

The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. II
No. 98.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1904.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

A weekly journal devoted to the interest and welfare of the Country and Race.

Offices:—Saltpond Road, Cape Coast,
West Africa.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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Annual...	10/6	14/6
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Advertisements should be sent to the **MANAGER** at least three days before the day of publication and to be accompanied by remittance.

Twelve lines and under ...	5/-
Additional line ...	-/6
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All Communications intended for publication should be addressed to the **EDITOR**.

Business Communications and remittances either in Cheques or Post Office Orders should be sent to the **MANAGER**.

For copies of the paper please apply to the Stores of Mr. **JAMES E. ARTHUR**, at Chapel Square, and at Intin Street, and

AT SEKUNDI

From his store at Ponas Road, New Town.

AT AXIM,

From the store of Mr. Charles E. Moses at the back of St. James' Chapel.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE.

TWO-STOREY HOUSE, containing
20 Spacious Rooms
good court yard
presently rented at over £60 per annum.

No Reasonable offer refused.

Apply to the Agent

F. MILLAR,
J. J. FISCHER & Co. Ltd.

NOTICE.

Is hereby given that the undersigned has been instructed by the solicitor of the Executors to the Estate of the late Jacob Wilson Sey (deceased) to sell by Public Auction on Monday the 9th day of May next month at 4.30 p.m. all that piece or parcel of land together with the messuage buildings and premises thereon situate and being at the Beulah Road, Cape Coast the property of Charles Pobee Mortgaged to the said Jacob Wilson Sey as per Mortgage Deed dated 13th March 1902. For further particulars apply to the undersigned at his residence Papratem, Intin Square.

J. D. ABRAHAM,
Licensed Auctioneer

Cape Coast, 18th April 1904.

Lewis & Mounsey,

Chartered Accountants,

of LIVERPOOL, LONDON & AXIM beg to announce that they have found it necessary in the interests of their clients to open offices at Sekundi. The new offices that have been obtained are in a central position opposite the Post Office.

PURE.—NOURISHING.



ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

IN TINS WITH PATENT OPENERS.
LARGEST SALE IN AFRICA.
TO BE OBTAINED AT ALL STORES.

KATE THOMPSON

(Deceased.)

Pursuant to an Act passed in the 22nd and 23rd years of the reign of her late Majesty Queen Victoria Chap 25 entitled, "An act to further amend the law of Property and to relieve Trustees."

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and persons having any claims or demands against the Estate of **KATE THOMPSON** late of Cape Coast, Gold Coast Colony (who died on the 4th day of January 1904 and on respect of whose estate letters of administration were granted by the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony to **MARY ANN TURKSON** sister of the deceased on the 29th day of March 1904) are hereby required to send particulars in writing of the debts, claims or demands to the administratrix on or before the 14th day of January 1905; notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the said time the administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to debts, claims or demands of which she shall then have notice, and that she will not be liable for the assets or persons of whose debts, claims or demands she shall not then have had notice: all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment to the administratrix.

Dated at Cape Coast 2nd May 1904.

M. A. TURKSON,
Administratrix

Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Limited.

Experienced Native Miners (Hammermen) can obtain employment at the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Mines at or near Obuasi. Wages Is. 11d. per day. Work guaranteed to all Miners who present themselves at the office during the next four weeks.

A. B. LITCHFIELD,
Mines Manager.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Criminal Assizes were begun last Monday with Mr. Justice Pennington presiding.

"Our judgments are so liable to be influenced by many considerations, which almost without our knowing it, are unfair, that it is necessary to keep a guard upon them"—**DICKENS**.

Prince Johnson Ghartey of Winnebah is in Town.

A deputation from the Cape Coast Reading Club, headed by Mr. Tansoh visited the Advance Guard Lodge No. 1 last Saturday evening on the *Faithful Public Schools* scheme.

We understand a hearty reception was accorded them and Bro. Walker (V. T.) the *pro tem* C. T. spoke well on behalf of the Templars. Bro. Sagee of the American Section who had visited the Lodge that night was presiding.

The Honourable J. Mensah Sarbah visited the Reading Club at its special meeting last Wednesday.

"Forgiveness is a high quality, an exalted virtue."

On Sunday last the 1st instant Mr. Superintendent Downor greatly relieved the neighbouring re-

sidents of Messrs Millers' Factory, of the hideous noise made by Millers' Krocboys at their Factory especially on Sundays. We trust Mr. Downor will endeavour to keep them quiet especially as the Honourable Mr. Chestham is indisposed.

Sir C. H. King-Harman, Governor of Sierra Leone, has been appointed High Commissioner of Cyprus in succession to Sir W. F. Haynes-Smith.

We are asked to give publicity to the following telegram sent by Mr. Daw, the Manager of the Asianti Goldfields Corporation to Mr. J. E. Ellis:—"Obenemasi Directors have cabled me to know how many shares must be kept for West African friends, telegraph me here without delay full names and addresses and number each require. I can recommend this property, capital small, it will be under my management."

News reaches us that W. P. Jackson of this place has been stabbed with a knife at Effuanta near Tarkwa on the 25th ulto. by one Koofo Tchwaieo from this place and died immediately.

We understand that Mr. James Fry the Haberdashery Storekeeper of the African Association is leaving the Firm and Mr. E. Walker (Tailor) succeeds him.

A Letter Pillar Box has been fixed at Ducla Rd. opposite Mr. J. G. Halm's.

The following are the awards of the Council of Legal Education upon the Easter Examinations held at Gray's Inn Hall from the 22nd to 25th March 1904.

West Africans.

Constitutional Law and Legal History.—

S. H. L. Bucknor, Middle Temple, (Lagos)
Peter E. Sampson, Lincoln's Inn, (Gold Coast)
J. T. N. Cole, Middle Temple, (Lagos)

Criminal Law, Evidence and Procedure.—

Obene K. Quarde, Lincoln's Inn, (Gold Coast)

Final.—

Joseph E. Biney, Inner Temple, (Gold Coast)

Wm. Clinton, Lincoln's Inn, (do.)

Wm. W. Brew, Lincoln's Inn, (do.)

Harry F. Ribeiro Lincoln's Inn, (do.)

Times, April 22.

At the recent competitive Examination in the Assay of Gold, Silver and Lead ores held under the auspices of the Cornwall County Council at the Central Technical Schools, Truro, the four successful candidates were Mr. T. Carnoe (an assistant instructor of Assaying) 1st class, Mr. Ish. Minnow (from the Gold Coast) top of the seconds and 2 others.

Mr. Minnow needs congratulation as the Exam. was a very trying one and lasted 2 days of 6 hours each.

A very impressive Memorial Service was held last Thursday night by the members of the *House of Congresses Temple* of which the late James Kuofo was a member—its C. T. at the time he was leaving for England. It was largely attended, and the Superintendent (Bro. Coker) presided, assisted by his Assistant (Bro. Dawson) Bro. Blankson, Parker, Egyir Assam and Garbush addressed the meeting.

News of the arrival of the second batch of the Asianti Abank has just come to hand as we go to Press. It appears next issue.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WESLEYAN.

Rev. Hayford, the native Assistant Minister for this station arrived by the "Angola" on the 22nd instant.

The interior of the chapel has been renovated to the appreciation of worshippers; the gift of a new organ will complete the symmetry of the shrine.

On the afternoon of the 19th instant the majority of the Infant scholars were turned out of the schoolroom by the Manager (Rev. Riggall) who bases his reasons on the fact that the turned-out children were in excess of the number required to be taught in the school—this times a discordant harmony in school management, and so the parents and guardians contend as to the reasonableness of the Manager's action. As the dissatisfaction in this respect is likely to give effect to the entire removal of the children to the Catholic School, it is a matter which the Rev. gentleman should throw light upon—By the way, there is no School Committee on this side.

CATHOLIC.

In aid of this institution, a voluntary subscription is being raised here. Already a significant amount has been contributed towards the erection of a church. Superintended by one of the Fathers the members held a Consecration service on the plot of ground chosen for the site of the Holy Edifice, the group was photographed by Messrs. Allen and Laryea.

THE TOWN.

The great importance of this town is enhanced by the recurrent advents of combined enterprises. We welcome in our midst the newly established firm of Messrs Kleinert and Hooker—Architects, Civil Engineers and building Contractors.

Extortion in the disguise of a "compulsory gift" is the game played in some of the prominent mercantile houses. The atmosphere is replete with cases of baneful and demoralized atrocities practised by mean Europeans. Fancy Sekundi—the "great City" producing a mass of these infernal stuffs arrayed in white!

The name of the West African Mining Corporation Ltd—Timber Contractors to H. M. Government, has been recently changed to the West African Saw Mills Limited, under the management of Mr. Harrison. The concessions of this Company cover several acres of land between Ashieme and Manu and is abundant with groves of fine valuable timber.

Rumour is afloat that the Authorities intend erecting within the next few months a large house to be termed "Central Prison" on a spot North of Yensua, and the same to be managed by a trained European—Go ahead Sekundi!

At the present moment the male convicts in the prison yard number about 40 more or less—the highest on average that had ever been admitted in Fort Orange Prison. The prisoners are overworked to nothing, streets gravelling is prominent amongst the toilsome labours inflicted on them. These servants of the branch establishment of "Revenue digging" ought to be well cared for—Major Kitson may note this with interest.

TOWN BELL.

The inconvenience to the public created by the want of a town bell is rather appalling, no better subject than this should lead the programme of discussions of the local Chamber of Commerce, a question that should claim the attention of the Towns Improvement Committee also. We beg to point out that the Railway Syren on which a reliance was placed, is now spoiled beyond repairing. Bell, bell for Sekundi! is the need of the hour.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

This body has recently drawn up rules for regulating the working of Jetties, dumping ground, sea-wall and Beach, and has also approached the Government with regard to erection of Warehouses at Up-country Stations, including Kumassie—It is needless to say these provisions are commendable.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Sometime in January last our contemporary the *Aborigines* published a Petition from the Aborigines Society, wherein we read, "Reports from the Western Districts have been such as to cause uneasiness, but there are two instances which we think it our duty to bring most respectfully to the notice of Your Excellency." The instances were, the case of Hammond v. Porter in which in a criminal assault on the plaintiff by the defendant, the latter was let off by Mr. de Veer the D.C. under the plea of "climatic influence." The other instance cited by the Petitioners, was, "the extent to which this regrettable mischief is spreading."

In the case of the first instance cited, no doubt the D.C. was called upon for explanation, and probably he gave to his Beniors a satisfactory one and that was the end of it. This might have been communicated to the Petitioners, and as one hears no-

thing more of it, we may infer from that, that they too were satisfied with the explanation. No attempt having been made to press the question "the extent to which this regrettable mischief is spreading" has been verified again by the death of the railway labourer to which we referred the other day and the shooting into the eye of the Kroo Boy with an air gun recently resulting in his death.

The brutal treatment to which the blacks at Sekundi and the neighbouring places are subjected to, by some white folks for no earthly reason but that they are blacks, does not only bring the fair name of the coming city of Sekundi into disrepute, but attaches some discredit also to our Empire. The whole thing reflects on ore's administration, and we sincerely hope, as His Excellency Governor Rodger will be visiting there shortly, some measures will be taken to suppress all these scandalous dealings: the perpetrators of such fiendish acts invariably find officials ready to shield them. Are we by these things being given the hint that we must expect Sekundi to be the hotbed of civilized, refined Barbarism? If so then it must be a foregone conclusion that no European of any gentlemanly disposition will care to live there, and as the Authorities seem to have lost all control over the white element there, or must necessarily connive at what goes on, its best to mark out the place "Out of jurisdiction," so that any native going there may know exactly what awaits him.

Can any of our Readers enlighten us on this? Is the Report that the Wesleyan Synod at its last Session decided to do away with Scripture Lessons in their Schools, so as to secure more time to screw up the pupils for the Government Inspection so as to earn more grants, true? This is a thing we can hardly believe of *Methodist* Schools. We would like to see it refuted—That the moral tone and the discipline of some of these Schools require the closest attention of some of the Superintendents in whose Circuits these Schools exist, goes without saying. By the way to come nearer home, is it true that for some months now, the Teachers of the local Wesleyan Schools have not received their wages.

If the Government will experience no difficulty in reverting to the old system of defraying the travelling expenses of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, to, and from Accra, it will be doing the right thing to do so. We call attention to this, not because we have had any complaint from any of the present members, but because we think it is its "reasonable service" so to do. These men appointed by themselves are mostly miles away from the place of meeting and willing as they are to serve the Government and the Country, advantage should not be taken of that to inflict these expenses on them, in addition to their being called away often suddenly from their business. If officials have their travelling expenses paid, unofficial officials should have a better consideration in this respect.

We wonder what has become of the Petition sent in, to His Excellency Governor Rodger by Messrs. Addaquay, Carr and others re the barbed wire fencing of Fort William. In the meantime having inspected the place what does the Provincial Commissioner with his Engineer intend doing? WANTED: The footpaths to be left alone, and more than one gate put up as it is done to the O'Corner's Hill and Fort Victoria.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Intelligent correspondence on matters of interest touching the welfare of the Country is invited.

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

A non-descript or initials should be given if it is desired that the real name shall not appear in the paper. Name and address must accompany all communications as a guarantee of good faith.

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

Communications to which replies may be expected must be accompanied with Stamps.

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAY 7, 1904.

THE ASIANTI AHINFU AT SEKUNDI.

The much-talked of visit of the Asianti Ahinfu to Sekundi is a thing of the past now; as reported by our correspondent, in the last issue, the first baten arrived there on Sunday morning (the 24th) and according to a report left the following Tuesday, whilst the Omanhin of Bekwai and his Ahinfu are expected to arrive on the following Sunday. There seems to have been much difficulty experienced by the gallant Captain into whose hands the whole arrangement for bringing them down fell. But one

would have thought, as he was in Asianti, hard at work arranging for their coming down there would have been a Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to see them properly quartered on their arrival, especially as this whole concern was got up, so the report goes, on their behalf and for their interest. From all account, this negligence on the part of the Chamber, or whoever it was, who was feverishly anxious to see the Ahinfu down at Sekundi, in the interest of trade, has left a very unfavourable impression on the wide-awake Asianti.

Then their idea of dignity was greatly stung in finding themselves huddled up with their followers in trucks, not even in vans, if carriages must be denied them. To think that the Asianti Ohin is such a savage, that he would not notice this, is a mistake, which the foreigner has fallen into, in dealing with him, though he may be of his own creation. There is nothing that hurts the feeling of the Asianti Ohin—and for the matter of that, of any native Ruler—more than finding himself put on the same footing with his subject, and it must be so, with them whilst there are customs, manners and Court etiquette for the people, which have been in existence from time immemorial. But the white man, who will not take the trouble to study the people, their manners and customs usually thinks anything will do for them. This is an error often resulting disastrously, a fallacy which both the official and the civilian will do well, to take pains not to fall into. The African has grades in his Society, however crude and barbarous they may be to the Foreigner which demand some respect from him, in the parlance of the civilized World he has his "man in the street," the middle classman and the aristocracy. This exists we presume, wherever a Society of men is to be found, but perhaps it requires some qualifications in certain Foreigners to recognise them without any compunction.

At the meeting held with the Ahinfu on the following day attended only by the merchants and Captain Armitage, the talk was all about *Trade*, so that, what has hitherto been a conjecture on the part of the People has now become a fact, and that is that the object in asking the Ahinfu to visit Sekundi was at the instance of the Merchants so as to induce them to make the important city(?) in the Protectorate their trading depot to the detriment if possible, of all the other towns, seeing they can easily run down for that purpose by the Train! We are told that the D.C. and the other officials were conspicuous by their absence. Whether this was a ruse or not we cannot say, though it looks suspicious for all this could never have taken place without the approval of the Authorities. The intention therefore to turn the trade of the Country to Sekundi from Cape Coast, leaving out the other places, still lurks somewhere. Wherein lies the wisdom, the justification for this policy? The main object of the merchant in the country is, to turn his goods into money, and he finds his place or places, where he can do it with little or no trouble. Is it advisable for him then, to spend his time and what money he may have to create his own place for that purpose? Sekundi may be a very good landing place for the mining materials, and the Railway there a good transport to carry them to the Mining centres, but is it sensible or reasonable because of these, to seek to transfer all the trade in the Country there also, by inducing the principal traders in the Country, not to go anywhere else but there for trade? The white man is a wise man, and at times he thinks with his might and money, he can fight against NATURE, and native manners and customs, but he often finds himself kicking against the pricks, and so when he takes the trouble to bring down the Asianti to Sekundi, to tell him not to go anywhere to trade but there, he (the Asianti) only turns round and says, he won't; he prefers Cape Coast, giving his reasons for the preference: he goes further and points out to the whiteman, that it is a wrong move on his part altogether to be opening up stores in Kumasi, assigning his reasons for this assertion. But before fully going into this we wait to hear the opinion of the second batch of the Ahinfu to come down, on this momentous question of trading with Sekundi only, leaving all the other places in the cold; in the meantime we part with the subject with this reminder for all concerned, *If you go to Rome do as the Romans do.*

THE GOOD TEMPLARS' ADDRESS TO THE HON. J. P. BROWN.

Advance Guard Lodge No. 1, Cape Coast, 23rd April 1904.

Bro: J. P. Brown, D. D. G. C. T., D. S. J. T. Cape Coast.

Sir & Bro,—We the Officers and members of the above named Lodge, desire to join in the universal congratulations which have been yours since the news of your election to a seat on the Legislative Council of this Protectorate became public property. Barring the "Aborigines Society" which claims you for its honoured President, there is perhaps no section of the community which would rejoice more heartily in the honour conferred on you by His Majesty's Government on this your appointment than the Society which we represent—The

Independent Order of Good Templars, and so we would not allow the occasion to pass, without expressing our appreciation of same, however small or insignificant this may be.

Of the many parts, Sir, which it has been your privilege and honour to play in the interest and for the welfare and benefit of your countrymen we claim a large share for the Temperance Cause—a Cause with which your name has been associated for the past twenty-seven years—a Cause which ennoble him who fights under its banner, since it aims at the uplifting of humanity from the low and degraded position into which the demon Drink has thrown it, and the lopping off of the destructive Upas tree of Intemperance the sworn foe of any Nation or Race of men.

And here let us stray to put in a word on this deadly foe of national prosperity, the destroyer of all domestic comforts the breaker of the heart of many a Parent, pitiless and remorseless of the wreck it makes of many a young person, the hope and perhaps the stay of his Parents, this curse which makes us feel for the unmotherly mothers who well-nigh turn womanhood to shame, and motherhood to horror—and to think of our young people and of the drink to-day. But this is a curse of which the entail might be cut off in this very generation. And yet the race of man, bewildered by epigrams, baffled by sophistries blinded by conceit, seduced by pleasure and rendered callous by greed, goes on enjoying and even rewarding the production of this fatal cause of evil among themselves. Here is a cause which appeals to us not only as Christians—as patriots also. Fighting the Drink (and may we be faithful) we are fighting a national foe. This reminds us of a saying of Oliver Cromwell's who was one of the most righteous of rulers whom England had. He said, "National Crime is a thing that God will reckon with, and I wish it may not lie on the nation a day longer than you have an opportunity to find a remedy" and this Drink is nothing less in its present form than a National Crime. All true sons of the soil, must fight against it. As a Society our effort may be but a tiny pellet, but the collective and the aggregate force of individuals becomes a thing which is absolutely irresistible and it is the common duty of every one of us to use that force to the very uttermost. It enhances our rejoicings therefore to find in our ranks one with such a political record in the Country.

We call to mind with pride that we have in you, one who twenty seven years ago, assisted with his membership the institution of the Good Templars' Cause in this Country, and who through those number of years has been a faithful member thereof and for a number of years also has been at the helm of its frail barque steering its course through many difficulties and shoals in our National sea, so that to-day, that little spark kindled by Captain Stoker at the Wesleyan Mission School room with but a handful of men, has grown into the conflagration one sees around him, quietly and unobtrusively doing its work. To-day with the "Advance Guard" as the first Lodge, instituted in the Country, we have several Lodges now instituted up and down the Country with a bright prospect of having many more instituted.

The handful of men who composed the membership of the Lodge No. 1, has grown into thousands, to-day, and all this under your genial and tactful direction. Your presence in our Lodge Room not only as a member but on your official visits, in the midst of your multifarious engagements has been an incentive and encouragement to us in our work. To see therefore such a worthy Brother thus honoured by our Government, gives us sufficient grounds to participate in the rejoicings occasioned by the appointment.

In the name of the "Advance Guard" No. 1, your own Lodge therefore, and of the several Good Templar Lodges in the Country, we hereby tender to you our hearty congratulation on this your appointment praying that both yourself and Sister Brown, may be long spared to us, to guard and guide the Temperance Cause, with your advice and directions.

We remain,—

J. L. Minnow C. T.	
E. Walker V. T.	Eliz. Esself, Assist. Marshall
J. Jackson A. S.	C. J. Bannermann, Sentinel,
J. J. Kush Treas.	A. S. J. T.
Geo. Jeffry F. S.	John Jackson, Registrar
W. Y. Coker	G. B. Johnson, Organist
S. D. G. C. T.	H. R. Blankson H. D. G. C. T.
	F. Egyir-Assam D. G. C. T. and others.

SCRUTINEER.

When all has been said, and done, notwithstanding all the fierce and high resolved efforts of Health officers and Sanitary Committees, accentuated by the proverbial lines ranging from a crown to a sovereign inflicted on poor people by the District Commissioners for the flagitious propensity of throwing filthy water and rubbish into streets and thoroughfares—crimes that, through the surroundings of the natives conducted by the undutifulness and perfidy of the government, they could not help committing—Cape Coast the old English residence and the chief yielder of the revenue, still remains a stinking town. This goes to pronounce the fact that the Government have been merely beating about the bush, leaving undone many things which they should have done; it strikes one with no wonder when it is considered that the most elementary principle of the science of government which is to make provisions before prohibition is so ignominiously ignored by the Gold Coast Government. To be absorbed in enacting spurious unnecessary, abortive, and impracticable Ordinances is the pet hobby of the Legislative Council of the Gold Coast, composed of two-thirds of voting puppets and one-third of genuine men of conscience. To initiate a Bill to prohibit this and that, to in-

crease the revenue and generally all things that would bring revenue in the end is the hilarious pursuit of this apology for a real representation of the people, presided over by one reverently supposed to be endowed with the wisdom and uprightness peculiar to the gods; but to get this Legislature to create a single thing for the convenience and happiness of the people requires often all the lamentations of Jeremiah, often all the noise accompanying a thunder-peal. What is the destiny, the justification for the existence, of a government that ride wildly in pronounced indifference to the happiness, the life and limb of their governed? Cape Coast Castle which has been under British protection for decades, and which has year by year yielded an increased revenue, is not a whit better than it was fifty years ago in sanitation—we say this as men of experience and on the spot, notwithstanding the plethora of official and aspiring travellers' prose to the contrary.

The Governors who are responsible for the good government and the happiness of the race have a curious disposition of continually sticking themselves at Head-quarters—and *mirabile dictu* the town of Accra itself claims no more of their honest attention than Kikam in Apollonia, judging from the aspect of its sanitation. The result of this perpetual reclination at Head-quarters does not bring about a personal inspection of the way public works and the affairs of the town are managed; consequently the battalion of subordinate officials including many jacks, and 75 per cent of whom are lazy, easy-going, and eye-service fellows, make the best of this opportunity. Can it not be possible for the Governors to personally visit periodically all the important towns in the country and so witness with their eyes the sanitation and general management of the several towns? We do not choose to particularize concerning the tackling of the sanitation question to a government whose officials hail from a country containing such large towns as London. If the Government would only set this or other large town before themselves as a model and endeavour honestly and diligently to copy how water is supplied there, drains constructed, provisions for the receptacles of filth and filthy liquid maintained and so forth, insulting smells in towns must cease to offend the olfactory organs of black and white.

