The Gold Coast Leader.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

	Cape Coast.	Abroad.
Annual... ...	... 10/6	...14/6
Half Year...	... 5/6	...7/6
Quarter... ...	... 3/-	...4/-

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Advertisements should be sent to the MANAGER at least three days before the day of publication and to be accompanied by remittance.

Twelve lines and under	5/-
Additional line	-/6
Birth, Death or Marriage	2/6

Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

All Communications intended for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.

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

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

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.

Good reliable Store-Keepers wanted under pay or commission with good securities.

Apply to German West African Trading Co. Ltd at Cape Coast.

TO LET.

ABBENTOOKOO HOUSE the property of Mr. P. W. Bernasko, situate at Anorkin Wurabam right curve of the Beula Road, very comfortable dwelling house, furnished rooms fitted throughout with Electric Bells, Drawing Room fitted with Punkah, spacious yard with Water Tanks.

For further particulars apply to the undersigned.

D. M. ABADOO
J. W. DERBY.

Mr. J. M. HYATT,

of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission undertakes Dental Work at his residence for those who are in need of relief from tooth ache. Sore teeth treated, decayed teeth filled, or carefully extracted as may be required.

GENERAL NEWS.

A child died from drinking carbolic last Friday at Intin.

Last Saturday the American Templars went out for a pic-nic, and held a Temperance Service the next day at Wesley Chapel in the afternoon, Bro. Rev. Brodie Graham officiating.

The Catholics lost one of their Fathers last Tuesday (Father E. B. Raess), he was buried the same evening at the Tantree Cemetry: the funeral ceremony was very imposing.

There was another funeral by the same church on the next morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Solomon arrived here from Axim by the *Sobo* last Saturday night.

Mr. Cecil Addaquay and Miss Elizabeth Moses "got spliced" last Thursday at the Wesley Chapel Rev. Parker officiating. Good luck!

At last, Yewan of Kommenda fame has been deposed. King Essandor and the Kommendas have our congratulations. The former has been rid of an impertinent sub-King and the latter of a tyrant. We publish elsewhere the *D.C.* at Elmina's letter to King Essandor intimating the King of the news.

"ORIGIN OF THE NAME "AFRICA."—According to Mr. George Babington Mitchell, the name is derived from the Libyan word "Ifri," a cave—a name that still exists in the Jebel Yefran, a mountain between Tunis and Tripoli."—*W.A.M.*

Gold Coast Railway.—The estimates of receipts from 1st. July to 31st. December, 1903, amount to £17,220 gross receipts passenger traffic, and £32,352 gross receipts goods traffic. The receipts over the first section, Sekondi-Tarkwa, are worked out at £68 per mile; Sekondi-Huni Valley at £20 per mile; Sekondi-Dunkwa (101 miles) at £10 per mile.

From Lagos we learn that a "native christian marriage" was celebrated between the niece of Rev. D. A. Jones and Mr. J. E. Thomas on the 23rd. ult.

A STRANGE EXHORATTION: A clergyman in a small Town preached one Sunday from the text, "Love one another." Among numerous illustrations he told a little story of two goats that had met on the one-plank bridge which crossed a small stream in one part of his country parish. "But did they fight and try to push each other into the water?" queried the minister. "Oh no! One lay down and allowed the other to step over him. There was the right spirit! My brethren" said the minister, leaning over the pulpit and speaking in a gentle, persuasive tone, "let us live like goats."—*Sunday Circle.*

It may not be generally known that the Bible Society has a depot here. Mr. Howard Davis who is in charge keeps his store under Kumasie House (Chief Coker's.)

A MAN FROM THE OTHER WORLD. There is a story being circulated in Town, which seems to be credited in some quarters that a Jukwa man who died sometime before Prempeh's deportment is now a denizen of this sublunary world once more and has sent a message to King Kantabissa. News for the credulous.

Bros. Moore and Pyne have been to Appam and instituted a Lodge to be worked under the jurisdiction of the I.S.L. a report of which has just got to us, which may appear in our next issue.

Every day and its news. This is what Yewan, the ex-sub-King of Kommenda, the once, would—be protege of—you know(—)has come to. There was some hideous noise in Jackson Street last Wednesday night the cause of which is attributed to this, the late Oppressor of Kommenda.

Some Kommendas stopping at the Jackson Street, use to sit on the wall at Mr. W. J. Hooper's and on the night in question he went over there, dug a hole behind the house and put some poisonous drugs, purporting to kill in it and was making his escape.

Two young boys from the house, laying on the wall at the spot whom he thought were asleep were the means of his being detected. Constables came to the scene and marched him off to the look-up for safe keeping but he was let off we understand, and ordered to leave the Town.

A PHENOMENON.

SIX CHILDREN AT ONE BIRTH.

"A woman in Usher Town on the night of the 18th. gave birth to six living babies, five boys and one girl: the next day the town was in confusion, both Europeans and Natives rushing to see them—Money and different kinds of presents were given them: this same woman had four babies in 1895."

Yesterday the news came that the little things have all died.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

	Due at Cape Coast.
Egwanga Opobo Service	... May 2
*Biafra Lagos Express Service ...	,, 4
Coomassie Brass Service... ...	... ,, 5
*Oron South C. Express Service No. 1	,, 11
Accra Southern Windward Service	,, 16
Angola Opobo Service...	,, 17
Batanga Brass Service	,, 19
Nyanga Opobo Service	,, 30

HOMEWARDS.

Tarquah	S. C. Express Service No. 1	May 1
Bakana	Brass Service	,, 7
Sokoto	Lagos Express Service ...	,, 7
Watri	Opobo Service	,, 11
Borun	South C. Express Service No. 2	,, 15
Sekondi	S. C. Express Service No. 1	,, 20

BAYIN.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

When Mr. *D.C.* O'Brien last visited here he asked King Ayimah not to clean the road near the beach cut by the late *D.C.* Graham as he thought it was unnecessary to clean not being a trade road. If the road is not useful to the public Mr. Graham would not have taken the troubue of cutting it. Since then it has been left uncleared and it is quite impassable for the people doing the journey between here, Axim and Half-Assinee especially at high tides when this must necessarily be used. We are not aware whether the instructions proceeded from the Governor or they were at Mr. O'Brien's own discretion. If it emanated from the Governor, we then humbly ask him to give order for its cleaning as it is very useful to the public.

We understand that through a report of Mr. O'Brien's King Ayimah has been fined £30 for not cleaning the Nubah-Tanosu Road. This road is of a distance of about 60 miles and since the King commenced cleaning it over four years ago only £30 has been paid to him by the Government as road dues and yet he has been mulcted in fines up to £130. We expect that our Government would be impartial and considerate.

Captain Sendra, with his men and carriers arrived here on the 16th. ultimo from his boundary expedition. It is about 9 months since he passed here on expedition. He left for Axim with his men the next day.

Trade is very dull here.

Mr. Thompson an engineer and Mr. Thomas passed here for Mappeh on the 10th. ultimo on *gold mining* Expedition.

DIXCOVE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

It is a matter of much surprise here that this Town, which is evidently looked upon as an out of the way place cannot boast of street lamps as we here hear the other towns are favoured with. If it is possible for the Governor to think of us too we shall be thankful to him. One would like to know what becomes of the revenue from this place, be it small or great.

I wish to know whether it is the duty of the Government or the Missionaries here to clean the Cemetery.

We have a small stream running through the Town, and it is pitiable to see how dirty and muddy it is kept, rags, straws and what not all find repose here: no wonder that the epidemic created such a havoc here: the stench in the mornings is unbearable. If any revenue comes out from this place at all (and we know it does) then its improvement should have some attention. At one time we are told a doctor lived in the Fort for sanitary purposes, and now the Town is about the worse place in the Country on that score. Its all Sekondi now. The District Commissioner is doing all he can but we find he is to do everything according to instructions from the Headquarters.

The D. C. has taken the trouble to make us a native latrine by digging the ground and putting some sticks on it, both men and women are to use it without any cover, while in other places their latrines are roofed with corrugated iron.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The rainy season has set in and "aided and abetted" by violent tornadoes, it is tumbling down weak houses.

On Monday evening the 20th inst there blew a heavy gale which resulted in the loss of a Kroo-boy and two lighters loaded with goods. The body of the Kroo-boy came ashore last Wednesday much

decomposed when it was buried.

The addition to the new Post Office has been completed some months—but as it has no latrine attached to it, it must be considered as incomplete.

The s/s "Nigeria" which touched this port the other day, outward, is running the sailing of the "Philippeville."

Mr. Gaisey—a probationery Customs officer was sentenced last Friday to 3 months imprisonment with hard labour for stealing a tin of unsweetened milk.

At 4 on Saturday evening the members of the I.O.G.T.—English branch—attended the burial of a deceased girl (Juvenile Temple.) Mr. Thompson officiated.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. G. W. Johnson of Swanzy's which took place on the 13th ult. He was only bed-ridden with fever for eight days.

A grand *Fanti Concert* was given by the Wesleyan Singing Band on Tuesday night the 14th. ult. on the eve of the departure of Rev. J. B. Anaman from our midst. Mr. J. W. Enchill took the chair. Master Winfull occupied the Organ and contributed greatly to the merriment of the evening.

Mr. *D. C* Harper who left on inspection on *Good Friday* for Akim Insuaim has returned to town. On the 20th ultimo, there was a heavy rainfall and a cyclone which swept away the roof of the Warehouse, wholesale store and boat shed of Messrs F. & A. Swanzy.

Among the passengers who left here for Europe by the "Bathurst" was Mr. J.R. Douglas, the Foreman of works who was invalided home.

On Tuesday night the 21st. ultimo "a farewell Concert was given at the "Solomon Memorial School" Room to Mr. Jacob Assan the Wesleyan Schoolmaster on his leaving for Tarkwa by the Elementary School boys. The "Infantry Brass Instruments" was in attendance. Mr. F. H. Fearon Barrister-at-Law occupied the Chair. Mr. G. P. H. Sam a photographer presided at the organ assisted by Master J. E. Winfull. At the opening of the entertainment the Rev. J. B. Anaman introduced the Chairman when the National Anthem was played by the Instruments accompanied by the organ. Among the gentlemen present besides the Chairman and Mr. Anaman were Dr. M. J. Loughley, Messrs Steedman of Millers, Ashmore the Supervisor of Customs, Alice and Boslamann both of the German West African Trading Company. While the concert was going on some heavy stones were repeatedly thrown on the zinc-roofed house as also against the windows by some wicked boys which created unnecessary annoyance. Dr. Loughley however arrested that by secretly running to the Police Station and fetching the Police Sergeant and some constables whom he brought barefooted intentionally, but unfortunately the scoundrels had detected them and fled before their arrival on the spot. One of them, however, Duadum by name was arrested and we hope an example would be made of him.

Mr. Henry Anaman has got an appointment as Interpreter for Cape Coast, Supreme Court.

A case of nickel-plated Cornets belonging to the "Infantry Brass Instruments" which Mr. Steedman, Millers' Agent ordered his Kroo-boys to seize and sent to the Doctor on *Good Friday* whilst they were practising, have been freely returned to them to his discomfiture, *eh!*

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Last Saturday afternoon a letter was placed in our hands, dated from one of the towns in Southern Nigeria in which were these words:— "I intend subscribing 30/- every year towards the *Leader*.....This 30/- would have nothing to do with my present subscription for copies." Considering what appeared in this column last week, this bit of news comes in most opportunely to assure us that after all there *are* some young men to be found, willing to do what little they can for the upkeep of the Paper. A surer mark of practical appreciation of the *Leader*, we cannot have. We cannot help expressing a regret, that he forbids us giving out his name, if we chose to mention it in the Paper; the wishes however of such a generous young man must be respected. Others might go and do likewise.

Orthographist writes from Sekondee wishing to know the correct spelling of *Secondee* (he says, this is how he spells it), "In every department and in every office in town one finds the name differently spelt. Some spell it as *Sekondi*, others *Sekundi*, *Secondee*, *Sekundie* and *Sekondee*. Can you kindly throw a light on the subject for us and oblige." We transfer this high honour to some worthy person. Sekundi is fast becoming *the* town on the Gold Coast, that it is only right we should know the correct spelling of that town, as we shall all more or less have to use it. Who shalldecide once for all, the spelling of the name of this important Town?

From correspondence to hand, we take the liberty to inform the Party who is in charge of the Post Office at Axim to endeavour to be a little more courteous to people who go there 'on duty.' He must remember he is a public servant, and as such he is expected to be civil to the Public. Some of our officials seem to throw all politeness to the wind, in their attendance on the Public. A public officer should not be churlish. We are fortunate then in having at the head of our Postal affairs here, a gentleman who seems to be the very embodiment of countesy. Seeing they are in the same department, will the gentleman referred to, take the pains to correspond with aim for lessons? It will do him good all his life time, in or out of the Service.

This week also is to pass without our second article on the *Synod and Temperance*. Having failed to find any official information from the published *Annuals*, it is for us to see if we can find out, from other sources, what this great Church is doing on this important question which threatens to be a national sin. No doubt the subject is considered so important by the Synod, that it does not deem it necessary to report on it in the *Annuals*, each Circuit to keep its own report on the Temperance Work in its Circuit Archives!

Mr. P. E. Sampson's letter which appeared in our last issue, we have all read, and some of us took it in good grace. As a matter of fact, we admire the action of such men like himself, Barnes and *Patriot*, men who come forward boldly with their opinions or views on public matters, and we only hope this is not to be their "first and last." Opinions differ, and we are not such fools to think, that our way of looking at things must always be right. Having expressed our opinion on any public matter, others who hold opposite views must of course air theirs too, and then Public Opinion will judge.

For our part we shall say what we think, should and ought to be said, others may do the same, then it will be for the Public to say which is which.

The *Leader* must be what it professes to be —a public journal, for, and in the interest of the People. The action therefore of these men referred to is nobler, and more gentlemanly and manly than those who prefer to talk all manner of rot, "*behind*," offering stupid and selfish and envious criticisms to their friends, evidently to satisfy some personal feeling. Such class of men we desire to treat with respectful disdain, and they shall have their deserts in due course if patriots they must suppose themselves to be—and such they are not.

Whether we agree with all that was said in the letters referred to, or not, whether our views were fairly dealt with or not, we do not stop to say, we have said so already: one thing we are sure of, and give them credit for, they meant well, besides we have a saying that *Nyimpa oritwa sa o nyim de ne kyir akyia*. But we think Mr. "P. E. Sampson, of Gold Coast," has gone too far. We would have said nothing of his letter to *us*, taking it as we did the others on the subject: but to writeto the Editor of the *Gold Coast Globe*, (April 11) the letter he did which lies before us now, we think he has over shot the mark. He can write to any paper or papers he likes, but we certainly do not ask him to hold the brief for us. Such effusions will not do and can only be said to emanate from youthful indiscretions. As all our readers are not likely to see the correspondence referred to, we say nothing of it at length, but we must say to Mr. Sampson, that the *Leader* can speak for itself, and he must wait till we appeal to him for protection, before writing such bombastic and pompous rot. There is a limit to every thing.

With his intelligence, and from where he writes ("This is my view of things (as a native) on this side of the Atlantic," he says, and we are quite contended with the views of natives on *our* side of the Atlantic,) he surprises us, for he should know we have said nothing very extraordinary, for him to display such a gushy stuff. If our space allows, we shall show Mr. "P. E. Sampson of Gold Coast" by reproducing from another Colonial Paper (not West African, please) that we practically said nothing, or our Representative told us the right thing, and no one knows this better than our Governor himself. It is this sort of balderdash that does all the harm to this most unfortunate Country. Its best to leave the subject, for *many* reasons.

Will it not be better for some of our people who go in wholesale for European papers to substitute three or four of them for the *Gold Coast Chronicle*, *Lagos Record or Standard* and the *Sierra Leone Weekly*, if only to know what is going on, on the West Coast also.

A WARNING TO ALL.

We must again warn parties who have made it their practice to take away copies of the *Leader* through the Post Office not intended for them and thereby preventing the same from getting to their owners. Any person caught in the act shall have himself to blame.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Thursday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAY 2, 1903.

THE NATIVE COURTS.

What should next engage our attention are, our Native Courts and the heavy demands (as reported) by our native heads from the people with regards to their "Oaths." It is understood that in bringing any complaint before a native tribunal the party putting in the complaint, and the one against whom the complaint is lodged, or speaking in the parlance of an English Court of Justice, both the plaintiff and the Defendant, pay down an equal amount to the *Baguafu* that is, the people who sit on cases with the King as the President, before the hearing of the case, and whoever is proved 'guilty' in a case would have to pay in addition to his own whatever was paid by the other party whose cause had been sustained. As the amount thus asked for before the hearing of the case is usually not a small amount, it often transpires that any one leaving the native court, as having been proved guilty, leaves with a heavy debt, be the party rich or poor. This cannot be a state of things to encourge the litigiously disposed to go to the King's Court. With his seven shillings and sixpence, with nothing more to pay, when guilty, the litigious native, would now rush to the D.C's court, with its disadvantage of not being allowed to talk to his heart's content, a privilege he enjoys in the other Court. Our Kings therefore, should use their influence to bring these Court fees or charges to a sensible and reasonable limit. *Baguafu* composing of men of independent means as it was in days gone by, who can make the fees or charges only a nominal thing, or such as would be reasonable to maintain the dignity of the King's Court, in no way making the people, to think they are maintaining themselves on these charges or fees, men of ripe experience and well acquainted with our native laws, men whose aim should be, to maintain peace and quietness among the people, seeing that the King's subjects live peaceably amongst themselves, men whose integrity and impartiality can bear the most scrutinizing light, dealing out justice to rich and poor alike, wealth and age not being allowed to contort their juseice but facts to weigh with them in their decisions —men of such calibre sitting with our Kings in their Courts, will make their subjects have confidence in them, whenever they have occasion to go to them for justice. If bribery (and

other unfair *movements*) cannot be shut out in civilized Courts of Justice this execrable thing may peep in no doubt, at some of our native Courts. At times decisions are given, which make it plain even to the most simpleton, that money, backstayers, and a disposition on the part of the *Baguafu* to please certain party or parties or spite have done all the mischief: the people therefore would rather go to the white man's Court, (and even here remember there *are* Court officials, and alas! human nature is the same all over.) Sometimes we fear the magistrates or judges, feel themselves bored, and in many instances cases have been asked to be settled out of Court, or kings and chiefs have been called in to give evidence. Since we are a people with our own native laws and customs, there must be cases in which one can only have justice at a native tribunal, and much depends on the men who sit in judgment on their follow men. The King or Chief should make it a point therefore as far as Discernment can assist to have the right sort of men about him. This should weigh with any King who has the progress, and prosperity of his people and Country at heart and who would win the heart of his subjects and the respect of all, (native or foreign) with whom he may have to do. No King true to himself, or the stool of his ancestors, and his people we think, can rightly connive at the irregularities and impurities and other obnoxious things that may exist in his court, and he who would do this, in these stirring and white man's days these days. of scrambling for "sphere of influence" or encourage their existence in any way, may have himself to blame, though a King.

AFFAIRS IN ASHANTI.

SMUGGLING GUNPOWER.

The Elder-Dempster liner Sobo, which has arrived at Liverpool from West Africa, brings news from Kumasi, the capital of Ashanti, to the 28th ult. At that time everything was peaceful in the capital, but between Kumasi and the coast stringent search was being made by the constabulary for gunpowder, which, it was said, the natives were secreting and storing. The constabulary in small parties were visiting the various towns and villages, and had made several siezures. It was stated that the gunpowder was being obtained from the French Colony adjacent out,

MOST OF THE POWDER SEIZED

had no maker's name. It was being brought into the colony in gun cases. At several places the police met with strong opposition, and at a place called Pobeab-Kroom several natives and police were wounded. The constabuiary were going into the bush in search of the powder, and were also patrolling parts of the frontier to prevent it being smuggled over. A new fort had been built about 40 miles north of Kumasi, and a garrison placed there. In Kumasi itself bungalows had been constructed for the troops outside the fort, which latter is now occupied by Sir Donald Stewart, the Resident. The railway had been completed to about 15 miles from Kumasi.—*The People 23/3/03.*

SUPERFLUOUS OFFICES.

IV.

The Customs is the department that is full of curiosity, gazing at it from the standpoint of the number of its officials which include a large proportion of sinecurists drawing heavy emoluments. There are some hard-working gentlemen in this department known as the "Officers in charge." These bear the responsibility for the proper performance of the routine of work at their station. This being so it would be obvious to all business men, but this family Government of ours, that having such "Officer in charge" of the Customs work in each station, it would be superfluous and wilful waste of funds, causing the ruin of one's business, to appoint another men to surperviso or preside over these men or thor duties. To show that those officials bear the sharp responsibility of their station work, they are made answerable to all queries emanating from Headquarters touching the irregularities of their station. Notwithstanding, there are another class of officials known as "Supervisors of Customs" whose duties are known only to themselves and their *patronizers*. But common sense asserts itself that if a buisness man has an Agent (and the "Officer in charge" corresponds to a mercantile Agent) in whom he places a perfect confidence and holds responsible as a man in charge of his business at a certain place, wherein comes the necessity of appointing another man to merely supervise over the work of the man in charge? Apart from this it appears very mysterious how one man can be held responsible as the man in charge, whilst another supervises over him. Our Government is quite inimical to the sound reasons that *too many cooks spoil the broth and that too many Captains can never safely command one ship.*

One can understand the existence of one or two supervisors whose buisness would be the supervision of all the Customs stations from one end of the Country to another, at regular intervals. But to attach to each station a "Supervisor of Customs" with nothing to do but the attachment of signature to other officials' work, not even to reply to queries from Headquarters, appears a very wilful waste of public funds. I have myself come across a Supervisor who could not pass satisfactorily a Bill of Entry and another who could not offer his subordinate an opinion touching a technical office difficulty. Taking it all round, the office of supervisorship should be among the many superfluous offices in the administration that ought to be abolished. One of the few good things that unsuccessful or incapable Governor Sir Frederic Hodgson intended doing was to have sent adrift most of these gentlemen earning large salaries without work, but unfortunately he was so mad with his aspirations to the *Golden stool* that he left that good intention uneffected. Take for instance a station like Cape Coast. Though the "Officer in charge" here is an old, competent hand whose connectionship with the Government dates from 1872 and can thus match the Comptroller himself in the manipulation of the Customs work he has over his head supervising, two Supervisors, and the work they do—ask the *Government.* With this invidious state of affairs, it makes one's blood boil to learn that Governor Nathan has with "the approval of the Secretary of State" adopted "a new scale of pay for the European staff of the Customs, resulting in an increase of £783. 12. 8, whilst £360 is provided for the pay of a temporary Supervisor engaged under special conditions." These with other things raise the Customs expenditure of the Country for this year by an increase of £2,855. 1. 8!

THE SUB.

BACON ON JUDICATURE.

Bits from Lord Bacon, that great philosopher will not be out of place in this issue, considering the subject this week's leading article deals upon. Fortunately for us some of our Kings to whom we are addressing ourselves are 'Scholars' and seeing these things for themselves their little leaven, by example, may leaven the whole dough of our native Kings. It is possible also, that courts other than native courts may refresh their memory with the perusal:

"Judges ought to remember that their office is '*jus dicere*' and not '*jus dare.*'

* * *

"Above all things, integrity is their portion and proper virtue."

* * *

"The principal duty of a Judge is to suppress force and fraud, whereof force is the more pernicious when it is close and disguised. Add thereto contentious suits, which ought to be spewed out as the surfeit of courts. A Judge ought to prepare his way to a just sentence, as God useth to prepare His way, by raising valleys and taking down hills."

* * *

"Judges must beware of hard constructions and strained inferences, for there is no worse torture than the torture of laws."

* * *

"Patience and gravity of hearing is an essential part of justice."

* * *

"It is no grace to a judge first to find that which he might have heard in due time from the bar...The parts of a judge in hearing are four—to direct the evidence; to moderate length, repetition or irrelevancy of speech; to recapitulate, select, and collate, the material points of that which hath been said. Whatsoever is above these is too much."

* * *

"It is a strange thing to see that the boldness of advocates should prevail with judges, whereas they should imitate God, in whose seat they sit. But it is more strange that judges should have noted favourites, which cannot but cause multiplication of fees and suspicious of by-ways."

* * *

"The place of justice is an hallowed place,—and therefore not only the bench, but the foot-pace and precincts and purprise thereof, ought to be preserved without scandal and corruption."

TEN GOOD RULES FOR YOU.

1. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.
2. Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.
3. Never spend your money before you have it.
4. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap; it will be dear to you.
5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst, and cold.
6. We never repent of having eaten too little.
7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.
8. How much pain have cost us the evils which never happened!
9. Take things always by the smooth handle.
10. When angry count ten before you speak; when very angry, a hundred.

These rules are very well worth remembering: they were drawn up for his own guidance by the famous American statesman Thomas Jefferson.

THE "LAGOS STANDARD" ON "THE RISING GENERATION."

In his leading article for the issue of April 15th. the Editor writes: "The rising generation is a theme that must often present itself to every thoughtful mind, and we deem no excuse necessary for so frequently reverting to it in our columns. The subject is one of extreme importance, for upon the rising generation depends the future of the country and the race for weal or for woe. The youths of our land, our boys and girls, are they leading such lives and developing such habits as are calculated to fit them to become intelligent and useful citizens and respectable members of society? This is the question that confronts us, and he must indeed be of a very sanguine temperament and of most decidedly optimistic views, who can conscientiously answer the question in the affirmative or make bold to say that the life, habits and character of the youths of the present day are all that could be desired, or even reasonably satisfactory."

A long article, we give this bit this week. We have often referred to this subject, at this end also. Here is something for our Preachers, who are preaching out their lives, Schoolmasters of this generation, Sunday School Teachers and PARENTS to think seriously about.

SCRUTINEER.

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other unfair *movements*) cannot be shut out in civilized Courts of Justice this execrable thing may peep in no doubt, at some of our native Courts. At times decisions are given, which make it plain even to the most simpleton, that money, backstayers, and a disposition on the part of the *Baguafu* to please certain party or parties or spite have done all the mischief: the people therefore would rather go to the white man's Court, (and even here remember there *are* Court officials, and alas! human nature is the same all over.) Sometimes we fear the magistrates or judges, feel themselves bored, and in many instances cases have been asked to be settled out of Court, or kings and chiefs have been called in to give evidence. Since we are a people with our own native laws and customs, there must be cases in which one can only have justice at a native tribunal, and much depends on the men who sit in judgment on their follow men. The King or Chief should make it a point therefore as far as Discernment can assist to have the right sort of men about him. This should weigh with any King who has the progress, and prosperity of his people and Country at heart and who would win the heart of his subjects and the respect of all, (native or foreign) with whom he may have to do. No King true to himself, or the stool of his ancestors, and his people we think, can rightly connive at the irregularities and impurities and other obnoxious things that may exist in his court, and he who would do this, in these stirring and white man's days these days. of scrambling for "sphere of influence" or encourage their existence in any way, may have himself to blame, though a King.

AFFAIRS IN ASHANTI.

SMUGGLING GUNPOWER.

The Elder-Dempster liner Sobo, which has arrived at Liverpool from West Africa, brings news from Kumasi, the capital of Ashanti, to the 28th ult. At that time everything was peaceful in the capital, but between Kumasi and the coast stringent search was being made by the constabulary for gunpowder, which, it was said, the natives were secreting and storing. The constabulary in small parties were visiting the various towns and villages, and had made several siezures. It was stated that the gunpowder was being obtained from the French Colony adjacent out,

MOST OF THE POWDER SEIZED

had no maker's name. It was being brought into the colony in gun cases. At several places the police met with strong opposition, and at a place called Pobeab-Kroom several natives and police were wounded. The constabuiary were going into the bush in search of the powder, and were also patrolling parts of the frontier to prevent it being smuggled over. A new fort had been built about 40 miles north of Kumasi, and a garrison placed there. In Kumasi itself bungalows had been constructed for the troops outside the fort, which latter is now occupied by Sir Donald Stewart, the Resident. The railway had been completed to about 15 miles from Kumasi.—*The People 23/3/03.*

SUPERFLUOUS OFFICES.

IV.

The Customs is the department that is full of curiosity, gazing at it from the standpoint of the number of its officials which include a large proportion of sinecurists drawing heavy emoluments. There are some hard-working gentlemen in this department known as the "Officers in charge." These bear the responsibility for the proper performance of the routine of work at their station. This being so it would be obvious to all business men, but this family Government of ours, that having such "Officer in charge" of the Customs work in each station, it would be superfluous and wilful waste of funds, causing the ruin of one's business, to appoint another men to surperviso or preside over these men or thor duties. To show that those officials bear the sharp responsibility of their station work, they are made answerable to all queries emanating from Headquarters touching the irregularities of their station. Notwithstanding, there are another class of officials known as "Supervisors of Customs" whose duties are known only to themselves and their *patronizers*. But common sense asserts itself that if a buisness man has an Agent (and the "Officer in charge" corresponds to a mercantile Agent) in whom he places a perfect confidence and holds responsible as a man in charge of his business at a certain place, wherein comes the necessity of appointing another man to merely supervise over the work of the man in charge? Apart from this it appears very mysterious how one man can be held responsible as the man in charge, whilst another supervises over him. Our Government is quite inimical to the sound reasons that *too many cooks spoil the broth and that too many Captains can never safely command one ship.*

One can understand the existence of one or two supervisors whose buisness would be the supervision of all the Customs stations from one end of the Country to another, at regular intervals. But to attach to each station a "Supervisor of Customs" with nothing to do but the attachment of signature to other officials' work, not even to reply to queries from Headquarters, appears a very wilful waste of public funds. I have myself come across a Supervisor who could not pass satisfactorily a Bill of Entry and another who could not offer his subordinate an opinion touching a technical office difficulty. Taking it all round, the office of supervisorship should be among the many superfluous offices in the administration that ought to be abolished. One of the few good things that unsuccessful or incapable Governor Sir Frederic Hodgson intended doing was to have sent adrift most of these gentlemen earning large salaries without work, but unfortunately he was so mad with his aspirations to the *Golden stool* that he left that good intention uneffected. Take for instance a station like Cape Coast. Though the "Officer in charge" here is an old, competent hand whose connectionship with the Government dates from 1872 and can thus match the Comptroller himself in the manipulation of the Customs work he has over his head supervising, two Supervisors, and the work they do—ask the *Government.* With this invidious state of affairs, it makes one's blood boil to learn that Governor Nathan has with "the approval of the Secretary of State" adopted "a new scale of pay for the European staff of the Customs, resulting in an increase of £783. 12. 8, whilst £360 is provided for the pay of a temporary Supervisor engaged under special conditions." These with other things raise the Customs expenditure of the Country for this year by an increase of £2,855. 1. 8!

THE SUB.

BACON ON JUDICATURE.

Bits from Lord Bacon, that great philosopher will not be out of place in this issue, considering the subject this week's leading article deals upon. Fortunately for us some of our Kings to whom we are addressing ourselves are 'Scholars' and seeing these things for themselves their little leaven, by example, may leaven the whole dough of our native Kings. It is possible also, that courts other than native courts may refresh their memory with the perusal:

"Judges ought to remember that their office is '*jus dicere*' and not '*jus dare.*'

* * *

"Above all things, integrity is their portion and proper virtue."

* * *

"The principal duty of a Judge is to suppress force and fraud, whereof force is the more pernicious when it is close and disguised. Add thereto contentious suits, which ought to be spewed out as the surfeit of courts. A Judge ought to prepare his way to a just sentence, as God useth to prepare His way, by raising valleys and taking down hills."

* * *

"Judges must beware of hard constructions and strained inferences, for there is no worse torture than the torture of laws."

* * *

"Patience and gravity of hearing is an essential part of justice."

* * *

"It is no grace to a judge first to find that which he might have heard in due time from the bar...The parts of a judge in hearing are four—to direct the evidence; to moderate length, repetition or irrelevancy of speech; to recapitulate, select, and collate, the material points of that which hath been said. Whatsoever is above these is too much."

* * *

"It is a strange thing to see that the boldness of advocates should prevail with judges, whereas they should imitate God, in whose seat they sit. But it is more strange that judges should have noted favourites, which cannot but cause multiplication of fees and suspicious of by-ways."

* * *

"The place of justice is an hallowed place,—and therefore not only the bench, but the foot-pace and precincts and purprise thereof, ought to be preserved without scandal and corruption."

TEN GOOD RULES FOR YOU.

1. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.
2. Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.
3. Never spend your money before you have it.
4. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap; it will be dear to you.
5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst, and cold.
6. We never repent of having eaten too little.
7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.
8. How much pain have cost us the evils which never happened!
9. Take things always by the smooth handle.
10. When angry count ten before you speak; when very angry, a hundred.

These rules are very well worth remembering: they were drawn up for his own guidance by the famous American statesman Thomas Jefferson.

THE "LAGOS STANDARD" ON "THE RISING GENERATION."

In his leading article for the issue of April 15th. the Editor writes: "The rising generation is a theme that must often present itself to every thoughtful mind, and we deem no excuse necessary for so frequently reverting to it in our columns. The subject is one of extreme importance, for upon the rising generation depends the future of the country and the race for weal or for woe. The youths of our land, our boys and girls, are they leading such lives and developing such habits as are calculated to fit them to become intelligent and useful citizens and respectable members of society? This is the question that confronts us, and he must indeed be of a very sanguine temperament and of most decidedly optimistic views, who can conscientiously answer the question in the affirmative or make bold to say that the life, habits and character of the youths of the present day are all that could be desired, or even reasonably satisfactory."

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caring a sou for the Country which was enriching them so much; waging incessant warfare amongst themselves; bruising one another's heels; indulging in foolish prejudices; and caring not whether the *forest* in which they lived and which they would bequeath to their cubs were moved and burnt down on the morrow by an offending and encroaching ploughman, after they had died and gone. Unless we start, even now, to fulfill the Duty of Man, these will be the unhappy memories that await us. Let us, then, be instructed, let us then be wise in time, lest we perish in our Conceit and Selfishness.

Let me now, broach out what has been revolving in my mind, these few days past. And let the *Aborigines Society* which is doing much give it a careful consideration, even a first and second one. I have not on my desk presently an up-to-date reference, but by a work I have with me, it gives out that the population of Cape Coast in 1894 was 12,000. Considering the number of men the Rubber and Gold mining industries have attracted into the town recently, I hope I am not over-drawing when I put the figure down at about 20,000. Placing aside half the number for aliens, children, miners and incapables as also for the purpose of not arriving at an overdrawn conclusion, let us put down 10,000 for effecient and money-earning natives. Now, supposing the *Society* with the co-operation of the Kings and Chiefs and Captains call a compulsory meeting inviting all the natives, and at the meeting it is laid bare that the *time has come that we act for ourselves*, and this has been plainly illustrated to us by the Government and the Missionaries. And that to effect that end it is necessary, absolutely necessary, that capable natives of all classes should as in duty bound contribute their iotas for the stimulation or rather the creation of a general system of Education in this town of Cape Coast. That in view of that a *Rule is made* that each working man of Cape Coast *should contribute as much as he can* to the creation and support of a Free Town School, *but that the limit per head for a year should be the sum of 1/-*, to be collected by households and all the households eligible for contribution to be enrolled in a Book. Many I know will gladly offer more than the nominal 1/- but let us not presume too much but cash it at 1/- per head. 10,000 men at 1/- per head of course, come to £500. This with economy, I am sure, will give us a commodious Free Town School House for the first year. The second and subsequent years levy coupled with a Government grant-in-aid will give us at least half(—) dozen *Competent* and *Capable Teachers* for a national School into which all native children of this town irrespective of creed should be entitled to push themselves, free of charge. I am at the same time doubting whether an effort like this could not give us besides and *Elementary School*, a higher seminary of learning. Let us do this and all the other towns will surely join in the strain, for it appears to me a very easy thing—And is not this an easy way of solving the Education question? If we will not do this, then let us for ever cease crying, and continue in our selfish living, die and go and give account of our stewardships unto the great God whose we are and who sent us into the world to lead *useful* lives. And might not the Aborigines Society consider this at an early date?

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

A MINISTER'S FAREWELL.

The New York *World* states that, in his farewell sermon, a preacher in Salem, N. J., said to his congregation:— "Brothers and Sisters, I come to say good-bye. I don't think that God loves this Church, because none of you ever die. I don't think you love each other, because you have not paid my salary.

"Your donations are mouldy fruit and wormy apples, and 'by their fruits ye shall know them.'

"Brothers, I am going to a better place. I have been called to be a chaplain of a penitentiary. I go to prepare a place for you and may the Lord have mercy on your souls. Good-bye."

YEWAN IS FALLEN.

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE D C. TO KING ESSANDOR OF INKUSUKUM.

District Commissioner's Office
No. 79/03 Elmina Castle
27th. April 1903.

Chief Amandor
Kommenda

As it appears that the destoolment of Cobina Yewan was carried out according to native law and custom I am directed by the District Commissioner of Cape Coast to inform you that His Honour the Deputy Governor approves the recommendation that Kwow Yamle should be recognized as Chief of Kommenda.

I am,
Chief
Your good friend
(Sgd.) D. WALDRON.
Ag: District Commissioner.

[And so, *King* Essandor too must be styled *Chief* by the Government! Ed; G.C.L.]

ON THE GOLD COAST.

BY ROBERT LANCASTER.

"If I go out to the West Coast of Africa what conditions shall I find there?" is a question often asked by young men who have the opportunity of an appointment, and their parents and nearer relatives and all concerned, are all anxious indeed, beyond the concern they feel at the prospect of his going to almost any other part of the world. Europeans do not usually stay many years there. Probably there are more men sent out in proportion to the number there at any one time than to any other British possessions. The conditions vary greatly in different parts of the West Coast of Africa. This communication deals only with that part of the Gold Coast of which Cape Coast is the business centre and mainly with the town itself.

After a voyage of 17 to 19 days by steamer from Liverpool or Southampton Coast Coast is reached. An irregular line of cliffs throws out a promontory on which, at a height above the sea level enough to do away with the risk of being flooded, stands the town of Cape Coast, the principal seat of business on the Gold Coast. The new arrival lands, and makes his way to the factory of the business house that has engaged him. His luggage will be sent along with consignments for his house as the steamer gets her cargo unloaded and passed at the Custom House.

The factories are buildings of two storeys, the four sides standing round a courtyard, substantially built of native brick, and capable of a certain amount of defence against natives if attacked, but not, as used to be the case, surrounded by palisades or ditches. In the earlier days of the colony, all the Europeans connected with the factory lived in it. This still continues—one of the largest house in Cape Coast still insists on it, but it is far from an invariable rule. Some clerks live in the factory, some in houses away from it. The new arrival will either "live in," or go to reside with one of the employes whom he finds established there, and who will initiate him into the way of living.

The lower floors contain the goods of the firm, the imports and the exports, and a small office or two for the native clerks who have simply to receive and despatch goods. The principal offices, where all the writing &c., beyond this is done, are on the upper floor. European clerks are employed here, and the native clerk, who must all understand and write English and be able to reckon English weights and measures and translate them into native. The more valuable commodities—gold for one—are kept in the upper rooms. Here are also the living rooms for the European clerks who live inside. These are furnished in European fashion, with modifications to suit the climate. They include all that is found in an English middle-class house except the smaller matters that mark the presence of women. Each clerk has a separate bedroom. There is a large room for meals, which are taken by all together, and a room for sitting, reading, and smoking, used of course in common. No native clerks live inside. The meals are prepared by a native cook, and there are all the servants found in an English house of the middle-class. These are natives, and do all the menial work—washing, cleaning, dusting, blacking boots, etc., and are, with reasonable limitations, at the call of the clerks.

It is usual to rise at five o'clock. Early breakfast is taken at 6. 30 to seven, consisting of tea, coffee, eggs, fish. Business begins at seven to 7. 30. At eleven there is a break till one o'clock for lunch—at Cape Coast it is called "the breakfast"—usually consisting of fish mutton, and vegetables. Business again from one to three. Then a break of ten minutes or a quarter of an hour for a cup of tea and biscuit. The business till five o'clock, when work is over for the day. At 7 to 7. 30 dinner is served, as much like the English dinner as the climate allows—soup, fish, mutton, vegetables, fruit. All the cost living accommodation, service, and food is paid for by the Firm; the salaries are paid in addition. The only necessary expenses of the clerks are for clothing, amusements, cigars, and what they choose to drink in wine, spirits, and beer beyond the allowance made for the table by the Firm. The water is so bad that practically nobody is a teetotaller. There are very few ways open to spend money, and the clerk can easily save the bulk of his salary without any pinching and without looking ridiculous.

Those who live outside make such arrangements as they think fit, subject only to making full attendance at business hours. There are no hotels or boarding-houses suitable for English clerks. Altogether the arrangements as to the conditions of living, hours of work, and possibility of saving are satisfactory.

Only a few European clerks are employed in any one factory, usually not more than four or five, seven is probably the maximum number. These have natives under them as assistants, who must be able to act as interpreters. The language of the Gold Coast is Fanti, and this tongue is understood sufficiently for business by all who come to trade, whether it is their tribal language or not. Very few Englishmen stay long enough or take trouble enough to dispense with an interpreter, practically none.

(*To be Continued.*)

Mrs. HYATT.

An American Dress Maker and Ladies Tailor begs to inform the public that she is prepared to make dresses of every description for Ladies and Children, at very moderate prices, a trial is solicited.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader.*

SAVAGERY AND COLOUR DISTINCTION ON THE RAILWAY STATIONS AT SEKONDI AND TARKWA.

Dear Mr. Editor:—Kindly accept this as one of your principal subjects to the public for the good of our Country. It is very sad indeed for one to witness the treatment, harsh treatment, the White people, Lagosian and Sierra Leonian clerks and policemen giving to the natives, especially and very often to the poor illiterate female pedlars who travel between these two places with *fish* and small wares, at these stations yard, not to mention the other stations between these two places. It must be noted in the first place that these do not understand the Fanti language. A view one morning there will make any true native shed a tear, you will see groups of natives and *Whites*. You will next see Lagosian and Sierra Leone Clerks and policemen pushing aside savagely poor women and men *to make room for white passengers*. Why? Because they happen to be *illiterate people*. Not only this the weighing of White passengers' luggages always take the precedence of the natives' ones, though the fare is all the same. Wonderful to relate, we were informed that often the poor women though they have been provided with tickets have been detained for weeks through unsuccessful attempts to have their wares weighed. And they are obliged to foot from Sekondi to Ashieme before they got a chance in weighing their wares and jumping into the train. They, having purchased a ticket at 6/9 from Sekondi to Tarkwa have to pay for a fresh one of 5/9 from Ashieme to Tarkwa. Is not this plundering in disguise? Besides people are never allowed to walk by land to Tarkwa. If the railway was purposely laid for the *White* we must be informed of it and our poor women will commence their usual *foot* travelling. But if it was intended for both Black and White, these things must be stopped. Cannot we get men of ability to face all these cruelities for us? Have we no native lawyers? What are they doing? In England we learn the lawyers help their nation; they never seek much of their own interest. We are not all able to pay their heavy charges, or if possible there ought to be two scales of charges; one for poor natives and another for Concession dealers and Europeans.

BLACK MAN TROUBLE.

Tarkwa,—24-4-03.

My Dear Editor,—In the issue that appeared on the 11th. April, I found among the general news some report against the Schoolmaster of Dunkwa, strongly recommending his dismissal, for which cause I beg to ask you Mr. Editor to publish this for the information of the people at large that the writer's letter was only due to prejudice; all what he stated is false, I am not doing anything contrary to the school discipline as I refer the Editor to the Church Leaders of the station under whose protection am here who might probably read my conduct to you whether it is good or bad.

Thanking you for the space allowed.

THE SCHOOLMASTER.

Wesleyan Mission,
Dunkwa 15/4/1903.

Dear Sir:—Kindly allow me a little space in your valuable columns for the insertion of the following:—

Much has been said in this paper about the Amanful question by both "O. C. L. F. and True Worshippers," which I hope the Ministers concernd will give the attention required to Amanful (if it is true that neglect has been on their part, the probability of which I doubt). But sir, as saying and doing are two different things, I would like to know what have the Amanful people as a Church been trying to do themselves? If my recollection serves me right, I would say that much has been done in that place, as far as Sunday School and other Instructions in connection with the Church are concerned, from the time of late Joe Sarbah up to date.

Every advantage has been given to the people at Amanful which, I regret to say has very often met with utter failure.

