

GOLD COAST.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

REGARDING THE

AFFAIRS OF THE GOLD COAST.

(In continuation of [C.—3687] of July 1883.)

Maps will be found at pages 55, 63, and 84.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

June 1884.



L O N D O N :

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1884.

[C.—4052.] 3 Price 2s. 2d.

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GOLD COAST.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

No. 1.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH, C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON.
THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY. (Received January 22, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
December 22, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of two letters received from the District Commissioner at Cape Coast. In both he refers to the falling off of trade from the interior to the coast, and mentions in the second the opinions expressed to him upon the subject by four of the principal merchants of Cape Coast, who stated that owing to obstacles placed by the tribes through whose countries traders had to pass on their way to the coast, the interior trade was driven to Grand Bassam, a French Settlement and free port, and to other countries where traders can undisturbed trade direct with the Bristol ships.

2. The District Commissioner alludes to the disadvantage to the Settlement of the state of affairs in the interior, which he states is most injurious to the trade of the Colony, "the merchants being in a constant state of uncertainty as to the supplies they should order from Europe, a brisk trade for a month or so being followed by two or three months of stagnation."

3. He states that the merchants advocate a resident at Kumasi, adding, and it has its significance, my Lord, "at the same time taking care to have a strong detachment of constabulary at Prahsue, between which place and Kumasi constant communication might be maintained." The merchants consider that, "An English resident at Kumasi would exercise a beneficial influence over the whole state of political affairs in the interior, and the trade which is now diverted into other channels would flow freely and peacefully to the coast."

4. In his third letter the District Commissioner mentions the death lately of the King of Ashanti-Bequah, Opokoo, who ranked next to the King of Ashanti.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH,

Lieutenant-Governor,
Gold Coast Colony.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast, to PRIVATE SECRETARY.

SIR,

Cape Coast, November 9, 1882.

In reply to your letter of the 31st ult., respecting the traders from the interior who visit Cape Coast, I have the honour to inform you, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that I do not see how I am to gain a knowledge of the movements of traders from the interior except through Mr. Davis, the interpreter, as no person would go round to the places frequented by these people, and supply the required information without being paid for their services.

2. I am informed by the interpreter for the interior that very few traders have visited Cape Coast during the last two months. I will, however, visit some of the leading merchants and endeavour to ascertain if this be correct.

3. I have arranged with Mr. Davis that in the event of his being too unwell to supply the information daily himself he is to keep me posted up by other means.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NORTH DANIEL,

District Commissioner.

To the Private Secretary,
Accra.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

ACTING CIVIL COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast, to PRIVATE SECRETARY.

SIR,

Cape Coast, December 6, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that the King of Ashanti Baquah, Opokoo, is lately dead.

2. This King ranked next to the King of Ashanti.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

A. NORTH DANIEL,

Acting Civil Commissioner.

To the Private Secretary,

&c. &c. &c.

Accra.

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast, to PRIVATE SECRETARY.

SIR,

Cape Coast, November 27, 1882.

WITH reference to your letter of the 13th instant, and to former correspondence respecting the monthly report of traders visiting the coast from Gaman, Sefwhi, Tekiman, and Insumsah, I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, that I have conferred with four of the principal merchants of this town, and they are of opinion that it is not possible to obtain any certain information as to the numbers or nationality of traders from the interior entering Cape Coast.

2. They consider also that it would be undesirable to place an agent on the Denkera road to take note of persons travelling to the coast, as the Government would have no guarantee that the person so appointed would not take advantage of his position to levy toll on passing traders. Should, however a trustworthy person be found, the natives from the interior are so timid and suspicious that the mere fact of being questioned by a Government agent would have the effect of driving away trade from the coast.

3. The people of Sefwhi are very jealous of the Gamans trading direct to the coast, they being the "middle-men" between them and the European traders. The Gamans are therefore driven to Grand Bassam (which is *French* and a *free port* in all respects), and other places, where they can trade undisturbed, direct with the Bristol ships.

4. The Sefwhis and others in their immediate neighbourhood, are supported in their treatment of the Gamans by the Ashantis, who would leave no stone unturned to injure their old enemies. The consequence of this state of affairs in the interior is most injurious to the trade of the Colony, the merchants being in a constant state of uncertainty as to the supplies they should order from Europe, a brisk state of trade for a month or so being usually followed by two or three months of stagnation.

5. In view of these circumstances the merchants are of opinion that the proper course to pursue would be to place a Resident at Coomassie, at the same time taking care to have a strong detachment of constabulary at Prahsue, between which place and Coomassie constant communication might be maintained. An English Resident at Coomassie would exercise a beneficial influence over the whole state of political affairs in the interior, and the trade which is now diverted into other channels would flow freely and peacefully to the coast.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

A. NORTH DANIEL.

District Commissioner.

To the Private Secretary,
Christainsborg, Accra.

No. 2.

The RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, January 30, 1883.

I HAVE received Lieutenant-Governor Griffith's Despatch of the 22nd ultimo* and its enclosures, on the subject of the state of trade between the countries in the interior and the coast.

2. As regards the suggestion offered by certain merchants of Cape Coast that a British Resident should be appointed at Coomassie, I am of opinion that there are strong reasons of policy and prudence against any such appointment, and the proposition is one which Her Majesty's Government cannot entertain.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

No. 3.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received July 19, 1883.)

MY LORD,

Government House, Lagos,
June 11, 1883.

IN continuation of the subject of my Despatch dated May 21st, 1883,† (viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti,) I have the honour to forward farther letters which I have received from Captain Barrow, reporting his movements since the 5th of May, the date of his letter which I had the honour to forward to your Lordship in Despatch above referred to.

2. These letters are dated Coomassie, May 7th, 10th, 14th, 16th, and 19th, 1883.

3. In his letter of the 7th May, Captain Barrow forwards a list of the Kings and Chiefs who have revolted against King Mensah. He also sends Mr. Kirby's report of a visit he made to the former King of Ashanti (Koffee Kalkalli) at Akropong on the 5th of May. On this occasion Mr. Kirby succeeded in inducing Kalkalli to give up seven prisoners whom he had caught from the Coomassie people in exchange for four of Kalkalli's people, who had been captured by the Coomassies. Mr. Kirby reports that Kalkalli intended to sacrifice these men, and that he had some trouble in getting them.

4. Mr. Kirby says that "King Koffee Kalkalli is only supported by the discontented young men in the neighbouring villages, who have everything to gain and nothing to lose by a civil war." He adds, "only one Chief was with King Koffee Kalkalli."

5. In his letter of 10th and 11th of May Captain Barrow reports that the messengers whom he had sent to the neighbouring towns to suggest that the Chiefs of these places should meet him in Coomassie had returned, and that these Chiefs declined to come to Coomassie, giving as their reason that "they did not intend to serve any more any King of Coomassie and did not wish ever to see that place again."

6. Captain Barrow refers to a place, Kadjabery, on the Denkerah frontier, as having a reputation for the presence of rich gold diggings, and to a broad road lately cleared between that place and Jooquah, the present capital of the Denkerah country, which is situated within the Protectorate about 12 miles from Elmina.

7. I have directed the Inspector General of Constabulary to detail an officer to proceed at once to Jooquah to report fully on this matter.

8. Captain Barrow adds that a messenger from the King of Inquantah informed him (Captain Barrow) that the King wished him to say that he (the King) had "drank fetish" with the King of Denkerah in order to be one with him under the British Government."

9. In letter of 14th May Captain Barrow speaks of the confidence which his presence in Coomassie has produced in the minds of the former occupants (those who deserted when the troubles arose), and that many of these have returned to their homes and resumed their usual avocation.

10. In the same letter he sends a report by Mr. Kirby of a visit made by him to King Mensah at the village of Abrodie on the 12th May.

* No. 1.

† No. 61 of [C.—3687] July 1883,

11. Mr. Kirby says that King Mensah is living in a state of great poverty, that very little respect is shown to him, that so much is this the case that one of the Coomassie people threatened during the palaver to beat the ex-King for something he said. Mr. Kirby also transmits a statement made to him by King Mensah on this occasion.

12. This statement corroborates the account given by Captain Barrow of the false rendering by Prince Buaki (Tintin) of the message which I sent from Elmina in 1881.

13. The King ended his statement by asking that I might "put his kingdom in order" for him as his people were too strong for him."

14. In the latter part of his letter of the 16th of May Captain Barrow speaks of the Elders and Chiefs of Coomassie being in council over the idea of asking my counsel in their difficulties, and of proposing to come to Prahsue if I would meet them there. He states that they expressed a very decided opinion that they wished to renounce human sacrifices; this I take to mean that they are of opinion that they cannot longer continue this custom. He says also that they wish for some better form of Government; indeed, in a former paragraph (3), that they have become convinced of the total loss of their power.

15. In his letter of the 19th May Captain Barrow says that he is convinced that his visit to Coomassie has prevented fighting, and this state of abstention will prevail for a time, and then fighting will commence in earnest. Captain Barrow refers again in more detail to the causes of this revolt, and describes them in the same terms as he used in his letter of the 5th May, which I refer to in the 5th paragraph of my Despatch of 21st May.*

16. In the last paragraph of this letter he says under better Government the trade of the country would doubtless improve, but it never could attain the proportions it did before 1874. This statement would appear to bear out the opinion I have elsewhere expressed, viz., that Coomassie will never again be the centre of commerce that it was, when all the tribes under Ashanti rule were forbidden to go to the Coast and compelled to carry their produce to Coomassie.

17. The information given by all these letters is to the effect that the tribes who have revolted against Coomassie refuse to come again under Coomassie rule.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Captain BARROW to Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Coomassie, May 7, 1883.

IN reference to the postscript to my letter of the 5th instant, which was despatched to your Excellency yesterday morning, the 6th, by a special runner, I have now the honour to enclose Mr. Kirby's report on the occasion of his visit to the late King of Ashanti, Koffee Kalkalli, at Akropong, on Saturday last, the 5th instant.

2. Nothing occurs to me to mention to your Excellency upon this particular matter additional to what is disclosed in my letter above referred to beyond the following facts, viz., that on the 2nd of May, when the peace of this town was threatened by Koffee Kalkalli, and the lives of many thereby placed in peril, four men of Kalkalli's party were captured by the Coomassies, and seven men of the latter's party were seized by the people acting under Kalkalli.

3. To the credit of the Coomassie people, the Elders and Chiefs, without any hesitation, consented to return their four captives upon my merely suggesting to them the notion of doing so, in which I was cautious not to influence or sway them to one side or the other in their decision. They had no thought that I should endeavour to exchange them, and thereby, if successful, save the lives of the other seven. Kalkalli having promised to remain quiet and to violate no more the peace of this locality, the general feeling here is that he will observe his pledge, but nobody knows.

4. I enclose a list of the Chiefs and others whose names have been supplied me by the Elders and Chiefs of this town as having revolted against King Mensah. It should have

accompanied my letter of the 5th instant, as an enclosure to the Memorandum of palavers and meetings, but it was not ready, and I neglected to mention that circumstance to your Excellency, which I regret, but trust my omission to do so will cause no inconvenience.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

Governor-in-Chief,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Assistant Inspector KIRBY to Captain BARROW, C.M.G.

SIR,

Coomassie, Ashanti, May 7, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that in accordance with your orders I started on Saturday morning, the 5th instant, at 6 a.m., for Ackropong, to see King Coffee Kalkalli. I arrived at Ackropong at 1 o'clock p.m., and had an interview with the King. I delivered your message to him, and also informed him that but for your intercession on Wednesday, the 2nd instant, the Chiefs of Coomassie would have burnt down his town. I returned him the four prisoners taken by the Coomassie people, and told him that the best thing he could do was to remain quiet, as no good could come of his letting his young men disturb the country round, and that it was impossible for war and palaver to be carried on in the same country at the same time. After a great deal of arguing I succeeded in making him hand over to me the seven prisoners he captured on the 2nd instant from the Coomassie people. He had the prisoners in log, and intended shortly sacrificing them. He was extremely loth to return them, and the young men from the neighbouring villages, to the number of about 200, all armed with guns, showed signs of great disapproval, stating that it was making a great fool of Coffee Kalkalli and also of them by returning the prisoners. The King tried very hard to put me off with evasive answers, and promised the release of the prisoners in a few days, but I remained firm, and told him there was only two answers to my demand, viz., are the prisoners to be handed over immediately to me, or are they not. I gave the King ten minutes to give me his answer in. He then left the palaver and returned with the prisoners.

From personal observations I should say that King Coffee Kalkalli is only supported by the discontented young men of the neighbouring villages, who have everything to gain and nothing to lose by civil war. Only one Chief was with King Coffee Kalkalli, viz., Chief Anwoonah of Ackropong.

Before leaving I again impressed upon King Coffee Kalkalli the necessity of remaining quiet, which he promised to do.

I have, &c.

Captain Knapp Barrow, C.M.G.,
Coomassie.

(Signed) BRANDON KIRBY,
Assistant Inspector Gold Coast Constabulary.

MESSAGE to COFFEE KALKALI from Captain BARROW in answer to his Message sent through Mr. Asanti on the 2nd May.

Compliments &c. Object for which Governor sent me up to gain information, &c. not to interfere, &c.

In reply to your message sent to me through my interpreter, Mr. Asanti, on the 2nd May, I have to tell you that owing to the disturbed state of affairs in the Ashanti country at the present time it is better for you to stop quietly at Akropong and not to send people to attack any village, which will bring on fighting and bloodshed.

The Elders and Chiefs of Coomassie do not want you to come into Coomassie, and if you force yourself upon them there will be fighting, and matters will be much worse. My advice to you is to stop in your village and keep perfectly quiet.

A.

NOMINAL ROLL of the KINGS and CHIEFS who have revolted against KING MENSAB, as given in palaver by the ELDERS and CHIEFS on the 28th April 1883.

Rank.	Name.	Town or Village.	Province.
Headman -	Yow Ampomah -	Inquanta -	Independent.
Chief -	Quasie Mensah -	Do. -	Do.
Do. -	Quacoe Wyee -	Do. -	Do.
Captain -	Quassie Cassar -	Do. -	Do.
Great Chief -	Cobina Awooa -	Do. -	Chief of Bantamah.
Chief -	Quacoo Ketewa -	Do. -	
King -	Quasie Wooso -	Danyassie -	Coomassie.
Do. -	Oseh Yow -	Becqui -	
Chief -	Ampofer and Inkettia -	Yacobo -	Becqui.
Do. -	Oseh Codjoe -	Amoaful -	Dadiassie.
Do. -	Amoafah -	Dadiassie -	Kokofu.
King and Queen -	Oseh Yow and Attah Bireago -	Kokofu -	Kokofu.
King -	Aigay -	Ahoreng -	Dadiassie or Kokofu.
Do. -	Owusoo Yaw -	Inkoutansie -	Coomassie.
Chief -	Asamoah -	Konkoma -	Do.
Do. -	Intiamoah -	Quasoe -	Do.
King -	Quamin Wue -	Djesu -	Marmpon.
Chief -	Codjoe Chir -	Akankassie -	Coomassie.
Do. -	Coffee Feah -	Pomasuah -	Do.
Captain -	Coffee Aigay -	Mamponten -	Do.
King -	Quacoo Baucly -	Tarfoe -	Do.
Do. -	Yaw Akaromah -	-	Nsuta.
Do. -	Quamin Adjutah -	-	Marmpon.
Do. -	Quasie Atuahin -	-	Coomassie.
Chief -	Cudjoe Adomako -	Breman -	Do.
King -	Quamin Adnagay -	Achomah -	Do.
Do. -	Quacoe Anchiagay -	Inkaway -	Awooa of Bantamah.
Chief -	Asamoah Boadjawa -	Inginatrin -	Coomassie.
King -	Attah Effoah -	-	Quaransah.
Do. -	Yaw Fey -	-	Marmpon.
Chief -	Yaw Wasoo -	Inquantah -	
Do. -	Quabina Daborobee -	Borman -	Coomassie.
Do. -	Cndjoe Asaman -	Makono -	Do.
Do. -	Cobin Adoo -	Ayedjiasi -	Do.
Do. -	Quacoo Anchee -	Cutasy -	Do.
Do. -	Quacoo Baree -	Ahim -	Do.
Do. -	Quamin Auhu -	Asokoro -	Marmpon.
Captain -	Chardah -	Quahoma -	Coomassie.

Coomassie, May 7, 1883.

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

Captain BARROW to the GOVERNOR.

SIR,

Coomassie, May 10, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that messengers returned to this town last night from the King and Chiefs of Inquanta, and that at a meeting of the Elders and Chiefs to-day in one of the courtyards of the King's palace here, at which I was present, those messengers communicated the reply message from the Inquantas to the following effect:—

That as they did not intend to serve any more under Kings Mensah, Kalkalli, or any other King of Ashanti in Coomassie, and as they did not wish ever to see Coomassie again, they declined to come to it now, but that they would come to see me at any place down the road which I may appoint, if I would send them a messenger fixing the date and place of meeting. They added that they (King and Chiefs) would come to Amoaful or Fommanah or Prabsue. Fommanah, however, was nearer to them than the other two places, and therefore they hoped that Fommanah might be selected.

2. My intention upon this is to send a messenger to them inviting them to meet me at Amoafu and not at Fommanah, very soon. The town of Fommanah being the capital of Adansi, and Adansi having, I apprehend, mixed itself up already too much in this rebellion, it would be prudent not to hold meetings of such a character there, if it can be avoided.

3. Inquanta is the town in which the great Chief Awooa of Bantamah is detained. The messengers under notice report that Awooa wanted to return to Coomassie, and that in consequence thereof he was in log and had been so for some time. It is likewise that town (mentioned in the memorandum of palavers enclosed in my letter of the 5th instant,) where King Mensah's servants went to and imposed a fine of 11 ounces instead of one of 36 dollars. The exact locality of the town was unknown to me until quite lately, when I heard that it was one day only from Kadjabery, on the Denkera frontier, Kadjabery being renowned for the abundant products of its surface gold diggings, and six days from D'juquah (near Cape Coast) where King Quassie Kaye lives.

4. The King (?) of Inquanta, named Amponsah, informed the messengers that he had "drunk fetish" with the King of Denkera in order to be "one with him under the British Government."

5. The messengers also told me that a road of great width leads from Inquanta into Denkera, recently constructed. (I hope Mr. Kirby on our way down will be able to inspect this road and report thereon for your Excellency's information.)

May 11, 1883.

6. The messengers from Nsuta returned to this town last night, accompanied by a messenger to myself from the King of Nsuta. The King's messenger brought me the following message:—

The King of Nsuta would come to Coomassie and assist to put matters straight by putting a King on the "stool" if the other Kings and Chiefs would do the same, viz., Kokofu, Becqui, Marmpon, Inquanta, &c., so that all may be of one mind, but as he hears they will not come to Coomassie he will not do so himself.

7. The King's assenting to come to this town under a condition which he must know, at present, is impossible is equivalent to a refusal. His messenger will go back to him presently saying that I shall be going down the road soon, and asking him to let me know if he or any of his Chiefs would like to meet me at some spot away from Coomassie lower down on the main road. If he will do so arrangements can be made accordingly, for until a meeting takes place between myself and these Kings of provinces, or their chosen and trusted representatives, no accurate notification can be submitted for your Excellency's information as to the political relations to each other of the tribes which form the Ashanti kingdom, and of the causes of the present disturbance of trade. It seems material, therefore, to make other efforts to ascertain the feelings of the provinces as affecting these as well as other important matters before concluding my duties and returning to the Coast, and as the unsettled state of the country, the bad state of the roads hence into the provinces, and the daily heavy rains, reasonably preclude my visiting these parts personally, there appears to be no other way of attempting to obtain a solution of the embarrassment than that which is now occupying my every thought, namely, that of arranging to invite them to come to me lower down the road, which may, I hope, result in clearing up the darkness.

8. The despatch of my letters to your Excellency is not as punctual in obedience to my instructions as I could wish, principally in consequence of the calls upon my time by applications from the elders and Chiefs for "hearings" upon some matter or other. There is always something to do here, and I work day and night to get through it. I hope your Excellency will kindly excuse this little delay.

May 12, 1883.

9. Last night the messengers from D'jasu returned. D'jasu is a Chief's town one day from here, with about 20 villages under it. It is not marked upon my map, but from the meagre information I can procure as to its relative position with this town, it lies to the eastward of it. The head Chief of it says, through his messengers, he will come to Coomassie when Marmpon-Inquanta and Nsuta come in, but not before.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
Governor-in-Chief.

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

Captain BARROW, C.M.G., to Governor Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Coomassie, May 14, 1883.

IT will not be so easy for me to retrace my steps down the road to Amoaful all at once, as I had in view of doing when writing my letter of the 10th to your Excellency despatched hence on the 12th instant, because I find that my presence in this town has infused some confidence in many people from outside villages, who have in consequence come back into Coomassie to reoccupy the dwelling places they had abandoned on the outbreak of this rebellion, and the result is that the town is more fully peopled than it was when I entered it on the 26th April. The market places, moreover, of the town, which were empty then, viz., on 26th April, are much fuller now, showing signs of better times; therefore, to go down the road precipitately to meet the Kings of provinces or their representatives before appeasing the susceptibilities of these market and other people by showing them that my doing so would in no way re-imperil their lives and their liberty, as well as place of residence, might produce a panic amongst them, which would end in an exodus, making matters worse than they were before I came here. I am arranging things accordingly, but it will occupy a few days; meanwhile I am attending to other points.

2. A report reached me yesterday morning that some of the Chiefs who had declined to come in here temporarily to see me to hear your Excellency's reasons for sending me up, were regretting their decision, and would perhaps recall it and come in for the day. It will be good if they do so, if for no other reason that they will then hear the truth, and be enabled to take it back with them to their homes and districts, but no corroboration of the report has come to me.

3. The words "unsettled state of the country" in paragraph 7 of my letter of the 10th instant to your Excellency may be misleading. What was meant was that if I commenced travelling about the country misconceptions and suspicions in the native mind might arise. I did not intend to convey that there was any danger or uncertainty as to one's safety, for the country throughout its whole length and breadth is as safe as can be for any white officer to travel in; nobody would molest or hurt him.

4. Mr. Kirby visited King Mensah on Saturday, the 12th instant, at his village of Abrodie, five to six hours hence. Enclosed is his report. The circumstances under which he went are these:—I had satisfied myself that it would have been impolitic for me to go there, so my plan was to have sent one of my interpreters which would not have aroused native suspicions, but Mr. Kirby was good enough to volunteer for the service, which offer he supported by reminding me that more information might be obtained from the King if he went himself. There was much in this remark to influence me; at the same time the King's cunning, artful nature had to be contended with and provided for, and there was the likelihood of his employing it forcibly in order to ensure his return to Coomassie with Mr. Kirby or to dodge him in some way or other (perhaps by following in the rear at a distance) to attain an end so dear to him.

A messenger, who could read my writing, went to Abrodie the day previous (Friday) with a message, of which the following is a copy:—

Memorandum: Joseph William Harvey.

"In going to the village of Abrodie to-day, where King Mensah is living, you will, as soon as you get there, tell him that the Governor of the Gold Coast, in answer to his messages, sent me to Coomassie, and that I am here now. That an officer who came with me will pay him a visit to-morrow, unless it rains heavily, and will bring him a message from me. That I ask him to remain in Abrodie, not move out of it.

"As you go through the villages you are to tell the people that an officer who came from the Coast with me will pass through them to-morrow to pay a visit to King Mensah, but they are not to think that this white officer is going to take Mensah out of his village and bring him into Coomassie. He is merely going to see him for me. Mensah will not leave his village.

KNAPP BARROW."

"Coomassie, May 11, 1883.

King Mensah did try very hard to get back again into Coomassie with Mr. Kirby, but all this had been anticipated. Mr. Kirby made a forced march back and rejoined me here in the evening of the day he left.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

P.S.—The message I sent to King Mensah was entrusted verbally to Mr. Kirby, and was delivered. It was to say that your Excellency had sent me up in answer to his messages to learn the state of the present difficulties, but he was not to think that your Excellency was therefore prepared to do anything or to interfere in Ashanti affairs; that I could not very well go over to Abrodie myself, but as the Coomassie Chiefs and Elders had made representations against him of a serious character, it was thought it might be convenient to afford him the opportunity of answering them and of making a statement if he wished, both being for your Excellency's information.

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
Governor-in-Chief.

(Initialled) K. B.

&c

&c.

&c.

Assistant Inspector KIRBY to Captain BARROW, C.M.G.

SIR,

Coomassie, May 14, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that in accordance with your orders I left Coomassie at 5 a.m. on the morning of the 12th instant for Abrodie, arriving there at 12 a.m. the same day.

On my arrival I found King Mensah awaiting me with about 20 men and boys, but no Chiefs. Shortly after I had commenced my palaver, some people arrived from Coomassie to hear the palaver.

King Mensah made a statement, which I enclose. He complained greatly of the behaviour of the Coomassie Chiefs, who, he says, first robbed him of all his wives, then all his gold, and finally turned him out of his town, for what reason he is at a loss to ascertain, for he had only carried out the laws of his country.

I had a difficulty in getting away from Abrodie without Mensah's coming with me. He expressed a great wish to go back to Coomassie with me and hear the charges against him. He then told me that as I should be unable to reach Coomassie that night, for the white man could not travel in the night during the rains, he would come and see me at the village I slept at the next morning. I told him I should travel by night, and should stop at no place before reaching Coomassie. Mensah is living in a state of great poverty, and very little respect is paid him; so much so that during the palaver one of the Coomassies threatened to beat him for something he said. I told the Coomassie people that if they did not behave themselves before me I should have them turned out of the town, for I had come to Abrodie to hear King Mensah's statement, and they had plenty of opportunity of giving theirs in Coomassie.

I have, &c.

Captain Knapp Barrow,
Coomassie.

(Signed) BRANDON KIRBY,
Assistant Inspector, Gold Coast Constabulary.

STATEMENT made to Assistant Inspector BRANDON KIRBY by KING MNSAH at Abrodie, on May 12, 1883.

THE first I heard of disaffection in my kingdom was in the latter end of 1881, shortly after Boachie Tin-Tin returned from the Coast. It occurred at a village called "Mansue," in the Inquanta country; a servant of mine, and also one of Asafu Boachie's servants, went to this village without our knowledge, and fined the people 6/., which they (the people) paid, at the same time, they sent back a message to say that they intended going to live under the British, for they had to pay too many taxes and fines under Mensah. On this coming to my knowledge I returned the fine of 6/., to them, and I asked them to come and see me; this they refused to do. I heard during July 1882 of a spirit of revolt in the Dadiassie country, and at the commencement of this year the Dadiassie people sent to me at Coomassie to say that they intended only serving the British. On hearing this I sent my interpreter, Benni, to them to inquire the reason. The King of Kokofu would not let my interpreter see them, and sent him back. The Dadiassies then sent to say that it was through the King of Kokofu that they had revolted, for he fined and killed them so often, and that they had no complaint against King Mensah.

I sent a messenger again to the Dadiassies asking them to open their roads to the Coast, and to stop their young men from fining and killing travellers. They sent one man to Kokofu to be tried for murdering a traveller. Kokofu found him guilty, and sent a messenger to me to ask me to let the prisoner off, I refused, and asked Kokofu to fine the prisoner 10 oz. of gold, and send it to me. This he did. After this the Dadiassies sent to Coomassie, and said that they intended joining the British before on account of the fines the King of Kokofu imposed on them; now they intended joining the British on account of the fines King Mensah imposed. On hearing this I returned the fine of 10 oz. of gold to them. Kokofu took the fine, and instead of returning it to the Dadiassies kept it. The Dadiassie people now commenced burning the villages of the people round, who refused to join the British with them, and at this time, the Inquantas joining them, I found the revolt growing too strong for me, and sent to the Coast to ask the Governor to help me.

Asaman Quamin, Owusu Coccoque (or Koko), and all the principal Chiefs of Coomassie, and the villagers round, came to see me, and asked to be allowed to go to Inquanta and Dadiassie, and have a palaver with the people and stop the revolt, but I would not let them go, for I knew that it would cause bloodshed.

The Coomassie Chiefs all swore that they would remain loyal to me, and after taking the oath with them, I presented the following Chiefs with one ounce of gold, one sheep, and 13*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* each, viz.,—Assaman Quamin, Owusu Coccoque, Asafu Boachie, Boachie Tin-Tin, Cudjoe Pae, and Dumpoe, all of Coomassie, and Chief Awooa, of Bantama.

After the presents had been made Chief Owusu Coccoque said Chief Awooa had a palaver with me, and the palaver was a very strong one. I said I was quite willing to hear it, and sent for Asafu Boachie to be present, Asafu Boachie being a relative of Awooa's.

I sent for Awooa, who denied ever having made a charge against me.

I then put Awooa in log. Awooa asked to be released; this I declined. I kept Awooa in the house of Chief Brentoo in Coomassie. One night the Achuma people, who live at Achuma, a village near the Bantama, came and took Awooa away without my knowledge. Awooa sent a message from Achuma to me to say that he would like to come and live in Coomassie again as a Chief under me. I then called a meeting of the Chiefs in Coomassie to hear Awooa's message, and sent for Awooa to attend the meeting; this he refused to do until I had sent him 10 oz. of gold dust to give to the Achuma people. While I was holding the palaver with the Chiefs about Awooa, the people broke into my palace, and stole all my wives, gold, and everything I possessed. The Chiefs during the evening sent word to me to say that I must clear out of Coomassie directly, and go and live in a village called Sawayah, about two hours journey from Coomassie. After I had stayed there two days they sent to say that I must remove to Abrodie, which I did, and lived here ever since.

I sent messengers to Mampong Becqui, Inquanta, and Kokofue, asking them to come and see me here, and talk over the insurrection, but they all refused.

The message Boachie Tin-Tin brought me from the Governor in 1881, and which was given before Captain Lonsdale, was, "That I was not to kill anyone for dead persons burial." This I carried out, for during Captain Lonsdale's visit my aunt died, and I did not kill anyone on account of the Governor's order, "That if anyone touched any of my wives I was to kill him." "That if anyone break any of my laws I was to kill him." "If anyone would not pay King's fine, kill him." "If any one commit murder, kill him."

I must beg of you to implore the Governor to set my kingdom in order for me, for the Chiefs and people have got too strong for me. Thank the Governor for sending whiteman to see me, and I wish I could return to Coomassie with whiteman, and hear the charges of the Chiefs against me.

(Signed) BRANDON KIRBY,
Assistant Inspector, Gold Coast Constabulary.

Coomassie, Ashanti, May 14, 1883.

Enclosure 4 in No. 3.

Captain BARROW to the GOVERNOR.

Sir,

Coomassie, May 16, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that the messengers have returned from the King of Marnngpon and some large Chiefs under him, excusing themselves from coming into this town until certain fines which had been imposed upon them by King Mensah are returned. But as their restitution is an impossibility, and the probabilities are that they really would be glad to see me, I have sent back to them saying that I shall soon be at Amoaful, on my way down to the Coast, and that, if they like to do so, I will be at their disposal at that place for a meeting, when an opportunity would thus be afforded them of telling me anything they wanted to say, and I should be able to get at the causes for their revolting, and at the position of their own relations to their neighbouring tribes and to the "stool" of Coomassie in particular.

2. The general political condition of this country is truly distressing, whilst the difficulty of finding out the truth is great by reason of the isolation of the various tribes one from another, and a sort of general disinclination amongst them, if not of refusal, to come in here, lest they should perchance, by doing so, commit themselves again to Coomassie's proverbial demoralising, vile, and corrupt rule. Yet I am not entirely without expectation of being able to collect such information as will place your Excellency in possession of the exact state of the present difficulties. I can go further, and say at once that I have already a mass of what looks like valuable, serviceable intelligence, confirmation, however, as to some of which is wanted before I can be sufficiently convinced of its accuracy to enable me to submit it to your Excellency, and I particularly want to see the Kings and Chiefs of the important provinces lying to the eastward and north-eastward of Coomassie, such as Marnngpon, Nsuta, &c., where my messengers started for yesterday.

3. The Elders and Chiefs of this town had a conversation with me yesterday, which lasted the whole of the day. It revealed the fact that they are now fully sensible of their present difficult status, the total loss of their power, their utter helplessness for good or for evil; and it seems to have dawned upon them that it might be wise (in their own interests) to ask for your Excellency's kind offices in counselling them out of the mess they are in, and as to their wish to replace their King (Mensah) by another; and they volunteered to go to Prah sue if your Excellency would meet them there. They are now all in council over this new idea, which will last a day or two. They expressed a very decided opinion that they wished to renounce human sacrifice; but what more pleased me than even this did, was their wish for the introduction and tuition amongst them of a better code of government, one more in unison with the advance of the lean* civilisation in the country, or, as they put it, "more like white man's law." They were afraid that their proposed young King, Quacoe Duah, would get "frightened if he saw the Prah," and that "the fright might kill him;" and they were afraid that some of their many enemies might poison him "if he were to go so very far away from his town." They seemed to be fully aware that all the Kings and Chiefs of the country must join them in any such effort, but are oblivious at present to the importance of their young proposed King being there also in person, should such a happy ending to the troubles of their country ever come to pass. I gave them very distinctly to understand that it was impossible for me to express any opinion as to the wisdom of their asking your Excellency to meet them at Prah sue, or to give any promise that such a request would be even received, far less entertained. If the provinces and head Chiefs agree with and join them, they will assuredly make the application.

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Governor-in-Chief.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

* Sic in original.

Enclosure 5 in No. 3.

Captain BARROW to the GOVERNOR.

SIR,

Coomassie, May 19, 1883.

SINCE my letter of the 16th instant nothing very particular has taken place for me to report to your Excellency. Of course I have had daily interviews with these Chiefs, collecting information upon many matters upon which your Excellency should be informed. I am now only awaiting the return of the messengers from the provinces of Marngpong and N'suta, as referred to in paragraph 2 of my letter of the 16th instant, before commencing to retrace my steps down the road, which will be a most welcome change for all of us. I am having a raft constructed by the villagers on the banks of the Dah, so that my journey down may not be impeded by the swollen state of that river, which was waist deep in water when we came up, and is now much deeper.

2. There is one point in connexion with the disturbed state of this country upon which I am able with assurance to express the opinion that but for the expectation so generally shared throughout Ashanti that your Excellency would send a white officer to this place (and his actually appearing here on the scene) this rebellion would have broken out ere this into active hostilities, which would not have been confined to the Ashanti country alone. In leaving this town for the Coast, there is every ground for believing, in consequence of the precautionary measures adopted to ensure tranquillity, that this state of abstaining from fighting will prevail throughout the tribes and peoples concerned for a time, but only for a time, in my opinion, when the fighting will commence in hot earnest; meanwhile I shall communicate personally with your Excellency.

3. My duties have been the most arduous, complex, and anxious that have ever fallen to me before, in which the slightest mistake or error of judgment committed by me, or the suspicion even of any false impression created by me, would have resulted in trouble. A civil war has been postponed for the moment, yet I have obeyed your Excellency's injunctions to the letter in not causing it to be thought by the native populations that your Excellency was interfering in the affairs of the country, or that any help would come to the unhappy country from Her Majesty's Government in any way.

4. The King of Denkera is suspected by the Elders and Chiefs of inciting the Ashanti people or some of them to rebel; the King of Adansi, or rather his councillor Kotiko, is plainly accused by them of having done so.

5. The causes which appear to have produced this rebellion are shortly as follow:—

1. The arbitrary, despotic conduct of King Mensah towards his subjects; his profligacy.
2. The corrupt and debased form of government at head quarters, Coomassie, resulting in burdensome fines upon individuals and upon larger sections of the community, decapitations by order of the King without the knowledge and assent of his Chiefs at headquarters, general mistrust and want of confidence, particularly on the part of people living out of Coomassie, of and in everybody (both King and Chiefs) associated with a form of government which starved them, as they say, by its trade exactions and exclusions, and robbed them of a liberty they never possessed, but which they see is enjoyed by their neighbours outside the kingdom.

6. So far as I have gone—but your Excellency knows that I have not yet seen all the tribes of the Ashanti country—I should say that there is a decided general wish to give up the custom of human sacrifice *in toto*, likewise the custom of "panyaring," and the people are undoubtedly anxious for a change in the form of government of the country such as they think would bring them an existence of more independence of their King, Chiefs, and masters, and yield them trade, by which means they say and think they can become rich.

7. Under such conditions of better government as the people whom I have conversed with would seem to wish to have introduced, the trade of the country would doubtless improve in course of time, but never could attain the proportions it did before the division of the kingdom in 1874.

I have, &c.

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW,

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
Governor-in-Chief,

&c.

&c.

&c.

No. 4.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received July 19, 1883.)

MY LORD,

Government House, Lagos, June 16, 1883.

IN continuation of the subject of my Despatch dated 11th June 1883,* (viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti), I have the honour to forward farther letters which I have received from Captain Barrow on the 5th instant.

2. Captain Barrow reports that he left Coomassie on the 26th of May. At the date of his writing he had proceeded on his return journey as far as Fommanah, the capital town of the Adansi country.

3. His journey seems to have had the satisfactory result of so far improving trade with the Coast that he reports that the road from Cape Coast to Coomassie, which was empty of passengers, is now (2nd June) full, and that the market at Ahkankawassie, on the 1st, was attended by some 600 or 700 traders.

4. It would be very satisfactory to be able to arrive at some peaceful settlement of the difficulties in Ashanti by which this state of things would be continued.

I have &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 4.

Captain BARROW to Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Coomassie, May 23, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I am merely awaiting the return of the messengers from Marngpong and Nsuta before packing up and returning to the Coast. Should those Kings or their representatives meet me either in this town (which is unlikely), or on the way down the road, the information upon all points which will have been collected for your Excellency will be vast in amount, and I trust serviceable in quality.

2. The letter which Buaki (Tin-tin) brought to Coomassie from your Excellency when he left Accra with Captain Lonsdale was interpreted (so I am informed by five witnesses who state they were present at the time) by Captain Lonsdale's two interpreters to King Mensah and the assembled people, and the interpretation they all state was that beheading was sanctioned by our Government for abusing the King and his family, for breaking the great oath, and for adultery. This looks as though the interpreters had been bribed to misinterpret on the occasion, a misdeed Buaki (Tin-tin), or indeed any Ashanti of rank, is quite capable of perpetrating.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
Governor-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

Enclosure 2 in No. 4.

Captain BARROW to Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Fommanah, Adansi, June 2nd, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency that I left Coomassie on Sunday, the 27th May, and arrived here (after two days' stoppage at Daydaysawah and one at Amoafu) yesterday afternoon. It is a matter of much regret to me that I should have been prevented reporting my leaving Coomassie earlier, but owing to the trying, anxious nature of the work on hand, the badness of the roads necessitating walking instead of riding in hammock, all tending to feelings of prostration at the close of the day, I never could get my letter off, in fact I could not settle to it properly, and had to abandon my letters before completing them.

2. The messengers which went from Coomassie to the Kings of Mampon and Nsuta returned to me on Saturday evening, bringing news that those Kings would like to see "the whiteman the Governor had sent," but that they could not in the present unsettled

state of the country leave their towns to join me in Coomassie or meet me on the way down the road, and they wished me to go and visit them, but my departure from Coomassie had been fixed (in anticipation of the return of the messengers the day they did, as also in that of the improbability of those Kings coming into Coomassie just then) for Sunday, and I accordingly left it about 9 o'clock that morning, feeling pretty certain that the elders and Chiefs of Coomassie would desist from irritating their neighbours to acts of hostility, but I did not feel so sure of the conduct of the people outside, and consequently proceeded slowly down the road, resting two entire days at Daydaysuwah, from which place I carried on communication by messengers with Coffee Kalkalli and many others, but without in any way interfering in their affairs, influencing all to maintain order and peace, my object being so to leave matters behind me that civil war should not now break out, closing the roads again now fairly open until your Excellency could see me and receive the information collected, which is too vast for condensation into a few sheets of foolscap paper. There is now every reason to believe that those objects have been secured, and I am therefore hurrying down to Mansue for orders as to proceeding to Accra or to Cape Coast.

3. The Inquanta Chiefs I hear wish to see me to take a message from them to your Excellency; they are expected here on Monday next. I am waiting here till then.

