

GOLD COAST.

DESPATCH

FROM

GOVERNOR SIR W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH, K.C.M.G.,

FORWARDING A

MEMORIAL FROM MERCHANTS, AGENTS,  
AND TRADERS

OF THE

GOLD COAST COLONY,

WITH HIS OBSERVATIONS

AND THE

SECRETARY OF STATE'S REPLY.

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
November 1893.

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DESPATCH

FROM

GOVERNOR SIR W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH, K.C.M.G.,

FORWARDING A

Memorial from Merchants, Agents, and Traders of the  
Gold Coast Colony,

WITH HIS OBSERVATIONS AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S REPLY.

No. 1.

SIR W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.  
(Received July 13, 1893.)

EXTRACT.

Government House, Aburi Hills Station,  
June 12, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Lordship's consideration a communication, dated the 31st October 1892, addressed to your Lordship by "merchants, agents, and traders of the Gold Coast Colony," in which they profess "to bring before your Lordship's notice facts in connexion with this Colony, and particularly with reference to Ordinance No. 25 of 1889, imposing an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. upon nearly all the imports into the Colony."

2. The communication was sent to the Colonial Secretary on the 16th November, accompanied by a letter from Mr. W. Waters, signed by him as "Acting Chief Agent, F. & A. Swanzy, for merchants, agents, and traders of the Gold Coast Colony," and Mr. Waters naively stated with regard to the communication referred to: "It is only fair to the signatories thereof that in the event of the Governor taking exception to figures or items or inferences derived from them from facts in the possession of his Excellency not published in Blue Books or Government Gazettes, or otherwise accessible to the public, such facts may be brought to the knowledge of the signatories prior to the transmission of the" (so in original) "to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State." And Mr. Waters added, "I might mention that at the request of the merchants, agents, and traders of the Colony, a fourth copy has been forwarded direct to his Lordship."

3. The communication referred to in Mr. Waters's letter, together with the latter, came under my notice on the day after its receipt with the following minute placed upon it by the Colonial Secretary:—

"This petition is one which requires careful consideration as it is practically an indictment of the policy pursued by the Government."

4. On examination of the papers sent to me I found that the "original" was in manuscript, with 16 lists of names attached to it on separate slips of paper, indicating how the signatures had been got together. 119 of the names had crosses marked opposite to them, and these not having been witnessed rendered the persons obtaining such names and placing marks against them liable to the provisions of Ordinance No. 20 of 1889, under which a fine extending to 25*l.*, or in default of payment imprisonment with or without hard labour, would be imposed. I also found that the duplicate and triplicate

of the communication were printed, but instead of the names corresponding with those attached to the original being added to these, they were simply signed—

“ W. WATERS,  
Acting Chief Agent,  
F. & A. Swanzy ———  
for self and 517 others.”

The attention of Mr. Waters was called to the illegality of the names with crosses unwitnessed, and to the absence of signatures to the duplicate and triplicate of the communication, but he omitted to complete the documents in accordance with Rule No. 218 of the Rules and Regulations for Her Majesty's Colonial Service. I submit copies of the correspondence upon the subject which passed between the Colonial Secretary and Mr. Waters, upon what I shall term the “Complaint” against the Government for your Lordship's information.

5. I also send with this Despatch copies of the “Complaint,” which I had printed, the paragraphs being also numbered for convenience of reference.

6. In the latter part of the first paragraph of the “Complaint” the Ordinance No. 25 of 1889 is described as “imposing an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. upon *nearly all the imports into the Colony.*”

7. A reference to Ordinance No. 5 of 1887 will show that specific duties were thereby imposed on 11 articles of import.

8. By Ordinance No. 25 of 1889 it is shown in the schedule—“The First Part: Table of Duties”—that the charge of 10 per cent. was to be levied on 22 articles enumerated, and “on all other goods not enumerated and unexempted,” whilst the table of exemptions shows 99 articles not liable to any duty. The assertion therefore that Ordinance No. 25 of 1889 imposed an *ad valorem* duty upon nearly all the imports into the Colony is a misstatement of a fact, and I only refer to the matter as illustrating generally the inaccurate and misleading statements put forward by the complainants throughout the document they have addressed to your Lordship.

9. Your Lordship's attention is first called in the “Complaint” to the fact that in April 1887 the then existing *ad valorem* duty of 4 per cent. upon certain articles was abolished, for which, as stated in paragraph 3, the merchants were grateful. And upon this point I readily admit the complete accuracy of the statement. The average annual collection from that tax being 9,400*l.*, the whole of it went into the pockets of the importers, who did not reduce by one penny the prices they had charged upon the sale of their merchandise to smaller distributors, or to the body of consumers who dealt with them, in the merchandise relieved from the 4 per cent. duty.

10. It is stated in paragraph 3 that, (1) “after the lapse of about a year the fiscal policy of the Government underwent a radical change,” which, (2) the complainants “submit, was in no way justified by the financial position of the Colony.”

11. As regards the first statement it is refuted by the fact that the *ad valorem* duty of 4 per cent. ceased to be levied on the 31st December 1887, whilst the duty of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* came into force on the 1st of January 1890, the lapse of time between the two Acts being, not about a year, but two full years.

12. As regards the second statement, that the financial position of the Colony did not justify the imposition of the 10 per cent. duty, I would very respectfully place the following information under your Lordship's notice with regard to the revenue of the Gold Coast Colony for the four years, 1886 to 1889, being two years with and two years without the 4 per cent. duty.

Years.	Revenue.	Totals.
	£	£
1886	122,531	
1887	122,351	
	—————	244,882
1888	97,807	
1889	114,388	
	—————	209,195
It will be seen, therefore, that the decrease of revenue in the last two years was		35,687
as compared with the two previous years,		

13. But the expenditure of the Colony in 1888 and 1889 has also been taken into account. It was as follows :

	£	£
1888 - - - - -	133,468	
1889 - - - - -	125,003	
Total - - - - -	—	258,471

The revenue being - - - - - 209,195  
for the same period was insufficient to meet the expenditure by - - - - - 49,276

It will therefore be seen by the foregoing figures that the revenue of 1888 and 1889 fell short of that received in 1886 and 1887 by - 35,687  
and that the revenue of the years 1888-1889 was insufficient to meet the expenditure for the same period by - 49,276

thereby placing the Colony in an unsound financial position, one of the consequences of which was that the Government had to borrow 16,000*l.* from the Crown Agents with whom, besides, its current account was overdrawn to the extent of 6,000*l.*, making a total liability to that department of 22,000*l.* I submit, therefore, that the circumstances stated fully justified the local Government in recommending Her Majesty's Government to consent to the taxation of a few articles of import by an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent., which, by its estimated product of 22,000*l.* a year, and with the improvement anticipated in the specific duties, would place the finances of the Colony in a healthy condition.

14. The preamble of the Ordinance No. 25 of 30th December 1889, declared that an *ad valorem* duty should be placed on certain articles of import, which at that time were admitted free of duty, to provide additional revenue for the following purposes :—

- (1.) Further improvement of roads ; and
- (2.) Other means of local communication.
- (3.) Extension of telegraph lines ;
- (4.) Education of the people ;
- (5.) Extension and development of the judicial system ; and, for,
- (6.) Other objects for the advancement of the Colony.

15. In paragraph 5 of the "Complaint," it is submitted "that no one of the objects specified except, (1) the partial extension of the telegraph lines, and (2) a slight extension of the postal system has been carried out." I will deal with these assertions first, and take the others as put forward in the paragraph, in their order later, but I would remark in passing, that whilst there are six objects specified in the preamble, the "Complaint" says not a word about the three last named.

(a.) The total mileage of telegraph lines open in the Colony was :

In 1886, 109 miles	} Four per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> duty in force.
" 1887, 112 "	
" 1888, 171 "	} Only specific duties imposed on 11 articles of import.
" 1889, 171 "	
" 1890, 177 "	} Ten per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> duty levied on 22 articles of import, &c.
" 1891, 213 "	

16. I think I have advanced sufficient to show that there has been far more than "a partial extension of the telegraph lines" since the 10 per cent. duty has been in operation, for at the end of 1889 there were 171 miles of line open, and at the end of 1891 213, showing an increase of 42 or nearly 25 per cent. on the total mileage previously put up.

17. It will be convenient to state here that in 1892 a line of about 84 miles from Elmina to Axim was commenced. It was completed on the 14th and opened to the public on the 20th March last. It would have been ready some months earlier, but the ground the line had to pass over being mostly rocky, much blasting was required in order to obtain the proper depth and size of bed in which to plant the poles. This brings up the total telegraph line mileage to 297.

18. It may be interesting to your Lordship for me to add that requisitions for plant and materials have been sent home for a line of telegraph to extend about 55 miles from Ada to Akuse and Pong ; and also for a line of 20 miles from Kwitta to the German frontier at Lome, where it will connect with a line to be put up by the German Government, so as to bring it in touch with the African direct telegraph cable line at Accra. What I have stated will, I trust, satisfy your Lordship that this Government has not been neglectful of its duties to the public with regard to the extension of telegraphic

communication throughout this Colony; and therefore that there is no ground for the statement virtually made to the contrary, that only a partial extension of the telegraph lines has taken place. The following list exhibits the names of 17 places in the Colony at which there are telegraph stations, and the number will be increased to 20 when the lines to Akuse, Pong, and Danoe are completed:—

- |                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Christiansborg Castle. | 10. Chama.     |
| 2. Victoriaborg.          | 11. Adjuah.    |
| 3. Accra. —               | 12. Dixcove.   |
| 4. Winneba. —             | 13. Axim. ✕    |
| 5. Appam. —               | 14. Aburi.     |
| 6. Saltpond. —            | 15. Pram Pram. |
| 7. Anamaboe. —            | 16. Ada.       |
| 8. Cape Coast. —          | 17. Kwitta.    |
| 9. Elmina. —              |                |

It was in 1886 that the Accra-Aburi and Accra-Elmina lines of telegraph were put up. Moreover, I would mention here that, besides what has been done with regard to telegraph extension, there is a telephone line from Accra to Aburi, 26 miles, which was put up last year, the wire being placed on the poles carrying that of the telegraph; and there is also a telephone exchange at Accra providing communication between twenty (20) different offices. The usefulness of these telephones is, like that of the telegraph, invaluable.

19. (b.) Then as to the statement that only a slight extension of the postal system has been carried out. I cannot give this a more complete refutation than it has received from the (late Colonial now) Postmaster General, who voluntarily furnished me with a communication, of which a copy is appended, to which I shall also have to refer later, with regard to the distinct contradiction it gives to other portions of the "Complaint." Mr. Cole states that he had seen the memorial addressed to your Lordship published in the "Gold Coast Chronicle" of the 19th November last, "in which," he observes, "amongst other matters, a statement is made affecting the progress of the Post Office Department. I consider it my duty as chief of that department to refute the statement that only a slight extension of the postal system has been carried out, as being altogether inaccurate and misleading." The postmaster's statement gives the most complete refutation to the assertion made upon the point in the "Complaint," and this is the more telling because it comes from a most careful, painstaking, accurate, truthful, and independent spirited native gentleman, whom the Government is so fortunate as to have at the head of the Post Office Department of the Colony, and who commands universal respect in the community.

20. (c.) The next declaration of the "Complaint," as stated in paragraph 5, is that, "For many years no improvement worth mentioning has been made in roads or any other means of facilitating traffic." As regards roads, the Government has arrangements almost throughout the Colony with native Kings and Chiefs to keep their respective roads clean. I do not see what improvement can be undertaken except where roads passing through a comparatively level country may be so prepared that carts could be used upon them. This can be done on the road from Accra to Aburi, where about 19 miles are available for wheeled conveyances, and officials visiting Aburi frequently travel that distance in "go-carts," drawn by Krumen. But, notwithstanding its fitness for the purpose, the Natives have not used carts on this road. Although *the road has been made for several years*, it was only in May 1891, two years ago, that two or three native traders began to collect produce, chiefly palm kernels, at Aryee Mensah, Temang and Ekokomé, on the Aburi road. This they sold to merchants in Accra, placing it in puncheons, which were pushed and rolled over the road, by hired labour, from the villages mentioned to Accra. This method of transport, however, is attended with loss owing to the breakage of packages from their being knocked about and damaged on the road, and it is painful to hear the creaking of the casks as they are propelled by the men in charge of them. Carts could be made, and cattle trained to draw them along this road, but the African does not care to go to the expense and trouble that would accrue,\* and the Europeans have not set him an example in the business, so that if carts were used they would have to be drawn by men. I will mention an instance to show the preference of the African for his old arrangements as to transport of trading commodities. Some years ago I was requested by traders at Christiansborg to grant them a sufferance wharf there, where they could get rum put on shore direct from a ship

\* See Enclosure No. 11.

instead of having it landed at, and rolling the puncheons with it from Accra, to their village, as in doing so one of the heads of the casks often fell out, and the rum was lost. I assented to their request, but suggested they should use carts to convey their packages from Accra where necessary. The reply was that they would do this if they had carts, but that they did not have them. I then designed a hand cart to hold two puncheons, and to be drawn and pushed along by two men; had it made, sent it to the principal trader in Christiansborg, and offered him the loan of it for two months. He made one trial of the cart and then returned it, stating it was very good for the purpose it was made for, but that the old plan of rolling casks was cheaper, and he preferred it. I question very much, my Lord, if the people at Accra, Ekokomé, Temang, and Aryee Mensah, on the Aburi road, with a good cart road at their doors suitable for the purpose of conveying their produce in wheeled vehicles to market, will not avail themselves of such means of conveyance, whether people far removed from the coast will resort to this method.\* There are very few roads in the Gold Coast suitable for wheeled conveyances, or that could be so arranged that casks could be rolled upon them, owing to the configuration or inequalities of the ground. But if even this was level throughout, instead of being uphill or mountain and down valley or ravine as it is, and if the existing roads were made all that the "Complainants" could desire, and were a hundred feet wide, I doubt whether the Natives would not use them in the same way as they do now. Although casks could be rolled upon them, this could only be done for a limited mileage, as the casks would not hold together for any long distance. The roads generally are not fit for wheeled traffic, and it is unnecessary in existing circumstances that they should be, for there is no such thing as a cart or beast of burden in the interior, in several portions of which cattle and horses will not live, as, for instances, many parts of the coast line, also Winneba, Appam, &c. It is not easy to get the roads kept clean now for ordinary native travelling. It would take an army of labourers to keep them fitted for wheeled vehicles or for casks to be rolled upon. No doubt when railways have been laid down they will be a means of facilitating traffic, and then a great deal of produce will be brought to market which, even were it close to a road, is not worth bringing by the present methods. And with regard to railways, I not only brought the subject under Lord Knutsford's consideration personally in an interview which he did me the honour to grant, but also dealt with the question of their establishment in a Despatch dated the 24th October 1892; while your Lordship has taken the question up and sent out Captain Lang, of the Royal Engineers, to make the preliminary surveys necessary.

21. With regard to the question of laying down lines of railway in the Colony, in my Despatch of the 20th of February I quoted the following observation from the "Gold Coast Chronicle" of the 18th of February:—"The merchants, moreover, have been crying out for roads for months and months; we are happy to observe that, although at the eleventh hour, soon all their troubles on the score indicated will entirely vanish; a few lines of rail to the interior would do the country more good than roads that cost a large sum of money to keep in good condition." I understand that this observation either led to, or followed, an attempted convention by Mr. Waters, agent for Messrs. F. & A. Swanzy, of the merchants, agents, and traders of Accra, to protest against the laying down of railroads because other roads should be made first, and owing to the surf there was no place where railway material and plant could be landed; but the attempt was an utter failure, for the other members of the trading community in Accra refused to follow the lead of Messrs. Swanzy's agent in his opposition to such substantial improvement in the means of communication in the Colony as lines of railway will provide.

22. The "complainants" continue in paragraph 5: "We are entirely without any proper trade roads." This statement, my Lord, is not merely a figure of speech, but is a transparent misrepresentation of indisputable facts, as the following statements will show. The great trade roads are as herein-after described:—

- (1.) From Accra to Aburi, Mampong, Akropong, Sra, Odumasi—branching off in a south-easterly direction to Pong and Akuse on the Volta, the two last being great trading centres—enormous quantities of palm oil being collected at these towns, especially at Akuse, whence the casks containing it are floated down the Volta to Addah; whilst both Pong and Akuse receive a great deal of the trade coming from Akwamu, Peki and Salagha. The road runs from Pong, on the right bank of the Volta, through various places to Kwahu, whence there is in the dry season a track to Attabubu, to which it is intended, as soon as a

\* See Enclosure No. 11.

particular officer is available for the purpose, to make a road calculated to attract more of the Bontuku, Kantampo, and Salagha trade, as well as that of intervening countries which are under treaty arrangements with the Government. The road from Accra *viâ* Aburi and Akropong to Akuse is one of the greatest arteries of trade in the Protectorate, and is 70 miles in length. It is in fair order for trade work and hammock travelling.

(2.) A branch of this great trade way runs from Mampong up to Korforodua in New Juabin, thence to Begoro in Eastern Akim, passing on thence to Abetifi in Kwahu, and thence on by track path across plains, covered with high grass and frequented by elephants, to Attabubu.

(3.) Another trade road runs from Accra to Insawam in Western Akim, passing along to Kibbi in Eastern Akim, connecting at Osinno with the Mampong-Abetifi road.

(4.) From Accra a road runs to Konyarko, thence on to Insabang, Inswaim, and Akim Swaydru, crossing in a north-westerly direction to Prahsu.

(5.) From Inswaim and Swaydru a principal trade road runs to Akinassi, Essekuma, Ajumako, and through Mankessim to Saltpond, whilst the road branches off in a south-easterly direction to Winneba. It is from Saltpond, in a northerly direction, that the first line of railroad will be laid, as the country through which this line will pass is singularly rich in palm oil, palm kernels, and other valuable natural productions.

(6.) From Cape Coast another great trade road runs through Akroful, Dunkwa, and Mansu to Prahsu, which is separated by the River Prah from the Adansi frontier, and by this route a considerable portion of the trade of Ashanti finds its way to Cape Coast and Saltpond, the latter, however, receiving most of the Ashanti trade in rubber coming in a south-easterly direction from Beronassi, which is higher up on the Prah than Prashu, and passing through Inswaim and so on by Swaydru to Saltpond.

(7.) Another great trade road starts from Cape Coast, passing through Mampong, Jukwa and another Mampong, and to Yamfuri in Denkira, whilst at Mansisu the River Appapon is crossed to Akropong, whence a great trade road runs north-west to Wiyawsu, the capital of Sefwhi, and thence on to Asafu and Dua Krum, and onwards to Debisu, where the road runs into Gaman. At Dua Krum a road runs to Kinjabo, in the French Protectorate.

(8.) There is also a road starting from Chama *viâ* Mansu to Tarkwa, connecting by cross roads with Awudua and Akikerir, with Akropong on the south-east and Assan-Krangwar and Briman on the north-west, while from Assankrangwar a road runs *viâ* Tomentô and Dehsuano to Aowin.

23. In the preceding statements I have simply dealt with the great trade routes over which trade flows into and from the Protectorate, without dealing with Ada and Kwitta as this does not appear necessary looking to the water communication they possess, and if the eight great routes described are not proper trade roads it is a mystery how it has been possible for the produce of the interior to be brought to the sea ports, and the merchandise imported conveyed back to the interior. But the "complainants" virtually declare that these are not proper trade roads, and that "the enormous value of roads is proved by the manner in which produce is now frequently conveyed in casks to Accra by the Aburi road, which is practically the only road in the Colony." I have already shown in paragraph 20 that the Aburi road, on which casks of produce are rolled from Aryee Mensah to Accra, is only about 19 miles in length; and that there are no wheeled vehicles used upon it for the conveyance of produce. The undulating country through which it passes is so formed that the road may be said to be almost level. But at a short distance from the village of Aryee Mensah the road runs at a considerable angle down to a gorge, then ascends a steep mountain side for about three miles, and then after about four miles of fairly level road the station at Aburi is reached. The configuration and inequalities of the road thence to Odumasie—32 miles—are of such a description that except here and there, for from one to two or three miles, wheeled vehicles could not be used, nor casks rolled, and this would be a fair description of almost all of the roads in the Colony. But let it be granted that the Colony is, as the "complainants" assert, "entirely without any proper trade roads," and that it has only 19 miles of good roadway. If that is the case, how is the fact accounted for that, *leaving out of sight the transport of imports in enormous quantities from the coast to the*

*interior*—there were brought to the sea ports in 1891, by Natives carrying on their heads, the quantities of produce which I will presently describe, and which were conveyed from the places of production, or collection, upon the roads of the Colony, if such roads were not “proper trade roads?” It is fatuous to talk of having roads for ordinary wheeled conveyances or for rolling casks upon throughout the country, because natural obstacles stand in the way of any such arrangements. But, even if this was practicable, the Natives would not use carts for transporting their produce, and, otherwise, carts would be useless in the majority of roads, unless drawn by hired labourers, because, as already stated, cattle, horses, and mules can live only in portions of the Colony. Again, it is a fact beyond dispute that Natives always travel in file, in the same track, about 18 inches wide, leaving grass and bush growing on either side of it, and it is unlikely that they would give up their habit of procedure, however much the roads might be improved. What they care for is that bridges should be kept in order, and fallen trees removed out of their path. This the Government has been giving attention to, and has also required that roads should be cleared and cleaned to a sufficient width to admit of their being travelled over by hammock.

24. The following statement, from which I have purposely omitted the quantities of palm kernels, palm oil and rubber, shipped from Addah and Kwitta, besides 43,760 lbs. of cotton exported from Ada, together with all timber floated down rivers, and leaving out of sight various miscellaneous articles brought from the interior, will show your Lordship the quantities of some African produce brought down by Natives on their heads in 1891 along the trade roads of the Colony to the shipping ports, notwithstanding the assertion of the “complainants” that they are “entirely without any proper trade roads.”

Coffee	-	-	-	-	-	13,721 lbs.
Ginger	-	-	-	-	-	2,270 „
Ground nuts	-	-	-	-	-	161,241 „
Guinea grains	-	-	-	-	-	265,354 „
Gum copal	-	-	-	-	-	28,342 „
Ivory	-	-	-	-	-	15,092 „
Monkey skins	-	-	-	-	-	187,070 „
Palm kernels	-	-	-	-	-	8,009 tons.
Palm oil	-	-	-	-	-	2,454,536 galls.
Rubber	-	-	-	-	-	2,617,653 lbs.

The contention of the “complainants” is virtually that proper trade roads should be like the Accra-Aburi road, “which,” they assert, is practically the only road in the Colony; they have forgotten that there are 5 miles of equally good road leading from Mankessim into Saltpond, on which casks are rolled, and that the enormous value of roads is proved by the manner in which produce is now “*frequently*” (they do not say, constantly) “conveyed” by the road mentioned. But it cannot be a matter of contention that roads are of enormous value, because that is as true as a declaration that two and two make four. Yet because casks containing produce can be rolled for 19 miles on the particular road, the indisputable fact remains that produce cannot be conveyed in the same way on the remaining 51 miles of the great trade route of which the Accra-Aburi road forms a part, because the inequalities of the ground will not admit of this being done. These obstacles do not, however, prevent the interior trade from passing over the road, for while some of the produce conveyed upon it is secured by the traders at the villages on the Aburi-Accra road, packed in puncheons, and rolled to the sea coast, the greater part of the produce brought along the road is conveyed on the heads of its carriers to Accra. Virtually the contention of the traders is that proper trade roads are those fitted for rolling casks upon. If they had given the question a thought, they would have discovered that owing to natural causes, as I have already stated, very few roads can be adapted for the conveyance over them of produce in the way resorted to on 19 miles of the Aburi-Accra road. But to contend, as they virtually do, that there are no proper trade roads in the Colony, because the routes by which trade flows are not all fitted for rolling puncheons upon, appears to me to be simply preposterous.

25. (e.) “There are districts a few miles in the interior almost throughout the length and breadth of the Colony, where the natural products of the country lie rotting in enormous quantities because there are no roads to bring them to the coast.” I shall meet this sweeping assertion, my Lord, by the evidence of officers who, unlike the “complainants,” are responsible for the accuracy of their statements.

26. In reply to inquiry upon the statement referred to, the Commissioner of the Volta River District states (20th December) :—

“The nearest plantation to the head-quarters of my district lying in the interior is a place called Asenisie, which is about 15 miles distant from Akuse, and belonging to the Krobos. Taking the distance from this place and continuing it to the nearest sea coast will be about 55 miles. There are two or three other places in similar close proximity to Akuse, as Asenisie, belonging to the Aquapims, and Krobos also. At these places there is undoubtedly a great quantity of produce, especially palm kernels and provisions, which for want of carriers, on account of the roads being mountainous, could not be brought down, and are therefore left to rot there, whilst some of the kernels are used for burning fire to make palm oil.”

The Commissioner of the Kwitta District states (23rd December) :—

“So far as I can ascertain, nowhere in this district do the natural products of the country lie rotting in enormous quantities simply because there are no roads. The Natives have too much an eye to business to allow anything of the kind to occur. The native tracts are good, and as there is no wheeled traffic, the want of roads is not felt.”

The Commissioner of Addah states (27th December) :—

“There is not within my knowledge a district or districts a few miles in the interior in my commissionership where the natural products of the country lie rotting in enormous quantities simply because there are no roads by which to bring them to the coast; that is, interpreting the words ‘few miles’ to mean about 10. As a matter of fact the principal means of transport in this district are by steam launches, bar boats, and canoes, which traverse the Volta River.”

The Commissioner of Pram Pram states (17th December) :—

“There are no such districts within 20 miles of my district where the natural products lie rotting on the ground.”

The Commissioner of Winnebah states (13th December) :—

“I know of no districts a few miles in the interior where the natural products of the country lie rotting in enormous quantities simply because there are no roads to bring them to the coast in this district.”

The Commissioner of Saltpond states (13th December) :—

“With regard to paragraph 5 of the print, I have to say that there is no district within my bailiwick where the natural products of the country lie rotting within a distance of 50 miles north of this station, beyond which distance I have not travelled. I am not aware, and do not believe, that any such district exists within my commissionership. No statement of the kind has ever been made to me or come to my knowledge. There is a considerable mileage of good trade road in this district, and I may state for your Excellency’s information that the road from here to Mankessim (5 miles), and the more important of the two interior roads from Saltpond, is regularly used by merchants who transport produce in casks and puncheons, which are rolled the whole distance. At greater distances in the bush this is not done, I presume on the ground of expense, loss of time, and necessary damage to casks. There are some excellent stretches of road in the bush, over 20 miles away. I am satisfied that there is no difficulty in getting down to this place from the far interior all the produce desired, and as a matter of fact nearly all of it comes from very long distances. I am told there are at present quite 400 men from the interior in the town who, having brought down produce for sale, are remaining to rest and make purchases before returning to their homes.”

The Commissioner of Cape Coast states (30th December) :—

“The natural products are not rotting in the interior simply because there are no roads in my district, but, in my humble opinion, from the apathy of the merchants in not pushing themselves more into the interior. I had a good illustration of this in the Ada District, where every merchant had to remove up the river when the price of oil came down to a level that the Natives could not afford to bring oil long distances. The merchants’ objection to this is, that that would entail an immense additional outlay in capital, but to my mind that is the solution to the difficult problem.”

The Commissioner of Chama, to which Sekondi is attached, and who is also Commissioner of Dixcove, states (13th December) :—

“ There is no district or districts within my knowledge lying within a few miles in the interior of my commissionership where the natural products of the country lie rotting in enormous quantities for want of roads by which to bring them to the coast. There is no such district within 10 miles of either of my two districts (Chama or Dixcove).”

The Commissioner of Axim writes (13th December) :—

“ With regard to the statement that produce lies rotting a few miles in the interior for want of roads, I can assure your Excellency that so far as Cape Coast and Elmina are concerned it is absolutely untrue, for whenever I have been in the bush it appeared to me that almost every kernel was collected, and on leaving either town in almost any direction, and at almost any time of the day, a continuous stream of carriers, with every variety of produce, was always to be met.”

“ With regard to the Axim bush, I cannot say anything of my own knowledge, but I have made inquiries, and am told that such a state of things does not exist. It would be difficult to say how near the towns the produce grows, but the nearest is always brought first by Natives from the towns, and even if such a state of things as that mentioned in the last paragraph but one existed, it would be due, not to the want of roads, but to the innate idleness of the Natives themselves, and it is a well-known fact that if a wide road is provided the Natives will always walk in single file along one part of it only.”

My Lord, I have placed before your Lordship the replies of the Commissioners to the statement put forward by the “ complainants.” The Commissioner of the Volta River District states that in a few places belonging to the Akwapims and Krobos there is undoubtedly a great quantity of produce, especially palm kernels and provisions, which *for want of carriers, on account of the roads being mountainous, cannot be brought down*, and are therefore left to rot. Upon such roads it is clear casks could not be rolled, and if produce is lost it is owing to the natural obstacle of the roads being mountainous, carriers not being procurable on that account. However, I make the “ complainants ” a present of the information given by the Commissioner of the Volta River District if they consider it helps their contention, but I take my stand on the statements of the other commissioners, and these completely refute the unfounded assertion of the “ complainants ” upon the point in question.

26a (f.) The “ complainants,” referring to the Aburi road, state that it was not made for trade purposes, but for the convenience of Government officials going to and from the Sanitarium at Aburi.

27. In a Despatch dated from Spring Gardens, London, on the 16th August, 1884,\* addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State by Sir Samuel Rowe, it was stated in paragraph 99 :—“ I think it would be of advantage to the health of officers to bring the Sanitarium at Aburi into frequent use. This can only be done by substituting wheeled vehicles for the expensive, slow, and inconvenient hammock. To permit the free use of wheeled carriages it is necessary that the road from Christiansborg to the foot of the mountain should be levelled and gravelled for so much of the distance as has not already been so treated, and that a road up to the mountain should be constructed, with proper surface drainage, and at an easy gradient.”

Lord Derby, in a Despatch of the 7th of November 1884,† addressed to Governor Young, stated with regard to the foregoing :—“ Perhaps if more frequent use were made of the Sanitarium at Aburi it might be possible to increase the period of resident service, and the obstacles pointed out by Sir Samuel Rowe as preventing them hitherto should be removed as soon as possible. Lying, as it does, on the main route from Accra to the interior, a good road suitable for wheeled conveyances between these places would probably prove of great advantage to trade as well as to the officials.” Your Lordship will therefore see that the statement of the “ complainants ” that the road was not made for trade purposes but for the use of Government officials, is not correct, as it has been made clear beyond doubt that one of the main objects contemplated by Her Majesty’s Government in improving the road was that it “ would probably prove of great advantage to trade.”

28. In this connexion I would bring under your Lordship’s notice that the Sanitarium at Aburi has been of great benefit to other persons besides Government officials. I annex a list showing the names and number of those whom I permitted to avail themselves of the comfort of temporary residence at Aburi to enable them to recruit their health.

\* No. 51 in [C. 4477] July 1885.

† No. 56 in [C. 4477] July 1885.

Your Lordship will observe that 18 such persons were at Aburi in 1892. Amongst these were Mr. Waters (Messrs. Swanzy's agent), and his wife and child, their stay being 28 days; Mr. Burt 14, and Messrs. Liddle and Page 18 and 26 days respectively, the three last being employes of Messrs. Swanzy; Mr. and Mrs. Kemp and Mr. Hall (Wesleyans from Cape Coast), Mr. and Mrs. Callerholm, of Accra, who remained for 26 days; and Mr. Batty (Messrs. Miller Brothers' agent), who stayed for 13 days.

29. Looking to the extensive and prolonged accommodation afforded to the agent and employes of Messrs. Swanzy, it might have been inferred that the former would have acted in a spirit of reciprocity towards officers in the service of this Government. The following extract, however, taken from a report, dated 2nd September 1892, made by Mr. Adolphus, a supervisor of customs, is one of the indications which the Government has had lately of the feeling entertained towards it by Messrs. Swanzy's agent, who is especially inimical to officers of the Customs Department. Mr. Adolphus states:—"I left Saltpond on the 31st ultimo. On reaching Mumford at eight o'clock in the evening I requested the agent for Messrs. F. & A. Swanzy to grant me a night's lodging, but he informed me that he had received instructions not to give any accommodation to Government officials. After much difficulty I succeeded in obtaining quarters for the night." Comment upon such conduct, my Lord, would be superfluous.

30. With regard to the statement that the Volta River "has received no attention at any time from the Government," and that it "is infested with snags, many of its trees having blocked the passage for several years, thereby rendering navigation both difficult and dangerous," I have to state that no representation upon the subject has been made to the Government until within the last few weeks; and the Colonial Secretary, of whom I made inquiry upon the point in December, stated:—"I know of no representation having been made to the Government by merchants or others as regards the condition of the Volta." I am not able to comprehend the statement that the river is infested with snags, many of the trees having *blocked its passage* for several years, thereby rendering navigation both difficult and dangerous, because, if the passage of the river is so blocked, I fail to see that navigation is thereby difficult and dangerous, inasmuch as in the circumstances stated navigation could not take place. But I know the statement is otherwise erroneous, because the navigation of the Volta never ceases except in the upper portions beyond Blappa and Battor, where the water falls too low to admit of launches and surf boats proceeding beyond a certain point. I am informed on good authority that it can be navigated from Addah for at least 40 miles in the dry season.

31. The statement that "The Government itself has recently lost an expensive steam launch from the navigation of the Volta having become difficult and dangerous" is not based on fact, inasmuch as the launch, after undergoing repairs and being in good working order, was sold to Messrs. Chevalier, of Addah, in 1890, for 60*l.*, as the Government had no use for her. With regard to this statement, that the Government had recently lost an expensive steam launch, I would observe that on the 17th of February 1889, Dr. Cole was proceeding on the Volta from Ada to Akuse in the Government launch, at an hour at which the launch should have been at anchor, as it was unsafe for her to be steaming at the time, when, at 6.35 p.m., she struck a snag, and beginning to take in water, was run on shore, where she sank in deep water. Dr. Cole requested Mr. W. Waters, Messrs. Swanzy's agent, to raise the vessel. This was done, and a charge of 175*l.* was made for the service performed, but as the sum demanded was considered to be outrageous, the Government offered to pay Messrs. Swanzy 100*l.* or to submit the matter to arbitration. After considerable correspondence a communication was made to the Government by Messrs. Swanzy's agent at Accra, in consequence of which the sum of 110*l.* was paid to them instead of their charge of 175*l.*

32. (g.) The eccentric phraseology of the final statement in paragraph 5 of the "Complaint" is that "the Ancobra, the next important navigable river, *has also received no attention* in this matter." In April 1890 I sent the Colonial Surveyor, Mr. Jones, to inspect and report upon the description of existing impediments to the navigation of the Ancobra by canoes, surf boats, and steam launches. The Colonial Surveyor commenced his inspection on the 14th of April, and sent in his report under date of the 13th of May 1890, in which it was stated that the cost of removing the impediments to the navigation of the river would be 439*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*, a detailed estimate of which was supplied. The sum stated, however, did not include the expense of supervision, which brought up the outlay to about 600*l.* The local managers of the mines agreed to a proposal of the Government that half of the expense should be borne by the concerns they represented,

which would benefit by the clearing of the Ankobra, and this was subsequently approved by the representatives of the mining companies at home. I had an interview with three of these gentlemen whilst in England in 1891 upon the subject, but they were unable to arrange, as between their respective companies, how their share of the expense should be apportioned, and the project therefore was abandoned. The particulars of my interview were duly communicated to your Lordship's department shortly after it took place. I think, my Lord, that I have advanced sufficient evidence to prove that the statement of the "complainants" is not in accordance with the facts of the case.

33. In my Despatch transmitting the reports of commissioners on their districts, I stated with regard to that of the Volta River:—“(b.) It is gratifying to see that there are possibilities of a trade in mahogany springing up in this district, as of all the rivers of the Colony the Volta is best adapted for floating down logs to the coast. The timber trade appears to be spreading and becoming so established that it will probably be necessary at no distant date to legislate with respect to it, so as to ensure fair play to the Natives, and to prevent the reckless cutting down of valuable timber without the previous provision of proper transport for the logs to the coast.” Again, in referring to Axim, I stated,“(f.) The River Ankobra is undoubtedly an important waterway, more especially now that the timber trade has become so important, and it will be necessary to seriously consider the question of freeing its course from all impediments as a Government measure, and, in fact, to treat this and other rivers as trade highways. I will look particularly into the question of freeing the Ankobra from impediments to navigation when I visit Axim next month or early in May, as I propose to do.” The removal of the obstructions to the use of the river will require to be attended to in the dry months of December, January, and February, when, the water being low, they can be seen and dealt with easily and conveniently. This will also be the time when snags and rocks jutting out of the water in the Volta, so as to be dangerous to its navigation, can be dealt with.

34. In sub-section A. of paragraph 6, of the “Complaint” it is stated that (a.) for the years 1886 to 1891 “the expenditure on public works has been almost continuously decreasing; (b.) that the revenue has enormously increased, and (3) at the same time, the requirements of the community due to the spread of civilization and the development of the natural resources of the Colony are very much greater.”

35. By the annual accounts of the Treasurer it appears that the expenditure on public works (exclusive of salaries), which is shown in detail in Return H. of the Blue Book, was as stated in the following years, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.
In 1886	21,227	8	0
„ 1887	27,300	15	10
„ 1888	18,279	8	5
Total	£66,807	12	3

In the succeeding three years telegraphs and interior trade roads were kept separate, the special outlay on the last having commenced in 1890, and the expenditure in the three years was as follows :—

Years.	Public Works.	Telegraphs.	Interior Roads.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1889	8,321 4 2	3,630 11 5	—	11,951 15 7
1890	6,024 2 5	834 12 3	1,466 17 5	8,325 12 1
1891	10,465 6 2	1,991 10 3	1,337 4 0	13,794 0 5
	£24,810 12 9	6,456 13 11	2,804 1 5	34,071 8 1

36. In his “Comparative Yearly Statement of the Colonial Expenditure in 1888,” the Treasurer states that the reduction of the amount spent in 1887 was due to the completion in 1888 of works undertaken in 1887. The decrease between 1888 and 1889 arose from the transfer to the Post Office of telegraph services, and from no works of magnitude having been undertaken in that year (1889). In 1890 the decrease was chiefly due to the transfer to a new head of all expenses in connexion with interior roads. In 1891 the

increase arose from entering upon new works and importing a larger quantity of materials from England. But for these changes the expenditure on public works would have appeared thus:—

	£	s.	d.
1889 - - - - -	11,951	15	7
1890 - - - - -	8,325	12	1
1891 - - - - -	13,794	0	5

Again, in 1890, it was necessary to reduce expenditure in order to pay off the debt of 22,000*l.* due to the Crown Agents, and it took the produce of the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty for the year to effect this. I think, therefore, that in all of the circumstances stated, the determination of the Government to reduce all expenditure that could be dispensed with, without too great inconvenience to the public interests, was a prudent and judicious decision.