Mostly through the indifference and carelessness of the people themselves. Your Readers who have worked there on the lines I am writing about, will bear me out. However Mr. Editor as "True Worshippers" are anxious now, that things should start afresh, it is hoped that as "True Worshippers" they will further the progress of the work required, and not sit with arms folded. For one must repeat that saying and doing are two different things.

Thanking you Mr. Editor for space occupied.

Sincerely yours,—"AN OBSERVER."

Cape Coast, 27th. April 1903.

Printed at the office of the GOLD COAST LEADER, Salt Pond Road, Cape Coast, by J. R. GRANT.

The Gold Coast Leader.

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All Communications intended for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.

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

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Mr. J. M. HYATT,

of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission undertakes Dental Work at his residence for those who are in need of relief from tooth ache. Sore teeth treated, decayed teeth filled, or carefully extracted as may be required.

ENAMELLED GOODS.

Traders of good standing at Sekondi for the sale of enamelled goods wanted. Shipments directly from Hamburg.

Apply to the "Gold Coast Leader" Office.

GENERAL NEWS.

A man coming from Abakrampa was hotly chased by some of the Frontier Police, just before he got to Aduyasinya but he outran them, and saved his life, limb, and property on him.

A boy has been bitten by some snake probably whilst bathing at the salt pond, and died the same day.

The Superintendent of this Circuit (Wesleyan) Rev. A. W. Parker is at Elmina for his furlough. Rev. Brodie Graham is acting.

King Wiorkun is still in Town, and so is King Kantabissa. By the way is the report true that a subject of the king of Adwimako sued the latter, and the D. C. sent policemen to have him arrested. We should like this, every way, to be refuted.

The sad intelligence of the death of Mr. J. E. Wood of this place, but who had been living at Axim for a good number of years, reached us here on Tuesday morning. His wife who left him apparently well for a fortnight stay with her friends here was in Town when this took place. She left by the *Sokoto* on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Wood was the only Brother of the late Mrs. Kendall. The family has our deep sympathies.

We understand there is to be a conversazione next Tuesday by the members of the Cape Coast Brass Instrument Band, under the distinguished patronage of Mrs. Lawson Peregrine the wife of our D.C.

"Bishop Fitzgerald says we ought to have one more society called the "Anti-Poking-Your-Nose-Into Other-People's-Business."—*Star of Zion.*

We sadly need such a society here too, and we hope Mr. George Wilson, who we understand, a short while desired forming such a Society here, will try to work hand in hand with our American friends to make its existance a reality.

DANGER IN THE PIPE. Death, and a most terrible form of it, is declared to lurk in the tobacco pipe if it is made of clay. Such is the startling statement made by the Irish Registrar-General in a special report on cancer in Ireland just laid on the table of the House of Commons.

A NEEDLE AND THREAD TREE. The Mexican maguey furnishes a needle and thread all ready for use.

Pope Leo XIII will celebrate no fewer than four jubilees during the present year: his "Iron Jubilee" as a priest, his "Diamond Jubilee" as a bishop, his "Golden Jubilee" as a cardinal: his "Silver Jubilee" as Pope. This is a coincidence hitherto unprecendented in the annals of the Holy See.

"Most gratifying report," says the *Anglo-African Argus* of April 18, "continue to come to hand as to the progress on the Gold Coast, where one after another of the good mines continue to be proved, so that every circumstance tends towards betterment on the immediate future. West Africa seems to be trouble not at all by any labour question as still retards progress in South Africa."

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

	Due at Cape Coast.	
Coomassie Brass Service	May	5
Edward Bohlen Gold Coast Service...	„	9
*Oron South C. Express Service No. 1	„	11
Accra Southern Windward Service	„	16
Angola Opobo Service...	„	17
Batanga Brass Service	„	19
Ascan Wœrmann S. C. Service... ...	„	26
*Alex. Wœrmann Cameroons Accel Ser. 1	„	27
Nyanga Opobo Service	„	30

HOMEWARDS.

Sokoto Lagos Express Service ...	May	7
Warri Opobo Service	„	11
Lucie Wœrmann Cameroons Accel. Ser.	„	11
Borou South C. Express Service No. 2	„	13
Hans Wœrmann S. C. Accel. Service	„	27
Sekondi S. C. Express Service No. 1	„	29

ATTUABOE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

We call the attention of the Government to the fact that by making the officer in charge here hold the posts of five officers, he inconveniences the public a great deal. This functionary is at the same time a Customs, Post, Telegraph and Boarding officer. Is not this calculated to place him in difficulties? We are not really aware whether he is paid for the holding of all these posts. If so he should employ assistants and leave complaining to the public 'that he is busy and cannot attend them.' If he is, on the other hand, not paid for the respective posts, it quite demonstrates the one-sided economy practised on the native clerks, which state of affairs should be remedied in the interests of the public service. Receipts for registered letters are often delayed for two days or more before they are tendered to their owners and it often happens that the officer loses sight of the names of the addressees on the letters.

Is there no possibility of our getting a telegraph service here? We should definitely like to know whether such will or will not be the case; because it is a considerable time since Mr. *D.C.* O'Brien came and gave us a long talk concerning it, adding that we would have a station after the expiration of six months, and not more than that. The Director of Telegraphs should also give this matter a consideration.

The authorities should also consider that this town is large enough for the erections of a King's warehouse; and it betrays an annoying indifference on their part to witness people's goods, for which no invoices have arrived, lying on the open ground.

Among the arrivals and departures here have been Mr. Rhule's a store-keeper of the Firm of Miller Brothers & Co. at Half Assinee and his sister who were passing home, and Miss Adriana Smith the daughter of Mr. A. W. Smith who was accompanying them to Elmina.

The roofing of the Chapel house has been completed and the natives ought to endeavour to complete the entire house as it has taken a considerable time to build.

It was reported some time ago that the young men in town proposed forming a Debating Club for their intellectual improvement, but of the result we did not hear.

Is it a fact that we *Ammarahia* youngmen cannot do anything for our own benefit as well as that of our Town's? Is it true that we do not know what is good for ourselves? Is it a fact that we do not show any interest in anything in this world? We shall be much thankful to the party who could answer these questions for us.

Why are telegrams now delivered from the Bayin office unenveloped?

We understand 50 cases of Kerosine Oil had been landed ex *Teneriffe* at Half Assinee for the Government, we therefore hope to receive our share for the lighting of the street lights. We also expect that the Government will not wait till they are exhausted before putting in another order.

We regret to announce the sudden death of Mr. Awoosie Cobbald, *alias* Arloe-Awoosie, on the 24th ultimo. The deceased was a champion in fighting and able pedestrian.

We deeply deplore the immethodical way of Mr. A. F. Benson of the Axim Post Office in forwarding our mails; and could he not be taught to attend to his business properly, and so discharge his functions satisfactorily as was done by the late Postmaster Mr. J. B. Plange? The mails that arrived on the 21st. ultimo which included such important documents as Bills of Lading and others of equal importance were through the irregularity of Mr. A. F. Benson, carried to Bayin and returned after three days. And the Bills of Lading &c. were for goods by the steamers "Roquelle" and "Akassa" which could have been in port at any time. And could not Mr. Benson's eyesight allow him to discriminate between letters addressed "Attuaboe" and "Bayin" when sorting them for these two places? This is the way he always missent letters.

Mr. H. E. Bush of Messrs A. Millerson & Co. of Manchester left here for Half Assinee on inspection.

DIXCOVE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The Steam ship "Carl Wœrmann" which weighed anchor on the 30th ultimo took among her passengers Revd. Marshall of the Wesleyan Mission for Appam his new sphere of labour.

The lengthened dullness of the Town is very much to be deplored. Ought not the natives to do something by way of entertainment to enliven the place.

Mr. *D. C.* A. W. Thompson has returned to town from his tour of inspection.

Mr. T. A. Clavy who was for somtime an officer in charge of Customs here, is in town for the Gold Coast Exploration and Trading Company.

An action for assault has been brought by H. G. Nerbah against constable Ghai Golah of the local Force.

It is strange how people are apprehended and mulcted in heavy fines, though the town does not look as clean as it should be; especially the outskirts, and certain thoroughfares.

The Assistant Treasurer Mr. Davies has been in town.

There is an intended public meeting to be had by the Band of Mercy.

We regret to note that Mr. J. S. Annah has been confined to bed through some ailment, which has necessitated Mr. Nimb Ryish assuming the post of the Schoolmastership.

Revd. and Mrs. Butler have arrived in town by a surf boat from Sekondi since the 28th ultimo.

TARKWA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Justice Purcell and a registrar arrived here by the Saturday train from Sekondi for the Concession Court and the Assizes. We understand His Honour will shortly return to Sekondi before he comes for a permanent stay here.

The *D.C.* also left on the 27th. ultimo on a tour of inspection to Akropong and the districts, but on

reaching Essamen he felt ill and returned. He will soon be leaving for his furlough.

So we must understand that the firms in this place do not recognise the Lord's Day and other holidays. On Sunday the 26th. ultimo Mr. E. A. McLaughlin, the most energetic, painstaking Agent of the Firm of F. & A. Swanzy with all his clerks, assembled for duty both in the morning and afternoon, stores were opened and business performed as usual. Swanzy has taken the lead, others may follow.

Strange things will never cease to occur at Tarkwa. On the afternoon of the 29th ultmo, a Mr. Pope, Foreman of Works (a white Government official, mind) having splitted his soda and whisky, pursued after some Haussa and their sheep asking them for their Passports allowing the animals to tread through the streets to the Lagos Town. Foremen of Works are now becoming policemen. But is there any Ordinance authorising Pope's display? *And as a matter of fact are not the white people in this district allowed by the Authorities here to be above the law.*

There are police and police of all sect and creeds in every nook and corner of the town, yet thieves are more alive here than elsewhere. Last month the stores of a Mr. Stout were broken into and everything carried off.

COMMENDA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We are quite pleased to find once more the paramount King, Essandor of Inkussukum in Commenda. He comes here this time, at the request of the Government, to re-adjust matters, and to prepare the minds of the people for the reception of the new King elect for the stool. This course should have been adopted when this King arrived at the scene, in August 1902 by permission of the same Government for the purpose of settling the internal affairs at the town between the now deposed chief Yewan and his ill-treated subjects, but we are sorry to say, he was not permitted at the time because Yewan was in his glory and bribes were in full flow. He was shamefully told to leave the place in a manner, which seemed to suggest that he had smuggled himself there to meddle with matters that did not concern him. Evidences produced in Court during the hearing of the "Great Exhumation case," have pointed this man out to the same Government that he owns supremacy over the people and that he alone could cope with the exigencies of the times.

Circumstancial evidence not wanting to show this carries Commenda blood in his veins. We are pleased to see how he dogmatically maintained his position and firmly stood by the people and won the case for them. Very few of our Kings and chiefs can display such self possession. After the indignities offered him by being chased away from Commenda by the Commissoner of Elmina, any other King would have felt baffled, and might have left the people to themselves to manage their own affairs, but notwithstanding what he had been made to endure, he cheered and advised the people to be of good courage: but for his presence, we are sure, after the repeated losses in Court, the people would have undoubtedly taken up arms. A King and a good Leader indeed the people of Commenda have in their paramount King. As he stood side by side with them during the Dutch Compaign and fought the battles to a finish, in the same way he has now stood by them, spent his time energy and treasure and secured for them a lasting peace and concord, which generations to come, will never forget.

Is it not a great advantage to have a King who harbours no animosity but cares for the welfare of all his subjects great and small, poor and rich? the Government have found out the "Achan" in the whole drama at British Commenda and sent Essandor there to restore order, in the course of few a months the affairs of the place will greatly improve and the town put on a tidy appearance, wholly unlike what it had been for the past six years when Yewan was extorting fines giving false information to the Government dispensing bribes right and left, and digging graves.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The special sitting of the Divisional Court came to a close on the 23rd ultimo, and his Honour Mr. Justice Morgan left for Cape Coast on the 24th ultimo after having been here for almost a month.

Mr. F. A. Shaw the Chief Agent of Alex: Miller Bro. & Co., who had been here on a visit left on the 1st of this month for Cape Coast.

Mr. E. E. Johnson Agent of the Firm of the African Association Ltd left here on the 2nd inst for Cape Coast with his chief clerk and shop keepers, we understand, to attend the Divisional Court sitting there on the 4th inst.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Notwithstanding what has been said from time to time about the men of the West African Frontier Force located here, reports of their doings every way disgraceful for any one, who would lay a claim to membership in the British Army however remote, keep coming in. Are we to take it, that their Commanding Officers do train them in the ways of British soldiers, only the men are incorrigible and ungovernable, altogether intractable. Must we take it to be that they are poorly paid, and they are to way lay people and rob them to make up for the balance of their wages, and to induce them to be in the Force and become fitting tools for punitive expeditions they have a licence to do what they like?

Not satisfied with their doings in the Town, molesting and beating people even Government labourers, with impunity, these men now go a step further by waylaying travellers and traders early in the mornings on the Eguasi way, Ashanti Road, and would not be satisfied in robbing what they may find on them but beat them. Of late, we have been seeing some rubber coming to Town, and these men are doing all they can to turn the trade to other quarters, consequently they do not come in now as they started doing for the rubber carrier, has no desire to be insulted and injured, after having been robbed.

These men with their early visits make it unpleasant for people travelling that way, robbing and beating them. How long must they go on insulting the peaceful subjects of the King! Are they sent here purposely to distress us? What are all these countless lieutenants, and captains, and so forth for, if they cannot do anything with the men? What are they paid for? We hope we have now had the last word on these gallant soldiers of the King.

A reader sends us by the last leeward post a copy of the defunct *G. C. Express* (April 29, '97) in which there is an article on the Advertisement page setting forth the object of the *Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society* the closing lines of which are, "the above Society of which natives and residents alike can be members has been formed to discuss the various Bills intended to be passed by the Government from time to time with a view to fully understand the meaning, purport, object and effect thereof so that every person may have the opportunity of understanding the same." These words were underlined by the sender, no doubt not without meaning.

When we are told that the War Tax or the indemnity to be paid by the Ashantis for the Karikari-Expedition of 1874 (and recent ones too, probably) is abandoned, and at the same time informed, that an Order is gone forth, that the dues or payments to be made by the Companies working on properties in Ashanti, must be made not to the owners of the properties from whom they were leased, but to the Resident in Chief, whether as a medium or for safe keeping that must be known only to the parties concerned, we hardly see where the abandonment comes in.

Is the Government of this country, as some English papers would make us believe, really and truly *economical*? Or perhaps as new meanings are given to words as time moves on, the word *economy* has undergone some changes from its orignal meaning, or what is more probable, it has managed somehow to have an "official" meaning.

A WARNING TO ALL.

We must again warn parties who have made it their practice to take away copies of the *Leader* through the Post Office not intended for them and thereby preventing the same from getting to their owners. Any person caught in the act shall have himself to blame.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Thursday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAY 9, 1903.

THE KING'S OATH.

The Oaths of the Kings next claim our attention. It is a time honoured custom with our Kings each to have an oath in connection with the stool on which he sits, and the importance of this in their administrations and the power these oaths exercise and hold over their subjects cannot be denied or exaggerated. These oaths as far as we know did not arise from choice or fancifulness as from circumstances necessity or some political event and they are binding not only on the people alone but on the Kings themselves as well. Against the oath therefore, *per se*, we have nothing to say. It is the abuse of it, by some of the people, that we wish to protest against. This sort of thing will tend to lower the dignity and respectability of the oath, to say nothing of the main object of its existence. Its importance, sacredness, and dignity should be maintained by each and all the kings. There is a disposition on the part of the people specially the women-folk, to make use of the oath on every trifling affair if only to involve a friend in debt, for these oaths we take it, are practically a means by which one is sub-poenaed for the king's court. The people must be made to know, that they cannot trifle with the king's oath, as they seem disposed to do in these days, and how to effect this, we leave to the discretion of the kings and chiefs. The cause for such a disposition is not far to seek. They have the idea that the Government (Aban) is there, so that if they make use of the 'king's oath,' and "break" it they cannot be called upon to pay the penalty this involves because they can then appeal to the D.C. No doubt they feel themselves justified in doing so because they have found out that our Government is doing all in its power to encourage them to set at nought, what power there is, left, which their kings or chiefs may have over them. We have heard it said by way of excuse that the kings charge exorbitantly in the breaking of the rules, or laws in connection with their oaths. This is far from the truth; one thing we are sure of, whatever may be the fine that may be imposed on them for "breaking" the king's oath, cannot morally come up to the fines that are showered on them in the D.C's Court. No king can increase the amount to be paid by way of fine for the forfeiture of the king's oath. This has been fixed once for all, and is known by all in the kingdom, so that any one choosing to tamper with the king's oath knows what amount he would have to pay when proved guilty. These oaths are as it were the property of the kingdoms, and the kings are the custodians thereof, it behoves them then to see that neither their Councillors (Baguafu) or subjects should not bagatelle with them. When the subject finds that his king would not have his oath trifled with, nor that of his Brother-kings, it would go a long way even in these days, to stir up in him more respect for the dignity of the stool to which he has sworn obedience and loyalty. It only remains for us to add that the kings or chiefs themselves should do nothing to bespatter these oaths with calumny or disgrace.

KINGS OR CHIEFS.

We have observed the tendency now on the part of the local Government, to style our *Kings* as Chiefs, Head-chiefs, or anything but by the title incontestably, rightly, and lawfully due to them. This is in every way a very recent usage, and we use that word *recent* advisedly. We find *Attoo* in his *Scrutineer* which appeared in our issue of March 28 referring to the subject, and he said some sensible and logical things there. In the letter which the D.C. at Elmina sent to King Essandor on the Yewan-Commenda case which we published last week he addressed him as *Chief*. Essandor, a chief not even a Head Chief in their own parlance, and the next move will be, the kings of Anamaboe, Abura, Wassaw, Gomua, Accra, and Monkessim &c, will be styled Chiefs; as for the Appolonian kings as *Attoo* tells us they have been styled Head chiefs; then it will be represented that there are no kings on the Gold Coast, and what this will serve only they themselves know. Assuming the suzerainty over the Country, what does the British Government lose in allowing the titles and dignities of the Heads of

the People to remain in tact. In days gone by, wiser, more diplomatic and more considerate, and truer Empire-makers deemed it the proper thing to interfere as little as possible with the manners and customs of the people. It is indeed a matter of great surprise to find a Republican Country as France *respecting* the ranks and positions and titles of the people over whom *they* exercise their suzerainty while a monarchical country like England would deliberateiy act otherwise—Truly the policy of our Masters beyond the seas must ever remain an engima to the civilized World

A few years ago we happened to see a letter which one of our D.C's wrote to a friend in England describing to him the country and the position he was holding therein, a position which he was modest enough to compare to that of the "Great Unpaid" of the English Bench, how he was a governor in his own way, and even kings would bow to his command and so forth, winding up with an invitation to him to abandon his intentions of going to South Africa (this was before the Anglo-Boer war) and come to the Gold Coast, where he would find every thing smooth and calm. He was quite right. Some years ago, Governors respected our Kings, and even Chiefs, and in sending for them for an interview on some important political affairs, the right persons were sent, to-day, any Commissioner can whistle for a king, and officials as policemen have been known to hustle about kings not even chiefs or captains: any D.C. can drag a king to his Court or office now and bully him to his heart content. Kings rush through the streets with an express-train speed at a D.C's call, (not the Governor's) by a policeman, only on trifling affairs. What is more not only Government officials are known to do this, but any white man, be he a merchant or a miner can order or jostle about a King or Chief: the Kings or Chiefs who may be subjected to such indignities may be ignorant or anything, but those who do this should, and ought to consider. We think it is most illogical, and altogether against the canons of propriety and REASON to bring their Europeanized ideas of Royalty to bear on their dealings with the native kings, and it is only the carrying of absurdity to its highest degree, to say, because, the native King does not move or appear to him as a King in the sense of what he knows in his Country, therefore he is no King. To the native he is a King and he expects you to treat him differently from him —his subject. Having treated them to such indignities for sometime, the next move is, to try to do away with their titles, "most un-English." *Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you:* this you have taught us—dont regret it for Nature has ordered it —If you have your Mr. or Esquire, Knight or Sir, Baron, Viscount, Earl, Marquis Duke, Prince and King, in your Country it should be remembered that we have our social degrees as well, ranging from the ordinary man to the King. Surely the term *King* is, and cannot be synonymous with *Chief*, and no one knows this better than those who thus wilfully misuse the terms, and if they are ignorant of it, it is high time they studied carefully our native laws and customs and *etiquette*. Some of our Kings themselves need to respect themselves to be respected, let them remember what their predecessors did and were before them, and the educated native too who claims to be an *Ingrisi abir ba* should set good example to the foreigner, and stop this *teodzi mi yenku a w'ondzi mi* policy which is ruining us. Since as natives we have our laws and customs and manners and have not been wiped off from the face of the earth yet, thank goodness, it will serve the foreigner better to endeavour to rule through, and by the native—the native. Let us "in conclusion" cite in support of what we have been saying here from an address which Sir James Marshall, the first Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court, delivered at the Colonial Exhibition in London in 1886 which we had the privilege of visiting, quoted by Sarbah in his *Fanti Customary Laws* (p.14) Said he:— "The Gold Coast must remain the Country of the natives, but with a handful of Europeans among them who have the power by which they rule these people and enfore obedience. And whenever this rule is carried out and enforced according to European ideas, without consideration of the ideas equally ancient and equally deep rooted, which pervade the native mind, it may break and destroy, but without securing any real improvement. My own experience of the West Coast of Africa is that that Government has for the time succeeded best with the natives, which has treated them with consideration for their native laws, habits, and customs, instead of ordering all these to be suppressed as nonsense, and insisting on the wondering negro at once submitting to the British Constitutions, and adopting our ideas of life and civilization. As Judicial Assessor I was a sort of head chief, and sat with the loca chiefs in Court, hearing causes brought by natives among themselves.

"By this I learned that a complete system of laws connected with both land and personal property existed among them, which had been handed down by oral tradition from time immemorial, and was better suited for them than our modern feudal elaborate and intricate laws of real and personal property. The natives of the Gold Coast and West Africa have a system of laws and customs which it would be better to guide, modify, and amend, rather than to destroy by ordinances and force. So they have their chiefs and court forms and etiquette, their own customs and mode of living, which will not be improved by ridicule or forced abolition." "Where or where," shall we hear of such true and conscientious sons, honest and sincere servants of England? We commend this to the careful persual of "the latter day" officials of British West Africa. Downing Street and Christiansborg Castle may snap their fingers at the weighty and reasonable words of this experienced gentleman: at all events, such a course will be safer and more profitable than this imperializing with vengeance, which after all is nothing short of a desire to wade through blood for fame and titles—BUBBLES—a demoralization of the Creator's fair World, against which History lifts its warning Voice.

SCRUTINEER.

For daring to express an opinion on the Native Marriage question a correspondent thinks my "views in religious matters are not above censure" That may be so, for I am no theologian nor do I profess to be one. I do not also claim monopoly of opinion on the subject. I simply wrote down my opinion, inviting some one, perhaps with a deeper brain than mine, to convince me that the native mode of marriage is either unchristian or unlawful in the sight of GOD. But fortunately Mr. "Old Black Joe" totally failed to do so.

To begin with, he wishes me to give out my "reasons for maintaining that this law is lawful and holy in the sight of GOD." I hold out that once a man leaves his father and mother and cleaves unto his wife (Genesis 2-24) it is neither unlawful nor unholy whatever if he is averse to hailing himself and wife before a parson, with all the vows and oaths which are very often honoured in the breach than in the observance. As far as I have read my Bible, the only incident I find bearing on the question of the celebration of a marriage is that there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of JESUS was there; and both JESUS was called, and his disciples, to the marriage." (John 2-1-2). But it was not suggested that our Blessed LORD joined the couple together, asking them to vow to "hold from that day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer" and the rest of it—which is now moralised outside the precincts of the Church house, *in plenty we keep, in want we part.* On the other hand I find St. Paul exhorting people to hold to monogamy, a doctrine I uphold. But here also he never laid any rule as to the interference of the Church or her priests with the marriage of its members. On the face of these it is quite apparent that the system which the Churches desire us to embrace is all of a European origin and unquestionably a European but not a *Christian* one. This being the case I cannot modify my opinion previously enunciated, namely, that so long as a man takes to himself to keep faithfully and devotedly one wife, it is quite lawful and religious in the sight of the Creator, as if it had been formalized by a parson in a Church. But Mr. Joe suprises me. Is he not aware that the native marriage custom is upheld in the *law courts.*

He equally surprises me when he writes that the fees payable in a native marraige "range from £20 to £30 and upwards." I have heard of instances in which men have foolishly—and in most cases with an aim of creating a record—made questionable marriage expenses. But if I say that I have heard of an instance in which the expenditure incurred ranged over £20, I must be telling my readers deliberate falsehood. And I am rather inclined to think that Mr. Joe must be exaggerating. Mr. Joe was all wrong when he thought that a "law" raised the marriage fees so high: it was not a "law" but rather a custom innovated by certain conceited men who loved in creating records in the payment of marriage fares, and in most cases they had their own tale to tell. But the remedy is in our own hands. Mr. Joe certainly does not wish a law of limitation on the fees; for every human being has a perfect right to dispense with his money in marriage as well as in any other affair. The rich might make his the most expensive; and the poor man as much as he could afford. But it would be a manifold folly for the latter to follow suit the footsteps of the former. And this particularly prompts me to remark that we have the remedy in our hands. Being a poor man, when the time comes for me to take a partner, I will expend as much as my purse can allow me, not forgetting to reserve a good margin for my bride when she comes to my home, to enable us to keep body and soul unparted. If the parents of my intended refuse to accept *what I shall be able to offer* on the ground that it does not satisfy their lust, the wise thing I will do will be to recede and *find another one.* If we young people having the motive not to "encourage immorality" and not to cause "lot of young men and women" to be "without wives and husbands in the true sense of the law," would act in this spirit, I by no means doubt that in five years to come we shall have brought to their proper sense of marriage those parents who have the desire of selling their daughters for mighty fees. Space forbidding further remarks, Mr. Joe will please see me next week.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

NEW INSTRUCTIONS TO GOVERNORS OF THE WEST AFRICAN COLONIES.

Downing Street,
24th March 1903.

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to inform you that, on the suggestion of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, he has authorized the Governors and High Commissioners of the West African Colonies and Protectorates to correspond direct with the Liverpool and Manchester Chambers of Commerce upon subjects connected with British trade, and to send to you regularly and free of charge the Government Gazettes, one copy of the annual Blue Books, and copies of any new Ordinances or Proclamations affecting trade, and of any other official publications in which the Chamber may be interested. He has also informed the Governors and High Commissioners "that, except in case of urgency, he thinks that time should be allowed for the Chambers to express their views on any proposed legislation directly affecting the interests of the merchants," if they should desire to do so.

This arrangement is made upon the understanding that the Chambers will undertake to forward promptly to this Department copies of any communications which they may address to the Governors or High Commissioners. The Manchester Chamber have already given such an undertaking, and I am to enquire whether the Liverpool Chamber are prepared to do the same.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant.
(Signed) R. L. ANTHONYS.

The Secretary,
African Trade Section,
of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce.

This is a right step in the right direction, and should have taken years ago. Had this opportunity been accorded to the Chambers of Commerce and the local trading community before now, it is evident that the trade of this Colony would have been far more flourishing to-day, the cry of 'bad trade and hard times' would never had been heard, the revenue would have shown substantial increase from time to time and last of all, a punitive expedition (or two) might have been averted.

To imitate new lines of trade while improving existing ones, especially in places like ours, is preeminently the business, the work of the merchant for he and he only has acquired the knowledge gained from experience to utilize and so utilize it as to gain the object aimed at. No one with the least acquaintance of our ordinances will doubt that if this course had been pursued in years past, the Colony would have been saved many a useless, because impracticable law affecting our now almost ruined trade.

And if the Liverpool and Manchester Chambers of Commerce which are thousands of miles away be allowed to express their views on any proposed legislation directly affecting their interests in this Colony why should not the same facilities be accorded to the Aborigines Society which counts among her members all the prominent native merchants and traders. Who can better advise the Government on the trade of the Colony, than this body of men or who indeed can know the peculiarities of the native trader better than the native?

We make bold to say, that suggestions from England may often prove impracticable or not quite so benificial as the noble band of men over the water who have fought for this "charter" may think. They are not on the spot, not in touch with native ideas or with the native merchants: the representations made to them from time to time by their Agents and Factors are generally second and third rate, why then not, make use of a qualified body of men, who are willing to give their knowledge and experience for the service of the Country?

We would strongly advise the mercantile branch of the Society to catch this opportunity and press the matter at the next general meeting till representations are made to His Excellency the Governor and the same privileges are accorded them.

We congratulate the Liverpool and Manchester Chambers for the success that has attended their efforts so far in this respect, and we do so all the more gladly because of the use that we feel sure they will make of the opportunity thus afforded them: and we no less congratulate our much esteemed friend and advocate E. D. M. for the splendid victory he has won over this matter as all who have read his "West African Affairs" can testify after this great concession now made by the Government.

ASHANTI.

ABANDONMENT OF THE WAR TAX.

It has been definitely decided, as from the 1st. January 1903, to abandon any further levy of the War Tax upon the Ashantis, imposed immediately after the close of the last war, and the attempted imposition of which by Governor Hodgson was one of the contributory causes of the outbreak. We are heartily glad to hear it. The revival by the British Government of a claim upon the Ashantis for payment of a war-indemnity some thirty years old, incurred by the previous generation of Ashantis, and previous non-payment of which had been punished by the deportation of Prempeh and the annexation of the country, was just one of those measures which fill the ordinary man with amazement. The action now taken constitutes a complete reversal of policy, and a frank recognition was a mistaken one. While congratulating the Authorities upon the step they have adopted, it is only fair to point out that those who severely criticised the application of this Tax, are now shown to have been justified in their criticism. Having admitted their error in Ashanti, we would suggest that the Authorities turn their attention to an equally unpopular tax existing in another West African Colony, a colony which has steadily gone down hill since the tax has been in force.—*W. A. Mail.*

MARRIAGE AT ELMINA.

On Thursday the 30th ultimo, Mr. Herbert Henry Krakue, and Miss Elizabeth Des Bordes—the only daughter of Mr. A. G. Des Bordes—were joined together in holy matrimony at the Roman Catholic Church at 8. 30 a.m by Father Ojo assisted by two other priests. The grandeur and solemnity of the occasion was beyond description: the Chapel was crammed to its utmost capacity—the high mass was conducted with impressive solemnity—the chorister sang with inspiration to the stirring up of many a feeling—the solos and chorusses resounded throughout the building with angelic melody—the priestly address to the happy pair was weighty and exceptional—and the manner in which the bride's school mates presented to the bride in addition to one gold ring previously sent as the pair advanced out after the service, with two bunches of choice flowers, accompanied by recitations, was unusually graceful. The very crowdy attendance then marched to Krakue's Hotel where perfect justice was done to the good things provided for refreshment. Mr. E. P Dontoh, in proposing the health of the Bride and Bridegroom gave a weighty and a very interesting address which was equally responded to by Mr. F. H. Krakue. Valuable presents in a solid gold brooch and a pair of earrings from Messrs T. B. Hemans and J. A. Barnor of Cape Coast, one gold hair pin from Prince J. E. Condua and 2 gold scarf pins from St. Anthoney's society to which the pair belong, were made to the Bride.—At 7 p.m the bride's father gave dinner at his residence—late Dolphyne's Hall at which many prominent men invited were present. Two separate tables were set and the good thing served were not only well cooked and delicious but they were too much for the numerous guests to consume that night. Everything was nice and harmonious and ended in joy. Then the bestmen and the bride's maid Messrs F. H. Krakue Jr., J. E. Andoh, Sarah Krakue and Gertrude Plange gently conducted home the happy pair to rest.

Happy pair, now in beauty born,
May they be kept by heav'nly hand;
With peace, health and success adorn,
Till they shall reach the happy land.

THE FISHERMAN OF CHAMA.

BY KWEKU ABAA (ZNEL).

The stories often told of this remarkable little town have generally much in them to encourage incredulity; and but for the verification by the general deportment of the inhabitants both toward themselves and strangers at the present day, which will hardly fail to leave its impress on any observer of things going among them, these narratives would be robbed of much of their worth. One of these which has been forced to my recollection on perusing the article reproduced in this Journal a short while ago from the Columns of a well-known worthy predecessor of the "Leader" with the above heading, will afford a mirthful reading.

It is related of the Chamas that in the days gone by, a stupid and rather idiotic nation anyhow succeeded in finding a lodgment in their whimsical imagination to the effect that the sea is capable of being affected by the action of fire. Consequently, in order to prevent its being burnt by some supposed unscrupulous individuals, thereby deterring them (it was believed) from the exercise of their only vocation namely, fishing, they were want to take strong measures to impede the possibility of its occurrence.

The silly idea, having been communicated to their more enlightened neighbours of the rural places, the people of one of these towns devised an artifice whereby they succeeded in extracting large amounts of money from the Chamas as the subjoined account will show.

In order to carry out this fraudulent contrivance these Country folk one day visited Chama *en masse* with lighted torches in their hands and demanded of "Uncle Pat" the immediate payment of a certain sum of money, threatening meanwhile that in default, the sea would at once be burnt down with all the fish in it, for which purpose, it was intimated, they had brought the lighted torches. As is well known, the Chamas are more or less fishermen even to this day; and seeing that what with their expostulations and remonstrances it was apparent that the Bush gentry were desperate in their intention and would not be induced to relinquish the prosecution of their project, they paid the claim at once. The people were so much elated over the success of this affair that they were determined to continue on with the trickery and did not fail to put in an appearance at Chama every year for the collection of the annual tribute, always of course with the same success. One day however, one of the citizens of Chama happened to be taking a slow walk on the beach, silently regaling himself in his favourite proverbial smoke when, by a mere freak of chance, the little spark of fire falling from his pipe into the water, was immediately extinguished. Whereupon, he gave out a loud exclamation in the following words:—"My father's ghost! Is the sea so incapable of being burnt? What palpable fools have we been all along as to have paid these huge amounts to the bushmen? However, I thank God for having revealed this fact to me that the sea cannot be burnt. I shall immediately communicate it to my neighbours and thereby save my country from the payment of further tribute. The Chief on being informed took measures and tested to his satisfaction the unparalleled folly by which his fantastical imagination had been fed all along. And it is only necessary to add that when the Bush gentry came again the next year the Chamas did not fail to prove to them that they were no more fools.

ACCRA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ACCRA TOWN COUNCIL.

(1) This year there were no elections as the people refused to attend the meeting—a list of over 900 or more voters was posted out, but no one attended. But the government have taken upon themselves to appoint both official and non-official members for this year—If this is right we do not know.

(2) The sanitary condition of the Town is most deplorable. More nuisance is accumulated in Town than it has ever been witnessed—and this is through want of scavengers to clear the streets and the Lanes as it seems the Council have not sufficient money to employ more than they have at present—The two markets and the street known as High Street, are the only places where scavengers are (every other day) to be seen at work.

(3) The Government Cemetry Accra—This has also been very much neglected—The place is so grown up that some graves can scarcely be found out.

MARRIAGE.

The Marriage of Miss Helen Bannerman daughter of the late noted Charles Bannerman of *Accra*, to Mr. Henry Thompson Registrar of the Supreme Court Accra took place at the Wesley Chapel on Sunday the 26th of April last at 4. p.m. The attendance was large, and the guests which numbered over 100 after service left for Temple House, for cakes and wine. The Bride who was dressed in cream brocade silk satin costume of this year's fashion was given away by her Cousin T. Hutton Mills Esq. B.L. in place of her Uncle Edmund Bannerman who was kept away by slight fever. Among the speakers on the occasion were Messrs Jas. E. Bannerman, and Emml. W. Q. Papafio,—After which His Honour Mr. Justice Smith, Acting Chief Justice of the Colony, accompanied by J. A. M'arthey Esqre., Solicitor General came in and congratulated the married Pair, and they drove to their residence at Market Square, Usher Town.

The marriage of Miss Amelia Margaret Bruce daughter of Mr. Robt: A. Bruce to Mr. J. L. K. Kennedy son of J. L. Kennedy Esq. Chief Bailiff of the Supreme Court Accra, took place at the Wesley Chapel on Thursday the 30th April at 3. p.m. The Chapel was well crowded.

DEATHS.

The death rate this week is awful. No one can count for this. It is with deep regret we have to report the death of Mr. Emml. Vanderpuye which took place here on the 27th ultimo.

TOWN GENERAL.

His Honour Mr. Justice Smith accompanied by Mr. Henry Thompson Registrar left by land for Quittah Assizes on the 29th instant.

Mr. Henry Plange B.L. also left for Kwitta by s.s. Carl Woermann.

In the absence of a District Commissioner the Solicitor General J. A. McAarthey Esq. is still acting as D.C. for Accra.

Mr. W. G. Hesse and family leave by the s.s. "Biafra" for Northern Nigeria.

The rains have started and we hope the Town Council will clean the streets and repair drains to prevent mud all about the town.

The Rev. Ernest Bruce is still in Town, as ill health has not permitted him to reach his station at Pong since the last Synod. He is improving and we expect he will be leaving shortly.

Street Lamps are very few here and are not properly trimmed—we call the attention of the Town Council to this and especially to the lamps at the High Street.

The personal effects of the late Capt. Feutom are being sold at "Prospect" Mart by Public Auction.

The Boating Company here are doing very well indeed, and we congratulate them for the speedy way in which ships are cleared and Passengers are sent off: we wish them success.

Mr. Wm. Osbaldeston Agent African Association here has left for England on leave having been relieved by Mr. Bedford.

A Native Chief of Ottoo Street, by the name of Quandoo has been deposed for bad conduct. A gong-gong was sent out on Friday night announcing his "dethronement."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader.*

Sir:—I shall feel much obliged to you, if you would kindly spare me a space in your valuable and interesting paper to say a few words on the conversation that passed between a certain Agent of one of the European trading houses here and a certain gentleman in this town the other day.

A few days ago I heard the agent telling the gentleman that "I am trapping and boycotting all my office Clerks" He further added that he has made all the necessary arrangements with his friends and it is impossible for any one who falls into the trap to get any work to do.

As I am connected with the parties whom the said agent is trapping, I beg to ask him in doing so, does he think he would drive us away from the Gold Coast? I dont think: If he is a gentleman I think the best thing he has got to do, is to give them notice to quit rather than to entrap them for no cause. It is quite absurd for him to say that any one falling into his trap can not possibly find some employment here. If at all we shall not be employed by any of his Colour, weare not ashamed to be farmers or to rear cattle. In fact when we are out of his office, we shall not be mendicants and vagabonds in this town as he supposes us to be: of course, he shall have thousand hands in his office again, but the new hand cannot be compared to the old one: a new hand is as new wine; when it is old he shall drink it with all pleasure.

Before trapping any one he must take care that he does not trap himself. A word to the wise is enough.

I shall be thankful to you Mr. Editor for the insertion of this.

I am,
Yours truly,—A BY-STANDER.

Saltpond 20/4/03.

Sir,—Please permit me a space in your columns to say this, referring to your Correspondent from here if the Telegraph clerk and his messenger at Bayin are practising anything at all respecting Mr. McGregor's telegrams &c is it not right for Mr. McGregor himself to complain of the maltreatment? We want telegraph office here, and if so it is far better for us to apply to the source for the supply of our news.

It is high time enough for us to apply for this if we had never asked for it at anytime. But if we had done this and to no purpose why do we always attribute the fault to officials at Bayin.

I am, Yours very truly.—BLACK MAN TROUBLE.

Half Assinse.—21-40-3.

My Dear Editor,—Kindly allow me a space to express a complaint made to me by the villagers of Odoomassi (Ashanti Road.) On the 23rd ultimo when returning from Manso, I found a concourse of people crowded in the above village, where I was compelled to note down the damages that the West African Frontier Force—caused there with their three Officers, upon enquiry I was made to understand that the Soldiers asked the villagers to relieve the female carriers conveying specie, but the people could not understand that as the carriers were purposely engaged from Cape Coast for Ashanti, but not from post to post; on this point the Soldiers were annoyed and commenced beating and forcing the poor people to take the specie boxes, which caused the outbreak between them. It is said also that when these carriers are relieved from their burden, they become familiar with the Soldiers, why should the villagers suffer for the paid carriers?

If these three Officers have no influence at all to exercise on their troops, why should they be employed to waste the Gold Coast Revenue then? Three paid Officers cannot command three Companies! If they are not strong for millitary command, why should they not find themselves in other walks of life.

Yours in truth,—YAMINOSSI.

Anamaboe,—30/4/03.

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All Communications intended for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.

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

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

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Mr. J. M. HYATT,

of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission undertakes Dental Work at his residence for those who are in need of relief from tooth ache. Sore teeth treated, decayed teeth filled, or carefully extracted as may be required.

ENAMELLED GOODS.

Traders of good standing at Sekondi for the sale of enamelled goods wanted. Shipments directly from Hamburg.

Apply to the "Gold Coast Leader" Office.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Conversazione by the Cape Coast Brass Band came off successively last Tuesday night at the Commissariat House, under the distinguished patronage of Mrs. *D.C.* Peregrine.

The case between the Bentsirs and Moree Inkoons was decided at the *D.C's* Court on Tuesday, the Bentsirs to go to prison for 6 months, the Morees were fined £35 for displaying company flag without "a pass," and the Annfus who were caught joining in the fight to do time for 4 months.

There is a novel exhibition now at the Crystal Palace—Ashanti Village—attracting a lot of sight seers.

There is a notice from the Comptroller of Customs through the District Supervisor here, to Schoolmasters that "there are still several vacancies in the 5th class of Customs officers," and candidates should apply.

Two French doctors have been looking into the question of bearded women, and have discovered that out of every 1,000 sane females 290 are bearded, and out of 1,000 insane women examined 491 had slight beards, while fifty-six had beards well grown.

There is a policeman's college in St. Petersburg to train applicants for the Force.

The penalty among the Hottentots for widows who marry again is a somewhat severe one. It is the rule among the people that before so marrying, a widow must cut off the joint of a finger and present it to her new husband on the wedding day.

A writer discussing the subject of laughter describes the Italian laugh as languid but musical, the German as deliberate, the French as spasmodic and uncertain, the upper-class English as guarded and not always genuine, the lower-class as explosive, the Scotch of all classes as hearty and the Irish as rollicking.

It is said that there is a woman in Manchester who has eyes which magnify objects fifty times their natural size.

From Anamaboe the sad news of Brodie Cruickshank Arthur, a half Brother to Mr. D. M. Abadoo, and a cousin to the Rev. Brodie Graham reached us on Wednesday morning.

Mr. Arthur was a class mate, a very intelligent young man he was: at the time of his death he was the Secretary of King Amonoo V. of Anamaboe. The death is a loss to the Town.

A new temperance movement has been inaugurated by a London rector. The adherents of this movement will give a solemn undertaking never to take intoxicating drinks except at the midday and evening meals. There must be no nipping between meals, a practice that is condemned by doctors as the most mischievous of all alcoholic excess.

Mr. W. E. Sam is doing well at Amanful; having given them a decent chapel, he is also turning a pond in the middle of the village into a public tank for them.

Can the rumour be true that the Governor has got back to Head-quarters through the Volta *via* Adda?

The Agent and clerks of the African Association have removed from the Hockmans' at the Salt Pond Road, where they have been for some years to Dadzie's Hill at the Ashanti Road.

An anonymous donor we understand, has presented *Christ Church* with stalls for the choristers.

We regret to learn that His Honor Judge Morgan is a little indisposed and at the O'Conner's Hill. We wish him a speedy recovery.

There was a serious riot on March 23rd in the West Indies (Trinidad) a correspondent to the *Times* reports, over the water supply question. For nearly one hour the mob stoned the building in which the Legislative Council was sitting, setting the whole building on fire which included the Law Courts and many other Government offices.

The Governor and some members of the Council escaped with much difficulty. The Police firing on the crowd killed 18 and wounded about 40.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

	Due at Cape Coast.
*Oron S. C. Express Service No. 1	May 11
*Albertville Congo Boat	„ 15
Accra Southern Windward Service	„ 16
Angola Opobo Service...	„ 17
Batanga Brass Service	„ 19
Ascan Wœrmann S. C. Service... ...	„ 26
*Alex. Wœrmann Cameroons Accel. Ser. 1	„ 27
Nyanga Opobo Service	„ 30

HOMEWARDS.

