

LATEST FROM LIBERIA.

A letter from Mr. Ashmun, Colonial Agent at Liberia, dated May 20, 1827, and published in the *African Repository* for October, mentions that their fine schooner Catharine had some time previously got on shore, in attempting to cross the bar at the mouth of the river, and was seriously injured before she could be got off. He also mentions that on visiting Sierra Leone, he found that the inhabitants were suffering great inconvenience in consequence of the restrictions excluding the commerce and trade of the United States from British Colonies. Flour was selling at auction at \$25 per barrel; and other provisions proportionally high.

Thirty-three were on the sick list, out of a population of about 1000.

An institution has been established for the benefit of the sick, infirm and inefficient, where such of them as are able to work, are supplied with materials. It is called the "Infirmary of Invalids for Liberia." But it is hoped that it will eventually become a Seminary of Manufactures.

Arrival of the ship Norfolk.

Another letter of August 27th, from the same gentleman, mentions the arrival of the ship Norfolk, from the United States, with 142 Africans on board, accompanied by Dr. Todson, United States agent.

"It may be interesting to the Board, as a proof of the extensive business and resources of their colony to observe, that not more than twenty remain, at this early date, (only seven days arrived,) a charge to the United States. Two thirds of the whole number have situations in the families of the older settlers, for terms of from one to three years. The remainder are at service on wages, to be paid them at the year's end—when it is my intention to treat them in all respects as settlers, the natives of the United States, (unless the Board shall in the interim see fit to order differently,) and assign them their lands as to other emigrants."

Schools of the Colony.

"It is gratifying to report the progress of our Schools. They are all, as formerly stated, under Mr. George McGill; comprehended under one system; and afford instruction to every child, native or American, belonging to the Colony, all of whom are obliged to be sent. To defray the expense of carrying on the plan of instruction, besides the surplus found remaining in the colonial treasury, after defraying the expenditures belonging to what are called in America, the "civil list," and "judiciary;" a general subscription of the Colonists raises 1400 dollars per annum, including a subscription of the Agent on the part of the colony, for 300 dollars. Of this sum of 300 dollars, I shall pay, at least one half, in country produce, &c.; and should be glad of the consent, of the board to draw, if necessary, (I shall not otherwise,) on the treasury, for the other half. This system supports four very numerous schools, and pays our Librarian, whose annual allowance is fifty dollars."

The establishment at the Sisters and on St. John's river, are represented as very flourishing, and secure to the Colony. The factories were full of native produce, which, in consequence of the accident which had befallen the schooner, the Colonists were unable to bring away. She was expected to be ready for sea again before the end of the rains.

A French Slave.

"A French Slave appeared off the river in June, with a small schooner containing a valuable cargo. The chiefs assured him that the country belonged to the Americans—that they were themselves under the protection of the Colony; and that if he landed his cargo, he would forfeit & lose it.

But one of their number possessing more artifice than honesty, encouraged the Frenchman to bring his small vessel over the bar, and trust himself with his cargo. The Frenchman did both; but in entering the river lost his rudder. Information was now sent to the cape, with a request that a force might be despatched from the colony, to seize vessel and cargo, for an invasion of our territory for unlawful purposes. I was absent—but the vice agent declined to comply with the request—but warned the chiefs of their solemn engagement to desist entirely from the slave trade. The vessel, in the extremity of distress, arrived at the Cape. No relief was afforded her; and she went ashore and was lost. Her cargo is of course detained by the chiefs, who accuse themselves of no breach of faith, under the circumstances of the case, in seizing it for their own use."

ATMOSPHERIC REFRACTION.

Looking down the Bay on Sunday last, in the direction of the Narrows, we witnessed a deception of the sight, which made us think one of Cotton Mather's mirages no longer apochryphal. We allude