Let me seize this opportunity of confirming the correspondence, and congratulating the correspondent which appeared in the issue of the 16th ultimo under the pseudonym of "Esau." Surely if I had suggested that not only the tale-bearers, foot-lickers, and the anti-Fantis should be ejected from the Aborigines Society but gone further to suggest that the Editor of the Aborigines should be a native and not a struggling foreigner labouring to make his own berth the impulsive and foolish yells of "yah, yah, Attoo, anti-strangers" would have been poured from certain well-known quarters. By the way, it has transpired that my suggestion that foreigners should be made to withdraw from the Aborigines Society has had a ready endorsement from the natives, but it seems that the peculiarly antiquated-minded gentlemen in the Executive, whose judgment of men and things is questionable and who place the adoration of foreign friends above the safety of the poor people of the Gold Coast, are vehemently against the suggestion. Let me respectfully and most humbly suggest to them that the public do not necessarily endorse all their opinions (some of which happen to be bigoted, and behind the times), much less care for their friends. They were elected to the Executive by the Gold Coast people to carry out their opinions. But they were never commissioned to the Executive to pamper and idolize foreign friends, and if they find that they could not work without the foreigners the sooner they give way to more business-like men the better for the safety of the Gold Coast people. If the Executive feel any doubt about their mistake I will offer them this challenge. Let them call a mass meeting and let the question be put and votes taken. If the majority vote for the retention of the foreigners in the Society I shall hold my peace, if not I shall ask the Executive never to exhibit self-righteousness in politics as also in religion.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

THE MEETING WITH THE ASIANTI AHINFU CHIEFS.

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Your Correspondent having reported to your Readers the arrival of the Ahinfa, with an account of how they were quartered &c. I wish to give an account also of the meeting held with them at the Cricket Ground on the day after their arrival.

At 4 p.m. precisely the place was crowded up but policemen were so arranged that no native other than an Ashanti could get to the square. Presently Captain Armitage arrived with the Provincial and District Commissioners of Sekondi on the scene after all the Asiatih Ahinfa and men were seated and after the introduction of Mr. Philbrick the P. C. and Mr. Maxwell the

D. C. to the Ahinfa by Capt Armitage these officials repaired to the D. C.'s Bungalow leaving the grounds to the Sekondi Chamber of Commerce and the Ahinfa.

Mr. MacLaughlin Agent for the Firm of Messrs F. and A. Swamy, Ltd. and I think the Secretary for the Chamber of Commerce was the spokesman but I regret to say that he was unable to impress anything on the Ahinfa whereby to induce them to bring their Rubber &c. to Sekondi by the train.

One of the Ahinfa was bold enough to say that some of the Sekondi white men were not trustworthy for he happened to send by his boy 110 loads of Rubber to his firm and his boy returned with 7 loads short of money. Mr. MacLaughlin asked him if he could point out the whiteman, he replied in the affirmative and pointed out the man at once from among the crowd, who appeared to be an Agent of a certain firm at Sekondi. Mr. MacLaughlin tried to explain to him that no doubt the rubber got missing between Kumasi and Sekondi but that was not good enough for the Ohin. Other Ahinfa had similar grievances but they were suppressed. After the feasibility of bringing down the rubber &c. by the train was explained to them they replied that they had servants who carry on trade for them and it cost them nothing but their subsistence when sending them for trading purposes, by using the railway as the medium of trade instead of their servants it will simply mean that these servants must necessarily starve and they cannot afford to do that. So the much talked of sending down of the Ashanti Chiefs (Ahinfa) to Sekondi which the Sekondi Chamber of Commerce thought would be the means of improving Sekondi trade has ended in a fiasco as the people left without the slightest impression being made upon them. They were only thankful to the Chamber for the presents made to them viz—about 3 cases Sardines, 4 cases Salmon, 4 cases Corned Beef, 7 barrels Biscuits, 2 cases Whisky, 4 boxes Cigars 50 lbs Tobacco and 1 barrel Rum. After this followed a display of fireworks which kept on till 7 p.m. when the meeting dispersed. They left for Kumasi at about 3 a.m. by a special train on the 27th ulto.

Now the Government loses about £3,000 on this fruitless mission, considering that second class fare from Kumasi to Sekondi and back which is 36/- per head and considering that there were about 676 to 700 persons besides the foodstuff which they brought down and about £500 worth of goods bought at Sekondi to be taken up free of freight together with the presents given them by some Sekondi Ahinfa and also that of the Chamber of Commerce we fail to see what Commercial good their visit would do to Sekondi. By the way these are Government made Kumasi Ahinfa but we expect to see genuine Amanhin and Ahinfa such as the Omasin of Bekwai the Omasin of Adansi &c. &c. on Sunday May 1st.

GOVERNOR RODGER AT ODUMASI.

By Advocate.

Odumasi, April 25.

His Excellency arrived here at four in the afternoon of the 19th ultimo and was accorded a grand ovation. A *feu de joie* was also fired in his honour.

The children of the three big schools in this obscure (7) place met him half way and each school gave His Excellency three cheers. At 6.30 p.m. the Missionaries Josenhans and Dietrich paid their respects to him, while there with His Excellency and according to arrangements the boys of the Middle School marched to the Konor's house and gave out some very beautiful songs. The Governor did not make light of this, he came down with the Missionaries, looked the boys round, asked some questions about the subjects of study, tested their English speaking ability by putting several questions to one boy and spoke highly of the Educational work of the Basel Mission Society. The proficiency that had been made in Drawing in the E. M. Schools was highly pleasing to His Excellency and after singing the National Anthem the boys left.

At 9 p.m. a meeting was held with the Chiefs from the important places by the order of the Konor at the Obacore Royal Hermitage and followed him to the Governor.

It was at this meeting that Governor Rodger showed himself a worthy representative of His Majesty King Edward VII. His utterances were fitly spoken and are like apples of gold in pictures of silver. His words were in season.

The meeting was not public, only the Chiefs were allowed to go up with the Head Chief (Konor) but many who are so chiefs were within hearing distance and heard every thing. The subjects dealt with at this meeting were Trade, Education of Native Princes, Agriculture, Policy of Education, Railway for the Gold Coast, Revenue for Odumasi, and Moral qualifications of Native Chiefs. To the question "Do all the sub-chiefs obey and submit themselves to you?" The Konor had to answer with a complaint against Domo people. The Manche (so he was addressed by the Governor) at the request of the Governor he sent for the representatives of the Domo, they went up and were humbled before the Manche. These Domo being ill advised had gone out of their way and appointed a successor to the dismissed Chief Ameten without consulting the Head Chief and the other Chiefs of Eastern Krobo.

The Governor condemned their steps and said enough to inculcate on them that a much safer principle to act upon is that which teaches unqualified submission to authority. Let the defectors of

rebellion murder and foul ambition learn something here.

Another point on which the Governor said not a little was the foolishness of the natives in not submitting their cases entirely to native Tribunal. He was sorry that the natives make lawyers feed so much on their follies. I like these observations very much because there are people all over the Colony of such pugnacious dispositions, that they enjoy nothing better than a bait-baiting or a cock-fight; people who are quite in their element when two fools play the parts of Hector and Achilles, while they look on.

Let those who enjoy witnessing and are encouraging the quarrels and content in Eastern Kroboe be ashamed of themselves now. Let them put a stop to their words and acts which falsely represent the Head Chief Mate Kole as wicked tyrannical and the only Chief that the inner depravity of human nature pertains to. Let them use their influence, if they have any—to advise the Dom people to yield, give up their quixotic schemes and submit themselves "For the powers that be ordained of God."

In conclusion I wish to say that the post of a Head Chief in these days goes with a herculean task and we should be careful how we recklessly consider their doings.

Let our voices be for peace, not for war. I hope this communication will put a stop to the mendacious and scurrilous remarks that so often appear in your paper to wound the susceptibilities of Odumase people.

Ecclesiastical, educational and political records give Odumase a greater history than all the pieces around it. It was therefore an outburst of pedantic rilly nonsense to call Odumase "an obscure royal hermitage."

A man who is fond of slandering others and talking about his neighbour's faults is generally blind to his own short comings.

An ambitious person generally runs down and blows up his neighbours. "Verbum sat sapienti."

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

At the inaugural meeting in connection with the taking over of the School by Mr. Fred. Cann, impressive addresses were given by Messrs S. H. Yawson, C. H. Amuah, M. S. Crenell, Robert Cann Sr. and Rev. Hayford. We wish Mr. Cann a successful career.

Our attention has been repeatedly directed to the doings of some of the scholars of the town. These are indeed a disgrace to the community. We sincerely regret the circumstance.

We were notified by a gong-gong a few days ago that a tax of 5/- and 2/6 will be collected from every man and woman respectively towards defraying the expenses of Ohin Essandor re the Com-menda Stool case, the amount to be collected is £50. By the way, is Ohin Essandor going to make his permanent stay here?

Mr. John A. Davis left for Anamaboe on the 29th ulto. to take up the Agency of Millers Ltd. in the place of Mr. J. D. Gardiner who goes to Appolonia.

Mr. Fred. Cann gave his maiden sermon on Sunday the 17th ulto and was highly appreciated.

Mr. A. J. Hammond of Fishers left for Accra a few days ago for the benefit of his health. We wish for him a pleasant change.

I. O. G. T. ANNIVERSARY.

On Thursday the 21st ulto the 9th Anniversary of the "Land of the Golden Fleece" Lodge No. 8 under the Jurisdiction of the International Supreme Lodge of America was celebrated amidst much rejoicing. Only two Lodges, Cape Coast and Appan were represented. The procession was formed at Jerusalem village, formerly known as Nortey's and marched to Wesleyan Chapel at 10 a.m. where the Service was conducted by Mr. Fred. Cann in the absence of the Rev. Hayford. After Chapel there was an imposing demonstration through the town, after which the members repaired to late Gardiner's house for refreshment. At 3 p.m. the procession re-formed and paraded until 7 p.m. when the proceedings were brought to a close. Amateur and Rockson's Infantry Bands led the procession.

A special meeting in connection with the Anniversary was held at the Freeman Memorial School where interesting speeches were given by Bros. G. B. Rockson, M. B. Tarcole, R. E. Turkson, A. W. Raider, John Sago, J. A. Pyne, J. Dudson, John Amartey, T. Yelbert, Sister Mary Dawson, Messrs. Rockson, Dudson and Tarcole were the moving spirit and they deserve credit. Pic-nic followed on Saturday the 23rd and continued with Church Parade on the Sunday which ended the Anniversary.

A Mr. Frankey an Agent for a German Factory here left suddenly for Hamburg by the Kurt Woermann leaving the Factory to take care of itself.

The Governor is expected to visit here shortly; amongst what the People should think of, to put before him for his consideration may be mentioned—

(1) A good embankment for the Lagoon. (2) A Town Bell. (3) Hospital. (4) Signal Station.

(5) Judge's Quarters and a Court House. (6) The insufficiency of Street Lamps and latrines. (7) Sanitation and a Break-water.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Omanhin Amodon V has been at Salt Pond for the past two weeks on a summons for trespass by Mrs. Macey Ridley. Mr. Ross appeared for him and Mr. Renner for the Plaintiff, judgment has however been reserved.

Rev. Bartrop (chairman) visited here on Sunday the 23rd ult. having been met by the Wesleyan School boys, at the River Ku, he proceeded to the Mission house where the leaders and elders of the Church were awaiting to welcome him.

On his returning to the Town from Salt Pond the following Tuesday, he visited the Omanhin to enlist his sympathies in the educational affairs of the Circuit the Omanhin gave him a hearty welcome and cordially agreed to his proposals.

The D. C. Mr. Grimshaw Dr. Ralph and Mr. Andzie Quainoo visited here on Saturday the 30th ult. on duty. The Foreman of Works is also here, and some repairing work is going on. The Fert which has not been whitewashed for the past seven years is now being whitewashed.

Is it right for the Inspector of Nuisance to be seen dogging people at the Public Tank?

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Major A. E. G. Wetherstone, C.M.G., R.E. with his colleague arrived at Kpong from "Up Rivers" on the 4th. April and left for Adda via Akuse on the 5th. Being Director of the Gold Coast Survey our expectations are stretched farther.

Sometime last week certain Akuapim youngmen in Police uniforms were said to have arrested one Kwawli Donkor and tied him by the wrists; after begging hard the ropes were transferred to the waist for 10/- paid by the prisoner. The unfortunate man was confined at Buasi, near Adaman. But the case having come to the hearing of the D. C. steps have been taken for his release and the prosecution of the Banditti.

We understand that under the guise of the Travelling Commissioner's authority Ohin Kwamin of Ngahi has been fining his neighbours heavy sums of money and making their lives bitter. Consequently his hand-cuffs have been taken away from him and strongly cautioned against unjust molestations of his neighbours and abuse of the name of His Majesty's Government. This is the man on whose behalf Mr. Crabbe T. C. fined the neighbouring tribes a total amount of £141.

The two youngmen, Theodore Tyson and Victor Moses, arraigned for Libel against the Agent of B. M. Factory, Akuse, returned from Accra on the evening of the 5th. April the case having been dismissed by the Judge.

I read from the issue of the 16th. April a letter by Konor Mate Kole headed "In Defence of my Position." His three reasons assigned for so late an outburst of vituperations, tauntings and vauntings are but sorry explications of his impotent silence tantamounting to the admission of an impeachment. His so called wolves and dogs are but nonentities having their fantastic existence only in the wakeful dreams of a perturbed mental equilibrium. No "would-be scholars saunter about" him than his own broken reeds of Advisers legal and ecclesiastical. The real disturbers of his political and social peace are his ill advisers that lead him now and again into a labyrinth. No one grudges him of his intricate unenviable position and more than the dog would grudge the ox of his hay.

The Konor boasts of an ability to read and write, but in the composition of the letter in reference, while I feel the hands of an Esau I hear the voice of a Jacob. The undue advantage he takes by his spare education over the ignorant of his own subjects and of the stranger alike warrants the stranger to voice the wonders he beholds; It was against the interest of a stranger that the Konor acted both as vendor and witness (G. C. Leader October. 17, 1903) for which £7 was extorted. It was the stranger who suffered by the interruption of Manyakponno Market. How do the markets of E. Krobo compare with those of him who is unable to read and spell the names of Dogs and wolves.

It would have been worthy of refutation if the Konor had both detailed out and proved the "rots" and lies there were in the Reports of the Murder Case which was investigated at the Supreme Court before a crowded audience; and in the Inquiry at Aburi which was conducted with open doors before several eyewitnesses still existing to discern every fallacy in the Report. His peremptory labelling of the whole with "rot" is but begging the question, and does in no way extricate him from his dilemma nor yet exonerates him from the natural pronouncement of the circumstances. I appeal to the Courts,

to eye witnesses and the general audience to judge whether the reports were bare faced facts or mere fabrications. O that they were rots! But here they stand impregnable, stubborn and infrangible.

When the aid of strangers must first be resorted to in settling home affairs, when faith with children is unceremonially broken, when the trousers is cut to patch the coat, when extortion maintains a seat under the paternal roof, when variance with right and left neighbours prevails and dependents are impoverished instead of being enriched, when "Ichabod" is written over the portals, tell it only to children and the imbecile that such is a good management.

Why the Konor has no trouble with the Government is so notoriously known that I need not disturb it from its fitful resting place. There is nothing hid that shall not be revealed. The letter of "Obo" on the Submission is interrogatory still awaiting elucidation and reply. Will the Konor split the hair?

Respecting the Funeral question the Konor's defence can be taken for what it worths. But one wonders why Konor Akroboto raised an objection to the official invitation of Capt. Aga and Narnor if that invitation was within customary rights while he raised no objection to his half Brother Tetewayo (whose wife is a daughter of late Konor Sakite). I do not know "James" but I believe he exists and will answer for himself. Meanwhile let Konor Mate Kole take refuge in the wholesome admonition of a wise man to a king in Daniel IV. 27.—And may God keep him to be faithful, true and just to the people over whom he rules and the Government to whom he is responsible. And may God open the eyes of his countrymen who may be poor sufferers of their country's ruin!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

We regret that many of the letters we publish have had to be cut down. Correspondents who desire to see their communications printed as sent must bear in mind the limitations of our space, and that we can seldom find room for letters exceeding 300 or 400 words in length.

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

RE REV. REYNOLDS OF AXIM.

Sir,—The article under this head which appeared in your issue of the 9th. inst. has been read here with no little amount of surprise. The gist of the whole affair being, according to Kwantabissa, that Rev. Reynolds should be removed. This should be right under the following conditions:—

1. If his removal conduces to the welfare of the Wesleyan Church, as represented by the Synod, in general, and the Axim Church in particular.
2. If Rev. Reynolds has made a default of some sort in the performance of his duties.
3. If the Synod did state beforehand the time at which Rev. Reynolds should be removed.
4. If the views he expresses are those of the Axim Church Community.

But any of these Mr. Editor, Kwantabissa does not say; All he alleges against the Revd. gentleman are a hearsay—he merely learns, from what authority he does not say—what in his opinion are grounds for the removal of Rev. Reynolds; and in this respect he assumes superiority over the Synod which has the sole right of appointing and removing ministers.

His points mainly are:—

1. That the Synod did not remove Rev. Reynolds because of a supposed correct rendering of Circuit accounts.
2. That because the Revd. A. W. Parker was about to retire.
3. Because of Chapel Building Business and a supposed complication of accounts thereof.
4. Because Revd. Reynolds is very fond of Axim.
5. Because too much of one thing is not good.

Now Mr. Editor these are the points which form the premises,—bare statements, upon which Kwantabissa builds up his arguments.—A Travesty of logic indeed! What if the Synod choose to keep Revd. Reynolds here ten years longer?

I am not at present prepared Mr. Editor to rush into conclusions such as Kwantabissa has done, but thus much I should say:—That until Kwantabissa adduces facts—which are always stubborn and which will go to prove a dereliction of duty on the part of the Revd. Gentleman, I shall be inclined to consider his whole article not only as sentimental but personally prejudicial and a balddash.

Thanking you for space allowed.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,—KWAMIN ATU.

AXIM, 18. 4. 04.

NOTICE.

There will be Special Bible Lectures on Sunday evening at the Seventh Day Adventist Mission, Intin Street, 7. 30 p.m.

Subject To-morrow Evening

"The War in the East as foretold in the Bible and the final Battle of Armageddon"

All future subjects will be announced.

Printed at the office of the GOLD COAST LEADER Salt Pond Road, Cape Coast, by JOHN D. OTUO.

The Gold Coast Leader.

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CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1904.

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PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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For copies of the paper please apply to the Stores of Mr. JAMES E. ARTHUR, at Chapel Square, and at Intin Street, and

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Lewis & Mounsey,

Chartered Accountants,

of LIVERPOOL, LONDON & AXIM beg to announce that they have found it necessary in the interests of their clients to open offices at Sekundi. The new offices that have been obtained are in a central position opposite the Post Office.

KATE THOMPSON

(Deceased.)

Pursuant to an Act passed in the 22nd and 23rd years of the reign of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, Chap 25 entitled, "An act to further amend the law of Property and to relieve Trustees."

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and persons having any claims or demands against the Estate of KATE THOMPSON late of Cape Coast, Gold Coast Colony (who died on the 4th day of January 1904 and in respect of whose estate letters of administration were granted by the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony to MARY ANN TURKSON sister of the deceased on the 29th day of March 1904) are hereby required to send particulars in writing of the debts, claims or demands to the administratrix on or before the 14th day of January 1905; notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the said time the ad-



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ministratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to debts, claims or demands of which she shall then have notice, and that she will not be liable for the assets or persons of whose debts, claims or demands she shall not then have had notice: all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment to the administratrix.

Dated at Cape Coast 2nd May 1904.

M. A. TURKSON.

Administratrix

Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Limited.

Experienced Native Miners (Hammermen) can obtain employment at the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Mines at or near Obuasi. Wages 1s. 11d. per day. Work guaranteed to all Miners who present themselves at the office during the next four weeks.

A. B. LITCHFIELD,

Mines Manager.

GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. John Adams died last Saturday evening at Afamunam. The family have our sympathies.

It is with regret we have to record the death also of Miss Marian Fynn, a daughter of the late William Fynn of Green Lattice Lane on last Sunday evening. The friends of the deceased have our sympathies.

The heavy rain on last Sunday afternoon accompanied with a strong tornado was very destructive: the roofs of several houses in all parts of the town were removed.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing, but a little practice is worse."—Hos.

The number of Schools which presented themselves for competition of prizes at the Annual School Exhibition this year was very small indeed, only nine out of the large number of Schools we have.

There were two Government Schools, three each from the Basel Mission and Roman Catholic Schools and only one from the Wesleyan.

Some measures should be adopted by the Board of Education not only to have the number increased but to be steadily kept up.

Messrs. Foot and Jones' little book the "Gold Coast and the Fanti" according to the Argus has had a good sale on the coast: a further supply has been sent to the Hon. J. H. Cheetham.

Last Sunday a Wangara was seen with a very serious wound, received from some unknown person or persons. The man was going to a village with his wife for some plantains to sell.

"Trifles are trifles only to triflers."

WISE WORDS: One must lose a minnow to catch a salmon.—French proverb.

Never advise a man to go to the war or to marry.—Spanish proverb.

Happiness is a roadside flower blowing on the highway of usefulness.—Raskin.

Mr. H. B. W. Russell left here for England on the 6th inst. per *Nigeria*. We wish him a pleasant voyage home.

COLONEL MORIARTY was defending the climate of India. "All nonsense" he says, "there's no better climate in the world. But there are a lot of young fellows who come out to India, and they eat and they drink, and they drink and they eat, and they die, and then they write home to their friends and tell them that the climate has killed them. Of course, lots of people die in India. Tell me where they don't and I'll go and end my days there."—*Tit Bits*.

The American Section of the Templars lost a Sister last Wednesday: they buried her with honours at the Tantry Cemetery.

The P. M. O. from Accra and Dr. Murray from Kumasi are expected here shortly.

Judgment was given on the Mankessim Riot case last Thursday by Mr. Justice Pennington. Entchill, Hagan and their Company were let off, whilst Pokoo, Elis Quansah and their men were run in for twelve and nine months.

Rev. Frank Arthur (Zion Methodist) occupied the pulpit at the *Wesley Church* last Sunday evening.

His Excellency Governor Rodger passed up to Asantia via Sekundi by the *Fantee* yesterday.

Cape Coast and Axim are sending four men for the Inter-Colonial Cricket to be played at Lagos. Those from here are Messrs. Holdbrook and Fynn who go to Accra by the *Burutu* next Monday.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

	Due at Cape Coast.
Volta Opobo Service ...	May 11
Teneriffe Northern Windward Service ..	14
Ancobra Brass Service ...	16
*Burutu Lagos Express Service ...	16
Egwanga Opobo Service ...	25
*Jebba S. C. Express Service ...	23
*Eleo Wermann Cam. Acc Service ..	25

HOMEWARDS.

Fantee S. C. Express Service No. 2	May 13
Alex. Wermann Cam. Acc. Service ..	14
Axim Brass Service ...	16
Bakana Opobo Service ...	19
Sobo Lagos Express Service ...	20
Sokoto S. C. Express Service No. 1.	27
Leopoldville Congo Boat ...	28
Biafra Brass Service ...	30
Paul Wermann Cam. and S. C. Service ..	1

*With mails and passengers only.

TARKWA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Rumour has it that the combined firms are contemplating establishing at Abosso & Mansu. A great improvement to trade this will be(?)

Despite the fame that this town owns as the Capital of the Mining Districts one is quite disappointed to find the wretchedness of its sanitation, being bounded on every side by swamps the nearness of which if not removed will in future cause a serious epidemic.

