

COINS OF THE SIERRA LEONE COMPANY,
(AFRICA,)

THE first settlement at Sierra Leone took place in 1776, when a great number of free negroes, with about 60 white women, were sent out at the expense of the British Government, to form the colony. The project soon went to ruin; when a number of persons interested in the abolition of the slave trade, and who considered the place favorable for promoting their views, took the affair in hand. As the expenses attendant on the undertaking were very considerable, subscriptions were opened, and a sufficient capital raised. The legislature then incorporated the subscribers under the denomination of the Sierra Leone Company, under the management of a Chairman and Board of Directors, with a common seal, and to have perpetual succession. They held their first meeting in London, in October, 1791. The principal object the Company was the promotion of trade with that part of the Continent of Africa. To further the same they caused to be struck silver and copper coins, the former of the value of the dollar, half dollar, twenty and ten cents, the copper coins, being the penny, and cent. All these coins have the same device, viz.: Obv. "Sierra Leone Company." A Lion, full faced on a mountain. Exergue. "Africa." Rev. The value of the piece and date "1791." An European and Negro, hand joined. These coins are of superior workmanship, and were struck at the Soho Mint. There are two varieties of the penny piece, one being somewhat smaller, thus making 7 coins in the series. The copper coins are quite common.

— The First Upper Canada Parliament was opened at Newark (Niagara), September 17, 1792, by Lieut.-Gov. Simcoe.

— Paper first made of linen rags, 1417.