a thief, the following ordeal is used. The Chugughudah, or Juggler, takes a vegetable infusion into which capsicum, minimun, or bird pepper, is put. The Conjuror then takes a pepper corn and chews it, squirting the juice into the eye of the individual suspected. If the eye becomes moistened with tears, or if he complains of pain, he is declared guilty.

Such persons as adore stone idols, have no distinguishing mark. The idols are placed at the corner of the hut, and are called Olisha, or Orisha. Before these they prostrate themselves, petitioning for riches and children, barrenness bearing a stigma with these people.

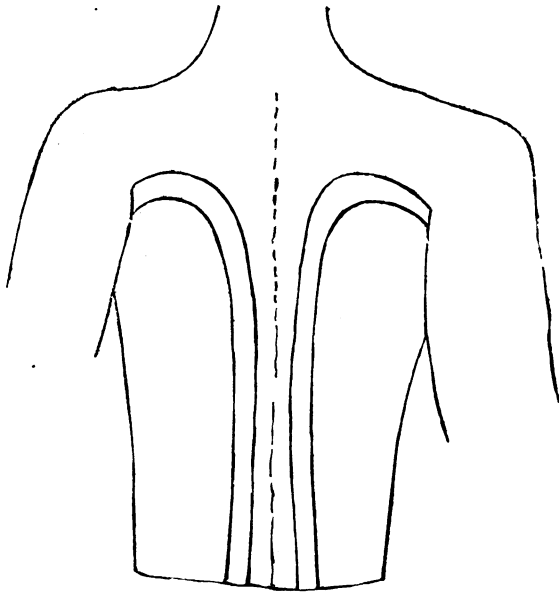
The clay idols are looked upon as gris-gris; those who keep them are Chugughudah, or Jugglers. The idols are generally adorned with Cowrie shells.

The worshippers of snakes are known by wearing a ring of brass, or iron, round the left wrist.

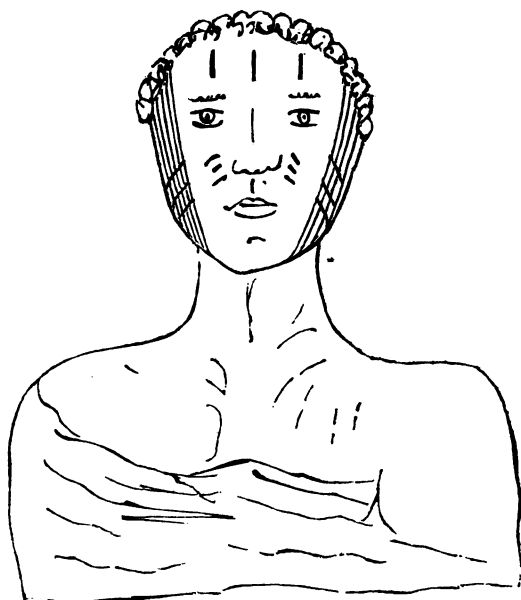
Water is worshipped in small earthen pots; the women on their way to draw it, return no salutation; sometimes, however, they strike the palm of the hand with the fingers, by way of recognition; when at worship they kneel close to the pots.



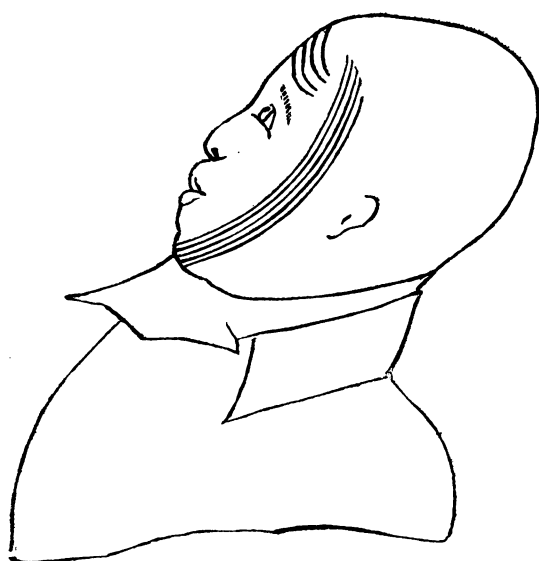
1.—*Akoo National Mark.*



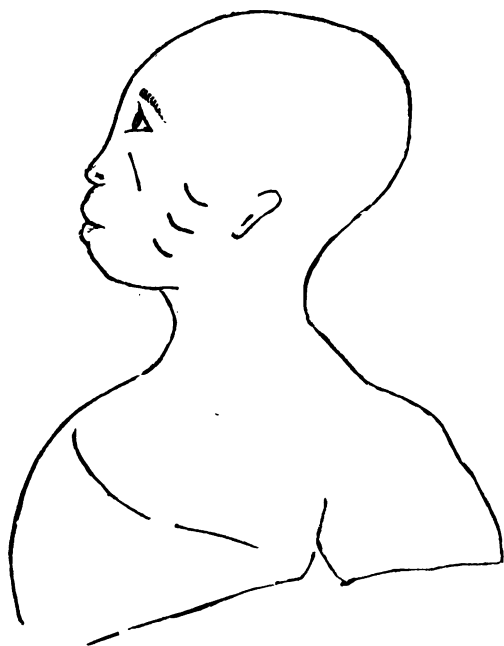
2.—*Jebu National Mark.*



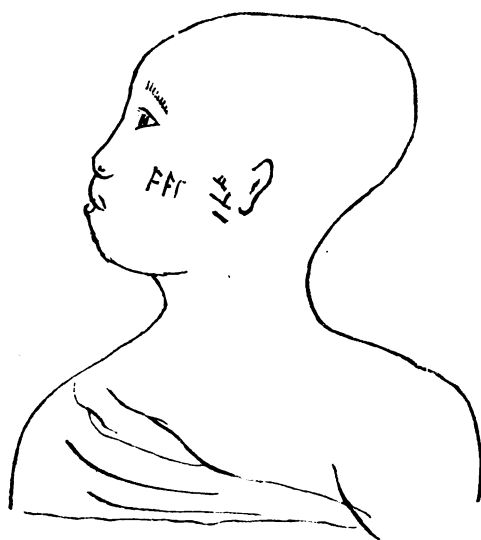
3.—Eyeo vel Amina National Mark.