The numerous cases which are on the hearing list at the D. C.'s Court with the number of accidents that are carried to the Hospital must certainly task the strength of the Doctor-Commissioner

(Dr. Cookman.) If the Authorities would only spare a D. C. to manage the affairs of the town its future prosperity will not be doubted.

For the purposes of sorting letters &c. the Post and Telegraph offices are closed on mail days to the great inconvenience of the public. Should these offices be separated one at the first storey and the other below, telegraphic communication and its obstacles will be greatly relieved.

Messrs Paganstecher & Co., are doing well with their refreshments at the station yard but their prejudice for the colour distinctions is beyond conception.

It has become the practice in this town to present any man caught violating any ordinance to the Registrar's and on his recommendation either discharged or taken to the Lock up. Can any official give us the date when the Registrar here was promoted to be a Serjeant Major or Commissioner of Police?

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

With reference to the rates of cable messages from British West Africa to the United Kingdom we understand from a reliable source that the African Direct Telegraph Company Ltd. have decided to considerably reduce the tariff from the 1st. of July next as follows:—Sierra Leone 3/6 instead of 4/6, Accra and Sekundi 4/8 instead of 5/7, Government Stations 4/10 instead of 5/9, and Lagos, Brass and Bonny 5/- instead of 6/3.

Arising from a dispute as to the impracticability of signing an Attendance Book after 6.30 a. m, all except three of the members of the Loco Departmental staff refused to work last week, and went home. In this matter the Engine Drivers (the members alluded to) were not well treated. We fear a strike of this kind on a second occasion will result in serious damages.

It is understood that owing to a portion of the Mission House having been rented to a government Official, (European) there is no available accommodation for any native Minister who may seek for lodging on the premises. We are led to believe that not even the builder of that mansion is held in exception, in that he had to resort elsewhere for accommodation on his last visit to this place. This sounds very discordant in our ears.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE SECOND BATCH.

The same report of the arrival of the first batch, may be given of the second batch of 750 men who arrived here by the iron horse, at 9.30 a.m. to-day. The same difficulty was experienced as on the former occasion in the matter of housing these visitors. The dignitary at the helm of the Chamber of Commerce (or the Government, which?) does not seem to have equipped himself sufficiently as providing suitable quarters for these people at all, other than the four tiny pigs' sheds which the Government sternly put up through prison labour. The treatment as we have remarked before is not at all pleasant; it seems as if the people were invited merely to be tormented over this petty affair, rather than to exercise themselves in the wonderful things created by the hand of the Sekundi whiteman. Up to the time of writing (2.30 p.m., the Ohin of— has not yet got a place to lodge in. Is not this a scandalous hospitality to a kingly guest? No comments.

A Portion of this morning's batch of Ashantees has been left at Benua, and will arrive to-night.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We record with profound regret the death of Quacco Quagrande who after a few days illness died last Sunday afternoon at 1.30. The deceased was the chief drummer for the Tuafa company. His relatives and comrades have our sympathy.

APPAM.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Mrs. Joana Addo the wife of Mr. G. B. Addo the Head Master of the Aburi Circuit, gave birth to a daughter on the 12th. April.

We hope the D. C. of Winnsbah will not fail to bring to the notice of the Governor on his visit here, this sore need of the people—water, so as to find ways and means to supply same to the Public.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The rains are coming on, and our principal thoroughfares are going to exhibit the uninviting sights they usually do during the wet season. Why the streets have not been macadamised these many years, when they could be, has always been a puzzle to us, and to the European who visits here for the first time, after having heard so much of the place, and the number of years the Government have been in possession of the place some expressing their sur-

prise at this in their correspondence and articles to journals and other periodicals.

The amusing or rather tantalizing part of it all is, the Breach and the street in front of the Gothic House have had this privilege, it is said, for a trial (!) the former showing a better workmanship. No doubt as usual, the necessity for the work is felt, but somehow it will not be done. No wonder visitors from our Neighbours' Colonies look on with provoking smiles.

Concerning the trade of the Country and the necessity there is for those concerned to rub their eyes to save the situation, we have said enough and will continue harping on the subject until our Merchants wake up, and do something for the interest of their own purse. The dogged persistence shown in pursuing a course which will ultimately ruin our trade, despite all warnings surprises anyone who has given the question a thought. No doubt some large Houses can afford to waste the valuable time being spent, and the money lavished on imaginative schemes, without being none the worse in their pockets, but what of the smaller Houses, and the Native traders who equally share the up-keep of the Government, which protects the Country, with them?

It is high time some feasible projects to better the trade of the Country, were thought of rather than, this attempting of the impossible, this endeavour to upset the native system of trading, this cry of, *Avant to the native clerk*, and to nip in the bud the thousand and one things floating about the tables of our Chambers of Commerce, to the neglect of those things which will prop up the trade as it has been already spoiled by administrative blunders, punitive expeditions and impracticable Ordinances.

There is, (and, has been for some time) a general complaint against the treatment, now given by the *Boating Company* to Passengers, of which we have said nothing hitherto, thinking these just complaints reaching them, they would see their way clear to improve things for the convenience of the Public. It appears that for some unaccountable reason, and without giving due notice to the Public, the charges first made for loads and luggages have been enormously increased, greatly to the inconvenience of the Public.

The charges made at first and of which notice was given, were reasonable and fair enough, as compared to what it used to be, before the Company began operations here. At present these charges are admitted by all to be too exorbitant, far and away what it was when they started, and what it used to be before their appearance on the scene. If they will find their way clear to adjust matters, not only to suit their pocket, but for Public convenience as well, they will be doing it a good turn. This procedure has made a very unfavourable impression on the Public.

In its issue of April 15, last, the *West African Mail*, in a leading article headed *The Joint Duty of England and France in Tropical Africa*, has said some very good things some of which we echo here:— "That both Powers, are guilty, and will be guilty at times of administrative blundering, is true enough; that both Powers, may on occasion, be served by inhumane and discreditable servants, is possible also; but that the objects they are jointly pursuing are sound is not a moment in doubt. . . . There is sufficient statesmanship in England and France to realize that no good work, no enduring results, no permanent administrative success, is possible in tropical Africa, unless the rights of the natives in their land and their property is recognized as the basis of European lord-ship.

"There is sufficient common-sense in England and France . . . to realize that if tropical Africa is to be of lasting benefit to the white races, it can only be so through the willing co-operation of the native owners of the soil. . . . What a colossal future may not be reserved for tropical Africa, if these considerations remain the guiding factors in European administration. . . ."

Noble sentiments. "There is sufficient statesmanship in England and France. . . sufficient common sense. . . sufficient humane sentiment. . ." The most unfortunate part of it all is, these qualities are seen in England and France, that is, with the White man "at home," and happy will these Countries be together with ill-used Africa if their Sons who come to us, come imbued with these fine notions.

NOTICE.

There will be Special Bible Lectures on Sunday evening at the Seventh Day Adventist Mission, Intin Street, 7.30 p.m.

Subject To-morrow Evening.

"Signs of the times or the meaning of the awful storms and earthquakes."

All future subjects will be announced.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Intelligent correspondence on matters of interest touching the welfare of the Country is invited.

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

A *nom-de-plume* or initials should be given if it is desired that the real name shall not appear in the paper.

Name and address must accompany all communications as a guarantee of good faith.

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

Communications to which replies may be expected must be accompanied with Stamps.

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAY 14, 1904.

OUR TRADE AND THE ASIANTIS.

Not very long ago, we expressed an opinion on certain things going on in Asianti, adding that that was most likely to be the very view to be taken of them, by our cousins the Asiantis, and an official of high standing gave it out in one of the English Journals on West Africa, that that was an opinion existing only in the imaginative brain of the Coast Scholar, evidently implying by that, that he understood the Asianti better than a Fanti. This is an utter impossibility. Even the Fanti cannot claim to understand fully, the Asianti, hence, he has a saying with him which he uses when he could not fully understand the movements and expressions of a friend, that he is an Asianti, or has got an Asianti head, which means that he is very deep, and could not be easily understood. But between the Native and the European, it must be conceded that the former understands him (the Asianti) better, by a long way than the latter.

In our series of articles on the *Appeal to the Chambers* we pointed out that the present course pursued by the Merchants with regard to our Trade, will not suit the Asianti or the people in the Hinterland, with whom we mostly trade, and if anything it will tend to ruin the trade than otherwise. It is a mistake to think, that having now got the Railway at Kumasi, stores must be opened up all along the line and in Kumasi itself, so as to do with the People direct: as far as European ideas go that may be right enough, but we are Africans and not Europeans, and as such we have our own ideas of trading—our system of trading, and you cannot Europeanize us in a day. You say, you must have a beginning and in course of time, you will get us to your way of trading. That is easier said than done, and we venture to say that so long as Europe is Europe and Africa is Africa, it can never be done: no amount of force or wealth can do it, for it is not an easy thing to fight against NATURE, and often when you are able to show any success, it invariably depicts in glaring colours the selfishness of Man more, than the production of any material good.

When the fever of the Scramble for Africa was on, maps were simply hanged before politicians, and portions marked out to show the spheres of influence of the Powers: in this way some extensive and rich markets were lost to our Empire: places that have been trading with us through the Asiantis over which they held supremacy, and were willing still to trade with us, were given over to the other Powers: then came in punitive expeditions to finish the destructive and undiplomatic piece of work: then followed the idea that the Asianti dynasty must be broken up, and stores must be studded all over the Hinterland, to do away with the Middleman, some say, as if even Europe has done away with him and People are allowed to do direct with manufacturers. We pointed out, that if Commerce is all that makes the European interest himself in Africa, and extensive Markets are all that are required, then this policy is ruinous. But what did we know? Having done all this, the next move is to make SEKUNDI, the Emporium for the Coast Trade and the Asianti Ahinfa (Chiefs) must be brought down to be inoculated with that idea. They have come and let us listen to their verdict.

At the meeting held with them, which we reported last week, they told the white man, that they did not see the necessity of running down to the Sekundi port as he had himself established stores all along to Kumasi which was not so

formerly, that accommodation and water supply were not conveniently obtainable there, that goods were dearer there than Cape Coast, that by using the railway, their domestics whom they keep in large numbers for trading purposes would be sitting idle, and in trading by them also, they find it cheaper, as their subsistence is their only expense, whilst they will have to pay large amounts for freight in using the train. In addition to these, they seemed to have had some grievances to launch out and after hearing one of them, the others according to the report were suppressed—Such were the views which the Ahinfa expressed after the speeches to impress them with the fact that Sekondi is the coming Town, and to back them up although an understanding was come to, to that effect before they left, no rubber has been sent down: in the face of these statements it would be futile for us to make any comment in addition to what we have often said: we would only ask is it reasonable and business-like to persist in doing those things which are sure to ruin the trade of the Country? It may be English to carry through anything once resolved upon in the face of all difficulties, but is it wise at least in matters of this kind, and WHAT DO THEY SAY IN ENGLAND?

OUR YOUNG AND OLD PEOPLE.

BY K. DADZI.

The situation of things with our young and old people in Cape Coast at present, is, to my mind a deceitful one. The attitude is not such as one could wish for. We cannot say where the mischief lies, but it is an invidious defect, undermining the unity and concord in the community. Efforts should be made to uproot such a baneful influence, or, in time, the foundations we are laying, to leave behind us, will go into ruins for want of support. No one can conscientiously say, there is an unimpeachable unity existing between our young and old men. This feeling must be cleared out or else, what we are agitating for, will be brought to naught, in the near future? The young and the old, are two inseparable machines, driving the nation to its destiny. Seed of mutual understanding should be planted amongst them for the carrying out of the object in view.

The universal belief is, that the old die before the young; but this is not always the case. The young, as a rule, are successors to the old in office; they should therefore be encouraged in every way possible: a spirit of endearment incalculated, and our wishes and desires impressed upon them that they may not be found wanting, in the performance of duties assigned them when the time comes.

Why are our youngmen not interesting themselves in the affairs of the country? Are they not aware, of the exigencies of the times—Do they not know, the future prosperity of the Gold Coast, solely depends on them—Are they well versed in the history of the country, that they do not desire to associate themselves, with the old, who are steering the course of the nation—to fully acquaint themselves with the problems, and be able to cope with the stormy times brewing ahead.

To my mind, I have more of patriotism among them than I can reckon upon. It is an undercurrent feeling disintegrating them from being useful to the mother country. While endeavoring to inform ourselves, by examining the position, we have been able to detect the side on which the fault lies. In our opinion, the old are more to blame than the young.

Selfishness and self-conceit—selfishness—a combination of faults implanted in us by nature mar the impressiveness of our public meetings, preventing growth of unity. We have often noticed, that whenever the young and the old meet, to discuss affairs of public and private institutions, the former are always repulsed from offering an opinion or criticism, the palpable excuse being that they are young and inexperienced therefore, their opinion is not necessary. Herein lies the mischief. In the world's history, there never was an old man without the youngman, and vice versa. Opinions differ materially. A mind in a dormant condition, will never develop itself without being exercised or put to practice. It devolves upon the old, to train up the young, in the way they should act, and to instruct them, by discussing politics and other matters, touching our customary laws and institutions &c., with them, to enable them, to wield the sceptre in the immediate future. It is quite a mistake to disallow the young from lending a voice in public or private discussions. This sort of prohibition was the practice of the old times and must be abandoned and checked, from influencing our meetings. It has been the means of preventing many a youngman from becoming a public man. It is scandalous to hush up a respectable young man at a public or private meeting, from offering an opinion, for the interest of his country. Unless it is

our intention to wreck the stage upon which we are playing our part, but if otherwise, it behoves us to admit them into free discussions.

COMMENDA.

THE PEOPLE AND THE DUTCH FLAG.

Continued from No 92.

"Our object for holding this meeting is to confer with the Ohin and his Apamfu, as to the course we are to pursue, with regard to the momentous question at issue. It is a problem devolving upon us, as a people, to solve. Its gravity demands immediate action. We deeply regret however, that our masters, the English, never gave us any previous intimation of their intentions. The situation is a critical one. To arrive at a solution of this problem, we are required to carefully think deeply and wisely, not losing sight of the fact, that we are in the midst of Dutch subjects with whom we are never at peace. We, the five companies of this town, have come to a decision, but before we make it known to you Ohin, and your Apamfu, we wish to know from you, to-day, what answer you propose to give, to the two Governors when the question of transfer is put before you."

When this question was put to the Ohin and his Apamfu, a great silence ensued and the situation assumed a mournful aspect. Groans and sighs coupled with uneasiness prevailed. It was at this meeting that the nearness of the danger with which they were surrounded was unveiled before them. After a long brief conference, the Ohin's linguist said, "I am requested by the Ohin and his Apamfu to say, they have carefully listened to the explanation of the situation and the troubles threatening this town. The Ohin, as you all know, has been greatly agitated with regard to this matter. It has cost him sleepless nights ever since the message of the Governors was sent to him. He never for a moment gave the question a thought when it was first rumoured here, because, in his opinion, and situated as we are, it is impossible for such an event to take place. He is sorry for the trouble the English Government are about to give him after enduring so many hardships for them. He has talked the matter over with his Apamfu and the influential men of the town. He was put on the stool by you and the question is a political one involving a crisis. In case of a resultant conflict, he would entirely be guided by you. It is for you therefore to submit to him your opinion."

The spokesman at once replied and said, "Under the circumstances at present, we have decided not to accept this Dutch Flag and are resolved and determined to face the troubles and hardships its refusal might entail—and be the result what it may, we positively denounce it. We would rather, with all our sons and daughters die in the struggle, than to accept this flag and be made subjects of the Dutch Government."

At this the Ohin's linguist replied, "I am desired by the Ohin to tell you, that, if after due deliberations you have come to the conclusion to refuse the Dutch Flag he heartily concurs with you." There and then a tumultuous outcry was raised and joy was depicted on every face. Both Ohin and people drank fetich to stand by each other in time of need and the compact was sealed.

The sensation created by this meeting had scarcely died out when it was rumoured that the Governors were coming. The town was at once thrown into agitation and great was the excitement and alarm displayed; everything being in a confused state. They were in this dilemma, when the two Governors arrived at British Commenda.

(To be Continued.)

THE CHIEF JUSTICE ON GOVERNOR NATHAN'S ADMINISTRATION.

At the last Legislative Council over which Sir Matthew Nathan presided, His Honour the Chief Justice (Sir William Brandford) on moving a resolution to that effect said:—

"Your Excellency as this is, as you have said, the last time that Your Excellency will preside over meetings of this Council, I desire on behalf of its members to say a few words and with the approbation of Honourable Members to move a Resolution.

It has been said and as far as my experience goes with some truth, that a Governor's term may be ordinary divided into three periods. When he first takes office he is received with enthusiasm, an enthusiasm which lasts sometime but which gradually wanes until at the end of the second year there comes a revolution of feeling. During the second term of his administration he is cordially disliked. After that there comes the last two years of his office and by that time peoples' feelings have got settled and he is regarded with of a kind of mild toleration mingled with an aftermath of popularity. His Excellency has now reached the second term and has got well passed the middle of it and yet there is no abatement of the enthusiastic feeling with which he was received when he came here in 1900. During the 37 or 38 months in which he has administered

this Colony he has had barely four months leave, and during the whole of that period, with the exception I believe, of something less than a month whilst in Europe, he has worked harder than any man in the Colony.

I do not wish to lay much stress on the conditions of the Colony when His Excellency first administered it. But I am bound in fairness to say that at first he had to tread a very thorny and rough road. There was a great deal of difficulty over the Railway; then the Concession fever was at its height and that alone was sufficient to absorb his entire attention; then there was imminent danger of a retrogression, at any moment, of the Ashanti troubles, and too the relations between ourselves and our native fellow-subjects were not of the happiest. His Excellency has brought the Colony triumphantly through all these difficulties: partly by his ability, partly by his energy and sheer hard work, and to a great extent by his tact and personal influence.

I will not enumerate the various projects he has pressed forward in the welfare of the Colony: our progress is necessarily limited by our means, but I am confident that the whole Colony is satisfied that His Excellency has used the means at his disposal to the utmost advantage of the Colony.

With regard to the feeling of the Colony generally I can speak as one who has had about 25 years acquaintance with the coast and I am able to say that I have never known a period in which there has been less feeling of unrest. But when the news came that His Excellency was leaving us there arose a feeling of consternation. I have lately had an opportunity both in the East and West of seeing the great sorrow shown at his leaving us and the general recognition expressed by all classes of people—both European and Native—of the great benefits which have been conferred on the Colony during His Excellency's administration.

There is on one thing more I should like to say, and that in explanation of the closing words of the Resolution. What is there meant is that by his invariable courtesy, by his practical sympathy with every form of good by his lofty ideals and by his precept and practice His Excellency will have left in the Colony a higher tone than he found.

I beg to move the following Resolution. That this Council desires to place on record its high appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Colony by His Excellency Major Sir MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G., R.E., and his recognition not only of the deep interest he has shown in the material prosperity of the Colony and the welfare of its people but also the great influence he has exercised for good.

Mr. MITCHELL seconds the motion.

The Governor said:—I am deeply moved by the kind words with which the Chief Justice has proposed the Resolution and by the Resolution itself more deeply moved in fact than I can express in words. I have a strong feeling of gratitude to him and to the Council. I sincerely trust that I have done something for the Colony. That was my desire."—*The Gazette* 30/4/01.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

May 1.—Imperial decree orders formation third Siberian Army Corps. Japanese began battle at Yalu Tuesday and continues to-night. Reuter's Tokio correspondent telegraphs tonight twelfth Japanese division crossed Yalu at dawn yesterday. Guards division and second division crossed yesterday turned Russian flank. General attack began till dawn to-day, supported by Japanese batteries field guns, Japanese have advantage of position and numbers. Later message says Japanese captured Chailienchan which regarded as the key to Russian position on right bank Yalu, expected Russian will retreat to Fengwangchang. St. Louis Exhibition opened on Saturday amid great demonstrations and is the greatest ever held in the world.

Unusual number high Colonial officials attended Colonial Institute London on Friday night, considerable portion of all speeches devoted to South African affairs. MacCallum, Governor Natal said did not believe it was too late retrieve opportunity lost at the end of war of forming national imperial army under responsible head authority. Brodrick speaking Guildhall said people who expecting early general election likely be disappointed, the Government had experienced progress and riotous triumph during the last six weeks as indicated divisions in House of Commons. Alexieff telegraphs ten Japanese cruisers and six torpedo boats sighted in Ussuri Bay Friday morning. The enemy's ships sighted at Port Arthur Thursday night.

1.—It is believed Japanese utilize favourable impression produced by Yalu River victory to float external loan. Strong rumours current in London and Paris this afternoon that Gen. Kuropatkin reported be marching at the head of strong reinforcement to Fengwangcheng. Number of Japanese vessels St. Petersburg telegram says eight hulks and two torpedo boats. Tientsin telegram says nine merchant men ships sank last night while approaching Port Arthur for purpose laying mine.

German decided to send 11500 reinforcements to Dainaraland besides two batteries large quantity military stores; arrangements being made for campaign to last a year. Russian guns and men captured were taken during fight on Fenghuancheng. Sir Alfred Jones of Elder Dempster Line in course of speech Liverpool said in order develop relations between Canada and Cape his company resolved carry number Canadians and certain quantity of cargo to the Cape free of charge.

4.—Japanese General Kuroki reports on 26/4 detachment of Imperial Guard and Second division attacked and dispersed enemy on island in Yalu occupied islands in river. Russians retreated and on 30/4 some bridges completed for three hours Japanese army occupied crossing. Russians meanwhile maintaining strong fire all sides but fire soon silenced. In the evening 30/4 bridge over main stream completed. Army advanced early Sunday morning, all divisions "waked" and took possession bright. Russian's of late despatch regarding same movements. Russian artillery fire dismantled one of pentagon bridges north of Wiju on 30/4. Japanese after shelling Russian position seven hours closed. Yalu turned Russian left flank, Japanese artillery spread terrific fire on Sunday morning their overwhelming superiority, artillery and heavy losses which fire inflicted, made position untenable when dispatched compelled Russians retiring in good order to second position. Reuter's Tokio correspondent reports when Russians made would stand Japanese advanced three sides and enveloped them, captured position after severe but Russians retreating indiscriminately. All Russian forces now concentrating at Fenghuancheng on road to Mukden, Russians being forced abandon Amoy and retreating after burning town. Japanese losses on Yalu last Sunday amounted to about seven hundred killed and wounded, Russian's lost over eight hundred killed and wounded. Japanese captured 28 quick firing guns, twenty officers besides many men.

5.—Admiral Alexieff personally conducted defence against attempt to bottle up Port Arthur. Japanese fireships which armed with Hoichin guns kept up hot fire until sunk then crews took rapidly to boats on which Russians poured heavy machine gun and rifle fire which it is believed killed majority in boats. Russians subsequently saved thirty men clinging to wreckage. Japanese advance cavalry appeared in neighbourhood of Fenghuancheng. Peking government and Yuan stated to Russia that China faithfully observe neutrality. Negotiations almost concluded in London for issue of Japanese loan five millions at 93 interest six per cent security be first charge on Customs. Cheloo correspondent *Chronicle* states Japanese landed troops Yingkow on Sunday took Ninchwang on Monday evening. Russians retreating to protect railway. Gen. Kurpatrick describing Yalu battle refers extra ordinary vigour of Japanese artillery attack, Russian losses he adds were very great.

