

7. The ships of the squadron are all here at present, with the exception of the "Foam." The "Flirt" has just returned from Quitta with bullocks, &c. She reports the rumour that the Ashantis had destroyed a factory inside the Protectorate at Prong to be false. I propose sending the "Rambler" to Apollonia and Axim with one of the Governor's staff, to make a demonstration and obtain information, and also for a change of air.

8. The "Ararat" sails immediately, and will take home invalids from the squadron and any military officers requiring a passage. Although the climate has already found out the weak points in the constitution of some of the men, and five go home from this ship, there is no serious illness in the squadron.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. R. HOPE,
Captain and Senior Officer,
West Coast Division.

Commodore Richards, C.B., A.D.C.,
Senior Officer,
Cape of Good Hope and West
Coast of Africa Station.

No. 77.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received April 7, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast,
March 10, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have this day despatched Captain Wilton of the Gold Coast Constabulary to visit the post at Prah sue. I enclose a copy of the instructions which I gave to that officer.

2. I fully explained them to him verbally on two or three occasions.

3. I believe the party is fully able to protect itself against the attack of any force which it is likely to meet with; I do not indeed, myself, nor I think does any one else, entertain the idea they are likely to meet any Ashantis either at Prah sue or on the way there.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure 1 in No. 77.

SIR,

Elmina Castle, March 8, 1881.

I AM directed to inform you that his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief desires you to proceed to the post at Prah sue with a detachment of forty (40) men. His Excellency directs me to request that in carrying out this duty you will be guided by the following instructions.

2. You will go from Elmina to-morrow morning by Footoo and Footoofoo to Assayboo; and from there by the main road to Prah sue. You will see the chiefs of the principal townships through which you pass, and direct them to have their town cleared up and the bush cleared away all round it.

3. At Mansue you will see King Inkie, say to him that I hope he will have his town cleared up and a good path kept to the river, and the bush cleared round the town. Take the number of huts, note supplies, and if there is a space in the town fit for camping.

4. Tell Chief Inkie that the Governor-in-Chief has come, and that he will be displeased if the town is not clean. You will impress the necessity of cleaning and keeping clean their town, also upon the other chiefs on your route.

5. You will remain for two days at Mansue if necessary, and try to persuade King Inkie to set about his work.

6. You will then proceed to Prah sue and make a point of seeing the native chiefs of the towns along your route.

7. You will order the Houssas at Prah sue to clear bush round the stockade, and insist upon this being done.

8. With regard to the postal arrangements, there is to be a daily post between Elmina and to Prah sue. You will engage eight men at the rate of 1s. per diem per man. You will pay each postman 5s. in advance. Four will be at work and four resting every day.

The route from Prah sue to Elmina will be divided into four stages, each man will travel two stages per day.

1st stage. Prah sue to Yancoomassie Assin about $16\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

2nd stage. Yancoomassie Assin to Mansue about 22 miles.

3rd stage. Mansue to Assayboe about $22\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

4th stage. Assayboe to Elmina about 17 miles.

9. White sheets of paper and white envelopes will be sent to the clerk at Prah sue. You will take the names of the men you engage to carry the post. You will particularly note the names of the chiefs at the above stages, namely at Yancoomassie Assin, Mansue, and Assayboo. I enclose a copy of orders to be given to the clerk at Prah sue.

10. On arrival at the Prah, you will at once inform me that you have reached that place, and report the general condition in which you find the post, you will specially notice if there has been any communication with Ashanti.

11. Should you deem it necessary for the safety of the post you will remain there with the increased detachment until you receive further orders. It being understood that you will use all proper military precautions for the safety of yourself and men.

12. You will take notes on your way, remarking and embodying them in the report, which I request you will send to me from each postal station on your way up.

13. It is most important that you should avoid everything likely to create an impression that your journey has a special warlike import, and you will, with a view to this, avoid asking for Assin men to clear villages north of Yancoomassie Assin, and especially avoid using them round the post at Prah sue.

14. If comment be made by the native chiefs to you as to your thus coming to Prah sue with soldiery, when so lately they had been withdrawn, you will inform the native chiefs that the Governor-in-Chief is an old bush traveller, and that, as the forest has no terrors for him, he can see no reason why his officers cannot live in the bush at Prah sue just as well as he himself used to live there and in other places like it.

15. Should you receive any messengers from Ashanti, you will treat them in the most courteous manner, you will be good enough to entertain them so far as your stores will allow (the cost of your doing so will be repaid to you), you will have no difficulty in explaining to the Ashantis, if they ask it, that many years ago he had frequently recommended to Her Majesty's Government that there should be a post at Prah sue, and that a European officer should often visit the place and temporarily reside there.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. R. SWINBURNE,
Military Secretary.

Captain J. R. H. Wilton,
Gold Coast Constabulary.

Enclosure 2 in No. 77.

Elmina Castle, March 9, 1881.

ORDERS for the clerk at Prah sue for despatching a daily post to Elmina.

1. Report daily anything worthy of notice.
2. Place a stick or bamboo, marked with feet and inches, upright in the river, and note and report any variation in the depth of the stream.
3. Despatch daily messenger at daybreak.
4. Note the hour of his departure on the envelope.

By order,
(Signed) T. R. SWINBURNE,
Military Secretary.

Enclosure 3 in No. 77.

STRENGTH and EQUIPMENT of CAPTAIN WILTON's party, proceeding to Prah sue,
March 10, 1881.

44 men with 60 rounds per man Snider ball cartridge.
1,000 rounds Snider, to complete up to 50 rounds per man, with a reserve of 50 rounds
of ammunition for the 19 men at present at Prah sue.

12 9-pr. rockets.
1 rocket trough.
20 hatchets.
5 spades.

(Signed) T. R. SWINBURNE,
Military Secretary.

Enclosure 4 in No. 77.

TABLE OF DISTANCES FROM ELMINA TO PRAHSUE.

Name of Town or Village.	Miles.	Hours.	Chief.	REMARKS.
Elmina - - -	0	0	Andoh.	
Emisano - - -	—	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	
Footoo - - -	7	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	
Footooboo - - -	6	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	
Assayboo - - -	3	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	Junction of main road from Cape Coast Castle.
Brofoyedul - - -	—	—	—	
Battayan or Batténa - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	King of Abraerampa.	
Aeroful - - -	2			
Agracroom - - -	—			
Dunquah - - -	6			
Yancoomassie Fanti - - -	3	1	Chibboo.	
Edumassie - - -	—	—	—	
Anasie - - -	—	—	—	
Daman or Darman - - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	
Mansue - - -	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	Inchie.	
Sutah - - -	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	Do.	
Atamsue - - -	—	—	Do.	
Fossue or Faysoah - - -	8	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	
Yancoomassie Assin - - -	4	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	Chibboo.	
Barracoe - - -	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do.	
Prah sue - - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	Do.	
Total - - -	75	28		

“ An inspection of these roads will be made by a constabulary officer appointed by the inspector-general the first week of each quarter, and a report made to the Governor whether they are clear to a width of eight feet. The chiefs of these roads, which are reported clear, will then receive 10s. quarterly for each mile of road. If the roads are not clear no payment will be made and the local chiefs fined.”