4. The stool of Ashanti is, of course, still unoccupied. It is lying in the King's palace at Coomassie in charge of the elders and Chiefs of the town, as I found it.

5. This main road from Coomassie, which was empty of traders as I passed up it, is now full of them, passing up and down, showing an improved state of trade. The market place at Ahkankuassif (just north of Detchiasu) had some 600 or 700 traders in it yesterday when I passed through; they were carrying on a brisk active trade in dry and in hard European goods, native food, spirits, and tobacco. It was the largest and best filled native market I had ever seen.

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
Governor-in-Chief,

&c.

&c.

&c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

No. 5.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY TO GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, July 24, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Despatches of 11th June and 16th June,* transmitting letters from Captain Knapp Barrow, C.M.G., on the subject of his mission to Coomassie.

I have to express my approval of Captain Barrow's proceedings and conduct in the matters to which he calls attention.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

No. 6.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received August 20, 1883.)

MY LORD,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra, July 25, 1883.

IN reference to my Despatch dated 16th June 1883,† enclosing letters from Captain Barrow which were received by me at Lagos on the subject of his mission to Ashanti, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a letter dated Mansue, 8th June, in which Captain Barrow reports his arrival at that place on the 7th of that month. Captain Barrow and Mr. Kirby returned to this place on the 21st June 1883.

* Nos. 3 and 4.

† No. 4.

2. I regret to have to report that both these officers have since that date been suffering a good deal from the consequences of their journey, so much so that Captain Barrow has not yet been able to complete his report.

3. He assures me, however, that it will be ready in a day or two, and I shall then have the honour to forward it to your Lordship.

4. I have learned from conversation with Captain Barrow that it would appear to be the unanimous feeling of the Chiefs of Coomassie that I, as Governor of the Gold Coast, should advise them as to the choice of a King; that they state that such advice will give great weight to the position of the King, and that they further signify their determination to abide by whatever suggestion emanates from the Government.

5. In reference to this I have the honour to report to your Lordship that Chiefs Nanchie, Boatin, and Aboo followed Captain Barrow from Coomassie.

6. They are the bearers of a request from the Coomassie Chiefs to the effect that I would allow Captain Barrow to return to that place and try to continue what he had already begun in establishing order amongst them.

7. Since their arrival other messengers have come to tell them from the Chiefs of Coomassie that the Chiefs of the town were still awaiting an answer.

8. I am assured by Captain Barrow that in all his communications he has, in accordance with my instructions, been careful to avoid committing the Government to any course of action whatever, merely informing the people that he was come to see and hear for the Governor of the Gold Coast.

9. He tells me that there are three candidates for the Kingship, a young Prince Quacoe Duah, the nephew of the former King of that name; Osai Mensah, the King lately deposed; and Coffi Kalkalli, who was deposed after the fight in 1874; that the young Prince Quacoe Duah is the favourite with the Coomassie Chiefs; that the ex-King Osai Mensah appears to have lost all his authority and to be universally detested; that Coffi Kalkalli is supported only by a small following.

10. It appears, however, that all the districts formerly belonging to Ashanti, which are to the south of Coomassie, decline to have any further connexion with that place, and the districts to the north of Coomassie have, to a great extent, thrown off their connexion with it, and that the influence of the Chiefs of Coomassie is restricted to the district within a short distance from their town.

11. The latest intelligence from Coomassie is that quietness prevails, and that the people are waiting for some communication from me.

12. Captain Barrow's state of health will not admit of his return to Coomassie at present, but I shall take the first opportunity to despatch an officer via Prabsue to the King of Becquai with a view to keep the roads open for trade between Cape Coast and the large market of Akankuassie (Arkankoowassay).

13. Captain Barrow will proceed to England by the first ship after his report is completed.

14. I regret that so many matters have interfered to prevent my addressing your Lordship earlier and at greater length on this subject.

15. I shall have the honour to do so by the very first opportunity.

I am, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 6.

Captain KNAPP BARROW, C.M.G., to Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Mansue, June 8, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report our arrival here yesterday afternoon, and that we are stopping here to-day drying our clothing, hammocks, and other things which were saturated by the heavy rain which came on at Sutah and continued all the way to this place.

2. With reference to your Excellency's letter of the 2nd April, Mr. Kirby will conduct the Houssa detachment via Effootu to Elmina, and having handed it over will rejoin me at Salt Pond whither I proceed by the new road en route for Accra in accordance with the orders conveyed to me in the letter just referred to.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
Governor-in-Chief.

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

No. 7.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received August 20, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
July 28, 1883.

MY LORD,

IN reference to the subject of my Despatch dated 25th July 1883,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that Captain Barrow has just informed me that intelligence has come down from Coomassie through private sources which appears to him to justify the belief that Coomassie was still, on the 12th July (which was the latest date of news from that place), in a state of quietness.

2. The Chief Nanchie to whom I make reference in the 5th paragraph of my Despatch of the 25th instant,* thinks from this intelligence that Coffee Kalkalli is no longer a candidate for the Kingship.

3. I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the memorandum which Captain Barrow has handed to me.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

P.S.—There are at the present moment here messengers from the under-mentioned King and Chiefs, who have sent to this Government in connexion with the present state of affairs in Ashanti.

The Chiefs of Coomassie.
The King of Becquai.
The King of Daniassie.

S. R.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Captain BARROW to GOVERNOR.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,

July 28, 1883.

ON the 26th instant a man named Quacoe Adom, of Penamereassie, near Asuboo,† came to Accra and went to Nentchwie, and told him that that day fortnight he went to a place called Djassoe, four hours north-east of Coomassie to buy parrots.

When he got there he found the Chief Quacoe Wuoc, of Djassoe, assembling his people for a meeting.

The man Quacoe Adom went and listened at the meeting. He states that he heard the chief linguist report at the meeting that a man had just come from Bremen who stated that the Mampon, Insuta, and Agoonah Chiefs had all deserted Coffie Kalkalli, whom they had left alone in the camp at Subenso, and had returned to their homes because the Chiefs and Elders of Coomassie had refused to let Coffie Kalkalli come into Coomassie.

* No. 6.

† Vicinity of the large lake.

He further stated that Awoonah, Chief of Akropong, had taken Coffie Kalkalli back to Akropong.

Nentchwie (Nanchie) thinks, therefore, that Coffie Kalkalli has retired from his candidature of the "stool."

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW,
Christiansborg.

P.S.—I submit these remarks to your Excellency because they appear to justify the belief that Coomassie was on the 12th July (the latest date from there) in a state of peace and tranquility.

(Intd.) K. B.

No. 8.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received August 31, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 7, 1883.

MY LORD,

WITH reference to the subject of my Despatch, dated 28th July 1883,* viz.,—the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that a deputation of Chiefs came to this place from Ashanti yesterday.

2. They are the bearers of a message from certain Chiefs to the effect that they have elected Koffi Kalkalli to be King, but they cannot place him on the stool, as what they call the "great golden stool" at Coomassie is in the hands of the Quacoe Duah party, who refuse to give it up.

3. I have had several interviews with the Chiefs who are here (to whom I made reference in the second paragraph of my Despatch of 28th ultimo*), and at my last interview two days ago, and before the receipt of this message, they assured me that they were quite willing to await a reply from me to their request that the Governor of the Gold Coast should formally authorise the election of Quacoe Duah to the kingship of Ashanti.

4. I saw them again on the arrival of these messengers, and they told me that they had stated on a former occasion that such messengers would come from the Koffi Kalkalli party; that they feel confident that the Coomassie party who support Quacoe Duah are much more than a match for the supporters of Kalkalli; but that no fighting will take place, as this message is itself a proof of the weakness of the Kalkalli party, and that the majority of the Ashanti people are determined that Kalkalli shall never again come to the throne, and that he never will be allowed to reign in the country.

5. I had hoped to be able to forward to your Lordship by this steamer Captain Barrow's report on his mission, but it is a very long one, and the copy is not yet finished.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 8.

Christiansborg Castle, August 6, 1883.

Arrived this day from Ashanti the undermentioned messengers, viz. :—

- 6d. 1. Coffee Mensah, sword bearer from Mampong.
 - 6d. 2. Boatey, gold taker, from Insutah.
 - 1s. 3. Coffee Kalkalli, prince, from Kokofoo.
 - 1s. 4. Quacoe Agye, messenger, from Kokofoo.
 - 3d. 5. Cudjoe Eddoo, messenger, from Ajunah.
 - 3d. 6. Quamin Jimmah, messenger, from Koomahwoo.
 - 3d. 7. Cudjoe Ajomakoo, messenger, from Beposoo.
 - 3d. 8. Quabina Asirifi, messenger, from Asokoro.
 - 3d. 9. Cudjoe Bah, messenger, from Asaman.
 - 3d. 10. Yow Eddoo, messenger, from Osechrewa.
 - 3d. 11. Dsai Cudjoe, messenger, from Konah.
- 3d. each and 12 followers. Total 23 men. 2s. lodging per day.

The above have come down to ask the Government that Kalkalli should be put on the vacant stool of Coomassie.

(Signed) C. W. BADGER,
Governor's Interpreter.

Enclosure 2 in No. 8.

The DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS, CAPE COAST, to the ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY in CHARGE OF NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Political State of Ashanti.—Messengers from Principal Chiefs.

SIR, Cape Coast, July 30, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, that the bearers of this letter are messengers representing King Coffee Kalkalli and the following Chiefs of Ashanti, viz :—

The Chief of Mampong.
„ „ Insoota.
„ „ Cocofu.
„ Queen of Cocofu.
„ Chief of Agoona.
„ „ Kumawo.
„ „ Asokori.
„ „ Biposu.
„ „ Sekeriwa.
„ „ Assaman.
„ „ Kawana.

2. These messengers are the bearers of three messages from the great Chief.

1st. That they have elected Coffee Kalkalli King.

2nd. They beg the Governor to use his influence with Quacoe Duah's party, to give up his claim to the stool peaceably.

3rd. That the inhabitants of the villages of Medomma, Kiabusu, Sere-su, and Fayeasi in Adausi, are in the habit of panyaring travellers from the interior and putting them in log.

3. As regards the election of Coffee Kalkalli to the stool, the Chiefs complain that they elected Kalkalli King at Berriman, and Quacoe Duah's party (the leaders of which are Osoo Korkor, Assafu, Boaki, and Asamore Quamin) refuse to give up the great golden stool at Coomassie, on which it is necessary to place Kalkalli. Osoo Korkor is Prince Ansa's brother, and is the most powerful Chief of the Coomassie party.

4. The Ashanti Chiefs say they are powerful enough to "eat up" the Coomassie party, and put Kalkalli on the stool with the greatest ease, but as this would involve loss of life and be contrary to the wishes of the Governor-in-Chief, they have no desire to resort to force, unless actually compelled to do so. They say they "had a lesson from the English before," and will, therefore, do nothing to offend the British Government.

They object to Quacoe Duah as being too young to rule, and they believe Coffee Kalkalli will now make a good king, as he has learnt wisdom, and will profit by the lesson he has received.

5. The messengers complain of the treatment they received on the way down, at the villages already named, and say that large numbers of traders are now prevented from coming down from the interior to trade. Medomma formerly belonged to Cocofu, but the people having revolted, are now allies of the king of Adansi.

Two or three members of the bearer's party were ill treated and put "in log" by the inhabitants of the villages in question.

6. In accordance with the instructions laid down in letter No. 66 (Political) of August 1, 1883, I have given four days subsistence to the messengers and their followers as stated below.

			£	s.	d.
11 messengers, four days at 6d.	-	-	-	1	2 0
10 followers, four days at 3d.	-	-	-	0	10 0
			£1	12	0

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NORTH DANIEL,
District Commissioner.

Assistant Colonial Secretary in charge of
Native Affairs.

No. 9.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received August 31, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Akkra,
August 7, 1883.

MY LORD,

WITH reference to the information contained in my despatch of this day, on the subject of the state of affairs in Ashanti, I would respectfully say to your Lordship that the statement made in a letter by Mr. Daniel must not, I think, be received as an accurate representation of the real state of matters without further investigation.

2. In the course of the last few weeks it has been found that intrigues were going on between people in Cape Coast and people in Coomassie, and a man was discovered who had sent a messenger to Koffi Kalkalli to tell him that if he would give a certain amount of money the interest of influential persons at Cape Coast would be used to put him on the stool.

3. As regards a statement in reference to molesting travellers on their way down, probably there is some truth in it, but there is much exaggeration.

4. I had hoped to have been able to write to your Lordship at greater length on these matters than this present opportunity permits of my doing.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 10.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.
(Extract.)

Downing Street, September 8, 1883.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th ultimo,* reporting the arrival of a further deputation of Chiefs from Ashanti in reference to the succession to the throne of that country. I have also received your other despatch of the same date† on this subject.

You will, of course, be careful to satisfy yourself before recognising anyone as the future King of Ashanti, that his election is unanimous, or at any rate generally concurred in, as Her Majesty's Government cannot undertake any responsibility by supporting the claims of any particular candidate for the vacant stool.

* No. 8.

† No. 9.

No. 11.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 10, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,

MY LORD,

August 10, 1883.

IN reference to the subject of former Despatches, namely, the state of affairs in Ashanti, I had the honour to report to your Lordship in Despatch, dated 7th August 1883,* that a deputation of Chiefs had come to this place with a message to the effect that they had elected Coffee Kalkalli to be King.

2. I had an interview with them on the evening of the 8th instant, when they stated to me that they had been sent down to give this message. They repeated the message which was stated to be the object of their visit in much the same terms as were used in the letter from Mr. Daniel, which formed an enclosure to my Despatch of the 7th instant.*

3. On my inquiring from them why they had not come direct to this place instead of passing by Cape Coast they said to me that they had been in the first instance to Cape Coast to see Mr. Ansah; that they were sent to him by the Chiefs to say that his brother Awusu Kokkor was doing wrong in keeping back from the Kalkalli party the royal stool, and that he must write to his brother to give it up to them.

4. I told the messengers that I had been sent by Her Majesty to this place to manage its affairs as her representative, and that I could not accept a message from any Chiefs who sent to any person who was one of Her Majesty's subjects and resident in this place before bringing it to me, that I alone was the person who had been deputed by Her Majesty to treat for her in this Colony such matters as concerned peace or war among the tribes beyond its borders, and that I must therefore consider well what action I should take before I received this message which had not been brought direct to me.

5. The messengers made many apologies, admitting that they had been wrong in not coming first to the Governor of the Colony before passing to Mr. Ansah, but they stated that they were only obeying the commands of their masters and that they themselves were not to blame for so doing.

6. I said that I admitted this might be the case, but if so it was their masters who had deviated from the proper rule in directing their messengers to pass to Mr. Ansah before delivering their message to the Governor of the Colony.

7. I reminded them that no native King would allow any such action in his country, and I pointed out to them that so long as King Mensah was King of Ashanti I had been most scrupulous in the observance of their custom.

8. The messengers again admitted that they were wrong and begged I would overlook the circumstance.

9. I told the messengers that I would consider this matter, and would see them again.

10. At the close of their interview with me the Chief Nanchie, who with the messengers of the Quacoe Duah party, had asked permission to be present when the Kalkalli message was delivered, asked leave to say to me that the statement of the messengers that they had placed Kalkalli on the stool of Breman was false; that as a proof of it he (Nanchie) wished to tell me that the person who was officially charged with the keeping of the stool of Breman was he himself (Nanchie); that on leaving Coomassie he had put the stool away in a safe place; that no one had access to this place without the consent of the Coomassie Chiefs; that he was confident that no one had been allowed to take the stool away; and that according to official custom no body could be placed upon that stool without the consent of him, Nanchie.

11. He wished to make this statement in the presence of the Kalkalli messengers, but I desired him to remain silent until after they had left me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 12.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 10, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 10, 1883.

MY LORD,

In reference to the subject of my Despatch, dated this day,* in which I have reported to your Lordship that messengers from the Kalkalli party of Ashanti visited Mr. Ansah at Cape Coast before bringing their message to me, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that it seemed to me desirable that I should have the advantage of personally conferring with Mr. Ansah on these matters, and that I have accordingly directed the Colonial Secretary to write to him requesting him to come to Accra for a time.

2. I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the letters which have been addressed to him and to the District Commissioner at Cape Coast Castle on this subject.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 12.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY to DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast.

Colonial Secretariat, Christiansborg, Accra,
August 10, 1883.

SIR,

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor to request that you will cause the accompanying letter to be delivered to Mr. John Ossoo Ansah, a relative of the former Kings of Ashanti. You will yourself peruse it before delivering it to him.

2. You will see that his Excellency is desirous of being able to confer personally with Mr. Ansah from time to time.

3. He therefore authorises you to provide a first class passage for himself and Mrs. Ansah if he chooses to bring her with him and deck passages for two servants.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary in charge of
Native Affairs.

The District Commissioner,
Cape Coast.

Enclosure 2 in No. 12.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY to MR. J. O. ANSAH.

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 10, 1883.

SIR,

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor to say to you that he thinks it will be of advantage to him that at the present time as so many messengers are passing to and from Ashanti you should be in a position in which he can conveniently communicate personally with you. He therefore requests that you will at once make arrangements to proceed by the next steamer to Accra.

2. The District Commissioner will provide you with a first class passage for yourself and for Mrs. Ansah if you wish to bring her with you and deck passages for two servants.

3. You will be provided with a moderate allowance to provide yourself with lodgings at Accra or Christiansborg in proportion to the yearly amount of the annuity granted to you by Her Majesty.

4. His Excellency will also be prepared to consider the question of any extra expense to which you may be put in your removal temporarily to Accra from Cape Coast Castle.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary in charge of
Native Affairs.

Mr. John Ossoo Ansah,
Cape Coast Castle.

No. 13.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 10, 1883.)

(Extract.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 10, 1883.

It appeared to me that it was not desirable that I should give an answer to the messengers from the Kalkalli party, and accordingly I have informed them that I shall await the arrival of Ansah before I give an official reply to their message to me.

I stated that if they had only come to inform me officially that Kalkalli was already placed on the throne of the Ashanti kingdom it was unnecessary for them to remain, but that there were also present here other messengers from the Chiefs of Coomassie, who said that Quacoe Duah was the choice of the majority of the Ashanti people; that Her Majesty had no desire to annex the Ashanti kingdom or to impose Her will in any way on its inhabitants; that the only reason why I had so far taken action in this matter, was the interest Her Majesty felt in the welfare of the people, and Her wish that Her officers should do all in their power to assist those tribes, who are neighbours to Her Colonies, by good advice, to obtain peace and prosperity; that this matter was one which required consideration, and I could give no answer in a hurry; at the same time they might be sure from the personal interest I had in Ashanti as the consequence of my long acquaintance with them, it would be a matter of pleasure to me individually to carry out Her Majesty's orders by doing all in my power to assist them in arriving at a peaceful settlement of their present troubles.

No. 14.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY. (Received September 10, 1883.)

MY LORD,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra, August 12, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a letter which I have just received from the Commissioner of the District at Cape Coast, in which he informs me that certain messengers from Koffee Kalkalli the former King of Ashanti have visited Cape Coast, and have expressed to him their belief that certain Chiefs of Ashanti who are opposed to the placing of Koffee Kalkalli on the Stool are intriguing with the King of Denkerah and are prepared to send away from Ashanti to Denkerah the (so called) Gold Stool to prevent Koffee Kalkalli being properly installed as King.

2. These messengers point out to Captain Daniel that any such action would surely cause the Ashantis to cross the border in pursuit of it and would thus provoke an attack on the country under Her Majesty's protection. They go on to state that the King begs Captain Daniel to send a policeman or messenger to the Chief of Inquanta and Coomassie people to request them to desist from these designs.

3. Captain Daniel informed the messengers that he could do nothing without my sanction, and that all matters connected with Ashanti are dealt with by myself direct from Accra.

4. I have replied to Captain Daniel to the effect that I approve his action in returning this reply and request he will inform the messengers that if they wished to communicate with me they ought to have proceeded direct to Accra; that if they had come down by the shortest possible route they would have arrived at this place almost as quickly as they would have arrived at Cape Coast as there are good beaten tracks which lead from Prahsue and Mansue direct to this place without going near Cape Coast, and that if they desire to communicate with the Governor of the Colony they should take the readiest means to do so with the least possible delay.

5. I have the honour to transmit a copy of this letter.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 14.

The DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast, to ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY FOR
NATIVE AFFAIRS.

SIR,

Cape Coast, August 8, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor in Chief, that two messengers have just arrived from Coomassie bearing a message to me to the following effect:—

"King Koffee Kalkalli presents his compliments to you and begs to say that the Chief of Inquanta Mansue and his people are being secretly helped by King Acquasie Kai of Denkera, in their opposition to him, and that it is the intention of the Inquanta and Coomassie people to send the Golden Stool to the care of the King of Denkera, rather than it should fall into his (Kalkalli's) hands. If the Stool is carried into Denkera, the whole of the Ashanti people will invade that country to effect its re-capture, thus carrying war into the British Protectorate. The King therefore begs the Commandant of Cape Coast will send a policeman or messenger to the Chief of Inquanta and the Coomassie people, and request them to desist from these designs."

2. Upon receiving this message, I informed the messengers that I could do nothing without his Excellency's sanction, and that all matters connected with Ashanti were dealt with by the Governor himself direct from Accra.

3. The messengers were brought to me by Mr. Ansah and accompanied by Koffee Kalkalli's linguist, who, I find, has been staying in Cape Coast for the last four months, and is evidently an extremely shrewd intelligent man, and appears to have his master's interests at heart. I therefore think it is just possible he may have received instructions to force His Excellency's hand, with the aid of the messengers, by inducing him to declare in favour of Koffee Kalkalli through fear of a disturbance in the Protectorate. On the other hand, however, the messengers appeared genuinely anxious that steps should be taken at once, and declared that war was imminent and that fighting had probably already begun between Koffee Kalkalli and the Coomassie party.

4. The messengers will wait his Excellency's reply in Cape Coast, and state their extreme anxiety to return at once to the King, their master. They were introduced by Mr. Ansah.

5. The bearer of this letter has been paid 1s. 6d. subsistence, and 1s. 6d. for crossing rivers. He also carries letters from the Acting Puisne Judge.

I have, &c.

To the Assistant Colonial Secretary
for Native Affairs.
&c. &c. &c.
Accra.

(Signed) A. NORTH DANIEL,
District Commissioner.

Enclosure 2 in No. 14.

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,

Sir, I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to transmit to you the accompanying letter which he has written to you on the subject of the visit of Assistant Inspector Brennan to Prah sue.

August 11, 1883.

The Inspector General,
&c. &c.
Elmina.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. D. TURTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary
in charge of Native Affairs.

GOVERNOR to INSPECTOR GENERAL.

MESSAGE from COFFEE KALKALLI.—INSTRUCTIONS to ASSISTANT INSPECTOR BRENNAN.

SIR,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra, August 11, 1883.

I HAVE received a letter, dated 8th August 1883, from the Commissioner of the district of Cape Coast, in which he informs me that Coffee Kalkalli has sent to say that the Chiefs of Inquanta Mansue and his people are being secretly helped by King Aquasie Kaye of Denkera, and that it is the intention of the Quacoe Duah party to send the Golden Stool to the care of the King of Denkera, and that if this is done the whole of the Ashanti people will invade that country to effect its recovery, thus carrying war into the British Protectorate.

2. It is difficult for me to imagine that Coffee Kalkalli should have thought fit to send a message to this effect to the Commissioner at Cape Coast.

3. I have been wishful for some days to make arrangements for the visit of Assistant Inspector Brennan to the Prah. Many matters have prevented it.

4. I request that you will at once detail him for this duty.

5. The instructions which you should give him need not in any way differ from those he has already received.

6. Instructions of that character were addressed to Assistant Inspector Stewart Stephens at the time I sent him to Prah sue on similar duty in anticipation of possible trouble occurring at Prah sue.

7. Mr. Brennan must proceed at once to Prah sue excepting there be grave danger to his health; he will not delay at Elmina for one hour more than is absolutely necessary after the receipt of these instructions. Should he be unable to undertake this duty you will detail another officer to go there in his place. I confide in you the choice of deciding on the officer who is fittest to go.

8. Should Mr. Brennan himself visit Prah sue I entrust to him authority to cross the river and to journey as far as Fomannah should there be no obstacle to his doing it.

9. He will in this case visit the Chiefs on the way as a Commissioner sent by me to encourage peace among them.

10. He would be entrusted to say that this Government has no wish to impose a ruler on the people of Ashanti against their will, but as being a near neighbour to them, and as being much interested in the welfare of the country, I have sent him to suggest to them the desirability of refraining from any fighting until such time as the whole of the country has an opportunity of declaring publicly its wish in this matter.

11. In journeying so far Mr. Brennan would not pass directly into Ashanti. He will refrain from doing so, and he will at once return to Prah sue on the slightest objection being made to his presence on the far side of the river. He will not make any stay on the opposite side, and he will only remain a sufficient length of time to journey to Fomannah and back.

12. At Fomannah he should see the King of Adansi and state that he is directed by me to go to him in order to impress on him the exceeding importance of preserving the strictest neutrality in the present state of trouble in Ashanti.

13. He is to say that I have been informed that traders passing along the road through Adansi to Prah sue are interfered with; that I trust this is not the case, and that I impress upon him the absolute necessity of permitting the freest use of this road to all persons who desire so to travel along it for purposes of commerce.

14. Mr. Brennan is not empowered to inquire into any disputes or to in any way enforce any advice he may give.

15. He is empowered only to offer advice by me to those Native Chiefs with whom we are on friendly relations.

16. He may take with him a sufficient escort to insure respect and to protect him from molestation at the hands of any lawless persons whom he may encounter. I should say

that 12 men would be sufficient for this purpose; if you think it necessary to add six more you may do so, but that number must not be exceeded. He will report by post to post daily any information which he may receive.

17. I think it will be convenient that the letters should come direct to you, and from you to me, although this may cause a certain amount of delay.

18. This delay appears to be inseparable from the present arrangement by which the head-quarters of the constabulary are at a distance from the head-quarters of the Government. It will, however, permit you to become acquainted with the state of affairs more promptly than you would be if you did not receive information until it had been to me, and as it is imperatively necessary that an officer should constantly patrol the Prah road between Cape Coast, Elmina, Salt Pond, and Prah sue, especially that part of it which is situated beyond Mansue, and as at the present moment it is imperative that the detachment at Mansue should be kept up to the full strength, and, if necessary, increased in number, and as the responsibility of this devolves on you in the absence of direct instructions from me, the arrangements by which communications pass from Prah sue through you is for the moment, I consider, the one most desirable.

19. I request that you will make arrangements to relieve Mr. Brennan in the discharge of this duty if his health requires that you should do so, or if the exigencies of the service necessitates some farther arrangements, and if it should be necessary for you to replace him by a junior officer you have my instructions to direct that officer not to cross the Prah.

The Inspector General,
&c. &c.
Elmina.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 3 in No. 14.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF NATIVE AFFAIRS, to DISTRICT COMMISSIONER,
Elmina.

SIR, Secretariat, Christiansborg, August 11, 1883.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor to inform you that he has received a letter from the District Commissioner, Cape Coast, 8th August 1883, informing him that messengers had come to Cape Coast bearing a message to the effect that Coffee Kalkalli presented his compliments, and begged to say that the Chiefs of Inquanta, Mansue, and his people were being secretly helped by the King of Denkerah in their opposition to him (Coffee Kalkalli) also that it was the intention of the Inquanta and Coomassie people to send the Golden Stool of Coomassie to the King of Denkerah rather than that it should fall into Kalkalli's hands, and that if this Stool were carried into Denkerah the whole of Ashanti would invade that country to effect its recovery, thus carrying war into the British Protectorate.

2. The statement thus made is a very grave one.

3. His Excellency requests that you will at once communicate in person with the King of Denkerah, and if you can spare the time to leave Elmina, thinks it will be well that you should go in person to Jouquah, it is, if I remember rightly, only some three or four hours distant from Elmina or, at the most, a day's journey.

4. If you are not able yourself to do this, his Excellency requests that you will lay this letter before the Inspector General of Constabulary and ask his assistance.

5. His Excellency desires that an European officer should go to King Quashie Kaye and inform him that you request his presence at Elmina.

6. On seeing King Quashie Kaye you will inform him that this report has been made and that his Excellency considers it a very serious matter.

7. You will request him to explain at once if there is any foundation for it, and to give you the most full and ample information in reference to it.

8. You will say that Her Majesty cannot permit any interference on the part of the Chiefs within the Protectorate in any of the political transactions of the tribes which are outside its borders.

9. You will add that it has been found necessary, in the interests of the peace of the country, to remove from it native Kings and Chiefs who have interfered with matters which did not concern them, and that his Excellency must insist on receiving from him a full explanation of any circumstances which may have given rise in any way to this report, and that he must be most careful to at once send on to you any messengers from

any native tribes outside the Protectorate who may come to him in connexion with any political matters of any kind, and that he must observe these instructions with greater strictness if it be possible with regard to Ashanti than with regard to any other power.

I have, &c.

The District Commissioner,
Elmina.

(Signed) C. D. TURTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary in Charge of Native Affairs.

Enclosure 4 in No. 14.

ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY TO DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast.

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,

August 11, 1883.

SIR,

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 8th August 1883, in which you informed his Excellency that messengers have just arrived from Coomassie bearing a message from Coffee Kalkalli in reference to the intrigues which he reports exist between the King of Denkera and the Chiefs of Inquanta Mansue, and to an intention on the part of the Inquanta and Mansue people to send the Golden Stool to the King of Denkera rather than that it should fall into the hands of Coffee Kalkalli.

2. I am directed to say that his Excellency approves the action which you reported in the second paragraph of this letter, viz., that you have informed the messengers that you could not do anything without his Excellency's sanction, and that all matters connected with Ashanti were dealt with by the Governor direct at Accra.

3. You will be good enough to inform the messengers that their letter has been duly received by the Governor, that if they had wished to communicate with his Excellency they should have proceeded direct to this place instead of to Cape Coast Castle, as they were well aware that the Governor of the Colony is at present residing at Accra.

4. You will add that there are good clear roads which lead direct to Accra, both from Prahsue, Mansue, and from Fanti Van Coomassie, and that by any of these roads they would have reached this place almost as quickly as they could have reached Cape Coast Castle.

5. You are requested to say, if they desire to communicate with the Governor, they will take the readiest way of seeing me.

I have, &c.

District Commissioner,

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,

Cape Coast Castle. Assistant Colonial Secretary in Charge of Native Affairs.

No. 15.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 19, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,

August 20, 1883.

MY LORD,

In reference to my Despatch dated August 12th,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to transmit certain papers.

2. They consist of copies of letters received from the District Commissioner, Cape Coast Castle, on this subject, a copy of a statement made to me by one Quaco Duah (a relative, I imagine, of the Quacoe Duah, who is proposed as King), who is a messenger from the Coomassie party.

3. There are other papers of less moment in this question, which I will do my best to send on to your Lordship with as little delay as is possible.

4. I learn that Assistant Inspector Brennan was already at Cape Coast on his way to Ashanti on Thursday, the 16th.

5. I have sent a special runner by the inland road to bring me news of his passing by Mansue.

6. Farther messengers will pass along the same road to-day from King Tackie of Accra, and from me to the Chiefs of the towns, with a view to the road being well cleared.

7. I propose that Mr. Kirby should start in a day or two for Adansi and perhaps go to Akankawassie.

8. I regret that time does not permit to write more fully on these matters by the present opportunity.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 15.

The DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast, to ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS.

DISTURBANCES in ASHANTI. Action fought at BERRIMAN.

SIR,

Cape Coast, August 11, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, that two messengers have arrived from the King of Cocofu, bringing intelligence of the greatest importance.

2. They state the King of Cocofu sent 30 men to assist in protecting Koffee Kalkalli at Berriman, in consequence of the leaders at Coomassie having sent a party of men under a Captain called Opokoo, to attack Kalkalli and his party at Berriman. An action was fought on Friday the 3rd instant, in which seven of Kalkalli's men were killed, though they were evidently victorious, as they pursued the Coomassie men to within one mile of the town, taking Buakie Tintin (Prince Buakie) prisoner. On his being taken before Kalkalli, the Chiefs wanted to kill him then and there, but the King said, that as he was his step-father his life should be spared.

3. The messengers further state that Kalkalli was about to enter Coomassie, when he was met by the Chief Carrier of the Great Stool (who is sacred in the eyes of the people), who begged him to forego his purpose, as so surely as he entered the town, Chief Ossoo Korkor would destroy the Stool.

4. The messengers also say that Ossoo Korkor means to fight again soon, and that it is of the utmost importance that his Excellency should use his influence to appease the Coomassie party without delay if further bloodshed is to be avoided.

5. Mr. Ossoo Ansah also says, he is sure his brother will never give in unless strong influence is brought to bear from without.

6. I am sending this letter "Post to Post," as I am doubtful whether there is much saving of time in sending a special messenger and the extra expense is considerable, but I should be glad to receive his Excellency's instructions on this point.

7. The messengers from Cocofu will wait in Cape Coast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NORTH DANIEL,
District Commissioner.

To the Assistant Colonial
Secretary for Native Affairs, Accra.

P.S.—Mr. Ansah and the King's Linguist accuse a certain man, now at Accra, called Nankwi, of sending false messages to Ossoo Korkor at Coomassie, and beg his Excellency to place no faith in him.

(Initialled) A. N. D.,
D. C.

Enclosure 2 in No. 15.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast, to ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS.

MESSAGE from KOFFEE KALKALLI, ASHANTI.

(Extract.)

Cape Coast, August 15, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., on the above subject, and to acquaint you in reply that his Excellency's wishes shall be communicated to the messengers from Kalkalli, and that in future I will request all persons bearing messages from the Ashanti country to proceed direct to Accra to deliver their messages to his Excellency in person.

Lance-Corporal Lahan, G.C.C. (Houssa), reached this station yesterday at 12.30 P.M., having been only 52 hours on the journey from Accra. He handed to me the following letters:—

1. Letter from the Assistant Colonial Secretary for Native Affairs.
1. Letter directed to the Inspector-General, Elmina.

I have intimated the desire of his Excellency the Governor to Prince Ansah that he should visit Christiansborg Castle at his earliest convenience. Prince Ansah says he is not at all well at present, but will endeavour to leave this place for Accra by the steamer after next.

Enclosure 3 in No. 15.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast Castle, to ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS.
Sir,

Cape Coast, August 15, 1883.
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, forwarding a letter to Mr. Ansah, intimating his Excellency's desire that he should proceed to Accra by steamer, and requesting me to provide a first class passage for Mr. Ansah and Mrs. Ansah, and deck passages for two servants.

2. Mr. Ansah informs me that he will be ready to start by the steamer, which is expected to arrive early next week, the notice being too short for him to be prepared for the steamer hourly expected.

3. In accordance with his Excellency's instructions I have perused the letter addressed to Mr. Ansah.

To the Assistant Colonial
Secretary for Native Affairs,
Accra.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NORTH DANIEL,
District Commissioner.

Enclosure 4 in No. 15.

STATEMENT made by QUACOE DUAH a Messenger from COOMASSIE.

Quacoe Duah states as follows:—I am a messenger from the Chiefs and Elders of Coomassie. They send their compliments to his Excellency the Governor and say that about a fortnight ago a man named Yaow Danie, of Soamey, near Berriman, sent to tell the Chiefs that King Coffee Kalli Kalli had marched his people to Inquanta and Cropor.

He had fought with the people of those places and caught the Chiefs belonging to them, and also a young man. He brought these people (captives) to Berriman and there he killed them.

His people it was reported were marching to Coomassie, so the Chiefs of Coomassie marched and met Coffee Kalli Kalli and his people at a village called Dadiem and fought with him.

He was defeated and ran away.

The victors chased him to Berriman where they got a report that a village called Taffo was mixed up in it.

They went to this village and found the dead bodies of some of the Chiefs of Coomassie, about eight in number. All these Chiefs had been sent to ask the Taffo Chief which party he belonged to and would join.

Then the Coomassie people followed the Taffo people and came up with them at Kanyonasia.

There was a battle at that place and the Coomassie people were victorious. Two Chiefs named Atuahem of Agonah and Yaow Akroma of Insutah belonging to Coffee Kalli Kalli's party met their death here, one hung himself and the other blew himself up with gunpowder. Coffee Kalli Kalli fled away with one of his captains, but they pursued them and succeeded in capturing the captain but not the King whom they expected to get the next day.

Prince Buaki was among the Chiefs sent to Taffo but he escaped and is now at Coomassie. The Chiefs of Coomassie have caught the Chief of Mampon named Coffee Agatawah.

I came up as far as Mansue and then passed by the bush road through Akim to Accra. It is nine days since we left Coomassie. The King of Cocofu sent a Chief named Appar to help Coffee Kalli Kalli, but many of the Chief's people were killed and he himself ran away and escaped.

his
(Signed) Quacoe X Duah,
mark.

Taken before the undersigned at Christiansborg Castle, this 16th day of August 1883.

CHAS. D. TURTON,
Assistant Colonial Secretary
in charge of Native Affairs.

Enclosure 5 in No. 15.

LIST of CHIEFS and HEADMEN killed by the CHIEFS ATUAHEM and YAOW AKROMA near TAFFO.

Town to which Deceased belonged.	Rank.	Name.	Where killed.
Inquanta - - -	King - - -	Owoosoo - - -	Breman.
" - - -	Inspector of Roads - - -	Yaow Inpery - - -	"
Coomassie - - -	Head Chief - - -	Coffee Poku - - -	Oduro Village.
" - - -	" - - -	Osui Yaow - - -	"
" - - -	Chief - - -	Quamin Cobee - - -	"
" - - -	Treasurer - - -	Sanah Poku - - -	"
" - - -	Captain - - -	Yaow Poku - - -	"
" - - -	Gold Taker - - -	Quabina Abina - - -	"
Cropor - - -	Chief - - -	Quassi Tabru - - -	Breman.

LIST of PERSONS killed by the COOMASSIE party.

Town to which Deceased belonged.	Rank.	Name.	Where killed.
Akropong - - -	Chief - - -	Awon-la - - -	Fufuor.
" - - -	Captain - - -	Amanquah - - -	"

NAMES of PERSONS who committed suicide not to be captured by the COOMASSIE party.

Town to which Deceased belonged.	Rank.	Name.	Where killed.
Agonah - - -	King - - -	Atuahem - - -	Kanyonaise.
Insutah - - -	" - - -	Yaow Akroma - - -	"

CHAS. D. TURTON,
Assistant Colonial Secretary
in charge of Native Affairs.

No. 16.

The RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

Sir, Downing Street, September 24, 1883.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches* having reference to various questions arising out of the present state of affairs in Ashanti.

2. I approve of the steps you have already taken in the matter, and shall await a report of any further action that you may consider desirable.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

* Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 17.

No. 17.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 25, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 21, 1883.

MY LORD,

IN continuation of the subject of my Despatch dated August 20th, 1883,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the report which Captain Barrow has furnished to me of the mission to Ashanti which was undertaken by himself and Mr. Kirby in April last.

2. I regret that I have not been able to forward it at an earlier date.

3. The report gives full details of the movements of the mission from the date on which Captain Barrow and Mr. Kirby left Accra, viz., the 2nd April, up to the time of their return on the 21st June.

4. It is very satisfactory to find that the party was well received at all the towns which they visited.

5. In paragraph 35 Captain Barrow gives an interesting account of the relationship of the royal family in Ashanti.

6. Your Lordship will see that young Quacoe Duah, who appears to be the nominee of the Coomassie Chiefs, and who Captain Barrow seems to think is the general favourite for the throne, belongs to the royal family on both sides, and that the former King, Koffee Kalkalli, and the King last deposed (Mensah), and the mother of this Quacoe Duah, are all children of the same mother.