37. In the statement marked "B.," showing the amounts of revenue and expenditure of this Colony from 1886 to 1891—

	£	s.	d.
The expenditure of 1886 is put as - - - - -	202,357	9	7
But of this - - - - -	69,063	0	8
Was merely a transfer to Lagos of funds due to that Government at the date of separation of the two Colonies. It was not therefore expenditure, and consequently			

The actual outlay of the Colony in 1886 was - - - - - £133,294 8 11

38. With regard to the other statements appended, marked "C.," they appear to me to be intended to indicate the amounts which the "complainants" considered were spent, according to their ideas, "for the public good, that is to say, not Government works," by which I understand that in their opinion outlay by the Government for other works than those stated by the "complainants" was not for the public good. But, my Lord, granting for argument's sake that the "complainants" are right in their contention, it does seem to me rather late for them to have allowed the action of the Government to remain so long unchallenged, especially in view of the fact that Mr. Charles William Burnett, the chief agent in the Colony of Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy & Co., who was, upon my recommendation, appointed by the Secretary of State to be a member of the Legislative Council in October 1886, and still remains so, must have been acquainted with the action of the Government, and yet never took any exception to it.

39. As regards the statement of the "complainants" in sub-section A., of paragraph 6, that during the period named, *i.e.*, 1886 to 1891, "the revenue has enormously increased," I beg to place the following figures before your Lordship; and, with the exception of 1891, for which they are "estimated" by the "complainants," but which I have put at the actual amount, they agree with the sum stated by the latter, as exhibiting the revenue of the Gold Coast for the following six years:—

	£	s.	d.
1886 - - - - -	122,531	0	0
1887 - - - - -	122,351	0	0
1888 - - - - -	97,807	0	0
1889 - - - - -	111,388	0	0
1890 - - - - -	156,449	0	0
1891 - - - - -	186,022	0	0

The statement, therefore, that in the six years mentioned the revenue had enormously increased is incorrect, because it was

	£	s.	d.
Stationary in 1886-1887 at - - - - -	122,000	0	0
Declined in 1888 to - - - - -	97,800	0	0
Improved in 1889 to - - - - -	111,400	0	0
And rose in 1890 to - - - - -	156,400	0	0
And in 1891 to - - - - -	186,000	0	0

So that, in point of fact, the revenue did not, as asserted by the "complainants," increase enormously in 1886 to 1891, but that the only considerable increase was in 1890 and 1891.

40. The "complainants" state further in sub-section A., of paragraph 6, "that the revenue has enormously increased, and at the same time the requirements of the community, due to the spread of civilisation and the development of the natural resources of the Colony, are very much greater." It is not quite clear whether it is meant that the requirements of the Colony are very much greater than the "enormously increased revenue," or that both have increased in the six years selected by the "complainants." I admit the increase of revenue as shown in 1890 and 1891. I also admit the requirements of the Colony, which are increasing by "leaps and bounds," far beyond the conception of the "complainants," and that these requirements will demand all the revenue available in order to their being met, and I think this will be provided by means of the duties arising from the imports which will be sent to the Colony in payment of the natural products it exports. I admit, too, the great spread of civilisation in the six years reviewed by the "complainants," during which, except when absent on leave, I have conducted the administration of the Government. But the Colony owes nothing to the merchants, agents, and traders of the Gold Coast as regards the spread of civilisation, for this has been caused in a great measure by the educational, moral, and religious teaching of the Wesleyan, Basel Mission, and Roman Catholic missionaries; and the extension of their establishments to the interior; and it is also due, to a very great extent, to the measures taken by the Government, by means of its schools at Accra and Cape Coast; its missions to the interior; its protection of life and property, which is now so well understood that strangers feel they can travel throughout the Colony without fearing the molestation which formerly existed; its putting down with a strong, resolute, and firm hand, the barbarous, disgusting, immoral, and murderous practices of the natives of Eastern and Western Krobo, to which it is asserted more than 100 human beings were sacrificed annually; its general supervision of the interior countries; the conviction it has impressed on their kings, chiefs, and population, of its power, its love of justice and fair play, and its resolution to maintain peace as between the various and numerous nations, tribes, and peoples in this vast and important Colony; with the result that the great native authorities and their subjects and supporters place the fullest confidence in the Government, acting on its advice, and carrying out its instructions in a spirit of obedience and goodwill indicative of their respect for the Government of Her Majesty the Queen. One great step, too, my Lord, in promoting civilisation and giving intense satisfaction to the people was the approval by Her Majesty's Government of the scheme which I had the honour to submit for the consideration of your Lordship's predecessor for the separation of the Hausa officers from all connexion with magisterial work, confining them to their special duties, and appointing gentlemen trained to the profession of the law as Commissioners of the principal districts of the Colony.

41. I must repeat that in sub-section B., of paragraph 6, of the "Complaint," it is stated "that a comparatively insignificant proportion of the total amount voted for public works has been expended on what may be termed 'works of general utility or advantage to the people at large'; the balance being spent on purely Government objects, such as the erection of officers' quarters, Queen's warehouses, &c., which, although necessary adjuncts of the Government, cannot be considered of interest or advantage to the general community."

	£	s.	d.
of salaries in three years, 1886 to 1888, as	66,807	12	3
and from 1889 to 1891 as	34,071	8	1
making a total outlay of	100,879	0	4
and an average annual sum laid out in the six years under review, on public works, of	16,813	0	0
The salaries paid in that period were	25,588	5	2
and as the average of these is	4,264	0	0
the average expenditure in full on public works was (per annum)	21,077	0	0
Taking the "complainants" statement, as given in the Appendix C, the sums they have selected as estimated for what they regard as public works, in five years, 1886 to 1890 (they do not give the figures for 1891) are put down as	37,997	18	0
less works not commenced	6,765	0	0

leaving a net estimated outlay of	-	-	-	-	-	£	s.	d.
of which there was expended in the five years	-	-	-	-	-	31,232	18	0
						24,301	2	0
giving an annual average expenditure of	-	-	-	-	-	4,860	0	0
whereas the general outlay was	-	-	-	-	-	16,813	0	0

or - - - - - £12,000 0 0  
 more per annum than the "complainants" like to admit; because the additional 12,000*l.* a year was expended, they state, not "on what may be termed 'works of general utility' or advantage to the people at large," but "on purely Government objects, such as officers' quarters, Queen's warehouses, &c., which, although necessary adjuncts of the Government, cannot," in their opinion, "be considered of interest or advantage to the general community."

43. The merchants, agents, and traders of this Colony and its vast population generally, would be in a pitiable plight without a strong and civilised Government to protect their lives and properties, in order to ensure their living in safety, and carrying on their trading and general avocations without interruption or molestation. If such a Government is necessary in a country it must be placed in a position by the loyalty and taxation of the inhabitants to perform its directing, controlling, executive and administrative functions thoroughly and effectively. To this end it must employ capable officers and men to defend it from external aggression, by police arrangements it must preserve internal order, and it must provide trained legal men to ensure proper execution of the laws. Its employes must be provided *inter alia* with quarters; and for the proper carrying out of the fiscal arrangements of Government proper buildings must be erected; and Customs bonding warehouses, however disliked by the trading section of the community, are necessary, not only to the satisfactory working of a part of the machinery of Government, but also because they promote the interests of the people by checking the risks of conflagration, explosion, and collusive and other fraud and loss. They are, as the "complainants" admit, "necessary adjuncts of the Government," but a wide gulf divides me from the "complainants" in opinion, when they assert that what they describe as "purely Government objects" cannot be considered of "interest or advantage to the general community." I have already shown the converse of this view. And as regards their objection to "Queen's warehouses," it is well understood that when these are ready for occupation, private warehouses will gradually, as their contents are exhausted, be discontinued. It would therefore show a want of acquaintance with human nature to suppose that, with this certainty in view, the merchants, agents, and traders of the Colony should regard with equanimity the erection of Government warehouses.

44. In sub-section C., of paragraph 6, the "complainants" state "that the results achieved by the Public Works Department is quite out of proportion to the expenditure in connexion with the same." Your Lordship will observe that I have not disturbed the grammatical arrangement of the sentence.

45. The meaning of this is, I apprehend, that the duties performed by the staff of the Public Works Department have not been commensurate with the emoluments received by its employes.

46. I submit, for your Lordship's information, the following statement, showing the salaries paid to the staff of the Public Works Department in the six years 1886 to 1891, and the expenditure on public works during that period.

Years.	Salaries paid.			Expenditure Public Works.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1886	4,886	4	6	21,227	8	0
1887	5,160	9	2	27,300	15	10
1888	5,644	11	3	18,279	8	5
1889	3,334	7	9	11,951	15	7
1890	2,922	5	6	8,325	12	1
1891	3,640	7	0	13,794	0	5

As regards the changes in the salaries paid, the treasurer states that in 1888 additional foremen were employed, that in 1889 the telegraph staff was transferred to the Post Office; that the office of Surveyor General was abolished, and a reduction took place in

the number of foremen of works; that the lesser expenditure in 1890 was due to vacancies among, and late appointments of, foremen of works in 1890 at reduced salaries; and that in 1891 the increased outlay was due to the appointment of an Assistant Colonial Surveyor and a Supernumerary Foreman of Works. All things considered, such as sickness, deaths, resignations, retirement on completion of agreement, dismissals, and leave arrangements, I think the Colony got a fair and reasonable amount of service out of the Public Works Department in the six years under examination, and I maintain, my Lord, that in my position, and with the information coming under my notice as the Governor of the Colony, I am in a better position to form a correct opinion upon the point, with which I am at issue with the "complainants" than persons unconnected with the administration, and who are in the habit of angling for scraps of information relative to the business of the Government which very probably reaches them in a changed or mutilated form, and is not improved in character by their possession and use of it.

47. In a Note on one of the statements marked C, attached to the "Complaint" and relating to expenditure for Public Works in 1887 it is observed, "By the new public reservoir is probably intended the excavation commonly called Opoohu, which is nothing but a hole: Reservoir seems to convey the idea of at least a paved excavation, which this is not; the term, however, is used in the Blue Books." I prefer to take Webster's Dictionary for my authority as to the term, and it is there stated that a reservoir is "a place where water is collected and kept for use when wanted." This is precisely the object served by the valuable public work which is known as the "Victoria Reservoir." The excavation is 205 x 205 x 10 feet and is estimated by the Colonial Surveyor to "hold in round numbers 2,626,500 gallons of water. The total cost of the work was "2,086*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*," which included "the drains and the overflow which was found necessary on account of the large volume of water flowing down the valley." The term "Opoohu" used by the "complainants" signifies, I am told, "dirty or unclean," and was, I understand, given to the "Victoria Reservoir" by some persons in Accra who had large tanks in the town for collecting rain water from the roofs of their buildings, and who sold the water in considerable quantities at threepence "a pot" containing about five gallons. The water in the Government reservoir being given to the people free of charge they preferred taking it to buying water from the town-folk, and the latter beginning to fear a loss of income from the restricted sale of their tank water commenced to attack that from the "Victoria Reservoir" as unfit for drinking and cooking purposes. Certainly the water is a little clayey in colour which is imparted by the collecting area the water flows over on its way to the reservoir, but the discolouration is precipitated by the use of a little wood ashes, and the Chief Medical Officer and Dr. Easmon, who both tested the water, declared it to be sound and potable. The reservoir holds water far into the dry season. It is resorted to daily by thousands of people, and has attracted hundreds of Hausas and people of other tribes from the interior to Accra, on account of the ample and lasting supply of water which it affords for the sheep and cattle they keep. The reservoir water is referred to in papers written by Drs. McCarthy and Easmon, and attached to this Despatch, in which they will be referred to later. During the time the attempt was made to prejudice the townspeople and those in the neighbourhood of Accra against the water referred to, I asked Mr. Edmund Bannerman, a native gentleman, and an advocate of the Supreme Court, residing at Accra, whether, as some parties were endeavouring to injure the reputation of the water, it would be a good thing to fill up the reservoir with earth so that it could no longer hold water, and that if this was done what he considered the people would think of it; when he replied, "I know your Excellency is not in earnest, but if the course you mention was attempted there would be a fearful riot, and the people would kill you if they got the chance. As it is, they bless you now for having made provision for the supply of water afforded by the Victoria Reservoir."

48. In paragraph 7 of the "Complaint" it is stated that, "The very considerable increase in the revenue is, in the opinion of those best calculated to know, largely due to the imposition of the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty and to the increase of most of the specific duties, also to the growth of import trade consequent upon the natural development of the country." But it is an open secret, not confined to "those best calculated to know"—whatever that may mean—that the increase in the revenue in 1890 and 1891 arose almost entirely from the enlarged exports of native exchangeable products with the proceeds of which the shippers purchased larger quantities of merchandise than had been imported previously, and it was owing to this increased supply of imported goods that the volume of duties expanded so as to show a very large improvement in the years 1890 and 1891.

49. It is stated in paragraph 8 of the "Complaint" that "this development" (of the country, as previously referred to in paragraph 7) "is mainly to be ascribed to—(a.) "the fact that some years ago the Natives took largely to forming plantations of palm trees, and (b.) also to the commencement and partial development of the rubber trade, "which was brought about by the energy and interest shown by Sir Alfred Moloney." It is not clear whether the "complainants" intend to attribute both the formation of the plantations of palm trees, and the commencement of the rubber trade, to the energy and interest shown by Sir Alfred Moloney, but I will assume that they did not.

50. With regard to the first statement, the Commissioners of Districts, of whom I inquired as to the statement "that some years ago the Natives took largely to forming "plantations of palm trees," reply as follows:—

*Akuse, Volta River.*—"I beg to state that even prior to the year 1886 the Krobos and Akwapims have taken largely to forming plantations of palm trees at their plantations, and even up to date the people . . . are still cutting down fresh forests in several other places for new palm tree plantations."

*Kwitta.*—"From what I can gather palm trees do not grow in such large quantities in this district as in the far interior; at one time there were none on the Quitta side of the lagoon, but some plants were introduced into places such as Awuna and Jitta, and plants spread rapidly from them. There is a large palm plantation which has recently been planted between Kitta and Jella Koffi."

*Ada.*—"Beyond the Krobo plantations, which were made entirely by slave labour, long before the Gold Coast Colony was formed, I am not aware that the 'Natives took 'largely to forming plantations of palm trees, which was brought about by the energy 'and interest show by Sir Alfred Moloney.'"

*Pram Pram.*—"No attempt at forming plantations of palm trees has been made here, and from my experience of oil producing districts, little or nothing is done by the Natives for the improvement of same.

"Palm tree forests, are, I am sure, of natural growth throughout the Colony, as it is only in districts where there is a plentiful growth of foliage and a large rainfall that you find palm trees, and I venture to assert there is no artificially planted palm forest of any size in this Colony."

*Winnebah.*—"Personally I was not aware that some years ago the Natives took "largely to farming" (he does not refer to "forming") "plantations of palm trees, but "I am informed that this is done to a considerable extent in the Gomoa Division of this "district. As to how great an extent I am unable to say. I had previously understood "that the Natives do very little in the way of pruning, clearing, and thinning palm "trees."

*Saltpond.*—"With regard to section 8 of the print, there have never been any palm plantations made in this district. The palm groves are of natural growth, and although the natives appreciate them as a source of wealth they treat them in a manner calculated rapidly to diminish rather than increase their numbers and commercial value. Vast numbers of these trees are annually cut down for the sake of the small quantity of palm wine to be obtained from them."

*Cape Coast.*—"I have made inquiries from parties likely to know . . . and they cannot mention one instance where some years ago the Natives took largely to forming plantations of palm trees in my district."

*Chama and Dixcove.*—"When the system of domestic slavery existed and labour was comparatively cheaper than it is at present, it is true that there was a little done in the way of cultivating palm trees, which for the most part were of spontaneous growth and required very little work to clear and thin the trees."

*Axim.*—"Nothing is known here of any plantations of palm trees having been planted by Natives, and I have never heard of anything having been planted at Cape Coast or Elmina."

51. A native gentleman who was educated in England, who is a man of considerable culture, an able agriculturist, very observant and possessing great information upon points

of local interest, in reply to a letter of inquiry I addressed to him with regard to the alleged forming of plantations of palm trees some years ago states:—

“I have never cultivated the oil palm, so cannot speak from personal experience, but from information received from experienced makers of palm oil, I believe that where the rainfall is abundant, the soil moist and the situation sheltered, the palm tree will begin to produce nuts in the *third* year after the planting of the seed; the bearing will become sufficient to make oil about the *seventh* year, and the utmost capacity of bearing will be attained about the *fifteenth* year. In the belt of small rainfall extending about five miles from the sea coast all these periods are retarded about *three* years. The life term of an oil-palm I have not been able to ascertain, but it is apparently not less than *sixty* years.” I think the information furnished by responsible officers and by the native gentleman I have referred to, is ample to show that “the natural development of the country” owes nothing to the forming “plantations of palm trees some years ago by the Natives,” as whatever might have been done in that way was limited in extent, the trees could not bear fruit to be of value for seven years, and then only if in localities favourably situated, and their produce, being inconsiderable, could add but slightly to the bulk of oil and kernels produced in the Colony, and therefore could not have the effect attributed to it by the “complainants.”

52. Sir Alfred Moloney certainly directed attention in October 1882, whilst at Lagos, to the value of rubber as an article of commerce, but the following statement will show that rubber commenced to be shipped as early as 1880, when 1,200 lbs. were exported, followed in 1881 by 555 lbs., and in 1882 the export was only 70 lbs. Again, the figures in the following statement show quite the reverse of a *partial* development of the rubber trade, for it has gone on increasing year by year until 1891, when a partial check was given to it owing partly, as I am given to understand, to a decline in value, and partly to disturbances in interior countries outside of the Protectorate. But the general increase in the quantity exported has been due to an enlarged demand consequent on diminished shipments from other rubber producing countries:

Years.	Quantities.	Value.
1880	1,200	£ 43
1881	555	31
1882	70	1
1883	57,913	2,372
1884	223,843	13,620
1885	548,474	26,175
1886	1,549,121	69,911
1887	1,306,252	62,430
1888	878,387	38,048
1889	1,241,628	55,198
1890	3,361,055	231,282
1891	2,946,913	198,901

53. The statement in paragraph 9 of the revenue raised by duties from 1886 to 1891 agrees, except as regards the last year which is estimated for, with the Annual Financial Returns of the Treasurer.

54. With regard to the statements made in paragraphs 6 to 9a. relative to sanitation, I think I cannot more overwhelmingly refute them than by requesting your Lordship's consideration of the reports from the Medical Department, which I will append to this Despatch. In the first week in November, a fortnight before I received the “Complaint” under reply, I requested the Chief Medical Officer, as he had intimated to me his intention to resign, to send me a short *resumé* of the progress of the Medical Department which had been under his charge for nearly eight years in order to my placing before your Lordship when transmitting Dr. McCarthy's application to be permitted to retire from the service of this Government. He stated he would attend to my request, but shortly afterwards communicated to me that he was suffering so severely from illness that he would be unable to send in his report, but would request Dr. Easmon to supply it for him. In January last I received from Dr. McCarthy a paper headed, “A short Review of the Sanitary Measures carried out in the Gold Coast Colony from 1886 to 1892,” dated London, 12th December 1892. I attach a copy of it to this Despatch; together with a transcript of a “Report on the Progress of the Medical Department from 1885 to 1892,” dated 1st January last, which I received from Dr. Easmon, who states

in the document that he "was instructed to prepare it by the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. McCarthy, a few days before he left the Colony." Your Lordship is fully aware of the objections which until within the last few months have stood in the way of agreement as to the system of latrine arrangements to be adopted. These too, are partly explained in Dr. McCarthy's "Short Review," and I may add that as the question has since been settled by your Lordship's sanction of the proposals submitted upon the subject, the commencement of the disposal of the sewage of the towns will be proceeded with as soon as the requisite arrangements can be carried out—a matter which has been delayed owing to uncertainty as to the best method to be adopted.

55. I also transmit herewith for your Lordship's inspection a "Return showing the Numbers of in and out door Patients treated in the Hospitals and Dispensaries of the Colony from 1886 to 1891," by which it will be seen that the numbers treated were:—

In 1886	-	-	-	-	4,565
„ 1887	-	-	-	-	28,617
„ 1888	-	-	-	-	40,180
„ 1889	-	-	-	-	72,893
„ 1890	-	-	-	-	62,756
„ 1891	-	-	-	-	73,757

These papers and figures, my Lord, fully attest the attention of the Medical Department of the Government to the sanitary wants of the poorer class of the population.

56. It does not appear to me necessary to take any notice of that part of section 9 containing assertions that "it is reported," and "it is stated," except with regard to the assertion "that at Axim," (1) "where *there are* absolutely no latrines whatever," (2) "the people are constantly fined by District Commissioners for committing nuisances." To the assertion (1) I oppose the following statement from the Commissioner of that District:—"There are six latrines in Axim, consisting of long trenches dug in the ground "with baulks of timber across, and were made by Dr. Forde this year" (1892). And as to the second assertion, even if it is correct, the circumstance that the Government does not provide latrines in small towns and villages is no reason why people who commit nuisances in the streets of such places should not be fined for it.

57. As further evidence of the anxious desire of this Government to improve the sanitary condition of the towns and villages in the Colony, as far as this is practicable, I submit for your Lordship's notice a statement marked (A.) showing the districts with their towns and villages to which the "towns, police and public ordinances" have been applied. On inspection of this statement it will be seen that whilst in 1880 and up to 1885 only 11 towns were placed under the Ordinance, from 1886 to 1891 the number was increased by 79. I also annex a statement marked (B.) relating to those districts, with their towns and villages, wherein the boundaries in which swine may not be kept are defined under the authority of Towns, Police and Public Health Ordinance. These number 52 and date from the 15th of November 1888 to the 1st of June 1892. I also subjoin for your Lordship's inspection a "List of existing Cemeteries in the various Districts of the Colony," on reference to which it will be seen that these number 112, of which 64 have been in existence for a great number of years, whilst 48 have been provided by or under the influence of the Government, from 1886 to 1892.

58. In the 11th paragraph of the "Complaint" it is stated that the area of the Gold Coast and protected territories is estimated at 29,401 square miles, and to contain about 2,000 towns and villages with a population of 2,000,000 inhabitants. In the "Colonial Office List" for 1892, it is stated that "the length of coast line of the English colony is "about 350 miles, and the total area of the Colony and Protectorate about 39,060 square "miles." No accurate account of the number of towns and villages exists, while the population is estimated in the Colonial Office List at 1,500,000, but by Dr. Easmon's computation from the Census returns it appears to be about 1,472,000.

59. In section 11 of the "Complaint" it is stated:—

"To show how the general idea of the preamble of Ordinance No. 25 of 1889 has been carried out, we refer your Lordship to a meeting of the Legislative Council at Christiansborg Castle on the 1st of October, 1890, when 19,145*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* was voted, subject to the approval of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, for certain specified uses. Out of five items named, only one has been commenced, viz., the extension of telegraphic communication from Elmina to Axim and the Ancobra River, and this one item placed at 5,000*l.* is one that would at once yield a safe and sure

return, so that there must still be in hand 14,145*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* out of that sum, and it must not be forgotten that a sum of 30,000*l.* was still on hand as a "reserve." At the same meeting, 12 other sums amounting to 8,320*l.* were voted, out of which 4,105*l.* were for objects more or less commendable, and 825*l.* for draining Akuse, a matter which should have been done years before, while all other sanitary arrangements (except the partial erection of a butchers' market and of four market sheds) including a slaughter-house for Accra (400*l.*), draining a portion of Accra (500*l.*), latrines for Elmina, Cape Coast, Accra, Saltpond, Winnebah, and other places (1,550*l.*), have been utterly neglected. These latrines were stated on the Council to be much required, and their erection strongly urged by the Medical Department, while as for slaughter-houses their great necessity is obvious to all."

I have the honour to submit for your Lordship's examination the annexed copy of the "Minutes of a meeting of the Legislative Council of the Gold Coast Colony held at Government House, Christiansborg Castle, on Wednesday the 1st day of October 1890," on reference to which it will be seen that the sum of 19,145*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* was not voted, as stated by the "complainants." The document submitted shows that I explained to the Council circumstances which I had had under consideration with the object of proceeding with public works which appeared to be much required in the interest of the Colony, and I pointed out the source from which I thought the money could be obtained, viz., by reducing the reserve fund from what it then virtually stood at—

	£	s.	d.
	48,267	6	2
by - - - - -	18,095	15	6
leaving the fund at - - - - -	30,171	10	8
and that the sum of - - - - -	18,095	15	6
would be increased by the premium on the sale of investments estimated at - - - - -	1,050	1	9
to the sum already stated of - - - - -	19,145	17	3

Members of Council supported my view of the matter, Mr. Waters being one of them, and were of opinion that I should carry out my suggestion of bringing the proposals stated under the consideration of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State. On subsequent reflection, however, and in view of the fact that the improving trade promised to provide the funds required, and also being more impressed than at first with the strong desire of her Majesty's Government to maintain a "Reserve Fund" of not less than 50,000*l.* to provide against emergencies, it appeared to me unnecessary to occupy the attention of the Secretary of State upon the subject, and therefore so far from the sum of 19,145*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* having been voted, the proposal to obtain that amount was not placed before his Lordship and therefore fell to the ground.

60. The "complainants" also state in paragraph 11 that at the meeting on the 1st of October 1890 12 other sums amounting to 8,320*l.* were voted, out of which 4,105*l.* were for objects more or less commendable, and 825*l.* for draining Akuse, and that all other sanitary arrangements (except the partial erection of a butchers' market and of four market sheds) have been utterly neglected. As regards the general statement as to sanitary arrangements having been utterly neglected, this is refuted by the reports of the responsible heads of the Medical Department referred to in paragraph 54 and attached to this Despatch. To bring the first statement more particularly under notice I will describe the votes taken, comprising a total of 8,320*l.*

(1.) To provide the Hausa force with Martini-Henry rifles with sawbacked sword bayonets, and 80,000 rounds ammunition - - - - -	£	3,000
(2.) Slaughter-house at Accra - - - - -	-	400
(3.) Butchers' market at Accra - - - - -	-	300
(4.) Four market sheds at Accra - - - - -	-	640
(5.) Draining a portion of Accra - - - - -	-	500
(6.) Latrines at Elmina, Cape Coast, Accra, and other places - - - - -	-	1,550
(7.) Draining Akuse - - - - -	-	825
(8.) Government tank at Aburi - - - - -	-	625
(9.) Billiard table, Conotabulary - - - - -	-	150
(10.) China, glass, &c., for Government House - - - - -	-	100
(11.) Grand stand for racecourse at Accra (vote proposed by Mr. Waters) - - - - -	-	130
(12.) Printing materials, &c. - - - - -	-	100
Total - - - - -	-	8,320

Of this amount the "complainants" consider that the following expenditure was commendable:—

	£
(2.) Slaughter-house - - - - -	400
(3.) Butchers' market - - - - -	300
(4.) Four market sheds - - - - -	640
(5.) Draining Accra - - - - -	500
(6.) Latrines - - - - -	1,550
(8.) Government tank at Aburi - - - - -	625
(9.) Grand stand, racecourse (proposed by Mr. W. Waters) - - - - -	130
Making a total of - - - - -	4,145
(7.) Draining Akuse - - - - -	825
	4,970

The "complainants" virtually condemn:—

	£
(1.) Vote for defensive purposes - - - - -	3,000
(9.) Billiard table for Constabulary - - - - -	150
(10.) Requisites for Government House - - - - -	100
(12.) Printing materials - - - - -	100
Making together - - - - -	3,350

For all of which Mr. Waters voted with the exception of Vote No. 9, which he opposed.

61. The votes referred to were taken on the 1st of October 1890, and on the assumption that there would be a surplus of revenue over expenditure of 9,000*l.* at the end of 1890 to meet them. Moreover, they had to be submitted for the consideration and possible approval of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State before they could safely be dealt with. It follows, therefore, that no action could be taken with regard to buildings in 1890. But this was commenced as regards some of them in 1891. The draining of Accra, which will cost a large sum, for a portion of which 500*l.* was voted, cannot be undertaken until the surveys commenced to be made by the Public Works Department are completed, and may still further be delayed in connexion with the question of conveying water from the Densu-Humo River to Accra. For other public works requisitions for materials required have been sent to England when requested by the Public Works Department. And with regard to the latter, I would point out how that Department was situated in 1891 with reference to foremen.

Foremen in the Colony in 1891.	Time Present.		Time Absent.		Where Stationed.
	Months.	Days.	Months.	Days.	
John Snowley - - - - -	2	—	—	—	Aburi. Died at sea on his way home.
John Rowe - - - - -	7	26	4	5	Chama, Dixcove and Secondee.
William Taylor - - - - -	6	3	5	27	Accra.
Arthur Farley - - - - -	6	12	5	18	"
Edward Rice - - - - -	6	12	5	19	"
A. B. Harding - - - - -	11	6	—	—	Cape Coast.
Jas. C. Claxton - - - - -	11	6	—	—	Aburi, Akuse.
P. W. Hambleton - - - - -	3	3	—	—	Aburi.
No. of foremen, 8 - - - - -	54	8			
Average stay in the Colony - - - - -	6	24			

So that virtually the Public Works Department had the services of each foreman for only about seven months in the year 1891.

62. In paragraph 12 the "complainants" state that:—

"At a special meeting held at Saltpond to discuss the question of the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, the following is taken verbatim from the minutes: (a.) 'We unanimously agree that this is a most grievous tax upon trade, and a tax that in the present state of the finances of the Colony is not in any way called for. (b.) We remember well when his Excellency the Governor visited Saltpond in the fall of 1888, he told us that the 4 per cent. *ad valorem* duty then in force should be taken off, as he

'judged it to be a hardship and calculated to cripple legitimate trade; and that for years it had been his aim to have all cotton goods admitted free, and once he could get the tax abolished it should never again be put on. This was publicly stated in the Court house at Saltpond.'

I fail to see that this is the case. The trading community is supported by the profits it derives from selling and buying. Unless the profits were in excess of expenses trade operations would cease, owing to their not being profitable. If there is a profit on trading it must arise from the larger sums received for articles sold than they cost the seller, and in that case the cost price and all trade and other expenses, together with the import duty, are paid by the buyers, who represent the great bulk of the community. The import duty, therefore, is not "a most grievous tax upon trade," but a tax paid by the entire population of the Colony. The tax specially objected to by the "complainants" is the 10 per cent. import duty, which represents slightly over one-sixth of the entire duties paid, taking the average of those collected in 1890 and 1891. In this connexion I append a statement taken except as regards revenue per head of population and communication, from the "Statistical Abstract for the several Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom in each year from 1877 to 1891, 29th number (C.—6719)," published in October 1892, by the "Commercial Department of the Board of Trade, Whitehall." A reference to this statement shows, *inter alia*, the population, revenue, and revenue per head of population, of 16 Colonies in 1891. Of these I select the four West African Colonies, and Trinidad, Jamaica, and Ceylon, by way of contrast, so as to show how slight the taxation per head of the population of the Gold Coast is in comparison with the populations of the other colonies mentioned, whilst the statement indicates that the Gold Coast is the least taxed of all the 16 Colonies particularized.

Colony.	Revenue, 1891.	Population, 1891.	Revenue per Head of Population.
	£		£ s. d.
Gambia - -	31,038	14,266	2 3 6
Sierra Leone - -	89,869	74,835	1 4 0
Lagos - -	78,625	85,607	0 18 4
Gold Coast - -	186,022	1,500,000	0 2 6
Trinidad - -	488,219	200,028	2 8 10
Jamaica - -	778,615	639,491	1 4 5
Ceylon - -	1,309,781	3,008,466	0 8 8

The figures given in the last column tell more eloquently than anything I could advance how little the Gold Coast has to complain of on the score of taxation.

63. It appears to me, my Lord, that if the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty is such "a grievous tax upon trade" it would have led to a diminution in the import of articles taxable under it. But, on reference to the following figures, it will be seen that, so far from this being the case, the tendency has been in the direction of enlarged imports, thereby causing a considerable increase in the particular duty, for whilst in 1890 the

	£	s.	d.
duty received was - - - - -	22,728	18	7
in 1891 it rose to - - - - -	31,586	9	2
showing an increase in the last year of - - - - -	8,857	10	7

or nearly 43 per cent. over 1890.

64. As further evidence that the duties have not influenced trade unfavourably I have the honour to submit for your Lordship's consideration, appended to this Despatch, a "Comparative Statement of Gross Value of Imports and amount of Customs duties by Districts during the years 1886 to 1891," on reference to which it will be seen that every District shows a large increase in the value of imports, and in the amount of duty paid on a comparison of 1890 with 1891, with the exception of two stations, namely, *Axim*, where the value of imports is less by 1,500*l.*, and the duty received 670*l.* more; and

Accra, where the value of imports was 3,716*l.* less, and the duty collected 6,352*l.* more in 1891 than in 1890. It will also be seen that whilst the total value of £

imports in 1890 was	-	-	-	-	-	562,103
in 1891 it was	-	-	-	-	-	665,781

showing an increase of	-	-	-	-	-	103,678
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in the last year, and as regards the duties received in 1890, these were	-	-	-	-	-	133,342
and in 1891	-	-	-	-	-	165,943

the increase in the last year having been	-	-	-	-	-	32,601
or just about the amount	-	-	-	-	-	31,586

of the *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. received in 1891, and, therefore, as that duty entered largely into the total sum received in 1891, it appears to me that the importation of the articles on which it was levied having considerably increased indicates that this would not have occurred had the impost been "a most grievous tax on trade," as asserted by the "complainants."

65. I also attach to this Despatch a "Comparative Statement of Gross Value of Exports by Districts during the six years from 1886 to 1891," by which it will be seen that the exports had increased in every district in 1890 over 1891, with the exception of the following stations, where there was a falling off, viz.,

at Cape Coast of	-	-	-	-	-	11,022
at Saltpond	-	-	-	-	-	4,562

giving a total falling off of	-	-	-	-	-	15,584
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The total value of exports in 1890 amounted to	-	-	-	-	-	601,348
and in 1891 to	-	-	-	-	-	684,305

showing an increase over 1890 of	-	-	-	-	-	82,957
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and as the exports in 1891 were	-	-	-	-	-	684,305
and the imports	-	-	-	-	-	665,781

the Gold Coast shippers had a balance of trade amounting to	-	-	-	-	-	18,524
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to their credit on the transactions of 1891.

66. As bearing upon the assertion of the "complainants" that the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty "is a most grievous tax upon trade, that in the present state of the finances is not called for," I would remark, my Lord, as regards the last statement, that if the roads of the Colony are to be greatly improved, if railroads are to be laid down, water conveyed to towns, a central prison built, and sanitary, educational, judicial, and various matters attended to in the interests of the general community towards supplying the funds for which the duty objected to is levied, notwithstanding the accumulation which has taken place, the several works and matters described, as your Lordship is aware, will not only absorb the net balance specially intended to be applied to them, but require a steady continuance of the Colonial revenue, as collected since 1890 and 1891, in order to ensure their being carried out.

67. Again. With regard to the first part of the statement relative to the "grievous tax upon trade," I have been informed by a gentleman upon whose statement I know I can place the utmost reliance, that at one of the meetings convened by Messrs. Swanzy with the object of obtaining signatures to the "Complaint," one of the persons present refused to sign it, stating that there was not a merchant in the Colony who had not added more than the 10 per cent. to his prices, and was, consequently, making more money by it, and if any one objected it should be the consumer. I have heard similar statements in Accra from native gentlemen, one of whom, speaking to me upon the subject, observed, "We Africans, if we want a thing, will do our best to get it, and the question of duty or charge does not give us any concern when it is in opposition to our desires to obtain what we wish for." And he added, "If this petition had been signed by the Kings, Chiefs, and principal Natives in the Colony, other than the Natives included in the trading community, it would be entitled to consideration,

“ because they would represent the opinion of the great mass of the people who are the consumers of goods paying the 10 per cent. duty. But these have not objected to the increased prices they have to pay on certain goods, and if the 10 per cent. duty was taken off it would not lessen the cost of goods paying it to the consumers, but would go into the pockets of the trading community, just as the old 4 per cent. duty did when it was discontinued.”

68. With regard to the second portion of paragraph 11, it not only carries its refutation on its face, but I regret I feel compelled in self-defence to state that there is not a word of truth in it. In the first place, I did not visit Saltpond in the *fall* of 1888, but I was there on the 8th of May in that year, and met 17 of the merchants, agents, and traders of the place, who were introduced to me by Mr. Lyall, and, so far from “the 4 per cent. *ad valorem* duty” being then in force, it had been abolished by Ordinance No. 5 of 1887, which came into operation on the 1st of January 1888. It is therefore simply impossible I could have made the statement attributed to me. Moreover, at the meeting of the 8th May, I see on referring to my shorthand writer’s notes that in addressing the persons assembled, I stated, with regard to what they might require, that I had not got funds to meet all of their wishes, *as the abolition of the ad valorem duty had caused a loss of several thousand pounds to the revenue*; and when Mr. Lyall referred to “the question of the reduction of duty on spirits,” the shorthand writer noted, “The Governor bade them extinguish the last hope of its being done.” Again “In the matter of *roads*, the Governor showed to Mr. Lyall the Estimates for 1888, in which the sum of 500*l.* was contemplated to be spent for this service” (at Saltpond), and “His Excellency intimated *unofficially* that a *railway* may soon be expected to run from the coast—later on, into the interior.”

69. In all of the circumstances it appears to me most extraordinary that the merchants, agents, and traders of the Gold Coast Colony, with their eyes open, and in making an attack on the policy of the Government, should have committed themselves to a statement the absolute incorrectness of which I have felt myself bound to point out and demonstrate to your Lordship.