6.—Reuter's correspondent St. Petersburg reports Japanese fleet appeared behind Liaotshan promontory near Port Arthur Thursday, transports filled with troops arrived Pitsewo with object landing there. Alexieff left Port Arthur to rejoin active army. Gen. Kuroki reports careful search of last Sunday's battle field revealed two hundred additional wounded and dead Russians. Forty Japanese warships and transports passed Weihaiwei last Tuesday steaming north-west. Japanese loan amount to ten millions, variously reported seven and three millions be placed London and New York respectively, and that five millions be issued each place. In House of Commons. Major Seely moved adjournment to discuss cruel and improper treatment natives Witwatersrand as disclosed by Cape Blue Book. Cable received Glasgow reports plague broken out amongst Chinese labourers waiting at Hong Kong for shipment to South Africa. Impossible verify report however in connection Yalu battle Gen. Kashalinsky reports Russian Eleventh Regiment held ground two hours finally cut way through Japanese ranks with colours during which regiment lost Colonel, forty officers and about two thousand non-commissioned officers and men. Reuter's correspondent Tokio telegraphs reported successful blocking entrance Port Arthur harbour led to great popular demonstration Tokio yesterday.

7.—American Minister Tokio cables that Japanese landed Kuichau on narrowest port Liaotung peninsula forty miles north of Port Arthur siege begun. General Kuroki reports during panic caused by Russian's retreat last Sunday's battle large body Russians mistook smaller body for Japanese killed 110, wounded 70 of their own men. Japanese Admiral Hosoya reports Japanese warships and transports arrived Pitsewo nearly hundred miles north of Port Arthur, party blue jackets landed seized range hills without firing shot, three Japanese gunboats in the meantime shelled enemy whose numbers small. Major Seely's motion in House of Commons for adjournment in order discuss allegations made by Cape delegate to Rand regarding treatment of natives rejected 213 votes to 150.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

We regret that many of the letters we publish have had to be cut down. Correspondents who desire to see their communications printed as sent must bear in mind the limitations of our space, and that we can seldom find room for letters exceeding 300 or 400 words in length.

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader*.

Dear Mr. Editor.—The report published in the columns of the "*Gold Coast Aborigine*" of the 20th February last about the fashionable marriage of our most esteemed compatriot the Hon. John Mensah Sarbah, has been read with the greatest alacrity by all who hail from the Gold Coast and earning their livelihood in the wilds of the Niger. We all offer him and his young bride our heartfelt congratulations and wish them all connubial happiness.

We are much pleased with the homage paid him on that occasion in that all classes of the community graced the event with their presence.

It is, however, regrettable when one closely reads the report in question and marks how the writer of same makes the inappropriate use of the phrase—"The merchantmen in their hosts."

Mr. Editor, I am afraid the writer made use of the word "Merchantmen" more for its mere sound or orthography rather than the sense it implies.

No lexicographer can extend its meaning beyond "Trading ship or vessels" in his definition; under the circumstance are we at this end to understand that among the elites that thronged the happy couple in the holy edifice, trading vessels also sailed into the chapel or were driven on wheels thither.

I am afraid the "Pedagogue at banquets" and his solicitor are both at fault in the use of the phrase in question.

It is only a pity that such a ridiculous application of words should be associated with the marriage of one of our bright stars. Declaimers and pedantic writers beware!

OBSERVER.

Nigeria, April 24, 1904.

Mr. Editor.—Winnebah Correspondent (a stranger) indulging in his usual taunts says, in the "*Leader*" 9. 4. 04 that "Reporting persons....." "seems to be the pet habit in Winnebah; almost every stranger doing business here has had his experience; the practice appears to be indigenous particularly to the soil of Winnebah and thrives remarkably; it is mean dastardly and base." Mr. Correspondent here endeavours to denounce iniquities which to him appear aboriginal in Winnebah and from which his fellow strangers have had sad experiences. Well, without bothering to tell our Persecutor that some Winnebahs have had the experience of Uriah the Hittite (2 Sam. chap: 12 vs: 1-6) I give the following few instances to prove that the habit if such exists in Winnebah at all is not indigenous but exotic; some strangers (Mr. Correspondent included) being responsible for its introduction and practice among themselves:—

(1) Was it not Correspondent who signing himself as "One of Them" harassed Schoolmaster T. J. Davis of Accra (a fellow stranger) and Rev. Ibinjah Hayford in the "*Aborigines*" of 1898 and by reports made to the D. C. effected Davis's compulsory resignation? Our School ruined since then. We miss Davis daily.

(2) But no sooner had poor Davis been "crucified" than the D. C. also (Mr. D. M. Anderson, a European) found himself roasting on the gridiron of his tale bearer who had now appeared in the "*Aborigines*" of 22/10/98 as a "Jim Crow" snubbing at his integrity by asking "Have all the lines inflicted in the bush found their way into the Chest?" What is more mean dastardly or base than this?

(3) Was it not he who wrote in the "*Leader*" 2. 4. 04 charging the Dispenser and Telegraph Clerk (fellow strangers) the one with possessing habits bordering on madness and the other with copying Reuters telegrams illegibly.

Again Mr. Correspondent masquerading to-day as a stranger, to-morrow a native—the very personification of a Chameleon is answerable for much of the mischief erroneously imputed to Winnebah; his bat-like nature in Winnebah politics being the source of the strife and unrest. Re recent riots whilst censuring his "Beloved" on the quiet to embitter public feeling, did he not in other guises defend him in the "*Leader*" by shifting the blame on Winnebah local preachers and scholars, calling the Winnebah thick headed blood thirsty people?

(2) In doing fealty to Acquah II Mr. Correspondent advises him through the "*Leader*" 2. 4. 04 to remember that his enemies have not been idle. Has Acquah II really some enemies? Then who represents Judas skulking in Gethsemane? because without his well-meant kiss the Jews could have accomplished nothing.

(3) In the *Leader* 11. 7. 03 Mr. Correspondent wrote that at a meeting (?) held, the sum of £74 (perhaps he meant 74 "nothings") was found due by the people to the "King" Were there present "the mischievous" persons?

(4) Anything Winnebah, seems leathesome and faulty to Mr. Correspondent; so after waiting vigorously to the Baud on the Coronation Night we see him the next moment condemning it in the "*Leader*" 19. 7. 02 as "the local apology for band instrument." In the same spirit he describes the efforts of the youngsters to open Templar lodges here and Appam as "winning Mania."

(5) After attacking our schoolmasters, Ecclesiastics, Dist. Commissioners, Dispensers, Telegraph Clerks, local preachers, and Winnebah generally in various guises, protected of course by the Press from retaliation Mr. Correspondent has become so "cocky" as to imperil our interests by an attack on the government also. So referring to the new Swedur road which cost £967. 12/10, the Quindunc, the Joe Chamberlain of Winnebah, writes in the "*Leader*" 9. 4. 04 asking "What an enor-

mous sum to throw away?... The road is not of such a utility... a pure waste of public money." Now to think of the fact that the road was actually constructed in response to our appeals, and that the district needs more roads like it, and then to see some stranger decrying it in the Papers, would seem to suggest a state of mind more decomposed than that of his Dispenser or the Templars. We Winnebahs find the utility of the road. And respectfully apologize to His Excellency to take no notice of Mr. Correspondent's fastidious and unauthorized remarks. The Sage Critic's essay on Winnebah iniquities is soul-awakening enough; a sermon from him on Tricks and Dodges would complete our salvation i. e. The acquiring of homes by 2 sided misrepresentations the intrigues with rubber brokers for profits, the dodges in commercial alliance to decoy neighbours run customers by Rebates which are treated as presents; the opening of rum shops in other people's names, &c. &c. For one reason Mr. Correspondent's mischievous persons have not cared to harm him; and that is the possession of a good wife;—a lady of unique attractions, kind and pious as her departed father for whom the whole Winnebah pay the greatest regard. Surely Winnebahs are not so black as we are painted. Mr. Correspondent calls us "People like those" "So called Scholars." And I am aware that we are but mere pygmies alongside of him in literature, wealth and all that constitutes to make him the Nonpareil in Winnebah. But if self-conceited strangers who come into this out of the way place elect to be hostile to Winnebah because of their better positions, higher education, or the possession of handsome wives, some of whom however they keep as mere ornaments, they must take the consequence in sackcloth as did King David—

PRINCE GRANTLEY OF WINNEBAH.

Winnebah, April 23rd. 1904.

Axim,

West Africa, 2nd. May, 1904.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I beg to inform Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., and the Wermann Line through your journal that the Public are being greatly inconvenienced by their New Schedule of Time Tables of Steamers, their South Coast steamers do not call at Axim, even for passengers now. People coming to and going from Axim to Dixcove and the other intervening Ports, could hardly get steamers to go by, carrying luggages to the beach and back home now and again, even the monthly gin boats are always disappointing. May I ask either of the two Companies (Managers of the West African Fleet) to permit their Southern Windward Services henceforth to call at Axim both outward and homeward for Passengers only. Herewith 8d. Stamps for the cost and Postages of the copies to the Companies above referred to.

Thanking you Mr. Editor for the space allowed.

A. WINNEBA SUFFERER.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Permit me a space in your valuable journal for the insertion of the following in the interest of the public. For many years I have been a trader in town, and I have seen the movements and manners of Government Police Superintendents who have been stationed here previous to the present one. This one in my opinion deserves to be reprimanded and cautioned, if not stationed elsewhere. His way of superintending is preposterously unfair. He enters into houses and arrests people without assigning any tangible reasons, and he is backed up by his Senior officers which encourages him. I don't write this letter as a wild correspondent, but one who knows what he is writing about, one whom the Superintendent arrested some time ago without any reasonable charge and was fined £2. according to his made up charge. If he finds your movements in town tend to the promotion of your gentility, he asks you personally for your native land, and tells you to be at home at nights, and the very day he knocks at your door, behold, he arrests you for misconduct in town. A commissioner comes the following day and fines you childishly. I appeal to His Excellency Mr. Rodger or Major Kitson to station him somewhere else there will be some confusion in the long run. Such misdemeanour must be checked. Thanking you for space occupied.

AN EYE WITNESS.

Kusaale, 3rd. May 1904.

Dear Mr. Editor.—Trade is dull, Trade is dull has been the cry for sometime, Oh it is a doleful cry. Every suggestion has been offered for the amelioration of affairs, but nothing can be permanently done until the restoration of Premph and his exiled chiefs. This also has however been suggested.

Next in importance is the countenancing by the authorities of native ideas of trading.

Before the occupation of the Northern Territories it was customary not to allow Caravans from Moahie and other places to go beyond Kintampo and other trading centres, by the Ashantees who were the supreme rulers of the country. The Ashantees who act as middlemen had to bring up from the coast merchandise and Kola which is extensively cultivated by them, and which forms the chief article of barter to sell or exchange for commodities brought by caravans.

Since the acquisition of the country things have undergone a change, this old native institution has been permitted to be trampled upon, because it does not appeal to the standard of European ideas of commerce.

If the Gold Coast will recover from its present commercial stagnation it will commence by the activity of the Ashantees, and only when their domestic relations have been placed on a healthy condition.

TRADER.

Kumasi, 22nd. April '04.

[We are much thankful to *Trader* for this timely correspondence of his. Ed.]

The Gold Coast Leader.

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No. 100.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1904.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

A weekly journal devoted to the interest and welfare of the Country and Race.

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KATE THOMPSON

(Deceased.)

Pursuant to an Act passed in the 22nd and 23rd years of the reign of her late Majesty Queen Victoria Chap 25 entitled, "An act to further amend the law of Property and to relieve Trustees."

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and persons having any claims or demands against the Estate of KATE THOMPSON late of Cape Coast, Gold Coast Colony (who died on the 4th day of January 1904 and on respect of whose estate letters of administration were granted by the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony to MARY ANN TURKSON sister of the deceased on the 29th day of March 1904) are hereby required to send particulars in writing of the debts, claims or demands to the administratrix on or before the 14th day of January 1905; notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the said time the administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to debts, claims or demands of which she shall then have notice, and that she will not be liable for the assets or persons of whose debts, claims or demands she shall not then have had notice; all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment to the administratrix.

Dated at Cape Coast 2nd May 1904.

M. A. TURKSON
Administratrix

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GENERAL NEWS.

The Kroo Boat working at the Abura and Jekwa Road are giving a good deal of trouble to the women coming to Town to sell: whoever is responsible for them may please note this.

A deputation from the Reading Club accompanied by Messrs. W. E. Pieteresen and J. E. Biney visited Elmina last Friday on the "Fantee Public Schools, Ltd." A report of the meeting held with the Townsmen appears elsewhere.

Mr. and Mrs. Donovan leave shortly for England
"Friendship's all very well in its way"

A Branch Boat from Lagos came in port last Tuesday with some maize and mahogany for Messrs Russell, Millers, and the Association.

"Virtue shows quite as well in rags and patches as she does in purple and fine linen."

It will be far better for the Government not to interfere in religious matters, but to give a fair chance to all the people to sink or swim with their particular belief, so those who are able can by fair means bring round others to their own way of thinking and belief.—G. C. Adreants.

"He who seeks truth must not count tongues."
—Léoniz.

A Deaf Schoolmaster was greatly annoyed one day by not getting answers to the questions he put to one of his schoolboys. At last he called the dunces to the front and, loading him two pence, said—

"Away you go and buy some brains." To the Schoolmaster's surprise the boy quickly turned and said "And have I to tell the man they are for you?"
—Tut Hite.

The grounds for the new market at the Salt Pond Road are being laid.

Are we to believe there is no lady in Town to

think of forming some Ladies' Association or anything of the kind? Our Girls, what shall we do with them?

A reader from Sekondi writes—

On Sunday, the 23rd ulto, at 3.15 p.m., the members of the "Mount Zion Lodge" No. 13, I. O. G. T., working under the "International Supreme Lodge of America," held an "Open Air Service" at Accra Town, Poasi Road. A large audience gathered amongst whom were two Ashanti Kings (names unknown) who were much pleased with the object. Bros. J. J. Aryee, J. A. Edmund, W. B. M. Isaac and Wesley were the speakers, all of whom did well in the different dialects, viz.—Ga, Fanti, English and Abanta respectively. A striking instance was a blackboard, on which was drawn the Pyramid of Intemperance, on which Bro. Edmund made important remarks.

A poor Wangara man who came to town only last Saturday evening, was hard-cuffed last Sunday morning by a Driver who fined him two shillings and threepence before taken the hard-cuff from of his hand, for having met him at the latrine leading to the Tantry Cemetery.

From Elmina the news reached here late on Friday last of the death of Madam Abba Vroom the sister of the late Henry Vroom.

Mr. E. A. Dennis after a long absence from home has now returned.

The cocoon-nut trees in the country seem plagued with some disease which has turned their greenish appearance into yellow, and some insects are seen to come out from them. This will be a nice investigation for our medical men. The "disease" or whatever the Scientists may call it most necessarily effect the nuts, and as these make delicious drink, the question is, in this state ought people to drink cocoon-nuts?

The disgraceful way in which the prisoners are clad to which attention has often been called, should have some consideration at the hands of the Prison Authorities.

Dr. Kerr leaves this or next week for his furlough. We wish him a pleasant voyage.

CORRESPONDENTS.—FELIX, Not necessary.

ABUJAH No. THREE and A. A. We accept no discouragement but we think it best to leave the subject with those concerned. A NARIVE: How often must we tell you and others like you, that we do not publish anonymous letters. Next write what you dare not sign, please make a note of that.

"EMPIRE DAY"

Tuesday next the 24th is to be observed as a Public Holiday, it being the "Empire Day." The scholars of the various Schools are to assemble in their rooms in the morning to hear addresses from their Headmasters or Managers on the origin, development, and extent of the Empire, the methods of government and the growth of the principle of the liberty and equality of all its subjects. Some patriotic songs or recitations to follow, with the salutation of the flag where possible, and the remainder of the day to be spent in some form of School treat or festival which the Public are to assist by subscriptions. Prizes are offered to the Teachers for their addresses, as well as the Scholars of the VI and VII Standards for the best essay on the history of the Empire.

AXIM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The belief reported last of Coal Tar Quacco being tantalized with the sight of "Heaven" is realized by the fact that he is transferring his case to the Appeal Court.

Rumour has it that one Namnah who is related to the Omanhin of this place, has turned a Bush-ranger, and perching upon trees, is attacking life and property in the neighbourhood of Awbiafutu village.

Litigation over landed properties in this District is greatly on the wane, it seems that the chests of our illiterate but disputatious chiefs have been considerably exhausted.

The Post Office here needs more clerks than it presently boasts of; at present it inconveniences the public; the mental and physical capabilities of its chief notwithstanding.

And so is the work of the D. C. It is economical for one to look after documents &c., and to be able to sit as a magistrate at the same time; but for the public to sit from 8 to 10 o'clock in waiting of a D. C. in Court is, to say the least, tedious.—Our D. C.'s should not be overtaxed.

The introduction of copper coins into our currency is, as far as fish and vegetables in Axim are concerned, a great improvement, and Mr. D. C. Hargrove and the other initiators deserve our thanks.

A circular bearing the signature of Dr. Coughrey and having for its object the formation of a public Library was sent round the other day:—an undertaking which is probably the result of our remarks on Literary Association. We wish it a success.

The young gentlemen (both foreign and natives) of this town would do well, in consequence if they can, affiliate this with a debating club.

The repairs and renovations in St. James' under the able directorship of Mr. Engineer Acquah, progress splendidly and are nearing completion.

The Rev. T. B. Freeman of the Zion Church of Kwitta has been in town for a considerable time and has been delivering Sermons and addresses in York Hall School Room with marked effect.

T A R K W A.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We are pleased to note that the Latrines lately suggested to be removed have been attended to and trust this time our complaints will be given due attention.

From an incessant shower of rain that fell last Sunday a man at a village a few yards from the Station succumbed to the wounds received from the fall of a tree and at the post mortem examination subsequently held a verdict of accidental death was accordingly returned.

In confirmation of our suggestion for a D. C. for this station we have to record that Doctor and District Commissioner Cookman was placed in a difficult position in regard to a post mortem examination held; being alone he had Barrister Williams who was in the vicinity to assist as the President.

To facilitate the purchases of the Aabantees who lately visited Sekondi a gong-gong was beaten for women to convey victuals to the Station. May we ask if this was not the same spot from which bread sellers were driven away? No doubt the ways of the Government Railway officials are past finding out.

A volunteer corps is about to be established here.

European hammockmen are being introduced to this station yard, the other day a European lady leaving for England on furlough was brought here by some; after wrestling from us our lands Hammock carrying too is being taking away leaving Tom Peter and Quasi in the cold.

An experiment of using wheel barrows for carting has been tried with good result.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We said in our News column last week, that Dr. Henderson the P. M. O. and Dr. Murray will be here shortly, the latter to stay and the former on inspection. We would therefore seize this opportunity to say, finding that the Hospital is now used for the P. and D.C.'s quarters, it is just likely that some kind official would suggest—indeed this has been cruelly mooted in some quarters—that the Dispensary should be removed to some where else.

This was attempted sometime ago, but it was found to be utterly impracticable. If the Dispensary will be removed at all, it will no doubt be, to the O'Connor's Hill. Those who are acquainted with this Town, will see what an inhuman thing it is to have the Hospital on that hill, practically outside the Town as it is, and now to take the Dispensary too over there. Think of people from the Salt Pond Road, Garden House, Fahuandi, Inkoom, Ntoto, Bentair &c. running all the way with their cases of accident, cases requiring immediate attention up the Hill, and you will have some idea of

how our Government have the interest of the people at heart.

Our Government seems economical, but the pity is, it practises its economy on the wrong lines. You will have an official wasting the Public Revenue to an amount running into four figures on himself, without considering what it should be with his sub-officials, much less the native official (our readers will call to mind the correspondence published the other day from Accra): a building may be required, and you will stand aghast at the amount that will be squandered on it, minus any engineering skill and any comfort or convenience: thousands and thousands of pounds may be wilfully wasted on some work, in defiance of public criticism, and "man" will be the word, because you will invariably find, "wheels to be working within wheels" and so on, and this they would call Economy.

The Revenue is made and it is simply wonderful how it is spent. Until there be less jobbery here and at Downing Street, until the officials are well paid, and well quartered, so that the Public might fairly expect good and decent work from them, when they have had by this duly qualified and competent men in the Service, unless there be less discontent among both white and black officials, unless some interest be taken in the expenditure of this Colony by some persons other than officials, it will be impossible for her to make any material progress. There!

Can any of our readers tell us if the practice still prevailing in this country of marching people to the Prison for debt is known in any other Colony besides ours? One would like to know who introduced it, into this land of anomalies. A man owes you, you want your money and you would deprive him of his liberty in finding your money for you. The cruel delight with which some people take to this, is simply surprising, and how much they are encouraged in it by the very persons who should not.

Some years ago the Aborigines dwelt extensively on this subject, and it still goes on. The other day a correspondent, who evidently has been made to taste of its bitterness called our attention to it, asking if this is known elsewhere besides this place: we must confess our inability to give him satisfactory answer, and so we appeal to our readers. Many a firm with many a person has lost large sums of money in this way, but the practice still goes on. This belongs to the legal world, and what does the Chief Justice think about it?

Verbum sat sapienti: it ill becomes an official of a high or low standing to give ear to gossipers, slanderous, and blabbers; the amount of mischief this sort of thing does in the Public Service, no tongue can tell. No GENTLEMAN should do this, and the man who does it shows what he is in himself. Beware of the man who has nothing good to say of another person, satisfy yourself what a man he is himself. Note this, or you will some day find yourself in such entanglements the unravelling of which will cost you dearly. A good sound advice given freely. Never you judge any man, until he has given you cause to, and never from what you hear of him. Half the mischief done in the world, can be traced up to this.

Our contemporary the *Morning Leader* in commenting on Lord Cromer's report on Egypt in 1903, which it entitles "The Victories of Peace in the Nile Valley" says: "Much may be hoped for in Egypt from the spread of education. As the report truly says:

Every additional piastre which the Government spends judiciously in education, justice, the improvement of prisons, &c. means one small step forward in the path of moral and material improvement.

"And in this connection it is interesting to note the success which has attended Lord Cromer's consistent belief in the freedom of the Press. Events have proved that the Government and the leading officials were quite strong to bear a good deal of criticism and misrepresentation." "Fear of publicity," he says,

acts as a check on abuses of various sorts, and aids to mitigate the defects to which in Egypt, as elsewhere, a necessarily bureaucratic form of Government is exposed.

"It is too much to hope that this truth should receive the attention it deserves from another bureaucracy which cannot be said to be in any sense necessary."

It is gratifying and—exhilarating to find that our Empire possesses such Servants, and their example may be honourably copied by those with whom the small dependencies are entrusted.

The visit of the Asianti Ahinfa (Chiefs), the public meetings held with them and what was said there, give one sufficient food to ruminate upon in connection with our trade as it now is and the Chambers of Commerce. More anon.

The reports that come to us of our Boys and Girls particularly of one of the local Schools, make one despondent of the future makers—the future mothers of the country, realizing the fact that these Schools are the nurseries for those who are the hope of the country. It will be well for some Masters to realize the dignity and responsibility of the positions they have found themselves in and address themselves to the duties thereof as such, seeing the Country is saying to them in effect *Take these children and nurse them for me, and I will give you your wages.* It should be remembered too however, that Home training goes a long way in the rearing of the young, so once more we would say to the Parents (strange thing that it should be so), *Take care of your trust* particularly if it be of the weaker sex. We revert to this subject again.

THANKS FOR SYMPATHY—

Mr. Joseph Benjamin Anwuboh Jr. on behalf of himself and the family returns his sincerest thanks to all kind friends, who by personal calls, letters, telegrams or otherwise have sympathised with them during their recent bereavement in the death of his beloved brother Inyevilley Anwuboh.

Mr. A. D. Hagan desires to render his sincere thanks to all kind friends and well-wishers who by personal calls, letters and telegrams expressed their sympathies with him during his recent trouble over the Mankessim Riot. He also desires to thank publicly his Brothers—Oddfellow for the great interest they took in the case on his behalf.

NOTICE.

There will be Special Bible Lectures on Sunday evening at the Seventh Day Adventist Mission, Intia Street, 7. 30 p.m.

Subject To-morrow Evening.

