

CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.

The United States brig *Dolphin*, Lieut. John N. Maffit commanding, arrived at Key West on the 22d August, having sailed from Sagua la Grande the previous day, and reported having captured a slaver. A letter from Key West gives the following particulars:

At daylight she discovered a sail ahead standing on the same course as the *Dolphin*, which gained on her rapidly during the day. At four P. M., the sail ahead hauled on the wind, as if trying to get out of the *Dolphin's* course, which caused her to be considered a suspicious craft. The *Dolphin* tacked and stood off in pursuit, hoisting English colors, and fired a blank cartridge, which, not being answered by the other vessel, another was fired at half-past 4 P. M., and this also being unnoticed, at 5 P. M. she fired a shot across the bows of the suspected vessel, which had the effect of causing her to display the American flag at her peak; but still continued on her course, and seemed to be making her best endeavors to escape, when a well-directed shot from the *Dolphin* took effect in her fore rigging, causing her to heave to and lower her colors.

On sending a boat on board, she proved to be a brig called the *Echo*, from the African coast, with three hundred and eighteen negroes.

Her crew were instantly confined, and the prize placed in charge of Lieut. J. M. Bradford and Second Lieut. Charles C. Carpenter, and sixteen men from the *Dolphin*, with orders to proceed to Charleston, S. C.

The *Charleston Mercury*, of August 28th, announces the arrival of the *Echo* at that port.

A party of gentlemen visited the *Echo*. The *Mercury* states they were much gratified at the spectacle presented by these savages, who appeared in fine spirits, and entertained their visitors with a display of their abilities in dancing and singing. Their dances resembled in a great degree the popular burlesque of the Shaking Quakers. In their singing they preserved good time, but their voices are rather sharp and shrill.

but their voices are heard. Their leader in these accomplishments displayed the genius of a Musard or a Jullien. One of their refrains reminded their auditors of a chorus in Ernani. The whole exhibition was exceedingly interesting and novel, in which the negroes seemed to take great delight.

Very few are left in the Hospital, and these manifest anxiety to get out. The ailments with which they are afflicted are readily yielding to medical treatment, and the general health of the gang has much improved since they have been under the care of Drs. S. L. Lockwood and Ogier.

Among these negroes are three who were originally employed on shore, before the cargo were embarked, in cooking provisions for the negroes, as they were gathered in the barracoons. They can talk Portuguese and Spanish. They say they were not purchased, but that the white men brought them away without their consent. They express themselves as happy now, and would prefer to stay here rather than to return. The wants of the entire gang are very simple and few; mainly consisting in the gratification of hunger, thirst, and some trifling vices. Dr. Hamilton exerts himself to render them comfortable, and their contented and satisfied faces attest the success of his endeavors.
