The Gold Coast Leader.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

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

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TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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NOTICE.

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And the undersigned has been instructed to sell and will sell by public auction if not otherwise negotiated for or disposed off by public Auction.

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Licensed Auctioneer

Cape Coast, 20th October 1904.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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☞ TASTE AND SEE.

GENERAL NEWS.

We understand representatives from the Sekundi people (three Ahinfu, with their Secretary Mr. Fred A. Sam) deputed to see the Aborigines Society on the Town Councils Ordinance, arrived here last Sunday morning by the *Tarkwa*.

The A. M. E. Zion Church wound up the celebration of its first anniversary with a Public Meeting at its Meeting Place, which was largely attended. The Honourable J. P. Brown presided, and the speakers were Messrs. T. Addaquay, J. E. Ellis and Rev. F. Egyir-Asáám, the Omanhin Kodwo Mbra and the Rev. A. W. Parker the other speakers could not attend through indisposition.

The Hon. J. M. Sarbah and the Hon. J. P. Brown, leave by next week's steamer for Accra to attend the Council.

We publish elsewhere His Excellency's reply to the Sekundi Petitioners on the Town Council.

We regret to report this week the death of Robert Edward Harding the eldest son of Miss Eliz Daniel, on last Monday after a protracted illness. We sympathize with the friends of the deceased for this untimely death.

Superintendent Downer is gone up to the Assin District with some policemen, where there has been a fight.

The members of the Cape Coast Cycling Club are preparing to give a Grand Display and to institute a similar Club at Elmina on the 9th instant.

Mr. D. M. Abadoo, the Secretary for the Fanti Public Schools, Ltd., we understand, goes down to Anamaboe and Salt Pond with the deputation from the Reading Club shortly.

The Sekondi Chiefs left by the *Akabo* last Wednesday morning.

The Lagos Government has employed twelve men as Assistant Inspectors of Produce.

A Policeman was accidentally ran over yesterday by a truck belonging to the firm of H. Rottman. He was taken to the Hospital and after examination, it was found, that one of his ribs had been fractured. It appears the Police was standing in the street hailing another constable, his back towards the truck, when suddenly the truck came upon him being dragged by some kroobovs and as he was attempting to move he fell and came into contact with the truck which went over him.

A huge leopard was killed by some Wangarras, at a spot only a mile from Aboom, a few days ago.

The Anglo-African Argus.—This Weekly Review of African Affairs, has been greatly improved upon as to its literary and typographical get up, and is so far, the only African weekly published at one penny. We bespeak for our English contemporary a wider circulation in its present form.

Copies of the "Loader" may now be had at the stores of Messrs. H. Solomon, Jackson St. and R. F. Wood at the Ashanti Road (W. E. Sam's.)

Next Wednesday the 9th will be the King's Birthday.

AXIM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

News has reached us here from Assinee of a man who purchased one log at £5 which when shipped to England realized the sum of seven hundred pounds (£700).

By the kind permission of Mr. Justice Purcell a grand concert was held at court house on Saturday the 15th inst. in aid of the building fund of the Roman Catholic Mission.

DEDICATION.

The Axim St. James' Church dedication so anxiously expected and prepared for, has come and gone leaving an ineffaceable impression. It may be safe to say the best hopes of its promoters have been abundantly realized. Although we have not witnessed what it is at other places, yet as far as we can judge no dedication of our time has been so successful and so far reaching. We give due meed of praise to Mr. W. E. D. Acquah who has been able to complete so splendid an edifice, and to the committee under the presidency of Revd. James Reynolds.

At 9 o'clock on the morning of the 16th inst the members of the church and other worshippers from various places gathered themselves together at York Hall School Room and a procession headed

by the Choir (all in surplice) marched to the Chapel gate with the song, "Onward Christians Soldiers".

On reaching the gate Mr. Samuel Sacoom to whom the key was entrusted, after having given us a warm address, opened the door. The Choristers first entered and then the Chairman Revd. Bartrop ascended the pulpit and the whole of the people outside rushed in.

It was a splendid scene—quite beyond our power to describe.

Rev. Bartrop then proceeded on with the Dedication Service as prepared. The first lesson was read by Revd, A. W. Stanhope, the 2nd. lesson by Revd. Hayford. The Chairman took his text from Zec. 5. v. 8.

At (3–30 p.m.) the day being Children's Sunday the people assembled again and addresses were delivered by Revs. Butler, Stanhope and Hayford and a song (Jesu loves Children) was sung by the Axim Singing Band. At 4–15 p.m. the meeting was brought to a close.

A public meeting, with E. M. Robertson Esq. as Chairman took place on the next day the 17th inst. The report about the building was read after, which addresses of much interest were delivered by the following gentlemen viz:—Revds. Bartrop, Butler, Freeman and Messrs. Bissoe, Casely Hayford, Rotini Alade.

We may be permitted to record the universal admiration felt and expressed on the part which the chairman took throughout the proceedings, dignified and eloquent. He conducted each meeting with unfailing tact and grace; while the Christian enthusiasm of his utterances struck a lofty note which resounded through subsequent speeches.

For the success of the Dedication an important place must be assigned to our choir which took an active part.

Special thanks are due to their organist and conductor Mr. S. R. Wood on whom fell so much of the heavy burden of the preparations and the rehearsals.

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Ruth Mineaux the wife of Mr. P. J. Mineaux of this town. We tender our sincere sympathy to the bereaved family.

On Thursday the 20th inst. the long proposed concert by the Axim Singing Band came on. Mr. J. Andoh Wilson the superintendent of the Band introduced Mr. Adam Bissoe as the chairman for the evening's concert.

Mr. Matthew Lawson Essien was married to Miss. Helen Hayford on the 27th inst. Revd. Reynolds officiated.

KUMASI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Omanhin of Insuta has been after all deposed by his people owing to his harsh treatment to them. The people as I reported last, first brought him before the Chief Commissionerbut they were advised not to depose him or they will be fined £500. But this did not deter them from their deposing him. The three Ahinfu under the Omanhin with some people were arrested the other day by soldiers specially sent from here and have been imprisoned for one year each. The Omanhin also arrived here some days after when on the 24th ult. the three Ahinfu were removed from prison by the Chief Commissioner's order for further investigation. The case is still in the hands of the Chief Commissioner.

THE POLICEMAN AND MR. J. A. NOONOO.

Mr. Noonoo a passenger by the Train that arrived here on the 22nd on business, being a smoker, seeing lots of people smoking cigarettes and cigars in the Train commenced to smoke his pipe. A policeman went near him to stop him, but he refused—The Bobby got annoyed and used his hands which he returned. The Policeman did not say anything until he got to the Station here when he arrested him. The case came on for hearing before Dr. Tweedy D.C. on the 24th ult, and Mr. Noonoo was fined £1, for assaulting and £2 for, smoking. Mr. Robert Cann who was Mr. Noonoo's witness was also asked by the D.C. whether he smoked too in the Train? He replied "Yes" but stopped when the policeman was trying to interfere with the smoking business. Dr. Tweedy then ordered Mr. Cann to go. All at once Supt. Quist got up and said "Your Worship Sir, I move that Mr. Cann should be charged for smoking."

His Worship:—"Oh no."

The public will see for themselves how the great Quist with his master Captain Greene causes trouble to lots of Coasters.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

RAILWAY.

The dastardly condition of affairs of the Railway has taken not a step forward to amendment.

A series of correspondence are being exchanged between Mr. Noonoo and the Railway authorities, with reference to four bags of rice out of three hundred consigned to H. Rottmann, Kumasi on the 29th July last which accidentally disppeared from the truck. We are informed that Mr. Greatorex—the official travelling from Obuasi to Kumasi alternately,—distinctly asserted that if Noonoo were a whiteman he could recommend his claim on the Railway to be paid. So far, this matter has not been adjusted.

THE TOWN.

The remnant of the Survey Party arrived last week by the s. s. "Akabo," a majority of whom left by last Thursday's train for the interior.

The firstservice of the Church of England was conducted at the Court House last Sunday evening by Mr. Maxwell, D. C., who delivered a briliant sermon; Mr. Fynn presided over the organ.

The hour for the evening worship in the Wesleyan Church has been altered from 4–30 p.m. to 6–30 p.m. in order to meet the convenience of worshippers.

The new Hymn Book is already in use.

From informations received, it is believed that the Inspector of Schools will not examine the school here till at the commencement of next year.

At the School Room on the nights of the 20th and 21st ult. a Lantern Lecture on the Pilgrim's Progres was given by Rev. P. L. Clarke.

At the Church this morning, the sacrament of Holy Baptism was administered by Rev. H. A. Riggall when the babies of Messrs. Fred Sam, William Amomoo, and J. Anderson were respectively christened Dorothy Clara, Joseph Godson, and Sabina.

The daughter of Mr. Aryee was also baptised in the afternoon.

THE TOWN COUNCILS ORDINANCE.

The despatch from Kumasi of 300 soldiers to Sekondi is officially denied. The outlook of our general situation in regard to the establishment of that ruinous and desolating piece of legislation—the Town Councils Ordinance—is still gloomy. At the mass meeting on Monday the 17th ult. the Governor's reply to the petition of the 24th September was read and interpreted by the Secretary of the Town Commitee who informs me that another communication is being addressed to His Excellency. The advisability of sending some intelligent persons to represent Sekondi Ahinfu at a meeting of the Aborigines Society at Cape Coast, is being considered.

The owners have allowed their houses to be appraised and numbered, still it is persistently held out that they would not with all others tolerate to suffer under the operation of the pernicious Ordinance.

In substantiating the report as to the numbering of the Wesleyan Church by Mr. Forde, (Appraiser) which was the subject of the Editorial Notes in the issue of the 22nd instant, it must be mentioned that the new Catholic Church also has been numbered 21.

From Chama we learn that the enstooling of the new King will take place on Tuesday the 25th inst for which purpose D. C. Maxwell is at Chama.

By the "Sokoto" from Axim arrived Barristers Addo and Ribeiro and Mr. Justice Purcell; a few more gentlemen of the Bar are expected by the "Elesuore Woermann" due here on the 25th.

ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT).

It costs us no less a sum than 27/- daily to feed and maintain the Ashanti Political Prisoners, who for some years past have been lying under detention in the cells of the Castle, as a result of the recent Golden Stool business. This is what should be literally defined as "Political Economy" and goes a great way in reflecting upon the "internal disturbances" and "financial vicissitudes" of this ordinance ridden Crown Colony.

A propos of my notes of last week, the man Adjay who smuggled himself into some woman's appartments the other night, has been sent to prison for three months; His Worship having viewed the incident more from a point of house breaking than otherwise. He was of opinion that the man must have had an appointment with the woman.

The case of Essaw, too, has been summarily dismissed, it having been clearly proved that the girl is nearly out of her teens. But the serious side of the question is, this man Essaw had recently gone on a job to Axim from whence he was arrested under a warrant, issued by the D. C., and brought down here. Now, if the affair had been carefully looked into before this sudden outbreak of rashness perhaps Essaw might have been spared his billet.

The untimely death of a lad, James Hackman a goldsmith's apprentice, took place on Thursday last 27th morning. The burial which took place on the same evening was rather *unique*; the *cortege* being headed by the Sunday School children, followed in order by the English section of the Good Templars, the members of the Goldsmith League and the Wesleyan Church Choir. At the Cemetery, the singing of "God be with you till we meet again" by the Choir was very impressive.

Some great amount of sensation was occasioned by the unexpected news of the death of Mr. Chas. C. Aikins, the Proprietor of St. George's Hotel, which happened on last Monday morning at about 8 o'clock 31st Oct. The incident was rendered more sensational in consequence of the concomitant coincidence attending the drowning of his uncle Kweku Amissah, at sea, while afishing, only on the previous Saturday moning 29th (the body has since not been recovered, although his canoe was found drifting, by another fisherman containing some fish and fishing gear in tact.)

The fussy Dr. Thain, regardless of consequences, nearly created a scene at the funeral that evening. At four o'clock, Superintendent Aikins of the police, came to the house with a written order from the doctor, to see that the body of C. C. Aikins is removed at once to the mortuary." The relatives of the deceased protested against the proceeding, on the grounds, in the first place, that Mr. Aikins died from natural causes, and secondly, that the corpse had been robed and laid out. This protest was, as it should be expected pooh-poohed by the doctor, who thought he might as well employ some force. About fifteen minutes later, a whole gang of 14 policemen arrived on the scene with the doctor himself at their heels accompanied by Mr. Gaoler Maskell, to see that the order is carried out to the hilt. Meanwhile juror summons had been issued and served out for a coroner's inquest to be held on the body of C. C. Aikins at the Colonial Hospital at 8 o'clock the following morning. The relatives held their ground and explained to the doctor that the deceased had been ailing for the past ten months, and had been under the treatment of Dr. Savage. Dr. Thain would wish to know how often Dr. Savage paid him visits from Cape Coast and that sort of thing. Having satisfied himself upon these points, and that he had been on a wild goose chase, the doctor dismissed the whole idea and sent the policemen back to the Castle.

Whether Dr. Thain deviced this outrage from the sheer motive of having to pocket a couple of guineas from the public funds for the *post mortem* examination and the inquest, or from some vague conclusions drawn by himself from certain dressed up information transmitted to him by a trusty tout of his, that Aikins had been poisoned, we have yet to know. The most suspicious part of the comedy is that Dr. Thain, accompanied by the police Superintendent went to the house that morning just about an hour or so after the death was announced. What he went there for, no one has as yet been able to find out. From what I can see, Dr. Thain might have shone with greater brilliance in the public service had it not been from his previous "bush" training which has so demoralized him, that he has not been over particular in the choice of his associates. If the doctor would only take a good dose of Thackeray's work wherein snobs are dissected, it perhaps do him some good.

Mr. Commissioner Peregrine with the Assistant Engineer, and Sub-Asst. Commissioner of Police arrived here from Cape Coast on Monday afternoon 31st, it is reported, for the purpose of holding a board of enquiry into certain scandal in connection with the Prison.

Mr. C. C. Aikins was interred in the Newman's Hill Cemetery with Temperance honours on Tuesday evening 1st inst.

The District Meeting of the English Good Templars has been decided and timed to take place here on Saturday the 26th inst. Preparations are being pushed forward for the reception and entertainment of the strangers who are expected to attend the meeting from the various Lodges.

The Catholics commemorated the feast of "All Saints Day" on Tuesday last 1st Nov.

According to the circumstances bearing upon the drowning of Kweku Amissah, it is generally deduced and believed that the man must have accidentally dropped his paddle and in trying to recover it, he lost his balance and went over board; and being a man of portly dimensions, the result was inevitable. The unfortunate man was a brother to the late G. E Eminsang.

WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

"The Social Club" we understand, will give dinner on Saturday the 22nd inst. We learn that the following gentlemen have been elected as Officers of the Society viz:—Messrs. H. VanHein, President, C. J. Reindorf, Vice-President, R. M. Korsah, Treasurer, and A. W. Sey, Secretary. We wish these gentlemen all possible success.

The Superintendent of this Circuit who accompanied The Inspector of Schools to the vicinity returned to town on the 14th inst. We understand the Inspector goes to Onyá-Krome *via* Abodom to Appam and from thence he proceeds to the windward stations.

To support the accuracy of the reports of Winnebah *Advocate* Correspondent and his reply to "One of the Attendants of the meeting" a meeting was held here the other day by Ohin Acquah II, on the mere criticising of the former that his report was not true: both letters appeared in "The Gold Coast Advocate" of 17th September and October 16th: the following is an extract from the latter's Correspondence "who said that Ohin did not give out his attention to dispose of

the River Ayensu to defray any, and also one or two things he did wish to touch upon. If it would not be presumptuous on his part." In a preposterous manner he merely wrote to say Ohin did not give his intention to sell the River Ayensu for any debt. I write this to confirm the former's. On the 12th inst. Madam Amba Sikah wired to her family here informing them that she has won the Winnebas in default of their Interpleader summons:—Winnebas v. Sikah—re-herself v. Ohin Acquah II. on account of the Writ of fifa she applied for to seize the River Ayensu to sell for her expenses incurred in the first action. Now as the case may be what will become of Ayensu River?

The Ohin has ordered by a gong-gong that whosoevershall refuse to pay the tax the Winnebahs are going to collect at a certain date the Ohin (Acquah II,) shall fix, such person or persons shall violate the Simpa-Kwesida: As I am one of the tax payers I ask for what purpose are we to be taxed? Is the tax to be collected towards the extension fund of the new Chapel building or for some other purpose.

LIST OF UNCLAIMED ARTICLES AWAITING DELIVERY, POST OFFICE, CAPE COAST.

Suframu Kosoko. Dr. Savage.
Ekua Akyire c/o J. E. Sagoe
Kwesi Acquaah c/o R. Hammond
D. B. Amissah,
T. J. Nelson c/o F. & A. Swanzy.
Hajara c/o Daniel Makarfoe.
Sam. G. Longdon. Badamosi Magaji.
T. S. Duncan.
Madam Araba Otuwa. S. E. Longdon.
D. M. Abadoo. S. P. Longdon.
W. M. M. Longdon. J. Emanuel Hayford.
A. G. Blankson. I. Longdon
J. I. Hammond. Cobbina Mensah.
Akosua Anua. James Laryee, Cook.
Ekuah Yarkuah. Adjuah Mercy.
J. F. M. Morgue. Aluru Oloyede
C. Francis Sam. Agad Tamakloe.
C. M. Appiah. J. E. Cudjoe, Jr.
J. E. F. Quaison. Sam. A. Ampiah.
Quacoe Aasabil. William Oppon.
I. A. Odoom. Ambah Ayie c/o R. Acquah.
Aggrey Fynn. David I. Brown.
Quasie Wooyah. Ambah Ashon.
Francis Essel. Thomas Acquah.
Quamin Anderson. E. Gambrok, c/o E. Lewis
Gold Coast & N. Trading. E. H. B. Entsaw
Kwofie Bissue. R. Quashi.
J. A. L. Sagoe. Ekuah Mansah.
Giller Harding. P. A. Hay.
Joseph Coleman. John Dutton.
Messrs. Yandoh Bros. J. K. Deddah
J. S. Arkwa. Charles Roberts.
Attah Kofie. John Mensah.
John Aleson. H. Samson, Goldsmith.
Grace Fletcher. Selby Chrishno.
John Halm. John Stedhen.
Quamin Essaw. H. Imbeah.
Arabah Busumafie. C. C. Cudjoe.
Quanoo, Goldsmith. D. A. Smith.
J. B. Aggrey. S. E. Marke.
J. O. Charsey. James Quashie.
Abah Miparsam. I. E. Aggrey.
S. E. Edjor Asrove. Quamin Edoon.
Essie Aakwah. Essie Ampodoom.
Mrs. Yabbah Osine Marget.
E. G. A. Sackey. H. B. Wilson

CRICKET.

Played at Axim on Saturday 22nd October between Europeans and Natives which ended in an easy victory for the Natives.

F. Ratcliffe Homes	14	Want Attram	33
Riby Williams	21	K. Thompson	18
F. Cogill	11	Kofi Mensah	0
A. T. Neil,	12	G. S. Acquay	27
Giles Hunt,	17	Extras	5
C. Fenn,	1		83
E. M. Robertson,	4		
A. B. Beddoes,	0		
F. Durant,	0		
Extras.	8		
	88		

NOTES OF A MEETING HELD AT THE PARADE GROUND ON TUESDAY 4TH. OCTOBER 1904, AT 4. 20 P.M.

D.C. Maxwell—This is the first open air meeting I have ever held and addressed, and I must ask the Chiefs and their people to be very quiet. Unfortunately I have not a very strong voice, and I am afraid that all the people here won't hear what I say and understand it. Well I understand that I have met the Chiefs here this afternoon to receive their reply to my explanation in regard to the Town Council Ordinance.

Chief Kumah:—When we came to the Fort on Saturday you gave us some word to consider and bring a reply to you. We have met and consulted together and are here to tell you the unanimous decision arrived at. The Chiefs, Councillors and the whole inhabitants men and women wish to inform Your Worship that when we were living in the old town of Sekondi, there was a letter sent from Accra requesting us to remove from the town to go and put up on a new land. The Chiefs and their Councillors met and had a discussion on this matter and after due consideration agreed to remove from the Town as requested by the Government—accordingly we seperated, the Chief of British Sekondi resided at Essikadu, and the Chief of Dutch Sekondi resided at Accra Town. Our houses were duly marked with numbers; the money paid by the Government for a house that cost about £50 was only £15. Such trifling sums of money were received by the people without any complaint. Some of these people who received moneys had wives and children. As a man cannot sleep in an open air but must naturally have a suitable habitation, we started building some huts. Being strangers in a strange land the cost of building new houses was considerably dear—I mean the cost of building and building materials such as planks, zinc etc. So much so, that we have not yet finished paying for; even the stumps of the old trees on our new land have not been completely up-rooted. A few days ago, while in this state of mind, we saw notices filed in every street or corner, proclaiming the introduction of a hut or poll tax. The two Chiefs and their people accordingly met and sent a message to the District Commissioner about it; the Commissioner found in charge informed us that our D.C. (Mr. Maxwell) had gone out on inspection, and if we had anything to say we should wait for his arrival. The time fixed for the Ordinance to come in force was very short, so that we were really perplexed in mind knowing not what to do. As the Commissioner we found in charged said to us the other day that he was a new man and had no instructions about the matter, we sent a telegram to the Governor at Accra protesting against the Ordinance, but have up to date had no communication in reply to this telegram. Subsequently we met again with our Councillors and people and putting all our grievances together decided to oppose to the establishment of the Ordinance and with one consent framed a petition which we forwarded to His Excellency the Governor. On hearing of your arrival at Sekondi we started coming to see you in order to inform you of all we have done during your absence since the proclamation of the Ordinance was filed, but Mr. Coppin meeting us on the way informed us that you wanted us later on. We accordingly saw you in the afternoon and you explained to us satisfactorily the meaning of the Ordinance. We have met and conferred seriously on the matter, and the Chiefs, Councillors and the whole inhabitants of Sekondi with unanimous voice say that they would not accept the Town Councils Ordinance. (The crowd re-echoed the words "We won't accept the Ordinance)." Here is a copy of the petition sent to His Excellency, Accra.

District Commissioner:—This is the first time I have seen the petition and you have told me plainly that you will not accept the application of the Town Councils Ordinance to Sekondi. I suppose all that you have stated are practically the contents of this petition.

Chief Kumah:—Yes.

D. C:—Meantime the proclamation has been given an effect to, and Sekondi is now under the Ordinance. An appraiser has been appointed to appraise the houses and has commenced doing his duty to-day. It is my duty to suppor him in carrying out this duty, and it is my duty to carry out the instructions which I have received from His Excellency the Governor—These instructions—until they are countermanded—it is my intention to carry them out. If the Chiefs and the inhabitants of Sekondi decline to support me, then, I am afraid, I must work alone. I much indeed regret the state of matters. I have been Commissioner here for about three years, and I think during that time, the Chiefs and inhabitants of Sekondi always showed me the greatest respect and have always done everything I wish done. On my part I have tried to discharge the duties which have been entrusted to me, to the best of my ability. I have always been willing to support the Chiefs to maintain their position, but as I have already said, I regret that the Chiefs do not wish to support me. I suppose it is useless on my part to enter into further arguments respecting the Town Councils Ordinance. I will do so if you desire it.

Chief Kumah:—You have already given us the necessary explanation respecting the Ordinance. All the people here will have something to pay in consideration of the tax in the event of the Ordinance being enforced, but all decline to accept it.

D.C:—I have done my best to make you thoroughly understand your position as an Officer of the Government. You are apparently satisfied with the explanation which you have received, but I should like you to consider what may be the effect—the result of your refusing to accept the Ordinance.

Chief Kumah:—Here is a novel—It is natural if you have got a boy whom you with to send away that you tie for him a big load which he could not carry. Anything you ask us to do we will do, we are willing to oblige or support the Government in all acts and things fair and equitable, but in this Town Councils affair, we are unable to accord you any support. We dislike it.

D.C:—Have you realised how much you have got to pay on the introduction of the Ordinance?

Chief Kumah:—We won't accept the Ordinance in any respect and therefore do not wish to look into we have got to pay.—We won't pay a cent ("wont pay a mite" re-echoed).

D.C:—I think you might better give the matter a secondary consideration.

Chief Kumah:—We have been thinking and thinking over the matter night and day, and this is the unanimous-decided conclusion we have arrived at. We wish you to lay before His Excellency at Accra all that we have stated here.

D.C:—Yes I will do so; but you must understand that meantime the Appraiser is carrying out his duties and the houses in this town are going to be numbered and valued.

Chief Kumah:—Does the Government wish not to hear from us before going on with this work?

D.C:—I cannot stop. Until I hear a reply, I must carry out my instructions.

Chief Kumah:—If the Appraiser has started numbering the houses in the European town, we ask you to stop him from coming to the native town, until we receive an answer from the Governor.

D.C:—I cannot stop him, if you choose send a telegram to the Governor.

Chief Kumah:—We don't wish to do anything without your knowing it; we sent the petition direct to His Excellency because you were not here; we must pass everything through you now.

D.C:—I am very pleased that you say so, but I think that you should have given me the petition before now. I have been in town since last Thursday afternoon.

Chief Kumah:—As stated previously, when you arrived we were coming to see you, but Superintendent Coppin told us to go back and return later on in the afternoon. We have nothing further to say than that we won't accept the Town Councils Ordinance.

D.C:—I hope the Chiefs will recognise that peace and order must be preserved in the town. Although you are not going to assist the Appraiser, I hope you will allow him every facility to enter the houses and value them.

Chief Kumah:—We won't allow the Appraiser to enter in the houses to number or value them.

D.C:—It is my intention to make you responsible for the peace of the town.

Chief Kumah:—We have said we won't accept the Ordinance. If the Appraiser enters a house and its owner struggles with him, we shan't be responsible.

D.C:—I do not hold you responsible for the house but for the peace of the town.

Chief Andoh:—We wish to inform you that any mark the Appraiser makes, will be scraped off.

D.C:—If you scrape, the owner of the house will be held responsible.

Chief Kumah:—Now the novel is plain—that the Government does not wish to live with us in this town, and therefore is imposing this Ordinance on us perforce.

D.C:—Its laughable.

Chief Kumah:—If you help your to carry a load which he cannot, then you mean you dislike him totally.

Chief Andoh:—We wish that you put before His Excellency the whole statements we have made here.

D.C:—As promised, I will do so, but the Appraiser is here and must go on with his work.

Chief Kumah:—Are we to understand that the Government like the money that will be got from the tax than the people in Sekondi?

D.C:—Every halfpenny of the money collected from the tax will be spent for the benefit of Sekondi Town—The Government won't touch it.

Chief Kumah:—As the Government will not spend halfpenny of the money but the house whose owner cannot pay the tax will be sold, then it is plain, that man should go out from the house which by sweat in the face he had built, with sorrow and die.

D.C:—Of course we have to wait to see what money the tax will produce.

Chief Kumah:—Are we to sit down and see that a man is driven out of his house?

D.C:—No, no fear of that.

Chief Kumah:—There were lot of promises—such as you say—made to Accra people, but ever since none of them has been fulfilled.

D.C:—Here is a native town and is quite different from Accra.

Chief Kumah:—The people of Accra living in their own houses have had their houses sold and consequently their country is despairingly rejected now—our fate undoubtedly will be the same, and that indicates the Government will not keep his people. Here is an Accra native who can testify to this. (introducing James Hanson)

Hanson:—It is about five years since this Ordinance was enforced in Accra. I have no money to pay the tax of my house and it has now been sold, I have come to Sekondi to find some work, unfortunately this Ordinance has been proclaimed here

also—My next intention is to think whither I can fly whence the Ordinance cannot follow me. (laughter).

D.C:—I have never heard this.

Hansen:—I am here to testify what I have experienced in Accra.

D.C:—I am going to send by the next mail to Accra your statement and copy of your petition to the Governor.

Chief Kumah.—We won't accept the Ordinance.

GOOD BYE.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

From the London *Sketch* of October 5th last, the following lines entitled "West African Leakage" appear:—

Every now and then the West African Market springs into troubled life with a rise of a shilling or two in shares belonging to various groups. One week it is the turn of the Ashanti Gold Fields companies; another, the Wassaw undertakings are thrust into prominence, while just lately it has been the Offin River group that claimed attention. But there is little backbone to the market, and almost every rally is succeeded by a gradual process of set-back that carries prices lower than they were before the bullish spirit seized them. The monthly returns are still well below the least sanguine expectations formed of them, and in this connection we may quote the exceedingly plain-spoken words of the *Gold Coast Leader*, in a recent issue of that journal. "Worse reports," says the paper, "will be published as months roll on unless the directors resolutely stop the gold leakage. There has been too much stealing by white and black alike at the mines, and in crime the white thief is the worse offender. If he, the white, is honest, the black dare not steal. We say, stop the leakage." We are told that the Jungle is to be taken in hand before long, and prices once more advanced to levels that shall make them more attractive to the public. If prices do go up again, holders will be well advised to sell.

We trust every possible effort will be put forth not only to stop this leakage but also to put the mining industry of the country on a good and proper basis. Our Mining Managers and the Government may see to this, the former by being a little bit more wide awake, and the latter by repealing some cumbrous and to some extent unnecessary Ordinances, which tend only to kill the industry.

The Agents reported to have left here for Kumasi overland, in the interest of Trade, a short while ago have since returned. We hope success crowned their efforts to revive our trade, as much as it could be under existing circumstances. We have no doubt that if the Authorities will only back up the exertions of these merchants, there may be a possible change in the present condition of things.

May it not be said, if the question be squarely looked in the face, that the Trade of the country, which has already suffered so much, continues to suffer from mismanagement, and want of tact, and real business instincts and a careful study of the market, on the part of those immediately concerned. There should be less routine way of doing things and more of readiness to make use of circumstances as they come. Practicality and quietness will do much where heaps of correspondence and bustling about may yield a little if any thing.

We have always had our misgivings, we may here say, on the rush to the Hinterland, and the fuss made by our Merchants on the opening of stores at Kumasi, at least from a native point of view and from our mode of trading on *the Coast*, but what do we know? Still we venture to ask, where is the Trader, who can honestly say, that he has seen signs of success on the move that has been thought fit to be taken. Concentration will do far more good with the present state of affairs than Diffusion. Time will declare.

Barbed wire fencing again. It would seem that the more we cry against the use of these dangerous things in Town the more those who have it in their power to use it, are determined to do so. The next thing we see is, the fencing of the open space in front of Millers Ltd. Right in the heart of the Town and in one of the principal thoroughfares of the Town. Whoever heard of such a thing? Think of this being done in any town or city in England. Hundreds of men, women and children are to be seen day and night passing that way, the bread sellers are here, and the merchants' truck passes there every day. We see nothing in this but sheer abuse of power.

Those abroad who know this Town, will readily see the intentional mischief that is being done. If the instructions are that Government property must now be fenced in why used barbed wire? Hitherto we have been complaining of that done to Fort William and the Beach, but these are nothing to what is being done now. We are practically told "You have been complaining of Fort William and the right of way and making all sorts of noise, but we can show you, we can do what we like, we can do worse than that, we can even use the wire in your principal streets, though we know such a thing cannot be done at where we came from to civilize you." Is this right?

The P. W. D. is doing it no doubt on instructions received from the D. C. and he in turn possibly gave out the instructions on orders received from the P. C. and let us say, he too may have given out these orders, on being asked to have all Government property fenced in now on his own recommendations. Now both Mr. Furley and Mr. Peregrine, (the D. C. and P. C. respectively) are legal men, and as legal men do they think barbed wire *can* be used for fencing in a Town, can any of them recall one instance of this in any of the civilized places they know —and they are very anxious to have us Europeanized, to do things as they are done in their country whilst doing things they know to be just the opposite of what is done elsewhere.

But the D. C. cannot very well be blamed in such matters for he has only to carry out instructions he receives from his senior officer, and so it is Mr. Peregrine who is doing all this: and what has this Town really done to him, or in what has he been disappointed so that he seems so determined to wreak his vengeance on the place and people? No doubt having been here for so many years he is tired of the place hence all this. If so, may he not rather ask for transference or for promotion instead of this studied attempt to make himself so unpopular, an experienced and tried official as he is? After so many years among us, is it not to be regretted that one has to say all this? The whole thing goes to confirm the saying that the longer an official remains at one place or in the service, the more unpleasant does he make himself to be, and yet it should be the reverse. It is usually said that such effect on such officials is the work of some unscrupulous, selfish persons mostly natives but these officials should carry their own heads.

The P. C. may be the Deputy Governor here, but he is a public servant all the same and has his seniors, and therefore we think the Aborigines Society should approach him on this barbed wire fencing business and on his refusing to do anything in the matter, to represent matters through him to the proper quarters, even though there may be the possibility of his being backed up.