"The seven last plagues of Rev. 16. or the experience we will soon pass through."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Intelligent correspondence on matters of interest touching the welfare of the Country is invited. Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

A *nom-de-plume* or initials should be given if it is desired that the real name shall not appear in the paper. Name and address must accompany all communications as a guarantee of good faith.

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned. Communications to which replies may be expected must be accompanied with Stamps.

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAY 21, 1904.

OUR EDUCATED KINGS.

Judging by the regrettable circumstances which have led to the runcured destoolment of King Otoo V. of Abura, the undoubtedly unsatisfactory state of affairs between Acquah II. of Winneba and his people and from the much to be regretted sorry exhibitions of King Amoo V of Anamaboo in the courts at Anamaboo and Saltpond recently, there is to a superficial observer much to cavil, much to pool-pool at the idea cherished in the heart of every lover of the country—namely that the entoolment of educated men in the places of purely illiterate ones, would tend to the betterment and progress of the country, by lessing the friction between the Government and ourselves making the administration much easier and thus ensue the rapid and permanent progress of the country.

But, as we have said the history of the past few years since the entoolment of the above three kings, has been such as to give cause to ask whether or not our cherished hope has not been a dream, a failure. Everywhere we hear it said it has proved a failure, yet we do not think it has. The fault, in our opinion seems to lie, chiefly in the way and manner in which what little education and enlightenment these kings may have, has been applied to their administration or brought to bear on the people over whom they have to exercise authority. Self-assertion—undue pronouncement of superiority and authority—a questionable eagerness and unwise and rash attempts to improve upon or discard the old ways, impatience to gradually bring up (especially the aged councillors) to know for themselves the transition through which the whole country is passing at present, and the absolute necessity of adapting ourselves to changes that are both necessary and inevitable. These are mainly the causes that have brought about the clash and uneviable state of things between our educated Kings and the people.

They are blamable though not much to be blamed. Knowing and smarting under much that has been (and is still) going on, between the Government and their country, before attaining their present positions, they have one and all unfortunately been carried away by the impulsiveness of youth, suc-

cumbed in a large measure to the giddiness of their position (so to speak) and rashly attempted (with laudable motives no doubt) to build a Rome in a day. Of course they have failed, and we are glad they have, for if that is not the way to improve, to educate an individual, it is also not the way to improve or educate a nation. They are all young men, and that's much in their favour, although we feel bound to say, its a poor excuse, for the "foolish" things some of them are reported to have done.

There is no doubt that our present system of native government must be improved—sooner or later, and the sooner the better. We must adapt ourselves to the times: we must grow as a nation for the better: much as we cherish our native institutions, and defend the unscrupulous and almost barbaric attempts to do away with them wholesale by the stroke of a pen, we know that things cannot, should not exist as they are. That would be absurd. We shall be the losers: we would belie History. We would belie the very laws of nature. Yet surely, it is no less absurd and contrary to natural laws to bud, blossom, and ripen in a day as our Kings seem to think possible.

To declare that the education and moral qualifications of native kings and chiefs are subjects worthy the attention of our Governor (and we should add, of all well-wishers of the country) as His Excellency is reported to have said at Odumasi the other day, is nothing but the truth. We would rather have educated men on our stools than not, even though they may not be well-educated. "Half a loaf is better than none," so give us the half loaf even though we know that "a little learning is a dangerous thing." It is too premature, it is a mistake to say, that our present educated kings are failures. Not a bit of it. They are the right men in the right place if only they will keep their heads cool, and endeavour to improve us now a little, then a little—if they will endeavour to be in touch with the best minds among their subjects wherever they may be rather than surround themselves with irresponsible persons, upstarts, parasites and sycophants: with men who have never shown qualifications of any kind to entitle or qualify them to counsel them in public or in private, but whose sole aim is purely selfish, ready at all times to accept their dicta as gospel truths, condone their wrongs and mistakes and pander to their questionable tastes and practices.

We hope the events of the past few months will not lose the lessons they so glaringly teach on those that are, or may be hereafter placed on their hereditary stools in the Colony. The saying is, *It is never too late to mend.*

THE CAPE COAST READING CLUB AT ELMINA.

A Deputation from the above Club under the leadership of J. E. Biney Esq. one of the Directors of the Scheme for the *Fanti Public Schools Ltd.* and W. E. Pieterse Esq. a Vice President of the *Aborigines Society* visited Elmina on Friday the 13th. The members who went were Messrs. Kwamina Tandoh, Spio-Garbrah C. Biney, W. & E. J. Fynn, J. Marmah, Ekem Parker, T. Akina and Sam. Longdon. A few hours after their arrival, a public meeting was held at the Town Secretary's (Mr. E. P. Dostoh) premises at which the Omanhin and his Councillors, with the representatives of the Companies and a good many of the educated members of the community and the Literary Club attended. The Societies also were represented. Mr. Tandoh in the absence of Rev. F. Egyir Asaam through indisposition introduced the Deputation.

Mr. Biney in stating the object of the Deputation in visiting Elmina, seized the opportunity in a very eloquent and interesting address, to show the origin of the Scheme, the good that will come out of it to the Country if carried through, the advantages of education, and the necessity there is, for every native of the soil to give the Scheme his, or her unstinted support. Mr. Biney exhausted his subject, and the address was most attentively listened to. Mr. Pieterse supported him and in his quiet, persuasive and convincing style, caught the ear of his audience: as a native of Elmina, he was able to draw illustrations from the History of Elmina to emphasize certain parts of his speech. Then followed Mr. Tandoh the Secretary of the Club for the Scheme, and in a lengthy, historical and instructive address dwelt on the F. P. S. Company Ltd. Mr. Tandoh's address was stirring and even pathetic. The Omanhin's councillors in accordance with native manners retired to consider the subject brought before them, and on their return, in a very felicitous speech by the Linguist (Mr. Aggrey) thanked their Cape Coast friends in bringing such an important subject before them, which would assuredly have their hearty support. Mr. Mensah in a brief speech supported what the Linguist said, to which the senior members of the Deputation gave a suitable reply. On the whole it was a most successful meeting and not to be forgotten. The hearty way in which our Elmina friends received the Scheme, undoubtedly augurs well for it in that Town. Everybody left the meeting highly pleased. The success which the Deputation had at Elmina should be followed up, if it could be arranged with others to one or two more of the principal places in the country.

After the meeting the members of the Deputation met with their young friends at Mr. Ankrab's on his invitation where all the talk was about the Scheme. From all accounts they had a very pleasant time at Elmina, and were very much pleased with the light refreshment given them by Mr. Ankrab, and the £3 towards their expenses by the Omanhin's Linguist. Well done Elmina!

SCRUTINEER.

So limited is the time of local journalistic work and so equally limited is its space that occasionally one has through sheer force of these circumstances, to relegate to a corner of the editorial or sub-editorial sanctum matters by no means unimportant pending the treatment of those of more momentous aspects. This had been the impediment that had rendered my inability to give ere now, and before his departure from the coast, my opinion of Rev. Hastings Kelk's appointment to the Minister's Churchwardenship in Christ Church of Mr. F. H. Fearon—an appointment that has evoked a widespread dissatisfaction among the Churchmen in Cape Coast. The people protested against this appointment but Mr. Kelk warmed up with all the glow of youth as aspiring to be an adept in ecclesiastical discipline, which he unfortunately was and is not, disregarded the objection of the people.

Mr. Kelk is, in the first place, not a minister of the Cape Coast parish, and wherever he is he should know this, and know also that his periodical visits to this town are necessitated merely by the temporary non-residence of a minister in town. Again by ecclesiastical law, no stranger can be appointed an officer in the Anglican Church. Furthermore by ecclesiastical law a minister has no right to make an appointment against the wishes of the people. I should think that it was due to a perfect ignorance on the part of Mr. Kelk, and he seemed to have manifested neither the wisdom of the serpent nor the harmlessness of the dove in this respect. There is fortunately a higher authority than Mr. Kelk and if the people had not already apprised the Bishop of the Diocese of this affair they had better do so and so save us the ordeal of facing such an invidious sight.

Apart from this there appears to be an organised anti-Fanti league in the Church who have pledged themselves to oppose and bring to nought all attempts by the people at independence. These curious specimens of the Negro race of diverse temperaments, and inclinations, are the veritable impediments in our way of progress. How this should be so, how foreigners could play such parts under our own vines and fig trees may appear a mass of apparition to the first view, but the fact is that they are privileged and incensed to such actions by a class of natives dwelling in Cape Coast city who call themselves elders and influential men of light and leading, and sometimes have the audacity to call themselves patriots. These sorts of natives pauper this league and aid and abet them to exhibit themselves as if they were the Aborigines and we the squatters in this land. I have never omitted to show my utter contempt for these empty-headed Judases, and were we in our ancient days and had I the power or influence I would have them and their friends despatched to the regions beyond the seas.

Yours faithfully,—ATTUO.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

May 8.—South African Cricket team which touring England arrived Southampton, in course interview Mitchell, captain said this strongest team which come from Africa. Telegram received at Seoul from Antung reports that rumour is current latter place of fall of Fenghuancheng position whereto Russians retired after Yalu battle, fierce fighting also is reported with great losses on both sides. Daily Mail correspondent Simla telegraphs eight hundred Tibetans attacked expeditionary force at Gyantse at dawn 5.5, Tibetans repulsed with heavy loss, two Sepoys British side wounded. A large reinforcements reached Russians at Fenghuancheng, news of heavy fighting there expected. At St. Petersburg within 36 hours Alexieff and Grand Duke Boris have left Port Arthur hurriedly owing possibility of being cut off by Japanese forces. Russian Gen. Podlug confirms news of Japanese landing at Liaotung peninsula from sixty transports, passenger train from Port Arthur fired upon by Japanese and narrowly escaped.

8.—Togo telegraphs Port Arthur completely blocked except for small boats, Japanese force came in contact with Russians rear guard south Fenghuancheng hot engagement, Japanese charged after heavy losses and spiked guns, 400 Russians surrendered. Reuter's Tokio reports attack on Port Arthur was most damaging and desperate than hitherto attempted. Furious storm raging impeded advance of ships and separated them, Commander signalled them to desist but isolated steamers proceeded on their own initiated fire reached harbour mouth, two breaking boom penetrating inside where they exploded and sank, Russian fire most intense while several mines exploded. Reuter Tokio reports Japanese captured Fenghuancheng on Friday. Reuter telegraphing from Katopass states British

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attacked Tibetan force of 1500, British casualties 25, enemy 200.

8.—Letter from Duke of Malborough to Cotton Growers Association emphasizes necessary making the Empire self-supporting, regard raw cotton growing being permanent and independent of caprice harvests markets and unrelaxed whenever old sources of supply again appear adequate because shortage sooner or later bound to occur.

8.—Reuter Newchwang 7.5 early indication shows that Russians decided to evacuate Newchwang, troops leaving all day and every gun being, forts dismantled.

9.—Reuter from St. Petersburg, Kuropatkin confirms occupation Fenghuancheng by Japanese advancing in two columns from Yalu on fighting mentioned. Officially stated Russian casualties Yalu 70 officers, 2324 men killed, wounded and prisoners. Reuter Newchwang telegraphs expected here that Russians will retreat to Harbin, general and staff already moved from Liaoyang to Mukden. Times correspondent Tokio reports crews of blocking steamers at Port Arthur numbered 139 whereof 15 killed 90 missing and 18 wounded. Reuter Tokio telegraphing to-day during demonstration yesterday night 21 killed and 40 injured mostly boys who were caught against closed gate in angle of old Palace walls and crushed to death or drowned in Moat 9.5. Morning Post announces Prince of Wales unable preside British Association, South Africa in 1905, Prof. Howard Darwin nominated. Tokio officially reported Japanese losses at Yalu 5 officers and 180 men killed, 25 officers and 600 men wounded. Russians actively entrenching Tiencharchew pass westward towards Motienting pass, reports from all quarters indicate Russians steadily withdrawing southern Manchuria, concentrating region Mukden and Harbin fortifying positions en route thereto determined effort will be made to hold Liaoyang but eventual retreat Mukden fore-shadowed.

10.—A Paris paper states Russia ordered 200,000 Lebel rifles in France to be delivered 500 weekly. The Times correspondent Tokio reports 20,000 volunteered to serve on eight steamers which made last attempt to block Port Arthur. Reuter Shan-kaiwar reports evacuation Newchwang continues, Russians have promise to leave rear guard to prevent pillage, 30,000 Japanese landing neighbourhood Kaichan Kaiping near Newchwang. Russians strongly entrenched Anqing between Liaoyang and Fenghuancheng where guns from Newchwang forts have been sent; occupation Dalny by Japanese officially denied. At St. Petersburg during debate in the Reichstag, Buelow replying Bebel regarding antipathy he alleged was felt by other countries against Germany, said no means except keeping sword sharp, yet been found for disarming unjustifiable hatred. Explorer Lord Stanley is dead, probably be buried alongside Livingstone in Westminster Abbey. Financier Hooley arrested, conspiracy to defraud. Interesting developments expected in Tibet, uselessness awaiting negotiations from Lhasa recognised Mission remains entrenched at Gyantse until General MacDonald who goes back to bring fresh troops and supplies returns when the whole force will advance to Lhasa. The Anglo-Chinese labour convention still hovering on point of signature, nothing practical to delay except certain dilatoriness by Peking officials.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A recent account shows that the number of the second batch of the Ashantee visitors who arrived here last Sunday the 1st inst., was 1,200 instead of 650 as previously reported. The usual subsistence, money enclosed in bags was handed to the Ashifu individually at a meeting held on the evening of the 1st instant.

During the convention at Low Town Cricket ground ordered by the Chamber of Commerce on the evening of the 2nd instant, the subject of trade was discussed with the Ashanti Ashifu. In reply to certain questions, the Visitors pointed out the prohibitive charges existing on the Railway which were a stumbling block to all Travellers having the desire to travel by rail. This went to confirm the statement of the first Visitors on the same subject. It remains now to be seen what result the Local Merchants' efforts in the matter will avail. The meeting was again dispersed with a brilliant display of fireworks.

During the two following days the Ashanti Visitors were seen busily engaged in making purchases at the stores, and at 4.45 a.m. on Thursday the 5th inst., the 1,200 souls left for Kumasi where they arrived at 6.45 the same evening. Mr. A. J. Williams the guard merits the appreciation of the public for his special services.

"Leopoldville"—the new Elder Dempster Line touched this port on the 5th inst., and is said to have performed the trip from Antwerp to Sekondi in 13 days.

The remains of Mr. N. J. Denton, who died suddenly at his residence at Boninon, were interred

in the Public Cemetery on Friday evening the 5th instant. Mrs. Dundas and all bereaved relatives have our deep sympathies.

In place of Mr. R. J. Nicholas who proceeded home by the "Nigeria" last Friday Mr. R. P. Cosby, (representative of Messrs. Fraser & Chalmers Ltd.) has been appointed as Lloyd's Agent and Surveyor.

We are informed Major Kitson, who arrived here last week, is to institute the Volunteer corps.

By the train of the 4th instant, a number of prisoners were brought down from Tarkwa thinned by hunger. There are at present 45 prisoners in the Gaol yard, the civility shown to whom is anything but gratifying. Barely any of the old tattered garments now exist, and a great majority of the convicts for want of dress are garbed in blue baft native fashion. An Ashantee who came down with the recent visitors, witnessing the ragged dress of the convicts at work thus expressed himself—"And would the White man exhibit such a merciless cruelty among helpless convicts in civilized Sekondi too?" Atton's remarks on "The State as the Manufacturer of Criminals" should engage the serious attention of the Government.

The recent eccentricity of the Post Office is from advising the Public that the hour for closing registered articles for the mail steamers, has been fixed at 9.30 a.m. When mail boats are sighted however at or before 9 a.m., articles for registration would not be accepted, and in this manner by complying with the official notification, a great number of important articles are kept back for the following week's boat.

[Report on Governor Rodger's visit to Sekondi shut out this week.—Ed.]

APPAM.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The town has recently been enlivened by an unusual influx of strangers and the presence of Ohin Cudjoe Incom of Gomoh and the District Commissioner. The latter is actively disposing of Court cases. The periodical visits to this end paid by the Dist. Commissioners do not in any way tend to give satisfaction judging from the duty performed during the interval of his stay. Herein we are drawn under the stigma of "Cleaning slate"—in other words, requirements of the town and people which should claim the attention of the Government having regularly escaped the notice of the Official Bosses. We are alluding to the need of having a Resident District Commissioner, who will control over affairs of the Appam, Mumford, Legu and the interior.

In these days of wolves' peregrination endangering the life of a night walker, a sufficient supply of lamps should not be shut out of the official memoranda of "Town Provisions." The absence of light has certain influence on these carnivorous animals forcing their way to people's houses. Lamps are required respectively in Mumford Road, Matwibu Street, Chapel Street, and a corner of Mr. B. C. Blankson's House.

With reference to streets, it is an unexcusable disgrace to the Government for neglecting to make a decent road leading from the front of the Fort to the Beach, which, in its dilapidated and rocky condition, the direct Representative of the Governor also ascends and descends with bleeding knees effected by kicking step by step against the rocky mounds. If this is properly laid out, extended to the market and produced across Bondzionnu to the Chapel, no better work would be done in Appam with a hundredth part of the revenue yielded annually by this uncared-for town.

Preparations are set on foot for the rebuilding of the ruined Chapel.

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We understand that 14 Street Lamps have been imported for Kpong. For this we thank the Government sincerely and trust they will be so distributed as to do service to both White and Black alike. A great number is needed, but, of course, "Romp was not built in a day."

A few months ago an amusing and curious incident greeted the villagers of *Apaside* near Mampou in Akwapim. A hunter brought to the village a dying tiger with a protruding tongue on which a land Tortoise was suspending. The head of the unfortunate tiger was so swollen as to render him comparatively helpless that he was ceremoniously slaughtered as a lamb for the stalls, and the tortoise let off with a hearty farewell congratulations. It appears that the tiger in attempting to gnaw the hind legs of the tortoise had his tongue caught between the pieces as our land crabs do. In his annoyance the tiger knocked his head so many times against trees which caused him the swelling of the head. The tortoise stuck to the tongue till the Tiger fell a helpless prey to the hunter. What a moral lesson we have here!

A very strong tonardo which took off the roof of the Basel Mission House at Anum was the cause of one scholar's sudden death under a heavy iron sheet which fell on his head. He was the only Boy who passed through a window during the panic. The rest escape by the door.

In the matter of Water Supply for Krobo *Konor* Mate Kole deserves a substantial subsidy from the Government although the Konor does not prefer to lay claim or apply for it. The work is necessary and very expensive.

Smuggling is by no means mitigated or extinct. Smugglers are getting more clever than their unsuspecting pursuers as appears from the recent cases of captures from inland villages, cases which successfully escaped the Guards at the preventive Stations on the banks of the River. And where their stratagems would completely baffle the ingenuity of the whole Preventive Army. The Preventive officers are practically forced into idleness, and to keep up their Department from the superannuated offices they lavish more unnecessary energy and scrutiny on innocent traders in *Salt, Country-Cloth*, duty-paid-goods transporters and all goods of native and European manufacture, by injurious detention and confiscations with false prosecutions. The smugglers of Gunpowder and Rum are in the heart of the Country and never detected on the surface of the River. Will those concerned take the hint?

At *Lete*, Akwapim, influenza, or some epidemic in the form of Cough, fever and dysentery, has been carrying many children to an early grave. A Sanitary Inspection will undoubtedly mitigate the evil. But what can Doctor-Commissioners do? It is only in them that we find the possibility of *Duo in uno*. It is a sinful economy. The Whites have "Duty allowance" while the blacks, nil for the double posts.

His Excellency Governor Rodger paid his first visit to this District from the 18th. to the 24th. when he left for the Eastern Province. The Reception accorded His Excellency were as enthusiastic and cordial as much as any amount of loyalty can dictate. The Governor's unassuming, fatherly and serene carriage inspired much confidence in the people generally. The Deputations left His Excellency with satisfaction.

Ohin Akoto of Akwamu in full state, met the Governor at Kpong and had a short interview.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

We regret that many of the letters we publish have had to be cut down. Correspondents who desire to see their communications printed as sent must bear in mind the limitations of our space, and that we can seldom find room for letters exceeding 300 or 400 words in length.

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader*.

Sir.—In the Editorial Notes of your issue of the 2nd. ultimo, an extract is ascribed to the authorship of Dr. Barker to the effect that "the Mosquitoes do not breed in Salt Water &c."

This declaration will not be noted with very much interest by those of your readers both out on the Coast and in Europe who have been privileged to spend a night each at Bakawa and Benin. These are Salt Water rivers situated in this Protectorate; and it is a well known fact that the output of these pests in the two places are unsurpassed in Nigeria and probably in West Africa—(I write under correction here). The above remarks are offered to your readers in an educative way only and not from any carping spirit.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,—EXPERIENCED.

S. Nigeria, 4th May, 1904.

Sir.—Kindly allow me a space in your valuable columns for the insertion of the following on the enormous charges of some of our local solicitors.

In a recent land case (as reported in your contemporary) brought before His Honour the Chief Justice at Accra, he is said to have remarked that the charges by the Solicitors engaged on both sides were enormous, that is, one side charged £450 and the other £400. Such heavy charges exist in alarming degree in Cape Coast or to be more accurate in the Western Province, especially with those Solicitors who are constantly engaged in cases in the Salt Pond District.

Here in Cape Coast a Solicitor the other day for one of our influential Gentlemen had to contract with him under a written agreement for the sale of his concessions at 10% commission, but owing to a recent case where a young man was a suitor and for which the said Gentleman was concerned and interested, the enormous charge by the Solicitor could not be accepted whereas part payment had been received, the Solicitor now goes to charge the said Gentleman a considerable sum of money against the agreement already made and executed for the sale of the Concessions entrusted to him which he has not yet sold when the original documents of title to the Concessions are in his possession.

If we can only be less litigious it will be all the better for ourselves.

Thanking you for the space allowed.

Yours faithfully,—ONE OF THE SUITORS.
Cape Coast, May 12 1904.

Dear Mr. Editor:—The letter by "Surprise" which appeared in your issue of the 30th April last contradicting and challenging your Saltpond Correspondent unnecessarily has had my careful perusal. In accordance with Surprise's request I make a few remarks.

I do not deem it expedient that Surprise should with the appropriate name occupy such space in your valuable Journal, seeing that his statements do not in any way whatever justify the deeds of Messrs. J. J. Fischer & Co's Agent. Does the Agent deny having taken Stock as reported, on the last Easter Sunday Morning?

"With regard to the Sabbath breaking it is not a new thing in this town or on the Gold Coast in general &c." says Surprise. I would here ask, when shall we amend our evil ways! If the Agent on whose behalf he vaguely depends is an Atheist, he had better advise him to have all the Stores opened on Sundays for the firm's interest and doubtless receive an adequate bonus or gratuity from his employers for his ind-fatigable management. What is Surprise aiming at! Seeking favor or looking forward for an increment of salary. What benefit does he derive from the defence I pray! Let Ordinances be framed and laws enacted, then and not till then we benighted Africans shall understand that here is nothing and there is nothing.

S. C.

Salt Pond, 8. 5. 04.

GOVERNOR RODGER'S VISIT TO ODUMASIE.

Sir,—In perusing your last issue No. 98 in which there appeared a report from your Odumasi correspondent respecting the visit of His Excellency Governor Rodger to that place, I note with sincere gratitude the excellent address made by His Excellency and especially the sixth paragraph of that report.

"That the Governor said during the interview with the Kings and chiefs of that district that it was foolish on the part of the natives in not submitting their cases to native Tribunals and that he was sorry that the natives make lawyers feed so much on their follies."

What a nice text for our people who indulge so much in litigation and who as it were have made litigation their profession. I cite His Excellency's remarks for their kind attention and consideration.

