

specific instructions for my guidance
I was obliged to act according to
the best of my judgment.

On the arrival of the
steamer "Pleiad" at Clarence in the
end of June, preparations for the
river voyage were actively carried
on; these occupied ten days, and
would not have been completed
in that time, had it not been
for the timely and active assistance
afforded by Commander Miller of
H. M. S. "Crane". -

The gentleman on whose skill, know-
ledge of the country, and ac-
quaintance with African travelling
we had so much relied, being un-
fortunately no more, and there
being no one on board who was
at all familiar with African
rivers, much precaution seemed
absolutely necessary to insure
our carrying out our designs.
To assist our endeavours, I
engaged Mr. Thos. Richards who
had

had accompanied Captain Beccroft¹⁴⁷
on three occasions up the Kivira,
and on whom he placed much
dependence. I looked forward also
to Mr. Richards being useful as a
Pilot over the New Bar. - Another
person whom I engaged was Mr.
J. J. Scott, a coloured engineer,
and at the suggestion of the Rev.
Mr. Crother, I took at Ibo an
Interpreter from Fernando Po. This
man named Simon Jonas, a very
intelligent native, was with Captain
Trotter in 1841. On our way
up the river I left him at Abi
to collect information, and on our
return after three months, again
got him on board, he having
been most kindly treated by the
people. - Lastly, I engaged an Akia
lad who had been strongly recom-
mended to me, for assisting in
the collection and preservation of
specimens, as from my increased
duties I could not devote much
time to Natural History pursuits,
and

and I considered that the Assistant who came with me from England would have more to do than he could well manage. - I accordingly found this lack of very great service. Under the circumstances I trust that my conduct in entering these persons will meet with the approval of my Lords Commissioners. - At Fernando Po, the second Master of the "Crown" Mr. D. J. Gray, volunteered his services to assist in exploring the Tshadda, & Com. Miller consented to lend him for this purpose on my expressing my consent. - This I at once did, and I have no doubt that the result will prove to their Lordships' satisfaction that the amount of success we met with was considerably owing to the labours of this enterprising and intelligent officer. -

All the sails of the "Pleiad" were, by Capt. Taylor's direction, left at

at Fernando Po, but we had frequent occasion to regret this act. - 148

I have, in my letter of the 15th July, given an account of our passage from Fernando Po, & of our entry into the river, before, therefore, recounting the further progress, it may be better to give in a few lines the extent and results of the Expedition.

We have explored about 250 miles of the River Tshadda beyond the furthest point attained by Allen and Oldfield in 1833, and reaching to about 50 miles of the meeting of the Faro & Binne, have established the identity of the Tshadda with the Binne.

We have established the navigable nature of the river during the rainy season up to our furthest point, and seemingly, as well as from the information of the natives, considerably beyond.

We have encountered several new tribes, have enquired into the resources &c. of the various countries, and have ascertained the friendly disposition of the natives. -

numerous careful observations we can almost demonstrate the incorrectness of D^r Barth's astronomical positions, our furthest point East being $11^{\circ} 30'$, at which time we were considerably beyond Hamariwa, and almost certainly, at the furthest, within 50 miles of the Junction of the Fero, which was placed by that gentleman in Longitude $14^{\circ} E$.

We shall be able to lay before their Lordships a tolerably accurate Chart of the entire river, with the observations on which our positions are based, and we have also collected materials for a much improved map of the surrounding countries.

We shall be able, further, to present to their Lordships a considerable amount of information regarding the new districts, and also numerous additional facts concerning the countries previously known, especially Ibo.

We have ascertained, more correctly, the

the periods of rise and fall of the water, differing somewhat from previous accounts; we are therefore able more precisely to indicate the proper periods for the entry and the descent of the river.

With the assistance of Mr. Crother we have satisfied ourselves of the general desire of the natives to receive instruction and to admit teachers, and also of their wishes to carry on trade with us.

We have ascertained, as far as we could, the extent to which slavery, either domestic or otherwise, prevails.

We have unfortunately, been unable to obtain any very recent or accurate tidings of D^r Barth or D^r Vogel, although every possible inquiry has been made.