to that by which the early settlers of New Haven were so much alarmed. They had long been expecting the return of a supply ship, on board of which were many of their friends. At length on a hazy day, they saw a ship in the air, with all her sails bent, and the illusion was so perfect that they fancied she was in the harbor, making her way gallantly to the dock. When lo! a mast fell one way, another broke off another way—spar fell in this direction, another in that—until at length the whole ship broke to pieces, and literally dissolved into thin air. Unhappy omen! nor ship nor friends were ever heard of more. But fancy imparted to the shadow the exact form, size and appearance of the vessel which had been sent out, and whose return was so anxiously expected, and the prophetic spectre ship of course, became a supernatural revolution, in the *mirabilia* of the voluminous historian of the pilgrim colonies. The account of its appearance was carefully drawn up by the Rev. Mr. Davenport, the minister of New Haven. It is possible that the ship itself, or rather the reflection of it, by the deceptive effects of fog and the ocean, was seen in the atmosphere, and that she suddenly, from some natural cause, went down in the sound, before making the harbor. Such an ocular deception was the case with a ship we saw on Sunday, which was apparently raised so high that a line drawn from it to the eye, would have made an angle of thirty degrees with the plane of the horizon. It seemed to be proudly floating above an immense volume of mist. The state of the atmosphere at the time of Cotton Mather's miracle, was probably the same as with us on Sunday. Such illusions are not unusual in the arctic and antarctic seas. We recollect of reading some interesting accounts, we believe in Scory's narrative, of ships having been seen by that intrepid navigator in the clouds, for many miles before the top mast could be descried with the best glasses from his own round tops. Three or four years since there was an instance of atmospherical refraction near Marblehead—an account of which was published in the *Boston Statesman*. The letter states, fields trees and houses were distinctly marked out, and every shade and hue exhibited. The fashionable and romantic island of Nantucket, was likewise exactly and beautifully delineated, at the distance of several miles from its real situation. But the most remarkable instance of atmospherical refraction of which we have read, occurred at Hastings, in England, in July, 1793. The account before us states that this continued for three hours, and the refracted coast (the coast of France,) though at a distance of forty or fifty miles, was plainly to be seen with the naked eye from the sea shore, while at other times it could not be seen with a telescope, on account of its lowness. The fishermen who had been in the habit of trading on the coast, pointed out from Hastings, the places they were accustomed to visit, such as the Bay, the Old Head or Man, the windmill, &c. at Boulogne, St. Valero, &c. on the coast of Picardy. From the eastern cliff of Hastings which is of considerable height, the spectator could see Dungeness, Dover cliffs, and the French coast from Calais to Dieppe. By the telescope, the French fishing boats were plainly to be seen at anchor; and the different colors of the land on the heights, with the buildings, were perfectly discernable. The same phenomenon was likewise observed at Wimborne, and other places along the coast. The day was remarkably hot, without a breath of wind stirring.

N. Y. Com. Advertiser.

INDIA.—Late advices from India inform us, that a severe battle has been fought in Upper India, between a numerous body of the Afghan tribes and the troops of Raja Ranjit Singh. The Afghan army consisted, it is said, of 90,000 infantry and 10,000 horse, while that of Ranjit amounted to only between 15 and 20,000. The armies met on the banks of the Indus, near the village of Seydeo, when the attack was commenced by the Afghans, but the greatest part of their hosts, being ill armed and less organized, made no impression on the Sikhs, who put their enemies to the rout. In the flight, great numbers were sabred by Ranjit's cavalry, and a body that had taken shelter in the village of Seydeo, was surrounded and entirely destroyed. The camp of the Afghans was plundered by the victors.

RUSSIA.—With regard to Russia, she is represented as about to conclude peace on one side and to threaten a speedy war on the other. Accounts from Odessa, of Sept. 10, say, that it is believed hostilities are to cease with Persia; while affairs are assuming a very martial aspect on the frontiers of Turkey. Reinforcements are moving on, and the hospitals, depots, &c. are placed on the military system. Two

new frigates, and three brigs of the Sebastopol fleet, in the harbor of Odessa, are spoken of by Count Pahien in the highest terms—as being built on the American plan, of the most durable materials, and competent to the greatest services. The fleet in the Black Sea is pronounced the true naval force of Russia. Circumstances favor the idea, that Russia at least is resolved on coercive measures; and the Porte is so far alarmed as to strengthen her garrisons on the Danube.

GREECE.—The affairs of Greece present nothing new, if we except the contradiction of the report that the Egyptian fleet had arrived on the coast of the Morea. It had not yet made its appearance, and rumours are afloat that the Pacha only made a feint in sending it out, taking care that it should return without molesting the Greeks. It appears that he is suspected at Smyrna of having entered into an understanding with the Powers.

The walls of Gibraltar have been lately repaired and are now perhaps the most beautiful specimens of fortifications in the world. They are built of large stones, cut out of rock, which are extremely hard of a whitish colour, and have all the appearance, and indeed consistency of marble. The Moorish castle which overlooks the town, and probably has stood there 500 or 600 years, is built entirely of brick. It bears sad marks still of the siege which the gallant Elliot, with 6,000 men, sustained for more than three years, against the combined armies and fleets of France and Spain. It is now a prison. There are about 600 guns mounted at present, and about 900, altogether, could be put in activity in case of a siege.

CANADA.

The state of affairs in the vicinity of Quebec occasioned by the numbers and wants of European emigrants who have come to the country this year, is thus represented in an Agricultural Report of the District of Quebec:—

"Never since the incursions of the Iroquois, when the early settlers, even around Quebec, were found to be constantly armed to defend their lives and property, has there prevailed so much alarm as has existed among the agricultural classes in the adjoining Parishes on account of the frequent nocturnal depredations recently committed by bands of thieves and robbers. Besides their actual losses and constant apprehension, they feel the present state of things more severely, by comparison with times of only recent date, when no outhouse was closed up at night and the doors of their dwellings were left unbolted, at all hours, for the admission of any neighbour in case of accident, or to afford a certain lodging to a benighted traveller.—Now, unfortunate persons, particularly those travelling in boats or canoes, or meeting with any accident can hardly find house where they will be suffered to enter or to pass the night.