Warri Opobo Service	May 11
Borna South C. Express Service No. 2	„ 15
Nigeria Congo Boat	„ 18
Biafra Lagos Express Service ...	„ 21
Hans Wœrmann S. C. Accel. Service	„ 27
Sekondi S. C. Express Service No. 1	„ 29

ATTUABOE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. M. F. Masden Agent for Messrs K. Hamilton & Co., Axim arrived here with his chief clerk Mr. J. W. Attram on the 28th April on Inspection. Mr. Masden left for Axim on the 30th, but Mr. Attram is still in town.

Mr. R. T. Arthur arrived here from Half Assinee on the 27th April and he is still in town.

In accordance with Mr. D. C. O'Brien's instructions the street lamps here are now to be lighted under the King's control.

On the 2nd instant Mr. Albert Kwodie was appointed by the King as Lamp-lighter under salary.

The Officer in charge here has been instructed or authorised to buy Kerosine Oil for the Street lamps: but we do not understand why the King should be forced by Mr. O'Brien to undertake the payment of the Lighter. Is this the custom at other outstations and had Mr. D. C. O'Brien any authority from the Governor to that effect? If so we fail to see any improvement which is being done to this town by the Government out of the revenue emanating from here every month.

The s/s Roquelle arrived here from England on the 3rd inst, (Sunday), Supervisor Risch being on board we had permission to work that day.

Mr. A. W. Smith the Customs Officer was very ill on the arrival of the s/s "Roquelle" but as he has no assistant, he was obliged to board the steamer and receive duties as well. This is a pity indeed.

The Post Office at Axim should have competent clerks who know the difference between A and B, and who would take pains to sort letters well to avoid Attuaboe letters being sent to Beyin.

DIXCOVE.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

On Thursday the 30th April, the Government Auditor Mr. W. W. Woods arrived in Town, and on Friday the 1st inst, Madam Deacon the Health Officer and another Lady arrived here and D. C. Maxwell also followed the next day. The Lady went round the next day on duty at about 9 a.m with the Jailer Mr. Ayson and proceeded on to Bushua (15 minutes from Dixcove) in the afternoon at about 4 p.m. On Sunday the 3rd the two Ladies accompanied by D. C Maxwell, and Mr. Woods, attended the evening service and the Lesson was read by Mr. Maxwell.

The s/s "Biafra" which weighed anchor here on the 4th inst at about 1 o'clock, (afternoon) landed Mr. Robert, the manager of the New Castle Gold Corporation Ltd, and 5 other Europeans for their Mines.

Mrs. Deacon and the other lady with D. C. Maxwell left here for Sekondi by the same steamer. We understand the former was unwell.

We are in hopes that Lady Deacon will not give her report that that Town itself is not healthy but only the sanitary conditions which we trust she will no doubt express in her reports to the Governor.

The stream referred to in your correspondence of the 2nd inst which lies quite close to Messrs Miller Bro's Factory where the lady was residing caused her indisposition, which we believe she noticed and trust she will confirm what your correspondent of the 2nd inst stated as regards its draining.

The Auditor Mr. Woods also left the Town on the 6th inst.

The gross neglect that is exhibited towards the town of Dixcove is really deplorable. Since Governor Griffith's visit to this place there has been no other Governor who has visited here. We always hear of the arrivals of new Governors and in course of few years they leave the Colony without visiting this place. As every one is aware, their visits are very important and give good occasion wherever they visit. I think this place also is worth visiting. Their visits are the only occasion in which the towns get to see them and ask for the important things they are in need of. In fact I wonder why the Governors do not cast an eye upon this place.

Is it because the town is too small for a Governor to stay in for only a day or two?

Or there is no necessity for Governor's visiting places where Native District Comm: are stationed?

Or the road to Dixcove is too narrow for a Governor to pass through?

Or there are no sufficient Europeans in town to entertain him?

Or for want of fast boats which can take them here?

Or because there is no railway here?

There are a good many things that are worth doing by the Government such as :—

River Nak. This River wants proper draining and a good bridge over it.

Public Water Well. The town is in need of this also.

Parcels Post and Money Order Transactions. We are suffering greatly from paying triplicate expenses of sending messengers to Sekondi and

Axim for Money Orders and to receive Parcels arriving from England through the Parcels Post.

Play Ground. This needs the Governor's presence to select a place for.

Scavengers. Two of these will not keep this town clean, more wanted.

Latrine. This is giving us a great deal of sickness from the deadly smell. We ask that this should be done with iron hut and pans removable, than to dig the ground and commit nuisance.

Road to Bushes. This is only a distance of 15 minutes from Dixcove and needs that the Government should have it levelled for trucks and other cars to run through. We do not think that this will effect the Revenue from this place alone as Bushes itself is a port of Entry. This road must be properly done as it is full of stones and rough things.

Town Bell. This is absolutely a disgrace for a proud Government like the English to have a Fort as Dixcove Fort without a bell and use a piece of soundless rusty Iron Rod for a bell. Must I remind them of the surplus Bell at Cape Coast Fort which is not in use that if that is brought to us it will serve a right purpose; that the Bell was intended for this place can be proved from the marks on the bell and why should it be kept at Cape Coast.

All that I have said above are worth the Governor's presence but as Dixcove alone is unlucky for a Governor's visit I am afraid the Governor will not be here until we all die.

Hence I stand up in the "Leader" this week on behalf of Dixcove to put this to the Public. I do not think for one moment that it is below the Powers and the dignities of their Excellencies to visit a Town like Dixcove. And I hope this will remind His Excellency that there is another town called Dixcove worth visiting.

"If you don't ask of fish you eat bones"
"Ask and it shall be given unto you."

Medical Officer. We are in need especially of this, and beg to ask the Government for one, if they find it is not good to send one District Commissioner and a Medical Officer, we would ask them to send one who is District Commissioner and a Medical Officer at the same time.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We have this week also to bring to the notice of the officer in charge of the men (West African Frontier Force) stationed here, (not our last word after all) and we shall keep doing this *ad nauseam*, until a stop is put to their atrocious conduct, much to the annoyance of the Public. Is the Officar in charge powerless to bring his men under some discipline worthy of British Soldiers? Unless their doings are a planned thing with an object (which we cannot believe) their cruelties and barbarities on the public should be stopped. If the men can do such things in the Town, what will they not do, when in the bush?

On Tuesday morning a certain gentlemen lodged in this complaint with us. He was returning from Elmina on his bicycle, at about 7 p.m. on Monday. The men at the Magazine arrested him, and would not let him go, until he had paid 6d. He did, and they let him off. Just about that time some bush people coming to Town that way were chased by them when through fright, they threw down their things and fled. Now is this right? If the men are under instructions to molest people passing that way after certain hours, because of the powder Magazine they are sent there to take care of, it is only fair that the Public be told of it for we know that the Powers that be can do anything.

Here is a Body of Soldiers sent here to protect the People, who pay them too, annoying them constantly, boating men and women for no earthly reason and robbing them too: we are not to say it or we complain too much, and this on British Territory where slavery is unknown and all *because* they have the Government with them. Cannot Mr. *D.C Peregrine*, who is the representative of the Commander-in-Chief here step in to stop all that is going on by these men in the Town and its outskirts? Let us say none of these things have come to his hearing, if so, may not our King and his Head-Chief, or the President of the *Aborigines Society*, approach him about it?

As there are so many ordinances in the Protectorate, we do not know if there is any establishing the rule that all Europeans (better perhaps to say Britishers) in the Town are to be unpaid *District Commissioners*. We find that if any white man wishes anything to be done for his own benefit or in his neighbourhood he is simply to tell the paid D.C., who is the representative of the Power in the land, and is, and must be done. Whether this is done simply to oblige his colour or not we cannot say. Our attention has been called to the fact, that it is not only where it is White *v.* Black, or Black *v.* White, that the White must have the upper hand, whatever may be the nature of the case, but a white man has only to see the D.C., that this and that ought to be done, and it *will* be done. This is perhaps as it should be. But won't it be better to make seperate laws for each colour, and a Proclamation be issued out that all white men in the Country must be looked upon as right and left hand supporters of white officials everywhere.

Laws or no laws we are at the mercy of all whites, and a *D. C.* can be got to do *anything*, since his colour has given him the information. Is this wise? Any white man who may have some animosity or spite against any one, can get a D.C. to set at nought the law, or try to make out something out of an existing law to 'humbug' the party. Is this reasonable? We think the Governor should stop this, and order the white civilians not to interfere with the D.C's in the performance of their official duties, although they may associate for a "chin chin" to their hearts' content. The *unofficial* members of the Council should take this up, as it may lead to all sorts of unpleasantness if not something worse.

Once a white man is against you, you are not only not safe in the mercantile world, but you will have to mind your p's and q's with the Government as well, and we are told *slavery* is unknown in British Dominions. From what we are *experiencing* in the Tarkwa District, here and other places, things may be not so bad as they are at Congo, over which so much fuss is being made, and rightly too but they are equally as bad, you may say in a mild form. Hm. Our Masters will do well to ponder on the *christian* principle, to wit Mat: VII. 3. 4.

A correspondence just to hand calls to our mind another we published a fortnight ago by one who signed himself *Black Man Trouble*, dealing on the same subject, viz the wicked doings of our white civilizer in the Tarkwa district, and on the railway lines, "aided and abetted" by some Sierra Leoneans and Lagosians over there. We can hardly see, how such brutalities can be perpetrated at a place where we have a D.C. the Governor's representative, and in a British territory too. You say it, and it is too much of the colour question: you point out the wrongfulness this is on the part of our brother blacks, the Sierra Leoneans and the Lagosians, and there,—you don't like strangers and so forth. Verily the lines are fallen to us in this Country, in pleasant places. Thanks to the Concession Boom (!)

This mosquito fight is really becoming a pest and a nuisance to us here where every thing must be carried to the extreme. When the skilful Dr. Logan Taylor himself was here we called his attention to it, and now Dr. Barker we understand is in charge of the Sanitation of the Town, and the General conducting the war against the mosquitoes. There is no doubt he is doing all he can with his colleagues—white and black—for the cleaning of the Town. It is the "water and mosquito" business that we cannot understand, and wish to be enlightened upon.

Those who have casks and tanks to keep rain water have been directed how to keep them so that the water may not breed the mosquitoes; have the men who now go round every day to inspect these tanks and casks in every nook and corner of the Town, received new instructions to pour their carbolic or whatever it is into them, no matter how they may find them, and even though the water may be a day old. Are we to be deprived of all drinking water in our houses, *when there is no provision whatever made for water supply?* Are we to be deprived altogether of this necessary of life? Would it not be better to remember that we cannot all afford to drink from the bottle?

And what is being done with the salt pond, which is undoubtedly breeding more mosquitoes, as it is, than all the water to be found in people's houses put together for which it is made to suffer. Can't Dr. Barker do some thing for us as no human being can do without water? We thank him in anticipation.

We call the attention of the *unofficial* members of the Legislative Council to Attoo's *Superfluous Offices* for this week, and we have no doubt they will succeed to do some thing for this burdened Colony, as we are now favoured with a Governor who is an economist. This, and we are told the Colony is in debt for loans and more loans are wanted for this and that, and English Bankers refuse to give loans for railways &c. owing to a speech Sir Matthew Nathan made when in England sometime ago, or wrote—which—as the Governor himself was saying at one of the interviews had with him the other day.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Thursday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAY 16, 1903.

IS KODWO MBRA A KING OR A CHIEF?

We begin this week our observations on the interviews with His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan, during his last visit here, as reported in our issues. We take that of the Kings and Chiefs first. Those present were Kodwo Mbra (Cape Coast) Otoo V. (Abura) Wiroku (Wassaw) and Nkwantabissa (Denkyira). The first to be favoured with an interview was Kodwo Mbra: before dealing on what he said at the interview we must know exactly what to style him. From what we said last week under the caption *Kings or Chiefs* we consider this necessary. From the days of the late Governor Sir Brandford Griffith to this, Mbra has been styed *Head Chief*. One would like to know what position, one who bears the title of *Head Chief* holds in the Country. Is Kodwo Mbra a Head Chief or a King? Was he a Saûl among the Prophets at the interview? Has Cape Coast no *King* then, and if it has, who is he if Kodwo Mbra is but a Chief, (for a Chief is a Chief, whatever may be the qualitative) The people look upon him as the *Oman-hin*, (King,) and not *ohin* (Chief.) If this remains, then Cape Coast is to have no KING, as it used to have in days gone by. Our bewilderment and astonishment increase when we come to find the attempt the Government is making to extend the title to all our Kings.

Barring what Bossman and Cruichshank say on this subject let us hear what the most recent work, (Sarbah's *Fanti Customary Law*) puts it:—

King is not synonymous with Captain. Ohin means Chief; Oman-hin, King; Safu-hin, a Captain. The confusion which exists in many of these things, arises solely through the faulty interpretation of incompetent, ill-taught, and stupid interpreters. The headman of a village, merely as such is not, and can be only slovenly called *Ohin, a King*.....(Vide page 11.)

Now, which is Kodwo Mbra? With the Kings at the interview was he among his equals? We say he was, and to call him a Head Chief, is socially and politically wrong. He was elected and enstooled a King by the people, going through the ceremonies at the enstoolment of a *King* and not a *Chief*. The Head Chief at this place, we take it should be the Tufu-hin or Kueson-hin, which is Chief Coker. He (the King) is known and acknowledged as such by the people, whose choice he is. The appellation Head Chief as applied to Kodwo Mbra, first appeared in official documents at the time of Sir Brandford Griffith during whose administration, he was enstooled, and this title was adopted because certain sections in the community would not have *him* to reign over them, preferring the King to be chosen from another line. There are about two or three Houses, from which a candidate for the Cape Coast Stool may be taken: but does the election of any one from any of these Houses, supported by the majority disqualify such an one from being called a King?

The present King it appears was taken from one of these Houses, why styled a (Head) Chief then. From one House two or three or more persons may reign, then the rule may pass from that House to another. In English History for instance, we have different Houses from the Norman House right down to the Hanoverian House, and we are even told our present King begins another House—that of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. If any King crowned (enstooled we say) shows himself unfit for the high and responsible post to which he has been called, he is deposed, and another from the same House or from another line or House is placed in his stead. We do the same. To call Kodwo Mbra therefore a Head Chief and not a King, is, politically and socially wrong, and should be discontinued. Any of his Brother-Kings visiting this Town, call on him as such, and the Authorities themselves deal with him as such in everything but in the title. Kodwo Mbra should no longer be put in a false position. If a Chief he is, then Cape Coast must have a King. There are candidates to be had from any of the three Houses. It must not be said, that it is immaterial in these days for Cape Coast, whether it has a King or not.

Those who talk like this, and work for it too, are among the direst enemies of the Country and are in the front rank of those working against our laws, customs and manners. The greatest enemy of Africa is the African-the Negro-who assumes the rôle of a European, and there are many such it appears to be seen in these days. These are yet to learn a lesson from the story of the jackdaw and the peacocks. We must have our Kings, Chiefs, and Captains, i. e., Oman-hin, Ohin, and Safu-hin, with our Penyinfu and Brompon. We must not be Anglicized or Europeanized. Having to do with the whites, we must learn *all we can* from them, but remain Africans. We must keep up our Nationality. We lose nothing. We gain everything. To talk of *Brofu-mbir* (white-man's day,) and then seek to do away with our national life is the most suicidal thing we can ever do, and to those who hold the paramountcy over us who seek to do away with our national existence it must be clear, that they are seeking to sow unrest, disturbance, ruin and all deadly things in the land in which they come to seek their wherewithal, seeing they will be working against Nature. If even the Welsh, the Scotch and the Irish seek to preserve their nationality in the British Empire, why may not we?

Kodwo Mbra then, was at the interview as a King, let us see how he prepared against the Governor's arrival, how he went and what he said there.

We cannot help taking notice of the words that fell from His Excellency's lips respecting this organ, at his interview with the Aborigines Society the other day. His Excellency is reported to have remarked that he had' read from the local paper (*G.C.L.*) that the proposed (Victoria) Park, will be for Europeans only; there will be nothing of the kind.....he would therefore give that statement a most emphatic denial,' To all appearances, therefore, and we believe, we are justified in making the inference—the only statement that has appeared in the *Leader*, at least, as far as it effects the Government, which His Excellency can give a denial, "a most emphatic denial" to, is the one in connection with the proposed Park. And that is saying a great deal. We are not surprised at it. We have striven to do our duty to the Public, the whole Public with impartiality. We have never complained without just cause nor have we pointed out or written of any grievance or oppression, but what we have sifted to the bottom, as far as our slender means could allow and our friends, the enemy can say nothing about. Our criticisms of Governor Nathan's administration, indeed of the whole rotten Crown Colony system that prevails in its worst type in this Colony, have all been done in good faith, and have always invariably taken pains to have chapter and verse up our sleeves, to prove our statement and we may be pardoned, if we say, we are proud to find that the greater portion of the evils against which we have raised our voice in the face of almost insurmountable difficulties—intimidations, threats of prosecutions and indeed an actual prosecution by the Government, to say nothing of being tripped by the heels and slandered and "sold" by the very persons for, and in whose interest we exist—are remedied and others are being remedied, and let us hope, what remains will be also remedied in the near future.

As to whether or no what we said about the Park be true we would quote what the President of the Aborigines Society is reported to have said to His Excellency. "Things have transpired, which go to support what the paper said."

His Excellency, then, be it said to his praise, reads the local paper; indeed, we have it from the best possible source, that he does not only read it, but makes a very close study of it, as indeed becomes one in his high and responsible position. And this should put to shame those Europeans in the Colony, who are afraid to subscribe to the paper—though they rush to their clerks to read their copies—for fear the Government may take it that by so doing they help to support and establish the paper. But what of our opinionated, purblind clergy, the great majority of whom would feign denounce the *Leader* from their pulpits, if they dare.

It is strange that in these days, men who declare themselves to be *Leaders* of the blind, should themselves be so blinded by prejudice, *to say the least*, as to wish and work directly and indirectly to disparage, suppress, and if they could, quench a light, which has been recognized by the Pulpit and Pew, of all civilized nations for centuries and centuries as one of Heaven's best gifts to man—the Press. But we put it down to ignorance. Still we pray that, From all such crass *ungodly* ignorance Good Lord deliver us!

The Press of all the Churches in the civilized world is, and has been the second mighty force that is being wielded—in great majority of instances with intelligence, power, and persuasiveness second to none—for christianizing and civilizing the People and the Press of Methodism yields the palm to none in the field. Yet we make bold to say, though we say it with regret and shame, that among our foremost detractors, among those who would see about the only local organ in the Western Province defunct may be reckoned, men with the "white choker," and no wonder, for how many of them, if any at all, subscribe to, or read newspapers issued by even their own connexions. Thus are opportunities of doing good thrown away! For who have more access to the high and low, rich and poor in the community than our ministers? Who have greater influence over the people and can more readily gain their ear and obedience to the laws of MAN and GOD—of Man, first, then of GOD, for do we not know GOD and the ways of GOD, clearer and better and easier through MAN, His only other Self on Earth?

Any means, therefore through which this object of "our being's end and aim" could be attained, should certainly have the true and hearty co.operation and unstinted support of all classes of well—meaning men in the community.

ARE GOVERNORS A FAILURE.

T'is not in mortals to command success,
But we'll do more, Sempronius;
We'll deserve it. Addison.
There's Guvnors whom we've heard about,
from Carolina hail
Steam ingin's too have Governors, there's Governors in Gaol
But sure if times get harder, our Governor
I fear
Will govern scarcely anything Columbus landed here. Rebab.

The announcement in last week's issue of the CLARION that the successor of our present Governor had been chosen, is a favourable opportunity to give expression to the dominant feeling which prevails in Belize for the discontinuance of any such appointment.

There is not the slightest doubt that the present is a period of very great depression, perhaps unprecedentedly so. For some time back it has been felt that the Governmental staff on its existing scale is unwarranted and that retrenchment is necessary. Our difficulties must be faced firmly and squarely and everything that points in the direction of good and true economy, should be taken advantage of, in order to lessen our present burdensome taxation.

Whenever a similar cry has been raised in the past, the pruning knife has not been resorted to in a thorough manner, either through delicacy, or reluctance, on the part of Counsellors to name exalted parties, or to disturb the existing order of affairs. What is wanted is the abolition of unnecessary officials and for each officer to have his time reasonably occupied during office hours. The time has now arrived when no personal squeamishness need exist, but a real effort made to place the country on a footing consistent with common sense and fairness to the taxpayers.

Let us look honestly at our comparative standing with other places, and ask ourselves candidly, whether our present extravagant show is justified, and, if it is not, let us try and induce the Home authorities to make the desired change in order to remedy matters. If we were a wealthly large self-governing Colony, it would be only dignified and appropriate to keep up appearances, although it may be questioned whether it is ever right to countenance unnecessary ostentation. In a large Colony, moreover, the Governor is usually an able, wealthy man, who is quite independant of his salary; at all events he usually has to supplement it considerably from his own private means to keep pace with the expenditure involved by a lavish hospitality. His position may really be looked upon as an honorary one, his presence being required merely for occasions of formality and show. But in the West Indies or a Crown Colony constituted as we are, the Governor is seldom wealthy and naturally saves all he can, any extra style or state being always accompanied with corresponding expense to the Country. If he is fond of travelling or would like to make an occasional jaunt, as he generally does, there is $15 a day more for him and probably extras.

And what do we get in return for the wages of such a man? Verily little or nothing, certainly nothing that is necessary, or that will further the Country's interest. If he were a rich man who took an interest in the Country laid out his money in improving the conditions of the place and by the force of his wealth and influence induced others to add their capital to the exploitation of the places, he would be what is most desired, but what we shall probably NEVER get viz:—an ideal Governor. Or, if he were an able man who by force of energy and ability could effect something beneficial he would be generally appreciated for his undoubted merits.

But what class of man do we get here? In the memory of most of us we are either saddled with blatherskiting pomposity or well disposed nonentities who are powerless in the nature of things, to do any thing more than draw their salary &c. It is really amusing if we look for a moment at what a paradoxical or anomalous position a Governor really occupies in a Crown Colony on the basis of ours. First of all he draws his pay for governing. But the Government is carried on by means of an honorary council whose services are furnished "free gratis, for nothing," the clerical work being of course performed by the Secretary and his official staff, who shape things generally for consideration of the Council.

We are therefore, as a matter of fact, left with a totally unnecessary official in the shape of a Governor for whom we pay a big salary, without being able to afford it, while he in order to make some show or excuse for his existence, may possibly potter about unnecessarily and interfere with outside matters to their detriment generally.

* * *

Other retrenchments would follow but let us get one thing finished at a time. The abolition of the office of Governor should be the first step in a right direction, and for that purpose a petition lies in our office waiting the signatures of as many as feel disposed to sign it, praying the Secretary of State to grant the earnest desire of the Colonists.

Under the energetic assistance of Mr. Labouchere of *Truth* and other members of the home legislature we hope to effect something definite on this occasion.

The Clarion 28/8/02.

NOT SO MUCH RED TAPE GOVERNMENT.

The French are credited with being the most polite people in the world, and the grandiloquent termination of ordinary correspondence is a feature of French epistolary communications. French official correspondence is, of course, even more elaborate. The Lieutenant-Governor of Senegal has revolutionary instincts in this respect, and he has recently sent a circular round to all his subordinates "to suppress formulas of politeness in daily correspondence." He is also a wit, which can be estimated by the following extract from this circular:—

"I am persuaded," says the circular, "that all the officials and agents of Senegal entertain feelings of respect for their superiors, feelings of consideration for their equals; and feelings of goodwill for their subordinates. These are feelings which, at any rate, they should entertain without it being necessary to manifest them outwardly on the slightest provocation. I suggest, therefore, that heads of departments should invite their subordinates to abandon these formulas." This little incident, trivial and amusing in itself, is significant, nevertheless, of the practical methods which our neighbours are introducing into every branch of their West African administration.—*W. A. Mail.*

SUPERFLUOUS OFFICES.

V.

Touching the Police Department I think on the lines of practical economy it will be advantageous to the Country to abolish the posts of "Sub-Assistant Commissioners." The function of one of these officers is invariably to drill at times his men, go round on certain beats at will and conduct prosecution at Police Courts. Considering this, it is certainly obvious that he does not well earn the £25 per month allowed him. Considering the present state of the Country in as far as an Attorney-General's work is concerned, it seems evident that the salary of the Attorney-General "which has been raised to its former maximum"—that is £1000 per annum—is too high, and I am inclined to think that even the starting salary of £800 per annum is too lavish, considering that he has an assistance in a Solicitor-General, besides the legal work of the Country is not as such as to warrant this high emolument. The curious point about it is that though the present holder of the office has scarcely held it for a year, he has been drawing the maximum that has taken previous holders years to get at. For what reason this was done, is not stated in the *Gazette* before me. But the public should like to know.

There is another curious point in the District Commissioners' staff, which I want my readers to note. Though Messrs J. A. Williams and A. W. Thompson are classified as *District Commissioners* and receive a maximum of £300 each, "Assistant District Commissioners" below them receive maximums of £400 per annum. Can the reader detect out all that makes the difference? It is merely because the *two* are natives, and all the *Assistants* are Europeans! In this enlightened and Christian Government of ours presided over by men laying claim to the execution of Justice, Colour but not *Ability* or *long* and *faithful* Service is taken into consideration. Such is the egregious colour distinction tolerated under the eye of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain who always pretends in his orations to be the Champion of the Negro.

What are our "Travelling Commissioners" paid for? And what are their functions for which they

impoverish the Country each year no less than £1,200? Every district in the country, down to the Northern Territories has its own responsible District Commissioner. There is a standing Order to these gentlemen instructing them to travel periodically through their districts (which pays them awfully). Now, if the *D. C.* of each district has got to inspect his sphere of influence at regular intervals with the object of ascertaining how far order is carried in it as also of collecting informations about the record of Native affairs, what in the name of goodness, are the Travelling Commissioners paid for? Must we take them for some of the numerous free berths in the administration, or are we to seriously consider that they do some honest work that justifies the large stipends they draw.

As a taxpayer I take the liberty of suggesting that in each *January Gazette*, the public should be furnished with details of all the local Government departments with classification of Officials and their salaries and functions, so much to put us under an enlightenment with regard to the officials and the work they do.

When one gazes around and examines how public works are understaken in this country, how our streets are laid out how drains are made, how wells are sunk and many other things are carried out, and glance in a work like the *Colonial Office List* and find how the staff of the "Public Works Department" are arranged with their pay and functions—from the "Director," his assistant, the "Foreman" down to the "Furniture clerk," one cannot help comparing the Crown Colony administration to a public "Work-House" in England where people are *sheltered* and *handsomely fed* in consideration of small work done. In the first place we have the "Director of Public Works" who sticks always at Accra during his tenure of office in the country, with his finely-cut £1000 per annum. Then, an "assistant Director" with his £400 to £600, for assisting the Director in directing from Head-quarters, the fine and spacious streets, the desirable drains, the magical reservoirs, the refreshing fountains, and the brilliant, architectural public buildings we have (?). Passing over the "engineers" with their £300 to £400, we come to the draftsmen, who with the help of assistants, draw £300 for getting or drawing up plans or designs. Passing over the "Surveyors of Roads" and their assistants with their £500 and £300 respectively; the "Maintenance Foremen" with their £300 (what are these?) the "Chief Accountant" and his assistant with their £350 and £300 respectively; and the native clerks, we meet the famous "Foremen of Works." This is class of officials who may be fairly divided into two classes, namely:—Fine architects and quacks or men who are only fit for the positions of overseers.

One of the recent expensive Departments is that of the Transport. In the exigency of the recent punitive excursions to Ashanti and beyond, there might have been excuse for its existence. But now that the Railway has been extended to the hinterland from Sekondi, there can be no two opinions that the office is Superfluous. The Chief Transport officer is earning £500 and three other assistants with £350 to £400 each. The railway is the Government property, and there is no reason why this office should not be abolished and the work in connection with it transferred to the railway official.

It is worthy of note that the amount of £1,030 has been voted in addition to previous one for the passages of officers to and from the Colony, during this year. That a sum of "£6,200 has been added to the item for Travelling, Subsistence allowances and March money" for this year. That a sum of "£4000 has been added to the item for Transport of stores and Materials" for this also. And that "£100 is inserted for the up-keep of the Motor Car" against £600 included last year for its purchase." The increase, therefore, for the vote of transports for the year is £11,630.

The Sun.

ELMINA AND CHIEF CATHLINE

BY THE OWL.

There appeared in the issue of the *Leader* No. 40 of the 28th March last in the correspondence from Elmina an article about a mass meeting held on Saturday the 21st March by the Ten Companies of Elmina over the case Edzinwiri v Chief Cathline which resulted in the disenstoolment of the Chief.

Strange to say that the case upon which the Chief was disenstooled did not concern any state affairs, but was purely a private matter between him and one Quacoe Edzinwiri.

As a bird of the night I know the details of the case and if I will be permitted I will give out the whole facts for the information of the public in general.

The man Edzinwiri married to a niece of Chief Cathline, and for a period of five years the woman traded for Edzinwiri between Sekondi and Tarkwa, about a year ago she was sent to Tarkwa by the husband with goods for sale. She returned after a time to account for the goods; after this she was ordered back by the husband to collect some outstanding debts. Sometime after this Edzinwiri called on Chief Cathline and told him that his wife whom he sent to Tarkwa was at Sekondi and that he wanted her at Elmina. Chief Cathline replied him that as the woman did not go up to Tarkwa on her own account but was sent up by Edzinwiri himself and at his risk and responsibility he must himself also call her down to Elmina. Chief Cathline after this left for Sekondi and stayed for sometime. He returned to Elmina sometime in December last and Edzinwiri hearing of his arrival without interviewing him further on the question of his wife, at once went to the Field-Marshal's court and swore his oath against him on a charge of depriving him of his wife and asking for immediate payment of the expenses incurred for the marriage, investigation of this charge was made by the Field-Marshal and his people and it was proved out that the steps taken by Edzinwiri was not in accordance with the native marriage custom and was therefore found guilty by the court, and was ordered to pay all expenses.

Elmina, 6th May 1903.

(To be continued.)

CHAMA.

(From our Correspondent.)

On Thursday the 30th ult. a certain woman residing near the Chapel Square returning from her farm whither she had resorted to work the whole day in the scorching sun unexpectedly found her child dead on her back.

We are pleased to note that our request re insufficiency of latrine pans has been complied with by the Government; but what of the Street lamps?

Rumour has it, that the scholars in town are contemplating to have a grand concert at no distant date.

We understand the Constables who bamboozled the poor carrier and bolted away with the Government money are having their case tried at Sekondi.

Mr R. G. Garber Clerk-in-charge here (Post and Telegraph) has been transferred elsewhere and a Mr. Haizel is here to take his place.

Deaths have been frequent here.

A man who is suffering from D.T. having broken his passage on board the "Teneriffe" that called here sometime last week called in at the Mission House as a stranger and after having been accorded a worthy hospitality by Mrs. Sackey greatly disturbed the whole residents in Town by an unbearable shoutings. He has since returned to his country overland. Missionaries beware!

ELMINA.

(From our Correspondent.)

The District Commissioner has arranged, hereafter, to sit in Court once a day, in the afternoons at one o'clock. This however, might relieve the public from the annoyance of having to dance attendance in the Court from 8 to 10. 30 p.m. before the D.C. puts in an appearance, as it has hitherto been the case. We do not blame Dr. Waldron for all that, though, considering that in the mornings he has to attend the Prison, Hospital and sometimes the Catholic Mission, to say nothing of other departmental affairs.

The case between Kwesi Eshon and the King's orderlies was according to the request of the defendants, reviewd on Tuesday last, 28th; the King appeared in person for the defence which however did not contribute to reverse the former judgment. —Same findings with fresh costs. It is hoped any further movement for an appeal has got to be abandoned as the conviction is now quite clear. The King's appearance in Court was considered *infra dignitatem* as, in the course of Counsel's examination he was compelled to own that he himself was a fisherman before his accession to the throne of Elmina. (We do not consider this, a disgrace. Ed.) It is a pity that the King is always made to play the scapegoat, who must have prompted him to do such a thing? Surely it was not Mr. Cathline this time.

The *Edzinwiri affair* which caused the downfall of ex-chief Cathline was transferred to the District Commissioner's Court by the plaintiff who claimed £14. being money paid to defendant as headrum of his niece Mensiwa. The case which has been engaging the attention of the Court for sometime came on for final hearing on the 5th inst. Tuesday, when judgment was given for plaintiff with costs.

On Monday 4th at Aguna a certain man committed suicide after murdering his one month-old infant and mortally wounding the mother—his wife. It is alleged that the woman had only on the previous Saturday obtained a divorce from the man and paid him back his money. The killed and wounded were brought to town on Tuesday. The latter however is lying in Hospital in a precarious state. Inquest has been postponed *sine die*.

On the same day the body of another man who is said to have been accidentally shot by some person while hunting in the bush was also brought to the Mortuary.

SALT POND.

(From our Correspondent.)

Dr. Ralph arrived on the 1st. to relieve Dr. M. J. Loughrey as the local medical officer in charge.

There has been a robbery of a quantity of gun powder from the private magazine of Messrs J. J. Fischer & Co. at Nankesidu Road.

We learn that Dr. M. J. Loughrey who left lately for Cape Coast to give evidence on behalf of the Crown, will proceed from there on his furlough. We wish the good doctor a safe passage and trust he will return to our midst again.

The party Dundum who was arrested for his nefarious displays on the night the recent farewell Concert was being given to Mr. Assan as reported in your last issue has been fined £10, and we trust this will be a lasting lesson to him as well as the other young men who are of such mischievous propensities.

The Sunday School Scholars and the Singing Band presented, we understand, the Rev. J. B. Anaman with two Gold finger rings, also that the Singing Band further presented him with a guard as a token of remembrance on the eve of his departure from their midst.

At the D.C's Court recently, the Firm of Ostner and Bartsch were fined One hundred pounds for smuggling and swindling by their Invoices. It appears they imported a case of drinkables by a "Woermann" steamer lately; and that the items put on their Invoices were other than what the case actually contained, which liquors were liable to specific duties.

Anent the matter of nickle-plated Cornets belonging to the "Infantry Brass Instruments" which the intrusive and forward Agent of the Firm of Alex. Miller Bro. & Co., to wit Mr. Steedman, unlawfully ordered his Kroo-boys to seize and to sent Dr. Loughrey whilst they were being played by them and which were returned to them by the Doctor who knew better, it was a surprise to the public to find that an action has been instituted against the young men, since the 4th inst. by the Superintendant Coker signed by the D.C. Harper, under the charge "of playing musical instruments at Saltpond on the 10th ultimo without License from the D.C., between the hours of 8 o'clock in the night and 6 o'clock in the morning, Contrary to Section 137—s.s. 10 of No. 12 of 1892." The case came on and was adjourned from the 5th inst. pending the arrival of one of the Bandmen who is out of Town.

From the intrusive manner and unnecessary interference of Mr. Steedman in this affair, we may fairly ask whether he is still the Agent for Millers or a Government official now. Or has he been made a "special Constable," a police Sergeant or Superintendant? Or is he now a J. P.? If not, but is still Miller's Agent, the sooner he minds what he is paid for, the better will it be for him. We have such confidence in our *D. C.* that we do not for a moment entertain the notion that he goes outside his own discretion and takes white Agents or clerks' advice in administrating the affairs of this district.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader*.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Kindly be good enough to allow me a space in your valuable columns to know from the Authorities whether it is now the custom out here that convicts should wear their own dress.

Yesterday a convict who, we understand on account of his fine handwriting the District Commissioner here has taken to his office, was seen walking in the streets from Goal yard alone to District Commissioner's quarters with his collar and tie. A young man who used to be with Mr. Baldwin and who arrived from up-country last Tuesday saw the prisoner (from Accra) and not knowing that he was a convict saluted him, and passed away. No sooner than three minutes than he was seen under charge of a policeman of a long height and gigantic stature and was sent right off to the Police Station.

He was discharged immediately on the grounds that the convict was in his civilian dress. There seems to be more privilege taken here by the sub-white officials.

It is a pity we cannot hear from the Authorities that the uncivilised Policemen would be done away with so that people of high education could join and thus save the Public from being dragged along the streets mercilessly and without any just cause. Simply the Policemen do not know the Law?

Thanking you in anticipation for the space allowed.

Yours very truly,—Taxt An Sekondi.

Printed at the office of the Gold Coast Leader, Salt Pond Road, Cape Coast, by J. R. Grant.

ISSUE(S) MISSING

The Gold Coast Leader.

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CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1903.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

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(Payable in advance.)

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(Agent.)

Market Street,
Salt Pond,

GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Justice Morgan left here last Saturday by the *Sokoto* for England, invalided. We wish His Honour a speedy recovery.

The Assizes that have just been closed, with His Honour Mr. Justice Purcell as the President, will be memorable for the number of years measured out to prisoners sentenced for hard labour.

One Mr. Johnson who stole Mrs. Kate Thompson's trinkets had seven years: and the police corporal who broke into Mr. Skues' store on last Christmas morning, twelve years, and his accomplice ten years.

We regret to learn that Madam Yankuma's condition is getting more and more serious.

Concerning this a correspondent writes:—"Can it be true that the Frontier Police, Sergt. Coker and others whose case you reported last week have been left free to move at large in Freedom's Hall, whilst under a serious charge in the D.C's court and whilst assaulted parties are lying in a serious state as pronounced by the two doctors attending them..... What steps have the *Aborigines* and the King taken since this transpired."

Leaving the King and the *Aborigines Society* out of it, does Mr. D.C. Peregrine really and truly mean to say, he is ignorant of the doings of these men in Town? And have these men here any officer commanding?

On the very night of the day when the poor woman and the Boy were brutally assaulted, our streets were rendered dangerous by these men and the Lagos Police men, who went about with sticks beating people. Where are we?

With two Commissioners here, and those at Tarkwa and Sekondi, and then to hear all that is going on, one finds it very difficult to believe, that these D.C's are truly the representatives of the Governor, and if they are, then there is something in the air, and no wonder that some good people in England prefer a civilian governor to a military one. There may be a lot in that.

Why may we not have West Indian Soldiers here if even a handful of them instead of these ferocious savages whom our imperialized Downing Street may keep in the hinterland for its punitive expeditions.

Whether this nearly-always-unfortunate Gold Coast, is fortunate or unfortunate in its present rulers let the impartial, unprejudiced Britisher at home judge for himself.

Even *Nigeria* of yesterday threatens to be ahead us in a good many things; whilst we here must always be singing in a complaining tone the other countries though with the bugbear of a Crown Colony Policy grinning at them, which makes them sing occasionally as we do, yet at times some joyous notes are heard within their walls. But our people have themselves to blame.

Essuon Weldu's House in Beulah Road recently bought by King Kantabissa, is being pulled down by the Government labourers. What for, and by whose orders, we are yet to learn.

What schemes they have on hand to deal out to this Country, and especially this Town that are being worked up, only the gods know.

Our merchants, unlike the merchants in days gone by, who took a deal of interest in the affairs of the Country are either government officials in disguise or open ones where they get hold of a weak D.C.

It has been reported to us that on Tuesday the [illegible] last, some women from this Town, at [illegible] ket (Eguasi) took away [illegible] the bush had [illegible] for [illegible] general market, stood the women from [illegible] brought down to sell, without paying [illegible]sum, because, these woman had sold some of their things on their way down.

Whoever heard such a thing? Consequently a gong-gong had gone round the bush women not to bring any food to Eguasi to sell. And with the Elminas too stopping to bring food down, Cape Coast is at present in for it, for supply of food. Does King Kodwo Mbra know of this. And what does he intend doing, or has been doing for us his humble subjects. Surely he will not wish to see us starved.

Another strange news from Accra, a reader sends: "One woman has born a child with two heads and four eyes and a she goat has delivered a male child (human)." Is this a fact or a frabrication?

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

		Due at Cape Coast.
Ascan Wœrmann	S. C. Service... ...	May 26
*Alex. Wœrmann	Cameroons Accel. Ser.	1 „ 27
Nyanga	Opobo Service	„ 30
*Burutu	Lagos Express Service ...	June 1
Loanda	Brass Service	„ 2
*Pantee	S. C. Express Service No. 1	„ 8
Benin	Southern Windward Service	„ 13
Boulama	Opobo Service...	„ 13
*Akabo	Lagos Express Service ...	„ 15
Bonny	Brass Service...	„ 16
*Olenda	S. C. Express Service No. 2	„ 25
Bathurst	Opobo Service	„ 27

HOMEWARDS.

Hans Wœrmann	S. C. Accel. Service	May 27
Sekondi	S. C. Express Service No. 1	„ 29
Coomassie	Brass Service	June 4
Jebba	Lagos Express Service... ...	„ 5
Sobo	S. C. Express Service No. 2...	„ 12
Oron	S. C. Express Service No. 1...	„ 26

BAYIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On the 9th inst. arrived here from Axim Mr. J. A. Boham of Messrs Clinton Concessions & Co. to close up their business here until further instructions.

On the 16th arrived Mr. Dawe of Millers Half Assinee and also Mr. D.C. Neil from Axim, the latter left the next morning for Half Assinee.

On Tuesday the 19th inst. came on the distribution of prizes by the Superintendant of this circuit Rev. Reynolds, under the chairmanship of the Schoolmaster himself, the Superintendant not having arrived, all the Scholars were to be seen moving about with books in their hands both regular and irregular attendants, the passed and the unpassed, to prove the School, I would suggest that the Chairman or the Schoolmaster in future award prizes only to the successful Scholars during the Inspector's Examinations which will induce the failures to be more careful. And the prizes for punctuality only to the Scholars who had the highest number of attendances. These if closely followed would help to earn a large grant for the upkeep of the Bayin School.

TARKWA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. I. I. Ennis the local District Commissioner left here on Tuesday 12th inst, for England on furlough.

Mr. Furley a Cadet who arrived from England about three months ago, has succeeded him in that post.

Judge Purcell also left for Sekondi the same week, and his honour will reach as far as Cape Coast, before he returns for the June Assizes.

King Ennimil is also here for the Assizes.

A short while ago two Mines Police escorting specie to the value of £300 from the local Bank to the Tarkwa Proprietary Mines, Abope, a distance of five days journey, on reaching a village on the way had all the boxes broken and shared the money between themselves. The carriers at once reported the [illegible] to the police, and Superintendant Philips despatched a telegram to Superintendent Wesley at Sekondi who was on transfer to Accra. He met one of the police men on board the steamer bound for Lagos. The Superintendent asked why he was going, to which he replied that he was doing so on leave, but upon further enquiry he gave his name as Bello, which answering to the name stated in the telegram, he (Superintendent) at once arrested him and brought him down for trial. Nothing, however has been heard of the other police.

Another Mines Police named Pratt, a Lagosian

has been arrested for stealing ten bags of rice and extorting £5 from some one at Effuenta Mines.

A civil policeman also killed a Kroo-boy with blows and knocks in the broad daylight on Friday the 15th inst, in the yard of the Gold Coast Machinery and Trading Co. He was taken to the Government Hill and a jury was called to identify the body and give their verdict. The jury returned on Saturday the 16th inst, a verdict of "manslaughter," when the prisoner was committed for the Assizes. If one were to write an account of the doings of the police here it will make a large volume.

It is reported that the Sekondi-Obuasie Railway will be transferred entirely to the Government on the 1st of July next, and so all the necessary preparations are being made against the transfer. The passenger-train now starts at 6 o'clock from Sekondi and goes straight to Obuasie instead of Dunkwa, a distance of 125 miles. We hope the rates will be reduced on passages and freight.

Mr. McLaughlin Swanzy's Agent has been transferred to Sekondi to succeed Mr. Fowler who has been invalided home. Perhaps Mr. McLaughlin will continue his Sunday business at Sekondi as he was doing at this place.

Mr. P. A. Shaw, Miller's Agent has been here all this week, opening a factory. He left by the Saturday train for Sekondi.

Mantrain (Wassaw) Mines has been suffering greatly recently, which is deplorable indeed. Since the death of Dr. Macdonald, seven Europeans have passed to the other world.

An engineer is at Benso recruiting labourers for the erection of the Lower Wassaw School. We wish our brethren the Wassaws every possible success.

The Surveyors of the Tarkwa-Prestea railway arrived here on the 18th. inst. with labourers to complete their surveying as the first 24 miles had been completed and approved of.