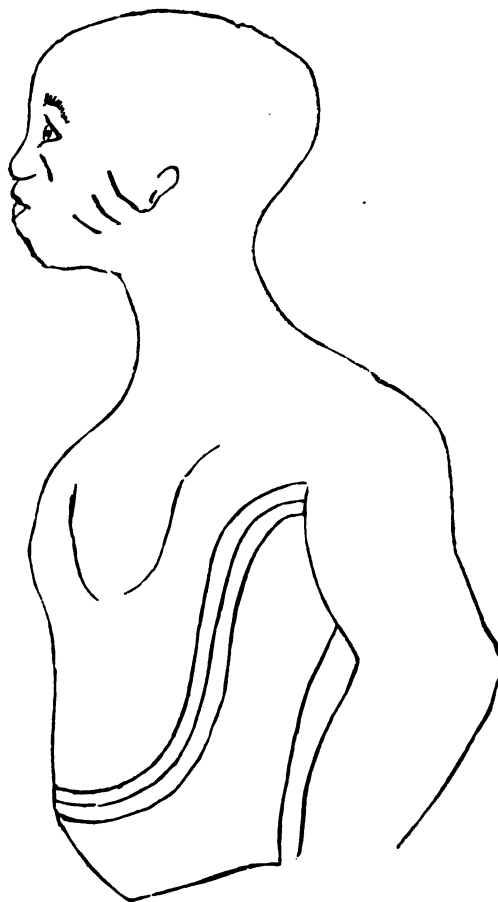
4.—*Ebgwa National Mark.*



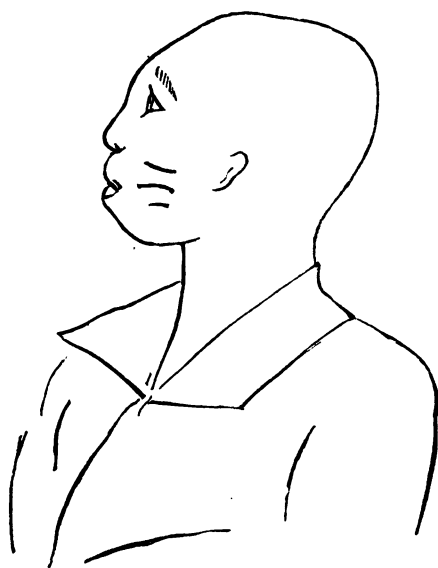
5.—*Ebgwa National Mark.—Woman.*



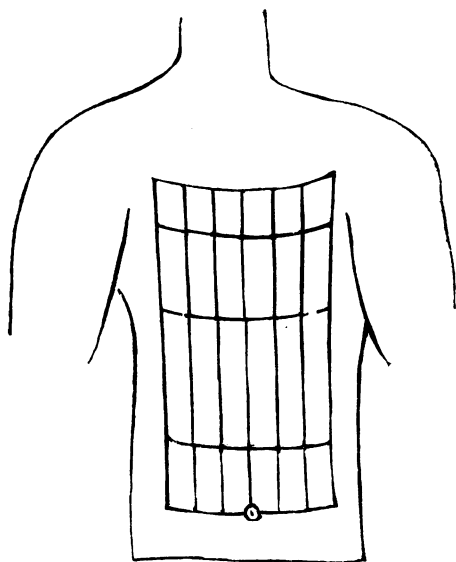
7.—Epha National Mark.



8.—Yarriba National Mark.—*Woman.*



9.—*Joliba National Mark.*



10.—*Jessu National Mark.*

The Akoos entertain the following belief of the first creation of man :—

Odua, (God) made one man and woman, and put them on a high hill; after a time war came to them. Twoh, a goddess, endeavours to make them serve her, and is successful in part, and is set up as an object of worship. Moreover, she is able to hear and feel, but not to move or speak. On particular occasions she is drawn about the town. They are unwilling to admit that she is an idol, but believe she is possessed of great power. The man and woman Odua made, had six children, and these were sent out by their parents to build a town for themselves, and become subject to the king of the Akoos.

The following is their account of the separation of the Whites from the Blacks,

“Odua asked Oeibo, (white man,) and Ouba-oyo, “(the King of the Akoos,) what they would take. Oeibo “said he would take water; Ouba-oyo, that he would sit “down, and fight for Odua. Thereupon Odua makes a “bowl, and puts a cover to it, which he gives to Oeibo, “telling him to carry it to the sea and there open it; “after which he was to put it on the water, and get into “it and paddle it with a golden stick, when he would find “it to move wherever he pleased.”

It would be useless to state the various marvellous stories that I have heard from various individuals respecting Jffeh. The following tradition is, however, current among the Akoos.