The Quebec Gazette of the 1st ult. remarks: Our Provincial Parliament is to meet on the 20th of this month. As it will be the first meeting since the General election which followed the late appeal to the people on the part of the Executive, its proceedings will be looked to with unusual interest throughout the Province.—We observe that for some time past, the newspapers published under the direction of the Provincial Government, and others patronized by it, have teemed with an unusual share of vulgar scurrility, against the late Assembly and its Speaker, who, with a majority of the old members, are returned to serve in the new Parliament.

MR. GALLATIN.—This distinguished gentleman, our minister to England, has returned to this country. We have heard no cause assigned for his return. Speculation is afloat, as to his successor.

Ohio State Journal.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Ohio, received in New Haven.

"The wharves in Sandusky this season present a scene of business surpassing any thing you have on the wharfs of New Haven. More than \$100,000,000 worth of goods, have been there landed, for that place, and the country to a great extent around. Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, to a very great extent, get their goods through Sandusky. The produce of this country, to the amount of about 300,000 dollars, has already been shipped from Sandusky. The best informed people in Sandusky say, that next year the amount of goods brought to their wharves, will more than double the amount of the present; and so of their exports. Huron county, and particularly Sandusky, has been very healthy through the season, and there is no doubt but it will continue to be as healthy as any part

of the state of Connecticut. The market here for produce, is improving, attended with a corresponding enterprise of the merchants; and as things now appear, nothing can prevent this county from being the most populous."

The Colonial Trade.—The Halifax Gazette contains a long order of the British council reciting the principal regulations of Parliament and orders of Council for regulating the trade between the colonies and foreign countries, and declaring which foreign powers have fulfilled the conditions by which they are entitled to the privileges of trade granted by the act of 1825. The governments of Hanover, Sweden and Norway Oldenburgh, Lubeck, Bremen and Hamburg, Colombia, Rio de Janeiro and Mexico, are declared to have complied with all the conditions of the act of 1825, and the ships of those countries and of Kussia, are permitted to import goods and produce of their respective countries, into all the colonies, to be carried to any foreign country whatever. French vessels are permitted to import the produce of France, to certain British possessions in Africa and the East Indies, but all other importation to, and export from the British foreign possessions, (Gibraltar and Malta excepted) in foreign vessels is prohibited.—*Bost. D. Amer.*

New Orleans, Nov. 7.—It was reported yesterday, that the Mexican brig of war Bravo had captured a Spanish ship of war of 16 guns, after a severe engagement. It is said that the Spaniard had the best of the battle, until the Bravo laid him alongside and boarded. Capt. Wyse of the Bravo is reported to have been wounded in two places, and the Spanish captain and his two lieutenants to have been slain, and a great loss of men on both sides. The Spanish vessel was bound from Cadiz to Havanna.

Singular Trial.—The Raleigh Register mentions the occurrence of a singular trial for forgery. "A man who is estimated to be worth two hundred thousand dollars, was indicted for the crime of forgery, and so conclusive was the evidence that the jury convicted him. What is still more remarkable, the amount which this individual, who has thus made shipwreck of his reputation, expected to gain, was only thirty dollars! He has appealed to the Supreme Court."

By a statement published in the Shipping and Commercial List, it appears that the total crop of cotton in the U. States, amounted, for the last season, to 957,231 bales; same period 1826, 720,027—being an increase of 237,254 bales in favor of the present year.—*N. Y. American.*

It seems that the territory which will be cut off from Maine by the line claimed by the British, is equal in extent to the whole of Massachusetts, and exceeds in fertility any tract in New England. The British claim by a line drawn from Mt. Hill to the Katahdin, and thence by a line drawn between the heads of the streams emptying into the St. Johns, until it strikes the dividing line between Maine and Lower Canada. The Eastern Argus says, the British may extend their claims to the Kennebec on precisely the same ground as they claim the Penobscot; and there is no knowing where they will stop. The treaty of 1783, it adds, establishes the boundary too clearly to be misunderstood. There is much excitement on the subject in that district.

The Portland Advertiser says, that the Executive of Maine has "taken prompt measures to assert the violated rights of our citizens and vindicate the sovereignty of the State from the aggression of the British authorities at New Brunswick. The arrest, fine and imprisonment of an American citizen, by a foreign government, it is added, has awakened the attention of the community and called for the interposition of our civil authorities. What measures have been taken we are not informed.—*Bost. Amer.*

In some parts of North Carolina, peach and cherry trees were in bloom last month for the second time. The Warren (N. C.) Reporter says:—We are informed by great authority, that there is now within ten miles of this village, a Pear tree which has yielded once, this season, a quantity of good fruit; is again bearing a second growth, nearly half matured, and is also in full bloom for the third time. There are several trees in this place, which exhibit fruit for the second time this season, and others that are again in bloom—but the above is the only instance we have heard of, where a second growth has been had, and the same tree again in bloom."

BLANK DEEDS
FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.