NOTICE.

Few Copies of the following back numbers of the LEADER are on hand for sale,

Nos. 1, 3/16, 18/37, 39/41, 44,5,47/8, 50/84, 88/104 at 2d. a copy.

Apply to the Manager.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, NOVEMBER 5, 1904.

THE "CHIEFS" COMPLAIN.

THERE is this to be noticed by all interested in the Governor's address we referred to in our last issue. His Excellency said:—

"The most important question connected with Native Affairs, and one which is now receiving careful consideration, is that of Native Jurisdiction. On the one hand the Chiefs complain that their powers and duties are ill-defined, and that their orders cannot be enforced; while, on the other, representatives of the people allege that the fees charged and fines imposed in the Native Courts are frequently excessive; that the judgments given are not invariably unbiased; and there are many difficulties connected with appeals."

Now, these words as they stand rightly depict the present pitiable condition in the management of the affairs of our Native Rulers, we mean the complaints of the "Chiefs." The question arises, how came it to be so? What has necessitated these complaints of the "Chiefs"? Are these complaints justifiable and reasonable? Our readers will remember that in the earlier numbers of this journal we have so thrashed this subject that we have no need to go into it again. Let it be remembered that even when the Abolition of Slavery had been in existence but the Government had not interferred so much in our native affairs with so many Ordinances, the complaints if any, were few. We have always deemed it impolitic in dealing with native States, having their own laws, manners and customs to go to the extent our Government has done, and such a cause will always brood dissatisfaction and discontentment not only amongst the Rulers but their subjects as well, and seems also to be a drag on the gubernatorial wheel of any civilized Government that will be so undiplomatic. Why should the powers and duties" of these Rulers be defined to them at all, when they do not in any way encounter with the position the Powers that be have assumed in the Country, and they are made to understand they are but their Protectors, and that they have really come to stay with them for an object?—COMMERCE. What else will it be when laws are made putting Rulers and their subjects on the same footing, when their subjects are told in plain terms to respect no one but the white man in the country, when some irresponsible officials will drag Rulers before them in the same way as they would their subjects, when even the Bobby can easily assume airs over the Ruler who was perhaps at one time his master?

On the other hand these things having been so, is there any thing more disgusting in seeing a Ruler again and again asking for a handcuff, or reduced to the necessity of becoming treacherous to his Stool, his fellow Rulers, and his People, to go to the length of being anything or doing and saying anything if only to be the "official's favourite" so as to get him to be at his back to assist him to regain his lost power over his People. Nay, the state of things existing now is grievous when thought of a people who have been a NATION since centuries ago. The ancestors of these Rulers immediate or otherwise were never subjugated to such painful absurdities because they did not lend themselves to them by their own administration or by their conduct toward the Foreigner, neither did the latter presuming on his civilization, take advantage over his less favoured brethren.

Since we have been in contact with the white man, there may be the necessity for the existence of certain laws, laws which with tact, diplomacy and administrative abilities can be made for the peaceful and harmonious living together of both, and not those which seek to 'whiteman' the African. This is what is being attempted hence all our misery and woe and complaints.

To all those who say what His Excellency repeats here as coming from the representatives of the People as to the excessiveness of court fees &c. we would refer to an article which appeared in these columns a short while ago, entitled *Native Court Charges or Fees.* (No. 109).

A truce to all this, we desire as Natives to "retain and improve on all that is good in the traditions and customs" we "have inherited from" our "ancestors, as well as adopt what is good—and only what is good—of that which" we "learn from contact with Europeans. Improvement, not mere imitation, whether in morals; in manners and customs, or in dress or artistic industries" *as well as in politics*, being "the true keynote for racial civilization throughout the world." Will our Protectors help us, lead us to this?

THE TESTING TIME.

Sweet are the uses of adversity, and the truth of this saying has received another illus-

tration at Cape Coast Castle in connection with the Town Councils question. In seeking help to put in proper form the views of the people for the Governor's information, it was made known that such help would not be forthcoming unless and until the people proved the depth and intensity of their convictions and the sincerity thereof in a substantial and practical manner, and that this could be best shown by admitting and supporting the pressing claims of public education. The test so imposed has been complied with and the town of Cape Coast Castle is the principal supporter of the Fanti Public Schools movement and now holds very many shares. From all accounts the Governor will be placed in possession of the views of the town next week and we have no doubt the same will have his careful consideration. We hope the people will continue to take a keen interest in public matters and things that concern their political as well as national welfare Now a word to our friends in the districts, we think they should be in touch with the Executive of our Aborigines Rights Protection Society, place before them their local suggestions and views on any public matter and seek for guidance, for in unity is our strength and these provincial leaders of thought and centres of influence should be less fame-seekers but cultivators of that very excellent virtue self-repression called MODESTY.

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

(BY DICK CARNIS.)

CHAPTER IV.

'Twas in the mid of a summer night in the Land of the Brave and the Free, and gaily trimmed, the Queen of Heaven, whom mortals Cynthia call, with beaming bars of silvery light chased sullen Nox and all her sable crew to their appointed caves and dens within the confines of the Lower Pit. She reigned alone ; the starry welkin dimmed its ineffectual fires save one— her old Companion, faithful friend. The ormolu clock upon the side-board standing chimed the hour of Twelve and quarter past.

In complex thoughts absorbed—of hopeless hopes and groundless fears, the inward sense by outward tokens strained—the Fairy Fancy came and coyly wove around my Inner Self her winsome charms, until I felt the tender glow of rare supernal Love course through my sluggish veins and flamed me with its power and might. Under the riant glamour of her witching glances, I seemed a stranger to myself. Musing the while, I inly heaved a sigh and sadly said:—"How poor, how frail is man, without a vision such as this !" Of mundane things I thought, the varied gifts vouchsafed to me, the faculties wherewith I was endowed—be they little or much—and saw outlined before me in all its nakedness, how less than nothing I had done, had given to lead my Brother man along the winding stairs of soulful life. Upon the verge of tears, my head whelmed o'er with questionings innumerable. Like the silent drip of muffled oars, the unchallenged words controlled my stubborn will:—

"WHEREFORE ART THOU ALIVE ?

WHAT IN THEE IS MORE THAN THAT OF NOBLER, GRANDER MEN GONE HOME TO THEIR RIGOROUS ACCOUNT ?

WHY CUMBER STILL THE GROUN ?

WHERE OTHERS FAIN WOULD BE, COULD BETTER FILL THY ROOM AND PLACE ? WHY DOST THOU TARRY HERE AND NOW ? HAST THOU NOT MISSED THY HIGH AVOCATION? ARE NOT THE ORACLES DUMB ?"

But ere my quivering lips could frame the tumult of my soul in meek response and blind assent, a Voice in lofty answer rang:—

"Courage, ward of my love ! Plead not "Yes" to charges ; shake off this dull and deadly pall that would immush you. O ! why do you so oft descend into the treacherous Slough of Doubt ? Dream not your settled work on earth is at an end 'tis hardly yet begun. Awake, be wide awake ! Heaven has hopes, thinks more of you ; for Time is on the dexter side. You may and can, will soon be all you wish to be and do what now mocks grand achievance. Take heart of grace, plod on wherever your lot is cast and in that hallowed nook encanvas'd, be linked to things unseen !"

At this, a second vision burst—the after-image whereof, no years can e'er efface.

In solemn pomp and majesty, marched past, stately as the palm, what in my ignorance, for ministering spirits I surmised. With glorioles around their shapely heads and robed in glistering garments there stepped out, in faultless order, army after army—as sands for multitude. Each step produced a note of music sweetly blent ; each chord a colour of the prism painted, one by one, and each in turn. In the prints of their feet, there sprouted lanes of high exotic flowers scenting the air with the fragrance of the spices of Lebanon. I stood amazed, aghast, with holy terror seized ; but quiet peace into my being subtly stole and made me buoyant, braced me up, although the mellowed symphony with sense of sadness thrilled me through and through. With one accord, the brilliant pageant smiled at intervals—and O how kindly !—the pure *insouciant* smile of guileless babes, yet charged with mystic meanings which no mind could gauge or compass—a smile that drew events within its scorching focus ; that baffled grief ; lightened loads of care, infused strength, wakened memory ; revealed the soul to itself and bore therewith the means to move and moving drove all fear and doubt beyond the range of human measure. It made a giant twice of me—vigorous, refreshed arrant—coward as I was. It oped mine eye—the hidden eye that seeth far and seeth well. Vista after vista of rapturous ecstacy broke out more than I could in safety bear—till custom, use and wont over my weakness mastered. I raved and revelled—transported with successive views.

The Voice, once more in thunder speaking, made me akin to the Smiling Band ; and I believed without reserve, that men are heroes in disguise ; trammelled we may be, but each, in his work, is a King uncrowned and in creative power a good, could he but know himself at best.

The Voice intoned sonant and clear:—

"Heaven lies about your feet ; and Hell's too near to be far. 'Tis 'Heaven to serve for man as man : 'tis Hell to slave for Self alone. He serves the most who made Heaven, Earth and Hell. Follow your beacon Star, for ever and for ever"

Wider and wider the cycle— they swept onward, the Smiling One swept on and in each round a deeper shade, a greater joy prevailed : the more they smiled, the more they waxed serene, their youth renewing. Above them floated in glittering coruscations, Crowns of Gold, with precious stones inlaid which sparkled each moment brighter still—their passports to the Abode of Rest and to the steeper cliffs of the Elysian Fields.

Unforewarned they vanished : the scene shifted.

Wintry winds blew ortive storms, and froze my blood, as if crossing the floes and bergs of arctic plains. The still of darker night o'er me shaded. Long, through the denser gloom I peered, and lo ! flittering here and there, to and fro, were furtive figures like fireflies glorified. Group after group of shrunken souls and all in scattered rows arranged, nearer they wheeled, their faces scarred, hairs singed and drooping brows lean sprites that had horns and hoofs and claws-gledes, kites, hawks and vultures in mannish shapes assumed—a squalid starving gang.

Behind these came in tow, men with hempen cords hung round their snaky necks—human giraffes that gobbled all they fell across—deaf to all else save their own wild piercing shrieks and terrible screams.

My Guardian Angel's was the Voice mysterious, who then in natural form appeared to me. The strong familiar voice declared:—

"These are Perverts—Knights of iniquity—Past masters in crime. Behold traitorous Judas' traitorous offspring, more vicious than their traitorous sire, behold and wonder ! They bargain for the unblemished name and reputation of their kind to Those That Hold The Reins of Power in Church or state, in mansions or in huts, everywhere—for filthy lucre. They dig pitfalls spiked with stakes midway from their lost paternal home ; lay wily snares and gins where'er they go : and 'tis decreed, they shall one day be hoisted with their own petards ; for each his ditch a grave shall be, when he has swung at last for Breach of Faith and Simple Trust"

Next crawled along a herd of groping men armless and cripples, bloodshot with the blinding fumes of Wisdom—Freaks of Fate—the poor in mind, in dire need of knowledge, coming they know not whence, going they know not where ; eager, anxious, dying to obtain a glimpse of the aftermath of the Smilers.

But what of the heartless throng that gathered in the rear—mottled and tattered, prowling, howling stamping making constant onslaught upon themselves ; horrific dwarfs with tolling tongues chasing and kicking each other in desperate scrummage e'er some stolen booty ? Forsworn, no ties of kindred nor of blood were held as sacred. Apart, forlorn and distraught, their Higher Selves with brandished steel mounted guard, weeping o'er the grovelling, writhing *things*. Wholly engaged they saw not the roaring Spirit—their Evil Genius—that fished them out, now this, now that, with burning prongs for sport, and wished the day were come to claim his own. Again and yet again when pricked, there murkily flowed ichor and dark-red gore. Swayed by cosmic passions without check, each for himself did bend his will in whate'er might harm or e'er impede his neighbour's pass. They planned and schemed like grinding tools—not for the common good—till none could move and each to each became blockade. Stung by remorse and the chance of doing something better lost, and being kind stifled, with hoarse and rancous sounds they wailed their luckless state. I learnt that these scrabbling, warring, wriggling masses were men who centred in themselves the sum of life's supremest efforts, the end of all—idol or their god none other but the Great Lone Star—SELF. They heaped up wealth they could not spend ; they fed upon the ghosts of things ; e'en Sleep denied to them its soothing balm—oblivious Somnus oft exhausted slumbrous zephyrs.

"Tell me," I prayed, "why Hell, without protest has thus let loose its cursed denizens ?"

But in reply, my Guardian promptly said:

"All these are men set up in high esteem, adored as lords and kings flattered, gulled and fooled day by day, but not for what they are, but what they have. Could they but see them as they are, in their low estate and sad condition, say, who can wish to honour them in that far-off ardent sphere, you call the World ? Fear not the Dead nor those in Hell these could nothing do to hurt or harm : dread those in flesh, the Selfish ones whose breath is in their nostrils—the carnal mind, the embodied soul. The Dead may help and care far more than you may think ; not so the living lost : Hell has no victims there malefic more nor more furious.

Be full of thanks sincere, that ye who humbly sweat for other's weal, engross the care and guiding of celestial agencies. Spare not ; the more you pity in your simple heart and seem to waste your love for Country and kind, the higher you may rise by fixed laws which none in Heaven or Earth or Hell can override without divine consent nor with impunity. The orient blushes with the dreams of coming day, and when broad shafts of sunlight fall athwart your way as heretofore, remember this "The path of Glory is the path for you" Abound in all kind words and kinder deeds. All service rates at premium and is not in vain. Seeds sown everywhere break through the parched ground and sooner than the lightning's flash, the empty Barns shall groan with stores a thousand-fold. 'Tis near and nearer wait. Heaven keeps no Punic Faith, nor e'er forgets the works of Love."

"But say," continued I, "what part of yonder world—my world—holds such dastards, such awful sights ? And where came those Smiling Ones whose smiles withdrawn completely beggars body, mind and soul ?"

"Seek not for them above, below or underneath. They are, have ever been with you—alike in Country, colour caste and creed—they hail from that Golden Strand for which you daily die. These are that Privileged Country's bane:—Wild and barbarous men whose cruel hands against all flesh are raised and run the hazard of perpetual strife. They who betray their friends or foes, those belted villains—Common Informers, lawfully gulpt. And those who all things great possessing—means and place and Name, yet live in total disregard of other's wants. And last, the wretched folks befogged—in folly sunk, in blindness ruined—who neither see nor would be led by those that are awake. These Four, Say Five; with them let every high-born son weep utmost woe."

Thereat, I swelled with bliss ineffable ; for though unknown, mayhap unseen, the Smiling Hosts were near to me. Calling to mind, however, the ghoulish monsters I had seen and their infernal works, a nervous shock—electric current—through me ran. I woke but was it all a dream a vision a reverie ? I trow not: what of you who read this dreamland allegory ? I thought it over, over again and then in accents hushed, I could not help but pray with fervent heat:—

"FOR ALL OF ME WHOSE BLOOD OF LIFE IS DAILY SHED FOR BROTHER-MAN, SEND PEACE AND SAFE PROTECTION ; AND FROM ALL DEMONS THAT ON THE EARTH ABOUND MALIGNANT FAR THAN AUGHT IN LOWEST HELL, BLEST HEAVEN DELIVER US !"

(AU REVOIR)

FACTS ABOUT THE MARRIAGE QUESTION.

BY AGYIMANN.

In writing about this much vexed question it has not been the intention of the writer to state a case as to whether the native form or the English or as they call it Solemnized form of matrimony is more calculated to suit the Fanti in his own country but to set out a few facts which ought not to be lost sight of when dealing with such questions.

Either of the two forms of matrimony has its train of evils but of the two the native form has a lesser number of evils, for whereas the English form puts it beyond the power of mortal man to grant seperation and therefore condemns the unfortunate to a long life of torture and remorse in cases where it is found though late, that the two could not live happily together, the native form provides against this emergency and orders that where either of the parties can satisfy a select number of friends and relatives that there are good reasons why the two of them should no longer live, seperation should be granted. drawing therefore a logical conclusion from this it would be wise to adopt the native form of marriage.

But it has been alleged that this native form also has its concommitant evils the power to do good is the power to do evil and it is surprising how the Proviso for seperation which was originally made with a view to further the happiness of individuals can be readily subverted into a truly diabolical process. A may fancy and be married to B after a while A may tire of Bandrihen commences a series of petty annoyances. B gets tired of this and applies

them; of these the teachers are for the most part the doers; ought not these and many other things they do be checked by the Manager? I cannot help noticing the marked difference between Wesleyan Schools of these days, and those of the past. Which can be responsible for all this? The Synod, the School Committees or the Mangers?

Thanking you for space allowed.

Yours truly.—A YOUNGMAN.

Elmina, 24th October 1904.

In answer to a question put in the last number of the Gold Coast Leader concerning the work of the "Reading Club" at Winnebah, the members of this Club have the pleasure to report to the public that since the foundation of the "Reading Club" in this town, on the 1st of August 1904 they have been enjoying every week a lecture about most interesting subjects as well as of some pleasant games and of two tea parties.

The Reading Club, which has chiefly been founded for the intellectual and physical development of the youngmen in town, has the benefit of a fine hall and its members want to be generally known by the public in giving a concert which will soon take place.

THE MEMBERS OF THE "READING CLUB."

Winneba, 29th October 1904.

Sir,—I do not know in what light the public view the sad plight we are now in concerning the state of Cape Coast since the patriots were mobbed and threatened and caused for daring to explain the meaning of a Town Council at the meeting in Chapel Square.

On the 26th of August last, a telegram was sent to Accra by the people objecting to this law and a promise was then made to forward a petition relative thereto. Shortly after, Mr. Orborne came here to explain the working of Accra Town Council and to set forth the great benefits and many blessings it has conferred on that town. Directly after the public meeting people were so much excited that many were only awaiting a chance to maul and stone some of our best townsmen. Tufuhin Coker told Mr. Osborne that the views of the town will be handed to Hon. J. P. Brown who will deliver or forward the same to Governor Rodger. Two months have passed, and from all accounts no petition or any communication has been sent by the public to the Governor, nor has Tufuhin Coker seen fit to redeem his word. Now seeing that he Coker is a well educated, energetic man, who was once the Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court of this Colony, Why has he not himself prepared both or one of these papers setting forth the views of the people. If Coker is unable or unwilling to do so cannot some of those whose chief occupation is to criticise and find fault with whatever our prominent and intelligent men suggest, step into the breach and save the situation? And in this connection none should ignore the strange proposals which Mr, Casely Hayford the Author of "Gold Coast Native Institutions" has prepared at the request of and for his Axim fellow members of our Aborigines Rights Protection Society. This production has been a painful surprise to myself but I do not intend to examine or criticise it for the reason is obvious, but it may properly be asked, are the people of this town of one mind and approve of what appeared in the press last week; are they satisfied with the trend of events; do they really approve of the delay, supineness or indifference of these our chosen leaders, is it now thier pleasure that as often as it is needed each man will pay for municipal purposes a poll tax of half a crown as proposed by the Axim people? This is a time for serious thought, strenuous endeavours and the exercise of robust common sense; surely this is not the season for hysterical protests, unsincere promises or callous indifference. Our best men have been howled down hence our impotance and threatened retribution.

CRISIS.

Cape Coast Castle,
27th Oct. 1904.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Oct. 22:—Mukden telegram 20/10 battle practically worn out itself, artillery duel continued 18/10 and 19/10 Russian centre advancing slightly each day, Russian left held good position high hill overlooking Shaho since 16/10 despite continuous bombardment and frequent Infantry attacks.

Tibet column at Phari resumed march south to-day despite deep snow.

New York Herald correspondent with Russian reports Kuroki dying of dysentry.

Mukden 21/10 during night Russians surprised Japanese battery slew gunners and captured three guns, Japanese fiercely retaliated but gun successfully taken to Russian lines.

Sakharoff reports Russians made reconnaisance in force 19/10 driving Japanese centre back some distance no fighting yesterday lull continues to-day.

In few days Roosevelt despatches invitations to the Powers to appoint delegates to second Hague conference and suggest date for meeting.

Heavy land and sea bombardment Port Arthur since 16/10.

All Baltic fleet steaming down North-sea, Admiral Rozhdistvenskio orders sealed.

23.—Baltic fleet fired at Hull trawling fleet North Sea sinking two, killing two and wounding many.

24.—Kuropatkin concentrating troops for defence of Mukden within three lines of works, first along Shaho, second along Hunho, third close to Mukden.

Announced at Petersburg Russian wounded battle Yentai 55,868 killed estimated 12,000.

King commanded special medal for members Tibetan mission and column.

Edinburgh Court of Session decided to enforce immediately Lords decision in litigation between Free and United Free Churches in Scotland.

Kuropatkin reports Japanese abandoned Shaho village.

Survey party under Captain Cowrie 149 men caught atop Bomba Pass Tibet in Blizzard snow storm spent awful night stumbled into Phari next day in pitiable condition, sixty nine permanently blind others badly frost bitten.

Reuter with Russians headquarters wiring 22/10 both armies comparatively inactive, Japanese still hold high ground sloping to Shaho. Frost bitten continual, outpost fighting occasional outpost duels both armies replenishing ammunition indicating early renewal battle. Russians intend attacking again 23/10. Officially announced Tokio Russians massing against Japanese right further investigation shows number of guns captured by Oku was 43.

Fleet Trawlers arrived Hull reports Baltic fleet on Friday night attacked Trawlers North Sea sinking two wounding many men. Eleven ships Baltic fleet passed Dungeness this afternoon at five o'clock going Westwards, four Russian Torpedo boats passed St. Catharines Point, at noon going eastwards.

Solicitors for owners of fifty Hull Trawlers notified Foreign Office and Admiralty of attack, they state portion fleet turned searchlights on Trawlers for sometime opened fire on Trawler Crane which sunk decapitated bodies captain and mate brought to Hull.

Admiralty energetically investigating affair. Hong fishermen arrived London to give evidence. Nine Trawlers reported missing.

Hottentot rising greatly aggravating situation southwest Africa causing considerable depression in Germany.

Final total Russian dea buried by Japanese after battle Shaho amounts to 13,333.

Connection North Sea outrage sixteen fishermen hitherto reported killed greatest indignation prevails north of England. Mayor of Hull telegraphed Balfour appealing to the Government to make speediest and strongest measures to obtain redress. After cannonading one of Russian ships remained by until daylight rendering no assistance, amair regarded in Government circles as gravest but believed Russia take earliest opportunity to afford reparation. All Trawlers now accounted for official after obtaining full statement from representatives Hull and Grimsby fishing Industry urgent representations addressed Russian Government at Petersburg in opinion of the Government situation admits of no delay.

26:—Count Benckendorff, Russian Ambassador authorised Daily News inform the people of England the absolutely certain occurence is deplorable which regretted himself and for his country, universal indignation sympathy expressed in foreign press indignation in country most intense, language of newspapers more emphatic than yesserday declared Russian must be asked interrupt voyage Baltic fleet.

King given 200 guineas to families and sufferers. The Kings telegram to Mayor of Hull refers to occurence as unwarrantable action.

Tsar telegraphed King deep regret and sympathy to families.

Oyama reports final Japanese losses Shaho battle 15,879.

Reuter reports Lamsdorff had lengthy conference with the Tsar in the afternoon after which drove to British Embassy asked Hardinge inform King and British Government Tsar attributed incident to most regrettable misunderstanding, would take steps to make fullest reparation directly circumstances cleared up. Hardinge presented British note this afternoon.

Trawler Snipe arrived Hull badly damaged.

Official immediately news of the incident received as precaution preliminary orders for mutual support and co-operation issued by Admiralty to Channel, Mediterranean and home fleets.

27:—The Times says if one satisfaction not immediately obtained, public expects Balticers shall be stopped off Vigo or Gibraltar by Channel fleet.

Ukase 23/10 appointed Kuropatkin supreme commander army Far East.

All Naval leave stopped in England, Admiralty arranged in the event of emergency overwhelming force to concentrate at any of points where its service might be required.

Alexieff reported returning to St. Petersburg expected forerunner his retirement from post of Viceroy.

Death announced Field Marshall Norman.

Russian reply promises fullest reparation directly Russian official report received. Lansdowne considers reply incomplete owing failure comply demand punishment officers responsible. Further communications being exchanged.

Rozhdiestuenski arrived Vigo.

28.—Prince Koretelli officer battleship Imperator Alexander III explains transport steaming ahead fleet in south sea suddenly surrounded by eight torpedoers asked help battleship division advanced signalled strangers leave or state nationality, strangers refused report of gun heard, Admiral replied afterwards and continuing voyage. Admiral feared strangers Japanese torpedoes, Rozhdiestomski declares he acted according to his conscience in order to prevent destruction of his squadron.

Daily Mail understands Britain requires acquiescence in demands for punishment culprits and security against recurrence by this afternoon otherwise Channel fleet instructed ask Balticers return to Russia.

Telegram from Rozhdiestomski received St. Petersburg describing presence two foreign topedoers with Trawlers, one disappeared, other remained until morning waiting for companion or repairing declares torpedoers Japanese, adds no torpedoes with Russian all sent in advance to Cherburg. Report communicated to British Embassy.

Sekondi, 25th October, 1904.

Dear Sir,—The members of my Committee desire to thank you for the valuable assistance you have proffered by way of inserting in your interesting journal the recent communications with the Government respecting the Town Councils Ordinance, and request that you give publicity to the enclosed copies of correspondence in due course.

I am,

Yours truly,—FRED A. SAM.
Secretary, Town Committee.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Accra, 6th October, 1904.

No. 1043.

Abene,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of the petition dated 24th September, 1904, of yourselves and your subordinate Chiefs and councillors, on the subject of the extention of the Town Councils Ordinance 1904, to Sekondi.

2. I am to inform you that, after careful consideration of the petition, His Excellency is unable to accede to your request to repeal the Ordinance or to revoke its extension to Sekondi.

3. It is obvious from the tone of your petition that you have been misled as to the nature of the house rate. You will, of course, understand that to enable the Town Council to carry out their duties, they must have money. The greater part of their revenues is given to them by the Government in the shape of duties on spirit licenses, dog licenses, auctioneer's licenses and sundry fines and penalties, if it is not enough the towns people have to help to make up the deficiency by house rates. In Accra the house rate is only one-fifth of the revenue of the Council. A copy of a recent speech by the President of the Accra Town Council is attached, for your information.

4. It is also evident that you do not understand that the house rate is not a grievious imposition. First of all the houses are valued, suppose you have a house which you let fairly to a stranger for one pound a month, that house will be rated at £12 a year, and by the Ordinance cannot pay for if more than 12/- rate in any one year. For every one pound that your house is worth for letting purposes, you cannot pay more than a shilling a year and may not have to pay so much.

5. The levying of the rate is a matter for the Council when it is formed. Before it can be formed, the houses will have to be valued, and everybody possessing a house worth £2 will be put on the Voters list and have a right to vote at the election of four unofficial members of the Council. The valuation will take place at once, and a number will be put on each house so that it may be identified in the books of the Council and the owner's put on the Voters list, the election will take place about February next, and if the Council when completed find they cannot get enough money without a rate, they will ask you to pay anything up to one shilling a year on the value of your houses.

6. There is one point on which you have been misinformed by persons who have read the Ordinance without understanding it, there is not a word in it which vests any personal property or any property at all in the Crown. As the revenue of the Council, and the Crown has no interest in either its funds or its property.

7. His Excellency is of course acquainted with the draft proclamation referred to in the last paragraph of your petition, and draws your attention to the fact that it is distinctly stated in Clause x of that proclamation that Her late Majesty Queen Victoria had power and jurisdiction to establish municipalities.

8. In conclusion, His Excellency trusts that, as loyal subjects of the Crown, you and your people will assist the authorities to carry out the provisions of the Ordinance; and that, by taking an intelligent interest in the affairs of your town, you will lay the foundation to the grant to natives of this Colony of more extensive powers of local self government in the future.

I am,
Abene,
Your good Friend,
(Signed). H. BRYAN.
Colonial Secretary.

Sekondi, 21st October, 1904.

His Excellency,
John Pickersgill Rodger,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief
of the Gold Coast Colony &c.,
Accra.

May it please Your Excellency,—We beg leave respectfully to acknowledge the receipt per the Acting Provincial Commissioner, Sekondi, of Your Excellency's letter bearing date October 6th, 1904, signed by H. Bryan Colonial Secretary, and addressed to Ahinfu Annies II and Kudjoe Kuttabrah purporting to be an answer to the petition of ourselves dated September 24th, and addressed to Your Excellency.

2. We note with great surprise and regret that

after careful consideration of the said petition, Your Excellency is unable to entertain our request to repeal the Ordinance or to revoke its extension to Sekondi.

3. It is quite evident from the tenor of the letter under reply that Your Excellency has not yet perused the several statements made or expressed by us at meetings on various occasions with Your Excellency's representatives of this district (which request Mr. Mrxwell to lay before you in writing, and he promised to comply), and has under the circumstance seized the opportunity of viewing the substance of our petition in a different light. In expressing our indebtedness for the copy of Speech delivered by the President of the Accra Town Council attached to the communication under reply, we would respectfully point out to Your Excellency the fact that, besides failing to support the purpose for which it was intended, the same contravenes the constitutionalism of the enactment.

4. From a careful and attentive reading of the annexed copies of notes of the various interviews referred to in clause 3 of this communication, Your Excellency will realize that your loyal subjects were fully versed and conversant with the meaning and provisions of the Ordinance under protest, the nature of the House and other Rates prior to and during its application to Sekondi, and that Your Excellency's impression as to our having been misled and misinformed by persons not understand the same according to paragraphs 3 and 6 of your letter, is unfortunately erroneous. And as to the vesting of property real, personal or other in the Crown, which embodies a vital point in paragraph 5 of our petition, Your Excellency will not in any case contradict the logical meaning which the operation of the Ordinance, as it is, practically conveys, though there is literally not a word therein expressed as such.

5. With reference to the establishment of municipalities as stated in Clause X of the draft proclamation to which our attention is drawn, we hope that Your Excellency does not lose sight of the fact that has been invariably pointed out or submitted, that in its present form, the Ordinance is fundamentally repugnant to our manners and customs—the desire of your loyal subjects being in having a municipality rid of all official elements, based on our national institutions and so adapted, organized and formed as to satisfy our modern wants; a Municipality which will advocate or utilize for the common weal of all that is best and most suitable among the inhabitants of this Country. On this point, Your Excellency will admit that the most obnoxious of the provisions of the Ordinance are the predominance of officialism in the constitution of the Council and the House and other Rates which are the direct outcome of the same and will further maintain that this ruinous and desolating piece of legislation does not introduce the principles of self-government under any circumstances.

6. In support of paragraph 5 hereof, Your Excellency is referred to paragraphs 6, 7, 8 and 9 of our petition which we presume have been accidentally ignored, but which are of equal importance as those that have received the due attention and consideration of Your Excellency, and to the last paragraph of the petition sent by the Omanhin, Chiefs and the inhabitants of Cape Coast to Mr. Chamberlain in the fall of 1896 against the Lands Bill and this Town Councils Ordinance which reads —"As to the Town Councils Ordinance, Your petitioners most humbly beg to call Your Lordship's "attention to the memorial presented to the Secretary of State on 2nd June 1889, on the Municipality Bill as it will fully express the views your "petitioners and as to the number of grants in aid "therein prayed for has been approved of and acted "on in the case of the Municipality of Freetown, "Sierra Leone, your humble petitioners entertain "the hope that a measure on the lines of our native "institutions will be granted us" and which we fully endorse.

7. To return to the subject matter of our petition of September 24th last, we need hardly urge on Your Excellency in Council the importance of directly considering the advisability of repealing the Ordinance in toto, which, in the form of a dark cloud is, to serious extent, threatening the prosperity of the country under your administration.

We have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's humble & obedient servants,

Councillors, Dutch Sek.	their marks	Councillors, British Sek.	their marks
(Sgd.) Ohin Asalsee II.	x	(Sgd.) Ohin K. Katabrah	x
Chief Kobina Kuma	x	,, Chief Kwesi Andoh	x
,, Coff Enyan	x	,, Cobina Inkirsa	x
,, Cobina Busum	x	,, Kweku Effrim	x
,, Kujo Yewah	x	,, Kwesi Buabeh	x
,, Esen Intermah	x	,, Kwesi Awortwi	x
,, Yalley Kujo	x	,, Andoh Koh	x
,, Buampon	x	,, Cobina Eslah	x
,, Inketia Esen	x		
,, Akrosiu Kwa	x	George R. Bray	
,, Akye Wiaba	x	J. H. Sheck	
,, Kwamina Wurodu	x	J. H. Bissue	
,, Kobina Po	x	T. H. Sam	
,, Kweku Fraiku	x	W. F. Last	
,, Kujo Dadzie	x	J. D. Gerrar	
,, Kuju Arbin	x	J. F. Dadson	
,, Kwesi Comah	x	I. Dennis Sey	
,, Kujo Buamtwi	x	J. C. Welsing	
,, Ansah Kweku		J. A. Noonoo	
,, Awortwi Korkor	x	J. Wilson Idun	
,, Qwesi Esen	x	H. G. Sey	
,, Abbaka Ekoo	x	S. D. Mensah	
,, James Abuah	x	E. J. Hayfron	
	marks	J. R. Asbong	
Witness to marks of both parties		Chas. B. Acquah	
(Sgd.) Fred. A. Sam,		J. A. Solomon	
Clerk, Sekondi.			

NOTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COURT HOUSE ON FRIDAY, 7TH OCTOBER, 1904, AT 6-30 A. M

D. C. Maxwell:—I hope you and your people will allow me to say what I propose telling you. I have communicated by telegram to the Governor the prodeedings which have taken place in connection with the proclamation of the Town Councils Odinance; I have received no definite reply, and have received no instructions to stop my duties.

Now until I receive instructions to stop, I must proceed. The Executive Council at Accra has seen fit to proclaim Peace Preservation Ordinance to extend to Sekondi, in case there be any rioting or any obstruction in carrying out the work. Now I wish to tell you this morning what the Peace Preservation Odinance is. The Chiefs are responsible for the peace of the town; if there is any rioting, they are liable to be fined by the Governor in Council a sum not exceeding £500. All people in Sekondi under the Chiefs of Dutch Sekondi and British Sekondi must deliver up to the Commissioner on Thursday next the 13th October all arms and ammunitions in their possession. I am speaking to you as your friend not as a Government officer when I am advising you to allow the Appraiser to enter your houses value them and put on numbers. The only remedy which appears to me to be proper is that you can protest against the Ordinance as much as you choose; you can send your petition to me to be transmitted to His Excellency the Governor, or send it to the Colonial Secretary who will submit same to the Governor, if you wish to carry it further you can do so. I feel my position very keenly and I only hope that you will take my advice as your friend. I know most people object to it, but I am sorry that I cannot help it. Until definite instructions are issued to me to stop carrying out the work, I must proceed: if I don't, then another commissioner will be sent here. I don't know if I can say any more, but I feel very sorry to have to tell you that I have no definite instructions to stop, and that what I can do for any one in Sekondi is to advise him on any point if he comes to see me.

When I tell you to allow the Appraiser to appraise and number all the houses, I tell you as your good friend not as Government Officer.

Kumah:—(My people, you have heard what the Commissioner has said. What have you got to say?). We have heard what you have said, and accordingly have put before the inhabitants, whose answer is that not wishing any blame to be attached to you personally, they forward a petition to the Governor. We are asked to deliver before Thursday next all arms and ammunitions in our possession, we beg to inform you that we have none of these things. As you say you are a good friend to us, we would ask you to stop the appraiser from valuing and numbering the houses until we recieved a reply from the Governor. The whole inhabitants still protest against the Town Councils Ordinance on account that it is repugnant to their manners and customs, and that they have no money to pay the tax; and if we take upon ourselves to accept it, it will doubtless end in our ruin.

D. C:—I am very glad to hear that you express yourselves that you look upon me as your good friend and have confidence in me, but I can assure you I feel my position very keenly indeed. I can also assure you that the last thing I would recommend or adopt for Sekondi is for its ruination. The Government believes, and personally, I believe that the application of the Ordinance to Sekondi will be for your benefit. I have been instructed as being the Commissioner here for the time being to carry out these instructions, and until I am stopped by His Excellency the Governor, I must proceed. I cannot stop the appraising or the numbering of the houses. That work must go on; if, at a subsequent date, the Chiefs recieve an answer to their petition that the Town Councils Ordinance is not to be applied to the town, I will stop the work. The numbering of the houses will not interfere with your protest in the slightest degree—you will not be put to any inconvenience. Your houses will not be taken from you; this is a pure formality for subsequent events.

Kumah:—If you have a servant who is very willing to do any thing you require, but he refuses one day to do what you want, then it he is not sick some thing must be wrong with him. As we told you frankly the other day that the expenses incurred in building the houses at Yonsuadu and Essikadu have not been wiped off, even the stumps of the old trees have not been uprooted: if you apply this house tax to Sekondi, we will not be able to pay it; so when the houses are marked, and the owners have no means to pay the tax, and we are sure to be driven out, what benefit is the Ordinance to Sekondi?

If we do not know what the Town Council is we have had an instance of Accra's, and for this reason we gave you the parable that if you have a boy whom you send and does not go, if he is not sick, he must naturally be hungry. As is the case in Accra, we know if any one fails to pay the rate, his house will be sold. You are a good friend to us, you have given us a satisfactory explanation of the Ordinance; we have told you in return that we dislike it and have given you our reasons for such dislike. As no answer has been received through you to our petition, and the appraiser is going to mark the houses in spite of our warnings to stop him, we must point out to you that if any of the people do anything to the appraiser, you have no grounds to hold the Chiefs responsible. It is our wish to support and give you every assistance in our power in doing what is good for the town and people, therefore anything we say to you, you should also take our word or communicate to the Governor if you find necessary.

D. C:—Certainly, as I have told you before, I have concealed nothing from you, and you also admit that I have made you perfectly to understand the provisions of the ordinance and every thing concerning it. All that I have said you can accept as absolutely true; coming from a gentleman, the word of a gentleman.

Kumah:—What we want you to do is to stop the appraiser from coming to the native town to number or value the houses, until we get a reply from the Governor.

D, C:—I am very sorry that I cannot do so; as I have already said, if I do so, I will be removed from Sekondi.

Kumah:—You represent the Governor; personally we do wish you to suffer in any way respecting this affair; as there is sure to be riot between the people and the Appraiser if he goes there to mark the houses, you should lay this matter before the Governor and hear what he will say.

D. C:—I have given you my assurances; the marking of the houses does not affect you in any way. I shall communicate to the Governor the proceedings of this meeting, and until I recieve his reply to stop, I must carry out my instructions.

Kumah:—You will admit that since you resided in this town as Commissioner for this district, nobody not even the Chiefs have one day spoken to you in this manner; that the whole inhabitants are here present and are so angry about the matter shows that they do not wish such a thing to be done by the government, they utterly dislike it. If the Ordinance is consonant with their manners and customs and in short if it is agreeable, nobody dare come to see you about it nor even make such noise in the Court or write a petition to the Governor.

D.C:—Yes, I know that, unfortunately.

Kumah:—That's the reason we told you frankly to stop the appraiser from coming to the native town. We have no guns and ammunitions, but there is sure to be some riot if the appraiser goes to the native town to mark the houses.

D.C:—I have already advised you to let your houses be numbered and appraised.

Kumah:—This we have told you that we won't allow; we repeat that if the appraiser comes to the native town, there will be some riot for which you will not hold us responsible.

Effuah Awortwi:—I represent the whole women here present and at home, and I tell you that we are willing to support you in carrying out any work good for the country and people, but in the present work, we are sorry to say we cannot help you seeing that we dislike it. You are our master, and we your servants; we wish to assist you in whatever you tell us which is good; if therefore we tell you that we refuse to help you in one thing, you should realize that that same is exceptionally not good. We are women, we have no guns and are not strong like men, but if the appraiser comes to mark the houses we will not allow him, and if he insist on marking, we will strike him with a short stick used for cooking purposes. You are worrying us about this matter; you have made us to stop all our domestic work simply to while our time on this useless aboraiuable matter. Now we must ask you to get the Ordinance abolished.

D.C:—Chiefs, your will let your people retire quietly; they have given me a very patient hearing, and I am very thankful that they have been good to me. I hope they will continue to be so.

Meeting closed.

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J. D. ABRAHAM,
Licensed Auctioneer

Cape Coast, 20th October 1904.

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All the **Goods** are marked at **prices which defy competition** and **Residents** and **Traders** are respectfully desired to inspect same and prove the truth of this statement.

Special attention is directed to the **Store** entirely devoted to **Haberdashery** and **Fancy Goods**. of the formrr, various lines in **Ladies' and Gentlemens' Wear**, never before imported to the Gold Coast, are now on show. The latest Styles **fresh from the London and Paris Markets** are here shown and a Department especially devoted to **Ladies Wear** is set apart under the **Superintendence of a Young Lady** and the direct supervision of our **Manager**. We mention a few of the lines displayed; any detailed list would prove much too long.

LADIES GOODS

Ladies Hats, trimmed and untrimmed in latest shapes and colourr. Ladies Gloves, ordinary and evening wear in all shades. Ladies Corset in latest Paris styles, Ladies belts, fancy and plain. Ladies chemises; Ladies Knickers; Ladies Hose, plain and fancy &c. &c.; Ladies boots; Ladies shoes; Ladies evening and dance slippers; Ladies underskirts in Silk, Satin and Fancies; Ladies Umbrellas; Ladies Parasols, all shades and styles; Ladies Hose suspenders.

GENT'S GOODS.

Gent's Hats, Silk, Felt, fancy and straw. Gent's caps all latest styles and cuts. Gent's gloves. Gent's underwear—Singlets, Pants &c. in Silk and plain. Gents Hose, plain and fancy. Gent's Hose suspenders. Gent's Hat-bands. Gent's Umbrellas in unlimited varieties. Gent's collars, all latest shapes and styles. Gent's ties and bows in all colours and shapes. Gent's Tie holders. Gent' tie clips. Gent's Shirts white and fancy. Gent's shirts, Flannel, Tennis &c. Gent's shirts white mat. Gent's shirt sleeve suspenders in various styles. Gent's braces, silk. Gent's braces, fancy and ordinary. Gent's suits, Ready made in all styles and cloths. Gent's suitings, fancy serge and tweed. Gent's walking sticks, Malacca canes, congo sticks and all kinds of fancies. Gent's cummer bunds. Gent's Pipes smoking, in cases and plain. Gent's pouches, Tobacco, in all styles. Gent's cigar and cigarette Holders. Gent's cigar and cigarette cases; Gent's Cigarettes 3 castles and woodbines, Tobaccos, Capstan and Smith's Glasgow mixture &c. &c.

Children's Goods in endless variety.

Xmas and New Year's Cards, Private and ordinary.

Fireworks of all kinds.

We would solicit an early call to inspect these goods and so also avoid the inevitable crush which is sure to take place on the opening of these Stores.

WANTED

At the Accra Club House a competent CHIEF STEWARD age 35 to 40 who can read and write, capable of controlling other stewards—salary £70 to £80 per annum. Applications and testimonials to be addressed to the Secretary Accra Club, Accra not later than the 30th November 1904.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Honourable members (Messrs Sarbah and Brown) who left here last Monday for the Council (Headquarters) returned to Town last Wednesday morning by the Ara.

With Band-playing, Bicycle races at the Chapel Square, and dinners and Concerts, the King's Birthday passed off pleasantly last Wednesday.

As usual Fort William was decorated with flags, and twenty-one guns fired there.

The Wangarras are noted for carrying heavy, big loads, but one of them attempting to carry a load of six feet long and about four feet wide, found this cannot be done.

He threw it down in the Elmina Road, and the Omanhin to whom it was reported, sent two men to bring it home to find the owner the men had to stop about three times in the way from the heaviness of the load, drinking over 1/- worth of rum, I suppose, for strength.

Mr. Clare the Chief Agent of the African Association, came up here from Accra by the Ara. Mr Odell left for England by the same steamer invalided.

The Civil Service Association Concert and Dance came off splendidly at the D.C's Court on the King's Birthday, only I hope better arrangements will be made when a large number of guests is invited.

or other the pent up fires will break down that feeble barrier, and that an artificial volcano on either side of the mountain will belch forth, vomiting out red-hot scoriæ, and ejecting, as at Etna, vast quantities of volcanic missiles, stones, and molten lava. Should this happen, what a spectacle will be presented: fiery tongues and forks of livid flame issuing from the mouth of the tunnel, as from a great piece of ordnance, deafening explosions which discharge volley after volley of red-hot rocks, dealing out death and destruction, and devastating the adjacent country with utter ruin; a very inferno, weird, appalling, and terrible.

We are sometimes apt to lose sight of the fact that beneath the crust of the earth—and that crust is no thicker, relatively, and in comparison, than is the shell of an egg—is a vast glowing hypocaust, a seething furnace of molten igneous rocks and incandescent gases about two hundred and fifty thousand million cubic miles in volume; not, judging by the specific gravity of the earth, a solid mass of liquid rock, but a vast sealed up caldron, partly occupied by tempest-tossed, fiery oceans, and partly by steam and flaming gases. And, judging from the eruptions from the safety valves of the earth—the volcanoes—from time to time those glowing fiery seas are lashed into fury by outbursts of steam and gases, and we may well assume, that like as our oceans are agitated by winds, so those flaming oceans beneath us are at times torn into foaming billows and curling waves of incandescent liquid by the blasts and hurricanes of those gaseous tornadoes.

But by the fiat of the Almighty Creator those surging whirlpools and raging oceans of seething molten rock are scarely contained within the bonds of their prison-house, only breaking forth from time to time to convince us, as at Krakatao, how utterly helpless is proud man in the presence of the mighty forces of nature. And yet He whose Almighty power could create this amazing wonder, deigned to lay aside for a time His Divine Majesty, and to be scourged, insulted, and put to death for us men and for our salvation. And to all who come to Him for salvation, each one of those cruel lashes was the punishment for their misdeeds, borne by Him in their stead.

SCRUTINEER.

It used to be urged with accentuation of language that the natives of the soil as armchair patriots whose patriotism was only professed by the lips, were more easily prone in the directing of scaring criticisms than co-operating in the administration of their affairs. There was much evident truth in this assertion for I myself had witnessed it in my day—a few years recently—that there were quite a multitude of a marvellous sort of patriots whose patriotism was so many degrees near the freezing-point that they could with much difficulty be persuaded to stir out of the Lethean sofa to warn a worm wandering beyond its legal bounds. But communities like individuals always stand in need of a warming-pan that will melt the stupefactive elements depriving them of vigour and restore them to a state of sensibility and use; for when the rust of indifference lies deep, blotching the joints of normal activity, men are apt to go to sleep leaving their interests and happiness to take as much care of themselves as they possibly can. Such a pan for warming us into a renewed state of activity and constancy of purpose was, fortunately for our existences, not wanting as the public could testify; and although things may not seem as desirable as they should be, it is great consolation to admit that the days of lethargic patriotism is very fast giving way to the days of practical patriotism as those of the ancient and mediæval way of thinking, reasoning, viewing, and doing things are fleeing away before the rays of the twentieth century evolution of ideas. I perceive then that the argument could no longer be upheld that the native is more a critic than a co-operator, for it could be visibly discerned that incapacitated as he is by being denied a legitimate representation in the Legislature, he nevertheless plays his fair part by constantly jotting down some practical suggestions the impartial consideration of, and practice upon, which contendedness and quietude will prevail. The Government, however, which had been desiring co-operation had not, appeared to view with approval the turn of it in this respect; and as fast as the natives diligently laid down suggestions so fast had the authorities not simply refrained from acting upon them but set about to counteract them with all possible aggravation. Despite this unfair policy of ruling regardless of the feelings of the governed and ruling dependently on the force of might than right and love, the natives have never lost heart; and for our part we shall ever continue to point out the way to rule us satisfactorily and leave the Government which is at best a foreign institution to quiet their own conscience, assuming that they have one to quiet.

I sincerely sympathize with Governor Rodger in the present difficulty of his position with regard to the attempted application of the Town Councils Ordinance. I am not of that number who are so impulsively hasty at first in lauding to the skies a new Governor as an angel dropped from heaven and subsequently hurl him to the floor and start barking at his heels as furiously as a rejected messenger should his career turn out to be anything but desirable. I prefer to patiently watch the whirligig of events, and if at all praise is due offer it in the fullness of time. Were I one of the other class I would have been the loudest in proclaiming the praises of the man who believes that it is his business to seek the interest of the natives in a greater number than that of the few cosmopolitan whites; who prefers and is not ashamed to deem himself the Friend and Protector of the natives than a compeer and the pet of a Society of merchant clerks and mines managers who found such a pet and a friendly Saviour in Sir Matthew Nathan. There is one noticeable feature in His Excellency that I greatly admire and that is his practical snubbing of snobbery. One of the many unseemly dispositions in men that I detest is snobbery, and I enjoy seeing His Excellency checking this quality which appears to be almost congenital in a host of whites on the Coast. If His Excellency will always endeavour to be the MAN in the sense that throughout his local life he will perpetually carry out his own convictions based on impartiality of judgment and tempered with sympathy towards native feelings; if he will always avoid suffering these convictions to be influenced by those of the "many-years'-experience-on-the Coast" officials, and generally if he will avoid suffering his judgments to be influenced with the opinions of flunkeys, snobs, informants, and fame-hunting sycophants, (of whom he has a number for officials and a host for subjects), he will not only ensure his endearment to the natives but will within a short time turn round and view his works with the feeling of satisfaction that fills one after the performance of a work of benevolence. A Governor of the Gold Coast has many difficulties to encounter, one of which is to keep at an effectual bay the cringing and winding nature of a class of the devils' forerunners in this country who whenever they meet a weakly governor can transform him from the best to the worst of their kind. Governors indeed need watch and pray that they enter not into the tents of these Protean Amphibeans. With regard to the "Town Councils Ordinance" which seems to be his baptism of fire, I believe His Excellency could settle that matter satisfactorily by *giving it out* to Downing Street as his opinion (as I presume it likely to be) that the law as initiated by the stool-hunter. Sir Fred Hodgson was conceived without any regard whatever to the natural aboriginal institutions of the People which should be improved upon but not utterly disregarded, and consequently it should be repealed and another likely to appeal to the inclinations of the People suffered to come into being. Governor Rodger is on the spot. And this I think he can do. And doing this bring peace and kindly and loyal feelings. Which will make himself happy. And we therefore anticipate this from him.

Apropos of Capt.-magistrate Greene and his colleague in authority Superintendent Quist, many letters have come to me during the past week not merely confirming the behaviour of these two men in power, as my readers are aware, but some aggravating their conduct in an undesirable manner. The Captain has been posted up in a neighbouring district (Odumasi I am informed) but my common humanity towards my fellow-subjects do not allow me to feel at ease all the same, as I feel as equally for the dwellers at Kumasi, and especially as the man Quist "who makes the magistrates naughty on the Bench" at the expense of those unfortunately arraigned before them, by going into question extremes" is still at Kumasi. This curious man Quist who partially-educated as he is can be expected to read and understand his Bible, is certainly not only a discredit to the Police Force, but a source of great danger to the public happiness. The best place to keep such officials, if retained in the service they must be, is on the Coast where the influence of civilization will keep them within legal limits: I suggest to Major Kitson that this is a fellow he should keep near himself either at Accra, Saltpond or Cape Coast. The Government surely have some respect for themselves and I naturally expect that the matter will invite the attention it deserves.

I have been viewing with keen pleasure and satisfaction the establishment of the West African Mineral Water Manufacturers Limited in this town in many respects, one of which is that this virgin may prove an attraction in drawing into the Country other similar establishments. A Country that must cope with the march of progress should necessarily be able to produce out of its own domain most of the sustenance of life; and with agriculture on a practical basis and manufactories here and there affording employment to hundreds of hands we shall not have to depend so much on trading pure and simple that is on the wane. I begin to imagine flourishing manufactories of bread, butter, sugar, jam, hats, boots, cloth; mills grinding corn; brrweries brewing ale and porter, tobacconist, and a great many I cannot for the nonce enumerate, giving employmeni to such a number of hands that will make us as independent as we ought to be. We are living in a world of possibilities and these things may happen some day however hopelessly circumstanced we may be at present; for there is a God in heaven who disposes of the affairs of men to their advantage according as they trust in Him. We have had to depend a great deal on the few small Firms working in the country, and these conscious of the fact that we depend on them and also conscious of their on self-importance use their influence in bringing some natives to the state poverty conduced through disemployment by abortive and whimsical "Combinations" and "Schemes." I wish the West African Mineral Waters Manufacturers Limited boundless success, and I deem it a duty to warm them to be cautious of the trepannings of the Firms of the local notoriety even against their "Schemes" and "Combinations." We are living in a British Protectorate and surely every man ought to be fairly allowed to pursue *bona-fide* trade without the trikeries of a few houses who have managed to secure good ground or the unreasonable incommodiousness of a Government.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

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 Sir,—I thank you on behalf of the Axim Branch of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society for publishing the Draft Bill for the establishment of Municipal Corporations on the Gold Coast, which had been prepared by me by the instructions of the Committee.

You will allow me to point out:—

1. That the present is a moment for action, the time for "Consternation and indignation" being past.

2. That to save valuable time, discussion must be focussed, and what is wanted in the shape of municipal government on aboriginal lines distinctly stated. In other words, after saying we do not want this and that, we must be able to add, without any chance of misunderstanding, that it is this and that that we want.

3. That the committee, whom I have the honour of representing, have no desire of forcing down the throat of the country their views. But, since public opinion is with them, at least, in part, they respectfully invite dicussion and counter-suggestions with a view to united action at this critical moment.

This is all that is asked for, and, surely, it is not asking too much.

Yours faithfully,—CASELY HAYFORD.
Counsel.

Axim, 4. 11. 1094.

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184 Arther Green Lane,
Lewisham, S. E. London,
21st Oct. 1904.

NOYE, BLANCHARD & CO.

Dear Sir,—As I find that the above style and title is being advertised in the journal "West Africa" I think it right to inform you that my connexion with this business was severed over 12 months ago.

As a matter of fact, the partnership, as constituted above, has legally ceased to exist. The statutary notice of the Dissolution appeared in the London Gazette in the month of September 1903.

My object in bringing this matter to your notice is to point out that the use of my name in such a way as to cause an impression that I am still a partner is both misleading and illegal.

I shall feel obliged, therefore, if you will publish, for the benefit of your Readers, the foregoing particulars.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours truly—WILLIAM BLANCHARD.

Cape Coast, /8/11/04.

HE WHO KEEPS SILENCE CONFESSES.

Dear Sir,—When passing to the Jackson Street, on the 24th. ultimo, I perceived that the drain recently repaired at the Royal Lane was carelessly done. There was no allowance given to the water courses, running from the adjoining houses to main drain, as well as the cross drain; and also the side of the drain wall was not filled up with earth; and no doubt the first heavy rain, will cost great damages.

His Excellency ordered that the place must be thoroughly repaired, and why his orders would not be carried out beneficially? It is our present Assistant Engineer's negligence. I hereby draw our D. C.'s attention to that effect.

Yours very truly,—CUDJOE AIDOO.

Cape Coast, 3rd Nov. 1904.

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

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Oct. 28:—Reuter understands Russia contends British demand spunishment of officers for infringement Tsar's sovereign rights, punishment must be meted out on spontaneous innative Tsars government after considering the view of although situation continues critical, tension slightly relaxed hope result Rozhdiestvoraski report Russian foreign official to-night considers circumstances justify investigation all circumstances by mixed Anglo-Russian tribunal whatever happens Britain insists Balticers shall remain within reach of Petersburg authorities until matter cleared up, report time limit fixed or ultimation presented absolutely unfounded.

Oct. 29:—Russian Navy General staff publishes two telegrams from Razbdiestvomski, one incident in North Sea provoked by two torpedoers which without showing rights advanced to attack vessel steaming at head of detachment, search lights discovered several small steam vessels resembling fishing boats; detachment endeavoured to spare these there was not single torpedoer with detachment and none were left on the scene of occurence consequently it was one of the two torpedoers which not sunk but only damaged which remained, detachment unassisted small craft because suspected them of complicity. Second telegram having met several hundred fishing boats squadron showed them every consideration except where they are in company of foreign torpedoers one whereof disapheared, if there also fishermen also imprudently involved in this enterprise I beg in the name whole fleet express sincere regret for unfortunate victims of circumstances where no warship could have acted otherwise even in time of profound peace.

Japanese began desperate attack Port Arthur 26/10 assailed easter Kikwan fort silenced Russian batteries stormed and occupied forts in front Erlungshan and sung Chowchan.

Cabinet meeting held to-day after which on suggestion Cambon, French Ambassador decided issue between Britain and Russia be submitted to international enquiry.

Statement this effect made by Balfour speaking Southampton to-night added Russian promised enquiry ordered detention at Tigo portion Baltic squadron concerned, officers responsible not to proceed Far East but be tried adequately, Russia giving orders which prevent recurrence outrage.

31:—Spanish Government has authorised Baltic fleet to remain at Vigo until Russian enquiry at that place completed.

Officially stated Petersburg Russian losses in fighting at Shaho were forty six thousand.

Fresh disturbances reported Morocco rebels besieging Larocho fired on British steamer Hercules.

3:—British cruiser Lancaster arrived Vigo yesterday afternoon, captain had interview with Admiral Rozhdiestvenski, Lancaster afterwards left Vigo.

Nov. 1Russian enquiry into North Sea outrage commenced Vigo yesterday.

Reuter Chifu telegraphs general attack Port Arthur proceeding with unabated vigour, Japanese captured two positions.

French correspondent St. Petersburg assert Rozhdiestvenski been recalled ostensibly owing ill health but really owing English indignation.

Kruger's body conveyed from Hague to Rotterdam this morning.

Reuter Chifu in later telegram states fierce battle raging Port Arthur, Japanese believe two more assaults needed after present one before distance sufficiently short to make final dash.

Kuropatkin reports Japanese in neighbourhood Seaho begun significant movement from west to east, eastern wing being reinforced from south; heavy artillery duel occurred to-day towards east and Japanese crossed river at some points.

Montanaro, Companion Bath.

Archbishop of Canterbury consecrated Hamlyn, Asst. Bishop for Western Equatorial Africa at St. Paul's Cathedral, thirteen Bishops present including Sierra Leone Tugwell and Taylor Smith.

2:—Baltic fleet left Vigo to-day unexpectedly indication some hitch occurred, believed exception been taken to paucity and selection of officers left behind for purposes of investigation.

Gibralta garrison mobilized noon to-day, artillery immediately raking up position on roads no explanation given. Later message states British fleet at Gibraltar preparing to sail. Gen. Sir George White commanding fortress summoned all troop commanders to council at Government house great activity displayed.

According to a statement Foreign Office to-night Russia engaged before warships of Baltic fleet left Vigo they not interfere neutral commerce, four officers remain at Vigo as result enquiry. The two governments now discussing terms of reference to international commission.

Batavier IV sailed from Rotterdam with Kruger's remains yesterday, Leyds and Heymans of Middelbury, Director of Netherlads railway aboard. Oleoff sails from Antwerp on Shursday.

President Roosevelt announces arbitration treaty with Britain being negociated.

4:—Signal station month Tagus reports four Russian battleships followed four British cruisers appears confirm statement. Walter's cruiser division watching Russians.

Rozhdiestvenski arrived Tangier with second part Baltic fleet.

Morning Post says there is reason to believe arrangements been made with British squadron to shadow the Baltic fleet throughout voyage by both routes.

British government submitted Russia proposal commission to consist of four delegates appointed by Britain, Russia, France and United States, the fifth to be selected by these to meet at Paris.

Major Watherston sails Southampton for Cape Town Saturday to carry out in conjunction with Sir David Gill's observations for fixing longitude of Accra.

5:—Walter's cruiser squadron followed Rozndiestvenski whole way Tangier distance of five miles, squadrons cleared action. Ten larger vessels Baltic fleet passed Gibraltar trav lling westwards; Rozhdiestvenski's squadron

Landsdowne in communication to London Chamber of Commerce says Russia met all representations Britain and United States conciliatory spirit. Understood Russian Naval Commanders recently furnished with instructions which result exercising belligerent rights less rigorously and vexatiously. Government unable find any ground suggestion Russians favoured German ships compared with British.

Battle raging unabated Port Arthur, stream of Japanese wounded pouring into Dalny. Various reports say Gen. Stoessel wounded leg on Tuesday

Chifu correspondent estimates Japanese losses recent fighting Port Arthur 20,000.

According semi-official statement Paris complete agreement established between Britain and Russia regarding composition procedure international enquiry Paris, selected Venice.

Arthur Pearson, Proprietor Daily Express negociating for purchase Standard for £700,000, view converting from Free Trade organ into official organ Tariff Reform.

7:—1380 reinforcements sail for Damaraland in course of November. Officially stated total officers, men and officials killed since outbreak 671.

Rozhdiestvenski's fleet left Tangier sailing towards South Africa.

Japanese Ambassador London states momentarily expects news of the fall of Port Arthur.

8:—Board of Trade enquiry into Baltic fleet incident opened at Hull, Britain proposed three additional articles for enquiry convention, these provide for legal assessors, division of expenses and decision be by majority of commission not necessarily unanimous vote.

London Standard correspondent, Tientsin telegraphs that as the result of careful sapping and mining Japanese captured the whole of the inner circle Port Arthur defences.

Daily mail's correspondent Tangier wires it is stated at Gibraltar that Cape squadron be immediately concentrated and reinforced part of the fleet now at Gibraltar will go to Ascension and St. Helena; four battleships follow Russians who proceed by stages to Madagaska.

Polling for Presidency begins tomorrow, interest hitherto very dull become at last moment most exciting owing changes of democratic candidate that Roosevelt been blackmailing trusts.

From Harcourt's will appears gross estate amounted to £186795.

Negociations between Britain and Russia continue smoothly.

A POOR MAN'S DIARY.

(BY B. B.)

"To my young friend Boves Bones for eight years "the sole companion of my old age I bequeath my "manuscripts especially the Journal entitled:—'De "Omnibus Rebus,' with the strict injunction that the "contents of the letter shall not be made public until "he has attained his majority as my friend". So ran the 7th. paragraph the lost WILL AND TESTAMENT of the celebrated Fidus Achates, who died exactly thirteen years ago.

On the title page of the portentous Diary is inscribed in my friend's cramped hieroglyphics, this significant legend:—

ALL FOOL'S PARADISE,
Blunderment House,
Circumlocution Office,
Humburg Street.

In four lines, we have in a nut shell his central ideas respecting the Colony, The World in General, the Government and the People of his day. Yet the *late* Fidus was no misanthrope: he was an enthusiast an ideal optimist, if you like—who had the misfortune of being born on the Gold Coast, at least twenty years before his time. He never one day committed the impropriety of referring to the Gold Coast as a Colony. To him it was ever what it really is, a Protectorate.

Curiously enough his scathing animadversions hold water even now as in the halcyon days when we were thrilled all over with his impassioned grandiloquence.

The present writer was among the band of youthful admirers who were in the habit of taking surreptitious notes for the press having regard to what we then thought was occasional outburst of spontaneous oratory—all of which however appear to have been carefully transcribed in the valuable Diary left to me. To verify his utterances by comparing them, for the benefit of the YOUNG is our object, and we hope the extracts, annotated where possible, will enjoy the same popularity they commanded more than years ago.—

UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION.

"The wealth of each town, village and hamlet in the Protectorate is *unequally divided*—in fact, it has been proved to demonstration, that in the majority of instances, *it is entirely and absolutely in the the wrong hands.* Think of the potentialities of and the undoubted possibilities of our YOUTHS, rendered utterly impossible of development through rigorous impecuniosity—think, I repeat if you dare, and convince me that there is anything like an equitable distribution of the aggregate resources of the motherland! Illiterate nobodies who have not a scintilla of imagination, who know nothing of the Promethean Fire, nor any notion of the Social and Political exigencies of the Protectorate—these are the men that live on the fat of the land—and what is the result? Intellectual atrophy; Social disorganization; Political despotism; Mammon-worship—yes Mammon-worship."

He worked himself up to such paroxysm of passion, that we thought for the moment it would be an act of charity to exercise summary jurisdiction over any one who could boast of a sovereign piece in his possession, I ventured to point out, that even the most exacting of Political Economists generously allowed the wealthy their due meed of the milk of human kindness. He interrupted me with the sententious remark, "*Here's The Pity!*" I bearded the lion in his den and waxed eloquent by coming out with this rather laboured deliverance:—

"Even the miserable miser who, while his golden pyramids fraternised with the cloud-capped heavens, disdains to cultivate friendly relations with his next-door neighbours, may not be considered a specimen of human depravity after all. Unerring Providence permits him to live and flourish in his brief little day: and it is a very prescient economy which at one time allows the uninterrupted accumulation of wealth that it may be indiscriminately injudiciously and extravagantly expended at another, when most needed, "*one man soweth, and another reapeth;*" and if it would offer any consolation to you, sir, who so sorely mourn over the disproportionate apportionment of "Our Resources," I should under the inspiration of the luminous future most respectfully recommend you—to WAIT AND HOPE."

Fidus most respectfully admired my diction as somewhat analogous to his own, but abused me roundly as if I were a Pickpocket.

(To be continued)

"REMOVE NOT THE ANCIENT MARK WHICH THY FATHERS HAVE SET."

BY HUHURWA.