“It was the first place that God made, and where he “put the first man and woman; it is also the place of “departed spirits, for whose accommodation a market “place has been erected, called Ouga Attebah, or the “market of the dead,—where the dead buy and sell. “In this place, the surviving relatives of a person lately

“deceased, may obtain an interview with their departed friend ; but they would die if they should speak.”

The following Akoo proverbs were handed to me by Mr. H. Townsend, of the Church Missionary Society, to whom I am indebted for much of the information respecting the religious ceremonies of the Akoos. I may here mention, that this gentleman is following up the labours of the Rev. J. Raban, who published a vocabulary of the Akoo language. I subjoin a list of Akoo words, with which he kindly furnished me.

AKOO.

“Obewe ku aro koh
bwe éku aria re.”

“Ah-wa Robowo a ne
Koh bwo, olowoorong to he
bi ohba loko.”

“Oshi bi ofong oyoh
oshi bi owotoh, Kosi duro
woo ala lunju moh.”

TRANSLATION.

“A knife however sharp
cannot plane its own handle.”

“A Chief who is poor
is despised, but a rich man
does as he likes.”

“My enemy rejoices,
when he hears of my loss ;
he does as if my property
were all destroyed ; he does
not wait to see what God
might do for me.”

ENGLISH.

Air.
Alligator.
Ape.
Accept.
Across.
Adultery.
After.
Absent.
Alive.

AKOO.

Omi.
Ohni.
Obboh.
Re.
Dabo.
Tka.
Ohde.
Kose.
Oezi.

Always.	ba bobo.
Anchor.	I da' Kor.
	Obi, no.
Anger.	Onĩ bino.
Breast.	Em Ko.
Believe.	Ma broo
	Broagi.
Branch.	Orna wagi,
	literally of a tree.
Come.	Okko, obado.
Command.	Olericon.
Creep.	Rukaro.
Destroy.	Baje.
Dinner.	Oujale.
	Midday, Oujarolo
Dirt.	Jgpwe.
Divide.	Da widge.
Drink.	Mo.
Fall.	Osobo.
Find.	Riasee.
Fine.	Odara.
Free.	Zadi Odaliry.
God.	Along.
Great.	Oppoh, Blah,
	To-to-be.
Gold.	Ide, woora.
Go.	Loh.
Headman.	Oliuwa, Olouwa.
Heaven.	Eberi Arno.
Join.	Oso'poh.
Kneel.	Ak Kovale,
	Many people kneel.
	Mo Koovale
	I kneel down.

Lad.
 Long Time.
 Lend.
 Learn.
 Life.
 Limb.
 Lip.
 Low.
 Mankind.
 Mat.
 Moth.
 Name.
 Neck.
 Near.
 North.
 Obey.
 Often.
 Old.
 Place.
 Please.
 Powder.
 Power.
 Punish.
 Quarrel.
 Root.
 Rum.
 Stupid.
 Shaker.
 Saw.
 Sound.
 Sour.
 Thread.
 Tremble.
 White.

Omade Runi.
 Op-quā.
 Momori.
 Koh.
 Tye Ahyi.
 Owa.
 Itē.
 Bere.
 Okuni osuya.
 Ba.
 Ada.
 Okoh.
 Ohno.
 Odeta.
 Ojuyi.
 Beaoti.
 Bikoba.
 Arobo.
 Yyi.
 Odomoh.
 Eto.
 Agbara.
 Dalda.
 Ansejo.
 Jbo.
 Ohju.
 Ohgoh.
 Momi.
 Abolede.
 Oro.
 Ohko.
 Owo.
 Mi.
 Tufi Tung Turg.

White Man.
Way.
Why.
Wind.
Wine (Palm.)
Wise.

AKOO.

Oyi-ne.
Along chuhalong
Oppoh.
Zgi to to be.
Okkuni Oppoh.
Olu-me.
Omoh-oju.
Omah-dea.
Omade Kuni Ongko.
Sucka ne lemi ni.
Eme lah osu fu along.
Oju umboh.
He fufu.

Tybo Oeybo.
Nibo.
Kil.
Afofo.
Emo.
Emomoh.

ENGLISH.

He is living.

God is great.
A great tree.
A great man.
He beat me.
He knows much.
He knows a little.
A boy learns.
That thing is for me.
What must I do for God.
Rain is coming.
A white house.

THE AKOO NUMERALS RUN AS FOLLOWS:

1 Aukung.
2 Mallay.
3 Metta.
4 Menna.
5 Marung.
6 Mayfa.
7 Meya.
8 Meygheo.
9 Maisong.
10 Hawar.

11 Mo-conna.
12 Magylla.
13 Metalla.
14 Menilla.
15 Meydugoo.
16 Meyney denugoo.
17 Mella-gn-ugoo.
18 Malle-gn-ugoo.
19 Moeod-n-ugoo.
20 Ugoo.

The following is an account of the capture of a young man, as related by himself in his own tongue:—

“Ogum owa luwa; awo fokin loo mi b’oma Simba
 “tiamo innuna dibaba bata mi omiony Orami Jebu Otami
 “f Eku, Ekwo lami fu Oeibo uodou wa, iwa mokko,
 “wa, owa shi liking owomi a mahmi a mah-jadi. Awokowa
 “imba woko, wato awo nika mah ba moje amy loalouje.”

TRANSLATION.

“War came to our town, they take rope and put
 “about my neck; when they had taken me to Debaba,
 “my Father he said he would buy me. Jebuh they sell
 “me to white man. When we were on the sea, we saw
 “one thing rise out of the water; it coming close to us he
 “come into the ship, he come open the door (the hatch-
 “way,) they say me must not fear, we going to fine
 “country.”