(Extract from Order of 19.11.77.)

(Signed) T. R. SWINBURNE,
Military Secretary. 9.3.81.

No. 78.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received April 7, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, March 11, 1881.

IN continuation of my Despatch dated the 4th instant* relative to the political state of affairs on the Gold Coast in connection with the Ashantis, I have the honour to report for your Lordship's information my proceedings since that date.

2. Saturday the 6th instant was fully occupied in landing goods, arranging stores, detailing the work of the labourers and Kroomen whom I brought with me from Sierra

* No. 70.

Leone, and allotting such accommodation as Elmina Castle offers to the various officers temporarily occupying it.

3. On Sunday the 6th instant I took the opportunity of receiving the whole of the Colonial officers, European and natives, now resident at this place.

4. After this I saw the sergeants of the Houssa force and spoke a few words to them, in which I reminded them of my former connection with the force and said how much pleasure it gave me to meet them once more.

5. There was then a general parade of the force, and I addressed the men in much the same language as I had used towards the sergeants.

6. Their replies were on both occasions all that could be desired.

7. I had sent to the Ashanti ambassadors to say that I would receive them if they wished it, and while I was talking to the constabulary the ambassadors came up to the castle.

8. Earlier in the day I had sent Mr. Hughes to visit them, and to carry to them a message explaining why I had not been able to see them sooner.

9. At about 5 p.m., in the old Assembly Hall of this castle, they were officially received by me.

10. There were present the Lieutenant-Governor, the Senior Naval Officer (Captain Hope) and 17 of his officers from the ships. The officers specially attached to my staff, the officers of constabulary, all the civil officers at present at Elmina (among them his Honour the Queen's Advocate, Mr. Collyer), and many of the residents in town.

11. Along with the Ashanti ambassadors was Chief Andoo of Elmina and other Elmina chiefs

12. At the head of the palaver hall I had caused to be placed the chair of state of former Dutch governors.

13. This old chair is a handsome piece of carved work and surmounted by the two lions and the Crown with the Dutch flag worked in colours on crimson ground; it contributed largely to the dignity of the ceremony, although the gilding has lost much of its brilliancy, and the crimson cloth is sadly moth-eaten.

14. After the ambassadors had been each presented to me I told them that I was glad to see them, but that my Queen, who never wished any African any harm, was sorry to hear that the King of Ashanti meditated war against her.

15. I pointed to the chair in which I was sitting, and reminded the messengers of the time (only 9 years ago) when Elmina, in the presence of many of their own chiefs, was formally handed over by the Dutch to the British crown.

16. I pointed to the large assemblage of officers, and said that there were many more in England who would come out to Africa at the Queen's commands, and who could be here as quickly as the messengers could go and return to Coomassie from Elmina.

17. After referring further to the position of affairs in this country I asked the ambassadors if they wished to make any reply.

18. After a few moments' consultation the King's linguist (Bendi) said that they would prefer to give their reply through Prince Ansah.

19. I made no objection to this arrangement.

20. I proposed then that the English officers should drink to the health of Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and I asked the Ashantis if they would like to join, and they said they loved the Queen and hoped she would live long, and joined in the toast.

21. The gathering then separated, and the Ashantis were escorted politely back to their house at which they were living.

22. They bore their share in the ceremony very well, but the three hearty English cheers which followed were perhaps a little sudden, though the Ashantis are well acquainted with the custom.

23. I attach some notes, which Mr. Collyer the Queen's Advocate, was good enough to prepare, which record in fuller detail the remarks I made.

24. I sent to summons Prince Ansah on the

My Lord, I regret that the arrival of the mail steamer in the roadstead prevents my completing this despatch, as I should have liked to have done.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,

Governor-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable the Earl of Kimberley,

&c.

&c.

&c.

Enclosure in No. 78.

PRESENT.

His Excellency Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G., Governor-in-Chief, Gold Coast.
His Excellency W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH, C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor.

SPECIAL STAFF of His Excellency the GOVERNOR-IN-CHIEF.

Captain Knapp Barrow, late 57th Regiment, Political Secretary.
Lieutenant E. Druitt, R.E., A.D.C.
F. Evans, Esq., Chief Secretary and Chief of the Staff.
Lieutenant R. Hart, V.C., R.E.
Captain R. La T. Lonsdale, C.M.G. (late 74th Highlanders).
Lieutenant A. H. Pain, 75th Regiment.
Captain J. Preston, Royal Antrim Rifles.
Captain Sandwith, R.M.L.I.
Lieutenant T. R. Swinburne, R.M.A.
Lieutenant P. C. Underwood, R.N.
Percival Hughes, Esq., Assistant Political Secretary.
Deputy Commissary, Bennett.

COLONIAL OFFICERS.

Captain Hay, Acting Colonial Secretary.
F. Simpson, Esq., Assistant Colonial Secretary.
W. R. Collyer, Esq., Queen's Advocate.
Dr. Grant, Assistant Colonial Surgeon.
Dr. Nundy, Do. Do.
Inspector-General Grant, Gold Coast Constabulary.
Captain Bastow, Gold Coast Constabulary.
Artillery Inspector Newenham, Gold Coast Constabulary.
Assistant Inspector Cade, Gold Coast Constabulary.
Paymaster Woolhouse, Gold Coast Constabulary.
Assistant Inspector Kirby, Gold Coast Constabulary.
Captain Jackson, R.A.
H. B. Griffith, Esq., Acting Private Secretary to Lieutenant Governor.
Surveyor General Pagan.
H. Baxter, Esq., Foreman of Works.
Mr. Amissaby.
Mr. Brühm (Netherlands Consul).

NAVAL OFFICERS from H.M.S. "CHAMPION."

Captain G. R. Hope.
Lieutenant G. G. Philipps.
Lieutenant H. F. Daubeny.
Navigating Lieutenant F. Rowlatt.
A. J. Hotham, Midshipman.
M. Stephens, Clerk.
D. Brenner, Naval Cadet.
A. W. Atkinson, Naval Cadet.
L. J. MacHutchin, Naval Cadet.
T. Kerr, Naval Cadet.

From H.M.S. "RAMBLER."

Commander the Hon. A. C. Littleton.
Lieutenant M. S. Beatty.
Lieutenant F. G. S. Laye.
W. Thompson, Surgeon.

From H.M.S. "FIREFLY."

Commander E. G. F. Law.
J. A. Langdon, Surgeon.
Sub-Lieutenant W. V. Howard.

ASHANTI AMBASSADORS.

Enchie.
 Bossumburu.
 Bendi.
 Anani.

ELMINA CHIEFS.