In days gone by and according to our traditions the people of the Gold Coast or rather the *Fantees*, had a great celebration called *Ahubaa*. This Ahubaa was divided into two viz:—Ahubaa Kuma (Little Ahubaa) and Ahubaa Kesi (Great Ahubaa).

These were celebrated annually with great enthusiasm. The meaning of the former celebration is known to every Fanti child: it is when the people mourn for their departed and beloved friends. The latter was like a sort of Christmas when the little ones put on their native dresses and fashions. Then on their dresses and fashions. Then they with the old rejoice that their lives have been spared to witness the occasion. At such a time the old women in each house begin to tell the children the good and noble deeds their departed grandmothers and grandfathers did and the good lives they led and instruct them (their children) to follow the same. All these answer fairly well yet since I was born I have never witnessed such a solemn celebration in Cape Coast. The Abantafu (that is the people of Abanta), Appolonians and some of the bush people celebrate theirs even now whenever it comes round. I do not see why we do not celebrate it with them or do we think that we are more enlightened and civilised than they? My dear people, if at any time we do think thus let me remind you we are greatly mistaking. There is no enlightenment or civilisation in such a celebration. Why then do we enjoy Christmas with the English people? And what is the meaning of the word Christmas? It comes from the Greek word "*Christos*" meaning "the annointed", Hebrew, Messiah. The day on which the nativity of Christ is celebrated. To my thinking this was to be celebrated by all Christians because from it sprang its Name. On account of the non-celebration of such a thing we young men now have been as we are, because we do not get any one to tell us of our traditions.

Let us spend our own Native holidays and leave foreign ones alone.

Hen abusua wo mu ye kum dr agyer fo nda da nsana nsu ato (Our tribe let us know that lavatory is already wet before rain falls.) We do keep holidays such as Bank holidays &c. which when any one is called upon to give the meaning will greatly disgrace himself or herself. As we are British subjects of course we must be loyal and keep the holidays with them such as the King's Birthday &c. &c and yet this does not say nor mean that we must leave off ours. All solely depends upon the Wesleyan Methodists in town because the majority of our people belong to this Religious Body yet according to our tradition we do not see any heathenism in Ahubaa. Omankin and his enterprising Tufuhin may have this for their serious consideration.

SELF-CULTURE.

GRASPING OPPORTUNITIES.

"Mental power cannot be got from ill-fed brains."—Herbert Spencer.

What a serious mistake is perverted aspiration. Many a life is worse than thrown away by this blunder of folly or vanity. It is in human nature to the most effective and noble qualities of the higher nature of man to aspire. Without some aim, some end to work for, a human being would be a child. But what a pity when this quality is set to the key of foolish ambition and all life's energies, all mental activities and purposes are consumed in a struggle for ephemeral satisfaction. By this absorption of mind in the trifling purposes of the hour the higher consciousness is entombed, and the horizon of life is contracted to diminutive proportions. Why should the energy and mental activity of woman be consumed by an ambition to wear richer garments and more costly jewellery, or to furnish her dwelling more royally, or in any way to outshine her neighbour? She is not making herself wiser or nobler. Is she any happier for such distinction? Does she ever reach the

climax beyond which no more is desired, when she finds herself the possessor of the most admired or envied outfit?

Then this display, which is not a temperate enjoyment of normal aesthetic tastes, but an unworldly ambition to outshine others, or at least, to keep up to the standard which must be maintained by a continual supply of money. This may involve the absorption of the life, the energy and mental powers of the father or husband. So two lives are swallowed up in the pursuit of a vain show of perishable things and the achievement of puerile satisfaction.

Because man has been so slow in learning how valuable are the possessions of mind, he has acquired an inordinate estimate of the value of things. Because he has not a true self-respect based on the consciousness of possible powers to be developed' and the stimulus of ideals to attain what will make of himself the noblest and most useful, he has set his goal at the low altitude of accumulating possessions as the chief aim and end of life. And to-day the forces of civilization of the evolution of man's constructive powers and faculties of insight and discovery, are compelling the many of enterprise and of ambition, in order to keep pace with rushing tide of gain-seeking, to such strain and stretch of energy that frequently the result is the sudden snapping of the thread of life. The overstrained nerve force breaks, and "heart failure" is the dismal outcome of a consuming ambition of unrelaxed energy, of perverted aspiration, of a wasted life. What was sought as success becomes disastrous failure.

The accumulation of things, the exercise of mental powers and energies in making provision for the necessities and comfort of physical bodies and gratifying aesthetic taste, is orderly and desirable. The increase of wealth may be made to promote the advancement of humanity; but that acquisition should so absorb one's powers, that physical welfare should be imperiled and welfare of the real man ignored, is deplorable.

The real life of man a human being is not a race to outstrip the achievements of another. The real life is a race to achieve the highest ideal which we are able to conceive, and each point we gain enlarges our horizon and expands our idea.

This is the orderly proceeding of a true aspiration, an aspiration that is working in us toward the development of the noblest type of life of which we are capable, an aspiration to achieve excellence for its own sake.

Proper culture and education is the knowledge of how to use the whole one's self. Men are often like knives with many blades; all the rest are buried in the handle, and they are not better than they would have been if they have been made with but one blade. Many men use but one or two faculties out of a score with which they are endowed. A man is educated who knows how to make a tool of every faculty—how to open it how to keep it sharp, and how to apply it to all practical purposes.

The successful individual is the one who habitually grasps every opportunity, no matter how trifling it may appear. Although he may make work industriously for a time without making any great showing, he will be conscious of a gradual advancement which will finally lead to perceptible achievement. Everyone is given, at least, one great opportunity; besides the lesser ones which seem to point the way towards successful preparation for future work; but the high places the world has to offer are not to be gained at a single leap. There are no electric elevators at command which will carry us triumphantly from the street level—where masses of our fellow-beings are struggling along, or hurrying and jostling one another in their mad rush for fame or fortune; or in the endeavor to procure the pitiful crust that will serve to keep them from starvation—to the observatory on a level with the clouds, where we look down in pity upon the senseless herds whose eyes are for ever fixed on the earth, who are blindly straining every nerve, and exhausting every energy in their attempts to follow leaders as blind as they themselves are. Step by step we must climb, grasping little opportunities as the traveller lays hold of the clinging vine or hardy shrub without which he will fail in scaling the bare cliffs or in gaining the smiling plateaus where he may rest and refresh himself. With these little helps he reaches delightful halting places where he may glance backward over the rugged mountain-side taking a retrospective view of the dangers and difficulties he has overcome. He may then gird himself a fresh for the steep ascent, and with steady determination to reach heights he cannot, as yet, even dimly discern, start forward with renewed hope and energy. The habit of recognizing and taking advantage of small opportunities will ultimately result in the possession of power to create or make them. David Wilkie, the poor Scotch boy whom "Village Politicians" opened the door to fame and success, was wont to make the most of every opportunity to practise his hand in drawing. An inviting stretch of smooth sand, a blank wall, or weather-smoothed rock answered in lieu of canvas; anything which he could make a mark served for pencil or colors. His eyes were always opened to the discovery of any picturesque effect, even the common beggar was too insignificant to serve as a model. He was refused admittance to the Scottish Academy at Edinburgh because of the lack of finish in the works submitted, but, nothing daunted, he determined to produce such works as would secure his admittance, and he succeeded. At the Academy of Arts he was no less watchful of small opportunities, and he afterwards related how, when his fellow-students, Burnett and Linnell, entered into conversation concerning art, he managed to sit near them and listened with avidity to their discourse, finishing the narration of the incident with the naive confession, "for they know a great deal, and I know very little."

If we are resolved to win in any work or career we must emulate the great Opie, whose marvellous mixing of colors excited the warmest admiration of his friends and the envy of contemporaries. When asked, "How do you mix such exquisite colors?" He replied, "I mix them with my brain, sir." *(To be Continued.)*

OUR SCRAP BOOK.

Education, in its various developments, is the best means of qualifying people for liberty.—*Abdul Hamid* (Sultan)

GUILELESS.

A guileless old Scotch minister one day told some boys of the chapter he was to read in the morning. The boys, finding the place, glued together the connecting pages. The next day the preacher read to his astounded congregation that "when Noah was 120 years old he took unto himself a wife who was," (then turning the page) "130 cubits long, 40 cubits wide, built of gopher wood, and covered with pitch in and out." He was naturally puzzled at this. He read again, verified it, and then said: "My friends this is the first time I ever read this in the Bible, but I accept it as evidence of the assertion that we are fearfully and wonderfully made."

Never use Religion as a Stalking-horse.

"Tis education forms the youthful mind; just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined."

Shut up your mouth or it will shut you up.

Every duty which is bidden to wait returns with seven fresh duties at its back."—*Charles Kingsley.*

The "Argus" of October. 15th says:—In very timely fashion the "Gold Coast Leader" (published at Cape Coast) has initiated a series of leading articles on the Colony's mining industry. Pointing out that if, with their crude ideas and rude implements, Gold Coast natives were able in years gone by to ship thousands of ounces of gold through the merchants who came down to trade with them, our contemporary goes on to ask:" Ought not one to expect better results in these days when such intelligence and abilities to work gold mines, as we see in our more enlightened brothers in our midst to-day, with such wonderful and powerful machines in their possession are at work in the mines. Why this constant retrogression instead of progress?" We fear the *Leader* is a trifle over-pessimistic.

THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE A. M. E. ZION CHURCH.

The month of October 25th last saw for the first time the A. M. E. Zion Church Anniversary, Cape Coast, when the children of both Sunday and Day Schools with some members and friends of the Church went to Abrubouku on picnic; a very pleasant time was spent.

On the 27th was a grand entertainment of a Concert given by the pupils of the Zion Institute under the able chairmanship of Kofi Asuam, Esqr; at the Wesleyan Centenary School.

On the 30th was a Public Meeting at the usual place of worship—Hockman,s Hotel—at 3.30 P.M. As usual the attendance there was overcowded. Hon: J P Brown presided over the meeting with his oft—inspiring Christain manliness. The addresses of the occasion were eloquently and touchingly by T. Addaquay Esq., J. E. Ellis Esq., and Rev. F E. Asuam following the short remarks by the Pastor, on the year's work.

The Speeches of thanks to the addressers and the President were very warmly and nobly made by H. R Blankson Esq, and Kofi Asuam Esq, after which the meeting was dismissed with Song and Benediction.

APPAM.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The town has recently been enlivened by the arrival of Okil Ansah King of Edwinaku with his retinue and the District Commissioner from Winneba with a gang of convict prisoners for laying out new and repairing old streets. After the disposing of Court cases and visiting Mumford and Appam Schools, the D.C. left for Winneba on Monday last.

The prisoners are hard at work, and we understand they will not fall back until the work is completed. This is the only sure way of minimising the expenditure of the Colony and satisfying the needs of the people. Of late prison labour has been placed on the standard of high offical esteem, out here we are at a discount to answer why the poor creatures should bemade to travel to and fro—distances of 9½ miles more or less—simply to work off their term.

H. M. Inspector of Schools (Mr. Crowther) arrived here on the 13th. ulto and examined the Schools of the Circuit; the children of Appam and Legu Schools acquitted themselves creditably.

The death on the 13th. ulto. of Miss. Andrews (Alias Yamiwah) is to be regretted; the poor woman took ill a few days after delivering a baby—She had a christian, burial. Mr.———officiating in the absence of Rev. Marshall. The father and family have our sympathies.

MUMFORD.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The presence at the School room a fortnight ago of the District Commissioner was hailed with great delight.

The results of the recent inspections and examintion of the school by Mr. Crowther were somewhat unsatisfactory. Management is an essential draw back; it is hoped that arrangements will shortly be made towards the getting of more efficient teachers.

The roofing sheets for the new Chapel were landed here ex the "Angola" on the 14th. ulto. with other cargoes. The constructions of the holy edifice are progressing.

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The month of October this year closes with sad news. While our mind is occupied with memories of the late Mr. Rafferty, our feelings have been wounded by the news of Supt. Crabbe's death from drowning in the River Volta between Sokpe and Taadse, which took place on the 26th October. His body was found a few days after and buried at Adda.

Mr. Crabbe was inspecting the Preventive Stations along the Bank of the River from Amedeka to Adda accompanied by a Mr. May, his Junior Colleague, his servant and a crew of Water Policemen. They were sailing joyously along. The sail was full and the speed of the gig abnormal. The crew had forebodings; but Mr. Crabbe at the helm was undaunted. In a few minutes a gale set in and rushing waters showed that the Gig was sinking one of the crew threw himself into the water to procure a canoe, the life Belt was thrown to Mr. Crabbe and the other men left the Gig clinging to their oars and were eventually rescued. But Mr. Crabbe was no where to be found! We mourn in sympathy with the bereaved.

Mr. Hobbs also had a narrow escape from drowning "Up Rivers" on the same business.

Mr. Agbetter the elder bother of late Agbetter Coomah also died at Ashibodoi Ilse, Adda, on the 24th ultimo after a lingering consumption which burdened his life for upwards of nearly 25 years.

Mr. Agbettor's death deprives Adda of one of her principal Natives who in days of yore lifted Adda into Commercial importance.

Mr. Vaughan, Tutor of the Accra Grammar School has visited here seizing the opportunity afforded by the occasion of his leave to consult the Medical Officer on his health. Mr. Vaughan seemed to have enjoyed his visit.

The Rev. Mark C. Hayford D.D. of the Baptist Church, Cape Coast, spent a few days in this District canvassing for subscriptions in aid of his Church Building Fund. His appeals were generously and readily responded to. The Catholic spirit in which the Doctor was received speaks volumes in favour of West African Christianity.

Rumour has it that the Larteh people would not go to meet Mr. O'Brien at Akropong respecting their dispute on election. They opine the Omanhin should not be molested with a case none his business. Mr. O'Brien having concluded his conference with them we are looking forward to a satisfactory solution of these important political matter.

Sir,—In your issue of the 22nd Oct. last appeared a draft scheme for a Town Council Ordinance which was prepared by Mr. CASELY HAYFORD for the Axim Branch of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society—I have carefully read this draft and I wonder why it was asked to be published at all, as in many things it is as bad as the one (if not worse) we object to. Mr. HAYFORD being a native of the Gold Coast his production has been a painful surprise to our people on this side. The reason for this production and hastily publishing the same is apparent and one has not to go far to know in as much as he subscribed to same—If clause after lausein that draft were criticised through your columns I doubt not he would know how ridiculous and ruinous his production is.

I am afraid Mr. HAYFORD does not learn by the lessons his own Book. (the Gold Coast Institution) teaches. Advertisement of himself was the more aimed at, than the preparation of the draft and so grasped the opportuni- of doing so.

The Society at Axim is a Branch to the one at Cape Coast and I think it would be proper for the members to co-operate with Cape Coast in all matters relating to the welfare of the Country especially this question of great importance.

I do not remember having heard that when His Excellency the Governor was at Axim he asked our Axim friends to submit to him their views for His Excellency's consideration, even if His Excellency did, the Axim Society is subordinate to Cape Coast and in this important matter they should have conferred with Cape Coast and should not have published this draft at all—They might not know how noxious the draft is and what effect it would have on the country if it became law—For instance in the draft it was suggested that each person pay a tax of 2/6 how and when the amount to be paid was not specified in that draft whether daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly or yearly. As I said before if the draft were criticised our friends on the other side would find how dangerous it is.

Yours truly,—A. RESIDENT.

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.)

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Orders received at the Wesleyan Book Depôt, Cape Coast Castle.

NOTICE.

TWO MAGNIFICENT HOUSES, situation very good at the Saltpond Elmina Road, Cape Coast, and at the Ashanti Commercial Road, Cape Coast and being the property of Messrs Hockman Brothers, Mortgaged to the Firm of Messrs The African Association Ltd. Cape Coast.

And the undersigned has been instructed to sell and will sell by public auction if not otherwise negotiated for or disposed off by public Auction.

On Friday the 25th November 1904 at 4.30 p.m. the one at the Saltpond Elmina Road Cape Coast, and on Saturday the 26th November 1904 the other at the Ashanti Commercial Road Tantree Cape Coast.

J. D. ABRAHAM.
Licensed Auctioneer

Cape Coast, 20th October 1904.

Messrs. Walter Griffith & Co.

beg to inform the Ladies and Gentlemen resident in **Cape Coast** and **District** that they are re-opening on the Coast on or about the **1st. December**, when a large and varied assortment of the Staple Imports of the Coast will be shown at their **Factory** in **Ashanti Road** and at their various **Stores** throughout the town.

All the **Goods** are marked at **prices which defy competition** and **Residents** and **Traders** are respectfully desired to inspect same and prove the truth of this statement.

Special attention is directed to the **Store** entirely devoted to **Haberdashery** and **Fancy Goods**, of the former, various lines in **Ladies' and Gentlemens' Wear**, never before imported to the Gold Coast, are now on show. The latest Styles **fresh from the London and Paris Markets** are here shown and a Department especially devoted to **Ladies Wear** is set apart under the **Superintendence** of a **Young Lady** and the direct supervision of our **Manager**. We mention a few of the lines displayed; any detailed list would prove much too long.

LADIES GOODS

Ladies Hats, trimmed and untrimmed in latest shapes and colour. **Ladies Gloves**, ordinary and evening wear in all shades. **Ladies Corset** in latest Paris styles. Ladies belts, fancy and plain; Ladies chemises; Ladies Knickers; Ladies Hose, plain and fancy &c. &c.; Ladies boots; Ladies shoes; Ladies evening and dance slippers; Ladies underskirts in Silk, Satin and Fancies, Ladies Umbrellas; Ladies Parasols, all shades and styles; Ladies Hose suspenders.

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Gent's Hats, Silk, Felt, fancy and straw. Gent's caps all latest styles and cuts. Gent's gloves. Gent's underwear—Singlets, Pants &c. in Silk and plain. Genes Hose, plain and fancy. Gent's Hose suspenders. Gent's Hat-bands. Gent's Umbrellas in unlimited varieties. Gent's collars, all latest shapes and styles. Gent's ties and bows in all colours and shapes. Gent's Tie holders. Gent' tie clips. Gent's Shirts white and fancy. Gent's shirts, Flannel, Tennis &c. Gent's shirts white mat. Gent's shirt sleeve suspenders in various styles. Gent's braces, silk. Gent's braces, fancy and ordinary. Gent's suits, Ready made in all styles and cloths. Gent's suitings, fancy serge and tweed. Gent's walking sticks, Malacca canes, congo sticks and all kinds of fancies. Gent's cummer bunds. Gent's Pipes smoking, in cases and plain, Gent's pouches, Tobacco, in all styles. Gent's cigar and cigarette Holders. Gent's cigar and cigarette cases; Gent's Cigarettes 3 castles and woodbines, Tobaccos, Capstan and Smith's Glasgow mixture &c. &c.

Children's Goods in endless variety.

Xmas and New Year's Cards, Private and ordinary.

Fireworks of all kinds.

We would solicit an early call to inspect these goods and so also avoid the inevitable crush which is sure to take place on the opening of these Stores.

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Wesleyan-Methodist Church

Girls' High School & Training Institution, CAPE COAST.

By arrangement with the District Synod and the Missionary Committee, this Institution is now under the Management of Sisters of the Wesley Deaconess Order, assisted by an Efficient Staff.

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Sisters admitted at a reduction of 10/- each girl.

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FORMS I to III. 3/6 per Quarter.
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Extra Subjects, 7/6 to 10/6 per Quarter.

ALL FEES MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

THE BOARDING DEPARTMENT will re-open after the Christmas Holidays.

Girls living in the House are under the Personal Supervision of the Deaconesses.

For Prospectus and further particulars, apply to the Lady Principals.

GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Barrister Leung left by last week's steamer, for Calabar.

A very serious accident nearly befell the Rev. Brodie Graham last Thursday night between ten and eleven o'clock in the night: his boy putting out the light in the hall somehow got the wick into the lamp which blew up; the table cloth catching fire threatened to burn furiously, but with the assistance of the boy, he managed to put it out.

We are pleased to find our merchants showing some consideration for their clerks on holidays now. With the solitary exception of the West African Trading Company all offices were closed on the King's Birthday.

Divine Service will be held at the Wesley Church to-morrow instead of the Jubilee Memorial Chapel.

The Reading Club will be celebrating its first anniversary shortly, the arrangement for it being, we understand, in the hands of a Committee headed by Mr. Bannerman Martin.

A circular letter from the Colonial Secretary to Provincial and District Commissioners defining their relative positions appears in the *Gazette* of October 29th last which we hope to give to our readers in our next issue.

We understand Mr. Peregrine called for a meeting last Wednesday evening, for the purpose of getting up a concert to come on next month, some say it will be a concert by the Europeans, this will be nice, for it is a very long time, since we had one such here.

His Excellency Mr. Rodger received his knighthood on the King's Birthday, the news having been cabled to him at about 8 a.m. whilst reviewing the troops on the parade ground on that day. His Excellency Sir John Pickeregill Rodger K.C.M.G. has our hearty congratulations. To Lady Rodger we extend the same.

The *Advocate* of last Saturday, reports the death of Dr. Randall in Lagos.

At Aburn about 4 miles from here, the other day, a woman died within twenty-four hours from the bite of an ant.

We learn that the three local secondary Schools the Collegiate School, the Grammar School and the Girls' High School are together preparing to give a grand entertainment under the management of Mr. Charles Graves before closing for their Christmas holidays.

His Excellency Sir John Rodger K. C. M. G. is expected here, we understand during the Christmas season, or early next year.

On last Thursday the 10th inst. news reached here from Big Ammie of the death of Aimoelor Eduah Sister to Chief Kwofi Arkaah and Morrison Bros. which took place on the 9th inst. at about 4 50 p.m. We tender our sympathies to the bereaved family.

The death of Mr. Henry Brew (the father of Mrs. Graves) at Appam was wired over here, last Wednesday. Our sympathies.

The Sons of Temperance will have a church parade tomorrow. (Wesley Church.)

Our Salt Pond Correspondent wired yesterday —
Deeply regret to report P. A. Abedoo's death this morning interment to-morrow.

Extract from Letter Covering Notes for His Excellency's Consideration in the Matter of the Town Councils Ordinance. Dated Cape Coast Castle, Nov. 1st 1904.

5. The people desire to train themselves gradually in the Municipal government and as far as they can to adopt the means with which are familiar to present day requirements. We therefore respectfully express the opinion that, (a) Householders should be allowed to elect a certain proportion of the municipal body, (b) The Government should continue to grant to such body the money usually set apart for the ordinary sanitation and public works of this town, in addition to hawkers, and other license fees (c) When more money is required during the current year, the voters must decide whether rates should be levied the amount thereof and manner of collection; such as, on rented stores mercantile offices, tax on persons not members of any town company, or such members as are unable or unwilling to give personal service.

KUMASI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Osh Manpon's Clerk has been imprisoned three months for bribery.

Mr. Henderson the Chief Commissioner is not expected out again, his provisions have been sold at a public auction.

The Chief Commissioner Major Houston declines to give a final judgment re Cobbina Bruku's case (Insuta) unless the people bring the Royal properties to Kumasi.

The case of Yaw Berku has ended in favor of the Offinsu people.

THE OMANHIN OF GISU.

Yaw-Wua Omanhin of Gisú who was sometime ago imprisoned for many years on the Coast has been out of Town (for some weeks now) to his village: his people we understand are preparing to depose him. Several letters from Yaw-Wua arriving daily from Gisu inform the Chief Commissioner of the situation. The people of Ashanti are now quite awake and cannot pay any more bribes to their Amanhinfu Ahinfu &c. their idea now seems to be to set the rightful persons on their Stools and in fact every one expects the Chief Commissioner not to interfere.

YAW-BERKU AND HARRY ANAMAN.

Yaw-Berku, having on the 7th inst gone to the Chief Commissioner personally and informed him that Mr. Anaman had received bribes from the Offinsu people and assisted them to depose him, the Chief Commissioner of course wisely told him to put it in writing. Yaw did so, and the matter was investigated in the High Court and he was found to be a notorious liar. Mr. Anaman in fact could not understand such a strange report, he has therefore taken Yaw-Berku to Court for £90 damages for defamation of character. The case will come on in the D.C's Court on Thursday the 10th inst. I shall be able then I hope to enlighten your readers with the whole facts of the case.

The New Omanhin for Offinsu is Kofi Kessi,

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The absence from the company of friends resident at the Wesleyan Mission House of Mr. E. M. Dyett (District Postmaster) who sailed per the "Akabo" for England on the 2nd. inst. is to be regretted. His successor Mr. Allan Robinson took lodgings at the official quarters—Adjai House.

The clerical staff of the Judicial Department were entertained at a sumptuous dinner on the night of the 2nd. inst. in honour of Mr John Maxwell who will be leaving for his furlough—the Actg. Provincial Commissioner Mr. Arthur J. Philbrick is expected to arrive here by the "Zunguru" this afternoon.

Revd. Sackey and Mr. Bilson arrived by the "Akabo" and proceeded to Chama last Wednesday morning; we hope they have been benefitted by the change.

The Annual Collectors Tea meeting came off last Tuesday night.

Messrs. Bomlson Brothers of Obuassie and Sekondi who were charged with stealing have been committed for trial at the Divisional Court Assizes next January.

Apropos of the letter by the Ahinfu addressed to the Acting Provincial Commissioner on the 27th ulto. we are apprised that consequent upon the indignant offence taken by Mr. Maxwell, the following communication has been tendered:—(dated 4th.) "In accordance with your verbal request in our interview of the 29th. ulto. we beg to withdraw our letter to you of the 27th. October, 1904 on the subject of the Appraiser's notifications to House owners, which you made us to understand as having been issued without your knowledge, and tender our apology for having addressed the said letter to you by mistake, which apology we trust you will accept." The predicament of the chiefs in respect of this procedure which manifests an unfathomable cowardice is not to be considered as issuing from clean ignorance of their inherent rights, but from precipitous favouritism and fear that beggars no description. Scape-goatism however is herein conceivable; the Chiefs have no doubt been had. Mr. Maxwell on one hand has left no stone unturned in exterminating what may hereafter be stumbling-blocks to his successor in relation to the subject at issue, and on the other Mr. Ford the Appraiser has not been idle with the opportunity available for him as being the first official of the Town Councils Ordinance.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The views of Cape Coast Castle on the Town Councils Ordinance have been placed before the Governor whose decision has not been received yet, no doubt the matter is having the serious and careful consideration of His Excellency. We cannot impress too much on our friends in the outstations the importance of studying the municipal question thoroughly and sending us a true account of the local public opinion thereon. Barring personalities our columns are open to the public to say all they wish to say.

A Youngman's correspondence (Elmina) published the other day has brought in to us some letters purported for replies to it. We have been unable to publish them on the ground that torrents of abuses, and recriminiations prove nothing. No attempt whatever has been made to refute or belie what he said, and so far the facts he mentioned, remain unnegatived. Our friends write as if they know the *Youngman*, and seem to be effected by what he wrote, so they spare no word to vilify him: we may take for granted, that he may be what they make him out to be, but the question, is, was what he was complaining of true or false.

We would be too pleased to see what he said refuted, in the absence of that, we see nothing but the confirmation of certain facts that have come to us from other places, on the morals of a good many of our Teachers—those to whom our children are entrusted for training. If all that is reported may be credited of those who are training the future makers and mothers of the country, then things are well-nigh hopeless. It is not enough to teach our boys—and for the matter of that our girls as well—to read and write only, some religious principles must be inculcated into them. We have always held that the School Teacher's work is to some extent, far more responsible than even the Preacher's. For the safety and welfare of the country, let our Managers and School Committees wake up. Get the right men. Give good pay—for the sake of the children. "Righteousness exalteth a Nation."

Several letters have come to us on the misunderstanding that seems to be existing among the Friendly Societies at Salt Pond, mainly asking us to express an opinion thereon. We shall, in due course, when we have fully informed ourselves on the situation. We hope to be able to do so all being well next week. Patience all round.

A good many of our readers, with some of those who have kindly undertaken to sell the paper at the outstations, now and again send us very encouraging words for which we thank them, it serves the purpose. But to the latter we may say whilst thanking them for their kindness, they will encourage us better still, particularly the Manager, if they can make his work easier for him by remitting their accounts regularly, especially as like the Editor's, it is an honorary work. Without these accounts reaching us it will be impossible to carry out our part satisfactorily. To all and sundry we say, what have YOU THOUGHT of doing to keep up the Press?

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Intelligent correspondence on matters of interest touching the welfare of the Country is invited.
Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.
A *nom-de-plume* or initials should be given if it is desired that the real name shall not appear in the paper.
Name and address must accompany all communications as a guarantee of good faith.
Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.
Rejected communications cannot be returned.
Communications to which replies may be expected must be accompanied with Stamps.

The Gold Coast Leader.
CAPE COAST, NOVEMBER 19, 1904.

MISSIONARIES.

THE "Methodist Recorder" of Sept. 22nd last must have been exceptionally interesting to all of the Methodist Church who have any interest in the Missionary and his work in the Mission Field, for it gave a report of a Missionary Valedictory meeting held at Exeter Hall to bid farewell to over fifty outgoing missionaries, who with their wives and other workers made a record total of 100, sailed or sailing to the Mission Field. Never at any time have so many missionaries gone out of the 'Auld Countrie' at one time, and it is therefore nothing surprising to read that Exeter Hall "had such a splendid audience at the very impressive and interesting meeting."

At this meeting and at the other Valedictory meeting held at Liverpool for West African Missionaries, some of those present and who are now with us, spoke; amongst them were Rev. J. D. Russell who preached at the Jubilee Memorial Chapel last Sunday morning and

Sisters McVicker and Worthington. The Rev. J. D Sutcliffe of Lagos and the Rev. W. H. Maude of Sierra Leone also spoke, the speeches of all of whom together with those of our old friend the Revs. J. T. F. Halligey and Dr. T. Bowman Stephenson whose speech dealt chiefly on the Deaconesses two members of whom being now with us, we have culled for our Readers, in this number.

Of the Missionary and his work, many criticisms have been made, which may be characterized as being "good, bad and indifferent" and it is not our intention to pose as a critic, beyond expressing the hope, that the lives of these devoted men may be spared to carry out what they have at heart which decided them to "sacrifice their lives" for our Africa and the fruits of their labour be seen in the people in the uplifting of the country. We have only one regret to express, and that is, some how or other one notices a striking difference between our missionaries of these days, and those that used to be. We miss the intercourse that used to exist between the missionary and the people for whose sake he left dear home. He holds himself too severely aloof from them, and excepting an occasional sight of him in the pulpit, he sees nothing of him. It is now an exception to the rule, to see the missionary at the home of his convert, and at times things go on in such a way as to leave the impression that despite all that might have been said "at home," or may be thought of him and his work on the Mission Field he is out here more as a "business man" than as a missionary. He is seen often where he ought not to be seen, and heard of in a way which compels one to say, even the missionaries have been "modernized." These things should not be, especially as they often prove to be the very opposite of what one reads from the speeches at Exeter Hall—*before and after.*

It cannot but give satisfaction to all interested in Methodism, and who know something of the great work this Church has done for the Education of the country in the past, to see what she is once more doing or about to do, through the efforts of the present Chairman, who is so enthusiastic on matters educational. She has now an inspector of Schools of her own in the person of the Rev. Mr Russell: this has been tried before, and we hope it will now 'live.' But for "the doctor's inexorable verdict" declaring him physically unsuited for a tropical climate, a young layman who has both an Arts degree and a Teacher's certificate, and whose missionary heart prompted him to offer for this service, would have been out. But this subject, with the necessity that *now* exists, (whatever may be said to the contrary,) for Methodism on the coast to have some elasticity of method in adapting its machinery to the varying needs of the people of this country so as to maintain its joyful, hopeful, earnest, large-hearted, brotherly and helpful christianity, in order to have not only her past but her future as well. There must be less cant which breeds nothing but formality and hypocrisy, leading many a thoughtful and observant man to say, that the teaching of MOHAMMED would suit us better than that of JESUS CHRIST, with more of humanity, reality sincerity and thoroughness, bringing out the manhood of the convert and not a painful caricature, a degrading apology of it, debasing him as a citizen of the WORLD in the eyes of his fellow men.

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

(BY DICK CARNIS.)

CHAPTER V.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

The People—The King! The King! Long live the King! with thunderous cheers and clap of hands, we greet thee, Puissant Monarch! Long live the Sezerain! Long live our Paramount Lord! Audience! Silence!

The Paramount Lord—Abinfu, Mancemei, Caboceers and ye devoted Burghers—Free men of the Glowing West! Our royal person strangely warms towards you all, as of old, so now: and we accept with pride your filial service: in glad acclaim, let all who truly prize our Crown and Dignity unite to swell the trite refrain—"All hail! All hail!"