Account of the courtship of a young Akoo couple.

“Mo-mah lou lewo, orniuro mown oni kim mah
 “waki yalo fu mi miki mah shi oferi komah si Obiri mi.”

“Bi amba ri-mo mah shi injeli bo babi baoba jebo
 “okiri odi lou tuba akiri, adelo a shi ogiong liti, oijiomii,
 “Aeyi limi yeli feli wale a suong li mi immi a suong tie
 “ouguomi. Jo mi mi ousoukou souko. Summi injo babi
 “Olarbar lung Ouwo ku.”

“When I go to her house, he says I fine in her eye,
 “she say I must come tell how do, her mother give her
 “time, she say, I must take her for wife.”

“If I see him, I cook for him, when we have eaten,
 “we take a walk, and when we return, we eat in his house
 “and he in mine. When war take me, my friend cry
 “much. I cannot forget him till I die.”

I subjoin a few Akoo names, with their signification.

NAMES OF MEN.

Akebarday.	The strong man wins the crown.
Shugh-go he ye.	The thunder or lightning begot the child.
Bangho Koh.	Sit down, or stay with me.
Okoo-be ye.	Begotten after intercession with idol stone.
Attahdayday.	He comes of a stranger.
Edo-wah.	A general name given to male children, after the birth of twins.
Ah-be doo-goo.	Born during peace.
Ke me-leh Ku.	Pacify him for he cries.
Olu-keh yeh.	He died in the midst of honour.

NAMES OF WOMEN.

Moh-dah-bah.	A child is come to the house.
Ah-wah-wah mi.	In time of travail I was in pain.
Oh-gi-keh-ley.	The eyes of him who weep are weary.
Oh wa-ree.	You came before.
Lah-bu-day.	He comes again.
Woh-bo-du.	You are come.

This last name, indicates a belief in the soul, or immortal principle, being re-clothed in the tenement of mortality, and entering the world adapted to the infant's body they believe it to have assumed. In fact it is the doctrine of transmigration.

Name of Slaves kept as domestic servants, and not for sale.

Mah-boh-moh-jeh.

Eyo-re ah.

Tau-meh-dah.

Ebuh-elisha.

Do not spoil money.

To be thus is my lot.

Who knows the maker of
all being?

Praise and honor be to the
Gods.

It is well to observe, that the slave is not marked in the same way as the freeborn. In the former, an oblique cut reaches from the middle of the nose to midway between the lobe of the ear and angle of the mouth; in some persons I have noticed it to extend even to the ramus of the jaw.

Slaves intended for sale retain their original names.

Names bestowed for some personal deformity or peculiarity.

Ah Klibah.

Ar-owh.

Ah-run-wuh.

A duh-ju.

A do-loh-ju.

Bandy Legged.

Ugly.

Handsome.

Squint eyes.

Shiny jet black.

The Akoos, and indeed all the African Colonists here, are very partial to music and singing: some of them, as I have before stated, are tolerable musicians. I here sub-join a specimen of Akoo music.



Their songs consist of short extempore verses, uttered in a recitative, as follows :—

Sibi oti le shi.

Abalangku lu le.

Omma tu long shi.

Moushi mah brimohdi.

Ju bie luju.

Oh kuo imloh lu miloh.

Tabo mi sin ingya.

You must do what you like.

Drums are beating.

Who have this child.

He belongs to a great man.

So you must dance.

Good by, go live for go.

I show stranger the way.

I am also informed, that they have occasionally regular dramatic entertainments, the management of the plot and denouement being well sustained. The performers on these occasions have their hair shaved, in curiously-shaped forms, some not unlike a parterre pattern, a custom which is also practiced by many of the Akoos in the Colony.

NOTICE OF THE KUSSOH & TIMNEH COUNTRIES.

CHAPTER V.

I am indebted to Mr. JOHN M'CORMACK, a gentleman resident in the Colony and Timneh countries for upwards of twenty years, for the geographical outlines of the countries more immediately adjoining the Colony. Mr. M'Cormack is, perhaps, one of the most accurate observers, whom it was ever my fortune to come in contact with; and from our imperfect knowledge of the countries of which I am about to give a sketch, it is to be hoped the information may prove available, in filling up a blank which occurs in the map of this portion of Africa.

KUSSOH.

THIS country is said to be divided, as the Timneh country is, into several principalities or states, or head towns; it is bounded on the north by the Timnehs, on the east and south by tribes of which I have not yet got any account, except that one on the east is said to be the Konah nation; on the west by the Sherbro, Krim, or Kittum, and the Fye or Vye nations. They are said to be a wild savage people, continually at war amongst themselves and against their neighbours, the Timnehs particularly. The Simerahs, together with Baih Krus, and Baih Sherbro tribes, have suffered much from them.

The Sherbro country, commencing at the Ribbie, or Dibbie river on the north, and ending at the sea bar on the south, runs east to the Kussohs; and is bounded on

the south by the Boom river. In this district there are several petty states under kings, or chiefs.

The Orim, or Kittam, is a small tribe between the Fye and Sherbro, on the banks of the Boom and Kittam rivers. The Fye or Vye country, commences at Gallinas, and extends to the south east, to about Cape Mount.

The Kussoh country appears to lie between the parallel of 7° and $8^{\circ} 15''$ north latitude, and in a south east direction, between the degrees of $10^{\circ} 30'$ and 12° west longitude.

