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the Board in 1843, with thirty-two members. Mr. Eden had been its pastor for some years. He continued to supply it till his death. While under the care of Mr. Ellis, in 1849, twenty-four members were added. During the last year, its prosperity was retarded by the conduct of the pastor. Since that time its prospects are more encouraging. It is now under the care of Mr. Wilson, who has charge of the Alexander High School. This school was opened in Monrovia in 1849. One man, in one of our Southern States, gave $600 to procure books and apparatus for this institution; and another man gave $1,000 to erect a suitable school house. The building, which is 40 feet by 20, made of galvanized heavy iron, was prepared in the United States and sent there.

There is also in Monrovia, an English school of about fifty pupils, under the care of Mr. James, a ruling elder in that church. It was for some years sustained by a society of ladies in New York. But in 1849 this school was, with the teacher, transferred to the Board. Mr. James is assisted in this school by Miss Strobel.

In 1849, a small church was organized in Kentucky, twelve miles from Monrovia. It now has nineteen members. Mr. Erskine, a candidate for the ministry under the care of the Presbytery of Western Africa, which was organized Dec., 1848, has a school of twenty pupils there. He has fourboarding scholars, supported by the Associate Reformed Synod of the South.

In 1843, a mission was commenced at Sinoe, at the mouth of the Sinoe river, by Mr. T. Wilson, where he organized a church and labored faithfully till his death. It now has forty-five members, and is supplied by Mr. Priest.

At Settra Kroo, where Messrs. Canfield, Sawyer and Connelly labored, there is not any ordained missionary; but Mr. McDonogh, formerly a slave of John McDonogh, Esq., of New Orleans, has a school of twenty pupils there. This part of the coast must soon become a part of Liberia, which will increase its importance as a missionary station.

In 1850, a mission was commenced on the island Corisco, about forty miles North of the Gaboon, and twenty from the main land. It has about 1,500 inhabitants. It is more healthy than the main land, and the coast is easily reached, where a large population is easily accessible.—Here Mr. Mackey has been laboring alone since the death of Mr. Simpson till quite recently, and has now only a single assistant. Last year he erected a church, with the help of the natives, in ten days, at an expense of only $40, sufficiently large to accommodate 200 hearers. A bell for this church was sent from the United States, which is hung on a tree near the church; and as the natives cannot remember when the Sabbath returns, Mr. M. has it rung every Saturday evening as the signal that the Sabbath is approaching.

T. S.

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**Letter from President Roberts.**

**NOTWITHSTANDING** the hint given by President Roberts respecting the publication of the following letter, we feel constrained to lay it before our readers, believing as we do, that they will be pleased to learn from the President himself some of the particulars respecting his visit to
England and France, and the success of his visit. And we hope that he will pardon us for this breach of confidence, if he may so regard it.

We regret that we have not yet received the letter to which the President alludes, as having been written a week or two previous to this. We hope it may yet come to hand.


My Dear Sir,—I wrote you a week or two since, giving you a pretty general statement of my proceedings here up to that time—and I have now only to add that the interest in favor of Liberia, both in England and in France, is daily increasing. By the Government and people of both these countries, I have been received in the most kind and flattering manner. I mentioned in my last, that, in consequence of the departure of the Prince President on his Southern tour, just about the time I reached Paris, I had promised to make another visit in the course of a month. Accordingly, I returned there on the evening of the 15th, to be present to witness the entry of the President into the city on the 16th. And really, the whole affair was grand in the extreme. You will, of course, have seen full accounts of the ceremony; and I need only say, that so far as the display of banners, triumphal arches bearing Imperial inscriptions—the number of troops marshaled, and the immense concourse of persons out, I think the newspapers contain no exaggeration. It was a fine day, and all Paris was in the streets.