Mr. Edward Robinson special Mining Commissioner for West Africa who was at Adjah Bippo, Wassaw Gold Coast Mining Company last week is now at Effuenta and Abbontiakoon Mines on his inspectorial tour.

Since the arrival of the new Postmaster Mr. Lamptey, the work has been going on systematically, as it ought to be. Thanks to the Postal authorities for putting the right man in the right place.

One cannot say why foreigners who come to the Gold Coast to better themselves, always look down on us, and greatly complain against the "Leader" discouraging the youngmen who would like to help the paper. Such things wouldn't do. Youngmen of the Gold Coast bestir yourselves and lower the collar and the tie a bit.

The staff of Mantrain Wassaw has been totally reduced, out of 25 Europeans only six are remaining, even these are contemplating to go home, some dead and others have bolted away.

Mr. I. T. Hends who was with Mr. R. B. Bristed C.E., Surveying Contractors is in town. We understand he is now working at Swanzy's.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

As we have now and again cried "hands off" to all who would needlessly tamper with our native laws and *customs* we deem it but right to put in a word against the trailing in the dust, so to speak of one of these customs. It is customary with us that on the death of a husband or father, the wife and the children contribute something towards the funeral custom of the deceased: it has been known in some instances the children out of their own accord, undertaking to undergo all the expenses in connection with their father's funeral custom. The amount to be paid by both the husband or wife and the children has been laid down, and this is what has been followed by all until now.

It appears that now certain people are endeavouring to bring a new order of things, heavy amounts are now demanded, on the death of a husband or father, amounts which will not be tolerated by the deceased were he alive and this by people too who in the life time of the deceased, would have little or nothing to do with him. Surely it cannot be the intention of such people to seek to make money out of the death of a member of their family. As this practice threatens to grow in our midst, we think the King with the elders of the Town should put their foot on it. Such a thing can never happen in a place, where the King does not simply exist, but makes his influence felt. Whilst we desire to see our customs untampered with, we also long to see, that nothing is done to make these customs ridiculous in the eyes of the enlightened native or the foreigner. The custom itself may be sensible and reasonable but the carrying of it to the extreme may spoil the whole show.

There is talk in Town that Kodwo Mbra, has sent, with the aid of the D. C. to arrest the Chief of Agusfu. We find some difficulty to believe this, and as its result the Elmina women who bring food to our market have been stopped from doing so by their King, (and rightly too,) until the King of Cape Coast has shown his reasons in doing so. In the first place what right has he to do this, without passing it through the King of Elmina, if, the Chief of Aguana has in any way offended him? And can the D. C. of this place interfere with the Chiefs in the jurisdiction of the D. C. at Elmina? The whole thing is incomprehensible and incredible to us; to our mind this is an inexcusable blunder, that must be looked into without delay.

We here seems to be most unfortunate in both our native and foreign rulers. Here is our King instead of looking after the interest of his subjects and looking into pressing affairs now on the tapis in this Town, wantonly goes and meddles himself with other Kings' subjects. Really it is high time the Chiefs or the *Aborigines Society* gave the King a respectable awakening to his duties and responsibilities: if the mountain will not come to Mohammed, Mohammed must go to the mountain: it is highly incredible that a King of this Town, in these days, with many intelligent Chiefs and educated men about him should go on as our King is doing: it simply makes the Town and the People, ridiculous in the eyes of our neighbours and the foreigner. We are of the opinion that the *Aborigines Society* should and ought to interest itself in this for if they can approach the Powers that be, on anything which does not seem right to them why not their own King when he would so flagrantly commit unkingly acts?

A correspondent writes, as will be seen in another column, of a local preacher who on last Sunday morning at the service made some references to the "local paper." *Festina lente*, it is said, and we do so with this subject, until we have learned all we can about it, the nature of those "references" and his motive if possible. Personally we are not at all surprised at this, from informations that have reached us of this preacher and his clique, and the "Leader" from time to time. We can afford to wait and give them rope. What else can he do, but to go on as he is doing. Having done enough outside, that unaccountable, irrepressible 'something,' now moves him to the pulpit—poor pulpit: shades of locals gone, (few remaining)—and he may go further yet and then———.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Thursday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAY 30, 1903.

THE OTHER KINGS.

III.

We now turn to notice the other Kings at the interview: these were Essandor, Otoo V., Wirokun and Kantabissa. Dealing on the King of Cape Coast's, we first noticed *how* he went there, and so we see how these other Kings too went. It may be said that as this is not their Town, and not having their Chiefs and principal men by them, they could not but have gone and deported themselves as they did. With those who would say so we cannot agree especially in the case of Kings Essandor and Otoo V. The Kings of the Inkusukums and the Aburas have in this Town a good many of their principal men, and some of their Chiefs, besides some of their educated men residing here who are members of the *Aborigines Society*. Did it never occur to them, that on such an occasion, they should call these together, and confer with them? Has it never struck them, that we are living in times, when it is necessary that in meeting the Representative of His Britannic Majesty, they can never go to meet him, without knowing exactly what to put before him, and that it is requisite, that in meeting such a Representative, where, any of them is privileged to have educated subjects, he should make use of them. *Times change, and we change in them.* In the absence of this, let us listen to what they were pouring into the Governor's ears.

Essandor had nothing to put before him, (no wonder) and if he had anything to bring to the Governor's notice, he would put it in writing, and thus the Inkusukums lost a splendid chance. Otoo V thought the new arrangment of apportioning his kingdom into districts, and placed under Commissioners greatly interfered with the management of the internal affairs of his ruling, and further, that the Governor should see and settle some misunderstanding now existing between him and the King of Anamaboe. Wirokun and Kantabissa had to inform the Governor that they were here for lawsuit, the one against the other, over some land, the latter adding a complaint somewhat similar to that of Otoo V's as to the apportioning of his kingdom for the supervision of District Commissioners. This was all!

Now we ask, which of these said anything to show he has some interest in his people and the Government of the Country? In this they were all like Kodwo Mbra. Did it not occur to any of them that these days are in every way unlike the days that are gone, and therefore as Kings they must take more than a passing interest in what is going on in the country? We may be told that they could not do otherwise, seeing what a hold the Goverement have had on the country: we say in turn, this is so, because they have allowed it to be so, for no foreign Government respects constitutional rights more than the British Government, and in dealing with the Government you have only to know your rights, and things will get on smoothly, though it cannot be denied, that some of its representatives finding themselves armed with a giant's strength would tyrannize it over you, by using it as a giant. Which of these Kings, spoke, let us say of *education* to the Governor, barring other subjects equally important at this moment? Not one. Which of them spoke of roads or trade or of improvements in the towns? Not one. Only the other day, we were saying, the Government are doing all they can to encourage their subjects to disrespect them: that is true, proofs for which occur every day, but we think the Kings themselves come in largely for their share of the blame for the disrespect which some of their subjects would like to show towards them: if they evince any interest in them, and show that they have their welfare and well-being at heart and do not simply exist for native courts with their fees and fines, and kingly masquerading with all its noise and show, it will go a long way to command their obedience and respect which are theirs by right. Take for instance this Town of Cape Coast. Whoever heard of any gong-gong beaten for a lost cat? Does not our King hear of Dr. Barker's escapades in the name of Sanitation, and destruction of mosquitoes? Has he not heard of the savagism that is being dealt out to his subjects by men dignified with the name of *British Soldiers* or the deeds of violence going on in our midst by men garbed in the King's uniform? And what has he done or been doing? NOTHING. Is this right? Whilst even Europeans would interest themselves in the people, the King, his chiefs and principal men would simply look on, and if any of them would move at all, it is to be a move for the hurt of his illiterate and less fortunate brother subject, thinking he is better off, because what is going on does not touch *him*, and perhaps he has the ear of an official. What else must one expect but the present mode of Government we have with us with all its concommitant evils? Why may not the foreigner—white or black—reign supreme in the land, in a Colony which can lay claim to the worst administration in the existing Crown Colony Policy? How else must it be when the privileged few who *can* speak and act hide their talents, to buy fame and curry favour, and even in some instances choose to be informants? Our Kings choose to sit idle, and make much ado about nothing, and hand over the country to the Powers that be: what educated men we have must show as much interest in the affairs of the Country as self and selfishness can allow. But has nothing been done by the Kings and Chiefs and People? Something *has* been done. What then?

Let the reader compare this interview of our Kings and chiefs with that of the King of Lower Wassaw as reported by our correspondent and see for himself what that young King did. If all our kings will make it a point to have educated, *paid* secretaries in these days it will be a blessing to the country over which they are called upon to rule, and a help to the Go-

vernment. Let them always remember the responsibility entailed upon their positions, especially in these days, and as Kings they must *act* and show themselves kingly.

Wiroku and Kantabissa tell the Governor they are here for lawsuit over a land. Otoo V informs the Governor of a misunderstanding between him and Amonoo V. Let us pass by these subjects for the present.

SCRUTINEER.

The recent strictures passed in these columns a few months ago on a speech alleged to have been made by the Governor during his last visit here, have been remarkable to me in that they have served, though unintentionally, to arouse from their hiding places cowards and flunkeys who have been posing amongst us as *men*. From what I have seen and do see, if an order had proceeded from the *powers* condemning to be guillotined the good and gentle, though brave, Editor of this much esteemed Journal, the order would have been readily executed not by whitemen but by a certain class of natives of the Gold Coast and elswhere, who have received the advantages of good education and on whose behalf and for whose safety and welfare the poor man is daily wasting his strength, time and talent.

Really no Journalist who having a noble aim in view touching the weal of this Country could work successfully, dutifully and honestly if his mind is prone to be disturbed by the conduct of these naughty old and young men of the Country who abound in Cape Coast particularly. He will not be successful, he will surely fail, who after undertaking the task will look behind as Lot's wife. When one finds that these mean characters are invariably to be found in people with good education one may be inclined to despair, but the consolation lies in the fact that they are miserably few in number.

Fortunately for us our journalists know thoroughly well the kind of stuff we are made of as well as those of our friends the whitemen. All the same, when these traitors, performers of paying patriotism, selfish indulgers and scarecrows hail from the least-expected quarters, our journalists would at times, as human beings, let drop from their lips, in their sanctums, the distressful words of the great Caesar—"And thou too Brutus!"

The information leaked out that certain remarks casting a slur on the loyal and successful efforts of the natives of Cape Coast at the welcoming of their Governor, were made. The Editor on behalf of the people passed his remarks—and it is not expected that on the receipt of an information like this from a *Representative*, he as an Editor must wait till the entire population of Cape Coast, or those who were privileged to be there, with their divers intelligence notions and credence had come in with their respective versions, some confirming and contradicting the report before he proceeds with his remarks. If Journalism were conducted in this way what a farce would the whole thing amount to. I merely launch this remark to open and quiet the minds of all those who have been and are still talking rot about the affair.—How ignorant indeed some of our well educated people are! Immediately after the remarks were made Mr. Barnes, whose courage and patriotism we are proud of, wrote contradicting the report. The Editor in a subsequent issue made certain remarks which should have ended the affair there and then.

Not satisfied with that those flunkeys and mean characters have been continually harping on the subject, undoubtedly and obviously with an expectant eye to somthing. But His Excellency Major Sir Matthew Nathan R.E., K.C.M.G, is an Englishman and as such knows what criticism is, my opinion, therefore is that their continually harping on the subject annoys him more than the original criticism. These simpletons in their ignorance and hardness of heart do not know that they are doing the mischief. All human beings are subject to err and sometimes egregiously. Assuming therefore that the alleged remarks were made, why should this *class of natives* endeavour to make his case singular and transparent? As an humble subject and from my little experience of Englishmen, I really doubt if His Excellency is pleased with the croakings of these native time-servers.

It appears that the few rights and privileges that the British encroaching Government has left us unfilched are daily being thrown over to them by some of our Kings and Chiefs, whose wisdom, dutifulness to their subjects and comportment of dignity we, as subjects, very much doubt. The prevailing custom is that Kings and Chiefs are elected for the "approval of the Governor." This is a total infringement of Native law and Custom. Any potentate could be elected and duly enstooled by the People and the only privilege the Government has in the affair is a mere information—an information to the fact that such and such a King or Chief has been enstooled. If this infringement is not rectified it will follow that a Governor will veto the election of a King or Chief in one of these fine sunny days. This is a momentous question and were the Political Section of the *Aborigines Society* as business-looking and energetic as the sanitary one, I would ask their amending the irregularity.

This brings before me another subject which I cannot deal with here, namely the dutifulness of King Kwodwo Mbra to *us* his subjects. But I must ask in the interim whether all pains are being taken for the training and education of the future King of Cape Coast.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

SEQUEL TO THE BURGLARY AT MR. SKUES' STORES.

The Public will be pleased to learn that at the Assizes just closed (Cape Coast), from the 18th to the 25th instant, presided over by His Honor Mr. Justice Purcell the Prisoners corporal Artiobey of the Gold Coast Police and Daniel Garber, were convicted of the burglary committed at the Stores of Mr. T. M'cKenzie Skues on the night of the 24th December last and sentenced, the former to 12 and the latter to 10 years penal tervitude,

It is to be hoped that the Government will at no distant date reorganize the Police Force by making the conditions of Service such that will induce men of honesty and integrity to join the force so that the lives and property of His Majesty's subjects on this part of the world be better protected than they are at present.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

No. 1.

A VISIT TO AN ENGLISH SCHOOL.

BY P. E. SAMPSON.

I dare say my many friends who are engaged in Educational work on the Gold Coast will not find it uninteresting to read this short account of my visit to a large London Board School.

To this School I wended my way one fine morning about quarter to nine and I very soon saw my direction indicated for me by swarms of children all turning their steps in the same direction. One remarkable feature about these children is their eagerness to reach School in time for their "early mark." The Registers are marked twice each Session, one at 9 and 2 o'clock and again half an hour later; the first marks are made in red ink and the others in black so that late comers can be effectually dealt with. Any child that attends regularly and punctually without missing a single attendance for a whole year is rewarded with a medal which you may be sure is highly valued by the child and his parents. In the School I visited the headmaster informed me that eighty children secured the coveted medal last year. During his School-life a boy may receive two or more medals, in fact one boy was pointed out to me who had received no less than seven medals—fancy that—*seven whole years and never once late or absent.* Surely this is a record to be proud of!

The School is substantially built of brick standing three stories high and towering above the surrounding houses. The School-bell was ringing as I entered the gate of the play-ground and I found the children drawn up in their ranks ready to march into School. What a vast army they made;—young soldiers preparing for the battle of life!—

In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle—
Be a hero in the strife!

There were over 500 boys between 7 and 16 and about the same number of girls, whilst about 800 children under 7 had already entered the School and taken their places, making altogether between 18 and 19 hundred Scholars.

When the children entered the School the boys marched to the top floor, the girls to the middle, whilst the infants occupied the ground floor. Each floor is provided with a large hall capable of holding all the children of the department and into these halls the children marched to take part in the School devotions. These consisted of prayers and a portion of Scripture read by the headmaster, and the whole School joined heartily in singing some suitable hymn led by the School-band. This band of which this School is proud, I was told, is a special feature of the School and it is entirely supported by the Scholars, who provide their own instruments and pay for their own music, besides giving up a portion of their play-time to the practices—no wonder with enthusiasm like this, that the band is a great success.

After prayers the children marched off to their respective class-rooms to a spirited march by the band. Each class has a room to itself and is taught by a trained adult teacher. In point of size the classes varied from thirty to sixty children according to the age and proficiency of Scholars. After setting the classes to work, three of the Masters returned to the hall and opened the School Bank. This is held every Monday morning and the children are encouraged to deposit sums from a penny to a shilling regularly week by week. This is particularly valuable and necessary for in this way the children are enabled to save a few pounds which will prove of the greatest benefit and advantage to them when they leave School, by enabling them to purchase tools &c for their work. Yes, and it also inculcates the habit of thrift.

Now, I peeped into the class-rooms to see the classes at work and here I found things very much the same as they were at home (West Africa). There is no royal road to learning and every child whether *white* or *black* must tread the same path and conquer the same difficulties. Everything, however, is done for the children to make the lessons as bright and entertaining as possible, and judging by the happy faces the children seemed to enjoy their lessons.

In going from room to room one could not help being struck by the manner in which the individuality of the class-master left its impression on the class. Each Master has some strong point and the head-master wisely allows his subordinates a free hand to develop and utilize his particular talents. Here ther was a master who is particularly fond of drawing and I found one of his black boards covered with very clear sketches of cats; when a boy has finished the work that has been set him he is at liberty to take out his slate and amuse himself by drawing these cats, which I am sure, you will agree with me is a far better thing to do than talking and playing with his friend. Here again was another Master who particularly took to music and I should very much have liked you to hear the beautiful singing of his class—no shouting, no loud voices, but soft, sweet and melodious tones.

I could not, however, linger much in the class-rooms as there were the work-shop, the art-room and the laboratory still to visit. The boys, I was told, attend one half-day each week at the work-shop where they receive instruction in wood-work and the use of tools. This is greatly enjoyed by the boys, and no greater punishment could be inflicted on any of them than to be derpived of the privilege of attending the wood-work class. The girls attend special classes for cookery and laundry work. Here in spotless aprons I found the girls at work in the kitchen making bread and cakes or roasting, boiling and frying, while in the laundry I found them equally busy sorting the soiled linen, boiling, scrubbing, drying, and ironing. In every case the work is done by the children themselves under the superintendence or supervision of a teacher. In the art-room the elder scholars who show any artistic talent are allowed to devote extra time to this subject under the direction of a special art-master and here I found them drawing, painting, and designing.

Not only do the teachers superintend the children in their lessons they also take great interest in their sports and recreations. This is, of course, purely voluntary on the part of the teachers and I think it speaks volumes for the friendly spirit that must exist between the teachers and Scholars to find that the former are willing to give up a considerable portion of their private time in order to assist the boys in their sports. Every Saturday when the School is closed all day, the teachers arrange a cricket or a football match with a neighbouring School. Once a week those boys who care to do so pay a visit to a neighbouring swimming bath under the superintendence of a Master and a silver shield hanging in the hall of the School testifies to the fact that this School contains the champion swimmer of the district.

28 Guilford Street,
Russell Square,
London W. C. April 2nd, 1903.

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. W. B. Dadzie Officer-in-charge here (Customs) has been transferred to Sekondi and a Mr. Quartey from Accra succeeds him.

The borrowing of papers for perusal is prevalent here. We hope in future the youngsters attended to would bear in mind that the "G. C. Leader" which is for the safety of the public and the welfare of the race claims the support of every individual, especially the rising generation. Such parsimonious dealings would not do. Help! help! help the Press.

Scavengers still work on Sundays. Can't the Government remind them of the Divine injection.

SALT POND.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Sometime ago we were informed that the authorities were contemplating erecting a Light house at

Chief Quainoo's hill. Up to the present however nothing further has confirmed the report.

A friend in England whose name we are proud of, has promised, we understand, to send out a quantity of cement shortly as a free gift towards the intended extension of the Chapel here. We need the assistance of such men especially at this time when the extension of the house of GOD is in contemplation.

Revd. Ibmijah Hayford has been away from town on a visit to the outstations.

The Lagoon presents a very deadly smell especially the extremities leading to Mr. Robert Cann, late Abadoo, Mends and Kurankis' village. We often hear of the Government's intention to make certain improvements exactly as that at Elmina. Perhaps Dr. Logan Taylor not having visited here could not be able to add to his reports that there is a lagoon at Salt Pond very unhealthy to both the European and native residents, breeding thousands of mosquitoes.

The Sanitation this way is much neglected. If the Government would consider the heavy amount of revenue that comes in, some steps would be taken in reference to our various needs. We have repeatedly called their attention for the provision of a Town Bell, additional Street Lamps, Signal Station, more Scavengers and the improvement of the Lagoon &c. &c.

This town seems to abound in tale-bearers who distribute frivolous news from house to house; would not these gentry comport themselves with dignity?

The town of Salt Pond is known to be populated by different classes of people who have come to reside here for a living. A good many of them have built houses, and married here. They are therefore no more strangers, if strangers we may call them. The idea is that when a meeting is called to consider certain subjects in connection with the place where they have been blessed to obtain their living, a subject which will tend to the benefit of the town, they invariably refuse to attend, the majority of them saying 'we are not natives,' 'you had better get round the proper natives.' Will all this make a kingdom stand? It is not too late for us to work in harmony. If we do not, we shall wake up one day to find that the Country has passed away from the *natives* and the *natives* who prefer always to sit unconcerned as 'strngers.'

The interview that was intended to have been held by the Salt Pond Chapel extension Committee has been postponed from the 20th to the 23rd inst. Salt Pond is the Capital of all the *Inknankoomis*, yet King Ennandon prefers residing in his Country place. If His Majesty will make his permanent stay here and not at the latter place, his subjects will be immensely glad.

The American Templers have been having a picnic and a Church parade.

There was an inquest held on the body of a man from Narkwa who after an attempt to kill his wife, committed suicide. The woman is lying in a dangerous condition at the hospital.

ACCRA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The distribution of Prizes to the Scholars of the Wesley School took place on the 8th instant at the Wesley Chapel at 4. p.m.

The Chair was occupied by J. A. M'arthy Esq. Solicitor General who presented the Prizes.

The general Report was read by A. B. W. Quartey-Papafio Esq. B. L. Secretary of the School Committee and the financial Report by Mr. F. C. Orgle.

After prizes of nearly 100 books and about 30 dolls have been given away the Chairman after an encouraging speech to the Children and congratulation to the Committee criticised the Financial Report and spoke at length regarding the salary of the Wesleyan Schoolmasters and Teachers and suggested that they should be paid properly so as to encourage them to stay—He suggested also to the Committee the necessity of giving valuable one or two Prizes which will be lasting thing than tiny little books that will not last long. He concluded his speech with regret that, he was very sorry to hear that its over 5 years since the poor boys of the School were granted Prizes, and was surprised that some influential men of the Town have not thought it necessary to encourage the children by spending few pounds for annual Prizes to the children—and he expects this too will not be the last.

TOWN.

His Excellency the Governor Major Sir Matthew Nathan arrived on Sunday the 10th instant at 4.30 p.m. The Castle was crowded with officials and non-officials at 5 p.m. who went to welcome His Excellency from his tour of Inspection. We trust His Excellency's tour of Inspection will be a means of bringing new openings in the Hinterland both commercial and Political.

His Excellency the Governor accompanied by the Sanitary officers inspected the Town the other day. We expect some changes soon.

We are glad to notice that the construction of drains have been started this week from James Fort, we hope this will not be only a repair but an extension allover the Town—drains, drains are greatly needed in the streets of the Head quarters of the Colony—If the Town Council cannot take it up, we look to the Government.

Mr. Currey former D.C. for Accra has arrived from Quittah, We hope his transfer has done him some good.

Barrister Plange arrived by the s/s Warri from Quittah

By the s/s "Bornu" Mrs. Kate Hyde, Miss Sophia Thompson and Master James Hyde left for Cape Coast.

By the same boat Masters Clement Papafio and Joe Hammond left for Sierra Leone. We understand to the Fourah Bay College from whence they will proceed after a couple of years to England the former for Medicine and the latter for the Bar we wish them all success.

In the D. C's Court this week before Mr. J. A. Mc. Arthy the Attorney General Mr. A. W. Osborne prosecuted a young Krooboy for stealing a roasted turkey.

Mr. Oman the Head Master of the Government School Accra left for England this week on leave of absence.

The personal effects of late W. F. Massey will be disposed of by Public auction next week at the Prospect Mart.

The house of Mr. Hutton Mills B.L. known as Liverpool House is undergoing some grand repairs, and we understand the Government are going to take it up as Government Girls' School.

The Supreme Court is being removed to the Governor's Bungalow opposite the Club house, The place really deserves the title of a Supreme Court and not "The Castle."

The s/s "Albertville" anchored here at 8.30 p.m. on the 17th inst. and for the sake of some official passengers as she is not to wait, a boat was sent off for them and mails. Mr. Archer the District Supervisor also went off to see these friends ashore—and on returning they got capsized—the two new officials were helped ashore one quite senseless, and poor Mr. Archer has not yet been found. This is really a sad case. If the Customs officials knew that the surf has not been good these few days, and in accordance with Customs Ordinance no ship can be boarded after 6.30 p.m. why, and for what, was this risk undertaken. Surely if the boat was not boarded and cleared when she is booked for Accra, and she chose to go away to another port, we believe there is a remedy, and on the face of all this, at 8.30 p.m, when the surf was bad, such a risk was undertaken and poor Mr. Archar a true and real gentleman, the friend of all and enemy of none is no more. We hope to know more conceiving this later on. Mr. Chinnery the Port Officer was in the boat too and we are glad to report that he saved himself by swimming ashore, although he is laid down through exhaustion.

A brown new Printing Press with types and all requirements complete is for sale at "Prospect" Mart Accra—will be disposed off on the 31st inst. All intending purchasers should write to the Auctioneer "Prospect" Mart Accra for particulars before the 30th inst.

His Honour Ag: Chief Justice Smith arrived from the Quittah Assizes on Saturday the 16th inst at 6.p.m. with Mr. Henry Thompson Registrar.

ABURI.

Mr. G. Baiden Addo, the Headmaster of the Wesleyan School here was married to Miss Joana Sago on the 2nd inst, Revs. Ellenberger and Walker officiating.

The Rev. Mr. Quayson, the newly appointed minister (Wesleyan) for this circuit had a hearty reception on his arrival here. There is a general regret by the people on his being ordered by Mr. Ellenberger to go to stay at Larteh instead of this place where the ministers have always resided. This has caused some misunderstanding 'etween the two towns, which threatens to be serious.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader.*

SIR:—May I ask for a short space in your journal to let those of my friends who are, at present, out of town know that one of the subjects we used to discuss together was confirmed last Sunday by some remarks made by Mr. T. F. E. Jones who occupied the pulpit at Wesley Chapel.

This gentleman was pleased to say, several men neglect their Bibles and keep enquiring after the *Leader* on Sundays. Why should not a newspaper be read on Sundays as well as any other day? Is the Bible then to be read on Sundays only? No wonder we have only Sunday-Christians with us. Men and women, who lie and cheat, and backbite and get drunk, and hate, and do all manner of mischief against their fellow men, most of whom are their professed brethren of the Church during six days of the week, but who on Sundays may be seen hurrying to class meetings to tell what GOD had done for them—not by the way *what they had done for their neighbours* and GOD, during the week—and sing and make prayers and very often talk rubbish about the wickedness of this world and the joys of the other.

Truly "ignorance is bliss," else Mr. Jones would have known that there are in England (by the way he has been to England) such papers, as Sunday Magazines, Sunday Circle and a lot of others all having news of every description, more or less and meant to be read on Sundays of all days during the week, and he should not have made such a poor exhibition of himself.

Yours truly,—YOUNG METHODIST

Cape Coast 28/5/03.

SUNDAY LABOR.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I have been noticing with the deepest regret, that since "The Cape Coast Castle Boating Company Limited" took over the landings &c, Sunday Labor is now stringently and unnecessarily in force, unquestionably on the Company's application and the "Powers that be" granting it, hence the Sabbath Breaking.

Laws enacted on the Gold Coast and Protectorate similar to the laws of the Medes and Persians—alter-th not, yet the Divine command which is "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy, six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work &c" is deplorably neglected.

How sacred is the sabbath day kept by the very persons who with the assistance of the Missionaries and the Government are constantly endeavoring to make us more civilised both spiritually and morally!

May I inquire whether Sunday Labor is the means of increasing the revenue from the scanty fees derived thereby, thus depriving the poor benighted natives from attending Divine Services for the betterment of their souls against the happy hereafter? If it is absolutely necessary that some of the Government Officials should work on Sabbath days when steamer happens to be in the roads, why can't the Customs Department be opened for the purpose of collecting the duties to enable consignees to obtain delivery of their goods then? In spite of all these some people say The Gold Coast has been termed a "Land of Complaints." We do complain but—for good reasons.

The Maker of the Universe sapiently rested from His labors on the seventh day as an example. Can't, therefore, feeble men as we are, have a day's rest after having indefatigably worked during the six days?

It is to be hoped with earnestness that the Government would endeavour to put an end to Sunday Labor seeing that a steamer lying on the roads for a day would not ruin the ship owners.

VERITAS

Cape Coast,—7/5/03.

My Dear Mr. Editor,—Will you grant me a space to express my views towards the letter signed by the Schoolmaster of Dunkwa which appeared in the issue of of the 2nd May. I would like to draw special attention to the fact that our present paper the "Gold Coast Leader" does not carry false news. The very Schoolmaster that was trying to defend himself, has now been dismissed on his disgraceful doings as appeared in the issue of the 11th April for immorality.

And the very Church Leaders to whom he referred are now sitting in judgment on him.

I understand one Mr. A. A. Yankah a nephew of the Rev. J. A. Markin succeeds him.

Thanking you for the space granted

Yours in truth,—AN OBSERVER.

Dunkwa,—18/5/03.

Dear Mr. Editor:—At the Assize Court yesterday a Barrister defending a prisoner charged with robbery made a sorry spectacle of himself by indulging in those obnoxious exercises common to some of the Lawyers of the Gold Coast Bar, by putting unnecessary and indiscreet questions to a female witness, and even suggesting indecent things to her, thank GOD, there was a strong Judge on the Bench, and he very soon silenced him.

However, not content with this, our *mighty expounder of Law* in his closing address to the Jury leaving altogether the points at issue, he flew about here, there everywhere, wasting the Court's time and that of the public, and earning the just indignation of all the right-thinking men. The regret of the indignant audience was that he left the Court immediately after his performance, and was therefore not present to hear the learned Judge's pointed comments upon his uncourtly behaviour while charging the Jury.

To my mind the duty of a Lawyer is to confine himself to points at issue and labor to help Judge and Jury in arriving at the truth, instead of casting insinuations suggesting non-existing things, and offering indignities and abuse to his client's opponents.

It were well, if our law students while in the Inns of Court, and when called to the Bar would frequent the London Law Courts and learn and profit by, the way the good Barristers there deport themselves.

YOURS—A SPECTATOR.

Cape Coast, 26th May 1903.

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GENERAL NEWS.

We are pleased to find that a few friends from here accompained Mr. C. J. Bannerman to Accra, for his father's funeral customs. Mr. B. has not been here very long with us, but has made himself popular with all classes of the community.

Revs. Acquaah and Hammond have passed up to Abakrampa.

Mr. D. C. Grimshaw was away for inspection last week.

We are very pleased to learn that Madam Yankuma is improving, and the doctors are now hopeful of her recovery.

The wounded boy also has been discharged from the hospital, but still attends there for medical attendance.

The Cape Coast European Cricket and Recreation Club had their second annual dinner at the Court Hall a few weeks ago.

Died on last Tuesday morning Abba Bedua a niece of Mr. J. E. Acquah of the Signal Station, and a sister to Mr. Acquah-Baidoo. The American Templars and the Singing Band attended the funeral, Mr. Britton officiating. The bereaved family have our sympathies.

So the Health officers here, would defy science and common sense and have the small-pox hospital so close to the Town. We understand they burn the old one and go to occupy the new one on July 1st.

Dr. Hayford has returned from Sierra Leone.

The *Argus* says, "Mr. Chamberlain has expressed his appreciation of the generous manner in which the merchants and shipping firms interested in Southern Nigeria have contributed towards meeting the cost of an improved system of education for the natives in the Protectorate. Nearly the whole of the £5,000 required for the erection of the School buildings at Bonny has been subscribed."

We see a seat placed in the Victoria Park, as it is, no doubt marking the progress made in the laying out of the Park.

K. C. M. G.

A story told at the expense of a rather pompous individual recently appointed Governor of a distant colony is going the round of the club. The pompous one, on the way out to take up his appointment, was approached on the promenade deck by an innocent-looking fellow-passenger, who humbly inquired :—

"Would you mind telling me what K.C.M.G. means at the end of your name Sir? It has puzzled one or two of us, and bets have been made on the subject."

"Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George, of course," said the pompous one, as he inflated his chest.

"Oh!" said the innocent one, "I've lost my bet. I thought it meant, 'Kindly Call Me Governor.'"

The Pope at ninety-four reads without spectacles, walks without a cane, dresses and undresses without assitance, and works about fourteen hours daily.

"A Bill has been introduced in the Missouri Senate to make it a misdemeanour, punishable by a fine of not less than £5 or more than £10, to flirt with Boarding School Girls, their principals or their teachers." To increase the revenue the Board of Education may think of this, if only to assist the Mission Schools, and leave their grants earned alone.

One of the victims of a recent railroad accident in New York, a man named Fredericks, who was scalded from head to foot, has undergone a process of a skin grafting, in which 1,600 pieces of cuticle were employed. Fred: was a Mason, and about fifty members of his lodge sacrificed bits of skin for their brother Mason. F. who is now pronounced to be certain of recovery, practically possesses a new skin.

A missionary was once invited by a young man of Fiji to attend the funeral of his mother, and great was his surprise on joining the funeral procession to see the old lady taking part in it, and cheerfully walking to her grave. It is related in "Erskine's" Journal that a certain young man, on becoming very thin and weak from illness, expressed a desire to be buried, because he was afraid the girls would laugh at him and call him a skeleton. Accordingly his father buried him alive; but when the young man requested to be first strangled, he was scolded and told to be quiet, and be buried like other people, and give no more trouble.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

	Due at Cape Coast.
Loanda Brass Service...	June 2
*Anversville ... Congo Boat	„ 5
*Fantee S. C. Express Service No. 1	„ 8
Alice Woermann Gold Coast Service	„ 9
Benin Southern Windward Service	„ 13
Bonlama Opobo Service...	„ 13
*Akabo Lagos Express Service ...	„ 15
Bonny Brass Service...	„ 16
Thekla Bohlen South Coast Service	„ 26
*Lucie Woermann Cameroons Accel. Ser	„ 27
Bathurst Opobo Service	„ 27

HOMEWARDS.

Coomassie Brass Service	June 4
Jebba Lagos Express Service... ...	„ 5
Angola ... Opobo Service...	„ 7
Albertville ... Congo Boat	„ 8
Eleo Woermann Cameroons Accel. Ser.	„ 11
Sobo S. C. Express Service No. 2...	„ 12
Batanga ... Brass Service	„ 18
Oron S. C. Express Service No. 1...	„ 26
*Burutu Lagos Express Service...	„ 19

ATTUABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

It is reported that passengers from this place by the *Roquelle* for Grand Bassam and Cape Lahou have been carried over to Prestoea owing to the place being under quarantine.

Mr. D.C., Nill arrived here on inspection on the 20th ultimo and one of the things he did was to ask the King to bar up the mouth of the Twia Ekere.

The officer in charge here seems to have rightly taken to mind our remarks in your issue No. 46 running thus—"receipts for registered letters are often delayed for two days or more before they are tendered to their owners and it often happens that the officer loses sight of the names of the addresses of the letters." He further goes on with idea that we wished for his dismissal in making those remarks, and has been endeavouring to get at the identity of the writer. We assure him that we had not an intention of his dismissal but only made the remarks as a warning to him to be careful. But if he still insists in his irregular ways, (and if the work is over him, he had better apply for assistance) there is no reason why we should not advocate for his dismissal or transference.

The Methodist clergy who have all along held the opinion that there exists a gulf between Religion and Politics ought to take a lesson from their missionary Agent in this locality who is one of the King's Councillors.

DIXCOVE.

(By a Correspondent.)

The discovery of the bones of Kofi Nanabin, a native of Akinm, in the vicinity of Acquadah (Dixcove District,) has caused much sensation.

The bones were found lying about in the bush about 2 miles distant from Acquadah, and after being collected and made into a bundle they were borne by two persons accompanied by, at least, 20 men to Acquadah on the morning of the 27th May, amidst great excitement.

From some unaccountable reason, the deceased had been absent from Akinm some weeks ago, and the villagers not seeing him for days, in fact not knowing his whereabouts, came to the conclusion that he had gone away to Tarkwa with a view to seeking an employment. But the poor man it appears committed suicide!

A young man who was not a native, sat out one day for hunting, and, during his excursion in the wild bush, came across the skeleton of a human being hanging on a tree near the road, a deplorable circumstance. The hunter reported the news, and became the guide of the natives to the place where the bones were found and carried them to Acquadah.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The death of Mr. Archer at Accra from drowning should force the hands of the Government now to do something in the matter of Wharf-building. Again and again, and again we have heard of plans and what not for making wharves here and at Accra but nothing to this day has been done. It cannot be said that this is because there is no revenue to attempt such kind of works. Moneys wasted to expand this already extensive Protectorate, by punitive expeditions, the creation of new unnecessary Government posts, increments of salaries &c, in the hands of an economical administrator or policy—which—might have gone very far to give us wharves in our principal coast towns where they are sorely needed.

As far as economy and improvements of their towns are concerned we are certainly a laughing stock to our neighbours the French and the German, especially when one considers the number of years these countries have been on the coast as compared to us. As our present Governor seems to be all for Accra and Sekondi, let us hope the next meeting of the Council, will proceed to vote the sum for the Accra wharf.

One hardly knows what to say of the Police robberies and barbarities we hear so much of now a days especially in the Tarkwa district. We seem to have a class of men in the Force now, with whom money-making holds the first place, and the protection of the People and their property, the second place. Our readers no doubt noticed what our Tarkwa correspondent wrote on the subject. And this is the second time we have heard of murder having been committed in that district, this time, a civil Policeman killing a Kroo-boy "with blows and knocks in the broad day light on Friday the 15th, in the yard of the Gold Coast Machinery and Trading Company."

"If one were to write an account of the doings of the police here it will make a large volume," continues our correspondent. Is there any Superintendent of Police or District Commissioner at Tarkwa or Sekondi? What are these men paid for? And what do they do, lounging and fooling about if only to employ their time to count their days for salaries and then go home for their six months furlough. Truly it is sweet to be a D. C. and to find yourself the monarch of *all you survey*. We ask the (strange) question to whom are these Commissioners responsible: perhaps they send fine and elegant reports of their districts to the Headquarters, as usual all being quiet in their districts, and every thing in ship-shape order, and if any complaint or grievance is heard of as existing in their district they are such as can exist only in the imagination of some mischievous persons, mischievous because they tell the naked truth, and let out what they would otherwise have kept in the dark, which if known, may probably let it be thought that they cannot "rule." It appears that those who do this are sure to get on and "rise," because their administrative abilities are put in good evidence.

And some hard working D.C's are not even thought of at all: British justice is now an object of ridicule in many a magisterial court of justice. It is rather surprising to find what influence the white element in the liberal towns is exerting on the District Commissioners now-a-days: they seem to count upon getting them to do any thing. D. C's now-a-days do not seem to have a mind of their own but must follow what any European in his district may tell him or any Europeanized Negro, a far more dangerous class still.

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TO CORR[illegible]

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THE G[illegible]

We notice this we[illegible] *Aborigines Society* Nathan. For more [illegible] this to be about the [illegible] of all that were he[illegible] visit. Here we have [illegible] and intelligent men h[illegible] and in the Governm[illegible] what they had to lay [illegible] spur of the moment, [illegible] far as they could do [illegible] were notified of the [illegible] time of his arrival: wh[illegible] no fault of theirs, th[illegible] allowed, for such i[illegible] Sanitation, the Cott[illegible] Industrial Schools to [illegible] cussed. On the san[illegible] think the President [illegible] that he was expecting [illegible] the Society which ha[illegible] its bearings to meet th[illegible] section had to say on [illegible] embodied in an able [illegible] of that Section (Dr. [illegible] His Excellency appre[illegible] asking the Presider[illegible] members to work wi[illegible] would have though[illegible] seems so keen and [illegible] which is now the all-[illegible] day on West Africa [illegible] Logan Taylor, espe[illegible] mainly based on the [illegible] Sanitation Condition[illegible] have fully discussed [illegible] Section at the inter[illegible]

If the above will serve in some way to arouse the "learned professional's to their patriotic duties, the writer might not have toiled in vain.

Yours faithfully,—Attoo.

A TRIFLE TOO PREVIOUS.

On the 6th May, 1901, the following Resolution, moved in the Legislative Council, by the Honble; S. Cuthbert and seconded by the Honble: B. Fairweather, was adopted by the unanimous vote of the unofficial Members:—

Resolved—

That with a view to the reduction in the cost of the Civil Establishment of the Colony, and having due regard of the efficiency of the Public Service, whenever a vacancy occurs under any of the following Heads of Expenditure, such vacancy shall not be permanently filled up until the opinion of this Council has been taken on the matter.—

No. 4. Colonial Secretary's Department.
" 5. Treasury and Customs House.
" 7. Post Office.
" 9. District Commissioners.
" 14. Medical Department.
" 18. Surveyor General's Department.
" 20. Miscellaneous.
" 21. Colonial Engineer's Department.

In a despatch to the Governor, the Secretary of State ordered that the request of the unofficial members contained in the Resolution should be disregarded as being *ultra vires*.

The wisdom of acceding to the very reasonable request of the unofficials contained in the foregoing Resolution was demonstrated at the last meeting of the Council, when, during the discussion on the re-adjustment of salaries of certain District Commissioners, the unofficials refused to vote more than $1,800 per annum as the salary of the District Commissioner at Corozal despite the fact that the Governor had appointed Mr. Strange to the post at a salary of $1,944 per annum.

It was pointed out by Mr. Woods that, though the Commissionership of the Belize District had always been considered the senior appointment, he noticed it was proposed to pay the same salary to the Commissioner at Corozal besides providing him with a house. The speaker pointed out that the holder of the junior office was thus placed in point of emoluments and future pension in a better posi-

The Governor said that this could be easily set right by giving the District Commissioner of Belize a house but to this the unofficials would not accede.

Mr. Woods pointed out that it had never been intended to furnish Mr. Pickwood, the recent District Commissioner at Corozal, with a house and he only obtained it through a clerical error in his letter of appointment. He considered that the post was one which did not entail any very arduous work and the holder would be well paid at $1,800 per annum and, even at that salary, with his house he is still better off than the District Commissioner at Belize.

The Governor sought to show that calls were made upon the District Commissioner at Corozal of a social nature and being an important frontier town he should be furnished with means to properly entertain such guests, as the Mexican officers visiting the District. Beside this the Secretary of State had approved the salary and he thought the Council should vote the money.

Mr. Woods in reply very properly said that if the members only came there to register and endorse the views of the Secretary of State the sooner the Council was disbanded the better. They were asked, he understood, their opinions on the various matters and they courteously gave them and he regretted that they were not always in accord with those of the Government and the Secretary of State. When the question was put all the unofficials voted for a reduction of the salary of the Commissioner at Corozal to $1,800 per annum.

The record to assure His Excellency considerable, who said Mr. Strange had already been appointed at the higher salary and had drawn pay at that rate for some months.

Mr. Cuthbert pointed out that had the Government taken the unofficials into its confidence in the manner suggested in the Resolution above quoted the impasse would not have been created.

I am glad to notice that the unofficial members are keeping an close a watch on the expenditure of the public funds and I trust that the Government will appreciate this fact and take them more fully into its confidence and thus avoid these little misunderstandings. By this time the Government should have learned that the unofficials are a body of men to be reckoned with, but it seems hard to bring the fact home to the mind of our present Governor who unwisely will continue in a course which carries him contrary to the opinions of his colleagues.—*The Clarion* 4.5.02.

DIXCOVE.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

The discovery of the bones of Kofi Nanabin, a native of Akinm, in the vicinity of Acquadah (Dixcove District,) has caused much sensation.

The bones were found lying about in the bush about 2 miles distant from Acquadah, and after being collected and made into a bundle they were borne by two persons accompanied by, at least, 20 men to Acquadah on the morning of the 27th May, amidst great excitement.

From some unaccountable reason, the deceased had been absent from Akinm some weeks ago, and the villagers not seeing him for days, in fact not knowing his whereabouts, came to the conclusion that he had gone away to Tarkwa with a view to seeking an employment. But the poor man it appears committed suicide!

A young man who was not a native, set out one day for hunting, and, during his excursion in the wild bush, came across the skeleton of a human being hanging on a tree near the road, a deplorable circumstance. The hunter reported the news, and became the guide of the natives to the place where the bones were found and carried them to Acquadah.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The death of Mr. Archer at Accra from drowning should force the hands of the Government now to do something in the matter of Wharf-building. Again and again, and again we have heard of plans and what not for making wharves here and at Accra but nothing to this day has been done. It cannot be said that this is because there is no revenue to attempt such kind of works. Moneys wasted to expand this already extensive Protectorate, by punitive expeditions, the creation of new unnecessary Government posts, increments of salaries &c, in the hands of an economical administrator or policy—which—might have gone very far to give us wharves in our principal coast towns where they are sorely needed.