TIMNEH.*

THE Peninsula, to the eastward, is bounded by the extremely fertile Quiah country, which has induced many of the Liberated Africans, more especially the Kussohs, to cross the Colonial territory, in order to settle there, to cultivate rice, &c., for which these lands are particularly well adapted; being moreover attracted by the close neighbourhood of Magbelly and Mahara districts, places trading very considerably with the interior. These silent encroachments by the Liberated Africans, were carried on for several years; not, however, without meeting from the Timnehs resistance, leading to petty feuds, in which blood has not unfrequently been shed, giving rise to the Soosoo or Kussoh war; most of the individuals engaged in these wars, or skirmishes, being Liberated Africans of those nations. Many of the Liberated Africans, it also appears, ranged themselves on each side, during the twelve years war

* The country immediately without the jurisdiction of the Colony, affords to debtors as inviolable a sanctuary as Holyrood, at Edinburgh.

was carried on by the late Ali Karli, against the Lokkos Timnehs, during which 1,000 persons on each side were destroyed, or sold into slavery. The Pongos slave market, is principally supplied from this source. It has thus been shown, that if the Lokkohs were persecuted by the Timnehs, the latter shared the same fate, being oppressed by the Mandingo Mahometans, and expelled towards the coast by the Foulahs, a most powerful nation. The Mandingoes by intermarriage and immigration have now, however, acquired the government of this country, from which they were expelled twenty-four years ago, as stated by Laing.

The Timneh country is intersected by creeks; the atmosphere, though humid, is drier than that of Sierra Leone; the soil is of a good quality, a rich loam. Rice and cassada are the staple articles of food; here and there the eye rests, with pleasure, on the palm and bullom trees, the former towering branchless above the richly tinted jungle, to the height of fifty feet.

The Timneh country is divided into several principalities, each having their separate Chief or King.

1st.—**QUIAH**, in which the Colony of Sierra Leone is situated, is bounded on the west, by the Atlantic; on the east by the river Rossoloh, which runs into the Rokelle river; on the north by the Sierra Leone estuary and river Rokelle, and on the south, by the river Ribbie or Dibbie, running into Yawry Bay. The principal town where the Chief resides, is called Robbaggah; although there are some towns much larger. The extent of this country is about forty-five miles from west to east, and about fifteen to eighteen medium breadth.

2nd.—**SIMIRAH** is bounded on the west by the river Rossoloh as above mentioned, on the east by a river running into the Rokelle, called Ro-Pommah, close to a town by name *Kontah*; on the north by the Rokelle river;

and on the south by Baih Kru's and Baih Sherbro's territories.

This country may be twenty-five to thirty miles from west to east, and about the same from north to south.

3rd.—YONI, lying to the south of Simirah, bounded on the east by Ma Bung, or Baih Kru's territory; on the south, by Bantahs; on the west by the Sherbros. Yoni is the King's residence, whose title is "Baih Sherbro."

4th.—MA BUNG, lying to the east of Yoni, and south of Simirah. The King's residence is called "Ma Bung," from which the country is named. His title of King is "Baih Kru."

5th.—MARUMPAH is bounded on the west by a river running into the Rokelle, near to the town called Medina, and named Ki-Yammah; on the east by a river running into the Rokelle, called Batta Kump, and nearly opposite to Pommah river; on the south by the Rokelle river; on the north by the Boco Loco territory. Marumpah is the King's residence; his title is "Baih Cobolo." Magbelly, a considerable town, is situated in this state.

6th.—BOCO LOCO, which commences on the west, at Kasanko point, on the south side of the Boco Loco river, and at Ro-ka-ko-pah river, on the north side of that river, runs east to Baih Commoh's territory, about one day's walk above the town of Boco Loco. On the south, it is bounded by Baih Cobolo's land; and on the north, by some division between the Boco Loco and small Scarcies, or Ro Bung river.

7th.—MENDAY is situated to the east of Baih Commoh's territory, but I have been unable to obtain an outline of it. Baih Fontay is the Chief, and his residence is named Ro Menday.

8th.—SANDAH lies to the east of Menday, and runs across from Marumpah to nearly the Great Scarcies, Ro Maburna. The inhabitants of this state are said to be great cultivators of rice.

9th.—BOMBALIE lies to the east of Baih Kru's land, but a tribe of Lokkohs partly intervene.

10th.—TONIE lies to the east of Bombalie. There are two principalities in this land, Baih Yenka's, and Baih Yussoh's; in the first, the camwood is grown, which is sold in Free Town under the name of Rokelle camwood.

11th.—KONIKAY lies east of Tonie, with several petty chieftainships between.

12th.—BANTA lies south of Yoni, and is between the Kussohs and Yoni. These poor people appear to have suffered much, both from the Kussohs and Sherbros.

There are several other tribes of Timnehs; but it is an exceedingly difficult task to get a correct outline of their territory, from our ignorance of locality.

The Timnehs are a lively race, but like all semi-civilized men, much addicted to thieving and roguery. The skin varies from jet black to light yellow, the intermediate shades being principally a coffee or indifferent black colour. Average stature five feet eight inches, muscular and well formed; eye-brows tolerably defined; the forehead compressed, the face generally narrow.

Timneh ornaments consist of strings of beads with silver bracelets, the former worn round the waist, the latter round the ankles and wrists. Unmarried girls arrived at puberty, have simply a narrow strip of calico, neatly ornamented, passed round the loins, and depending to the hams, both before and behind. This Eve-like covering, is called the "Tuntungie."