70. Cape Coast and Saltpond are closely connected in business and other matters, and occasionally work together for particular objects. The trading communities in these towns have not shown any sympathy with, or given assistance to the Government in carrying out the administration of the Colony, and in these regards I would bring the following circumstances under your Lordship’s notice. The Stamp Ordinance, No. 12, which was passed on the 2nd July 1889, came into operation on the 1st of August 1890, and on the 5th of August a petition was received from the “Mercantile Association of Saltpond,” dated 29th July 1890, in which they expressed the opinion that the Ordinance was in every way too complicated to be understood by the majority of the inhabitants of the Colony, most especially those of Saltpond, “the residents whereof being principally men of little or no education, and consequently quite impossible to be comprehended by them.” “That should the Ordinance come into operation the petitioners” were “of opinion that the provisions thereof would lead to endless trouble and litigation.” That the “petitioners as a matter of fact” were humbly of opinion that they “were not far enough advanced to make this Ordinance work smoothly and effectually for the benefit of all parties concerned,” and “that this being the case,” they “respectfully” suggested that “the Ordinance be repealed in its entirety.” The annexed copy of my reply to the Mercantile Association of Saltpond did not encourage that body to offer further opposition to the Ordinance, which has worked with smoothness for nearly three years. I annex copy of the correspondence connected with the petition from Saltpond.

71. With regard to my statement relative to the connexion existing between Cape Coast and Saltpond, I would re-state the circumstance that the petition from the latter, against the Stamp Ordinance, though dated on the 29th July, was not received at Accra until the 5th of August. It seems to me that this was calculated upon, for on the last-named day, according to a statement furnished by the Colonial Postmaster of Accra, of the circumstances connected with the attempted obstruction by Messrs. Macan and Batty, of Cape Coast, of the Stamp Ordinance, when it came into force in August 1890, by their buying up the whole of the postage stamps in the hands of the Postmaster at Cape Coast, the former observed that, from papers forwarded furnishing a history of the whole transaction, “It would appear that the application made by the clerks of Messrs. Macan and Batty for the purchase of penny stamps on the 5th of August 1890 was the result of preconcerted action,” and I think was so arranged in order to back up

the petition from Saltpond, which it will be observed was signed by Mr. Lyall, who was formerly a partner of Mr. Macan's in business. I transmit herewith a copy of the correspondence relating to the Cape Coast affair, and would ask your Lordship's notice of Mr. Macan's telegram of 5th August 1890, addressed to the Colonial Secretary, in which he observes:—"Applied to-day for two pounds worth of stamps, as usual unable to obtain them, congratulating" (? congratulate) "Government on admirable manner they are providing for easy working of new Stamp Ordinance."

72. The next statement made in the "Complaint" is in paragraph 13, that:—

"At Axim, at a meeting held there it was agreed that the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty is a grievous tax, and should be at once reduced. It was stated by the King that when the Governor was there last time, he promised us bridges, a good market place, and latrines in different parts of the town. He promised he would put bridges over every little rivulet down to the mouth of the Ancobra. The Governor also told the King and people that he had seen the sea encroaching upon the town and that he would build a wall close to the town to prevent the encroachment. He also promised us roads and telegraphs. The general feeling at Axim was that there should be an increase in the number of unofficial members of the Legislative Council, and also the following improvements:—Markets, sea wall, judge to hold assizes at Axim, wells, latrines, roads, bridges, and free school. It was also stated that the attention of the Government should be called to the progress made both in Lagos and Sierra Leone, although the revenue derived at those places is not nearly equal to that of this Colony."

I was at Axim some time in 1889, when going to and returning from Eastern Wassaw, where I went to visit the mines. It was remarked to me at the time that the King of Axim had been guilty of a breach of native etiquette, as he had not called to see me as he should have done, and, as well as I can remember, when I returned to Axim from Appolonia in February or March 1889, I sent for the King, and spoke to him as to the disrespect he had shown to the Queen's representative. He was sullen and objectionable, and I had no conversation with him beyond directing that he should keep the roads he was responsible for clean. In February 1890, on my return from leave, as my steamer was stopping at Axim, I went on shore to meet the mining agents of Wassaw, and the King came to me during my stay to complain that his road money had not been paid to him, when I replied that I would enquire into the matter, and that he would hear further about it. I then stated to Mr. Graham, the Acting Commissioner, that if the King would at once clean his roads the money withheld could be paid, as well as that for the further cleaning I had directed him to make. The King agreed to this, and the arrangements were ultimately carried out.

73. As regards the King's statement that when I was at Axim the last time I made certain promises, and told the King and people what the former states, I can only observe that the King was drawing upon his imagination. My last visit to Axim was made on the 7th of April 1891, and reported to the Secretary of State in Despatch of the 24th April 1891, in which it was stated: "Leaving Dixcove at 11.30 a.m., I returned to Axim, and landed at 3 p.m., when I had a meeting of most of the mining managers who had come down to confer with me on various matters connected with their interests, which will form the subject of a separate Despatch." Mr. Vroom, the Commissioner of the Wassaw District, was present at the meeting, and also at one I held at Axim in 1890.

74. In Despatch of 2nd June 1891, to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, I reported my proceedings whilst at Axim on the 7th of April, and no reference whatever is made in that Despatch to my having had any interview with "the King of Axim and people," and none of them were present at the conference I had with the mining managers.

75. In order, however, to place beyond dispute all doubt as to the untruthfulness of the King's statement, I inquired of Mr. Vroom if he had any recollection of my having made the promises alleged by the King, when he stated in reply (Tarkwa, 28th November, 1892):—

"I regret very much to see the statements made by the King of Axim. I do not remember any of them as promises held out by you in any of the meetings at which I was present. I remember in February 1890, the only question which King Atta brought to your notice was the nonpayment of certain road-dues. In April 1891

your Excellency arrived in Axim two days before me owing to certain mistakes in the message sent to us. Mr. Hodgson was with you. I am not aware you held any interview with the King of Axim before the 7th of April 1891. In the meeting held on the evening of that day the King was not present with the mining managers. Neither in this meeting, nor in that of 1890, did your Excellency make any of the statements attributed to you in the paper you sent me" (*i.e.*, a printed copy of the "Complaint").

"The matters discussed at the interview in 1891 were the extension of telegraphic communication to Axim, the Axim-Ankobra narrow gauge railway and the clearing of the river at half the expenses of the mining companies.

"If your Excellency held no interview with King Atta of Axim in 1891 before the arrival of the mining managers and myself, I must say then that the King's statement is unwarranted."

76. In the report of Mr. Cowie, Commissioner of the Axim District for the 12 months ending November 1892, he observed under the head of "Roads":—"I regret to state that during the whole of my time here the King of Axim has given me a great deal of trouble and bother about the roads for the upkeep of which he is responsible. He is thoroughly unreliable and untrustworthy with regard to this matter, *and more of a liar than any other Native Chief I have come across.*" I think it as well to add the remainder of the paragraph:—"The roads in Appollonia, however, on the other hand have been kept well cleaned and in good order *except during the periods of very heavy rains*, and then it can hardly be expected, owing to the rapidity with which the weeds, grass, &c., come up and overgrow the roads." I think, my Lord, that irrespective of the Despatches referred to, and of my personal statements, Mr. Vroom's testimony is sufficient to show that the King of Axim's statements to the meeting convened by Messrs. Swanzy's had no foundation in fact, whilst the Commissioner of the Axim District, who would certainly have a better acquaintance with the King than any one else, declares that the King was "*more of a liar than any other Native Chief he had come across.*"

77. In paragraph 14 of the "Complaint" it is stated that:—

"From the foregoing statements we think we have conclusively proved that there has been an utter failure to carry out objects for which the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty was imposed; that the expenditure on these objects has, far from being increased since the imposition of the 10 per cent., in most instances, been decreased. We are not opposed to an *ad valorem* duty in itself, provided something is at once done with the money in hand to give us sanitation and to develop the resources of the Colony, but we are of opinion that in no case should such *ad valorem* duty exceed 5 per cent."

Whether from the statements put forward by the "complainants," in view of the refutation given to them, they have conclusively proved their assertion, is a matter which does not require any comment from me, and must, I would very respectfully submit, be left to your Lordship's judgment and decision. As regards the opinion expressed that the "complainants" are not opposed to a 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on certain conditions, it appears to me, judging of the future by the past, that to reduce the duty would be to make the trading class a present of the other 5 per cent. at the expense of the community in general, for I do not believe, from my local information and experience, that the great mass of the population would benefit to the very smallest extent by such a change as that to which the "complainants" "are not opposed."

78. The "complainants" state in paragraph 15: "We are also of opinion that the Customs Tariff generally should be revised and that certain articles not now included in the 'Free List' but which are essentially necessities, and not luxuries should be admitted free, and that such revision should be carried out by a committee of Natives and European merchants, in conjunction with Government officials in equal numbers, and that freedom of vote be granted to all."

I am not sure whether the "complainants" mean by "the Customs Tariff generally," to deal with the specific duties under Ordinance No. 5 of 1887, or only with the *ad valorem* duty tariff under Ordinance No. 25 of 1889, but I presume they intend the latter, as it contains a "Table of Exemptions," which they describe as the "Free List," while the Specific Duties Ordinance does not admit of exemptions.

79. The *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. is payable on the under-mentioned articles, which produced in 1891 the duty placed opposite each.

Articles.	Value Home	Duty.
	Consumption.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Beads - - - - -	9,936 0 3	993 10 9
Boats and canoes - - - - -	2,523 7 0	252 6 8
Brassware - - - - -	5,897 1 10	589 15 5
Bread and biscuits - - - - -	3,216 9 5	321 12 2
Building materials - - - - -	5,111 19 0	511 3 11
Cordage - - - - -	6,286 7 1	628 13 11
Cotton goods - - - - -	191,224 6 1	19,422 14 8
Earthenware - - - - -	3,595 19 1	359 10 11
Flour - - - - -	5,058 9 8	505 16 6
Furniture - - - - -	709 8 5	70 19 0
Hardware - - - - -	10,331 14 2	1,033 5 8
Kerosine and other illuminating oils -	2,935 19 7	293 12 6
Lumber - - - - -	2,449 17 2	245 6 2
Machinery other than for mining and agricultural purposes.	773 5 11	77 6 7
Perfumery - - - - -	7,475 17 10	747 12 5
Provisions - - - - -	9,437 14 8	943 16 1
Rice - - - - -	5,643 15 9	564 8 8
Silk goods - - - - -	14,960 11 2	1,496 5 4
Soap - - - - -	5,371 5 8	537 3 0
Sugar - - - - -	3,220 0 8	322 0 7
Wearing apparel - - - - -	8,602 14 8	860 5 1
Woollen goods - - - - -	3,937 3 4	393 15 10
All other goods not enumerated and unexempted.	4,152 6 4	415 13 4
Total - - - - -	315,851 14 9	31,586 9 2

80. In the treasurer's statement of revenue received in 1891, which was an extraordinarily good revenue year, the *ad valorem* duties are put down as—

Having produced - - - - -	£ s. d.
But the Customs statement is - - - - -	32,445 17 9
	31,586 9 2
Showing a smaller sum by - - - - -	859 8 7

Which I am informed has arisen from an error of classification at the Treasury, owing to some receipts of specific duty having been entered to the credit of *ad valorem* duty, and to a small net amount of "over collections refunded," leaving the net sum of - - - - -

31,586 9 2

As shown above—

Of this amount only the three following articles, contributing the duty placed opposite each, would probably come under the denomination of "luxuries":—

	£ s. d.
Beads - - - - -	993 10 9
Perfumery - - - - -	747 12 5
Silk goods - - - - -	1,496 5 4
Giving a total of - - - - -	3,237 8 6
Deducting this amount from the total duty received on <i>ad valorem</i> goods in 1891, there would remain - - - - -	28,349 0 8

The amount by which the trading community would benefit, if all the other articles paying *ad valorem* duty were classed as "necessaries," to the detriment of the general population, and of the Government, which is charged with the administration of the public revenue for the benefit of the people of the Colony. Of course I do not lose sight of the consideration that the 10 per cent. duty is not likely to be so large in future years as it was in 1891, but whatever the product might be in future, if it was surrendered as indicated, the relative positions of the parties mentioned above would be the same with regard to the question of their respective gains and losses.

81. But assuming the reduction of the *ad valorem* duty from 10 to 5 per cent., the removal to the "Table of Exemptions" of all articles now paying the former duty, which, being regarded as "necessaries," are to be free from taxation, then only "luxuries" would be liable to duty. Of this kind I have shown there are only three, which at 10 per cent. yielded duty in 1891 amounting to 3,237*l.* At 5 per cent. this would be reduced to 1,618*l.*, and if so it might be just as well to abolish the *ad valorem* duty altogether. But it must not be overlooked that in order to the maintenance and increase of interior and other trade roads; streets, roads and bridges in towns; the laying down of railways; having water conveyed into towns, or otherwise providing them with it; building a central prison; and carrying out extended sanitary and various other improvements for the benefit of the community, it will be necessary, if the revenue afforded by the 10 per cent. duties is given up, to impose other taxation to provide for the public works and requirements referred to, and I fail to see from what other source the money can be obtained. The duty referred to, I again assert, is not paid by the trading community but by the general population, and I have shown that the people of the Gold Coast Colony, where the taxation, on the basis of the revenue collected, is only 2*s.* 6*d.* per head, are the most lightly taxed of all of the people under the British Crown.

82. The following statement indicates the number of articles on which specific and *ad valorem* duties were levied and collected, the respective amounts of such duties, and their value, and the value of imports which were admitted free of duty during the year 1891:—

Articles of Import.	Nos. paying Duty.	Amounts of Duties received.			Value of Imports.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Specific - -	11	134,356	4	6	142,070	18	7
<i>Ad valorem</i> - -	23	31,586	9	2	315,851	14	9
Total - -	34	165,942	13	8	457,922	13	4
Imports duty free - -	89	—	—	—	201,593	1	5
Totals - -	123	—	—	—	659,515	14	9

It will therefore be seen that whilst the imports paying specific and *ad valorem* duties numbered 34, those which were duty free amounted to 89, being more than two and a half times the number of the duty-paying articles, and that whilst the value of the latter was 457,922*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, the value of the imports exempted from duty was 201,593*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*, or close upon 40 per cent. of the value of the duty paying imports. It will be evident on the whole, therefore, that the "Table of Exemptions," or "Free List," as the "complainants" describe it, was liberally dealt with in the Ordinance under which the 10 per cent. duty was imposed, and therefore it appears to me that to allow a revision of the "Table of Exemptions" or "Free List," as the "complainants" desire, would materially upset the calculations and basis on which the Ordinance was originally framed by the Government, while the change would be of no advantage to the general population, by whom all duties on imports are paid, as the benefit from it would not go into their pockets, but into those of the trading community.

83. In paragraph 16 of the "Complaint" it is stated:—

"In connexion with the financial administration of the Colony, we would point out that the vacillating policy of the Government in so frequently and suddenly changing the customs tariff is highly detrimental to the trade of the Colony. Further, the principle of raising a large revenue, which, apparently, in the opinion of the Administration, is not needed for the services of the Colony, and which, as a matter of fact, is largely hoarded and let out on interest to other Colonies, is an unsound one, and without precedent. Again, the trading community, upon which the whole basis of the Government rests, have practically no voice whatever in the administration of the Colony, and no control over the expenditure, and are, further, never consulted upon any contemplated fiscal changes, although the same may seriously affect them and the people in whom their interests are bound up."

The first sentence of this statement, if it is correct, would appear to be rather against the proposal in paragraph 14 of the document under notice, that the *ad valorem* duty should be reduced to 5 per cent., as it would make another change in the Customs

Tariff. This, however, of course, would not be objected to, as it would be in favour of importers. But I will examine the charge that the Government has "frequently and suddenly changed the Customs Tariff." In 1887 an Ordinance, No. 5, was passed, by which it was enacted that the *ad valorem* duty of four per cent. on goods imported should cease to be levied after the 31st December, 1887. The "complainants" state in paragraph 3 of their paper that: "The merchants and traders were grateful for this "reduction of duties." The "various slight changes in the Customs Tariff generally" were that the duty charged by Ordinance No. 2 of 1877, on wines, ale, porter and beer, were increased from 6*d.* to 1*s.* per old wine gallon, these liquids being consumed chiefly by Europeans. Spirits were required to pay 2*s.* 6*d.* per proof wine gallon, instead of on their lesser strength in proportion as was previously allowed, and 1½*d.* for every degree over proof. The duty on tobacco, cigars, and snuff was raised from 6*d.* to 1*s.* per pound, whilst the charge on unmanufactured tobacco was reduced from 6*d.* to 4*d.* per pound, and the new duties otherwise imposed were, on—

					s.	d.
Cartridges, filled,	per 100	-	-	-	-	5 0
"	unfilled	"	-	-	-	1 0
Percussion caps	"	-	-	-	-	1 0
Lead in any form,	per pound	-	-	-	-	0 0½

84. In consequence of the insufficiency of the revenue in 1888 and 1889 to meet the public expenditure, Her Majesty's Government was pleased to approve of the imposition of a duty of 10 per cent. on 22 named articles of import, leaving nearly four times that number to be imported free of duty. I have shown, my Lord, that only two changes of the customs tariff have taken place in the six years from 1886 to 1891. For the first, by which the 4 per cent. duty was abolished, "the merchants and traders were grateful." The second change was unacceptable to them because it reimposed an *ad valorem* duty, and at a higher duty than existed up to 1887. It does not appear to me that two changes in a Customs Tariff in six years are frequent changes. Nor was the first a sudden change, because Ordinance No. 5, 1887, was passed in April of that year, to come into operation on 1st January 1888, and the merchants and traders took very good care to lessen their imports of goods liable to the four per cent. duty until the intervening period of nine months, during which the 4 per cent. duty was to continue, had lapsed, so that they could run off the old duty-paid goods and bring in newer stocks free of duty in 1888. As regards the charge of the reimposition of duty two years afterwards being "sudden," I think the lapse of two years nullifies this, but undoubtedly the Ordinance No. 25 of 1889, which authorized the *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. coming into force on the 1st January 1890, was a surprise to the trading community. The "complainants" state that they are "never consulted upon any contemplated fiscal changes." Messrs. Burnett and Sarbah were members of the Legislative Council at the time the Ordinance complained of was passed, but they did not attend the Council on the occasion. In view of the circumstance that if the merchants and traders had been consulted with regard to the imposition of the 10 per cent. duty they would most certainly have opposed it, and would have turned their knowledge of the intention of the Government upon the matter to account by at once ordering out large stocks of goods to avoid the payment of the duty, I think that the Government acted prudently and wisely in not taking the merchants and traders into its confidence in the legislation it had decided upon. I believe, too, my Lord, that when the Right Honourable the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes to Parliament to levy any duty upon an import, immediately that this is done in the House of Commons at an hour of the day when it would be too late to make entries at the Customs House, and if the Chancellor's proposal is approved by the House, a resolution is at once passed, by virtue of which the new or increased duty is levied by the customs throughout the Kingdom the next morning, and no one obtains an advantage over another in the way of removing goods from bond beforehand so as to escape the payment of an increased or new duty.

85. I think it is necessary, in reference to the charge of "so frequently and suddenly changing the Customs Tariff," to point out what has been done with regard to Kwitta. Until 1887 the import duties leviable there were the same throughout the Colony. On the 7th of April in that year, under Ordinance No. 6, the duty on spirits of all kinds was reduced from 2*s.* 6*d.* per wine gallon to 1*s.*, to take effect from 1st July 1887, it being declared that the Ordinance should lapse on 1st January 1889. The Ordinance was allowed to lapse, and Kwitta reverted to the then existing Ordinance, and came later under the provisions of Ordinance No. 25 of the 30th December 1889, which amended the Customs Tariff Ordinance of 1887. On the 26th of April 1890 Ordinance No. 1

was passed, to continue in operation until 1st July 1891. Under its provisions the Customs duties on imports were reduced as follows:—

	s.	d.	
On gin - - - - -	0	6	per wine gallon of proof.
On brandy, rum, liqueurs, and miscellaneous spirits, &c. - - - - -	0	4	” ”
On tobacco - - - - -	0	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	per pound.
On gunpowder - - - - -	5	0	per-100 pounds.
On guns - - - - -	1	0	each.

No other duties were levied under the Ordinance. On the 19th of June 1891 this Ordinance was virtually renewed by No. 3 of that date. Owing to the Brussels Conference Act, the last-named Ordinance was repealed by No. 5 of 28th June 1892, under which the duty on all spirits was placed at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per old wine gallon of proof, the duties on tobacco, gunpowder, and guns remaining at the rates fixed by the provisions of the previous Ordinance No. 1 of 26th April, 1890. It therefore appears that the legislation of 1887 to 1889, and from 1st July 1891 to 28th June 1892, was favourable to the community east of the Volta, as it reduced to very low figures the duties on the few articles on which they were levied, while that community was altogether free from any *ad valorem* taxation.

86. With regard to the next observation in the paragraph under notice, for a great many years Her Majesty's Government have required that out of the accumulated revenue of the Colony not less than 50,000*l.* should be invested in securities in England, and regarded as a "reserve fund," to provide against possible emergencies. In the estimates for 1889 it is shown that the estimated balance on the 1st of January 1890 was put at 38,090*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, being 12,000*l.* less than the required reserve. At the last date—

	£	s.	d.
The balance on current account due to the Crown agents was -	5,413	1	4
Together with - - - - -	16,000	0	0
Loaned from them, making - - - - -	21,413	1	4
Besides interest due, and the liability in full was met by the <i>ad valorem</i> duty of 10 per cent. received in 1890, of -	22,728	18	7

thereby disposing of the produce of that duty received in 1890, being the first year in which it was levied.

87. It was only in 1891, therefore, that the Government began to accumulate funds, owing to the improvement generally in the revenue, which in that year was 52,614*l.* beyond the expenditure, and, whilst considering what public undertakings, irrespective of those already entered upon, the surplus should be applied to, Her Majesty's Government decided that the money, instead of lying idle, should be invested, so that a profit would thereby accrue, whilst the funds could be realised immediately they were required. I think, therefore, I have shown that not only was there precedent, by the investments, for the reserve fund, for the later action of the Government, but also that the principle of that action was thoroughly sound, as it was designed for the benefit of the community, and that the funds referred to are not hoarded, but kept ready for use when required.

88. The statement that the whole basis of the Government rests upon the trading community appears to me to be merely a thoughtless assertion, with which I will deal, as well as with other statements, and show that, shaped as the political constitution of the Gold Coast Colony is, the trading community could not be allowed to have a voice in the administration of the Colony, nor to control the expenditure, as to permit this would only introduce confusion into the arrangements of the Government.

89. The past history of the Gold Coast shows that since the abolition of the slave trade some kind of Government has been necessary to enable the trading community to carry on its operations with safety and at a profit. It is well known that before the power of Ashanti was broken, the country was periodically overrun by its armies, and at such times the white traders were compelled to shut themselves up in their forts and come to terms with the invading force. At present traders, however small they may be, can travel in perfect safety from one end of the Protectorate to the other.

90. In administering the funds which it collects the Government has the needs of the whole community to consider, not only that section of it who are known as the merchants and agents, who would, no doubt, prefer that precedence should be given to what they imagine to be their interests although the Government might be in a better position to see that in advancing the general interests of the community at large, those of the merchants and agents were being best served.

91. Speaking of the European merchants, who have the bulk of the trade in their hands, any complaint or recommendation emanating from the firms in Europe would be worthy of more attention than any similar movement on the part of their agents on the Gold Coast. It is well understood that, under the conditions of trade which obtain in this portion of West Africa, the European merchant makes his profit on all that he exports by invoicing goods out to his agent at so much per cent. more than he paid for them, the agent then being at liberty to dispose of them at any further profit which he may be able to obtain. The merchant again protects himself with regard to what he imports by fixing the limit at which the agent may buy produce. If the latter exceeds this limit his pocket suffers, but if he can obtain produce below this limit he takes the difference for himself for any possible loss which he may have sustained in disposing of any goods which have been sent out to him, almost invariably on his own requisition to suit the trade, as he understands it. It is to the agent's interest, therefore, to clamour for a reduction of the 10 per cent. duty, because it is patent to business men out here that if such reduction was to be made, it would be the agents and not the mass of the people who now pay the duty who would get the benefit of the change.

92. The calls made on the funds at the disposal of the Government are very large and varied. Provision has to be made for the preservation of peace and order, the administration of justice, the collection and protection of revenue, the sanitary condition and development of the Colony, the education of the Natives, improved and extended means of communication, the housing of its officers, &c., and were any of the requirements neglected, I think it must be conceded that the trading community would find themselves the worse for it. And it stands to reason that the Executive must be in a better position, with its vast and continually accumulating store of local information, to judge what its requirements are, in the interests of the general public, than the trading community, which consults only the interests of its particular class, can be.

93. It appears to me that the whole basis upon which the Government rests is the knowledge possessed by the population of the vast power of Great Britain, that this is irresistible, that it is, therefore, able to protect them, and that the rule of Her Majesty the Queen, through Her representative and the public institutions created under Her authority, and the policy of the Imperial Government, secure to them justice, equal rights and freedom from the grievous oppression they had to endure formerly before their various countries were taken under the protection, control, and direction of the British Government, and it is by the taxation of the population, in order to the support of the public establishments and institutions which are maintained in the interests of the people, that the Government is carried on. As regards the local trading community, their position is really that of collectors and distributors of commercial commodities, and that is their sole *raison d'être*. Self interest is their dominant motive, and this causes them to lose sight of the broader view which the Government is able from its position to take of public matters.

94. The Government levies duties on imports, the trading community pay these into the Colonial Treasury in the first instance, and afterwards recover the duties from the consumers or purchasers of their merchandise. The former are only the trading community, which appears by the "Complaint" to be represented by Mr. W. Waters, "acting chief agent for Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy, for self and 517 others." It is indisputable, therefore, that so far from the whole basis of the Government resting upon this small section of the community, it has its broad, deep, and strong foundation in the confidence, sense of security, good will towards, and belief in it, of over the million and a half of people who comprise the population of the Gold Coast Colony.

95. In paragraph 17 of their paper the "complainants" state:--

"We would, therefore, respectfully invite your Lordship's attention to the urgent necessity of securing an adequate representation of the general public on the Legislative Council. At the present time there is only one unofficial member, who has practically no influence whatever on the Council from the fact that even on matters of mere detail, apart from all questions of Government policy, the official members are bound to vote as

instructed, and he is, therefore, in hopeless minority when opposed to measures that chiefly affect the classes whom he is supposed to represent, and of whose requirements he has special knowledge, and whose interest he has at heart."

In making this statement, the parties to it were, no doubt, unaware of a Circular Despatch of the 17th of August 1868, transmitted in another Circular Despatch, dated 15th September 1868, in which His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, expressed the views of Her Majesty's Government upon the points referred to by the "complainants," with regard to which I make the following extracts from the first-mentioned Despatch:—

"Until the year 1865, when, in the Island of Dominica, the first steps were taken to construct a new legislative body in substitution for the one then existing, the powers of legislation for each of the Leeward Island Colonies were virtually exercised by Assemblies elected by a very limited number of the Colonists, and the only control over their legislation was the negative control by the veto of the Crown, or by the action of a Legislative Council, the members of which held their seats for life. The population at large, consisting of uneducated negroes, neither had nor could have any political powers; they were incapable of contributing to the formation of any intelligent public opinion; and the consequence was that the Assemblies performed their office of legislation under no real or effective responsibility."

"They became aware, apparently, that irresponsible legislation by small local bodies was not for the interest even of the members of those bodies themselves, or of the class which they represented, and still less of the inhabitants at large; and when the example of Jamaica in 1866 followed upon that of Dominica in 1865, one after another of the Leeward Island Legislatures reconstructed themselves in like manner, though not upon one identical model, and lastly amongst the Windward Islands, St. Vincent was led to take the same course.

"The new Legislatures, whilst more or less differing from each other in their component parts, have one feature in common—that the power of the Crown in the Legislature, if pressed to the extreme limit, would avail to overcome every resistance that could be made to it. The reasons for vesting this ultimate power in the Crown were well understood, both by Her Majesty's Government and the Assemblies.

"If the Assemblies did not desire to retain power for its own sake, neither certainly did the Crown desire to assume it for its own sake. The object of all parties was to establish a system of government and legislation by which the financial condition of the Colonies should be improved and their agricultural and commercial interests be promoted, by which industry might be encouraged, crime repressed, and the welfare of all classes be better provided for. For these ends Her Majesty's Government were willing to accept the trusts which the Assemblies were desirous to place mainly in their hands. But Her Majesty's Government were not willing to accept this trust unless accompanied by such a measure of power and authority as would enable them to perform effectively the duties which it was expected of them to undertake. And the views thus entertained by Her Majesty's Government were distinctly announced. They considered that where there is no wide basis for constituent and representative power and responsibility to rest upon, there is no eligible alternative but to vest power and responsibility substantially in the Crown; and whilst they did not object to a Legislature partly nominated and partly elective, they declared themselves unable to approve a Legislature in which though some of the members might be nominated, a small number of elective members should have a majority of votes. In a Legislature so constituted, the powers of legislation would be virtually in the hands of a very few irresponsible Colonists.

\* \* \* \* \*

"The case is different when the nominee member of the Legislature does not hold any office of emolument under the Crown. He will, indeed, naturally understand that holding his seat by nomination of the Crown, he has been selected for it in the expectation and in the confidence that he will co-operate with the Crown in its general policy, and not oppose the Crown on any important question without strong and substantial reasons; but of the validity of these reasons he will be himself the judge."

96. The Gold Coast Colony is, as regards the question of education of the negroes, not so well off as the Island of Dominica was in 1865, although, undoubtedly, a great deal has been done here in the way of improvement in that direction in the last few years. But whilst in the West Indies the English language is that of the vast majority

of the inhabitants, and, with the exception of immigrants from the East, there are no different tribes and few conflicting interests, on the Gold Coast, on the contrary, very few of the people—and these almost altogether in the towns on the littoral—speak English, whilst among themselves they use various languages and dialects, as the Accra, Adangme, Ashanti, Appolonia, Cherepong, Ewe, Hausa, and Tchi.

97. Again, the various nations, peoples, and tribes have strong hereditary antipathies and dislikes to each other. Some of the tribes east of the Volta, such as the Krepis and Akwamus, are unfavourable to those on the right bank. The Akwapims and Eastern Akims hate the Krobos, who in turn would like to destroy these neighbours. Eastern Akim is opposed to Western Akim, the Accras hate and detest the Fantis to the full extent to which the latter reciprocate those feelings, and the Elminas entertain similar sentiments to those of the Accras towards the Fantis, who do not dislike the Elminas less. I could add to this enumeration, but enough has been stated to show your Lordship how diametrically opposed the people of the Gold Coast are to each other. This feeling is not lessened in any sensible degree by education, and therein lies one of the great difficulties of this Government with regard to the selection of Natives for seats in the Legislative Council, for an Accra man will no more be trusted by the Fantis than one of these would be relied upon by the Accras.

98. So strong is the antipathy which many of the tribes feel for each other, that old-standing feuds are handed down from father to son for generations, and no sooner does a favourable opportunity present itself than old questions are reopened, and not infrequently the Government is compelled to take prompt action in order to prevent a sanguinary encounter between the contending parties. In fact, some Kings and Chiefs have told me, when referring to neighbouring nations, that if they were not afraid of the Government they would “sweep these neighbours off the face of the earth.”

99. The policy of this Government has always been to refuse to recognise, and to endeavour to allay, these existing inter-tribal jealousies, but the passive resistance with which its efforts are unhappily met renders the promotion of more harmonious relations very difficult. Such a feud may sink below the surface, but it is always there.

100. In support of this statement, I may mention the difficulty which exists in obtaining the conviction of an Accra or a Fanti man in the Courts by a jury selected from their respective races, no matter how strong are the proofs which may be brought against him; whilst, on the other hand, it is lamentable to observe the eagerness with which they are only too ready to bring in a verdict against each other, and which has, I fear, frequently nearly succeeded in bringing about a scandalous miscarriage of justice.

101. Besides the initial difficulties indicated there are others, originating in them, with regard to securing the representation of the general public on the Legislative Council. Natives to be eligible for such representation should speak English, possess some culture, with a substantial and respected position in the Colony, and should be free from connexion with any circumstances calculated to affect their integrity and independence of character. Now it is difficult to find Native candidates possessing generally the qualifications described, whilst as regards European British subjects, in a country which they resort to to make money in, and to escape from as soon as their object is accomplished, it is difficult to get mercantile agents to leave their business to attend to the discharge of functions, which do not touch their interests so keenly as to make it a matter to which they should devote time that could otherwise be more profitably employed for their own personal interests. Again, illhealth often compels men to leave their occupations and seek for recovery in a temperate climate. This breaks in upon the discharge of all duties, and when they return their time is so absorbed by looking into what has taken place in their absence and in bringing up arrears, that they have little to spare for the performance of outside obligations. As corroborative of this statement, a European agent at Cape Coast, who not long ago had taken a fortnight's holiday to recruit his health, informed me that on returning he found such an accumulation of correspondence and other work awaiting him that he should not again be inclined to leave his business except to go to England, when his responsibility would cease during his absence. Men so situated at outstations would not be much disposed to give up a fortnight to attend to legislative duties. Sir Samuel Rowe, in a letter dated 16th August 1884,\* addressed to the Secretary of State, remarked upon the subject under notice (in paragraph 22):—  
“The reason why no unofficial members have been asked to attend the Council at Accra has

\* No. 51 in [C.—4477] July 1885.

“ been rather that there were no British subjects resident there, who were not officials, who “ it was thought would be considered representative by the whole Colony, than that there “ was any disinclination to seek the opinion of gentlemen who were not connected with “ the Government service.” Moreover, the usefulness of an unofficial member is greatly detracted from by his necessary lack of acquaintance with official matters, of which the bulk of legislative work is composed. It is only in the course of debate that he begins to comprehend the question under discussion, and any opinion of it that he may then form is of small value, though doubtless the best according to his lights. The view I take of the matter is that the unofficial member gains the little knowledge he possesses of how an administration is carried on from the few meetings of Council which he attends. Even in questions of trade and commerce, when hitherto the opinion of a person—whose profession it is to engage in such matters—is sought with the object of guiding the Government, or is expressed on independent grounds, the view taken by unofficial members often appears to be so short sighted and restricted by motives of present self interest as to deprive any expression of it of any real legislative value. Granting, however, that it was practicable to find several persons eligible for the position of a Legislative Councillor, in view of the Imperial policy as explained in the Duke of Buckingham’s Despatch, it appears to me that in a Colony situated as the Gold Coast is, it is out of the question that there should be in the Legislative Council a majority of unofficial members, by whose combined votes the Government could be overruled with regard to its policy and measures. But the question is set at rest in principle by the views entertained by Her Majesty’s Government, which were distinctly announced in the Despatch already quoted from. I think, therefore, my Lord, that the reasons I have stated, together with the authoritative announcement referred to, completely dispose of the point put forward in paragraph 17 of the “ Complaint.”

102. In paragraph 18 of the “ Complaint ” it is stated :—

“ We would point out to your Lordship that the position of the British on the West Coast of Africa has materially changed during the last few years. Whereas previously they had unrivalled influence wherever there was a Settlement, they are now closely hedged in by foreign competitors. The French on the west and the Germans on the East, with firm footholds on the coast and with a tendency to converge together on the north, are doing their utmost not only to develop their own particular districts, but to attract and divert trade from districts where British influence was formerly supreme to their own ports. Both these Powers, whose Colonies, it is hardly necessary to remark, are managed on principles totally different from ours, are adopting most practical methods by the construction of roads and other public works, and by thorough exploration of the resources and prospects of the country ; and it behoves us to take all possible steps to encourage and foster the trade and industry of this Colony, which the figures and the appended lists show to be by no means unimportant, and which is largely derived from interior districts.”

I do not see that it is necessary for me to make any comment upon the general statement contained in the first half of this paragraph. That the Colonies of the Powers referred to are managed on principles totally different to those which govern the action of this Government, with regard especially to individuals, is correct so far as I am aware, for Messrs. Swanzy have complained of such management as existing outside of the eastern frontier of the Gold Coast, whilst other persons engaged in the timber trade have taken exception to it on the adjoining western limit of this Colony. On the other hand, foreign subjects of the Powers referred to are attracted to the Gold Coast, where they are largely engaged in mercantile transactions, having their principal establishments at Kwitta or Addah, with branch houses at other stations, because they find they are free from molestation or exceptional treatment of any kind, in short, that they stand precisely in the same position with this Government as if they were British subjects, and enjoy all the protection, rights, and privileges possessed by the latter, whilst their freedom of action is probably far greater than it would be under their own flags.

103. As regards the improvements credited by the “ complainants ” to our neighbours, I understand that the Togoland Government has made one good road to its Hinterland. I quite admit that it behoves us to take all “ possible steps to encourage and foster the trade and industry of this Colony,” and I am not aware, my Lord, that this Government is not performing its share of that duty in various ways ; although it does not proclaim its action from the housetop.

104. It would appear that the intention of the "Complaint" had been fully completed with paragraph 18, for in the preliminary statement it was desired, "to bring before your Lordship's notice the following facts in connexion with this Colony, and particularly with reference to Ordinance No. 25 of 1889, imposing an ad valorem duty of 10 per cent. upon nearly all imports into this Colony"; while in paragraph 19 it is stated:—

"Before concluding this letter we would refer your Lordship to 'Colonial Reports, Miscellaneous, No. 1, 'Gold Coast,'\* embracing a Despatch from His Excellency Sir W. B. Griffith, dated Accra, November 10, 1890, in which the following statements are made and in connexion with which we venture to make the following remarks:—"

It would appear, therefore, as if paragraph 19 was an afterthought, calculated to add weight to the statements preceding it, by selecting extracts, without their contexts, which considerably influences the former, from a lengthy Despatch, which I had the honour to address to the Secretary of State, under date of 10th November 1890,\* having reference to circumstances chiefly antecedent to that year, and dealing with the "Report of the Committee on Economic Agriculture on the Gold Coast in 1889." As regards the Despatch referred to the "complainants" state that:—

"The whole tenor of this 'Report' is such as to convey a wrong impression of the position of affairs in this Colony. It is, however, needless for us to refer to same in further detail, as we feel we have already trespassed upon your Lordship's indulgence, and were we to go into details more fully we should prove that there is not a single town on the coast which has not its evils of the greatest importance to complain of."

Dealing with the last part of this statement firstly, I imagine there is hardly a single town in any civilized country the inhabitants of which do not consider that it has some grievance which ought to be remedied, but it would have been more business like, definite, and to the point, if, instead of making a sweeping statement that the "complainants" could prove so much, they had indicated the towns intended, and their respective "evils," looking to the assertion that these were "of the greatest importance." Granting, however, the correctness of the assertion, the Government could not do every thing the various communities in the Colony desired, however paternally disposed it might feel towards them, and the remedy for the evils stated to exist lies in the creation of municipal institutions, by means of which townspeople could look more closely after their own affairs than the general Government could, while with the assistance received from it, *plus* their contributions derivable from local taxation, they could conduct their local arrangements to their own satisfaction, and thus get rid of the evils complained of. Like the waggoner in the fable, it is all very well their complaining to Jupiter, but their wisest course of action will be to put their shoulders to the evils complained of and thereby remove them.