It was a day of days unparelleled, red-marked within the annals of your ancient nation, whereon Our Royal Madam—Peace to her ashes be!—Conceived *a grand idea*, and loyal to the dictates of Her Noble Mind, the over tiares of your Progenitors she did receive with honours meet—to GUIDE AND GUARD THE GOLDEN STRAND. Thus, for the Empire; equally so, for our respective races.

Our hearts emulsive flow with gladness and with joy, that ye so well esteemed Her matchless worth and still adore, still venerate Her meritorious Name.

Burghers! the royal mould—one of its kind, uncommon—wherein our heaven-throned Mother-Queen was cast broke, with Her upward flight. *We mourn a loss perpetual, beyond repair!* But ere the immortal Germ, that in Her body tabernacled, ascended up the Empyreal Heights to mingle with Great Albion's greater dynasties within the veil, this was our solemn pledge, this our royal oath—To Us, it ever stands a Medo-persic law. Woe worth the man who dares to tamper with that consecrated hour!—We vowed to keep inviolate the High Imperial Trust bequeathed to our Sovereign charge—What grave responsibility! What princely obligation! O for the strength of Hercules! for none our weakness knoweth more than we ourselves.

Oft have we prayed to follow in Her flowery path embroidered o'er with Justice, Mercy, Truth—yea all that made for greatness absolute in our Adorable Parent. Rest She in peace!

In love, She won your simple, rustic hearts: in love and charity, we mean to hold it ever sure. No rude iconoclasts need here obtrude their fierce, unwelcome and forbidden presence; armed resistence, we both abominate: *by methods constitutional and mutual trust*, let souls unfettered speak to kindred soul. Once more, We here confess and do, in sooth, acknowledge—YE ARE ALL THAT IN MODEST YET POSSESSIVE TONE, YE CLAIM TO BE. WE YIELD EACH POINT AND CURVE AND ANGLE OF YOUR BIRTH RIGHTS INDEFEASIBLE. YE ARE THE LAWFUL AND LEGITIMATE HEIRS OF FREEBORN ANCESTORS.

In strict conservatism, We nothing change and nought amend, alter or make anew that would not, free, respire the sublimated spirit of Our Lamented One.

Poured She, Her love as Head of all? So *then* shall We.

Bled She for nations yet unknown; and did She occupy the Golden Stools within the inmost core of human hearts? So have We purposed thus to bleed; so reign; and there contented e'er abide.

To such prolific utterances, far-reaching in intent, our royal lips gave instant birth amid the anguish of the eerie hour; and here we yet repeat; We plight our troth again. So long as no recrudescence of smothered embers re-appear, so long shall all the tendrils of our love wind round your noble race, until we soar one soul, above these nether regions, e'en as yonder cirrous clouds a-moving, lose themselves in rarer, ampler air.

Be warned beforehand; for as Great Bodies slowly move, in times of strain and stress We almost elephantine or phelgmatic may seem; within the kernel of our being, howe'er, We shall be ever true, true e'en till death.

Potentates! Sworn friends are we, eternal comrades. We're rightly proud of thee, O Golden Strand!—the loveliest spot throughout our world-spanned realm—the quiet nook that voices forth our Glorious Throne and proves it far superior to all others! No Conqueror's sword has flourished here—No victory, save that achieved through Faith, by admiration prudently compelled. We do not boast of broadening acres, unless of narrow sites wherefrom these castellated forts and turretted mansions rise—acquired with current coin, *freehold*, may be by *lease* or else the thoughtful *gifts* of some magnanimous Chiefs. We live and move within these waste, expansive lands, but solely by your *sufferance* or *consent*, and yet, Men of the Golden Strand! Who is among you here, that would this pulsing moment wish to quit the umbrageous shade of Our secure and safe protection—signalled by the Royal Standard that on yonder staff blows peace and rest over the happy land?"

The People—None, none, O King!

Long live the Sezerain!

The L. P.—"Which of you would dare presume upon his liberty, hereditary or otherwise—his freedom unassailable to wound the ready arm that's mailed for defence! Who's there would frustrate our well-defined designs, by drawing back his share of voluntary, vicarious sacrifice—yea, all that may Our prosperous Empire more prosperous make?"

The People—Not one, Gracious Majesty, no, not a soul! Life for life; death for death, loyally we stand for thee! The King! The King!

The L. P.—"O *then* let star to star communicate the gladsome tidings; mountain to hills reverberate the joyful news and sea to sea raise crested waves to celebrate the NEW DAYRAY! For We have won where Vulcan's forge and Maxim's threats ignominious fail! O bloodless war! Spontaneous victory! And this "Imperial Trust," that's rooted deeper than the sandy base of *Contracts, Conquests*, Treaty-Cessions or e'en of Purchase, but on the bed-rock deeps where lurk the Three Diviner Graces—Faith, Hope and their sister Love.

This supernatural conquest savouring nought of Earth or Hell, WE SWEAR FOR EVER TO RESPECT, TO HOLD, TO HAVE AS LONG AS THERE REMAINS AN HEIR APPARENT TO THE THRONE OF OUR BENEFICENT ASCENDANTS. Loyal Kings and ye stalworth Burghers! We have spoken!"

The People—The Scion of the Rosebud Queen of all the universe hath said it! Imperial Majesty's spoken! And could we let dissolve our brimming Hearts torrential, tropic rains in season never once would fall again upon OUR HAPPY LAND the gallant fleet of all the world would fail to cross the illimitable seas of glorious sheen, that must trace back their source within our inmost springs! In life, in death, ever thy friendly subjects, crave we to be! The King's Most Excellent Majesty! Long live the King.

(To be Continued.)

THE MOANING OF THE REEF.

(BY A BANKER)

At the mouth of a lovely arm of the sea in the south of England is a dangerous reef which at times utters a plaintive, wailing moan, presaging a dangerous storm, and warning the hardy toilers of the deep to refrain from venturing over the bar. The long inlet or creek is fringed in places with a belt of noble trees, and in the late autumn is a very blaze of many-hued beauty, the trees garbed in all manner of vivid tints, ranging from gold and brilliant amber to carmine, burnished copper, and deep amethyst. The lofty buttressed cliffs which guard the entrance to this nature-favoured creek are dyed a rich, full vermillion, the green verdure which clothes their undulating summits enhancing the vigorous colourings of these rocky ramparts, while the broad arm of the sea, flecked with the white or scarlet sails of numerous yachts, is sparkling in the rays of the sun as though gemmed with diamonds.

But as the shades of evening approach the breeze has freshened, and the rapidly more and more agitated sea is bedecked with tufts of foam; the sun sets in a lurid coppery bank of clouds, the sea birds, with those also which love to flit along the shore and whose home is either on the rough herbage at the foot of the cliffs or in little caverns hewn out of the sand-stone, are all seeking a place of safety from the coming storm. And now can be heard, wafted from afar, the sad moaning of the bar, a piteous dolorous wail, which from time to time the imagination can resolve into a sob of lament as though that mournful dirge were the funeral knell of some gallant ship which had been engulphed by the deep, entombing its living freight in a watery sepulchre. And then, as the tide recedes, and the boiling surge is hurled against the bar, the rhythm of that sobbing dirge glides into a more angry measure, and the plaintive moan becomes a fierce, hissing torrent of turmoil and disorder, the terror of the mariner, and, in former times the ghastly jubilation of the evil-favoured wreckers, who hope to make an unholy profit from the wreckage of some doomed, fated bark. At length the storm moderates, the foaming waves subside, the reef no longer wails its moans and sighs, and the sea farer can safely venture forth to cross the bar.

And a time will come when we too shall all have to cross the bar. Happy they who having lived the life of the righteous, and whose names are written in Heaven, when their turn comes to cross that bar, with an ecstasy of rejoicing meet their Pilot, who has guided them safely through the storms of life, and who, to save them from destruction, shed His life-blood for them on the bitter cross.

MISSIONARY VALEDICTORY AT LIVERPOOL.

* * *

The Rev. J. D. Sutcliffe described himself as "an old Coaster." He has seen eighteen years service there. He said that when people at home saw his ruddy face and robust appearance they thought there could not be much wrong with the climate of West Africa. But West Africa was by no means a health resort. The malarial microbe played havoc with European and native alike. It was using the common-sense he was born with, plus a little that had been added by experience that enabled him to fight the battle of life out there. He would like to congratulate Liverpool on holding a valedictory meeting. The prosperity of Liverpool was largely bound up with Western Africa. Their commercial, financial, and shipping interests were great, and their spiritual interest were also involved. Many Liverpool men had found their graves on the West Coast, and had been helped on their way to God by the ministry of our missionaries. He represented the youngest District on the coast, and was glad to say that they were forging ahead.

Sister Annie McVicker, who was well known in Liverpool, received a great ovation. She said it was the gladdest moment of her life. Sixteen years ago God had called her from a life of pleasure-seeking to a life of service. Converted in Whitefield Road, she had served under Charles Garrett in the Liverpool Mission, but she had never thought that she would stand there on the eve of her departure for West Africa. She had always wanted to serve abroad, but hitherto the door had been shut. But the clear call had come, and she cheerfully obeyed.

* * *

The Rev. J. T. F. Halligey, who had come from Bolton to see and to say farewell to some of his old friends said it had been his privilege to labour in all the Districts of West Africa. The climate was the worst in the world, and the people most degraded; yet the success achieved was the greatest. He had felt some diffidence about the Sisters going out. He assured them that the

prayers of an old West African missionary would constantly ascend on their behalf, that they might be kept in health and peace, and made a great blessing in their work.

The Rev. W. H. Maude, who first went out to West Africa thirty-eight years ago, and was returning for his sixteenth year of service, said that although he had frequently set sail from the port of Liverpool, this was the first valedictory meeting he had known, and he, for one, would go with a better heart because of the sympathy expressed, and the knowledge that many were praying for him. Upon his return some months ago a man had said to him, "Maude there hasn't been a day since you have been away that I haven't prayed for you." That was the true method of helping the missionary. In the Sierra Leone District they have a splendid staff of native ministers, and the larger number of their churches were entirely self-supporting. He was the only white missionary in the District, and he thought it was a mistake to withdraw the European agency. Every penny from England goes direct to evangelising the heathen.

Sister Ethel Worthington, who for several years had worked in the Liverpool Mission, received a most hearty welcome. She felt she was going to West Africa in answer to the prayers of friends in Liverpool, and she was going as their representative. She was going full of confidence, because she had a great grip on God.

The Rev. J. D. Russell, fresh from Richmond College, said he had no doubt of his call. He was born in Liverpool, and born again in Birkenhead. At first he had no desire for West Africa, but many of his fellow-students who offered were rejected on medical grounds, and he felt that if he went to any other Mission field he might be filling a place which these men, perhaps, could occupy. He was going to educational work, and was hoping, by God's help, to influence the young life of the colony. He could not analyse his feelings, but his sorrow in parting from loved ones was mingled with a great joy.

* * *

Dr. T. Bowman Stephenson gave the valedictory address, and spoke the last word of British Methodism. For the first time in the history of our Church, two members of the order of Wesley Deaconesses were going to Western Africa. He claimed that the special needs of West Africa could be best met by an order of women workers having a close bond of association, with a strong reserve force at home, ready and willing to close the gap which ill-health might make in the ranks. There were three Wesley Deaconesses in Ceylon, three in Transvaal, one in Cape Town, and two on their way to New Zealand; but this was a new chapter in their history. Reference had been made to the risks, but if men were willing to take risks, were not women equally courageous for the Kingdom of God? Some of the finest martyrs of the church had been gentle women. The two Sisters present were volunteers. Ten of their order had offered to go. Where duty called there was no lack of willing-workers. Our brethren and sisters were the pioneers of God's great army. Upon them the brunt of the battle rested, and we must uphold them by our intercession.

* * *

After the service a group of friends from Whitefield Road presented Sister Annie McVicker with complete set of nursing instruments and appliances, and also a copy of the new Methodist Tune Book, printed on India paper.—*The Methodist Recorder.*

THE DOCTOR'S OPPORTUNITIES TO DO GOOD.

(BY ANDREW WHITGIFT.)

VI.

It is said that Dr. Thomas Sydenham every evening wrote down on a slip of paper the names of all the patients he had visited during the day, and laid it before him when he knelt down for prayer.

Thus he remembered all of them before his God, and asked for wisdom in the treatment of their ailments. No doubt he was a man of great learning and skill, but when learning and skill are thus combined with prayer, one cannot wonder that the physician who is possessed of them earns the title of "the wonder of his age." Patients who are under such a doctor's treatment cannot enough appreciate the privilege. To them he will not be a snare, as King Asa's physicians were to their royal patient, who in his disease, "sought not to the Lord but to them." They have been a "bad lot," since as it seems, they have no alternative to him but either to trust in them or in God. A king who is under the treatment of such physicians is worse off than the poorest of his subjects who has a doctor who prays for him even should he neglect to pray himself. For whatever there may be mysterious in the doctrine of the efficacy of prayer, this much is certain, that as there is no evil in a city which the Lord hath not done (Amos III. 6.) so there is no remedy which can cure without his blessing. It also may be expected that a doctor who places his pharmacopoeia next to his Bible, and has his God for his first consulting physician, will be conscientious in the choice of his medicaments, and honest in the treatment of his patients. The force of these observations is not lessened by pointing at a physician who is as famous for his success as he is notorious for his infidelity. For the experiment was never made which might have proved that his success would have been double had his heart been as full of the love of God as his head is full of learning. Nor is anything proved against the value of prayer by the fact that a doctor who prays is not always a doctor who cures; for valuable as prayer is, yet nothing is more liable to be abused; and as in all other trades and professions there are idlers or fainéants who prefer praying to working, so there may also be doctors who prefer praying to studying. Indeed nothing can be more trying to a patient than to have a doctor sitting at his bedside, who fills up his time with religious talk, and in the meantime neglects to examine his case, accurately, and to put questions about what he should inquire into. Prayer is an excellent preparation, but a bad substitute for work.

I close this article with the words with which Dr. Cotton Mather closes his address to the physicians. "Finally," he writes, "an ingenious gentleman of your profession has a passage in his Pharmacopoeia Butleana which I will here insert because very many of you can speak the same language, and by inserting it, I hope to increase the number. 'I know no poor creature,' he says, 'that ever came to me in the whole course of my practice, that once went from me, without my desired help, gratis. And I have accounted the restoration of such a poor and wretched creature a greater blessing to me, than if I had procured the wealth of both the Indies. I cannot so well express myself concerning this matter as I can conceive it, but I am sure I should have been more pleased, and had a greater satisfaction in seeing such a helpless creature restored to his desired health, than if I had found a very valuable treasure. As I can never repent of the good which I have done this way, so I resolve to continue the same practice, for I certainly know that I have had the signal blessing of God attending my endeavours.'"

The End.

LAW.

The Cape Coast Criminal Assizes opened on Monday November 7th last. The Calendar was not a large one but at the same time it was not uninteresting.

Mr J. Wilfred Maxwell, Barrister-at-Law very ably defended the prisoner Kojo Barkufu who was found guilty of murder.

Mr. Vidal. J. Buckle, Barrister-at-Law did his utmost in endeavouring to prove insanity, which defence he had set up in behalf of the prisoner Kweku Kuma who was also found guilty of wilful murder.

But the most interesting case and with which we propose to deal at length was that of Rex. v. Quarmin Quartain *coram* Pennington J. and a special Jury. The prisoner was charged with (1) Burglary, (2) Receiving.

Mr. Lawson N. Peregrine, Barrister-at-Law, Provincial Commissioner prosecuted on behalf of the Crown, and Mr. Vidal Buckle defended the prisoner.

At the preliminary stages of the trial, Counsel for the defence raised formal objection to the information, and argued that as Burglary was an offence which could be committed only in a dwelling house the word "store" appearing on the information was insufficient and the learned Counsel also referred to Sections 94 of the Criminal Procedure and 289 of the Criminal Code. The information having been accordingly amended, the learned Counsel asked that the prosecution be put to its election as to which of the two counts it would prove, the prisoner having been charged with being principal and accessory after the fact to the same felony.

(R. v. Brannon rep. 14 Cox. at p. 394.)

ELECTION DISALLOWED

The case for the prosecution which opened strongly lasted all the morning of November 7th.

After the close of the case for the prosecution the learned Counsel for the defence opened by giving shortly the antecedents of the prisoner who Counsel said belonged to a highly respected class at Kumassi from which candidates were selected to fill exalted and responsible offices such as Chief Trumpeter, King's Courier, or Chief Linguist during the reign of Prempeh. The witnesses called for the prisoner were four in number, and it was proved beyond doubt that the alleged Burglary was never committed by the prisoner, and that the goods of which he was charged with receiving, were sold to him by a man called Sre Nyami *alias* Kwesi Daynansa, since escaped from Police Custody.

Learned Counsel addressed the Jury on behalf of the prisoner in a most eloquent speech and cited the case of Regina and Crowhurst rep. in I. C. and K. 370. in support of the defence to the second count.

His Honour having summed up, the Jury after a brief absence returned a verdict of "not guilty" on both counts. Prisoner acquitted.

MODESTINUS.

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.*

IS THIS THE TIME TO QUARREL?

It is not certain the articles and letters that have been written by Casely Hayford Esq., Barrister-at Law, Anona Chambers, (Author of the "Gold Coast Native Institutions)" are authorised by the Axim Branch of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society. None have been as they should be, signed either by the President or Secretary of that body.

The Country is so agitated at present over the Town Councils Ordinance question that in the interest of Mr. Hayford himself I think it would be best if he could refrain from the course he is pursuing in writing those letters, especially if they are not authorized by the Axim Society, as public opinion is undoubtedly against it. What good service could be done in the interest of the Country these articles or letters at this juncture of affairs is another question.

The whole trouble seems to arise from the fact that Mr. Hayford thinks his draft has been disregarded. This is a mistake. Mr. Hayford's draft is by no means a bad one and I can assure him it is engaging the attention of the educated community who are giving it a careful consideration, although some objection is taken to the haste with which it was published and there are good reasons for this objection.

I appeal to the Axim Society and all concerned in this imprudent controversy in the interest of the country at this stage to allow the matter to die a natural death.

LIBRA

Dear Mr. Editor,—I was surprised to read the letter which appeared in your impression of the 1st. inst. from Mr. Barrister Buckle by way of reply to the letters from Messrs Pobee and Sampson which had previously appeared in your paper. Says Mr. Buckle—"That the Gold Coast Bar is over-crowded and let me add so far as making a living thereat is concerned I have not the slightest doubt, and notwithstanding that nothing has dropped from the lips of any member of the profession touching the question that I know of." "If 8 or 9 Gold Coast Native Barristers—viz, 2 from the Western Province—Messrs. John Sarbah and Casely Hayford, and 7 from the Eastern Province—Messrs. Mills, Bannerman, Papafio, Ribeiro, Plange, Addo, and Buckle—can be said to over-crowd the Bar then, I am yet to learn what the meaning of the word "overcrowding" is. According to Mr. Buckle's asseverations what is he contemplating to do? Is he preparing to betake himself to a more congenial soil and more lucrative sphere? I hope so: but if not how are his quondam students to reconcile his remarks, or statements—perhaps "asseverations" is the correct word—to his acts? I know I may not be sufficiently clear as what to I mean to say but Mr. Buckle is a lawyer and can read between the lines and therefore there can be no difficulty with him as to his unravelling my overtures. Mr. Buckle wonders why the members of the profession have not said a word on the subject. Why should they? The Gold Coast Native Barristers know that the Bar is not overcrowded and it is only in the opinion or in the imagination of Mr. Barrister Buckle that it is. Gold Coast Bar overcrowded by 9 native Barristers!! Mr. Buckle, you do surprise me!!! My!!!

I shall thank you Mr. Editor for publishing this letter.

Yours faithfully,—ANOTHER GOLD COAST STUDENT.

London 24th. October, 1904.

Sir,—I am glad to find in your issue of November 5th upon whose get-up, by the way, you are to be congratulated, that the "leaders" at Cape Coast are at last about coming out of their shell to place before His Excellency the Governor their views upon the Town Councils Ordinance.

It is refreshing to find that the cause of the delay has been only a piece of fine strategy to force the hands of the Cape Coast community in the matter of the Fanti Public Schools movement. It may be clever; but it is certainly fraught with danger to the country if the truth, for once, may be spoken.

It is a good thing that "fame-seekers" and "centres of Influence" at "provincial" Axim are not troubled with this faculty for strategy, which does imperil the political situation, while the Government forge along with a calmness and a logic unrivalled before in their relations with the people.

Ibi ingina inkran mu infufu inkran. But, at the same time, a public with a short memory may be reminded that from "provincial" Axim, quietly and unostentatiously, came the stimulus and the energy which proved the death-blow of the Lands Bill and toned down the Concessions Bill to its present form; and that if there had not been this deplorable delay on the part of "leaders" at Cape Coast, Axim would have rested well content to help Cape Coast with *ideas.*

Enough for the present. After all this waste of valuable time, let those responsible at Cape Coast place before the country their views with a view to united action; for even what is done at Cape Coast may easily degenerate into "provincial" action, if discussion be stifled.

It is fortunate that Axim may at the least, take to herself the credit, without immodesty, of having aroused Cape Coast from a really deep slumber; and that at last it may be possible to coax out of the Government a measure of full representative municipal Government with adequate subvention from the *general* revenues.

I am sending you this entirely on my own responsibility.

Yours faithfully,—CASELY HAYFORD.

9. 11. 1904.

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

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Nov. 9:—Seddon speaking New Zealand Parliament after Colonial assistance in Boer war the Government's action regarding Chinese was disastrous, almost heart-breaking.

Admiral Deway will be the American Commissioner in Paris regarding the North Sea affair.

Reuter Tokio 8/10 since Saturday progress operations Port Arthur satisfactory though slow. Russian transport troops with guns quickly filling gaps caused by battle at Yentai.

New Japanese loan 6 per cent twelve million sterling issued to-morrow on Thursday at 80½, half in London and half in New York.

Japanese ignoring Stoessel are offering terms direct to the soldiers at Port Arthur.

Polling orderly throughout United States. Central Republican Committee spent 600,000, Democrates 400,000 on campaigning, total expenditure of all organisations 4,500,000.

Rennenkampfs force reconnoitred Japanese right yesterday, brisk skirmishing whereafter Russians retired.

Watherston appointed Commissioner Northern Territories.

:10—Steamer Batavier IV with Kruger's remains left Las Palmas on Tuesday.

Democratic headquarters United States admit Roosevelt elected by overwhelming majority.

11:—Japanese internal loan of eighty million Yen closed subscriptions amounted to 242 millions.

Mayors of London and Provincial boroughs selected yesterday show 177 Unionists and 163 Liberals.

Announced Russian Government decided to offer handsome rewards offer any information about the suspicious vessels in North Sea or other facts connected with incident.

Stoessel asked armistice, purpose unstated. Japanese soldiers inflamed owing alleged Russian abuse of Japanese wounded might be difficult to avoid massacre when final combat comes.

United States Navy Board urges coming Session of Congress to authorise constructions of three battleships, five cruisers, six destroyers and six torpedoers to cost forty one million dollars as direct result war Far East.

Royal Society awarded Colonel David Bruce royal medal for researches in sleeping sickness.

12:—Alexieff arrived St. Petersburg yesterday. Tsar absent, Lieut. Colonel Stenger head science department and Minister Marine, Mangelstamm.

Russian Embassy Constantinople Lieut. Wezkoff appointed Russian assessors on Committee of Enquiry into North Sea affair.

Admiral Taelnersham two battleships, two cruisers, several volunteer cruisers and colliers belonging to the Baltic fleet arrived Suda Bay, Crete.

The King and Queen of Portugal arrived on Tuesday from Cherbourg aboard Victoria and Albert.

Channel and home fleets concentrating at Portsmouth to welcome the King and Queen of Portugal.

15:— Lyttelton, Earl Harrowick and Duke of Malborough present at the banquet Manchester on Saturday celebrating and granting of a charter to the British Cotton Growing association. King sent telegram wishing Association every success in its important work which it is hoped would lead to results of greatest value for the Empire.

Von Lindequist late Counsul-General Cape Town sails directly to take up position of Governor at German S. W. Africa. German newspapers hope as result of having had fall opportunity of observing successful British colonising methods, Lindequist be able counteract unfortunate consequences of Leutweins bureaucratic system in Damaraland to establish colony on liberal lines.

Terrific storm raging United States rain snow falling intermittently wind blowing 48 miles, hour telegraphic and other communication cut, New York and other cities isolated, a good number small steamers stranded various points on the coast, effects more disastrous than Blezzard of 1888.

Vice Admiral Beaumont appointed British representative international commission North Sea affair.

16:—Reuter before Port Arthur says Japanese by desperate attack on 30/10 gained powerful ends, Kikwan fort giving them key to eastern ridge forts, later Russians reinforced drove Japanese down to foot of hill Japanese sapping crest.

British enquiry Hull begun, Admiral Bridge presiding; all witnesses stoutly denied slightest shadow of complicity with Japanese mere suggestion ridiculed.

Mikado presided at lengthy conference Navy and Military chiefs at palace to-day when discussed plans to intercept Balticers when reach Far Eastern waters.

Victoria and Albert with King and Queen of Portugal aboard passed between five lines of gaily dressed warships of home and Channel fleets in Spithead to-day magnificent sight, Prince of Wales welcomed guests who proceeded to Windsor where King received them.

Steamer Goorkha sighted Baltic fleet near Cape Verde Islands 11/11.

KUMASSI NOT A LEGAL FIELD.

Adum Chambers, Cape Coast, 14. 11. 04.

Dear Sir,—I enclose for publication, copy of a letter I have addressed to His Excellency's Private Secretary at Accra, and the Colonial Secretary's reply thereto.

I am, Dear Sir,
Faithfully Yours,—VIDAL J. BUCKLE.

Adum, Chambers, Cape Coast Castle,
Gold Coast Colony,
13th. October, 1904.

His Excellency's
Private Secretary, Victoriaborg, Accra.

Sir,—I have the honour respectfully to ask for His Excellency's Ruling, with reference to Ashanti Administration Ordinance No. 1 of 1902, upon the privileges of Members of the English Bar as regards right of audience and practising before the Chief Commissioner's Court at Ashanti.

By section 7 of the Ordinance the Chief Commissioner's Civil Jurisdiction is defined, and section 26 enumerates the Ordinances of the Gold Coast as shall be in force in and apply to Ashanti; but the Legislature is silent upon section 80 of Ordinance No. 4 of 1876 (Supreme Court Ordinance) notwithstanding that the Common Law, doctrines of Equity and Statutes of General application are to be administered in Ashanti.

I assume that in the construction of the Ordinance in its entirety, that where it does not strike at privileges, that the privileges established by Common Law are deemed to be continuous and not abrogated or struck at unless by express words in the Ordinance.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,—(Sgd.) VIDAL J. BUCKLE
(Barrister-at-Law.)

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Accra, Gold Coast,
2nd November, 1904.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 13th. of October addressed to the Private Secretary, I am directed to inform you that members of the English Bar have no right of audience or of practising in the Court of the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,—(Sgd.) H. BRYAN,
Colonial Secretary.

Vidal J. Buckle Esq., Barrister-at-Law,
Adum Chambers, Cape Coast Castle.

THE ACCRA VOLUNTEERS AND THE GOVERNOR.

On His Majesty's Birthday the 9th instant the following men of the Gold Coast Volunteers Force were presented with "long service medals" by His Excellency the Governor:—

Native Officer A. G. Lutterodt; Quartermaster Sergeant N. J. Nunoo; Sergeant Drummer A. A. Lutterodt; Sergeants T. R. Asante, R. F. Botchey, J. A. Brown, A. H. Hammond, S. W. Tettey, T. A. Thompson, and P. Azu; Corporals M. G. Okai, and J. A. Quartey; privates W. S. Allotey, W. W. Armatie, J. A. Glover, and T. W. Quartey; Bandsman E. Vanderpuye.

After the presentation of the Medals His Excellency the Governor addressed the corps and expressed his pleasure of having had the honour to distribute on His Majesty's birthday medals to those volunteers who have won them and remarked that it will be an example to others to follow and he should be extremely gratified to have to present double the number of medals so earned on another similar occasion. His Excellency congratulated the Volunteers on their smart appearance and gave credit to Captain Mulgrue the Adjutant of the Force for his labours in the interest of the Force. He further stated that he had given instructions for the formation of a Volunteer Corps at Sekondi in addition to that already at Cape Coast and Axim—His Excellency impressed on the Volunteers the necessity of paying attention to their duties and that they should not only appear on Guards of Honour and other ceremonial parades but that they should bear in mind the necessity of learning all they could and how to shoot and handle their rifles as in case of any serious trouble or in the event of an invasion they would be called upon to defend their country and that what they were taught as Volunteers would be of use to them whatever their calling was in this world. His Excellency complimented the Corps on the manner in which they had performed their drills and musketry during the year, and the keen interest that was shown by all members in their work. It afforded His Excellency great pleasure to read in various papers that on the excellent report made on the Corps at its inspection by General Kemball, the Army Council had noted the utility of maintaining the Corps up to its present standard of excellence which reflected great credit on every member of this the pioneer Volunteer Corps in West Africa.

At the conclusion of His Excellency's address the whole of the Troops in Garrison together with the police formed into line and fired a *feu de joie* and Royal Salute, afterwards Marching past in Column and Quarter Column then reforming into line and advancing in Review Order to the Saluting base, where the line gave a Royal Salute, which concluded the ceremony.

The parade and presentation was witnessed by a large number of influential people both European and Native.

LEST WE FORGET.

MUNICIPALITIES.

Now that the view of Cape Coast Castle on the momentous Town Councils Ordinance has been placed before Governor Rodger who is no doubt giving his best attention and serious consideration to the same, what we publish to-day under this heading is somewhat important in this question and throws a much needed light on a vexing discussion. Governors and other Gold Coast European officials are too liable to be misled, and we believe much harm have been done in the past and is being done even now through wrong informations on which such officials act. This letter of the London Committee of Merchants dated 15th February 1836 addressed to the Government here of that period is an important proof, but it does another thing in that one is reminded that in former days certain allowances were made to the Omanhin, Pynins and divisions of this town, and this at a time when there were no Customs duties. The allowances are not now paid and we all know the ad valorem duty of ten per cent is levied because Cape Coasters asked the duty to be put on imports as a way and means for municipal purposes. Is it just and right for the people to be asked to tax houses and lands when they are to undertake municipal duties. The House Rates question should be studied from a historical and local point of view and the following is published as a contribution lest we forget.

London, 15th February 1836.

Gentlemen,—We avail ourselves of the "Madeira" calling on the Gold Coast to transmit duplicates of our despatches by the Charles Carter, and Governor Maclean, and to inform you, that Mr. William Spinks, who is still pursuing a course of Military instruction at Woolwich, will take his passage by the first vessel bound to the Gold Coast, as will Mr. Dind, to whom we have written, requiring him to resume his situation as Surgeon at Cape Coast Castle, should his health be sufficiently re-established.

In our letter of the 7th December, we particularly adverted to the allowances made to the Cabboceers, Pynins, and divisions of the Town of Cape Coast, in which we expressed our belief, that they must have been bestowed in consideration of services to be rendered to the Government in some shape or other, and, under that impression, desired the several divisions of the Town to be summoned to meet at the Castle, and informed that the repairs of Roads, and cleansing of the streets, is a most necessary duty, and that they will be expected to perform these services, which will be rigidly exacted from them and should there be any disinclination to attend to this, that you had our instructions, to withhold a part, or the whole of their allowances for a time but finding upon obtaining further information, upon this subject we have been in error, and that the advances in question, (granted, as we then mentioned, from time immemorial, by the former African Company and by His Majesty's Government during the period the Forts were under their immediate control, and still sanctioned by them, under the present arrangement) were never given for any specific duties, but, for services rendered, the advantages of which, have been beneficial to the European residents, and that they are to be received more in the shape of Pensions, than of Pay wisely continued to the successors of the original parties, bestowed, as a political and, prudential measure and that the repairing of Roads will prove an onerous duty.

We do therefore require, that the several allowances, to the Cabboceers, Pynins, and divisions of the Town, be continued to them upon the same understanding as heretofore, and, that the method for repairing the Roads previously adopted, be again resorted to.

As regards the cleansing of the streets, we think it highly necessary—conducive to the health and comfort of all classes, and cannot be too strictly enforced, we do therefore direct, that in the event of any refusal to comply with this requisition, that the portion of the Town, showing the least neglect, be mulcted for a time, of a part, or the whole of their allowances, but, the discontinuance altogether, we again repeat, cannot be countenanced, as any determination of that kind, might involve us in difficulties with His Majesty's Secretary of State.

The several statements rendered by the President and, which were received by the George Canning, have not been minutely examined, and therefore cannot be reported upon, but, we must admit the necessity of the Gold account being kept distinct, and, not mixed up with public accounts, more particularly for the reasons pointed out by the President.