The men are expert boatmen, managing their canoes with great dexterity. The canoe is paddled, but if of larger size, it is often rowed, coarse mats or half tanned skins serving as sails. These grummattas, or boatmen, when rowing, generally "make sing," the whole joining in the chorus with stentorian voice, and in no measured cadence.

The language is full of harsh guttural sounds, but is at the same time musical. Many words begin with the syllable *Ng*. The Government is elective, and was long usurped by the deceased Ali Karli, or Fatima. They are not often brought to the Colony, but the Bagga people, a bastard kind of Timneh, are often brought here as slaves. The Vine, Caoutchouc and Vanella tree, (from which the nut is procured,) with the *Ricinus Communis*, or Castor oil plant, (*Monœcia Monodelphia*) is abundant. The oil is expressed from the seeds contained within a capsule; the parts of the plant which the natives employ for medicinal purposes are the leaves, which they bind round the head, to relieve tension, or head-ache; occasionally, however, they eat a portion of the seed when roasted, as a purgative. They are also well acquainted with the properties of the Squill bulb, and administer it as a diuretic. Ginger, Malaguetta Pepper, Water Melons, Pumpkins, Ground nuts, Cocoes or Junias, Sweet Potatoes, Yams, Arrow-root, Plantains, Bananas, Fundi, Indian and Guinea Corn, Dates, Casheu and Pine Apples, Capsicums, Orange, Tamarind, Sugar Cane, Coffee, Lime, Lemon, Papua and Locust trees, with the shrub Okro, are the productions of this fertile land, and under a more settled, mild, and judicious government, might be cultivated to a great extent. The Timnehs perfume themselves with the leaves of an odoriferous herb, resembling the flavour of new mown hay and woodroff.

Instead of a metallic currency, the bar, an indefinite quantity of goods, varying in value, is used: thus, a bar of tobacco may consist of 30 or 40 leaves; a bar of soap, being 2 or 3 lbs; of rum, a bottle; of blue bafts 2 or 3 yards. Gunpowder and salt are also used as bars.

I am indebted for the substance of the following account of a journey to establish a Mission among the

Timnehs, to the kindness of a gentleman, late of the Church Missionary Society.

On the 18th of October, 1839, the Rev. Messrs. Weeks and Gross, and Messrs. Thomson and Steelman, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Kissling, crossed the estuary from Pourah Bay, and arrived at Medina, the residence of Ali Mami Dalla Mahomadu, chief of the Bulloms^a at noon; these gentlemen sought, and obtained this powerful Chief's protection before proceeding on their journey. On landing, they were greeted by a discharge of musketry.

This Dalla Mahomadu was an exceedingly well informed man, perfectly conversant with European politics, and had very extensive mercantile transactions with the Merchants of Free Town, encouraging his subjects to trade with the Colonists, by setting them the example. Frequent visits were made to him; his courtesy, hospitality, and winning manners, gaining him more visitors than, perhaps, were at all times agreeable. Ali Dalla Mahomadu died in March, 1842. Numbers of the most intelligent European residents were present at his interment; and the powerful and petty neighbouring Chiefs assembled to do the deceased the same honour. His son Mamadu succeeded him.

But, to return to our travellers, on their arrival at Medina, the inhabitants were making Sataka, or "cry," with Keneh Dalla Moodi's son, formerly headman of Rokon

^a The Bulloms have been branded as a cowardly and treacherous race. But we would ask, how can a people be otherwise, whose lands have been usurped, and whose religion has been superseded by that of their Conquerors, the Mahometan Mandingoes? Can any impartial reflecting mind blame a people for endeavouring, under such circumstances, to rid themselves of their oppressors, either by fair or foul means.

village, on the Rokelle river, made over to Dalla Moodi, three years before, at the great convocation of Chiefs, during Colonel Cambell's governorship. A great many of the Mahometan Chiefs had come to Medina, to condole on the occasion; eighty bullocks, besides sheep and goats being provided to afford refreshment, and as sacrifices; the lamentation, or festival, lasted thirty days. The travellers were pleased to find, that the Chief's clerk, or Secretary, had been educated by the Church Missionary Society, and that his conduct was correct. In the afternoon (5 p. m.) the party embarked for Yangaroo; owing to the tide being against them, the passage was very tedious, only gaining the distance of four miles in two hours and a half. On their arrival at Yangaroo, they were glad to obtain shelter from the fury of a tornado, in a devil house, or temple. These temples are met with near Timneh, or Bullom Towns; offerings of palm-oil, rice, fowls, &c. are made to the tutelary deity of the town. It was here found necessary, that Messrs. Kissling and Thomson, should proceed to Free Town, to procure provisions. Strolling along the beach, the party came up to four young men, who they were informed were slaves. One of them had, however, obtained his freedom, by submitting to be circumcised.