As far as economy and improvements of their towns are concerned we are certainly a laughing stock to our neighbours the French and the German, especially when one considers the number of years these countries have been on the coast as compared to us. As our present Governor seems to be all for Accra and Sekondi, let us hope the next meeting of the Council, will proceed to vote the sum for the Accra wharf.

One hardly knows what to say of the Police robberies and barbarities we hear so much of now a days especially in the Tarkwa district. We seem to have a class of men in the Force now, with whom money-making holds the first place, and the protection of the People and their property, the second place. Our readers no doubt noticed what our Tarkwa correspondent wrote on the subject. And this is the second time we have heard of murder having been committed in that district, this time, a civil Policeman killing a Kroo-boy "with blows and knocks in the broad day light on Friday the 15th, in the yard of the Gold Coast Machinery and Trading Company."

"If one were to write an account of the doings of the police here it will make a large volume," continues our correspondent. Is there any Superintendent of Police or District Commissioner at Tarkwa or Sekondi? What are these men paid for? And what do they do, bossing and fussing about if only to employ their time to count their days for salaries and then go home for their six months furlough. Truly it is sweet to be a D. C. and to find yourself the monarch of *all* you survey. We ask the (strange) question to whom are these Commissioners responsible: perhaps they send fine and elegant reports of their districts to the Headquarters, as usual all being quiet in their districts, and every thing in ship-shape order, and if any complaint or grievance is heard of as existing in their district they are such as can exist only in the imagination of some mischievous persons, mischievous because they tell the naked truth, and let out what they would otherwise have kept in the dark, which if known, may probably let it be thought that they cannot "rule." It appears that those who do this are sure to get on and "rise," because their administrative abilities are put in good evidence.

And some hard working D.C's are not even thought of at all. British justice is now an object of ridicule in many a magisterial court of justice. It is rather surprising to find what influence the white element in the littoral towns is exerting on the District Commissioners now-a-days: they seem to count upon getting them to do any thing. D. C's now-a-days do not seem to have a mind of their *own* but must follow what any European in his district may tell him or any Europeanized Negro, a far more dangerous class still.

When the news came here that Kodwo Mbra had sent to arrest the King of Aguna it stirred up a righteous indignation against him with all his subjects: the King has explained to his people, to the effect that he did no such thing. and we understand that the Elmina people have sent to the people of Cape Coast, to know if they knew what their King had done. Through the stopping of food stuffs from Elmina for the market here, the Town hearing of the rumour as reported by us last week, approached the King, to know if the report were true, and they were therefore in a position to explain matters to the Elmina messengers. The facts of the case are these: it appears that a subject of his (Kodwo Mbra) swore by his oath at Egwafu a village which is under him; a policeman was sent with his messenger who went up to bring down the man: this policeman got himself muddled up with some women that way and having assaulted them, they fell on him and beat him. The Policeman came down to Cape Coast and reported the matter to the Commissioner of Police that some people had "interfered" with him in the discharge of his duties, and gone the length of even beating him: of course such a gross insult to His Majesty's representative could not be tolerated, and men were sent up for the arrest of those who did this, and amongst those that were brought down was the King of Aguna.

These being the facts of the case, we are at a loss to find that so much fuss is being made over this affair by our Elmina friends, stopping their women to come down to sell, arresting and imprisoning people who go up there to buy food in the King's prison, and even making collections to undertake legal proceedings against the King. We can hardly credit all this. Why this sudden storm? Let us for a moment suppose that the case was as we first heard it, should our Elmina friends go about it, as it is reported they are doing. We trust wiser council will prevail, for such actions as these do not synchronize with the present times.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Thursday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, JUNE 6, 1903.

THE ABORIGINES WITH THE GOVERNOR.

IV.

We notice this week the interview which the *Aborigines Society* had with Sir Matthew Nathan. For more reasons than one we hold this to be about the most important interview of all that were held during the Governor's visit. Here we have a Body of men—educated and intelligent men having interest in the People and in the Government—who did not pick up what they had to lay before the Governor, on the spur of the moment, but thought them out as far as they could do so within the time they were notified of the Governor's visit, up to the time of his arrival: what we regret is that through no fault of theirs, there was not sufficient time allowed, for such important subjects as, the Sanitation, the Cotton growing, Railways and Industrial Schools to be properly and fully discussed. On the sanitation question we do not think the President said much from the fact that he was expecting the Sanitation Section of the Society which had studied the subject in all its bearings to meet the Governor and all that this section had to say on meeting the Governor was embodied in an able report which the President of that Section (Dr. Hayford) read to him. His Excellency appreciated what it had done by asking the President to appoint four of its members to work with the Government. One would have thought that as His Excellency seems so keen and interested in the subject, which is now the all-absorbing question of the day on West Africa, with the presence of Dr. Logan Taylor, especially as that report was mainly based on the doctor's "Report On The Sanitation Condition of Cape Coast," he would have fully discussed the points raised by the Section at the interview, but there was nothing of the kind, probably there was no time for any discussion, neither was there any necessity for such a discussion perhaps, as the Government themselves have their programme on the Sanitation question which must not be effected by any man or Body of men, so that beyond the request for members to work with the Government, things remain as they were, and how far that Section's report has effected the Sanitation of the Town, only those who can tell, know.

His Excellency's reply to the Society on the the "Scheme for West African Medical Service" is certainly good in its own way, and we are pleased to find that "he thinks native medical men in the Service will be advantageous to the Government," but how far this remark is justified by what one sees of the native medical men in the Service now, or what prospects are held out to them, or those who may follow, taking their qualifications into account we leave the public to judge.

The next question of importance which the Society brought to the notice of the Governor was the Cotton growing. On this His Excellency said, that it had engaged the attention of the Government—undoubtedly it has—and already attempt was being made in the industry at Accra and in the Akwapim country. Now these places mentioned are all in the Eastern Province, and it is only possible that we in the Western Province, may not know what is being done over there: but let such of our readers, who see any of the journals published in England on West Africa such as, the *West Africa*, *Argus* or the new comer *West African Mail*, since this subject has been agitated, and the West African Governors when in England for their furlough were interviewed on the question, and speeches were given and assurances also were given for the support of the industry on the Coast, and say how often have they read of the Gold Coast which many years ago did so much in cotton growing, shipping any cotton to England, or importing any cotton seed? The other places especially Lagos, are alive on the subject. "A quantity of cotton seed has arrived at Lagos, and has been sent into the interior." This is what one of the latest numbers of the *Argus* (May 9) before us says. Experts are arriving to teach the natives how to grow the plant. Sir William Macgreggor seems to take more than a Governor's interest in the affair, there *is* something more than the mere engagement of the Government's attention in the subject shown in the other places. At the same place where we found the above extract, we read this, "The Crown Agents have placed an order for twelve large tanks for use in Sierra Leone." We seem to be the most unfortunate of all the West African Colonies. Here is Dr. Barker who is evidently seeking to win his laurels on Cape Coast Sanitation, "humbugging" people of their water to destroy mosquitoes, when he would not see that some provision were made for the people for water. You say it, and you complain too much, and you are mischievous persons working up all imaginary evils and grievances, and a line from a despatch or an official explanation cleans the slate. No doubt this mosquito business is being carried on in the other places as well but it is every way questionable if things are being done as we have them done here, for is not this the Gold Coast? Whilst with all their grievances, industry for the natives is being encouraged by the Powers that be, here we seem to be blessed with an administration, which aims at the increasing of the revenue, and then official increment of salaries to rise by leaps and bounds, and then to loan away: then refined oppression to be heard of in nearly every district. One is curious to know what the Authorities have really on the board for this Colony, or perhaps to be more definite, for this Town, despite all the good news sent to the credulous English Public.

The next important things talked of at this interview were Railways, and Industrial Schools.

We are pleased to read in one of the April Nos. (17th) of our contemporary "West African Mail" that "Ashanti is quiet everywhere and there is no signs of discontent, excepted in the brains of certain malicious people who mostly live at Cape Coast." "The practice of Governments to deny or conceal *facts*, which go to show rather than to prove their policy to be wrong and their administration defective

is as old as Methusaleh. And the Gold Coast Government is not an exception. Any one who has any knowledge of the administration of this Colony, and the poor short-sighted, uncertain manner in which the various Heads of our Government have from time to time dealt with the Hinterland question, both before and after the annexation of Ashanti and her tributaries need not be told, how to take in such news as we have quoted above. Especially from the days of the late Governor Griffith (1880) right down, official, semi-official, friendly government reports, and correspondents—public and private, have been on the main—Ashanti is quite. No signs of any rising exist anywhere. The people are all loyal and show themselves friendly all reports as to unrest or any possibility of another fight with our Government should be discarded and it is only a "few agitators *adventurers*" (the phraseology used in the despatches &c. of those days) "certain *malicious* people" (the phraseology of these latter days) who live upon and "enjoy spreading baseless rumours."

Well, all we choose to say at present, is, these are our old friends unfortunately, in not very new garbs.

We needn't say to those of our readers who haven't followed up *these ways* of our Powers that be, that we give to the public nothing about the truly delicate state of affairs in Ashanti but what we have received from authentic sources, and which we are prepared to prove. Enough for the present then of course, we do not count ourselves among the "certain malicious people mostly being at Cape Coast," but we take it, that those who say Ashanti is not satisfied with the present regime that is being formed by our Government are maliciously inclined. And why should such persons be maliciously inclined to cry "wolf, wolf," when there is no wolf? What can be their motive—what their gain.

It is an open secret that Governor Matthew Nathan does not like Cape Coast—he is (almost) determined to make the town desolate. Cape Coast townsmen have always taken the lead in every thing that effects the interests of the Colony. Because our Government cannot have their own way being opposed "mostly" by Cape Coast, they naturally set themselves against this town. Notwithstanding the fact that event after event has proved beyond doubt that the seeming opposition patriotically made by this town has invariably resulted in the welfare, the progress and improvement of the whole Colony, our Government have more or less thought it fit to set themselves against this town and although, curtesy has obliged may compelled them on several occasions to put on, a smiling face, even "the man in the street," knows full well that our Government do not like this town.

"The Railway will be in Kumasi by the end of September for certain," therefore, all traders, should, rather *are advised* at Kumasi to divert their course to Sekondi and leave Cape Coast severely alone, to dwindle and to die! Heads of mercantile Houses—even deputy departments of Government offices so to speak, are all to be removed from Cape Coast to Sekondi and Accra anywhere but Cape Coast.

Come one, come all—Africa for the Africans Now and Ever.

A MILLIONAIRE AND THE NEGRO RACE.

In a recent number of the *West African Mail*, a new Liverpool weekly, an excellent paper ably edited by Mr. E. D. Morel appears the announcement of the magnificent and noble gift of £120,000 by Mr. Carnegie to the Booker Washington Institute of U. S. A. A very well informed correspondent from London says:—"Mr. Carnegie's late gifts include one of £120,000 to the home where Mr. Booker Washington is training fourteen hundred blackmen. In speaking of this noble gift he says that he considerd Mr. Booker Washington one of the greatest of living men and that "History is to tell of two Washingtons, one white the other black, and both fathers of their people." This gift is without any conditions except that Mr. Washington and his wife are to enjoy benefits therefrom for life."

When one considers the stupid oppression by the white American of the blackman and the racial hatred of the mean rabble, and notes the unjust criticisms of the noble and manly actions of President Rooseveldt of the United States one cannot but be devoutly thankful for this godlike and noble act of Mr. Carnegie, godlike because so noble, free, quiet. What a silent rebuke to the ignoble mind that stirs up racial strife! What an incentive to the blackman wherever found to be up and doing in everything that promotes the moral welfare of his race and tribe! We of West Africa congratulate our kith and kin in America, and join them in giving sincere thanks to Andrew CARNEGIE the Great Scotsman of this century. To our mind the man that towers high above his kind in Christiandom to-day is this Scotch laddie, who in his manhood without parade or ostentation is teaching and proving in a most practical manner the divine use of wealth, for this great man gave on the same occasion a similar sum to aid the peace commission in the Netherlands, and when one recollects his other large benefactions it is correct to call him a benefactor to the universe. We commend our fellow countrymen to study and consider these things. Every man can do something for his country and to each we say, if thou hast little give according to your means, it may be in talent or money, in labour or time. For the country sorely needs her sons in her service.

With the example of Carnegie before us we can again see and understand the truth of Tennyson's lines:—

"Here and there, a cotter's son is kingly born by right divine."

SCRUTINEER.

Having heard the many Demostheneses with their respective philippics all unitedly directed towards our state of suicidal indolence concerning affairs touching our national welfare, safety and dignity, let us for a moment study the attitude of our men of light and leading—comprising especially the *Lawyers*, *Doctors*, *Ministers* and *Engineers* —towards such momentous topics as Education and the Press. Or let us ask, are these *men* who have derived the benefits of civilization, studied the ways of better worlds and know the claims of a Country on an inhabitant, *useful* or making themselves *useful* to *her*? With few exceptions which could be accurately laid down at ninety-nine per cent, I verily doubt whether the rest could honestly answer the question in the affirmative.

When one perceives what is going round especially with the first-named who are amassing wealth so fabulously, and notice their apathy, dire indifference towards anything affecting their country, the cry involuntarily escapes from one's lips—why this continual devotion to *self only, their talents, abilities and means*? They do not set good examples worthy of their positions to their unfortunate brethren at all, yet few of them pulling their heads together will create 'surprises' in the founding and maintenance of Schools and in support of the Press —which will effect their pockets as little as a drop will on the mighty ocean. But what do they care, since they can provide sumptuously for *themselves* and their *immediate relations*, and can with their knowledge and wealth sail safely through the wide, wide world.

I quite agree with the writer who said that, "Next to that of the importing and exporting houses, the most lucrative of all callings on the Gold Coast is that of the Lawyer." He might have added that some of them make their *fees* in a very irreligious way, and unfortunate for the honour of the Bar, in a way that may be rightly styled as extortionate.

The inference that I often draw is that these 'professionals' consider themselves to be above the *people* in their durance in *oppression* and *disadvantages* but equal with them in the enjoyment of riches and other good things. The natural sequence of things is that the ignorant or middle-class native should look to his more enlightened and influential brother for instruction and help, but the action of the former implies that the latter should shift for himself. They join the general public in bewailing present state of the country, yet for them to grasp the standard and bid their brethren to follow them, seems to them an extraordinary thing.

To say that *they* have not attained to that standard of Education which makes one unhappy unless engaged in serving his country honestly (not for a name or show or favour) is quite out of it. I rather think that the faculty of THINKING, like Judgment, very often flees to babies and men who are well endowed to *think* lose their senses; especially when Money the "root of all evils" put a smiling appearance in their affairs.

As for the minister, though poor, they seem to think that by delivering on Sunday sermons seldom prepared and mostly platitudes (and I know one precious minister in this town who keeps on reading his old Sermons from year to year, a really preacher for pay, who evidently takes his congregation for pieces of shallow-brained men who forget his repetitions as soon they are read out. This is surely a *collegiate* and *professional* way of preaching for conversion) they are discharging the call of their office honestly. Matters effecting their congregation politically have no bearing with them, though they have the audacity to pray to GOD commending to "his fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body or estate;" though they with their *local preachers*, *leaders* and *wardens* help the increase of affliction and distress by indulging, immediately after Church, in slandering, lying, stealing, cheating, drinking, selling their country and playing the informant, gossiping, envying and carving other men's children covering the iniquity of their own relation.

If the above will serve in some way to arouse the "learned professional's to their patriotic duties, the writer might not have toiled in vain.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

A TRIFLE TOO PREVIOUS.

On the 8th May, 1901, the following Resolution, moved in the Legislative Council, by the Honble. S. Cuthbert and seconded by the Honble. B. Fairweather, was adopted by the unanimous vote of the unofficial Members:—

Resolved—

That with a view to the reduction in the cost of the Civil Establishment of the Colony, and having due regard of the efficiency of the Public Service, whenever a vacancy occurs under any of the following Heads of Expenditure, such vacancy shall not be permanently filled up until the opinion of this Council has been taken on the matter.—

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In a despatch to the Governor, the Secretary of State ordered that the request of the unofficial members contained in the Resolution should be disregarded as being ultra vires.

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Mr. Woods pointed out that it had never been intended to furnish Mr. Pickwood, the recent District Commissioner at Coromi, with a house and he only obtained it through a clerical error in his letter of appointment. He considered that the post was one which did not entail any very arduous work and the holder would be well paid at £1,800 per annum and, even at that salary, with his house he is still better off than the District Commissioner at Belize.

The Governor sought to show that calls were made upon the District Commissioner at Coromi of a social nature and being an important frontier town he should be furnished with means to properly entertain such guests as the Mexican officers visiting the District. Beside this the Secretary of State had approved the salary and he thought the Council should vote the money.

Mr. Woods in reply very properly said that if the members only came there to register and endorse the views of the Secretary of State the sooner the Council was disbanded the better. They were asked, he understood, their opinions on the various matters and they courteously gave them and he regretted that they were not always in accord with those of the Government and the Secretary of State. When the question was put all the unofficials voted for a reduction of the salary of the Commissioner at Coromi to £1,800 per annum.

This seemed to annoy His Excellency considerably, who said Mr. Strange had already been appointed at the higher salary and had drawn pay at that rate for some months.

Mr. Cuthbert pointed out that had the Government taken the unofficials into its confidence in the manner suggested in the Resolution above quoted this impasse would not have been created.

I am glad to notice that the unofficial members are keeping so close a watch on the expenditure of the public funds and I trust that the Government will appreciate this fact and take them more fully into its confidence and thus avoid these little misunderstandings. By this time the Government should have learned that the unofficials are a body of men to be reckoned with, but it seems hard to bring the fact home to the mind of our present Governor who seemingly will continue in a course which carries him contrary to the opinions of his advisers.—*The Clarion* 5/5/03.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The disability of the Tug "Blanche" of the Lighterage Company occasioned by the recent disaster, has greatly contributed to the delay to the steamers that have been arriving in port since last week.

Ex the "Sanaa" which touched this port on the 19th and left on the 24th inst., were discharged forty two bullocks from Bathurst and some 500 tons cargo.

The "Ancobra" arrived on the 18th ultimo with 1,400 tons of coal and patent fuel for the Government Railways—the greatest tonnage of that material ever imported here.

The small steam launches carried by these steamers can hardly cope with the work here, especially at such times of the season when Sekondi Bay may be compared to the violent Bay of Biscay. I have observed that such serious delays to the steamers however, are not the fault of the steam craft of the Lighterage Company, but discrepancies on the part of the Railway Government which are:—

(1) The constant failure in the provision of water for working the travelling gantry and steam cranes.

(2) The slow manner of craning cargo from lighters into trucks.

(3) The insufficient supply of trucks.

The merchants, complaints respecting the above points are as high as the pile of goods landed—a great portion of which have been damaged by salt-water. We hope and firmly trust that matters will shortly be remedied in view of the Government taking charge of the Railway at the end of next month.

Mr. Arthur J. Philbrick arrived here from England per s/s "Jebba" on the 16th inst. He relieves Mr. J. Maxwell who sailed home per "Biafra" on the 22nd instant.

The two days half flag which was hoisted at Fort Orange station last week, marked out the official recognition of the death at Accra of Mr. Gordon Acher—District Supervisor of Customs. We deeply sympathize with the friends of the deceased.

The opposition at this end by a band of insensate creatures against the circulation of "West Africa" in Sekondi based on the fact of this periodical publishing an article entitled "Sin and Gin" in its March number, is to us naturally a foolish manifestation of negrophobism. Despite their endeavours, we are pleased to report that "West Africa" is finding its way into the homes of the people.

On Sunday the 17th inst. at the Wesleyan Church, the question of putting the Chapel here into thorough repairs was discussed with the providing of fixtures &c. for the convenient accomodation of worshippers. So far, nothing has been done.

"The balance of account owing to Machinery "Company for materials supplied for the building of "the Mission House to the amount of £72 has not "been paid. The suppliers have placed the matter "with their Solicitor who has notified me to make "immediate payment, or he will be compelled to "institute legal proceedings for the recovery of "same. The Church therefore will be greatly "indebted to all kind friends who are interested "for their munificent contributions towards relieving "the Mission House of its critical financial status" was the heading of lists distributed to some dozen friends last Sunday. After the morning service, Rev. Sackey appealed to the benevolence of the audience, and in the evening £24 odd was freely subscribed—But what is this sum as compared with the amount claimed.

At "African House" on the evening of Sunday the 23rd inst., a Ball was giving by the members of the Fanti Social Club. The music on this occasion was rendered harmoniously and the dances were enjoyed. At any rate this new institution is a great boon especially to the Sekondinians—and we hope it will not be a "nine day wonder."

At this centre the great deficiency in wisdom and knowledge on the part of some mean Europeans, is every day shown. The struggle on the permanent jetty the other day between two officials, evidently undergoes to confirm the public idea that the combatants were not "Home Bred." Another brisky exercise of white v black took place on the beach yesterday, and resulted in the overthrow of the former. Niggers must certainly know how to pull now-a-days with these rascally scandals who come out to dwell with us in the robes of that distinctive colour.

Owing to the absence of Judge Purcell, the Supreme Court Assizes which should have been opened to-day, have been postponed till the 28th inst.

At Tarkwa we learn of an Association of Mine Managers having been instituted. We wish this co-operation every success.

We are in the height of the season when the inhabitants of Sekondi skate to the market for food, jump over rocks to Low Town to answer nature's call, sport in muddy streets to business, and dance in dismay weather for exercise; yet we are told this mushroom town is as sweet as Narbone honey!

Undoubtedly the extraordinary patience exercised by this community towards complaining of the slow manner in which the Public Works Department have carried on the work of draining the streets and lightening the street lamps, will be sufficient inducement for the Assistant Engineer of the above Department to bend on his work. We have several streets to be repaired, drained, or gravelled besides the two which were completed since the Governor paid a visit to this end.

ACCRA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On Sunday the 17th inst: the body of Supervisor Archer was found at Usher's Town Beach and an inquest was held on the following day which resulted in the verdict by the Juror death through drowning by an accidental capsizing of a boat. The body was buried in the afternoon of the next day with full honours. The Gold Coast Volunteers in uniform, and the European Gun section of the G. C. V., of which the deceased was one also attended in their full uniform and His Excellency the Governor also appeared in full uniform with his private Secretary walked immediately after the Hearse from the Public offices to the Cemetery at Christianborg for interment, the Colonial Chaplain Rev. Mr. Kelk officiated.

It is with deep regret we have to report the death of our noted Edmund Bannerman, Solicitor, which took place at his residence Tarkwa House, on Tuesday the 19th ult: at the age of 71 years. His remains were removed from Tarkwa house and laid out at St. Edmund's at 9 p.m, and at 4 p.m. the 20th ultimo, the body was removed followed by a very long procession composed of all classes of the community of Accra to Holy Trinity Church, and from thence to the Wesleyan Cemetery for interment. The native companies who had special permission to fire displayed their War flags with a firing which lasted from 1 p.m of the 20th to 6 p.m after the burial. The Government was represented by Mr. Church Assistant Commissioner of Police with two Superintendents of Police and a Rank and file of 12 men of the Police. The members of the Bar attended, the Ag: Chief Justice, Solicitor General and all the Native Barristers. In short there was no one in the Town of Accra save the children who did not go to see where he was being laid.

Mr. Solicitor-General McArthey left for Sekondi the other day by the s/s Sekondi.

By the s/s "Olenda" Mr. C.J. Bannerman arrived with a lot of sympathing friends from Cape Coast, on the dead of his father. Mr. Bannerman has our warmest sympathy.

The D. C's court has not been opened for the past 5 days, and why we do not know.

Mr. and Mrs Bristowe left for England on the 22nd ultimo, and their furnitures were sold by public auction on Saturday the 23th ult: at 12 noon the attendance was large.

His Honour the Ag: Chief Justice left for Lagos by the s/s "Olenda" for the full court.

The surf has been very bad of late—when are we going to have proper landing wharf at Accra—no breakwater.

The Revd. Ernest Bruce has left for his station, Kpong now, and we wish him all good health.

Messrs Djane and Crabbe shipping landing clerks of the Accra Boating Company have been arrested for embezzlement, and they are to be prosecuted in the D. C's court.

Mr. Francis Dove B. L. has suddenly left for England.

The rains have started here and we expect much of it.

The monument erected for the officials that died during the Ashanti Expedition last, will soon be unveiled by His Excellency the Governor.

The Wesleyan Sunday Services require a great deal of looking into. The Revd. Addo alone with three Chapels to attend to is not encouraging and it is necessary that a native or European Missionary be sent out to assist him. For when he is engaged in one Chapel it is not always satisfactory to listen to both unqualified and inexperienced local preachers. The common prayer services before sermon generally used in all Wesley Sunday Services have been abolished—we should like to know whether this is an order from the Synod.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The interview that was held with Chief Pobee by the Scholars on Saturday the 23rd, ultimo, we are informed, turned out to be a fine assembly. The topic discussed was the Church building.

Rev. Ibuljah Hayford has re-organized the local School Committee and we trust good results will accrue therefrom.

The local Good Templars (American) who had gone for a pic-nic in the morning returned at 6 o'clock in the evening, led by the local Band. They held a Church parade on the next day (Sunday) at 3 p.m. Rev. Mr. Hayford officiating.

It is a pity that a town like this has neither a literary club, nor any sort of recreation—Who will lead?

There is a great scarcity of fish which makes living here very dear.

The report comes to hand that the recent census taken by the Government shows an increase of females over males. This is not suprising at all, as most of the male inhabitants have gone to other towns in the Protectorate for work.

Mr. H. E. Barker Messrs Swanzy's Agent arrived here on the 26th. ultimo on inspection having visited Mankessim and other produce centres.

Madam Effuah Annesiwah the wife of Mr. J. D. Biney died suddenly on the morning of the 28th. ultimo. The poor woman had been in an apparent good health and the news of her death was rather unexpected. She leaves behind her four children. The bereaved family have our sympathy.

A small boy about seven years of age a grand child of Mr. Peter Hayford of this town has been either lost or killed at Sekondi. The boy went there to his stepfather a Mr. Edward Antoney. It is over four months ago and search has been made all over Sekondi district without success.

A gong-gong beaten on the 25th ultimo under Chief Pobee's orders, prohibited the inhabitants from buying from the Country people at Afrangua and disposing of food at dearer prices in the town market. Some of the inhabitants of the town have been in the habit of purchasing food in this village and disposing of them at high prices in the town market, whilst the farmers themselves sell them in the town market at cheaper prices when they bring down their food themselves. The penalty on any inhabitant breaking this rule is one pound.

The death rate here has been rather high.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader.*

SERGEANT COKER.

Sir:—Throughout the proceedings of the case Commenda People against Chief Yewan for the exhumation of dead bodies at Commenda recently, at which proceedings the Chief was convicted; together with his subsequent trial of the 9th inst: for extortion and other offences before His Worship the District Commissioner assisted by the Aborigines Society in the open Court when the Chief was again found guilty of the charges preferred against him by the Commenda people, the conduct of Sergt. Coker was made conspicuous. All the time that the Chief was perpetrating the foul acts stated above, the Sergt. with two or three Policemen were staying with the Chief at that place, and they so basely connived at what the Chief was doing, if they were not aiding and abetting him in those acts.

Should we admit the accounts given by the Commenda people as correct, Sergt Coker and his men cannot exonerate themselves from being accomplices in the matter.

I shall not say much on this point just now until it is clearly proved; but I will however say that during the Chief's trial for exhumation of dead bodies, Sergt. Coker gave such an evidence as clearly disclosed his full knowledge of the crime which the Chief committed against the crown. And what makes the matter worse for him is that when the Police Commissioner Mr. Lett was despatched to Commenda by the D.C. to investigate the matter—namely the disinterment of dead bodies—Sergt. Coker did keep this a perfect secret from the Police-Commissioner and corroborated Chief Yewan's statement which turned out to be false at the trial. In consequence of which, the Police Commissioner's Report was a perfect failure.

From the statement made by the Commenda people at the trial of the Chief in Court, which he never attempted to refute, I understand that the Sergt. and his men formed a party in the crimes committed by the Chief, and it is an indisputed fact that if they had not given him such effectual help, he could not have so well succeeded as he did.

The Public is anxious to know what steps the Government intend taking with Sergt. Coker and his men for an explanation of their conduct at Commenda.

I remain Sir,
Your obedient Servant
Cape Coast 14th March 1903. R. A. Harrison.

To the Police Commissioner
Cape Coast.

The Police Commissioner,
Cape Coast.

Sir:—I wrote you on the 14th of March last re Sergt. Coker for which I have not had your reply. In the interest of the public I beg to call your attention to that letter and solicit your reply to it as early as possible.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Yours truly—R. A. Harrison.

Cape Coast 18th May 1903.

Printed at the office of the GOLD COAST LEADER, Salt Pond Road, Cape Coast, by J. R. GRANT.

THE GOLD COAST LEADER AND THE PUBLIC.

Inactivity and restiveness are the two characteristics prevailing on the Gold Coast, especially Cape Coast.

Notwithstanding the repeated appeal from the Editor of the Leader, in almost every publication to be up and face the on coming storm, while there is yet time, we still prefer to be in the state we are. We seem not to take notice of the warning the Leader has been giving us. No remarks from the pen of the Editor seem effective to rouse us from a state of sheer negligence and apathy. We know our country's duty but we are not doing it, we shall therefore be beaten with many stripes, and sure as the sun rises from the East and sets on the West, this shall be our misfortune in the near future.

To be forewarned is to be foerarmed.

We cannot sit quiet and unconcerned and expect the elements to undertake the improvement of our rising generations who in time will be called upon to take our places and cope with the exigencies of the future. Are we sure the future will not bring with it trouble and anxiety for the rising generations after we are dead and gone?

What about the Government tampering with our institutions and tapping our delicate resources and undermining our hopes in the future.

All these changes which are taking place every day around us, are sure and clear signs that the future is fraught with evil forebodings, and it is our bounden duty to put our hands to the wheel while there is yet time, hope and strength.

The improvement of the mind of our young, is not a work devolving upon the rich only as some of us seem to think. If we depend upon the rich we shall never undertake the great and essential duty the country demands of us. In our country it is all selfishness: no rich man has ever undertaken to erect a building of any kind and devote it safely for public use. The example was not laid down by the generations that are past and it is not likely we shall ever hear of the kind by the present, though we are enlightened more than they. It is not easy with us for one who has earned his wealth of through labour and starvation, to laune out a couple thousand pounds for public welfare which would confer on other people's children a blessing in which his own sons and daughters might not share. We should not therefore be too sanguine on this point.

The institution of High Class education and other seminaries for the advancement of the young, is a question which should claim the undivided attention of the educated community and to do this we call the special attention of the youngmen who are more or less engaged in business, earning few pounds, to bind themselves together for this great work. We are aware that there are certain youngmen in Cape Coast and other places, who have the interest of their Country's good at heart. Surely if a meeting is called, and the question brought up for discussion, and a notice sent out to all patriotic youngmen at the outstations there shall be a hearty response and this might be a sufficient inducement for the rich to do something for their Country.

(To be continued.)

ELMINA AND CHIEF CATHLINE

BY THE OWL.

Continued from No. 47.

Few days after this Edzinwiri swore the oath of No. 2 company Akimfu against Chief Cathline on the same charge the company ordered a meeting and invited Chief Cathline to attend, which he declined to for reasons of their dishonest habits, the company appealed the case to the King's court, after investigation was made the company was found guilty and they all scattered from the court without taking leave of the King which is contrary to native law. After this Edzinwiri swore the oath of No. 5 company Abisifu against Chief Cathline on the same first charge which was tried at the Field-Marshal's court a meeting was convened by the company and Chief Cathline was invited to attend which he did with the following people Chief Kessi of Edum, Bansu-Quasie Fummie (successor of late Chief Andoh) Madam Eccuah Mannan and several others, the case came on for hearing and Edzinwiri was asked to prove the charge made against Chief Cathline, which he was unable to do, and the company without going into the details of the matter decided the case against Chief Cathline, the chief asked for an explanation of such unlawful decision and the company explained that in as much as the decision at the Field-Marshal's court against Edzinwiri had caused a great sensation between him and his people and to avoid any further unpleasantness they must give judgment in his favour to please him, (a most funny decision ever given) this the chief declined to adhere to and Edzinwiri was advised by the company to swear the great oath of the state against Chief Cathline, which he did on the 3rd of Feb: the King sent to tell Chief Cathline of what has taken place and requested him to attend at his court on the 6th which he did accompanied by the Field-Marshal of Cape Coast (Chief Coker) Quasie Fummie, Madam Eccuah Mannan and several others, the same charge tried at the Field-Marshal's court which Edzinwiri was found guilty, was read to Chief Cathline and Edzinwiri was asked to make his statement which he did stating as follows:—

"I married to the Defendant's niece and have lived with her for over five years, she now declines to live any longer with me. I have applied for my money from Defendant which he has declined to pay and I swore the great oath of the state to enforce payment." Chief Cathline cross examined Edzinwiri upon his statement.

1st. According to the native custom have you divorced your wife? "No"

2nd. Do you remember about a year ago you sent your wife to trade for you between Sekondi and Tarkwa? Yes.

3rd. Has she since returned? Yes.

4th. Where is she now? At Sekondi.

5th. What took her there? To collect my outstanding debts.

6th. With whose permission did she go up? Unable to answer.

7th. Do you remember you stated at the Field-Marshal's court that you ordered her up? Yes.

Meanwhile one of the King's councillors interrupted Chief Cathline and told him to drop asking Edzinwiri any more questions as they were rather stiff ones to answer, a second party named Quamina Dompoh said that Chief Cathline may ask as many questions as he may wish to, but the court would take none into consideration upon this Chief Cathline had wanted to retire from the court, but for the respect of the King and Chiefs present, he stayed.

(To be continued.)

Dear Mr. Editor,—If it is not too late, please allow me a space in your valuable columns to say a few words about the productions of Messrs. Attoo and Old Black Joe which graced your issues Nos. 35 and 44.

Mr. Attoo says the Native law of marriage is lawful and holy in the sight of God, and that the so called Christian rite of marriage is simply European Custom of marriage.

Old Black Joe would like Attoo to give reasons for the opinion he holds re native marriage, at the same time making it clear that he, O. B. J. holds contra views.

The way both of them are going about this important subject, viz the lawfulness and holiness of native marriage in the sight of God, seems to me rather tedious and elaborate. If when Mr. Attoo wrote in issue No. 35 he had proved his points, perhaps O. B. J. would have saved himself the trouble of writing as he did. But if O. B. J. also had come forward in the mean time with his reasons for the views he holds, he would have done much better and effected a great saving of precious time. Possibly O. B. J. might not say anything without first hearing the views of A.

I would ask O. B. J. to think of the following when he gets the opportunity of saying something more. Taking the word of God as our guide, I fail to find out anything that points to the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony to mean the so called Christian rite of marriage. We read in the Holy Writ that our Saviour CHRIST attended marriage in Cana of Galilee, was this marriage the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony—the Christian rite of marriage? It may be significant of much, the silence of the writers of the Bible, on the *modus operandi* of the important ceremony of marriage. I beg to digress.

Rev. W. H. Mande General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Missions, Sierra Leone, speaking at a fashionable Wedding last month in Freetown, said: We (i e himself, other Europeans and Sierra Leone natives present) subjects of the King of England, live in European houses, put on European clothes and in fact maintain and enjoy our existence in European or English style. The only draw back is that we have become reconciled to the English Home life. I believe that when this is done all the tall talk anent multiplicity of wives to which we have been treated recently will go to the wall. (Sierra Leone Weekly News of 18th April 1903, page 8.)

From the Venerable Prelate's speech I infer that except we become anglicised Englisheised, Europeanised in and out, it would be impossible for us to attain any respectable standard in the so called Christian rite of marriage. Now back to my subject.

I hope Messrs Attoo and Old Black Joe will give us, in extenso, exposition of the views they hold and so support them that the Public may be benefited.

Yours truly,—N. F. H. T.

Nigeria,—18/5/1903.

Sir,—One naturally expects to see now that some cementing work is being carried on in the old drains at the Intin Square Street by the Government, that, that part of the Street which Mr. J. D. Abraham called attention to in one of your numbers would also be attended to and so show uniformity than patch work.

I am truly yours,—OBUARWAN.

Cape Coast,
23rd May 1903.

Sir,—In reading your last issue of 30th May last I observed a letter from a *Young Methodist* commenting upon certain vain utterances made by Mr. T. F. E. Jones who had the privilege of being in the Wesleyan pulpit Sunday before last.

The part played by *Young Methodist* in bringing to the notice of the public of what Mr. Jones said about "youngsters shunning the friendship of bible and enquiring after the "Leader" on Sundays is admirable.

As a member of the same society he did not conceal the fact by overlooking what Mr. Jones said about the "Leader" as some foolish fellow would have done but had done his duty to his country and people—such kind of persons we need very much in our midst. Much has been said both by *Young Methodist* and in the Editorial Notes hence I will not say much but only wish to corroborate what he said as to the nature of our people who profess to be the Leaders of the Gospel and staunch philanthropists amongst us and yet are worse than the———

From what fell from the lips of Mr. T. F. E. Jones one would actually see that our elderly people are still far from civilisation and are ignorant and there is more enlightenment wanting to make them what they should be. We do not expect such expressions to come from a man like Mr. Jones especially when he had the opportunity of being one of the members of the recent Deputation to England (land of wisdom) we expected that the honour accorded him would have wrought such a change on him so that he might serve as a means to instruct others but I find this goes to fulfill the native parable that:—

"If you send a native cat to England to be trained he returns with the same "cry mew mew mew" so Mr. Jones from what he said has shown himself that he did not improve when he visited the land of wisdom and has evidently proved himself to be a traitor to the "Leader."

In conclusion, I may remind him that when next he is to preach and he finds he is not prepared he had better refuse it rather than to utter rubbishes to his congregation.

Thanks very much for the space allowed.

Yours truly,—ONE WHO LOVES HIS COUNTRY.

Cape Coast,
1st June 1903.

Sir,—Permit me to ask the following Questions in your valuable columns and I shall give a decent reward to any one answering the questions conscientiously and correctly in your issue:—

1. Has the Accra Town Council been of any good to the Town?

2. Why is Municipal ordinance only in Force at Accra, and not in the other places of the Colony?

3. How is it, that certain non-official native members of the Accra Town Council, have been in office as Councillors from the start to the present—are there no more qualified men in Town than they? And how long are they to remain in office?

4. Are the Councillors aware of the great Nuisances in Town! If so why not employ more men than the few they have, who are only daily occupied in certain quarters?

5. Have not the Town Council sufficient money to increase the Town lights?

6. Have all house rates for 1900, 1901, and 1902 been paid, If not, why? Why not stop working.

All kind friends who will give the correct answers must expect a decent Reward through Mr. Editor.

Many thanks for the space.

Your truly,—HAY IS GRASS.

Accra 28-5-1903.

A THEFT.

At callow Axim's little enlightened beach,
The landed passenger quite innocently stands;
And, as he turns his eyes the town to reach,
Of him his small baggage the native boatman robs.

Dear Sir,—I find to my own surprise how the native boatmen of Axim, are ruthlessly light-fingered at the beach, whatever some noble or poor strangers, who, by dint of happy circumstances or tributions are dragged along the shores of the enlightened simpleton.

I understand that this marauding practice has been prevailing among them ever since the little improvement in merchandise, and other branches of trade were made.

I recollect, being a spectator at the beach when the steamer "Fantee," called here on her homeward bound voyage and overhearing boatman whom he had laid a free hand on a coop of poultry on his neck saying, "Kyikeme oho mu sucee"—a native language which means this thing is going to my house.

If the authorities mean to improve this town to rank with the principal towns of the colony, why should not they see to supply efficient lamp to the Landing Stage, and at the same time send policemen there on such like occasions so as to overcome, this plebeian legislature which is the Chief aim of the canoe-man's by-end.

Thanking you for space allowed.

Yours very sincerely,—MARRA.

Axim, 9. 5. 1903.

Sir,—In your issue of the 2nd May, I noted under the Heading of Editorial Notes, that an Orthographist at Sekondi wrote and making enquiries of the right spelling of the word Secondee of which I beg to inform you or the Orthographist that, must rest assured, as Sekondie was intended not only for one man. And that the Yankee's my spellings are not made by God but by man. And if we mean to follow respecting its pomposity will had to misfortune.

Thanking you for space allowed.

I remain, Yours truly,—A. CITIZENESS.

Chama,—7th May 1903.

The Gold Coast Leader.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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—o—o—

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R. B. QUAISON,
(Agent.)

Market Street,
Salt Pond,

GENERAL NEWS.

Somehow or other the general complaint of the women-folk who go to the market is, that food and fish are scarce. Can't the King and his Chiefs do something?

Our Elmina correspondent suggests that the women should now go to the *Sweet River* for marketing, why not *Effutu* as it used to be?

If the Sanitary Board, (Government or the Aborigines,) can manage to get the dustbins removed from the principal streets of the Town and placed at the outskirts, or where the people used to take their refuse to, the Town will look cleaner and withal healthier, what does Dr. Barker or the President of the Sanitary Section of the *Aborigines* say to that?

And the P.W.D: after so many years occupation of the Town—how will it do to have the principal streets macadamized? It worths experimenting.

Some lanes in this Town, for roughness and filthiness, simply make it impossible for one to believe we are under such a respectable Government as ours is.

We have in Town now about two or three Superintendents of Police, one of whom with the Native Inspector of Nuisance is seen in the mornings inspecting the Town.

Mr. Adam Bissoe of Axim arrived here, last Tuesday, by the *Olenda*.

Mr. Barrister Bannerman with these who went down to Accra with him on the death of his father returned last Thursday by the *Coomassie*.

The walls of the Native Mission House (Wesleyan) has been undergoing repairs for some weeks now, and is beginning to look as it should be. Mr. Jackson who is engineering the repairs, seems to understand his work. Thanks to———.

"When a horse begins to kick," says an editorial note of the *Star*, "he stops pulling. The same is true of a preacher or church member."

We understand Mr. Muir, the Agent General of Messrs Swanzy has passed up to Axim.

"If the man who received one talent had been faithful in the use of it, he would have done all the Lord required of him."

May we most respectfully call the Foreman of Works' attention to the fact, that as the correspondent *Obunkwan* wrote about in the last issue, if the drain work in the Intin Square is considered completed, it would have been perhaps better to have left that place alone. Why a drain on one side of a Street, when another can be made on the other side also.

The Government are undoubtedly very solicitous on the health of our European residents, instance the mosquito farce, farce at least, as the game is being played out here. Exercise or recreation is universally admitted to contribute largely towards one's health. Why not then build a Club House for them, made portable if they like, to follow them to Sekondi.

The European at home, is used from his youth up to go to theatres, concerts and places of amusement; to be "cribb'd cabin'd and confin'd" therefore when out here with no where to go to, no amusement of any kind that in itself is enough to kill him. This sort of life in some instances leads to the formation of habits, which in some cases result in death, which is invariably saddled on malarial fever and mosquito bites.

No doubt if the authorities think of doing this, the mercantile houses will willingly contribute towards it. Or perhaps it will not altogether be a bad idea if the African Sections of the Liverpool, Manchester and London Chambers of Commerce so eager for the preservation of the health of their employees on the coast, will put by some of the money spent in feasting the West African Governors when on furlough with the object of interviewing them,(this is not bad though) to build them Club Houses at the principal trading places, this will go a long way to keep them sound even in deadly West Africa.

But thanks to the merchants, they have proved beyond doubt that the European can live at least three years on the stretch in Africa without impairing his health.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

	Due at Cape Coast.
Loanda Brass Service...	June 2
Aline Wœrmann Gold Coast Service	„ 9
Benin Southern Windward Service	„ 13
Boulama Opobo Service...	„ 13
*Akabo Lagos Express Service ...	„ 15
Bonny Brass Service...	„ 16
Thekla Bohlen South Coast Service	„ 26
*Lucie Wœrmann Cameroons Accel. Ser.	„ 27
Bathurst Opobo Service	„ 27

HOMEWARDS.