7. I attach a rough sketch which clearly explains the written description which Captain Barrow furnished.

8. In paragraph 39 Captain Barrow refers to the attack by the Ashantees on the Annamaboe fort in 1807, and to the fact that as a consequence of a very large fish or whale being seen in the sea at that time, the King, who was victorious in that attack, was called "Bonsoo." He states that Mensah, the King who was put on the throne after Lord Wolseley's defeat of the Ashantis in 1874, was called Bonsoo by the people, under the idea that he would do as his predecessor had done, and regain the lost power of Ashanti, and Captain Barrow states that he was given to understand that war was seriously intended in 1881 at the time of the flight from Coomassie of the Gaman Prince.

9. I am much pleased to see Captain Barrow speak so well of the services of Mr. Kirby.

10. The mission seems to have met with exceptionally trying weather, and to have suffered correspondingly.

11. I have the honour to attach to this report a précis of contents by Mr. Lagden.
I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 17.

COMMISSION to ASHANTEE.

PRÉCIS of CAPTAIN BARROW'S ASHANTEE REPORT.

Commission.	THE Commission, consisting of Captain Barrow, C.M.G., and Mr. Brandon Kirby, G.C.C., was despatched by his Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, in consequence of representations by ex-King Mensah in January last that "he was in trouble with his people."	
Objects.	The objects of the Commission were to "see and to hear" for the Governor of the Gold Coast the state of things in Ashanti.	
Itineraries.	Started from Accra 2nd April, viâ Cape Coast Castle.	
	Reached Coomassie 26 April	} Distance about 220 miles each way.
	Left Coomassie 27 May -	
	Returned to Accra 21 June -	

It rained more or less every day from the 10th April. Roads in very bad state for travelling. Weather. Roads.

Country evidently in most unsettled state. From Prahsue to Coomassie, and throughout the kingdom, people were afraid to move from their towns and villages, and were in a state of anxious political suspense. People.

Trade coastwards and internally was at a standstill. Commission met no traders on the road, which was consequently getting into disorder and becoming overgrown from non-existence of traffic. Trade.

Agriculture and all domestic pursuits were at a deadlock. Thoughts of the future seemed to keep all work in suspense. Agriculture.

On arrival at Coomassie, Commission found that civil war was impending, such being due to the deposition of King Mensah, and the difference of opinion as to who should succeed to the vacant "stool." State of things at Coomassie.

The candidates for the "stool" are:—

1. Ex-King Osai Mensah, deposed on 8th March 1883 by the Elders, Chiefs, and people; son of Afuah Cobree and Coffee N'ti. Is a state prisoner, banished to village of Abrodie by command of the Chiefs. Candidates for the "stool."

2. Ex-King Koffee Kalkali. Elder brother of Ossoo Mensah, lives at Akropong, was deposed after Ashanti war of 1874 for abuse of his Chiefs and charging them with cowardice before the English army, also for having desecrated the graves of royal family at Bantamah. Is stated to be illegitimate; his father a coloured trader.

3. Quacoe Duah, aged 22, nephew of Mensah and Kalkali, grandson of old Quacoe Duah, who nominated him at his death in 1867; is of royal lineage.

a. Majority of people in favour of Quacoe Duah, but think him rather young. His appearance handsome and kingly. Is quiet and intelligent, but not aggressive or demonstrative. Requires a strong hand to guide, and good counsel. Feeling of the people towards the candidates.

b. *Mensah's authority quite gone; has few supporters, no money nor property. Is irrevocably alienated from the people.

c. *Kalkali is supported chiefly by Kings of Agoonah and Insuta. Has many supporters, mostly of the filibustering type.

On hearing the Commission was en route all proceedings were stayed. Coomassie and the "stool" were taken charge of by the hereditary Chiefs and Elders. First effect of the Commission upon people.

In a series of palavers with the Chiefs the Commission pointed out that its object was not to interfere, but simply to "see and hear" for Her Majesty's Government, and begged for maintenance of peace and quietness pending inquiry and consideration by the Government. After great difficulty Koffee Kalkali and refractory Chiefs were induced to suspend all action and refrain from forcible attempts to seize the stool, or from making incursions into Coomassie. Action of the Commission.

The expressed wish of the people was that the Governor of the Gold Coast, on behalf of the British Government, would either place one person on the "stool" or advise the nomination of one, which would have the effect of settling a question which they were unable to settle for themselves. They hope and anticipate that Her Majesty's Government will take some such action, and they state that this will be the only solution to their troubles and divisions. This expression of feeling was unanimous. Wishes of the people.

The tributary Kings and Chiefs of Bequoi, Daniasse, Dadiasse, and Inquanta stated their determination not to submit again to the tyrannical rule hitherto adopted by the Kings of Ashantee. Opinion of tributary Chiefs.

To stay civil war and fighting for the "stool," to keep the roads open to trade; to maintain order in the country for the carrying on of commerce and agriculture. Objects stated to have been already gained by the advent of the Commission.

NOTE.—The roads which were denuded of traders when the Commission went to Coomassie were swarming with traders on the return journey, and, on arrival at Cape Coast, Captain Barrow was informed that in the interval trade with the interior had been most extensive.

20th August 1883.

(Signed) GODFREY Y. LAGDEN.

* Both of these ex-Kings are alleged to have paid tribute to young Quacoe Duah in acknowledgment of his right to the "stool."

Enclosure 2 in No. 17.

The Governor's Lodge, near Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
July 5, 1883.

SIR,

IN compliance with your Excellency's instructions as conveyed to me in the Memorandum accompanying the letter of the 30th March last, I embarked on the 2nd of April together with Assistant Inspector Brandon Kirby, Mr. Asanti (my interpreter), and our servants on board the mail steam ship "Kinsembo" then lying in the Accra roads, and arrived in the anchorage off Cape Coast during the afternoon of the 4th of April, when I disembarked and proceeded to visit the District Commissioner at Cape Coast, to whom I related the object of my calling, who thereupon took the necessary measures for the collection of the hammockmen and carriers required for the use of the mission to the interior which your Excellency had entrusted to my care.

2. At daybreak the following morning (the 5th of April), Mr. Brandon Kirby started for Elmina to arrange for the escort of Houssas, consisting of—

1 sergeant major,
2 sergeants,
2 corporals,
1 bugler,
32 men,

which was to accompany us to Coomassie and back, being sent over to Cape Coast to be placed under his command. This escort arrived at Cape Coast at 6 o'clock p.m. on the 6th of April, when Mr. Brandon Kirby took charge of it.

3. During the interval the presents for the Native Kings and Chiefs were selected and packed; the hammockmen and carriers were engaged.

4. Acting upon the verbal authority of your Excellency given to me just before embarking, I secured the additional services of another interpreter, Mr. E. A. Sago, of Cape Coast; as it afterwards transpired the services of this interpreter were in great requisition, and I cannot express my gratitude sufficiently for your Excellency's thoughtful consideration in thus increasing my facilities for gaining information.

5. Soon after daylight on the 7th of April the start from Cape Coast was made, and at about noon the same day we reached Akroful, where we halted and made arrangements to stay for the night. The heat throughout the day was very great. The men not having settled down to their work, and being out of condition, many of them suffered and were knocked up by it.

6. At daylight on the following morning—Sunday—the 8th of April, we resumed the road, and, arriving at Yan Koomassie Fantee in the afternoon, halted for that night, all of us having felt the heat, which was greater than I can remember having experienced before on this coast; it seemed more trying than the heat of the Red Sea in the hot season.

7. We started again on Monday, the 9th of April, at daybreak, and arrived at Mansue, where we occupied the Government quarters recently erected at that station. We left Mansue on the morning of the 10th of April, with the intention of sleeping at Yankoomassie Assin, but a tornado, with heavy rain, set in towards the afternoon, wetting us through and through, obliging us to break the journey at Sutare, where we slept, and continued our march to Yankoomassie Assin on the morning of the 11th of April, arriving at Prabsue in the afternoon of that day. That day we experienced more heavy rain, and met with an accident during the passage of a bridge, which fell away suddenly, precipitating two of my hammockmen, who were carrying me at the time, into the swollen torrent below, but they were, however, rescued by their comrades. The disaster was, in my opinion, entirely due to the unusually wet season, and in no way reflected on the construction of the bridge. Beyond this I noted nothing remarkable, except the absence on the road throughout the whole route from Cape Coast of all traders; not one single individual did we meet except a policeman here and there on duty, and I think a Houssa of the constabulary proceeding on leave to the Coast from Prabsue frontier station.

8. An hour after arriving at Prabsue, and when we had established ourselves for the night in the quarters of the officer commanding the detachment of Houssas at that station a heavy downpour of rain set in, with thunder and lightning. Our baggage, although placed as we all thought in a dry place, was mostly saturated by the force of the rain, which was unusually severe. We protected ourselves from it by stretching waterproof sheets over our beds. Assistant-Inspector George Brennan, of the Gold

Coast Constabulary, was the officer in charge here. He did everything he could to assist the cause of the mission.

9. On the 12th of April Mr. Brandon Kirby and myself were attacked with fever (my first one), which compelled us to keep our beds; in this state of affairs, and, being without a medical officer, Mr. Brennan, who kept his health, proved of great service, for he nursed us both, and deserves favourable mention to your Excellency for having done so. Mr. Brandon Kirby soon got better, but it was not until the 17th of April that I had recovered sufficiently from the lowering effects of the fever to proceed across the river Prah, which we crossed that day, encountering more heavy rain, and forcing us to make an early halt at a small village called Essiaman. Leaving Essiaman early on the 18th of April we arrived at a small place called Kiobosu, which is not marked on my map, and here another strong tornado, with sheets of rain, forced another early halt for that night.

10. Leaving Kiobosu at six o'clock a.m. on the 19th of April we arrived at Fommanah at about 12 o'clock noon. Owing to the large quantities of rain that had fallen, the ordinary swamps were turned into floods of no mean dimensions, whilst the many trees that had been blown down across our line of path rendered our progress very slow indeed, and hence we were unable to observe the itinerary distances as laid down before leaving Christiansborg. The weather was doubtless unusually rough, as testified by the large quantities of surface water we passed through, and the havoc done to the forest trees. We were told afterwards that it was worse than had been known since the year 1873.

The ascent of the Moinsy Hill was, as a result, more difficult than usual.

11. The reception accorded to us by King Inkansah, of Adansi, at Fommanah, the capital town of Adansi, was the best that he could give. There was firing of guns, and an assemblage of as many of his Chiefs as he could gather together in the short space of time which elapsed between his hearing that we were on the road and our appearing in his town. It was reported to me that the disturbed state of Ashantee seriously perplexed and troubled the Adansis, who regarded the mission as the possible preventative of a great impending calamity, and as the only means of bringing about a restoration of order.

This was cheering and encouraging to us in our moist condition from mud and water, and stimulated us to push on through adverse circumstances of weather, but during our stay in Fommanah the rain fell heavier than usual, which delayed us there longer than I had intended. This delay was after all lucky, as it enabled me to gather information which disclosed the circumstance that some of the roads in that, the Adansi, country were "stopped," closed altogether against trading operations. Before leaving the town therefore I had an interview with King Inkansah and drew his attention and also that of his Chiefs who were present to the disturbed state of their neighbouring country, Ashantee; and impressed upon them how needful it was for all of them to abstain from any conduct which might in any way compromise the present position of affairs, and I implored them to open their roads in the interest of trade and civilization. It was reported to me that some Adansies had plundered traders on the open roads, and that there was a dread on the part of some people to travel the Adansie paths. The King and Chiefs denied any knowledge of this state of things, and since then I have been confirmed in the opinion formed at the moment that these robberies which produced stoppages of the roads were the acts of "young men" possessing a little education, absentees from our towns on the coast line, who had settled themselves in the villages round about, levying black mail ("settling palavers" as it is called locally) upon the more inoffensive and innocent dwellers in the villages by representing themselves as armed with some kind of authority from our Government, which these simple and unsuspecting villagers believed, and thereupon admitted them to their private meetings placing implicit confidence in all that they told them, supplying them with food and money in return and paying the greatest respect to their evil and corrupt counsels. Thus these villagers were often led astray and often into rebellion and hostility with their lawful or properly constituted King and Chiefs. A discharged Fantee policeman who when serving may have happened to have gone to these people on duty is the instrument usually selected by these scholars to accompany them to the scene of their depredations, chosen because he will be recognised by the native people there as one who was in the Government service, and so by them is therefore presumably thought to be so still; hence the credence bestowed on the fabrications of the "scholar." In the Ashantee country, as I afterwards heard, there are many of this set of people scattered over its provincial towns and villages doing a vast lot of harm to the extension of trade; but in the present state of the Ashantee country I am sorry to say as I afterwards found

it would be difficult to deal with them ; the obstacle being the absence of supreme ruling authority in the country.

12. King Inkansah of Adansie and his counsellors thereupon volunteered to send messengers to all their Chiefs and headmen near and distant to keep a steady careful watch on these " young men " (" scholars " and their ex-Fantee policeman accomplices), who are all more or less brigands, having nothing to lose but life itself, of which, being cowards, they are very tenacious, yet something to gain by inciting rebellion, out of which arises stoppages of roads, with the robberies and plunders which support their malignant existence.

13. Having again represented all these matters to Inkansah, reminding him that as he was King of his own country he should exercise authority and dominion over his subjects and those who elected to sojourn in the country which acknowledged his rule as King, and that he should have the courage and heart to hunt for and detect these evil-doers, bringing them to justice, aided by his Chiefs, and punishing them accordingly, he confided to me that he did not know he had the power to do so, that is to say, he and his advisers were impressed with the false notion that because these " scholars " were regarded as in the government service no authority save and except that of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty on the coast could inflict punishment upon them. However, I disabused their minds of such erroneous impressions, convincing him that these scholars were cheats and impostors, not government employés at all, and urged him to be weak and feeble no longer, to exercise the power and authority vested in him as King of his own country, to keep all the bye-roads open, to encourage traders passing through his kingdom to confidence by not allowing them to be molested on their journey, to send his people down to the coast to the merchants for trading purposes in hundreds, not in tens, and that then his country would prosper beyond what it had done before. I concluded by saying, " Do all these things which I tell you to do, but cut off no heads, and " then the Governor on the coast will be your friend more than ever, a friend to whom " you can apply for advice at any time you may want it."

It is pretty evident to me that the King will endeavour to rouse himself from the imbecility of his nature, and that if a periodical lesson of this kind could be judiciously administered to him and his Chiefs, I think a much better, more salutary tone would probably soon pervade Adansie, and extend itself to the neighbouring countries outside that kingdom.

14. It was the 21st of April before we could leave Fommanah on account of the very heavy rain which had been falling, stopping our progress, but it cleared up during the night of the 20th. The morning of the 21st broke fine and fair, and the journey was resumed through water, seldom less than knee deep, to Amoafu, where we arrived at 1.30 p.m. Here we discovered the King of Bequoi, who having heard that we were on the road, came over from his capital town, named Bequoi, in state to meet us. The firing of guns commenced as I entered the town, and it was accompanied by blowing of horns and tomtoming in our honour, and lasted until after dark. The King was handsomely dressed, and almost literally covered with gold ornaments. He was seated under the shade of a tree, surrounded by his Chiefs and officers of his household. The Chiefs of Dadiassie (province of Kokofu), and Daniassie, which was under Coomassie town before the rebellion, were also in the town waiting to see us. The first which I selected to present myself to, accompanied by Mr. Kirby, was the King of Bequoi. Advancing consequently to the spot where he was seated as just described, he and I shook hands together, which operation of native ceremony was repeated by him and Mr. Kirby, upon my introducing the latter to the King, who in turn presented his assembled Chiefs to us, together with many members of his family, with all of whom we each shook hands. This was a purely formal meeting, nothing was said at it beyond this, that the King expressed great pleasure and satisfaction at our visit ; his face was beaming with delight to think that a mission had been despatched to Coomassie. If the King of Adansi was fervent as to the good the mission would do this King was equally so. When the shaking hands ceremony was over we retired to the shade of another tree not far off, and there seated in our chairs, received the return visits of the King, his Chiefs, officers, and members of his family ; more shaking of hands took place. In the procession which thus filed past us the King appeared conspicuous above all others by his handsome appearance and by the large quantity of gold about him exposed as armlets, gold anklets, finger rings, and head ornaments ; the music of the horns and tomtoms was deafening, yet it was an interesting spectacle as illustrative of the satisfaction with which the mission was regarded by this powerful chieftain in the first large town we had reached in the Ashantee country, then in declared open rebellion against Coomassie. He danced before me, which signified, as your Excellency well knows, that he desired

to pay me the highest compliment he could offer. When these ceremonial observances with the Bequoi King and people were over I went to a spot under another tree in the town (Amaful), where a large number of people were sitting around the Chief of Dadiassie (who was in revolt with his immediate master the King of the province of Kokofu as also with the Ashantee kingdom itself).

This Chief was awaiting a visit from me; he had been kept waiting longer than I liked, but there was no help for this, as I told him, which he readily acknowledged. With this Chief similar native forms and rites had to be gone through, but they did not occupy so much time, and being terminated I must confess to a feeling of relief, as it then enabled us to go to the residence appointed for our occupation to have our breakfast, which we had been kept waiting for until after 3 o'clock in the afternoon, having since our previous meal of that day waded through nearly 18 miles of slimy rancid mud and water of various depths, the narrowness of the path and the choking matted character of the vegetation which lined or obstructed the road making it impenetrable for hammock travelling. It was often a matter of astonishment to me how the native people with their loads ever could get through such paths; but perhaps the truth was that the road had been so long denuded of traders and travellers on account of the troubled state of Ashantee, that it had not been used for a long time, and thus had got into this dreadful state. It was not surprising, therefore, that Mr. Kirby had rather a bad fever, and was quite unable to hold up his head during that evening and throughout the following day. After breakfast and at about 4 o'clock on the afternoon of this day, I had another interview with the King of Bequoi, who had waited in the town expressly; it was then that I told him that I had been sent by your Excellency to obtain information as to the disturbed state of the Ashantee country; he repeated what he had said two hours earlier, that he was thankful to the Government for what it had done, because he said it was the only way of putting the country straight again, but at the same time he informed me that nothing would induce him ever again to serve under King Mensah or any King of Ashantee, whether he was a good or bad ruler. This undoubted hatred of the Coomassie King was founded on the circumstances, as he informed me, that when his uncle died he himself, as heir to the "stool" of Bequoi, sent messengers to King Mensah to inform him of the death, a custom which is usual, for the body cannot according to "custom" be buried until the supreme King of the country has been made acquainted with the fact of the death. I do not say that this caused the Bequoi King's revolt, but it certainly engendered a very bad feeling. King Mensah, instead of acting in the usual manner towards the relatives of the dead, which is customary in such cases, viz., sending the messengers back with a royal cloth and some gold to put on the body to be enclosed in the coffin and buried with the body, sent the messengers back saying he would send to him in 40 days' time. This was an insult, inasmuch as until the customary royal cloth and the gold had been received nobody could without violating "custom" put any cloth or gold on the body, which would consequently remain uncoffined, unburied, and become decomposed. This affront was looked upon by the nephew, the present King of Bequoi, as an outrage upon his family which was unforgiving, not only so far as he himself was personally concerned, but implacable to the other members of the royal family of Bequoi and to the Bequoi people, his subjects also. The body was accordingly buried after a time without any observance of the usual native "custom" from the Ashantee monarch. The present King, the nephew, was then put on the "stool" of Bequoi (about two years ago), and I was informed that he had never been to Coomassie to do homage, as is the wonted "custom." One of his grievances was that some of his villages had revolted against him; he persevered in requesting me to induce them to return to their allegiance to him, but I reminded him that he was King of his own country, and that as such he had power to control them and all evildoers inside his kingdom who transgressed his country's laws. I told him that as he had the power he ought to exercise it, and that it should be exerted without undue severity, and most certainly without indiscriminately cutting off his people's heads if he desired to be on terms of friendship with the British Government. When he complained that this revolt in his own country had caused several of his roads to be closed to traders, I told him I was very sorry to hear it, and that it would not do at all to allow things to go on in that way, and that the sooner he remedied them the sooner your Excellency would be pleased with him. I said to him "Did not the Governor send you a handsome cloth the other day?" He answered that that was so, and that he was very proud of it. "There are more like it" where that one came from, but you cannot hope to see them if your roads are closed "to trade with the coast; enforce the opening of the roads," I said, "and send your people down to the coast for trading purposes. I am now passing on to Coomassie,

"but shall return through this town, and shall then be glad to see you again, when I trust to learn that you will have restored your authority over your subjects and opened all roads in your kingdom for trade with the coast towns." On my return, after an absence of nearly six weeks, I found matters were not quite straight, but at the same time he had induced the opening of some of the roads, which was a great thing, and a good brisk trade was going on, but he murmured much over one source of trouble, and that was the action of a "young man," a scholar from Anamaboe, who was hanging about some of his villages encouraging rebellion. My advice to him was to march an armed force and secretly surround the village this man was in before daylight and capture him, keeping him a prisoner in "log" until satisfactory recognisances were entered into that conditional on his release he would never re-enter his kingdom again. King Osai-Yaow, for that is his name, intimated his intention of giving this piece of advice practical form, and left me much elated. The secret oozed out though, and the "young man" broke away and fled to me, not for protection, but to argue it out with me as to his determination to do whatever he liked in the Bequoi country, it not being under British rule. His speech was concluded almost before it began by my telling him that I entertained serious thoughts of putting the handcuffs on him and taking him down a prisoner myself. Observing that this had taken the desired effect on this unwise "young man," I went further and remarked to him that, upon second thoughts and more mature consideration, perhaps the better plan would be to order him to be shot on the spot at once, for that he, being a British subject, had confessed to the crime of stirring up strife and dissension amongst the people of a country whose King was in friendly alliance with the Government which had so often extended protection to him, and had probably educated him to the knowledge he then obtained. He craved and begged forgiveness, volunteered to return to the village in Bequoi he had been living in, to pack up his things and repair that very morning to Anamaboe, his resident town on the coast, uttering solemn assertions that he would not return to the Bequoi land after he had removed his things away from it. He had been either a Houssa trader or a Houssa slave purchased by some one on the coast (was never in the Houssa force). His name was Siroh. Information reached me afterwards that the man really had kept his word and left Bequoi, as he said he intended doing. I hope it is true, but there is no believing anything one hears in these parts. In India many half-educated people of this class have from time to time given the Indian Government much trouble by going amongst the peasantry in remote districts, where the face of the white officer has been seldom seen, preaching discord and dissension, just as these "scholars" do here.

15. I have already stated in paragraph 14 that King Mensah of Ashantee, upon receiving news of the death of the old King of Bequoi in the form in which such events are communicated in the Ashantee country, sent a discourteous reply by the messengers who had borne him the news, which was most hurtful to the feelings of the Bequoi people and to the deceased King's relatives including Osai Yaow, the nephew, the present King, but I did not discover that this was the reason for the revolt of Bequoi against the Coomassie ruler, but apprehend from all I was enabled to gather together that this revolt of Bequoi was the result of a determination on the part of the King of Bequoi to throw off an allegiance to a yoke under which his country had never prospered, in favour of an adoption of the more civilised and just laws of the constitution which he had heard the people enjoyed who lived on the other side of the Prah under British rule. His observation repeated a dozen times at least was "I and my people, we all wish to be under the British Government."

16. The Chiefs of Dadiassie (Kokofu Province) and of Daniassie (under Coomassie town) both made the same remark, viz., that they wished "to come under the British Government." But their reasons were different; Amuafa, Chief of Dadiassie, complained that the rule of Ashantee was so cruel and severe that he could serve under it no longer, and upon no account would he ever serve under any King in alliance with the Ashantee monarch either now or hereafter. He informed me that his immediate King, Osai Yaow, King of Kokofu, was in the habit from time to time of disclosing to King Mensah of Ashantee the names of people in Kokofu Province who had made money ("riches"), that then King Mensah would devise some pretext to find fault with them as a justification from his point of view for the imposition of a fine upon them, and that when the fine thus inflicted was paid, Mensah returned one half thereof to Osai Yaow, retaining the other half himself. The Chief quoted one notable instance in which his own son Prince Coffee Krah, a rich man, had recently been fined 1,800 dollars by Mensah, the fine having been paid on a trumped up accusation; the distribution of the proceeds took place as described. Locally Coffee Krah is spoken of as a rich man, and on a subsequent occasion Coffee Krah himself personally confirmed this version of his

having been fined for nothing, and told me himself that he paid it to save trouble and annoyance.

The Chief of Dadiassie, quoting his own words as rendered to me by the interpreters, said impressively, "I am tired of being plundered and pillaged," and added, "I ask for that intercession from the British Government which will be a 'back-stay' against such tyranny." And he proceeded to say that unless he was freed from such oppression he would run away with all his people to the coast, where he would settle and live. I told him there were two sides to every question, and that I should endeavour to ascertain what the King (Mensah) said. Meanwhile, I observed, "You are making matters worse than they need be by closing your roads against all trade with the coast, which does harm to yourself, to the people who are under you, and I hear that you are preparing to attack Osai Yaow, your King, by force of arms, which means bloodshed, and can never make you a King; refrain from all these bad ways, leave your King alone unless he attacks you, open your roads and encourage trade with the coast towns."

We separated; he was remarkably friendly as I left, and said, "I like what you tell me, but tell Osai Yaow not to attack me. The roads shall all be opened." Subsequently I discovered that he had opened his roads as promised. The number of villages under the Dadiassie Chief which had joined in his revolt was nearly 100, but there were no means of arriving at their populations, or even at judging of their sizes.

17. The Chief of Daniassie, Awoosoo, described his town as being one day to the north of Amoafu near Coomassie, but off the main road. Seven under Chiefs had joined him, and the number of his villages in revolt was 13. He said he was once one of the principal Chiefs under King Mensah, but that ever since the accession to the "stool" of that monarch he had been the victim of never ceasing fines, which had reduced him to abject poverty. "Look at me," he said, "I have no gold on me, for Mensah the King has even taken that." Under no pretence whatsoever would he ever serve the Ashantee King again, or any King of Coomassie, and added that unless he was released from such cruel tyranny he would move down to the coast with all his people as refugees. It was impossible to look at this Chief and listen to his bewailings without being subdued into a feeling of some sympathy for him, whether he had merited the harsh conduct of King Mensah or not. I reminded him that I had merely come to his country to gain information for your Excellency as to the disturbed state of Ashantee, and that as I had written down what he had related to me, the best thing probably for him to do under the circumstances was to remain perfectly quiet until we knew more. This interview with Awoosoo, Chief of Daniassie, concluded my duties in the town of Amoafu, which I left therefore on the morning of the 23rd of April, and arriving at the village of Agemmamun found Osai Yaow the King of Kokofu and the Queen (his wife) awaiting my arrival. They had come across country to see me, accompanied by a few of their adherents, having heard from Inkansah, King of Adansie, that I was on the road. He is an old man, and impresses one as possessing superior abilities to most native Chiefs. We had a very long interview, for it extended over many hours. Of course he was anxious to hear what I was going to Coomassie for; at once I gave him an outline for my being sent, but made him clearly understand that he was not to imagine that the British Government was interfering in the affairs of Ashantee, or that it contemplated doing so. He understood this explanation, and expressed himself thankful that the mission had been sent, as it was the only way to arrive at a true knowledge of the then present position. He complained of the conduct of his Chief Amuafa of Dadiassie in having revolted, and denied that any hardship had been inflicted upon him or cause given for his taking such a course, unless it were that the King, Mensah of Ashantee, had fined him for having committed two human sacrifices. I told Osai Yaow the King that I was not prepared to go into the matter of the cause of quarrel between himself and his Chief Amuafa which had resulted in the latter's revolt; at the same time I was ready to listen to anything he wished to communicate to me for your Excellency's information. It was self evident that it would be useless to attempt to discover the cause of quarrel between them, and I did not therefore pursue the matter any further. The King then said that the country was in a bad state and that he hoped your Excellency would put some King on the "stool" of Ashantee in order that all the subordinate Kings and Chiefs might live at peace with the King of their country, and with one another, and that order and stability may be restored by those in rebellion being induced to come back again under their former allegiances. I reminded him of that which I had previously impressed upon him, viz., that the British Government by sending me up to gain information were not thereby to be looked upon as interfering in

the affairs of Ashantee; to which he replied "I quite understand that, but there can be no harm done in your informing the Governor what I say and that I beg of him to interfere." He tried very hard to induce me to agree to send messengers to his Chief Amuafa requesting him to return to his allegiance to him, but I declined. We parted on very friendly terms and he told me he should try and meet me in Coomassie.

18. Before nightfall on that day, the 23rd of April, I despatched a messenger to Coomassie, accredited to whomsoever might be in charge of that town, announcing the circumstance of my being at Agemmanu, and that I should leave that place on the then morrow for Karsi, with the intention of visiting Coomassie. That messenger took a brief outline of the object of my mission, which was compressed into as few words as possible, and was as follows:—"My compliments to the great Chiefs in charge of the town, also to the Elders and Chiefs of the town, and say that their friend, the Governor of the Gold Coast, had sent me in answer to messages he had received from King Mensah, to ascertain the true state of the Ashantee Kingdom, and report to him upon the present difficulties, but nobody in Coomassie or anywhere else was to suppose that because I had been sent that therefore the British Government were going to accede to any wishes of King Mensah or to interfere in Ashantee affairs, or that the Government would do anything in the quarrel between the King and his people, the visit being made solely for the purpose of gathering information. Many of the Chiefs are personally known to me, all are by report. I knew some of them 21 years ago at Cape Coast Castle. I shall be glad to meet them all in Coomassie, and I expect to receive there a kind welcome at their hands for myself, for Mr. Kirby, and the whole of my party." I caused the messenger to learn these words and to understand them thoroughly, and gave him strict unmistakable injunctions to say these words and these words only, supplying nothing from his own head.

19. Upon our arrival at Daydaysawah the man met me returning from Coomassie, bringing messages of welcome from those amongst the Chiefs and others who had known me in the year 1881, and who were on the coast then, as also from others of whose whereabouts or places of exile (if any) I had not before the slightest notion, no such desirable information being obtainable on the road up through the close blockade exercised over Coomassie, excluding all communication with its immediate outer world. It was unknown to me whether these Chiefs were on the side of the King, or whether any had taken part with the rebels. The messenger added that he was desired by the Elders and Chiefs to ask me to send a message to the King Mensah, who was living in retirement in a village the other side of Coomassie, which I afterwards learnt was called Abrodie, bidding him to come into Coomassie to meet me, and went on to tell me that the Chiefs told him they would send for him themselves, but they were afraid if they did so that the young men of the town might treat him with violence and "flog him." This was the first trustworthy intelligence I had received of the dethronement of Mensah and the loss of his authority. Had I sent such a messenger to Mensah at Abrodie it naturally occurred to me that the very act of doing so might be liable to the interpretation that I had been sent up to restore him to the post he had lost; therefore, I declined to do so, and sent my messenger (the same man as before) back into Coomassie to thank them for the message of welcome they had sent me by him, and to say that I should not despatch any one to Mensah, giving no reasons for such decision.

20. On the 24th of April the man again returned, meeting me in the village of Karsi, accompanied by Bussumburu, who was on the coast with the Ashantee embassy in the troubles of two years ago. Bussumburu was delighted to see me, and was full of expressions of thankfulness to your Excellency for having sent me up. He also knew Mr. Kirby, whom he had seen in 1881 when on the coast, and was extremely gratified at meeting him again; they seemed to be capital friends. He brought me a message of welcome from the great Chiefs Asafu Buaki, Owusu Kokor, the two Chiefs in charge of the town, likewise from the elders Buaki (Tintin) (husband of the Queen Mother), Bene, Entchwie, and others, and stated that the elders and other representative authorities in the town had sent for the King Mensah, that he would be in Coomassie that same day, and asked me not to enter the town until the day following the then morrow, as they wished to make preparations for our reception. He assured me that no riot or disturbance would take place in the town, that all my party would be perfectly safe in it, and that all were rejoicing at your Excellency having sent someone to them. There were not exactly any grounds for anticipating anything approaching subtle or bad treatment of our party; at the same time it was not to be dismissed from my mind that we were nearing, and were about to enter, a large city which had sacri-

ficed its regal authority, and was in rebellion with all the towns and villages which had lain in our route up to it, who had all received us with such honest hearty welcome and kindness; moreover, it was a city renowned in its government for every piece of artifice, deceit, and cunning which is possible for the most prolific imagination of evil to conjure up, and I certainly felt more relieved in the situation after I had seen Busumburu and had his assurance that all would be safe. Before I allowed him to leave me upon his return to Coomassie I took care to instruct him in the object of my being sent to them and impressed it firmly upon him, requesting him to bear what I was saying to him to the Elders and Chiefs when he first saw them, so that there should be no mistake, evasion, or cavil upon the subject of the aim of my mission to them at any time hereafter, that object being as was expressed in the words of my message despatched from Aagemmamu and already mentioned in paragraph 18. He clearly understood it, and had evidently done so on that messenger's first arrival in Coomassie, and all the Chiefs, he said, comprehended it also.

21. All the towns and villages throughout our route, from Esang Quantah to Karsi included, had revolted against the King (Mensah), but in each one, as I have said already, we were received with the most kind welcome and attention, presents of country produce and firing of guns in honour of our visit being extended to us in nearly every single instance. At the same time the whole of the distance from the Prah to this evinced a total absence of traders and of persons passing up and down the road owing to the fear felt by the people of leaving their dwellings and their families during the present disorganised and unsettled state of affairs in the Ashantee country.

22. On the 26th of April we started from Karsi at about seven o'clock in the morning, and after halting for some already prepared breakfast under a tree just outside Coomassie, where we exchanged our travelling costumes for our uniforms, we arrived in the town at about 10 a.m. The Chief Busumburu met us at the edge of the town, and escorted us to the quarters which had been appropriated for our occupation. A little later on we proceeded to the King's Hill, a high central part of this large West African town (vide map of Coomassie, which Mr. Kirby was good enough to make for me), under escort of the Houssa detachment commanded by Mr. Kirby. On this hill the Elders and Chiefs, having previously assembled there, we went through the usual ceremonial formality of "shaking hands," which occupied a considerable time, so that, together with that occasioned by the return visit upon myself, it was nearly six o'clock p.m. before we got back to our quarters. This reception was most welcome and hearty. The firing of guns was continuous throughout the day's performance in honour of us, and in testimony of the satisfaction felt at our having visited the capital. The whole town was en fête in demonstration of the joy they felt at someone having been sent to them in their trouble. King Mensah was absent in retirement at his village called Abrodie. I learnt privately that the Elders and Chiefs had decided, on the return to them of Busumburu from visiting me at Karsi, not to send for Mensah. Upon looking further into this it was ascertained that they had sent for him previous to Busumburu's return; his statement, therefore, that the Elders and Chiefs intended sending for him (paragraph 20) was therefore not untruthful, but they appear to have changed their minds, and sent another to overtake and bring back their first messenger before the latter could reach Abrodie. Amongst the many objects which caused them to send Busumburu to me at Karsi was that of finding out the strength of the force of troops with the mission. I am under the impression that those numbers must have been overstated to them before our arrival at Karsi, and that they thought your Excellency had sent a strong force with which to sustain Mensah against them, and to reinstate him in his former position over them, because, when they received Busumburu's report that there were Houssas only, and 40 only of them, they said (so it was secretly conveyed to me), "Oh! 40 Houssas are 'nothing'; that number we are not afraid of," and then recalled the first messenger they had despatched to Abrodie!

23. The day following (or 27th April) that of our arrival in Coomassie, the Elders and Chiefs met me in one of the courtyards of the King's palace.

The following nominal roll gives the names of those who were present on this occasion, the names being the same as those who were present on the 26th of April at the first reception.

A.

NOMINAL ROLL of the CHIEFS who were present at the reception in COOMASSIE of CAPTAIN BARROW and his party on Thursday the 26th April 1883.

Coomassie, May 2, 1883.

No.	Rank.	Name.	Town.	Remarks.
1	Great Chief -	Asafu Buaki -	Coomassie -	} Both in charge of the town of Coomassie.
2	Prince -	Owusu Korkor -	" -	
3	" -	Quacoo Duah -	" -	
4	Chief -	Boartin -	" -	King Mensah's uncle.
5	" -	Coffee Ansah -	" -	" "
6	" -	Adoo Seye -	" -	" "
7	" -	Mappoo -	Bantama -	Chief of Burials.
8	" -	Quasie Domfie -	Coomassie -	Chief of Fitiches.
9	" -	Aboo -	" -	
10	" -	Codgoe Opang -	" -	Mensah's uncle.
11	" -	Asampong Buaki -	" -	Captain and Commander of the Stool.
12	" -	Quasie Fosu -	" -	Steward.
13	" -	Sabee Anchi -	" -	
14	" -	Bussumbrow Chera -	" -	
15	" -	Quasie Ganbidi -	" -	
16	" -	Quamin Metta -	" -	
17	" -	Buaki Tintin -	" -	Husband of Queen, King's mother.
18	" -	Attah Famfa -	" -	Steward.
19	" -	Bantow -	" -	
20	" -	Appaga Poku -	" -	Chief of Company.
21	Captain	Oseh Heaman -	" -	
22	" -	Attah Ganfi -	" -	
23	" -	Appeah -	" -	
24	Chief -	Obbriyaw -	Antoah.	
25	" -	Coffe. Adontin -	Adooabin.	
26	" -	Adoo Chim -	Marmpon.	
27	" -	Agar Kum -	Coomassie.	
28	- -	Yaw Sappon -	- -	Son of late Queen of "Djuabin," called King of "Djuabin."
29	Chief -	Asanua Quanin -	Coomassie.	Chief of Executioners.
30	Linguist -	Keramay -	Bantamah.	
31	" -	Ossey -	Antoah.	
32	Chief -	Esya -	Coomassie.	
33	Linguist -	Manchio -	" -	
34	Chief -	Sana Poku -	" -	Treasurer.

No.	Rank.	Name.	Town.	Remarks.
35	Linguist	Enchwie	Coomassie.	Captain of Executioners.
36	Captain	Abhin	"	
37	Chief	Amoo	"	
38	Captain	Anany	"	
39	Linguist	Benny	"	
40	"	Djubin	"	
41	"	Amanquah	"	
42	"	Coffee Catoe	"	
43	"	Adoo Seye	"	
44	"	Opoku	"	

The following is what transpired at this meeting of the 27th April. They all understood the object for which I was sent to Coomassie and were therefore warned against believing that Her Majesty's Government intended interfering in the affairs of their country, but they may have hoped for that interference, and I think they did.

B.

MEMORANDUM OF PALAVERS held in COOMASSIE.

27th April 1883.

Elders and Chiefs present as per nominal roll herewith, being the same as on reception day, the 26th April.

Large courtyard in the King's palace capable of accommodating about 500 people.

I informed them that I was glad to see so many great Chiefs and others assembled and that I was glad to visit Coomassie, that they had to thank their good friend the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony for having sent me to Coomassie; that the Governor had sent me in answer to the messages he had received from their King (Mensah), who I saw was absent, and that I was to learn from the King the state of his present difficulties with his people; at the same time they were not to think, and nobody, not even the King himself when he heard I was here, that because the Governor had sent me here that the Government of the great Queen of England wished to interfere in Ashantee affairs; or that the Governor or any officer from England will do anything for them or their country in the present difficulty.

They were not to look for any help from me, and that what I had to do was to get true information as to the state of the present difficulties and take it down to the Governor; as their King was not at present here perhaps they could tell me something which I could take to the Governor; I should think over how I was to learn anything from King Mensah.

At this stage of the interview, which had lasted hours, owing chiefly to the interruptions made by the 300 or 400 "young men" of the town who were in the courtyard intently listening to every word the interpreter uttered, Asafu Buaki, who was presiding, he being in charge of the town with Owusoo Kokor, rose and spoke as follows:—

"We are all of us thankful to the Governor for having sent you to us; we have heard from you his message as to his not interfering in our troubles, but we wish to give you information to take to him; but we should all like to consult together first of all so that if you will meet us to-morrow morning we will all go home and arrange for a meeting amongst ourselves later on in the day, and decide upon what we shall say, and we will be here at eight o'clock to-morrow morning to see you again."

We then all rose simultaneously from our seats, shook hands, and separated.