105. The statement that "the whole tenor of this Report," that is my Despatch, "is such as to convey a wrong impression of the position of affairs in this Colony," virtually impeaches my veracity, thereby impugning my personal and official honour, and as the guardian of both, and looking to my position as the Governor of this Colony, enjoying in that capacity, as I have had the honour to do, the confidence of Her Majesty's Government, it will be my duty to satisfy your Lordship of the general accuracy of the statements made in my Despatch of the 10th November 1890.

106. In sub-section (a) of paragraph 19 of the "Complaint" it is observed that:—

"In paragraph 13" of that Despatch "it is stated, 'He (an inspector of interior trade roads) has been engaged on road making in the Kwitta district';" and again, "doubly and trebly more has been done in the last five years to advance its (the Colony's) substantial interests than was attempted in the previous eleven years, while the public works provided for, and in contemplation, all point in the direction of promoting the solid benefit of the Colony.' No roads, whatever, worthy of the name, have been constructed in the Kwitta districts, and with regard to the other quotation, whatever the words 'in contemplation' may be, it would be extremely interesting to have a list of what has been done."

I append to this Despatch an extract from that criticised, in which I stated: "An inspector of interior trade roads has been specially appointed. Since his arrival he has been engaged in road making in the Kwitta district, and when his work there has been performed he will be sent to make new, or to improve old, roads in such directions as may be deemed most advisable at the time." The inspector made an excellent road going northward from Kwitta, and intended in the end to be pushed on to Akwamu, but owing to the question of the delimitation of the frontier arising,

further proceeding with the road has been suspended until the boundary is settled; and for the last 12 months the inspector has been engaged upon improving and partly re-making the main road between Anamabu and Saltpond. Mr. Henry Hull, who was at Kwitta in January 1892, tells me the road made there by the inspector was an excellent one, and the Commissioner of the district reports similarly of that road. I append an extract from a letter by the latter officer, in which he states (on 8th March 1892), "I proceeded to Agbosome and inspected the road made by King Macarthy, between Agbosome and Pojle Market, on the 27th February. It is the best road that I have yet seen, and one could drive a carriage and pair along it for some nine miles, its entire length." This road, however, was not made in 1890, and therefore was not included in my Despatch of that year. But it existed months before the "Complaint" was got up.

107. The public works carried out between 1885—when I succeeded to the administration of the Colony—and 1890, were as follow:—

*Accra.*—Erection of very extensive buildings for Secretariat and out-offices, including two tanks to hold 110,000 gallons of water. At present the main structure affords quarters for six officers, besides a suite of four fine rooms for the Colonial Secretary; whilst two of the assistant secretaries have each two lofty and spacious apartments.

Offices for telegraphic and telephonic communication at Victoriaborg built near the Secretariat.

Large office added to Chief Justice's quarters.

New and extensive printing office, Victoriaborg.

Large tank to contain 75,000 gallons of water at Victoriaborg.

Large reservoir capable of containing 2,626,500 gallons of water. Cost 2,086*l.* With the embankment it will hold 3,500,000 gallons.

An asylum to contain 56 lunatic patients built and finished.

Contagious diseases hospital.

Extensive wall built to enclose cemetery, and a stop put to burial of the dead in the houses in Accra, thereby greatly improving the sanitary condition of Accra.

Powder magazine.

Christiansborg and Accra lighted by 161 lamps. The number originally proposed to Governor Young was 24.

Telegraph lines set up connecting Accra with all towns to Elmina westward, with Aburi to the north, and Pram Pram and Addah to the east.

House purchased for Government school.

New street opened, by which the persons chiefly benefited were Messrs. Swanzy, T. F. Bruce, Chief Annan, and Wesleyan Mission. Cost to the Government 460*l.*

Treasury, Accra, large tank provided in yard to contain 33,000 gallons.

Upper story added to Port Officer's office. New post and telegraph offices, with Customs warehouse beneath, opening to the beach, and iron tank attached to contain 7,200 gallons of water.

Erection of latrines, two being on the beach, extending by gangways into the sea.

*Winneba.*—House purchased for Government buildings; considerable expenditure incurred for repairing and altering it to suit requirements, such as Commissioner's quarters, police constables' rooms, prison, and court house.

Government tank built.

Town lighted with 20 lamps; cleaned, and streets improved.

Stagnant pool of considerable size near Commercial road filled up.

Moderate drains made.

Telegraphic communication with Accra, Pram Pram, and Addah to the east, and to Elmina on the west.

Latrines arranged.

*Appam.*—Lighted with 14 lamps. Town cleaned. Fort repaired. In telegraphic communication with other stations.

*Saltpond.*—New Government House, and necessary offices for police, post and telegraph, and prison built.

Two tanks built.

Court house improved.

Gunpowder magazine erected.

Road leading to the interior attended to.

Streets improved and concrete drains and culverts constructed throughout the town.

Built three large stone bridges across lagoon.

Town fairly lighted with 42 lamps.

Latrines arranged.

Telegraphic communication established, with the same arrangements as Accra.

*Anamabu.*—Fort almost a ruin within, and roof leaking badly; the whole put in thorough order.

Tank almost rebuilt and enlarged, will contain about 80,000 gallons.

Town cleared of the accumulation of filth and refuse of years past.

Latrines arranged.

Town lighted with 19 lamps.

Telegraphic communication established, with the same arrangements as Accra.

*Cape Coast.*—Very great improvements made in draining the town, and in its streets, at considerable outlay.

Post office enlarged.

Head telegraph station communicating wherever lines are put up.

Building for Port Officer's office erected.

Old Government House fitted up as a hospital.

Gunpowder magazine built.

A large tank to hold 100,000 gallons of water built.

Town lighted with 74 lamps—the people requested Governor Young to give them 24 lamps.

*Elmina.*—Two large sheds built in the market place, to the great satisfaction of the Chiefs and people, especially the “market women,” who are the great-small traders in the Colony generally.

Embankment wall of considerable length built, reclaiming a large tract of swamp which was most unhealthy. Town greatly benefitted by this improvement, not only as regards sanitation, but the esplanade formed by filling up the swamp enclosed by the embankment is a source of enjoyment to the townsfolk.

Substantial main drain constructed.

A Government building altered so as to make a mosque for the Hausa Constabulary.

Forts of St. George D'Elmina and St. Jago, very extensive blocks of buildings, put in order.

Cemeteries enclosed.

Town and St. Jago Hill lighted with 54 lamps.

*Chama.*—A pond was filled up; a large market shed erected, at the request of the inhabitants, and the fort repaired. The town is lighted with 12 lamps.

*Sekondi.*—Fort repaired; 12 lamps in town.

*Dixcove.*—Fort repaired, and pavement in front of the fort extended further down the street. Town lighted with 15 lamps.

*Axim.*—Fort repaired. Powder magazine built. Town lighted with 21 lamps.

*Pram Pram.*—Town lighted with 12 lamps.

Telegraphic communication established with all other stations, including the previous five towns.

*Addah.*—Dispensary established. Street lamps, 9 put up. Three bridges placed across creeks, viz., Fatoi (2), and Lowe (1), between Addah Beach and Big Addah.

Telegraphic communication established with all stations.

*Kwitta.*—Town lighted with 20 lamps. Fort kept in repair.

Market improved.

Huts built for Hausas and civil police.

In July to September 1891 telegraphic communication was extended to Kwitta.

*Akuse.*—Drainage operations begun. Streets improved. Fourteen lamps erected.

*Aburi.*—Botanical station established. Curator arrived and took over charge from me in March 1890.

Station and village of Aburi lighted by 20 lamps. 25½ miles of aerial telegraphic communication established with Accra, and thereby with all stations.

I have purposely omitted mentioning several small structures put up, all solid, useful, and necessary for public objects. The foregoing “list of what has been done” at the several stations mentioned in the five years prior to 10th November 1890, will, I trust, satisfy your Lordship of the accuracy of the statement upon the subject made in my Despatch of that date.

108. The "complainants" observe, with reference to the Despatch quoted from, that—  
 "In paragraph 17, in order to promote this purpose (training young Natives for agricultural work) I have directed the masters of the Government schools at Accra and Cape Coast to intimate to the pupils the intention of the Government to select some of them, who might exhibit an aptitude for the work, for training at Aburi, and to teach them the elements of botany." Since the opening of the Botanical Station at Aburi not a single Native has been sent there for tuition. The curator informs me that one lad was sent to Aburi for tuition. He came for one day, and gained some idea of what he would be required to do. He then remained away for two days, when he returned and informed the curator that he had come to learn and not to work. The latter replied that he could not learn unless he worked, whereupon the lad stated he would not work, and should no longer attend at the station but would go back to Accra, and to Accra he went. Other applications were made but they came to nothing. Mr. Vroom, Commissioner of the Tarkwa district, who visited Aburi with me in July 1892, when I asked him to see if he could induce any Native lads to come to the Botanical Station and learn the work there, writing to me in December last, stated:—

"*Aburi Station.*—Our lads seem to have a dislike to the 'spade.' My endeavours to send a couple of lads for tuition at Aburi met with no success whatever. Through my instrumentality Mr. Tinney, of Prestearmine, contemplated to open an industrial school at the mines. The question dropped for want of apprentices. I mention this to show the dislike of our lads to manual labour of this kind." Proverbial philosophy declares that a horse may be led to water, but that no power can compel the animal to drink if he refuses, and the Government is not to blame if Native lads will not avail themselves of openings made for them, especially when it has no power to compel them to accept such.

109. The "complainants" state that in my Despatch, in paragraph 30, it is stated that "the statistics of imports and exports for the years 1875 to 1889 by no means show any material progress in this 'vast, most important, and rapidly advancing Colony'"—and they observe, "as a matter of fact the figures practically show no progress whatever, as in all countries there is a slight fluctuation from year to year, but the figures for the two last years are by no means the best of the series, and instead of showing a balance of trade in favour of the Colony, of which a feature is made, show precisely the opposite results." There is a difference of opinion between the "complainants" and myself upon this point. I can give them indisputable statistics and offer fair reasons in support of my contention, but I cannot supply them with further assistance to understand my view of the question as stated in the paragraph they quote, of which I append a transcript. In dealing with the matter in 1890 I was combating a statement made in the "Report of Economic Agriculture," "that the country is undoubtedly poor, and the resources of the people have been diminished by the long period of depression which has prevailed for many years," and I produced official figures to show that in the 15 years from 1875 to 1889, notwithstanding the usual and well understood fluctuations of trade, the total exports of the Colony had amounted to—

	£
6,100,229	
and the imports to - - - - -	5,971,194
leaving a balance of trade in favour of the Colony of - - - - -	129,035

and I stated, "this fact completely dispels the delusion that the resources of the people have been diminished by a period of depression prevailing for many years."

110. The "complainants" impeach my statement that "in every town on the seaboard, and in many towns and villages inland, solid improvements meet the eye everywhere," for they remark that "this general and sweeping statement is by no means corroborated by those well informed on the subject, and it would be very desirable to specify the 'solid improvements.'" In the particulars stated in paragraph 107 of this Despatch, I have shown what these solid improvements were; and only the wilfully blind will refuse to recognise them. Irrespective of what was done by the Government, I had noticed at Accra, and when travelling from Accra westward at Saltpond, Cape Coast, and Elmina, the larger, superior, and improved houses which private persons and the Catholic Mission had built and were building. At Addah some large houses had been built and also at Kwitta. At Aburi the Basel Mission had erected a large and substantial sanitarium with quarters for six persons, while at Akropong and Odumassi the Kings had built large, substantial, extensive, and most capacious and convenient houses of the European type, which they placed at the disposal of respectable travellers

visiting those towns. These I also regarded, and I think very properly so, as among the "solid improvements" I referred to. The King's house at Akropong I have been informed cost over 1,500*l.*, and that at Odumassi over 2,000*l.* This last accommodated myself and a suite of five officers comfortably in July 1892.

111. As having some bearing upon what is stated in the preceding paragraph, I would ask reference to the observation made by the postmaster, in his letter of the 22nd December 1892, a copy of which is appended, commencing at the paragraph in which he states:—"Furthermore the nature of my duties as an itinerating officer affords me "opportunities for remarking on improvements of a public or private character at the "various districts of the Colony."

112. The "complainants" quote the statement in my Despatch of 1890 that,—“Not a stray pig is now to be seen in any coast line town, whereas at Accra so late as 1887 they were straying about in thousands performing the part of scavengers. Sheep and cattle no longer ramble at will in the towns,” adding that “sheep and cattle still ‘ramble at will’ in Accra itself, while as regards other towns which can be named in addition to these, pigs also run at large,” but they appear to have overlooked the circumstance that my statements which they attack had reference to the time when they were written, and suggest that they were erroneous then because, as is alleged, they would be erroneous if they were written now. But not only was the statement relative to pigs and cattle true when it was written, but it is true now, with two exceptions as regards sheep, and I will prove on official and indisputable evidence that, it is not the fact that “sheep and cattle still ramble at will” in Accra itself, or that they and pigs run at large in other towns. In fairness to the Government the “complainants” should have named the towns they meant, but in this instance, as in many other instances in their paper, they carefully abstain from going beyond assertion in their statements, and do not support these, as they ought to do, with information by which they can be examined and tested. In reply to my inquiries upon the subject the Commissioners of districts state as follows:—

*Accra.*—"That sheep and cattle still ramble at will in Accra," as Commissioner of the district, and therefore responsible for seeing that the law is obeyed, I am in a position to assert that this statement is not true. (31.12.92.)

*Pram Pram.*—"Pigs do not, and are not allowed to run at large in Pram Pram, or in any of the minor towns." (17.12.92.)

*Addah.*—"No pigs are allowed to run at large in any of the chief or minor towns in this district." (27.12.92.)

*Kwitta.*—"No pigs are allowed to run at large in any towns in this district where Europeans reside." (23.12.92.)

*Akuse.*—"I beg to state that there is not a single pig to be found straying about this district." (20.12.92.)

*Winneba.*—"Since I have come to Winneba I am not aware as yet of having seen a single pig in the town." (13.12.92.)

*Saltpond.*—"I have to say that there are no pigs either in Saltpond or Anamabu that I know of." (13.12.92.)

*Cape Coast.*—"There are no pigs running at large at Cape Coast." (15.12.92.)

*Elmina.*—"There are no pigs running at large." (15.12.92.)

*Chama.* — }  
*Sekondi.* — } "In no towns where the Towns Police Ordinances are applied are pigs  
*Dixcove.* — } allowed to stray in either my chief or minor towns." (13.12.92.)

*Axim.*—"There are no pigs running at large in Axim." (15.12.92.)

In paragraph 57 I have referred to the "swine boundaries," and a list of the towns in which these have been fixed is given in Enclosure "B" of that paragraph. In every town mentioned there are limits within which swine and cattle are not allowed to be kept. Outside of these there is no restriction upon the animals wandering about. I am informed that occasionally, but very rarely, a stray animal finds its way into a town, but it is quickly impounded by the police or sanitary inspectors, and the fine for recovery makes people very careful in checking the wandering propensities of their stock. As regards sheep and cattle running at large in other towns than Accra, the Commissioners of districts inform me in reply to inquiries that at—

(1.) *Pram Pram.*—"A few sheep are allowed to stray at will," but there are no cattle there.

(2.) *Kwitta*.—"Cattle are not allowed to stray at large in the town. Sheep are, as they do no harm, and there is not good grazing for them outside."

These are the two solitary instances as regards *sheep* in support of the "complainants'" general statement as to *sheep*, *cattle*, and *pigs*. As regards sheep and cattle at other stations, the reports are that, at:—

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| (3.) <i>Addah</i> .      | Cattle and sheep are impounded if found at large within the limits of the town.              |
| (4.) <i>Winneba</i> .    | } Cattle and sheep are not allowed to stray or run at large in these towns.                  |
| (5.) <i>Appam</i> .      |  |
| (6.) <i>Saltpond</i> .   | } Cattle and sheep are not permitted to stray or run at large in the towns of this district. |
| (7.) <i>Anamabu</i> .    |  |
| (8.) <i>Cape Coast</i> . | } Cattle and sheep are not allowed to run at large in these towns.                           |
| (9.) <i>Elmina</i> .     |  |
| (10.) <i>Chama</i> .     | } Cattle and sheep are not allowed to stray or run at large in my towns.                     |
| (11.) <i>Sekondi</i> .   |  |
| (12.) <i>Dixcove</i> .   |  |
| (13.) <i>Axim</i> .      | Cattle and sheep are not allowed to stray in our towns.                                      |

So that it will be seen that in 14 coast line towns, including Accra, neither cattle nor pigs were allowed to run at large, nor sheep, except at two, Pram Pram and Kwitta. I think these facts sufficiently dispose of the "complainants'" statements upon the point.

113. The next statement in my Despatch of 1890 which the "complainants" object to, is that in which it is observed that, "Sanitary measures have been carried out to the utmost possible extent, the only check, where any has existed, arising from the 'temporary want of foremen.'" The "complainants" assert that "Sanitary measures have been, as a whole, utterly neglected, and the appended statement of existing latrines already referred to amply substantiates this. The suggestion that these measures have been checked simply from 'temporary want of foremen' conveys, to say the least, a totally erroneous impression." It appears to me only necessary in this case to request reference to what I have written relative to sanitary measures and paucity of foremen in paragraphs 60 and 61, and to ask attention to the sanitary reports of the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. McCarthy, and Dr. Easmon, copies of which accompany this Despatch. The "complainants" would appear from their statement to regard sanitary measures as simply meaning latrine accommodation. The Medical Department, however, have a far more comprehensive view of the question, and they differ widely from the "complainants," inasmuch as they indicate in their reports that considerable improvement has taken place in the sanitary condition of the Colony in comparison with what was done prior to 1886.

114. The "complainants" again quote from my Despatch, in which it is stated that, "Old roads have been improved and arrangements have been made with Native Kings for cleaning, clearing, and keeping in order hundreds of miles of main roads running through their countries, while new main roads have been and are being laid out," and they remark "We have already referred to the almost utter absence of roads in the Colony at all. The hundreds of miles of main roads referred to, presumably refer to the roads connecting the coast line towns, but we venture to think that the above extract conveys quite a wrong impression, and we are quite ignorant of what and where the new main roads are." I have already gone fully into the road question, and it is unnecessary to reiterate what has been said, and which is, I venture to think, a complete answer to the "complainants." When they state that there is "the almost utter absence of roads in the Colony at all," it is difficult to imagine that this is the utterance of men who, from their positions, are naturally expected to make statements with care and caution, having regard to their accuracy, especially when such statements are made with the object of impeaching the good faith and honour of the Government. The new main roads to which I referred are:—

- (1.) That leading from Insawam to Kibbi, whereby the distance between the two places was considerably lessened; and
- (2.) The road on which the inspector of interior trade roads was engaged, which was intended to be carried on from Kwitta to Akwamu, the work of making it having been suspended, as already stated, for a political reason.

The Agoli Ferry was also taken in hand by the Government to facilitate the interior trade. The last returns I have by me show that in the quarters to 30th June 1892, 6,147 persons crossed it, and in the September quarter, the number was 7,408.

115. Another statement in my Despatch that “Every town on the seaboard is now admirably lighted” offends the “complainants,” and they state “There is not a single town admirably lighted. It is true that the seaboard towns are provided with kerosine lamps, but they are so few in number, inefficient in power, and badly attended to, that they are a very doubtful advantage.” I will, therefore, in view of these assertions, place before your Lordship the official information I have received upon the subject, beginning with that furnished by the Commissioners of districts.

*Akuse.*—“With regard to the street lamps, I am glad to be able to state that the Natives in this place are much pleased with the boon conferred on them in their erection, and I have not heard of any complaint that they are inefficient in power and badly attended to.” (20.12.92.)

*Kwitta.*—“No complaint has been made to me about the town being badly lighted.” (23.12.92.)

*Addah.*—“No complaint has been made to me by people that the lamps are so few in number, or that they are inefficient in power and badly attended to.” (27.12.92.)

*Pram Pram.*—“So far as I can ascertain, no complaints have been made in respect of the street lamps, nor have been made since I have been here, but they seem to be much appreciated by the people.” (17.12.92.)

*Accra.*—“The assertion is incorrect that there is not a single town admirably lighted,” for Accra is an “admirably lighted town.” (31.12.92.)

*Winneba.*—“No complaints have been made to me by any of the people in Winneba that there are few street lamps in the town, or that they are insufficient and badly attended to. On the contrary, I consider the people appreciate the lamps.” (13.12.92.)

*Saltpond.*—“I have to say that no complaint has ever been made to me that the lamps here or at Anamabu are too few, inefficient, and badly attended to. I consider both towns well and sufficiently lighted, and the work of attending to the lamps thoroughly well done.” (13.12.92.)

*Cape Coast and Elmina.*—“Are all well lighted, and the lamps are a distinct advantage, and assist the police considerably in keeping the towns orderly at night.” (15.12.92.)

*Chama, Sekondi, Dixcove.*—“The people here are as well off with lamps as without them.” (13.12.92.)

*Axim.*—“The town is well lighted, and the lamps are a distinct advantage.” (15.12.92.)

*Aburi.*—“There are 20 lamps at station and village, and they are greatly appreciated.”

If further evidence was wanting to refute the statement of the “complainants” with regard to the lighting of the towns on the seaboard of the Colony, it would be found in the annexed copy of a letter from the Acting Colonial Surveyor, with which I transmit copies of documents relating to it. It will be seen, on reference to his letter, that the Acting Colonial Surveyor states “there are at present 533 lamps in use in the Colony,” and in a statement attached it is shown that these are distributed in 18 towns, that “the oil supplied was the best obtainable,” the contractors for the supply being Messrs. Swanzy, “that there is a system of check on the lighting, and except in a few isolated instances of one or two lamps burning badly in a night which have been reported by our inspector, no general complaint by the public has reached this Department as to bad attention to the lamps.” “No complaint has also reached me from the out-stations.” “The Public Works Department is responsible for the lighting, and I hope I have proved that there has been no neglect of duty on its part in this matter.” “As to the kerosine lamps being of doubtful advantage, the point may be answered by making the following inquiry—Is there any advantage at all in supplying light? If so there is a decided advantage in having these lamps.” “The very complaint admits that there is an advantage.”

116. It is stated that "the tenders of Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy have, since the lamps were put up, been accepted every year." It appears, from a statement I have received, that in the years 1887 to 1889 the expenditure for oil was nearly 1,500*l.*, but as the number of cases is not given I will deal only with the four years 1890 to 1893, the tenders for the last year having been accepted in November 1892. In the last period stated the firm referred to have supplied this Government with 5,814 cases of kerosine oil, of 10 gallons each, the value of which, at contract price of 10*s.* per case, is 2,907*l.*, or an average of 727*l.* per annum.

The oil is purchased in the United States for about - - - 90 cents.  
per case of 10 gallons.

Taking commission, insurance, other expenses, freight, and landing charges at, say, 50 per cent. - - - - -	45 "
and duty at 10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> - - - - -	9 "

The total cost landed on the coast would be - - - - -	\$1 44 "
or per 10 gallon case - - - - -	6 <i>s.</i>
and as the contractors receive - - - - -	10 <i>s.</i>

per case they have made a profit of - - - - -	4 <i>s.</i>
on each, so that on an outlay of - - - - -	£1,744 2 0
they have received a profit of - - - - -	1,162 18 0

or 66 per cent., the two sums showing - - - - -	2,907 0 0
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the amount paid for the oil by the Government.

117. The final extract made by the "complainants" from my Despatch is that, "Accra, Winnebah, Saltpond, Anamaboe, Appam, and Cape Coast have received great attention in matters of drainage, street improvements, bridges, and additional tank and reservoir storage for water," and they comment upon it and make other observations as follow:—"With regard to Accra some few slight works have been executed in connexion with the surface drainage, also, in response to a numerously signed petition, the hitherto disgraceful and unsafe condition of the main road through the town has recently received some attention. The District Commissioners of Winnebah for some time past have, by means of prison labour, dug rude ditches along the side of the roads to drain off the water. We are not aware that any sum has been voted or any drains or roads been constructed at Appam. As regards the other places the annexed 'tables' of sums voted for public works in various years prove that, although the means have been voted for the carrying out of several works of utility, the majority of them have never been commenced, and with reference to bridges, the most important bridge in the Colony, viz., the Sweet River Bridge at Elmina, has been a thing of the past for several years, although so long ago as November 29th, 1890, the attention of the Governor and the Council was called to this matter by the late Honourable Mr. Sarbah. In other parts of the country bridges are chiefly conspicuous by their absence, and at certain seasons of the year communication between towns of importance is on this account both extremely difficult and dangerous." I have already stated what was done in the period challenged by the "complainants," and it is therefore unnecessary to enter upon a repetition of the account of the public works carried out in the five years previous to 10th November 1890. As regards the statement I have underlined, I would remark that some time before a petition was sent to me, I had directed the Colonial Surveyor's attention to the condition of the road referred to, which extends from Otoo Street in Accra to Christiansborg, about 2½ miles, when he stated that his difficulty was in obtaining suitable material for filling in and metalling the road. But he got this ultimately in the neighbourhood. It may be as well for me to state, however, that Assistant Inspector Inglefield, when acting as Commissioner of Winneba, paid great attention to the streets of that town, as also did Dr. Easmon. The town is so situated that it drains itself, and the trenches made are sufficient to assist in the withdrawal of surplus rain water not otherwise removable. Appam had such attention paid to it, at the time referred to, as it required. It is a small place, and has such drainage as it needs. With regard to the Sweet River, provision has been made for some years by which people are ferried across free of charge. A bridge would have been put up long ago, but I have been unable, so far, to obtain satisfactory plans from the Public Works

Department, and those presented have varied in estimated cost from 253*l.* to 1,500*l.* But the work will not be lost sight of, and your Lordship is aware of the desire of this Government to place a bridge across the Sweet River as soon as a satisfactory design has been placed before it. With regard to the statement that, "although the means have been voted for the carrying out of several works of utility, the majority of them have never been commenced," it would have been more satisfactory and business like if the "complainants," instead of making this assertion, had stated the public works for which votes were taken the majority of which have never been commenced. In paragraph 60 I have given a list of votes taken for public works. Of these

- (1.) The meat and fish market sheds and four general market sheds have been erected.
- (2.) The drainage of Akuse has been carried out partially. The money granted has been almost all expended, and more will be required to make drains of strong masonry.
  - (a.) The slaughter-house has been delayed from various causes.
  - (b.) The drainage of Accra cannot be proceeded with until a survey undertaken by Mr. Barnes has been completed.
  - (c.) Latrines have been let alone for reasons already stated, but will shortly be carried out, as the differences of opinion with regard to the description of these works has been settled between the home and medical authorities.
- (3.) The tank at Aburi, for which 816*l.* was voted on 19th April 1892, has been completed, and, but for the water it contained last year, the plants of the station would have been lost.
- (4.) The repairs of the sanitarium have been checked in progress owing to the want of foremen.
- (5.) The Public Works Stores, for which 3,000*l.* was voted, have been completed.
- (6.) The quarters for Treasurer for which 2,800*l.* was voted on 12th March 1891, have been commenced.
- (7.) The telegraph extension to Axim, for which 5,000*l.* was voted on 19th October 1891 has been completed.
- (8.) The Queen's Customs warehouse, for which a vote was taken in Council on May 30, 1892, has recently received your Lordship's sanction. The land on which it is to be erected has been purchased, and the requisition for building materials has been sent by your Lordship to the Crown Agents.
- (9.) A tank to collect the water from the roofs of the market sheds has been commenced, but the work had to be stopped owing to the extraordinarily heavy rains of the season.
- (10.) In Saltpond 740*l.* was voted on 19th April 1892 for the erection of a Queen's warehouse, which has been completed ; and
- (11.) 1,000*l.* was voted on 28th June 1892 to provide a tank to contain 100,000 gallons of water for that town, and it will be finished very shortly.

It appears, therefore, that the only votes which have not been acted upon out of 11 are three, for—

	£
(a.) Slaughter-house, Accra - - - - -	400
(b.) Draining town of Accra - - - - -	500
(c.) Latrines at various places - - - - -	1,550

I would therefore ask your Lordship to consider whether the facts stated do not completely refute the assertion of the "complainants," that "although the means have been voted for the carrying out of several works of utility, the majority of them have never been commenced."

118. Before I proceed to bring under your Lordship's notice some particulars relating to, and affecting several of, the persons who signed the "Complaint," I would remark that within the last 18 months the officers in charge of the Treasury and Customs Departments, especially the latter, have been attending carefully to carrying out the laws by which they have to be guided in the discharge of the duties of their offices, rightly considering that the laws would not have been made except for the accomplishment of particular objects, and that it was therefore incumbent on them to see that

such laws were obeyed. In the Customs in particular it was necessary that there should be reasonably strict supervision and watchfulness, not only with regard to subordinate employes, but also with the general public transacting business with that Department, and some persons have felt dissatisfied at finding that the provisions of the Customs Ordinance of 1876 are realities when transgressed against, and they have been very angry at finding that the law was no respecter of persons and was not to be trifled with. Other circumstances have also occurred with regard to the imposition of taxation, which have not fitted in with the views of some of the principals and agents of European firms, and therefore an indictment has been got up against the general policy of the Government, the idea being that the Governor is to be blamed for everything, and that he carries out any action he pleases, of his own will, the parties in opposition not appearing to recognise that the policy of the local administration is virtually also that of the Imperial Government, inasmuch as the officer at the head of it "is bound of course to obey the Queen's commands conveyed to him by the Secretary of State in his legislative as well as in his executive capacity, whether or not the course prescribed accord with his personal views and opinions." In attacking, therefore, the policy of the local Government, they are attacking that of the Imperial Government, which invests the former with the authority and power it possesses, and controls and directs its policy.

119. From information received I have reason to conclude that Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy have been the originators of this "Complaint" through their local representative, who, in promoting it on the spot, has exhibited an activity very unusual with him. I cannot believe that he would have attempted to take the line of action he has taken without the consent or direction of his principals, and therefore on the principle, "*Qui facit per alium facit per se*," I consider I am justified in my opinion that Messrs. Swanzy originated the "Complaint," and, moreover, have given it all the support in their power not only locally but also in England.

120. The "Complaint" was sent to the Colonial Secretary on the 16th of November, in a letter from Mr. "W. Waters, Acting Chief Agent of F. and A. Swanzy," who stated that a copy had been forwarded direct to your Lordship. This copy was sent on, I have reason to believe, by the mail steamer "Nubia," which left Accra on the 18th of November and arrived in England about the 10th or 12th of December.

121. I have stated in paragraph 119 that Messrs. Swanzy's acting chief agent promoted the "Complaint" with unwonted activity. I gave him permission to occupy my quarters at this station in September last, and he came here on the 17th of that month. On Thursday the 29th of September, a person named Burt, an agent of Messrs. Swanzy residing at Akuse, visited Mr. Waters and remained until the 3rd of October, without asking my permission. Indeed, I was not aware, until some time afterwards, that he had been here. There were other persons staying at Aburi who left on Sunday morning the 2nd of October. Mr. Waters and Mr. Burt set to work that day writing, and were busily engaged, I have been informed, with some printed pamphlets which I understand were the "Report of the Committee on Economic Agriculture in 1889," and my Despatch of 10th November 1890, both of which had been printed as Parliamentary papers, and it will be seen on reference to the documents how largely they were drawn upon, particularly with regard to the question which Mr. Hutchison, who really prepared the report, made a speciality of with regard to the expression of his view that the roads of the Colony should be fitted for wheel traffic, while my Despatch had several extracts made from it upon which accusations could be advanced against me that, "the whole tenor" of my Despatch, was "such as to convey a wrong impression of the position of affairs in this Colony."

122. Mr. Burt left Aburi for Akuse on Monday 3rd October. Shortly afterwards, as I gather from information received, the few mercantile agents at that place were invited to Messrs. Swanzy's factory by Mr. Burt, when he informed them that the purpose of the meeting was to send a petition to your Lordship for the abolition of the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, as the objects for which the tax was designed had not been carried out. The meeting separated after some discussion, and a few days afterwards a paper was sent round for the signatures of those who attended it, Mr. Burt's signature as agent for Messrs. Swanzy being the last of the five names, the first three of which were those of foreign firms. At Kpong, Mr. Bailey, one of the European clerks at Messrs. Swanzy's, is stated to have taken round a paper and got people to sign it, the main object instilled into their minds being that the step was taken to get rid of the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty. Out of the 13 signatures, five are those of persons

connected with Messrs. Swanzy, the first being that of one of their "commission agents," whilst three names with crosses unwitnessed are valueless.

123. Mr. Burt's next move was, I understand, at Addah, whence I was informed, "that the Complaint paper was read and interpreted to the signatories at a general meeting, which was held at the German factory of Messrs. Chevalier & Co., before they signed the same. The chief promoter here was Mr. Maurice Burt, agent for Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy."

124. Mr. Burt appears to have dealt next at Kwitta through Messrs. Swanzy's agent there, Mr. Olympio. It is somewhat puzzling to know for what reason the seven signatures, attached to the list, obtained at Kwitta were given, as in the words of the Commissioner: "There is no 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty imposed in this district." Four of the signatures obtained are those of French and German firms, two are those of Natives, and Messrs. Swanzy's agent who had charge of the "Complaint," signed last.

125. From Pram Pram I heard that Mr. Waters, agent for Messrs. Swanzy wrote to Mr. Nelson, a sub-agent there, instructing him to convene a meeting and to obtain what signatures he could against the *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. The sub-agent at Pram Pram thereupon requested the factor of another firm to hold the meeting at his house. So far as I can learn "the Complaint" paper was not read to the meeting, but the persons attending it were simply asked to sign a paper against the 10 per cent. duty, as a powerful petition was being prepared *to be sent direct to the Colonial Office, London, and they must be careful not to let any official hear of this.* The paper was then signed and returned to Mr. Waters, at Accra. The meeting was held about the middle of October. I also understand that of the 20 persons who signed the paper 13 were under obligations to the few factors at Pram Pram, and the first name signed was that of a clerk who had been without regular employment for two years. The second signature is that of the factor for F. and A. Swanzy.

126. It will be observed that whilst the "Complaint" is dated 31st October, the list of signatories at Winneba is dated 3rd November, and the sheet of paper on which the names are written is significant of the management resorted to in obtaining signatures for the "Complaint," apparently without producing the latter. The first name on the list is that of the "president" of the meeting, who signed as "agent, F. and A. Swanzy."

127. At Appam the second signature on the list of names is that of the "factor in Appam for Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy."

128. I understand that at Saltpound a meeting was held at the house of Mr. H. Rottmann, when a letter to your Lordship was presented and discussed. This letter was sent round, but the signatures were obtained on loose sheets, and my information is that the "Complaint" was not read to the signatories generally, but only to three Europeans who were present at the meeting, the others being asked subsequently to sign in order to get rid of the *ad valorem* duty. It will be observed that the name of the second person on the list is that of the "agent, F. and A. Swanzy."

129. The Cape Coast Chamber of Commerce had charge of the "Complaint," which is stated to have originated at Accra. A first meeting was held, and several persons who did not attend it received a notice convening a second meeting. One of the parties who attended this said he signed the list because it was stated at the meeting that this Government were lending out money to Canada instead of laying it out at home, and it was desired to get a reduction of the 10 per cent. duty. The Cape Coast list is stated to be signed by 11 of Messrs. Swanzy's employes besides their acting agent.

130. As regards the "Complaint," I am informed that "Swanzy's man had charge of it at Elmina," and the first name on the list from that place is that of the "factor for F. and A. Swanzy."

131. From Chama, Sekondi, Adjuah, and Dixcove I learn that "the only object in signing the petition this way is to get rid of the *ad valorem* duties, for, as regards the other matters complained of, no one would have signed the paper, and as regards roads they do not require more than a foot width of road to travel in, for it will be observed that in all the roads used by pedestrians in these parts only the middle portion is used." "From the fact that the majority of the signatories are petty traders, and factors' influence must have been brought to bear on those persons signing the paper, most of whom have not paid so much as one pound of *ad valorem* duties since they were introduced."

132. At *Chama* the first name on the list of signatures is that of the "factor of F. and A. Swanzy." At *Sekondi*, no meeting was held, but a paper was taken round and people were asked to sign it to get rid of the 10 per cent. duty.

At *Adjuah*, the same course was pursued. The first name on the list is that of the "factor, F. and A. Swanzy."

At *Dixcove*, also, a paper was handed round for signatures to get rid of the 10 per cent. duty. The first name is that of their representative; whilst

At *Axim* the name of the "agent, F. and A. Swanzy," appropriately closes the list of the signatories there. It is noticeable too, that one of the persons signing dates that act as, "28.10.92." It takes six days of quick travelling for a runner to go from *Axim* to *Accra*, so that the paper lists forwarded thence could not have reached *Accra* before the 3rd of November, whilst the list from *Winneba* dated the same day, 3rd November, could not arrive at *Accra* until the 4th. But all the same, the "Complaint" is dated at "Accra, West Africa, 31st October 1892," and the "Complaint" and lists of names tied on to it, showing how these were managed, are, as will be seen on inspection, secured together by red tape and sealing wax.

133. I understand that the meeting at *Axim* was called by Messrs. Swanzy's agent at their factory; that he acted under directions from *Accra*, and sent round a circular to all the traders in the town. At the meeting the agent is stated to have read a paper which was sent to him from *Accra* by Mr. Waters. The meeting was said to be called respecting improvements in the town of *Axim* and good roads to the interior, as also a reduction of the 10 per cent. duty. A second meeting was held subsequently. I understand that the "Complaint" was not read over, but that one of Messrs. Swanzy's clerks took it round and obtained the signatures. I learn that *every one at the first meeting was asked to promise not to communicate what had transpired to any Government official.*

134. I also understand it was intended that the existence of the "Complaint" should be kept secret from this Government, but Mr. Waters discovering that if transmitted direct to your Lordship, according to the rules of the service, it would have to be sent back to me to be reported upon, decided to adopt the regular course of transmission.

135. The following statement relates to the classification of occupations of:—

Signatories to "Complaint."