At Rotofunt they had an interview with Bey Sibroah, a Bullom Chief, by whom they were received with every demonstration of respect, and had permission granted them to settle on any part of his territory. He appeared to be an old man. Two gingham umbrellas were presented to him, one of which, he remarked, would protect him from the sun, the other from the rain. Some conversation relative to domestic slavery, elicited his sympathy in the hardship inflicted by that system. Returning to Yangaroo, they were visited by crowds, the evening

being spent in receiving them. Mr. Thomson had returned from Free Town. The Rev. Mr. Weeks preached in the morning to the party, Mr. Thomson in the evening, addressing the people in the Timneh language, twenty of the natives being present, and tolerably attentive. Further supplies of provisions being required, Mr. Stedman set out for Free Town to procure them; the rest of the party proceeding to Selemesseh, two miles distant from Yangaroo, where they were afterwards re-joined by Mr. Stedman. Having determined to visit Tombo Island, the property of Mr. Thomson,* they there obtained some fish, which were cooked on the sand beach; on arrival at Tombo, difficulty was experienced in landing the luggage, a violent tornado having come on. Mr. Thomson's house scarcely sheltered them from the rain. On the following morning they learned that four men had been drowned during the storm. Crossing the Bullom Bar, which hemmed them in on every side, they passed Bunce Island, some thirty years before, the greatest depôt of the English, during the time slave-dealing was legal; this island is now used as a timber factory. Sailing up a creek of Rokelle river, the party were much pleased with the scenery: the banks being most beautifully fringed with mangroves closely matted together with gorgeous parasitical plants and orchidæ,—the foliage glowing in the full splendour of intertropical luxuriance, contrasting strongly with the

* This gentleman, translator and linguist in the employ of the Church Mission Society, was sent early in 1841, to negotiate with the King of the Foulahs, for the purpose of forming commercial relations. Another object of the mission, was to collect information as to the eligibility of establishing a mission at Timbo. A sum of £400 was subscribed by the Merchants, and some of the respectable Liberated Africans, inclusive of a grant from the Colonial chest. It is to be hoped, that Mr. Thomson's mission will be successful.

awful stillness of haunts, where scarce ever human foot trod.

They slept at Mafarrih, the headman attending to their wants. The hut in which they were, was of a circular form, with a conical roof; the only seats were those commonly used in the Timneh country, of raised mud, their boxes serving them as tables. From Mafarrih they soon reached Port Lokkoh, where they were immediately introduced to Maminah Moodu, with whom they entered on the subject and object of the mission; the chief men being also in attendance to hear and offer their opinions touching the "God Palaver," as they termed it. The conversation closed with an invitation to settle among them, followed by the present of a bullock, &c. It must, however, be mentioned, that these presents were doled out to the party, after duly calculating the returns in the shape of blue bafts, satin stripes, &c. &c.

I may here mention, that the Church Missionary Society have now a resident ordained Clergyman, European Catechist, and native teacher instructing the Timnehs at Port Lokkoh. In the school, lessons in the Timneh language are given; but the parents are dissatisfied, stating, that they desire to have the children instructed in the English language, writing, &c. To encourage them to send their children to school, the Society distributes clothing, and provide books; yet in spite of this bonus, they are very slow in sending them to school.

Leaving Port Lokkoh, our travellers set out for Ro Mabarih, the camp of the potent Chief Ali Karli, who was then at war with the Lokkohs Timnehs. This war principally arose between the original inhabitants, the Timnehs and Lokkohs, and has endured for the last twelve years; the latter being held in high esteem as slaves from their laborious habits, thus inducing the Timnehs to per-

secute them with unrelenting ferocity. Proceeding ten miles in a north-east direction to the next town, Ro Ma-ball, they reached Ro Kupper in the evening, the headman affording every attention. The guide, an intelligent Mahometan, by name Bo Kaleh Poukoh, told the people that he had derived spiritual benefit from our party; in other words, he had come into contact with the European traders, whose love of gain he had likely often thwarted. Their route now lay through the bush, wading across brooks.

A tornado delayed the party at Ro Kupper till noon, when they started for Rota-kump, which they reached early in the evening. The headman, Ali Karli's brother, entertained them hospitably. Mr. Graf here preached in English, and Mr. Thomson in Timneh, before an audience of about forty persons. Next morning they left Rota-kump, for the camp of Ali Karli. On arriving at the town of Rokontoh, they were informed that Ali Karli's opponents, the Lokkohs Timnehs, were in the neighbourhood, and they were therefore advised to remain. This, however, proved to be a ruse to delay their progress. A fortnight before, the Lokkohs had succeeded in carrying off three prisoners. At Rokontoh, they were "making cry," for the headman; deep potations of palm-wine, and rum being drunk on these occasions. They inter their dead in their huts, anointing the corpse with palm or turtle fat; they chaunt in a low, plaintive tone, varying it, however, to a lively, nay, boisterous recitative of the deeds and achievements of the deceased. They dance in a circle, wearing silver, iron, or brass bracelets on their ankles and wrists, according to the ability of the performers; these being struck together, produce a jingling, discordant sound. Tom-toms, part of a tree scooped out, and covered on both ends with bullocks' hides, measuring from

four to five feet in length, are lustily beaten. The females are dressed in a petticoat of plaited grass; both sexes dance till fatigue compels them to desist. On the present occasion, it was kept up the whole night, much to the annoyance of the party.

At Rumburih they were welcomed with music and a volley of fire-arms. The Chief, Ali Karli, met the party at the gate of the camp, and led them to a hut, scarcely sufficient to afford shelter from the rain falling at the time. Being invited to a repast the Chief had prepared for them, they sat down and did ample justice to the dishes set before them. During dinner, they were somewhat disconcerted, by their host requesting their assistance and advice in prosecuting the war; interference was declined, except as mediators; the object of the mission being at the same time explained to him.

Ro Maburich, or war camp, contained five hundred men, termed war men, or Crows;^a but nought war-like was discernible. The ear, however, was stunned with the deafening war-drum, which with the stockades alone, betokened war-like preparations. Their guide now warned them to guard against thieves. On parting, Ali Karli renewed his request for assistance, he was then, (since dead,) eighty years of age; of tall stature and dignified deportment; but exceedingly crafty. A sheep was given them on their departure, amidst the parade and discharge of musketry. They had received but little encouragement in the object of the mission.