On the other hand I fail to see that there was any answer at all given to His Excellency when he made those touching remarks. Of course being a person residing in the central province, I am quite unaware of the existing native administration and the powers vested in the Kings and Chiefs in that part of the province; but my knowledge of the Kings and Chiefs of the central Province and the insignificant power vested in them by the Authorities I can only say that there is answer to His Excellency's remarks and the following to my mind and experience gained, are some of the worse reasons which encourages litigation amongst the natives.

1. That our Kings and Chiefs have a limited power to govern their subjects.

2. That no King or Chief is vested with power to force the attendance of parties summoned in his Court, that is if such parties refuse to attend.

3. That our natives would not condescend to have their matters amicably settled by the native Tribunals and a reconciliatory terms effected as it was formerly done in years gone by, by our ancestors but would prefer to go to law courts to have their cases adjusted with pure English law and by doing so evade the native law and punishment.

4. That our natives have taken this advantage of resorting to the law Courts in refusing to attend native Tribunals because they know that Kings and Chiefs have no power to inflict punishment for non attendance or refusing to attend—and they generally say to the King's cane-bearer. "Give my compliments to the King and with all due deference to him, I have no matter with the party for him to summon but if he has any case with me tell him to take me to Court." This is one of the grounds by which our Kings cannot enforce parties to attend their Courts.

5. That certain unscrupulous individuals have made themselves money-makers in the shape of Middlemen and acting as it were *persuaders* and *enticers* and generally go about hunting for persons who may be engaged in litigation and encouraging them to go to law courts coupled with the advice of engaging a lawyer for them and consequently there is no end of throwing money away whereas if matters can only be dealt with in our native courts, there will be no necessity to retain lawyers and this is done mostly on the limited power of our Kings.

The well-to-do persons finding it now that to be a lawyer is a paying thing on the Gold Coast they are all sending their sons for no other profession but law and so every Thompson, Dickson and Henry is rushing in for the same thing when there are other classes of profession to follow—such as Medicine, Civil Engineering, Blacksmithy, Cabinet making, Gold and Silver Smithy and other kind of Mechanics but nay, Law is the best—however we leave them to follow their taste but I am sure that when they are in abundance the cheaper they will be retained for.

In conclusion I hope and expect that as His Excellency has for the first time seen the folly of the natives in investing their money in litigation and the exorbitant way in which it is swindled he will decide to empower our Kings with full authority to try cases in the law courts to any extent and to use compulsory measures as it is done in the law courts subject to appeals to be made in the English courts and if this is maintained we will watch if some changes will not take place.

Thanking you for the unlimited space I have occupied.

Yours truly,—ONE WHO ABHORS LITIGATION.
Cape Coast, 10. 5. 04.

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Pursuant to an Act passed in the 22nd. and 23rd. years of the reign of her late Majesty Queen Victoria Chap 25 entitled, "An act to further amend the law of Property and to relieve Trustees."

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and persons having any claims or demands against the Estate of KATE THOMPSON late of Cape Coast, Gold Coast Colony (who died on the 4th day of January 1904 and on respect of whose estate letters of administration were granted by the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony to MARY ANN TURKSON sister of the deceased on the 29th. day of March 1904) are hereby required to send particulars in writing of the debts, claims or demands to the administratrix on or before the 14th day of January 1905; notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the said time the administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to debts, claims or demands of which she shall then have notice, and that she will not be liable for the assets or persons of whose debts, claims or demands she shall not then have had notice. all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment to the administratrix.

Dated at Cape Coast 2nd. May 1904.

M. A. TURKSON,
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"Kabul to Kumasi"

BY

Brig: General Sir James Willcocks.

H. B. W. Russell & Co., have a few copies of
the above Book for sale at the published price
of 21/- each.

GENERAL NEWS.

A boy bathing in the sea at *Nes Kurada* was
caught by the Police, which being interpreted is,
"No bathing in the sea is allowed." We doubt if
this interpretation is correct.

Two lads also bathing on the 23rd. at the Idun Beach
one morning. Five policemen disguised in cloth called
for them, and charged them with having committed
nuisance. This they denied, but the men insisted on
their having done so, pretending to be bathing and
marched them to the lock-up. They have been tried
and fined 10/- each.

The Volunteers went to Elmina last Tuesday for
the "Empire Day."

At Burley-in-Wharfedale (England) a couple
were to have been married, but the bridegroom
failed to arrive. He was discovered in tears on
the river-bank, declined to fulfil his engagement,
and the ceremony was abandoned.

"Do as adversaries do in law—Strive mightily,
but eat and drink as friends."

The mother of Mr. Alfred Orco died last Tuesday
at Fakuadix. The bereaved have our sincere sym-
pathies.

But for the prompt action of the Police with the
Bentons and Incooms, and other friends *Kumasi
House* (Chief Coker's) would have been burnt down.
The fire was caused by some mishap of his Boy's over
a stove.

COTTON INDUSTRY. A Mr. Koberg a German
capitalist is making arrangements for the acqui-
sition of about 200 acres of land about ten miles from
Town to start farming on a big scale.

A certain gentleman has granted about 800 acres
of land to Mr. Carl Ackermann of Hamburg for
cotton growing, and the planting of rubber trees.

The Fancy Dress Ball by the Amigos came off
last Tuesday night at the old Government School
House.

The "Empire Day" passed off pleasantly last Tues-
day, the Town and the Schools vying with each
other in honouring the day. In the afternoon all
the Schools turned out in different directions with
Bands, making the Town lively, and afterwards out
to tea at their respective School Rooms. In the
morning as directed, the scholars assembled in their
respective School rooms for addresses from their
Headmasters. At the Centenary Schools a regular
entertainment presided over by Rev. F. E. E. Addin
was given with a programme containing 24 items when

appropriate recitations were given and excellent songs rendered during which the Headmaster (Mr. J. Ekem Parker) read a very comprehensive and instructive address on the Empire. It was full house, several ladies and gentlemen, with the Girls from the Training Home and some prominent members of the Wesleyan Church having been invited. Mr. W. E. Pieterse and Mr. K. Tandoh addressed the meeting. Mr. Commissioner White who came in afterwards accompanied by Mr. Fearon also addressed the meeting. The Manager Rev. Graham and the Headmaster with his Assistants are to be congratulated for a good day.

The Provincial Commissioner's (Mr. Peregrine) "At Home" at the Hospital Grounds was well attended. The Cyclists also as usual had their race at the Chapel Square which collected a large number of people. The Parade Ground also was fully engaged. On the whole the day was well spent.

"Every day in thy life is a leaf in thy history."
—Arabic Proverb.

The American Section of the Good Templars assembled at the Jubilee Memorial last Tuesday for the purpose of meeting a deputation from the Reading Club on the "Fanti Public Schools," Scheme. Messrs. Geo. Amisah, Tandoh and Spio-Garbrah addressed the meeting and Bros. Arthur and Sago spoke for the Templars.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—K. Busumtwi: Your writing not legible.
Emanuel: Wait.

Tetty. (Akuse): How long has this been going on? Write again, if you notice no change.

Note, C. de Lion of Western, James: Your correspondence refuting a good many things in Koror Mate Kole's letter of defence have been received. From what you all write it appears that, that letter has been read with much surprise in the Croboe District. We must for the present, say, exercise a little patience and watch events.

KIDNAPPING CHILDREN.

Stealing children is becoming a practice in town now by some persons unknown and we would suggest that a gong-gong be beating here and at other places to put it down. There is not the slightest doubt but that it is the doing of either the Mendi boys, Wangaras, Housas or the Arraroes the Railway labourers from the hinterland of Lagos who are scattered all over the Colony.

About three weeks ago a child mysteriously disappeared one evening at Intin Street and notwithstanding all the diligent search that has been made here and in the bush no trace has been made of it up to now. On last Saturday we understand a similar thing occurred at Elmina with the same result. On last Tuesday at broad daylight at the Fahundzi Road Latrine another was carried off from Mr. C. J. Bartels' house a few yards only from the Latrine on the direction of Elmina. A chase was made by Mr. Bartels who returned unsuccessful. We understand bread or biscuits is used as a bait to get these children. Our educated people all along the sea coast should give this matter a consideration and see that their respective Ahinfa take it up to prevent its becoming general.

KOFORIDUA.

A girl of about seven years old whilst going to a village met her death from the fall of a big tree. What shall we do with the large trees about here? [Fell them and put them to some use. Ed.]

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On Friday morning the 13th inst. His Excellency Governor Rodger and suite arrived by the s/s "Fantee," and at the landing stage were cordially welcomed by the Railway and Government Officials, Representatives of the various firms, and Ohin Anasee II and people. A few steps past the stores of Messrs. Millers Ltd. the Governor complacently took off his hat to join in the National Anthem which was sung by the School children with graceful melody.

His Excellency took his residence at the D. C.'s Bungalow.

The Agenda of the Sekundi Chamber of Commerce meeting the Governor on Saturday morning, consisted of several important subjects, among which were the suggested erection of Warehouses at Up-country Stations, Rules for regulating the working Jetties, sea wall, and dumping ground, Funds for distressed Europeans, result of interview with Ashantee Ahinfa &c.—also other subjects of equal importance, which prior to the arrival of the Governor, have been discussed at a special meeting ordered by the District Commissioner with a view of holding one and the same opinion with the Chamber on points of facts, that, as alleged, may seriously be taken up by His Excellency.

This is the way in which our Governors are blind-folded by their direct representatives in the various districts, wherein they are capable of distinguishing the original fact from the fabricated, the rational from the irrational acts and deeds of the Africa-

nised Europeans, and of knowing the ideal patent implements that combine to wield the Executive department of a Crown Colony? Equally herein we agree that the plea and interests of the Gold Coast people will be discarded and disfranchised as baseless and rot hence finding its way into the "Administrative Oblivion Portfolio" for ever!

The Governor and suite left here for Kumasi by special train this morning.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Apropos of the paragraph in last week's issue on imprisonment for debt, a correspondent calls our attention to page 84 of Mr. Merriman-Labour's *Handbook of Sierra Leone*, and turning to it, we find we have marked it. There Mr. Labour writes on Debt:—"For a debt under £5 action can be taken in the Court of Request: for £5 and above, in the Summary Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. There is no imprisonment for debt." That's Sierra Leone, and no doubt the same thing prevails in Lagos, so that, it may be inferred the imprisonment for debt is known and practised only on the Gold Coast. It seems to us that the Practice here is quite different from those in Sierra Leone and Lagos: this reminds us of what a Law official of this Colony did sometime ago on his resigning. Coming out again, he passed down to Lagos to practise, his reason for doing so being that he found the Practice and Laws in this Colony to be queer and quite different from those of the sister colonies. This in itself speaks volumes.

The same correspondent adverting to *Suitor's* letter, refers us to page 187 of the same book. By the way he seems to have cunned the book well. At that place Mr. M. puts down this:—

Solicitors' Charges.

"There is no scale by which solicitors in Sierra Leone regulate their charges, but they have been known to take for—

A verbal advice, between 10/6 and £2. 2.

A written advice, between 21/- and £5. 5.

'Conveyancing' (a term used here in its widest sense), 21/- to £21.

Conducting a case in the Lower Courts, 21/- to £10. 10/-.

Conducting a case in the Supreme Courts, £5. 5/- to £52. 10/-."

That is Sierra Leone, and probably Lagos is not very much behind. But some correspondents have been writing as if all lawyers are a bad lot as to their charges. We do not think so. It should be remembered that like every other profession the legal profession has its bad lot. The law is one of the finest professions, and we have some of the finest gentlemen in that profession. It has been observed that *Doctors are more useful than lawyers*, but we think if this cannot be wholly said of the latter also, they are at all events indispensable. At times you will need their services as much as you would the doctors'. If people will find any fault at all, it should be with themselves. They are awfully litigious themselves, and would fly to the law courts with any case, cases that can be easily settled out of court, and they glory in it, why should they grumble then? There are some cases that must go to the court, but there are others also we think both the Magistrate and the Judge themselves would gladly see settled out of court.

Our people are too litigious, and we have said this again and again: this is mostly done by those who make a boast of Christianity, (we are referring to the nature of some cases often taken to the Court, for there are litigants in England even) and such a thing is barely known in Mohammedan communities. People who actually weep over five shillings for the Doctor's fee, will cheerfully find five hundred shillings for the lawyer. Attoo's *Scrutiniser* on this subject in issue No. 69, may be read with some interest.

We have on several occasions made it out that much of the difficulties and obstacles in the way of the progress of this Colony lies with our administrators—indeed some of them are awful in this respect. But it often happens we meet with some who are administrators, still we make no headway. How do we account for this? Does it not often occur, that while we may be fortunate in some Governors, we have been unfortunate in some of our public and influential men. We must confess and confess openly too that the greatest enemy of the native with respect to the progress and advancement of the native is the native himself. Many a native entrusted with a position of trust and responsibility, has often abused it or used it against his people and country. Until selfishness with its concomitant evils has been done away with we must ever be lying low, and we look for the dissipation of all these by the infusion of more education. Here is a subject both young and old should rack their brains about.

WANTED two persons as LEARNERS and a PRESSMAN. Apply at this Office.

Our Anamaboe correspondent has often written of the dilapidated condition of the Bridges there, and although the officials who pay periodical visits, go over them, themselves, still there are no signs of having them repaired. As usual we must talk and talk and when we are tired we shall stop, but nothing will be done. No funds: no Salt Pond keeps grumbling as well as the other places, of their wants &c: and in Town here, we find the same thing since we are given up for croakers. The Beach fencing still remains a public nuisance, no sign of anything being done of the fencing of the Fort William, the burning of the refuse at Fahundzi to the inconvenience of the residents there still goes on, and a host of things of which the Public justly complain, but they must be so since the infallible ones think so, and say they do us no harm.

It is impossible for any one to believe were we to describe with pen and pencil the state in which the prisoners are turned to work, almost(?) in a state of nudity. Have the Prison Authorities lost all sense of decency? Our Prison Department calls for some reform, the present state of things there, is a disgrace to any civilized Government. Its shocking and there are European ladies in town too!

With the presence of the Wangaras in our midst, (thanks to punitive exhibitions) we are experiencing such a kidnapping of children the country has never known before. The other day a girl of about six or seven years, a daughter to one Birebu a goldsmith was stolen away one evening and up till now no trace of the girl has been made. Some people coming from Salt Pond way the next day saw a girl answering to the description between a Wangara man and his wife, when they came to Town and heard the news. Some assistance should be given by the Government and our native Rulers for the search. This sort of thing ought not to be tolerated.

A good deal of flummery has been poured into our ears over the leading article of our contemporary of the 14th instant likely to give a bad impression on some of our readers abroad which makes it necessary for us to take notice of. We regret this as we have made up our minds, not to notice such things any longer since we discovered, that there is a determination somewhere always to misunderstand us and impute to us the worse motives one can possibly think of with regards to our position and the performance of our journalistic duties: we regret this for all concerned. More important matters however have engaged our attention this week.

NOTICE.

There will be Special Bible Lectures on Sunday evening at the Seventh Day Adventist Mission, Intin Street, 7. 30 p.m.

Subject To-morrow Evening.

"The three Angels Messages of Rev. 14: 6-12"

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Intelligent correspondence on matters of interest touching the welfare of the Country is invited.

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

A *nom-de-plume* or initials should be given if it is desired that the real name shall not appear in the paper.

Name and address must accompany all communications as a guarantee of good faith.

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

Communications to which replies may be expected must be accompanied with Stamps.

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAY 28, 1904.

THE CHAMBERS AND TRADE.

Despite all that has been said again and again concerning the trade of the country the necessity still remains for more talk on the question, and it is to be regretted, that judging from what one is called upon to witness from day to day, it does seem as if those immediately concerned have not as yet realized the gravity of the situation. Let us hope we have here another instance of the deception of appearances, but at all events if whatever may be going on must be judged by their results, then we feel the necessity of harping on this ever-recurring question of the unsatisfactory condition of our trade: all the more so when we find it to be an admitted fact, which no one can deny or gainsay that Commerce forms an important item in the national life of any Country, the importance of which cannot be exaggerated. Whenever trade is dull, our merchants do not suffer alone, it necessarily affects the progress and prosperity of the whole Country—it affects the Revenue. For this reason we do not think we can let the question of trade lie idle.

Leaving the Government which has done all it can to bring about this state of affairs (let us be charitable enough to say, unintentionally, it being mostly through want of administrative tact, "aided and abetted" by selfish motives of officials who must mislead with their "informations") let us see what our merchants themselves are doing to make the best of Trade as it has been mangled for them.

We turn to our Chambers of Commerce what are these doing to improve the Trade of the Country? The Government are to protect our Trade to let its course run as smooth as it possibly can, and then expect good Revenue in return. How far they are fulfilling this end, we can only say, "Look around you." The merchant has his own course to pursue, and in this he must necessarily be independent of the Government, rubbing himself with it only where the interest of trade comes in. This is what it used to be. In these days we fear the merchant is mixing up himself too much with the Government, that is with politics. He is now seen travelling up and down the Country with the Governor. This looks suspicious. How can he be able to give independent suggestions &c to the Authorities which will tend to improve Trade, or be able to express his free and unbiassed opinion on any Ordinance which to his thinking as a trader, will not work? If this meant that he should be at the Governor's elbow for consultation on the commercial affairs of the places, we say, there is no necessity for it, for if he wants any information let him write to the Chambers of Commerce, which as a Body *after deliberation*, may give the necessary information. Indeed to our own mind this travelling about of what are called the Agents in Chief in these days do more harm to our Trade for these reasons.

One who has been appointed such, must have necessarily been longer on the Coast and gained more experience in the Coast trade than his subordinates. It is for him then to have his headquarters at a certain place to direct the trade of his House going on inspection at certain times. (What does even the Governor do?) By this those under him, by his directions will get to understand the trade also, and the routine of work of the particular House, so that when he is away, or goes away for good, there should be a man always on hand trained as it were by him for the work. The late C. W. BURNETT (Swazzy) for instance was an Agent in Chief and member of Council. He always resided in Cape Coast and went out for inspection periodically. We never heard of his travelling about as it is being done now-a-days, and alterations being made as the necessity for them arose. Mr. Jones and others with him were thus able to do the work without any hitch when he had to go away. Mr. Batty of Millers' was doing the same thing until to our mind the unnecessary innovations came in, with Mr. Shaw and we saw how business went on. Since each house has got its way of doing business this constant change of hands necessarily affects Office work, storekeepers, customers, and to some extent the man from the Hinterland and therefore the Trade of the Country. The important trading places should claim the Agents by way of seniority as to the length of Service in a particular House. It does not follow because a man has been so many years on the Coast, therefore he can manage the business of any House, since each has its own mode of doing business, and this will turn to a good account, if such a man will be working for sometime under the direct supervision of an Agent of a particular House.

To be constantly changing Agents cannot fail to effect the *personnel* of the Chambers and so new faces are always bringing in new ideas and new *modus operandi* with conceptions and fancies that have been exploded, over again, thus retarding the work of the Chambers, instead of its showing any progress worthy the name, and in a great measure, stunting Trade. Then there is this combination farce. It is not for us to predict whether it will work or not, but it is almost sure to kill competition and to harm the smaller Houses to say nothing of the Native Houses, and this cannot be called improving the Trade of the Country. And are the Agents in Chief to hold their own meeting apart from those of the Chambers; the game having been on for some time now, can these say they have seen enough to justify the innovation? Nay, if any thing can be done with our Trade, let there be less roaming about to be at one spot to study its interest more closely and carefully, let there be less mimicking of Government ways, less fondling of the Government, and perhaps less aspiration for a seat on the Council, give the old trading places your best, experienced and business-like men, let there be less changing of the members of the Chambers, value your tried native clerks and storekeepers, and let it be commerce first, commerce second, and commerce third with our little commercial world.

THE MERCHANT, THE CLERK AND THE SURETY.

A short while ago Attoo in his *Scrutiny* threw out some suggestions to our native clerks for the formation of Clerks' Association, of which we

have hitherto heard nothing, but judging from correspondence received now and again on the subject, it appears that the suggestion has made favourable impression in some quarters. With the present management in our commercial world the necessity for such an Association still remaining, we would suggest something for the consideration of the gentlemen named, as well as the other clerks. With the existing state of things the clerk does not suffer alone, he suffers with his Surety and as far as losses go, the merchant himself also suffers. What we would suggest is, that there should be an Association formed by those who secure the clerks. This will not necessarily do away with that to be formed by the clerks, and this not having been done yet, it may perhaps be hurried on by the formation of what we suggest here, ours dealing directly with Storekeepers.

The usual way of engaging a clerk for the stores by the merchant is, to enter into agreement with him as to what he should do and what he should not, then to get some one to stand surety for him for the settlement of any debt or deficiency that may occur in the course of his work. It often happens that either by the Clerk's own fault or some "circumstances over which he had no control" large deficiencies occur and his Surety is fallen upon for the settlement of same. Sometimes his Surety cannot meet the amount and then he is made to suffer with the Clerk, suffer to an extent, which in the end brings a heavy loss on the merchant. We do not know about law but this is on the face of it unfair to the Sureties. The Merchant suffers at times, in not having all the amount paid in, after having spent a lot of money: sometimes in not having any paid in at all and it becomes a total loss to him. The Surety invariably bears of the deficiency for the first time when he is called upon to pay or when there is some hitch between the Clerk and his employer, and he has to pay up, or lose his house or stand the chance of being deprived of his liberty. Whilst there are some honest hardworking and efficient Clerks, there are others who are a disgrace to the "profession" and who bring disgrace not only on themselves, but on their fellow Clerks and the country especially as any thing a native does in this respect is boomed to the skies, as if there has never been seen a single honest native Clerk since the Foreigner came to trade here.

The Association will undertake to see that the Clerks are well-paid, for it is cruel to say the least, if not tempting to pay a Clerk a couple of pounds and then entrust to his care hundreds of pounds worth of goods. It will see that the Merchants have honest, trustworthy and competent Clerks who will have decent wages or they will suffer themselves in securing for a Clerk who may prove to be a reckless youngman and land them in trouble. In these days when boys have simply to be rushed through the schools and encouraged by their parents to leave because they have finished the Standards the Association cannot insist too strongly on competency, and also sobriety. Many a youngman finding himself in employment gives himself up to such indulgence which cannot but land him in debts his surety in trouble and his Employer in losses, and thus becomes a barrier to some careful, sober and diligent one who may seek for employment to say nothing of the reflection their conduct casts on old hands.

Another thing the Association can do. We have always said, many a white man with good principles has been spoiled by the native (who considers himself the senior clerk) with tale-telling propensities, especially where such a one has no back-bone or happened to be a bad man himself. The blackman's enemy is not so much the whiteman after all, it is the blackman. The Association can be able to trace up such injurious persons and then—The officers of the Association should be paid as it is done in all Associations of this kind. It will be too premature to suggest any thing about the "cell" for this "machine," let us have the "machine" first. The Clerks' Association should send Representatives to the meetings of the former: they will then be able to watch the movements of the Chambers on their Clerks and will also be able to take up the cause of any Clerk or Clerks who may be dismissed out of prejudice or on some other unjustifiable grounds. We cannot suggest everything, we leave suggestions already made to those concerned and if even what we say may be impracticable with their wiser and more business heads, they may be able to find a way out of the Bush.

OUR LONDON NOTES.

II.

THE LAND OF SURPRISES—LONDON. THE VALUE OF EARLY TRAINING.

BY P. E. RAMFORD.

I send you these Notes from the great city of London where everything is different from or to our West Africa; but I had almost said our own good and dear Gold Coast.