Merchants	European	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Agents and sub-agents	"	-	-	-	-	-	22	
								26
Nondescripts	"	-	-	-	-	-	3	
								3
Total Europeans								29
Merchants—Native		-	-	-	-	-	8	
Agents	"	-	-	-	-	-	11	
								19
Total								19
Native traders		-	-	-	-	-	42	
Total Natives								61
								61
Total mercantile section								90
Clerks and subordinate employés of the above								100
Petty Native traders, mostly hucksters								86
Clerks to petty traders								8
Non-commercial persons who have signed the Complaint being								
Auctioneers,	Bankrupts,							
Carpenters.	Convicts,							
Drunkards,	Goldsmiths,							
Labourers,	Photographers,							
Schoolmaster,	Servants,							
Shoemakers,	Tailors,							
and their apprentices								58
Names of persons unknown at the places where they are said to have signed the Complaint								47
Persons against whose names crosses are placed, unwitnessed								119
Total								518

136. Jewellery and photographic materials being exempt from duty it is singular that so many goldsmiths and photographers have signed the "Complaint."

137. As regards the class of Petty Traders, many of whom have only made marks, and the classes which are included in the "unwitnessed," as well as in many of the witnessed signatures, I would ask reference to the following report made to me by the Commissioner of the Accra district, as it is, I imagine, also a fair description of the classes who have signed the "Complaint" at other stations as well as at the head quarters of the Colony. "With the exception of the names on the first, and the first three names on the second page, and perhaps two or three more, scattered at intervals, through the pages, the names on this list are mostly those of men whose occupation is inaptly described by those of trader, merchant, and petty trader, but whom I am at a loss otherwise to describe.

"They are Natives who hold small shops where they retail goods, and when they run out put off to the first outward bound steamer and replenish their stock.

"Those that are described as having stone houses are the superior class of these men, but are not men of any position; their houses being often mortgaged over and over again, though it is impossible to get at the true state of the matter. They do not mix with the merchants, and in the majority of cases cannot speak a word of English, and I do not think it probable that their knowledge of the petition is very extensive.

"The majority of names on the last three sheets I cannot trace. They are very common ones, and such names as 'Ankrah,' 'Lomoh' are owned by dozens of the poorer Natives, and there is nothing to show which is which.

"I have been informed that many of them belong to Natives who come down from the bush with a load of palm oil or kernels, and who have been raised to the dignity of merchants for this occasion only. Moreover, I believe that many of the superior signatories only signed under the impression that the 10 per cent. duty would at once be taken off, and that this was the only reason they signed the petition at all."

138. The under-mentioned merchants and agents have by themselves and their employés contributed the numbers of signatures set against each name:—

1. F. and A. Swanzy	-	-	-	-	-	36
2. Basel Mission	-	-	-	-	-	12
3. Alex. Miller & Co.	-	-	-	-	-	10
4. Fischer & Co.	-	-	-	-	-	8
5. McIver & Co.	-	-	-	-	-	8
6. Fletcher and Hope	-	-	-	-	-	8
7. Geb's Ter Meulen	-	-	-	-	-	8
8. Taylor Laughland	-	-	-	-	-	7
9. Yates, Bros., and Shattuck	-	-	-	-	-	6
10. Pickering and Berthoud	-	-	-	-	-	5
11. H. B. W. Russel	-	-	-	-	-	4
12. H. Rottmann, junr.	-	-	-	-	-	4
Making a total of						<u>116</u> signatures.

So that on an average each of the 12 concerns mentioned has signed the "Complaint" ten times, whilst it is a significant circumstance that *Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy* have by their agents and other servants signed it 36 times, 12 signatures having been supplied by their agent and subordinates at Cape Coast alone.

139. It would appear that a desire to get a large number of signatures to the "Complaint" overbore considerations of judgment and prudence on the part of those who charged themselves with the promotion of it, for whilst undoubtedly some of the signatures to that paper, both of Europeans and Natives, are those of respectable men, many of them being of sterling character, yet there are scattered through several of the lists of signatures those of many persons who have been convicted of various crimes; for instance, two "being knowingly concerned in evading Customs duties with intent to defraud Her Majesty of the duties in respect thereof," one of them paying a penalty of 525*l.* in preference to going to gaol; the other going to gaol in preference to paying penalties of 1,092*l.* Others have been fined heavily or imprisoned for smuggling rum at Kwitta and Addah. Others have been punished for

slave dealing. Others for smuggling rum chiefly—it being worthy of remembrance that rum does not pay the *ad valorem* duty. One for forging the name of the firm of “Hutton & Co.,” of Liverpool, to an invoice, with intention to defraud the Customs, and also for smuggling, receiving in one case two months’ imprisonment and paying penalties amounting to 100*l.* in the other. One man was convicted of the larceny of three sheep. One man was imprisoned for embezzlement and smuggling. Some have been dismissed from the Government service for good cause. One man was sentenced to seven years’ penal servitude for forgery. Others have been convicted of frauds on underwriters. One has been convicted and sentenced to a term of imprisonment for an attempted indecent assault. Another was sentenced to two years’ imprisonment for smuggling Government property, whilst another is described as a “Mission agent, but dismissed for having fallen from grace.”

140. I would very respectfully request your Lordship’s consideration of the circumstance that the “Complaint” is signed by the mercantile community of Kwitta, where the *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. is not in force, while the almost ridiculously low duties levied there are—under Ordinance No. 5 of the 28th June 1892—as follows :—

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
On all spirits and liqueurs per old wine gallon, when the degree of strength does not exceed proof	0	5½
„ Tobacco per pound	0	1¼
„ Gunpowder per 100 pounds	5	0
„ Guns each	1	0

141. I might, my Lord, in justice to myself, make other observations with regard to some of the persons who have signed the “Complaint,” but I refrain from doing so inasmuch as I do not wish to cause irritation to, or to inflict pain upon, others, nor to let any personal feeling influence me in dealing with the “Complaint” which I have had to report upon to your Lordship.

142. On the other hand, I am bound to bring under your Lordship’s consideration a letter which was forwarded to me on the 12th of December last, with this Minute, from the Colonial Secretary;—“I submit this disclaimer from the agent of Messrs. Yates, Brothers, and Shattuck.” I transmit herewith a copy of the document referred to, by which it will be seen that Mr. J. M. Burnett, the agent of the firm alluded to, and who, I understand, is one of the most respectable and sterling mercantile men in the Colony, states that it has just come to his knowledge that three of the factors of his firm had signed a petition addressed to your Lordship on behalf of his firm without his knowledge; that he is the sole representative and manager of the firm’s business in West Africa, therefore the only one authorised to sign such documents in their name; that this petition was never submitted to him for his signature, and had this been done he should not have signed, as he had since seen a copy and could not endorse its contents; and he asked that the name of Yates, Brothers, and Shattuck be struck from the list of signatures. I have not, however, acted on this request so far, as I thought it would be best that your Lordship should see the petition precisely in the state in which I received it.

143. On the 16th of March I received with surprise, not unmixed with gratification, a letter, of which a copy is appended to this Despatch, from Mr. W. Duisberg, one of the most sterling and respectable men in the Colony. He is chief agent of the Mercantile Branch of the Basel Mission on the Gold Coast. Mr. Duisberg thereby holds a most responsible position; he is the manager of an immense mercantile business—the largest, I am informed, carried on in the Colony, and which has branches in several of the principal towns. This business is carried on without fussiness, ostentation, or show. The imports and shipments of the Mission are very extensive, although it abstains totally from transactions in spirits, guns, and gunpowder, whilst its solvency and sound financial position are so thoroughly understood and relied upon that virtually it does a considerable banking business, and its drafts on London are much sought after for remittances by public officers and other persons. The profits of this great concern are devoted, I believe, to the maintenance of the religious and educational Missions in which the Basel Missionary Society have been engaged for some 50 years, and which has been—together with those of the Wesleyans—of such vast advantage to the Gold Coast Colony. Reverting to Mr. Duisberg’s letter, I would very respectfully bring its subject matter under your Lordship’s consideration in connexion with the statements made in the “Complaint.” The letter fully describes the views of the writer and his object in sending it to me, and, therefore, it is unnecessary for me to make any comments upon it, beyond pointing

attention to the first three lines of the second paragraph, in which Mr. Duisberg remarks that "In signing that letter *I intended to convey nothing personal either against your Excellency or the Administration of the Colony.*" I have purposely underlined the above.

144. After the "Complaint" was transmitted to me printed copies of it were sent to various persons in Accra. This was mentioned to me by a public officer holding one of the highest positions in the Colony. He stated he had met Mr. Waters at the time; told him he had heard of the distribution of copies, and inquired why one had not been sent to him. "Oh," said Mr. Waters, in reply, "it is not aimed at you." Subsequently, I was informed by Native and European gentlemen that many of the Native signatories at Accra had expressed regret at having signed the "Complaint," stating that they had not fully understood it; that they were attracted by the idea held out to them of the immediate repeal of the *ad valorem* duty, but as they had since understood that one of the objects intended by the "Complaint" was to endeavour to get me removed from the Government of the Colony—a purpose they did not sympathise with—they regretted having had anything to do with the "Complaint."

145. As corroborative of this, I desire to inform your Lordship that on the 26th of March a gentleman, whom I have already referred to as occupying a very high official position, stated to me that in a conversation with Mr. Waters on business, the latter had introduced the subject of the "Complaint," and told him that "four Chambers of Commerce—those of London, Liverpool, and Manchester," my informant was not certain of the fourth, but thought it was Glasgow—"had all determined that Sir Brandford Griffith should not return to the Colony." Thereupon I requested my informant to make a note of Mr. Waters' statement in his diary, and that I also should do so, as I intended to deal with the assertion at a later period, and I at once caused my private secretary to make a memorandum of the circumstance.

146. I have the pleasure and the privilege of being acquainted with Mr. Alfred L. Jones, chairman of the African Trade Section of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, with Mr. Holt, the vice-chairman, and with Messrs. A. Sinclair and L. Solomon, members of committee of that section. They are gentlemen whose characters for upright, straightforward, and manly conduct, combined with a full regard for justice and fair play, are well known, and I feel fully satisfied that their colleagues in the Liverpool Chamber, and the members of the Chambers of Commerce of London, Manchester, and Glasgow, are gentlemen corresponding with those whose names I have mentioned in the qualities I have described them as possessing; and, therefore, I feel perfectly sure that, even if it was in their power, instead of being, as it is, in your Lordship's, to decide against my returning to this Government, that they would not be likely to act upon an *ex parte* statement to use their strength, however giant-like it might be, to injure an officer who has been in Her Majesty's service for over 30 years with an unblemished reputation for the upright and honest discharge of his duties; who has been Her Majesty's representative in this Colony since 1886, and of whom your Lordship's predecessor was so good as to say, in a letter, written by his Lordship's direction by the Honourable Mr. Meade, C.B., to me, a copy of which was transmitted to the Colony in Despatch dated the 3rd November 1891, "Lord Knutsford has observed with "satisfaction the good and efficient work which you have performed, and the marked "improvement which has taken place in the condition and prosperity of the Colony "during your administration."

147. I fail to see, indeed I cannot possibly believe, that Mr. Waters was in any way authorised by any of the Chambers of Commerce he mentioned to make the statement he did on their behalf with regard to myself.

148. I understand that Mr. Waters and some other agents have sent printed copies of their "Complaint" in all directions, and I would therefore venture, with the utmost deference and respect, to submit, for your Lordship's consideration, whether this Despatch should not also be published. I am quite prepared, my Lord, if necessary, to support my statements by the records of the Colonial Secretariat, by other documents, by the "Government Gazette," by the records of the magisterial and judicial courts, and by official documents in my possession.

149. I regret very much, my Lord, the great length to which this Despatch has been extended, but I felt that it was my positive duty to this Government and to myself not to leave a single statement in the "Complaint" undealt with, and it will be for your Lordship to consider whether I have succeeded in the object aimed at.

150. I regret, too, the delay which has occurred in sending forward my report upon the "Complaint." This has occurred partly from my waiting to have your Lordship's reply, relative to the matters submitted by Mr. Waters upon the point of non-compliance with regulation, which I received on the 2nd of March, and partly from having to collect, collate, and arrange the materials, and think out the various points to be dealt with for this Despatch, the whole of which I have had to draft in the intervals spared from the performance of the ordinary work of the Governor, which is enormous, although I have been greatly aided as regards the latter by the Colonial Secretary, who, I am sure, would have given me his able assistance to the utmost in dealing with the subject matter of this Despatch if I had requested it, but I felt it was better for me to work alone in this business. The purpose of the "Complaint" was "aimed" at me. It referred in part to years prior to Mr. Hodgson's appointment; but an excellent memory for past occurrences, and a full grasp of late events, decided me to undertake the task I have discharged in this report, without calling upon an able, excellent, and most trustworthy and willing colleague, who has his hands as full as they can be of work, for assistance; and I trust that in view of the information supplied herein, I shall have satisfied your Lordship that the charges made against this Government are undeserved, and that, in the result, your Lordship's gracious approval will be given to the course I have taken in dealing with the "Complaint" against this Government.

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Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

MY LORD,

Accra, West Coast Africa, October 31, 1892.

WE, the undersigned merchants, agents, and traders of the Gold Coast Colony, have the honour to bring before your Lordship's notice the following facts in connexion with this Colony, and particularly with reference to Ordinance No. 25 of 1889, imposing an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. upon nearly all the imports into this Colony.

2. We would first call your Lordship's attention to the fact that in April 1887, Ordinance No. 5 of that year was passed, abolishing the then existing 4 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, and making various slight changes in the Customs tariff generally.

3. The merchants and traders were grateful for this reduction of duties, which also met with the approval of your Lordship, as contained in your Despatch No. 55, of 8th March 1887. After the lapse of about a year, the fiscal policy of the Government underwent a radical change, which we would respectfully submit was in no way justified by the financial position of the Colony, and in December 1889, Ordinance No. 25, already referred to, was introduced and passed.

4. The preamble of this Ordinance was as follows:—"Whereas it is expedient, in the interest of the people of the Gold Coast Colony, that the Public Revenue thereof should be increased to meet the expenditure requisite for the further improvement of roads and other means of local communication, the extension of telegraphic lines, the education of the people, the extension and development of the judicial system, and for other objects for the advancement of the Colony, and that such additional revenue should be provided by an *ad valorem* duty on certain articles imported into the said Colony which are now admitted free of duty: And whereas it is therefore necessary to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance of 1887, being Ordinance No. 5 of that year."

5. We submit that no one of the objects specified in this preamble, except the partial extension of the telegraph lines and a slight extension of the postal system, has been carried out. For many years no improvement worth mentioning has been made in roads or any other means of facilitating traffic. We are entirely without any proper trade roads, and there are districts a few miles in the interior almost throughout the length and breadth of the Colony, where the natural products of the country lie rotting in enormous quantities, simply because there are no roads by which to bring them to the coast. The enormous value of roads is proved by the manner in which produce is now frequently conveyed in casks to Accra by the Aburi road, practically the only road in the Colony, and which, moreover, was not made for trade purposes but for the convenience



of Government officials going to and from the sanitorium at Aburi. As regards other means of communication, we would mention that the River Volta, the most important river between the Senegal and the Niger and the chief waterway of the Colony, tapping fertile and productive districts, has received no attention at any time from the Government. The river is infested with snags, many of the trees having blocked its passage for several years, thereby rendering navigation both difficult and dangerous. The Government itself has recently lost an expensive steam launch from this very cause, but has taken no steps to remove the obstruction or in any way to protect the property of merchants. The Ancobra, the next important navigable river, has also received no attention in this matter.

6. With regard to other public works of a nature calculated to develop the resources of the country or to improve the sanitary condition of the people (an object of the highest importance) we append tables for the years 1886 to 1891 inclusive (1891 not yet been published), showing the annual revenue and expenditure and the amounts voted annually for the "Public Works Department," from the latter of which it will be seen:—

A. That during the period named, the expenditure on public works has been almost continuously decreasing; that the revenue has enormously increased, and, at the same time, the requirements of the community, due to the spread of civilization and the development of the natural resources of the Colony, are very much greater.

B. That a comparatively insignificant proportion of the total amount voted for public works has been expended on what may be termed "works of general utility or advantage to the people at large," the balance being spent on purely Government objects, such as the erection of officers' quarters, Queen's warehouses, &c., which, although necessary adjuncts of the Government, cannot be considered of interest or advantage to the general community.

C. That the results achieved by the Public Works Department is quite out of proportion to the expenditure in connexion with the same.

7. The very considerable increase in the revenue is, in the opinion of those best calculated to know, largely due to the imposition of the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty and to the increase of most of the specific duties, also to the growth of the import trade consequent upon the natural development of the country.

8. This development is mainly to be ascribed to the fact that some years ago the Natives took largely to forming plantations of palm trees, and also to the commencement and partial development of the rubber trade, which was brought about by the energy and interest shown by Sir Alfred Moloney.

9. We further append table of the revenue raised by duties during the years from 1886 to 1891, divided under the headings of "*ad valorem*" and "specific."

9a. We also append statement in connexion with our remarks on sanitation, showing number of latrines, scavengers, and population in some of the principal towns; and, as far as we are aware, in no other towns in the Colony has anything been done by the Government for providing latrines or making any other sanitary arrangements, while at some places it is reported that the pits used for sanitary purposes in lieu of latrines, are filled up, and in some other places, where latrines have been provided in the quantities shown in the attached table, they are not now receiving attention, and it is also stated that at Axim and other places, where there are absolutely no latrines whatever, the people are constantly fined by District Commissioners for committing nuisances.

10. We would point out that the area of the Gold Coast and protected territories is estimated at 29,401 square miles, and to contain about 2,000 towns and villages with a population of upwards of 2,000,000 inhabitants.

11. To show how the general idea of the preamble of Ordinance No. 25 of 1889 has been carried out, we refer your Lordship to a meeting of the Legislative Council at Christiansborg Castle on the 1st of October 1890, when 19,145*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* was voted, subject to the approval of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, for certain specified uses. Out of five items named, only one has been even commenced, *viz.*, the extension of telegraphic communication from Elmina to Axim and the Ancobra River, and this one item placed at 5,000*l.* is one that would at once yield a safe and sure return, so that there must still be in hand 14,145*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* out of that sum, and it must not be forgotten that a sum of 30,000*l.* was still on hand as a "reserve." At the same meeting, 12 other sums, amounting to 8,320*l.*, were voted, out of which 4,105*l.* were

for objects more or less commendable and 825*l.* for draining Akuse, a matter which should have been done years before, while all other sanitary arrangements (except the partial erection of a butchers' market and of four market sheds), including a slaughter-house for Accra (400*l.*), draining a portion of Accra (500*l.*), latrines for Elmina, Cape Coast, Accra, Salt Pond, Winnebah, and other places (1,550*l.*), have been utterly neglected. These latrines were stated on the Council to be much required and their erection strongly urged by the Medical Department, while as for slaughter-houses their great necessity is obvious to all.

12. At a special meeting held at Salt Pond to discuss the question of the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, the following is taken verbatim from the minutes.

"We unanimously agree that this is a most grievous tax upon trade, and a tax that in the present state of finances of the Colony is not in any way called for. We remember well when his Excellency the Governor visited Salt Pond in the fall of 1888, he told us that the 4 per cent. *ad valorem* duty in force should be taken off, as he judged it to be a hardship and calculated to cripple legitimate trade; and that for years it had been his aim to have all cotton goods admitted free, and once he could get the tax abolished it should never again be put on. This was publicly stated in the Court house at Salt Pond."

13. At Axim, at a meeting held there, it was agreed that the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty is a grievous tax and should be at once reduced. It was stated by the King that when the Governor was there last time, he promised us bridges, a good market place, and latrines in different parts of the town. He promised he would put bridges over every little rivulet down to the mouth of the Ancobra. The Governor also told the King and people that he had seen the sea encroaching upon the town, and that he would build a wall close to the town to prevent the encroachment. He also promised us roads and telegraphs. The general feeling at Axim was that there should be an increase in the number of Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council, and also the following improvements:—Markets, sea wall, Judge to hold assizes at Axim, wells, latrines, roads, bridges, and free school. It was also stated that the attention of the Government should be called to the progress made both in Lagos and Sierra Leone, although the revenue derived at those places is not nearly equal to that of this Colony.

14. From the foregoing statements we think we have conclusively proved that there has been an utter failure to carry out objects for which the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty was imposed, and that the expenditure on these objects has, far from being increased since the imposition of the 10 per cent., in most instances been decreased. We are not opposed to an *ad valorem* duty in itself, provided something is at once done with the money in hand to give us sanitation and to develop the resources of the Colony, but we are of opinion that in no case should such *ad valorem* duty exceed 5 per cent.

15. We are also of opinion that the Customs tariff generally should be revised, and that certain articles not now included in the "Free List," but which are essentially necessities and not luxuries, should be admitted free, and that such revision should be carried out by a committee of Natives and European merchants in conjunction with Government officials in equal numbers, and that freedom of vote be granted to all.

16. In connexion with the whole financial administration of the Colony, we would point out that the vacillating policy of the Government, in so frequently and suddenly changing the Customs tariff, is highly detrimental to the trade of the Colony. Further, the principle of raising a large revenue, which, apparently in the opinion of the Administration, is not needed for the services of the Colony, and which, as a matter of fact, is largely hoarded and let out on interest to other Colonies, is an unsound one and without precedent. Again, the trading community, upon which the whole basis of the Government rests, have practically no voice whatever in the administration of the Colony, and no control over the expenditure, and are further never consulted upon any contemplated fiscal changes, although the same may seriously affect them and the people in whom their interests are bound up.

17. We would therefore, respectfully invite your Lordship's attention to the urgent necessity of securing an adequate representation of the general public on the Legislative Council—at the present time there is only one unofficial member, who has practically no influence whatever on the Council from the fact that even on matters of mere detail, apart from all questions of Government policy, the official members are bound to vote

as instructed, and he is therefore in hopeless minority when opposed to measures that chiefly affect the classes whom he is supposed to represent, and of whose requirements he has special knowledge, and whose interest he has at heart.

18. We would point out to your Lordship that the position of the British on the West Coast of Africa has materially changed during the last few years. Whereas previously they had unrivalled influence wherever there was a Settlement, they are now closely hedged in by foreign competitors. The French on the west and the Germans on the east, with firm footholds on the coast and with a tendency to converge together on the north, are doing their utmost, not only to develop their own particular districts, but to attract and divert trade from districts where British influence was formerly supreme, to their own ports. Both these Powers, whose Colonies it is hardly necessary to remark are managed on principles totally different from ours, are adopting most practical methods by the construction of roads and other public works, and by thorough exploration of the resources and prospects of the country; and it behoves us to take all possible steps to encourage and foster the trade and industry of this Colony, which the figures and the appended lists show to be by no means unimportant, and which is largely derived from interior districts.

19. Before concluding this letter we would refer your Lordship to "Colonial Reports, Miscellaneous. No. 1, Gold Coast," embracing a Despatch from His Excellency Sir W. B. Griffith, dated Accra, November 10, 1890, in which the following statements are made, and in connexion with which we venture to make the following remarks:—

- (a.) In paragraph 13 it is stated "He (an inspector of interior trade roads) has been engaged on road making in the Kwitta district," and again "doubly and trebly more has been done in the last five years to advance its (the Colony's) substantial interests, than was attempted in the previous 11 years, while the public works provided for and in contemplation all point in the direction of promoting the solid benefit of the Colony." No roads whatever worthy of the name have been constructed in the Kwitta districts, and with regard to the other quotation, whatever the works "in contemplation" may be, it would be extremely interesting to have a list of what has been done.
- (b.) In paragraph 17. "In order to promote this purpose (training young Natives for agricultural work) I have directed the masters of the Government schools at Accra and Cape Coast to intimate to the pupils the intention of the Government, to select some of them, who might exhibit an aptitude for the work, for training at Aburi, and to teach them the elements of botany." Since the opening of the Botanical Station at Aburi not a single Native has been sent there for tuition.
- (c.) In paragraph 30. The statistics of imports and exports for the years 1875 to 1889 by no means show any material progress in this "vast, most important and rapidly advancing Colony." As a matter of fact the figures practically show no progress whatever, as in all countries there is a slight fluctuation from year to year, but the figures for the two last years are by no means the best of the series, and instead of showing a balance of trade in favour of the Colony, of which a feature is made, show precisely the opposite results.
- (d.) "In every town on the seaboard, and in many towns and villages inland, solid improvements meet the eye everywhere." This general and sweeping statement is by no means corroborated by those well informed on the subject, and it would be very desirable to specify the "solid improvements."
- (e.) "Not a stray pig is now to be seen in any coast line town, whereas at Accra so late as 1887 they were straying about in thousands performing the part of scavengers. Sheep and cattle no longer ramble at will in the towns." Sheep and cattle still "ramble at will" in Accra itself, while as regards other towns which can be named, in addition to these, pigs also run at large.
- (f.) "Sanitary measures have been carried out to the utmost possible extent, the only check, where any has existed, arising from the 'temporary want of foremen.'" Sanitary measures have been as a whole utterly neglected, and the appended statement of existing latrines already referred to amply substantiates this. The suggestion that these measures have been checked simply from "temporary want of foremen" conveys, to say the least, a totally erroneous impression.

- (g.) "Old roads have been improved and arrangements have been made with Native Kings for cleaning, clearing, and keeping in order hundreds of miles of main roads running through their countries, while new main roads have been and are being laid out." We have already referred to the almost utter absence of roads in the Colony at all. The hundreds of miles of main roads referred to, presumably refer to the roads connecting the coast line towns, but we venture to think that the above extract conveys quite a wrong impression, and we are quite ignorant of what and where the new main roads are.
- (h.) "Every town on the seaboard is now admirably lighted." There is not a single town admirably lighted. It is true that the seaboard towns are provided with kerosine lamps, but they are so few in number, inefficient in power, and badly attended to, that they are a very doubtful advantage.
- (i.) "Accra, Winnebah, Salt Pond, Appam, and Cape Coast have received great attention in matters of drainage, street improvements, bridges, and additional tank and reservoir storage for water." With regard to Accra some few slight works have been executed in connexion with the surface drainage, also, in response to a numerously signed petition, the hitherto disgraceful and unsafe condition of the main road through the town has recently received some attention. The District Commissioners of Winnebah for some time past have, by means of prison labour, dug rude ditches along the sides of the roads to drain off the water. We are not aware that any sum has been voted or any drains or roads been constructed at Appam. As regards the other places the annexed "tables" of sums voted for public works in various years prove that, although the means have been voted for the carrying out of several works of utility, the majority of them have never been commenced, and with reference to bridges, the most important bridge in the Colony, viz., the Sweet River Bridge at Elmina, has been a thing of the past for several years, although so long ago as November 29, 1890, the attention of the Governor and the Council was called to this matter by the late Honourable Mr. Sarbah. In other parts of the country, bridges are chiefly conspicuous by their absence, and at certain seasons of the year communication between towns of importance is on this account both extremely difficult and dangerous.

20. The whole tenor of this "Report" is such as to convey a wrong impression of the position of affairs in this Colony. It is, however, needless for us to refer to same in further detail, as we feel we have already trespassed upon your Lordship's indulgence, and were we to go into details more fully we should prove that there is not a single town on the coast which has not its evils of the greatest importance to complain of.

21. In conclusion we would suggest that should your Lordship not be satisfied that we have been impartial in our statements, and that without further inquiry it would be inexpedient to grant the moderate demands set forth in this letter, an Imperial Officer should be forthwith commissioned to visit the Colony and to inquire into the needs and requirements of this community.

We have, &c.  
(Signed) W. WATERS,  
and 517 others.

To the Right Hon.  
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

## A.—TOTAL EXPENDITURE of the COLONY, 1886 to 1891.

	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Civil - - - - -	65,544 7 9	69,055 11 11	75,494 3 9	49,977 1 8	48,552 9 0	53,064 14 7
Governor - - - - -	- - - - -	126 14 7	98 8 0	81 0 9	59 18 3	172 7 10
Treasury - - - - -	340 18 0	300 9 3	188 10 6	235 10 9	318 13 3	1,217 18 0
Customs - - - - -	1,084 5 10	975 12 7	897 9 10	1,658 8 2	2,024 9 0	2,537 12 7
Aborigines - - - - -	2,891 11 8	6,298 0 6	6,247 18 2	4,999 16 9	2,474 14 3	1,735 14 6
Post and telegraph offices	235 10 0	665 7 9	789 8 7	1,301 18 10	1,534 15 1	1,251 4 3
Public works	2,651 15 2	4,506 18 0	4,533 17 4	3,630 11 5	834 12 3	1,991 10 3
Works and buildings	16,889 14 1	17,395 7 11	9,744 19 8	3,476 3 4	4,691 18 5	7,712 6 8
Roads, streets, and bridges	1,685 18 9	5,398 9 11	4,000 11 5	4,845 0 10	1,332 4 0	2,752 19 6
Interior trade roads - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1,466 17 5	1,337 4 0
Marine - - - - -	13,542 14 1	2,130 7 5	1,067 4 3	878 6 9	584 0 0	126 13 7
Judicial - - - - -	370 11 3	601 6 9	357 9 9	390 1 2	921 0 9	463 7 5
Ecclesiastical - - - - -	39 3 4	40 0 0	40 0 0	- - - - -	113 0 8	51 17 5
Charitable - - - - -	195 17 2	222 3 10	40 5 0	86 0 0	45 9 11	41 18 6
Educational - - - - -	425 0 0	425 0 0	- - - - -	792 10 7	1,584 9 3	2,143 3 3
Constabulary - - - - -	2,675 16 1	5,368 12 3	6,575 5 2	27,535 15 5	26,291 2 4	30,086 5 8
Prison - - - - -	2,506 11 10	2,533 18 2	2,579 17 10	2,951 17 11	2,333 14 9	2,205 5 5
Medical - - - - -	1,387 4 3	1,447 12 8	2,175 9 6	2,259 4 10	1,748 18 0	1,765 0 10
Sanitary - - - - -	873 1 1	1,266 1 2	1,198 0 6	1,439 2 3	1,376 13 6	1,497 1 0
Rent - - - - -	1,772 17 9	1,978 10 11	1,579 2 0	1,561 11 9	1,294 2 5	1,506 15 6
Transport - - - - -	10,854 14 4	10,894 7 3	9,823 7 7	8,547 10 1	8,077 7 7	10,181 7 6
Audit - - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2,339 8 7	897 11 8
Miscellaneous - - - - -	5,070 6 11	6,157 12 0	3,833 6 3	5,227 13 4	5,312 15 7	5,552 19 1
Pensions and gratuities - -	2,256 9 7	1,654 17 5	2,196 2 10	3,068 3 10	2,494 17 10	3,069 6 9
Public cemeteries - - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	59 2 3	91 12 5	44 8 1
Special - - - - -	69,063 0 8	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
Executive Council - - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	6 19 0	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
	202,357 9 7	139,443 2 3	133,467 16 11	125,002 12 8	117,899 4 6	133,406 13 10

NOTE.—Audit, public cemeteries, constabulary and police, were in the first years included in the Civil Expenditure, also in next year's pay of Clerk of Councils, public works, buildings, roads, streets, bridges, and interior trade road and telegraph lines are in Blue Books specified under heading "Public Works."

## B.—TABLE showing AMOUNTS of REVENUE and EXPENDITURE for the GOLD COAST COLONY, 1886 to 1891.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	—
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1886 - - - - -	122,531 4 7	202,357 9 7	
1887 - - - - -	122,350 10 6	139,443 2 3	
1888 - - - - -	97,806 19 5	133,467 16 11	
1889 - - - - -	111,388 6 7	125,002 12 8	
1890 - - - - -	156,449 0 10	117,899 12 8	
1891 - - - - -	190,000 0 0	130,000 0 0	Estimated.

## TABLE showing the AMOUNT of DUTIES paid into the TREASURY of the GOLD COAST COLONY from 1886 to 1891 inclusive.

Year.	Ad valorem.	Specific.	—
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1886 - - - - -	9,470 14 4	93,965 3 4	
1887 - - - - -	9,566 11 9	95,318 10 2	
1888 - - - - -	20 5 2	79,670 8 3	
1889 - - - - -	- - - - -	95,371 2 9	
1890 - - - - -	22,728 18 7	110,619 5 6	
1891 - - - - -	32,000 0 0	135,000 0 0	Estimated.

C.—In 1886 the estimated expense for public works, civil roads, canals, bridges, buildings, &c. for the year was 27,140*l.*, out of which the following amounts were for the public good, that is to say, not Government works.

Public Works, &c.	Estimated.	Condition.	Expended.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Roads, streets, and bridges - - - - -	2,200 0 0	Finished - - - - -	882 18 6
Public latrines - - - - -	500 0 0	Do. - - - - -	261 18 9
Sea wall, Elmina - - - - -	200 0 0	Unfinished - - - - -	168 3 4
Prahsue Road - - - - -	210 0 0	Do. - - - - -	90 7 6
Opening, continuation, and maintenance of interior roads - - - - -	500 0 0	Finished - - - - -	30 10 0
Aburi Road - - - - -	250 0 0	Do. - - - - -	449 19 4
New main road, Accra to Cape Coast - - - - -	1,000 0 0	Not commenced - - - - -	—
Improvement of landing place at Accra - - - - -	1,500 0 0	Unfinished - - - - -	155 14 7
New road to landing place at Accra - - - - -	1,000 0 0	Not commenced - - - - -	—
Burial grounds, keeping and weeding - - - - -	200 0 0	Finished - - - - -	58 13 10
New cemeteries at Accra and Christiansborg - - - - -	1,000 0 0	Unfinished - - - - -	202 3 4
Purchase of houses and lands for street improvements - - - - -	300 0 0	Finished - - - - -	229 10 0
Small-pox hospital at Accra - - - - -	150 0 0	Do. - - - - -	225 4 10
Lighting streets, Accra to Cape Coast - - - - -	400 0 0	Unfinished - - - - -	320 2 5
Building for leper refuge, Accra - - - - -	100 0 0	Not commenced - - - - -	—
Hospital at Kwitta - - - - -	200 0 0	Do. - - - - -	—
Improvement of landing at Cape Coast - - - - -	200 0 0	Do. - - - - -	—
	9,910 0 0		3,075 6 5

NOTES.—Out of 27,140*l.* estimated, 21,227*l.* 8*s.* was spent, being apparently 176*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* less than is accounted for in the "Return." The salaries of the Public Works Department for the year amounted to 4,886*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* Out of apparently another vote, under the head "Sanitary," 228*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* is charged for salaries, and 873*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* for miscellaneous disbursements.

In 1887 the estimated expense for public works, civil roads, canals, bridges, buildings, &c. for the year was 28,371*l.*, out of which the following amounts were for the public good, that is to say, not Government works.

Public Works, &c.	Estimated.	Condition.	Expended.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Roads, streets, and bridges - - - - -	2,500 0 0	Finished - - - - -	2,956 16 1
New tank, Salt Pond - - - - -	1,500 0 0	Not commenced - - - - -	—
Public latrines - - - - -	300 0 0	Finished - - - - -	700 2 3
Repairs, sea wall, Elmina - - - - -	100 0 0	Do. - - - - -	168 3 4
Clearing Prahsue Road - - - - -	500 0 0	Unfinished - - - - -	1,305 11 3
Clearing Aburi Road - - - - -	200 0 0	Finished - - - - -	170 7 2
Opening, continuation, and maintenance of interior roads - - - - -	500 0 0	Do. - - - - -	189 4 6
Improvements of roads (Salt Pond) - - - - -	1,000 0 0	Not commenced - - - - -	—
New cemeteries, Accra and Christiansborg - - - - -	500 0 0	Unfinished - - - - -	490 2 7
Burial grounds, keeping and weeding - - - - -	200 0 0	Finished - - - - -	28 17 5
Purchase of houses and lands for street improvements - - - - -	300 0 0	Do. - - - - -	400 0 0
Lighting streets and public buildings - - - - -	600 0 0	Do. - - - - -	950 19 7
Hospital at Kwitta - - - - -	200 0 0	Not commenced - - - - -	—
Lunatic asylum - - - - -	900 0 0	Finished - - - - -	649 2 7
New public reservoir - - - - -	2,412 18 0	Unfinished - - - - -	729 6 0
	11,712 18 0		8,738 12 9

NOTES.—By the "New public reservoir" is probably intended the excavation commonly called Opoju, which is nothing but a hole. "Reservoir" seems to convey the idea of at least a paved excavation, which this is not; the term, however, is used in the Blue Books.

Out of the 28,371*l.* 8*s.* estimated, 27,300*l.* 15*s.* was expended, the Return showing 26,192*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*, so that 1,108*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.* appears to have been spent in excess of items shown. The salary of the Department for this expenditure was 5,160*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* Out of another vote, under the head "Sanitary," 258*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* is charged for salaries, and 1,266*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* for scavengers, labourers, dustbins, and carts.

In 1888 the estimated expense for public works, civil roads, canals, bridges, buildings, &c. for the year was 23,210*l.*, out of which the following amounts were for the public good, that is to say, not Government works.

Public Works, &c.	Estimated.	Condition.	Expended.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Roads, streets, and bridges	2,500 0 0	Complete	2,794 5 7
Public latrines	100 0 0	Do.	379 10 5
Repairs, sea wall, Elmina	100 0 0	Do.	45 16 4
Clearing Prahsue Road	500 0 0	Do.	388 17 11
Opening, continuance, and maintenance of interior roads	1,000 0 0	Do.	30 10 0
Improvement of roads, Salt Pond	500 0 0	Incomplete	170 2 4
Clearing Aburi Road	200 0 0	Complete	172 0 6
Purchase of houses and lands for street improvements, &c.	300 0 0	Do.	558 5 2
Lighting streets and public buildings	1,500 0 0	Do.	1,543 4 9
Tank for Anamaboe	1,350 0 0	Not commenced	—
Repairs of old tank and land at Anamaboe	215 0 0	Do.	—
Tank for Pram Pram	1,000 0 0	Incomplete	5 0 0
Burial grounds, keeping and weeding	200 0 0	Complete	444 16 4
	9,465 0 0		6,527 9 4

NOTES.—Out of 23,210*l.* estimated, 18,279*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* was expended, the Return showing 18,386*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*, so that 107*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* is accounted for more than appears, and the expenditure for the year. The salary of the Department was 5,644*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* Out of another vote, under the head Sanitary, 247*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* is charged for salaries, and for scavengers, &c., 1,198*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

In 1889 the estimated expense for public works, civil roads, canals, bridges, buildings, &c. for the year was 8,380*l.*, out of which the following amounts were for the public good, that is to say, not Government works.