We are enabled to report favourably on the climate, having encountered but little sickness, and providentially, not lost a single life.

Having thus given a summary of the results, it will be requisite to allude to the causes which prevented our reaching further.

Though

Though aware that wood would form a great part of our fuel in the river, instruments for cutting or splitting it were not provided, so that it was only by sheer struggling that we were enabled to continue the ascent, and from this cause alone we lost at least 14 days.

Inability to cut fuel was the principal cause of our final stop; the Kumbos also were nearly exhausted by the immense labour consequent on the employment of miserable & insufficient tools; scurvy, likewise, made its appearance among the crew, apparently from an improper amount of nourishment. - The actual turning back of the vessel took place which Mr. May and I were about in the gig, endeavouring to make a higher ascent.

Various other minor, though most palpable deficiencies might here be mentioned, but these will be better noticed in the sequel. -

To continue from the point
where

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where I left off in my letter of July 19th, that very afternoon the vessel was carelessly run aground, & remained so for 24 hours, so that we did not reach Abi until the afternoon of the 21st. Next morning I went ashore, and finding that Aji, the second son of the late King Obi, & who was the most influential person, was absent, I called on his elder brother & representative Tshikuma, who received us kindly. - I here left Simon Jonas, Tshikuma pledging himself for his comfort and safety. I wished to proceed next morning as time was valuable, but Capt. Taylor declined to proceed on a Sunday. - We left on Monday and for the remainder of the week our progress was very unsatisfactory. - It was not until the following Monday that we reached Iddia, when I had a very satisfactory interview with the Atta. - We steamed from Iddia on Wednesday the 2nd August, & on Friday afternoon reached the confluence. From this we started on Monday the

7th, and for the four following days continued slowly ascending the Tshadda.

On the 11th we again got aground, & part of the engine having given way, & requiring a lengthened repair, I took the opportunity of getting fresh rates for the chronometers before entering the new parts of the river. We therefore remained here until the 14th, & were fortunate in getting likewise good sets of lunar distances.

For a fortnight previous to this time the river had been falling, & the after rains had not yet commenced.

I was, therefore, doubly anxious to push on at once, so as to be able to avail ourselves of the expected subsequent rise in the upper part.

Coal was now completely exhausted, and we had to procure supplies of wood. For three or four days we had rather shallow waters and very winding channels, but on the 23rd August we reached the town of Ojogo in Doma, where I obtained the only information I could learn

of

of D^r. Barth. A man, who had some ¹⁵¹ five or six weeks previously arrived at this place from Kiama, told me that when he left, two white men, with one or two white attendants had been residing for some time at that town, and that presents had been interchanged between them and the King. - Not being able to get a good description of their persons, I showed this man the frontispiece of Petermann's Atlas, on which he at once selected D^r. Barth's portrait, saying that was the face, only it wanted a large beard. He said the other white man resembled the likeness of D^r. Vogel, as he had no beard, and very slight whiskers. From this account, and not being aware of any other white travellers in this part of Africa, I concluded that the two might possibly be D^{rs}. Barth and Vogel, and determined at once to try and communicate with them. I had on board

four

four mpsengers, sent by the Chief of Igbigbe at the Confluence to accompany us, and as these men expressed their willingness to proceed to this place, I immediately requested the King of Ojogo to give me a guide, and by persuasion and the help of presents, I got them to start by next morning. - I gave them a present for the King of Keana, and a letter for D^r Barth and Vogel. - Keana was about four days journey from Ojogo, but the men said they would try to reach it in three. - I therefore remained for some time at Ojogo, but, as after ten days they had not returned, I resolved to proceed, having previously obtained the promise of the King to look after either the white men or any mpsengers until our return.