Chief Andoo, Head Chief of Elmina.
 Chief Attah, a Chief of Elmina.
 Chief Eccra Quacoe, a Chief of Elmina.
 Chief Quacoe Quartey, a Chief of Elmina.
 Bendi, Linguist.

INTERPRETER.

Mr. A. J. Quansah, 2nd Clerk Governor's Office.

His Excellency, having shaken hands with each of the ambassadors and with the Chiefs of Elmina, said that he would have sent for the ambassadors before, if he had not been so much engaged. He had had a great deal to do, and so now on the third day after landing he had called them that he might speak to them.

He had just come from England, and he had come quickly, because he had heard some news from Africa, news which made him very sorry. When the Queen of England heard that news she was very sorry. For the Queen of England had a good heart towards the people of Africa and to the King of Ashanti. Therefore the Queen was very sorry when she heard the news, and so were the English people. But the English people, when they hear news like that, do not sit still. That was the reason why he had come so soon, and why all the officers present had come with him. Did they know how long it took him to come from England? It took just as long as it would take a man to go to Coomassie and back, though England was so far away beyond the sea. The officers they saw there had come out with him, and the Ashantis must remember that for every one of the officers they saw there the Queen of England could, if she chose, send out a thousand. But it was not to tell them this that he had sent for them.

He sent for them to say that the Queen of England had no bad heart to the Ashantis or any African people. She showed this by the honours she gave to those Englishmen who came and lived and worked among them. He had himself lived many years among them and worked for them, and had gone home and had come out again to live among them, and this showed that he also had no bad heart to the black man.

Some of them might remember that palaver hall and the chair he sat in. It was the Dutch Governor's chair in former days; then the Dutch gave over the government of this country, and now the Queen had sent him out as Governor. This thing was not done secretly by the Dutch Government, but in open palaver, and therefore he was not ashamed to sit where the Dutch Governor had sat.

He did not wish to take the land of the Ashantis. The Queen did not wish to take it. All the Queen wished for the Africans was that the African people, Ashanti and Fanti, should all live together in peace, and walk straight together, so that each man might be free to live where he chose, and to go and come when he pleased, that they might till their land without fear, and make farms and have wives and get children, and live to see their children's children, so that a man might send his little daughter to the well, and have no fear lest she should not return, because some enemy was waiting to seize her.

This was what the Queen wished for Africa, and this was what the Governor wished, and this was why he had come out, why the officers had come, and the ships. And because he had lived so long in Africa and worked there, the Queen of England had given him these honours, which he now put on for the first time in Africa. He did not come there to make a farm. He had no wife there nor children in his house. But when he looked at the star he wore, he thought of the bright hot sun overhead, and the swamps and the great forest; and he remembered how he had worked there, and what honour the Queen had given him. He said this to show them that it was impossible that his heart could be bad to the Ashantis. The Queen of England wished them well, and that they might all be in peace, and that was what he had called them for to-day to tell them.

After some consultation Bendi, the King's linguist, said—

When we came down, we brought a message to Prince Ansoh at Cape Coast. We wish to give our answer to the Governor through Prince Ansoh. He is not here, and we beg the Governor to send for him.

His Excellency replied that when messengers from a great king like the King of Ashanti come to another country with a message there is only one person to whom they could come, and that was the king of that country. However, he did not object to the ambassadors giving their message through Prince Ansoh, who should be sent for.

After a reiterated request that Prince Ansoh should be sent for, which was conceded by the Governor, Her Majesty's health was drunk with the usual honours and the ambassadors withdrew.

No. 79.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received April 7, 1881.)

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast,
March 11, 1881.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report that the refugee from Ashanti, Awoosoo by name, has been staying in the Castle for the last few days.

2. He has with him one attendant, a man of mature years.

3. I have preferred that he should remain here for a few days, as I found a day or two since that Amankrah, the Assin trader, who is said to have assisted him to run away, had returned to Assin.

4. As I considered it very undesirable that this man should be in the border land near the Ashanti frontier, immediately on receiving the news of his departure thither I sent to him a polite request to return, as I wished to have some conversation with him.

5. I have just received a report from Cape Coast Castle that he has reached that place, and is on his way to Elmina.

6. I thought it was very likely, if Amankrah heard that Awoosoo had been sent away, I should have some difficulty in inducing him to come back to the coast.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure in No. 79.

EXTRACT from a PRIVATE LETTER from Mr. MACLEOD, dated Christiansborg Castle,
4th March 1881, to the LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

THE other day Mr. Bühl called and gave me some more particulars about their two missionaries who had gone to Coomassie. At the time they went they were stationed at Kibbes, and had heard nothing about any war palaver, and they returned from Coomassie equally ignorant. The King and his mother danced a peace-dance before them, and I believe that is considered the greatest honour that can be shown to anyone.

EXTRACT from a PRIVATE LETTER from Mr. C. F. BUHL, Secretary Basel Mission, dated
Christiansborg, 4th March 1881, to the LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

"A few days ago we were informed that two of our missionaries, Messrs. Buck and Huppenbauer, not yet informed about the disturbance between the Colony and Ashanti, left their station Kjebi (Akem) on 25th January for a preaching tour, and came to Ashanti and finally to Coomassie, when they were received very kindly and with great honours; after a stay of a week or so they returned to their station Kjebi, in Akem District. In the Ashanti country the people did not speak of war; only on the return to the frontiers of the Colony rumours of war went on."

No. 80.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR,

Admiralty, April 11, 1881.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant,* forwarding copy of a despatch addressed by the Acting Governor of the Gold Coast to the Senior Naval Officer on the West Coast of Africa, bearing testimony to the valuable services rendered by Commander Brackenbury of H.M.S. "Flirt," and I am to request that you will state to the Earl of Kimberley that Captain Hope of H.M.S. "Champion" has borne similar testimony, and in consideration of these services their Lordships have promoted Commander Brackenbury to the rank of Captain in Her Majesty's Navy.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT HALL.

No. 81.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received April 14, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, March 13, 1881.

IN completion of my despatch dated 11th instant,† I have the honour to say that I sent to summon Prince Ansah on the 7th instant from Cape Coast Castle.

2. He came to Elmina on the 8th instant.
3. I explained to him how serious I considered the present position of affairs with Ashanti to be, and he assured me that he fully realised it.
4. He said repeatedly what I have heard him say before, viz., that when his people get into trouble they come to him to help them to get out of it, but when things go well with them they seldom trouble themselves about him.
5. I told him that I desired that he will remain here for the present.
6. The ambassadors through Ansah proposed to me a request that a part of them might be allowed to go to Coomassie, as they wished to send a special message to the King, and Ansah added that, as this message was, in their opinion, of very great importance, they proposed to send it by such persons as would ensure that it should be promptly delivered and brought directly before the King's notice.
7. I said to Ansah that I desired that this request should be made by the ambassadors in person, and I would receive them, so that they might say if this was their wish.
8. The ambassadors waited upon me on the morning of the 11th instant, and they said that they had thought very seriously over what I had said to them on the day I first received them.
9. That they were very anxious to send a message to the King, and that they requested permission to send three of their number with four followers to Coomassie at once.
10. I said that I had no objection to this so long as it was clearly understood that the message which they carried was a private one from themselves, and that they made that matter perfectly clear to the King.
11. They accompanied me on the steamer "Ekuro" the next morning to Cape Coast, and were present at the official ceremony there.
12. Subsequently I saw them privately before they started for Coomassie, and I apportioned to them two Fanti policemen to accompany them as far as Prabsue, and gave them some money for their expenses on the way.