Public Works, &c.	Estimated.	Condition.	Expended.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Repairs and maintenance of roads, streets, and bridges	1,500 0 0	Complete	2,049 15 3
Public latrines	100 0 0	Do.	110 4 9
Clearing Prahsue Road by Chiefs	210 0 0	Do.	204 11 0
Clearing Aburi Road	200 0 0	Do.	166 10 0
Opening, continuation, and maintenance of road between Salt Pond and interior	1,000 0 0	Incomplete	478 17 2
Purchase of houses and lands for street improvements, &c.	500 0 0	Complete	472 8 9
Lighting streets and public buildings	700 0 0	Do.	635 4 2
	4,210 0 0		4,117 11 1

NOTES.—Out of the 8,380*l.* estimated, 8,321*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* was expended, and 8,338*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* was accounted in the Returns. The salary of the Department was 3,334*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* for the year.

In another vote, salaries under the head of Sanitary were 236*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*, and pay of scavengers, &c., 1,439*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*

In 1890 the estimated expense for public works, civil roads, canals, bridges, buildings, &c. for the year was 6,420*l.*, out of which the following amounts were for the public good, that is to say, not Government works.

Public Works, &c.	Estimated.			Condition.	Expended.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Repairs and maintenance of town roads, streets, and bridges - - -	1,500	0	0	Complete - - -	814	10	1
Lighting streets and public buildings - - -	1,100	0	0	Do. - - -	1,007	17	5
River embankment, sea wall, Elmina - - -	100	0	0	Do. - - -	19	14	11
	2,700	0	0		1,842	2	5

NOTES.—Out of the 6,420*l.* estimated, 6,024 *2s. 5d.* was expended, showing a difference of 317*l. 7s. 10d.* between amount shown in Returns and amount expended. The salary of this Department for the year was 2,922*l. 5s. 6d.*

Under another vote we have:—

	£	s.	d.
Interior trade road salaries - - -	225	12	1
Prabsue Road - - - - -	33	10	0
Aburi Road - - - - -	200	18	2
Trade road to interior from Salt Pond - - -	366	4	10
Interior trade roads - - -	866	4	5
	1,692	9	6

And in a further vote, sanitary salaries, 216*l. 13s. 3d.*, and scavengers, &c., 1,376*l. 13s. 6d.*

#### D.—STATEMENT OF LATRINES.

Towns.	Male.		Female.		Scavengers.	Approximate Population.
	No. Latrines.	Pots and Pans.	No. Latrines.	Pots and Pans.		
Axim - - -	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,400
Elmina - - -	6	60 drums	4	40 drums	10	11,000
Cape Coast - - -	7	48 „	7	48 „	34	12,000
Anamaboe - - -	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2,000
Salt Pond - - -	3	Pits	2	Pits	6	4,500
Winnebah - - -	4	„	1	4 drums	Nil	4,500
Accra - - -	13	„	6	Pits	51	18,000
Pram Pram - - -	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3,000
Addah - - -	3	9 drums	2	6 drums	„	1,100
Kwittah - - -	3	6 „	3	6 „	„	2,000
Christiansborg - - -	3	Pits	3 pits, 1 latrine	12 pans	14	3,000

#### E.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra, Gold Coast,  
3rd October 1891.

GENTLEMEN,

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, forwarding a copy of a letter which has been addressed by Mr. Batty to the District Commissioner of Cape Coast with regard to the condition of the road between Cape Coast and Jukwa.

2. At the end of 1889 and the commencement of 1890, the Government obtained full information with regard to the trade road from Cape Coast up to the borders of Sefivi, including the distance between each village, and the name of the Chief responsible for each; and early in 1890 arrangements were made for having the road cleared throughout, the Chiefs being guaranteed the usual subsidy of 10*s.* a mile per quarter, provided that the officer appointed as road overseer was in a position to report each quarter that each of the Chiefs had kept his section of the road clear. The Chiefs expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with this arrangement, and sets of road tools were supplied by the Government, and the District Commissioner had authority to pay the road dues, which were calculated to amount to no less a sum than 300*l.* a year.

3. The first road inspection was undertaken by a competent officer, and his report showed that while several of the Chiefs had cleared their sections of the road others had not touched them. Those who had done their work were paid, and the others were urged to commence. Shortly afterwards the King of Denkira, having learnt that the

money had been paid direct to his Chiefs, requested that all the road dues should be passed through his hands. In connexion with this matter I had an interview with the King, when at Elmina in April last, and I told him that if the Chiefs give their formal assent to this course, the Government would offer no objection, provided the work was done, although it appeared to me that in all probability very little of the money would eventually find its way into the pockets of the men who had done the work. The Chiefs have not given their assent to this arrangement as may be supposed, and, further, I fear that very little reliance can be placed either upon the King or the Chiefs in this important matter, especially as the King, in a letter dated the 25th March 1891, reported that the road had been cleared, and demanded payment, while it was within the knowledge of the Government that nothing of the kind had been done.

4. The arrangements which had been made with the Chiefs having failed in the case of this as well as other main trade roads, there appears to be no alternative but for the Government to take the roads in question into its own hands. The Government has full information with regard to all the main roads in the Colony, and as the matter is one of great importance it will be taken up in some form or other at the earliest possible date. The necessary arrangements will of course give rise to considerable expense, but that expense will, I think, be more than covered by the great advantage which will accrue from the roads being always kept open and free for traffic. I hope that the main trade road from Cape Coast to Sefwi will be one of the first taken in hand, but in the meantime very little can, I fear, be done, as it will only be a waste of money to pay the Chiefs for work which experience has shown they will not undertake.

I am, &c.

(Signed) F. M. HODGSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

Mr. WATERS to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

Accra, November , 1892.

I HAVE the honour to send you a letter in triplicate, and to request that you will be good enough to forward it to his Excellency the Governor for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

It is only fair to the signatories thereof that in the event of the Governor taking exception to figures or items or inferences derived from them, from facts in the possession of his Excellency not published in Blue Books or Government Gazettes, or otherwise accessible to the public, such facts may be brought to the knowledge of the signatories prior to the transmission of the (*sic*) to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State.

It has been the desire of the signatories all through to represent the facts as they stand to the best of their ability.

I might mention that at the request of the merchants, agents, and traders of the Colony a fourth copy has been forwarded direct to his Lordship.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,  
Victoriaborg.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. WATERS,  
Acting Chief Agent, F. and A. Swanzy,  
for Merchants, Agents, and Traders  
of the Gold Coast Colony.

LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

- A. Total expenditure of the Colony, 1886 to 1891.
- B. Table showing amounts of revenue and expenditure for the Colony, 1886 to 1891, and table showing amount of entries paid into the Treasury for same years.
- C. Five tables, 1886 to 1890, showing estimated expense for public works, civil roads, canals, bridges, buildings for the Colony for those years, with amount actually expended, and remarks as to state left in.
- D. Statement of latrines.
- E. Copy of letter addressed to Messrs. Alexander Miller, Brothers, & Co., of Cape Coast, dated 3rd October 1891, proving that the Government has not and cannot induce Chiefs to repair roads.
- F. Sixteen lists containing 518 signatures (original only).

## Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

COPY of a LETTER from the Honourable the COLONIAL SECRETARY to W. WATERS, Esq., Acting Chief Agent of F. and A. Swanzy, for Merchants, Agents, and Traders of the Gold Coast Colony.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoriaborg,  
Accra, 22nd November, 1892.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated November 1892, which I received on the 16th instant and forwarded to his Excellency on the following day, together with the letter referred to therein in triplicate, dated 31st October, addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a fourth copy of which you state has been forwarded direct to his Lordship.

2. I am to call your attention to Rule No. 218 of the Rules and Regulations for Her Majesty's Colonial Service, which requires such communications as that you have sent for transmission by the Governor to be in triplicate, and to point out that whilst one part of the letter referred to is in manuscript and has several signatures attached to it, the two other parts are printed and bear only the signature of "William Waters, Acting Chief Agent of F. and A. Swanzy, for self and 517 others." The two documents referred to are therefore incomplete, and I am to request you to supply what is omitted from them.

3. I am also directed by the Governor to point out to you that one ground among others for the rule requiring the transmission of correspondence with the Secretary of State through the Governor, is that all communications may be duly verified, and I am to call your serious attention to the fact that 119 names are inserted in the document, in manuscript, with crosses marked against them, but these marks have not been witnessed, and I am to point out to you the liability which the persons obtaining such names and placing marks against them have incurred under the provisions of Ordinance No. 20 of 1889.

4. The Governor will use all practicable despatch in order that no undue delay may take place in forwarding the letter under notice to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, but, besides requiring the signatures referred to, to complete the second and third parts of the communication to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, it will be necessary for the Governor to obtain information which may take some weeks in its collection, but which it is necessary his Excellency should be in possession of, in connexion with the communication referred to.

5. The Governor has noticed the statement made in the second paragraph of your letter of November, but his Excellency cannot suppose that it was intended seriously. It would be quite inconsistent with official etiquette if the Governor, in the circumstances, made any communication to you, such as you desire, with regard to matters it would be necessary for him to bring under the notice of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State in connexion with the communication you desire to have forwarded to his Lordship.

W. Waters, Esq., Acting Chief Agent,  
F. and A. Swanzy, for Merchants,  
Agents, and Traders of the  
Gold Coast Colony.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. M. HODGSON,  
Colonial Secretary.

## Enclosure 4 in No. 1.

Mr. WATERS to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

Accra, 24th November 1892.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date, I have the honour to state, on behalf of the signatories of the original letter forwarded for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that it is only deemed necessary that the original should be signed and that the duplicate and triplicate sent in are sufficiently complete, these being merely copies of the subject matter referred to in the original. Moreover, the Rule No. 218 referred to is, as far as the signatories are aware, purely official, and relates purely to the Government service.

I exceedingly regret that some of the marks upon the signature sheets are not witnessed, and trust his Excellency will not consider this small matter sufficient ground for any delay in transmission.

I beg to say that a copy of this letter is forwarded to his Lordship with a copy of yours of 22nd instant, and I beg also to enclose a copy of a further letter addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,  
Victoriaborg.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. WATERS,  
Acting Chief Agent, F. & A. Swanzy.

Enclosure.

Copy of letter in triplicate dated 25 November 1892, to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Enclosure 5 in No. 1.

MY LORD,

Accra, West Coast Africa,  
November 25, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to enclose copy of a letter I have received from his Excellency Sir W. B. Griffith in reference to a letter addressed to your Lordship and sent to him for transmission. I would beg to point out to your Lordship that the many difficulties we have had to contend against in gathering together the merchants and Native traders at 16 ports in the Colony extending over a distance approaching to 200 miles, and would ask your Lordship to refer to the signatures, when you will see that we have had to deal with a number of more or less illiterate Natives, and I have no doubt your Lordship will understand the great difficulty it must have been to initiate every Native to the detail referred to in Ordinance No. 20 of 1889, which, however, deals only with insurance frauds.

I regret very much that the witnesses of 119 marks should have been overlooked as pointed out by his Excellency, and we can only submit that should your Lordship feel unable to take into consideration the number that are omitted to be witnessed, these should be excepted, when considering the subject of the letter and the fact that all large (both Native and European) influential houses are fully represented.

At the same time I would mention that should your Lordship consider it absolutely necessary, the witnesses can be obtained, although I am urged by the principal signatories in Accra to press this matter forward with as little delay as possible.

To the Right Hon.  
The Secretary of State for the Colonies,  
Colonial Office, London S.W.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. WATERS,  
Acting Chief Agent, F. & A. Swanzy.

Enclosure 6 in No. 1.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra, Gold Coast,  
December 2, 1892.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Governor to inform you that your letter of the 24th November, which reached me on the 25th, was received by his Excellency on the morning of the 29th November.

2. With regard to the observation made in your letter to me "that the Rule No. 218 referred to is, so far as the signatories are aware, purely official and relates purely to the Government service," I am to state that the Governor, having consulted the Acting Queen's Advocate upon the point, has been informed that "Rule 218 of the Rules and Regulations of Her Majesty's Colonial Service extends to correspondence of all persons whether public officers or private individuals, and that communications addressed by every individual (other than the Governor) to the Secretary of State should be in duplicate." The Governor also desires me to refer you to Rules 219 and 220, where you will find that the "transmission of correspondence with the Secretary of State through the Governor is based on the strongest grounds of public convenience, in order that all communications may be duly verified, as well as reported

“ on, before they reach the Secretary of State. It extends, therefore, to communications relating to public affairs as well as to the concerns of the writer; to those of all public functionaries of whatever rank, and to those of public bodies.” The Governor is, therefore, of opinion, that it is necessary the signatories of the letter to the Secretary of State should comply with the rules which have been laid down by Her Majesty’s Government with regard to correspondence of the character referred to, and supply the deficiency to which their attention has been directed. As matters stand the Governor has only one complete communication addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, and it will be necessary that His Excellency should be supplied with exact counterparts in duplicate and triplicate of the document mentioned.

3. In the enclosure addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State it is declared that a copy of a letter you received from the Governor in reference to one addressed to his Lordship, and sent to the Governor for transmission, was enclosed. I am to state that no such letter was attached either to the original, duplicate, or triplicate of your letter of the 25th of November, and that in order to put it in proper form it will be necessary that you should furnish the enclosure referred to to his Excellency. I am also to observe, as regards the observation made in the letter to the Secretary of State, “ that the detail referred to in Ordinance No. 20 of 1889 deals only with insurance frauds,” that on referring this question to the Acting Queen’s Advocate, that officer has reported to the Governor as follows:—“ I think that Ordinance No. 20 of 1889 does not deal only with insurance frauds. The interpretation of section 13 of that Ordinance has been before the Courts, which have interpreted that section to be of general application, notwithstanding the preamble of the Ordinance;” and the Governor will, therefore, have to inform the Right Honourable the Secretary of State accordingly.

4. I am to call your attention to an observation made in your letter to the Secretary of State to the following effect:—“ Your Lordship will understand the great difficulty it must have been to initiate every Native to the details referred to in Ordinance No. 20 of 1889, which, however, deals only with insurance frauds.” The Governor has already pointed out that the Ordinance referred to is one of general application, and is not confined to insurance frauds only, and his Excellency fails to understand why, when the names of parties were put down and their crosses were marked against their names, the person who obtained the signatures could not at the same time have written against them that he had witnessed the marks of the parties, as was done in the case of some of the names with crosses against them.

5. The Governor further directs me to call your attention to a matter which only came to his notice on the 29th November, when on looking at the communication dated 31st October which you addressed to the Secretary of State, the Governor discovered that with the duplicate printed letter, the estimated expense for public works for the year 1887 has been omitted from the statements in manuscript. His Excellency will, therefore, be obliged if you will be so good as to transmit it to me in order that it may be added to the document from which it is missing.

William Waters, Esquire.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. M. HODGSON,  
Colonial Secretary.

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Enclosure 7 in No. 1.

SIR,

Accra, December 7, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 2nd instant, which reached me on the afternoon of 3rd (Saturday), and in reply I beg to state—

1. That Rules and Regulations of Her Majesty’s Colonial Service, as far as I or any of the other signatories to the letter addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies are aware, are not published for the information of the public.

2. That if a lengthened correspondence of the nature set forth in your letters of 22nd November and the 2nd December, bearing upon purely official technicalities of routine, are to be indulged in, it would take years to enable a large representative body to place grievances before high authorities.

3. I am of opinion that his Lordship, under the circumstances and difficulties, will be willing to waive the carrying out of the routine referred to.

4. I have the honour to enclose copy in triplicate of the letter I received from his Excellency the Governor, and which copy was omitted in error; although I do not think it necessary, as I have already forwarded one copy direct to his Lordship as stated in mine of 24th November.

5. I have noted that his Excellency the Governor will inform the Right Honourable the Secretary of State that the Queen's Advocate *thinks* that Ordinance No. 20 of 1889, does not deal only with insurance frauds.

6. In reply to paragraph 4 of your letter, I have to state that unwitnessed marks in the first letter addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State have been referred to in my last letter to his Lordship and an expression of regret made, and his Excellency the Governor will have noted the suggestion made to his Lordship in order to get over the difficulty of dealing with them.

7. I have the honour to enclose a copy of the sheet of "estimated expense for public works for the year 1887." These papers were, however, very carefully put together, and I am of opinion that by some accident the sheet has been disconnected since this package left my hands.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,  
Victoriaborg.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. WATERS.

Enclosures.

Copy in triplicate of letter received from the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, dated 22nd November 1892.

Copy of table for 1887, "the estimated expense for public works."

Copy in triplicate of letter addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 7th December 1892.

Copy in triplicate of letter received from the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, dated 2nd December 1892.

"Letter to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary in triplicate, dated 7th December 1892.

Enclosure 8 in No. 1.

Accra, West Coast, Africa,  
December 7, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit for your perusal further copy of a letter addressed to me by the Honourable the Colonial Secretary by direction of his Excellency the Governor, and a copy of my reply thereto. I have no further comments to make upon these letters.

I exceedingly regret being compelled to trouble your Lordship again in this matter, as I have already trespassed largely upon your consideration, but I trust your Lordship will be able to see that I cannot do otherwise than submit the whole matter, none of the questions raised appearing to me of more than trivial importance and involving a knowledge of official routine with which the public is not acquainted.

I have, &c.

To the Right Hon.  
The Secretary of State for the Colonies,  
Colonial Office.

(Signed) W. WATERS,  
Acting Chief Agent, F. and A. Swanzy,  
for Merchants, Agents, and Traders  
of the Gold Coast Colony.

Enclosure 9 in No. 1.

See Enclosure 1.

## Enclosure 10 in No. 1.

The COLONIAL POSTMASTER to the GOVERNOR.

Colonial Post Office, Accra,  
22nd December 1892.

SIR,

MY attention having been drawn to the fourth paragraph of a memorial addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the 31st of October last, by merchants, agents, traders, &c., in this Colony, and published in the *Gold Coast Chronicle* newspaper of the 19th of November last, in which, amongst other matters, a statement is made affecting the progress of the Post Office Department. I consider it my duty, as chief of that Department, to refute the statement that "*only a slight extension of the Postal System has been carried out,*" as being altogether inaccurate and misleading.

2. I claim to speak on this subject, not only from my being at the present moment the head of the Post Office Department, but more so in consequence of my long connexion with the Department for a period extending over 20 years off and on, and having a thorough insight into its internal arrangements.

3. I annex a comparative statement of the progress of the Department for the years from 1886 to 1891 compiled from statistics carefully collated, showing, beyond a shadow of doubt, that, instead of the non-progress implied by the memorialists, the Department has had a singularly progressive career.

4. I will proceed to demonstrate to your Excellency, as far as practicable within the limits of this letter, the condition of the Department during the year 1886, and its condition on the date when the memorialists characterised its progress as one of "*slight extension only.*"

5. The annexed statement, which more than speaks for itself, shows undoubted progress effected in the Department between 1886 and 1891. In 1886 the work of the Chief Post Office was conducted in a low wretched store, it is now carried on in a spacious, well-appointed, and well ventilated building. In 1886 there were 17 post offices, 2 only of which transacted money order business. In 1891 there were 30 post offices, 3 of which transacted money order business, and in the present year there are 30 post offices, 5 of which transact money order business.

The estimated number of letters posted rose from 84,911 in 1886 to 205,035 in 1891.

In 1886 the total amount realised from the sale of postage stamps, cards, &c., was 980*l.* as compared with 5,807*l.* during the year 1891.

During the years 1886-7 the average mileage traversed by the inland post may be estimated at 56,321 annually; in 1892 it had increased to 146,146.

6. Besides other improvements of a minor character, the following may be pointed out as having taken place between the years 1886 and 1892, viz. :—

- (a.) Establishment of town deliveries of letters at Cape Coast, Saltpond, and Ada.
- (b.) Erection of street pillar letter boxes in the towns of Accra, Cape Coast, Saltpond, and Ada.
- (c.) Erection of a new Colonial post office at Accra, and the erection of private letter boxes therein for the accommodation of merchants, &c.
- (d.) Establishment of a tri-weekly instead of a bi-weekly mail service to the Eastern and Western Districts of the Colony in 1888.
- (e.) Establishment of a parcel post service between the Colony and the United Kingdom, Sierra Leone, Lagos, and the Gambia, respectively.
- (f.) Passing of a Post Office Ordinance.
- (g.) Introduction of postage stamps of the face values of 3*d.*, 1*s.*, 2*s.*, 5*s.*, 10*s.*, and 20*s.* in 1889.
- (h.) Opening of new post offices at Saltpond, and postal agencies at Abokobi, Akropong, and Odumassie in the Volta district.
- (i.) Establishment of a tri-weekly instead of a weekly post between Accra and the River Volta district.
- (j.) Establishment of overland postal communication between Chama, Tarkwa, and the mining districts.
- (k.) Establishment of overland postal communication between Axim and Half Assinie.
- (l.) Establishment of overland postal communication between the Colony and the German Protectorate of Togoland.
- (m.) Contemplated establishment of overland postal communication between the Colony and the French Protectorate of Grand Bassam and Assinie.

- (n.) Establishment of a system of annual inspection of post offices.
- (o.) Extension of the money order system to the towns of Saltpond, Axim, and Kwitta.
- (p.) Contemplated introduction of postal orders into the Colony.

I consider it necessary to quote the following observations made by me almost three years ago in my annual report for the year 1888, as bearing testimony to the exertions of the Government in the improvement of the Post Office Department:—

“Looking back to a period of 10 years, and contrasting the conditions of the Department then with what they are at present, an impartial observer cannot but admire the steady progress effected, all of which is due to the beneficial administration of the Government.”

Again, in the Post Office Report for the year 1891, under paragraph 24, the following record of progress will be found;—

“It is but paying tribute to whom tribute is due to associate the name of his Excellency Sir Brandford Griffith, and that of the Honourable F. M. Hodgson, Colonial Secretary, with postal progress—with the extension of postal facilities, the opening up of communication with places hitherto without any—the encouragement given to every scheme having for its aim the improvement of the postal service and the well-being of the community at large, and during whose administration a new era appears to have dawned on the Colony, as is evident from the strides it has, and is still making in commerce, civilization, religion, and other peaceful arts.”

I trust I have succeeded in furnishing your Excellency with sufficient data to refute the imputation of the memorialists that only “*a slight extension of the postal system*” was effected between the years 1886 and 1891.

Furthermore, the nature of my duties as an itinerating officer affords me advantages for remarking on improvements of a public or private character at the various districts of the Colony.

The streets of Axim are well kept, clean, and properly lighted. Traders from Cape Coast flock thither to prosecute the mahogany trade, and as a proof of the general improvement of the town, Mr. Clinton, a timber merchant, had imported an iron house worth 800*l.* for erection in the town of Axim.

At Dixcove and Sekondi the people appear to be satisfied with the condition of affairs. The forts in these towns recently underwent very extensive repairs, and the police were active in their efforts to keep the town clean.

*Chama.*—There are evident proofs of the improvement this town has undergone since I visited it in 1890. In 1891 I found a commodious market house had been built for the people, the fort repaired, and new houses had sprung up here and there. A London firm had erected a small, but substantial, building in the Tarkwa Road for trading purposes, and I was informed that great hopes were entertained for the future of the place. I was present at the opening of the market, on which occasion the Chiefs expressed their gratitude to the Government for having presented them with a market place. The road leading from Chama to Tarkwa was to a considerable distance from Chama hard, clean, and in excellent condition, and the rest of it to Tarkwa clean and fairly good.

The road between the town of Elmina and the Sweet River was undergoing repairs when I last visited the town, where I observed a few new buildings in course of erection, and old ones undergoing repairs.

At Cape Coast are to be seen several market sheds, public latrines, scavengers, a main drain second to none in West Africa, a huge public tank at the Saltpond Road, powder magazine, new streets leading to Amanful, coffee and other plantations, and a number of new buildings at the Commercial and Ashanti Roads, an increase to the number of shops, which can only be attributed to the improvement of trade, and the security afforded by the Government to life and property.

If proofs were wanting as to the advancement the Colony has made, the town of Saltpond alone furnishes them abundantly. No one who had seen Saltpond in 1886, and again in 1891, could have believed it possible that a town of such insignificance was ever capable of such development and progress. In a word, it is a busy commercial town, clean and well lighted, well drained and bridged, and having good and substantial houses.

Although I cannot speak of Winneba in the encouraging manner I have done of Saltpond, yet it is a town well kept and clean, and properly lighted. The health of the inhabitants appears to have been studied by the erection of a few latrines in the town.

As to Accra, the seat of the Government, I need perhaps say nothing. The improvements which have taken place in it are in themselves standing monuments of the progress and advancement of the Colony as a whole.

*Pram Pram, Ada, and Kwitta.*—These towns have also shared in the general improvements of the Colony. At Ada may be seen some very substantial buildings, owned by English, German, and Native commercial houses—a good road leading from the beach to the riverside—public latrines in course of construction, and a public dispensary for the poor.

Kwitta has so changed for the better since my visit in 1890 that I hardly recognised some of the localities. Opposite the beach may now be seen splendid brick buildings, owned by German trading firms and the Roman Catholic Persuasion, besides numerous other new buildings in the town owned by Natives.

Throughout my travels between Axim and Kwitta, I do not remember seeing pigs straying at the head quarters of a Commissioner's district—indeed they were conspicuous by their absence. In small villages, however, such as Nacquah, Arkra, Berraku, Jellah Coffee, and other hamlets between large stations, they do roam at large.

So far as I have seen, the towns I have passed through were all well lighted, and I think it will be difficult to substitute other than the present street lamps, which have given all-round satisfaction and could be fairly compared with street lamps used in other West African Colonies, without incurring needless and heavy expenditure.

As regards the conditions of the roads, I am almost sure that most of the memorialists have attached their signatures to the memorial from what they have had reported to them. I have personally travelled over the road from Axim to Kwitta thrice, and I unhesitatingly testify that, taken as a whole, the Government deserves credit for the fair condition in which they are kept. Here and there I admit a traveller may find it rough work to get on, but as a whole I think its real condition has been most unfairly represented by the memorialists.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROWLAND COLE,  
Colonial Postmaster.

His Excellency  
Sir Brandford Griffith, K.C.M.G.,  
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,  
Gold Coast Colony.

### PROGRESS of the COLONIAL POST OFFICE, 1885 to 1891.

Year.	Letters, &c.			Parcels.			Money Orders.			Revenue.		Expenditure.	No. of Steamers.	
	No. of Offices.	Estimated No. of Letters, &c. posted.	No. of Registered Articles.	No. of Offices.	No. of Parcels.	Receipts. Postage.	No. of Offices.	Value of Local Orders.	Value of Foreign Orders.	Stamps used for postal purposes, sale of Cards, Registered Envelopes, Private Letter Money Order Commissions, &c.	Estimated Value of Service Letters, &c.	Salaries and Wages and all Expenses of Postal Services.	Arriving with Mails.	Despatching with Mails.
1885 -	16	82,748	—	—	—	£ s. d.	2	£ s. d. 779 13 3	£ s. d. 7,698 16 4	—	—	—	—	—
1886 -	17	84,911	—	—	—	—	2	1,495 14 5	8,608 12 9	—	—	—	—	—
1887 -	17	103,260	—	—	—	—	2	1,477 17 9	10,473 15 1	—	—	—	—	—
1888 -	17	111,041	7,836	3	826	31 19 11	2	1,939 8 2	6,709 3 7	—	337 8 9	—	—	—
1889 -	26	146,905	9,739	3	1,407	55 14 6	2	1,209 19 1	4,572 2 6	1,507 9 10	443 12 3	2,008 13 11	—	—
1890 -	26	161,726	10,862	3	1,902	102 8 9	2	1,681 11 11	3,481 18 0	1,741 0 11	477 0 0	2,322 10 3	265	182
1891 -	30	205,035	11,227	3	2,368	146 8 9	3	1,985 1 4	5,142 18 4	1,623 6 1	723 8 4	2,101 13 1	654	538

Money Order business with United Kingdom established in 1870.

“ “ Sierra Leone “ 1872.

“ “ Lagos “ 1883.

“ “ between Cape Coast and Accra established in 1883.

Foreign Parcels Post business with the United Kingdom established in 1888.

Intercolonial “ “ Sierra Leone, Lagos, and Gambia established in 1888.

Approximate number of miles traversed annually by the Inland Post, 122,226.

Number of persons employed in the Postal Department (1891), 68.

## Enclosure 11 in No. 1.

I was informed (3rd June) by Mr. Provensal, who lives at Temang, that in May 1891 he was the first to begin sending produce to Accra in casks. It costs him 7s. to 9s., according to weather, to hire three men to roll American puncheons from Temang, 17 miles, to Accra. For butts of palm oil he pays four men 16s. to 20s., according to the state of the weather. Sometimes the head of a cask of palm oil gives way and then the oil is lost. When asked why he did not use carts he replied, that they would be too expensive. Firstly, there would be the initial outlay, then the cost of repairs, and it would take eight men to a cart, allowing for the cart's going into ditches, or, in wet weather, sticking in ruts; therefore, he said, he certainly should not use carts.

Aburi Hills Station,  
12th June 1893.

(Signed) W. B. G.  
Governor.

## Enclosure 12 in No. 1.

## UNOFFICIAL VISITORS TO ABURI.

Date of Arrival, 1892.	Date of Departure, 1892.	No. of Days' Stay.	Name.	Remarks.
March 28	--	—	Captain Moor	From Oil Rivers.
" 30	April 12	14	Mr. Burt	Messrs. Swanzy's, Akuse.
April 15	" 23	9	Mr. Elcok	Fischer's, Accra.
May 11	May 26	16	Mr. O'Sullivan	African Direct Telegraph Co.
July 11	August 1	22	Mr. and Mrs. Kemp	Cape Coast.
August 13	" 30	18	Mr. Liddle	Messrs. Swanzy's, Akuse.
" 19	September 13	26	Mr. Page	" " Accra.
September 17	October 14	28	Mr. and Mrs. Waters and baby	" " "
" 29	" 3	5	Mr. Burt	" " Akuse.
October 23	November 17	26	Mr. and Mrs. Callerholm	Accra.
November 13	" 30	18	Mr. Wiessner	} German Factory, Akuse.
" 19	" 30	12	Mr. Lang	
" 30	" 31	2	Mr. Guilman	
" 28	December 10	13	Mr. Batty	Messrs. Miller Bros., Cape Coast.
" 28	" 21	24	Mr. Hall	Wesleyan Mission, Cape Coast.

## Enclosure 13 in No. 1.

EXTRACT from REPORT of Mr. ADOLPHUS, Acting Inspector Supervisor of Customs, to ACTING COMPTROLLER, dated Winneba, 2nd September 1892.

"I left Saltpond on the 31st ultimo."

"On reaching Mumford at eight o'clock in the evening I requested the agent for Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy to grant me a night's lodging, but he informed me that he had received instructions not to give any accommodation to Government officials. After much difficulty I succeeded in obtaining quarters for the night."

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE A. ADOLPHUS,  
Acting Travelling Inspecting Supervisor.

## Enclosure 14 in No. 1.

A SHORT REVIEW of the SANITARY MEASURES carried out in the GOLD COAST COLONY from 1886 to 1892.

On my final departure from the Gold Coast Colony I reflect with satisfaction on the efforts which have been made during the past six years to improve the sanitary condition of the towns which have been placed under the Towns Police and Health Ordinance in that period.

When I arrived at Accra from Lagos in December 1884 the insanitary condition of the towns on the littoral, and especially that of Accra, was appalling. Sanitary condition of towns in 1884.

Having this in my mind, as well as the present satisfactory condition of these towns, I can well understand why the Colonial Secretary was able to state at a public meeting held in the Wesleyan Chapel at Accra a few months ago that, "Governor Griffith has done more for the Colony than three-fourths of the Governors who preceded him." The local paper of course criticised adversely this statement, as it would any statement tending to prove that Governor Griffith has done anything for the good of the Colony.

I need hardly recall the fact that the foetid condition of the atmosphere of the towns was at that time due to the existence of the numberless swine which were allowed to roam at large in the streets, together with the necessity the people were at in latrining in the open for the want of latrine accommodation. The pigs were, however, the greater sinners. As it was impossible to impress the people with the necessity of stying the animals, Governor Griffith called a meeting in 1887 of the Chiefs and people and ordered them to stye their pigs without further delay; this was promptly obeyed. 1884-1886.

Some time previous to the stying of the swine public latrines were erected and the sanitary staff re-organised. At Accra the "pit" latrine was established, in other towns the "drum." Neither method has succeeded, for in the rainy season the pits are useless, and it is found impossible to dispose effectually of the sewage by the drum system. Latrines.

A few months ago a scheme occurred to me which I proposed to the Governor, namely, the household cesspit system, for which, however, Dr. Easmon suggested a household latrine drum. The sewage from either could be disposed of most effectually from the end of long jetties running into the sea, and constructed in such a manner that the sewage could not be washed back on the beach.

This scheme was submitted for the approval of the Secretary of State, but as Mr. Chadwick was about to leave home for the Coast to report on other sanitary matters, Lord Ripon requested Governor Griffith not to take action in the matter till the sanitary engineer should arrive and express his opinion on the practical value of this method of sewage disposal.

In my Annual Sanitary Report for 1884, I proposed to the late Governor Young to supply large reservoirs for the storage of rain water for public consumption. Governor Young died early in 1885, but his successor, Governor Griffith, took the matter in hand and had the large Victoria reservoir made, which holds over 2,000,000 gallons. Public water supply.

Now, although the water which flows into that reservoir is of the same quality as that of the other small storages, which the people have been drinking and thriving on for centuries, the moment the Victoria reservoir was completed and filled with rain water, a few of the quasi educated men of the Native community thought fit to condemn the water of this reservoir as being foul and capable of engendering cholera and yellow fever, specific diseases which they could not be made to understand could be generated only by the introduction into the water of a specific organism. I have more than once analysed the water of this reservoir, and on each occasion found only traces of ammonia, and no very great amount of organic matter. If the water is treated with a little wood ashes or other alkali and boiled, it would be a "usable" water. The people do not boil any storage water, but simply clear it of its dissolved earthy salts by wood ashes.

As reservoir water (rain water) does not appear to be acceptable to the people, Governor Griffith has requested the Secretary of State to send out a sanitary engineer to inquire into, and report upon, the practicability of supplying Accra, Cape Coast, and Elmina with water from the river in the vicinity of each town. From this it will surely be admitted that Governor Griffith has done all in his power to meet the demand for what is thought to be a purer public water supply.

#### *Elmina.*

(1.) A large area of malarious foetid mud on the left bank of the river near the Castle has been reclaimed, and converted into solid ground and faced with a well built wall of about 250 yards long. (2.) Two fine market sheds. (3.) An efficient system of drains intersect the town. (4.) Well built latrines. In addition to the above other sanitary improvements are being carried out by convict labour. Summary of sanitary and other improvements in towns since 1885.

*Cape Coast.*

(1.) The completion of the large main drain begun in 1884 by Governor Young. (2.) Governor Griffith had constructed the finest water tank in the Colony, which contains over 100,000 gallons. (3.) He converted the old Government House into a hospital, which every one acknowledges to be an inestimable boon to the poorer classes.

*Saltpond.*

It is enough to mention this town to any one living on the coast to elicit the remark, "how wonderfully improved Saltpond is," many of the improvements included in this remark are well made streets, roads, drains, and stone bridges.

*Accra.*

(1.) The construction of the much maligned Victoria reservoir. (2.) The erection of the Secretariat, and excellent public works, yard, and shops. (3.) Six large market sheds, the roofs of which gather water for a tank now building of about 100,000 gallons capacity. (4.) The erection of the Contagious Diseases Hospital, and the lunatic asylum. (5.) The building for the new Treasury and Customs is to be begun next year, and coincident with it the construction of a system of drains in the town. At the back of the town there are 16 pit latrines, and on the beach two built on strong walls.

## The other SMALLER STATIONS ON THE LITTORAL.

The sanitary requirements of these small places have always been kept in view, and attended to by the local Medical Officer of Health.

Inasmuch as they are not strictly speaking sanitary measures I ought not perhaps to refer to their introduction, both of which, however, are Governor Griffith's acts, the utility of which it would be superfluous to comment upon.

My aim in submitting this incomplete review of the eminently useful measures which Governor Griffith has completed and initiated for the benefit of the Gold Coast Colony, is simply to corroborate Mr. Hodgson's public acknowledgment above quoted. And of this I feel assured that if Sir Brandford Griffith remains in the Colony it will profit by his administration.

(Signed) J. D. M'CARTHY,  
Chief Medical Officer,  
Gold Coast Colony,

London, December 12th, 1892.

## Enclosure 15 in No. 1.

## REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT FROM 1885 TO 1892.

## PART I. INTRODUCTORY.

Prior to 1885 the sanitary affairs of the Colony were left to the management of the District Commissioners, the Medical Officers, including the Colonial Surgeon, making any suggestions they thought advisable but having no control whatever of the sanitary Department.

As sanitation was thus left in the hands of unscientific and untrained men the condition of things that obtained can be readily imagined.

When I landed in Accra for the first time in 1880, I found a great difficulty in walking any two paces from the landing place to the private residence of Mr. T. F. Bruce in James Town, a distance of about 500 yards, without carefully picking my way to avoid treading on the excreta of pigs and human beings or getting bespattered with mud from the several mudholes in which pigs wallowed; in one of the narrower lanes through which I passed, the pigs indeed seemed to dispute the possession of the pathway, and withal there was a stench arising from these sources which it is not easy to describe. On my way through James Town to Christiansborg the same insanitary condition met the eye and offended the nostrils.

When I returned to Accra, in 1883, from Kwitta, the same condition of things obtained, with the exception of a clean state of the main thoroughfare passing through James Town.

In 1884, the late Governor Young, who took a great interest in sanitary matters, asked me to assume the duties of Medical Officer of Health of Accra, which I did, and

from that date the sanitation of the Colony gradually passed into hands of the Medical Department.

I may add I have instanced Accra for three reasons: (a.) because it was the filthiest town in the whole Colony; (b.) because it was the seat of Government, and (c.) because I am more intimately concerned with its sanitation. What has been said of Accra, applies in a more or less modified degree to the other principal towns in the Colony prior to 1885. In the Colony generally prior to 1885 there had been no attempt at sanitation, whatever was done was simply done to catch the eye and gloss over radical defects.

Dr. McCarthy was appointed Chief Medical Officer in 1884, and in accordance with the terms of his appointment the sanitary affairs of the Colony passed entirely into the hands of the Medical Department. He arrived in Accra from Lagos in December, and forthwith started schemes for the re-organisation of the Medical Department and its sanitary offshoot. He was not able to do much, however, before he had to leave the Colony in consequence of ill-health in the following April, but he left with me, as his *locum tenens*, the outlines of his scheme, which he has since been able to modify and develop.