We beg that Cudjoe Chibboo's fine of 50 ozs. of Gold may be transferred from the Ledger Balance to the Gold account, and that all Gold fines imposed, be placed in the possession of the President and Council.

We are decidedly of opinion, that His Majesty's Government will not sanction the expenditure of Fines, in public disbursements, but, must be applied, wherever required, to the improvement of the Town, in keeping open the Trading paths, or in any manner, that may be beneficial to the Natives, and it is equally important, that the Cabboceers and principal persons of the Town, should be made acquainted in what way, the Fines are appropriated.

We have the pleasure to be, Gentlemen,
Your very obdt. humble Servants,
(Sgd.) Joseph Reid,
" W. M. Hutton,
" J. G. Nicholls.

RETURN OF SPIRIT LICENSE GRANTED FOR THE HALF YEAR 31st JULY 1904.

Accra and District	...	£425
Adda	"	435
Axim	"	495
Cape Coast	"	1280
Dixcove	"	400
Elmina	"	495
Komaa	"	180
Kwitta	"	800
Pram Pram	"	365
Saltpond	"	1340
Sekondi	"	800
Tarkwa	"	1195
Volta River	"	1050
Winnebah	"	1245
Total	...	£10,335

SEKUNDI.

According to a notification the business of the Gold Coast Stores Ltd. is going to be closed up on the 30th instant, and the goods are offered at greatly reduced prices.

The local paper market is brisk in favour of the "Leader." As many as 100 copies were sold in less than an hour on the 9th inst. The standard up-

prestation given to this journal bespeaks its high merits and usefulness.

In this age of financial embarrassment arising from the fall of trade and other domestic circumstances, whoever endures severe hardships may be esteemed for being Job's comrade. We have an instance in Mr. Frank E. Ashun, who lost his son a few days ago and in the space of a fortnight lost an uncle, father-in-law, aunt-in-law and a portion of his building which was broken down by the Government. Mr. Eshun has a just claim on public sympathies.

We report with deep regret the sudden death last week of Mr. Johnson Richmond Blankson (native of Accra) who was buried with temperance honours.

Cruising windward from Bonny, the H. M. S. "Dwarf" touched this port on Friday night and left last night for Monrovia.

Among other passengers by the "Zangeru" who arrived here last Friday night was Mr. Muir, Chief Agent Messrs. Swanzy.

Mr. Crawford, Secretary for the Sekondi Lighterage and Hotel Company Ltd. is expected here next week. We understand Mr. Marsden proceeds to Lagos shortly and Mr. Dyson takes his place.

In honour of the King's Birthday, there was a parade show and drill at the Low Town Greens on the 9th inst. The cricket match between the European and natives resulted in the total defeat of the latter. Special mention should however be made of the excellent play of Mr. S. P. Thomas who scored fifty and was never out.

A Rotterdam firm entitled L. Te Wechel has recently opened up an establishment; its business is carried on at the ground floor of Bissue's Royal Hotel.

A young boy named Quasie while bathing at the Yessua beach on Friday afternoon was drifted by a current out to sea and got drowned; the body has not been found since.

JUDICIAL.

Some messengers sent by Chief Darboh of Intwaban were assulted by a party of Jombohs. After priliminary investigation of the case on the 10th inst., the prisoners were committed to the Criminal Assizes.

The case of Reg v. Bombson Brothers came off on the 11th instant and resulted in the acquittal of the two junior partners and the imprisonment of the senior for 6 months hard labour.

Amissang, accused for forgery and stealing has been committed for the Tarkwa December Assizes.

Mr. Grey of Swanzy who arrived here from England last week, left by the "Anversville" last night.

TOWN COUNCILS ORDINANCE.

As a sequence to the access placed at the disposal of the Appraiser, notices of assessments have been issued to a majority of house owners in Accra Town.

CHAMA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The ceremonies connected with the enstoolment on the 25th ulto. of Kwao Fraiku and Bernasko as Omanhin and Chief of the Seven companies respectively of Chama were performed during a torrent of rain.

Mr. Peter J. A. Bernasko suddenly disappeared on that day, but he was subsequently caught and installed.

Under the supervision of Mr. Sam. E. Quasi the Catholic School was opened here on the 7th July last with 38 scholars; through certain intriguing negotiations for debarring the progress of this institution the number of the children abruptly diminished to 5. Some strenuous efforts have been made by some Catholic friends, and such efforts have been crowned with success, bringing the number of the children to 43.

By the Catholic Youths on the 10th instant a concert was given under the presidency of Mr. C. H. Kweku. Interesting addresses were delivered by the Master and Messrs. Therson, Frank and J. Ashun. The youths were presented with half-sovereign in silver by the Chairman.

A new catechist in the person of Mr. Yarquah has been appointed, in him every hope for a successful career is held by the Catholic Society.

Father Marder visited here on the 10th instant and promised to recommend the necessity of having a resident European Superintendent.

Mr. J. H. Williams who has been Vice President for the Society leaves for Benso shortly as Agent for Millers Ltd; his removal is regretted.

At the native Court before Omanhin Fraiku on the 8th instant, Mr. B. J. Yankah (agent for Millers) was brought up for defamation of character by Mr. C. H. Kweku, and was found guilty. This matter has been the source of some sensation lately in this town. We understand Mr. Yankah has left for Cape Coast via Sekondi with a view to review the case through British Courts.

A concert is being proposed to be given at Christmas by the local Singing Band.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Grimshaw D.C. returned to town last Monday from his inspection of the Akim district.

Old Nelson of Lower Town (Nankesir) whose death was announced last Friday (the father of Mr. J. B. Nelson Messrs. F. & A. Swanzy's Agent at Prampram) was supposed to have been 90 years old.

We understand that at a meeting held at Messrs. F. & A. Swanzy's last Friday it was agreed that, the combination scheme comes into force on the following Monday. Those present were the Agents for Messrs. F. & A. Swanzy, Millers Ltd., African Association, J. J. Fischer, German Trading Company and H. Rottmann.

The Oddfellows verandah which is being constructed will give a splendid view to the house on its completion. Already we understand preparations are being made to dedicate the new extension on Christmas eve. It won't be a bad idea if Brothers at the other places were invited, to witness same.

The yearly collecting cards for the Wesleyan Mission were distributed last Tuesday night, at a sumptuous tea meeting at the Solomon Memorial School.

The King's Birthday passed off quietly here. With the exception of two German and two English Houses which closed up their offices, it is to be regretted that the three combination Houses of Messrs. Swanzy, Millers and Association did not observe the day.

During his visit here Mr. H. B. W. Russell took a day to Edwimaku on a bicycle returning in the evening at 5. 30.

The Saltpond Mutual and Improvement Club has been holding meetings oftener during the last few weeks. We understand among the questions they have been discussing are the Town Council and the coming of the Deputation re the Fanti Public Schools Ltd. From all we can gather the depatation will be heartily received by the community.

THANKS FOR HELP.

The Headmaster and Staff of teachers in the Salt Pond Wesleyan School have much pleasure in acknowledging their indebtedness to those kind friends who rendered appreciable assistance and offered munificent gifts in the defrayal of the expences incurred during the pic-nic that was had at Kuntu on the 9th inst. by the scholars of the "Freeman Memorial" and the "Solomon Memorial" Schools.

KOFORIDUA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

On the 12th October: about the hour of 5 p.m. His Excellency J. P. Rodger C.M.G. arrived here with his Private Secretary and Mr. Fell the Travelling Commissioner and about half a dozen Haussas. The Town was decorated and Mr. Samuel Otcher's storied house at the Wesley Mission station, was prepared specially for His Excellency's lodging. The Chiefs of the following places viz:—Koforidua, Effua & Asokori assembled at the front of the said house. His Excellency in his full official attire met the Chiefs and people of the several districts and spoke to them about Agriculture and children to be sent to schools for training. The next morning, the Chiefs presented to His Excellency, one cow, four sheep, fowls, eggs, and many other comestibles: the Governor also gave as a dash £15 in gold to Chiefs and headmen and £3 in gold to the owner of the house. Few of the Educated persons petitioned the Governor as follows:—

Koforidua, 13/10/04.

His Excellency,

John Pickersgill Rodger C.M.G.

Governor & Commander-in-Chief, Gold Coast.

Sir,—We the Educated members and Teachers beg in sincerity to welcome your Excellency on this your first visit to the Town, since your Excellency's arrival in Town yester evening, we have heard with unbounded pleasure the sound advice you have given the Chiefs and several people of the districts. It present we your kind permission to lay before your Excellency, our views on several important matters:—

1. That our schools here need children of more quantity. The schools in the districts viz:—Koforidua, Effiduase, Asokori, Oweko and Suhyen, having only about 67, 36, 21, 24, & 15 members, we suggest this before your Excellency to enforce the Chiefs for children.

2 That we humbly ask His Excellency to open Post office and Telegraph, Street Lamps and Market Shed. That the sound robust health may be enjoyed by you, blessings and prayers are our sincere wish who remain,

Your Excellency's most dutiful servants,

(Sgd.) B. J. APPIAH,
" G. B. BEDO,
" HENRY ASARE,
" T. DANSO,
" J. A. WELLINGTON,

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

His Excellency the, Governor left Aburi for Accra on the 25th. Oct. much improved in health.

The renovation of the Aburi Wesleyan Chapel has been completed. The dedication Service took place on Sunday the 30th. Oct. last. There were many attendants from the adjacent villages and others from Accra with the Rev. Bethel, Supt: of the Accra Circuit. The Rev Mr. Ellenberger who floated the scheme and superintended the work in person deserves the congratulations on the successful and valuable work done. Rev. Ellenberger has been nearly ten years on the coast.

A young girl was caught at Adinkera, River side, Kpong, by an alligator on Wednesday the 2nd Nov. The remains of the unfortunate girl have not yet been found.

Mr. O'Brien having completed his enquiry into the complicated political matters of Akuapim, Larteh and Aduman, has returned to Akuse; and after a few days' stay proceeded to Adda the station of the Provincial Commissioner.

"The VOLTA RIVER TRANSPORT Co." has taken over the business of conveyance of passengers and cargo between Amedeka and Adda. Traders and Firms having no Launches of their own may avail themselves of the advantage. Office, Akuse.

We understand that the "Kpong Literary Society" will soon entertain the Public with a concert. We have not had one for a long while.

MR. Benjamin Narh, a produce clerk of Messrs. Chevalier & Co. German Factory, Akuse, was accidentally shot dead by a hunter from Osudoku, on Sunday the 6th. inst. The body of the poor man was brought to Akuse in the afternoon. After the usual *post mortem* examination, the remains were buried on the 7th. inst. at Agomanya. Mr. Narh was a native of E. Krobo in the vicinity of which he met his untimely death.

Why should a hunter fire at what he is not sure of?—Never peeping to see the kind of creature aimed at. When hunters come in contact with ravenous beasts as a lion, tiger and others of that class they sometimes sneak away from that track to avoid an attack. Sometimes they meet unclean beast as wolves &c. and withdraw, from wasting their ammunition. Why do they not use the same caution in every case?

I am of opinion that every manslaughter who is convicted of carelessness in mishap should be heavily fined or imprisoned for 5 years or both! Does not the law allow this?—Then enact such a bye Law to protect the lives of His Majesty's loyal subjects. Too much cannot be said on this deplorable state of things.

I am surprised that Mr. DeVere the D. C. should have given occasion to the statements made by a Correspondent in the "Leader" of October 29th which, on enquiry, I find to be irrefutable.

The D. C's irritability on that occasion may have been due to climatic causes, and adverse circumstances. An unqualified interpreter who often puzzled the D. C. instead of throwing light on statements made, a stupid litigant who would not be interpreted but giving out "no, sir" and "yes, sir" for the same question, a closed cellar, called court, filled with nitrogenous exhalation of crowded spectators, are environments which tend naturally to throw one out of sorts.

We deem it a most unbecoming thing in a Government official of Mr. De Vere's standing to have no respect for the Record Book of His Majesty's Court of Justice. What would the D. C. have done if those he thus insulted had retaliated; would he have condemned them? Can he blame pugilists if he sets the example in the King's Court? We expect better things of Mr. De Vere. But if he has nothing better to show out, the sooner he applies for his transfer to another department the better for his health, reputation and interest. We trust His Honour the Chief Justice will enquire into the matter.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

		Due at Cape Coast
*Fantee	S. C. Express Service No. 1.	" 21
Ancobra	Opobo Service	" 23
*Lucie Woermann	Cam. Acc. Service	" 25
Teneriffe	Southern Windward Service	" 27
Carl Woermann	Gold Coast Service	" 27
Anna Woermann	L. & Oil Rivers Service	" 28
Dahomey	Brass Service	" 28
*Nigeria	Lagos Express Service ...	" 28

HOMEWARDS.

Egwanga	Opobo Service	" 18
*Sobo	S. C. Express Service No. 2	" 23
Khalif	Gold Coast Service	" 25
Axim	Brass Service	" 28
*Zungeru	Lagos Express Service ...	" 30
*Sokoto	S. C. Express Service. ...	Dec. 6

*With mails and passengrs only.

The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. III.
No. 127.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1904.

Price 3d.
Including postage 4d.

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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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,

MR. H. SOLOMON, Jackson Street, and

MR. R. F. WOOD, Ashanti Road, (W. E. Sam's.)

AT SEKUNDI

From the store of Mr. Jas. E. Arthur, Poassi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM,

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

European Representatives
JOHN SCOTT & Co., 46 Cannon Street, London E.C.

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TO BE OBTAINED AT ALL STORES.

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McLAREN BROS. & Co's Hotel & Boarding Establishments,

OPPOSITE MILLERS, CLOSE TO LANDING AND RAILWAY STATION,

SEKONDI.

FIRST AND SECOND CLASS Accomodation at Reasonable Rates. Furnished Rooms, Show Rooms, etc., suitable for Europeans visiting or residing at Sekondi. EXCELLENT CUISINE. Baths, Hot and Cold, Fresh and Sea Water. Perfect Sanitary Arrangements.

For TERMS Apply to Head Office:— 2 Mount St., Manchester.

McLaren Bros. & Co. General Merchants.

Or their Branch Offices at Sekundi Adjuah, Axim, Cape Coast, etc.

McLAREN BROS. & CO. Guaranteed Prompt Shipment of Indents for all classes of Goods at Lowest Prices.

Specialities in

Provisions, Drinkables, Hardware, Silk Handkerchiefs, Caps, and Manchester Goods.

All of Reliable Quality, and Specially Prepared for West African Markets.

Highest Prices obtained for all kinds of Produce.

Indents & Remittances may be sent through our Branches and Agents.

THE AFTON WATER AND MAY DEW SPECIAL LIQUEUR.

The Famous guaranteed. Very Old Scotch Whiskies. Specially approved by principal Medical Officer of Liverpool. Best Whiskies in the Trade.

Sole Agents in the Gold Coast Colony.

McLAREN BROS. & CO.

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BY J. M. SARBAH.

SECOND EDITION REVISED.

Price 21/- nett, in cloth.

Limited number bound in half calf with Fanti Law Report containing Sixty Eight new cases

35/- nett.

Published and sold by
WM. CLOWES & SONS, LTD., 7 Fleet Street, LONDON.

Orders received at the Wesleyan Book Depôt, Cape Coast Castle.

NOTICE.

TWO MAGNIFICENT HOUSES, situation very good at the Saltpond Elmina Road, Cape Coast, and at the Ashanti Commercial Road, Cape Coast and being the property of Messrs Hockman Brothers, Mortgaged to the Firm of Messrs The African Association Ltd. Cape Coast.

And the undersigned has been instructed to sell and will sell by public auction if not otherwise negotiated for or disposed off by public Auction.

On Friday the 25th November 1904 at 4.30 p.m. the one at the Saltpond Elmina Road Cape Coast, and on Saturday the 26th November 1904 the other at the Ashanti Commercial Road Tantree Cape Coast.

J. D. ABRAHAM,
Licensed Auctioneer

Cape Coast, 20th October 1904.

Messrs. Walter Griffith & Co.

beg to inform the Ladies and Gentlemen resident in **Cape Coast** and **District** that they are re-opening on the Coast on or about the **1st. December**, when a large and varied assortment of the Staple Imports of the Coast will be shown at their **Factory** in **Ashanti Road** and at their various **Stores** throughout the town.

All the **Goods** are marked at **prices which defy competition** and **Residents** and **Traders** are respectfully desired to inspect same and prove the truth of this statement.

Special attention is directed to the **Store** entirely devoted to **Haberdashery** and **Fancy Goods**. of the former, various lines in **Ladies' and Gentlemens' Wear**, never before imported to the Gold Coast, are now on show. The latest Styles **fresh from the London and Paris Markets** are here shown and a Department especially devoted to **Ladies Wear** is set apart under the **Superintendence** of a **Young Lady** and the direct supervision of our **Manager**. We mention a few of the lines displayed; any detailed list would prove much too long.

LADIES GOODS

Ladies Hats, trimmed and untrimmed in latest shapes and colour. Ladies Gloves, ordinary and evening wear in all shades. Ladies Corset in latest Paris styles; Ladies belts, fancy and plain: Ladies chemises; Ladies Knickers; Ladies Hose, plain and fancy &c. &c.; Ladies boots; Ladies shoes; Ladies evening and dance slippers; Ladies underskirts in Silk, Satin and Fancies; Ladies Umbrellas; Ladies Parasols, all shades and styles; Ladies Hose suspenders.

GENT'S GOODS.

Gent's Hats, Silk, Felt, fancy and straw. Gent's caps all latest styles and cuts. Gent's gloves. Gent's underwear Singlets, Pants &c. in Silk and plain. Gent's Hose, plain and fancy. Gent's Hose suspenders Gent's Hat-bands. Gent's Umbrellas in unlimited varieties. Gent's collars, all latest shapes and styles. Gent's ties and bows in all colours and shapes. Gent's Tie holders. Gent' tie clips. Gent's Shirts white and fancy. Gent's shirts, Flannel, Tennis &c. Gent's shirts white mat. Gent's shirt sleeve suspenders in various styles. Gent's braces, silk. Gent's braces, fancy and ordinary. Gent's suits, Ready made in all styles and cloths. Gent's suitings, fancy serge and tweed. Gent's walking sticks, Malacca canes, congo sticks and all kinds of fancies. Gent's cummerbunds. Gent's Pipes smoking, in cases and plain, Gent's pouches, Tobacco, in all styles Gent's cigar and cigarette Holders. Gent's cigar and cigarette cases; Gent's Cigarettes 3 castles and woodbines, Tobaccos, Capstan and Smith's Glasgow mixture &c. &c.

Children's Goods in endless variety.

Xmas and New Year's Cards. Private and ordinary.

Fireworks of all kinds.

We would solicit an early call to inspect these goods and so also avoid the inevitable crush which is sure to take place on the opening of these Stores.

THE

Wesleyan-Methodist Church

Girls' High School & Training Institution, CAPE COAST.

By arrangement with the District Synod and the Missionary Committee, this Institution is now under the Management of Sisters of the Wesley Deaconess Order, assisted by an Efficient Staff.

Deaconesses in Residence:—
SISTER ANNIE McVICKER,
SISTER ETHEL WORTHINGTON.

SYLLABUS.

CLASS SUBJECTS	Arithmetic	Needlework
	Composition and Letter-Writing	Reading
	Fanti	Spelling
	Geography	Scripture
	History	
SPECIAL SUBJECTS.	Algebra	Laundry-work
	Cooking	Map-drawing
	Drawing	Object-Lesson
	Drill	Singing (Tonic Sol-Fa
EXTRA SUBJECTS.	French.	Music.

FEES.

Boarders:—
Including Tuition, Board, Lodging, and use of Books. £3 10 0, per Quarter.
Sisters admitted at a reduction of 10/- each girl.

Day Scholars:—
FORMS I to III. 5/6 per Quarter.
" IV. and V. 7/6 " "
" VI. and VII. 10/6 " "
Extra Subjects, 7/6 to 10/6 per Quarter.

ALL FEES MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

THE BOARDING DEPARTMENT will re-open after the Christmas Holidays.

Girls living in the House are under the Personal Supervision of the Deaconesses.

For Prospectus and further particulars, apply to the Lady Principals.

GENERAL NEWS.

The members of the Reading Club attended Service in a body on last Sunday afternoon at the Christ Church, when Mr. Britton gave them a splendid address on "Gather up the fragments."

Refreshments were served to them before and after Church by Mr. C. J. Bannerman. One of their two Patrons (Dr. E. J. Hayford) joined them after the "Sons of Temperance" parade.

Rev. Brodie Graham preached for this Society at the Wesley Church on "He that loveth wine shall not be rich."

Mr. W. E. Sam who has been away for sometime returned home by the *Fanti* from Sekundi last Monday.

Mr. Barrister Ross also arrived here by her.

The Social Evening of the *Sons of Temperance* came off successively last Tuesday night at the Hookman's Hotel: it began with an Entertainment over which the Honourable J. P. Brown presided.

A report showing the position of the Society, and on the *Division* here was read by the Deputy Dr. E. James Hayford. We believe the organizer of the Society here was Mr. A. J. Graham who is now at Kumasi.

We report with regret the death on last Tuesday of Maame the youngest daughter of Efua Joe with Mr. Jackson who a few weeks ago had her hands and breast burned from the bursting of a lamp at Mr. Benin's.

The Rev. A. W. Parker has been away since last week to the Elmina Circuit for the opening of a Chapel at Akyinim. He returned on Thursday last.

Divine Services were held at *Wesley* Church last Tuesday after its cleaning, the Hon: J. P. Brown occupied the pulpit on the occasion.

The New Catholic Bishop is expected here today.

We have received a copy of Mr. Hart's work on the Gold Coast with some papers, and copies of Mr. Fisher's (the Government Expert on Cotton Growing) *Hints on the cultivation and harvesting of Cotton*, for distribution from the Agent of the Boating Company, with many thanks.

"It is rumoured that Colonel Festing, of Northern Nigeria, is accepting a civil appointment in the Gold Coast Colony; if so, we can congratulate the Administration on securing the services of one of the finest men for the work of a British Resident on the Coast."—*The West African Mail.*

Messrs. Sarbah and Brown leave by to-morrow's Steamer for Accra, for the Council.

Adjua Danyami died after a long illness last Tuesday, at Turome.

A man, on Thursday last at the Elmina Road attacked a woman for the purpose of robbing her but some people came to the spot just in time to save her. Being with a baby, the man wickedly took it and threw it into the bush. He has been caught and locked up at the Station.

A YOUNGMAN &c. &c.: letters received, they appear next week.

A conversazione under the management of Mr. Barbour James in connection with the anniversary of the Reading Club will take place next week.

A Juvenile Branch of the I. O. G. T. has been opened at Amanfour.

The following are the Awards of the Council of Legal Education upon the Michaelmas Examination held in Gray's Inn Hall on October 11-14.

WEST AFRICANS

Roman Law:—A. B. C. Merriman-Labor (S' Leone)
Constitutional Law and Legal History,—W. A. Savage. (Lagos)
Criminal Law, Evidence and Procedure,—J. T. N. Cole (Lagos)
Final—E. J. A. Taylor. (Lagos).

The *Times*, Nov. 2, 1904.

A deputation from the Accra Grammar School Board waited on the Governor last week, (1) to ask His Excellency to become a Patron to the School, (2) to have the Government Scholarships Scheme with well-defined modifications re-enforced, (3) And on Industrial Training. His Excellency received them kindly and promised to communicate with them officially.

Mr. W. W. Woods the Assistant Local Auditor has been promoted to be Local Auditor Northern Nigeria.

Mr. J. L. Minnow has been also promoted to be a 3rd. class Supervisor, since the 7th. October.

THE GOVERNOR AND THE READING CLUB

On the information reaching here that His Excellency has been knighted, the following telegram was sent to him by the above Club:—

"Hearty congratulations from the President, officers and members of Cape Coast Reading Club on the knighthood His Majesty has conferred on Your Excellency.

F. EGYIR-ABAAM.
President.

Since then, the following reply has been received:

Government House.
Accra,

"Dear Sir,—His Excellency the Governor desires me to thank you for your kind telegram of congratulations, sent on behalf of the officers and members Cape Coast Reading Club.

Yours faithfully
(Sgd.) T. C. HINCHSON."

AXIM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. J. W. Sackey who was apprehended on the 27th ultimo and was bailed by Mr. Samuel. Sacoom and another gentleman, has been again confined, we understand for failing to have entered some moneys down in his cash Book paid by clients.

The members of the English Section of the I. O. G. T. with Band Instruments paraded through the town from Ancobra River where we understand they went for a picnic on the 19th inst.

We do not hear any thing now-a-days about the Axim Cosmopolitan Club, we hope the members of that Club will not give way to give us another instance of a nine-days-wonder-club.

A Dancing Club with the name of "Invincible" is in course of formation with Mr. A. M. De Heer as president.

A. Revd. gentleman whose Station we understand is Yoruba, visited this town and delivered an impressive Sermon on the 20th inst at the Wesleyan Chapel.

ANCOBRA RIVER.

At the mouth of this River a Machinery (Pantoon) is in course of erection we understand for dredging purposes: Ancobra can boast now of a good street with, a quantity of lights: we understand the cost of same was borne by the native.

For the past 2 months, there has not been sufficient rains in the interior to inundate the river thereby logs could not be got there this season.

DIXCOVE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

There has been some great improvements in our rocky streets, which formerly one had to kick against with his chest and not his toes, since the arrival here of the present Prison Warden, these streets, look very much better now and so is the road to Busbus; something to delight the cyclist now, to say nothing of pedestrians.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

By the "Eleonore Woermann" on Monday the 14th instant, Mr. John Maxwell (District Commissioner) sailed for England. The chiefs of Dutch and British Sekondi accompanied him to the beach and gave him a send off. In a letter to the Sekondi Literary & Social Club, I understand he expressed his regret in not having an opportunity to meet the members prior to his departure, and hopes in finding the Club flourishing on his return to this Coast. The gift of a library promised by him, manifests the keen interest and good wishes he has towards the Club. *Bon voyage* to Mr. Maxwell.

The body of Quasie who got drowned in the sea on the 11th instant has been found. At the coronor's inquest, the jury returned a verdict of death by accident.

From Possie yesterday (19th), the body of a Mr. Bernasko who had committed suicide was brought to town: it is understood that this man was insane.

THE TOWN COUNCILS ORDINANCE.

I learn substantially that a reply from the Governor to the second communication of the Chiefs on the subject of the repeal of the Ordinance has been received since last week, and that for some reason or other the Chiefs object to give publicity to it.

A SMUGGLER.

For selling liquor without license a certain man from Anargie on conviction before the Court a fortnight ago was fined £25. Chief Wurodu of Anargie who reported the matter to the police was granted a compensation of £5 and the use of the confiscated rum which is to be delivered to him at the next celebration of the Kuntoom.

THE TRADE.

Chargrined at the fall of trade, the Commercial Fraternity known as the Chamber of Commerce has placed on its Agenda an attempt to sack the native employees at the various Firms with a view to reduce expense. This farcical plan clears all doubt of the whiteman's ignorance in respect of trade in the blackman's country.

Where on Earth has a man been found so silly by expending unnecessarily in travelling to make purchases from distant stores when he could get the goods required at the spot with comparative cheapness? The idea of opening up branch establishments at the Up Country stations has been consequent upon this mischief. Trade here and up-country suffers equally, and in the face of this there is no necessity for that "combination" to harm the native clerks under any circumstances.

KUMASI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Omanhin Cobbina Bruku's (Insuta) case is still in the High Court. Major Houston insists upon putting him on that stool again. The people refuse to serve him at all costs. Some of them have been imprisoned, from three months up to one year according to each man's rank. However we wait to see the final decision.

Some of the people at Gisu are on the side of Yaw-Wua and so he managed to come down to Kumasi. He has gone back to Gisu since the 14th. inst., it is understood to make peace.

DEFAMATION OF CHARACTER
HARRY ANAMAN AND YAW BERKU
EX-OMANHIN OF FINSU.

After all the damages taken by Mr. Anaman against Yaw-Berku was £100. The case was decided by D. C. Dr. Tweedy on the 14th inst. I must first of all refer my readers to the party through whom Berku unfortunately got himself into trouble, it is *The Gold Coast Leader* No. 121 of the 15th ult. article under the title of "Atrocities and Usurpers or Government-made-chiefs in Ashanti." The whole fact of the case was Quakyi Kofi of Asafu (Kei) swore to a very long Affidavit claiming the whole of the property of a deceased party at Cape Coast, this was forwarded to the Governor and his Excellency was reported as having replied that Quakyi Kofi should go to Cape Coast and see about it or must send some people to represent him. It seemed that Quakyi Kofi did not understand such matters properly and went to Mr. Anaman (not for any secret purposes) if he could put him in the right way. As soon as Yaw Berku saw them there, he went up to spy but unfortunately he was caught and had to return quietly: immediately after Mr. Anaman also followed him (thinking the ex-Omanhin wanted to say something to him) and asked his reasons but Yaw Berku replied that he only went there to compliment him and so Mr. Anaman returned. The next morning Yaw Berku went straight to the Chief Commissioner and reported as stated in my last. In the Court before Dr. Tweedy D. C., he stated that the bribe was £24 exactly. He was asked by the D. C. whether he did see that such amount was paid to Mr. Anaman, Yaw Berku could not prove this. One of Yaw Berku's witnesses also stated that he saw the doors locked and heard the noise of coins rapidly going on in the room. The other witness who is Yaw-Berku's wife, stated that she saw all doors and windows locked at the time, and some coins on the table.

D. C.—You saw some coins on the table whereas doors and windows were quite closed, but how did you manage to see then?

Yaw-Berku's-wife:—I say I saw it, yes I saw it. The whole evidence proved plainly that Yaw Berku was a notorious liar. The D. C. remarked to Yaw Berku that he was guilty and for such dishonest charge made on a person like Harry Anaman who is a Government official of a good standing no doubt he would have had from 5 to 10 years imprisonment, he must however pay Mr. Anaman £100 damages for defamation of character. Mr. Anaman is well known. We greatly sympthize with him.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY

There was a grand salutation by the W. A. F. F. on the old parade ground at 9 a. m. on the 9th. inst. A grand entertainment at 7 p.m. was enjoyed at the Chief Commissioner's residence, and a dinner was also given at the Mess. All the Firms gave their clerks half day's holiday with the exception of the oldest Firm F. & A. Swanzy who opened his business the whole day. The agent did so no doubt for the other Firms to see that he was the only business man. We do not see with him here. The King's Birthday is always kept as a public Holiday, besides there was a circular passed to that effect.

On the night of the 9th. instant a policeman was severely wounded and was carried to the Hospital (he is getting better now.) On the next morning one Quasie Karkum (carpenter) got drunk and repeated boldly in the street somewords connected with that crime. He was arrested at once. His case came on at the D.C's court on Wednesday the 16th. inst. there were no proves and he had to be set free, he is preparing to leave Kumasi.

There is no shadow of a doubt on the remarks made by *Scrutineer* on Supt. Quist 12/11/04. as

your correspondent were and in the intrest of the town, I would repeat that Quist makes the magistrates "naughty" on the Bench: can he deny now that he did not move some time in the court that Robert Cann, Jnr. should be charged for smoking? We have every confidence in Major Kitson to see and put this man right.

CHAMA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The arbitrariness in which Sento the Governor's representative of this town is adept, has been regarded with indiscriminate discontentment and dissatisfaction far and wide. Bribery and extortion boast pre-eminence in the movements and qualifications of this "Reigning Official". Dressed up fashionably in this despotic authority, last Thursday, Sento managed to arrest a child half a mile from the town who he alledged to have committed nuisance and from whose parents he entertained full hopes to win an easy exaction. To the contrary however, he encountered Mr. T. H. Sam who looked into the matter and was not only successful in getting the child from Sento's hands, but also got the sums of 5/-and 4/- refunded to Kweku Twee (a carpenter) and Intoomah (a fisherman) from whom respectively Sento had exacted some time previous. Quite unpleasant to tolerate under the cruelties of this miscreant, it should not be said that the whole community look upon Sento as a dreadful highwayman in officialdom. It is yet time for the provincial Commissioner to investigate into the substance of our complaints against this man.

The filthiest of anything that could be looked on in Chama is incomparable with the shattered Union Jack that waves on the flag pole of Fort St. Sebastian which towers a high elevation from the sea level. The disgrace in having this "rag" ought to make way for having none.

Coming from a substantial source, credit may be given to the news that the youthful king is to start schooling somewhere about the commencement of the year.

A woman wishing to watch over her corn made her bed underneath the barn and there slept with a couple of her children. At midnight the barn fell on them with all the contents accidentally, and they would have perished if she had not screamed loudly enough to the hearing of her neighbours who pulled them out one by one in safety. In this act, we have an example of typical vigilance.

ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT).

Two condemned prisoners were brought here last week from Cape Coast.

Rubble or concrete stones can now be procured by convict labour at the price of about 4/6 per ton.