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

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

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received April 14, 1881.)

Extract.

Elmina Castle, March 17, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that on the 10th instant I was informed by the District Commissioner at Cape Coast that certain messengers, whose names are detailed in the margin, had arrived at Cape Coast Castle with instructions from the King of Ashanti to see Prince Osoo Ansah and request him to introduce them to the merchants residing there, with a view to their preferring to these merchants a request from the King that they would assist him (the King of Coomassie) in his efforts to place his relations with Her Majesty's Government on a more friendly footing.

Osai Bruni.
Yow Ewoa.
Quarmin Insia.
Dantando.

the District Commissioner at Cape Coast that certain messengers, whose names are detailed in the margin, had arrived at Cape Coast Castle with instructions from the King of Ashanti to see Prince Osoo Ansah and request him to introduce them to the merchants residing there, with a

view to their preferring to these merchants a request from the King that they would assist him (the King of Coomassie) in his efforts to place his relations with Her Majesty's Government on a more friendly footing.

They were also to ask Prince Ansah to introduce them to the Rev. Mr. Fletcher, and to say to him that the King was wishful that he (Mr. Fletcher) should establish a school at Coomassie, and lest he (Mr. Fletcher) should mistrust a message of this character, received from chiefs who are not of the highest standing in the kingdom, the King had entrusted to them a handsome cloth to be presented to the reverend gentleman as a proof of their authority.

I purposely allowed their arrival to remain apparently unnoticed. They remained for a day or two at Cape Coast without communicating with Prince Ansah.

On the 13th they thought it desirable to come over to Elmina and communicate with Prince Ansah, who informed me officially of their arrival here, and complained of their delay at Cape Coast Castle.

Prince Ansah, in informing me of these facts, asked that I would advise him as to how he should act in this matter.

In reply, I asked him if he thought that messengers arriving at Coomassie with such instructions from a neighbouring Government would be allowed to carry them out without the King being first officially informed of the purport of the message they had brought, especially if the messengers came from a Government with which their King was not at the time on friendly terms.

He at once said that it was fitting that the messengers should be introduced to me, or to one of my secretaries, and should submit the purport of his message before attempting to enter into personal relations with private gentlemen resident at Cape Coast.

I directed Captain Barrow to point out to him that he had better think over the subject.

The messengers then asked to be allowed to submit for my consideration the message they intended to deliver to the merchants, and I had an interview with them yesterday at which they explained to me the purport of the message with which they are entrusted.

I informed them that I had no objection to make to their delivering such a message, but I explained clearly to them that my permission to them to do so must not be considered to have any bearing on the reply which I may hereafter find it necessary to make to the message sent direct to the Lieutenant-Governor by the King, explanatory of his (the King's) intentions in sending down the gold axe when demanding the surrender of Awoosoo.

I have the honour to attach copies of letters which I have caused to be addressed to the Rev. Mr. Fletcher and the merchants of Cape Coast Castle, requesting them to arrange for such interviews as are asked by these messengers, and I attach also copy of the notes made by me, at the time of the interview yesterday, of what passed between me and these messengers on this subject.

Enclosure 1 in No. 82.

Political Department, The Castle, Elmina,
March 17, 1881.

Sir,

I AM informed by the bearers of this letter, who are messengers from the King of Ashanti, that they have been sent by His Majesty to Prince Osoo Anseh with a request that he should introduce them to you, to ask you to establish schools in Coomassie.

2. In reference to this request his Excellency desires me to state that Her Majesty's Government can have no wish to prevent the establishment of Christian teaching in Coomassie, and to assure you that the Governor does not in any way wish to attempt to fetter your action as a minister of religion.

3. The Governor will be glad if you will be so good as to appoint a fitting and convenient place and time to receive this embassy, and, after hearing what they have to say, that you will carefully consider whether or not it will be desirable for you to comply with the King's wishes.

4. He desires me to add that he is aware, he need hardly remind you, how serious is this subject, and how worthy of your gravest consideration, and that, as your long and varied experience of this part of West Africa makes you fully aware of what importance to the Gold Coast is the existence of friendly relations between that colony and Ashanti, he is sure that you will not fail to recognize how much it is to be desired, in order to the promoting of these, that all classes of the community should loyally unite to advance the honour of Her Majesty's Government and the prosperity of the Gold Coast Colony.

The Reverend W. J. Fletcher,
Cape Coast.

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

Enclosure 2 in No. 82.

Captain BARROW to Messrs. F. C. GRANT and others.

Political Department, The Castle, Elmina,
March 17, 1881.

GENTLEMEN,

I AM informed by the bearers of this letter, who are messengers from the King of Ashanti, that they have been sent by His Majesty to Prince Osoo Anseh with a request that he should introduce them to you and ask the assistance of your good offices in advising him, the King, as to the manner in which he should act with a view to inducing Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Empress of India, to regard his recent conduct in a favourable light.

2. In reference to this request I am directed by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to ask that you will be so good as to appoint a fitting and convenient place and time to receive this embassy, and, after hearing what they have to say, that you will carefully consider whether or not it will be desirable for you to comply with the King's wishes.

3. His Excellency desires me to add further that you need scarcely be reminded how serious is this subject, and how worthy of your gravest consideration, and that, as merchants, fully aware of what importance to the Gold Coast is the existence of friendly relations between that colony and Ashanti, you will not fail to recognise how much it is to be desired, in order to the promoting of these at the present juncture of affairs, that all classes of the community should loyally unite to advance the honour of Her Majesty's Government and the prosperity of the Gold Coast Colony.

To Messrs. F. C. Grant,
W. H. Selby,
John Sarbah,
W. D. Wylie,
— Elliott,
W. E. Davidson,
Of Cape Coast.

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

Enclosure 3 in No. 82.

MESSENGERS FROM ASHANTI.

OSAI BRUNI, Chief of the party, son of Owosoo Koko.
 YOW EWOWA, Speaker and Interpreter from Ashanti into Fanti.
 QUARMIN INSIA } Court attendants.
 DANTANDO }

Party left Coomassie March 1st, found road quiet, reached Cape Coast March 12th.

Interpreter, C. W. BADGER.

The Messenger says:—

“The instructions given to me on leaving were that I should come to Cape Coast Castle to Prince Ansah, and that he should take me to the merchants, and that the merchants should say for the King to the Governor that if he, the King, had done any wrong in the matter of the message with the axe, that he the King asked that the Governor would pardon his mistake.”