In view of the great concern I was sure the President and his Min-

isters felt respecting the state of affairs, consequent on the establishment of the Empire, I was very fearful that I might not be able for some days, to obtain an interview with the Minister for foreign affairs. But as good fortune would have it, the Minister, M. Drouyn de Shays, heard of my arrival, though I had not communicated with him since my first visit; and Sunday morning I received an invitation from him and Madame to dine with them the following day. And as you may suppose, I did not fail to avail myself of the occasion to state fully my wishes, and to urge upon His Excellency the value of time to me, and the importance of immediate dispatch in my case. The party at table numbered some ten or a dozen, and all appeared very much interested in Liberia. About 9 o'clock, the Minister was sent for to meet the President immediately at St. Cloud. Before leaving, however, he said to me that he had spoken with the Prince the morning before respecting Liberia, and had informed His Highness that I was in Paris, and that my stay would be short: the Prince had, therefore, notwithstanding he had not recovered from the fatigue of his journey, consented to give me an audience the next day at 12 o'clock. He said he would call to accompany me to St. Cloud the following day at 11. We set out accordingly, and I was formally introduced to the Prince; and found him, I assure you, better informed in regard to the Colonization enterprise, and the progress of Liberia than I had expected. He said he had felt great interest in the effort which was being made in Liberia to test the capacity of the African race for self-government, and that he was well pleased at the progress that
had been made there; and that the new State would be sustained by every practicable means by the French Government, not only with the view of testing the ability of the African race, but also as the most feasible means of suppressing the slave trade, and introducing civilization and Christianity among the barbarous tribes of that coast. And in proof of his good wishes—upon my application for a few hundred stand of arms, uniforms, &c. &c., for our militia, and a small gun-brig, the Prince readily consented to supply the arms, &c., and said he would speak with the Minister of Marine respecting the vessel. On returning to Paris, the Minister for foreign affairs, assured me that all I asked for would be granted: the Minister of Marine was absent, to return in a few days, and that I should hear from him through the French Embassy at London. I am therefore expecting a letter tomorrow with definite intelligence in regard to these matters.

With respect to my visit to London, I have continued to receive every attention from Her Majesty's Government. I have had frequent interviews with Lord Malmesbury, Lord Stanley, and Mr. Addington, and have also had with them a long and complicated correspondence respecting Liberian affairs. And I think I have succeeded in convincing them thoroughly of the justice of the course pursued by the Liberian Government towards British merchants trading to the Liberian coast; and that the complaints of these parties have been without just cause. I am happy to say that all the subjects which have claimed attention here, have been arranged and settled quite to my satisfaction. The most important, and the one that has produced most of the difficulties we have had with British traders—the right of sovereignty over certain tracts of territory—is now put at rest. Her Majesty's Government have acknowledged the right of the Liberian Government to exercise political jurisdiction over the tracts of territory ceded by the native chiefs, especially those marked upon the maps of Liberia constructed by British officers.

My dear sir, I am now exceedingly engaged, and have written the above in great haste. I trust you will be able to read it, and understand what I wished to convey,—And please remember, I am not writing for publication. I learn today, by letters from home, the loss of the "Ralph Cross" at Cape Palmas, and with her, all the articles you were good enough to send to aid the government in its embarrassments occasioned by the difficulties in Grand Bassa county. I sincerely trust the goods were insured, and that soon you will be able to send others. Mr. Williams writes me that he is really distressed to know how he can possibly meet the pressing demands upon the government. I feel sure, however, that you will do all in your power to relieve us.

I will write you more fully on my arrival in Liberia.

With true regards, I am,

Dear sir, very truly,

Your ob't servant,

J. J. ROBERTS.

Rev. WM. MCCLAIN,
Sec. and Treas., A. C. S.
Washington city.

Through the kindness of our friend, Benjamin Coates, Esq., of Philadelphia, we have been furnished with a copy of a letter from
President Roberts to him, from which we take the liberty of making the following extracts.

Extracts from a Letter from President Roberts to Benjamin Coates, Esq., of Philadelphia, dated

With respect to my visit to London, I have continued to receive every attention from Her Majesty’s Government. Nothing has been insisted upon by the British Government which would vitiate the claim of the Liberian Government to the sovereignty of the territories over which it is exercising political jurisdiction. The second communication I received from the Foreign Office contained the following:—“1st. It is not proposed that Mr. Hanson shall retain the consulship in Liberia. 2ndly. That Her Majesty’s Government require that the Treaty between Great Britain and Liberia shall be rigidly adhered to, and faithfully executed, in every particular, by the Liberian Government. 3rdly. That Her Majesty’s Government require that Mr. Lawrence shall no longer be proceeded against, or in any way molested. 4thly. That Her Majesty’s Government, require that commissioners shall forthwith be appointed by the two Governments, to examine thoroughly into, and settle, the matter now in dispute, of the boundaries of Liberia with reference to the territories of the native chiefs, in order that there may be no further doubt about the precise limits within which the Liberian laws may legally be enforced.”