Angola ... Opobo Service...	June 7
Eleo: Wœrmann Cameroons Accel: Ser:	„ 11
Sobo S. C. Express Service No. 2...	„ 12
Batanga ... Brass Service	„ 18
*Buratu Lagos Express Service...	„ 19
Oron S. C. Express Service No 1...	„ 26
Helene Wœrmann S. C. Accel: Ser:	„ 27

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A striking report has reached this end that the Mantrain Mines Camp has been abandoned by reason of a cloud of misfortune hanging over it. A further announcement is made of a high rate of mortality among the Mining staff, causing something like panic, and the remnant of Europeans there have left for England declining to remain.

The sixth issue of the Sekondi Recreation Club Gazette is just out. All is well in Sekondi where newspapers are gratuitously supplied to Europeans only, and others even begging for copies to buy would not get them while the Club knows that even the Government Gazette is sold to the public.

Monday the 1st. inst. was partly recognized here as a public holiday. Perhaps it will be well for the office of Elder Dempster at Liverpool to know what days are kept as holidays out here. Some firms have also made it a fast rule to take no notice of holidays saying "they are not bankers." At any rate Holidays should be regarded by the public in general.

PUBLIC WORKS.

There seems to flourish a deal of exercise of authority from the Office of the above department here. We are rather baffled at how houses are being pulled down here whether this is on the authority of the Governor or the Director of Works we cannot say. It would have been a wise step for the Assistant Engineer to have ordered the erection of Mr. Noonoo's verandah to be stopped instead of pulling it down with the whole house. Permission, verbal or otherwise to erect bungalows has been indiscriminately granted by the Assistant Engineer to Messrs Coleman, Wilson and others. And now he turns round and orders them all to be razed to the ground. From the Machinery Hill, one would see nothing save a vast waste of land and ruins covering an area which will probably cover Hyde Park of London itself. All this land has been declared open space, we shall probably have something to say when this very portion of the Town is turned to a paradise for the Europeans.

Rev. Sackey whose last visit here was unusually long this time left for Chama on the 3rd inst. It is a pity that the lists with the pathetic wording sent out for collection of fund to relieve the Mission House of its financial position, fetched a very scanty subscription. We are afraid our Christian residents in Sekondi have forgotten the words in Matt: x v 8—we must here emphasise the appeal "Freely ye have received, freely give."

That the Colonial Government takes over the Railway at the end of this month is a fact that cannot be disputed by the Railway Officials who have brought pressure to bear on those working to complete the new station and other buildings. For the past four months this work has been going on daily, Sundays inclusive, and Christian workmen have been compelled to break the Sabbath. It is simply absurd that the work was not started earlier, and the department is surely responsible for the wholesale breach of the Fourth Commandment. We must here impress upon the ungrateful Sabbath breakers, the necessity of keeping holy the Lord's Day, for the sabbath is the Lord's and life's saving's bank as well.

SUPERFLUOUS OFFICES.

Superfluity of appointments in the service of the Gold Coast Government is unhappily prevalent and at this end we have two or more offices which are

superfluous and absolutely unnecessary.

In H. M. Customs department, the revenue is reduced by £700 a year at least, on account of salaries for Inspecting and District Supervisors.

In the Judicial, we have the District Commissioner and his Assistant who draw at least £800 per annum. What difference there exists between the duties of the Inspecting and District Supervisors and of the Assistant and District Commissioners we fail to see, yet we learn that the man at the helm of administration is an economist of the first water. These bogus appointments created out of nothing, invariably tend to ease the holders and there must be 'French leave,' for recruiting health on board the steamers, knocking about interfering in native affairs, recreation, and a constant visitation to the Club House.

GOLD COAST RICHES.

On behalf of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation and Sansu Mines, the Lighterage Company shipped last Friday per s/s "Jebba" two large boxes bullion sent down from Obuasie. According to Customs declaration the contents of the boxes were valued at £21,700 weighing 5,418 ozs gold—This is the result of a month's working.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Fifth number of our promising contemporary the *West African Mail* is before us and on its first page we read the following:—"We need to develop native institutions, not to destroy them; to encourage the blacks to industry by patient, persevering effort, and the granting of suitable rewards not to impose unreasonable taxes and shoot them down for not paying." "We must never rest until it (the evil) is ended," says Mr. Alfred Emmott M. P. whose words the above are in speaking of the Congo State atrocities.

Commenting on these words the Editor says, the evil should not be called the "Congo Question." "Right *versus* wrong; common-sense *versus* folly; elementary statesmanship *versus* criminal recklessness—these are the issues at stake." Then he goes on to say, "Every believer in the great future which lies before Equatorial Africa; every believer in the working partnership between the European and the Negro, as providing the only basis upon which Equatorial Africa can be developed for the good of both Europe and Africa; every believer in the old adage that, after all, honesty is the best policy, and that in treating the Negro, *not as a brute, but as a man* (italics our own) European commerce, European industries, and European enterprise in Africa stand eventually to gain."

Words equally telling follow. These are fine sentiments and when read in connection with, not the Congo Free State, but a British Protectorate, like ours they seem 'finer' still. We read of what is going on in the Congo Free State and we turn round to look about us, and say *If only the truth were known!* We may be told that comparatively speaking we are better of, (possibly the same may be said in Belgium) but what is going on at Congo now, have been worked up to its present high pitch which has attracted so much attention, and it is only likely that as we are passing through such experiences as we have never known before, more years will only serve to intensify what feeling that may be existing between the white and black, and some day, as we read of "the Congo atrocities" which have now stirred up the blood of the Britisher for justice and fairplay, the future Congolese will read of "the Gold Coast atrocities."

But we must not be pessimistic. With the keen sense of justice and fairplay of the Englishman at home, the dreaded evil may yet be averted, and our hopes in this is strengthened when we remember that to-day there are some powerful journals (and there may be more yet) strenuously advocating the cause of the Negro at home in West Africa to say nothing of some clear-headed Britishers to be found who need only to know the real state of affairs, and the Oppressor will no more stalk in the land. Despite all that one sees, and hears of, in the Country, there is hope yet for better times to come, *if the Native, educated or illiterate, will rise up to the occasion and do his duty*, serving with a single eye his day and generation, putting into full play whatever talent, means or wealth and position, small or great he may possess. We shall perhaps then having done what we could, have little course to complain.

Dr. A. P. Camphor, President of the Liberian College in an Editorial Letter published in the *New Africa*, (No. 2-3) tells of his visit to the Governor of Sierra Leone, Sir Charles A. King-Harman; he writes, "The Governor received us with the greatest kindness and gave us about 20 minutes of his valuable time. seemed very much interested in the question of education in Liberia and the welfare of the Republic. *He evidently has a wonderful grasp of educational necessities in West Africa.* (Italics our own.) *Greatly profited by the interview and much impressed with his courtly and commanding presence,* and especially with his ideas on education, we left Government House with a deep feeling of respect and admiration for this great Ruler and Representative of His Majesty Edward VII."

He tells of the Sierra Leone Municipality, and its native Mayor, His Worship, Claude E. Wright. "The council is giving attention to the sanitary and aesthetic improvement of the city. *The excellent water of the place and the facility for obtaining it is one of the leading attractions of the city.* (Italics our own). Among other things the council has opened a beautiful park not far from the Government House....." No comment.

Ben Johnson describes Sir Fletcher Norton, (Speaker of the House of Commons (1770)) when as counsel, in the following lines:—

"Gives *forked* counsel; takes provoking gold,
On either hand, and puts it up.
So wise, so grave, of so perplex'd a tongue,
And *loud* withal, that would not wag,
Lie still without *a fee*."

Comment is unnecessary.

Two weeks ago, we received a communication for publication dated, "Commercial Road (?), Salt Pond, 10th May 1903." Finding the letter though dated from Salt Pond, registered at the "O'Connor's Hill B. O. Cape Coast" our suspicions were aroused that we are being imposed upon, and true enough besides the rather strange fact of a Salt Pond letter being registered at a Post Office in Cape Coast, we have been able to find out that "Samuel R. Mensah, Petty Trader" who signed the letter is a myth. Salt Pond knows no such a person. The correspondence which is all about Mr. J. Barnor, Mr. Renner's "Head Clerk" referring to "the action of Rev. J. B. Anaman *v.* Asaam and Harrison (meaning thereby the *Gold Coast Leader*)" is every way interesting. It closes thus:— "Mr. Editor, you I know are too true in your duty and therefore I and others have all hopes to see this article in your next issue; though the same might be taken or considered to be against the great Leader."

We have done this before, as the writer himself bears us out, and we see no reason why we cannot do the same to him, if he can only reveal his identity to us, not necessarily for publication, for nothing will induce us to go against our principle of publishing anonymous letters. Let others also remember that: "Never write any thing you dare not sign" is a fine apothegm, the writer and others so inclined, will do well to remember. He need not keep the Public in suspense any longer, for they will be too pleased to read it Come along. Play the man. We see Esau's hand here, but the voice is Jacob's, and but for Bacon's dictum, "Suspicions among thoughts are like bats among birds," we would have published it to satisfy him on that account, our inexorable rule notwithstanding.

Our readers at home and abroad, white and black, who love justice and truth, who seek the improvement and progress of this Colony for the glory of Great Britain and the benefit of the poor native, and are therefore with us will perhaps be surprised to learn, that there are some generous and kind-hearted friends, *not Europeans* but NATIVES some from this country, but mostly from elsewhere, who up to this date, are still planning, and advising for the overthrow of the "Leader," or as they put it, to have the "Leader" shut up, for reasons best known to themselves. They seem to think we do not know a good deal of what they have been saying, and doing. After all the European cannot be blamed much since the Nigger is at the bottom of it all, the Nigger blinded to the interest of his country and colour by personal animosity and prejudice and spite.

As for their personal gibes, abuses and what not against the Editor and his staff that reaches us, we take them all for what they worth for we are determined to do our best for our country, though we well know, "MIGHT IS RIGHT." Their constant attacks in the dark, will it not be better in the interests and welfare of the country to come forward with them, that is, if nothing but the love of the Fatherland, and the welfare of the country is what is really moving them to be-doing what they are doing which are known to us. One of the main objects of the "Leader" is, to educate ourselves as a People to our duty to the country and its People, and thank goodness, whatever we are, so far, we have not been partial, our enemies themselves being judges.

Why should the native, especially the educated native, waste his time in petty jealousies and animosities, instead of studying the questions of the day, and interesting himself in the affairs of the country, giving a helping hand to lift up and improve the condition of his fellows? Highly prejudicial as the European may be against the native, nine-tenths of what mischief he may be able to do is practically the work of the native, the so called Europeanized-Native (Poor fellow!) As a matter of fact a good many of what we call, oppressive measures in the Governmental or Mercantile world in the country is mostly the work of the native who thinks (by what privileges he may be enjoying,) he is above his brother. We are certainly a queer lot here, and things being allowed to go on as they are, we shall always be trampled upon, in a way never done in any West African Country, simply because we are too mixed up. That is the plain truth, unpalatable as it may be, and too selfish.

NOTICE.

Our subscribers in the Colony will please note that their copies of the *Leader* will leave here by the Land Post on the following days:—

SUNDAYS for the Leeward ports.
MONDAYS for the Windwards ports.

Except when there is a Mail boat expected to arrive on either of the above-mentioned days when they will be forwarded by her for the ports she will call. They will make it a point therefore to apply for them on the arrival of the first post after those days. This will no doubt assist us to find out where the fault lies for not getting their papers which we send out regularly through the post to them.

THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. J. Acquah-Baidoo desires to render thanks on behalf of himself and family to all kind friends here and abroad who by letters, telegrams and personal calls have expressed sympathy with them on the death of his sister Elizabeth, (Abba Bedua)

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Thursday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.
CAPE COAST, JUNE 13, 1903.

NO RAILWAY FOR CAPE COAST.

V.

When we come to deal upon the Railway and the Technical Education questions which the Society brought to the notice of the Governor we realize at once the importance of the subjects, but we can only deal with them as the Society and the Governor dealt with them. The Society wished to know whether a Branch could not be made to tap the main line to Kumasi at the nearest point through the Denkera Country and past Tuffel. We do not know if the Society can rightly fix the point and that is immaterial too, perhaps that may be left with the "experts" who may undertake the work, we take it that all that they required was that a branch of the railway should run to and from Cape Coast. To this, the Governor is reported to have replied to the effect, that he did not see his way clear, in having a Branch at Cape Coast, and he gave as his reasons for saying so, (1) That there are no funds to give Cape Coast a Branch of the Railway, which by parity of reason, means this Town would have had a Branch of the Railway, if there were funds, and we stretch the point further and say, *whenever* there may be funds. Are we to take Sir Matthew Nathan seriously? The present system of *our* administration say "Yes." Bad as the Crown Colony System which prevails on West Africa is, this Colony is unquestionably the worse, and it is utterly impossible to have anything like funds to undertake such a commercially important work like the railway especially when Cape Coast comes in. With the creation of new posts in rapid succession, when former Governors have even sought to do away with existing ones *because* they found them unnecessary, with the flooding of the Protectorate with officials who can scarcely tell themselves what their work is, with increments of salaries to officials, increments which have taken their brother-officials to work up to for, years without attaining to,

with thousands of pounds actually wasted in passages to England on furlough (thanks to the Crown Colony System), with the reckless way of spending the revenue because it is Government money, (?) with heaps of vouchers for travelling allowances, with all these and a few more equally bad and extravagant and wasteful, how can there be funds to undertake such an important work as the railway in such an important centre commercially and for the effective administration of the Colony, as Cape Coast undisputably is? No funds, when at least one-third of the revenue from the Protectorate spent in the laying out of the railway is from this Town. No funds—there cannot be, where the People have no voice in the spending of the revenue of the Protectorate, when the would-be representatives of the People at the Legislative Council which makes all the estimates are hardly present when the votes are being made, and if even present must be silent and mute members, serving more as spectators, acquiescing to everything that the President of the Council would put before them. It is an incontestable fact, that the unofficial members at the Council are simply there to throw dust in the eyes of the British Public that the Colony is represented and bad as this is in all the Colonies, there the voice of the unofficial member is heard to advantage when the estimates for the ensuing year is put before the Council, or some needless expenditure is proposed, or any oppressive measure is undertaken: but here on the Gold Coast it is all "seconded and agreed to," and the attempt is made now and then to give the unofficial member who may have some time to waste on the council to thoroughly study a subject before it is debated at the Council. Every year despite all the noise that is made, things seem to be getting worse, *as a matter of fact*. Add to this injury the insult, which some "special correspondents" or "our own correspondents" to some English Journals who have scarcely been a year in the Country in writing refute point blank, or contradict any bare and naked truth of the real state of affairs, or some lucky official sending "home" something to neutralize what has been said, and being an official his *ipse dixit* must carry weight with the ever-credulous British Public. It is rather remarkable that at the commencement of the rush into the Country for the gold, gold, gold some of the white folk who came out, meeting things as they are in this Protectorate, wrote the simple truth without any varnishing to some English Journals, but to-day for some inexplicable reason with few exceptions here and there of men with courage to stand by their convictions the contrary is just the case: there are wheels within wheels, but facts are stubborn.

No railway for Cape Coast because there are no funds! After making a careful study of the subject, we are able to say to-day, that it is an open secret, that the present Head of our Executive has blue booked this Town for no earthly reason than what we said in the leaderette in last week's number; possibly this was so with some of his predecessors, but certainly none showed it so glaringly and unmistakably. All effort is being put forth to kill the commercial life of the place. Traders in the bush are told not to come down here, but to go to either Sekundi or Accra. Merchants should open stores in Ashanti to stop traders from coming to the Coast. If these things are so, will it not be more correct to say, that in putting a Branch of the railway here, it will in all probability stir up the commercial activity and briskness, and the merchants who are all rushing pell mell to the other places would rather be here, than to say there are no funds? Funds? If some enterprising company may not be allowed by the Powers that be to take up the job, why may not the revenue that this Town which asks for a Branch of the railway, yields, be spent for that purpose. It is known that in spite of all that is going on Cape Coast yields not less, but from and at times more than three to four thousand pounds *every month* regularly in revenue, cannot this in the hands of some *economical* contractors, say "Messrs Pauling, the well-known railway contractors" go a long way to give us a *Branch* of the Railway here? But there must be some grounds for this astounding statement, and so we are told, the authorities do not see their way in having a Branch of the Railway here because there is nothing in the hinterland of Cape Coast, to warrant it. Let us see how tenable this is.

THE STATUS OF THE CIVILIZED NATIVE.

If there is one thing more than another which should tend to make the native circumspect in regard to the adoption of the European mode of life it is the tendency of the Government to draw a distinction between him and his people, and to class him as "a stranger" in any question affecting his relationship with his country and people. Although there is not the least reason or justification for thus trying to make such a distinction between people of the same country and tribe, yet since the Government elects to make such division, and classes the native as a stranger simply because he wears European dress and takes to European habits of life, it is for the native to decide whether it is to his advantage to be thus put in the position of a nondescript and one of isolation from his own people. In considering this question, the native is not a little confused by the bewildering contradiction which marks the attitude of the European in the matter. First, the Missionary comes, who tells the native that his customs and habits of life are degraded and bad, and that unless he abondons these and takes up to civilized and Christian habits of the European he will never be well thought of, and, what is more, will never obtain spiritual salvation; and confirming his precept by example, he dresses his new convert in European attire and then presents him to the world as one rescued from degradation of heathenism and sin into the light and path of civilization and Christianity. The missionary is followed by the merchant, who is at great pains to show that the most disreputable and worthless character is to be found in the convert, and who, he represents, can bear no comparison in moral worth with his unsophisticated brother who has not been affected by the teachings of the missionary. Lastly, the Government comes upon the scene and while refraining from expressing any opinion on the matter, adopts the policy of drawing a sharp line between the civilized and uncivilized native, and will not have the former to intermeddle in any transactions of the Government with the latter; the civilized native being as a rule regarded and classed as an undesirable and contumacious factor, and treated as such. The whole thing is thus resolved into a medley of inconsistencies and contradictions, the only intelligible fact that emerges being the doubtful position accorded the civilized native, and the odium attaching to the new *role* he undertakes to assume. Socially, the effect does not matter much; for if the native is silly enough to believe that a little book learning, coupled with foreign dress, avails to transform him into a European, and essays to regard himself as such, he will soon find to his cost that he has embarked on the wrong road, and has embraced a hybrid life comprising naught but vacuousness of empty imitation and proves by its very nature to promote debasement and extinguish itself. The only escape for him from the situation is for him to turn back and relink himself to the foundation roots of his natural life and existence, and which alone are capable of supporting and imparting vitality and strength to his existence. But it is in this process of re-nationalising himself, as it were, and resuming his manhood and a higher conception of his existence and faith, and confidence in himself and his race, that the policy of the Government to sever him from his people operates to his disadvantage. This policy of the Government aims in effect to cut off his source of retreat and to confine the civilized native to the limits of the position of hybrid isolation to which he has been led. That position means contempt and scorn on the one side, and death and extinction on the other, and while it is left with the native to extricate himself from the unenviable position to which he has been relegated, no Government or administration which seeks to accentuate the breach between the civilized and uncivilized native can escape the odium which attaches to a policy so evident in its lack of good intention for the native. It is time that the native awakened to the reality of the situation as regards himself, and took up a definite attitude in the matter. His salvation rests wholly with himself. He has taken up the position of a tree without roots, and in his precarious condition of suspended animation, nothing will avail as a remedy but to get back to the root stock and reservoir of nutriment.—*Lagos Weekly Record.*

SUPERFLUOUS OFFICES.

VI

There seems to be certain hidden motive that weighs with the present Government in the raising of their salaries and the creation and filling up of vacancies, that is very remarkable. Our Governor informs us that there is a dearth of capable printers of the stamp of the late Mr. S. S. Cole, *throughout West Africa*, and that has actuated him to fill the vacancy of the headprintership with a European. Strange, profoundly strange, as this must will seem to everybody, I will exercise the better part of valour by passing over it. The late Mr. Cole had held the office of Head-Printer for a period of over twenty-five years during which he discharged his services satisfactorily to the public with a maximum salary of £300 per annum. Since he was retired a European had been pitchforked into that office not with the £250 to £300 the Country had been paying for almost thirty years through divers administrations, but with a salary of £300 to £350—an increase or loss of £150! The Assistant Printer whose experience in that department has been a long one could have easily taken the headprintership with an advantage both in the discharge of the duties of that office and in the interest of economy. Now, does His Excellency seriously tell us that the new European Printer could work twice as harder as the late Mr. Cole or his Assistant? And what did the *unofficial* members say when these tidings were being poured into their ears? Did they register and endorse their opinion about these by acquiescing and refraining from making protests? Or did they say something unreported in the *Gazette*? We know they are Government nominees, but if they are truly for the *people* let them undeceive the Government by registering their opinion and protesting vehemently against these monstrosities and when their protests are written down in the *Gazette* that will go a long way towards the eradication of the infernal Crown Colony policy and its farcical representations—the "Legislative Councils." But this headprintership business impresses me as a piece of jobbery the kind of which we rarely see in the Gold Coast.

But there is a further treat in store. The posts of gaolers which through successive administrations—some of which are wise, some just like, but some worse than the present one—had been held by natives with advantage, are now to be taken over by European. Here is the *raison d'etre*—"For the improvement of prison discipline, three European Gaolers are to be provided, one for Elmina, one for Accra *and one for leave purposes*" (italics my own). This incapable Government seems to think that the presence of a European in any department implies improvement. That may be their opinion as the squanderers, but we as the taxpayers consider that where improvement is required, it must be initiated by means other than that of the introduction of the presence of a white official. For we know to our bitter experience what they are worth, the majority of them at least. Though Europeans are introduced here things will remain as previously established, and one can easily imagine the duty of a white gaoler to be:—Signing documents (with a cigarette between his lips) in his office coupled with an occasional sauntering into the cells. How do we wish that the time will very soon come when all the offices that are being created by Governor Nathan will be undone by a successor. May the time soon come.

THE SUN.

EBENEZER CHURCH ZUNGERU, NORTHERN NIGERIA.

The opening of Ebenezer Church took place on Sunday the 10th instant at 10 a.m. The preliminaries having been read by Mr. J. E. Dixon and the lessons by Mr. E. John Duker, an interesting and instructive sermon was delivered by Mr. W. A. Thorpe based on Jeremiah 1st Chapter 10th verse.

At 2 p.m. of the same day there was a pleasant Sunday afternoon gathering, the chair being occupied by Amos T. Cole Esqr. a gentleman full of energy and enthusiasm. Two grand and sublime speeches were delivered by Messrs Bruce Paulkner, Chief Clerk of the Secretariat and E. K. Spencer, Chief Operator who have not less interested themselves in this work. Selections were also rendered by Messrs I. D. Lee performing on his violin, T. J. Ennuson on his concertina and H. A. Paris on his auto-harp, these gentlemen also led the singing. A progress report of the Church since its commencement was read by the Secretary. Thanks were given to the Chairman which was moved by Mr. I.D. Lee and seconded by Mr. C. C. Davies. The meeting was brought to a close at 4 p.m.

I may mention that a Carpenter Mr Samuel Annan gave a reading desk to the Church. The Church is now under a working committee comprising of nine gentlemen drawn from the members, viz:— E. D. A. Macaulay President, E. J. Duker Vice President, I. D. Lee Treasurer, H. A. Paris Secretary, W. S. Broderick, H. T. Williams, G. L. C. Davies, W. A. Thorpe and J. E. Dixon.

The collection both morning and even amounted to £2. 4. 8.

ELMINA.

(From our Correspondent.)

The circumstances which brought about the arrest of the Chief of Apam (?) and the subsequent stoppage of the sale of food-stuffs at Cape Coast by the Elmina women as mentioned in the Edito-

orial Notes of the last but one issue of the Leader may be deduced from the following. About three weeks ago, two Elmina women went to Aguna to sell some wares. They happened to run foul of a policeman who had also been in the village from Cape Coast for the purpose of finding and arresting a certain man for having infringed Kodwo Mbra's oath. This constable who was much worse for drink accosted these women and asked them to give him a "Smack" of bread which they were eating. The women told him he ought to be ashamed of himself to be begging for bread. He then became very abusive and began to call them all sorts of names. The women of course resented such affrontery and the constable started an assault with his waist belt and baton cutting one of the women badly on the head and the back. The injured woman came to town and reported the matter to the police sergeant at the same time producing as evidence the waist belt and baton which she had manged to snatch from the drunken constable. The sergeant, it appears, did not take any steps in the affair and as a result the D.C. did not know anything about it. In the interim the constable too had gone over to Cape Coast with a 'cock and bull' story, that he had gone to Aguna and arrested his prisoner, and certain women aided and abetted by the *King of Egwafu* and the Chief of Aguna had beaten him and rescued the prisoner from him. About 2 days later two constables (some man and another) accompanied by two orderlies from Kudjo Mbra's Court Cape Coast arrived at Egwafu with a hocus-pocus message to Kofi Ntsua the King who was then attending the funeral custom of a deceased relative, to the effect that the D.C. of Cape Coast wished him to accompany them to Aguna to look into some matter. The King, however, not knowing the trap laid for him, left with them accordingly and just as they got him outside the town, to his surprise the constables clapped a pair of handcuffs to his wrists and hustled him on to Aguna.

Arriving there, they asked for the Chief who was away to his farm. He was sent for and on his appearance he was forthwith treated in the same manner. The two Elmina women were also apprehended and handcuffed. Instead of going back to Cape Coast by the same route they came from the policemen, for fear they might be attacked by the people of Egwafu took another course through Birassie. The Chief of this place seeing the King of Egwafu in a pair of irons begged the constables to have them removed and to comply with this request as a special favour, he, the Chief of Birassie was asked to pay a sum of 15/- with the slaughter of one goat for their *akokumabo* (subsistence). The irons were however removed but the King was not destined to have the freedom of his hands for long; for just as they left the village he was once more manacled.

Further on at another village a certain man asked to be allowed to give the King a Kolaunt and for this act he was also made to pay 10/-. The prisoners having reached Cape Coast were taken before Kudjo Mbra as Pontius Pilate who directed that they should be sent to the police lock-up as the matter had been placed in the hands of the Government. They were even refused bail.

On making preliminary investigations into the case the police Commissioner came to the real facts and ordered the prisoners to be at once released without being tried in the Court thereby affording the constable an opportunity to go scot free.

The people of Elmina hearing of the arrest of the King of Egwafu by Kudjo Mbra King of Cape Coast were very indignant and since then strenuous efforts are being made for the purpose of demanding a reparation from the King of Cape Coast.

It must be clearly borne in mind that the King of Egwafu is the King Paramount and in fact, the King Maker of all the Elminas who as a people are quite independent of Cape Coast or properly speaking, the Fantis in general. We have a dialect quite as remote and distinct from any other on the Gold Coast as that of Lancashire man from the Cockney. We have a good deal of respect for our Kings be they farmers or fishermen and can never bear to see outsiders deriding and bully-ragging them with impunity.

There is not one squatting foreigner among us who can hold up his hand that he owns a foot of ground here as is the prevailing case with other places who sell their birth right by allowing strangers to collar the best part of their lands and sell them out by plots to the very sons of the soil for a handsome profit.

The Elminas collectively and individually condemn the policy of Kudjo Mbra King of Cape Coast as an insult—and in some days gone by this might have meant hostilities—war.

A movement is on foot to collect as much cash as possible all round to aid the King to commence legal action against Kudjo Mbra of Cape Coast for repairing damages. Till then, it has been determined that Cape Coast will never have an atom of food from Elmina and if at all this so called blockade should ever be raised, arrangements will be made for our women to take the foodstuffs only as far as this side of the Sweet River Bridge and no farther and people from Cape Coast can come there to buy if they like.

Kudjo Mbra seems to forget that the Gold Coast can never get on if our Kings do not co-operate.

At the last Criminal Assizes which took place on the 18th of May last with Mr. Justice Purcell as President and Mr. Derwent Waldron prosecuting for the Crown, the 3 Lagosian Burglars who recently broke into Miller's premises sometime ago were brought up for final trial. Two of them were sentenced to 10 years with hard labour and the other (the youngest) to do seven years.

The German War ship *Habicht* from the Cameroons arrived in port the other day in quest for Coals, being under the impression that they still kept this commodity here. We are informed, sometime ago some gentleman from this place tried to open negotiations with Messrs Elder Dempster & Co. for the purpose of establishing a Coaling station here but they simply pooh-poohed the idea as they said the surf in these parts is very dangerous for them to attempt such a concern. This was long before Sekondi became the Sekondi of to-day. From sometime 1880 up to 1890 Messrs Swanzy kept Coals here, we believe on special contract with the British Admiralty for the purpose of affording facilities for coaling its ships during the time and after the Ashanti scare of 1881. We cannot say why Swanzy gave up the contract. At all events they still hold tenancy of the empty coal sheds at the back of the Castle. Since Elmina must be left to die from Geography no other enterprising firm has thought it worth while to renew the concern. Everything for Sekondi although Elmina undoubtedly has the better advantages with respect to surf and landing.

This Coaling business used to keep the best part of the community (men and women) in constant employment. If Sir Alfred Jones think he has done all he thinks fit to do on the Gold Coast, cannot Mr. Adolph Wœrmann too step in and play his part?

The Wesleyans here have lately imported a Hearse for the burial of their dead ones.

A set of tombstones have also arrived from England through Messrs F. & A. Swanzy for erection on the grave of the late Mr. Vernon D.C.

The conduct of Purser Edwards of the steamer *Buruta* towards black passengers is fast becoming very much felt. He is even reckoned to be worse than ex-purser Bell of the *Akaba*. According to very recent information, it appears this purser Edwards does not only try to annoy his black passengers, but also to treat the Customs boarding officer at Sekondi with contempt, when the officer Mr. Andorh boarded this vessel on her last outward voyage on or about the 30th May last. The Purser is said to have thrown the boarding book down on the floor after making the entries, for the officer to pick up as he liked; he did the same thing with the manifests and other ship papers but this Mr. Andorh refused to take up unless he delivered them to him by hand. Purser Edwards, in short, thinks himself too clean for blackmen. Anyone who is acquainted with this man must contradict this. We shall be pleased to see it contradicted.

The telegraph clerks at Axim have invented a ruse whereby they can nearly always dupe the public and go a holiday making. A correspondent writes from that place to the effect that sometime about the 28th last, he sent in an important telegram to the office for transmission this way. The message was instantly returned because they said the line was down. Not quite fifteen minutes elapsed when the steamer *Sekondi* was signalled off Accra. Upon enquiry as to how they happened to receive this information it was alleged that the line had only been restored just a while ago but that it was down again.

Mr. B. Reilly a new Bandmaster (European) for the Gold Coast Regiment arrived at Sekondi by the *Buruta en route* to Kumasi.

The Government is undertaking another volunteer movement at Axim. A Sergeant Instructor has been sent there from the Gold Coast Regiment, Kumasie.

It is understood that the Government will be sending about ten Boys from the Band G. C. R., to England, shortly, for a course of training at the Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. At present the Band consists of about 12 effective performers.

ANAMABOE.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

A farewell concert was given on the 23rd of last month by the local Wesleyans on the occasion of the final departure of Revd. I. H. Hayford who had been transferred to the charge of the Salt Pond Circuit.

Mr. J. Abaka Pobee arrived here on the 29th ultimo to relieve Mr. R. R. Haizel of the Post and Telegraph Office who had been transferred to Chama.

Mr. Harper, the D.C. arrived in town for the first time, on the 1st inst, from Salt Pond, and on the next day he invited the King.

Before His Worship, a certain woman named Kappel, a native of Elmina, was fined £15 for selling Spirits without a License.

Dr. Loughley arrived here from Salt Pond on the 2nd inst.

About thirty female carriers arrived here from Salt Pond with loads for the Revd J. B. Anaman.

These held a concert, after which a Magic Lantern lecture was given, the subject being *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

The lagoon is being drained by the Seven Companies in town.

The marriage of Miss Comfort Abbiew to Mr. M. Esa Anderson the local Wesleyan Schoolmaster passed on successfully on the 23rd ultimo at the Wesleyan Chapel. The attendance was very large. After the service they left for the late Mr. Ogoe's premisses for refreshment, the Singing Band occupying Mr. Anbaah's. A gold ring was presented to the Bride by the Society of the *Three Wise Men* of which she is a member.

Madam Abbah Amonuah died on the 14th ultimo and was buried in the Catholic cemetary.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The public would like to know from the new Treasury clerk here whether the hours of opening thoes offices have been altered from 8 a.m to 11 a.m, to 9 a.m to 11 a.m in the morning and from 1 p.m to 4 p.m, to 3 p.m to 4 p.m in the afternoon. When steamers are in and the public have to pay duty at the Treasury they have to wait outside the gate until the clerk turns up at 9 a.m in the morning or 3 p.m in the afternoon contrary to the proper office hours. This often inconveniences the public from clearing their goods from the customs. And if the office hours have been altered it is only right that the public should be made to know. Since Mr. Thompson was transfered things have been done in an awkward and backward way at the Treasury. For the public to pay *duties* and suffer inconvenience in *paying* too is surely a double taxation.

It seems to us very like a vision or a dream to learn that His Excellency has passed down to Accra from the Hinterland through the Volta District. As we do not expect His Excellency here to pay us a visit (perhaps we are not counted among the King's loyal subjects, worthy of inspection) we beg to remind him once more of our Grievances and Needs which appeared in your issue No. 35 of February 21st last. We are anticipating that His Excellency will consider the large revenue that have been, from time to time, collected from this place and provide us with all the necessaries.

Mr. Harper the D. C. left here on the 5th inst in the afternoon for Narkwa. We understand that he goes there purposely to decide the dispute between S. A. Yawson, York and the head of the family regarding the fare of the ferry of the *Narkwa* which has caused the delay in the opening of the river for some time.

It is reported that the opening of the river takes place on the 8th instant.

We are more than glad to find that Revd Hayford has formed a School Committee and we wish him all success in his undertakings.

Since Mr. Asaan the Schoolmaster was stationed at Tarkwa no substitute had been found. We learn that the School Committee have applied to the Superintendant of the Cape Coast Circuit for Mr. Fred Cann who is at the Collegiate School. This is an application that should receive a serious consideration as in failure of a competent man to manage the School it will go to ruin.

LATEST NEWS.

—:o:—

A free hand fight took place at the Saltpond Road yesterday evening. Two men of the Frontier Force taking the offensive part against some prisoners and their Driver, a police of the same nationality on the beat giving no assistance. It is said that the two soldiers meeting the prisoners passed through them and the Driver pointed it out to them that such a thing is not allowed, but the men feeling dissatisfied at what was said started to fight; another soldier appearing on the scene without enquiring into the cause of the fight also joined in the struggle. The Driver consequently whistled for assistance from the prisoners on duty at the beach who came to their rescue and we understand a Superintendant and Commissioner of Police also arrived and arrested the Soldiers. What a nice example this is?

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The Gold Coast Leader.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

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(Payable in advance.)

	Cape Coast.	Abroad.
Annual...	10/6	...14/6
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ADVERTISING SCALE.

—:o:—

Advertisements should be sent to the MANAGER at least three days before the day of publication and to be accompanied by remittance.

Twelve lines and under	5/-
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Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

All Communications intended for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.

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

—o—o—

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

AND AT AXIM,

From the store of Mr. Charles E. Mbaes behind St. James' Chapel.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

SOLD at the stores of the undersigned, at Commercial Road, and Jackson Street, the following Medicine,

Gloria Tonic,

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It is an excellent Medicine for Rheumatism unsurpassed by any other ever prepared for that complaint. The Medicine will speak for itself.

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Are noted for the quick execution of Indents, prompt sales of product at highest prices.

Clients will reap enormous advantages by dealing with this firm.

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STRIPED SUITINGS.

LOUNGE SUIT to Measure 18/6

Norfork Suit same price } Extra pair of
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Patterns and Self Measurement Forms from Mr. J. E. Arthur, Chapel Square, and at Intin Street.

In other Ports from our Representatives, or direct from

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MANCHESTER.

TO ALL WHOM THIS MAY COME.

Take notice that in view of the fact that certain mortgage deed was executed between one Adriana Deheer of Elmina *alias* Ekua Anaisiwah and one R. J. Yankah of Chama dated 19th November 1903 of a house situate at Cape Coas Road and known as the residence of Wartemberg brothers. and a family property of Africa Abiradzi. The mortgage deed was fraudulently executed without the knowledge and consent of any of the head members of the said family in accordance with the custom of the country. Notice is hereby given that any party or parties venturing to purchase from the said Yankah will do so at his own risk.

Dated at Elmina this 13th day of June 1903.

	their
Cofi Kakrabah	x
Essell Kobina	x
Antoh Mensah	x
Quaxie Quacoe Amoo	x
Yabah	x
Inketslabah & others	x

Witness to marks — marks.
E. Jno: Smith
(Members of Abiradzi family.)

GENERAL NEWS.

The *Gazette* No. 15 of this year announces the fact, that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve the following appointments:—

"To be Companions of the Imperial Service Order:—

"Charles Hastings Hunter, Esquire, Chief Assistant Colonial Secretary of the Gold Coast.

"James Alexander Williams, Esquire, District Commissioner of Prampram on the Gold Coast."

In the "Promotions", gazetted in the month of May, we find this:—"Mr. Peter William Bernasko, 1st. Grade Registrar, Supreme Court, to be an Assistant District Commissioner, from the 1st. April." Mr. B's station is Winnebah.

The above-mentioned gentlemen have our congratulations for the honour conferred on them.

We regret to learn that Mr. J. P. Brown has been ailing for some time. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Chief Coker has been away to Asianti for some weeks now, we understand: it is said, at the instance of the Government.

Prospecting Licences have been granted to Messrs Scott, Nicholas and Slee, and Surveyors', to Messrs Lawson and Brigars Williams.

The Schools closed this week for their "Midsummer" holidays.

According to the Minutes of the last meeting of the Board of Education reported in the *Gazette*, out of fourteen members, there were only five present, and out of seven unofficial members, only one was present, and that was Rev. J. S. Ellenberger (Wesleyan Mission). These facts are significant of much.

The Board approved of grants to eleven Wesleyan Schools, (£286. 5. 10.) and five Roman Catholic Schools (£282. 16. 4.) the attempt to lower the grants-in-aid to the assisted Schools, seems to be succeeding very well indeed!

False teeth made of paper are certainly a novelty, but such is one of the latest inventions that hail from Germany, and dentists who have been using them report them to be highly satisfactory.

THE WESLEYAN SCHOOL (CAPE COAST) AND ITS GRANT.

"The Secretary replying to a question raised by Mr. Ellenberger informed the Board that the large decrease in the grant to the Cape Coast Wesleyan School was due to the discovery of discrepancies in the Registers." Discovery by whom? Of course by the Inspector. Discrepancies in the Centenary School Registers? On reading the above extract two ideas at least struck us. (1) When a man makes up his mind to do anything—good or bad—how to do it comes to him easily enough. "Where there is will, there is way." (2) A subordinate official can do *anything* to please his Senior officer. No conscience in the official discharge of duties it seems. There seems to be nothing striking about these two things, but they cover a lot. Inspectors after inspectors have been to this School even the one who made this discovery, but he is to discover something this time and he did. For years this School has held a good place on the Register work, and the man in charge of the School now began meddling with School Registers, long before the man who gave this report, came near them. All this may not follow perhaps, as mistakes are liable. Personalities should have no place in the carriage of official duties. The School from all account has lost heavily in its grants this year *though the children did creditably well.* Mr. Ellenberger has asked to be furnished with a copy of the report on the registers, and the Board had called on the Secretary to supply him with same. We wait till then, for the real cause of this heavy decrease must be let out.

Says Tennyson, "The tongue is a fire my dear; the tongue is a fire."

A committee has been appointed for the revision of the spelling of the names of the Chiefs, and the Towns and Villages in this District, the members being Mr. D.U Peregrine, J. P. Brown Esq, C. A. A. Barnes Esq, J. A. Britton Esq, F.H. Fearon Esq. and Rev. F. Egyir-Asaam.

The Committee sat this week, Mr. Peregrine being away Mr. Assist: D. C. Grimshaw presided. Mr. Robertson the Director of Education, having arrived here overland last Saturday, was at the meeting.

Anamaboe, Salt Pond, Winnebah and Accra news reached us late for this week's issue.

BEYIN.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

We on this side of the Protectorate learned from the 30th May issue of this Journal that His Excellency the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan arrived at Accra on the 10th ult: from his tour of inspection to the Hinterland. It is about fifteen years now since a Governor of this Protectorate visited this district, and the last was the late Sir W. B. Griffith. We always hear of the arrivals of new Governors, but no one had ever deemed it necessary to visit the Appolonian District. There are a good many things worthy of the attention of the Government here.

There is the old dilapidated Fort which needs repairing. This should either be put in good repair to add a good appearance to the town or be totally demolished as, in its present condition, it is a great nuisance.

We need a Money Order and Parcels Post Office here. Traders have to resort to the inconvenient method of remitting moneys to England through the Branch of the Bank of British West Africa at Axim which is some twenty-four miles away.

Ekwa Mansah, the daughter of the late King Kweku Ackah died on the 18th ult.

TARKWA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Edward Robinson, the special Correspondent and Mining Commissioner of the *West Africa* left here on the 28th ult. for Obuasi and Kumasi, from whence he proceeds to the Goldfields of Eastern Akim and thence to Bremoassie, Anyafur and Prestea via Anyafur Road.

The sum of £218 mysteriously disappeared on the 27th ult. from the office of the District Commissioner. After a search the clerk and police orderly were arrested on suspicion. Tarkwa is a place where one constantly hears of the loss of large sums of money. It would be interesting to know where

the *D.C.* kept the key of his safe previous to the commission of the robbery. On the Gold Coast, when large sums of money as this gets out of the custody of a European official, suspected outsiders are usually arrested, while the man in charge, who is responsible for the custody of it, is left free to wonder at large.

Mr. Furley, the *D.C.* and Registrar Martin left for Bensu on Monday the 1st. inst. to depose Chief Ankuma of Abosso on the recommendation of his people and approval of the King, for misgovernment, insubordination and drunkenness. His successor having been elected will be enstooled in due course. This has been surely an unfortunate year for some of our potentates—Johnfia, Cathline, Yawan and now Ankuma stand out conspicuously.

Mr. Bensusan Manager of the Effuenta Mines arrived on the 5th. inst., it is reported, to erect the stamp-mill of the Abbontiakoon Mines.

One would like to know the meaning of the term "Health officer" as understood by the officials bearing that designation. Does it mean that a health officer is only to inspect the streets and corners and sue any one committing nuisance while allowing merchants to sell drinkables and tinned meats absolutely unfit for human consumption to the natives, not to say Europeans?

The streets from Old Tarkwa to new site is in a deplorable condition and during rainy days one cannot pass them without wading through knee-deeps of mud.

[The complaint which our correspondent makes above is one that is prevalent throughout the Protectorate, especially in the Coast towns and other large towns in the Country as Tarkwa Kumasi, and Obuasi. It is, therefore, necessary in the interest of public health that our Health Inspectors make it a duty of inspecting periodically factories and stores for the purpose of condemning provisions, which are unfit for human consumption, to be tendered to the public. Some time last week, we came across *one pound tins of Corned Beef* being sold to the public, in this town of Cape Coast, at threepence a-piece by one of the respectable English Firms in town—cheaper, far cheaper than at the manufactory. From the condition of the tins we at once detected that they had been years in stock, but the natives in their ignorance and being assured by the sellers that they were fit for consumption were scrambling after them. No wonder we have so many deaths now. But it must not be forgotten that we have an Inspector of Nuisance in Town. Ed:]

EDITORIAL NOTES.

This is encouraging, especially as we are enjoined to be thankful for small mercies: another youngman from *Adda* follows the wake of the one from Nigeria, and writes: "Mr. Editor, I don't think we are all haters of the Country, only I believe many men like myself are impecunious.....In spite of that outside the cost of the paper ("Leader")—— meaning probably his subscriptions, he being a subscriber—"put me also down for 30/- a year from date and oblige."

Nil also writes from Sekundi, "From July next, I agree to pay quarterly donation towards the upkeep of the Press, the sum of 10/-.....I hope however, small as the amount is, it will be of some use to the Managers of the Organ. If others will do likewise the funds will improve and we shall not have cause to regret in the near future. I believe more in action than in words." So do we.

We have received two letters from one of the Solicitors in Town anent *Spectator's* letter which appeared in our issue of the 30th May last alleging or rather surmising that the remarks made by the correspondent refers to him, and he considers it injurious to his professional reputation. We are not ourselves in a position to judge the matter but we give the learned gentleman our assurance that we had not the slightest intention in publishing that letter, to wound his feelings or injure his reputation if he considers himself the person meant or that of any other of our able Solicitors and we sincerely hope he will accept this explanation as a sufficient guarantee of our good faith in making the above remarks.