But perhaps the most striking feature of this

great city is the teeming multitude of people. Here we see the wealthy aristocrat rolling in his carriage; there we see the penniless outcast who knows not where to look for his next meal, here with heavy steps goes a great merchant whose warehouses are stored with goods from all the quarters of the globe, whilst at his elbow stands a street hawk for whose whole stock-in-trade is worth only a few shillings; over there we see the honest artisan "who looks the whole world in the face" for although poor he possesses health and strength and that priceless blessing—a good name—but farther still we see that sad sight—the prison-van-bearing the wretched criminals to jail to bear the just punishment of their crimes and misdeeds. When we see these people pursuing their various walks in life so widely different from one another we might wonder what there is in common between the rich man and the beggar, the merchant and the pedlar, the lowest man and the criminal, and at what point could lives so widely separated as these touch one another? Yet we know that all these lives had one common origin—childhood—and during that period of their lives were laid the foundations of success or failure. Ask the merchant what has made him a successful man in business and he will tell you that his success is due to the habits of industry, his indomitable energy, and to dint of perseverance which he acquired in his boyhood or early life. Ask the beggar what brought him to poverty and he will tell you it was laziness, idleness, wasted opportunities and perhaps drink. Isn't London—no, I had better say, isn't the world after all a world of surprises? Perhaps I cannot better bring home to my people the effect of the early training on a man's after-life, than by giving them the following testimony:—

"A man who is very rich now was very poor when he was a boy. When asked how he got his riches he replied "My father taught me never to play till "my work for the day is finished and never to spend "money till I had earned it. If I had but half an "hour's work to do in a day I must do that the first "thing and in half an hour. After this was done "I was allowed to play and I could then play with "much pleasure than if I had the thought of an un- "finished task before my mind. I early formed the "habit of doing everything in its time and it soon "became perfectly easy to do so. It is to this "habit that I now owe my prosperity. Let every "boy or girl go and do likewise and he or she will "meet with similar reward."

The Easter Legal Examinations here come and gone and West Africa was well represented. These examinations were held on the 22, 23, 24 and 25th March 1904 and the awards were announced on the 12th April. In this note I must specially congratulate my respected friends and fellow-students Messrs. Joseph E. Biney, William Charles Clinton, William Ward Brew and Harry F. Ribeiro on passing their Final. These friends have done remarkably well for they have all done their work in less than two years. This is a record, of course, of which the friends may well be proud. Although they have a far or more to wait to be called and which time apparently may seem long and tedious nevertheless I am sure they will utilize same legitimately I wish them great success in practice when they come to be called to the Bar and there also I have every hope they will distinguish themselves as they have done in the Examinations Halls. Wherever their lot may be cast either at home or abroad let us hope they will shine brilliantly on the forensic horizon and be a great credit and pride to their country.

In this connection I may as well warmly congratulate my other fellow-students who also passed in the other subjects. Mr. Oshes Kwesi Quarde passed a creditable examination in Criminal Law, Evidence and Procedure. This my genial and affable fellow-student hails from Aburi, Gold Coast and he appears to have a big future before him. I wish him also all success in his Final. The other successful friends hail from Lagos and they are Messrs. J. T. N. Cole and S. I. H. Beckner who both creditably passed in Constitutional Law and Legal History.

If the Gold Coast is to rise and hold her own it must be by Higher Education and we rejoice to see the attempts at improvement in this direction. We have now Grammar School at Accra under the Principalship of our very able and indefatigable Rev. Attoh-Ahumah and we have also the Faith Schools and Dr. Mark Hayford's Graded School at Cape Coast. Very good indeed! But let us all hope these Schools have come to make their permanent abode with us.

What a brilliant work we have in Barrister Hayford's Gold Coast Native Institutions! The book is so good and contains very valuable and reliable information that it should be a great pity if our educated natives went without copies. Mr. Hayford is, as is generally known one of our very few able and forward men and one of our best and cleverest writers and most capable Barristers and of whom Gold Coast may justly be proud, and whatever he does or undertakes to do he does right well. I was thinking the other day whether Mr.

Hayford could not find time to write a School Edition of his book at a popular price. It is I think, absolutely necessary that our School children should know the history of the institutions of their own Country. This is important and I daresay Barrister Hayford will give the matter a thought.

London was startled yesterday by the news of the Russian disaster at Port Arthur involving the drowning of Admiral Makharoff (in whom was all the hope of Russia) and the loss of over 700 lives in the battleship Petropavlovsk. It seems now incontrovertibly plain that the Russian misfortunes at sea have reached the climax and that the naval position that was already desperate has now become irretrievable. The battle is every day getting stiffer and tougher and it would still perhaps be premature to foretell which side would be forced to give in or see for peace.

I see the Gold Coast can now boast of three good papers viz.—The "Leader" and the "Aborigines" of Cape Coast, and the "Advocate" of Accra.

What a happy thing! Perhaps it may not be invidious to say that at present the "Gold Coast Leader" is the best printed paper in West Africa. I wish them all (the papers) good work for the country. Adieu!

BENSU.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY J. P. ROGER ESQ., C.M.G.

His Excellency the Governor arrived here by special train from Sekondi on the 16th instant at 9.30 a.m. with his Private Secretary Capt. Hinks, Mr. Graves, General Manager of the Railways, Mr. Robins, Chief Engineer Railway, Mr. Wilkinson Acting Director of Works, the Provincial Commissioner Mr. Philbrick and several others.

An escort of Police headed by Superintendent Coppin, also came by the train and formed a guard of honour to His Excellency.

Previous to His Excellency's arrival the Ohin and the Queen mother were notified, and the town and the streets were cleaned and nicely decorated with arches made of palm leaves and flowers; a platform was made covered all over with silk cloths and Union Jacks for the Governor's reception.

The Ohin and suite met His Excellency at the Station platform dressed in full state. His Excellency could not help himself and returned the compliment also in his full uniform marched under the arches to the town led by the Ohin and suite. After an interview lasting about three hours His Excellency left Benuu the capital of Lower Wasaw at about 12.30 for Tarkwa leaving the Superintendent and men who returned with his men to Sekondi by the down train the same day.

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

An authentic report has just reached us that yesterday the 16th inst. when all the women had assembled in the market to sell their commodities the Serjeant Cayiroo called a certain youngman Kwah Tabili by name to come round and shoot some pigeons belonging to a certain European who is now at Sekondi in the open market when the women were there selling. A certain gentleman standing by told the Serjeant not to attempt this dangerous feat or he might probably hurt some of the sellers, and also infringe the Government rules but the Serjeant told the gentleman alluded to that he did not care a trash for the Government and he being the Serjeant he could do whatever he pleased.

Notwithstanding the persuasions and threats of the people standing by, the gun was fired in the open market (daylight) and two pigeons were killed which the Serjeant took immediately to his residence for his soup.

We ask has the Serjeant any authority to shoot in the open public when women-sellers are selling? Can even the D. C. attempt this in the open market when hundreds of women are selling? The fact is the Serjeant is assuming too much airs in town. The D. C.'s attention is called to this uncalled for act. The Serjeant should bear in mind that we are not in autocratic Russia.

Mr. R. J. Yankah of Millers has left by the "Nigeria" for England. One Mr. Williams is taking charge. We wish him bon voyage.

Can the report be true that the Serjeant is likely to open a Canteen in town. More of this anon.

Madam Kken Marman died on Friday the 29th. ult. By her social, courteous and winning ways she endeared herself to all who knew her. Her remains were interred in the Wesleyan Cemetery by Rev. Mr. Sackey followed by a large concourse of people. We extend to the family especially Mr. T. M. Bilson and Mr. W. B. N. F. C. Grant our deepest sympathies for the irreplaceable loss sustained.

The recent conflagration here has altered things considerably. Almost all the thatch roofed houses have been roofed with corrugated iron and Chama present a picturesque scene.

The fort needs whitewashing.

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Rev. E. Bruce returned from Adda on the night of Monday the 9th. inst. and Divine Service was held on Thursday the 12th. inst. being the Ascension Day. During his absence it was felt that an Assistant or a Catechist who might satisfy the Wesleyan Congregation was highly desirable as Local Preachers at their best fall short of the

standard to which the taste of the Sabbath Audience in 'Planga Memorial Church' has been developed.

Mr. J. T. Clegg who represented the Concessionaires of this place at the Supreme Court Accra, returned to Kpong on the 11th. inst. This Company has been sorely tried but their prospects are really hopeful and bright now.

Mr. Arthur Foulkes D. C. has passed to Anum.

This is a virgin soil which awaits development. Traders and Merchants hardly take any interest in this village which offers great possibilities. For Produce a mere trial will ensure a brisk business. No Capitalist will regret the speculation.

A Policeman who ventured to silence a notorious Lunatic by name "Goo" of Akuse a few weeks ago, was seriously stabbed at the chest and shoulder. Under Dr. Papafo's attendance the wounded man is improving. The Lunatic is in Custody. The right place for this Lunatic should have been at the Asylum, Accra.

What reward or consideration is extended to encourage public servants who meet with accidents of this nature? The want of encouragement in this score has rendered the average constable a coward and ready to turn aside from an alarm at night respecting a thief or murderer.

Mr. Arthur Boi Quartey-Papafo, Barrister arrived at Akuse in defence of a slave-dealing case on the 11th.

We would humbly submit for an impartial distribution of Kpong Street lamps at the following spots:—

Midway between B. M. Store & Chapel Grif: Hill
 " " Chief Odonkor's & the Hausa market
 " " Odarno and Produce Market
 " " Produce Market and Swanzy's new house.

Then one at each of the following—

Post Office, Boye Doe's gate, Adinkra Market, New Bethany or Saletsonya French Factory, Kpong Market Corner of Swanzy's fence near Wesleyan Chapel under the silk cotton tree leading to Akuse Road. Between Torgbor and Blemano; between German Factory and Abiana's; between Coff, Gold Smith and Lomotey's new building at Adinkra and between B. M. Store No. 2 and Santingo's behind Swanzy's new Building. Of course Chief Odonkor who knows the Town better can make a better suggestion our object being to light up such parts of the Town to prevent mischief under darkness and the comfort of honest men.

If wooden Posts are to be erected for these Lamps let them have cross Bars on which the ladder might rest for the safety of the Lamp-lighters. The iron Posts as we see in the Coast Towns should form the model.

The Rev. E. Bruce left again for Accra, we understand, for the benefit of his health.

WINNEBAH.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

One F. N. Bailey committed suicide here on the 12th. instant at about 1 o'clock p.m. Death from temporary insanity was the verdict given at the inquest held.

Some new streets are being constructed. The drains too need cementing.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

We regret that many of the letters we publish have had to be cut down. Correspondents who desire to see their communications printed as sent must bear in mind the limitations of our space, and that we can seldom find room for letters exceeding 300 or 400 words in length.

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

IRREVERENCE IN CHURCH

Sir,—The want of reverence evinced by certain ministers of one of the local Churches of which I am a member, and which I very often observe to my regret, calls forth for my comment and trust that with your usual generosity you will allow me a space in the columns of your paper to do so.

In all positions of life a man is sure to have his faults, and they greatly err if our spiritual directors presume to assert that their actions are above censure; if because no one appears to say anything against certain irregularities in their management they take that silence gives consent, I must let them know that silence too often betokens feelings quite the reverse. Taking it for granted that their calling is to instruct us towards our salvation and since they have made it their profession, I venture to ask them to couple their teaching with good examples.

On the whole they teach us to deport ourselves reverently in the house of God; the breach of which as the common offence of the younger ones, one can hardly bear to witness the punishment which is very often anything but humane. It is a pity that they should lack this instruction themselves when they seem to have no regard for the place prepared for the worship of God and can therefore be "bosses" of the holy edifice and use all sorts of unpleasant and abusive language there on their flock.

My story (if story I must call it) may appear incredulous to your readers, yet it is an admitted fact of almost

every day occurrence that such words as "Silly asses," "fools," "Coons" and many others which I blush for shame to enumerate here, are freely indulged in by these clergymen during hours of divine service without reflecting perhaps for a moment that they are before the Lord. We will take it for our just chastisement if these form part of their sermons; but even that they must be more polite.

O, ye teachers of the Truth be it known to you that this is a scandal of the vilest nature, and most discouraging to your followers, so an immediate and entire end to all these is the sincere wish of,

A MEMBER.

Cape Coast, 10th. May 1904.

Ebenezer Chambers,

Low Town, Sekondi.

13th. May 1904.

Dear Sir,—I beg for your kind favour to allow me a space in your valuable columns, to say something about the Gold Coast Methodists and their Feast Days.

I have always observed from since my childhood, that they keep strictly such days as the Christmas-day, Good-Friday, and the Easter-day. But I am sorry to notice (myself being a Methodist by birth as well as by choice) that, they do not observe the Ascension-day. I consider this to be one of the most important days that should be observed, as well as the Ash-Wednesday which they don't keep too. I know of only one Methodist Minister who used to keep these days in his church at his station. So I think it will be a good thing to keep these days in accordance with their own Church Almanacs.

Thanks for space allowed.

Yours truly,—ALTO.

Prospect House,

Cape Coast, 23rd May 1904.

Sir,—The remarks of your correspondent "Attoo" under the heading of "Scrutinor" in your issue of the 21st instant, relative to Christ Church in this town, and the Rev. W. Hastings Kelk, Colonial Chaplain, call for some comment.

As President of Christ Church Committee, I may inform you that the subject of Rev. Kelk's nomination of Mr. F. H. Fearon, as Minister's Warden for ensuing year, has already been fully dealt with by such Committee, and their opinion submitted to the Bishop of the Diocese: consequently your desire to be saved from "the ordeal of facing such an invidious sight" has more or less been forestalled.

I would suggest to you that the Rev. Kelk, being a duly ordained clergyman of the Church of England, in the first place: and secondly, in his position as head of the ecclesiastical matter of this Colony, so far as the Government is concerned: further also, as the acting minister of the People's Church for the time being, respect is due to him; and it is a matter of regret that you should see fit to insult him publicly in your paper by the publication of your correspondent's remarks referred to, and which, moreover, are detrimental to our cause.

The Church Wardens, together with the Committee, are quite capable of managing, on behalf of the congregation, the affairs of Christ Church without in any way intentionally offering insult to any one; or aiding and abetting foreigners, as suggested by your correspondent. Fair criticism in all public matters such as that in point, is desirable and acceptable; but it is right you should know that we, as a Committee endeavouring to do our duty conscientiously, to the public, by whom we have been elected, certainly do not join you in the manner you have adopted of criticising Rev. Kelk's action as regards the people's Church. Our sole aim is to bring matters to a satisfactory conclusion without, however, seeking favour from any individual or party, but having in mind the proposed scheme for a Native Pastorate, to the betterment of our country; and we ask your co-operation, but only in such a manner as is befitting christian members of one Church, and above all as a man having common sense and self-respect, as well as respect for others.

Yours faithfully,—CHAS. A. ALBERT BARNES.

President Christ Church Committee,
 & Minister's Warden-in-Office, C. C., C. C.

[Good. But Mr. B. makes it difficult for us to discern whether he too is alluding to us by blaming us in publishing our Correspondent's article, or wholly to our Correspondent. If former he may just as well "go in" for us in publishing his correspondence, and if latter, "he is of age" and can speak for himself. Ed.]

TREAT TO THE CHILDREN OF GOVERNMENT AIDED SCHOOLS ON VICTORIA DAY

Dear Sir,—I beg to ask you to be good enough to permit me, through the medium of your valuable journal, to convey the sincere thanks of the Committee Members to all the Ladies and Gentlemen who were kind enough to give donations towards the Treat given to the School Children on Victoria Day, the amounts of which are shown hereunder.

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS H. FEALON

Hon. Secretary & Member of the
 Board of Education.

Government School	£4 8 6	} Total £20 3 3.
Wesleyan School	7 3 3	
Roman Catholic School	8 11 5	

Cape Coast, 26th. May, 1904.

CRICKET AT LAGOS.

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(26th) Gold Coast all out for 85.

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May 11.—Russian declared cotton contraband because used to manufacture explosives. Post Tokio high angle bombardment Port Arthur taking place, Russia protested against Japanese firing on Red Cross train from Port Arthur. Chinese Minister important consultations issued London 934 half loan already taken up New York. Japanese so far have collected 1362 Russian dead on Yalu battlefield. Japanese Cabinet Tokio decided issue another five per cent internal loan redeemable five years. Reuter Gyangtse reports Tibetans at Karo Pass numbered 3000, mounted infantry pursued them for 12 miles killing four hundred. The situation of the British is considered critical until Gurkha climbed face almost absolute precipice overhanging Tibetan position pouring in deadly fire. Reuter reports attack at Gyangtar 7/5 most desperate 800 Tibetans actually scalling outer defences discovered in time enable British to take up positions. Tibetans at farm houses almost completely investing Gyangtse 'contemplate determined' effort annihilate the Mission. Russian force attacked Kuju where (was a small Japanese garrison, reinforcements arriving from Pingyang Russians were driven off.

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13.—Chamberlain had magnificent reception in addressing meeting at Birmingham Town Hall on Thursday night under auspices of the Unionist Association, he contended his fiscal policy has produced a great change abroad, while he was away he met eminent foreigners who frankly admitted potency of new policy, he appealed to the audience to bind colonies to home land or they will inevitably lose these young nations who will not wait for ever clutching to skirt of England's indecision.

16.—Subscriptions invited, million and a half Johannesburg 4 per cent inscribed stock price 93, balance of loan, three millions issued in December. St. Petersburg General Kharkevitch reports Japanese division of upwards of ten thousand with fifty guns mostly mountain artillery approaching Sinyen. Japanese deny train supposed to be red cross bore Red Cross. Russians began firing then hoisted Red Cross whereupon Japanese ceased firing. Chinese labour convention signed to-day. Reuter Tokio reports Japanese torpedoer destroyed at Kerr bay north Tallonwan, seven crew killed and seven wounded. Japanese assert the first warship they lost in this war. Reuter Seoul reports Vladivostok swardran practically bottled up. Japanese fleet ranged outside harbour making escape impossible. Japanese established Naval base at Port Lazareff, protecting harbour by mines. Reuter Tokio reports Admiral Kataoku conducted series of sweeping operations yesterday at Tallonwan bay off Dalny, also Kerr and Deep bays; the cruisers bombarded land batteries while flotilla torpedoers swept harbour for mines which they destroyed. The squadron subsequently went close in shore shelled large force enemy and two smaller bodies who retreated in the direction of Port Arthur.

16.—Standard's St. Petersburg correspondent wires persistent rumours of serious disturbance at Warsaw a high official killed. Sir Sydney Clarke Governor of Victoria appointed Secretary newly constituted defence committee. Private letter received at Shanhaikwan states Japanese 20 miles southwards Niuchwang, Mukden. A telegram states Japanese re-occupied Pulakien station communication with Port Arthur again interrupted. Provision will be made in next Austrian Budget for two millions sterling for new field guns, million and half for fleet and torpedo boats of the most modern type, half million for sub-marines. Tibetan rein-

forcements continued to arrive at Gyangtse. Gen. Kuroki's advanced division of ten thousand men and fifty guns occupied Suoy in sixty miles eastward Liaoyang. Russian force occupying latter place being out-flanked. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria met King of Serbia to-day at Nish to discuss Balkan situation, it is believed result be tripple alliance between Bulgaria, Servia and Montenegro against any possible foreign invasion.

15.—Reuter's correspondent at Gyangtse telegraphing on the 13th inst. says bombardment of British camp by Tibetans continues country in front camp is in ferment. Llamas going from valley to valley preaching holy war, country behind however still open. Carson arrived Dover to-day in splendid health. Austrian official communique declares defence expenditure not excessive and it is more necessary Austria be in fore front regarding preparedness than many states. Thirty thousand Japanese landed Pitsewo. Numerous siege guns left Petersburg on Saturday for Far East. Chicago Daily News reports Dalny bombarded Saturday estimated 20000 Japanese investing town.

BURGLARY IN SEKONDI.

There are a gang of burglars now raiding the town of Sekondi without apprehension, robbery is committed almost every where and every night. On the night of the 16th inst. the yard of the African Association was entered into and several things were stolen from some of the outhouses, but through the energetic efforts of Superintendent Coppin about six of them were arrested and taken to custody with several boxes found in their possession; certain persons were able to identify as their property some of the stolen things on previous occasions at the Police station.

There is no wonder these burglars roaming about so much at Sekondi for one could hardly see a policeman in the streets at nights on duty save two in the High Street on account of the Bank and two others at the beach for the Warehouse. The insufficiency of the men has given rise to these infernal burglars to be at large; the Force therefore needs to be strengthened otherwise there will be no security for life and property.

Superintendents Coppin and Strong are doing their best but not until they have sufficient men at their disposal they will not be able to put a check to it.

A lot of charms was also found which they confessed was their jaju to put to sleep any person during their nocturnal "dances." House owners beware.

MUMFORD.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

If a statistical account of the revenue of this little place is presented to the readers of this journal, it will undoubtedly give a rapid impulse to serious blames poured on the Government from all sides for neglecting it in all respects. Not a farthing seems to have been expended during the last few years on account of sanitation, public works &c. beyond the stipend of a Customs Officer. The absence of streets, street lamps, policemen, Government buildings &c. is practically sufficient to blot out the name of Mumford from the official itinerary of the Colony. These are beyond sentimental complaint!

BEAUTIFUL IN DEATH.

(BY A BANKER.)

Indulging for a moment in the visions of reverie, let us pay a brief visit to our fair satellite, the "Queen of night." Shaking off our earth-trammels we bound upwards to the ether, and alight upon the parched and arid shore of that shining luminary, which, though dead, yet to us is so beautiful in death. The first object which compels our astonished gaze is the earth which we have just left. Suspended threateningly over us in the zenith, a mighty and stupendous orb, its proportions vast and immense, it shines with an ever varying brilliance and fitful intensity. Easily we distinguish the well known contour of the great continents; some portions now dull and sombre, now as a great bank of cloud slowly passes over and obliterates the distinction between land and sea, vividly translucent, and glistening with a dazzling whiteness, only surpassed by the lustrous snow-caps which crown the regions around the poles. And if so grand and majestic when at the full, how yet more surpassingly attractive must be her appearance when, at the commencement of a "geodation," she assumes the form of a vast and brilliant shining crescent suspended in the heavens.

Turning our attention now to the sphere we are visiting we find ourselves in the midst of death; no vegetation, not a living creature, not a bird, not a beast, not any insect exists on that stony, voiceless wilderness, but all is a solemn, oppressively silent, lifeless desert, a doomed and stricken world. Yet all around we see evidence that at one time it was throbbing with tremendous outbursts of

nature's contending forces such as our earth could never have experienced, that it was the scene of mighty convulsions, and organs of infernal, chaotic disorder. Here is a lofty extinct volcano, the uproared walls of its crater several miles in height, and more than a hundred miles in diameter, into which every crater of every volcano upon the earth could be rolled; and here on all sides are other innumerable peaked and pinnacled volcanic craters; vast clefts and chasms rent deep in the solid rock; and huge boulders and rocks vomited forth from these terrible volcanoes.

But that which astounds us more than anything else is the aspect of the heavens at noon-day. The sun is shining in all his glory, but notwithstanding, every planet, every star, is also shining in undiminished brilliancy. Every valley which the direct rays of the sun do not reach would be shrouded in eternal night were it not for the earth shine, or perhaps for the light reflected from the sun-lit mountains. For as there is no air, there is also of course no diffused light.

But now we quit that sore and withered world, and hie back to our own beautiful planet, the welcome contrast thrilling us with ever higher appreciation of its charms and of its lavish adornments. And as we contrast that dead and arid world with our own planet ever throbbing with life and vitality, we see a simile of the contrast between a soul dead to all concern for the great hereafter, and to one who by the aid of the Holy Spirit has realised the great fact that by appropriating the atonement made by the Redeemer as full satisfaction for his misdeeds, a welcome to the realms of glory is assured to him.

Dear Sir,—I have read with marked attention the Editorial contained in your Journal of the 21st instant and with mingled feelings of satisfaction and regret I have ventured to address you on what appears to me a very important matter deserving the serious reflection of your many readers.