On the 1st of November we find them again at Tombo Island. On the 4th they sailed up Rokelle river, the current of which proved so strong, as to compel them to

^a The Timneh warriors are called Crows. To protect themselves from being suddenly seized, projecting spikes of iron are fastened to the nape of the neck, elbows, and heels.

stop at Medina, where they remained all night. The following morning divine service was held, to a very thin audience. Here they experienced great difficulty in procuring provisions; they, however, purchased a calf, for which an exchange was made of a piece of blue baft, value 19s.

At the Town of Magbelly, Pah Soubah, the headman introduced them to a Free Town trader, at whose residence they were accommodated with the luxury of separate beds. He told them, that here Ali Karli's authority was denied, although that Chief had asserted the contrary.

November 6th, a consultation being held between Pah Soubah and the principal men, Mr. Weeks stated to them the object of the mission. Pah Soubah declined stating his opinion until he heard from Ali Karli. They were informed that the Chief or King, resided at Marumpah, a town distant thirty miles. Mr. Weeks having scratched his leg in the bush, the wound became so irritable, that he was compelled to return to Free Town for medical advice.

Nothing interesting occurred at Magbelly, save a message from Pah Soubah, intimating he would give them a piece of ground in his town (Magbelly,) upon which they might build a School-house, Chapel, and Dwelling-houses. Many of the inhabitants of this place are Mahometans. At this time, a fast being kept by them, the drumming was incessant, and kept up the whole night, together with firing of muskets, &c. They never found any of the Mahometans to refuse spirits, except Bo Kalih, whose odour of sanctity was sincere. Provisions were here very high; beef selling at from 2s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.

On the 13th of November, our party set out for Marumpah, the residence of Bey Cobolo, having walked

fifteen miles before breakfast, and resting and refreshing themselves during the noon-day heats. They slept at Robumsar. On their route they passed many thinly populated villages, and met with every kindness and attention, usual among the Timnehs not under Mahometan influence. Satakah was performing at Robumsar for a child accidentally shot in the bush; and the travellers were much annoyed with the noise of tom-toming; as well as from rats which appeared very numerous and daring. They reached Marumpah at noon, and were received by Bey Cobolo, who supplied their wants.

Marumpah is a town of considerable extent, inhabited by Timnehs exclusively, and who are a simple people. The town is situated to the north-east, and is distant from Free Town 120 miles, having a good road on the south side of the Rokelle river. This river is navigable three months in the year, during which period persons sailing from Free Town would have a distance of three miles to walk. The mission went to Bareh-house (Palaver-house,) to treat with the Chiefs and headmen; about 120 persons being present, and manifesting the greatest interest in the proceedings, during the Rev. Mr. Graf's address. Bey Cobolo expressed his great desire that they should come and settle among them, adding, that it should be done. Both Chiefs and headmen said, the children of Marumpah and surrounding towns would be sent for instruction. Bey Cobolo, moreover, desired them to thank the good people of England for thinking of him and his people. In no place did the party experience such attention, and nowhere did the people manifest such a desire to have their children instructed, as at Marumpah.

Their mission being so far satisfactorily ended, they determined to call at Musemarsh on the opposite side of Rokelle river, six miles distant from Marumpah. The

Chief, Bey Sumerah, received them kindly. Bey Robboloh, who was intimate with Sumerah, accompanied them.

On Sunday, November 17th, Bey Yobah, the Chief of a neighbouring town, arrived. A messenger had been dispatched to him, prior to discussing matters at Marumpah. The three Chiefs, Robboloh, Yobah, and Sumerah, met at our friends' residence at 10 a. m., where they tenderly embraced each other. Much outcry was made by the people, which lasted full two hours. Next day the headman of the Chiefs acted as spokesman, all of them speaking of the good state of the country, and of their desire to maintain peace. One of the speakers, Bey Robboloh's son, said that he viewed the meeting as pregnant with much good; and at a time too when the Kussohs and Mandingoes were to be driven out of their country, (an idle threat, more easily uttered than executed) which they had impoverished by their frauds. He hailed this day as the harbinger of future comfort to his people, for the white men had come among them as teachers of their children. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Rev. Mr. Graf held service for themselves and servants: Mr. Thomson also addressed an assemblage of about 120 individuals.

On the 18th of November they entered upon the specific object of the mission, the three Chiefs being present. The Rev. Mr. Graf addressed them, several replying that "they would come and learn;" others, that should they settle among them, the towns would be greatly enlarged, as all the people would be anxious to learn white man's fashion. The population of Mamnerah appeared to be about 500.

Having visited all the towns necessary in carrying out their object, they returned to Magbelly, and reached a

war-fence or camp of the Lokkohs^a in the evening. This fence or stockade, was composed of trees, varying from three to six inches in diameter, and in height twelve feet. The fence surrounded the town in a circle of about 440 yards. On the 19th of November, we find the party at Magbelly, and on the 20th they arrived at Pourah Bay, having been absent for a period of five weeks.

^a There are several branches of Timnehs, the Bugo, Lokkohs, and Quiah Timnehs,

THE END.

ERRATA.

Page 5, Line 14, *For descent, read ascent.*

41, 20 & 23, *For west, read coast.*

41, 32, *For sleuce, read slave*

58, 22, *For mouth, read mirth.*

58, 23, *For lovely, read lively.*

115, 2, *For rectricibusque, read tectricibusque.*