It is rather surprising to find that nearly every Town from Appolonia right down has some complaint to make as to its sanitation, latrines, and the way generally the ordinary official routine of work is carried out. It may be said, that do what you will, there will be some grievance of some sort, especially as we seem to be given to nothing else but croaking. This may be true but we think to come to know the real facts of these complaints, those who may be disposed to say so may charge their opinion.

Everything seems to be topsy-turvy. Departments that formerly to all intents and purposes gave some satisfaction, are to-day to be seen, doing just the contrary. It is evident that, *how* to manage things does not come easily to all. However perfect the arrangement in a department may be, if it falls into bad hands everything soon goes out of gear.

Add to this the fact, that new ideas, new-fangled notions are more or less cropping up, probably to meet the times. But in the midst of it all how to keep up the revenue, seems fortunate always to fall into safe hands. What does it matter if an apology of the needs and wants of the Public is showered on them so long as things which are *not* seem to be, and somebody lives! There seems to be in these days some new ideas conveyed by the term *Government*, (for words undergo a change of meaning) known and practised by only those concerned.

Who can extricate us from this dilemma in which we find ourselves? We attempt to deal in generalities, and we are told, "No sweeping remarks, you must particularize." We try our hands at this, then we become *personal*; "you are getting too personal:" surely the already arduous task of the journalist especially the journalist who seeks to be conscientious and impartial, is doubly so on the Gold Coast, and "the reason why" is not far to be seen. You must seek to pamper a certain class of men or body of men, then all is well. Attempt to make a public journal what it should be, and you have a journal peculiar to the Country, and the tongue of the true Negro wags, and the feelings of the patriot are hurt. But, *He who pleases everybody, pleases nobody.* There!

We have often said that much of the dissatisfaction that prevails among us towards our Government, and which retards the progress of this Protectorate, is the work of some of *our own colour*—OUR OWN PEOPLE, men who to all appearances are in the forefront of our politics. There are no doubt few who may take this in. We bide our time, and sooner or later we shall surprise our Readers. The days are rolling. This however cannot exonerate the Powers that be, which wield the Discretionary Power.

Early in 1762, one of England's foremost men of letters wrote that "reproaches and inquiries have no power to afflict either the man of unblemished integrity or the abandoned profligate. It is the middle COMPOUND character which alone is vulnerable, the man, who, without firmness enough to avoid a dishonourable action, *has feeling enough to be ashamed of it.*" (Italics our own.)

From Salt Pond *The Facts* writes at length to contradict all that the Salt Pond Correspondent wrote last week with regards to the hours now said to obtain at the Treasury there. We regret that the correspondence reached us late for insertion; the gist of it all is, that no changes have been made in the Treasury office hours, they are as they have ever been, and the present clerk gives as much satisfaction to the Public as any of his predecessors.

NOTICE.

Our subscribers in the Colony will please note that their copies of the *Leader* will leave here by the Land Post on the following days:—

SUNDAYS for the LEEWARD ports.
MONDAYS for the WINDWARD ports.

Except when there is a Mail boat expected to arrive on either of the above-mentioned days when they will be forwarded by her for the ports she will call. They will make it a point therefore to apply for them on the arrival of the first post after those days. This will no doubt assist us to find out where the fault lies for not getting their papers which we send out regularly through the post to them.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Thursday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.
CAPE COAST, JUNE 20, 1903.

WHY NOT TRAMWAYS?

VI.

As we saw last week, Cape Coast cannot have a Branch of the Railway because there is not sufficient inducement by way of funds and produce to warrant a line being laid. Funds! Why not leave all the financial undertakings to private enterprise and leave financialists to fight out their interest between each other? As far as produce goes, there is much in what the Governor said. Train from Ashanti branches off to Accra, because behind this Town and perhaps, we may add, the places in the vicinity of the *Volta* we have the produce yielding places, and another Branch goes to Sekundi as its terminus because of the Mining industry. This is right enough: but the principle enunciated by the Governor's reply is, that railways exist solely for "goods" traffic. Taking Accra as the centre of the produce traffic, and Sekundi as the centre for the mining industry, may not Cape Coast be taken as the centre for European wares, and for these to find their way into the interior, may not a transport of some sort be given to this Town; the rail line may be unnecessary, and even expensive, why not tramways, then, to touch the main line or to put passengers within an easy reach of the Railway. If railways are for both *passengers* and goods, why not tramways instead of railways, as the latter may be expensive, and may not pay its way should it exist solely for passengers. That Cape Coast is the most central, and the easiest way for transport to the Hinterland, has been admitted over and again, by all who have had the command, of the Asianti Expeditions from Visconut Wolseley right down to the late Sir Colonel Scott. To leave such a commercially important place as this Town is, without any transport to the Hinterland, or not to let be in touch with the oil and kernel producing countries or with the mining district, at this time, is simply to so isolate the place as to ensure its commercial ruin. A railroad means civilization: a railroad connecting Cape Coast with the Hinterland would be to the benefit of the Town and the trade between it and the other places. To our mind we think what led the Society to ask for the railway was to have some transport that would keep the place in touch with the activity that must prevail in the interior with the advent of the Railway. The Governor therefore instead of refusing them point blank of what they asked, should have held out to them hopes of a transport of some sort, with his knowledge of things, especially as we find that the Chamber of Commerce we have with us also made the same request. To say, that he could not because they asked him for a Railway and he answered them on the Railway can only disclose the fact, which we learn characterized the interview, and that is, there was a hurry to dispose of the questions brought up by the Society, that there was no discussion of any kind on the subjects, that as a matter of fact only the President of the Society could speak, or was permitted to speak. As we presume this Society to answer for, the Native Advisory Board elsewhere, (?) we deem the way in which the whole interview was conducted to be most unstatesmanlike with a touch of militariness and primness. When this question of railway was brought to the meeting what should have engaged the attention of those concerned, should have been how this Town can be in touch with Asianti, Sekundi and Accra.

On the question of Industrial School, His Excellency saw with the Society the necessity of its existence and promised to do something towards it, when the Estimates for the ensuing year were laid before the Council, and so the less said *now* the better, though one may have his misgivings when he sees what is being done with the Education of the Country. Very likely this subject either escaped the Society, or there was not sufficient time to go into it, and so Sir Matthew Nathan after an attempt to contradict what the *Leader* has said of the proposed Park, and informing the Society of what the Kings and Chiefs think of the influx of lawyers into the Country, dismissed the Deputation.

We think of the pressing and momentous questions, commercially and politically stirring the Country at this moment; we wait with baited breath to hear of the result of the interview which the Head of our Executive is to have with the only intelligent and competent Body of Natives, in fact the only organization outside the Legislature the Governor of this Protectorate can confer with, to the advantage,

welfare, well-being and safety thereof, we listen to the Society speaking through its President, we hear the Governor's replies, we see how he receives and confers with it, and a deep sigh escapes us. Let us turn to Sir Matthew's interview with the *Chamber of Commerce* and probably to that with the Sanitary Section of the *Aborigines* before closing up these memorable interviews.

WE ARE THIRSTY.

It is quite evident that while Dr. Logan Taylor's instructions or recommendations embodied in his Report on the Sanitation of this Town are being somewhat followed by the Government as far as the prevention or annihilation of our latest-discovered foe—the mosquito, is concerned, the indefatigable officer who superintends the Sanitary department is conveniently unconcerned as to the other recommendations of the same amateur mosquito-destroyer, as to the most necessary want of man—WATER.

Dr. Taylor does not only state how the water supply of the Town can be met or bettered but impresses in, in our opinion, the most emphatic expression, namely that "the Government wells are in a disgraceful condition, in not one of them, is the water fit to be drunk"—that can possibly be used by an official who may or may not be mentioned in speeches or despatches.

The Town of Cape Coast is not so situated as to render the question of its water supply insuperable: we quite agree with the Doctor that to bring water down from the streams in our near interior or even from the "Sweet River" is not safe, except indeed the precautions or conditions he states can be undertaken, but these conditions are almost impracticable, and we also say with him that "great improvements can be made in the wells"—far better improvements than have been made, if the existing state of Government wells can be even officially described as improvements.

The water in these wells is fit for anything but to be drunk or even used for any other household purposes. Still, bad as it is, its all we have, all that our much-trumpeted-economical Government can provide for us, but shades of Gold Coast Government consistency! The water is only to be brought home, by the poor people to be condemned as mosquito-breeding and as such, the sanitary doctor in his rounds causes any of it he comes across to be rendered absolutely useless by throwing carbolic oil into it. Even those who are a little well to do, and have supplied themselves with one or two puncheons to catch rain water, have these also spoiled for them, by the same means. What are we then to do? Does the Government mean to kill us with thirst? We are not supplied with water—the only one or two Government tanks (?) where a few favoured ones can get a gallon or two of hardly passable water by tickets, are closed to the public, though it is given out that they are for the use of the public, more than half of the tickets having been withdrawn: and if we try to bring home what little supply we can with much trouble from their "improved" wells this also, is to be rendered quite useless because it would breed mosquitoes. What then are we to do? Does the Government seriously believe that a pot full of water brought on for the day's needs of a family, or a few gallons of water in a closed puncheon or barrel for the same purpose breeds mosquitoes at all or breeds them in such quantities, that more than nine-tenths of the community should go without water from day to day, on that account, while yet no means of supplying them with water without the possibility of its breeding the deadly fly, is even being contemplated for them.

Is it the vegetation with which our towns are allowed to be so densely hemmed in, that breeds mosquitoes, especially during the rainy season more then anything else. Why don't the Government fill up or let into the sea, the Salt Pond which also breeds billions and billions of mosquitoes every day, which are swept into the town by the constant winds.

The towns compelled to keep their land clear of useless bush for some two or three miles round, and with Cape Coast the Salt Pond also filled up or let into the sea, we shall have little or no cause to go a mosquito-hunting and we would have our water left us to cook our food and to quench our thirst.

In Sierra Leone and Lagos we read of the Sanitary departments, filling up *pools* and ponds and with good result. We don't hear of any house to house visitation by them to throw kerosine and carbolic acid oil into people's pots or tanks of water, It is left to the Gold Coast Government and to the Gold Coast Government alone, to distinguish herself in this manner also as in other ways to the discomfort and inconvenience of the poor native, and that when other causes, such as we have pointed above, are staring them right in the face. Our District Commissioners and other Government officials take walk to the Salt Pond nearly every day, but, no, it does not strike them, not even the buzz of the myriad deadly flies seem to attract their attention, and the Government plots of land in Town are covered with mosquito breeding weeds and shrubs—but what of that, since Doctor Barker and his *suite* find it easier to go round the Town emptying gallons of oil into poor people's water.

This is a crying evil, a most distressing one and we humbly beg the authorities to save us from it as soon as possible.

S. S. JEBBA'S PURSER

We do not know what steps Sir Alfred Jones may take in the matter, but for fear that the almost incredible behaviour of the Purser on board the "s/s Jebba" on her last voyage out, may be taken by him to be a solitary case, we feel it our duty to again respectfully request, that a more gentlemanly, self-respecting class of men may be engaged for that post.

To be brief to await results—for we learn that the aggrieved person has already reported the matter direct to the Mail Agents at Liverpool—the Purser on board the steamer above referred to, actually went the length of charging five shillings each for about half-a-dozen *sucking babies* being brought down from Axim to Cape Coast, by their mothers. And this, when the mothers were travelling as second class passengers. The Purser was brutal, inhuman enough to have threatened to tear the babies from their mothers' breasts and throw them (poor things!) on the deck if his shameful unauthorized demand was not complied with!

We believe that Captain Thompson's sound advice to the "masters" of Elder Dempster's ships at the meeting held in his honour at the West African Social Club, Liverpool last April, would do very well for the *Pursers* of those ships as well—"In these days of keen competition" said the Captain, "I advise the masters to be as polite and obliging to passengers and shippers as would be consistent with their duties," and we would add, with good-breeding also. It is a pity that Captain Dupen who is reported to have been the "master" during the voyage referred to, was not present on that occasion to hear this wise saying for the benefit of, at least, his Purser in question, for we hear he is a gentleman-"master," himself. No man who is anything like a man, would hurt his dog, much more a sucking babe, be it white, black or yellow, and it was left to the Purser of the "Jebba" to earn the contrary unenviable distinction. What will it cost him? We wait to see.

SCRUTINEER.

For an Englishman to write what was the subject of one of the leading articles in the *Leader* of the 6th June, is a conclusive manifestation of the fact that a gushing gleam of light is now shedding on the political mind of the good people in England, who have been hitherto perpetually illuded and fooled not only by the ordinary but by the predominant class of English visitors to this Coast.

"Ashanti is quiet everywhere and there is no sign of discontent, except in the brains of certain malicious people who mostly live at Cape Coast." Of course, there is no open warfare in Asianti and for the matter of that in the Gold Coast Protectorate. But let us ask, is it dispensing peace or creating satisfaction or contentment, when the natives are so heavily taxed whilst denied the benefits of taxation? Is it creating good feeling by allowing the towns to cumulate in filth through the failure of the Government to provide means for the possible clearing away of filth, and denying the heavily-taxed natives such necessaries of life as Water-Supply and proper and efficient sewer, whilst the Government is wise enough to suffer its officers to enter into the private houses of natives and there upset the little collection of water they themselves have managed to shift? Is it beneficially governing, when through want of Wharves the merchant jeopardously lands his goods (not to say his life) and when by luck he gets them safely ashore an impudent Government turns coolly round and demands a ten per cent and high *ad valorem* duties? Is it keeping honestly to past promises, when the natives are left in utter destitution respecting Education? Is it governing with contentment when the natives of the Hinterland are continually subjected to free beatings by the *West African Frontier Force* under the command of enlightened English officers, and when poultry, plantain, and other belongings of the bush natives are freely robbed, not without violence, by these redoutable soldiers, when marching through the villages of these poor natives? That the latter brutalities are not imaginations, is borne out by the news reported in the *Leader* of 23rd. May last touching a Madam Yankumah and others. If even in Cape Coast Town, under the supervision of a first District Commissioner and the command of an officer drawing hundreds from the local exchequer, these worthy representatives of peace and order could indulge in such bloody exercises, what an amount of grief indeed must our poor kinsmen at the "Bush" be undergoing!

I gather from a reliable authority that during visitations of plagues dread takes as much a part in killing people as the direct touch of the plague itself. In other words, the consciousness of having the sickness in such times, very often facilitates infection of the disease. Now we have been protesting vehemently, for some time past, against the locality of the new Contagious Hospital for Small-Pox at *Kotokuraba*. We have argued that situated as it is on the top of a prominent hill overlooking the town, it will infect the inhabitants by the aid of the land breeze, not to say the dire effect its conspicuous position will have on timid people. Though there was a resident medical officer in town the Hospital was being erected and though the Governor had been here and noticed it himself, our protestation has fallen, hitherto, on dead ears. If, upon these facts, I were to suggest that this is an indirect course on the part of the Governor to wipe off the face of the earth the inhabitants of Cape Coast by this dreadful disease, I shall have the resort elsewhere that such intentions are not, "except in the brains of certain malicious people who mostly live at Cape Coast."

And we do expect our 'professionals' to take a lively interest in politics. One has only to peep into the doings of this class of natives in the other sister Possessions on the Coast and compare it with ours to find that the spirit of selfishness and indifference towards patriotic demands is too meanly manifested by the numerous native lawyers, doctors, engineers and ministers we have. No wonder foreign *'professionals'* come heap up thousands and go, not failing to add insult to injury by the ungentlemanly, bragging and odious movements on the part of some, since the Aboriginal ones will not perform their duty to their Country and so shame the casual *droppers* to do what one should, when he gets to Rome—as the adage runs. Let me take the opportunity of respectfully informing them that not only is he a traitor who betrays his Country for wicked ends, but that he who knowing his bounden duty to her, neglects doing it is not a wit better or worse than the rank traitor. I really wish I could persuade the learned people and move them to their sense of duty, and this I shall venture to do so long as I remain,

Yours faithfully,—AYYOO.

THE LATE MR. EDMUND BANNERMAN.

(B. of T.)

BY HIS SON MR. C. J. BANNERMAN, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

The death of Edmund Bannerman, the famous B. of T. who was a Solicitor and the oldest practitioner of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony and a Commissioner for Oaths, has deprived the Colony of, if not the most distinguished, one of the most distinguished and most eminent of her sons, and who, for several years until his death was the best known, and has always been the most popular, native of the soil.

Born at James Town Accra on the 28th of September 1832 the third son of the Honourable James Bannerman for sometime a Lieutenant Governor of Her Late Majesty's Forts and Settlements of the Gold Coast and of Yaboom daughter of Osai Yao King of Ashanti, he was sent to school in England at the very early age of six years where he met his two elder brothers Charles and James. In 1847 and before he was fifteen he returned home from England and served for about 7 years as Secretary to several Governors until he was appointed in March 1858 to the Civil Commandantship of Kwitta by the Secretary of State for the Colonies at a salary of £200 per annum besides allowances, and made a Justice of the Peace. In 1860 he was transferred from Kwitta to Winnebah in a similar capacity and in 1861 after leaving the service of the Government, he was admitted to practise as Advocate and Attorney in the Courts of the Settlements. On the constitution of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, he was admitted in April 1877 to practise as a Barrister and Solicitor and in 1879 was appointed a Commissioner of Oaths.

Between the years 1866 and 1892 he was, on various occasions, employed by the Government on special missions to native Kings and Chiefs in the Protected Territories and on such occasion received the thanks of the Government.

In 1866 he was engaged in the Awoonah war having volunteered as Adjutant General and Private Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief of the expedition. Again in 1870 he was charged by the Government with the full command of the expedition against the Volons and Dutches and was granted the sum of £150 by the Executive Council at the termination of the war in recognition of his services.

During the Ashanti war of 1873-4 he was employed as Secretary to Sir John Glover, Chief Commissioner and in recognition of his services received in addition to the medal and clasp of that war,

a silver tankard having the following inscription:—

"Presented to Mr. Edmund Bannerman by command of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies in testimony of his faithful services as Secretary to Sir John Glover during that officer's expedition against the Ashantees, 1873."

Mr. Bannerman was the special correspondent to the "West African Times" during the time of Mr. Fitzgerald the Editor and Proprietor of the journal. He was also the special correspondent to the "Standard" during the war of 1873 and received in recognition of his services, a copy of the book called "The March to Coomassie" by G. A. Henty in which is written the following:—

"To Edmund Bannerman, Esq.,
from the proprietor of the Standard as a slight recognition of the services which he rendered to that Paper by his valuable letters during the Ashanti war."

For sometime after the death of his elder brother the celebrated Charles Bannerman, Mr. Bannerman conducted in this town as Editor and Proprietor, the Paper known as the "West African Herald."

Mr. Bannerman was possessed of a very vast information and a profound knowledge of matters relating to the affairs of the country, and all the Governors of this Colony from Sir George Strahan down to Sir Matthew Nathan resorted to him in time of need for information in connection with the affairs of the country.

The B. of T. (the Grand Old Man) died at his residence Tarquah House, James Town Accra, on the 19th ultimo at the age of more than three score years and ten leaving, besides his very valuable and rich Diary from 1847 to April 1903, some very important papers and other documents relating to the affairs of the country and dating from as far back as 1824 all of which are now in the quiet and peaceful possession of his sole executor.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Supreme Court Assizes were opened on the 28th ult. with Judge Purcell presiding, D.C. Philbrick prosecuting for the Crown and Barristers Nicol, Christian and Leung in defence of several of the prisoners.

The two youngmen who made a false declaration to the Customs as reported in a previous issue, were committed to seven years imprisonment with hard labour, and to be birched 3 dozen every half year.

The two policemen also who decamped with the specie sent up here from Chama, were sentenced to fourteen years imprisonment each.

Judge Purcell at the closed of the Assizes made a statement to the effect that the wicked reputation which the district had gained must be done away with, and that was his intention.

SANITATION.

Owing to the absence from Town of the Health Officer last month, the Sanitary condition of Sekondi became very unsatisfactory. Improvement on this however, has been made since her arrival. The Town Sanitary Committee we think should arrange for the carrying out of the duties of the Department when the Lady visits Accra or elsewhere.

The Accountants department staff of the Gold Coast Government Railways left here for Obuasie last Saturday.

A Mr. Graves who arrived here per the "Fantee" last week we are informed is to take charge of the Government Railways. Mr. Edward Robins has also arrived as the Engineer by the "Akabo" on the 13th inst.

The s/s "Boulama" which arrived on the 9th inst. had 1,200 tons cargo on board for Sekondi—the largest tonnage ever shipped to this port.

Last week a passenger by one of the trains going up country was knocked down by an engine and the body smashed to atoms. Why are accidents so frequent on the Gold Coast Railway.

In a cricket match between the Fanti Recreation Club and some Sierra Leoneans last Saturday, the former were beaten by 3 runs.

[Can the report that at Sekondi and Tarkwa both sexes use one latrine be correct? Ed.]

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The D.C. Mr. De Veer arrived here on the 3rd. inst. from Secondi for civil and criminal cases.

We would respectfully ask the District Postmaster to arrange for our parcels being conveyed down by special runners and duty collected here.

Trade is distressingly dull here. Gin and rice are the only articles that meet ready market.

The Chamas are now erecting good and substantial houses. All the thatch-roofed houses are now being converted into corrugated iron roofing.

Last Sunday the 14th inst. will ever be memorable in the annals of the history of Chama as on that day the Templars (English) had their Church-parade. Rev. E. A. Sackey robed in his gown officiated, basing his discourse on the 5th Chap of St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians the 18th verse.

After chapel the members repaired to the Lodge room from whence they dispersed.

On Wednesday the 10th June there was a terrible hurricane which was followed by a heavy rain.

The sanitation this way is anything but fair. Can't more scavengers be employed.

The two Lagosian constables of whom we have been reporting were sentenced to seven years imprisonment each (hard labour) and are serving their time at Elmina.

Last Saturday the 6th inst. Mr. George Mensah was married to Miss Hannah Ashon at the Wesleyan chapel. Rev. E. A. Sackey tied the knot.

We wish the newly-married couple all connubial happiness.

ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Last week Dr. Waldron D.C. held an interview with the King of Elmina and some of his principal men, during which the D.C. informed the King that he had received instructions from his colleague, the D.C. of Cape Coast to extend his sympathy to the King of Egwafu in the recent affair of his arrest by constables who had acted quite outside his orders and assured him, (the King) that he would get that constable who had occasioned such a blunder severely punished.

With respect to King Kodwo Mbra of Cape Coast, the Government will not have anything to do, by way of interference, with regards to any steps which the King of Egwafu intend taking for compensation. In the meantime, he the D.C. asked the King to restore the food traffic and promised to communicate with the D.C. Cape Coast in order to warn the people of that place against taking any undue advantage of the women who might go down to sell food stuffs.

On Monday 15th D.C. Peregrine of Cape Coast arrived in town and according to a gong-gong sent round that evening, food traffic with Cape Coast has been restored.

As a matter of fact food is generally scarce considering this time of the year when our farmers are nearly out of their old stock and are expecting new crops.

In some cases, people this side are no better of than those at Cape Coast as the prices paid here are nearly the same considering the trouble of conveyance to Cape Coast.

It is absolutely a mistake, geographically or otherwise, to suppose that Egwafu is a village under Kodwo Mbra King of Cape Coast. Egwafu was the former capital of all Elmina and it is even stated that the inhabitants of this town had their origin from that place. Nor has Kodwo Mbra any regal rights over Aguna or any other village in the Country or District. The Aguna lands are owned by the family of the late Tekyi Mensa of this place, who reserve the exclusive rights of electing and installing a Chief for the stool of Aguna. The villagers comprise a blended nationality of Elminas (Aborigines) Wassaws and Fantis (squatters); the former of course predominating. Perhaps it is the latter Kodwo Mbra can lay any claim to.

Elmina can even annex Jukwa because the present King Kwantabisa was enstooled by late Chief Andoh of this placed, with late Chief Eminsang assisted by the late Mr. A. B. Shand D.C. and a detachment of Hausas sent up there for that purpose. Although the three personages above mentioned are now dead and gone King Kwantabisa himself is alive and can testify to this.

The annual custom in connection with the opening of the Lagoon will probably take place the first week next month.

The feast of *Corpus Christ* which came off last Sunday 14th was observed by our Roman Catholic community with anything but Christian feelings. The Church is divided into two distinct sects—St. Anthoney's and the Catholic Truth Societies—who are little better than Cats and Dogs—each side claiming a better place in the Church than the other.

The members as a rule, do not quite appear to understand their real duty, simply looking upon such feast as mere Bank Holidays or some sort of a Carnival. The Fathers should have their eyes about them and try to amalgamate the two parties or do away with both. The thing is really getting shameful.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader.*

Dear Mr. Editor:—In your issue of the 16th May I read an article from *The Owl* who wants the public to believe that Ex-Chief Cathline was deposed through the case of Kweku Egyinchiri v himself. But I want to inform "The Owl" and the public in general that, the case of Egyinchiri v Cathline was a private matter altogether. The cause of Cathline's disposal as chief was through his insubordination or insolence to the King, the Chiefs, and the ten companies who held the mass meeting on the 21st. March and this was according to native laws and customs treated as contempt of the King's Court. I beg to call the attention of "The Owl" to read over the copy of the letter addressed to the Governor (about the Ex-chief) in the issue of the 4th April (No. 41) if he had not already done so.

Thanks for space allowed.

I am, your's obediently,—MPRASAN.

Elmina 21st May 1903.

Dear Mr. Editor:—Yesterday afternoon, in compliance with a letter from Mr. District Commissioner, King Kodwo Mbra caused a gong gong to be beaten warning the people against molesting any Elmina woman bringing provisions to the market here.

The gong gong sounded strange to the people, and they could have no other inference than just this—that the Elminas finding their mistake, and being too proud to own the fault, and their women worrying them with being the cause of stopping one of their principal sources of livelihood, and being anxious that their women should resume their trade with us—got their D.C. or some one else to communicate with the D.C. here, to prepare the way for them: for else how could they have within such a short period been able to gather the amount of provisions they brought in this morning?

Yes, the Elminas have this time made a false move and are burning their fingers over it, for we will see they do not again, in the future, as they have done in the past, play their dirty game by, upon every trifling matter attempting to starve us, as they say, by preventing their women to bring provisions to our market. In their frenzy they seem to have quite lost sight of the fact that it is principally from our own villages viz:—Birasi, Ankawasi, Aguna, Saaman &c. that they obtain the provisions they bring to our market for cash at very fair profits that their women are loth to sell at Elmina where they fail in most cases to realize cash for their produce as they do here; that their becoming intermediaries between us and the villages named above date from not earlier than since the Appolonian expedition of 1848 up to which time the only commodities they brought were salt, ground nuts and tiger nuts; and that we could at any time open negotiations with those villages with the view of re-opening the old market and dealing direct.

The Elminas have from time immemorial been, and will continue to be for another half century Ashantis in manners, tendencies and sympathies.

After all the noise and pass and the beating of gong-gongs throughout the towns and villages of their allies—forbidding all, on pains of a heavy fine from bringing provisions to us, and even like the dog in the manger preventing our own allies and friends the Commendahs from supplying us—After all this humbug what has occurred to induce the Tufuhin and other native authorities of Elmina to allow their women to come to our market.

"It is better not to promise than to promise and not to fulfil." So also it is better not to threaten than to threaten and not able to carry the execution through.

Yours,—A CAPE COAST MAN.

Cape Coast 12th June 1903.

[We call *A Cape Coast Man's* special attention to our Elmina Correspondent's column. He will have many things explained to him there. Ed:]

THE RESOURCEFUL MOSQUITO.

Sir,—That the mosquito is a pest, cannot be gainsaid: in some places it has much more the resemblance of a plague than anything else, and as such it needs a counteraction—a cure, and all praise is due to Major Ross and the authorities for instituting expeditions against its extermination; but it is feared Mr. Editor, that at times the measures resorted to for the cure of a disease are much more virulent than the disease itself and the like is the throwing away of poor mens' water casks, pots and all domestic comforts in the shape of drinking water because of the mosquito—even in places where it is scarcely heard of; and this in the face of the fact that the Government shows no attempt whatever at general water supply. If a poor man's water must be thrown away because of the mosquito, what does he get in return; why should there be no attention?

Now Mr. Editor, the war against the mosquito is a prodigious one, and the following is what "The Lagos Standard" of 13/5/03 says of it:— "To exterminate the mosquito, however, a great deal of more than this (than cleaning premises of all empty tin cans, broken bottles &c) has to be done. Every tree, every shrub and every blade of grass about town would have to be removed every swamp filled up, and the muddy and shallow lagoon which surrounds the town emptied of its water."

This, Sir, is the nature of the war; and it is only gratifying and a relieve to learn that such an expedition which does more harm than good has not as yet covered the whole of West Africa. For in a place like this (Addah) where the people eat, drink work and sleep in the buzzing and biting of mosquito the inhabitants would seem *to be much* happier to live in that condition than when the campaign is being carried on; but at all events, Sir, when the expedition does reach here—the general belief is that it will be of a more dangerous nature than at Cape Coast and other Coast towns, inasmuch as the *River Volta itself*, which is thought to be very much conducive to the resourcefulness of the harassing mosquito, *shall probably have to be dried up.*

Thanking you Mr. Editor for space allowed.

Addah 9-6-03. Yours truly,—H.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICES.

THE undersigned has been instructed to sell by Public Auction by German Westafrican Trading Co. Ltd. per G. H. Savage Esq. (in his absence) C. J. Bannerman Esq.

On Tuesday the 7th July at 4. 30 o'clock, p.m. the following:—

All that piece or parcel of Land with the Buildings thereon Situate at Salt Pond and known as the property of Joseph Cruickshank Oppon as per Mortgage Deed dated 19th January 1900.

Conditions of sale will be read at the place and hour above-mentioned and for further particulars *re* Boundaries &c, apply at the Mart of the undersigned between the hours of 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m. or C. J. Bannerman Esq. B.L.

T. McKENZIE SKUES,
Licensed Auctioneer, &c.,
Cape Coast, June 23 1903.

THE undersigned has been instructed to sell by Public Auction by German Westafrican Trading Co. Ltd. per G. H. Savage Esq. (in his absence) per C. J. Bannerman Esq.

On Tuesday the 30th inst., at 4. 30 o'clock, p.m., the following:—

All those pieces or parcels of Lands with the Buildings thereon Situate at Beula Road, Cape Coast and known as the property of Samuel Emanuel Ghann as per Mortgage Deed dated 1st. June 1902.

Conditions of sale will be read at the place and hour above-mentioned, and for further particulars *re* Boundaries &c., apply at the Mart of the undersigned between the hours of 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

T. McKENZIE SKUES,
Licensed Auctioneer &c.
Cape Coast, 23, 1903.

TO BE SOLD by Auction on Monday the 13th day of July 1903 by Order of the Mortgage, Grimwade Ridley & Co., per their Solicitors Messrs Lawrence Jones & Co.

"All that piece or parcel of land situate near the Wesleyan Mission House in Cape Coast Castle measuring on the West 76 feet and 3 inches on the North 47 feet on the East 45½ feet and on the South 14 feet and 39 feet with the Messuage and tenements thereon erected as the same is now in the occupation of John Benjamin Oliver Cromwell.

Together with all the rights easements and appurtenances to the said premises or any part thereof by reputation thereto belonging or therewith or therefor held or enjoyed. And all the estate tille right interest claim and demand of the said John Benjamin Oliver Cromwell or his Mortgages into and upon the said land premises.

T. McKENZIE SKUES.
Licensed Auctioneer, &c.

For plans and particulars apply to the Auctioneer or to Messrs Lawrence Jones & Co, Solicitors Smith'sHall, Cape Coast Castle.

Cape Coast, June 24th 1903.

WANTED.

A GOOD clear, sober and honest Steward wanted.

Apply to

German Westafrican Trading Co., Ltd.
CAPE COAST CASTLE.

GENERAL NEWS.

A German man-o-war came in early this week and left within a few days for the coast.

A correspondent writes complaining bitterly of the lack of latrines at Abowinim, and thinks in matters of this kind the King should interest himself.

The Singing Band had a pic-nic at Russell's Cottage last Tuesday.

It is stated that a girl at Athens has been asleep for four months with her eyes and mouth open.

A person usually begins to lose height at the age of fifty.

A well recently drilled in Canada produces sand instead of water. The sand comes up in a fine stream like a fountain.

In Norway drunkenness is punished by imprisonment.

Mammon in *Truth* of May 7 writes of the "Jungles:"—"It cannot be said that the Jungle has enjoyed a big rush of business, but the volume shows some improvement, which few other mining markets can boast of, and the tone is firm. The boom, it need scarcely be said, is some distance off—it not be expected" (thanks to—) "in fact, until evidences of mining development become more marked". "Methods are cleaner too; and there is at present, at all events, little or no manipulation of prices on special information prior to publication"

Orpheus writes of some Street Lamps being more of ornaments than anything else, showing how economical the Government is.

Some lamps have been fixed up from the new Wesleyan Cemetary to Sudu and these have never been used since.

He further refers to some *lamp posts* at Apirasi way, and nothing further done to them.

What is this wild rumour floating about all over the place?

The men of the Frontier Police Force were tried on the 18th last under a charge of the Criminal Code, section 199 for attempting to murder Madam Yankuma and wounding Kweku Ap[illegible]ah, and were committed for the August Assizes.

To show what kind of men these are, after the committal they coolly asked the D.C. to allow them to return to their duties, and were politely informed they could not, being prisoners.

The death of Chief Kweku Okyir of Dunkwa at the ripe age of 82, is reported, King Otoo V. attending the funeral.

We understand Mr. Adam Bissoe of Axim is to be married to Miss Amba Haastrup next Tuesday (30th) at the Wesley Chapel.

"More than wisdom, more than wealth,
A merryheart that laughs at care." Says Millner.

As we take leave of this month, a few days hence, and by that the first six months of the year, let us try to remember one or two things *John Ploughman*, has been telling us during the month. Here they are:—

1 Would you rise in the world? Then rise betimes.
2 Evil entered Eden through Ear-gate and Eye-gate.
3 SOME PEOPLE'S CONDUCT IS WORSE THAN THEIR CREED.
4 Many good resolutions are good for nothing.
5 THERE'S NOTHING SO GODLIKE AS KINDNESS.
6 Weak-headed men are often headstrong.
7 Occupation keeps temptation at bay.
8 *Owls hoot, but the moon still shines.*

Let us leave the last word for the religiously inclined—why not all?

9 'Tis always summer where JESUS is.

The *Sierra Leone Weekly News* just to hand announces the death of Canon Pearse from a paralytic stroke, on the 10th inst. The deceased was here in the early eighties as a temporary substitute for the Rev. T. Maxwell when away on leave.

Dr. Rome Hall left here on Wednesday by the s/s ——— for England for his furlough. We wish the genial doctor safe passage home.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

		Due at Cape Coast.
Thekla Bohlen	South Coast Service	June 26
*Lucie Wœrmann	Cameroons Accel. Ser.	„ 27
Bathurst	Opobo Service	„ 27
Axim	Brass Service	July 1
*Borno	South Coast Express Ser. No. 1	„ 6
Cameroon	South Windward Service	„ 11
Bakana	Opobo Service	„ 11
*Nigeria	Lagos Express Service ...	„ 13
Biafra ...	Brass Service	„ 14
Warri ...	Opobo Service	„ 25
*Tarquah	Lagos Express Service ...	„ 29

HOMEWARDS.

Nyanga	Opobo Service ...	June 21
Oron	S. C. Express Service No. 1 ...	„ 26
Helene Wœrmann	S. C. Accel. Ser.	„ 27
Antwerpville ...	Congo Boat	„ 29
Loanda ...	Brass Service	July 2
Akabo ...	Lagos Express Service ...	„ 3
Olenda	S. C. Express Service No. 2 ...	„ 10
Fantee	S. C. Express Service No. 1 ...	„ 24

TARKWA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Last week the Abbontiakoon Wassaw Mines had the honour of welcoming the services of a European nurse; likewise the Effuenta Mines. This step is undoubtedly a great boon to the European patients in the camps of the above mines especially during such times of the season.

Mr. A. J. Benssman who left here a few months ago has returned once more in his former capacity as the General Manager for the Effuenta Mines.

The mist of misfortune hanging over Mantrain Mines camp has not rolled away. The mortality during last month has been enormous, and this week we witness with sighs another victim in the person of Mr. Photiades (a Grecian, brother to Mr. Photiades of the Tarkwa Trading Co. Ltd., who has our sympathies.

We are surprised to find that the mantle of the deposed Chief Yewan of Commenda is about to fall on the Authorities themselves characteristic of exhuming bodies not of plundering. About two weeks

ago the body of the Krooboy who was killed by an Awoona policeman about whom we reported a short while ago as having been buried in the public cemetary, was by the order of the Foreman of Works Mr. P— exhumed and re-buried in another part which is set aside for the interment of 'Black bodies.' By doing this, undoubtedly Mr. P— is under the impression that there will be distinctions in colour at the Resurrection day!

According to Governor Nathan's version, is it imperative that Tarkwa should not expect a supply of street lamps because the houses adjoining the Main Street are not roofed with corrugated iron? The Government (not the Governor) should not manifest such————what?

It will be a wise step for the Foreman of Works here to recommend (if he could not do it himself) that the rotten bamboos laid across the bridge be moved, and a substantial bridge erected, as the slippery and useless condition of the bamboos itself, will give effect in a permanent way to danger ensuing at every moment of accident.

We respectfully beg to call the attention of the Public Works Department to the dilapidated condition of the lanes connecting the streets, and as the rains have commened, it is necessary that they should be cemented and properly drained to prevent the same becoming widened and dangerous.

"Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well." At this place we have three unsheltered pit latrines which at this time of the season are filled up with water and are consequently useless. Any one having common sense would naturally see that a hollow ware located under the blank atmosphere is likely to be filled up with water when it rains. Hermaphroditism is the next thing produced by the process of the stupid economy exercised by our Government; it will naturally surprise every one on being informed that a latrine here provided by the Government is for the convenient use of both males and females. Cannibals and savages know the distinctions in sex, and to us, this is "Sanitation." Further comments unnecessary.

We cannot do otherwise under the circumstance, but to bring to the notice of the public the disgraceful condition of the road leading from the Station to the new town. It is a pity that in spite of the repeated applications made by the Chief, the road has been so neglected up to the present. Any one going from or to the station yard, and not wishing to walk through the swamps, is obliged to pay a sum of not less than sixpence to a labourer to carry him on his back across the bog or remain till Doomsday! This is simply an imitation of the Calabar system of transport, and it is at any rate very "economical."

The deposition of Chief Kwesie Ankuma of Abosso has been recommended by the Regent King to the Governor; a successor has already been elected pending the approval of the Governor.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Harper the D.C. was here on the 11th inst. and held Court on the 13th inst.

Dr. Ralph also arrived on the 13th on duty and returned with the D.C. on Sunday to Salt Pond.

On the night of the 15th inst., about 11. 30. o'clock, a thatched house at Krokessim took fire; a Government lamplighter by name Law who was at the time putting out the lights, discovered the fire and gave the alarm.

Thanks to "Providence" and the King who skilfully supervised the putting out of the fire which would have been disastrous.

The steamers "Loanda" "Benin" and "Alice Woermann" which dued here this month discharged miscellaneous cargo.

The Director of Education arrived in Town on the 12th, visited the Catholic School after which the School was closed for the Midsummer holidays.

Among recent bereavements here has been that of old Kwamin Ninsin the uncle of Mr. J. W. Idun which occurred on the 11th inst. He was interred in the Wesleyan Cemetary. He was about ninety years of age.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Harper, *D. C*, has returned from his visit to Narquah where he investigated the misunderstanding between Mr. S. H. Yawson and his family over the ferry and the opening of the river *Narquah*. It is reported that pending the restoration of mutual understanding between Mr. Yawson and his family, the opening of the river has been postpond for nine months.

There was a free fight on Sunday the 7th inst: between the Rev. Father Beinhardt of the Catholic Mission and Kobina Adoo a launderer. The assault was began by the minister on the launderer, for the latter daring to return incessant blows from a stick delivered by a Kroo-boy named Sampson who is the Revd Father's servant. The launderer, somehow, managed to lay the Revd Father on his back.

The cargo boat that was in on the 8th inst: met a very raging surf and had to spend three days here. There was much difficulty in landing and many Merchants got their goods damaged by salt water. The surf here is so dangerous to life, and cargo yet the Government have no consideration to remedy this effect by laying a wharf somewhere at *Abonadzi*, a locality fit for that purpose.

A second gong-gong had been beaten since the 11th inst: by the order of Chief Pobee, warning the inhabitants from buying food-stuffs at the Ashanti and Abura Roads and other nooks. We understand he wants all the people to go to the Ananfu Market for that purpose.

But we do not agree with the chief however in prohibiting persons from buying *food* in quantity *for consumption* by their household. For instance, a certain woman named Effisimah was fined 2/6 at the native court for buying on the road three penny worth of plantain in bulk, *for her own use, and not for sale*. This, we think, is quite unfair.

We call the attention of the Inspector of Nuisance or the Foreman of Works to the condi- of the Beach Latrines (Opirem). The roofs on these have worn out, and they are hardly used on rainy days.

We learn that on the strength of a petition sent to Accra by the Firm of Ostner & Bartsch, the fine of One hundred pounds imposed on them for producing false invoices, as we reported sometime ago, has been reduced to Twenty-five pounds.

Europeans murdering natives this side with *Gin*.

By the "Aline Wœrmann" that touched here on the 13th inst: were landed for the Firm of Ostner & Bartsch—1,200 cases of Gin,

For H. B. W. Russell & Co,—200 cases of Gin.

For F. & A. Swanzy,—200 cases of Gin and 100 cases of Schnappe.

For Alex: Miller Bro: & Co,—1000 cases of Gin.

Cannot the Temperance Societies here and in England do anything towards the stoppage of the importation of this Poison, which is ruining the poor Africans?

Mr. F. J. Lawton formerly Agent at Grand Bassan for Messrs F. & A. Swanzy arrived here from Cape Coast on the 31st ultimo. We understand Mr. L. intends opening his own business both here and at Cape Coast.

All the Mercantile houses closed up on Whit-Monday the Germans taking the lead. The old established Firm of Messrs F. & A. Swanzy did not consider it wise enough to give any holiday.

[It is rather surprising that such an old Establishment as Swanzy's is, is *always* doing this. The clerks of this House must always work on Public Holidays, more of this anon. Ed:]

There was a cricket match between Fischer's clerks and the Juvenile Oddfellows on Whit-Monday.

On Monday the 8th inst: at the D. C's court the gallant Mr. Steedman Agent of Miller Bro: & Co., of the nickel plated cornet and self-made police fame was charged for riding in go-cart after hours. Mr. Steedman being unable to defend himself was accordingly fined 10/-. This of course reduces the fine 30/- imposed on the 3 Infantry Band men.

No notice is still taken of the Sunday work when steamers come in.

Does the D. C. know that the lamps lying in the Fort are intended for this town?

We understand a literary club is likely to be instituted by two enterprising youngsters in town.

A certain Accra woman enlivened the vicinity of the Ashanti and Abura roads on the 15th inst with a fetish dance which attracted lot of spectators.

A conflagration occurred at the Hausa town on the 17th that did much damage.

Sometime last week a gong-gong announced that upon the application of the merchants to the *D.C.* it is ordered that from henceforth all boatmen landing gin from the steamers shall be liable for breakages and shortages. This is seemingly too drastic, for if even the Steamship Companies refuse to hold themselves responsible for breakages during the course of transit how could the canoemen be justly held responsible in this way. That the canoemen sometimes do feast themselves on these articles is true, but to make such a rule when the gin are not delivered to them "in good order and condition" alongside a ship is very partial. On the other hand if they are delivered to the canoemen alongside a ship in good order and could be proved to that effect they could be lawfully held responsible. But even here some of the articles may get broken during the course of conveyance from the ship's side to the beach. The whole matter is so delicate that it does not require a fast rule about it.