During our delay I secured a good supply

supply of excellent wood, and the rains having commenced, the river had risen about five feet. -

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From this time we experienced less difficulty in the river, owing to the increasing depth of the water, & we moved faster, having now only one of the trade canoes in tow. We spoke as we passed all the towns of any size on the bank of the river, and having passed Doma on the North side, and a previously unknown tribe named 'Mitschi' on the South, at length reached the Kingdom of Karorofa. Villages on the banks were here few, but on the 6th Sept: we arrived at a large town on the left bank, opposite to which I anchored, and immediately landed. The inhabitants seemed much alarmed, and came to watch us fully armed, but on my advancing and holding out my hand, they came towards us, and on finding our intentions to be peaceful uttered wild cries of delight. - I then went and saw their King, who warmly welcomed us, telling us that this was the first time

time white men had ever visited this country. - The town was named Gan = diko, & though in the Kingdom of Kororopa was originally founded by Filata slaves & had become an independent Filo settlement. - The country of Kororopa is entirely situated on the South side of the Tshadka, & the opposite bank is in the Filo Kingdom of Bantshi. - On asking the road to Mukari, I was referred for information to the large town of Zlibu, some miles further up the river. - I proceeded thither on the 8th, & found it also to be a Filata town, but on inquiring for Mukari, was told we should have stopped at Arngashi, some 40 or 50 miles down the river. I had therefore, to abstain from attempting this journey till the return voyage. The people were extremely friendly, and kept up a brisk trade with us. - From the information here received, I found that Mukari was not nearly so far to the Eastward as we had supposed. - After leaving Daybo the river ran considerably to the Southward, the course afterwards being about North East and North North East. -

I left Zlibu on the 10th having got a fresh supply of firewood, & for the next two days made pretty fair work, but could discover no signs of towns or villages. - On the 12th we anchored & cut wood, & were obliged to remain all next day to split it up. - On the 14th again started, but at midday seeing a large dry tree, we anchored about 5 p.m. & got all hands ashore. - Our instruments, always imperfect, were now so much the worse for wear, that though working incessantly from morning to night, we had not enough fuel to enable us to leave before Saturday morning. A canoe passing down however, gave us the cheering intelligence, that we were now leaving the district of Kororopa & entering the country of Hamarawa (the Hamarua, Petermann).

The wood we had obtained did not burn well, so we could not keep the steam up for any length of time, rendering thereby our progress slow.

I became at this time very unwell & although I kept on deck, could not attend to matters. - but having a most able & willing substitute in Mr. May, things went on as before.

On the 18th we reached the village of Zaira, where we learnt that the Town of Hamarusa was not far distant. During the four following days we did not make more than 25 miles, the current running from 2½ to 3½ knots, & the crew not being able to keep the furnaces supplied. Large branches frequently floated past us which, whenever we could, we secured, but from the rapidity of the stream it was no easy matter. Many of our Koubags were in the sick list from overworking & from another cause which I shall now mention. For the preceding 12 or 14 days many had presented themselves with swelled limbs & other morbid symptoms, & on Dr. Hutchinson's requesting my opinion, I came to the conclusion after a careful examination, that the disease was primarily Scurvy, & I therefore enquired into the quality of their food, which I found to consist of from a pint & three quarters to two pints Rice & Cold water, a supply evidently inadequate for the wants of men so worked, but designated by Mr. Taylor as an ample allowance. I

I at once ordered means to be taken for obtaining meat sufficient to give all hands a portion & desired the sick to get a share of what was in the ship. No spirit were in the ship, which both myself & Dr. Hutchinson considered would have proved eminently beneficial & the very small supply of wine, now almost entirely laid aside for medicinal purposes, only permitted a very small portion being daily devoted to the most feeble.

On the 19th Mr. May was laid up with fever - but I was now again fit for duty.

On the morning of the 22nd I reached Gurawa where I found persons from the Sultan of Hamarusa waiting to welcome us & asking me to send him a messenger. The town was said to be some 7 or 8 miles from the River, so I desired Mr. Richards to go & gave him a small present for the King as a token.

Mr. Crowther very kindly volunteered to accompany him, we escorted by the Hamarusa party they at once proceeded

proceeded. — Heavy rains were frequently falling & the River continuing to rise rapidly. I have learnt that the province of Hamamisa was one of considerable importance, little inferior to that of Adamaia, this chiefly situated on the North Bank of the Chudda, but claims considerable territory on the South side. High hills which we could see on the Southern Horizon were in Adamaia. The Aborigines were a wild looking people named "Baichai", & speaking the Djinka language, but the country had been quite subjugated by the Filates. We were now completely in Fulo territory, & with these people were invariably on the most friendly terms — they were by far the most intelligent & most civilized people we met during our wanderings. Here as in every other district above the lower Chudda yams were not cultivated, various kinds of corn forming the chief food of the people — goats, fowls & ducks were however to be got at most of the villages. —

I anxiously waited for the return of Mr. Sawlter & Mr. Richard, but they did not make their appearance till the morning of the 24th. When they came on board tired & footsore, having had a long journey over a most miserable road. They had however met with a most hospitable reception, & brought me a letter from the Sultan requesting me to visit him.