Subsequently to this interview, but later on the same day, I had a private conversation with Buaki (Tin Tin) and Bussumburu at my quarters, to whom I complained of the noisy behaviour of the young men, which I told them made it difficult for me to hear what the interpreter translated, and then I went further, and told them that in consequence of it, and of the absence of the King, and the seeming difficulty in the way of

my being brought face to face with him, it was a matter for my consideration as to whether I should remain in their town, and that perhaps under all the circumstances I ought to leave them and return to the coast. I said this to allure them into a truthful narrative of the present position, and to ascertain how I was looked upon by the Chiefs and by the people.

This was successful, for Buaki nearly "touched my knees," and implored me not to go away and forsake them, saying "whether the Governor of the Coast interferes or not, he is our only friend; we have none other but him to hope in, and we must tell you everything about this, our sad state, so that some other King shall be put on the 'stool' by us, and we cannot do that without first of all telling the Governor through you what Mensah has done."

"As to the conduct of the 'young men,' of which you rightly complain, it has hurt us more than it has you, but we are in difficulties just now in having nobody on the 'stool,' and so we have to put up with a good deal, but we will try that it shall not happen again." He then added, "You want to see Mensah (the King), but if he comes into the town we are afraid the 'young men' will attack him; moreover, we have sent him away, we will not have any disturbance here whilst you are with us. Everybody, men and women, are glad the Government have sent you to us, and you must please stop with us until you hear and know all for the Governor."

"Mensah has done very bad, as you will hear at the meeting to-morrow. I, who am the husband of his mother, would not go against him if he had not done wrong. We want a new King."

"We want trade with the coast, we cannot get on well without the Governor; all this you shall hear from the Elders and Chiefs before you leave us."

"We want to improve our town ('Coomassie'), now in decay and ruin through Mensah; we are all of us ready to do as the Governor tells us; we want no more cruelties or taking off of heads, or taking of other men's wives."

"We want a good King, peace, open roads, and trade; the Elders and Chiefs who had never seen you till yesterday like you, and they are all glad you are here, and they will all do anything you want."

Bussumburu re-echoed all this, and I told them I would wait and see more for myself before deciding one way or the other, for amongst other things I wanted to obtain clear information as to the present relations to each other of the various provinces of the country, adding, I know all about Kokofu and Bequoi, for I received visits from each on my way up, but I want to know all about Mampong, Insuta, Coranza, and the many small towns around, and under Coomassie itself, and as to what has so disturbed the trade of the Colony with Ashantee.

Buaki (Tin Tin) said, a private meeting like this was better than a large one where everybody wanted to speak (this was an additional reason why I sought and secured it), and he should tell all his Chiefs what I had said to him, and then they would all decide upon the way to get at what I wanted.

It was evident that, in the present state of general feeling inside Coomassie I could not have had a private meeting with the Elders and Chiefs, that the feeling was one of general uneasiness, nobody being sure of what was going to happen. It seemed to me to be general distrust, perhaps jealousy, amongst the people rather than amongst the Elders and Chiefs, who may have shared the feeling themselves but concealed it better.

I repeated, and did so often, that which has so often been said to them that, in order to respect the friendship of the Governor, it was necessary to give up the practice of human sacrifice.

Coomassie, April 28, 1883.

MEETING in a large courtyard of the King's palace, as on the 27th.

The same Elders and Chiefs present, but fewer "young men," many having been refused admittance by the Elders.

I discovered that the private conversation I had had the previous evening with Buaki (Tin Tin) and Bussumburu had been mentioned to them.

After a pause I told them I was present as arranged on the previous day to hear what they had to say, whereupon Asafo Bukai (presiding), Owusoo Kokor, and other great Chiefs arose and asked me to send messengers to all the Kings in revolt bidding them come into Coomassie to hear from them why they had revolted against King Mensah, and why all roads were stopped, and there was no trade. I avoided this question and asked them to proceed. They then gave me the names of the revolted towns and villages, which I attach hereto marked C. Then they said (in answer to my remark, "please tell me all about the great Chief Awooa") "One by name Quasie Cussa, a

"headman in the town of Inquanta, went against the King's oath; so the King (Mensah) sent to Inquanta for him; the King's servant who went fined him 11 oz. instead of the usual fine of 36 dollars, of which (36 dollars) 18 would go to the King, nine to Asafu Buaki, and nine to Elders and King's servants. (This customary rate of fine and disposition of it has obtained for years.) "Quasie Cassa, although sent for, was not removed from the town of Inquanta, and is there now. Asafu Buaki is head Chief of Inquanta, and occupies the 'stool' of Inquanta; there are many towns and villages under Inquanta. Inquanta is not in any province, it is not under Mampong or Insuta of Coranza; it is independent, but feudatory to Coomassie. When Asafu Buaki knew that his people the Inquantas had revolted, he reported the matter to the King, who gave him messengers to ask the Inquantas the reason for their revolting; they sent to say in reply that they would give a reason in 40 days' time; after the 40 days had expired Asafu Buaki asked the King to send fresh messengers to the Inquantas and Mensah did so, and these messengers returned to Coomassie with a message from the Inquantas to say that they did not revolt against the King, or his Chiefs or Elders, but against the servants of the King, and they had something more to say after another 40 days, and they asked that messengers from Kokofu and Bequoi may be sent for to go to them to hear what they had to say."

"After the second 40 days had expired all the messengers, together with those from Kokofu and Bequoi, whom Mensah had sent for as requested by the Inquantas, went to Inquanta; the Inquantas then sent them all back to Coomassie with a message saying that they will serve Mensah no more or his mother. Then the King sent another messenger to the Inquantas saying that he will not send any of his servants to them any more to trouble them. The Inquantas flogged this messenger and sent him back to the King to say they would have no more to do with the King."

"After this, Ancha Adjei, Chief of Tachieman, and other Chiefs, sent to Coomassie to say that if the Coomassies do not remove King Mensah and his mother from Coomassie that they will revolt."

"As regards Awooa, Chief of 'Bantamah,' King Mensah sent young Awooa (brother of the great Chief), to a place called Boukunie, and during his absence Mensah the King took young Awooa's wife. When young Awooa returned from Boukunie he quarrelled with his wife, which was reported to the King, and then it got reported that young Awooa and his brother, the great Chief of Bantamah, proposed to remove Mensah from the 'stool.' King Mensah then charged the two Awooa's with this proposal to remove him from the stool, and had young Awooa killed and Chief Awooa put in Log."

"The Chiefs of Coomassie begged him to drop the case and take Chief Awooa out of Log, but he refused to do so, and Awooa remained in Log about eight months, when his relations from Achomah came and took Awooa away to Inquanta."

"Another man named Yaw Akrokrow was put in Log for advising him not to kill one of his court cryers; the King got angry and had Akrokro killed; he was killed without the Chiefs of Coomassie knowing of it."

"Bampong, Chief of Abrankro, under Coffee Poku of Coomassie, was charged by the King with having allowed his brother to run away to Akim. Mensah put him in Log, sent him to a village, and had him killed."

"The 'young men' and all the servants of Coomassie complained that Mensah used to take their wives from them, and then those who complained, the husbands were killed. This made the 'young men' revolt. When this took place the King placed kegs of powder all round the upstairs part of one of the houses in the palace with one of his servants. This man ran away to a village and reported that the King was going to blow up Coomassie, and when the report reached Coomassie all the people ran away. When the Chiefs of Coomassie heard of this, Prince Owusoo Kokor and his linguists went to the King and asked him if the report was true, but Mensah denied it. Whereupon Owusoo Kokor asked him to let him go upstairs to see for himself, which the King refused to allow; then all the Chiefs concluded that the report was true. The Chiefs then heard a report in the town that Mensah intended shooting them."

"One day Mensah sent for all the Chiefs, and after conversing with them for a little, a man who was a cook of Mensah came out from the King's wives' quarters armed with a rifle and a lot of cartridges round his waist (it was forbidden for any man to be in those quarters), and the Chiefs asked Mensah why he allowed the man to be in those quarters. The King answered that the man was crazy; this man was caught and the gun was taken from him. Then the Chiefs went to the 'stool' house and took away all the 'stools.' The same day King Mensah sent for all the Chiefs again and said he would leave for some village, and he went to Abrodie."

"there sent by the Governor, I was to ask him to return with all his people, as the fighting would make everything worse than it was before."

"As soon as I got on the road I passed the Elders and Chiefs of Coomassie with their people armed with guns, going out to Kalkali and his people to fight them. On the road I learned that Kalkali was at a village called Ofyiem, about one hour from Coomassie, so I took that road, and then heard that Prince Owusoo Koko with his armed forces were before me going to the same town. I sent a bearer to inform him to wait on the road, and not to go into the town before me, because if he did there would be fighting. He did not stop, and I overtook him in the town, where his people were plundering, flogging, and wounding with cutlasses the people of the town, so I asked him why he did not stop as he was asked to do; he said the people are very bad, and they are to be punished. I went into the town trying to stop the plundering and flogging, but could not stop it. I thought it better to go on to the next village, where some of the people of Ofyiem had run, and Kalkali was reported to be, but I could get no one to show me the road for some time; at last I got a guide, and when I got near to this village called Pattassie, I met about four men with guns going back to support Ofyiem. I asked them to return back to Pattassie with me as I had to tell them something; they did so, and I asked them where Kalkali was; they said Kalkali himself did not come, but one captain, by name Odaboe, came with young men armed, and have just passed by another road to a village named Barepoe towards Coomassie. I afterwards learned that Chief Asafu Buaki was on the same road advancing towards them. I asked the headman of Pattassie to give me one messenger to go to Odaboe, which he did, and then I sent a message by him to Odaboe to say that he had better turn back with his people, about 100 men, of which about 30 were armed with guns, the rest with sticks, as if he went on there would be fighting, and a white man from Governor was in Coomassie, so it would not do to go fighting there, and I was taking a message to Kalkali from this white man asking him to return back and not to begin fighting; but before Odaboe got my message the Ashantees from Coomassie under Owusoo Kokor entered Pattassie and commenced plundering. It turned out, however, that Odaboe did not go to Pattassie after all. Some of the people of Ofyiem being wounded by cutlasses turned back and met him. He also had my message, so he turned back too to see me, and met at the village called Ampabamay. Just previous to this I saw Owusoo Kokor at Pattassie, and begged him to come no further, as we did not want bloodshed, but after I had left the village it turned out that he had followed me, for, as I was in Ampabamay, he and his people came into the village, so when I saw this I ran to Kalkali's people who were there, feeling angry, because they had seen some of their people wounded, and told them to be quiet, because I was going to Kalkali with a message from the white man in Coomassie asking him to refrain from any fighting, as it would make matters worse. They replied 'all right,' but as they had heard that the Coomassies were just entering the village to fight them, they did not know how they could go back, so I left Anaman and two of my hammock men with them, so that they should not come forward to meet the Coomassies, and I ran back myself to the Coomassies under Owusoo Kokor, who by this time were in the village all ready drawn up for fighting. I said to Owusoo Kokor, this is very wrong you doing this; you had better go back with all these people and have no fighting, for you heard the white man in Coomassie say you are not to fight so long as he is in Coomassie, and you asked him and begged him to send me to Kalkali to ask him to go back, so that there should be no fighting. He then got up and ordered his people to go back. I told him I am now also going to see Kalkali, so I ran back again to the Kalkali people, where Anaman and the two hammock-men were, and when I got there I told Odaboe to make ready to go back and accompany me to Kalkali. Some of them agreed to do so, and some did not; to those who did not I said very well; if you stop here and fight the whole blame will come on you; then changed their minds and all the Kalkalis followed me to a village called Bomsoe, in which village we rested a little, and then went on and reached Akropong (Kalkali's village). I then saw Kalkali, and told him the white man now in Coomassie had heard that you were on the road to Coomassie trying to enter it by force with armed men to take possession of the "stool," and that as the Elders and Chiefs of Coomassie would not allow you to enter into Coomassie, and had called out their people and armed them to resist your coming, therefore it was plain that if you persisted in your resolution that fighting, riot, and bloodshed would follow. So this white man (my master) wished me to see you on the road to ask you to have the good sense to go back with all your people and not make matters more difficult than they were before. Having heard on the road that Kalkali wanted to see you, I told him that the proper way of doing so was by sending messengers to you according to the usual custom. Kalkali then said that he was very glad that you had sent me to tell him these things. Tell the white man in Coomassie that it was not my intention to fight, but Prince

“ Owusoo Kokor sent two kegs of gunpowder to (7) seven villages to arm themselves to fight some of my people. The people from Owusoo Kokor came as far as Bomsoe and encamped there. The people at Bamsae saw them, and reported it to me. Then I sent Odaboe and some young men to see if it is true, and if so to drive them away, but I had no intention to fight with the Coomassies. The time my late uncle Quacoo Duah died he gave his ‘ stool ’ to me, and I told the Chiefs at Coomassie to have it made known to the Governor on the coast before making custom, and they refused to let me send any one to the coast for that purpose, and they said your uncle was not to fight when he was on the ‘ stool,’ and that by fighting the Ashantees had multiplied and prosperous, therefore we do not want you to have any communication or correspondence with white man on the coast, so they stopped my doing so; same after they told me they wanted to go to war at Crepee with the Crepees, the other side of the Volta. After that they told me the road to Wassaw had been stopped by Enemil, King of Wassaw, so Aman Quatia, the Commander-in-Chief of the Ashantee army, was appointed to go and open the road to Wassaw for trade. I ordered him not to touch any white man, because my late uncle Quacoo Duah told me that I must never fight with white man, but when Aman Quatia started he took the main road to Cape Coast, so I sent Chief Sabee Entchwie to tell Aman Quatia not to go to Cape Coast, but to go to Wassaw as I told him, but before Sabee Entchwie got up to him Aman Quatia had already fought some Fantees and white men, so by this way the war came between the Ashantees and the white men, which resulted in the defeat of the Ashantee army at Amoafu, and because I ran away in that battle then the people said they could not have me any longer for a King, and sent me away. After all this I made peace with the white man, paid him money, and signed a paper saying I would never again make a war with him, and gave him my son (Coffee Nti) Donsorryé. After doing all this the Chiefs in town told me they would take my brother Mensah on the ‘ stool.’ About two years ago when Buaki (Tintin) returned from the coast he brought a message to all the Chiefs and to Mensah that King is allowed to kill man and also to fine the people, and this made Mensah do these things until he got worse and worse in killing and fining people, until they sent him away also. I have never done any bad thing against any of my Chiefs or people. I beg you to tell the white man now in Coomassie that I wish to meet all the Chiefs of Coomassie and to submit my case to them in the presence of that white man to see whether I am right or wrong. The Chiefs, especially Owusoo Kokor, have disappointed me, for even he, Owusoo Kokor, sent to one woman named Afumma, at Asokorg, Mampong, to inform me that he wished that I should come on the ‘ stool ’ instead of Mensah. And also that I should come to Coomassie to drink ‘ fetische ’ with the Chiefs. Amanqua, a linguist of Coomassie, also agreed that I should come to Coomassie, and they would put me on the ‘ stool,’ so I sent one of my servants, by name Osai Coffee, to come to Coomassie and see the Chiefs and drink ‘ fetische ’ with them, but they did not drink with him, and sent him back to me to say that the young men of the town say they do not want me to be King over them.”

25. The following day, viz., 3rd May, I was busily engaged in “ palavers ” with the Elders and Chiefs particularly in reference to the events of the day preceding; it was a wearying exhausting day in which rain fell heavily during the latter part of it and throughout the night long, contributing cheerlessness to the surrounding gloom of a drenching day in Coomassie.

26. This outburst of the ex-King Coffee Kalkali had given me much concern; looking to the circumstance that if such undesirable interruptions were suffered to be repeated the performance of my duties in Coomassie would necessarily be seriously interfered with, if not brought to a premature termination, I decided upon sending the ex-King a message in answer apparently to the one he had sent me through Mr. Asanti. Mr. Kirby having to some extent recovered from his fever, though still far from well, was kind enough to offer to take it, and proceeded accordingly to Akropong. The following is his report of his interview with the ex-King.

E.

SIR,

Coomassie, Ashantee, May 7, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that in accordance with your order I started on Saturday morning the 5th instant at 6 a.m. for Akropong to see King Coffee Kalkali. I arrived at Akropong at 1 o'clock p.m. and had an interview with the King. I delivered your message to him and also informed him that but for your intercession on Wednesday the 2nd instant, the Chiefs of Coomassie would have burnt down his town. I returned them the four prisoners taken by the Coomassie people and told him that the best thing

he could do was to remain quiet, as no good could come of his letting his young men disturb the country round, and that it was impossible for war and palaver to be carried on in the same country at the same time. After a great deal of arguing I succeeded in making him hand over to me the seven prisoners he captured on the 2nd instant from the Coomassie people; he had the prisoners in log and intended shortly sacrificing them, and the young men from the neighbouring villages to the number of about 200 all armed with guns showed signs of great disapproval, stating that it was making a great fool of Koffee Kalkali and also of them by returning the prisoners. The King tried very hard to put me off with evasive answers and promised the release of the prisoners in a few days; but I remained firm and told him there was only two answers to my demand, viz., are the prisoners to be handed over immediately to me or are they not? I gave the King 10 minutes to give me his answer in. He then left the palaver and returned with the prisoners. From personal observation I should say that King Koffee Kalkali is only supported by the discontented young men of the neighbouring villages, who have every thing to gain and nothing to lose by civil war; only one Chief was with King Koffee Kalkali, viz., Chief Awoonah of Akropong.

Before leaving I again impressed upon Koffee Kalkali the necessity of remaining quiet, which he promised to do.

To Captain Knapp Barrow, C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Coomassie.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BRANDON KIRBY.

27. Having ascertained that King Mensah had entirely lost all his power and authority, and as my visiting him in person at his village called Abrodie might have been calculated to produce upon the mass of the people generally the impression that I was evincing a disposition to reinstate him on the "stool" of his country, I was forced to abandon all idea of paying him a visit, which was personally disappointing to myself for many reasons, but here again I was indebted to the energy and efficiency of Mr. Kirby, who went himself to Abrodie.

I prepared the way for Mr. Kirby's visit by sending a messenger to Abrodie the previous day with a message, of which the following is a copy:—

"MEMORANDUM for JOSEPH WILLIAM HARVEY, Interpreter.

"Coomassie, May 11, 1883.

"In going to the village of Abrodie to-day, where King Mensah is living, you will upon your arrival there inform the King that the Governor of the Gold Coast in answer to his messages sent me to Coomassie and that I am here now. That an officer who came with me will pay him a visit to-morrow unless it rains heavily, and will bring him a message from me; that I ask him to wait in Abrodie and not to move out of it, for if he leaves it perhaps some may not like it, and it may bring trouble."

"As you go through the villages you are to tell the people that a white officer who came from the coast with me will pass through to-morrow, but they are not to think that this white officer is going to take Mensah out of his village and bring him into Coomassie; he is merely going to see him for me."

The following is a copy of Mr. Kirby's report on his interview with the ex-King Mensah:—

F.

SIR,

Coomassie, May 14, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that in accordance with your order, I left Coomassie at 5 o'clock a.m. on the morning of the 12th instant for Abrodie, arriving there at 12 o'clock a.m. the same day. On my arrival I found King Mensah awaiting me with about 20 men and boys, but no Chiefs; shortly after I had commenced my palaver some people from Coomassie arrived to hear the palaver. King Mensah made a statement which I enclose; he complained greatly of the behaviour of the Chiefs of Coomassie, who he says first robbed him of all his wives, then all his gold, and finally turned him out of his town, for what reason he is at a loss to ascertain, for he had only carried out the laws of his country. I had a difficulty in getting away from Abrodie without Mensah's coming with me. He expressed a great wish to go back to Coomassie with me, and hear the charges against him. He then told me that as I should be unable to reach Coomassie that night, for the white man could not travel in the night during the rains, he would

come and see me at the village I slept at the next morning. I told him I should travel by night, and should stop at no place before reaching Coomassie.

Mensah is living in a state of great poverty, and very little respect is paid him, so much so that during the palaver one of the Coomassies threatened to beat him for something he said. I told the Coomassie people that if they did not behave themselves before me I should have them turned out of the town, for I had come to Abrodie to hear King Mensah's statement, and they had plenty of opportunity of going to their houses in Coomassie.

To Capt. Knapp Barrow, C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Coomassie.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BRANDON KIRBY.

STATEMENT made to ASSISTANT INSPECTOR BRANDON KIRBY by KING MENSAB at ABRODIE on the 12th May 1883.

"The first I heard of disaffection in my kingdom was in the latter end of 1881, shortly after Buaki Tintin returned from the coast, it occurred at a village called "Mansoe" in the Inquanta country; a servant of mine and also one of Asafu Boachie's servants went to this village without our knowledge and fined the people 6/., which they (the people) paid. At the same time they sent back a message to say that they intended going to live under British for they had to pay too many taxes and fines under Mensah. On this coming to my knowledge I returned the fine of 6/ to them and I asked them to come and see me. This they refused to do. I heard during July 1882 of a spirit of revolt in the Dadiassie country, and at the commencement of this year the Dadiassie people sent to me at Coomassie to say that they intended only serving British; on hearing this I sent my interpreter Benni to them to inquire the reason. The King of Kokofu would not let my interpreter see them and sent him back. The Dadiassies then sent to say that it was through the King of Kokofu that they had revolted, for he fined and killed them often and that they had no complaint against King Mensah."

"I sent a messenger again to the Dadiassies asking them to open their roads to the coast and to stop their young men from fining and killing travellers. They sent one man to Kokofu to be tried for murdering a traveller; Kokofu found him guilty and sent a messenger to me to ask me to let the prisoner off; I refused, and asked Kokofu to fine the prisoner 10 ozs. of gold and send it to me, then he did. After this the Dadiassies sent to Coomassie and said that they intended joining the British before on account of the fines the King of Kokofu imposed on them; now they intended joining the British on account of the fines King Mensah imposed."

"On hearing this I returned the fine of 10 ozs. of gold to them. Kokofu took the fine and instead of returning it to the Dadiassies he kept it. The Dadiassies people now commenced burning the villages of the people round who refused to join the British with them, and at this time, the Inquantas joining them, I found the revolt growing too strong for me and sent to the coast to ask the Governor to help me."

"Asaman Quamin, Owusoo Kokor, and all the principal Chiefs of Coomassie and the villages round came to see me and asked to be allowed to go to Inquanta and Dadiassie and have a palaver with people and stop the revolt, but I would not let them go for I knew that it would cause bloodshed."

"The Coomassie Chiefs all swore that they would remain loyal to me, and after taking the oath with them, I presented the following Chiefs with 10 ozs. of gold, one sheep and 13/ 14s. 6d. each, viz.:—Asaman Quamin, Owusoo Kokor, Asafu Buaki, Buaki Tintin, Codgoe Pac, and Dumpoe, all of Coomassie, and Chief Awooa of Bantamah. After the presents had been made Chief Owusoo Kokor said Chief Awooa had a palaver with me, and the palaver was a very strong one. I said I was quite willing to hear it and sent for Asafu Buaki to be present; Asafu Buaki being a relative of Awooa's, I sent for Awooa, who denied ever having made any charge against me. I then put Awooa in Log. Awooa asked to be released; this I declined; I kept Awooa in the house of Chief Brentoo in Coomassie. One night the Achumah people who live *not* at Achuma, a village near the Bantamah, came and took Awooa away without my knowledge. Awooa sent a message from Achuma to me to say that he would like to come and live in Coomassie again as a Chief under me. I then called a meeting of the Chiefs in Coomassie to hear Awooa's message and sent for Awooa to attend the meeting. This he refused to do until I had sent him 10 ozs. of gold dust to give to the Achuma people. While I was holding the palaver with the Chiefs about Awooa the people broke into my palace and stole all my wives, gold, and everything I possessed. The Chiefs during the evening sent word to me to say that

"I must clear out of Coomassie directly and go and live in a village called Sawayah about two hours' journey from Coomassie. After I had stayed there two days, they sent me to say that I must remove to Abrodie, which, I did, and I have lived here ever since."

"I sent messengers to Mampong, Bequoi, Inquanta, and Kokofu asking them to come and see me here and talk over the insurrection, but they all refused."

"The message which Buaki Tintin brought me from the Governor in 1881, and which was given before Captain Lonsdale, was 'that I was not to kill any one for dead persons' burial.' This I carried out, for, during Captain Lonsdale's visit, my aunt died and I did not kill any one on account of the Governor's order 'that if any one touch any of my wives I was to kill him,' 'that if anyone break any of my laws I was to kill him.' 'If any one would not pay the King's fine kill him.' 'If any one commit murder kill him.'"

"I must try of you to implore the Governor to set my kingdom in order for me, for the Chiefs and people have got too strong for me. Thank the Governor of sending white man to see me, and I wish I could return to Coomassie with white man and hear the charges of the Chiefs against me."

28. Each day that I was in Coomassie an interview took place between the Chiefs, or one of them, and myself, at which some information was elicited. It would be wearying to detail the conversations which were thus held, but a summary of them established the fact that King Mensah was deposed and left Coomassie on the 8th of March; consequently, up to the date of my arrival in the town, viz., 26th April, he had been away 49 days, an unprecedented long period for the "stool" to remain unoccupied. The average time I was told being about 10 days. The Elders and Chiefs accounted for the wretchedly unclean sanitary condition of the town and for its streets being overgrown with grass, to the circumstance of there being no kingly authority in the country. It would appear that in the absence of a King there is no power vested in anybody to attend to these necessary measures for promoting the health and comfort of the people.

The general appearance and condition of the town was truly lamentable and melancholy; roads were so choked by rank vegetation that a narrow pathway in very many instances was the only index to guide one in going from one part to another. Large numbers of the houses were roofless through neglect of repairing them, whilst the exterior walls of many were bulging out of the true perpendicular, so much so as to threaten an early tumble to the ground at any moment; only about eight or nine in every 10 were inhabited, the owners or occupiers of the empty ones having packed up their goods and chattels and escaped to some village in the bush to elude the vengeance, and its consequences, of the deposed King Mensah when on the "stool."

The following incidents which took place during our first walk in the town just before dark on the day we arrived in it may perhaps be interesting enough to mention. Mr. Kirby and I were returning from the upper part of the town towards the King's palace when a middle aged man appeared just outside his residence, which had all the appearance of having once been a solid good looking habitation, but was then in a dilapidated untidy state; he was gesticulating loudly to us, making a sign with his hand to resemble the act of an executioner decapitating a body; then counting on his fingers and pointing to the place we had just passed, which was a corner of the jungle protruding a little into the town. It was very thick with grass and undergrowth, and timbered with high trees, near which numerous kites, vultures, and other carnivorous birds nightly roosted; this was the spot where the headless bodies of the King's victims were thrown immediately after death. Not being able to understand the man's gestures we called an interpreter to our assistance, who told us the man said that he was glad to see the white man in Coomassie, as he hoped he would have the cutting off of heads put a stop to. He was one of seven brothers; the other six had fallen under the knife of King Mensah's anger; their bodies had been given to the vultures, whilst he alone had all that large house to keep in repair. It was more than he could do of himself, and this he desired to make known to us. Very few people were ever to be seen walking about the town for the first week or so after our entry into it. The market places were empty, no sheep, no pigs, no fowls, not even a dog were to be seen anywhere in the town; the only animal life was that of the vulture, Egyptian kite (*Milvus ægyptius* (G.M.) and crow (*Corvus scapularis* (Dand)).

The condition of the markets very much improved during our stay in Coomassie, but the sanitary state of the town itself was the same when we left as when we entered it.

29. It was an object with me during the period of our stay in Coomassie to endeavour to obtain interviews with as many Kings and Chiefs from the provinces and outlying towns and villages as was possible, if for no other reason than that of ascertaining the political relations to each other of the tribes forming the Ashantee kingdom; towards

this end I despatched messengers to Mampong, Insuta, Argoonah, and other towns, with a verbal message, of which the following is a copy :—(Inkoransah was omitted, on account of the great distance, moreover I heard that it had drank fetische with Gaman over two years ago.)

“ My compliments, &c., &c., &c. Your friend the Governor of the Gold Coast has sent me to Coomassie. I am in that town now. I am not come to put anybody on the ‘ stool.’ I am sent to get information for the Governor as to the present troubled state of this country, nothing else. You may have something you would like to say to me for me to take down to the Governor. I shall be glad to see you in Coomassie if you like to come. I do not request or order you to come, but if you come I shall feel glad. You must please yourself; if you feel willing to come, some of your Chiefs of villages may like to come also, if so I shall be glad to see them with you. It may be that you would prefer meeting me on the road between this and Adansi, if so, tell me the name of the town or village, and I will look for you there; or it may be that you would prefer to send some one to me instead of coming yourself, if so, I shall be glad to see them, and I will welcome them, and will hear what they tell me, and carry the same to your friend the Governor of the Coast.”

I desire to repeat that this message was not addressed to the Chiefs, but was simply written down as an instruction entrusted to a Fantee man, who, if unable to read it himself, was accompanied by one who could, hence it was made nearly monosyllabic. It was sent to King Coffee Atuabene of Argoonah, King Adjetawah of Mampong, King Yaow Akromah of Insutah, King Yaow Amponsah of Inquantah, Chief Brobey of Jamassie.

The general purport of the replies was that the Kings would like to see me, but in the present unsettled state of their country they could not leave their homes to join me in Coomassie or to meet me on the way down, and they wished me to go and see them instead. This I could not do, owing to the long time I had been out and the bad state of the roads beyond and outside Coomassie. The King of Inquantah, Yaow Amponsah, sent messengers and met me at Fumusu. They spoke to me as follows :—

“ The King sends his compliments to you. He received your message, and he thanks you for it. He could not come himself, and sent me to represent him. He told me to tell you that he could not go to Coomassie; that he will never do so, that he was the first to revolt, and that he wished to be under the rule of the British Government.” This being the King who I had heard had drank fetische with Quasie Kaye of Djuquah, King of Denkera, I asked the man if what I had heard as to his having drank fetische with the Denkera King was true or false; the man replied, “ It is true we did drink fetische with the Denkeras, because we received a message from the Coomassie Chiefs to return to our allegiance and be under Coomassie again, and that if we did not return then they would fight with us, and as the Denkeras are so close to us we drank ‘ fetische ’ with them to make one with us, so that if the Coomassies come upon us we may be defended; then the Denkeras gave us 10 quarter kegs of powder and eight lead bars; as for Coomassie, we will never go there or serve Ashantee again.”

Knowing that Inquantah was the town in which the Chief Awooh, Chief of Buntamah, was confined, I inquired if he was now in or out of “ log.” The man answered that he was out of “ log,” but still in Inquantah.

30. Whilst waiting in Coomassie the return of the messengers I had sent to Mampong, Insuta, and Argoonah it occurred to me to send a message to the ex-King Koffee Kalkali, announcing my approaching departure. Mr. Asanti went to Akropong accordingly, the following being the text of the message he took to the King :—

MEMORANDUM for Mr. ASANTI upon going to AKROPONG to see EX-KING KOFFEE KALKALI.

“ May 26, 1883.

“ Tell the King Koffee Kalkali that I am going back to the Governor of the Gold Coast to-morrow with the information I have collected as to the state of the Ashantee troubles (remind him of what I was sent up for).

“ Tell him that all the Coomassies have agreed to keep quiet and not to annoy anybody, and that I hope he will keep all his people quiet, and not let them annoy the Coomassies.

“ That no good can come to anyone who goes fighting now when the Ashantee country has so much trouble.

“ That the King of Inquantah has sent to me to say that he will send messengers to meet me on the road down to Fommanah. That his messenger to the Governor can meet me down the road between this and Prahsue. (If any person follows you from

Coomassie sent by the Chiefs you are to direct him to return back again to Coomassie. If he refuses to return you will come back to me at once yourself."

To which the ex-King Koffee Kalkali sent the following reply:—

"My compliments to your master, Captain Barrow, and tell him I thank him for his message. I will be quiet and will not trouble anybody if Owosusu Kokor does not trouble me.

"I will send a messenger to Inquanta and will advise them to meet you on the road down.

"I will also send you some messenger to see the Governor for me."

The Chief Awoah added:—

"My compliments to your master. Tell him I will keep Koffee Kalkali quiet until his return from the coast. Messenger will go to Inquanta. I will myself see to all these things, and all shall be quiet."

NOTE.—Mr. Asanti left Coomassie at 6 o'clock a.m. on 26/5/83, and returned to it at 2.15 p.m. the same day.

31. Two or three days before leaving Coomassie for the coast I received a secret message from King Mensah at Abrodie, which was brought to me after dark, representing that he had something he wished to communicate to me if I would send a messenger to him for that purpose. I sent Harvey, who had been to him on a previous occasion (the 11th May).

The following is a copy of what King Mensah said:—

EX-KING MNSAH'S MESSAGE to me.

Abrodie, May 26, 1883.

"I was a King for nine years, and the Chiefs of Coomassie were always telling me to fight, as my brother (Koffee Kalkali) used to do, but I did not mind what they said, and so they began to hate me. I am very sorry I cannot come to Coomassie to see you, but I beg you to do all in your power for me. Please do your best and see this case out for me, and I beg you to ask the Chiefs to have me back again. I do not understand why they sent me here, and then told the people of the villages not to send me any food to buy. A man cannot live without food. I beg of you to take me away with you to the coast. If you do not do so the Coomassie people will kill me. I am sorry that I am poor now. All my hopes are in you. I wish you good bye."

32. On Sunday morning, the 27th May, when preparing to leave Coomassie, and when engaged at the second farewell meeting which was being held between the Coomassie Chiefs and myself, they reported having heard that some people from the many villages called Osakra were on the road to King Koffee Kalkali armed with guns to bring him into Coomassie. This looked to me like a ruse on the part of the Chiefs of the capital to induce me to change my intention of leaving Coomassie. Great pressure had been put upon me not to go away and leave them, as they termed it, to their fate; turning to the Elders and Chiefs I told them that no such rumours could influence my arrangements, and that I should accordingly be leaving them within a few minutes. As, however, I had formed the opinion to be very distrustful of any assurance or promise made by ex-King Koffee Kalkali, whom I looked upon with great suspicion, this incident gave me an opportunity of again communicating with him, which I was glad to avail myself of, in the hope that something more approximate to what I conceived was the real truth of his intentions might perhaps be elicited, thereupon adding to the Elders and Chiefs, "But I will leave Mr. Asanti behind me for a few days with certain instructions which will doubtless ensure the peace of your town, and secure tranquillity from outside it." I then gave him the following message to convey to King Koffee Kalkali on the following day (Monday). "Tell King Koffee Kalkali with my compliments that I have sent you again to him to tell him that I have heard that several people from Osakra are going to him to put him on the stool by force. Remind him of the promise he gave me through you on Saturday last to remain quiet, and not bring on civil war and bloodshed. Tell him that it may be that these people are going to him unknown to him to entice him to consent to be conducted into Coomassie; if this should be so you will tell him that I am sure that he and his Chief Awoah will not listen to them, but will send them away."

Mr. Asanti's statement in reply, as per his memorandum dated Coomassie, 28th May, was as follows:—

"On the road to Akropong this day I met some young men coming from Akropong all armed. I asked them what the news was; they said they had been to pay a visit to their master, Koffee Kalkali, and he had told them to go back home, as he would not go to Coomassie again; but when I got to Akropong I met a large assembly there, more or less armed, and they were talking about going into Coomassie with Koffee Kalkali; so the King told them to stop and listen to the message I had brought; so when I delivered it these people became vexed and said, 'You and your master ask us to keep quiet, but we will not be quiet.' Then Koffee Kalkali said, 'If the Chiefs who are on my side come and ask me to go to Coomassie I will go there, notwithstanding my promise to your master not to do so.' Then I said to the King, 'Shall I tell him this?' 'Yes,' said the King, 'that is my message to your master.' I then came away."

33. Owing to the circumstances of the late hour on Saturday night the 26th May, when my messenger Anaman arrived back in Coomassie from Mampong, Insuta (Nsuta), and Argoonah, and to the preparations which I was making for our departure from Coomassie for the following morning, it was not until Sunday afternoon (the 27th May) on my arrival at Daydaysuwah that I had time and opportunity to work out and realise the whole of what he reported to me. It amounted to this, that at Agoonah on Friday the 25th May he actually witnessed preparations for war. He saw the young men of that town preparing their guns for the purpose of setting out upon some warlike expedition; they were cleaning their guns, their powder horns, and cutting up the lead bars. He asked them what it all meant, and they told him that the troops of the King of Kokofu were already on the road to join them, that as soon as the junction of those forces had been effected they would be joined by troops of the King of Insuta and of Mampong, and that then the combined forces would march upon Akropong to take Koffee Kalkali into Coomassie and fight their way for his restoration to the "stool." He went to Koffee Atuahene, the King of Argoonah, to inquire if that which he had heard was true or false, and received from that King a confirmation of the truth of the report he had related to me. Incredible as the story seemed to me to be, there were not wanting indications of a suspicious nature to establish its truth. The gravity of the situation I felt was intense, for such an ill-advised course of action as that of attempting to acquire possession of the "stool" by force of arms on the part of those who represented but a portion of the entire Ashantee kingdom would have plunged the whole country into a civil war, the end of which no man living could foresee. As regards the influence which it would have on the trade of the coast, the gratification of such an ambition as Koffee Kalkali's thus acquired, that is to say, by means of fighting, would have abolished it for an indefinite period, the closing of roads would have ensued as a natural sequence, and we should have had a vast amount of complication forced upon ourselves.

The good that had been accomplished by the accident of the visit of the mission to Coomassie in having hitherto averted hostilities by the "morale" of its presence there was about to be undone by this inconsiderate and selfish precipitancy of events, in which the chief actor Koffee Kalkali himself had nothing to lose, nothing to relinquish, and a doubtful position to gain, which could only be won by wading through the blood of his own people. These embarrassments conducted to a sleepless night passed in the small village of Daydaysuwah; but on thinking well over the situation, I discovered a loophole through which an attempt might be made to avert the horrors of a civil war, possessing unusual powers of expansion into other countries. At daylight I wrote a letter to Mr. Asanti, the interpreter, embodying a message to the ex-King Koffee Kalkali and sent it off. The following is a copy of that communication, upon which thus rested the issue of peace or of war, and the consequent existence of trade with some of the principal coast towns of the Colony:—

"MR. ASANTI,

Daydaysuwah, May 28, 1883.