Reviewing the period under consideration the following improvements may be specially noted.

### I. General.

(a.) The complete organisation of the Medical Department, with printed rules, &c., for the guidance of medical officers in their general and special (sanitary, prison, &c.) duties.

(b.) The increase of the staff of medical officers and of medical stations, thereby affording relief to sick poor and overlooking the sanitary conditions in a scientific manner of towns previously without resident surgeons. From a total strength of seven medical officers available for duty on the Gold Coast (as distinct from Lagos) in 1885 the number has increased to 17 in 1892. Ada, Salt Pond, and Winneba have been erected into dispensary stations with resident surgeons, and special hospital facilities given to Kwitta, Anamaboe, Pram Pram, and Akusi are now periodically visited by the medical officers stationed at Salt Pond and Ada respectively.

(c.) The enforcement of the Ordinances relating to the public health, the consequent recognition of them by the public, and the education in the elementary principles of hygiene which has followed thereupon.

(d.) The abolition of the "pig nuisance" in all the principal towns of the littoral.

(e.) The abolition of intra-mural sepulture of the dead, the provision of public cemeteries, and the organisation of burials of the dead by the appointment of registrars of deaths, sextons, &c.

(f.) The introduction of street lamps in the principal towns.

(g.) Last, but not least, increase in the available public water supply.

### II. SPECIAL.

#### A. Accra.

1. Abolition of pigs and the the "pig nuisance" in the town.

2. Erection of public latrines (2 beach and 13 land).

3. Filling up of the pestilential Banya and Boko ponds and the recovery of the open spaces thus obtained for sanitary purposes. The trees planted in the Boko space are now getting quite fine trees, and their sanitary usefulness apparent; on the site of the Banya, six Government market sheds artistically attest the progress of sanitation, whilst a large gang of men employed in digging a public tank capable of holding 120,000 gallons of water, for the storage of water from the roofs of the market for the benefit of the public is an instance of comprehensive forethought which characterises the sanitary methods advocated by the Department with the support of the Government.

The filling up of the Banya and Boko ponds in Accra has been one of the greatest achievements in the sanitary progress of the Colony. The foul concentration of filth and disease centred in these ponds have been removed. The skin diseases known as "Kraw Kraw" or Gben (Accra) and Guinea Ring Worm or "Affrimata" (Accra), which infested nearly every child in Accra who bathed in these ponds, and the germs of which had their habitat in these ponds, are now scarcely to be seen, and in cases still presenting themselves for treatment not of such a severe and intractable nature.

The advantage to the community resulting from the filling up of these ponds can be realised to its full extent only by those who know the *then* and the *now* of the matter;

to my mind no greater sanitary measure has been carried out in Accra, and it is hardly possible for any sanitary measures carried out in the future to exceed this in its general utility to the town of Accra. And this was one of the measures for the sanitary improvement of the town most opposed by the people. So great was the opposition, indeed, that the Governor, Sir Brandford Griffith, while driving out one afternoon with his daughter to inspect the progress of the filling up of the Boko pond, was stoned by some evil disposed persons.

4. The construction of the "Victoria reservoir" for the storage of rain water for the people. This reservoir is capable of containing 3,000,000 gallons of water. Repeated examination of this water both by myself (cursorily) and by Dr. McCarthy (more elaborately) have shown that the water is "potable" in a sanitary sense, and that the objectionable yellow colour it has from the clayey nature of the soil over which it flows is readily removed by precipitation, and that the readiest method of doing this is by the admixture of wood ashes, that wood ashes are readily obtained in every household as wood alone is used for fuel, and that the Natives from time immemorial have known this fact and adopted it in practice in connexion with the waters drunk by them, and that as a result none but those who are too lazy to do so drink the water before clarifying it in the manner described. For several years now the people have drunk this water. In my extensive hospital and private practice I have never known a single instance of disease in my patients having been attributed to this source. This, which at first sight might appear astonishing to those who have presumed that the water is noxious, ceases to be so when the quality of the water in the Banya and Boko ponds, which the people had been in the habit of drinking years before, is taken into consideration. Whatever might be advanced against the water—especially as to its colour—and this alone is the *fons et origo mali* with a section of the public, the grand biological experiment, the general health of those who drink it, and have for years drunk it, points conclusively, at all events, that up to the present moment this water has been good and "potable." After reading the recent reports on the water supply of London and other principal towns of England, the objections to the use of water of the Victoria reservoir stand out most prominently in their puerility. The Victoria reservoir is not, however, nor was it ever intended to be, the final solution of the water question in Accra. So long ago as 1886 the late Dr. Woodburn Heron, then Assistant Surgeon of this Colony, was sent with the Colonial Surveyor, the late Mr. Pagan, to report upon the quality of the water of the River Humo, and the practicability of supplying the town of Accra from this source. And subsequent to this date Colonel White, when Administrator of this Colony in 1887, had unsuccessfully grappled with this problem.

5. The organisation of the sanitary staff of Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors of Nuisances, Headmen or Overseers, and Scavengers. The Ordinances affecting public health, which previously were unsatisfactorily carried out, have been systematically enforced and modified to meet local exigencies, and the accumulation of refuse of all sorts in the open spaces and outskirts of the town reduced to its lowest possible limit.

6. The increase in the number of open spaces and the purchase of land and house for the construction of streets. Two important thoroughfares have been provided, viz., (1) the widening of Mission Street at a cost of 460*l.*, and (2) the construction of the new street leading from Otu Street direct to the new Public Market, at a cost of 229*l.* 10*s.* In the northern part of Ussher Town several new streets and avenues have been laid out by the Health Officer, and the drainage of this part of the town carried out by the Sanitary Department.

7. Improvement in the sanitary condition of the gaol as regards ventilation, drainage, increased water supply, improved dietary and discipline, and the passing of the Sick Criminals Removal Ordinance.

8. Improvement in the housing of European officers and improvement of the Public Offices, *e.g.*, in connexion with the Secretariat, Postal, Customs, Sheriff's, and Public Works Department.

9. The embankment of the sea frontage from the James Town landing place to the District Commissioner's Court House, Accra.

10. Erection of market sheds, which, however, are not quite completed at the time of writing.

11. The introduction of street lamps as compared with none in 1885, there are now 163 street lamps in this town.

12. The abolition of the Cactus Forest, which, next to the "pig nuisance," was the greatest source of insanitation, affording, as it did, equally nidus and pabulum for the

evolution and development of morbidic germs and a deposit for filth and refuse of all sorts.

13. Increased storage of rain water in public tanks, viz. :—

	Gallons.
At the Secretariat, two tanks with a total capacity of -	- 110,000
At the Treasury, one with a capacity of -	- 33,000
In the Public Works yard, one with a capacity of -	- 69,000
At new site, one of -	- 75,000
One at the Post Office -	- 7,200
In James Fort, one with a capacity of -	- 30,900
Hospital tank -	- 45,000
Total -	- 370,100

14. One new public cemetery has been provided, and a large piece of land acquired for future requirements.

15. The cliff between the James Town landing place and Ussher Fort is being excavated and prepared as a shelter for surf boats both for the Government and the public.

#### *B. Cape Coast.*

1. Abolition of the "pigs nuisance."
2. Erection of public latrines. There are at present 14 latrines, with 96 pans.
3. Construction of a large main drain at a cost of 2,037*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, and several smaller drains.
4. The Victoria tank originally erected for the military has been given to the public.
5. The sanitary staff has been organised and increased.
6. Erection of market sheds.
7. Street lamps have been introduced, in all there are at present 74 in use.

#### *C. Salt Pond.*

This town, which has rapidly grown into importance during the past few years, has been erected into a medical station with a resident surgeon and a dispensary; pigs have been abolished, new latrines erected, new roads made and old ones improved, bridges made over the lagoon, a sanitary staff appointed, public wells dug and site for a new reservoir selected, new Government quarters built with a tank for water for Government officials, new prison built, provided with street lamps.

#### *D. Winneba.*

Has been erected into a medical station with a resident surgeon and a public dispensary; suitable quarters built for the residence of the District Commissioner, constabulary barracks, prison, and court house.

#### *E. Elmina.*

The "pigs nuisance" has been abolished; market sheds erected; sanitary staff organised; public latrines supplied; a large area of swampy land has been reclaimed by the erection of a river wall; the drainage of the town has been considerably improved, and street lamps introduced.

#### *F. Axim.*

The Port St. Anthony, wherein are concentrated the public offices, court house, and residential quarters of the European staff and the constabulary, has been renovated and improved; the "pig nuisance" abolished; the roads kept in good order, and public street lamps supplied.

#### *G. Anamaboe.*

This is one of the oldest towns of the Colony, and which possessed all the sanitary disadvantages which characterise the old towns in the Colony. It has now the advan-

tages of a periodic medical inspection by the Medical Officer of the Salt Pond District. The huge accumulations of filth both in the streets and along the outskirts of the town have been removed, and the Temperance reservoir has been acquired by the Government for the benefit of the public; seven public latrines with six scavengers have been also provided. The fort has been made habitable, and the streets lighted.

#### H. *Ada.*

A resident medical officer has been appointed to this station, and a public dispensary established. The sanitary condition of the town has been greatly improved; five new latrines provided for the people, public wells supplying potable water dug, and a tank for the storage of rain water for the public is in course of erection. Once the home of small-pox in the Colony, this town and district have been practically free from this terrible scourge during the past two years in consequence of the energetic and continued action of the Sanitary Department. Street lamps have also been provided.

#### I. *Akusi.*

The main drain has been constructed, and has already materially modified the health conditions of this important commercial centre. Sanitation has been rigidly enforced, nine public latrines provided for the people. Quite recently a medical officer has been provided for this station, and a public dispensary has been opened. Street lamps have also been provided.

#### J. *Kwitta.*

The sanitary condition has been materially modified; six public latrines have been provided, and in addition to the public dispensary affording outdoor relief to the poor, a constabulary hospital has been provided into which deserving cases among the poor of the population are admitted as in-patients. Street lamps have also been provided.

#### K. *Christiansborg.*

This village, in which the official residence of the Governor is located, has had its sanitary condition well looked after. Seven public latrines with 14 scavengers have been provided. The roads and drains have been materially improved, and it now has the proud distinction of being the cleanest village in the Colony.

Throughout the Colony the evidence of sanitary progress is clearly visible. In no other respect is this more distinctly observable than in the general improved condition of the health of the Europeans, which has been most marked within the past two years.

I trust in the compilation of this report, which I was instructed to prepare by the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. McCarthy, a few days before he left the Colony, I have done justice to that officer.

Having been associated most closely with Dr. McCarthy in the conduct of the Medical Department of this Colony during the past eight years, I can state without hesitation that there is not a single question affecting the public health of the Colony which has not at one time or other occupied his serious attention. And if the result achieved in the short period of his administration is so clear and distinctly evident, it is due to the sympathetic, earnest, and substantial support which he at all times received at the hands of the Governor, Sir Brandford Griffith, but for which support the Medical Department could not have attained the degree of efficiency which now characterises it.

When one regards the peculiar physical conditions of the Colony, it is not difficult to understand that sanitary progress must be necessarily slow and expensive.

It is all the more gratifying, therefore, to feel and to know that as much as could have been legitimately expected has been done.

(Signed) J. FARRELL EASMON, M.D.,

Medical Department, Victoriaborg,

Acting Chief Medical Officer.

1st January 1893.

## Enclosure 16 in No. 1.

RETURN showing the NUMBERS of IN and OUTDOOR NATIVE PATIENTS treated in the HOSPITALS and DISPENSARIES of the COLONY from 1886 to 1891.

Years.	Out Patients.		In Patients.		Remarks.
	Old Cases.	New Cases.	Old Cases.	New Cases.	
1886 - -	43	4,405	10	107	Returns incomplete, no Departmental Returns.
1887 - -	16,254	11,684	18	661	Returns for Axim, Saltpond, and Kwitta not found.
1888 - -	27,430	12,560	19	171	Do. do.
1889 - -	47,342	19,072	3,754	2,725	Returns complete.
1890 - -	45,005	12,079	3,250	2,422	Do. do.
1891 - -	51,012	16,336	3,903	2,506	Do. do.

19/12/92.

(Signed) J. FARRELL EASMON, M.D.,  
Acting Chief Medical Officer.

## Enclosure 17 in No. 1.

(A.) TOWNS POLICE AND PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE--Towns applied to.

District.	Towns in District.	Date of Proclamation.	District.	Towns in District.	Date of Proclamation.	
Accra - -	Accra - -	Prior to 1880.	Archipannu - -	Archipannu - -	20th July 1891.	
	Christiansborg - -	6th May 1880.		Arkitaki - -	" "	
	Labadi - -	31st Oct. 1888.		Arkwada - -	" "	
	Little Ningo - -	" "		Assamkor - -	" "	
	Tassi - -	" "		Attinkin - -	" "	
	Temma - -	" "		Boutry - -	" "	
	Victoriaborg - -	1st May 1888.		Ekra Krum - -	" "	
Ada - -	Ada - -	13th Dec. 1886.	Kwitta - -	Jokua - -	" "	
	Aggravi - -	21st May 1889.		Katakroa - -	" "	
	Attititeh - -	" "		Kofi Kakraba Krum - -	" "	
	Battor - -	" "		Pompendi - -	" "	
	Big Ada - -	1st May 1888.		Pram Pram - -	Pram Pram - -	1st Aug. 1885.
	Galoo - -	21st May 1889.			Ningo - -	21st May 1889.
	Meppe - -	" "			Poni - -	20th Nov. 1889.
	Mlefi - -	" "			Dodowa Town - -	10th Mar. 1891.
	Sukpe - -	" "			" Market Place	" "
	Tamatoku - -	" "			Salt Pond - -	Salt Pond - -
Tefi - -	" "	Anamaboe - -	13th Dec. 1886.			
		Arkra - -	20th Nov. 1889.			
Axim - -	Attaboe - -	6th April 1889.	Sekondi - -	Mumford - -	13th Dec. 1886.	
	Axim - -	6th May 1880.		Narkwa - -	20th Nov. 1889.	
	Beyin - -	6th April 1889.		Sekondi - -	Sekondi - -	11th Nov. 1882.
	Half Assinee - -	" "			Adjua - -	6th April 1889.
	Akinim - -	10th Mar. 1891.			Appawan - -	21st May 1889.
	Brewi - -	" "			Chama - -	12th April 1886.
		Abuadi - -	10th Mar. 1891.			
		Amanful - -	" "			
Cape Coast - -	Cape Coast - -	Prior to 1880.	Dixcove - -	Assippon - -	" "	
	Elmina - -	" "		Fungo - -	" "	
	Ampeni - -	20th Nov. 1889.		Poassi - -	" "	
	Ankwanda - -	20th July 1891.		Takoradi - -	" "	
	Bantama - -	10th Mar. 1891.				
Dixcove - -	Braima Akinmu - -	20th July 1891.				
	Kommenda - -	" "				
	Milaba Akinmu - -	" "				
	Mori - -	24th Sept. 1890.				

District.	Towns in District.	Pate of Proclamation.	District.	Towns in District.	Date of Proclamation.
Volta River -	Abuatia - -	31st Oct. 1892.	Eastern Was-saw.	Abosso, Village and Gold Mines.	30th Dec. 1890.
	Aburi - -	20th Nov. 1889.		Adja Bippo, do. -	" "
	Akropong - -	" "		Broomasi, do. -	" "
	Akuse - -	3rd July 1886.		Cinnamon Bippo, do.	" "
	Kpong - -	" "		Prestea, do. -	" "
Winneba -	Odumasi - -	" "	Tarkwa, do. -	" "	
	Appam - -	13th Dec. 1886.			
	Winneba - -	13th Jan. 1880.			
	Berraku - -	30th Dec. 1890.			

## Enclosure 18 in No. 1.

## (B.) SWINE BOUNDARIES, under the TOWNS POLICE AND PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE.

District.	Towns in District.	Date of Proclamation.	District.	Towns in District.	Date of Proclamation.
Accra - -	Accra - -	15th Nov. 1888.	Kwitta - -	Katakroa - -	1st June 1892.
	Christiansborg - -	" "		Ekra Krum - -	" "
	Labadi - -	" "		Attinkin - -	" "
	Little Ningo - -	" "		Arkitaki - -	" "
	Tassi - -	" "		Adaffia - -	17th Nov. 1889.
	Temma - -	" "		Ahwey - -	" "
Ada - -	Victoriaborg - -	" "	Dancoe - -	" "	
	Ada - -	" "	Jella Kofi - -	" "	
Axim - -	Big Ada - -	" "	Kefi - -	" "	
	Axim - -	" "	Kwitta - -	15th Nov. 1888.	
Cape Coast -	Ampeni - -	17th Nov. 1889.	Vojey - -	17th Nov. 1889.	
	Cape Coast - -	15th Nov. 1888.	Pram Pram - -	15th Nov. 1888.	
	Elmina - -	" "	Salt Pond - -	Anamboe - -	15th Nov. 1888.
	Ankwanda - -	1st June 1892.	Arkra - -	17th Nov. 1889.	
	Kommenda - -	" "	Mumford - -	15th Nov. 1888.	
	Braima Akinmu - -	" "	Narkwa - -	17th Nov. 1889.	
Dixcove -	Mflaba Akinmu - -	" "	Salt Pond - -	15th Nov. 1888.	
	Dixcove - -	15th Nov. 1888.	Sekondi - -	Chama - -	15th Nov. 1888.
	Pompendi - -	1st June 1892.	Sekondi - -	" "	
	Kofi Kakraba Krum - -	" "	Volta River -	Aburi - -	17th Nov. 1889.
	Ampertannu - -	" "	Akropong - -	" "	
	Assamkor - -	" "	Akuse - -	15th Nov. 1888.	
	Boutry - -	" "	Kpong - -	" "	
	Archiawer - -	" "	Winneba - -	Appam - -	" "
	Archipannu - -	" "	Winneba - -	" "	
	Jokua - -	" "			
Arkwada - -	" "				

## Enclosure 19 in No. 1.

## LIST of existing CEMETERIES in the various DISTRICTS of the COLONY.

Districts.	Dimensions.	By whom established.	When established.
<b>ACCRA :</b>			
Public - -	315 × 410	Government.	1888.
Wesleyan - -	103,376 square feet	Wesleyan congregation.	1885.
Mohammedans - -	396 × 284 feet.	Mohammedan.	Some time in 1890.
<b>Christiansborg :</b>			
Public - -	295 × 345 feet.	Government.	1888.
North of - -	3,287 square yards.	Basel Mission congregation.	1879.
<b>Labadi :</b>			
Public - -	315 × 406 feet.	Government.	1888.
<b>Teshi :</b>			
Public - -	137 × 192 "	"	1891.
West of - -	172 × 350 "	The Natives.	1892.
<b>Nunguah :</b>			
Public - -	137 × 146 feet.	Government.	1891.

Districts.	Dimensions.	By whom established.	When established.
<b>ADDAH :</b>			
Public - -	234 × 130 feet.	Government.	Not stated.
B. M. Society - -	—	Basel Mission Society.	"
Do. - -	—	"	"
<i>Big Addah :</i>			
Public - -	412 × 245 feet.	Government.	July 1889.
Aggravie - -	436 × 46 "	Chief of Aggravie.	"
Sukpe - -	100 × 88 "	Chief of Sukpe.	"
Tefe - -	104 × 64 "	Chief of Tefe.	"
Mlefi - -	32 × 32 "	Chief of Mlefi.	"
Battor - -	146 × 140 "	Chief of Battor.	September 1889.
<b>ANAMABOE - -</b>	2 acres.	The Wesleyan Body.	Fifty years since.
Private - -	1 acre.	King Amonoo IV.	About 10 years ago.
Public - -	Several acres.	Presumably the King.	Time immemorial.
Private - -	1 acre.	Charles McCarthy.	" "
Private - -	1 "	Cofi Babboni.	Many years.
Small Cormantine - -	1/2 "	The Wesleyan body.	1874.
Eggah - -	1 "	"	16 years since.
" Private - -	3 "	Chief of Eggah.	Time immemorial.
Briwah, Public - -	4 "	Not known.	" "
Narkwah " - -	1 "	"	" "
<b>SALT POND :</b>			
Ashanti Road - -	3 acres.	Chief Taylor.	1886.
Cormantine - -	1 "	Chief Quagraine.	1860.
" Wesleyan - -	1 "	Wesleyan body.	1888.
Beach - -	1/3 "	The Crown.	19 years ago.
Public - -	1/3 "	The public.	Many years.
Persons dying violent death.	2 "	"	Time immemorial.
Small-pox - -	1 "	"	" "
Public - -	1 "	Not stated.	" "
Public - -	—	"	" "
Fetish priest - -	1/4 acre.	"	" "
Wesleyan - -	1 "	The Wesleyan body.	25 years since.
Roman Catholic - -	1/2 "	The Roman Catholic body.	3 " "
<b>WINNEBAH :</b>			
European - -	110 × 60 feet.	Government.	Unknown.
Public - -	200 × 200 "	King Ghartey.	19th January 1892.
Private - -	Triangular form, 110 east, 120 south, 170 north.	Ghartey IV.	Unknown.
Wesleyan - -	210 × 230 feet.	Wesleyan Mission.	"
<i>Berraku :</i>			
Public - -	220 × 220 feet.	Kwaku Esue.	24th April 1892.
<i>Appam :</i>			
Public - -	210 × 200 feet.	Chief Arkorful.	16th July 1892.
Wesleyan - -	200 × 200 "	Wesleyan Society.	Unknown.
<i>Mumford :</i>			
Public - -	212 × 140 feet.	Chief Debi.	16th July 1892.
Wesleyan - -	280 × 70 "	—	Unknown.
<b>AXIM :</b>			
Upper Town - -	50 × 50 yards.	Government.	1882.
<i>Attuabo :</i>	3,600 square feet.	Wesleyans.	1882.
<b>DIXCOVE :</b>			
North-east of - -	52 × 64 yards.	Chiefs of Upper Dixcove.	14 years ago.
North of - -	44 × 60 "	" Lower "	14 "
North of - -	66 × 90 "	Wesleyan Mission.	5 "
<i>Bushua :</i>			
Bushua - -	56 × 28 "	Chiefs of Bushua.	12 "
Bushua - -	26 × 15 "	Wesleyan Mission.	7 "
<b>CHAMA :</b>			
West of - -	50 × 50 yards.	Chiefs of Chama.	6 years ago.
North of - -	50 × 50 "	Chiefs of Lower Chama.	" "
<i>Sekundi</i> - -	66 × 66 "	Chiefs.	10 years ago.
Sekundi Wesleyans.	56 × 56 "	Wesleyan Mission.	" "
<b>KWITTA :</b>			
Public - -	617 × 132 feet.	Government.	About October 1891.
North German - -	27 × 66 "	North German Mission.	1885.

Districts.	Dimensions.	By whom established.	When established.
<b>CAPE COAST :</b>			
Old Wesleyan Cemetery.	170 x 214 feet.	Wesleyans.	Not known.
New Wesleyan Cemetery.	350 x 180 "	"	"
Government Native	270 x 300 "	Government.	"
	Not given.	Not stated.	1890.
<b>ELMINA :</b>			
Dutch Cemetery	141 x 138 feet.	Government.	1806.
<b>VOLTA RIVER DISTRICT :</b>			
<b>At Akwapim :</b>			
Aburi	150 x 105 feet.	Basel Mission Religious body.	Not stated.
Tutu	240 x 75 "	" "	"
Asantema	75 x 60 "	" "	"
Nsakyee	90 x 64 "	" "	"
Berekuso	60 x 60 "	" "	"
Nsawom	60 x 60 "	" "	"
Apirede	1,024 square yards.	" "	Some years ago.
Adukrom	1,679 "	" "	1870.
Asseseso	1,024 "	" "	Some years ago.
Akropong	2,726 "	" "	1884.
Late	2,116 "	" "	1886.
Mamfe	1,600 "	" "	1892.
Mampong	2,500 "	" "	1892.
<b>At Krobo :</b>			
Odumase	180 x 120 feet.	Basel Mission Religious body.	1860.
Sra	100 x 100 "	" "	1880.
Kpemo	80 x 80 "	" "	1886.
Kpong	80 x 80 "	" "	1884.
Akole	50 x 50 "	" "	1888.
Kpong (Wesleyan)	145 x 125 "	Wesleyan Mission of Kpong.	1877.
<b>Anum :</b>			
Akwamu (Christians)	50 x 50 feet square.	Christian congregation.	1890.
Anum	140 x 120 "	" "	1891.
Boso	112 x 76 "	" "	1892.
Kpalemi	120 x 120 "	" "	1892.
<b>Krepi :</b>			
Awudome-Tsito	80 x 80 feet.	North German Mission.	1889.
Tsibu	100 x 60 "	" "	27th December 1892.
Peki Wudome	85 x 50 "	" "	28th " "
" Blengo	120 x 100 "	" "	1883.
" Avetile	76 x 48 "	" "	1890.
" Dzake	180 x 150 "	" "	1886.
<b>At Krobo :</b>			
Odumasi, north-east of.	200 x 200 feet.	King Sakite.	April 1891.
Sra, east of	200 x 175 "	King Akrobetto.	July 1891.
" north-west of	132 x 120 "	Chief Ado.	February 1892.
Somanya, south-east of.	54 x 27 "	Captain Agblezy.	May 1892.
Berraku (Public)	—	Public.	
Saweh, north of	200 x 200 feet.	King Amonor.	August 1892.
Odumasie, north-east of.	200 x 200 "	Chief Äpri Kwaku.	"
Amadam, south of	150 x 100 "	Linguist Odoi.	"
" west of	200 x 150 "	Chief Anmote Zogli.	30th August 1892.
Odumasie, north-east of.	150 x 150 "	Chief Asare.	August 1892.
Konopien, south of	200 x 150 "	Chief Sasraku.	"
" north-east of.	200 x 150 "	Chief Ametei.	"
Somanya, west of	150 x 100 "	Chief Ogbojagbo.	"
" north-west of.	200 x 100 "	Captain Akutei.	"
Trome	200 x 100 "	Narh Blake.	"
Near Somanyah Market.	150 x 100 "	Captain Nartey.	"
Okanya	100 x 80 "	Captain Osabutey.	"

## Enclosure 20 in No. 1.

MINUTES of a MEETING of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL of the GOLD COAST COLONY, held at Government House, Christiansborg Castle, Accra, on Wednesday, the 1st day of October 1890.

## PRESENT :

His Excellency the Governor, Sir. W. Brandford Griffith, K.C.M.G.  
 His Honour the Chief Justice, J. T. Hutchinson, Esq.  
 The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Percival Hughes, Esq. (Acting).  
 The Honourable the Queen's Advocate, Chas. D. Turton, Esq. (Acting).  
 The Honourable the Treasurer, Alexander Allan, Esq. (Acting).  
 The Honourable the Officer Commanding the Troops, Captain Wainwright, 2nd Batt. W. I. Regt.  
 The Honourable John Sarbah, Esq., Unofficial Member.  
 The Honourable W. Waters, Esq., Provisional Member.

## ABSENT :

The Honourable C. W. Burnett, Esq., Unofficial Member (on leave of absence).

1. The minutes of the previous meeting, held on the 29th September, were read and confirmed.
2. The rules of procedure for the guidance of sheriffs were passed.

3. The Governor informed the Council that the Acting Treasurer estimated that the surplus balance, over and above the cost of investments of 46,572*l.* in hand at the end of the present financial year, would admit of expenditure for improvements to the extent of 9,000*l.*, which he intended to propose to members should be appropriated for such purposes at that sitting. After much careful thought, he was of opinion that it would also be advisable, in the interests of the Colony, to ask the permission of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State that the reserve fund might be placed at 30,000*l.* (including the value of the gold ornaments in the hands of the Crown Agents), instead of 50,000*l.*, and the remaining portion, a little over 18,000*l.*, as it would be seen, devoted to public improvements, which his Excellency proceeded to point out as follows :—

By the erection in the open space at Accra, on a part of which the "pound" stands, of a building to contain the following public offices on the ground floor:

District Treasury at Accra,	Telegraphs,
Customs,	Sheriff,
Post,	Director of Education,

with apartments on the first floor for the

Assistant, or District Treasurer for Accra,	Sheriff,
Comptroller of Customs,	Director of Education,
Director of Telegraphs,	District Commissioner, Accra.

	£	s.	d.
This building would be of the same size as the Colonial Secretariat, and was estimated by the Colonial Surveyor to cost	-	6,500	0 0
Quarters and offices at Victoriaborg for the Treasurer and his Department	-	2,000	0 0
Schoolhouse for boys and girls at Cape Coast	-	2,500	0 0
Extension of telegraphic communication from Elmina to Axim and the Ancobra River, 100 miles	-	5,000	0 0
Narrow gauge railway from Axim to the Ancobra	-	3,145	17 3
Total	-	£19,145	17 3

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The Governor stated that the value of the investments, at their actual cost was	46,572	15	0
and that he intended to request the Secretary of State to add to this the value placed on gold ornaments held by the Crown Agents, viz.:			1,694 11 2

which would bring up the total to £48,267 6 2  
and to allow the appropriation of the following investments for the purpose already described, viz.:

	Nominal value.			Cost price.		
	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
New South Wales 3½ inscribed Stock	12,345	17	3	11,339	15	6
Victoria 4 per cent. Debenture	6,800	0	0	6,756	0	0
	£19,145 17 3			which would give	18,095 15 6	
and leave the "reserve" at				£30,171	10	8
But it would be seen that while the actual cost of the two sums mentioned was					18,095	15 6
the nominal value was					19,145	17 3
so that on sale there would be a gain of					£1,050	1 9
which would place					£19,145	17 3

the sum already described, at the disposal of the Government for carrying out the public works referred to, a measure which would considerably lessen the outlay for rent at Accra, and also for a schoolhouse at Cape Coast.

The Governor then asked Honourable Members if they agreed with him in thinking that permission to expend the surplus over 30,000*l.* ought to be asked for.

Members considered that the Governor should take the steps necessary to put the information afforded to them before the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, and request his Lordship to authorise the arrangement so that the reserve in future would stand at 30,000*l.* or thereabouts.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that authority be given by the Council for the following votes, which would about absorb the balance of 9,000*l.*, being the portion which the Acting Treasurer considered might be appropriated out of the anticipated surplus for improvements, &c.

(1.) 3,000*l.* to provide the Hausa Force with new Martini-Henry rifles, fitted with saw backed sword bayonets complete, and with 80,000 rounds of ammunition.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

(2.) 400*l.* for the purpose of building a slaughter-house in Accra, on a site which had been specially selected.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

Mr. Sarbah here called attention to the bridge over the Sweet River near Elmina, and stated that he thought no time should be lost in putting it to rights.

His Excellency informed the Council how he proposed to bridge this river, but it was not possible to carry the work out at present. In the meantime the matter had not been forgotten, and a survey and estimate would be made as soon as the Colonial Surveyor could attend to the work.

(3.) 300*l.* for the erection of a butchers' market in Accra, on a site which had already been selected.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

(4.) 640*l.* for the erection of four market sheds in a suitable open space near the existing market in Accra.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

(5.) 500*l.* for draining a portion of Accra.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

(6.) 1,550*l.* for building latrines on the beach at Elmina (1), Cape Coast (2), and Accra (4), say 7, at an estimated cost of 150*l.* each; and for latrines on land, at Salt-pond (10), Winneba (5), and other places where they might be found to be most needed (10), at an estimated cost of 20*l.* each, all of which were much required, and their erection strongly urged by the Medical Department.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

(7.) 825*l.* for draining Akuse, an undertaking which had been much pressed upon the attention of the Government.

His Excellency explained to the Council the circumstances which had rendered it desirable to improve the sanitary condition of Akuse with the least possible delay.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

(8.) 625*l.* for a tank for the Government nursery at Aburi, as it was necessary to increase the supply of potable water for the use of the sanitarium, and water was also greatly required in the interests of the botanic garden. The tank estimated for by the Colonial Surveyor would collect its supply from the roof of the sanitarium, and would store 120,000 gallons of water.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

The Officer Commanding the Troops said that he thought the cemetery at Cape Coast should be put in order, a register kept of the persons who were buried there, and the site of the graves marked by a wooden cross or some similar arrangement.

His Excellency stated that he was of opinion, too, that this should be done, and he would cause the District Commissioner to be instructed to take the necessary steps for carrying the Honourable Member's suggestion into effect.

(9.) 150*l.* to provide a billiard table and fittings for the constabulary.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to after some discussion, the Chief Justice and Mr. Waters objecting.

(10.) 100*l.* to provide china, glass, plate, &c., necessary to meet the requirements at Government House.

Seconded by the Acting Treasurer and agreed to.

(11.) Mr. Waters moved that the Council do authorise a vote of 130*l.* to provide a permanent grand stand on the race course. The Honourable Member stated that he believed his motion had the approval of all the European community, and that he had asked many of the leading Native gentlemen, who, without exception, had expressed their approval of the proposal.

Seconded by the Chief Justice and agreed to.

(12.) The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the Council do grant a vote of 100*l.* to provide some new machinery for the printing office.

The Acting Colonial Secretary stated that the Government printer had represented that a great improvement would be effected in his office by the introduction of the machinery in question. It was necessary that it should be imported promptly, as it was very much required. If this was done, the 50*l.* included for type, &c. in the estimates for 1891 would not be drawn, as virtually the expenditure it was intended to provide for would form a portion of the vote of 100*l.* now proposed.

Mr. Sarbah seconded the vote, which was then agreed to.

The Governor stated that the 12 sums voted amounted in the aggregate to 8,320*l.* which would be more than met by a portion of the surplus which the Acting Treasurer considered would accrue up to the 31st December 1890.

The Council was adjourned *sine die*.

(Signed) H. M. HULL,  
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Confirmed this 26th day of November 1890.

W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH,  
Governor.

## Enclosure 21 in No. 1.

STATEMENT showing the AREA, POPULATION, REVENUE, REVENUE per HEAD of POPULATION, PUBLIC DEBT, and RAILWAY and TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION in 16 BRITISH COLONIES in 1891.

Colony.	Area.	Population, 1891.	Revenue, 1891.	Revenue per Head of Population.	Public Debt, 1891.	Communication.	
						Railway.	Telegraph.
			£	£ s. d.	£		
Ceylon - - -	25,365	3,008,466	1,309,781	0 8 8	2,535,247	191½	864
Hong Kong - -	30.5	221,441	421,938	1 18 1	200,000	1	54
Straits Settlements -	1,472	512,902	609,862	1 3 9	—	—	835
Mauritius - -	705	370,588	759,565	2 0 11	777,750	92	164
Gambia - - -	69	14,266	31,088	2 3 6	—	—	—
Sierra Leone - -	3,000	74,835	89,868	1 4 0	50,000	—	2½
Gold Coast - -	39,060	1,500,000	186,022	0 2 6	—	—	213
Lagos - - -	1,070	85,607	78,625	0 18 4	—	—	—
Bahamas - - -	4,466	47,565	52,813	1 2 2	81,126	—	—
Jamaica - - -	4,193	639,491	778,615	1 4 5	1,520,087	64	664
Trinidad - - -	1,754	200,028	488,219	2 8 10	520,420	54¼	54½
St. Lucia - - -	238	42,708	49,326	1 3 1	140,770	—	—
Grenada - - -	133	54,062	54,018	0 19 11	44,475	—	40
St. Vincent - -	133	41,054	27,649	0 13 5	14,370	—	—
Barbados - - -	166	182,306	162,905	0 17 11	30,100	24	35
Leeward Islands -	665	127,723	111,285	0 17 5	114,971	—	—

## Enclosure 22 in No. 1.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of Gross Value of Imports and Amount of Customs Duties by Districts during the Years 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, and 1891.

	Axim.		Dixcove.		Chama.		Elmina.		Cape Coast.	
	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.
1886 - -	£ s. d. 18,385 5 7	£ s. d. 2,245 17 5	£ s. d. 4,337 8 5	£ s. d. 1,294 1 10	£ s. d. 6,945 19 2	£ s. d. 4,068 9 7	£ s. d. 12,252 2 5	£ s. d. 6,675 10 9	£ s. d. 92,863 0 1	£ s. d. 16,244 14 4
1887 - -	29,507 16 1	2,899 14 11	4,596 12 6	1,525 15 2	3,647 9 2	4,410 12 7	13,241 12 4	7,089 4 5	99,549 11 1	18,663 15 9
1888 - -	41,651 4 6	2,615 6 1	4,522 8 3	1,167 16 7	6,339 7 10	3,679 12 10	9,338 5 2	4,658 12 9	111,849 9 6	13,877 8 4
1889 - -	47,372 9 10	2,895 19 5	6,101 0 10	1,591 6 0	5,733 17 1	4,823 16 8	7,809 15 1	5,824 19 10	118,232 16 0	17,504 7 0
1890 - -	64,045 18 8	6,290 2 8	7,355 17 6	2,665 4 1	5,683 1 3	3,587 2 6	8,659 13 8	6,460 0 7	119,827 17 7	27,321 1 5
1891 - -	62,513 15 10	6,960 2 9	11,044 16 5	3,119 14 6	8,253 7 8	5,242 9 4	14,164 6 4	7,853 10 1	157,909 8 1	34,207 1 5

	Anamaboe.		Salt Pond.		Winneba.		Accra.		Pram Pram.	
	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.
1886 - -	£ s. d. 4,523 2 5	£ s. d. 2,852 18 2	£ s. d. 47,525 19 4	£ s. d. 16,827 5 0	£ s. d. 24,195 10 5	£ s. d. 13,040 16 0	£ s. d. 95,935 3 6	£ s. d. 25,183 1 1	£ s. d. 3,722 16 7	£ s. d. 2,907 2 1
1887 - -	1,574 6 9	2,316 9 5	47,579 5 1	16,133 10 2	13,630 17 3	11,995 4 10	90,670 6 10	27,608 8 9	2,942 8 10	2,428 6 4
1888 - -	2,231 14 3	1,741 5 6	46,861 13 2	16,917 14 1	27,986 5 5	11,457 14 1	105,673 16 10	20,421 4 11	5,346 6 9	2,039 13 2
1889 - -	1,585 9 4	1,698 17 4	55,969 19 7	13,093 13 9	20,758 13 11	11,393 18 8	111,650 7 11	25,172 9 7	1,692 0 1	3,236 4 4
1890 - -	1,565 16 8	1,625 10 1	63,469 14 11	18,622 0 11	17,202 10 5	11,519 10 9	171,730 6 1	36,549 7 11	4,268 12 9	2,743 4 8
1891 - -	2,202 5 5	2,385 19 0	73,633 5 4	23,797 14 5	23,698 17 1	14,944 11 1	168,014 13 10	42,901 15 0	8,013 19 8	4,367 18 5

	Ada.		Kwitta.		Volta.		Total.	
	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.	Imports.	Duty.
1886	£ s. d. 44,148 2 11	£ s. d. 9,704 12 6	£ s. d. 21,682 18 6	£ s. d. 2,027 18 11	£ s. d. 17 18 9	£ s. d. 3 7 5	£ s. d. 376,530 8 1	£ s. d. 103,435 15 1
1887	57,987 17 8	7,995 16 7	18,730 15 2	1,808 13 8	89 13 4	3 11 11	303,715 12 1	104,879 4 6
1888	46,428 14 2	5,528 17 0	23,882 19 6	1,545 5 6	—	39 10 2	432,112 5 4	79,699 9 11
1889	38,245 6 9	7,288 8 3	25,700 16 5	1,810 15 11	15 16 5	27 16 0	440,888 9 3	95,327 12 7
1890	48,772 13 3	9,576 10 7	40,520 4 9	6,379 2 9	0 8 10	2 12 2	562,102 16 4	133,341 11 1
1891	59,826 1 3	13,451 19 10	76,498 10 2	7,692 17 3	2 15 11	17 0 7	665,781 3 0	165,942 13 8

December 12, 1892.