I made instant preparations and at noon started, accompanied by two officers of the Pleiad, leaving the vessel in charge of Mr. May, now convalescent.

We went by boat up a creek for about 3 miles & then landing proceeded on foot along a narrow road, only wide enough for single file, & enclosed mostly on either side by thick bush or long grass. Walking was difficult, as great part was completely under water & the remainder was soft, adhesive mud.

Our route lay across a level swampy plain on the further side of which

which was a fine rising ground, at the foot of a range of hills, & on this eminence the Town was situated.

We reached the Town at breakfast, having walked, according to my Pedometer 14 miles. — We were conducted to the house of the Galadima, or Prime Minister, where a large hut and a surrounding yard were set apart for our use, & it being dark we lighted our lanterns & sat down on our mats. We first received a message of congratulations from the King, & then crowds of Visitors poured in to welcome us. Half an hour of incessantly shaking hands tired us, & being hungry after our walk, we were exceedingly surprised by the arrival of various dishes sent us by the King. These consisted of messes of Milk & of frijie & palaver sauce, two well known Country dishes. —

Our supper over we arranged our couches, & slept in the open air in preference to the huts, as being free from Mosquitoes. —

The

The next morning we proceeded to examine the Town. — The houses, which are all circular, are capacious & well constructed — and are always surrounded by considerable enclosures.

The breadth of the Town is upwards of a mile, & its length from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 miles.

The people are a highly intelligent race, of fine & prepossessing appearance, and almost entirely Filata. The familiar language is the Filata or Fulo (properly Pulo), but most all understand Hausa, by which we communicated with them. All were well clothed, the Drees of many being very testful. Brass & Copper ornaments were abundant which they readily parted with for tomkets, red clothes & handkerchiefs.

At 11 o'clock we were conducted to the Sultan's residence, & were ushered into his presence. We were placed on Turkey rugs, but were separated from the King by a coloured silk screen, which hung from side to side of the apartment, which rather surprised me, as nothing of the kind was employed when he received any

message

message, but I was informed that such was the custom of the country. As soon as we were seated an attendant threw over me & each of my two companions fine Hausa robes, & I was presented with a bundle of spears and a basket of fourra (Kola) nuts.

We then proceeded with our interview the Sultan expressing his satisfaction and delight that white men should have visited the country during his reign, assuring us of his ardent wish to cultivate our friendship, and saying that he should send a special messenger to his Master, the Sultan, at Sokoto to announce our visit.

I then told him of our country and our Queen of the objects and intentions of our voyage, of our wish for
friendship

friendship and for trade, and of our Sovereign's dislike to war, especially when aggressive and unprovoked. The Sultan replied that what I had said about war was very good, and that he trusted that his people and white men would always be friends. I then offered him two velvet robes, a sabre with a brass scabbard, a double barrelled gun, and some pieces of white and colored calicoes, which seemed to please him much. Dr Hutchinson also gave him specimens of the various trading goods on board the steamer, and Mr Guthrie presented him with a supply of writing materials, with which he appeared gratified. I then said that on my return, I intended to visit his dependency of Wuttari, which he told me he hoped I would do, and that he would send a messenger by me. He added, that he had ordered two bullocks to be caught for us, for which I thanked him, and then begged to say farewell. He pressed us much to extend our visit, but excusing ourselves on account of the lateness of the season, and pressing occupation on board, we departed.