"READ what I now write to you, and learn it. Since I left Coomassie it has been told me that the King of Kokofu, the King of Argoonah, and some others, are now on the road to Akropong to fetch the ex-King Koffee Kalkali, and to place him on the 'stool' of Ashantee by force of arms. You will have seen Koffee Kalkali this day at Akropong. I wish you to go there again to-morrow (Tuesday) and to see him again; tell him that I have heard this report, and therefore send you to him to suggest to him not to do anything which will bring trouble, war, and bloodshed into his country. The Chiefs of Coomassie have not yet asked him to re-occupy the 'stool,' and just at present

" they seem determined to resist him if he attempts to enter Coomassie against their wish ; this resistance means fighting and bloodshed, with more troubles than ever. I am not against him. I belong to no side. I am not for Quacoe Duah or for him. I came to the country to collect information, and that is all, but if I see a bad war coming and can stop it by a few timely words, I do so. By the treaty of Fommanah, tell him, which was made between himself and Sir Garnet Wolseley, and which he reminded me of himself in the first message he sent me (paragraph 24), he agreed to pay the large sum of 50,000 ounces of gold. Since he left the 'stool' of Ashantee he has never been asked, that I know of, to pay the large balance of 49,000 ounces still due, but if he is going to listen to the advice of fools before things are made smooth for him in Coomassie, and thereby bring civil war upon his own head, and stop all the trade of the coast, it may perhaps be well for him to find out before taking action, which can be done by asking the question, what his friend the Governor of the Gold Coast thought about the matter, and if he had anything to say or not about this large unpaid balance. Will he have to pay it or not ? "

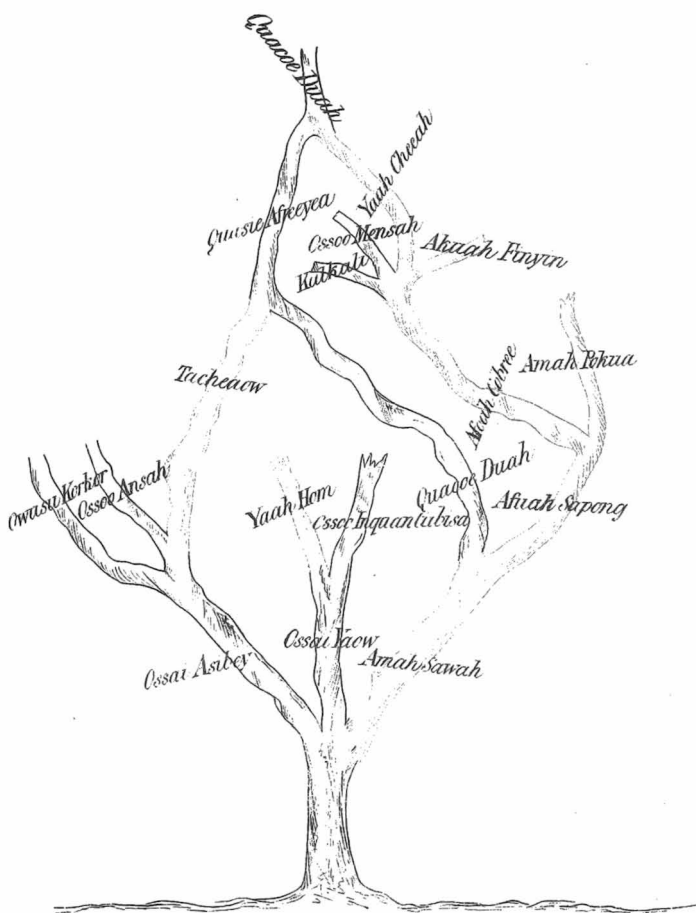
" (Signed) KNAPP BARROW. "

Mr. Asanti's statement to me is as follows, dated Coomassie, 30th May 1883, " I have to inform you that I went to Akropong yesterday, and read and explained everything (in your letter of 28th May, written from Daydaysuwah) to King Koffee Kalkali, in the presence of the Chiefs. The King did not speak for about 10 minutes ; the message made him ' dumb. '

" After waiting some time I asked him if he had any message for you. In reply he said yes, but I must go to council with my Chiefs first of all. I said ' all right, I will wait. ' After the council was over the King and the Chiefs reassembled and the King said, ' Thank your Master Capt. Barrow for the message he has sent me. I did not see the matter from that light before. I have no palaver with the white man, and therefore will not do that which may vex him. The Governor of the Gold Coast is my friend, and I will wait and hear what he will say. ' "

This letter fortunately changed the aspect of affairs ; it was its last paragraph which baffled and frightened Kalkali and his adherents. The troops dispersed and retired to their homes, the ex-King to his seclusion at Akrapong. The only question upon which I was then anxious was as to how long this state of quiet and order would last. Would it last long enough to enable me to reach Cape Coast, and for your Excellency to communicate with Coomassie and with all parties concerned ? The conclusion arrived at was that it would so last, and thus the hopes I had presumed to form were realised as I designed them to be by an abstention on the part of the chief actor (Kalkali) in this perplexing business from the commission of an act of folly which would have resulted in a civil war. I caused the purport of the letter to be made known to the King of Kokofu during the same day, viz., the 28th May, and I circulated its purport as far and as wide as I could throughout the Ashantee country. Two days afterwards when on my way down the road, the King of Kokofu came across and met me at Agemmam. He regularly intercepted me there by means of messengers he had put on the road conveying my movements to him. At Adwabin they spoke to me asking me not to pass Agemmam without seeing the King, which I agreed to. When I met him there he looked very enquiringly at me, but was rather mute. He had heard of my letter to Kalkali. A certain amount of compassion for the old man prompted me to encourage him to say what he wanted, and to ask me any question he wished to. He spoke as follows :— " And has the King to pay all that money ? " I replied, " You must ask the Governor, it is not for me to say. " He was much amazed, and seemed to regard me with a feeling not of dread but almost of reverence. I said to him, " You are a great King, and you are full of wisdom ; you must not mix yourself up in the cause of others which will bring on civil war and greater troubles than ever in the country. You told me when I was passing up the country the other day that the Governor was your friend, and you gave me a message for him, which I am now going down to deliver to him ; you said that you begged him to interfere in Ashantee matters, and to put some King on the ' stool, ' so that all the Kings and Chiefs and the people may live in peace together ; was not that so ? " (paragraph 17). He replied, " You are right, and I did give you that message. " " Well then, " I said, " What is the use of my giving the Governor your message, but before I can reach him and do so, you yourself go and aid others in putting a King on the ' stool, ' which everybody admits will bring on a civil war. Did you mean what you said to me when I was passing up ? " He replied, " I am wrong. I mean now what I said then, and I ask you now to give

KINGS AND CHIEFS OF ASHANTI.



MEN.

Cssai Asibey
Cssai Yaow
Omusu Korkor
Cssoc Ansaah
Cssoc Inquantabisa
Quace Duah
Quasie Afieyee
Kalkabi
Cssoc Mensah
Quace Duah

WOMEN.

Anaah Sawah
Yaah Hom
Afuah Sapong
Afuah Cobree
Anaah Bihua
Afuah Finyin
Yaah Cheeah
Tacheaow

George Johnson
 27. 8. 83.

"my message to the Governor." He then went on to the old subject, the revolt of his great Chief, Amuafa, of Dadiassie, finally saying, "Ask the Governor to bring him back to me that we may all be of one mind." "There you are again," I said, "You want the Governor not only to put a King on the 'stool' for you, but you want him to settle the dispute between yourself and the Dadiassie people, your own subjects, and yet as I have been informed you are lending aid to Koffee Kalkali." "That is all a mistake," he said, "I want the Governor of the Coast to put everything straight for us. We cannot do so ourselves." We parted very good friends. I told him that all his representations would be submitted, and I hastened on to the coast with all the expedition the wet, bad weather, and worse roads would permit of in order to put the case of the Ashantee troubles before your Excellency at Cape Coast, where I anticipated the favour of a meeting.

34. From the statement of the Elders and Chiefs made in Coomassie and noticed in paragraph 23 your Excellency will be cognizant of the circumstance that the choice of those Chiefs is in favour of the election of Quacoe Duah to the "stool" of their country.

35. It may not perhaps be out of place if a few incidents pertaining to the lineage of some of the Kings of Ashantee be here recorded. In the early part of the present century Ossai Asibey was the King of Ashantee, he married Asantewa; the issue of that marriage was two sons and one daughter.

1. Owusu Kokor now in Coomassie.

2. Tacheow who afterwards married her cousin King Quacoe Duah.

3. Ossoo Ansah now at Cape Coast.

King Ossai Asibey had a sister named Ama Sawah, whom I will notice later on. It was this King who marched an army through our country and attacked us in the fort of Ananiaboe. He died in Coomassie and was succeeded by his brother Ossai Yaow who married Yaah Agor, and had issue one daughter and one son.

1. Yaah Hom. The present Mrs. Bannerman of Accra.

2. Ossoo Inquantibisa, who was sent to England with Ossoo Ansah. He died at Cape Coast.

In this King's reign the battle Dodowah was fought in 1826, and when the King had returned to his capital after the battle a rebellion of his Chiefs against himself broke out in Coomassie, the cause for which was that the King had impeached their conduct at that battle, in short had accused them of cowardice. They left him and separated to their villages in the country; this stopped the roads, and all trade with the coast towns was suspended.

The King died and was succeeded by his nephew Quacoe Duah who married Tacheaw, his cousin, just previously referred to. She was a sister of Owusu Kokor and of Owusu Ansah. At this time Mr. George McLean (afterwards Governor McLean) went to Coomassie accompanied by some of the Ashantee prisoners taken at Dodowah. These prisoners were given back to the Ashantees by him. The Chiefs in rebellion had returned to Coomassie when Quacoe Duah took the "stool." A good understanding was arrived at upon Mr. McLean's visit; roads were opened; trade with the coast revived and flourished, and the Ashantee treaty of peace of 27th April 1831 was entered into. The issue of the marriage of this King Quacoe Duah with his cousin Tacheaw was one son named Quassie Afreeyea, who married Yaah Cheeah, and the issue of that marriage was the young Quacoe Duah now in Coomassie and a candidate for the "stool" of his country. Quassie Afreeyea died soon after his son's birth. The young candidate's mother, Yaah Cheeah, is now in Coomassie. I saw her frequently. She herself is of royal descent, consequently it is the boast of all the supporters of young Quacoe Duah that he is of "true royal blood," as he inherits it on the paternal as well as on the maternal side. The table forming enclosure No. 1 is intended to illustrate the descent. Of Afuah Cobree it is said to relate that, when engaged to be married to "Coffee Nti" uncle of the present Buaki (Tintin) (this is the grandfather of the Coffee Nti now in the West Indies, but in Ashantee the young man is not called Coffee Nti after his grandfather, but "Donsorrvye") she became enceinte by a Cape Coast man of low origin, name unknown, a trader. It nearly produced a most serious disturbance in Ashantee but it was hushed up. It is now dangerous even to speak of it. The issue was the present man ex-King Koffee Kalkali, who is liable at any moment to have the taunt thrown in his face by his opponents. If therefore it should be the wish of Her Majesty's Government to have the present vacancy secured in perpetuity as far as humanly it can be, then it is a grave question how far it would be prudent to encourage Koffee Kalkali's candidature, as the people might rise against him upon this ground alone at any moment if he offended them. Afuah Cobree, his mother, afterwards married her

first love Coffee Nti (Buaki Tintin's uncle) and had issue the ex-King Ossoo Mensah, now at Abrodie, and two daughters named respectively Yaah Cheeah (young Quacoe Duah's mother), and Akuah Finyin unmarried, who has enjoyed amongst her royal relatives and some Chiefs a varied and troubled life in Coomassie, where she is still. Afuah Cobree is the so-called Queen mother.

36. When in Coomassie I discovered the existence of a horrible means of death. It is a law that neither the knife nor the sword can be employed in the destruction of the life of any of the Royal Family, or of that of any woman of rank or position. When such a life has to be taken it is effected by striking the back of the neck of the victim with a heavy club, which often takes two or three blows to effect its purpose. In all my experience of these parts of Western Africa I had never before heard of this means of destroying human life, viz., "death by club." I learn, however, that it was formerly in practice in Aquapim, Aquamoo, and Akim, but abolished from all those three countries now, and pertains only to Ashantee.

37. The principal reasons, as related to me by the Elders and Chiefs of Coomassie, for their opposition to the reoccupation of the "stool" of Ashantee by the ex-King Koffee Kalkali, are as follows:—

That when a King has once been dethroned and deported away, it is against the custom of the country to recall him or to allow him to come back again, and that the only possible way of infringing that custom with a view to his return would be by his drinking "fetische" with them on their invitation. They said that so great an encroachment on the custom of the country could only be properly effected by a human sacrifice as an atonement in satisfaction of so great a departure from their universally acknowledged customs. Though his adherents (the war party) would have no objection, they said, to this sacrifice, they themselves decidedly had, and they were resolved to oppose it. They were certain, so they informed me, that he would endeavour to recover back by intrigue or by force of arms if necessary the countries he had renounced all right and title to under the Fommanah Treaty. They acknowledged that he was personally respected by many people on account of his general kindness of character as is often testified to they said when appealed to for assistance of any kind by those in want. There were also many, they said, who, having lost their all under the cruel reign of his Brother Mensah, confidently calculated that upon his return to the "stool" a general restoration of all their property would, as far as possible, take place. Such hope of restitution of lost property, they said, had encouraged most of his present supporters to adhere to him, but, they added, he would never do this for them until he had made a compact with them that they in their turn should serve him to recover the countries he had lost, which promise they would be only too ready to give and to perform.

Another objection to the candidature of Koffee Kalkali arose out of the following circumstance which I will describe as it was related to me by the Elders and Chiefs. "After the battle of Odasoo, Koffee Kalkali deserted his army and escaped through Coomassie to a village called Beman, to avoid capture by the British troops. During his stay there, he became in want of money and thereupon sent to the people in charge of the royal burial place at the Bantamah to drink 'fetisch' with him, because, as he told them, he had something of a very private nature to communicate to them, and that if anybody revealed the secret the penalty would be death. They went to him accordingly and drank the 'fetisch.' This ceremony being over, he directed them to return to the Bantamah and to dig up the bodies of his grandmother Afuah Sapong and of his great-uncle King Ossai Yaow. They did so as directed by him and took from the coffins all the gold dust, gold trinkets, gold chains, agari beads, and handed them all over to Kalkali. He distributed many of these articles to his wives, who wore them. It was thus that Afuah Cobree observing some of these trinkets on the arms and fingers of her son's wives recognised them as gems of ancient and unusual beauty; the wonder arose whence Coffee Kalkali had obtained them. At length they were identified as having been worn years before by those who were then lying buried in the Bantamah. Afuah Cobree proclaimed the discovery. She reported it to the Chiefs of Coomassie. Kalkali having been informed thereof sent for all his relations, together with all his Chiefs, to meet him in his palace at Coomassie. The meeting took place. He then informed them all that as his mother had disgraced him by making known his theft of the Bantamah, he had resolved to blow himself up with all then and there assembled, to which the Chiefs insidiously replied 'we are all willing to die with you but blow yourself up first.'"

38. It was related to me that during the illness of the old King Quacoe Duah which ended in his death, he sent for Prince Owusu Kokor believing he was about to die, and enjoined him to see that the "stool" was retained for his grandson the young

man of that name who now aspires to occupy it. The old King remarked that it was no use for the sons of Afuah Cobree to have the "stool," because neither of them would be able to "keep his house in order." There was some little difficulty in arranging at the time for the occupation of the vacant "stool." Some of the Ashantee people being in favour of Kalkali, or of Mensah; others in favour of the boy Quacoe Duah. A nominal subsidy of 24 ounces of gold was paid by Kalkali to young Quacoe Duah as an acknowledgment that the "stool" was only assumed and occupied at pleasure. The operation was repeated when Mensah assumed the "stool" in 1874 by his paying young Quacoe Duah a subsidy of 20 ounces of gold. These payments, I am told, were made in order also to establish that the sons of Afuah Cobree were holders of the "stool" only at the will of the young Quacoe Duah who would assume occupancy when old enough. There is but one point in connexion with young Quacoe Duah being elected to the "stool" which occurs to me as being worthy of notice. It is, that a general belief pervades the intelligent classes connected, and familiar with Ashantee politics, that in such an event the Djuabin country would at once forfeit its present independence and resume its former and normal character of a feud in allegiance with Ashantee. The young man who is the heir to the "stool" of Djuabin is living in Coomassie now with his aunt. He is about 16 years of age, very black, but remarkably good looking. His Jewish features are very prominent. We had many interviews together, but I did not attempt to extract anything from him, knowing how completely he was in the power of the Coomassie Chiefs. He was very interested when he heard that I knew his mother the late Queen Afrah Coomah, and his grandfather Asafu Ajai at Lagos. He inquired after his sister the young girl who is now at Aburi and was overjoyed when he learnt that I had seen and remembered her quite well.

39. When King Mensah was put upon the "stool" on the removal of his brother Kalkali in 1874 a significant occurrence took place by the Ashantee people directing that he should be recognised no longer as Mensah but should be called and known as "Bonsoo." He was accordingly called "Bonsoo." The word "Bonsoo" in the Ashantee languages signifies a "whale," or as the Ashantees say, "the biggest fish in the sea." The Ashantee people said he shall be called "Bonsoo" as his uncle Ossai Asibey was who obtained great victories for the Ashantees and acquired them great fighting renown. The origin of the application of the word as a title for a King dates from the Ashantee attack upon Anamaboe Fort under King Ossai Asibey. The tradition is, that during the fighting on that occasion which ended as they claim victoriously for them, a large fish appeared in the sea before them just outside the surf. This was looked upon as a happy omen. They directed that Ossai Asibey should then and there be known as "Bonsoo." He passed by that name during the remainder of his life.

As regards Mensah, the Ashantee nation certainly believed that, being thus titled, he possessed similar powers of conquest to his uncle Ossai Asibey and expected of him, as "Bonsoo," that he would apply those newly-acquired attributes, supposed to be inspired by the word, to obtain back for them the countries they had lost by the war with the British in 1873 and 1874, and at some fitting opportunity would wage war with the English in the hope of wiping out the disgrace of their defeat in 1873-74.

Bussumburu distinctly led my interpreter, Mr. Asanti, to believe that war was intended in 1881 when the gold axe was sent down. He reported this to me. I made inquiries which confirmed that belief. It is a fact that during the 1881 troubles with Ashantee, King Mensah having heard of the defensive preparations being made on the coast, sent for Owusu Kokor and asked him what was the best thing to do. The old Prince's advice was on no account to go to war with the white man, but to pay anything he demanded rather than fight him.

The following is a copy of Mr. Asanti's statement to myself upon this point:—"In some private conversations between myself and Bussumburu we came to some part 'about himself and Buaki (Tintin) coming to the coast, which Bussumburu said had not I and Buaki Tintin come to the coast and explained the meaning we did of sending the golden axe to the coast a great war would have broken out again. The axe was sent after this young man who ran away from Coomassie, King Mensah and all the Chiefs and Elders in Coomasie were very angry, and all had a mind that by all means, even by force, they will get the young man back again to Coomassie from any place which he may have run to. This was the reason of sending the golden axe. All the native Kings and Chiefs of Ashantee and Faantee well understand about this axe. My belief from what Bussumburu told me is that the Ashantees meant war against the English if they held the young man."

40. It was almost impossible to ascertain accurately the political relations to each other of the various tribes forming the present Ashantee kingdom, owing to the disorganised state into which the country had been thrown by the rebellion, but from what I could glean and collect together, my impression is that there is no inimical feeling pervading the tribes towards one another. Each one has smarted in some way or other under the cruel tyrannical rule of Mensah, and they have nothing to thank Kalkali for. They are quite aware of the ruined state of their country by the bad government which has existed so long under Kalkali and Mensah, ending in this rebellion. They know they cannot put the county "straight" themselves, and that there is but one power, and that the British Government, which can do so. They would all be glad therefore to meet your Excellency at Prahue, accompanied by a King nominated by themselves, to be instructed by the Government as to the proper way to exercise his office as King, and then to be put upon the "stool."

41. It is my wish that your Excellency should know how materially I was assisted by Mr. Brandon Kirby throughout the trying work of this mission. He proved himself a most zealous efficient officer, ever ready for any work when it had to be faced, although suffering more or less from fever all the time. He rendered me great service, and did so more than once.

42. The condition of the roads outside the settlement have so often been described by those who have travelled over them in fine weather as bad, wretched, miserable, &c. that I must leave the description of their plight, as we found them, to the imagination, since no language could describe their fearful state or the misery they caused us.

43. The work done by my two interpreters, Mr. Christian E. Asanti and Mr. Edward A. Sago, of Cape Coast, was executed far beyond what I expected. They both deserve mention to your Excellency. Mr. Asanti is already in the service, and is undoubtedly eminently qualified for his work. Mr. E. A. Sago is a candidate for employment. No two men could have served one better than they served me.

44. The conduct of the Houssa detachment under Mr. Brandon Kirby's command, throughout the whole tour of duty was most exemplary. No men could have behaved better, notwithstanding that temptations were often thrown in their way to commit excesses. There was a good deal of sickness among them and the carriers when we were at Coomassie, the sick list averaging seven or eight a day, but, owing to the abundant supply of medicine supplied by Dr. Easmon, and the excellent written instructions which he gave us for using them, Mr. Kirby was able to cure all the men and return them soon to duty (one hammock man alone excepted, who died).

45. The market place of Akaukuassie, as we passed down the road, was a sight to be seen, not easily to be forgotten. It was crowded with many hundreds of traders exhibiting for sale high heaps of linen goods, Sheffield and other articles of European industry. Since that time it has been reported to me that this market is now regularly attended by people from Assin, Denkera, Akim, Ashantee, Fantee, and Adansi, and that it is gradually increasing in extent. When ascending that road in April last not one trader was to be seen throughout its whole length, from Prahue to Coomassie, whereas, on our return journey, we met perhaps 200 people every day, all proceeding from the coast to the interior, each one carrying some loads of European merchandise. It was no unusual sight during our three days detention at Mansue, on our way down, to see as many as 50 traders passing through that station at one and the same time, each carrying a load of European goods to Ashantee. These people were Ashantees returning from the coast, showing that the confidence which had been lost by the disorganised state of affairs across the Prah had been restored, and that people were no longer afraid to leave their homes and to travel the roads we had opened up.

46. The causes of the rebellion are briefly summarised as follows:—

1. The cruel tyrannical acts of Mensah towards all his people.
2. His profligacy, with the heavy fines and barbarous cruelties inflicted by him on the husbands and relations of the women he degraded.
3. His ordering and enforcing decapitation without the knowledge and consent of his Chiefs.
4. The enormity and injustice of the fines imposed by him upon his subjects, especially on those living in the provinces.
5. A feeling of general mistrust on the part of his people towards their superior Chiefs and authorities associated with and serving under such a diabolical form of government as Mensah's.
6. A desire on the part of the population in general for more freedom, and a better form of government, which would free them from the trade exactions and exactions many were groaning under.

7. A desire to be more like their neighbours on our side of the Prah, so as to develop commerce and civilization.

47. The present position of the Ashantee country may be described as one replete with embarrassment and anxiety. A civil war has been averted by the happy circumstance of the Mission from Accra arriving on Ashantee territory just in time to induce the Elders and Chiefs of Coomassie to desist from their acknowledged intention of putting the young Quacoe Duah on the "stool" of their country. This act would have inflamed the adherents and the supporters of the ex-King Koffee Kalkali to hostile measures for his removal. The fire once kindled would soon have spread. The Elders and Chiefs heard we were on the road, and wisely decided to withdraw from intended action until they heard from your Excellency.

They knew, of course, that they would learn something from the mission, and awaited its arrival among them.

48. It is known that there are three candidates for the "stool."

1. Quacoe Duah.
2. Ex-King Koffee Kalkali.
3. Ex-King Ossai Mensah.

Mensah has no supporters, is not likely to receive any, and may be said to entertain no hope of re-election. He is in bondage as a sort of state prisoner of his country in the village of Abrodie some five hours on the north-east side of Coomassie. In his message to me (paragraph 31) he complains of being kept without food, and he asks me to take him down to the coast.

From all I have learnt it appears to me that it would be an act of charity if Her Majesty's Government could receive him, some provision being made for his maintenance.

The supporters of ex-King Koffee Kalkali are uncertain in name and in numbers, and likewise very wavering and fickle. He has however fewer now than he ever had, and his chances of obtaining election either by the voice of the people or by force of arms are more remote at the present moment than they have been before. On the 27th May last, when I left Coomassie, he was supported as I heard soon afterwards by the provinces of Coranza, Mampong, Nsuta, Kokofu, and many smaller bodies such as Argoonah and Inquanta, &c., but they have all, according to latest advices by messengers from Coomassie, seceded from him, and he is now or is about to become, so I hear from the same sources, a suppliant to your Excellency to support him in his candidature. The Argoonah's are reported to be his only supporters now. When I was in Coomassie he promised my interpreter Mr. Asanti (paragraphs 24 and 30) that he would not move out from Akropong or take any action which would produce civil war and additional complications. He broke that promise, whereupon the letter from Daydaysawah (paragraph 33) issued forth and destroyed his power. Quacoe Duah is supported by all the Elders and Chiefs in Coomassie. His candidature has never been canvassed outside Coomassie, but from all that I could learn on the road, and from inquiry in every direction, there is no reason to suppose that there would be any opposition to his election; in fact there are good grounds for anticipating that such a candidature would be universally approved of, save and except perhaps the instances of Bequoi, Danyassie, Dadiasse, and now Inquanta, but these and any others I apprehend could be satisfactorily disposed of in "Durbar" at Prahue without much difficulty.

49. The general feeling of the people being opposed to heavy fining, human sacrifice, and panyaring, which they acknowledge has culminated in their present deplorable and distressed position, they are anxious for the abolition of these customs. They are favourably disposed to general trading, increasing their agricultural callings, and to undisturbed trading facilities with the coast, and unquestionably seek such a better form of government as will yield them what they want. They court and solicit your Excellency's intercessions towards these ends. They have begged me to implore your Excellency to listen to their appeal, and to give them what they ask for. They say they cannot do it themselves, and that nothing but the British Government can. The Chiefs and Elders of Coomassie, the villages in my route, the King of Kokofu, the Chief of Dadiassie, the Chief of Daniassie, the King of Bequoi, all urged me to beg your Excellency to come to their assistance, to put their country straight for them, so that they may all be "of one mind" as in the time of Governor McLean, whom they still revere and call to this day "Obronie Badaie," which means "the time of the white man" "when everybody slept sound."

I have, &c.

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

Enclosure No. 1 of Report.

Name of Kings.	Name of King's Wife.	Name of Children.	Name of King's Sister.	Nos.	Remarks.
Ossai Asibey	Asantewa	Owusu Kokor (1). Tachesow. Ossoo Anshah (2).	Amah Sawah, married (name not known) and had two children, viz : 1. Quacoe Duah. 2. Afuah Sapong, girl.	1 2 3	Now in Coomassie. Now at Cape Coast. Mrs. Bannerman of Accra.
Ossai Yaow (brother of Ossai Asibey).		Yisah Hon (3). Ossoo Inquantabisa (4).	Afuah Sapong, married (name not known) and had issue : 1. Afuah Cobree (5). 2. Afuah Pokuah (6).	4 5 6	Went to England as hostage and died at Cape Coast. Koffee Kalkali's mother. Died of small-pox when I was in Coomassie.
Quacoe Duah (son of Amah Sawah and nephew of his two immediate predecessors).	Tachesow (his first cousin).	Quasi Afreyia (son) who married. Yisah Cheeah (7) and had issue. Quacoe Duah, now in Coomassie and candi- date for the vacant "Stool."	Afuah Cobree (5) as re- lated in paragraph 35, and had issue : 1. Koffee Kalkali. 2. Ossoo Mensah. 3. Yisah Cheeah (7). 4. Akuah Finyin (8).	7 8	Young Quacoe Duah's mother, now in Coomassie. In Coomassie, see para- graph 35.

No. 18.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 25, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 26, 1883.

MY LORD,

WITH reference to the subject of my Despatch dated August 21st, 1883,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti (and in reference to enclosure No. 3 in Despatch dated 12th August,† on the same subject, viz., instructions to Mr. Brennan to proceed to Prah-sue), I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a letter which I have received this day from the Inspector-General covering a letter from Assistant Inspector Brennan.

2. Mr. Brennan reports that he had arrived at Prah-sue on the 20th August 1883.

3. He had learned that fighting had occurred between the adherents of Coffee Kalkalli and Quacoe Duah on the 10th.

4. He purposed proceeding to Formana on the 20th excepting his journey were interfered with by this outbreak.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 18.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL to ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY, NATIVE AFFAIRS.

SIR,

Elmina Castle, August 24, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward, "Post to Post," Mr. Brennan's report on Ashanti affairs from Prah-sue for the information of his Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Colonial Secretary in
charge of Native Affairs, Accra.

(Signed) L. A. BRYDON,
Inspector-General.

Assistant Inspector BRENNAN to INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

SIR,

Prahue, August 20, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that, in accordance with instructions I left Elmina on the morning of the 16th, and arrived at Prahue on the 19th instant. Upon my arrival I endeavoured to ascertain any information of movement concerning Ashanti which I could, and found that the adherents of Coffee Kalkalli and those of Quacoe Duah had commenced hostilities on the 10th instant, and that a number of men have been killed and wounded upon both sides.

I beg to state that I purpose proceeding to Fommanah on the 22nd instant to carry out the instructions of his Excellency in as far as they are not affected by the present outbreak, when I hope to be enabled to gain more full and reliable information than I could possibly expect or hope to obtain here.

I have, &c.

The Inspector-General, Gold Coast
Constabulary, Elmina Castle.

(Signed) GEORGE BRENNAN,
Assistant Inspector, Gold Coast Constabulary.

No. 19.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 25, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 26, 1883.

MY LORD,

I REGRET to have to report to your Lordship that information has reached me of a threatened disturbance in the district of Western Akim.

2. This district lies to the right or eastward of the road from Cape Coast to Prahue, and north of the route from Accra to Mansue.

3. I am told that formerly the route through the Akim country to Ashanti was much used; I believe there are still many Akim villages on the northern side of the Prah.

4. At the time of the troubles with Ashanti in 1881 the then King of that district, Quabbenah Fuah, was very wishful to regain possession of the country which had belonged to his fathers on the north side of the Prah.

5. I have the honour to attach copies of statements which have been taken down by the Assistant Secretary.

6. In one of these mention is made of a rumour that Coffee Ahinquah had sent for the people of Dadiassie in Ashanti to come and help him.

7. Mr Kirby informs me that at the time of his passing Amoafu with Captain Barrow, at an interview they had with the Chief of Dadiassie, the latter stated that he had an influential friend in the Protectorate, the King of Western Akim, and that this King would plead his (Dadiassie's) case with the Governor, and get permission for him to come into the Protectorate.

8. In the 5th paragraph of Despatch dated 8th April 1883,* I had the honour to report that messengers from the people of Dadiassie had come to Accra, and also that they were introduced by the King of Akim Swaidroo.

9. Akim Swaidroo is the place which is referred to in the attached papers.

10. I propose to see the Queen's Advocate on this matter, and make arrangements for Mr. Kirby to proceed at once to Akim. I had already intended that he should pass by Akim in a farther visit to Ashanti.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

* No. 57 in [C.—3687] July 1883.

Enclosure 1 in No. 19.

STATEMENT of Quamin, captain for the Chief Cleland of James Town, Accra, touching the intended hostilities between King Attah Fuah, of Insuaim, in Western Akim, and Chief Coffee Ahinquah of Akim Swaidroo in the same place, taken before me, the undersigned, Charles D. Turton, Assistant Colonial Secretary in Charge of Native Affairs, at the Colonial Secretariat, Christiansborg, this 25th day of August 1883.

QUAMIN'S STATEMENT.

QUAMIN states as follows:—I am a Captain, and live in James Town, Accra. Mr. Cleland sent me to inform the Governor that a Chief by the name of Obendakun, who lives in a village named Insuaim near here, sent to inform him that there was going to be a fight between Attah Fuah and Coffee Ahinquah, and that he sent his people to buy guns and powder from him (Mr. Cleland), as he heard this he thought it right that he should at once report this to the Governor. They have bought no guns, there are five of them, and they are still at Mr. Cleland's. There are plenty of guns to be sold in the town. These people have bought none.

QUAMIN ^{his} X
mark.

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Taken before me at Christiansborg, this 25th day of August 1883, the same having been interpreted by C. W. Badger, Interpreter at Government House to the said Quamin.

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 2 in No. 19.

STATEMENT of Coffee Coomah, a messenger of Chief Obendakun, of Western Akim, touching the intended hostilities between King Attah Fuah, of Insuaim, in Western Akim, and Chief Coffee Ahinquah, of Akim Swaidroo in the same place, taken before me, the undersigned, Charles D. Turton, Assistant Colonial Secretary in Charge of Native Affairs, at the Colonial Secretariat, Christiansborg, this 25th day of August 1883.

COFFEE COOMAH'S STATEMENT.

COFFEE COOMAH states as follows:—

I am a messenger of Chief Obendakun and live at Insuaim. This town is about 12 hours from here and under King Tackie. My master is a Chief of Akim and belongs to Attah Fuah, the King of Western Akim: We heard a rumour of war between King Attah Fuah and Coffee Ahinquah. Our master sent us then to find out if it was true. We found all the people of Insuaim, where Attah Fuah lives, preparing for war. They were arming themselves with powder and guns. We heard that Coffee Ahinquah had sent for the people of Dadiasie in Ashanti to come and help him; this was only rumour. Attah Fuah's people were still in the town of Insuaim. I cannot say of my own knowledge that the people were going to send the women away, but I heard the Akim Swaidroo people had sent theirs away. Both parties are ready to fight, they have sworn their oath that any man who has a wife must have a gun. Attah Fuah has most men. I could not say for certain that the Dadiasies would come, they are four days' journey distant. I am sure that if the white man does not interfere at once there will be a fight.

COFFEE COOMAH ^{his} X
mark.

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Taken before me at Christiansborg, this 25th day of August 1883, the same having been interpreted by C. W. Badger, Interpreter at Government House, to the said Coffee Coomah.

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

COOMASSIE.

Archaeological Site

London 1857

Assisted by

22 Aug 1853

B U S H

SWAMPS

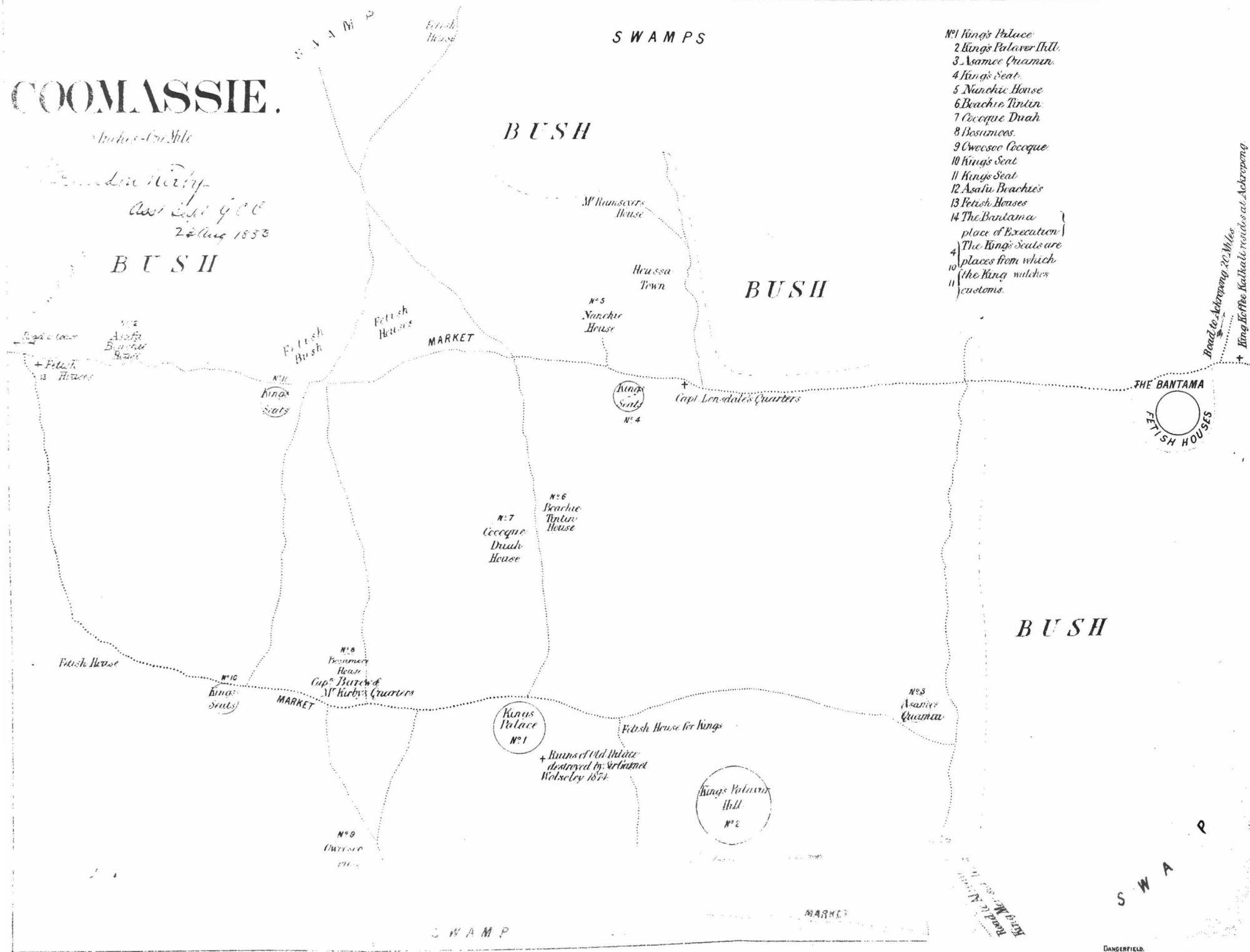
B U S H

B U S H

B U S H

- Nº1 King's Palace
 - 2 King's Palace Hill
 - 3 Asamee Quamen
 - 4 King's Seat
 - 5 Nanchie House
 - 6 Beachie Tinten
 - 7 Cocque Duah
 - 8 Bosumcos
 - 9 Cwoosoo Cocque
 - 10 King's Seat
 - 11 King's Seat
 - 12 Asafu Beachie's
 - 13 Fetish Houses
 - 14 The Bantama
- place of Execution
The King's Seats are
places from which
the King watches
customs.

Road to Achpong 20 Miles
King of the Natchie roads at Achpong



No. 20.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. the EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 25, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 27, 1883.

MY LORD,

In continuation of my Despatch dated the 21st August 1883,* forwarding a copy of Captain Barrow's report on his mission to Ashanti, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of an itinerary prepared by Assistant Inspector Kirby, and a plan of the town of Coomassie also furnished to me by that officer.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 20.

Itinerary of Journey from ACCRA to COOMASSIE, April to June 1883.