Interpreter corrected by Ansah.

Ansah.—“The King sent me to come to Prince Ansah and to say to Prince Ansah, “Let bygones be bygones between us” (*i.e.*, as to our family palaver). “He sent me to Ansah for him to take me to the merchants of Cape Coast Castle for the merchants to assist the King,” (after explanation) *i.e.*, “for the merchants to show the King the readiest and best way by which he, the King, could put himself on a good footing with the English Government.”

“I was further to say to Prince Ansah that if you forget something, and you go back to fetch it, it is not bad. The King thinks now he would like to have a school at Coomassie, and I was to ask Ansah to take me to Rev. Fletcher to deliver this message.” “I have brought also a fine cloth to the missionary, lest without some proof the missionary should not believe this.”

“I was also to say to the missionary that, as I am only a boy” (*i.e.*, young and not a chief of high position), “if he does not believe me he should send to Coomassie a scholar, who will bring to him (the missionary) word of what is passing at Coomassie.”

“If the missionary wishes to come he should give time to the King before coming, as the King’s castle” (Ansah corrects and says “houses”) “was broken down, and as he has only just begun to repair it, the missionary must allow time for the King to prepare a house in which to lodge the school.”

“I was to say also to the merchants that ‘one cannot fight without money and without men’; that he, the King, has no money and no men; and the few troops he has at present he does not trust. The fine imposed on him before he has not yet been able to pay.”

“Further I was to say to the merchants that he, the King, begs God, and begs his spirits (*i.e.*, calls upon the white man’s God, and his own tutelary divinities, to witness), that he has no one to depend upon excepting the Governor, that all that has been said against him is false.”

Governor loquitur.—Say to the spokesman Yow Ewoa, I have no objection to such a message being given to the merchants.

Messenger’s Reply.—Thank you, thank you, thanks master.

Governor loquitur.—I have no objection to this message being given to the missionary.

Messenger’s Reply.—Thanks master, thanks master, thanks master.

Governor loquitur.—Does he wish to go to Cape Coast Castle to-morrow to give his messages?

Messenger’s Reply.—Yes.

Governor loquitur.—To what merchants does he propose to go?

Messenger’s Reply.—Prince Ansah will say to whom he will take me.

Governor loquitur.—Say that matter then I leave to him and to Prince Ansah, his own countrymen.

Governor loquitur.—When did he arrive at Cape Coast Castle?

Messenger says he reached Cape Coast Castle the day the Governor took oaths of office, before the gun fired.

Governor loquitur.—Did he see, before he left Cape Coast Castle, Boosumuru?

Messenger’s Reply.—Was present at Gothic House with Boosumuru.

Governor loquitur to Interpreter.—Say to messenger, he is of course aware that there is a party here who have come from the King to the Governor to say that there is some mistake.

Messenger's Reply.—He says he knows it.

Governor loquitur.—I will not keep them longer to night.

Governor loquitur.—I wish to know if he has been well fed and properly lodged since they have been here.

Messenger's Reply.—Yes, by Chief Andoh.

Governor then bids them good evening.

Governor loquitur to Prince Ansah.—I desire that you will give to Captain Barrow a list of the names of the merchants to whom you propose to introduce them, and will arrange that they shall meet you at a proper time and place.

SAMUEL ROWE.

16th March 1881.

No. 83.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received April 14, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, March 18, 1881.

IN my despatch dated the 17th instant,* I had the honour to report the arrival of messengers from Ashanti with instructions from the King to ask the merchants and missionaries at Cape Coast Castle to assist him in his efforts to place his relations with Her Majesty's Government on a more friendly footing.

2. I also reported to your Lordship in the same despatch the course I had followed on hearing of the messengers' arrival.

3. I have now the honour to transmit a copy of a letter, and also a copy of a memorandum, which I have received from the Reverend J. Fletcher.

4. In his letter to me Mr. Fletcher expresses very clearly his opinion, not only that the King of Ashanti is unprepared for war, but that he will do anything in his power to preserve peace.

5. In some notes which I had the honour to enclose to the Under Secretary of State in Despatch of 11th March† I mentioned that the Reverend Mr. Fletcher had made preparations for a journey to Coomassie at the date (19th January 1881) of the arrival at Cape Coast Castle of the messenger with the axe.

6. Mr. Fletcher's position as religious head of a large body of natives, amongst whom are many of the most important traders in the Colony, gives considerable value to his opinion.

I have, &c.
(Signed)

SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure 1 in No. 83.

Rev. J. FLETCHER to GOVERNOR SIR SAMUEL ROWE.

Wesleyan Mission House, Cape Coast Castle,
March 18, 1881.

SIR,

I ENCLOSE herewith for your Excellency's information a minute of what passed between the Ashanti messengers and myself at the interview to-day.

From the manner in which they expressed themselves, and received the advice given, I am sure that not only is the King of Ashanti unprepared for war, and consequently desirous of peace; but that he will do anything within his power to preserve peace, and that to secure the preservation of peace he will offer some compensation beyond an apology.

I need hardly say that I repeatedly and explicitly stated that my advice was in no wise official, and that I only gave my opinion as to what seemed to me most likely to secure the preservation of peace, and that I would at all times gladly do what I could to secure the attainment of this object.

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

&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. FLETCHER.

Enclosure 2 in No. 83.

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW WITH ASHANTI MESSENGERS AT CAPE COAST MISSION HOUSE
on the 18th March 1881.

ENTSHIE delivered the message from the King to me, to the effect that the King was anxious at this time that the schools and mission should be re-established at Coomassie, but that, owing to his houses not being rebuilt, he could not yet fix a time for the recommencement of the mission, but as soon as they were finished he would be glad to see me at Coomassie to commence the mission, and that to satisfy me that the message was from him, and that he was in earnest, he sent me a present of a country cloth.

He also wished to tell me that he was quite convinced that peace was necessary for the prosperity of his country, and wished me to use my friendly offices and intercede with the Governor on his behalf. I replied, thanking him for the present, which, I assured the messengers, I was quite ready to accept "as a witness" of the King's word and sincerity, and that we were as anxious as the King could be for the re-establishment of the mission, and that if he would fix me a time after the rains I would visit Coomassie, when all details could be satisfactorily arranged. That as a friend, wishing well to Ashanti and to all, I would like the King to understand that in my opinion there could be no firm friendship with England unless human sacrifices were discontinued, and that until life was secure in Ashanti there would be no prosperity.

The advice I would give the King was to tell the whole truth to the Governor, and that it was much better that the King should express regret at having sent the axe than the messengers should make statements as to it which no one, and certainly not the Governor-in-Chief, whose knowledge of these matters was very great, could possibly believe; and that, if they did this and sought the Governor's pardon, I had no doubt it would be given, for I was quite sure that the British Government had no wish to trouble Ashanti, and that, if only the King would abolish human sacrifices and act in a peaceable way, he would find that the British Government would always be disposed to help him as far as possible; but that for the preservation of peace it was necessary that the King should be very careful as to what messages he sent the Governor.