It was now past one o'clock, so I hurried back to our hut, got our baggage packed up, and despatched at once our skinboys. A horse was brought, on which I got Mr Guthrie mounted, as being the oldest of the party, and the most likely to be tired. Horses were

also promised to Dr Hutchinson and myself, but as they were delayed I walked on, leaving him to follow when mounted. I soon reached a very wet part of the road, and had to walk barefooted, but not having a guide, I wandered along a wrong track, and by sunset had completely lost my way, having nothing around me but thick bush. I therefore looked for a tall tree as the best quarters for the night, and was fortunate enough to find a large Baobab tree, up which I climbed, and seating myself on a branch about 15 feet from the ground, spent a not uncomfortable night, though the howling of leopards and hyenas surrounded me till daylight. In the morning I stumbled over some huts, and getting a guide, proceeded towards the river, meeting shortly a party searching for me, but who had already consigned me to the wild beasts, which abound in this district.

As the crew was much debilitated and weakened from the causes already mentioned, and as our cutting tools were nearly used up, I was most reluctantly obliged to give up the idea of proceeding farther in the ship. Mr May and I however determined to make the attempt in the gig, and accordingly, the morning after my return, we started with a crew of six men. I left the vessel in charge of Mr Marcus, the chief mate, with orders to remain except in the case of a sudden fall in the river, or any other emergency, in which case we should follow in the boat, and I also ordered

every means to be employed for getting wood. From what I had already seen, and from the assurances of the King, I felt convinced that a stay of some days at this place would be profitable to the trading party, as ivory was abundant and cheap, and in these particulars Dr Hutchinson coincided with me.

We left at daybreak on the 27th Sept. the river still rising. For some days there had been invariably a fine breeze blowing up the river, but to day, to our great disappointment, it was nearly calm, and we made but little progress against the current. We visited two villages belonging to Hamariwa, in both of which the aboriginal inhabitants, though friendly, were less civilised than any we had hitherto met. Next day, having a slight breeze we did rather better, and in the afternoon reached a town named 'Djin', up a creek, where, on our leaving, some attempt was made to detain us. On the third morning we had a fine wind, and went rapidly up; in the forenoon we arrived at a village named 'Dutti', now, by the rise of the river, most completely inundated, and in which, except one spot round a large tree, there was not a single foot of dry ground. We landed here to take observations, but were soon surrounded by crowds of most savage, wild, looking people, who, both male and female, were equally destitute of clothing. For a time their surprise kept them quiet, and we tried to get into conversation with them, and keep them in good humour, but

They soon began to be troublesome, and in a body advanced to seize and pilfer our boat, when a little pet dog I had with me, raised its head, on which, in astonishment, they held back. Not wishing to have a quarrel, and their numbers being from 300 to 400, all armed with swords, spears, and bows and arrows, being rather out of proportion, I judged it advisable to remove, so, giving me or two presents to the head men, we shoved off, while looking for another spot on which to land, their canoes followed and tried to entangle us among the bushes, so we had to retreat speedily to the open river, where we were in safety, as there, if they had become troublesome, we could easily have managed them, by upsetting their boats. On reaching the open water, the pursuing canoes, 9 or 10 in numbers, and each with 200 or 300 armed men, immediately turned back. We had previously fixed the afternoon of this day for our return, and so had, although very unwillingly, to steer down the river.

This, our farthest point eastwards, is, as nearly as we could determine, in about Lat. $9^{\circ} 30' N.$ and in Long. $11^{\circ} 30' E.$ We cannot be quite certain, as our observations, being interrupted by the natives, were hurried and incomplete. From the information we received, we believe that we were at that place not more than 50 miles from the São, and it was a matter of deep regret to us that we could not reach that confluence. Had the wind blown as freshly for the first two days as it did on

the morning of the third, we might, without difficulty, have attained this point.