F. W. MAJOR,  
Acting Comptroller of Customs.

Enclosure 23 in No. 1.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of Gross Value of Exports by Districts during the Years 1886,  
1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, and 1891.

	Axim.	Dixcove.	Chama.	Elmina.	Cape Coast.	Anamaboe.	Salt Pond.
1886	£ s. d. 10,871 3 6	£ s. d. 9,689 4 1	£ s. d. 9,913 14 0	£ s. d. 5,781 0 4	£ s. d. 85,904 4 4	£ s. d. 3,168 2 2	£ s. d. 56,141 15 9
1887	11,882 16 9	6,615 5 0	10,797 17 7	1,054 6 7	108,097 10 11	1,249 0 4	53,297 1 9
1888	18,490 17 3	8,887 0 5	9,542 3 11	1,226 4 11	97,129 7 1	914 9 10	56,065 6 9
1889	30,442 7 9	9,303 10 9	9,180 7 3	1,086 18 6	114,241 10 2	707 9 5	54,295 17 11
1890	40,278 16 9	11,357 14 5	11,799 10 3	2,701 19 0	165,377 5 6	1,247 10 9	85,017 10 1
1891	54,047 17 4	19,085 10 10	15,904 14 4	3,827 9 4	154,355 1 5	2,162 1 9	80,455 17 7

	Winneba.	Accra.	Pram Pram.	Ada.	Kwitta.	Total.
1886	£ s. d. 35,717 17 10	£ s. d. 92,118 19 4	£ s. d. 10,958 14 4	£ s. d. 65,857 12 6	£ s. d. 20,420 9 8	£ s. d. 406,539 17 10
1887	35,450 10 2	50,494 7 10	9,075 17 9	67,792 4 11	16,639 10 10	372,446 10 5
1888	45,854 15 0	37,667 14 5	11,405 15 0	81,104 12 3	13,380 13 7	381,619 0 5
1889	39,532 4 3	53,410 6 6	9,807 18 3	77,337 19 10	16,579 11 7	415,928 2 2
1890	33,891 11 10	113,418 9 4	18,465 19 4	88,755 16 11	29,036 5 3	601,348 9 5
1891	45,510 1 4	149,211 10 3	22,976 18 1	99,588 6 8	37,179 10 9	684,304 19 8

December 22, 1892.

F. W. MAJOR,  
Acting Comptroller of Customs.

Enclosure 24 in No. 1.

## MEMORANDUM of INTERVIEW with MERCHANTS and PEOPLE of SALTPOND, 8th May 1888.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir W. Brandford Griffith, K.C.M.G.

The District Commissioner, Saltpond, Mr. Redwar.

Assistant Colonial Secretary, W. W. Hull, Esq.

The Acting Chief Medical Officer, Dr. J. F. Easton.

The Private Secretary, H. M. Hull, Esq.

The District Commissioner of Winnebah, J. B. Shand, Esq.

The following merchants were introduced by Mr. Lyall :—

Mr. Buby, representing the American House.	Mr. Charles Mends, for McIver & Co.
„ Rottmann.	„ Daniel Abadoo, David Jones & Co.
„ Grant, Lyall & Co.	„ Hagan, Badbury & Co.
„ T. B. Crentsil, merchant.	„ Hammond, Taylor, Laughland & Co.
„ Acquah.	„ Chief Taylor.
„ Thomas Saw.	„ Coffee Mensah.
„ Dawson.	„ Addaboo.
„ Fraser, for Swanzy.	„ Johann.
	„ Robert Cann, merchant.

After introductions the Governor expressed his pleasure at seeing them all, remarked on the growth of the Colony, stated the wishes of Her Majesty's Government to push on the material interests of the Colony, especially with regard to sanitation, informed them of his having been relieved of a large portion of the departmental official work by the special appointment of Mr. Evans as Colonial Secretary, as well as by other arrangements, whereby he was enabled to make the present visit to them, and in asking them to say what they had to say, his Excellency remarked, respecting what they may require, that he had not got the means to meet all their wishes, for that the abolition of the *ad valorem* duties had caused the Government a loss of nearly 12,000*l.* of duty.

A paper on the requirements of Saltpond, which Mr. Lyall had previous to this meeting submitted was then gone into as follows :—

In the matter of *roads*, the Governor showed to Mr. Lyall the estimates for 1888, in which the sum of 500*l.* was contemplated to be spent for this service.\* His Excellency intimated *unofficially* that a *railway* may soon be expected to run from the Coast later on into the interior.

As regarded the statement by Mr. Lyall and others in the paper referred to that certain Government lamps for *Saltpond* were lying in the *Queen's warehouse* to the exclusion of other goods of the merchants instead of the lamps being put up, Mr. Lyall said that they were not duty payable goods, and that on the occasion referred to those goods were landed after hours, 6 o'clock.

In reply to their request for a medical officer, the Governor replied that it was a question to be decided between Saltpond and Winnebah as to which of them should have a medical officer. The proximity of Saltpond to Cape Coast, where a Colonial Medical Officer is generally stationed, and in his absence the Army Medical Officer acts, had to be taken into consideration, whereas Winnebah was 35 miles from Accra, the nearest medical station. But Mr. Lyall replied that there were more European residents at Saltpond than Winnebah, 12 or 14 the average, that not all the people of Saltpond could afford the expense of travelling to Cape Coast to see a doctor, and that the trade of Saltpond was double that of Winnebah.

His Excellency having replied that instead of the sick being carried to Cape Coast the medical officer should come to Saltpond, that he had asked for a statement of the imports and exports of the towns of Winnebah and Saltpond, whereby he might know the relative importance of the trade of each district, promised to keep the matter in mind.

*Latrines*.—There are five at Saltpond. Their sufficiency or insufficiency cannot be stated because there has not been sufficient surveillance in order to determine the point.

Throwing refuse from the windows of houses,—this has not been brought to the notice of the Commissioner before.

*Pigs*.—There were none at Saltpond. The Commissioner was instructed notwithstanding to put “the Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance” in force here, and in this connexion, people are to clean away the filth thrown on the sides of the upper portion of the lagoon, which his Excellency stated he had observed on inspecting it.

*Postal Clerk*.—It was observed that the statements in the paper are not intended as complaints against Mr. Bernasko, personally. The merchants represented that sometimes he accompanied the Commissioner to Anamaboe or elsewhere, and there was no one to sell stamps, that there was often no change to be had in the office, and that there were not

\* At Saltpond.

sufficient stamps, especially 1d. stamps. The Surveyor General said he had always known Saltpond to possess a large quantity of stamps. The Governor suggested to the Commissioner that arrangements should be made for some one to sell stamps when Mr. Bernasko was away. The Governor also informed them that it was intended to establish tri-weekly instead of bi-weekly posts.

*Shed for Goods.*—Mr. Lyall suggested one with movable sides. Mr. Buby related an accident of his tobacco having been under the rain. The Surveyor General considered the request a reasonable one, but thought a shed like the Court House at Saltpond would be better, suggested charge for labour, supervisor, and so forth, or it might be used to keep their goods a longer time than necessary. The Governor thought a fair charge should be made after a week's free storage.

*Tank.*—The Governor remarked on the good character of their water. The Surveyor General said a good site had been chosen for a tank, probable tank cost 1,500l., and would require superintendence in construction. The Governor said the matter would be considered when there was money available.

The merchants thought the construction of a powder magazine might be postponed and a tank erected, merchants stated they paid 20l. for land for tank. The Governor did not agree in the question of postponing the powder magazine.

*Government School.*—The Governor said he was disappointed about their school here. They were teaching Algebra to pupils not grown up to its study. There was one girl amongst 100 boys all cooped up in a wretched building on the basement. The Governor said the question of education at Saltpond would be brought to the notice of the educational board. Mr. Buby stated the education policy of Germany, by which from the age of five to 15 young people were compelled to go to a free school, after that age they were selected for different departments of industry, according to the tendency of each pupil, for commercial, engineering, farming, or other enterprise. And the Governor then remarked, with regard to farming, that he is now going to get a properly trained man for the purpose from Kew, in England, and establish an industrial farm at Aburi to grow and distribute different plants and seeds, so that by propagation additional articles of export would be produced besides palm oil and rubber business, the latter having been likened by the Governor to the story of the goose which laid golden eggs, and was killed in the hope thereby to get them quicker than by the natural course, with the result that no more eggs were obtained, the Governor remarked that the trade in rubber would soon die by cutting down of the trees instead of tapping them.

Mr. Buby said he also had been preaching the same, and added that it was his experience that one got more milk from the trees by tapping than by cutting them down.

The Governor closed the remarks by adding that he had brought some sunflower seeds for distribution by the District Commissioner, and stated their usefulness and the gorgeous beauty of their flowers.

*Robberies.*—Such as were reported to the police were gone into and the offenders brought to justice, the remainder were not reported to the District Commissioner. The Governor invited the co-operation of the people in reporting to the District Commissioner any robberies they heard of.

*Riots.*—Against these the Governor cautioned them, stating in unmistakeable terms, adding that all offenders would be tried and punished with the full penalty of the law, in fact, would be hung, when life was lost in such cases.

On the question of the reduction of duty on spirits the Governor bade them extinguish the last hope of its being done.

The women of Saltpond then interviewed the Governor; next presented a paper asking permission to hold their *markets* on the old market place.

His Excellency acceded to their request, read the law on the subject of making regulations for market places, and added that these regulations would be required to secure the good behaviour of the people who attended the market.

## Enclosure 25 in No. 1.

Sir,

Saltpond, July 30, 1890.

I HAVE the honour of forwarding the enclosed petition from the mercantile community of this place for consideration of His Excellency the Governor. I have no comments to make on the petition.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) CHARLES A. FRASER,  
District Commissioner.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

## Sub-enclosure.

To His Excellency Sir WILLIAM BRANDFORD GRIFFITH, K.C.M.G., Governor and  
Commander-in-Chief Gold Coast Colony, Christiansborg Castle, Accra.

Saltpond, July 29, 1890.

The humble petition of the undersigned members of the Mercantile Association, and other inhabitants of the town of Saltpond, sheweth :—

1. That your petitioners have received notice to the effect that an Ordinance, No. 12 of 1889, entitled the Stamp Ordinance, will come into operation on the 1st proximo.
2. That your petitioners are of opinion that the said Ordinance is in every way far too complicated to be understood by the majority of the inhabitants of this Colony more especially of this town, the residents whereof being principally men of, little or no education, and consequently quite impossible to be comprehended by them.
3. That should this Ordinance come into operation your petitioners are of opinion that the provisions thereof would lead to endless trouble and litigation.
4. That your petitioners, as a matter of fact, are humbly of opinion that they are not far enough advanced to make this Ordinance work smoothly and effectually for the benefit of all parties concerned.
5. That this being the case your petitioners respectfully suggest that this Ordinance be repealed in its entirety.
6. Your petitioners beg humbly to point out that the present state of trade is such that it is advisable for the Government not to raise obstacles to commerce, which the coming into operation of this Ordinance would undoubtedly cause, but rather do all in its power not only to foster trade, but to at all times aid the mercantile community in this crisis, and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed)

T. B. CRENTSIL, Chairman.

JOHN SMITH, Vice-Chairman.

his

ROBERT X CANN, Treasurer.

mark

G. W. T. LYALL.

A. GOOD, Secretary.

THOMAS FRASER, Swanzy's Agent.

CHASE AND NASH.

J. M. ABADOO, Agent, David  
Jones & Co.S. H. HAGAN, Charles McIver  
& Co.

POBEE AND SON.

PETER A. SAM.

W. B. QUAHIE.

their

DANIEL X MENDES.

JOSEPH X QUAGRINE.

WILLIAM X WOUNDU.

PETER X HAYFORD.

ABRAHAM X ADDOE.

CUDJOE X TANDOE.

QUACOE X ANTOBAM.

marks.

their

JOSEPH X OPPON.

JOHN X OBBOO.

GEORGE X MENDES.

CUDJOE X TARCOLE.

COBINAH X QUARKIE.

ATTAH X PENKENLAH.

ATT X CHAS. POBEE.

QUASIE X BOOMAH.

QUACOE X ESSON.

QUASIE X ADIAH.

COFFIE X OHIAH.

QUAMIN X ABIASAH.

QUAMIN X AMOOAH.

R. T. X ARTHUR.

CUDJOE X FORH.

QUACOE X MENSAH.

CUDJOE X AMANSIE.

W. X HAMMOND.

J. W. X HAMMOND.

ROBERT X POBEE.

JOS. X TAYLOR.

JAMES X QUASHIE.

marks.

## Enclosure 26 in No. 1.

## MINUTE PAPER.

PETITION from the MERCANTILE ASSOCIATION at SALTPOND praying for the repeal of the STAMPS ORDINANCE, No. 12 of 1889.

(Minutes.)

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,

SUBMITTED. Shall I acknowledge receipt of this petition and add that your Excellency is not in a position to carry out the wish they express for the repeal of this Ordinance?

(Initialled.) P. H.  
5/8/90.

Write to the Mercantile Association at Saltpond as follows:—

(Initialled.) W. B. G.  
7/8/90.

GENTLEMEN,

I AM directed by the Governor to inform you, in reply to your petition to his Excellency, that the Stamp Ordinance came into operation on the 1st instant; that it has the full approval of Her Majesty's Government, and that there is not the remotest probability that it will be repealed.

Experience shows that all new Ordinances are liable to be misunderstood at the commencement of their operation, especially when a disposition in this direction exists, but gradually the objections to them fall through; the difficulties predicted as to their working do not occur, and, therefore, the Governor has no doubt that after a while the Stamp Ordinance will be found to be free from the complications which you imagine with regard to it.

His Excellency is surprised to hear that it is your opinion that the majority of the residents of your town are principally men of little or no education, and consequently quite incapable of comprehending the Stamp Ordinance, because his Excellency has hitherto been of the opinion that, as a rule, the inhabitants of the rising town of Saltpond were intelligent, clever, sharp, and enterprising persons, and very smart business men, and his Excellency, still entertaining the same opinion of them, is, therefore, unwilling to accept the depreciatory opinion of them, as expressed by you, their townsmen.

The Governor notes the opinion you express that if the Ordinance comes into operation the provisions thereof would lead to endless trouble and litigation, and, no doubt this may be the case when a disposition in such direction exists; but wise and prudent men will probably endeavour to avoid these evils by a sensible line of conduct, as common sense is not necessarily combined with so called education.

The Governor regrets to find that in your humility you are of opinion that you are not far enough advanced to make the Stamp Ordinance work smoothly and effectually for the benefit of all parties concerned; but his Excellency is disposed to think that while speaking only for yourselves you undervalue your intelligence and ability, and, that, as gradually experience affords you a larger insight into the working of the Stamp Ordinance, you will realise that it is not the complicated enactment you have assumed it to be.

As regards the present state of trade throughout the Colony, the information in the Governor's possession shows that, so far from there being any crisis in it, the trade is most prosperous, while the insignificant charges made on bills of lading and receipts by the Stamp Ordinance cannot by any possibility "raise" the "obstacles to commerce" which you imagine will arise out of it.

I have, &c.  
(Initialled.) P. H.

## Enclosure 27 in No. 1.

Colonial Post Office, Accra,  
December 12, 1892.

SIR,

IN answer to your communication of the 9th instant, I beg leave to furnish below a statement of the circumstances connected with the attempted obstruction by Messrs. Macan and Batty of the Stamps Ordinance, when it came into force in August 1890, by their buying up the whole of the postage stamps in the hands of the Postmaster at Cape Coast.

2. As you will observe from the annexed papers, which furnish a history of the whole transaction, it would appear that the applications made by the clerks of Messrs. Macan and Batty for the purchase of penny stamps on the 5th of August 1890 was the result of preconcerted action.

3. Mr. Macan's clerk first applied for a quantity of penny stamps, when the stock on hand, viz. 10s., was sold to him, and he was asked to wait until a fresh supply was obtained from the Commissioner of the District, who then had a stock of 7*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* in penny stamps. Immediately afterwards Mr. Batty's clerk also made a similar application for penny stamps, when he was requested to wait, but they both left the Post Office stating they could not wait.

4. Mr. Macan then sent a telegram to the Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Batty addressed another to his Excellency the Governor (copies annexed), complaining of their inability to procure postage stamps at the Cape Coast Post Office.

5. It is, perhaps, necessary to explain that clause 10 of the rules regulating the issue of credit stock of postage stamps, published in Government Gazette No. 10 of 1892, provides for the supply to the public of large quantities of postage stamps through the Commissioners of Districts.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ROWLAND COLE,  
Colonial Postmaster.

THE DISTRICT POSTMASTER, CAPE COAST,

Colonial Post Office, Accra,  
August 6, 1890.

MESSRS. F. MACAN and A. Miller, Bros., & Co., of Cape Coast, having telegraphed to His Excellency the Governor and the Colonial Secretary respectively their inability to procure penny postage stamps at Cape Coast yesterday, I am desired to request you to state whether either or both of these gentlemen or their clerks applied to you for the purchase of stamps, and if so, at what hour during the day the two applications were made, and what was the substance of the reply given in each case.

You will also state the amount of penny stamps in your possession when the applications were made.

(Signed) ROWLAND COLE,  
Colonial Postmaster.

THE COLONIAL POSTMASTER, ACCRA,

District Post Office, Cape Coast,  
August 9, 1890.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum of the 6th instant and to state, in reply, that it was between 3 and 4 p.m. that these applications for the purchase of penny and other postage stamps were made by the clerks of Messrs. F. Macan and A. Miller, Bros., & Co.

Mr. Macan's having first applied for 20s. penny stamps and other face values, accordingly received what he required, which included 10s. penny stamps then on hand, and asked him at the same time to wait a few minutes till the day's supplies were received.

During this time Messrs. Miller's also applied for some penny stamps, and, not having any to give him, both of them left interruptedly, saying they could not wait.

The amount of penny stamps on hand at the time these applications were made was 10s., which could not meet their wishes, and neither of these gentlemen returned after this.

(Signed) J. F. THOMPSON,  
District Postmaster.

P.S.—The above was furnished by Mr. Blankson, the stamp seller.

COPY of a TELEGRAM from MESSRS. ALEX. MILLER, BROS. & Co., to HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, dated 5th August 1890.

Have applied at Post Office for penny stamps, but they had none. How are the terms of Stamp Ordinance to be complied with under these not unusual circumstances?

COPY of a TELEGRAM from F. MACAN to the COLONIAL SECRETARY, dated 5th August 1890.

Applied to-day for two pounds worth stamps, as usual unable to obtain them. Congratulating Government on admirable manner they are providing for easy working of new Stamp Ordinance.

COPY of a TELEGRAM from the DISTRICT COMMISSIONER OF CAPE COAST to the COLONIAL POSTMASTER, dated 6th August 1890.

I am not short of penny stamps, stock on hand to-day being seven pounds one shilling and elevenpence.

Enclosure 28 in No. 1.

EXTRACT from Mr. COWIE'S REPORT on the AXIM DISTRICT for 12 months ending November 24th, 1892.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Roads.*

I regret to say that during the whole of my time here the King of Axim has given me a great deal of trouble and bother about the roads, for the upkeep of which he is responsible. He is thoroughly unreliable and untrustworthy with regard to this matter, and more of a liar than any other Native Chief I have come across. The roads in Appollonia, however, on the other hand have been kept well cleaned and in good order, except during the periods of very heavy rains, and then it can hardly be expected, owing to the rapidity with which the weeds, grass, &c. come up and overgrow the roads.

\* \* \* \* \*

EXTRACT from Mr. COWIE'S REPORT on the AXIM DISTRICT for 12 months ending November 24th, 1892.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Sanitary.*

There being a medical officer of health here, it is hardly my duty to make a report under this heading, but I may say that I have had latrine trenches dug here, six in all, which are situated two at the back of upper town, two for females at the back of lower town, and two more at the end of lower town. No latrines for the use of the public, though they have been asked for by myself and three of my predecessors, have yet been sent from head-quarters.

\* \* \* \* \*

Enclosure 29 in No. 1.

EXTRACT from GOLD COAST DESPATCH of 10th November 1890, from Governor Sir W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH, K.C.M.G., to LORD KNUTSFORD.

\* \* \* \* \*

13. The Government has not been unmindful of the responsibility which devolves upon it to keep the principal trade roads open and to improve the communication between the important towns inland and those on the seaboard, and towards this end an inspector of interior trade roads has been specially appointed. Since his arrival he has

been engaged on road making in the Kwitta district, and when his work there has been performed he will be sent to make new or to improve old roads in such direction as may be deemed most advisable at the time. But the Government, with every desire to improve and add to the important roads of the Colony, can make haste but slowly in the work, and it will be as well that over sanguine people should bear this in mind. The Colony is only in the 16th year of its existence, and doubly and trebly more has been done in the last five years to advance its substantial interests than was attempted in the previous 11 years, while the public works provided for and in contemplation all point in the direction of promoting the solid benefit of the Colony. Roads for carriage traffic will be all very well in their way, when it is shown beyond doubt that such traffic can be steadily maintained, but it appears to me that the real improved communication which is required between the seaboard and the interior is that to be afforded by the introduction of railways, and once these are set about and completed the farmers of the interior will make cross and other roads to reach the respective termini, and the necessity for good intermediate Government roads, either in connexion with railways or independent of them, will then show itself and indicate where these should be made.

14. The introduction of light railways between Accra and Krobo; Anamabu with Saltpond towards Akim, Swaydru, and Insuaim, and Cape Coast and Elmina to the countries behind them, with branch lines connecting them with other places, will do more towards the rapid opening and development of the interior and place it far more promptly in touch with the commercial seaboard, than the slower and uncertain process of carriage transport by cattle; of course, the laying down of railways will cost a considerable sum of money, and the interest and sinking fund necessary to obtain them will have to be provided, and will necessarily lead to some kind of taxation for the purpose; but the Colony will benefit immensely by the impetus which will be given to trade and enlarged agricultural operations, irrespective of the gain to labourers and others employed in the construction and maintenance of railways. Besides, to use the language of the report, "improved means of communication will lead to a great and immediate increase in the exports of palm oil and kernels," and it may be added of rubber, timber, and other valuable products.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Enclosure 30 in No. 1.

EXTRACT of LETTER, dated 8th March 1892, from the DISTRICT COMMISSIONER  
Kwitta to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, that in accordance with the permission granted by your service message, received by me on the 4th ultimo, I proceeded to Agbosome and inspected the road made by King Macarthy between Agbosome and Pojlé market on the 27th.

It is the best road that I have yet seen, and one could drive a carriage and pair along it for some nine miles, its entire length. The country is flat, but the bush, which is very general, is very thick on each side, and it must have taken a considerable amount of time and labour to clear for the road. I make the same remark on this road as I did on Mr. Inglefield's to Beve, viz., that the traffic will not keep the road open so long as the Natives persist in walking in single file, and I am afraid that at my next inspection of this road, which will be after the rains, I shall find it much overgrown, although I impressed upon the King and two of the Chiefs or headmen, whom I visited along the line of road, the necessity of keeping it open.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Enclosure 31 in No. 1.

EXTRACT from DESPATCH of 10th November 1890, from Governor Sir W. BRANDFORD  
GRIFFITH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

\* \* \* \* \*

30. With regard to the undoubted poverty of the country, I say without hesitation that it is immensely rich in vegetable and mineral wealth. It is admitted in the report that "nature repays every effort of cultivation by a hundredfold return, and as the wants

“ of man are confined almost exclusively to his daily necessary food there is no incentive “ to exertion.” As to the resources of the people having been diminished by a long period of depression, which has checked their spirit of enterprise so that it requires nursing, I would ask attention to the following figures, indicating the imports and exports of the Colony for 15 years, say from 1875 to 1889.

Years.	Values of	
	Imports.	Exports.
1875	£ 364,672	£ 327,012
1876	446,088	465,268
1877	327,274	387,002
1878	394,153	393,457
1879	323,089	428,811
1880	337,248	482,058
1881	398,124	373,258
1882	392,975	340,019
1883	382,582	363,868
1884	527,339	467,228
1885	464,424	496,318
1886	376,530	406,539
1887	363,716	372,446
1888	432,112	381,019
1889	440,868	415,926
Total exports	- - - - -	6,100,229
Total imports	- - - - -	5,971,194
Balance of trade in favour of Colony in 15 years.	- - - - -	129,035

£

This fact completely dispels the delusion that the resources of the people have been diminished by a period of depression prevailing for many years ; while the figures show that the average imports from 1875 to 1889 were - - - - - 398,080 and the exports - - - - - 406,682

showing the total average annual trade of the Colony as - - - - - 804,762

which might be considerably increased if the average Native was less indolent and apathetic.

Enclosure 32 in No. 1.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

TENDERS for the SUPPLY of KEROSENE OIL.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra,  
October 11, 1892.

Tenders are invited, and will be received up to Monday the 21st November, for the supply to the Government, during 1893, of 1,241 cases of kerosene oil, to be delivered at the places and in the quantities specified below.

2. Each case is to hold two tins, containing five wine gallons each (the tins being of the usual size, viz., 13½ inches by 9½ inches), and the cases of pine wood.

3. The oil must be guaranteed to be of the best quality and illuminating power, and is to be delivered on the several beaches above high-water mark.

4. Half the quantities are to be delivered before the 21st of January, and half before the 21st of July.

5. The Government will not undertake to accept the lowest or any tender.

Station.	Cases.	Station.	Cases.
Dixcove - - - -	40	Appam - - - -	6
Sekondi - - - -	15	Winneba - - - -	45
Chama - - - -	15	Accra - - - -	450
Elmina - - - -	150	Pram Pram - - - -	30
Cape Coast - - - -	300	Ada - - - -	95
Saltpond - - - -	30	Kwitta - - - -	65

By his Excellency's Command.

(Signed) F. M. HODGSON,  
Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 33 in No. 1.

The GOVERNOR to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

COLONIAL SECRETARY,

INFORM the Colonial Surveyor that I have seen a complaint in which it is stated, as regards the lighting of towns, that, "It is true that the seaboard towns are provided with kerosine lamps, but they are so few in number, inefficient in power, and badly attended to, that they are a very doubtful advantage," and state that I wish to know (1) whether this is the case or not, and, if it is the case (2), who is responsible for the lamps being inefficient in power and badly attended to.

State, also, that I wish to be informed by whom the oil with which the lamps have been lighted has been supplied since the date when the lamps were first brought into requisition, and whether the tenders contained any stipulation with regard to the quality of the oil, and if so, what the stipulation was.

I also desire to know the annual expense for oil since it was first used for lighting the lamps in towns, in other words, the annual sums paid to the contractors for their supplies.

(Initialled.) W. B. G.  
7/12/92.

Enclosure 34 in No. 1.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY to the ACTING COLONIAL SURVEYOR.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Victoriaborg, Accra,  
April 10, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Governor, to call your particular attention to my letter of the 10th December last, in which you were requested to state, for his Excellency's information, whether (1) "It is true that, though the seaboard towns are provided with kerosine lamps they are few in number, insufficient in power, and badly attended to, and that they are of very doubtful advantage"; and, (2) if this is so, "who is responsible for the lamps being insufficient in power and badly attended to." (3) "By whom the oil with which the lamps are lighted has been supplied since the date that the lamps were first brought into use, and whether the tenders contained any stipulation with regard to the oil, and, if so, what the stipulation was." Further, "what has been the expense annually for oil since it was first used for lighting, that is to say, the annual sums paid to contractors for oil obtained for them."

2. It is now four months since this information was called for by his Excellency, and I am to request that, if you have not already done so, you will give the matter your immediate attention, as the information is urgently required.

The Acting Colonial Surveyor,  
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. M. HODGSON,  
Colonial Secretary.

## Enclosure 35 in No. 1.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURVEYOR to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Public Works Department, Victoriaborg, Accra,

April 20, 1893.

SIR,

IN answer to your letter of the 10th April, I have the honour to submit the following replies to his Excellency's inquiry :—

1. "Whether it is true that, though the seaboard towns are provided with kerosine lamps, they are few in number, insufficient in power, and badly attended to, and that they are of doubtful advantage."

(a.) It is not only the seaboard towns that are provided with lamps; there are others in the inland, viz., 10 at Takwa, 14 at Akuse, and 20 at Aburi.

(b.) As to the number being few, it must be remembered that the lamps at present in use are not what we started with; the original number has been considerably increased.

(c.) It is not stated whether the insufficiency in power is due to fault in the design of the lamp or to a low illuminating power of the kerosine oil. I take it that the insufficiency in power, as stated in the inquiry, is independent of its being due to the lamps being badly attended to, although in some cases bad attention to a lamp would interfere with its illuminating power.

I make a few remarks (1) on the design of the lamps, and (2) on the illuminating power of the kerosine oil.

(1.) Before selecting the present lamps two or three of them were put up in exposed places to test their sufficiency to withstand tornado. Observation was also made, I think, by the late Mr. Pagan, the Surveyor General at the time, as to illuminating power. It may be asked, however, whether the observation established the fact that the power was sufficient. In the absence of any statement made by Mr. Pagan that after conducting his observations he found that the power was not sufficient, we may safely assume or infer that he considered them sufficient; thus the design of the lamps for their purpose was duly considered.

(2.) The oil supplied was the best obtainable, and so much did Mr. Jones, the Colonial Surveyor, consider its illuminating power, that he proposed to use kerosine oil at one time for the lighthouse.

(d.) Having referred to the point of insufficiency of power, I beg now to reply to the next point, viz., the lamps being badly attended to. I have already referred to this matter in my minute of 3.1.93. Proper attention is given to these lights: they are cleaned every day, cloth is given to the lamplighters for the purpose, they are all lit by the lamplighters at proper hours by sunset, and put out in the early morning. There is an inspector of lamps who goes round to see that the lamps are in order every night. Any misconduct or neglect on the part of the men are punished with fines. The District Commissioners are responsible at the out stations, where there are no foremen of works, for the lighting, and they send monthly returns to this office; where there is a foreman of works, of course this duty devolves upon him. By this, therefore, you will see that there is a system of check on the lighting, and except in a few isolated instances of one or two lamps burning badly in a night, which have been reported by our Inspector of Lamps, no general complaint by the public has reached this Department as to bad attention to the lamps.

No complaint has also reached me from the out stations.

(e.) The Public Works Department is responsible for the lighting, and I hope I have proved that there has been no neglect of duty on its part in this matter.

(f.) As to the kerosine lamps being of "very doubtful advantage."

The point may be answered by making the following inquiry :—Is there any advantage at all in supplying light? If so, there is decided advantage in having those lamps, and taking the expression "very doubtful advantage" as an amplification of the previous statement that the lamps are few in number, "doubtful advantage" may mean that the advantage is insufficient; and this not because the lamps and oil are unsuitable, or that the lamps are badly attended to, as I have shown. There is no doubt that there is *decided* advantage in having these lights, the very complaint admits that there is an advantage, but one which is desired to be increased; as we are all aware "appetite comes by eating," says the Frenchman, and having once got lamps they will want more and more. But we have so far met this desire: commencing with 12 lamps in 1885, there are at present 533 lamps in use in the Colony; and although the statement is made that

the lamps are still few in number, it will be observed that they are on the tendency to increase.

In reply to his Excellency's third inquiry, relating to the contract for the supply of kerosine oil, I beg to attach a copy of the notice\* calling for tenders, which contains the stipulations required. The tenders of Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy have, since the lamps were put up, been accepted every year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. A. ALBERT BARNES,

Assistant Surveyor.

Acting Colonial Surveyor.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,

Victoriaborg.

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Enclosure 36 in No. 1.

Mr. BURNETT to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

Accra, December 10th, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that it has just come to my knowledge that three of the factors for my firm have signed a certain petition addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on behalf of my firm, Yates, Brothers, and Shattuck, without authority or my knowledge.

I have, therefore, to say—

I. That I am the sole representative and manager of this firm's business in West Africa, therefore, the only one authorised to sign such documents in their name.

II. That this petition was never submitted to me as the representative of the firm of Yates, Brothers, and Shattuck, (or otherwise) for my signature, and had it been done I should not have signed, as I have since seen a copy and cannot endorse its contents.

III. That I would respectfully ask that the name of Yates, Brothers, and Shattuck be struck from the list of signatures.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. M. BURNETT,

Agent for Yates, Brothers, and Shattuck.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,  
Christiansborg.

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Enclosure 37 in No. 1.

Mr. DUISBERG to the GOVERNOR.

SIR,

Basel Mission Factory, Accra, March 16th, 1893.

FOR some time ago I have been desirous of addressing your Excellency, with a view of removing any misconception which might be likely to arise in regard to the views entertained by me in respect of the various matters connected with the Colony, which were expressed in the letter of October last addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

In signing that letter I intended to convey nothing personal either against your Excellency or the administration of the Colony, but to bring to notice the necessity there was in the interests of the trading portion of the community here of improving the landing place at Ussher Town, by the improvement of the existing road, the making of a proper place of security for our surf boats in order to protect them against the violence of the sea, and the erection of a Customs shed in which goods landed would be temporarily stored. I felt that if this was brought to your Excellency's notice something would be done at once to do these things, and so save us from the loss and expense which their absence occasioned us merchants.

With the other objects stated in the letter I have no further concern than your Excellency yourself has in your desire to do what lies in your power to improve this Colony, and had I thought that in being one of the signatories it would convey the idea that improvements had not been made by your Excellency, or that many efforts had not been made to improve the condition of the Colony generally, I should have declined to sign my name.

The recent improvement made to the landing place I have mentioned, which has been done under your Excellency's own superintendence removes all the difficulties that I have mentioned, and the thanks of all who use it are willingly and gratefully tendered to your Excellency for it, we feeling that the other things required will now receive the attention they call for.

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\* Enclosure No. 32.

I will not enter upon a *resumé* of your Excellency's labours for the benefit of the Colony, but I feel that were I not to say that much has been done to improve the towns in every way and further the progress of civilization, I should be doing your Excellency an injustice, and should my signature to the letter referred to convey any other impression than this, it is other than what I intended it should.

I beg most respectfully to render to your Excellency my sincere congratulations upon what has been done in the past, and my sincere wishes that in the future the same success may attend your Excellency's efforts to improve the Colony more and more.

Repeating my thanks for your Excellency's invariable kindness rendered so often to me,

To His Excellency  
Sir W. Brandford Griffith,  
Governor, Christiansborg Castle.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. DUISBERG,  
Agent of the Basel Mission Factory.

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No. 2.

THE MARQUESS OF RIPON to ACTING GOVERNOR HODGSON.

SIR,

Downing Street, October 17, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir B. Griffith's Despatch, of 12th June last,\* forwarding a communication, dated October 31, 1892, addressed to me by certain merchants, agents, and traders of the Gold Coast Colony bringing under my notice various facts in connexion with the Colony, and particularly with reference to Ordinance No. 25 of 1889 imposing an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. upon nearly upon all the imports into the Colony.

2. I have to request you to inform Mr. Waters and his co-signatories that I have had under my consideration their memorial, and Sir B. Griffith's Despatch forwarding and reporting upon it, but that after giving the matter my careful attention I am unable to find in the memorial, in which there is, as it seems to me, in some instances both inaccuracy and exaggeration, any sufficient grounds for the very strong censure which it conveys upon Sir B. Griffith's administration of the Gold Coast Colony.

3. I am satisfied that, having regard to the peculiar circumstances of the Colony, a large measure of improvement and development has taken place within the last few years, and may be expected in the future to progress even more rapidly and extensively.

4. It is obvious that to carry out such improvement and development adequate funds must be at the disposal of the Government, and for this purpose there appears to be no available mode of taxation less objectionable than the present *ad valorem* duty, the reduction of which I am not therefore, as at present advised, prepared to direct.

5. I concur in the view expressed by Sir B. Griffith as to the uselessness of constructing roads for wheeled traffic, which are unsuited to the habits and customs of the people, but I regret that I am not altogether satisfied that sufficient attention has been paid by the Colonial Government to the important question of improving and keeping in order the existing roads of the Colony, and opening up, where possible, additional means of communication.

6. Now, however, that the creation of a Department of Roads has been sanctioned I trust that the communications and means of transport in the Colony will soon be brought under an efficient system of inspection, and that the intention expressed in the preamble of the Ordinance No. 25 of 1889 will be fully carried out, and any ground for complaint in this respect removed.

7. With regard to the desire of the memorialists that the unofficial element in the Legislative Council should be increased, I have to point out that an additional unofficial member has recently been appointed, but I regret to observe from the minutes of Council that the other unofficial member has, between 30th December 1889 and 29th June 1893, only attended three sittings of the Council out of 73 which have been held.

8. In conclusion I have to state that I do not think it necessary to appoint any Commissioner to visit the Colony, and inquire into the needs and requirements of the community, as asked for in the last paragraph of the memorial.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) RIPON.

R E T U R N.

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G O L D C O A S T.

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PART II.

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
30 June 1873.*

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[*Price 3 s.*]

GOLD COAST.

*J. L. Furler.*

DESPATCH

FROM

GOVERNOR SIR W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH, K.C.M.G.,

FORWARDING A

MEMORIAL FROM MERCHANTS, AGENTS,  
AND TRADERS

OF THE

GOLD COAST COLONY,

WITH HIS OBSERVATIONS

AND THE

SECRETARY OF STATE'S REPLY.

---

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
*November 1893.*

---



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