They then stated that the King was convinced of this, and that to settle the matter amicably he had sent these messengers to me, as also to the merchants of Cape Coast, to ask their advice, and that he specially looked to me for advice in this matter, as he sought "the shelter of my wing" and leaned upon me in the matter. Whatever I recommended he would do if it were possible. To this I replied, "My advice to the King as a friend and well-wisher is to send a 'big man' as a messenger, not only with good words, but with full hands, and let the King say, 'I am sorry the axe was sent, I beg your pardon, it shall not occur again, and to show you that I am sorry, and that I earnestly desire peace, I send 5,000 ounces of gold dust to help in some measure to defray the expenses the Government has been put to, and trust that we may be good friends for the future.'" I expressed my belief that, with such a message properly sent, the Governor would be satisfied and all danger of war averted, and that after this was done, if there were any matters that needed rectifying, I was sure that the Governor would do what was fair and just. They then asked, supposing the King could not raise so much at once, would it do to send a part. I told them I could not think that, if the King were in earnest, 5,000 ounces would be beyond his power, and I would advise him to do his very utmost to raise some such sum and to get the matter settled quickly, for this I was sure would be the better and cheaper way of settling the matter.

I then said they had come to consult me as a friend, and that I would ask them a friendly question, without expressing any belief in the matter, and indeed expressing my doubt of it. I said, "We have heard of sundry war preparations being made, such as cutting roads. Is it so?" They emphatically denied it, and said that the King was anxious that the Governor should send someone to see for himself that it was not so, but that all the people were engaged in their usual peaceful occupations.

They then left, promising to call on me again after they had seen the merchants at 4 o'clock.

(Signed) J. FLETCHER,
Wesleyan Missionary.

No. 84.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received April 14, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, 19th March 1881.

I HAVE the honor to report the arrival yesterday evening of the S.S. "Humber" with Colonel Justice, Commanding the Troops, and officers and men of the 2nd West India Regiment as shewn in the enclosed* "Disembarkation Return."

I have, &c.

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

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

No. 85.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received, April 14, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, 19th March 1881.

IN my Despatch, dated 10th instant,† I had the honour to report that I had sent Assistant Inspector Wilton to visit the post at Prah sue and I enclosed in that Despatch a copy of the instructions which I had given to that Officer.

2. I regret to have to report that this Officer did not get beyond Mansue.
3. He returned from that place to Elmina, as he did not feel that in his then state of health he was able to proceed farther.

4. He however sent on the serjeant of Houssas with the men and the instructions to the clerk.

5. On the 16th instant Artillery Inspector E. W. Newenham left Elmina for Prah sue; he took with him a 7-pounder gun and ammunition, and on the 18th instant Assistant Inspector O'Brien left Elmina to stay at Mansue until further orders.

I have, &c.

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

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

Enclosure in No. 85.

PROCEEDINGS of OFFICERS directed to visit outposts at MANSUE and PRAHSUE.

Captain Wilton, Gold Coast Constabulary, in accordance with orders of the 8th March 1881, started at 11 a.m. on the 10th and arrived at Assayboo (Assayboo) the same evening at 5 p.m.

2. Captain Wilton took with him the following men and stores, viz. :—
45 men (Houssas) with 60 rounds Snider ammunition per man for 44 men.
1000 rounds for the detachment already at Prah sue (Prah sue).
20 hatchets, 5 spades, 12 9-pounder rockets and 1 rocket trough.

3. In accordance with his instructions, Captain Wilton engaged two postmen at Assayboo named Kofi Addoabah and Quacoe Taiwiah by the help of the chief Quacoe Boosom.

4. Captain Wilton reported progress from Assayboo at 5.30 a.m. on the 11th, the letter arriving at Elmina at 10.30 a.m. same date.

5. Leaving Assayboo on the morning of the 11th, Captain Wilton proceeded to Mansue, arriving at 5 p.m. He saw Chiefs Quamina Aiduam at Dunquah, Quabina Tibboo at Yancoomassie Fanti and Cudjo Mensa at Inkram, giving them orders to clear bush round their towns.

6. Captain Wilton was unable to proceed further than Mansue, being attacked by fever; he therefore sent on instructions regarding the institution of a post from Prah sue by his serjeant-major, and, leaving his detachment under a serjeant-major, he left Mansue on the 12th instant, returned to Elmina, which place he reached on the evening of the 13th.

7. In accordance with orders dated the 14th March 1881, Artillery Inspector Newenham left Elmina at 8 a.m. on the 16th to proceed to Prah sue in place of Captain Wilton.

* Not printed.

† No. 77.

8. He took with him a 7-pounder steel gun and 50 round of ammunition case shot. Travelling by Footoo and Footoofoo he reached Acroful at 6 p.m. the same evening. Next day he reached Inkram, and on the morning of March 20th a letter was received from him reporting his arrival at Mansue on the 19th.

9. In accordance with orders of the 18th March Assistant Inspector O'Brien left Elmina to proceed to Mansue the same day.

A daily post has been established between Elmina and Prahsue. The whole distance is done by four separate stages by four men in two days. The scheme will be found in the copy of Captain Wilton's orders.

10. Letters have been received on the 16th, 17th, and 20th instant, dated respectively 15th, 16th, and 18th instant.

11. According to the last of these all was quiet at the post at Prahsue.

20th March 1881.

No. 86.

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

(Received April 14, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, March 20, 1881.

IN continuation of the subject of my despatch, dated 18th instant,* viz., the arrival of messengers from the King of Ashanti to ask the merchants and missionaries to assist him, I have the honour to report that yesterday afternoon these messengers returned to Elmina, and sent through Ansaah to ask permission to wait upon me to tell me the result of their visit to Cape Coast.

2. I saw them yesterday evening, when they asked leave to tell me that they had seen the missionary, and that the missionary's words were kind to them, but that their interview with the merchants was so unsatisfactory that they had not up to the time I saw them eaten food, not, as they said, because they were without food, but because the news had taken away their appetite.

3. According to the report of the messengers, on their interview with the merchants, the merchants, after receiving them, asked if the King of Ashanti wished them to plead his cause with the Government, what had he sent to assist them to do this, and, on being told the King had not sent anything, they said they would think the matter over, and give an answer in the morning.

4. In the morning (Saturday, the 19th) they again met the merchants, and according to the messengers' report the merchants said they had nothing to do with the matter.

5. The messengers went on to say to me that they put all their trust in me, and that they hoped I would help them.

6. I said that I could help them to travel along the road if they wished, but as to the message, when they came to me and said they wished to deliver it, I had helped them to go to those whom they wished to see. With the message they brought I had nothing to do, and with the answers they received I had nothing to do.