The Rev. Mr. Russell, from Cape Coast inspected the Wesleyan School here last Tuesday the 15th.

Notices for Teachers' examinations have been issued by the Actg. Director of Education; the time fixed for the sittings commencing from the 12th December next, at the Government School House, Cape Coast. It is however, hoped that the Managers of the Schools here will see that the so-called Teachers present themselves at the examinations. At any rate they should be forced to do so, this time. The present aspect of things is fast becoming discouraging and it is even getting dangerous when we have to think that the training of our young ones is more or less dependent on these teachers.

Dr. Thain displayed his skill in football the other day in the corridor of the Court House, which might have done some credit to Rugby and even taken the shine out of Foulkes himself. But I should imagine that the best place and time for such athletic exhibition should be on the parade ground where the Sports Club would always deem it a pleasure to meet him in a contest at the hour of about 4 p.m. To administer kicks freely to Court goers for a mere humour is simply "Dutch". If there are forbidden grounds and places where people are not to tread, notices should be posted up, defining such sacred places, to prevent trespass by the public. As to the illiterate class, the court messengers can easily keep them off any mischief they might get in their heads to commit. We are really getting too used up with this plantation life.

Rev. Mark Hayford, with wife and child have been here from Cape Coast for a change since last week. The family is staying at Bridge House.

Mr. Justice Pennington arrived here last Sunday night from Cape Coast to take the Civil Sessions. Barristers Renner, Maxwell and Buckle have also arrived. Although the great Ankrah-Elmina case appears on the List, there is however no likelihood of its being handled at the present sittings. There is a general belief that as the case was originally opened by Mr. Justice Purcell, and owing to the net-work of entanglements which appears to be woven round the whole affair, having gained some considerable insight into it the rest of the problem is specially reserved for his honour himself to unravel."

The dedication of the little Wesleyan Church at Brenu-Akyinim which took place last Sunday the 20th has now become a matter of the past. The unusually large concourse of people from the district which flocked thither bore evidence that nearly all concerned were deeply interested and expected to have made a regular enjoyable time of it. All the Wesleyan element of this town went there leaving the Chapel here to shift for itself as best as possible —for the first time at least.

The scramble for Akyinim, if the *coup de grace* had been foreseen, might have been regulated on a limited scale as it afterwards turned out that the little building could not even harbour the Elmina Choristers and the School children. Eventually, the greater part of the crowd had to be content to remain outside to make room for the *elite* which included the Rev. A. W. Parker, Superintendent of Cape Coast (officiating), Rev. R. M. Acquaah, (Elmina) and several other laymen.

The water supply appears to have been one of the chief factors of complaint all round, although there was no expense spared to render the interior arrangements of building as graceful as it deserves the name of the House of God, irrespective of the locality. It is even admitted that as regards pulpit design Akyinim takes the cake. The total expenditure in connection with the renovation is placed at £220.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The West African Mineral Waters Ltd. have opened a factory here at Apartem.

Rev. Russell the School Inspector for the Wesleyans arrived here overland from Accra, meeting the School closed for the day, he left for Cape Coast.

The Omanhin's wife held an "At Home" on Sunday the 9th at the Palace to which several persons were invited.

The Public Tank we are surprised to note is not opened regularly as it should be since we have been having this dreadful scarcity of water: we hope it will be opened daily.

Messrs. Randall and Benoy of Millers and Swanzy respectively visited their firms here on Friday morning the 11th instant. We understand Mr. Randall is opening another store at the market place.

The Inspector of Schools has inspected the two Schools, Wesleyan and Catholic, and we are pleased to report that from what we hear they did well.

We report with much regret the sudden death of Akosuah Ser on Sunday last having been seen about on the previous day.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. W. R. Quansah we learn has started a big farm at Aisam's village with cocoa, cotton, plantain, cassava etc planted: this is good, and we hope others will follow.

We understand a marriage will shortly take place between Mr. Frederick Cann (Wesleyan School master) and Miss Regina Noonoo.

The Community was simply startled with the sad and unexpected news of the death of Peter Alexander Abadoo, who after a few days' illness died on Thursday morning the 18th. inst: it was a great shock to us all. His remains were deposited at the Wesleyan Cemetery on Saturday at 5 o'clock, the Oddfellows, and Free Gardeners with the American Templars and many sympathisers attended. Mr. Fred. Cann officiated. Peace to his ashes.

Revd. Frank Arthur, Chief Coker, D. M. Abadoo E. J. Turkson, J. W. Ampiah, Amissah and others came down from Cape Coast for the funeral.

APPAM.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The annual collectors Tea meeting was held on Thursday evening the 29th ultimo at which stirring addresses were delivered by the Rev. Superintendent and Messrs. Jeremiah, Ashun and Solomon Bruce before the distribution of the books.

The Rev. Mr. Quayson has been visiting here and officiated on the Sunday, Rev. Marshall being away, he has since left for his station.

MUMFORD.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Mrs. Dorcas Bentill, the widow of the late Mr T. C. Bentill died at her residence at Low Town on Saturday the 29th ultimo. The funeral obsequies in connection with this death was the source of a considerable influx of Appam people. Her remains were deposited in the Wesleyan Cemetery, Rev. Marshall officiating. The families have our deepest sympathies.

The annual collectors Tea meeting came off successfully on the evening of the 31st ultimo. Chief Oddabi and Ewuradzi were present with other influential persons, and the meeting was much enjoyed.

WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The sale of River "Ayensu" by Public Auction came off, on the 29th ulto. It was offered at £122. Chief Isaac J. Anobill beat for it for the Winnebas according to the decision of a Meeting held on the 27th ulto. prior to the selling the River.

Mr. Clarke the Supervisor has we understand, ordered to go up to Sekondi *via* Accra.

T. B. Newton and Boy's Powder case was tried on the 28th ulto. and postponed till the next outward voyage of the "*Angola*" to get the Purser on board that ship to give evidence as Boy stated that they were not intended for this but "Lome" and he did not see why they should be convicted.

The English Good Templars here seem to be doing well.

On Saturday the 22nd. ultimo the local Social Club gave their inaugural dinner. Among the selected guests were Messrs. Marcus Clarke, Dist. Supervisor of Customs, Mr. Geizendanner of the Basel Mission, Mr. Bonso Bruce of Accra, Rev. J. O. Hammond and a few prominent townsmen. The Commissioner of the District and other influential persons were unavoidably absent: at 8 p.m. the proceedings commenced and a very sumptuous repast was partaken and on the whole an exceedingly enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Sey's Band (The Lion Soldiers) was in attendance. The President Mr. Henry VanHien in his opening speech explained briefly the intentions and objects of the Social Club which gathering from subsequent speeches is said to be the first in Winnebah; he laid great stress on the absolute necessity of numerical support on which depends the continued existence of the Club. Among the objects he stated we may mention that the Club undertakes with sufficient number of members to provide all kinds of pastime and sports for the benifit of the town and members, it even intents in the near future to open a Club House for the benifit of the members. The fees at present are: 10/6 entrance fee, and 2/6 monthly dues. Mr. Marcus Clarke and Mr. Geizendanner also gave very interesting responses to the President's Toast of our Guests. Mr. Wilfrid Sey the Secretary of the Club then spoke dwelling chiefly on financial support. The Rev Mr. Hammond followed with a very instructive speech: it is most satisfactory that the Rev. gentleman always finds the time to give such gatherings the support of his presence. Mr. C.J. Reindorf the Vice President of the Club then thanked the guests for kindly responding to the invitations of the Club and to this Prince R. Johnson Ghartey responded. After this the members entertained the guests with playing of Cards and Bagatelle.

Communicated.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"Marmaduke" in his *Club Comments* in the *Graphic*, writes:—"Good-bye" said a Colonial Minister to a newly appointed Governor. "I hope you will have a pleasant time, and, mind, do not let us hear of you until you return." That is the attitude which prevails both at our Foreign office and Colonial office. Were the words translated into what they really mean, they would amount to this: "Good-bye, you have your appointment or promotion, and you have every reason to be grateful to us. Therefore, let us enjoy our own berths peacefully. We do not want to have to be at the office early, or to remain there until late, nor do we wish to have to store a mass of information in our heads, or to write a quantity of despatches. If you are to succeed, leave awkward questions alone until they develop to their worst, which, let us hope, will not be in our time. Meanwhile, those that must be handled, the kind of man we delight to honour, deals with them judiciously, without unnecessary reference to us. You understand me? Proceed to your port, follow those informal instructions, and we will promote you, and confer upon you as many prefixes and affixes as will sandwich your name to your compiete satisfaction?" In this paragraph is to be found the cause of much of the inefficiency which exists in those Departments.

With reference to the little misunderstanding between the Oddfellows and the Free Gardeners at Salt Pond, which we promised to deal upon in this issue we have thought best to say very little and that is, we hope the "Brothers" will endeavour to drop all disputes, and live as

brotherly as they can, always keeping in view in their dealings with each other, the object for which their Societies were instituted. We particularly hope the Oddfellows,—and that for many reasons—will take the initiative to have all matters amicably settled. If we have thought best to have these foreign Societies amongst us, let it be our aim to work them as those from whom we "imported" them, do, and with their presence amongst us, let there be more unity, sociality and brotherly acts and feelings. *We must not make ourselves ridiculous in the eyes of the observant, nor give the fault-finder materials to work upon.* "Let brotherly love continue." What a grand thing will it be for the country, if the Oddfellows and Foresters and Free Gardeners, and now the Sons of Temperance will only live up to their principles and motoes!

The fencing business in front of Millers we complained of the other day, goes on apace: we know it would, especially as we have dared to complain about it: in the meantime, we would reiterate that it is dangerous to the community and the Aborigines Society should approach the 'Deputy Governor' about it. The concessus opinion of the Public is strongly against it. We say, if Government properties must be fenced in, the barbed wire which is being used is every way dangerous.

And we note that the double names of the Streets still remain, the People using one—the old names—and the Government, another, which is quite misleading. The names of Streets we are aware sometimes undergo a change but certainly not in the way, and under the circumstances, a Foreman of Works undertook to change ours for us. We remember the late Governor (Sir Matthew Nathan) asked the P. W. D to approach or consult the Aborigines Society to rectify them. but till now nothing has been done, showing how far the instructions of a governor are carried out at the Outstations: but the Society might have taken the initiative, as it is always hard for our officials to undo what they have done, no matter what may be the inconvenience or even the distress their errors of judgment or mistakes may give to the Public.

Every day the conviction is brought home to us, that this Country needs sorely, PUBLIC-SPIRITED MEN, (Public men we have) and the extensiveness of the country with its many principle Towns, SOMEHOW gives us more *dis*-advantages, than advantages and that of all the West African "Colonies" we are undoubtedly up till now the worse managed. No doubt a chorus of voices will shout out to us, "You are pessimistic." probably we are, but as they say, *Facts are stubborn things.* But in our present Governor, the Crown Colony System notwithstanding, we live in hopes of some radical changes, only it should be remembered, that he alone, and especially if he be fortunate to secure true Britishers for his subordinates—who may be true to themselves and the Empire—he alone we say, cannot do every thing: the People also must take their share of work in bringing about a more satisfactory state of things. We are too slow, and reluctant and even unwilling in undertaking the performance of our public duties—and we complain. Is that right? 'HEAVEN HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES.' That is it.

So this badness of trade must be felt even at Sekundi—the would-be emporium of the Country, and thereby hange a tale.

We publish elsewhere a Notice for a Smoking Concert under the Patronage of Mr. Peregrine. We hope the public will patronize it, as we learn that the proceeds are to go to the Recreation Ground in Victoria Park. A glance at the names of the members of the Committee for the Concert gives one the assurance of a GRAND 'Do,' so, the earlier the Reader secures a ticket, the surer will he be of a seat. Let the ticket sellers be besieged.

NOTICE.

From and after this date copies of the "Leader" may be obtained only from the Stores of Messrs. H. V. Solomon and R. F. Wood at Jackson Street and Ashanti Road respectively.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, NOVEMBER 26, 1904.

MR. FRANCIS HART ON THE GOLD COAST.

A new work on the Gold Coast is now in circulation. This is from the pen of one Francis Hart, F.A.S., M.A.I.M.E., Author of several works dealing mostly on mining; it is entitled *The Gold Coast: Its Wealth and Health.* One could see from the letters after the Author's name and from the titles of his other works that he can claim to be an expert in the Mining Industry. We neither review nor criticize Mr. Hart's work here, for receiving a copy only last week, we have not been able to read the work through.

In his Preface, Mr. Hart tells us how he came to write the book—the want he felt "of a clear and concise guide to the country its industries and resources," a want we may conclude this present work may claim to supply. He tells us, he was encouraged to collect and collate information on the Gold Coast, (contributing articles on the Colony at the same time to some periodicals) from the fact that he wrote an official handbook for the Government of Western Australia in 1893: but this "practical volume" is dedicated to "a practical man, who has done more than any one else for the material and social welfare of our West African Colonies" —Sir ALFRED JONES, to wit.

This work, we think should be read by every educated native, who has any desire to know what the Foreigner has got to say of the country, especially in these days when it seems to be the fashion for all such to have their say on the people and the country, filling journals and magazines with articles on the West Coast, writing all sorts of things from their own standpoints and in accordance with their taste, giving weight, to their dicta as far as their countrymen are concerned by the fact that they have been "there" themselves.

Says Mr. Hart in his opening chapter:—

"The re-discovery and the development of the gold resources of Gold Coast Colony are leading to remarkable and agreeable changes in a country which but a very few years ago, was greatly feared and avoided on account of its unhealthiness."

Then referring to the allegation that the white man usually came to the coast for one of three things—"drink, debt, or divorce," he speaks of the European society comprising of some of the rough traders and officials whose only relaxation consists in drinking "cocktails" and "the maintenance of ultra-friendly relations with the native ladies" "pleasures" which "are not only apt to pall," but "bring in their train pains and penalties which render existence a burden, if not impossible" and Mr. Hart might have equally added that it often ends it in death for which the climate is unfairly, we think blamed. But the complaint usually levelled at the country must be added to the list of the causes of death on the coast, to make it complete, and that is "the natural unhealthiness" of the coast, the result of the non-existence of sanitary regulations. Of this it seems we shall never cease to hear since Africa is Africa and can never be Europe and those who come to it because, for instance, they have found "in Gold Coast Colony" that "Great Britain possesses a country of simply marvellous wealth," are also forced to admit that "progress" to fit it for their abode "is comparatively slow." What puzzles us at times is, that writers of these days should write on the unhealthiness of West Africa in the same strain as those of some years back, when thousands of pounds have been sunk by the Governments of the country for sanitary purposes, and the Liverpool Tropical School of Medicine, has been hard at work "to stamp out disease, and to educate the population, both native and European, in matters hygiene," which although up to now may not have given us an ideal country for healthiness, suitable for the European yet enough done to mitigate the causes of the unhealthiness of West Africa. It may be remembered that to-day, even in Europe, where Sanitary Science can easily claim to have reached the height of its power, there are places to be found, still, which for filthiness and unhealthiness may even surpass some "coastal towns." If those who complain so much on the sanitation of the country will not end the matter there and keep on whining on the unhealthiness of the country and blacken it in the eyes of others, but would do their part to see the causes of it removed, they will be doing a greater service for themselves than the present step they have adopted. To be constantly depicting the native as if he had no idea of cleanliness and healthiness is not only unfair but unjust, and such a thing tends only to mislead the people "at home." They have their ideas of sanitation, which may differ materially from the European's, but the ideas are there all the same, and if the European in order to make the country habitable for himself must introduce his ideas of sanitation, he can do so, without his constantly speaking of him and his country as he always does.

On the sanitary affairs of West Africa, it will be readily admitted, that the highest authority on the subject now is, Major RONALD ROSS, F.R.S. &c. &c.; no one who reads his remarks in E. D. M's. *Affairs of West Africa* will fail to be struck with the clearness, force, intelligence and scientific deductions with which he has approached the subject. That chapter in the book should have the careful perusal of all who have any *real* interest in the sanitary affairs of West Africa; our space forbids our making any extracts for our readers, but we may have to do so perhaps whilst reading Mr. Hart. Dr. Ross makes it out that West Africa as it is, is not worse than what India was some years ago, and if it has been made to be what it is to-day, 'the possibility' is, that this country also can be made a healthy place to satisfy even the most sceptical. He sees the greatest difference in the mode of life adopted by Europeans in West Africa and India, and he is convinced the excessive mortality amongst them is due largely, if not principally to this cause, added to the imperfect condition of public sanitation in the country, and this he attributes to the fact that the Colonial Office and the West African Governments and municipalities have not given an adequate attention to the subject until quite recently. But we must end the matter here and listen to Mr. Hart too on the *Health* of the Gold Coast—West Africa really.

THE GOLD COAST AUTHORS AND THEIR WORKS.

For obvious reasons, literary work on the Gold Coast is in the experimental stage. To tread that thorny pathway certainly argues the possession of all the normal characteristics of the bold and fearless speculator: and thus far, that strait and narrow way has led to an *impasse* presenting real difficulties in the concrete. Consequently, legitimate progress has suffered humiliating limitations and monetary inconvenience, mainly through a low estimate of the motives and aim of those who are engaged in that noble enterprise. This should not be so.

We do not suppose our Readers have made any serious attempt to gauge the immense significance and import of the fact, that within twelve months, three remarkable books have been published by three natives of the soil, who a little over 20 years ago were boys in a defunct High School in this town.

Needless to say these books have arrested the attention of the British public and have emerged from the fierce light of criticism with flying colours. They are works designed to be correctives to the hurried glimpses and first impressions of some of the Nineteenth Century travellers whose *penchant* appears to have been an inordinate desire to spawn upon the Book-Mart, the evidence of things they had, for the most part, neither felt nor seen. We are proud to find in our midst capable men toiling to crystallise into shape the intellectual vitality of West Africa, on the higher plane of durable service. To their books must be awarded the fullest valuation; for the simple reason, that they are derived

from the very warp and woof of their being, an accurate expression, as it were, of themselves. Unlike the globe-trotting genius, they live in the proper atmosphere and environment, and feed upon the proper food necessary to a robust and indigenous literature.

The question then arises, What corresponding return are we individually making for the peculiar advantages our Authors are bestowing upon us? How have we one and all, availed ourselves of them: and are we profiting by them in a way calculated to stimulate and encourage exertion in the particular direction they affect?

We can scarcely rid ourselves of the impression produced upon us last March, by a gentleman with no pretensions to anything higher than an elementary education, who had actually procured a copy of *Gold Coast Native Institutsons* with his Prize-money! But, in the name of all that is patriotic, why should that be an isolated case of overwhelming interest in the productions of our contemporaries? *Fanti Customary Laws*: *Native Institutions; Christianity and West Africa*: *Reindorf's History of the Gold Coast* and *Anaman's Guide* should occupy prominent places on the table or in the library of all who profess and call themselves educated men in the Country, as well as of those who, though not so highly favoured, could yet afford to invest in them as some slight token of intelligent appreciation. Than this, we cannot imagine by what other method, they may show genuine sympathy with the men who, notwithstanding the exactions of their several callings, give up time and means to make such excellent volumes possible.

Our judgment may savour of much harshness, but it does seem to us, that there is a class of pusillanimous cynics in the Colony who harbour the extraordinary notion, that Money is the supreme object of Native Authors. Such a conception is deplorable in the extreme and a more egregious mistake there never was! Let it be known far and wide, that Literary work in West Africa is inevitably a thankless and unremunerative task. We have not reached that height of eminence which can justify such a conclusion. The limited number of really educated men, and that of course, implies a limited circulation, is an undeniable proof, that no one can eke out an existence, much less thrive upon the earnings of his pen. The efforts of the Gentlemen under reference therefore, have been up to date a dead loss financially. Theirs is a praiseworthy undertaking: true; but a self-sacrificing one to boot, and we do them infinite discredit by imputing mercenary motives to them. They are animated by pure and more exalted ideal, superior far to the commercial value of their words and sentences.

No one who reads *Sarbah* or the *Hayfords* can do so for long without realising the fact that, their books are after all tentative and preliminary. On almost every page, one comes across indications of auriferous veins which should be followed for our enrichment; but to do that, might involve a colossal outlay which, in the present state of affairs would be suicidal to entertain.

We rejoice to own, that from the Gold Coast have come forth men of such calibre, ready to dip again and again into the silent and mysterious seas by which we are surrounded. But what should be done to place appropriate emphasis upon this pleasing reflection? It would be decidedly paradoxical to spend and be spent for the Higher Education, if we were not at the same time prepared to aid those pioneers who are turning to such practical and profitable account the lessons and principles of what they had been taught in Secondary Schools. It is therefore, only taking effective interest in local *works* that we can demonstrate the consistency of our energy and zeal in the cause of Education.

At the very modest computation, there are a dozen First Class Writers in the Colony whose publications could pass muster in any literary circle; but lack of enthusiasm and the attribution of sordid motives on the one hand, and the apprehensions of pecuniary embarrasment on the other, render the successful achivement of their aspirations a tormenting dream.

What a long line of brilliant men, has passed away unapplauded through the conspiracy of ignorance and Fate!—men of pith and marrow! they might have been luminaries with trailing clouds of glory in the wolrd of Intellect! To-day they are lost to the race. We remember their great Names with unavailing regrets. In their day, they were not appreciated to the full; their strenuous endeavours were dammed with faint praise, if at all, and they returned to the dust, their secrets following them. How long must this criminal apathy and indifference last; what is the cause of it all? We would not insult the good sense and intelligence of our Readers by assuming that this national defect is due to Jealousy envy or strife. It seems to us to be simply the outcome of want of considertion and the witchery of erroneous ideas. If in these days of universal agitation on the subject of liberal education when the intellectual atmosphere appears to be surcharged with electric sparks—we do not hasten to make amends for past offences, when may we ever do so?

It is a public scandal and disgrace that in all our schools, with High and Low, while our youths could repeat by rote all that relates to the *Terres Vedras* and *Jack Cade*, not 95 *per cent* of them could give a creditable account of the Battle of *Kotamanou*, nor yet shine to advantage in the topography of their own fatherland! and for that matter which of our Readers could pass with honours, in the Geography and History of West Africa? These books presume the existence of qualified writers, but perhaps what is far more important in a literary career, the presence equally of men ready to support and enthuse them in their magnificent labours. To be brief, the practical sympathy we bespeak for the few Authors and Journalists we have, is, that all educated natives should without delay if they have not already done so—secure for themselves and their children after them, copies of all extant books produced by their own kith and kin, and in this way, keep materially to multiply Authors and increase original works in West Africa.

THE BLAST OF WAR.

(BY A HANDER).

In former times battles were almost invariably fought by daylight, the exceptions being of comparatively rare occurrence; in these later days, however, when science has devised so many means of harnessing the forces of nature into our service, combatants, like the brave Japanese, who take such full advantage of modern discoveries, frequently engage in the deadliest struggles during the hours of darkness.

Judging by descriptions and sketches of these night battles the scene must be weird and appalling. Although the attacking force may be enshrouded in impenetrable darkness the enemy's position is lighted up almost as by noonday. High in the air float innumerable miniature burning suns, balls of fire like St. Elmo's fire, or like globe lightning, which after flashing brilliantly for some time, descend to the ground like writhing fiery serpents. A single light-bumb may project a dozen or more of these fireballs, resembling a constellation of miniature satellites, apparently giving more light collectively than the moon, which hover over the enemy's position or travel slowly with the wind. And from any point of vantage powerful electric search-lights are fixed, their cone-shaped rays still more illuminating the scene of operations.

And from all sides the incessant stream of fire from innumerable cannon, the sudden flashing of bursting bombs and hand grenades, and the long lines of scintillating sheets of flame ceaselessly vomited forth from the rifles of many tens of thousands of infantry, together with the crashing boom of the great guns, the wild hoarse roar of heavy projectiles which rend the air as though volleys of thunderbolts were discharged from the skies, the scream of that terrible shrapnel, and the shrill rattle of musketry, all combine in creating a very inferno, terrible, horifying, and awe-inspiring.

But the air is rent with far more shocking sounds; cries of strident rage and fury as thousands of yelling men fight to the death hand to hand with thousands of the enemy; howls and shrieks of agony as a bursting shell or a case of shrapnel tears in pieces a score of men, or as a huge projectile cleaves a straight lane through a massive regiment, leaving a long line of slaughtered heroes, or as an exploding mine fills the air with dismembered limbs and mutilated corpses; while on all sides the death rattle of the dying, the agonized groans and shrieks of the mortally wounded, and the thunder and fury of the shouting, all unite in adding to the terror and the ghoulish savagery of this ghastly scene of carnage.

Oh! when will the nations beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks; when will the peoples of the earth cease to fly at each other's throats, and, in a very orgie of savagery, immolate terrible hecatombs of their fellows. But not until the Prince of Peace again visits this earth of His, this time in His Majesty and His glory, will those halcyon days come. And then will they who have been redeemed by His sufferings endured for them look up. For their redemption draweth nigh.

A POOR MAN'S DIARY.

BY B. B.

II.

One of the favourite sayings of old *F. A.*, was the hypothetical expression:—

"If I were a Millionaire—if-"

It is not to be wondered at then, that fully 72 pages of the Diary were devoted to utopian schemes and other impracticable projects that agitated the resourceful brains of the Old Man Eloquent. The general heading of these problematical aspirations is pre-eminently characteristic of my lamented friend. It is:—

'What Fidus Achates would, should, could, might do or not do, if by any fortuitous combination of propitious circumstances, he woke up one auspicious morning and found himself in the shoes of a millionaire.

Then comes a series of subjects under which we made the following extracts.

The Right Hon'ble, the Lord Mayor of Cape Coast Castle.

In the democratic age of the Twentieth Century, Home Rule shall become an accomplished fact. If if were then elected and in due form, inducted into the office of the Lord Mayor of the Cape Coast Corporation, instead of impoverishing the motherland by the wholesale and indiscriminate employment of regiments of irresponsible and nondescript officials who can only be maintained and supported by a compulsory levy of 50 *per cent* House Tax—I should just keep a handful of capable officers with extraordinary and discretionary powers giving them high emoluments out of my Private Purse—the rest I would dismiss within twenty four hours of my assumption with or without notice . . . . . .

Taxes? No I would rather subsidise all edifices that are ornamental or in any way add to the symmetry and beauty of our streets and purlieus—all this and more besides, I should do, *if I were a Millionaire—if.*

The Higher Education.

We rage so furiously about High Class Education, and High Grade Schools (present Company excepted); but how many are prepared to transmute their syllogisms into practical consistency. We are woefully behind hand in the matter of Education in this well-favoured Protectorate.

The Gold Coast cannot hold a rushlight to her Sororal Colonies in the continuity of support and zeal for the cause of knowledge. Nor is our Grandmotherly Government as equal to the occasion as Fidus might wish. It is by no means reassuring after being told that the aggregate revenue of the Gold Coast is equal to that of Lagos and Sierra Leone combined, to be concurrently informed that the British Blunderment—a thousand pardons, I mean Government—maintains Two Schools and possesses Two School Buildings—one of which, by the way exists within the authentic covers of the *Government Gazette.*

Such information breeds a wild progeny of disloyal thoughts. We all love Gold more than Man—as for the ebonized descendants of the Gold Coast aboriginal Adam, who cares two straws about them! . . . . . But Schools where theories are rammed down the tender gullets of infants destined for the cross-grained, matter-of-fact world that has no respect for the Declensions and Conjugations of Dead Verbs—we must in pity, keep at bay. Fidus had 5 academic years fighting with the beast—pardon—the Colossus of Alexandria, our own chief Euclid, but Fidus has since made the wonderful discovery that the accidulated drops of Wisdom which obtain in this Planet, and makes the Mare go, is not confined to the argumentative force of Postulates and Axioms. So far Problems and Theorems, Riders and Corollaries have profited me nothing. Dignity however, I suppose, will always reflect with self-satisfied complacency upon an expansive syllabus. I dare say even Euclid in theory may some day become useful. What the world is waiting for, what Fidus is dying for is Practice, Practice, Practice!

In connection therefore with my Philanthropic objects, I would establish Technical Schools in every centre of the Protectorate and these shall not be circumscribed by one or two Botanical Gardens—too remote to be of immediate utility to the General Public, nor yet by the four walls of an ordinary carpenter's shop.

N. B. In this year of grace 1904, the Government has 7 Schools in the Colony and Protectorate, 3 for Boys, 2 for Girls; 1 for the Fanti Police and 1 for the Hausas Force.

We are moving on! B. B.

SCRUTINEER.

It does not need much argument nor an endless parade of protestations to bring home to ore that the application by the Government of the Town Councils Ordinance in its present spirit will provoke firm opposition from the natives. There is no humane necessity whatever to meddle with the fire and then punish it by quenching if it burns your fingers, and even this Government should reconsider its decision before taking a leap into a perilous dark. With the exception of the proposed and rejected Land's Bill there has been probably no piece of legislation that has aroused such widespread and united outburst of public passion as this law passed by an unrepresentative Legislature, and there is time enough for the Head of the Executive, the responsible man and the man on the spot to consider and hesitate for ever in bringing himself under an indelible unpopularity. We do not concern ourselves much with the party initiating a legislation (as we are aware that "Ordinances" could be brought into existence as easily as waves do rise and fall on the seashore); we rather reckon with the party enforcing them. Evidently one of the weaknesses of the rulers life—that is speaking generally of the ruler with an active conscience, having a soul to protect and a God to be accountable to—is the knowledge of a

feeling of dissatisfaction among his subjects and unpopularity of himself. And for this very cause had fortune cast my lot among the rulers of mankind I would always make it my determination to rule to justify my subjects instead of the longings of my own heart,' and I would always be thinking of ruling my subjects in a manner that I would be ruled were the boot on the other leg. I do not see the gubernatorial prestige any way involved in loss of indignity, real or imaginary, by declining to force into the throat of a subject race a thing whose properties are so nauseous that it is sure to be vomitted before it is half-way down the throat. We do not bear aversion towards municipalities, and on the other hand we have our municipalities waxed with age and it is these that need building on and blustering about—and it will become similar to the one that is in vogue in our sister "colony" (a word I detest to apply but which is unavoidale in this instance) of Sierra Leone. This is what we desire and are determined to have.'

It is remarked that the Ordinance is ruinous and desolating it is after all saying very little; the predominance of officialdom in it is decidedly not only a burning loathesomeness and eyesore to us, but is a form of tantalisation which we must not be expected to bear. It makes a municipality under a "Town Councils Ordinance" a piece and parcel of the Government, and although it may seem plausible to argue that "there is not a word in it which vests any . . . . property at all in the Crown," if the Government relegates to itself, as the great Elephant, the peculiar right of officials not only to be members of the Council but to be predominate in it, it is all mere display of words to attempt to deny that it is not a Government Town Council. Such mellifluous cant disgusts me for the Government to desire us 'to assist them to carry out the provision of the Ordinance' seems to me drawing too much on our bank of loyalty, as it is tantamount to wishing us dig our own graves and tumble into them ourselves. Were we such turn coats we rather would prefer others to dig us our graves and push us into them.

A friend in Kumasi writes:—

> The references that have recently appeared in the *Leader* about the Supt. Quist, the lawless lord of this town, have given us some relief as it will no doubt invite consideration at Accra, but we confess they are very mild in tone considering the high-handed treatment this man is bestowing on all Coasters who are not natives of Accra—his countrymen. Let me give you one recent instance. About a fortnight ago one Kwame Kakoom, a carpenter, was arrested in the streets by a policeman on a charge of quarrelling, though with whom he was quarrelling the policeman himself did not appear to know. Upon this trumped-up charge the poor man was detained in custody for six days, under no remand, and was brought up before the magistrate, without evidence too, and was discharged by the magistrate [when he found that the Supt. could not substantiate his charge although he was endeavouring to make one. From recent manifestations we are beginning to think that Dr. Tweedy the magistrate is not disposed to be as soft as Capt. Greene. As for the practice of the police beating those that they arrest before ushering them into the station it goes on a very alarming rate.

That this man Quist is crank and the worst among the police, although he is reputed to be a Superintendent, there can be no doubt about it, and that he is worse than a lunatic with a firebrand in his hand, as far as the happiness of the individual subject is concerned it cannot be disputed. To retain such characters in the Force is to keep lowering the already-lowered estimation of that institution before the public. May I emphasize the appeal to Major Kitson to send this lawless man to the Coast.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

THE SCHOOLMASTER.

III.