With respect to the first requisition I insisted that the stipulations of the Treaty have been strictly observed, and demanded an instance in proof of the contrary, which could not be produced. We therefore, on that point, stand blameless. In regard to Lawrence, I handed over the depositions upon which he had been indicted, and asked if that proof was not sufficient to put any man, in any country, upon his trial. I urged the serious consequences that would result to the future prosperity of Liberia if Lawrence’s case should be unconditionally dismissed. It would seriously impair the sovereignty of the country—expose the lives and property of the inhabitants to the will of such men—and would most certainly involve the Government in innumerable difficulties with many of the chiefs within its jurisdiction. The justice of the proceedings against Lawrence was so apparent that it could not be resisted. I proposed, however, if it was the desire of Her Majesty’s Government that Lawrence shall no longer be prosecuted, to meet their wishes, upon a request to that effect, conditioned that assurances be given that British merchants trading to Liberia shall be cautioned against such conduct as Lawrence is accused of. This was accepted; and the question disposed of. The last requisition I also strenuously resisted. And, fortunately for us, Commodore Sir Charles Hotham, acting under orders from the Government, in 1844, dispatched Captain A. Murray, of Her Majesty’s ship “Favourite,” to Monrovia, to examine the title-deeds to territories claimed by the Liberian Government, which he did thoroughly, and constructed a chart of the Liberian Coast. And again in 1849, Commodore Fanshaw examined the deeds of subsequent purchases, and marked them upon the chart; which chart was forwarded to, and adopted by the Admiralty. I asked the attention of the Government to this
fact—sent a copy of the chart bearing the attestation of British Officers high in rank, and insisted that upon such proof, the Liberian claim should be permitted to rest. This demand, I am happy to say, was also abandoned. And Liberia stands to-day upon a better footing than ever before, in regard to her foreign relations. These are the verbal arrangements at which we have arrived; and they will be reduced, I am assured, in a day or two, to writing:—then I shall have accomplished much for Liberia, and shall not regret my visit to Europe.

The Government have kindly placed at my disposal a vessel to take me to Liberia; and I shall probably sail from Plymouth about the first proximo.

I have met a great many very kind friends in England—have been received very kindly by the French, Prussian, Belgian, and Brazilian Ambassadors. From Mr. A. Lawrence I have received particular attention; and from Mr. Ingersoll I can say quite as much for the time he has been in England. Mr. Ralston has been of important service to me. Dr. Hodgkin's friendship has not abated; and in Dr. Wagstaff I believe Liberia has a decided friend. Sir William Hooker has had put up for me from the Royal Gardens a great number and variety of plants and seeds, which I doubt not will be useful in Liberia. Were I to mention all from whom I have received particular marks of attention I might fill more sheets than you would thank me to trouble you with.

With respect to my health, I am glad to say it has somewhat improved since I have been in this country—perhaps quite as much as could be expected under the circumstances. I have had a great deal upon my hands, and not that rest and relaxation from business that my health really required. This, however, I do not regret, so that I have been able to serve Liberia.

Very truly,

Your obedient servant,

J. J. ROBERTS.

P. S. Oct. 26th. I have just received a communication from the Foreign Office, in which all my matters have been arranged quite to my satisfaction; and upon the basis as stated in the foregoing. Her Majesty's Government recognise the sovereignty of Liberia over the points of coast which have been disputed by British traders, and thereby relieves us from future difficulty on that score, and the greatest source of annoyance we have had to contend against for years past.

J. J. R.

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Loss of the Ralph Cross.

By the following letters, received by way of England, we have intelligence of the loss of the barque Ralph Cross, at Cape Palmas, on the 19th July last, subsequent to the landing of the emigrants at Buchanan, but previous to the landing of the goods sent out by this Society for the relief of the Liberian Government, and the payment for territory recently purchased; the landing of the goods having been deferred until the return of the vessel to Monrovia. It is feared that the loss of the goods, as well as of the vessel, will be nearly total, as the articles that were recovered were doubtless so greatly injured as to be worth very little.

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