7. I said that the missionary's words were the answer of the missionary, the merchants' words the answer of the merchants, but that the words of the Queen are only sent to them through her Governor.

8. I added, if they wished to return to their King I would help them to do so. I was glad to help all proper persons to travel safely through the Queen's country, but they must be very careful on their return to Coomassie, in reporting their visit to this place, not to mislead, and to remember that the first difficulty between the King and Her Majesty's Government had not yet been in any way settled or cleared up.

9. I confided the messengers to the care of the policemen, with the same formalities as on the former occasion. I gave them an allowance for food, and they left Elmina this morning at about 7 a.m.

10. They said I should see them again shortly. I said I hoped their journey back to their homes would be prosperous.



11. I have this afternoon seen the Rev. Mr. Fletcher, he adheres to the opinion he has expressed, that the Ashantis are not prepared for war; he says the messengers said to him "that their fear was lest their return to Coomassie should not be rapid enough to prevent troops being moved along the road"; that they were much impressed by the arrival of the troops in the "Humber."

12. Further, Mr. Fletcher said that in a recent letter received by him from the mission schools in Adansi there was no political news, and he is sure, if there had been any movement of Ashanti, that he must have heard of it at once.

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

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

No. 87.

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

(Telegraphic.)

April 15. DESIRABLE to withdraw some or all of reinforcements as soon as you are satisfied they can safely be spared. Report early what you advise.

No. 88.

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

(Received, 16th April 1881.)

(Telegraphic.)

27th March. No fresh news from Ashanti.
Post from Prahsue, 24th. All quiet. Political progress in Protectorate satisfactory. Council on the 21st. No more can be done at present. Hope to move civil headquarters to Mansue as soon as mail leaves. Forty messengers from Sefui, important feudal tributary of Ashanti, just come; offer to join British Government against Ashanti.

No. 89.

COLONIAL OFFICE to WAR OFFICE.

SIR,

Downing Street, April 16, 1881.

I AM directed by the Earl of Kimberley to transmit to you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Childers, a copy of a Despatch* from the Governor of the Gold Coast, reporting the arrival there on the 18th ultimo of the S.S. "Humber" with Colonel Justice and the 2nd West Indian Regiment.

I am also to annex a copy of a telegram† which, in accordance with what he understands to be Mr. Childers's wishes, Lord Kimberley has addressed to Sir S. Rowe, pointing out that it is desirable to withdraw some or all of the reinforcements as soon as they can be spared.

The Under Secretary of State,
War Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BRAMSTON.

No. 90.

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

SIR, Downing Street, April 19, 1881.

I HAVE received your despatches,* noted below, respecting the deputation sent by the King of Ashanti to the merchants of Cape Coast Castle, with the object of bringing about friendly relations with Her Majesty's Government, and I have to express my approval of your action in the matter.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

No. 91.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR, Admiralty, April 21, 1881.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that a telegram has been received from Captain Hope, of H.M.S. "Champion," dated the 3rd instant, at Elmina, received from Madeira to-day, reporting that there is no alteration in the situation, and that very little progress had been made.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT HALL.

No. 92.

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

(Received April 21, 1881.)

Telegraphic.

2nd April. Head-quarters moving to Mansue; station there cleared.
Messengers from Adansi report that before leaving they heard it reported that King of Ashanti's step-father and large party were coming down to apologize.

No. 93.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received April 25, 1881.)

MY LORD, Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, March 26, 1881.

In reference to the subject of my Despatch of the 17th March 1881,† viz., the arrival of messengers from Ashanti, who said that they were instructed by the King to ask that the merchants and missionaries at Cape Coast would assist him in his efforts to place his relations with Her Majesty's Government on a more friendly footing, I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter which I received on the 23rd instant from Mr. F. C. Grant, informing me of the decision come to by the merchants of Cape Coast Castle as to the reply which they deemed it fitting they should make to the messengers.

2. The Reverend Mr. Fletcher informed me that he told the messengers that he advised the King, if he wished to be on good terms with Her Majesty's Government, to send a "big man" (that is a chief of standing and position) to the Governor with full authority to settle the present "palaver," and to take care that he did not come empty-handed.

3. The messengers started from Elmina to return to Coomassie on the 20th instant.

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

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

* Nos. 82 and 86.

† No. 82.

Enclosure in No. 93.
Mr. GRANT to Captain BARROW.

Cape Coast, March 19, 1881.

SIR,

WE have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, introducing, through Prince Ossoo Ansah, the ambassadors of His Majesty the King of Ashanti.

We yesterday met the ambassadors and heard their message. On due and grave consideration the majority of the merchants have decided not to comply with the wishes of the King.

Having every confidence in Her Majesty's Government, we are satisfied to leave matters in the hands of His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief.

We are, &c.

R. Knapp Barrow, Esquire,
Political Secretary,
Saint George d'Elmina.

(Signed) F. C. GRANT,
Chairman of the Meeting
of Merchants.

No. 94.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY. (Received April 25, 1881.)

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, March 27, 1881.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of the Minutes of the Executive Council held at this place on the 21st instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Inclosure in No. 94.

MINUTES of PROCEEDINGS at a Meeting of the Executive Council, held at the Castle of St. George d'Elmina on 21st day of March, 1881.

Present :

GOVERNOR-IN-CHIEF, President.
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.
ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.
ACTING QUEEN'S ADVOCATE.
Colonel JUSTICE.
Captain HOPE, } Extraordinary Members.
CHIEF JUSTICE, }

Colonel Justice was introduced, and took the oaths and his seat as Officer Commanding the Troops.

The chief justice was introduced, and took the oaths and his seat as extraordinary member.

The Governor-in-Chief opened the proceedings by recapitulating, for the benefit of the new members of council, this history of the late relations with the King of Ashanti up to the date of His Excellency's arrival in the colony. He then said that shortly after his arrival he had seen the ambassadors, and had told them that his message was a message of peace, but that if threatened with war it was his duty to take means to provide for the safety of the protectorate. They answered by expressing a wish that they might be allowed to reply through Prince Ansah, and he had acceded to this request. Since then two of the ambassadors had obtained leave to return to Coomassie, and had gone, accompanied by two policemen as far as the Prah. These were sent partly as a mark of respect to the ambassadors, and partly to exercise a surveillance over them.

Since then another set of messengers had arrived from Ashanti, sent for the purpose of asking the missionaries and the merchants of Cape Coast to act as mediators between the King of Ashanti and the Governor. They had had their interview. Mr. Fletcher, the chief Wesleyan minister, had received the messengers favourably, and advised them to counsel the King, if he desired peace, to send some men of position as ambassadors, and not to send him empty handed.

The merchants, on the other hand, had asked what guarantee they had of the bona fides of the message? The action of men of higher position than them had recently been repudiated by the king. How then could the merchants do anything?