During our return, which was infinitely more speedy than our ascent, we continued our survey, getting soundings and outlining the river sides. By dark we had gone about 24 miles, when, being unable to continue our surveying, we anchored. About 1 a.m., on the 30th one of the heaviest thunderstorms I ever witnessed came on, but as the river ran between two chains of hills, the attending tornado split into two parts, leaving the centre of the river where we were comparatively free. About 9 a.m. we reached Gurowa, but found to our disappointment that the "Pleiad" had left two days previously, though for what reason we could not divine, as the river was yet rising. We followed, and as the current ran strong, went rapidly along. Towards evening we entered a wrong creek, and soon found ourselves in submerged country, and it was not till 4 o'clock next morning, that we regained the river, having pulled over fully 20 miles of flooded land. This forenoon we overtook the "Pleiad" aground on the weather end of a bank, and in an awkward position. I learnt that the very day we had left, some on board had made the discovery that the river was falling, and had so worked on the mate, that he at last consented, though most unwillingly, to descend. On the second day they had got aground here, and had been in a very unpleasant state ever since. Mr Crowther,

Mr Richards, and the Chief Mate, told me they were very glad I had returned, as Capt Saylor, during my absence, had tried to get the vessel into his own hands, and matters were becoming very disagreeable. Mr Crowther, and Mr Richards had remonstrated against leaving Cirowa as unnecessary, but were not heeded. Immediately on finding how the ship was placed, I commenced fresh efforts to float her, as, if the river should fall, there would be no chance of moving her. The anchors were laid out afresh, and every preparation made for the next morning, when, as the crew were completely exhausted, we had to give up for the night. By considerable exertions we floated next day, and on the morning of Oct. 3rd as we had no fuel on board, nor could get any, dropped down the river about 20 miles to Zhibu.

Mr May and I had been desirous of getting fresh chronometer rates before leaving Cirowa, but being disappointed in that, I resolved on remaining at Zhibu for the purpose, employing the crew meanwhile in cutting wood. While here I wished to get to Mukari, but was prevented by the selfish obstacles put in our way by the King of Zhibu, who, after promising us guides and horses, broke faith with us, and consequently I declined having any more intercourse with him, and did not permit any of the Europeans on board again to visit him. His behaviour towards us made him very unpopular with his subjects, who were extremely friendly. On the morning of Oct. 5th we first observed signs of falling water. During our stay here we had a good supply of pumpkins, which greatly

recruited the men and improved the sick. On the 9th we resumed the descent, and on the afternoon of the 10th reached Aiyashi, at which place, by the carelessness of the boatswain, we lost an anchor and cable. On making enquiries about Mukari, we found that this place, though rather distant, was the best starting point, but that the journey thither and back would occupy from 8 to 10 days, a period which at this advanced time could ill be spared. The chief promised to send a messenger to tell his King of our wish, and of our endeavors to visit him, and our hopes of being more successful another season. Having dragged for our anchor and cable against a 5 knot current, until our fuel was all but exhausted, I had to proceed, and on the afternoon of the 12th anchored off the Igira town of Rogaw Koto.

At this town considerable trade was carried on, and I took the opportunity of laying in a good stock of wood, which was here very abundant, and of excellent quality. On the 14th I touched at Ojogo, received our messengers on board, and recompensed the King for his kindness. From these I learnt that the white men had left Kiama 117 days previous to their arrival, had thence gone to Ooma, from which, after three days, they had gone, it was thought, towards a town near Paibda (Fandal). This latter part of the story I knew I could ascertain farther down the river. That afternoon I reached Akpoko

where we were welcomed warmly, and next morning went to Dagbo, where I anchored, and on Monday after wooding, dropped down to Orukko the port of Ekireku, the capital of Bāpa.

On the morning of the 17th Mr May, and Mr Crowther, went to Ekireku, and visited the King. On their return we proceeded, and anchored in the afternoon off a recent town named Abatshe. Next day we visited two market towns named Amoran and Oketta, and in the afternoon anchored off Yimaha, now that Panda (Faudah) has been destroyed by the Filatas, the capital of Igbara, and the residence of the King. At this place I remained for a day and a half, and had several very favorable interviews with the King. The people are a very industrious trading set, and one whose goodwill is evidently worth cultivating. They were all suffering from the recent attack of the Filatas, who were now permitting them to ransom their captives. The King told us that many of their wives and children were still unredeemed, as their means were nearly expended, on which, I gave to assist in their purchase four bags of cowries (20,000), which expenditure, I trust, my Lords Commissioners will, on examining into, be pleased to sanction.