Date.	Left.	Arrived at.	Date.	Time taken.	GENERAL REMARKS.
1883.					
April 2	Christiansborg.	Cape Coast	April 4	3 days	Made the journey per S.S. Kinsembo.
" 5	{ Cape Coast Elmina.	{ Elmina - Cape Coast }	" 5	{ 2 hours - 2 " }	{ Inspected escort of Houssas, and made arrangements at Cape Coast for carriers.
" 6	Cape Coast	- - -	- - -	- - -	Arranged loads, &c., for carriers, and made out their roll.
" 7	"	Ekroful	April 7	7½ hours	Saw the King of Abracrampa.
" 8	Ekroful	Fanti Yan, Coomassie.	" 8	7½ "	Saw King Chiboo, and Chief Mensah of Inkrau.
" 9	Fanti Yan, Coomassie.	Mansue	" 9	7½ "	Very wet weather. Capt. Barrow down with fever.
" 10	Mansue	Foosoo	" 10	9 "	
" 11	Foosoo	Prahsue	" 11	10 "	Barrow down with fever.
" 12	Prahsue	- - -	- - -	- - -	
" 13	"	- - -	- - -	- - -	
" 14	"	- - -	- - -	- - -	
" 15	"	- - -	- - -	- - -	—
" 16	"	- - -	- - -	- - -	
" 17	"	Asaman	April 17	4½ hours	—
" 18	Asaman	Cheribroom	" 18	7 "	—
" 19	Cheribroom	Fomanah	" 19	6 "	Saw King Inkansah.
" 20	Fomanah	- - -	- - -	- - -	Had palavers.
" 21	"	Amoaful	April 21	10 hours	Saw King of Becque.
" 22	Amoaful	- - -	- - -	- - -	Had palavers with Kings of Becque, Dadiassie, and Danyiassie.
" 23	"	Adjumum	April 23	5 hours	Had palaver with King of Kokofu.
" 24	Adjumum	Kassi	" 24	5 "	Chief Bussunuroo arrived with message from Coomassie Chiefs asking us to wait a day at "Kassi" before entering Coomassie.
" 25	Kassi	- - -	- - -	- - -	—
" 26	"	Coomassie	April 26	2 hours	Saw Chiefs of Coomassie at a public meeting on the King's Hill.
" 27	Coomassie	- - -	- - -	- - -	Had Palavers with the Chiefs twice each day.
" 28	"	- - -	- - -	- - -	
" 29	"	- - -	- - -	- - -	Complaints made against Koffee-Kalkalli.
" 30	"	- - -	- - -	- - -	
May 1	Coomassie	- - -	- - -	- - -	{ Had palaver and arranged to send for Manpong, Insutah, Aguna, Inquanta, and Karanza to attend (if they wished) the palavers.
" 2	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	

Date.	Left.	Arrived at.	Date.	Time taken.	GENERAL REMARKS.
May 3	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	Had palavers and impressed upon the Chiefs and people to remain quiet, for if any more fighting occurred we should leave "Coomassie."
" 4	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
" 5	{ Ackropong Coomassie.	Ackropong Coomassie.	May 5	5 hours	
" 6			"	5 hours	Saw King Koffee-Kalkalli and returned him his people who had been taken prisoners by the Coomassie people on the 2nd inst. Made him return the Coomassie's he had taken prisoners and he promised to remain quiet.
" 7	"	"	-	-	
" 8	"	"	-	-	
" 9	"	"	-	-	Had palavers daily.
" 10	"	"	-	-	
" 11	"	"	-	-	
" 12	{ Abrodie Coomassie.	Abrodie Coomassie.	May 12	{ 5 hours	Saw King Mensah and took down his complaint against the Coomassie Chiefs.
" 13			"	{ 5 hours	
" 14	Abrodie Coomassie.	"	-	-	
" 15	"	"	-	-	Had palavers daily.
" 16	"	"	-	-	
" 17	"	"	-	-	
" 18	"	"	-	-	Had palavers daily.
" 19	"	"	-	-	
" 20	"	"	-	-	
" 21	"	"	-	-	Waited for Interpreter Asanti, who was sent with a message to King Koffee-Kalkalli, impressing upon him the necessity of remaining quiet.
" 22	"	"	-	-	
" 23	"	"	-	-	
" 24	"	"	-	-	Went to see King and hear his complaint against some of his young men.
" 25	"	"	-	-	
" 26	"	"	-	-	
" 27	Coomassie	Dadasua	May 27	5 hours	Passed "Ahkankassie," a great market. Market day every Friday. From 1,500 to 2,000 traders in this market. Manchester goods principally sold.
" 28	Dadasua	"	-	-	
" 29	"	"	-	-	
" 30	"	Amoaful	-	-	Tried to reach Lake Boosmaquass, but owing to state of roads from the wet weather it was impossible.
" 31	Amoaful	Becque	May 31	1 hour	
June 1	Amoaful	Fomanah	June 1	8 hours	
" 2	Fomanah	-	-	-	Had palavers with King and Chiefs.
" 3	"	-	-	-	
" 4	"	-	-	-	
" 5	Assaman	Assaman	June 4	10 hours.	Delayed through weather (heavy rains).
" 6	Prahsue	Prahsue	" 5	5 "	
" 7	Prahsue	Assin Yan Coomassie.	" 6	5 "	
" 8	Assin Yan Coomassie.	Sintah	" 7	5 "	Delayed through weather (heavy rains).
" 9	Sintah	Mansue	" 8	4 1/2 "	
" 10	Mansue	"	-	-	
" 11	"	"	-	-	Delayed through weather (heavy rains).
" 12	"	Inkran	June 11	2 hours.	
" 13	Inkran	Assaboe	" 12	11 "	
" 14	Assaboe	Cape Coast and Elmina.	" 13	8 "	Delayed through weather (heavy rains).
" 15	Elmina	Cape Coast	" 14	2 "	
" 16	Cape Coast	"	" 15	-	
" 17	"	Salt Pond	" 16	10 hours	Beach bad, lagoons broken out into the sea from the heavy rains.
" 18	Salt Pond	"	-	-	
" 19	"	"	-	-	
" 20	Akrah	Winnebah	June 18	9 hours	Beach bad, lagoons broken out into the sea from the heavy rains.
" 21	Akrah	Cooks Loaf	" 19	10 "	
" 22	Winnebah	Cooks Loaf	" 20	10 "	
" 23	Cooks Loaf	Acera	" 21	5 "	

BRANDON KIRBY,

No. 21.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 25, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
August 27, 1883.

MY LORD,

IN reference to the subject of my Despatch of yesterday's date,* viz., the threatened disturbance in the district of Western Akim, I have the honor to report to your Lordship that I have conferred with the Queen's Advocate, and have decided that it is desirable to furnish Assistant Inspector Kirby with warrants for the apprehension of the rival Chiefs of Akim should it chance that they should make any objection to complying with his request to at once visit me here if he finds the state of affairs in Akim requires that they should do so.

2. The Chief Justice has issued warrants for the apprehension of these Chiefs, having received sworn information as to the condition of affairs in the Akim district.

3. The Commissioner of the Accra district has been instructed under a similar process of Court to arrest the persons who have come to Accra for the purpose of purchasing guns and gunpowder, sufficient evidence having been produced to show that these persons are conspiring to commit a breach of the peace.

4. I propose that Mr. Kirby should leave so soon as I have completed the necessary instructions; he will take with him a force of 33 Houssas.

5. I have the honor to transmit to your Lordship a report (in reference to this disturbance) which has been compiled by Assistant Colonial Secretary Turton, and some notes on the road through Akim to Ashanti.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 21.

DISTURBANCE IN WESTERN AKIM.

Colonial Secretariat, Christiansborg,
August 26, 1883.

SIR,

IN accordance with your Excellency's instructions I have the honour to submit the following particulars with reference to the present disturbed state of Western Akim.

The King of Western Akim is named Attah Fuah, and he resides at a town named Insuaim, which is situated at a distance of about 80 miles from this place.

One of his Chiefs, named Coffee Ahinquah, resides at a town named Akim Swajdro, which is situated about four miles from Insuaim, and is about the same size.

This Chief appears to have become powerful, and claims to be independent of the King and an independent sovereign.

On the 27th July last a messenger named Aquasie Beo and two followers arrived here, and he stated that he had been sent by Chief Coffee Ahinquah to inform your Excellency that one of his people named Jumah, who was a noted sheep stealer, went on or about the 19th July to Insuaim to steal.

Whilst doing this he was caught and taken before the King, who said that he had not come to steal but to poison him, and therefore he must be put in log, which was accordingly done.

When the Chief heard this he sent messengers to inform the King that the man Jumah had not been sent to poison him, but as this statement was not believed the messengers were all put in log, and the King sent and told the Chief that he must hold himself in readiness for he was coming to fight him.

Under these circumstances, and as the Chief was not able to oppose the King, he requested that a European officer be sent so that he might inquire into and settle the matter between them.

* No. 19.

I

Whilst this request was under consideration one of the sword bearers of the King, named Coffee Appah, accompanied by two followers, arrived here and informed me on the 28th July that the king had instructed him to inform the Governor that he had found a man named Jumah in the town of Insuaim, which man belonged to Chief Coffee Ahinquah, and that this man had confessed in the presence of himself and elders that the Chief had given him medicine to bury in the town, which was to poison the people.

By the advice of his Chiefs and people he sent for the Chief to come and explain the matter, but this Coffee Ahinquah refused to do, saying that if the King was a man he could come and fight him.

The King seeing how things were going thought it advisable to ask your Excellency to send some person to settle the matter.

The following day your Excellency saw the messengers of both parties at the lodge, and informed them, after asking whether they had fought, and received the reply that they had not, that if they had fought they would have found out their mistake as the land belonged to the Government. They could go and tell their King that you would have no fighting amongst them, and if they could not settle amongst themselves then both the Kings (King and Chief) should come down to you with all parties concerned.

The messengers said such was the wish of their respective masters, and they then received leave to return to Akim.

Nothing further was heard from either party until the 15th instant, when the messenger Aquasie Beo returned and said that the King had sent another messenger to his master, the Chief Coffee Ahinquah, to say that he would certainly fight with him, and that his people had begun to plunder the plantations of the Akim Swaidros. His master asked that your Excellency would interfere.

This messenger was followed by a Chief of Akim Swaidro with three attendants, who arrived on the 22nd. They confirmed what had already been stated as to the state of affairs, but he added that he and the townspeople had heard that Attah Fuah was buying guns and powder and that the women and children were removing from one village to another.

In reply to the messages brought by the last two sets of messengers your Excellency informed them that an officer would be sent whom they could accompany.

The latest information I have received is that of yesterday, and for which I am indebted to Mr. Cleland, who is one of the Chiefs of James Town, Accra. That gentleman sent his captain, named Quamin with a man named Coffee Coomah, who with four others have been sent by Chief Bendakun of the Attah Fuah party to buy guns and powder. The man, Coffee Coomah, states that he went to Insuaim and found all the people of that place preparing for war, and they were arming themselves with both guns as well as powder.

In accordance with the advice of the Queen's Advocate I shall get out the warrants early in the morning so that they can be placed in the hands of Assistant Inspector Kirby, and he will thus be enabled to bring both parties down.

The warrants for the five men I will get in the morning, and see Mr. Cleland with a view to obtaining further information as to the purchase of guns and powder here, but I understand that they would probably be bought at Saltpond, which is nearer than here.

I informed Mr. Cleland's messenger, Captain Quamin, that he must convey your Excellency's thanks to Mr. Cleland for the information which he had been so good as to give, and to ask him to prevent the purchase of any guns by the messengers of Chief Obenduko. I also warned Coffee Coomah against buying guns or powder, and he promised to not buy any. Captain Quamin also said that no guns shall be bought by these people.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Assistant Colonial Secretary in
Charge of Native Affairs.

12.40 pm.—Warrants have since writing above come to hand. Delivered at once to Mr. Kirby.

Enclosure 2 in No. 21.

MEMORANDUM ON ROAD. AKIM TO ASHANTI.

Report says much trade used to pass between Accra and Ashanti by a route through Akim.

2. Assistant Inspector Thompson followed this route in the journey he made in June 1882 (see Itinerary, dated Elmina, 3rd July 1882, attached to Administrator Moloney's Despatch, dated August 8, 1883).

3. The most northerly point reached by Assistant Inspector Thompson is marked on the sketch of the route furnished by him as Iribee.

4. In the survey of the Busum Prah attached to Lieutenant (now Lieutenant-Colonel) Hart's report, attached to my Despatch to Lord Kimberley, dated June 5th, 1883 (printed in Parliamentary Papers, 1881, C.—3064), the same place, Iribee, is shown (printed with a prefix Ai.).

5. The route from this place appears to run almost due north; it is parallel with the Prah river, through Beronassi, marked both in Colonel Hart's and Assistant Inspector Thompson's maps.

6. From Iribee Assistant Inspector Thompson passed to Pahoooroodoo.

7. Assistant Inspector Thompson and Lieutenant-Colonel Hart appear to have both crossed the River Prah at a place called Cocochinchin.

Christiansburg Castle, Accra,
August 27, 1883.

No. 22.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received September 23, 1883.)

Christiansburg Castle, Accra,
August 27, 1883.

MY LORD,

In reference to my Despatch of this date,* on the subject of the threatened disturbance in Western Akim, and also to my Despatch, of yesterday† on the subject of the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a telegram which I have just received from Mr. Turton, who has gone to Accra on business connected with this matter.

2. Mr. Turton reports messengers have come to Accra, who say that the Dadiassie people have "crossed (the Prah) and are in the Protectorate," that they "are in Coffee Ahinquah's croom." He also says "that the Dadiassies have caught one of the representatives of Attah Fuah, who is the Chief in opposition to Coffee Ahinquah, and taken his badge from him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 22.

TELEGRAM.

TURTON to GOVERNOR.

MESSENGERS from Attah Fuah came to King Tackie last night, they say that the Dadiassies have crossed and are in the Protectorate. They are in Coffee Ahinquah's croom. Will bring messengers at once. The Dadiassies have caught one of Attah Fuah's representatives, called Occrah, and taken his badge from him.

* No. 21.

† No. 18.

No. 23.

The RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

Sir,

Downing Street, October 2, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches,* reporting the arrival of Assistant Inspector Brennan at Prahsue, and the report of fighting in Ashanti, the outbreak of disturbances in Western Akim, and the crossing of the Prah into the Protectorate by the Dadiassie people.

I trust that the action you have taken in these matters will avert any further difficulties and trouble.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

No. 24.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL of DERBY.
(Received October 3, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
September 1, 1883.

My LORD,

In reference to the subject of my Despatch of the 27th ultimo,† viz., the threatened disturbance in Akim, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the instructions I caused to be issued to Mr. Kirby for his guidance on his visit to that district.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 24.

INSTRUCTIONS to ASSISTANT INSPECTOR KIRBY, Gold Coast Constabulary, to proceed to AKIM.

As you are aware for some time a quarrel has existed between the Chief of Akim Swaidro and the King of Western Akim, and I have been informed that the misunderstanding is now likely to lead to a breach of the peace, and I request that you will be good enough to proceed to Akim without delay.

2. You should first visit Insuaim as being the town of Attah Fuah; on arriving there I request that you will inform the King in the usual manner that you have been sent by me to inquire into the disturbance which has been reported to me.

3. You should take the earliest opportunity of seeing him and his Chiefs in person.

4. So soon as you are sufficiently informed of the state of affairs at Insuaim you should go to Akim Swaidro, and you should see Chief Coffee Ahinquah.

5. You should tell him similarly that I have sent you there to inquire into those differences which are reported to exist.

6. You are authorised by me to inform him, that I will look patiently into any complaints he may have to make against King Attah Fuah, but that I cannot allow him (Coffee Ahinquah) to consider himself independent of the King of Akim.

7. If you find that the state of affairs permits inquiry to be made locally, and you think that such action is not likely to provoke a breach of the peace, you will direct Coffee Ahinquah to visit you at Insuaim, which is the town of the King of the district to which he belongs.

8. You will see that, if circumstances permit it, I wish you to inquire into this misunderstanding at Insuaim; but before deciding to do this you must consider with very great care, whether such action by you will be safe, and whether it will not be better that the King and Chief should meet at some place between Insuaim and Akim Swaidro, at which the two parties may see each other without the danger of any conflict.

9. Should you find that the troubles have already gone so far that this cannot be, you must exercise your discretion as to further action; and you must be exceedingly careful to avoid any act on your own part, and not to insist on any act by either party which would tend to provoke farther quarrel between them.

10. Should you find that a disturbance has already commenced and that the peace has been broken in any way, you must use your discretion as to the necessity of directing King Attah Fuah and Chief Coffee Ahinquah to visit me at once at this place.

11. Should you find it necessary to issue a direct order to them to do so, and should they refuse to obey that order, you are herewith furnished with two warrants under which you are authorised to arrest King Attah Fuah, of Insuaim, and Chief Coffee Ahinquah, of Akim Swaidro, for conspiring to commit a breach of the peace.

12. But before taking any such action you must well consider the present position of Akim with regard to the troubles in Ashanti, and the present responsibilities of the King and of his Chiefs to all their people in connexion therewith.

13. It is most important for you to remember that it is reported that 100 fighting men from Dadiasi have crossed the border and are stationed at Berinassie, and that they are prepared to give their support to Coffee Ahinquah.

14. I request that if circumstances permit you will visit Berinassie and learn how far this report is true.

15. It will be necessary for you to exercise very great care in the carrying out of these instructions.

16. It may be that you may find it desirable to take no action beyond remaining in Akim and preventing any fighting between the combatants. If you find the state of affairs in Akim is such as in any way to necessitate this, I desire that you will refrain from attempting to interfere in this matter and that you will communicate by special messenger with me. I will at once send up to you such reinforcements as are obtainable and further instructions as to the action you should take.

17. You will be provided with an escort of 33 non-commissioned officers and men
 1 sergeant. of the Gold Coast Constabulary (Houssa) and I have given the necessary
 2 corporals. directions to the officer commanding the constabulary.
 30 privates.

18. Each man will be provided with 40 rounds of ball ammunition.

19. You will be careful not to excite any exhibition of ill-feeling on the part of the inhabitants of any of the towns you pass through; in the event of your being attacked (a contingency which I think exceedingly unlikely) you will place yourself in a position of defence and in immediate communication with me.

20. There are messengers from Attah Fuah and Coffee Ahinquah, now at Christiansborg; they will return with you.

21. Mr. Asante has been instructed to accompany you as an interpreter.

22. On your return journey, if convenient, you should call at Achinasie, also in Western Akim, and see Chief Darcoo of that town.

23. You will explain to him the cause of your visit to Akim, and you will tell Chief Darcoo that I am pleased to find that he has not taken part in the reported quarrels.

24. You are authorised to give Chief Darcoo a present of 5*l.* from me.

25. During your absence on this journey you will be entitled to draw travelling allowance at the rate laid down in the Ordinance No. 1 of 1883; the provisions of this Ordinance will also apply to Mr. Asante.

26. I attach vouchers (approved) authorising you to draw 30*l.* from the Treasury chest.

27. You will be required to account for this sum on your return.

28. I request you will despatch a messenger to me so soon as you reach Insuaim.

I am, &c.

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
 August 30, 1883.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
 Governor.

No. 25.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received October 3, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
September 1, 1883.

MY LORD,

IN reference to the subject of my Despatch dated this day,* viz., the threatened disturbance in Akim, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of some farther instructions which I caused to be addressed to Mr. Kirby in reference to his obtaining information as to a more direct route than the one generally followed between this place and the Akim country.

2. This point is of importance in so far that it is becoming daily more necessary that we should be in possession of information as to the shortest route which is practicable between Accra and Coomassie.

3. In a Despatch dated 8th August 1882,† Mr. Moloney, then administering the Government of this Colony, forwarded to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State a report by Assistant Inspector Thompson of a journey from Accra to the Prah River through the Akim country.

4. The Right Honourable the Secretary of State acknowledged the receipt of this Despatch on the 31st October 1882,‡ and said that he had caused the report to be printed.

5. The map furnished by Mr. Thompson gives what I believe to be an accurate outline of the route which I propose Mr. Kirby should follow.

6. In the second paragraph of my Despatch dated June 5, 1881,§ I made reference to a report furnished by Lieutenant Swinburne, R.M.A., of a journey between Accra and Mansue, and I made reference to the fact that it was important that this route should be improved. I regret that I have hitherto been able to do so little in this matter.

7. In Mr. Thompson's sketch he shows in dotted lines the first part of the track followed by Mr. Swinburne.

8. It will be of advantage if Mr. Kirby finds a practicable track from the route followed by Mr. Swinburne direct to the Akim country.

9. I would respectfully submit to your Lordship that some farther copies of this map and of the report which accompanied it would be very useful to us here if they are obtainable.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 25.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY to Assistant Inspector KIRBY.

Colonial Secretariat, Christiansborg, Accra,
August 30, 1883.

SIR,

IN reference to his Excellency the Governor's instructions to you this day to proceed to Akim, I am directed to ask your attention to the gathering of what information you can as to the existence of a track between Accrossie, which is the first town on the main road in Akim, and Adipong, a place about 10 miles north-east of Accra and on the borders of Gomoah, through which you pass from Accra through Beulah.

2. It would seem to his Excellency that the route to this place (Accrossie), whether it be taken from Botiano (Borteyanor) after crossing the Seccoom direct to the north-east, or whether it be taken from Accra by Beulah and Adipong, should be much shorter than the road through Agoona Swaidroo.

* No. 24.

† Not printed.

‡ No. 12 in [C.—3687], July, 1883.

§ No. 127 in [C.—3064], August, 1881.

3. Assistant Inspector Thompson reports that the town of Accrossie is situate on the banks of the River Acora, which at the time he crossed it was 12 feet wide and 1 foot deep.

4. It may be that the land lying between Accrossie and Adipoug is marshy, but, in any case, his Excellency desires me to ask that you will gather all the information you can on this subject, and attempt to send a messenger by that route or yourself pass by it if practicable.

Assistant Inspector Kirby.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRED. EVANS,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

No. 26.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received October 3, 1883).

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,

September 1, 1883.

MY LORD,

In continuation of the subject of my Despatch dated 27th August 1883,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, and in reference more especially to my Despatch of 26th August† on the same subject, I have the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of a letter from the Inspector-General, dated Elmina, August 26, 1883, covering a letter from Assistant-Inspector Brennan.

2. Mr. Brennan reports that since the despatch of his former letter (enclosure to Despatch of 26th August†), he has received farther information to the effect that fighting had occurred in Ashanti on the 10th August between the supporters of Coffee Kalkalli and Quaco Duah, and that the fighting commenced by Coffee Kalkalli himself killing one of the Chiefs of the opposite party.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 26.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL to ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY in Charge of Native Affairs.

SIR,

Elmina Castle, August 26, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward, post to post, Assistant-Inspector Brennan's second report from Prahue on Ashanti affairs.

The Acting Colonial Secretary
in Charge of Native Affairs,
Accra.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. BRYDON,
Inspector-General.

Enclosure 2 in No. 26.

ASSISTANT-INSPECTOR BRENNAN to INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

SIR,

Prahue, August 21 1883.

In continuation of my letter of yesterday's date, I have the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I have since obtained the following information:—

It appears that the outbreak therein reported originated through Coffee Kalkalli and his adherents endeavouring to obtain, by force, possession of the golden stool, which Quacoe Duah and his followers prevented; the latter being desirous of awaiting instructions from the Government, whereas the former is not.

* No. 20.

† No. 18.

The fighting commenced about 8 a.m. on the 10th instant by Coffee Kalkalli himself killing one of the Chiefs of the opposing side named Inquata Owosu, and lasted until about 5 p.m. on the same day, resulting in the defeat of Coffee Kalkalli. Both Coffee Kalkalli and Quacoe Duah were present during the fighting; the former on finding that he was worsted retired to some village where he at present is supposed to be, the latter remaining at Coomassie.

The golden stool is at the latter named place in charge of Chief Ammuah, the keeper.

The following is an approximation of the numbers killed and wounded on both sides, together with the names of the Chiefs killed.

On Coffee Kalkalli's side 80 men killed and 60 wounded, including Chiefs Attah Poku, Awonah and Penin, Tutoo, King Atooarhin of Agunah, and King Yow Ackromah of Insutah have both committed suicide.

On Quacoe Duah's side 60 men killed and 50 wounded, including the following Chiefs: Inquata Owosu, Coffee Poku, Inserla Poku, Yormofuba Poku, and four others whose names are unknown.

In my last letter I find that I used the word "effected" instead of "affected."

I have, &c.

The Inspector-General,
Gold Coast Constabulary,
Elmina Castle.

(Signed) GEORGE BRENNAN,
Assistant Inspector,
Gold Coast Constabulary.

No. 27.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received October 3, 1883.)

MY LORD,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra, September 1, 1883.

WITH reference to the subject of my Despatches dated 27th ultimo and 10th ultimo,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that Mr. Ansah arrived at this place on Friday the 24th instant.

2. I had an interview with him the same evening. He informed me that the principal cause of the troubles in Ashanti is, in his opinion, the action of Coomassie in arrogating to itself a position, as the sole authority in the nation, which the outlying provinces refuse to accept.

3. He states that the Ashanti provinces object to Coomassie having acted in the dethronement of Mensah without their consent.

4. He further states that the principal part of the power of the country is in support of Coffee Kalkali, the King whom the Ashantis deposed after the expedition of 1873-74.

5. I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a memorandum which I have received from Mr. Ansah on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 27.

Mr. ANSAH to GOVERNOR.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Christiansborg, Accra, August 27, 1883.

ACCORDING to your request, I have the honour to lay before you the facts which have caused the present difficulties of my country, Ashanti.

2. Coomassie has been from the commencement of the Ashanti confederacy the capital of that kingdom and the seat of the general Government, and it is there that the King has always resided, and there also has the great stool always been deposited.

3. On this account the people of Coomassie have always arrogated to themselves rank and prestige superior to that of the other provinces forming the empire, and they have from time immemorial considered themselves as representatives of the whole Ashanti nation, and have invariably assumed towards their neighbours of the other provinces a bearing which the latter, although they submitted to it, never liked.

4. The people of the other provinces having thus in a manner surrendered in ordinary matters the executive power, as it were, to Coomassie, the Chiefs of the latter began to assume powers which by the constitution they were not entitled to exercise, and this finally led to their deposing the King, Kari-kari, without the consent and approval of the Supreme Council of the empire.

5. The rebel Chiefs of Coomassie having once taken this step without consulting the Council, it was not difficult for them to depose Mensah also in his turn; having done so they now desire to place Quacoe Duah on the stool without even consulting the other provinces. Those provinces object to Quacoe Duah being made King whilst Kari-kari and Mensah are alive, as they know that the more pretenders there are to the stool the more troubles must arise, and therefore the majority of the provinces espouse the cause of Kari-kari, believing him to be most entitled to the stool, and his restoration bring about that peace and union which is so much desired.

6. The great Chiefs of Mampon, Kokofoo, Insuta Nquaransah, Agoonah, &c., all favour Kari-kari, and Owusoo Korkor, with one or two other Coomassie Chiefs, alone oppose the will of the rest of the nation.

7. The bulk of the nation believe that Kari-kari would, if restored, turn his attention to promote the true interest of his people, he having learnt a lesson from the war of 1873-74, and he has moreover derived considerable experience during the period of his exile.

8. The present complications arose entirely through the conduct or rather misconduct of Prince Buaki Tintin in conveying to the King, Mensah, and the people of Coomassie a message totally different than that which he was charged to deliver by your Excellency on behalf of the British Government; Buaki gave King Mensah to understand that the British Government has no objection to his cutting off the heads of his people at his will and pleasure, and that he might fine and oppress his people to any extent.

9. This so flattered Mensah that he began to exercise the grossest tyranny over his subjects and to kill and to fine them on the slightest or no pretence at all.

10. The people of Coomassie becoming tired of his conduct resolved to depose him, and they did so; having done so, if they had consulted and agreed with the other provinces before electing his successor all would have gone well; but whilst the vast majority of the Ashanti empire, the Kokofoos, Mampons, Insutas, and several other provinces were in favour of the restoration of Kari-kari, the Chiefs of Coomassie alone took upon themselves to set up young Quacoe Duah as King.

11. Kari-kari was formerly proclaimed by the Chiefs of Mampon, Kokofoo, &c., &c., the former, whose peculiar office is to seat the King on the stool, without which no King can be properly enthroned, and the next (Kokofoo) who has the hereditary right of disposing the royal stool to any of the royal family he pleases.

12. The present and immediate question is the possession of the great stool which Prince Owusoo Korkor has seized with the aid of his cousin Prince Asafu Buaki for their nephew Quacoe Duah, who they believe they could use as a tool for their own purposes, but they know that if Kari-kari got the stool he would be King indeed.

13. The will of the nation is that Kari-kari should be King; the nation desire his restoration because his deposition in 1874 was brought about in order to appease the Chief of Djabin (Asafu-Agai), and prevent him and his people breaking off from the great Ashanti confederacy; but when the people found that they had deposed their favorite King only to be deceived by the Djabins, they became exasperated and hence arose the war between Coomassie supported by the provinces against Djabin, the result of which is well known.

14. When the Government Commissioners went up to Coomassie recently they strictly enjoined Kari-kari, who was actually on the march to Coomassie to demand possession of the great stool, to retire and abide the decision of the Government (Commissioners). Kari-kari at once halted and withdrew his forces to Bremen, where, in an unguarded hour, he was treacherously attacked by the Coomassie forces of Owusoo Korkor, and Asafu Buaki.

15. Kari-kari is at this moment, or was by last accounts, at a place called Fufuo', where he was preparing to avenge himself of the treacherous conduct of the Coomassie Chiefs.

16. I can speak without hesitation, and say that there will never be any peace in that at present distracted country, if Quacoe Duah is placed on the stool during the lifetime of Kari-kari, inasmuch that the latter will, so long as he lives, continue his efforts to recover his rights.

17. I therefore earnestly beg your Excellency to interfere in the matter.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) JNO. OSSOO ANSAH,
of Ashanti.

No. 28.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received October 3, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
September 1, 1883.

MY LORD,

IN reference to the subject of my Despatch of this day,* covering a report from Mr. Anseh on the state of affairs in Ashanti I would very respectfully remark that Mr. Anseh would seem to be a decided supporter of Koffee Kalkalli.

2. He speaks to me of his (Anseh's) brother Awuso (or Ossoo) Korkor as a man of great determination, and he said to me that if once Ossoo Korkor was roused he would use any and every means to carry his purpose.

3. He states that Ossoo Korkor is desirous to put Quacoe Duah on the throne in order that he, Ossoo Korkor, may make a tool of him.

4. But it is worth while to remember that Ossoo Korkor is spoken of as having practically managed Ashanti affairs during the reign of the former Quacoe Duah, and that this King's reign is spoken of as a time of peace and quiet.

5. And farther that when the troubles occurred in 1881 and Mensah was urged by his people to fight, he, Mensah, consulted Ossoo Korkor and the old Chief advised Mensah to pay anything rather than fight with the white man.

6. It would not therefore appear to me to be particularly disadvantageous that Ossoo Korkor should practically act as a sort of regent.

7. In reference to Anseh's statement in paragraph 8 that the present complications arose through the misconduct of Buaki Tintin in conveying to the King a message totally different from that he was charged to deliver, I should say that Captain Barrow makes reference to the same excuse being put forward by Mensah.

8. I cannot say that Buaki Tintin did not do this, but I sent the message not only by Buaki Tintin but by Captain Lonsdale.

9. I think also that it should not be forgotten that at the time of Buaki returning to Ashanti Anseh was himself very wishful to go to Coomassie and much annoyed with me because I informed him that I thought it was better that he should not go.

10. Captain Lonsdale as well as myself thought at that time that Anseh was better away, and I still think so.

11. Though it may seem convenient to King Mensah to put the blame of his excesses on a message delivered by Buaki Tintin, it did not need any message to Ashanti to cause the Ashanti King and Chiefs to be well aware of the opinions of Her Majesty's Government as regards their cruel customs.

12. It would seem to me that Kalkali's action (of which an account is given by Mr. Brennan in the letter dated 21st August, which I forward to your Lordship under cover of Despatch dated 1st September,†) in beginning the fight by himself killing a Chief of the opposite party may be taken to indicate an attempt on his part to show that the charges of cowardice which it appears were made against him after leaving the army at the time of Sir Garnet Wolseley's advance were unmerited, and his conduct in this seems to me to augur badly for the prospect of

* No. 27.

† No. 26.

peace between Ashanti and her neighbour, should he succeed in establishing his claim.

13. Notwithstanding what Mr. Ansah says, all reports seem so far to show that the Quacoe Duah party is the stronger of the two.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

No. 29.

COLONIAL OFFICE to CAPTAIN KNAPP BARROW, C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, October 9, 1883.

I AM directed by the Earl of Derby to transmit to you two Despatches* recently received from the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony relating to affairs in Ashanti, and especially to a memorandum on the subject by Mr. Ansah, a copy of which is enclosed.

I am to request that you will be good enough to furnish his Lordship with any observations you may desire to make upon the subject, and in particular with your opinion upon Mr. Ansah's memorandum.

The enclosures to this letter should be returned with your reply.

Capt. Knapp Barrow.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. H. MEADE.

No. 30.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received October 10, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
September 5, 1883.

MY LORD,

WITH reference to the subject of my Despatch of the 1st September 1883,† viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to forward to your Lordship copies of letters which passed between myself and the District Commissioner a short time since on the subject of his having discovered that certain mischievous messages were being sent from Cape Coast to Ashanti.

2. The District Commissioner in his letter dated 3rd July 1883, informs me that Mr. Ansah reported to him that one Osai, a native of Ashanti, had made himself headman of some Ashantis living at Cape Coast, that these men had formed themselves into a company, and that Osai had taken advantage of the present state of affairs in Ashanti to deceive Coffee Kalkalli.

3. It appears that Osai sent a messenger to Kalkalli to say that he should send to Osai a certain sum of gold to be given to certain gentlemen with a view to encourage them to speak favourably to the Government on Kalkalli's behalf.

4. I requested the District Commissioner to communicate on this matter with the Acting Puisne Judge, Mr. Quayle Jones, then at Cape Coast, and I wrote myself to Mr. Jones asking him to look into the matter, and to deal with it if the law allowed him to do so.

5. Mr. Quayle Jones called the man Osai before him. Osai admitted that he had sent a message to Kalkalli, and that the message was an invention to induce Kalkalli to give him the money.

6. Mr. Quayle Jones was of opinion that the man's crime was not one which he could deal with under the Criminal Law, though it was only just beyond its provisions.

7. He caused this man to be brought before him and severely reprimanded.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

* Nos. 27 and 28.

† No. 27.

Enclosure 1 in No. 30.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast, to ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Sir,

Cape Coast, July 14, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, that Mr. Ansah has reported to me that a certain man named Osai, a native of Ashanti, has made himself headman, or leader, of some Ashantis living in this town who have formed themselves into a company, for what object no one appears to know.

2. The man Osai ran away from Coomassie some time since and is now taking advantage of the present state of affairs in Ashanti, to deceive and impose upon Coffee Kal-Kalli by sending a messenger to him to say that certain gentlemen in Cape Coast are on his side, and are voting for his restoration to the stool, and he must therefore send to him (Osai) 22 ozs., 8 ackies of gold, to be given to the gentlemen in question, to encourage them to speak favourably to the Government on his behalf (Kal-Kalli's) and assist him in regaining his stool.

3. On hearing this statement from Mr. Ansah, I immediately ordered the man Osai to be found and brought before me, and on being questioned on the subject, he admitted that he had sent a messenger to Kal-Kalli asking him for 14 ozs. of gold, which he intended to give to certain Government officers, such as Mr. Davis, Interpreter for the Interior, Serjeant Cole of the Police, and others.

4. Upon the above statement I charged Osai with conspiracy and ordered him into strict confinement, refusing bail, as I considered him a most dangerous person to be at large during the present crisis.

5. The messenger's name is "Osai Mensah," and I have made arrangements for his immediate arrest on his return with the gold dust, which I am informed he is sure to obtain, as Kal-Kalli is certain to believe that the people and Government officials here are mixed up in the transaction, and in favour of his return to the stool.

6. I beg to point out that great harm may have already been done in Ashanti, by his Excellency's policy being entirely misconstrued.

7. I should be glad to receive instructions as to my further action in the matter, and have instructed the special messenger who will bring you this letter to wait for an answer, and at the same time I should be obliged by your informing me of the hour and date of his arrival at Christiansborg.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NORTH DANIEL,
District Commissioner.

To the Assistant Colonial Secretary for
Native Affairs, Accra.

Enclosure 2 in No. 30.

SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF NATIVE AFFAIRS to the DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast.

Sir,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra, August 3, 1883.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th July, reporting the conduct of an Ashanti man named Osai, and to request you to submit a copy of it to his Honor the Acting Puisne Judge now at Cape Coast.

His Excellency quite agrees with you that in the present state of affairs it is most undesirable that any communications should be made to Ashanti of this character, and I am to ask you to do your best to find out if any presents have been given to Government officers or other persons, and to keep a watch for the messenger Osai Mensah on his return.

I am to add that the letter now under reply arrived here on the 16th July at 3.20 p.m. and to express his Excellency's regret that it has not been replied to earlier.

I have, &c.

The District Commissioner,
Cape Coast.

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary and Assistant
Colonial Secretary in charge of Native Affairs.

Enclosure 3 in No. 30.

SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF NATIVE AFFAIRS to PUISNE JUDGE.

SIR,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra, August 3, 1883.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor to inform you that the District Commissioner of Cape Coast has, in letter of the 14th July, reported the action which he has taken in the matter of the conduct of an Ashanti man. named Osai, who is accused of conspiracy.

His Excellency has instructed the District Commissioner to furnish you with a copy of the above named letter, and I am to ask you to be so good as to look into the matter and deal with it if the law allows you to do so.

I am also to say that his Excellency quite agrees with the District Commissioner that in the present state of affairs it is most undesirable that any communication should be made to Ashanti of this character.

I have, &c.

His Honor the Puisne Judge,
Cape Coast.

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Acting Colonial Secretary and Assistant
Colonial Secretary in charge of Native Affairs.

Enclosure 4 in No. 30.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Cape Coast, to SECRETARY FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS.

SIR,

Cape Coast, August 8, 1883.

In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant on the above subject, I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Governor-in-Chief, that so far as I can learn no presents have been given to Government officers, or other persons at this station.

2. In accordance with his Excellency's instructions, I have supplied a copy of my letter of 14th ultimo, to his Honour the Acting Puisne Judge, by whom the case has been thoroughly investigated.

I have, &c.

To the Acting Colonial Secretary in
Charge of Native Affairs,
&c. &c. &c.
Accra.

(Signed) A. NORTH DANIEL,
District Commissioner.

Enclosure 5 in No. 30.

ACTING PUISNE JUDGE to SECRETARY for NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Divisional Court, Cape Coast.

SIR,

August 7, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated August 3, 1883, on the above subject.

In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter I inquired into the matter and Mr. Ansah brought the man Osai before me.

Osai admitted the facts, that is, that he had sent a message to Coffee Kalla-Kalli telling him to send him (Osai) ten perquins of gold to give to the Government. He prevaricated a great deal as to what he had intended doing with the money, but he finally admitted that he intended to keep it and that he had invented the message in order that he might induce Kalla-Kalli to send him the money, and begged for mercy.

There was no evidence except the man's own statement which did not disclose any offence with which I could deal under the Criminal Law.

Under these circumstances I considered whether the object I believed your Excellency had in view, that is, the prevention of false and misleading messages being sent to the Ashanti Chiefs could be attained, and as although in this case the man Osai had only just escaped the meshes of the law, and he expressed his willingness to do anything I directed him to do, I gave him a sound talking to, telling him what he might have incurred, and as a messenger from Kalla-Kalli is now here who says that Kalla-Kalli already knows that Osai's message was false, Osai by way of atonement has delivered in my presence the following message to Kalla-Kalli's messenger:—

"I sent a message to you to tell you not to give money any more to the Chiefs to put you on the stool but to send me ten periquins, when I will beg the Government for you and so they will put you on the stool and give you a law not to kill people and so you will be King. This message was a lie. I cannot beg the Government for you so that they shall put you on the stool and I had no one to speak for you. I wanted the money myself and thought if I sent the message you would give me the money. The Government does not take money from anyone and what they say they will do. If messages come to say the Government can be begged with money you and other Chiefs must not believe them. The Government has heard that I sent to you and now the judge has made me send you this message by your messenger so that you may know from my own mouth that the message was a lie, and that you may know messages are false which do not come direct from Government."

I have, &c.
 The Hon. the Acting Colonial Secretary, (Signed) W. H. QUATLE JONES,
 and Assistant Colonial Secretary in charge of Acting Puisne Judge.
 Native Affairs, Christiansborg.

No. 31.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
 (Received October 10, 1883.)

MY LORD,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra.
 September 5, 1883.

IN reference to the subject of my Despatch dated this day,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of a statement as to another false message sent to the Chiefs of Coomassie.

2. This message was evidently invented by the supporters of Kalkalli in the hope of misleading the Coomassie Chiefs as to the intentions of this Government.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
 Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
 &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 31.

STATEMENT of KETAWANO, of COOMASSIE, Trader, and the Son of Chief NANCHIE.

Ketawano states as follows:—I am the son of Chief Nanchie, of Ashanti, and live in Coomassie; I came here to trade, I came to buy salt with gold dust. I bought the salt at Salt Pond, and then came here to see my father. I came by beach from Salt Pond. The news I brought to my father is that 15 days ago a man who wore European clothes, and is a scholar, came (with four messengers from the King of Cocofu, whose name is Osai Yaow,) to Coomassie. The scholar, whose name I do not know, in my presence, said to the Chiefs and Elders that he had been sent by the Governor to say that all the Chiefs who had fought with Coffee Kalkali were to come to the coast; that those who had killed Coffee Kalkali, if he was dead, must take his bones and put them on to the stool at Coomassie, that if he was still alive, then he must be put upon the stool, for the Governor was coming to Coomassie to shake hands with him, that should they not do one of these two things, he (the Governor) would come to Coomassie with arms, and that in that case the Governor wished them to be ready to meet him with powder, guns, and balls.

When the Chiefs had heard all this they replied, "We have heard that you were at Cocofu for a very long time, and you now come with Cocofu messengers, how is it if you come from the Governor Chief Nanchie did not send any of his people with you? Your message is false, and you are a liar, for you are not sent by the Governor. We will keep you and put you in prison, and if you are really a messenger from the Governor then we shall hear afterwards." They had chains put on him, as well as on the Cocofu messengers, and all are now in Coomassie.

We are going away to-morrow.
I am accompanied by my servant Quacoe Duah.
We return by the same way we came.

KETAWANO ^{his} X
mark.

(Signed) CHAS. D. TURTON,
Assistant Colonial Secretary in
charge of Native Affairs.

No. 32.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received October 10, 1883.)

MY LORD,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,

September 6, 1883.

