

How is it that sectarianism is allowed to cool the love which all who are Christ's owe to one another, and which they cannot withhold in any case without criminality?

#### LIBERIA.

After leaving Sierra Leone, the first land we saw was the northern part of the Liberian coast between Gallinas and Cape Mount. On the shore of the bay, and along the cape which forms it on the south, are seen the houses of the citizens. Here, as at the few points on the African coast that are held by Europeans, the silence of that coast is broken by human dwellings. Elsewhere, as we coast along, we see a strip of sand, the sea breaking on it in restless monotony, and beyond a fringe of trees. But no men are visible on the shore,—no children playing, no canoes of fishers, except near the European settlements or on the Krumen's coast. Smoke is often seen ascending where land is being cleared for planting food. Otherwise all is silent and motionless as the grave or a tenantless wilderness. This is very much owing to the African slave trade. If ever negro tribes inhabited the shore, that traffic would, in course of time, drive them to hide in the jungle. The words put by Mrs. Sigourney into the lips of her African mother lamenting over the grave of her daughter, describe, we may well believe, no merely fictitious scene:—

"There came a midnight cry,  
Flames from our hamlet rose,  
A race of pale-browed men were nigh,  
They were our country's foes;  
Thy wounded sire was borne  
By tyrant force away;  
Thy brothers from our cabin torn,  
While bathed in blood I lay.

I watched for their return  
Upon the tree-fringed shore;  
The billows echoed to my moan,  
But they returned no more."

When we look on Goree, Bathurst, Free Town, Cape Mount, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Accra, Lagos, and other places, now the seats of a lawful and useful commerce and of Christian missions, we feel that a better day is come for the negro family, although comparatively few of them are awake to hail it.

From Gallinas to the river San Pedro, 150 miles beyond Cape Palmas, the Liberians claim sovereignty over the native tribes. The original settlers, being themselves Christian freedmen from American slavery, sent there by the American Colonization Society, from the first put down the slave trade wherever their power extended.

I landed at Cape Palmas, and met some of the citizens—a local preacher of the

Methodist Episcopal Church, the doctor of the settlement, and the colonel of the militia, who is also a trader, and who invited me to dinner at a well-covered table, with his wife and some other persons.

The Krumen of Cape Palmas had quarrelled with those of the Cavalla river, some twelve miles to the east; and not being satisfied with the settlement of the difference by the Liberians, one party attacked the other. The quarrel was about the possession of some bush-land lying between them. The Cape Palmas men, 300 strong, marched against Cavalla, entered the town, were taken at a disadvantage, and driven back with the loss of nearly 100 men.

The Liberians said that they could not afford to assemble and feed a force to compel submission to their decision, and therefore they had let the Krumen fight it out.

Though the Liberians are not wealthy, and do not produce a great deal for export, yet they are a Christian people of African race; and all good men must wish them much prosperity and power for good among their heathen neighbours.

These Krumen live chiefly in villages near the coast. They grow rice, which, with the fish they catch with lines and hooks, forms their principal food.

Hundreds of them are always absent from their country, as they go to the places where Europeans trade, and also serve on board the ships of war for two years at a time, returning with the wages of their labour to their homes; and then, after an interval spent there, taking service anew. In fact, without the Krumen, the trade of tropical Africa could not be carried on. As many as 250 were our fellow-passengers from Cape Palmas to Lagos, Benin, Bonny, and other places.

American missionaries have written the Kru or Grebo tongue, schools are provided for them, and I heard of one who had been ordained a minister among his countrymen.

#### GOLD COAST.

Our next port is Cape Coast Castle, on the Gold Coast. The Gold Coast is hilly to the water's edge. The fort or castle is built on a ridge of rocks, on which the long rolling waves dash themselves into spray. This portion of the African sea-board is an exception to its prevailing character.

Some of the Fantee population of Cape Coast had been killed at a fray at Elmina, ten miles westwards, where Holland has a fort; and a quarrel of a bloody kind has hence arisen. The Dutch governor sent a boat to our steamer, lying off Cape Coast Castle, manned by natives of Elmina, and having some five or six armed African soldiers. It was the forenoon of the Lord's day (whose sacredness is, as a matter of