After leaving Yimaha, the only other place I touched at Ishadda, was Ogba, and on the morning of the 20th anchored at the confluence off the important town of Igigbe, where we had the satisfaction of

finding our canoe party in good health, at this, as a busy market place, I determined to remain for five days, during which time the chronometers could once more be rated.

Two circumstances require here to be related, the King, who is our firm friend, is son of Aboko who so befriended Messrs Laird and Sander in 1833. He offered to send some messengers with us up the Ishadda, to introduce us to such chiefs as he knew, and to tell us the names of places. This offer it would have been very impolitic to have refused, and though he sent six persons, I thought it better not to remark about the number. They were well conducted, often serviceable, and were the men whom I sent to Keana. Therefore on their return I gave them 6500 cowries as a recompense. One of these men, on our arrival at Ogogo, hearing that we were to leave again at once, refused to come, but, on seeing us actually getting under steam, he hurried on board, and while I was forward got all his effects on board. He brought with him a boy, concerning whom he was strictly questioned, believing he might be a slave. He said, however, that he was a domestic slave going to be a companion to one of his sons. A few days afterwards he confessed he was for sale, on which I told him that it could not for a moment be permitted to make an English vessel a slave ship,

but, as he had probably erred in ignorance, I should ransom the boy. In this he quietly acquiesced, and on enquiry finding the value of such a boy at the confluence to be 50,000 cowries, promised him the amount. Next morning he came on board and attempted to carry the boy away, so I turned him at once out of the ship, and going on shore to the King had him sent for, and examined in his presence. I related the whole history of the transaction to the King, who replied that he completely agreed with us. I then spoke of the slave trade generally, and told him and those around, the views held on the subject in Britain. I brought the boy, who is a fine intelligent youth, down the river, wishing to take him for education to Sierra Leone, especially as he belongs to a new tribe. He is now on board of this packet, and having been fortunate enough to meet with the Bishop and Archbishop of Sierra Leone as fellow passengers, they were much pleased with him, and the former said he would be glad to take care of the boy, and since his lamented death, the Archbishop has undertaken the charge, and from the boy's quickness he is likely to do well in such excellent hands. He is about ten years of age, and his English name is William Cartin, his native name being Pato. Before leaving Sgbigbe I ascertained that my ransoming the boy, and taking him with me had given much general satisfaction, while it proved to the people that, although here no one was wronged, we are opposed to slave dealing, in act as well as in word. I respectfully hope that in this transaction my conduct may meet the approval of my Lords Commissioners.

After leaving Sgbigbe we called among other places at Sidas, Ada-mugn, and the Abro, market towns

of Asaba, Ouitsha and Assamare, and on the afternoon of the 31st anchored off Abi. Here I remained for two days, & would have delayed even longer had the trading gentlemen desired it, but as they did nothing I left again on the afternoon of 2nd Nov^r, having been on most amicable terms with the people, been assured of their earnest desire for trade and friendship, and received many proofs of their sincerity.

I was most anxious to push through the Delta as quickly as possible, to avoid any causes of sickness, and so did not touch at many of the towns in the Orin country; at those where we did call we found people quiet and friendly, and willing to barter for wood and provisions. To the chiefs of these towns I pointed out the great advantages to be derived from intercourse with white men, how their country would thrive if they turned their attention from war to trade, and the error they committed in trying to stop passage and traffic on the river. On the afternoon of the 4th I anchored near the mouth of the river, within the full influence of the sea breeze, and which we at once found cooling and invigorating.

Next day was spent in preparing for crossing the bar, and for the sea passage. Mr May and Mr Richards went by the creek to Braap river, to try and get some news, but found themselves quite disappointed in that respect. The river was in a very disturbed state, said to be owing to the misconduct of Capt. C. S. Jackson, a white trader. The same evening two Akra men, British subjects, came asking for a passage. They had been in Capt. Jackson's employ, and had left some months previously from bad treatment, & were in great distress. I accordingly took them and delivered them to the British Consul at Fernando Po, but the particulars of this I shall lay before you in a separate letter.

By selecting carefully a proper time for crossing the Bar we were enabled to do so under the most favourable circumstances, not a single breaker being visible. - Mr. Richards, who piloted us out, said he had never seen it so smooth before though this was his 10th passage over the Bar. This was fortunate as we had still the 2 Iron Launches in tow. - On the 7th at sunset we reached Fernando P^o, where I waited on the Consul, who is also Mr. Davis's Agent, & he offered me his rooms till the arrival of the Mail Steamer.