A friend of mine told me one day that, when a child, he attended a school which, as it chiefly depended for its support upon a certain religious sect, was placed under the supervision of a committee, whose duty it was to see that every branch of science taught there was strongly stamped with religion. Among other rules, there was one which forbade the schoolmaster to give the children any other copies for writing than Bible texts. He also remembered that the arithmetic used in that school contained no other sums than such as were taken from Biblical subjects, and that, accordingly, he had to calculate how many steps the desciples walked from Jerusalem to Emmaus and back on the day of the Resurrection: of how many fingers and toes the three hundred and eighteen servants of Abraham possessed, and so on. Now it may be doubted whether such a manner of using the Bible is calculated to give the children a correct and sanctifying impression of it as a book of Divine revelation. I have no doubt that it would be answered in the affirmative by all such parents as do not object to making riddles, acrostics, &c. of Biblical subjects. But, in my opinion, my friend was quite safe in saying that the school of which he spoke, notwithstanding all its religious ostentation was one of the most unchristian places of instruction he had ever witnessed.

A schoolmaster who desires to honour his divine Master in his profession, will admit that one of the first steps towards accomplishing that object is to teach his pupils well. It is true that a man may have great talents for teaching, and be void of religion, but it is equally true that a professedly Christian school gives little to Christ if it can be proved that the branches of science which it pretends to teach, are better taught by persons who are indifferent to religion. There can be no doubt of the sad truth that in our country many schools are in the hands of persons who, while deserving every praise for the piety of their sentiments and the amiability of their character, nay, while even manifesting an aptitude for winning the hearts of the children, are yet very ignorant of the scientific part of the profession and thoroughly unacquainted with the rules of pedagogic art. A good teacher will manifest his Christian character by trying to make his pupils know thoroughly what he professes to teach them, for nothing can be more unchristian than superficiality, shallowness, and half-learning. And as it is a truth that to be able to teach others thoroughly you must know the subject well yourself, so you will show your conscientious devotion to your Lord's cause and to the important work to which He has called you, by studying zealously whatever may increase your own knowledge and your capability of communicating to others what you know.

It is often remarked that no great learning is required to fit one to teach the ignorant, and it is quite true that a man who can only see one step farther on the road than his companions may be their guide. But it is also true that there may be places on the road where a correct acquaintance with the whole way is absolutely necessary to enable one to tell the right direction for the next step. Knowledge easily puffs up, but it has seldom been found that a little of it makes humble. It will, as a rule, be found that the shallower a schoolmaster's knowledge, the more he will try to fill his pupils with an ostentatious display of a great number of various bits of science to which they attach awfully sounding names, whereas closer examination discloses the fact that the children have scarcely any clear conception of the rudiments even of the simplest and most necessary things. Such a schoolmaster may be a thoroughly orthodox man, and even occupy a high place in a Church but for all that he is more like a mountebank than a Christian. He may rightly be supposed to aim at his own glory and prosperity more than at his Saviour's honour and the well-being of his pupils.

(To be Continued)

NOTES ON MR. FRANCIS HART'S BOOK "THE GOLD COAST ITS WEALTH AND HEALTH."

BY GLADSTONE SACKEY.

The dedication could not be made to any other than Sir Alfred Jones, a model patron, who is all for the African, the development of his Country and its vast resources. It is not only Mr. Hart who speaks in the highest glowing terms of the most energetic and enterprising Friend and Philanthropist Sir Alfred, whose name shall ever have a lasting association with the West African native and his country. Apart from his ships and purse he has, on many occasions evinced his good-will and pleasure, and has contributed thousands of pounds sterling ostensibly to further the interests in concerns relating to West Africa.

It is a face worth considering that the British Empire has in the Gold Coast rich andvaluable possession, but the progress is slow. Mr. Hart atuributes the cause to climate influences. Is it for the deadliness of the climate that the average class of European society could not sparethe liquor indulgences and female association? Mr. Hart contends that these and other train of minor vices call rather prematurely for the appearance of the "Whiteman's grave." In many cases on record one can recount names of many a whiteman who lived here twenty or thirty years, some of these, are living examples to-day.

Moderation is spoken of in the instance of Mr. Swifts' fourteen years' stay on the Coast, but I could mention two memorable names who were excessively temperate and moderate and, yet, did not survive on the Coast partly from over exertion and partly from old age. The gentlemen referred to are Messrs. Judson and Tipping; the former a director in a mining venture, the latter a mining Engineer of credit and respectability in Greenwich. Another instance from over-exertion to a novice is evidenced in the death of Mr. Swanzy's son.

Mr. Hart has omitted one important fact in dealing the series of properties of Messrs. Swanzy in the Wassaw District in which Mr. W. E. Sam's association is inseparable, his son Mr. T. B. F. Sam was over 16 years manager of the Wassaw (Gold Coast) Mining Company Ltd., and latterly he opened the Tamsoo Mines. Since the retirement of Mr. Gowans from the mines in the eighties, this gentleman has been the Patent Factor of this important mines.

It is surprising on reading Mr. Hart's Book from cover to cover scarcely any mention was made of this assiduous and indefatigable respected native gentleman. Names of Messrs. Howard, Feldtman and Schoch were mentioned as having exercised supreme control and management of the Wassaw Mines.

Mr. Hart speaks discouragingly of the Coast Scholars who acted as "intermediums" between the Chiefs and their Concessions, and further remarks as follows:—

"The Coast Scholars affect pronouncedly English attire. Any day you may see scores of these youngmen walking down the main streets of Accra, Cape Coast, Sekondi or Axim in shiny top hats full-tailed frock coats, the highest stiffest collars, and patent leather boots; or pedalling on bicycles clad in loud-checked Norfolk Jackets, puttees or stohwassers, and various exaggerations of an English garb."

This to my comprehension and belief is over-exaggerated, but Mr. Hart should know that the Coast Scholars were taught to put on habiliment of an English garb within the pale of and not beyond the broad lines of civilization, but the daily occurance of wearing Frock coats (full-tailed), Top hats and patent boots, could not be entertained as genuine than defined; when considering the strength of the tropical sun, this stands hard to burder on credulity.

I further quote in Mr. Hart's own words the following very interesting lines.

"To the late Sir William Maxwell the then Governor of the Gold Coast, Mr. Bridges give the credit of being the first administrator who recognized and endeavoured to turn to practical account the rich mineral resources of the Gold Coast Colony. Gov. Maxwell also endeavoured to secure the passage of a Crown Land's Ordinance, which if it had been law, would have entirely prevented the causes which have arisen from mineral lands being leased directly from the native Chiefs and owners. The Draft Ordinance met with strong opposition, from the Chiefs and other natives, who sent deputation to England to oppose it. The law proposed amounted to the granting of a Crown Title, subject to the reservation of native rights, and its passage could have covered the Gold Coast into a British Colony in fact as well as in name. The opposition was organized by native lawyers and others, and disgraceful articles appeared in newspapers of a miserable type written by "Coast Scholars" who forget that they would most likely be under the cruel dominance of their hereditary enemies the Ashantis. However, thanks to the agitation, and Exeter Hall sentiment, Sir William Maxwell's Crown Land's Ordinance was withdrawn."

Mr. Hart has many congratulations on the score of his masterpiece Encyclopædia of informations as contained in his Book worth the name and style of "the Gold Coast its wealth and health;" but I regret to observe his rancour on the part of the opposers of the Crown Lands' Ordinance impeaching them rigorously and ridiculously without reserve of their articles written to the Local Newspapers. I say that the opposers of that ruinous and partial institution of the Crown Land's Bill were well justified in their bold steps taken in the deputation to England,—The average coast scholars and theGold Coast does not write 'Babbor English." I may use Mr. Hart's own term, for the writers in the local newspaper protesting against the Land's Bill referred to, were men highly cultured, with sound philosophical smattering of the English Literature; the views expressed were weighed and rational, and materially contributed to further the ends of their aspirations.

Mr. Hart remarks that the average Coast Scholar is not creative but imitative, this in my opinion leaves large margin of credit to the Native Scholar, who is in everyday life, exhibiting proneness to study the language of his rulers and instructors.

Mr. Hart advises the Trading community in England to deal directly with the European firms on the Coast, and not trust their samples to the native Trader, who is apt to distribute them to his various relations; but he seems to have brooded over the fact that the European Firms have opened on the Coast Sample Establishments, whose agents are "Coast Scholars" and they give every satisfaction.

In conclusion I wish to state that whatever may have been the auspicious and purblind tendency of the votaries in favor of the Crown Land's Bill, that would not obstruct our privelege, as loyal subjects of the King, from the protection that we deserve against our hereditary and implacable enemies the Ashantis.

Such indications of resentment could not be expected from a book so admirably and cleverly written.

I do not, nor venture to criticise Mr. Hart's Book

In any shape or form, but I believe the public will view my notes as sanguine and expedient.

Injustice and fairplay, Mr. Hart deserves commendation on his informations relating to the several mines, which he might have visited on the Coast, he doubtless speaks with authority and fluency as a mining expert and a man worthy of his profession.

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.*

THE NEW SYSTEM OF APPLYING FOR BUILDING PERMITS AT AXIM IS BY REMUNERATION.

An old lady who by being unable to engage . . . . . as private Engineer to draw the Plan of her building was obliged to pull down her erection on the 5th of this month in consequence of a Notice served on her the very day, that permission was not first applied for.

After the completion of this building she was told that Permission should be applied for. This was accordingly done. After the submission of the Plan drawn by one who has been preparing Plans for the mansions built at Axim for the past years up to now, the plan was disregarded—why, because of the Remunerating system that did not accrue, we understand, certain communications having taken place. There are some gentlemen in Town whom when called you, can explain this remuneration system. I have their names for you Mr. Editor. As the Criminal Code was made for the blacks only we know this will not take effect—even a report made in person. A section was quoted from the Criminal Code for the Negress to pull down her erection. Doesn't this same Code apply to the prosecution of persons who commit these sorts of crimes?

Yours truly,—"Pro Bono Publico."

Axim, 5th November, 1904.

REDUCTION OF PASSAGE RATE.

Sir,—Now that both the British and African Steamship Companies' Steamers plying on the West Coast are constructed on the lines of modern improvements, so that the voyage from and to Plymouth Harbour is made between 14 to 15 days which on computing roughly means one guinea per diem as berth, would it not be a prudent step for our people to petition the Directors of the above Companies as to the necessity of soliciting a reduction of the passage rate? Seeing that steamers travelled 15 days to Plymouth and charging £24 for first class berth (!) is considered as too exorbitant, and for the interest of every African I am throwing this suggestion with a view of conferring together as to the advisability of taking my proposition into effect, and should my proposal have any effect, it must not be overlooked on the part of the promoters to mention the old game of colour-distinction which has been invariably displayed on board the steamers when Blacks happened to be in company with that sort of ill-bred or ill-trained Europeans travelling to and fro: and this kind of misconduct or discredit reflects much on the stewards as they give more attention to their colour than to Blacks. Where there is colour distinction displayed I fail to see, distinction made in passage rate. Should the company see its way clear to alter the present schedule it would be a great inducement to all Africans to visit Europe more frequently than it has hitherto been the case.

Thanking you for the space allowed,

Yours truly,—An African.

Cape Coast, 21. 11. 04.

Sir,—I wish to ask the readers of the Government Gazette No. 54 of Oct. 1904 to carefully note the proceedings of the Legislative Council minutes of proceedings about the rules made under the Concession Ordinance 1904 &c. &c. There were certain points which Mr. Sarbah opposed the motion and Mr. Brown supported which as usual on division the Government carried the ascendency.

Now Mr. Editor this was not the first time by which the Government have carried by majority of votes, and in as much as the members are not equal it is no good for the unofficial members, they will be overruled every day.

Now, where is the necessity of few unofficial members against government voters? With all deference to all this may concern I shall never consent to be an unofficial member in the Gold Coast Colony for the very fact that that constitution is not a fair-play one. The late Mr. C. W. Barnett resigned on account of that.

Thanking you for the space.

Quasie Mensah.

Cape Coast 24/11/04.

Sir,—Long before his transfer to Hong Kong as Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan had decided to bring Sekundi and Cape Coast Castle under the Town Councils Ordinance on the first of July last, and all that his successor need do to carry this into effect was to issue a proclamation under his hand as was done to Sekundi.

Hearing however that the people here strongly objected to the ordinance in general and very particularly to House rates, Governor Rodger without petition or application from any body expressed his willingness to consider "some alternative which will obviate any necessity for a house rate" to use the Governor's own words: this was last August, since then the Attorney-General has been sent to explain the working of the Accra Town Council, the Governor had repeatedly asked for the views of this town which he is no doubt considering with care now.

Having regards to these facts, many deplore the charge that "the Government forge along with a calmness and a logic unrivalled before in their relations with the people," which means in plain words that although the Governor has asked the people to place the reasons of their objections and suggestions for amendment before him for his consideration he is only tricking them. Perhaps the conduct of Sir John is also "a piece of fine strategy." Probably this is not the meaning Mr. Casely Hayford intends to convey, at any rate he ought to state in full the grounds for this reckless assertion, for public opinion is that the Governor's Asiatic reputation for uprightness, ability and honesty of purpose has not diminished a little in the eyes of the people or in the estimation of men who are unwilling to impute unworthy motives while considering important state matters and questions of public policy.

Onumabu Saturin.

Cape Coast, 24th Nov. 1904.

St. Etienne, France,
November 1st 1904.

Dear Sir,—I have just received a copy of the "Gold Coast Leader" of October 8th 1904 containing the letter of J. F. C. R. and hasten to reply thereto.

I regret if I in any way have hurt the feelings of the native Interpreter in my recent article on Esperanto.

Your correspondent was quite right in assuming—I did not intend the paragraph he quoted "to be taken seriously" and of course to acquire a knowledge of Esperanto a man must have "some knowledge of letters."

I am glad J. F. C. R. agrees that the knowledge of Esperanto would be a valuable acquisition to the native clerk and I only regret that in my esorts to communicate this idea to the minds of my native friends on the Gold Coast I should have appeared in any way to cast a reflection on Native Interpreters or any particular Interpreter. I shall be glad if you will kindly insert this letter in your earliest edition and I desire also to express my thanks to J. F. C. R. for drawing attention to the paragraph in question.

Congratulating you on the success of the "Gold Coast Leader" and its general fairness on all topics and wishing it continued prosperity.

Yours faithfully,
Lionel R. Foot, F.R.G.S., F.R.C.I.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION.

Sir,—Sunday the 23rd October was rendered doubly solemn and sacred to the Middle School Boys here.

On that day 15 of them were baptized and seven were confirmed.

The performance of these rites was preceded by an array of somewhat alarming Biblical and Theological questions put to the Boys. Each boy answered every question correctly without hesitation, and the congregation was satisfied that they had mastered the momentous truths of the Bible.

The rite of Baptism is not easily administered in the Basel Mission Society. Even illiterates, before they are baptized must know by heart, The Lord's Prayer, The Apostle's Creed, the Ten Commandments and all about the Lord's Supper. In the case in reference the boys were two years in preparation, and the Revd. Quartey should be congratulated for the good work he had done. It was interesting and impressive when, after Service, the boys (all in white) marched after the Pastor to his house. In the afternoon Mr. C. F. Fleischer, the Head-Master of the Middle School preached to them from the words: "They shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy," Rev. III. 4. Mr. Paul Djoleto, who, by the way, is an able musician, taught the boys a very beautiful Hymn, beginning with the words; 'Dear Jesus come to me.'

May God the Holy Spirit guide these boys, and enable them to make known to others the truths they have grasped.

Yours truly,—Christian Baeb.

Odumase, 28th October '04.

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.

Sir,—It is becoming the habit of our people and especially of those who call themselves "Gentlemen" to disregard such a safeguard maxim "Mind your own business" and deliberately indulge themselves in other people's affairs of which they have little or nothing to do or say.

Although I have myself been a victim to some of these monsters, yet I have not been an eye-witness until last Monday at the beach when the S. S. Fanti was in. To my surprise three gentlemen and especially one for whom I would give worlds to defend, were one to impute such scandal on him; these commenced a long conversation having for their subjects two persons, one a youngman residing at Mc Carthey's Hill and the other a respectable gentleman at Kawanupadu, with whom were I to compare to them, I would say that they are not in any way equal to him. But comparisons are odious.

And ' Sir, the expressions and sentiments uttered by the said gentlemen against the two were so unbecoming that I hesitate to relate them.

One thing that seems very striking to me, is that the prominent gentleman among the three busy-bodies was not in the least considerate of himself and his surroundings and seemed to have completely forgotten himself: this is natural with an unthinking person, evidently finding himself in what may be called better circumstances, but "times change." On the face of this I think that that prominent gentleman should have better left the youngman at Mc Carthey's Hill and his Ten pounds alone as well as the respectable gentleman at Kawanupadu and the debt owed by him or his wife. If this is the way agents act, they will have themselves to blame, if things take a different turn.

Ye meddlesome gentleman, first take out the beams in your own eyes before taking out the mote out of your friend's eye.

I think, Sir, that if these gentlemen with others like them in town would take for a leader the wise saying of Cervantes—"Let every man mind his own business," there would be no cause for the country to deteriorate in anything. I therefore say to all, "Mind your own business."

Thanking you in anticipation.

I remain, Sir,—Hold Your Tongue.

Cape Coast 22nd November 1904.

Sir,—May I beg you for a short space in your widely-read paper to give publicity to the following which I consider to be a great injustice done to a large number of children in this country by parents.

How is it that they neglect the training of their children in the way they do? and why is it that, for instance, those who call themselves Christians are worse about this matter? A man before he joins a Society begets children, but the moment he "becomes a member" except he is sensible enough to keep to his first wife, he leaves her and gets married to a woman who goes to class like himself, throwing away entirely his "old" wife's children. It is considered a sin to see them about or in their father's house, or if they are received there they do not get half the care and attention which the children of the Chapel going woman gets.

They get the best of everything. I cannot understand it Sir, for are they not of the same father, the same blood? And is it their fault that they came into being out of wedlock, that they should not be encouraged and set up in life as their other brothers and sisters? But if the "out of wedlock" child who has been neglected and practically cast out from his father's house, happens to turn out well and gets some means, then his father will make use of his money and house if he has built one, in fact of anything belonging to him, because he is his son. I think all the children should be treated equally in everything and proper education should be given to them all; in fact, Sir, I am inclined to say, the cast away children should have more care and attention, because they are not entitled to any of their father's property. I hope, Mr. Editor, some of your readers would enlighten me on the subject.

Thanking you in anticipation for the space allowed me.

I am,
Yours truly,—One of the Victims.

Cape Coast, 17th. Nov. 1904.

Sir,—My attention has been drawn many a time to the fact that, the Registrar of the D. C's. Court, Cape Coast is not to be seen to speak to, except few, the influential people. This alone does not matter much, but that also his office is closed and at times locked up.

Not believing such a story I happened to visit that office a few days ago as a suitor and I found exactly as I was told. The out-window of course was opened but no counter clerk to attend the public how would the applicants as suitors be, then? Comparing that to the Divisional Court even it differs. Where is the D. C? I believe we has not seen this practice of his Registrar to check it. I therefore call his attention to, that every public office must be opened to the public in general.

Thanking you for the space allowed me.

Yours truly,—A. Sutton.

Cape Coast, 19th. Nov. 1904.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of the 12th. instant I find that Mr. Cudjoe Aidoo called the attention of the Assistant Engineer's negligence in repairing the drain in Royal Lane, Cape Coast. Last week's rains, nearly caused a great damage to the houses near that drain; the cross drain being too narrow for water to pass free. I saw it myself, this is absurd.

On my passing that direction, I saw poor women from that compound grumbling, lamenting, and vociferating on account of the troubles received during the rains. Is not this miserable? For instance, let us compare our Goverment Public Works Department Officials to Mercantile concerns. In large localities where competition abounds the small Shop-keeper frequently outstrips his more powerful rival by one element of success which may be added to any stock without cost but cannot be withheld without loss. That element is civility. It has already been spoken of elsewhere but must be enforced here as aiding the little means of the small shop-keeper to a wonderful degree. A kind and obliging manner carries with it an indescribable charm. It must not be a manner which indicates a mean, grovelling time-serving spirit, but a plain, open, and agreeable demeanour which seems to desire to oblige for the pleasure of doing so, and not for the sake of squeezing an extra penny out of a customer's pocket.

The sole reliance of the business man should be in the integrity of his transaction and in the civility of his demeanour. He should make it the interest and the pleasure of the customer to come to his shop. If he does this he will form the very best connections and so long as he continues this system of business, they will never desert him or refuse his proposal. He should carefully render his best labour and knowledge to serve those who approach him and place confidence in his transactions make himself alike to rich and poor, but never resort to mean subterfuge and deception to gain approbation and support. He should so hold the balance between man and man that he should feel nothing to reprove his conscience when the day comes for him to repose from his labour, and live upon the fruit of his industry. Let the public discover such a man, and they will flock around him for their own content.

Yours very truly,—Quashie Amprasi.

Cape Coast, 21. 11. 04.

HEAD-QUARTERS.

Sir—Cannot our native representatives impress upon the Government to make another head quarters at Cape Coast? Late Governor Maxwell's intentions of dividing his time at six months each between Accra and Cape Coast which latter is the most central of the Gold

Coast. The present Hospital at O' Connor's Hill was built for that purpose, and if the original idea be carried out it would facilitate matters very much, as it would give both the Governor and the governed free exchange of intercourse in agricultural, educational and political matters.

A. NATIVE.

Cape Coast, 23rd. Nov. 1904.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I shall take it so kind enough if you would allow me a space in your valuable journal for the insertion of the foregoing, and I regret I have not done so ere this time.

Sometime in the month of April this year, I witnessed a certain case which came on for hearing at the Law Court Cape Coast before His Worship Andrew White—S. K. Annan versus the Cape Coast Castle Boating Company Limited and Messrs. Ostner & Bartsch. the plaintiff claimed £25 for services rendered. May I, in the meantime, ask that whether there is a new law now in this Colony that when one steals and be caught he is to be fined by the injured person any sum over and above the value of such articles and the thief be set at liberty unpunished?

It appears sometime on or about the 8th of April one of the Boating Company's boats under the command of Kweku Nimfimia boatswain and Kweku Appiah assistant, when coming from along-side the steamship "Bonny" with cargo, stopped half way and threw into the sea a Bale of cloths belonging to Messrs. Ostner & Bartsch and immediately they landed three of the men took a fishing canoe and went off for it and paddled headlong, seward. Mr. Annan as a private Detective was at the beach and saw them committing the deed, he watched them and landing at Morse with the bale of cloth. Mr. Annan reported this matter to the Boating Company, who are responsible for all lost goods by their boats, after having got the men to confess, Mr. Armstrong Archer the manager of the Boating Company having investigated the matter fined the Boatmen £46 and paid £15 to Messrs. Ostner & Bartsch as the cost of the Bale and let go the men free; he presented them with the whole of the cloths in the bale for their good doings. Mr. Annan seeing the Boating Company and the Firm failing to redeem their promise to pay him the £25 for the information supplied and the former defendants agreed to pay and for which reasons I presume the Boatmen were fined £46: this sort of offence was brought in evidence and the D. C. and the Assistant Commissioner of Police overlooked the matter and judgment in favour of the defendants with £10 costs was pronounced.

I failed to understand why the Assistant Commissioner of Police should allow such a thing to pass, unnoticing it when I understand before hand a piece of the cloth was sent to him with report. I am afraid such repugnances and abnormities will be the system if the authorities do not check it.

Thanking you for the space allowed and beg to remain,

Dear sir
Yours truly,—BLACKMAN TROUBLE.

Cape Coast, 13th October, 1904.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Nov. 17.—Reuter's Chifu telegraphing 16/11 after firing here half an hour Russian destroyer Rastoropney entered harbour during snow-storm and high wind, believed Russians seized cover attempting to escape enemy Russians subsequently blew Rastoropney up.

Russia declines attend Roosevelt's proposed meeting Hague.

Congress purpose mitigating Horrores war.

Rozhdiestvenski's portion Baltic fleet left Dakar to-day

Rastoropney brought important despatches to Chifu which transmitted to Petersburg, they confirm Stoessel wounded, General Fock playing conspicuous port defence Port Arthur main forts still in hands of Russians, supplies sufficient for several months.

Officially announced following appointments occurred during 1905 Vice Admiral Wilson's command Home fleet extended to 1907, Vice Admiral Beresford succeeds command Mediterranean, Rear May comptroller Navy, Captain replaces May.

18.—Reuter Petersburg telegraphs Russia proposes only few verbal alterations in British draft of convention.

King and Queen of Portugal entered city of London in full state noon to-day, black fog made day night lamps were lighted they lunched with Lord Mayor at Guildhall.

Remainder Baltic fleet consisting of five cruisers including ex-volunteer cruisers Petersburg, Smolensk Kuon and Dnieper with eight torpedoers left Libau yesterday, passed Bornholm to-day.

Convention with Russia is still under friendly discussion Russia however clearly desires limit scope of commission to enquiry without fixing culpability, considerable importance attached hereto. Russia resenting anything savouring foreign compulsion in punishment of culprits.

19.—Baltic fleet will continue voyage southwards from Dakar instead of touching Accra.

Evidence at Hull which closed out bore original narrative except one fisherman testified during firing he mistook mission ship without light for torpedoers, another admitted momentarily mistook trawler Crane for torpedoer. These points will be eagerly utilized by Russian authorities.

American Consul General Chifu telegraphs to American State Department situation Port Arthur extremely critical, outer forts fallen into possession Japanese. It is reported Japanese suddenly advanced, they are now within twelve miles Mukden.

Sakharoff reports Japanese attacked Lonely Tree Hill key to Russian position Shahe this morning but repulsed.

21.—Now practically settled International Commission enquiry North Sea incident will determine whether persons who participated whatever nationality deserve to blame if found they responsible, this satisfies British demands without wounding Russia's national sentiment.

Reuter learns from semi-official source Baltic fleet not be handicapped by capture Port Arthur as vessels going Vladivostok.

Despatch commanding neighbourhood Shahe past days now developed extraordinary magnitude, spread from Russia left to right which hitherto quiet, believed precursor several Japanese attack.

Stoessel telegraphs to Tsar, Port Arthur can hold out several months.

Netherlands Government notified United States gladly accept Roosevelt's suggestion second peace conference at Hague.

Furious attack Port Arthur resumed 17/11, Japanese occupied underground chambers important positions.

Reported Tokio Japanese after successfully mining occupied counterscarp of fort Sungshushan on Friday.

22.—London Daily Express correspondent at Candea (Crete) states officers and men Baltic Fleet in state wild intoxication, roamed streets insulting and assaulting inhabitants in drunken brawls murdered at least five persons. Forty deserted from fleet.

Terrible disaster reported from Talantse Islands northeast Celebes (East Indies) hurricane caused sea rise overflow islands thirty thousand rendered destitute; houses, boats, plantations being destroyed.

Admiral Togo on Saturday captured German steamer Batelan laden with great quantity Winter clothing, blankets, medicines and corned beef.

Attempting run blokcade Port Arthur Japanese captured counterscarp of fort Ehrbungshan.

"KYPHOSIS BICYCLISTARUM."

BY MODERATE RIDER.

The readers of the "Leader," a good many of whom, I believe, are cyclists will not read this article without interest.

Bicycle is certainly a useful machine and was invented as far back as 1840 by a Scotch blacksmith named McMillan. The cycle craze on the Gold Coast is however of a little more than ten years standing. The common argument in favour of bicycling is that it is a healthful and useful exercise. I will show presently that this question is not yet quite established. I think it highly necessary for all bicycle riders to know that excess in bicycling has resulted in a recognized disease called by medical men "Kyphosis Bicyclistarum." It is a curvature of the spine from continual stooping over the wheel. Let me then say to all cyclists, especially to our youngmen who take pride in riding frequently and furiously like Jehu to beware of immoderate bicycling. It will be of use to say something about women cycling—

Miss. Charlotte Smith President of the Woman's Rescue League in Washington, U. S. A. denounced bicycle riding by young women because of producing unwomanly associations both in language and dress, and petitioned all true women and clergymen to aid in denouncing the present bicycle craze by women as indecent and vulgar. Personally, I must confess I do not admire seeing women on bicycles especially breeding women.

The following extract will not fail to enhance the value of this article:—"That the bicycle is come among us to stay, its wide popularity sufficiently attests," says *Janus*, writing in the *Lagos Record*. "Any one who doubts this conclusion has only to take a walk in a large thoroughfare of the town, after working hours and behold the large number of young men out upon wheels. Sometimes a single machine is purchased by two or three young men clubbing their savings together, thus establishing a joint ownership in the wheel, each one taking his turn for going out for a spin." The question of the use of the bicycle as an aid to health is not yet quite established, some doctors being strongly in favour of it as affording a pleasant and healthful exercise, others condemning it as tending to the development of certain pulmonary troubles, from the constant stooping posture the rider generally assumes. Be this as it may, one recommendation the bicycle certainly has in its favour which, I believe, has escaped temperance workers. It is a valuable auxiliary to their cause. I do not remember ever having seen a drunken man, or one given to habitual drinking on a bicycle. To be a good rider steady nerves are required and the ardent cyclist is necessarily—to a very great extent at least—a water drinker.

THE GOLD COAST: ITS WEALTH AND HEALTH.

Of making many books on "the Gold Coast," there is no end; and Mr. Francis Hart, a gold concessionaire has compiled an Annual of over 300 pages with the above title in which he cleverly combines advertising originality with "inspirations" from Barbot to Reindorf *plus* his own caustic reflections. The Mining Industry: Trade and Commerce, Local administration and Malaria are the principal features of the work.

It is issued by Ereckson's, Eifingham House, Arundel St., Strand, W. C. and is dedicated to Sir Alfred Jones K. C. M. G. "a practical man, who has done more than any one else for the material and social welfare of our West African Colonies."

For the present we content ourselves with a extracts.

THE NATIVES.

What part have the natives taken in the progress and development of their Country? . . . . Small . . . . they achieve considerable wealth . . . . which they either distribute among their numerous relations or bury in the ground . . . . lacking in public spirit, and the ambition to raise themselves and their countrymen intellectually and morally . . . . . .

The native . . . . if we are to Judge from the experiments at Freetown and Liberia, he is unlikely to take a leading part in the march of progress . . . . . .

Within certain well-defined limitations the West African educated native displays considerable quickness of perception, assimilativeness and mental alertness. But he lacks initiative, creativeness or constructiveness . . . . .

They are still very much children of nature and are very easily spoiled. They are apt to be vain, ungrateful and presuming. . . . . .

They educated natives . . . . . write excellent hands, and are distinctly intelligent . . . . but when entrusted with writing reports and secretarial work, their propensity to the use of . . . "Baboo English" frequently leads to ludicious results, their high-flown periods and phrases being inexpressibly comic. The fact is the native is imitative rather than creative, and can rarely be entrusted with important responsibilities apart from white supervision and control.

NATIVE CUSTOMS.

It is absurd to be unduly deferential to Native Customs and prejudices which have long held the Country in thrall, and to-day help to hinder its progress and development . . . . . .

MR. CASELY HAYFORD.

The native . . . . must recognise that the white man has come to his country to stay, that he is there for his Country's good, and that, whatever Mr. Casely Hayford . . . . and other local reformers may say, the West African Native is not yet competent to govern and control the destinies of his own Country along the broad line of civilization.

NATURE'S GENTLEMEN.

The Country natives are comparatively unsophisticated and agreeable people, while among the Chiefs I have met several of "Nature's gentlemen." The Chiefs will generally place a hut or house at the disposal of the passing white man, and may present him with a duck or fowl, or even a sheep.

"HER ROYAL HIGHNESS."

Mr. Bridges . . . . secured 20 concessions in Eastern Wassaw, partly as the result of paying the "stool" debts of and releasing from goal the Queen Mother of that district, "her Royal Highness" displaying a very lively gratitude towards her benefactor.

THE LANDS BILL.

The proposed law amounted to the granting of a Crown Title, subject to the reservation of native rights and its passage would have converted the Gold Coast into a British Colony in fact as well as in name. The opposition was organised by native lawyers and others, and disgraceful articles appeared in local newspapers of miserable type, written by Coast "Scholars," who forgot that but the British they would most likely be under the cruel dominance of their hereditary enemies the Ashantis. . . . . .

NOTICE.

A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT

Will be held at the Government Schools on Friday December the 16th under the patronage of L. N. PEREGRINE, ESQ

Commissioner of the Central Province.

The following committee will act:—

Chairman:
L. N. PEREGRINE ESQ.

MEMBERS:

Dr. P. Garland, Dr. R. A. Savage, Messrs: M. St. Johns, P. A. Renner, Burke, G. H. Savage, T. M. Skues, T. Rickaby, J. O'Hanlon, C. E. Graves, J. D E. Parker, and the Forman of Works.

Admission:

Reserved Stalls. 3/- Double tickets 5/-
Stalls. 2/-
Unreserved Seats 1/-

Tickets can be obtained from:—

Mrs. G. H. Savage, Miss H. Simmons, Miss M. Graves, Mr. T. Mackenzie Skues, Mr. R. F. Wood, and also at the Door.

Doors open at 7. 30. P. M.

Secretary:
Dr. P. GARLAND.

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