Of satisfaction, because of the patriotic and statesmanlike manner in which you have endeavoured to give an expression of your views bearing on that momentous question namely whether the enstoolment of educated men a failure or an advantage to the Country?—it is doubtless a big vote and we should like to hear more about it from our friends and countrymen who could read and write.

Of regret, because whatever are the charges perpetrated against my friend and contemporary King Otoo V. of Abura I have not had the opportunity of studying the ins and outs of his case to be able to pronounce for or against him but in any event he has my sincerest heartfelt sympathy. While for my cousin King Amooce V. of Anamaboe I am wholly ignorant of any charge preferred against him beyond the fact that he was engaged in a lawsuit at Saltpond recently about certain private land property; but as to myself I hardly know what are the alleged offences imputed to me by my people. In the annals of English History (the only history I am conversant with) those stately Kings and Queens of the past were not without some peculiar fault of their own, and I shall be glad to learn through the medium of your paper what "state offences" I have been charged with ever since my accession to the important Winnebuh Stool so as to give me an opportunity of answering for myself, perhaps my having adapted myself to the use of the native garb and headgear instead of my former habiliments of the European is also considered an offence.

With kind regards, I remain.

Yours very faithfully,

ACQUAN II.

King of Winnebuh.

Cape Coast, 25th May 1904.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

Due at Cape Coast.

Accra Brass Service	May 30
*Akabo Lagos Express Service	" 30
*Oron S. C. Express Service	June 6
Warri Opobo Service	" 5
Batanga S. Windward Service	" 11
*Tarquah Lagos Express Service	" 13

HOMEWARDS.

Bakana Opobo Service	" 19
Sokoto S. C. Express Service No. 1	" 27
Leopoldville Congo Boat	" 28
Biafra Brass Service	" 30
Paul Wermann C. & S. C. Service	June 1
Accobra Brass Service	" 2
Beraha Lagos Express Service	" 3
Boran S. C. Express Service No. 2	" 8

*With mails and passengers only.

Hayford could not find time to write a School Edition of his book at a popular price. It is I think, absolutely necessary that our School children should know the history of the institutions of their own Country. This is important and I daresay Barrister Hayford will give the matter a thought.

London was startled yesterday by the news of the Russian disaster at Port Arthur involving the drowning of Admiral Makharoff (in whom was all the hope of Russia) and the loss of over 700 lives in the battleship Petropavlovsk. It seems now uncontestedly plain that the Russian misfortunes at sea have reached the climax and that the naval position that was already desperate has now become irretrievable. The battle is every day getting stiffer and tougher and it would still perhaps be premature to foretell which side would be forced to give in or sue for peace.

I see the Gold Coast can now boast of these grand papers viz—The "Leader" and the "Aborigines" of Cape Coast, and the "Advocate of Accra.

What a happy thing! Perhaps it may not be invidious to say that at present the "Gold Coast Leader" is the best printed paper in West Africa. I wish these and the other papers would work for the country. Adieu!

BENSU.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY J. P. BOUVER ESQ., C.M.G.

His Excellency the Governor arrived here by special train from Senegal on the 16th instant at 9:30 a.m. with his Private Secretary Capt. Hanks, Mr. Graves, General Manager of the Railways, Mr. Robins, Chief Engineer Railways, Mr. Wilkinson Acting Director of Works, the Provincial Commissioner Mr. Philbrick and several others.

An escort of Police headed by Superintendent Caprin also came by the train and formed a guard of honour to His Excellency.

Previous to His Excellency's arrival the Ohm and the Queen mother were notified, and the town and the streets were cleaned and nicely decorated with arches made of palm-leaves and flowers. A platform was made covered all over with silk cloths and Union Jacks for the Governor's reception.

The Ohm and suite met His Excellency at the Station platform dressed in full state. His Excellency could not help himself and returned the compliment also in his full uniform marched under the arches to the town led by the Ohm and suite. After an interview lasting about three hours His Excellency left Benon the capital of Lower Wassaw at about 12:30 for Tarkwa, leaving the Superintendent and men who returned with his men to Sekondi by the down train the same day.

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

An authentic report has just reached us that yesterday the 16th inst. when all the women had assembled in the market to sell their commodities a Sergeant from Senegal called a certain young man Kwah Tadi to come to some round and shoot some persons belonging to a certain European who is now at Senegal in the open market where the women were then selling. A certain gentleman standing by told the Sergeant not to shoot this young man lest he might probably hurt some of the women, and also telling the Government to let the Sergeant tell the gentlemen allied to that he did not care a damn for the Government and he being the Sergeant he would do whatever he pleased.

Notwithstanding the persuasions and threats of the people standing by, the gun was fired in the open market (daylight) and two pigeons were killed when the Sergeant took immediately to his residence for his soap.

We ask has the Sergeant any authority to shoot in the open public when women sellers are selling. Can even the D.C. attempt this in the open market where hundreds of women are selling? The fact is the sergeant is assuming too much here in town. The D.C. attention is called to this recalled for act. The Sergeant should bear in mind that we are not in autocratic Senegal.

Mr. R. J. Yankon of Millers has left by the "Nigeria" for England. One Mr. Williams is taking charge. We wish him the best.

Can the report be true that the Sergeant intended to open a tavern in town. More of this anon.

Madam Anna Mwanza died on Friday the 27th inst. by her sudden, untimely and winning way she endeared herself to all who knew her. Her remains were interred in the Wesleyan Cemetery by Rev. Mr. Scales, followed by a large concourse of people. We extend our hearty sympathies to Mr. T. M. Brown and Mr. V. H. de F. C. Grant our deepest sympathies for the irrefragable griefs contained.

The recent conflagration here has altered the scenery considerably. Almost all the thatched-roof houses have been roofed with corrugated iron and Chama presents a picturesque scene.

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Rev. E. Bruce returned from Adla on the night of Monday the 26th inst. and Divine Service was held on Thursday the 12th inst. being the Ascension Day. During his absence it was felt that an Assistant or a Catechist who might satisfy the Wesleyan Congregation was highly desirable as Local Preachers at their best fall short of the

standard to which the taste of the Sabbath Audience in 'Plange Memorial Church' has been developed.

Mr. J. T. Clegg who represented the Concessionaires of this place at the Supreme Court Accra, returned to Kpong on the 11th inst. This Company has been sorely tried but their prospects are really hopeful and bright now.

Mr. Arthur Houkkes D. C. has passed. Anna. This is a virgin soil which awaits development. Traders and Merchants hardly take any interest in this village which offers great possibilities. For Producing mere trial will ensure a brisk business. No Capitalist will regret the speculation.

A Freetown man who ventured to address a notorious Lunatic by name "Goo" of Akuse a few weeks ago, was seriously stabbed at the chest and shoulder. Under Dr. Papafio's attendance the wounded man is improving. The Lunatic is in Custody. The right place for this Lunatic should have been at the Asylum, Accra.

What reward or consideration is extended to encourage public servants who meet with accidents of this nature? The want of encouragement in this score has rendered the average constable a coward and ready to turn aside from an alarm at night suspecting a thief or murderer.

Mr. Arthur Boi Quarrey-Papafio, Barrister arrived at Akuse in defence of a slave-dealing case on the 11th.

We would humbly submit for an impartial distribution of Kpong Street lamps at the following spots—

- Midway between B. M. Store & Chapel Giff Hill
- " " Chief Odongkor by the House market
- " " Ojarno and Produce Market
- " " Produce Market and Swazy's new house.

Then one at each of the following—
Post Office, Boy's Doe's gate, Adinkra Market, New Bethany or Saletsonya French Factory, Kpong Market Corner of Swazy's fence near Wesleyan Chapel under the silk cotton tree leading to Akuse Road. Between Torgbor and Blematog between German Factory and Abiana's, between Cof, Gold Smith and Lomotey's new building at Adinkra and between B. M. Store No. 2 and Santiago's behind Swazy's new Building. Of course Chief Odongkor who knows the Town better can make a better suggestion our object being to light up such parts of the Town to prevent mischief under darkness and the comfort of honest men.

If wooden Posts are to be erected for these Lamps let them have cross Bars on which the ladder might rest for the safety of the Lamp-lighters. The iron Posts as we see in the Coast Towns should form the model.

The Rev. E. Bruce left again for Accra, we understand, for the benefit of his health.

WINNEBAH.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

One F. N. Bailey committed suicide here on the 12th instant at about 1 o'clock p.m. Death from temporary insanity was the verdict given at the inquest held.

Some new streets are being constructed. The drains too need cementing.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor declines responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

We regret that many of the letters published have had to be cut down. Correspondents who desire their communications printed should meet here in which the limitations of our space, and that we can accept no more letters exceeding 500 or 400 words in length.

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader. IRREVERENCE IN CHURCH.

For—The want of reverence exercised by certain ministers of one of the local Churches of which I am a member, and which I very often resorted to my regret, calls forth for my comment and trust that with generous generosity you will allow me a space in the columns of your paper to do so.

In all positions of life man is sure to face his faults, and they greatly circumspect and directors pressure to consent that their actions are above blame. It becomes no one appears to see certain irregularities in their management, they take it that blame given descent. I must let them know that unless they give but have feelings quite the reverse. Taking it for granted that their calling is to instruct us towards our salvation and hence they have made it their profession, I venture to ask them to couple their teaching with good examples.

On the sabbath they teach us to deport ourselves reverently in the house of God, the breath of which is the solemn presence of the younger ones, one can hardly bear to witness the parishment which is here often anything but humane. It is a pity that they should lack this restriction themselves when they seem to have no regard for the place prepared for the worship of God and can therefore be "bosses" of the holy edifice and use all sorts of unpleasant and abusive language there on their flock.

My story (if story I must call it) may appear melodramatic to your readers, yet it is an admitted fact of almost

every day occurrence that such words as "By asses," "fools," "Coons" and many others which I blush to shame to enumerate here, are freely indulged in by these clergymen during hours of divine service without reflecting perhaps for a moment that they are before the Lord. We will take it for our just chastisement if these form part of their sermons, but even that they must be more polite.

O ye teachers of the Truth be it known to you that this is a scandal of the vilest nature and must discontinue to your followers, so an immediate and entire cessation to all these is the sincere wish of,

A MEMBER.

Cape Coast, 19th May 1904.

Ebenezer Chambers,

Low Town, Sekondi.

19th May 1904.

Dear Sir,—I beg for your kind favour to allow me a space in your valuable columns to say something about the Gold Coast Methodists and their Feast Days.

I have always observed from since my childhood that they keep strictly such days as the Christmas day, Good Friday, and the Easter day. But I am sorry to say that since my being a Methodist by birth so well as by choice that they do not observe the Ascension Day. I consider this to be one of the most important day that should be observed, as well as the Ash Wednesday which they don't keep too. I know of only one Methodist Minister who used to keep these days to his glory at his station. So I think it will be a good thing to see these days in accordance with their own Catechism.

Thanks for space allowed.

Yours truly,—A. T.

Prospect House,

Cape Coast, 23rd May 1904.

Sir,—The remarks of your correspondent "Atto" under the heading of "Scrutiny" in your issue of the 21st instant, relative to Christ Church in this town, and the Rev. W. Hastings Kelle, Colonial Chaplain, call for some comment.

As President of Christ Church Committee, I may inform you that the subject of Rev. Kelle's nomination, Mr. F. H. Fearon, as Minister's Warden for occupying you has already been fully dealt with by such Committee and their opinion submitted to the Bishop of the Diocese, consequently your desire to be saved from the ordeal of facing such an inviolable sight has more or less been forestalled.

I would suggest to you that the Rev. Kelle, being duly ordained clergyman of the Church of England, is the first place, and secondly, in his position as head of the ecclesiastical matter of this Colony, so far as the Government is concerned, further also, as the acting minister of the People's Church for the time being, respect is due to him; and it is a matter of regret that you should see fit to insult him publicly in your paper, the publication of your correspondent's remarks relative to, and which moreover, are detrimental to our cause.

The Church Warden, together with the Committee, are quite capable of managing on behalf of the congregation, the affairs of Christ Church without in any way intentionally offering insult to any one or causing an abetting foreigners, as suggested by your correspondent. Fair criticism in all public matters such as this point is laudable and acceptable, but it is regrettable that you should know that we, as a Committee endeavoring to do our duty conscientiously to the public, by whom we have been elected, certainly do not put you in the manner you have adopted of criticizing Rev. Kelle's action regards the people's Church. Our sole aim is to bring matters to a satisfactory conclusion without, however, seeking favour from any individual or party, but first and foremost the promotion of a Native Pastor for the betterment of our country, and wish your cooperation, but only in a manner as a brother church member of one Church, and above all as a man of common sense and self-respect, as well as respect others.

Yours faithfully,—CHAS. A. ANTONI FAYE.

President Christ Church.

A Member Christ Church.

I beg to say Mr. H. makes it difficult for me to say whether he is a willing to be a member of the publishing of our Church's articles, or of a Correspondent. If former he may just as well be for us a publisher of a correspondence, and if latter he is of age, and can speak for himself. Ed J.

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Dear Sir,—I beg to ask you to be good enough to put me, through the goodness of your favour, to receive the amount of money from the Government of here to all the Ladies and Gentlemen who would be enough to give a treat to the children of the Government School on Victoria Day, the amount of which is shown hereunder.

Yours faithfully,

FREDERICK FAYE.

Head Secretary, W. A. S. S.

Island of Lagos.

Government School, 64-8-6)

Wesleyan School, 7-3-3 Total £20-3

Roman Catholic School, 8-11-6)

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13.—Admiral Skysdloff appointed to command Russian Vladivostock squadron. The Times Berlin correspondent states Beulows position daily becoming more critical having estranged all political parties. Military arrangements for South-west Africa characterised by the extraordinary vacillation and uncertainty suspected, there been conflict of views. Kuropatkin reports a dash was made by ammunition laden train from Liaoyang to Port Arthur after Japanese landing at Pitsewo, every preparation was made to explode train to prevent capture by Japanese, the task crowned with complete success. Japanese troops apparently division of Guards advancing westwards from Fengchuan-cheng. Russians still in the vicinity of Niuchwang some even returning to city. Japanese are reported to be creeping closer to Port Arthur. Licensing Bill passed second reading on House of Commons by 353 votes 196. Lyttelton announced that Chinese Minister London authorised to sign Anglo-Chinese convention to-morrow Friday afternoon. Japanese loan huge success, the list closed London covered twenty times. Officially announced at Tokio that Alexieff's depatch regarding restoration of communication with Port Arthur untrue. Russians absolutely destroyed port of Dalny near Port Arthur to prevent Japanese utilising it. Lyttelton's announcement regarding labour convention had magic effect on city; hailed on sides with satisfaction and relief. Unusual animation in Throngmorton Street recalling old Kaffir boon days of 1895.

13.—Chamberlain had magnificent reception in addressing meeting at Birmingham Town Hall on Thursday night under auspices of the Unionist Association, he contended his fiscal policy has produced a great change abroad, while he was away he met eminent foreigners who frankly admitted potency of new policy, he appealed to the audience to bind colonies to home land or they will inevitably lose these young nations who will not wait for ever clutching to skirt of England's indecision.

16.—Subscriptions invited, million and a half Johannesburg 4 per cent inscribed stock price 93, balance of loan, three millions issued in December. St. Petersburg General Kharkevitch reports Japanese division of upwards of ten thousand with fifty guns mostly mountain artillery approaching Sinyen. Japanese deny train supposed to be red cross bore Red Cross. Russians began firing then hoisted Red Cross whereupon Japanese ceased firing. Chinese labour convention signed to-day. Reuter Tokio reports Japanese torpedoer destroyed at Kerr bay north Talienswan, seven crew killed and seven wounded. Japanese assert the first warship they lost in this war. Reuter Seoul reports Vladivostock swardran practically bottled up. Japanese fleet ranged outside harbour making escape impossible. Japanese established Naval base at Port Lazareff, protecting harbour by mines. Reuter Tokio reports Admiral Kataoku conducted series of sweeping operations yesterday at Talienswan bay off Dalny, also Kerr and Deep bays, the cruisers bombarded land batteries while flotilla torpedoers swept harbour for mines which they destroyed. The squadron subsequently went close in shore shelled large force enemy and two smaller bodies who retreated in the direction of Port Arthur.

16.—Standard's St. Petersburg correspondent wires persistent rumours of serious disturbance at Warsaw a high official killed. Sir Sydenham Clarke Governor of Victoria appointed Secretary newly constituted defence committee. Private letter received at Shanhaikwan states Japanese 20 miles southwards Niuchwang, Mukden. A telegram states Japanese re-occupied Pulakien station communication with Port Arthur again interrupted. Provision will be made in next Austrian Budget for two millions sterling for new field guns, million and half for fleet and torpedo boats of the most modern type, half million for sub-marines. Tibetan rein-

forcements continued to arrive at Gyangtse. Gen. Kuroki's advanced division of ten thousand men and fifty guns occupied Suoy in sixty miles eastward Liaoyang. Russian force occupying latter place being out flanked. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria met King of Serbia to-day at Nish to discuss Balkan situation, it is believed result be tripple alliance between Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro against any possible foreign invasion.

15.—Reuter's correspondent at Gyangtse telegraphing on the 13th inst. says bombardment of British camp by Tibetans continues country in front camp is in ferment, Llamas going from valley to valley preaching holy war, country behind however still open. Curzon arrived Dover to-day in splendid health. Austrian official communique declares defence expenditure not excessive and it is more necessary Austria be in fore front regarding preparedness than many states. Thirty thousand Japanese landed Pitsewo. Numerous siege guns left Petersburg on Saturday for Far East. Chicago Daily News reports Dalny bombarded Saturday estimated 20000 Japanese investing town.

BURGLARY IN SEKONDI.

There are a gang of burglars now raiding the town of Sekondi without apprehension, robbery is committed almost every where and every night. On the night of the 16th inst. the yard of the African Association was entered into and several things were stolen from some of the outhouses, but through the energetic efforts of Superintendent Coppin about six of them were arrested and taken to custody with several boxes found in their possession, certain persons were able to identify as their property some of the stolen things on previous occasions at the Police station.

There is no wonder these burglars roaming about so much at Sekondi for one could hardly see a policeman in the streets at nights on duty save two in the High Street on account of the Bank and two others at the beach for the Warehouse. The insufficiency of the men has given rise to these internal burglars to be at large; the Force therefore needs to be strengthened otherwise there will be no security for life and property.

Superintendents Coppin and Strong are doing their best but not until they have sufficient men at their disposal they will not be able to put a check to it.

A lot of charms was also found which they confessed was their *jeju* to put to sleep any person during their nocturnal "duties." House owners beware.

MUMFORD.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

If a statistical account of the revenue of this little place is presented to the readers of this journal, it will undoubtedly give a rapid impulse to serious blames poured on the Government from all sides for neglecting it in all respects. Not a farthing seems to have been expended during the last few years on account of sanitation, public works &c. beyond the stipend of a Customs Officer. The absence of streets, street lamps, policemen, Government buildings &c. is practically sufficient to blot out the name of Mumford from the official itinerary of the Colony. These are beyond sentimental complaint!

BEAUTIFUL IN DEATH.

(BY A BANKER.)

Indulging for a moment in the visions of reverie, let us pay a brief visit to our fair satellite, the "Queen of night." Shaking off our earth-trammels we bound upwards to the ether, and alight upon the parched and arid shore of that shining luminary, which, though dead, yet to us is so beautiful in death. The first object which compels our astonished gaze is the earth which we have just left. Suspended threateningly over us in the zenith, a mighty and stupendous orb, its proportions vast and immense, it shines with an ever varying brilliance and fitful intensity. Easily we distinguish the well known contour of the great continents; some portions now dull and sombre, now as a great bank of cloud slowly passes over and obliterates the distinction between land and sea, vividly translucent, and glistening with a dazzling whiteness, only surpassed by the lustrous snow-caps which crown the regions around the poles. And if so grand and majestic when at the full, how yet more surpassingly attractive must be her appearance when, at the commencement of a "eclipse," she assumes the form of a vast and brilliant shining crescent suspended in the heavens.

Turning our attention now to the sphere we are visiting we find ourselves in the midst of death, no vegetation, not a living creature, not a bird not a beast, not any insect exists on that stony, voiceless wilderness but all is a solemn, oppressively silent, lifeless desert, a doomed and stricken world. Yet all around we see evidence that at one time it was throbbing with tremendous outbursts of

nature's contending forces such as our earth could never have experienced, that it was the scene of mighty convulsions, and orgasms of indurite, chaotic disorder. Here is a lofty extinct volcano, the upreared walls of its crater several miles in height, and more than a hundred miles in diameter, into which every crater of every volcano upon the earth could be rolled; and here on all sides are other innumerable peaked and pinnacled volcanic craters, vast cliffs and chasms rent deep in the solid rock, and huge boulders and rocks vaulted forth from those terrible volcanoes.

But that which astounds us more than anything else is the aspect of the heavens at noon-day. The sun is shining in all his glory, but notwithstanding, every planet, every star, is also shining in undiminished brilliancy. Every valley which the direct rays of the sun do not reach would be shrouded in eternal night were it not for the earth-shine, or perhaps for the light reflected from the sun-lit mountains. For as there is no air, there is also of course no diffused light.

But now we quit that sore and withered world, and hie back to our own beautiful planet, the welcome contrast thrilling us with ever higher appreciation of its charms and of its lavish adornments. And as we contrast that dead and arid world with our own planet ever throbbing with life and vitality, we see a simile of the contrast between a soul dead to all concern for the great hereafter, and to one who by the aid of the Holy Spirit has realised the great fact that by appropriating the atonement made by the Redeemer as full satisfaction for his misdeeds, a welcome to the realms of glory is assured to him.

Dear Sir,—I have read with marked attention the Editorial contained in your Journal of the 21st. instaut and with mingled feelings of satisfaction and regret I have ventured to address you on what appears to me a very important matter deserving the serious reflection of your many readers.

Of satisfaction, because of the patriotic and statesmanlike manner in which you have endeavoured to give an expression of your views bearing on that momentous question namely whether the entostment of educated men a failure or an advantage to the Country?—it is doubtless a big vote and we should like to hear more about it from our friends and countrymen who could read and write.

Of regret, because whatever are the charges perpetrated against my friend and contemporary King Otoo V. of Abura I have not had the opportunity of studying the ins and outs of his case to be able to pronounce for or against him but in any event he has my sincerest heartfelt sympathy. While for my cousin King Amonoo V. of Anamaboe I am wholly ignorant of any charge preferred against him beyond the fact that he was engaged in a lawsuit at Saltpond recently about certain private land property, but as to myself I hardly know what are the alleged offences imputed to me by my people. In the annals of English History (the only history I am conversant with) those stately Kings and Queens of the past were not without some peculiar fault of their own, and I shall be glad to learn through the medium of your paper what "state offences" I have been charged with ever since my accession to the important Winnebah Stool so as to give me an opportunity of answering for myself, perhaps my having adapted myself to the use of the native garb and headgear instead of my former habiliments of the European is also considered an offence!

With kind regards, I remain,
Yours very faithfully,

ACQUAH II.
King of Winnebah.

Cape Coast, 25th May 1904

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

Due at Cape Coast.

Acra Brass Service	May 30
*Akabo Lagos Express Service	30
*Oron S. C. Express Service	June 6
Warr Opobo Service	8
Batanga S. Windward Service	17
*Tarquah Lagos Express Service	13

HOMEWARDS.

Bakana Opobo Service	19
Sokoto S. C. Express Service No. 1	27
Leopoldville Congo Boat	28
Brafa Brass Service	30
Paul Warrmann C & S. C. Service	June 1
Ancofra Brass Service	2
Burata Lagos Express Service	3
Bocna S. C. Express Service No. 2	8

*With mail and passengers only.