WITH reference to the subject of my Despatch dated September 5th,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, and in continuation of my Despatch dated September 1st,† I have the honour to forward to your Lordship a copy of a letter from the Inspector General covering a farther letter from Mr. Brennan.

2. Mr. Brennan reports that he left Prah sue on the 24th August and reached Fommanah on the 25th.

3. He had an interview with the King of Adansi on the 26th, and learnt that messengers despatched by this King to Coomassie had returned, and they corroborated previous reports as to fighting at Coomassie between the Quacoe Duah and Coffee Kalkalli parties.

4. Mr. Brennan returned to Prah sue on the 28th August.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 32.

INSPECTOR GENERAL to ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

Elmina Castle, September 3, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward Assistant Inspector Brennan's third report on Ashanti affairs, for the information of His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. A. BRYDON,
Inspector General.

The Acting Colonial Secretary in charge
of Native Affairs, Accra.

Assistant Inspector BRENNAN to INSPECTOR GENERAL.

SIR,

Prah sue, August 30, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I departed from this station on the 24th instant, and reached Fommanah on the 25th. I was unable to undertake the journey on an earlier date, being unwell.

I interviewed the several Chiefs en route and tendered to them the advice, &c. as directed by his Excellency.

I had an interview with the King of Adansi on the 26th instant and also conveyed to him the instructions as contained in his Excellency's letter. I informed him that complaints had been made about the inhabitants of Adansi interfering with traders passing along the roads, to which he replied that he was unaware of such interference and that he would do all in his power to put a stop to it.

Upon my asking him if he had heard anything about the recent fighting at Coomassie, he informed me that he had sent messengers there to make inquiries, and they corroborated what I have already stated in my letter of the 21st instant.

The so-called road to Fommanah is at present nothing more than a bush path, in consequence of which I had to walk about half the distance there and back, and when I was able to use my hammock two men had to carry me, as it was impossible for four men to do so, owing to the narrow and bad state of the track.

I inquired of the Chiefs why the road was in such a bad state, and they informed me that the King did not give them any allowance to keep it in a state of repair; there were, however, a few parties at work at it upon my return journey.

I left Fommanah on the 27th, arriving here on the 28th instant.

I have, &c.

The Inspector General,
Gold Coast Constabulary,
Elmina Castle.

(Signed) GEORGE BRENNAN,
Assistant Inspector,
Gold Coast Constabulary.

No. 33.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received October 10, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
September 7, 1883.

MY LORD,

In continuation of the subject of my Despatch dated 6th September,* viz., the state of affairs in Ashanti, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that on the 5th instant Quacoe Krah, a Chief of Coomassie, reached Christiansborg and stated that he had been sent by Quacoe Duah, whom he called "King," to say that he, King Quacoe Duah with the Chiefs of Coomassie, wished me to send some one to help them "to place Quacoe Duah on the stool and to arrange for the proper management of the "affairs of Coomassie."

2. He further stated that he was directed by Quacoe Duah to say that after the fight at Berriman, leaders of his party despatched a force under Chief Issie of Coomassie in pursuit of Coffee Kalkalli.

3. That after a period of 18 days a messenger arrived at Coomassie from Chief Issie and reported that Coffee Kalkalli had been captured at Berem a small village in the direction of Gaman, six days' journey from Coomassie.

4. That Coffee Kalkalli was exhausted through the privations he had undergone and that it was not thought that he would recover from their effects.

5. This message was delivered to me in the presence of Nanchie Boatin Aboo and some others of the Chiefs of Coomassie who are staying here.

6. On hearing it I said that I hoped the Quacoe Duah party would show that the many promises they had made of the abolition of human sacrifices and of the introduction of an improved state of affairs in Ashanti if they should come into power were not without foundation, and that Coffee Kalkalli would recover from his present sickness.

7. I reminded them that only a few years ago they who were talking to me had supported him as King, and had been glad to receive any favour from him.

8. I added that I had always told them that Her Majesty's Government had no wish to interfere in Ashanti affairs and desired only peace and good government in the country, and that if Quacoe Duah's party was victorious and the nation chose Quacoe Duah to be King I was sure that Her Majesty's Government would offer no opposition, but I was also sure that it would be pleasing to Her Majesty to learn, that though they might be using such means as they thought right to prevent Kalkalli escaping from their custody, that they were not treating him in any way cruelly, and that they were using special care to prevent anything being done by anyone which might prevent his recovering his lost health and strength.

9. The Chiefs watched me very closely as I said this.

10. I impressed on them the necessity of sending away a messenger at once. They decided to send back Quacoe Krah, and I sent a corporal of Houssas to accompany him to Mansue so that he should not loiter on the road as he had done in coming.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 33.

STATEMENT of QUACOE KRAH of COOMASSIE.

Quacoe Krah states, I am a Chief of Coomassie, which place I left with six followers nine days ago.

I am sent by King Quacoe Duah to give his compliments, thank the Governor, and say as follows, viz.—After the battle of Bremen the leaders of his party despatched a force in pursuit of the defeated ex-King Coffee Kalli Kalli under command of a Chief called Issie who resides in Coomassie.

Nothing was heard of the Chief for a period of 18 days, when messengers arrived from him to say that he had captured the ex-King at a village called Bekem, and that the latter was very exhausted from having been in the bush for 15 days without food of any kind except what was growing wild. When captured he said he was very hungry and begged for food, which was given him, but it is feared that he cannot survive the privations to which he has been exposed.

King Quacoe Duah and the Chiefs further told me to say that as soon as they heard what I have stated they had sent me to the Governor to inform him and to state that Coomassie and all the surrounding country is in a very disorganised state, and therefore they humbly beg that the Governor will send some one to help them to arrange for the proper management for the kingdom and place Quacoe Duah on the stool.

With regard to the scholar I am to say that as he came from Cocofu the Chiefs have sent him back to that place as he got small-pox in Coomassie.

Bekem is on the way to Gaman and distant six days journey from Coomassie. It is a small village.

The ex-King Coffee Kalli Kalli was found wandering in the bush near to the village and not in any house. If Quacoe Duah is put on the stool things will be better.

The scholar I speak of is the one which Ketewano was sent to tell the Governor about a few days ago. We could not keep him as he got small-pox. The ex-King could not (so we were informed) live, as he was too reduced and weak.

Road.

I came down by the main road to Mansue. I was not molested and the road was open and quiet. After leaving Mansue I went to Essecumah; from there to Niginah-Kroom; then to Kajoassiyah, and lastly to Essil Quamin, which was the last inland town. From here we came to Baracoe and Accra.

It took us nine days to come from Coomassie to this place and five days from Mansue to Accra. The road from Mansue to Essecumah is very bad but the rest is clear and a person can be carried along it in a hammock.

From Baracoe to Crocrobatay is also not clear. Niginah-Kroom is a very large place. I did not learn the Chief's name but it is in Akim land.

No. 34.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, October 10, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches of 1st ultimo* transmitting copies of instructions which you had given to Assistant Inspector Kirby on the occasion of his proceeding to inquire into the threatened disturbances in Western Akim.

I approve of those instructions.

With reference to the last paragraph of your second Despatch of the 1st ultimo, I have to observe that Assistant Inspector Thompson's report of his journey from Accra to the Prah River, and the map which accompanied it, are printed in the Blue Book [C-3687] of which I understand that 16 copies have been sent out for the use of your Government.

I shall be glad to be informed whether you still require any additional copies.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

* Nos. 24 and 25.

No. 35.

CAPTAIN KNAPP BARROW, C.M.G., to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Extract.)

Colwood Park, Cuckfield, Sussex,

October 16, 1883.

I HAVE received and perused your Despatch of the 9th instant,* together with the enclosures (which latter I return herewith), and have the honour to state that the memorandum drawn up by Mr. J. Ossoo Ansah, dated the 27th of August, is very misleading.

As regards the first five paragraphs of the memorandum it must not be forgotten that the political condition of the kingdom of Ashantee at the time when King Koffee Kalkalli ceased to reign, as well as that which prevailed in it when King Ossoo Mensah ceased to reign, was of such an unusual character that no precedent existed for directing the "people of Coomassie" as to the procedure to be adopted in order to meet the circumstances which surrounded them. In the instance of King Kalkalli it is notorious that he ran away after the battle of Odasoo and retired to the seclusion of a village to the north of Coomassie. This abdication of sovereignty, together with his atrocious conduct in the theft of the Bantamah mentioned in paragraph 37 of my report, brought about his deposition, which was most certainly assented to afterwards by the people of the provinces. In the case of the deposition of King Mensah, the lives of the Chiefs themselves, and of everybody else both in and outside of Coomassie, were in imminent danger so long as he was reigning, some particulars of which are given at the end of paragraph 23 of my report. Under such conditions of danger to life and to the town itself time did not allow the "people of Coomassie" to collect representatives from the tributary provinces for the purpose of holding a "Supreme Council of the Empire," even had they wished to do so. It cannot therefore be fairly said that the present troubles in Ashantee are due to the "people of Coomassie" having "arrogated to themselves rank and prestige," &c.

As to paragraph 6 of the memorandum, Kalkalli, it is true, had at one time supporters who represented what may very properly be characterised as the war party in Ashantee, supporting a line of policy which would sooner or later assume opposition to the continuance of friendly relations to ourselves, but they have fallen away from him.

As regards paragraph 7 of the memorandum I feel bound to say, and I do so emphatically, that there is no hope that Kalkalli, if restored, would "turn his attention to promote the true interests of his people." When in Coomassie I received a letter from Mr. Ansah, dated Cape Coast, 25th April 1883, in which the following occurs:—

"Since you left here I heard from good authority that the great Chiefs of Coomassie have elected young Quacoe Duah to be King, and many of the revolted countries are voting strongly for Koffee Kalkalli to be King. (As for Mensah and his mother the people of Ashantee do not want them at all, and that is settled.) I should say young Quacoe Duah is preferable to old Koffee. Old Koffee may play the old game again. Young Quacoe Duah being young may be bent to listen wise councils and accept the introduction of schools, &c. into Ashantee."

When in Coomassie in May last, I asked Prince Buaki (Tin-Tin) if there was any truth in a rumour which had reached me that he had upon his return to his country from the coast in 1881, rendered a wrong message from the Governor of the Gold Coast to King Ossoo Mensah upon the subject of human sacrifice. He informed me in reply, that he told the King that he was on no account to permit human sacrifice, by which, I might add, the Ashantees understand that no people are to be sacrificed for the purpose of *keeping custom*. Buaki went on to say that the Governor had explained to him that as we punished evil-doers, so the King of Ashantee could punish his subjects who transgressed his country's laws, and that if any anybody molested one of the King's wives, or refused to obey an order of the King, it was right for the King to kill him. Buaki was vehement in maintaining that this was what the interpreter of the Governor told him to say to the King, and that the only prohibition was as to the cutting off heads in the case of keeping a custom or a rejoicing. King Mensah details the message brought to him by Buaki in his statement, vide second paragraph of page 21 of my report, and King Koffee Kalkalli refers to it in his message to me at line 27 of page 18 of the same report.

It is most surprising that Mr. Ansah should write as he does in paragraph 11 of his memorandum, where he says Kalkalli was "formally proclaimed by the Chiefs " of Mampon, Kokofu, &c., &c." He omits all mention of D'juabin, who at that time was tributary to the Coomassie "stool." There were at that period four "stools":—

1. Coomassie.
2. D'juabin.
3. N'suta.
4. Kokofu.

The Coomassie "stool" was the senior, the other three tributary (hence the Coomassie "stool" is often called the *great* "stool"). The following happened when the "stool" was "purified" upon King Mensah's accession. It being customary for these three, viz., D'juabin, N'suta, Kokofu, to attend the ceremony of installation, each King was sent for. Kokofu came, so did N'suta; but D'juabin (represented by Asafu Ajai) refused to attend, whereupon the King of Mampon was invited to come in place of D'juabin; but the King of Mampon also declined, on the ground that if he did so he should offend the D'juabins, and consequently he was afraid, as he said, to quit his province, having Asafu Ajai in his rear. The difficulty, however, was afterwards got over by the Mampon King sending a representative, who attended and assisted in the ceremony of placing Mensah on the "stool." As to the Kokofu King having the "hereditary right of disposing of the royal "stool" to any of the royal family he "pleases," such a startling statement is conflicting with the circumstance that both Kalkalli and Mensah paid the young Quacoe Duah a sum of money each before they could occupy the "stool," vide paragraph 38 of my report. Throughout all my researches on the subject of Ashantee I never heard of the King of Kokofu possessing such a prerogative; had he done so, it is but reasonable to believe he would have alluded to it when we were discussing the subject together.

The possession of the great "stool" is in the custodianship of the proper persons, viz., those in charge of the town of Coomassie, who very properly refuse to allow it to leave the town as Mr. Ansah would seem, by paragraph No. 12 of his memorandum, to wish them to do.

Mr. Ansah says in paragraph 13 "the will of the nation is that Karakalli " should be King." I think if the words "war party" were substituted for the word "nation," the statement would be nearer the truth. It is the war party who clamour for Kalkalli's election, and by that term "war party" I mean to indicate a small hidden section of the population of the Ashantee kingdom capable by Kalkalli's restoration of such expansion into larger numbers as would aim at the recovery of the lost countries of Ashantee, and then that anxiety to ourselves would arise which the presence of an adventurous, vigilant, and powerfully regenerated kingdom would awaken when watching its opportunity to wipe out its so-called disgraces consequent on its defeats by our troops in 1873-74. I feel assured that Kalkalli's restoration would mean war with us within five years from the present time.

Mr. Ansah's statement, in paragraph 13 of his memorandum, that Kalkalli's "deposition in 1874 was brought about in order to appease the Chief of D'juabin" (Asafu Ajai) is most misleading, inasmuch as it was brought about about by his own running away and the unanimous voice of his subjects against his return. It was not so much the fear of capture by our troops which caused him to run away but rather the circumstance that he had not the moral courage to face those whom he had disdainfully opposed in a matter of the strategic defence of his kingdom. Aman Quatia, the then Ashantee Commander-in-Chief, pressed and urged upon Kalkalli to concentrate the natives' entire power at Amoafu to resist our advance in 1873. Asafu Ajai, the great D'juabin Chief, was equally urgent in supporting Aman Quatia's views upon the matter and nearly insisted upon marching his forces to reinforce the Commander-in-Chief, in contravention of orders, but the influence of Afuah Cobree, the "Queen Mother," prevailed against Kalkalli's better and fickle judgment in instigating him to act against the advice, even the prayer, of his councillors in making him compel Asafu Ajai to detach 10,000 men to oppose the advance of Sir John Glover. As a consequence of the result of the battle of Amoafu and the successive achievements of our troops together with the dismembering of the kingdom the whole country became not only adverse but unforgiving towards Kalkalli for his weakness of character in yielding to his mother's wishes. The deposition ensued, but it was not to appease Asafu Ajai more than any other Chief.

No. 36.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received October 22, 1883.)

MY LORD,

Christiansborg Castle, Accra, September 17, 1883.

IN reference to the subject of my Despatch dated 1st September 1883,* viz., the threatened disturbance in Akim, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a report received from Mr. Kirby of his journey to Insuaim, the residence of the King of Western Akim.

2. In my Despatch of 1st instant* I reported to your Lordship that I had given certain instructions to Mr. Kirby with a view to his obtaining information as to a more direct route than the one which is generally followed between this place and Akim.

3. Mr. Kirby reports that he was not successful in the attempt to find such a track. He therefore returned from Adipong to the ordinary route, and followed it as far north as Accrossie. At this place he could go no farther, as the track was up to his waist in water. He retraced his steps to Insabang and went from there by Enyacroom to Odobbin along the route marked by Lieutenant Swinburne in May 1881. This is the route generally travelled between this place and Mansue. From there he found a track along which he travelled to Insuaim.

4. Mr. Kirby farther reports that he found the reason for the feud between the two Chiefs to be that when the King and people of Dadiassie sent to Coffee Ahinquah to say they wished to come into the Protectorate Chief Coffee Ahincorah (Ahinquah) did not report this matter to the King.

5. When the King of Akim (Attah Fuah) sent to the King of Dadiassie (Amoafu) to know why he, Amoafu, had sent to Chief Coffee Ahinquah instead of to the King of the country, Amoafu detained the messenger for awhile as a prisoner.

6. Mr. Kirby says that the King of Dadiassie (Amoafu) had collected 300 armed men at Amantea, that these men had orders not to cross the River Prah unless Coffee Ahincorah attacked the King. If Coffee Ahincorah attacked the King the 300 were to advance and support the attack.

7. Mr. Kirby says that he hears from Attah Fuah that these men are still at Amantea, but he thinks the report requires confirmation.

8. As Mr. Kirby's letter was written on the 5th September I hope to receive farther news from him very soon, and, if the state of affairs permits of his leaving Akim, I propose that Mr. Musgrove should proceed to Prahue to take charge of that post, relieving Mr. Brennan, and that Mr. Kirby should continue his journey to Ashanti.

Mr. Kirby has attached a sketch of the route he followed to his report; he will, I hope, supplement this by farther sketches; should this be so I propose to ask your Lordship to permit them to be printed.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 36.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR KIRBY to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

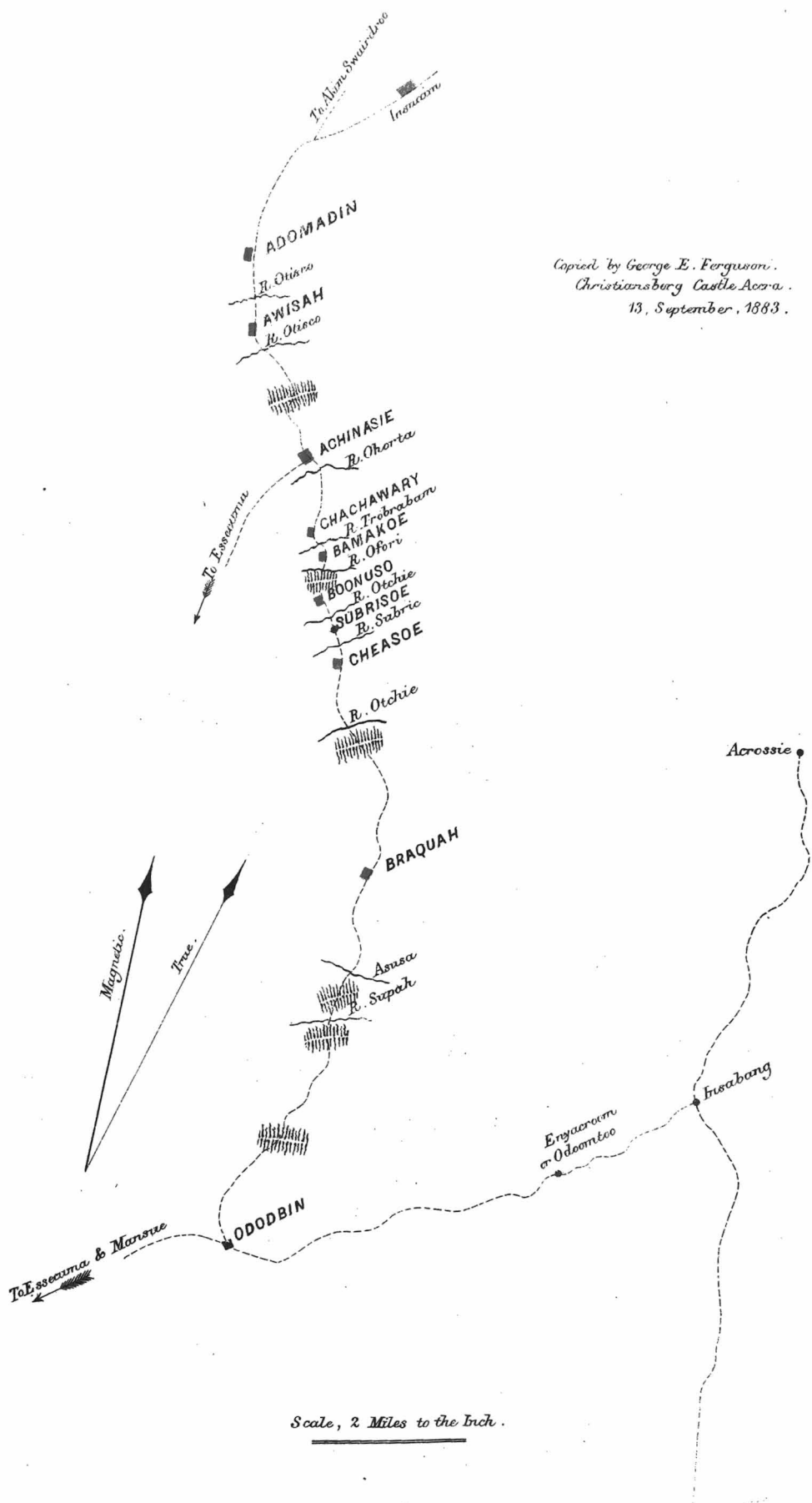
Insuaim, Western Akim, September 5, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, my arrival at this place on the afternoon of the 4th instant. I was very much delayed on account of the weather. It rained continually during my journey.

I was unable to find any road from Accrossie to Adipong, the only road I could see being to the Accrossie farms at which place it stopped.

I was unable to proceed to Insuaim further than Accrossie on account of the state of the track, which was up to our waist in water, I then returned to Enyacroom and there heard of a road via Odobbin and Braquah to Insuaim. This road is mostly used by the Ashanti traders going to Salt Pond and Winnebah. I enclose a map and also an itinerary of this route.

On reaching Insuaim I found the town and surrounding country in rather an unsettled state. King Attah Fuah's primary reason for this fresh outburst of feud between he and his Chief Coffee Ahinquah is that King Amoafu of Dadiassie



Copied by George E. Ferguson.
 Christiansburg Castle Accra.
 13, September, 1883.

(Ashanti) sent privately to Chief Coffee Ahinquah to ask him to intercede with his Excellency the Governor in getting the Dadiassie people taken into the Protectorate. Instead of Chief Coffee Ahinquah informing his King he sent direct to his Excellency, and has never to this day informed King Attah Fuah of this matter.

King Attah Fuah sent to King Amoafua asking him his reason for sending to his Chief Coffee Ahinquah, instead of to him (King Attah Fuah). King Amoafua detained the messenger for a few days prisoner, but eventually sent him back.

On things looking warlike between King Attah Fuah and Chief Coffee Ahinquah, King Amoafua sent 300 armed men to Amantea, with orders that they should not cross the Prah River unless King Attah Fuah attacked Chief Coffee Ahinquah, when they should cross and go to the assistance of Chief Coffee Ahinquah.

These Ashantis I hear from King Attah Fuah are still at Amantea, but I think this matter requires confirmation: Amantea is one day and a half from this place.

I am starting to-morrow to see Chief Coffee Ahinquah, and after taking down his complaint will arrange for a meeting place for both King and Chief to meet at.

I have chosen a spot about three miles to the west of Insuaim for this meeting, and shall start my carriers and others to-morrow, building a large shed to hold the palaver in. I thought it best to hold the meeting away from any village on account of party feeling.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, (Signed) BRANDON KIRBY,
Christiansborg, Accra.

Assistant Inspector,
Gold Coast Constabulary.

CHIEFS of WESTERN AKIM who attended MEETING, INSUAIM, 5th September 1883.

Names of Chiefs.

Towns.

Asimeng	-	-	-	-	Anyinassie.
Otoboe	-	-	-	-	Moasoe.
Yow Abochie	-	-	-	-	Bankaming.
Quacoe Frinpong	-	-	-	-	Assany.
Ayisapy	-	-	-	-	Abanassie.
Fee Cudjoe	-	-	-	-	Omansue.
Baboo	-	-	-	-	Appasso.
Odaquah	-	-	-	-	Osuboa.

Insuaim, West Akim, 5th September 1883.

(Signed) BRANDON KIRBY.

NAMES OF TOWNS.

From.	To	Distance.	Time.	Headman.	No. of Houses.	Population.	Rivers or Streams passed.	General Remarks.
		Miles.	H. M.					
Odobbin	Braquah	14	7 30	Ofori	150	500	Supah and Asusa.	The road from Odobbin to within about one-quarter of a mile from Achinasie is only a very bad bush track, passing through numerous swamps, &c. The road is cleared near both Achinasie and Insuaim for about half a mile each side of both these towns.
Braquah	Cheaseo	7	3 20	Assinquah	5	30	Otchie.	
Cheaseo	Subrisoe	$\frac{3}{4}$	0 20	Asante	5	25	Subrie.	
Subrisoe	Boonuso	$\frac{1}{2}$	0 15	Darcoo	8	30	Otchee.	
Boonuso	Bamakoe	1	0 25	Caranten	10	40	Ofori.	
Bamakoe	Chachwary	$\frac{1}{2}$	0 10	Comfar	5	20	Trobrobam.	
Chachwary	Achinasie	2	0 55	Darcoo	400	2,000	Ohanta.	
Achinasie	Awisah	$3\frac{1}{2}$	2 0	Awooko	60	400	Otisco.	
Awisah	Adomadin	$1\frac{1}{2}$	0 30	Quamin	5	20	Otisco.	
Adomadin	Insuaim	$4\frac{1}{2}$	1 45	King Attah Fuah.	500	3,000	—	

(Signed)

BRANDON KIRBY,
Assistant Inspector,
Gold Coast Constabulary.

No. 37.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY TO GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR, Downing Street, October 31, 1883.
I HAVE duly received and have had under my consideration your despatches* on the subject of the condition of affairs in Ashanti.

2. In your Despatch of 21st August,† you transmitted Captain Barrow's report of his recent mission to Coomassie in company with Mr. Kirby. I have caused the report to be printed, and I enclose three copies for your use.

3. The report appears to me to be an interesting and able paper, and I have conveyed to Captain Barrow an expression of my satisfaction and approval of the manner in which he discharged the very delicate and important duties which you entrusted to him.

4. In the 40th paragraph of his report Captain Barrow states that the Ashanti tribes would be glad to meet you at Prabsue with a King nominated by themselves, whom you should instruct as to the mode in which he should govern his kingdom, and then proceed to instal him on the "stool."

5. I gather from the various despatches and reports which I have received that there is no prospect of any settled peace in Ashanti until a King has been definitely chosen, who is accepted, if not unanimously, by, at all events, the greater part of the nation. It appears from your Despatch of 7th September,‡ that Coffee Kalkalli has been completely defeated and captured by the party of Quacoe Duah, and that a messenger had come down from the latter and the Chiefs of Coomassie to request you to send some one to help them "to place Quacoe Duah on the stool and to arrange for the proper management of the affairs of Coomassie."

6. It is of course not desirable that any premature action should be taken, but at the same time the re-establishment and maintenance of peace is of such vast importance to the trade and revenue of the Gold Coast Colony that no opportunity of furthering the attainment of that end should be lost.

7. I think, therefore, that if you are able to satisfy yourself that Quacoe Duah is likely to be able to establish himself firmly in power, and to be acknowledged by the bulk of the Ashanti tribes as King, you would do well to take measures for at once attaching him to the British Government by making him suitable presents, and further express your willingness to meet him with the representatives of the nation at Prabsue (or such other place as you may consider convenient and suitable), and there proceed to ratify his election and instal him on the throne.

8. If such a meeting should take place it would be desirable that it should be held with as much formality and dignity as possible. All the neighbouring Kings and Chiefs should be invited to be present at it, or to send representatives, and you should endeavour to arrange terms of peace and amity between them, embodying the whole in a treaty which they would sign in your presence, and you would ratify and confirm by your signature.

9. Of course it would have to be clearly understood by the contracting parties that the Governor, as representing Her Majesty, by signing the treaty undertook no responsibilities towards any of them, but was acting only as a witness to the fact that they in his presence had made certain engagements with each other.

10. I am disposed to think that if such a "palaver" could be held, and a treaty duly executed, peace might at all events be assured for some time to come, which would allow the roads to be reopened and trade to revive.

11. I shall be glad to be furnished with your opinion on the subject, but if you agree in the views I have expressed and consider it desirable to give effect to them without delay, you will be at liberty to take the necessary action without awaiting the result of further communications with me.

12. The only other point in Captain Barrow's report to which I desire specially to draw your attention is the question of the malpractices of the so-called "scholars" (see paragraphs 11, 12, and 13).

There can be no doubt that the harm done by these persons is very great, and I would suggest for your consideration whether the native Chiefs in the interior might not be directed to apprehend them and send them into the Protectorate to be dealt with by

* Nos. 17, 20, 30, 31, 32, and 33.

† No. 17.

‡ No. 33.

the Colonial Government; assuming, of course, that they are British subjects. They could then, I presume, be punished under clause 32 of the "Native Jurisdiction Ordinance," No. 5, of 1883.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

No. 38.

COLONIAL OFFICE to CAPTAIN KNAPP BARROW, C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, October 31, 1883.

I AM directed by the Earl of Derby to acquaint you that he has received from the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony a copy of your report* of the mission of yourself and Mr. Kirby to Coomassie in April last.

Lord Derby has perused your report with much interest, and I am to convey to you the expression of his Lordship's satisfaction and approval of the manner in which you discharged the very delicate and important duties which were entrusted to you.

I am, &c.

Capt. Knapp Barrow.

(Signed) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

No. 39.

COLONIAL OFFICE to CAPTAIN KNAPP BARROW, C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, November 2, 1883.

I AM directed by the Earl of Derby to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th ultimo,† and to convey to you his Lordship's thanks for the remarks with which you have favoured him on the subject of the memorandum on Ashanti affairs submitted to Sir S. Rowe by Mr. Ossoo Ansah.

I am, &c.

Captain Knapp Barrow.

(Signed) JOHN BRAMSTON.

No. 40.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received November 16, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,

October 17, 1883.

MY LORD,

In continuation of the subject of my Despatch dated 17th September 1883,† viz., the threatened disturbance in Akim, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that Mr. Kirby informs me that he has succeeded in inducing the King of Western Akim (Fuah), and the Chief Coffee Ahinquah (Ahencora) to meet and settlement of their dispute.

of their differences was public, and the meetings were attended by

the

that Mr. Kirby had succeeded in preventing directed Assistant Inspector Musgrove to proceed Brennan in the charge of that station.

Kirby should continue his journey to

5. I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of Mr. Kirby's report.

6. Mr. Kirby seems to deserve great credit for the manner in which he has acted.

7. I have seen the messengers from the Akim Chiefs; they say that both Chiefs and people are grateful to the Government for having sent an officer to their country to settle the dispute between the Chiefs, that if the officer had not gone there would surely have been fighting, that they think now that the district will be quiet.

8. They have returned to Akim. Before leaving, they promised that the Chiefs would set about clearing and improving the roads to Accra at once.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 40.

Assistant Inspector KIRBY to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DISTURBANCE WESTERN AKIM, between King ATTAH FUAH and Chief COFFEE AHINQUAH.

Akim Swaidroo, Western Akim,
September 25, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the statements of King Attah Fuaah and Chief Coffee Ahinquah, taken at palavers held between the 10th and 25th September 1883, at a spot (Bush Clearing) between Insuaim and Akim Swaidroo, all the principal Chiefs of both King and Chief attended. (I enclose a list).

I am happy to say that the dispute between King Attah Fuaah and Chief Ahinquah is now, pending his Excellency's approval, settled. This late outbreak of a long standing feud between the King and Chief, owes its origin, no doubt, to the present state of affairs in Ashanti. They are both related (but distantly) to the royal families of Ashanti. Attah Fuaah is related to the Cocoque Duah's, and Ahinquah to the Coffee Kalkali's, and although all through these palavers I have never allowed anything Ashanti to enter into them, I am certain from what I have gathered from private sources that both King and Chief have strong party feelings in that country. Both King and Chief own certain towns in the Ashanti country (Dadassie). I enclose a list. I made it a point of publicly informing them several times at the palavers before their Chiefs and people, "that no King or Chief, so long as he lived within the Protectorate, could have any jurisdiction over any town or village outside the limits of the Protectorate, and that any evidence from witnesses in these villages I should decline to receive." Certain of the Chiefs of these Ashanti villages who are under King Attah Fuaah and Chief Ahinquah wanted to attend the palavers, but this I declined to allow. I sent Mr. Asanti to Amahtea to find out the truth of the armed Ashantees being there. He found that the only armed men consisted of the people of Amahtea Gadamoah and Gahkomoah (who are under Chief Coffee Ahinquah) waiting for orders to cross and help their Chief in case he should be attacked by the Insuaims.

I had considerable trouble during the earlier part of my visit, from the state of war-like excitement of the young men, all of them being armed and incessantly carrying their arms. Knowing that the slightest provocation on either side might lead to serious consequences, and the partisans of both King and Chief being so mixed in a great number of the villages, I thought it best to call in all the arms. I journeyed round to the principal towns, and ordered the Chiefs to take all arms from their young men, and that should I find after this order any young men carrying arms, I should fine the Chief and town from which the man came. I am happy to say that this plan answered very well, for during the earlier time this palaver lasted, and it was attended daily by from 4,000 to 5,000 men, no one carried arms. I have arrested two fetish medicine men called "Jimah" and "Coomanfoe." They have carried fetish between the King's and Chief's houses, and have urged both King and Chief to fight.

I have warned King Attah Fuaah very strongly, that no King has the power of reducing one of his head Chiefs, without his Excellency the Governor's sanction, for it is a very serious thing indeed.

After looking into the case on both sides most carefully, I am decidedly of opinion that the King is most to blame. He appears to have often gone out of his way to try and pick a quarrel with Chief Ahinqua. The King and minor Chiefs seem also extremely jealous of the wealth of Chief Ahinqua.

This letter is accompanied by the chief linguists of both the King and Chief, viz., "Cobina Busoomoo" chief linguist of King Attah Fua, and "Yow Periquow," chief linguist of Chief Coffee Ahinqua. They are sent by their respective masters to hear his Excellency's opinion on this case, and also to thank his Excellency for sending to have the case looked into.

Trusting that in carrying out his Excellency's instructions in this case I have acted up to his Excellency's wishes.

I am now awaiting his Excellency's further instructions, in the meantime I shall first proceed to "Achinassie" and see Chief Darcoo, and afterwards move about the towns of Western Akim.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BRANDON KIRBY,
Assistant Inspector, G. C. C.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Christiansborg, Accra.

KING ATTAH FUAH.—Statement taken at Public Meetings, Western Akim, September 1883.

Insuaim, September 25, 1883.

I was made King of Western Akim after the death of my grandfather, King Adjaman, about five years ago; Chief Coffee Ahinqua was one of the principal Chiefs who voted for me, and he made the largest custom at my instalment. We remained good friends for some time, but one of Chief Coffee Ahinqua's Chiefs, called "Coffee Grah," left Akim Swaidroo and came to live at Insuaim. When he refused to return to Akim Swaidroo, Chief Coffee Ahinqua said that I kept him, after this Chief Coffee Ahinqua ignored my authority. I then made Chief Coffee Ahinqua one of my fifth rate Chiefs.

Coffee Ahinqua never informed me of the Dadassies wanting to come into the Protectorate. Two Fetish doctors called "Jimah" and "Coomanfoe" came with a dead cat about two months ago to Insuaim. They said that Chief Coffee Ahinqua had sent them with it to put at my gate, and that the fetish they had put into it would kill me. When my Chiefs and young men heard this they commenced arming to fight Chief Ahinqua.

I told them not to commence until I had sent to the Governor. If Chief Coffee Ahinqua will promise before you (the white man) to pay me proper respect, then I am willing with his Excellency the Governor's approval to forgive him and will instal him again as one of my first Chiefs.

(Signed) ATTAH FUAH, ^{his} ×
mark.

Witness—
(Signed) J. R. AHINFUL.

CHIEF COFFEE AHINQUAH.—Statement taken at Public Meetings, Western Akim,
September 1883.

Akim Swaidroo, September 24, 1883.

BOTH King Attah Fua and myself are related to the Ashanti royal family. Our ancestors (grandfathers) came into the Protectorate shortly after the Sir Charles McCarthy war.

They both came with the late King Chiboo of Denkera (the predecessor of King Quassie Kaye).

King Attah Fua's grandfather was Chief Adjaman; he settled in Eastern Akim. My grandfather was Chief Ampow; he settled in Western Akim, at Akim Swaidroo, and was the acknowledged Chief of that part of the country.

On the death of King Aquadah of Eastern Akim Chief Adjaman was made King of that country. Shortly after this a rebellion broke out in Eastern Akim and Adjaman was dethroned, and had to leave. He then came into Western Akim; my grandfather

was instrumental in making him King of Western Akim, there being no King of Western Akim at the time.

My grandfather (Chief Ampow) was the principal Chief under King Chiboo who fought the Ashantees at Dodowoa.

On the death of my grandfather shortly after this war, my mother was made Queen of Akim Swaidroo, her name was Dansue. I was not old enough at this time to come to the stool, but 10 years afterwards, when the Ashantees under Owusu Coccoque entered the Protectorate and the fight took place at Bobicumah, I was put on the stool, a woman being no good in war time. After I had ruled in Akim Swaidroo for about 15 years, King Adjaman died and his grandson Attah Fuaah came to the stool.

From his first coming to the stool he has continually slighted me, and he now publicly states that I am only a fifth rate Chief.

I was senior Chief of Western Akim under Captain Butler in the last Ashanti war.

The late Governor Ussher acknowledged me as one of the principal Chiefs of Western Akim, for he sent me the "Union Jack" that I fly at the door of my house.

If the King will acknowledge me as one of the principal Chiefs of Western Akim and will not continually charge me with wishing to kill him I am satisfied, and will pay King Attah Fuaah the respect due to a King.

Witness—

(Signed) CHARLES E. ASANTI.

(Signed) COFFEE AHINQUAH, ^{his} X
mark.

LIST of CHIEFS who attended PALAVERS, WESTERN AKIM, September 1883.

Names.	Villages.	Who under.
Asaming - - -	Oyinassie - -	King Attah Fuaah.
Otoboe - - -	Otoboe - - -	"
Yow Abochie - -	Bankemy - - -	"
Quacoe Fripong -	Assany - - -	"
Ayapy - - -	Abanassie - -	"
Fee Cudjoe - - -	Ounassoe - - -	"
Baboo - - -	Appasse - - -	"
Odaquah - - -	Osubu - - -	"
Adjae - - -	Apprady - - -	Chief Coffee Ahinquah.
Babu - - -	Appasoe - - -	"
Anamah - - -	Ayinam - - -	"
Coonadoo - - -	Anamassie - -	"
Buntoo - - -	Bronuassie - -	"

25th September 1883.

Akim Swaidroo, West Akim.

(Signed)

BRANDON KIRBY,
Assistant Inspector, G. C. C.

NAMES of VILLAGES outside PROTECTORATE belonging to KING ATTAH FUAH.

Village.	Headman.	Population.	Country.
Amahlena - - -	Cudjoe Adaquah -	100 - - -	Ashanti (Dadassie.)
Whenchie - - -	Aponyinsah - -	20 - - -	"
Crofah - - -	Tachie - - -	50 - - -	"
Obogoo - - -	Amipay - - -	{ 100 - - - 200 - - - }	"

(Signed)

BRANDON KIRBY,
Assistant Inspector, G. C. C.

NAMES of VILLAGES outside the PROTECTORATE belonging to CHIEF COFFEE AHINQUAH.

Village.	Headman.	Population.	Country.
Amahtea - - - -	Quamin Incansati -	150 - - -	Ashanti (Dadassie).
Gadamaoh - - - -	Assiamati - - -	60 - - -	"
Gankomoah - - - -	Owaree - - - -	150 - - -	"
Omansue - - - -	Yow Doodoo - - -	150 - - -	"
Odumassa - - - -	Yow Doo - - - -	150 - - -	"
Appasah - - - -	Tusafar - - - -	200 - - -	"

NAMES of VILLAGES inside the PROTECTORATE belonging to CHIEF COFFEE AHINQUAH.

Akim Swaidroo - - -	Coffee Ahinquah -	1,000 - - -	Western Akim.
Apprady - - - -	Adjæ - - - -	250 - - -	"
Appasoe - - - -	Babu - - - -	150 - - -	"
Ayinam - - - -	Anamah - - - -	150 - - -	"
Anamassie - - - -	Connadoo - - -	10 - - -	"
Bronuasie - - - -	Buntoo - - - -	200 - - -	"

(Signed) BRANDON KIRBY,
Assistant Inspector G. C. C.