WINNEBAH.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On Saturday the 6th inst. the community in Winnebah was much enlivened by a conjuring entertainment given in the Court Rooms in the Fort by Mr. A. W. Sey officer in charge of Customs from 8 to 10. 30. p.m. The attendance which was a large one partitioned off into three sections that nearest the performer being known as the first class section who were supposed to have paid the dearest for their seats, then came the second class and then the third. Manufacturing cakes straight off for the special use of the audience and showering crackers, lozenges and other confectionery out of an apparently empty handkerchief over their willing heads evidently cooled their hearts and stopped them from seizing the performer and burning him as the real Wizard of the North which he claimed to be. Anyhow he was not allowed by the audience to get to the end of his programme in peace for at 10. 30. p.m. they thought they had had enough of the show and began trooping out to digest and sleep off the effects of what they had seen and heard which was not surprising considering they had at intervals been under the soothing influence of the glad sounds of Acquaah's Band, and they had been filled almost to a bursting point with the amusement.

The entertainment was under the kind patronage of the District Commissioner (Mr. P. W. Bernasko) who was accompanied by Mrs. Bernasko.

Mr. Bernasko our new D. C. has by the way already begun to fulfil the great expectations formed of him by the soundness of his decisions and by his firmness in the administration of justice. We are glad to say that if (as was well known before and as we infer from certain indirect remarks of a writer in one of your previous issues) his work as a Registrar was characterised by extreme caution and care, his work as a District Commissioner is none the less so.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

To-day we have been privileged—spared, to see the end of a year's journalistic life! What experiences have we passed through: what have we seen: what have we heard! We knew the state of things we have been harping upon so often in this journal were bad enough, but certainly not to such an extent, despite the good work and efforts of some well-meaning persons to be met here and there: there is enough to throw cold water on the patriotic enthusiasm of any one, and any attempt to meet the situation must needs give the experience it has been the privilege of the *Leader* to pass through during the year.

But these experiences instead of discouraging us, simply act as an incentive to our desire to work *For God, the King and the Country*: therefore let those who have been with us and for us, through good and evil report, still be with us. We do not for a moment believe that all our readers have seen eye to eye with us, nor perhaps all that we have said, commended themselves to our well-wishes: this is impossible since all men do not think alike: but "to err is human," and right through all, nothing but a strong wish to put in the right word at the right time has actuated us, and a desire to see justice and fairplay dealt out to all alike and a desire also to see the sons of the soil, sincere and true devotees at the shrine of Duty in her service.

The *Leader* has been taken up and read with all shades of minds. Some with pre-conceived and prejudiced ideas, (either for the paper itself or for its staff,) have always read it to find nothing but "personalities," "faults," and even "abuses," others with indifference, and some have read it only in the spirit in which a public journal, the ONLY public journal in a Country should be read. But these are all natives and more or less imbued with the spirit of patriotism; in this we are all one. May that one common object which we trust we all aim at, in a measure assist our critics and fault-finders to overcome any apparently insurmountable difficulties which debar them from casting in their lot with the Press, for we take it that nothing but the exuberance of the spirit of Patriotism in them has led them to that state of mind.

"Nothing is save with fault-finders," and one easily finds shoals of faults when and where he has made up his mind to find them, but it is to be regretted when one's innocent ideas must be construed and interpreted into any thing, but what was originally meant. We have striven to be as plain and homely as we possibly can, to avoid misconceptions and misconstructions so that where these may appear, they may be *prima facie*, wilful and intentional; but they seem to have occured all the same, if so, as it said, *Experience teaches* we trust our year's experience will be productive of some good. Some have found fault with our language and expressions but perhaps these are inalienable from those of the tiro in Journalism in this also nothing teaches better than EXPERIENCE. We know there is nothing

harder to please than the biased mind, but they may not all be biased who read the *Leader*.

We again ask for the hearty and sincere co-operation of all classes of the community and there are many ways of doing this. We shall value their suggestions, and contributions, as much as we would their pecuniary help, if only to wipe off the standing disgrace which hovers over Gold Coast Journalism. Let the more capable and more intelligent come forward through any source or channel so ever, if only to make a Press live in the Country, and we shall be only too pleased to "give way to honester men." Looking at the amount of letters &c that have reached us from all classes, one thing has been made clear to us: the Press is a felt want in the Country, this has been proved to us over and over again: if therefore the present *modus operandi* is what is unpalatable to some assuming that this is really the fault they find, do they think, they are doing their dear Fatherland a good turn to take the cause they are pursuing? They know better.

One word more. The *evils* we have been attempting to cry down are certainly not peculiar to us, though they may *seem* to exist among us in an abnormal degree, and are doing a good deal of mischief; there may be some peculiarities in the administration of the Gold Coast Government, and so on, but this phase of things, it appears, is more the work of some of our own colour, and alas! of some of ourselves. What but the Press, can stem this through exposure. It is unfair to think that the journal exists to "go in" for the Government, the officials, the European, and as some would add the "stranger within our gates."

This is a wrong notion. As we have said before, a public journal must be a public journal and must take notice of the *public* doings and utterances of all public or prominent men, BE THEY NATIVES OF THE SOIL OR STRANGERS OR EUROPEANS, so long as these affect the interests of the Country and "the man in the street." We have always entered upon these criticisms most reluctantly, nothing but conscientious performance of the duties of the Editor has constrained us to them. We are perfectly aware of the sinister motives now and again attributed to us here especially where the *native* comes in (of course it is all right with these when it is the European) but we take them all in quietly, since an evil is exposed, and at times we take notice of them simply because of the evil effects it tends to have on some young people.

For the assistance, encouragement, cheering words, aye discouragements and disappointments given, the *Leader* hereby tenders its sincere thanks. Let the YOUNG and the old still rally around us. In some quarters, it has been feared that *some* of the young have been disappointing, doing the very things *politically*, which they vociferously condemn in the old. What these are, we notice them later on. Others have done nobly, just the thing we expected. Whilst relegating the noticing of the qualities we say they condemn, to some other time, let us think on these lines:—

"In men whom men condemn as ill,
I find so much of goodness still:
In men whom men pronounce divine
I find so much of sin and blot:
I hesitate to draw a line
Between the two, where GOD has not."

Our attention has been called to the following *Circular Notice* from the Comptroller of Customs, dated June 16th 1903, a copy of which a Reader kindly sent us the other day, asking us to give our opinion of it.

"In accordance with a suggestion of the Local Auditor receipts need no longer be given for Customs Dues.

"Receipts for sums paid on Baggage slips and for Warehouse Rents &c will continue to be given."

We give no opinion till we have learned more about it.

A very pleasant announcement to make on this anniversary day. A leading member of our community generously gives a donation of £5 this week for the up-keep of the Press. An act which makes us "doubly" thankful because it was unsolicited and unexpected.

One or two passages from the *Letter From The Linkman* of May 7th *(Truth)* will help immensely some correspondents to take things differently, if possible, when they find the Nigger being kicked and ill-used by his white brother, or the merchant doing things and using language, which seem to support something Sir Matthew Nathan is reported to have said of the class of merchants we have here during his last furlough, or even the Agent speaking roughly to his colour, simply because he finds himself the "Boss." We give them in our next issue.

We need more knowledge of things and men, and fifty per cent of the misunderstandings now prevailing which greatly retard our Progress will die away. This reminds us of what Tennyson writes in his *Princess*:—

Knowledge is now no more a fountain seal'd:
Drink deep, until the habits of the slave,
The sins of emptiness, gossip and spite,
And slander, die.

Nil from Sekundi has forwarded us 12/6 towards the support of the Press.

NOTICE.

Our subscribers in the Colony will please note that their copies of the *Leader* will leave here by the Land Post on the following days:—

SUNDAYS for the LEEWARD ports.
MONDAYS for the WINDWARD ports.

Except when there is a Mail boat expected to arrive on either of the above-mentioned days when they will be forwarded by her for the ports she will call. They will make it a point therefore to apply for them on the arrival of the first post after those days. This will no doubt assist us to find out where the fault lies for not getting their papers which we send out regularly through the post to them.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Thursday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.
CAPE COAST, JUNE 27, 1903.

OUR ANNIVERSARY DAY.

WITH this week's issue we celebrate our first anniversary of journalistic life, and that is saying a good deal for journalism on the Gold Coast, and much more for journalism in Cape Coast in particular. None but those whose fortune (or misfortune?) it has been to keep up a Press in this Colony can know what the life of a journalist is in Cape Coast. Against overwhelming odds, against open and covert treachery by friend and foe, against the hypocritical smiles, and good cheer of would-be sympathisers, natives and other than natives, against open and undisguised opposition by the high and the low, the rich, the would-be-rich and the poor, the scholar and the illiterate with

Cannons on the right,
And cannons on the left,
Cannons in the front,
And cannons at the back

of us, aye even against the seathing denunciations of misguided fanatics from some of our pulpits, against each and the combined efforts of all, the *Gold Coast Leader*, has continued to spin out a whole year's existence, the friend of all, and we trust, the enemy of none.

It would be idle, because unprofitable to us, to dwell on the dark side of things. We pass that side by, with a grateful heart and much thankfulness to HIM who ruleth all things for the best, and would rather deal with the bright side of our one year's life.

Coming out at a time when it could hardly be said with truth that there was a single working press in the Colony, we met the political sky, dark and gloomy, surcharged with almost everything calculated to oppress the native, deprive him of his ancestral rights and privileges, retard his progress in the march of true civilization, degrade him to something worse than he is, and belittle him in his own eyes, not to say, the eyes of at least, our more favoured sister Colonies. We confess, the magnitude of the undertaking well-nigh made us throw up the sponge: indeed a well known gentleman in our midst was frank enough to tell us, he gave us only six months to live at the longest, such was the apparent hopelessness of the venture. But we resolved to make the venture, and the result has more than justified our resolution.

The political atmosphere though still dark is much clearer than we met it, remembering the despotism, that must necessarily accompany the Crown Colony System of government.

Keeping to the landmarks set out in our Prospectus we have sought, not we hope without some measure of success "to direct attention to the best interests of the Protectorate, to represent the views of all classes of men in the community, irrespective of creed, colour or race carefully attending to the criticism of local topics, welcoming free discussion on all matters of interest to the Gold Coast in particular and to West Africa in general: avoiding undue severity in censure, and fulsomeness in commendation, and all personalities, seeking no favours, desiring to give no offence, but in as much as in us lieth to live peaceably with all men, and to be in charity with all."

We have sought not the smile of the great nor curried for the favour of the high or rich, native or foreign. We have endeavoured at the risk of much danger to our person to speak with no uncertain voice.

TO EDUCATE OURSELVES, from our Kings and Chiefs down to the least among us, as to our past and present, and the great and enormous possibilities that lie before us in the future, as a people, if only we would be wise in time, be active and co-operate with the Government as we should, grasping firmly the hand they are so reluctantly stretching out to us, now here, now there, but always under pressure. To get you, our own countrymen, especially, the rich and intelligent to interest yourselves sufficiently and appreciatively in what is going on among us—the development of our industries, the improvement of the country, all for our own good and welfare in the long run. To get you, our own countrymen to *think* for yourselves, and bestir yourselves in the government of your own country, doing your part therein—for there is much that the British Government cannot do without you:—To get you, our own countrymen to see, nay, to feel the necessity of educating your children to be better able to undertake and carry on with effectiveness such duties as are justly and rightly expected of us by the Government ALL for the progress and enlightenment of our own country—THIS has been our principal aim. Alas! we have been so long idle and indifferent to our own interests, all of us, that we seem to have scarcely stirred the adder in his sleep. But we are thankful for small mercies, and fully appreciate the signs of these latter days.

We have been a thorn in the side of our Government, not from choice but from necessity, not willingly but most reluctantly, being fully aware that it is primarily the system, the continuing of the rotten, impracticable Crown Colony system of Government, rather than the Agents of the system, that is more to be blamed. We have lifted up our voice against the unwarrantable waste of the public revenue by the Government and endeavoured to bring the Government and the governed into a better understanding with and appreciation of each other's aim and end—to bring them more in touch with each other.

While rejoicing that we have thus far striven perhaps not wholly without some degree of success, we continue our journalistic career with trembling; and though the sky is still dark and threatening, we none the less resolve to persevere, fearlessly working—FOR GOD, THE KING AND OUR COUNTRY.

THE PEOPLE OF LAGOS GAGGED.

When we heard a short while ago, that the

Legislative Council of Lagos had passed the "Newspaper Ordinance" which has been suspended, in fact as good as shelved, we refused to believe it, so our feelings could be better imagined, than described when a copy of the ordinance itself, as passed, was sent to us together with the minutes of the council at which it was passed.

We have carefully read both but until we read the latter, we could not see why the Ordinance was thought of at all. The speeches at the Council—*pro* and *con*—plainly disclose the reason why, that a Governor like Sir William Macgreggor could have thought it worth his while, with his hands full of real absolutely necessary (from his own showing,) and important measures, such that imperatively demand his close and constant attention, that he should have, we say, thought it worth his while to turn his attention to this ordinance and despite the unanimous and reasonable protests of the People, the very public for whose benefit the Ordinance is ostensibly passed, made us think there is a better, rather, a deeper reason for the step so arbitrarily taken than what appears in the reported address of unofficial members. And there is. It is not so much to protect the rashness or recklessness of the "young officers," as to afford a means whereby the "old officers" —those in higher places could do, what otherwise they couldn't because they dare not face the consequences of the "publicity" which the Acting Chief Justice so well described.

The Press has never been the friend of despotism, especially such that somehow or other, nearly every West African Governor is tempted to exercise in his jurisdiction during his administration. Because they want the child to grow into a man in a day, West Africa to bloom into a London West Central in the brief hour of their administration, the manufactures of Manchester, Liverpool and Birmingham and the merchants and speculators of London to fill their pockets with all there is of wealth in Africa in a minute, they come to find sooner or later that certain steps must perforce be taken if their Rome is to be built in a day, but they come to find also, at the same time, that those steps cannot bear the light of day, cannot have the approval of the civilized would, even though taken in Africa and against the African, even though Mr. Joseph Chamberlain poses as the champion-protector of liberty and fairplay, and a pattern of philanthropy where the Negro is concerned. Therefore it is, that the Press which possesses "the great power of being able to spread news far and wide and give publicity to its statements" (Acting Chief Justice's speech) the Press which "sometimes embarasses the Government" (the Governor's speech) must be suppressed.

But we ask where is *the necessity* for the new Ordinance? We see none ourselves, but the Acting Chief Justice, perhaps anticipating our ignorance in this respect comes to our relief and kindly tells us, "the object of the Bill is to impose some responsibility on the Press and it is obvious that if the Press is to be of any value it must have some responsibility which would impart more weight to it." The necessity, therefore, for this, at best, most untimely and unnecessary legislation, lies in that it will give the Press of Lagos *some* responsibility which would in its turn gives its statements more wieght. We must say, this is the first time we have heard or read of the weight of newspaper statements being reckoned by £. s. d. The prohibitive bond required from publishers under the Ordinance was rightly described by the Hon'ble Johnson from his place in the Council as the "bone of contention" in this Bill. It is known that we are poor and cannot afford such a bond so following the adage, "there are many ways of killing a dog besides hanging it," the Government of Lagos has legislated to kill the Press of this foremost of all His Majesty's West African Colonies, by asking for a prohibitive bond—a bond without which the voice of the people cannot be heard, the intelligence of the people cannot be developed, the oneness, the unity of action, the touch of brotherhood that has characterized the people of Lagos ever since they became known to us on the West, is to be weakened by degrees in order that those destructive seeds of disintegration may be sown among them, that shameful practice of cutting each other's throat—selling each other to the Government, may be pursued in Lagos also, as they have been elsewhere, to the destruction of native institutions and native powers, and so leave the country to the tender mercies of the whiteman.

Lagos has petitioned against this ordinance. We have every confidence in the sister Colony, and are sure she will not cease to protest against this oppressive, iniquitous and gagging legislation, till it has been repealed. Every true friend of Lagos at home and abroad must see the real motive underlying the Ordinance and seeing it, we trust will do all in his power to have it frustrated. If we as loyal British subjects are allowed liberty of speech, we must also be allowed liberty of free expression, without any exacting almost impossible, conditions attached thereto.

SCRUTINEER.

The enormities generated by the present system of absolute Government have reached such a climax that we can no longer tolerate in a spirit of passiveness and with a light heart its arbitrariness, negligence towards the necessary requirements of its subjects, the high-handed actions of its officials and the ducks and drakes playing with the public funds. The bare fact is that we are the worst governed of all His Brittannic Majesty's Possessions, especially considering the aspect of the case from the extensiveness of the Protectorate and the large revenue it yields.

Let us, for a moment, take a peep through the window of our Legislative Council. We find here, the *Governor* (as President with a vote), the *Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Treasurer, Inspector-General of Constabulary* and the *Chief Justice* on one part, all being officials *sworn and pledged* to uphold the vote or decision of their Leader the Governor. These may, therefore, be accurately styled as mere voting tools; on the other hand we find *two negroes* with one or two Europeans representing the foreign merchants. And so properly speaking there are only *two natives* to represent (?) the entire Gold Coast containing over two millions of people, exclusive of Ashanti &c. As the European or Europeans representing foreign merchants, may through colour or racial inclination vote with the Governor's party, it naturally follows that there are only two *bona fide* natives to represent us (?); and even these are nominated by the Governor and here lies an opportunity of picking the feathers that will best grace his cap. Hence they could not be lawfully termed our representatives.

But for the matter of argument let us grant that and assume that they are our representatives. That being the case it is expected that the votes of these two natives, on behalf of a population of over two millions, should *squash* that of the official six! As this is an impossibility it is not surprising that all monstrosities pass through the Council so easily.

I do not think the task of the *two natives* is in any way easier than that of Sisyphus in classical legendary who, it is related, for his tyranny in Corinth was punished in the lower world by having to roll to the top of a hill a stone that kept constantly rolling back to him. Let the British public at home, then judge this for themselves. To say that this is an impudent farce is out of it. It is a downright cheat and a fraud on a nation of free negroes living in their homes whose connectionship with Great Britain *was brought about through bartering intercourse only*! And if the successive Governors sent to administer this territory did not leave behind them at home wrapped in their mantel-shelves their inherent share of the noted British sense of Justice and Fairplay, and besides are not impervious to ridicule and are not ruthless despots whom large stipends demoralize and are bewildered to all traces of fairplay in dealing with such unfortunate race like the Negroes, they would have been the foremost in advocating a form of a representative administration for this expansive territory.

How long will the British public suffer, through their Secretary of State, the destiny of over two and half millions of His Majesty's native subjects including a springing of Englishmen to the whims, caprices and pleasure of One man? How long will they entrust the disbursement of thousands of pounds, the result of heavy taxation on the natives, to be squandered under the direction of one man? How long will they suffer laws affecting this large population to be made without their having a voice in the making of them?

Nothing makes my blood boil so violently, excites my nerves, and moves my heart to an unusual palpitation as to hear or witness a Negro injurying or disgracing his already-insulted *Colour*. From a very authentic source I am informed that there is in this town, a highly intelligent clique of negroes who have set up a crusade against the creation of anything tending to the welfare and interest of the Gold Coast natives. Besides being informants to the powers they are determined, by virtue of their self-imposed social positions, to discourage anything being done for the natives which may tend to raise them morally (?) at least to the same standard as that of other countries. To talk of this is to raise the halloo that the Gold Coastians do not like visitors and strangers; but what else can we do when people of a similar colour are as good as pledged to ruin our country. The worst of it is that they are fellow-negroes who have had good learning (some of them) and the benefits of civilization. Surely a public exposure, supported by facts will seem a very unpleasant experience for them; therefore they might take this mild hint and comport themselves well, rooting a bit of the falseness of their character since there is an Argus Eye on them.

Let all beware! It is these most nefarious practices that the *Leader* has pledged itself to expose, if not to uproot, come what may; and I honestly believe that the loyal and patriotic natives will heartily join it in doing so.

I am quite sure that I stand second to no native who is so fond of, and manifests, so much interest in negroes of all classes and climes. The story of the man who picking a benumbed snake in a roadside brought it home, warmed it to life at his fireside and was afterwards bitten by it—may often come in, but my readers will be fools if they think *all strangers black or white, are alike.*

Yours faithfully,—ARROO.

JOURNALISM ON THE GOLD COAST.

BY K. S.

In all the journalistic fields of West Africa, there is undoubtedly no place where the flotation of a *Newspaper* incurs so many disadvantages as on the Gold Coast. Not that there is a lack of moneyed men in the country who could contribute towards the up-keep of a native *Press*; not that there is a dearth of men endowed with literary and intellectual merits who could grace the columns of their native Papers, with instructive matter even if the labour entails upon them the loss of an hour or two each week; not that the number of local readers—especially the native community—is deplorably limited; but the obvious fact is, that there are enough of these qualities stalking up and down the country with the theoretical but not the practical show of Patriotism. Add to this injury to Journalism the insult of old and young woodenheads who besides being extremely inert prefer to dart from their arm-chairs all sorts of prejudicial, rear criticisms as to the *modus operandi* of the divers Papers that have seen life on the Gold Coast that is characteristic of arm-chair patriots. Like the other places, we have living in our midst, men of vast wealth and men of marked literary abilities and splendid talents, and some even combining both qualities. But unlike those of the other places they are all deeply imbued in heavy draughts of selfishness which has taken such an almost ineradicable root in their veins, coupled with the vain pomp and glory of this world, tempered highly with quests for responsive laudation for all actions of theirs. Whenever there is anything redounding in praises and ostentation thereby is to buy the popular applause they lose no opportunity in subscribing their hundreds and thousands or bringing their sagacious persons into exhibition. So conspicuous have their showy patriotism seem to foreigners that they occassionally prey on them for donations with all success. Yet to create any beneficial thing towards the good of the fatherland seems to the present day Gold Coast men of riches and learning an entirely new departure from the ways of their acquired civilization.

Wherever the mystery lies, there remains one indisputable fact that the power of the Pen had been and is fast superseding that of the voice. From a very ancient time, men's writings have proved more formidable and vanquishing weapons in the condemnation of abuses and corruptions as also in the vindication of moral and other good objects, besides they have afforded eminent students of antiquity and hidden problems, many pleasing labours which have resulted in the benefit of mankind at large, than mere tradition could do. By the record of the Pen we read and very often believe from the force of sane argument the noble and evil deeds of men who have been mouldering in their graves thousands of years ago; and we even do converse with them through their works. Consider such memorable works as the *Bible, Pilgrim's Progress* and many others that have served to help more men to heaven than what their authors could do by their human agency.

Let us, then, bring these to bear on the *Newspaper*, the universally-acknowledged "voice of the nations," the weekly or daily history of the world. That mighty weapon that strikes terror into the

hearts of, and confounds, the perpetrations of autocrats, despots, reckless fame-hunters, self-aggrandisers, aggressors, traitors, not to say thieves, swindlers and other wreakers of corruptions.

In West Africa, especially, where millions of people and large areas of territory under the sway of Great Britain, are governed by personages known as "Governors and Commanders-in-chief" whose chances of despotic rule know no bounds, the Press is the *only* medium through which the governed can express their protests against drastic and illegal laws, the ruthless expenditure of public funds, the inhuman treatment of natives and the denial of justice. The natives, therefore, knowing the Power of their Press place infinite confidence in them. Even on the Gold Coast—the land of marked display of selfishness—the natives acknowledge the Power of the Press and recognise it as the only Right unfilched and which they will always see that it is not robbed.

But unlike the natives of other places, they would only see them live but would not contribute towards their existence. This is one of the burdens a Press in this country has to bear—namely a manifestation of uncharitableness towards it, especially in the shape of finance.

Another fact that appears to haunt the simple brains of a clique of our Methuselahs is that the policy of a Newspaper should ever be to unmask the antic pranks of the Government, the European resident and the foreign negro resident, while to always brood over the faults of the Aborigines, predominant among whom are the *elders of the land*. But happily for the cravings of men of sound judgment, unbiased minds, and refined tastes and to the credit of the Proprietors of the *Leader*, it has successfully manifested a thorough spirit of impartiality and intrepedity in the exposure of the short-comings of the local absolute Government with its entangled ways, the delinquencies of the native potentates, the prejudice and suicidal indifference as also the cravenness and uselessness of some of our wealthy men as patriots, the negligence of our 'professionals' towards their duty to their country, the actions of certain reckless and thoughtless youngmen who should know better, the ungentlemanly and savage displays of certain Europeans amongst us, and the arrogance of certain foreign negroes who not considering the infinite riches and good things of the world the country is bestowing on them, must needs show the baseness of their inner character. Others think that such high and respectable personages as Governors, Presidents, political and commercial associations, rich men, lawyers, physicians and ministers of the gospel and other significants, are above public criticism, and that their actions should be shaded; or if necessary must be brought home to them wrapped in the language of the 'land O' the leal' or the mildest lampoon; while the faults of the low classes should be preached to them on house-tops. This is, of course, crass ignorance and wretched idiocy mostly actuated by rampant prejudice.

Others, especially, the youngmen, prefer to trade on the bounty of charitable friends and deviates from supporting the Press by borrowing a Paper on which they will have to spend only a threepenny piece to procure though at the next moment they would be ready to devote it on some selfish and unprofitable indulgence.

These are few of the disadvantages as also the absurdities which the genuinely patriotic-minded Gold Coast Journalist has to bear and unless his mind is not prone to be perturbed by the threats of a hostile Government seeking to bereave the natives of all vestiges of liberty, and the harmless hissings of an over-bearing, selfish, and simple-minded clique of natives; unless he has a thorough knowledge of the work and claims of his profession and a profound and practical experience of his countrymen, he will surely rise and fall in a day and like Shakespeare's *Timon of Athens* with many bitter and reproachful memories of his countrymen; though, probably, at the onset of his career he will be hailed with many encouraging words and magnificent promises by the so-called patriots who can kill herds of lions at a distance but strain in doing to death a single fly in a vicinity.

SUPERFLUOUS OFFICES.

VII.

There are at present only three Government Schools which are elementary, in the Protectorate—only three in a population numbering over 2,000,000! The other Schools are under the management and maintainance of missionary bodies, and one is unaware whether it is these Schools alone or these in conjunction with the others under missionary enterprise that make a "Director of Education" worthy of his hire of £500 per annum, with an "Inspector" paying annual visit for another fat stipend of £350 to £400. There is a *President of the Board of Education in England* who answers in some way to our precious "Director." But it must be noted that in England the Government really takes a practical hand in the working of Education, and not the farce we have here. In that Country, which is under the Government of a patriotically-disposed and honest body of men with unprejudiced brains, I assert that in England every town and almost every village has its own School, and almost every town has an institution of Scondary Education. [Over these numerous institutions the President weals the direction with the Salary of £2000 per annum. Now, can any one seriously and honestly inform the public that the local Director performs one-fourth of the function of this English official, considering the present state of Education in this Country, whereby he justly earns his £500 per annum? I refuse to believe it. The duty of the "Inspector of Schools" is invariably to visit and examine some of the Schools in the Protectorate and make Reports and for this duty he receives the allowance of between £350 to £400 &c. per annum. And consider the number of Schools in the Country! We have been incessantly praying the one-man Government for an establishment of a solid and general system of Education in the Country; we have asked that in consideration of the amount of Revenue the Country yields, Free Schools should be established in, at least, each of the litoral towns, with *paying* Colleges at Accra and Cape Coast as the centres. If, the Government had been disinterested enough to attend to this demand we would have paid with a light heart more than what they presently receive for directing these institutions. Surely it will be an extremely illogical and insane absurdity to say that we must now take care of outselves in this matter, since we continually contribute handsomely to the Treasury, and not only as Macaulay said, but it appears to all right-thinking men that it is the duty of the state to provide Education for the *People*. Comparing the present with the past we find that in the days of Tuck and others there were some brisk business done in Education, and though the state of it was better than what it is now, we then had one "Inspector" who was also a "Director" practically and whom we paid less than now, with better results. There then used to be issues of not only elaborate but instructive, pleasant-to-read *School Reports*. Leaving aside other minor matters as "duty allowance" to Director of Education &c., let us hear what His Excellency says:—

"The project for a training College at Cape Coast, for which provision was made in last year's estimates, has been abandoned, as it was considered that the salary gained in the Colony by Teachers were not sufficient to induce boys to prepare themselves for a Scholastic career." This may be smooth as far as it is visible on the surface, but it seems to me that there is a lot underneath. For is it not Governor Nathan and Cape Coast? To fall on the words of the redoutable "Chamber of Commerce" of Cape Coast—"There seems to be an objection on the part of the Government to spend money on Cape Coast."

Then we notice Ashanti with its "Chief Commission" with a salary and table allowance of £1500, which is also the salary of the "Chief Commissioner" for the Northern Territories. The salaries of the two "Commissioners" and their "District Commissioners" with their assistants and the *Hausa Force* and their officers are a very heavy drainage on the Treasury. But the question may be fairly asked, do these new *acquisitions* namely, *Ashanti* and the *Nothern Territories*, worth the cost of their maintainance? Do their inhabitants contribute at all towards the cost of their administration, and that adequately? Have their dealings with us, by means of buying *goods* and sending *produce* to the Protectorate and from thence to England and elsewhere assumed a more proportionate shape than was the case prior to the occupation by our Government? As far as I see, there is nothing in the *Gazette* befor me showing the Revenue seperately of these new territories.

THE SUB.

ELMINA AND CHIEF CATHLINE

BY THE OWL.

After the unpleasant remarks of Quamina Dompoh Chief Cathline was asked by the Court to make a defence of the charge, which he did stating that he had not in any way declined to refund the marriage expenses to the Plaintiff as he stated to the Court, but simply he had not taken the right course in recovering such expenses and concluded his defence with the plea as to whether it is customary for a husband to swear an oath for a marriage expenses when an account for the same has not been gone into, nor a divorce given to the woman and calling attention of the Court to the remarks of Quamina Dompoh and urged that notwithstanding such remarks justice should have its cause. The Crown Prince Kwesi Condua turnler to Edziowiri asked the following questions: Where is your wife at present? At Tarkwa. What is she there for? Collecting outstanding debts; After this the Court retired to council and returned within fifteen minutes and decided the case against Chief Cathline: the majority of the assembly were rather displeased with the verdict and asked for an explanation: one Quow Ekoom was ordered by the Court to explain who stated that the verdict based upon the threats of Edziowiri to the court for justification. Chief Cathline asked whether that was the only explanation they could give which was a very poor one and quite a disgrace to the King and his people but Quow Ekoom without replying to the Chief resumed his seat amongst the councillors. The King's linguist rising from his seat asked Chief Cathline to retire with his people from the Court who declined to do so without a proper explanation of the verdict; the King then appealed their infernal decision to Chief Coker of Cape Coast and asked him to beg Chief Cathline to retire from the Court, Chief Coker rising from his seat addressed the Court as follows, "I "determined not to have said a word in the present "case for the manner in which it has been con-"ducted from first to the last, but as the King "has appealed the decision of the councillors to me "I must for the respect of my rank, of all present and for the good of all present, and for the good of our country express my opinion on the matter. "It is not at all surprising of the unjust verdict the "Court has just given against my friend the Chief, "considering the uncalled for remarks of one of the "councillors to the Chief prior to the closing of the "Town case. I am sure you all as principal men of "the Town are aware that Criminal cases are dealt "with criminally and civil cases dealt with civilly and "the present case of Edziwiri and Chief Cathline "is a purely civil case and why can't he institute a "civil action for his money and even that he "cannot make a claim when an account has not "been gone into and why this criminal proceedings "to the law of our country to swear a King's oath "in a criminal proceedings the King asked me to "escort the Chief home but before doing so may I "know who is to pay for the expense of the court "and you will all I am sure agree with me in say-"ing that the verdict given is a most unjust and unpopular one." Without replying to this the King still insisted upon Chief Coker begging Chief Cathline and escorting him home. Meanwhile one Quacoe Eson came forward and addressed the court that the question of Chief Coker was one of great importance and that they should think over the matter and reply before escorting Chief Cathline home, but this they failed to do and Chief Cathline with his people thanked the court for their unjust decision without expenses and retired. On Chief Coker's way to Cape Coast after the case he called at Chief Vanderpuye's house to say good-bye there the question of the decision at the King's court was discussed when Chief Coker pointed out the unprecedented acts of the King's councillors over the case Edziwiri vs Chief Cathline and determined to bring the same to the notice of his Cape Coast people on his arrival there: this Chief Vanderpuye implored him not to do as it would be a disgrace to the town.

ACCRA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On Saturday afternoon last at 5 p.m Salaga Market was crowded with people to witness the unveiling of the monument; and at 5 30 p.m His Excellency the Governor who was received by a Guard of honour of the G. C. V. R. and the G. C. R. arrived and after some very touching speech calling to remembrance the officers and men that lost their lives during the last Ashanti expedition, after which the monument was unveiled with a royal Salute by His Excellency—The monument had two tablets one in English and the other in Koran with the following inscription.

"This Tablet is erected to the memory of the offi-"cers, non-commissioned officers and men of the "Gold Coast Constabulary who lost their lives in "the Ashanti war of 1900 Deputy Inspector-Gene-"al J. M. Middlemist, J. H. Cramer, Captains "G. Marshall, F. H. A. Leggett Asst. Inspectors "Maguire, Payne, Langstaff native officer A. F. Kerr "and 79 non commissioned officers and men."

We congratulate the Government on this move.

The rains have started here. The surf has been very bad still.

The merchants are undergoing a great deal of losses this time through the bad surf, and its strange their Chamber of Commerce cannot call for wharf or breakwater.

We congratulate Mr S. N. Valentine Chief Asst clerk of Messrs F. & A Swanzy Accra for his promotion as Agent of the Firm for Accra. Mr Valentine really deserves the promotion as he has throughout all his term been very hard worker we wish him all success.

We understand Mr Dawson of Messrs Alexander Miller Bros will be coming out shortly to relieve Mr Stickings—This is a quite irregular way of business we venture to say and no doubt these constant changing of Agents in this firm have caused the dullness in their business we hope the high authorities of the Firm will look into this.

A large quantity of Combs, Silk Hats and perfumery were stolen from "Prospect Mary" Accra

the other day, and Mr J. S. Plange the auctioneer putting detectives on the watch the robbers were arrested within three days. The case was tried before D. C. Covey, and they were sentenced to 6 and 3 months imprisonment with hard labour respectively.

A Sacred Concert under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor Sir M. Nathan, took place at the Basel Mission Chapel last Sunday at 7 p.m. by the Basel Mission Grammar School Boys. The attendance was large.

The Town is very dull and we look up to our professional men to stir us up because we do not know whether they prefer this to English life, for very often we hear them say this and that is not done in England.

It is with great pleasure we have to report that Mr. James Bannerman Hyde who for the last few years have been under the Training of C. A. A. Barnes Esq C. E. having satisfactorily proved his qualifications as a Surveyor at an Examination last week by the Board of Examiners subject to the provisions of the Surveying ordinance of 1896 has been licensed for the Survey of lands within the Colony by His Excellency the Governor: we wish him all success.

We regret to report the death of Mr Valentine Black at Sekondi, who left here a week ago.

A special shed is necessarily required for the Italians who go about the hot sun, especially as there are more of them in Town now than before.

The members of the Accra Christian Association are preparing to give a Concert to raise money to build a hall for their meetings: we expect all kind friends will help.

The Colonial Chaplain having gone to Aburi last Sunday Services at the Holy Trinity Church, were conducted by Mr Osborne the Attorney General.

We are glad to see Mr J. A. Mcarthy back from Sekondi.

BOOKS AND READING.

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.—Addison.

A home without books is like a room without windows.—Beecher.

To read without reflecting is like eating without digesting.—Burke.

Books are the best things well used; abused, among the worst.—Emerson.

Next to acquiring good friends the best acquaintance is that of good books.—Cotton.

Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed and some few to be chewed and digested. —Bacon.

Half the gossip of society would perish if the books that are truly worth reading were but read. —Dawson

What is a great love of books? It is something like a personal introduction to the great and good men of all past times.—John Bright.

The three practical rules I have to offer are:—
(1) Never read any book that is not a year old;
(2) Never read any but famed books;
(3) Never read any but what you like;—Emerson.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader.*

Sir,—I have waited long enough, but now I must enquire, through your valuable paper, from the Christ Church Committee when they intend to publish the receipts and expenditure incurred in adding the Chapeel to the Church, &c.

Many of us are waiting to know the total amount so generously contributed by the general public, including the handsome donation from Sir Alfred Jones, through our worthy Chief R. A. Harrison which the Assist: Chaplain sent you to publish.

We think it only right for the public to know it as it is done everywhere in such cases, but we have waited all this time in vain. The committee has had enough time to publish their accounts, so, I hope, if they think it doesn't matter, they will know now that they may publish it.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours truly,—CHURCHMAN.

Cape Coast, 22nd June 1903.

Dear Mr. Editor:—I beg of you most humbly to grant me a small space in your paper, in order to have this my letter printed for the general information of the public.

Thanking you in advance,

Yours faithfully, W. C. D.

On Saturday last the 6th of June a serious accident occured at Manso Station (G. C. G. R.)

A Fanti-man (name unknown) made an attempt to jump on one of the waggons whilst the train was in motion; which I believe is contrary to the rules of a Railway.

Unfortunately he missed his steps, and fell off on the lines where he had his two feet cut off by the wheels of the waggons and carriages.

This was a most sorrowful and painful sight. Every person on the train was heard making a shout of "LORD, LORD, save him." As soon as I saw this accident, I knew perfectly well that the sufferer would not live for more than four hours. And as he was being carried to the Railway Hospital (Secondi) on a trolly, he died on the way before they could reach Ashieme which was the nearest Station. Such used to be the cases of so many who are being killed by the train. And then you would see a Mr. Quacoo making a false charge on the Ticket Inspector Mr. R. A. Blissett that he has wilfully pushed a man overboard; and perhaps also the said Mr. Quacoo had not been present on a spot where such accidents used to occur.

More also to my own part I think that Guard Ansah, whom he praised sometime ago must surely be his informant. When passengers are careless for themselves, and have themselves wounded or killed, they try to make a false report on an official. However if the Authorities can only do something in order to stop this general practice of some of the recruits, it would assist greatly in saving the lives of many;

And will also give less trouble to a Mr. Quacoo in writing on a subject which he does not witness personally.

W. C. D.

Sekondi, 12th June 1903.

Dear Mr. Editor:—Permit me to express my hearty thanks to the Fanti friends who accompanied Mr. C. J. Bannerman to Accra lately on the death of his father, and especially to those select members of the Cape Coast Singing Band under Mr. Abochi for the excellent way in which they rendered their songs during the wake at St. Edmund's and at Wesley Chapel for the two beautiful anthems. I congratulate them.

Yours truly,—OSONFONT.

Accra, June 9th 1903.

Sir:—We have been constant readers of your valuable paper since its appearance in our Appolonian Coast and amongst various subjects dealt with in your issues Vol. 1 No. 26 of 9th May last we are sorry to observe that on the Customs Officer in Charge by a Correspondent form this place. We have no hesitation to say that the writer's expressions about this officer are apparently false.

Since this officer was stationed here no one has complained about the way and manner he serves the public and if there has been any complaint against him, it is plainly speaking, for the merchants to report the inconvenience. The writer is not a merchant nor trader, how on earth he became to know that the officer always complains of being busy and unable to attend the public! If he read over and understood what he wrote, he would have rectified his views.

We must express, that correspondence of this kind is detrimental and prejudicial to humanity hence we consider this as diabolical.

Taking into the deepest consideration it will be seen that the writer has put blame on us whilst we are ignorant of his insensible ideas. In conclusion we must make the writer to understand that when our notions of persons or things which we ourselves know nothing of, are guided, and our approbation or disapprobation of them excited only by what we are told and not seen ourselves, then we may be said to be governed by prepossession which is so dangerous to our characters, interest and to our happiness; in short, where a strong prejudice prevails, all is sure to go amiss; we would strongly advise the correspondent to write what is fact, otherwise it will be no easy matter to divest himself of acquired prejudices and it will be a melancholy reflection that he will spend part of his time in acquiring such fatal or diabolical notions which there will be scarcely anytime left to eradicate.

We are, Yours truly,
M. Cofie Blay.
(Agent for Messrs. Cazeaux Dey & Co.)
J. F. Duncan
H. N. Brew
A. Ellison Sarbe Jr.
Geo. M. Naykene.
Unity Bros. & Co.
Sam. R. E. Naykene
(Agent for Messrs. Lachille Freres)
A. Ernest Bush
(Agent for A. Millerson & Co.)

[With all due deference to the undersigned gentlemen, we believe that something other than a mere desire to enlighten the public on a correspondence actuated them to write the above epistle. Our Correspondent in the issue referred to remarked that the officer in question was holding a quadruple office which they never contradicted. The very fact of one man discharging the duties connected with these offices is enough to convince a tyro that he could not do so satisfactorily, even in a village of two dozen inhabitants. To say that "since the officer was stationed here no one has complained about the way and the manner he serves the public" and then to contradict themselves by adding that "if there has been any complaint against him...it is for the merchants to report," borders on the absurdity knowing pretty well that the officer is not to serve merchants and traders only but the other members of the public. This plainly shows that the gentlemen are a great deal at sea to our correspondent's "views" and "if they read over and understood what he wrote" they would have saved themselves all this unnecessary trouble and a desire to shield somebody; and we say "that correspondence of this kind is detrimental and prejudicial" to the public interest. We do not say our correspondents are infallible but we do say that where the error comes in it must be proved supported by facts—and we shall ever be thankful for unprejudicial corrections. Ed.]

Dear Sir:—Rumour says that the railway here will be soon handed over to the Government and that several arrangements are being made, I hope therefore the native will not be shut of employment or given salaries which will not support them; however, as the General Manager is come whose appearance bespeaks a man of surely judgment, I have no doubt he will weigh things propose before cayying them to effect. The present Governor is expected to open the line, if so he is very fortunate; I remember a few years ago when he opened that of Sierra Leone and the able addresses delivered in the different stations. The time is now come when competent men should be in the different departments and that the Governor should bring in force a system of examination so as to have qualified men instead of having nominal clerks to occupy posts which is simply a disgrace, and there are some old convicts too in position which the wise Governor should turn out of office because our Government believes in true and honest men.

Thanking you for space occupied in your valuable column.

Yours truly,—FRANK.

THE NATIVE LAW OF MARRIAGE.

Sir,—Having read Mr. Attoo's opinion on this important subject, I come to no other conclusion than that it will bring home truth to every intelligent man and woman in the country: by intelligent here, Mr. Editor, I do not mean Latin and Greek, but that common sense and reason with which every human being lettered or unlettered —is endowed :—that mental capability which enables a man to discern a genuine article from a spurious one.

When GOD made man, He said, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth," meaning of course, legitimate connexion; but Old Black Joe steps in and says oh no! except a man (perhaps from the Adamic period down to our present time) stand before the parson and recite the usual "for richer for poorer," he has not married lawfully. concluding logically not only the people of the Gold Coast Colony and Protectorate, but also all that portion of mankind, who follow originality of action —in bastardy.

But Old Black Joe commits egregious blunder when he says,

1st. That the scale of fees as prescribed by him applies to the whole colony and protectorate; because in some places a man can pay 6/9 as Head Rum and 40/6 as Head Money—in others, little more or less.

2nd. That marriage is a sacrament, for barring other instructors, Field's Theology (pages 306/7) says:—"Matrimony—which probably was called a sacrament at first from a misapprehension of Eph. V-32, is no pledge and seal of the evangelical covenant, nor was it instituted for any such purpose."

3rd. That marriage is an institution by our LORD Himself for if I think rightly Gen. 1-28 and II-18 mean that the institution was coeval with the creation and to say that it came into existence only when our LORD came into this world is a complete romance; and if the institution was from our LORD Himself as Old Black Joe wishes us to believe, then we should like to know the exact form of service (the words and phrases) appointed by Him to be read in Churches, as the one presently in use is said to be of recent date.

4th. "Notwithstanding our being converted into Christianity" as Old Black Joe puts it, what we need of is something intrinsically Christian! Something indigenous and unsophisticated, not mere copies and patterns, which very often result in court and hypocrisy,

5th. The other items, such as "beating of wives" &c. I pass over as unimportant—perhaps Old Black Joe is unaware that even some of our ministers beat their wives "unmercifully."

Now Mr. Editor this is a subject which has already been ably dealt with by the "Gold Coast Aborigines" "Lagos Weekly Record" and other papers. It is therefore only obvious that Old Black Joe is one of those who despite "Old" age are still in favour of imitation.

Thanking you for space allowed.

Yours truly,—A YOUNG MAN.

Addah,—27/5/03.

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