During the voyage the amount of sickness was very little & every case of fever yielded to the careful, but free administration of Quinine, which was also employed largely as a prophylactic, and as it seemed, with great benefit. - I shall allude to this more fully in my Medical Journal to the Director General. Mr. May had a slight attack of fever, but I escaped it altogether. -

After

After reaching Fernando P^o, we both were laid up, and we have both had occasional attacks hitherto in this respect. - Mr. May's general health has however been much impaired by his previous stay of 3 years on the Coast, so that Dr. Halderson & myself, after carefully examining him, felt it our duty to give him a medical certificate recommending his immediate return to Europe. - I also wrote to Com^o Phillis stating that in my opinion, Mr. May's presence in England would be absolutely necessary for proceeding with the Chart of the River; he was therefore, pleased to sanction his proceeding in this respect.

Though, from the increased nature of my duties, I could not devote so much time to Natural History, as I could have wished, I have collected a number of specimens. -

In accordance with my instructions, I have always followed the custom of giving presents to the Chiefs & head men, though from the great number we met, the goods supplied to me were not

not sufficient. I had therefore from time to time, to take up articles of merchandise from the ship's cargo for this purpose, and also for the purchase of specimens of native produce, & of these I have a strict account, and to meet the various expenses I have drawn Bills on the Accountant General of H. M. Navy.

I have now to express my great satisfaction with the various persons composing the Government party. Mr. May's labours will, I doubt not, speak for themselves. His perseverance is most indefatigable, while his acquaintance with, and love for the scientific branches of his profession render him exceedingly adapted for such service. - Altogether he has been of very great service to the Expedition. - Of my Zoological Assistant who accompanied me from England, I can speak most favourably

favourably, I have employed him as my Secretary & his zeal, diligence and attention to all parts of his duty have been most praiseworthy. I have taken an after Cabin passage for him in this vessel as his behaviour and general conduct have qualified him for such a position, but more especially as there is no fore-cabin within line of Steamers. - and what I observed during my passage such fore-cabin passengers had to encounter more inconvenience than any Seaman on board, and at this season would seriously injure the health of any but the strongest.

Mr. Richards, whom I engaged at Florence I found faithful, willing and intelligent.

I am his accurate

Assistant

Knowledge of River Bar, & the intricate passages in the lower part of the River, I would strongly recommend him for any future expedition.

Of Mr. Scott, the Assistant Surgeon I received a favourable report from the Chief Surgeon of the Pleiad. - Mr. Mason, Simon Jones, whom I left at Abio, a very intelligent man, collected much valuable information for me - and ascertained accurately the feelings of the people towards white men.

Of the various Officers of the Pleiad most were carefully selected & well adapted for the work.

The Surgeon was skilful & attentive. The Chief Surgeon was fully master of his work & ready for every emergency. The Chief Mate was a steady well conducted Seaman and well acquainted with the navigation of the river - and was like wise well up to his duties.

To one other person I would allude, namely, the Rev. Mr. Comstock, who from his amiable character & unassuming manners endeared himself to all on board. To me personally he rendered great assistance especially in phylo-logical & ethnological enquiries, while from his knowledge of African habits & Customs, his advice was always valuable.

The Trading part of the voyage has been a great failure - but from causes beyond my control.

My various collections I have, according to my directions shipped on board this vessel, tho' from their bulky nature I should have liked to have sent by the Pleiad.

According to verbal instructions received at Somerset House before leaving England, as well as with my written instructions, I supplied when necessary medicines to the Crew as well as to the Natives.

I have merely in conclusion to remark that from all appearances there is less War & Famine & greater feeling of security along the River than formerly, as detailed
Hats

Trails & patches of cultivated ground
are now to be seen all along the
banks, some of which I am assured
by Mr. Crother existed during his
visit in 1841.

I have the honor to be,

Sr

Yours very humble servant

(Signed) Wm Balfour Baikie M.D.

To the Secretary
of the Admiralty
London