No. 41.

The RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, November 21, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 17th ultimo,* and to express my satisfaction at, and approval of, the conduct of Mr. Kirby in connexion with the threatened disturbance in Western Akim.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

No. 42.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY.
(Received November 30, 1883.)

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,

MY LORD,

October 24, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a petition which Mr. John Ossoo Ansa has handed to me, and which he has requested me to transmit to your Lordship.

2. In this petition he advocates the claims of Coffee Kalkalli to the Kingship of Ashanti.

3. He states in paragraph 4 that the vast majority of the country are in favour of Coffee Kalkalli; that this majority includes all the provinces excepting Coomassie.

4. He states that there is an almost universal belief that Coffee Kalkalli has learnt experience from his past misfortunes, and that he would rule his subjects in future more in accordance with civilization if he were brought again to the throne.

5. That the people object to Quacoe Duah being placed on the stool, as during the lifetime of Kalkalli there would be no guarantee that there would not be constant strife.

6. In paragraph 9 he states that the interests of the Gold Coast Colony and of civilization demand some kind of intervention on the part of the Colony in the internal affairs of Ashanti; in paragraph 12 he states that there is only one way to arrive at this, and that that way is the personal presence of the Governor-in-Chief of this Colony in the Ashanti capital.

* No. 40.

7. In reference to the subject of this petition I should report to your Lordship that there are still here at Christiansborg representatives of both parties in Ashanti, and that although my interviews have perhaps been more frequent with the Quacoe Duah party than with those of the Kalkalli party, because the former came to Christiansborg much sooner than the others, I have carefully avoided giving any encouragement to the one over the other.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 42.

Christiansborg, Accra,
October 18, 1833.

MY LORD,

I HAVE to apologise most humbly to your Lordship for the liberty I am now presuming to take in addressing you, but I feel confident that inasmuch as the subject which I now desire to bring under your Lordship's notice and consideration is of the utmost importance to the most vital interests of the Gold Coast Colony as well as those of my own mother country Ashantee, your Lordship will freely pardon me for this liberty.

2. Your Lordship is doubtless in full possession of the fact that for some months past a civil war of succession to the stool of Ashantee, recently occupied by the deposed King, Mensah, has been raging in that country.

3. There are two claimants to the vacant stool or throne, namely, Kofi Kari-Kari, the former King, who was deposed in 1874, and Quacoe Duah, his nephew.

4. The vast majority, including all the provinces comprising the Ashantee Empire, Coomassie alone excepted, support the claims of the former, whilst those of the latter are upheld by a small but very influential party in Coomassie, headed by my elder brother Prince Owusoo Korkor, the general who commanded the army that invaded the Protectorate in 1863.

5. The reason Kari-Kari's claims are so numerous supported is that it is the almost universal belief that having learned experience from his past misfortunes he would profit by that experience to rule his subjects more in accordance with the ideas of civilised nations, and with less barbarity than has been the habit of Ashantee monarchs hitherto.

6. Again, the majority hold that were Quacoe Duah to be placed on the stool during the lifetime of Kari-Kari, there would be no guarantee that he, Kari-Kari, would not cease to strive to acquire what he believes to be his undoubted rights. Whereas, were he to be restored to what the majority of the nation declared to be his right Quacoe Duah and Mensah and their adherents would accept as an accomplished fact his restoration to power.

7. The restoration of Kari-Kari under the auspices of the British Government would of course be attended with conditions which would be calculated to ensure permanent peace, the opening up of roads, and the development of the vast resources of the interior, and therefore the renewal and increase of that commerce which has now, by reason of these disturbances, almost virtually ceased to exist—to the ruin of the mercantile interests of the Colony.

8. Before any steps are taken towards the restoration of Kari-Kari it would, no doubt, be desirable to ascertain how far true is the statement that he would really be the most acceptable to the majority of the nation as their ruler.

9. In suggesting the only suitable manner in which this fact could be honestly and correctly ascertained, I am assuming that Her Majesty's Government must have by this time arrived at the conclusion that the interests of this Colony, and of civilization generally, imperatively demand some kind of intervention on its part in the internal affairs of the Ashantee kingdom.

10. Indeed both the contending parties have for the past six months been earnestly entreating Governor Sir Samuel Rowe to intervene, and indeed to nominate and appoint a King for them. Both parties have, through their respective ambassadors, applied to his Excellency to despatch a commissioner to inquire into and endeavour to settle this matter of the disputed right of succession.

11. That the interference of this Government in this unfortunate crisis is imperative must be admitted on all hands.

12. There is, as I have suggested in the 9th paragraph one way, and only one, in which that interference could be effective, satisfactory to the Ashantees themselves, and productive of permanently good results, and that is—I trust I may be excused by your Lordship for my presumption in making the suggestion—by the personal presence of the Governor-in-Chief of this Colony in the Ashantee capital, where he would have the opportunity of meeting face to face with, and ascertaining directly the views of, the great Chiefs of the provinces, such as Kokofu, Mampon, Insutah, Nquaransah, Agoonah, &c., &c., and their respective councillors, as to the settlement of the question of succession to the stool and other matters connected with the future government of the kingdom.

13. Should your Lordship be disposed, after consideration, to adopt my views and suggestions on this matter, I would be most willing to place my services at the disposal of Her Majesty's Government in any way they may deem the same might be useful.

14. In conclusion, I would most respectfully urge the desirableness of the prompt attention of Her Majesty's Government being given to this question, with a view to the staying of the horrible and extensive shedding of blood that is being carried on by Prince Owusoo Korkor at present.

15. I would beg your Lordship's permission to state that my views as herein expressed are cordially endorsed by all the ambassadors from the various provinces already mentioned by me, who were despatched by their respective Chiefs to solicit the interference of the British Government in settlement of the existing differences.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN O'SSOO ANSAH,
of Ashantee.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 43.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR.

Downing Street, December 7, 1883.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 24th October,* enclosing a letter addressed to me by Mr. John Ossoo Ansaah, urging the claims of Coffee Kalkalli to the vacant throne of Ashanti.

2. I have to request that you will inform Mr. Ansaah that I have received his letter, as to the subject of which I may refer you to my Despatch of the 31st ult.,† in which I indicated to you the line of action which I considered it best for you to adopt in this matter.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

No. 44.

THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

MY LORD,

Manchester, December 7, 1883.

THE Chamber has been informed that an appointment has been made with your Lordship to receive a deputation of merchants engaged in trade on the West Coast of Africa, for Wednesday next the 12th inst., at 3 in the afternoon.

* No. 42.

† No. 37.

I have the honour to hand your Lordship the enclosed copy of a memorial from this Chamber, which has been entrusted to Mr. Hutton, a director of the Chamber, who will accompany the deputation, and who as it is proposed will have the honour of formally presenting it to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. BROWNING,
Secretary.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 44.

TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY, HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE COLONIES.

The MEMORIAL of the DIRECTORS of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF MANCHESTER by their
CHAIRMAN

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

That your Memorialists desire respectfully to bring under your Lordship's consideration the administration of Her Majesty's possessions on the West Coast of Africa and more especially of the Gold Coast and Lagos, where the mercantile community have not means of adequately expressing their views and their desires for promoting the progress and welfare of British commerce.

The Customs statistics of this country show that during the past five years there has been as compared with the previous five years a sensible decline in the exports of the manufactures of Lancashire to the Gold Coast possessions, while to other parts of West Africa there has been a considerable increase. Your Memorialists representing the important interests of this district desire to bring this fact before your Lordship and to submit the following points for consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

1. That in each British possession on the West Coast of Africa there should be a separate and distinct Legislative Council on which the commercial interests should be adequately represented by non-official members.

2. That the Gambia Colony having been placed under the Government of Sierra Leone, and that of Lagos under the Government of the Gold Coast, has produced serious inconveniences and has created in the minds of the merchants a desire that each Colony should be separately governed. Your Memorialists would beg that the consideration of Her Majesty's Government be given to this question in order that full enquiry may be made into the present system of administration, &c. of these Colonies.

3. That the large revenue levied and the increased expenditure on the Gold Coast call for remonstrances on the part of the mercantile community, especially when it is remembered that prior to the last Ashantee war in 1873 an efficient Government was maintained on a revenue of about 30,000*l.* per annum, which on the average annual imports amounted to 12½ per centum, whereas since 1873 taxation has been increased and the revenue raised to over 100,000*l.*, which revenue is levied almost entirely upon the imports and is equivalent to 30 per centum per annum on their total value.

4. That 50,000*l.* per annum or over half the revenue of the Gold Coast is devoted to paying the salaries and allowances of officials, while only 600*l.* to 800*l.* per annum is devoted to educational and sanitary services.

5. That the frequent changes in the appointments of officials and the present short period of service on the coast necessitate a larger staff of officers than formerly, and are detrimental to the progress and welfare of the Colonies.

6. That notwithstanding the increased revenue on the Gold Coast very little is done for the material and permanent benefit of the Colony, or for the interests of the trade which contributes the revenue; the state of the roads, the sanitary condition of the towns, the want of magazines for storage of powder and explosives, and the total absence of discipline among the police force are a source of anxiety and danger to the community, and demand the urgent attention of Her Majesty's Government.

7. That the opening of proper means of communication and of developing trade with the interior by the construction of railways under the guarantee of the Colonial Treasury deserves the serious consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

8. That it is desirable to establish official relations with the Chiefs of countries beyond British jurisdiction, and especially with the King of Ashantee, in whose capital

the residence of a Gold Coast Colonial official would be of advantage, and would tend to promote friendly intercourse with the people and an extension of British influence and trade. The frequent misunderstandings with that potentate would thereby be avoided and the heavy items of "special Ashantee expenditure" might be saved and devoted to useful and beneficial service in the Colony.

Your Memorialists would therefore pray that the considerate and careful attention of Her Majesty's Government may be devoted to these points which they respectfully submit to your Lordship.

And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. LORD,

President.

THOS. BROWNING,

Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Manchester,
December 4th 1883.

No. 45.

MESSRS. F. AND A. SWANZY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

MY LORD,

147, Cannon Street, E.C., December 7, 1883.

We have the honour herewith to enclose copy of a memorial having reference to matters connected with the Gold Coast, that we and other merchants trading to that Colony have drawn up with the view of placing before your Lordship.

We therefore humbly beg your Lordship to appoint an early day for its presentation.

We have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, P.C.,
&c. &c.

(Signed) F. AND A. SWANZY.

Enclosure in No. 45.

TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY, HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

THE MEMORIAL OF MERCHANTS in the CITY OF LONDON engaged and interested in the TRADE with the GOLD COAST and LAGOS

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH,

THAT the following questions in connexion with the Colony of the Gold Coast particularly call for the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and that were the views expressed in this memorial carried out the interests of trade and civilisation would be promoted and the welfare of the community advanced.

1. That whereas in consequence of the disturbed state of Ashantee and the neighbouring countries the trade of the Gold Coast has lately been seriously affected, and whereas numbers of Chiefs and their followers, only desirous of being left at liberty to live in peace and security, have petitioned his Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe to come under British protection, the time has arrived when the question should be reconsidered of establishing a Resident at Coomassie, who would watch over and further British interests and advise the King of Ashantee in matters connected with the internal government of his country.

2. That it is desirable Her Majesty's Government adopt measures to prevent the further annexation of any of the countries between the Gold Coast possessions and Lagos by any other European Power.

3. That the Lagos Colony having since 1874 been placed under the Government of the Gold Coast has produced serious inconveniences and has created in the minds of the merchants an earnest desire that the administration of the two Colonies should again be separate and distinct.

The trade of the Colony of Lagos considerably exceeds that of the Gold Coast, whilst its Government is maintained at less than half the expense, therefore the consideration of Her Majesty's Government is earnestly called to this question of separate government.

4. That in each British possession on the West Coast of Africa there should be a separate and distinct legislative council, on which the commercial interests should be adequately represented by non-official members.

5. That the condition of the finances of the Colony calls for inquiry. The revenue now collected is fully treble what it was in 1872 and previous years, but nothing more is done for the benefit of the community and for the interest of trade. The enormous expenditure is mainly due to the large staff of officials necessitated by the system of short service. If their term of residence on the Coast were for a longer period the result would be considerable saving in expenditure and greater efficiency in the administration of the Colony.

6. That as regards the Gold Coast proper it is desirable the ad valorem duty on manufactures, &c. revived at the time of the Ashantee war, and then increased to 4 per cent. as a war tax, be repealed and they be admitted free as formerly.

7. That there is urgent necessity for an inquiry into the condition and constitution of the Houssa force. With their want of discipline and character for plunder and insubordination they are positively an element of danger and disturbance to the Colony.

8. That it is desirable that more attention be paid to the sanitary condition of the principal towns, and that much might be done to improve the condition of their streets and the approaches to them.

9. That the Gold Coast being entirely without beasts of burden or means of water intercommunication, there can be no real or important development of its resources or trade without the formation of railways.

That therefore it is desirable Her Majesty's Government give their support to the construction of a railway between Assin, Denkera, and Cape Coast Castle, as recommended by the deputation of merchants and others that waited on his Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe on the 2nd March last, respecting which the papers are already in the hands of your Lordship.

10. That with a view to furthering the development of the gold mines in the Wassaw district the project for the construction of a railway between Axim and Tarquah is also deserving of the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

11. That whereas immense risks are run to life and property by the present lax system of storing gunpowder, Her Majesty's Government should adopt the suggestion to erect a Government magazine made by the merchants of Cape Coast in a petition presented to Sir Samuel Rowe in June last, and that in addition to Cape Coast Castle Government magazines be also erected at Axim and Accra.

12. That whereas at the present time great inconvenience is caused to merchants and others by the same persons being continually called to serve on juries, inquiry to be made as to the way the lists are arranged. The existing Ordinance on the subject appears to be totally disregarded.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

(Signed)

ALEX. MILLER, BROTHER, & Co.

FRED. J. CROCKER.

EDMD. G. GUNNELL.

WM. CLEAVER.

A. HUTTON.

WALTER GRIFFITHS.

CHAS. SEVIN.

F. SWANZY.

C. LINTOTT.

W. H. SELBY.

ALFD. LINTOTT.

G. T. H. LYALL.

FRANCIS W. MACAN.

BANNER BROTHERS.

London, December 7, 1883.

No. 46.

MESSRS. F. AND A. SWANZY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

147, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

MY LORD,

December 20, 1883.

REFERRING to the observations made by your Lordship at the Colonial Office on the 12th instant, respecting the affairs of the Gold Coast and Lagos, we beg to urge the following:—

1. That a separate administration for Lagos is indispensable. In the first place on the score of efficiency. The districts are so far apart, and the interests so widely different in each division of the Colony, as to render it impossible for one officer to efficiently govern at the same time the Gold Coast and Lagos. There are no telegraphs in the country, and it frequently happens that the Governor-in-Chief is in

ignorance for ten or more days of events that have taken place within the limits of his jurisdiction. As an instance of this we may mention that when Captain Barrow arrived in the Colony from Coomassie early in June last Sir Samuel Rowe was at Lagos, and that, although the first-named officer had prevailed upon the different factions in Ashantee to suspend hostilities for a fortnight, to enable the Governor to settle their differences, his Excellency was unable to act for several weeks, too late to prevent bloodshed. Great loss of life, and a seriously disturbed state of the country, with a stoppage of trade and all intercourse with the interior, has been the unfortunate result.

With regard to economy, we contend that a separate administration as formerly would lessen the expenditure, for previous to 1874 the pay of the Governor of the Gold Coast was 1,500*l.*; that of the Governor of Lagos, 1,700*l.*; that of the Secretaries of both, 200*l.*; making together a total of 3,400*l.* per annum. Under the present charter the pay of the Governor-in-Chief is 3,500*l.*; of the Lieut.-Governor, 1,950*l.*; of the Secretaries, 6,170*l.*; amounting in all to 11,620*l.* per annum. In addition to these costs of administration is the cost and maintenance of the Colonial steamer, which amounted in 1881 to 8,654*l.*, and we maintain that there is no occasion for this vessel.

So far as we are aware the Governor-in-Chief has not found time to once visit the important mining district, notwithstanding the fact that the seat of Government is in the Gold Coast Colony, and that skilled mining operations have been carried on by various European companies in the western district for several years.

2. Appointment of non-official members on the Legislative Councils.

Until the year 1874 the interests of the Settlements were fairly represented on these councils by English and native merchants of position and long standing with advantage to the Government and the native and commercial interests. Gentlemen of the same class still exist who are eligible and willing to devote sufficient time to legislative matters. In former years it frequently happened that the Governors summoned extra unofficial members to their councils in addition to their regular members.

3. Your Lordship was under the impression that "the increase in the revenue is due not so much to the taxes themselves being raised as to the stoppage of smuggling," and it appears from a note published by the Colonial Office on January 21st, 1874, referring to all the West African Settlements, that "the general increase of revenue which has taken place in the Settlements is due to the growth of trade chiefly, not to the burdens of taxation. The revenues of the Settlements were formerly raised by low ad valorem duties. The tendency of fiscal legislation there has recently been to abolish ad valorem duties (which are expensive to collect and distasteful to the mercantile community), and trust for a revenue to fairly high specific duties on spirits, tobacco, and munitions of war." In 1861 the total amount of the revenue, including the home grant of 4,000*l.* was 9,335*l.*, and the expenditure 9,195*l.* For 1881 the revenue was 116,424*l.*, and the expenditure 134,776*l.* The extension of area was made in April 1872, and it is mainly from that date that the taxation has so greatly increased. For the previous year the revenue was only 28,609*l.*, but in 1872 the duties were more than doubled. We, however, do not object to the amount of the revenue, but to the method of raising and collecting it. We are opposed to the ad valorem duties and to the enormous increase in the expenditure. The following figures show that the cost of certain branches of the administration has increased over 400 per cent in seven years.

	1873.	1880.
Civil establishment	1,700	7,962
Customs	1,999	7,655
Judicial and District Commissioners	3,560	10,382
Medical	880	4,924
Post office	75	692
Audit	—	934
Printing	60	408
Gaols	120	1,247
Public Works	450	2,420
	<u>8,844</u>	<u>36,624</u>

There are no roads, sewers, or lighted streets, and we regret to state that we are unable to perceive any improvement whatever during the last 20 years in either the condition or government of the Gold Coast.

Then again there is the extravagant system of short service, which in practice gives the officers and other officials over one-third of their time on leave on full pay. We desire to point out that the cost to the Colony in pay, passages, &c. is unnecessarily large, and that it would be impossible for the merchants and others to carry on their operations on the same scale. Our engagements are invariably for three years, and although agents and others as a rule receive no pay while on leave we have no difficulty in securing the services of competent men.

4. *Railways*.—Your Lordship's assurances on this important question are most encouraging, and we venture to hope that the scheme for a line to the mining centre will receive the consideration we are convinced it deserves. We are intimately acquainted with the mining prospects, for during our connexion with the Gold Coast (prior to the formation of companies for developing the gold fields) we estimate our receipts at upwards of 1,000,000*l.* sterling in gold dust obtained from the natives in exchange for merchandise. We have invested largely in mining operations in the Wassaw district, and have no doubt that if a line were established it would be fully employed in the conveyance of stores to the mines, and of ore to the coast. Moreover, the establishment of a railway would give employment to a great number of people in the Colony, and a vast amount of the shipping tonnage of this country.

5. As an instance of the undisciplined state of the Houssa force, we refer your Lordship to the copies of the petitions of Chief Tamoklo, and of the King, Chiefs, and headmen of Awoonah, which appeared in the "Gold Coast Times" of 28th September last, enclosed herein.*

We have, &c.

(Signed) F. & A. SWANZY.

The Right Hon. the Earl Derby, P.C.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 47.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY TO GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR, Downing Street, December 31, 1883.

IN my Despatch of even date,* expressing my approval of the Estimates of the Gold Coast Colony, I have alluded to the urgent necessity of taking some steps for developing the resources of the Colony by improving the means of communication and the execution of important public works.

2. In your Despatch of the 19th of October,* you enumerate a list of important objects which you had originally proposed to place on the Estimates for 1884, but as in view of the condition of the revenue of the Gold Coast they would have caused a deficit on the year, you decided, with the advice and concurrence of the Executive Council, to omit them.

3. Most of the works mentioned by you are of a reproductive nature, for the execution of which it would, in ordinary circumstances, be justifiable to raise a loan, as has been done with advantage in many other Colonies.

In the case of the Gold Coast, however, this course is, I think, at present unnecessary. There is reason to hope that the present depression in the revenue is of a temporary nature, and that a favourable change may be anticipated at no distant date. The revenue, moreover, has always hitherto proved more than sufficient for the ordinary expenditure, and although, in view of the extent to which the receipts depend on the preservation of peace in the interior, and of the shifting and uncertain political elements by which the Colony is surrounded, a considerable reserve must be maintained, I am disposed to think that it is unnecessary to keep the balance at the high figure of 99,000*l.* which you expect it to reach at the close of the current year.

4. It was decided by my predecessor that a sum of 50,000*l.* should be kept in hand as a reserve for the Gold Coast Settlement against unforeseen emergencies, and 10,000*l.* should be added on account of Lagos, making in all a fund of 60,000*l.* which is to be used only for extraordinary purposes.

But I am of opinion that the remaining balance of between 30,000*l.* and 40,000*l.* may properly be appropriated to the execution of works for the benefit and improvement of the Colony and its inhabitants.

I think, therefore, that some of the more pressing works which you have indicated might safely be taken in hand at once, the cost being defrayed from the accumulated surplus, and I shall proceed to indicate the order in which I am disposed to think it will be advisable that such works should be proceeded with.

5. The work to which the first place should be assigned is the commencement of a continuous road along the whole coast line, at all events between Accra and Axim. Such a road would not only be of great use in developing the resources of the Colony, but would also facilitate the work of administration, and enable increased supervision to be exercised over the small stations where irregularities are so apt to prevail.

6. The bridge at Five Cowrie Creek, and the construction of a causeway from the bridge to the sea shore at Lagos, are works of equal urgency and should be proceeded with at once.

7. The work which may be ranked second, though it is not less urgent than the road along the coast, is the thorough repair of the Colonial steamer "Ekuro." To defer the repair of the vessel longer would in all probability be to render it impossible, and it should therefore be taken in hand without delay.

Should it be found, upon further examination, that the vessel is not worth the cost and risk of sending her to England for repairs, it will be necessary that steps should be taken for replacing her either by the construction or purchase of another steamer.

8. A work of equal importance is the opening up of the interior roads for which you intended to take a vote of 800*l.* in the Estimates. I am of opinion that steps ought to be taken in this matter also during the coming year at least to the extent which you intended.

9. With regard to the erection of a line of telegraph from Accra to Winnebah, I am disposed to approve of such a work, but before authorising you to proceed with it, I should be glad to receive a reply to the inquiries already addressed to you as to what has become of the line from Cape Coast to Elmina.

10. The construction of prisons also at Accra and Lagos should not be longer deferred, and I request that you will have plans prepared without delay and forwarded for my approval.

11. For the execution of the works I have mentioned, you will probably require the services of another foreman of works, and as soon as I learn that you are ready to proceed with them I shall be prepared to instruct the Crown Agents to procure one.

12. There are several other works, such as the construction of a breakwater at Accra, which are urgently required, but I await an opportunity of conferring with you respecting them after your arrival in England before taking any action with regard to them.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

No. 48.

The RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

Sir,

Downing Street, December 31, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copies of two memorials* which have recently been presented to me on the subject of the condition of affairs in the Gold Coast Colony, one being from the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester, and the other from merchants of the City of London engaged and interested in the trade with the Gold Coast and Lagos.

I also annex for your information a report of the reply which I returned to a deputation which conferred with me on the 12th instant on the subject of these memorials.

The same questions are touched upon in both documents, but in the following observations I propose to deal with them in the order in which they appear in the memorial from the merchants of the City of London.

* Enclosures in Nos. 44 and 45.

1. With reference to the request that a British Resident should be established at Coomassie, you will observe that I informed the deputation that although I saw in principle no objection to the adoption of such a course I regarded it as a question of time and opportunity.

I adhere to the opinion expressed in my Despatch of the 30th January last,* that at the present moment there are strong reasons of policy and prudence against such an appointment. The condition of disturbance and almost of anarchy which exists in Ashanti at the present time would render the position of a Resident at Coomassie one of much danger and difficulty, and should insult or outrage be offered to him grave complications must inevitably result.

Should, however, the policy which, in my Despatch of 31st October,† I have directed you to adopt, prove successful, and peace and settled government be restored to Ashanti, it would then be deserving of consideration whether the desire of the merchants could be complied with, and a Resident at Coomassie be appointed. At the same time it is possible that the objects which they seek to accomplish might equally well be obtained, and probably at less cost and risk, by sending officers, commissioned by the Gold Coast Government, on special missions to Coomassie at tolerably frequent intervals. On this subject, with others, I shall take the opportunity of conferring with you on your arrival in England, and availing myself of your local knowledge and experience.

2. With regard to the second section of the memorial, you are aware that Her Majesty's Government have for some time past had the position of the countries lying between the Gold Coast and Lagos under their serious consideration, and that representations have been made to the French Government respecting the action of their agents at Porto Novo, Little Popo, and other places in these territories.

Whilst they are unwilling to extend their responsibilities unnecessarily on the West Coast of Africa, Her Majesty's Government are fully alive to the desirability of maintaining the influence which naturally belongs to them in virtue of their paramount interests in those districts, and the freedom of trade and commerce on the coast line between the two settlements of the Gold Coast and Lagos.

3. Although I stated to the deputation that the arrangement by which the Gold Coast and Lagos were placed under one Government had nothing of finality or perpetuity about it, I am not prepared without further experience of the working of the scheme to make any alteration. The more complete amalgamation of the two settlements which was sanctioned by my predecessor last year, after full consideration, has as yet hardly been brought into thorough working order, and it would be premature to make any change until its results have been fully developed. These results must, however, be carefully watched, and should they, after fair and sufficient trial, be found not to realize the expectations on which the policy of amalgamation was based, the question of placing the settlements under separate administrations must be reconsidered.

4. So long as the Gold Coast and Lagos are, as at present, united for fiscal and administrative purposes, there can of course be no question of the establishment of a separate Legislative Council in each settlement, and the sittings of the Council of the Gold Coast Colony should be held at the head quarters of the Government; at present that is at Accra.

I am, however, of opinion that there is no reason why the commercial element should not be represented in the Council by non-official members, as at Sierra Leone and the Gambia, provided that proper persons, able and willing to serve, can be found for this purpose. It has, however, always been understood that there was a difficulty in obtaining the services of gentlemen who reside for a sufficiently long period on the coast, and who would be acceptable to the rest of the mercantile community. It would probably be undesirable to restrict the choice of unofficial members to merchants residing at Accra, whilst at the same time gentlemen whose business is at Cape Coast or Lagos might not be willing to make the sacrifice of time and money which would be involved in coming to Accra to attend the meetings of the Council. Still I trust that this difficulty may, as in other Colonies similarly situated in this respect, be got over, especially when the sessions of the Council are fixed at stated periods selected to meet the general convenience of the community.

I shall be glad however to be furnished with your views on this question, and I would refer you to the correspondence‡ between Lord Carnarvon and Sir S. Freeling in 1877.

5. You will observe that in both the memorials great stress is laid on the heavy expenditure entailed by the system of short service which has been established in the

* No. 2.

† No. 37.

‡ Not printed.

Gold Coast Colony, and the detrimental influence which is said to be occasioned by the frequent changes in appointments.

The system of short tours of service was introduced after long and serious consideration, and under the advice of those most competent by experience to form a correct judgment, on the ground principally that when officers remained on the coast for any length of time the majority of them were, long before their turn for leave arrived, incapacitated by the climate from rendering efficient service, and not unfrequently dragged on a useless and fever-stricken existence. It was thought, and I have no reason to doubt rightly thought, that this would be to a great extent avoided by bringing them home at more frequent intervals, and thus enabling them to recruit the powers enfeebled by the trying and noxious conditions of life in West Africa. Such a system requires of course a larger staff than would otherwise be necessary, but if better and more serious and energetic work is obtained there is an obvious gain both to the Colony and the officers themselves.

It is also fair to observe that the frequent changes in appointments which are complained of are due, not only to the short service system, but in a great measure to the loss of officers occasioned by the fatal influences of the climate. A few years ago, when the revision of the arrangements as to leave of absence was under consideration, a return was prepared in this department which showed that during four years (1874-1878) the number of officers lost to the Colony by death or permanent invaliding amounted to no less than an average of 13 per cent. per annum on the European establishment. In view of such facts as these, I am certainly not prepared to make any change in the present regulations relating to leave of absence.

6. The question of the abolition of the *ad valorem* duty of 4 per cent. is one which must depend upon the financial condition of the Colony, and its ability to bear the loss of revenue which would accrue. The estimates for 1884, which have been recently under my consideration, show that this is at present impossible, but in principle I agree with the memorialists, and I shall be glad if at a future date either an increase of the revenue or a readjustment of the system of taxation should permit of the abolition of the *ad valorem* duty.

7. I have received with surprise and regret the complaints of the want of discipline and insubordination which are alleged to exist amongst the Houssa constabulary. The deputation referred more particularly to the condition and conduct of the detachments at the outstations. I have to request that you will inquire strictly and seriously into this matter, and furnish me with a report upon it from yourself, and also from the Inspector-General; and I should wish to be informed whether that officer, as it would appear to be his duty to do, visits the outstations at tolerably frequent intervals, in order to see that the detachments are kept in a proper state of discipline and efficiency.

8. The improvement of the sanitary condition of the towns in the Gold Coast Colony is a matter of primary importance, and it has formed the subject of much correspondence between each Secretary of State and each Governor for many years past. The difficulties in the way of obtaining satisfactory results, owing to the habits and customs of the natives and the physical obstacles to be overcome, are, I am aware, very great; but I need not impress upon you the necessity of using every endeavour to effect such improvements as may be possible, and to enforce strictly the legislation which has been passed for this purpose.

It may be worth consideration whether some local bodies should not be created in the principal towns whose function it should be to see that the provisions of the Ordinances regulating sanitary matters are properly carried out, and who should have some power of levying local rates for the purpose and for executing necessary works and improvements.

9 and 10. With regard to the construction of railways, I have already in my Despatch of 25th July,* conveyed to you my views respecting the proposal to make a railway from Cape Coast to Assin Denkerah. I informed you that it would be impossible to give a guarantee to a private company from the Colonial revenue, but if satisfied that the railway would pay, the Colonial Government might itself construct and work it.

The improvement of the means of communication is of course of the greatest importance to the Colony, and in a country like the Gold Coast where, as the memorialists point out, there are no beasts of burden or inland waterways, the construction of railways is undoubtedly deserving of serious and favourable consideration.

* Not printed.

It will therefore be desirable that you should collect and bring to England with you all the information which it may be possible to obtain on the subject. I shall then take the opportunity of conferring with you on the matter, and should it appear practicable to undertake the making of such a railway as is desired, it will be necessary to send out some competent person from this country to make a preliminary survey, and prepare estimates and specifications upon which tenders for a contract may be invited.

I propose to address you upon the general subject of public works which seem to call for immediate attention in a separate Despatch, in connexion with the estimates of the Colony for 1884.

11. I think there is considerable force in the representations of the memorialists as to the danger arising from the want of proper facilities for storing gunpowder, and I consider it desirable that steps should be taken without delay for erecting Government magazines at the principal ports named. A reasonable amount of rent would of course have to be paid by the merchants for the use of these magazines for the storage of their gunpowder.

12. The last point to which the memorialists draw attention is the inconvenience caused to merchants and others by the same persons being continually called to serve on juries. On this matter I am without information, and I have to request that you will cause inquiry to be made respecting it and furnish me with a report. I annex, for your information, an extract from a letter from Sir James Marshall, in which he supplies some explanations on the subject.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DERBY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 48.

EXTRACT from the "Times," of 13th December 1883.

YESTERDAY a deputation of gentlemen from London and Manchester interested in the trade of the British Colonies on the West Coast of Africa waited upon the Earl of Derby, at the Colonial Office, to confer with his Lordship on the subject of the administration of the government of these Colonies. The deputation, which was accompanied by Mr. Slagg, M.P., Mr. Armitage, M.P., and Mr. Lee, M.P., set forth their views in a memorial, and urged that the reforms desired were—first, that for each of these Colonies there should be a separate legislative assembly, with due representation of the non-official element; the abolition of the short service system; and the establishment of a British Residency at Coomassie.

Lord Derby, in reply, said he should deal with the questions in the memorial *seriatim*; and dealing with the first point, he would state that he saw no objection in principle to the establishment of a Resident at Coomassie; but it was a question of time and of opportunity. He did not think that the English people desired (he was sure he should not desire) that the British Government should be mixed up more than it was with the internal affairs of a country like Ashantee. It was undoubtedly desirable that there should be all due protection to British interests, such as they were, and that any influence which the Government could employ should be employed on behalf of peace, and of commerce, and of civilisation; but we must consider whether the opportunity was a convenient one for the establishment of a Residency at Coomassie, and he must say, from what he had seen in recent Despatches, that he should very much doubt whether the time had come for that to be done. All that they knew of the interior condition of Ashantee was that it was broken up into various factions; but civil war was not at all improbable, and under such circumstances it might be very difficult to know to whom a Resident should be accredited, while it would be very difficult for him to avoid interfering and throwing the weight of British influence into one scale or the other. He was sure that if there was one thing the British public would be unanimous about, it was that we did not want any extension of territory or any extension of a protectorate in the interior in the direction of Ashantee. If we sent a Resident there it could only be for the protection of such interests as we had, and he had no hesitation in saying that, while he would be ready at any time to consider the matter, and while he had instructed the Governor to make inquiry upon it, he did not think that the time had come when a permanent Residency could be established there. With regard to the next and exceedingly important question of our interference "to prevent the further annexation of any of the countries between the Gold Coast possessions and Lagos by any other European Power," it was of such very

wide interest, and of such momentous importance, that he was not in a position to give them an answer upon it now. It was seriously engaging the attention of the Cabinet. He need not say that they desired, as far as possible, that the West African coast should remain open to the traders of all countries, and should not be monopolised by any foreign power. At the same time, they had to consider the question of international right. He knew of no international law which would justify them in saying that whereas they had made various settlements in places unoccupied, and to which no other European power laid claim, that the French Government should not do the same thing. They would naturally plead that what we had done they might do. Ultimately he hoped that we should come to some arrangement between the two countries, and that that arrangement would be on the basis of fair play and equity to both parties. As to the separation of the Colony of Lagos from the Government of the Gold Coast, he was not in a position to give an opinion upon it at present; but he might say that the arrangement by which Lagos and the Gold Coast were placed under one Government had nothing of finality or perpetuity about it. Whatever efficiency might result from the separation, he was bound to point out that it would not be economical, for there would be the keeping up of two staffs instead of one. With regard to commercial interests being adequately represented upon the Legislative Council by non-official members, he did not know that there had been any desire for it, or that there were competent persons to undertake the duties; but he should take their views into consideration on that point. Then the deputation complained of the large staff of officials employed. He did not think that they contended that any one salary in itself was excessive or exorbitant, for it was his experience that it was very difficult to get competent men to go out to the Gold Coast. As to the substitution of specific for *ad valorem* duties, he was with the deputation, if we could only afford to do it. With regard to public works, such as roads, railways, improved sanitary arrangements, and so forth, they were, no doubt, of extreme importance, and he quite agreed that the question of communication was of more importance to the Gold Coast than almost to any other part of the Colonial Empire, because of the difficulty of getting beasts of burden to live there, and the absence of water communication with the interior. He should be heartily glad to find that the making of railways was practicable; and he need not remind them that railways cost money, and he did not think that the Government would be satisfied with saddling the Colony with a heavy debt for railways unless they had reasonable security that the proceeds of those railways would be sufficient to cover the interest of the debt. In the way of roads and sanitary arrangements there was no doubt a great necessity for something to be done at an early period, and they had a reserve fund which had grown to 99,000*l.*, of which 20,000*l.* or 30,000*l.* might be applied to this purpose. As to other minor points touched upon by the deputation, he should take these into consideration with the view of supplying a remedy.

The deputation then withdrew.

Enclosure 2 in No. 48.

(Extract from letter from Sir J. Marshall.)

December 15, 1883.

On reading the report of Lord Derby's answer to the Gold Coast deputation in the "Daily News," I observed that his Lordship promised to make inquiries respecting the complaints made about the same persons being constantly called upon to serve on juries.

I think I am able to give you some information on the point which may perhaps prove useful to Lord Derby.

Up to the time I left the Gold Coast this complaint only applied to Cape Coast, and I believe it still only applies to there. The simple reason is that from one cause or another the provision of the Supreme Court Ordinance had never been fully enforced there, I mean with respect to juries. By that Ordinance the District Commissioner has to make a jury list each year, and every man in the place between the ages of 21 and 60 is eligible to serve with some special exceptions. This gives him an ample supply from which to make a large list both of common and special jurymen. From this list the sheriff has to make a panel for each assize in a manner carefully indicated, and he has to exhaust the list before the same man can again be called on to serve again. If this were observed I do not think the same man could ever be called on to serve more than twice in one year, even with an assize each month. The Ordinance also specially enacts that two men from the same establishment are not to be called on to serve on the same jury.

Unfortunately there has been great difficulty in getting these provisions properly attended to at Cape Coast. On first going there as Chief Justice with the Queen's Advocate, Mr. Woodcock, to hold an assize (it was December 1879), after opening the assize we found it impossible to go on from the non-observance of the Ordinance which had existed from the very beginning of the Supreme Court's existence. In fact every trial had been tainted with illegality, and an ordinance of indemnity had to be passed.

I am confident that what causes the present complaints is the smallness of the jury list. The Ordinance includes all resident men, but there has remained at Cape Coast a strong feeling that only men who understand English should be allowed to serve. The others are called illiterate. This was formally the case at Accra and Lagos, and my experience at the latter place was that it kept the juries to a restricted clique who were imbued with class prejudices, which made the jury system a very doubtful and difficult engine to work. The new Supreme Court Ordinance which admitted all, swamped the clique and removed all such difficulties as are still complained of at Cape Coast. It is fairer because all present understand what is said, and the interpreter is carefully watched. Of course interpretation takes longer time, but it is far better both for judge and people. At all events it is the law, and the long and short of it is that if the provisions laid down in the Ordinance for the list-panels and summoning of juries are carried out at Cape Coast these complaints cannot arise. Unfortunately Cape Coast has been constantly left without a resident judge, and as there is more litigation there than at Accra and Lagos combined, it is natural that things occasionally go wrong.

Of course if only men who understand English are to be on juries the same persons must be perpetually chosen, and the many evils of a clique perpetuated. But this is not the law, and from experience I think it a very great blessing that it is not. The law says that all men between the ages of 21 and 60 are eligible.

No. 49.

COLONIAL OFFICE to MESSRS. F. AND A. SWANZY.

GENTLEMEN,

Downing Street, January 3, 1884.

I AM directed by the Earl of Derby to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo,* on the subject of the condition of affairs at the Gold Coast and Lagos.

Your communication will receive Lord Derby's best attention, but his Lordship desires me to say that he cannot admit the fairness of any comparison between the system and cost of administration at the Gold Coast as it existed previous to the Ashantee war of 1873-4 and that of the present time.

I am, &c.

Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy.

(Signed) R. H. MEADE.

No. 50.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY to GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, January 3, 1884.

WITH reference to my Despatch of 31st December,† I have the honour to transmit, for your information, copies of correspondence with Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy on the subject of the condition of affairs at the Gold Coast and Lagos.

I desire to call your particular attention to the last paragraph of Messrs. Swanzy's letter relating to the want of discipline in the Houssa force, and I have to request that you will furnish me with a report upon the circumstances to which they refer.

I have, &c.

Sir S. Rowe.

(Signed) DERBY.

* No. 46.

† No. 48.

‡ Nos. 45, 46, and 49.



GOLD COAST.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

REGARDING THE

AFFAIRS OF THE GOLD COAST.

(In continuation of [C.—3687] of July 1883.)

Maps will be found at pages 55, 63, and 84.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1884.



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