The messengers had returned to Elmina, expressing sorrow at their reception by the merchants and saying that their only trust was in the Governor and the Queen's government. They had asked leave to return, and had gone. His Excellency also knew that the King had sought for mediation in other quarters. But he also knew that the King had had a meeting of chiefs at Coomassie, and had set before them the facts of the case in a somewhat perverted form, saying that he had sent to the white men and had offered money, and also had offered to execute a treaty and to make any kind of apology, but that the white man had refused to accept any of these; that he had brought the country into trouble; and that some real sacrifice must be made; therefore he offered to give up himself and the Queen mother, to be sent down to the sea as prisoners to the white man. This offer the chiefs refused to accept, saying, "the white man wants our country; if he comes, we will fight and die with you." Rumours of various sort were afloat; these could not be relied upon with any certainty. Among other difficulties in obtaining correct information in important matters one was the difficulty of interpretation, and the only movement on the part of the Ashantis which was well authenticated was that they had sent 1,000 men to watch the Gaman roads about Bontookoo. From Adansi the last reports from missionary sources were that all was quiet, and one piece of reliable intelligence was a post to post messenger from Prahsue that all was quiet there.

His Excellency had not considered it proper, in the absence of some of the messengers at Ashanti to give a formal answer at present to the King's demand. No act of war had been done. The boundary of the protectorate had not been passed. At the meeting of the Council there seemed to have been conflicting opinions as to the expediency of demanding a fine. It seemed to him that we were hardly in a position to make such a demand. He had no authority to send a European officer with an ultimatum to the King, and such a thing could not be done except under such circumstances as would warrant him in doing that which he had no instructions to do. Things must therefore remain as they were for a time, though he was not unaware that this would entail the presence on shore of a considerable number of West India troops in a certain amount of discomfort. But he could not take steps to remove either the ships or the troops at present, as this would be construed by the Ashantis either as showing that the Government was satisfied, or was afraid, neither of which impressions would be correct. The only solution therefore would be to have patience, and wait till our relations with the Ashanti monarch could be put on a more direct footing. His Excellency invited an expression of opinion on the part of members of the Council.

In answer to the Chief Justice—

His Excellency said that the Ashanti messengers could not be expected to return before the 31st March or 1st April.

Captain Hope inquired whether the presence of the West India troops was likely to have a beneficial effect.

The Governor said yes; if the Ashantis were not too much alarmed. In such a case we should be cut off from all communication with the King, which would be very embarrassing.

Colonel Justice asked whether, in the Governor's opinion, the Ashanti messengers were authorised to treat.

The Governor said they might probably be empowered to get the best terms they could; but he should not be inclined to put perfect confidence in an Ashanti messenger unless he carried his credentials in his hand.

The Lieutenant Governor remarked that the present position was this: that the Ashantis had sent a formal message, and were awaiting reply; the Governor had thought right to wait a little before giving his answers, which in his opinion was a wise course.

Captain Hope asked whether it might now be advisable to send a message up and conclude the matter.

The Governor said that at present there would be no security that the answer would be fairly given; there was hardly a living man in a position to be sent as ambassador who could communicate directly with the Ashantis, and native interpretation was much on a par with that of dragomen in the east.

Colonel Justice asked whether the object of the Ashantis was not to gain time, and whether European officers could not be sent up to negotiate.

The Governor said he could not at present risk the sending of European officers. His experience of the way in which natives of Africa treated ambassadors was against it.

The Chief Justice was of opinion that the Ashantis were thoroughly frightened, and wished to do all in their power to avert war. From what he heard at Accra, they seemed to believe that the white man intended to take Coomassie, and that great care should be taken to prevent them from being driven into war through fear of our aggression.

The Governor was of opinion that on the whole a truthful report of the state of feeling here would reach Ashanti.

After a good deal of conversation as to the position of the troops and their means of subsistence and encampment, and the effect of the approaching rains on the strategical position, during which Captain Hope expressed his opinion that the only thing to be done at present was to rest on our oars, that the naval and military forces must remain pending the result of the negotiations which were in His Excellency's hands.

It was agreed that, in the opinion of the whole council, no further steps could at present be taken than those which were already in progress.

The council was then adjourned *sine die*.

J. S. HAY,
Clerk of Executive Council.

No. 95.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received April 25, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, March 27, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copy of a letter which I have received from Accra by the steamer now in the roadstead.

2. I have thought its contents of sufficient importance to induce me to make up an additional mail bag.

3. Mr. Edward Bannerman called on me the other day at Elmina, and assured me that he should never forget the recognition by Her Majesty's Government of his services under Sir John Glover, and that he would do his very best to assist me in my administration of this Government.

4. His explanation of the status and intent of the so-called messengers, who have visited the Princess, his mother, at Accra, seems to me to be the true one, and I am inclined to think that a somewhat similar explanation would be correct of the status and purport of the visit of the so-called messengers who came to the merchants and the missionary at Cape Coast Castle.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure in No. 95.

MY DEAR CAPTAIN BARROW,

Accra, Christiansborg, March 25, 1881.

I BEG to acquaint you, for Sir Samuel's information, that I arrived here yesterday morning in the "Ekuro," and found that the messengers alleged to have been sent by the King of Ashanti to my mother, Princess Yaunh Hoom, of Ashanti, had arrived on the evening of the 22nd. I at once had them up in presence of my mother, my brother Robert, and myself. I find there is only one messenger, a court crier of the name of "Osen Armoah," the others, three or four in number, are common persons who merely came with him as carriers or to escort him.

He denied at first that the King sent him to my mother to intercede for him, and that he was only sent to inquire of her if she could tell them what the King had done to offend the British Government, and if she could advise him how to get out of the scrape. Upon being closely interrogated, this messenger contradicted himself very much, and when I asked where the others were that had passed themselves off at Prah sue as messengers he tried to pass his ragamuffin carriers off as his fellow messengers.

His evasive replies to my questions forced us all to the conclusion that he was more a spy than anything else. I therefore considered it advisable to tell my mother to send him back at once with this simple message to the King, viz. : That there was only one thing for him to do, and that was to agree to any terms that the Governor might lay down for his acceptance, and to do so at once unconditionally. I then made Robert see them leave Accra forthwith.

I hope I have done right. I hinted to him that it was possible that if the King asked it, the Governor might send a few white officers to his capital to state his terms. I further added that no more messengers should be sent to my mother until the King had agreed to and carried out those demands. Nyanchee's brother and some of his followers are still in Accra, to the number of six or ten; I advised them also to leave Accra and return home, but they refused point blank to go away so long as the late Nyanchee's dead body was buried in Accra, and that they would wait until it was fit to be exhumed and carried home.

There is nothing new here; everything very quiet.

With kind regards and thanks for passage in the "Ekuro."

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) E. BANNERMAN.

No. 96.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received April 25, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, March 27, 1881.

IN continuation of the subject of my Despatches of 13th, 17th, and 19th instant,* I have the honour to report that the movements of this Government specially bearing on the relations of the Colony with the Ashantis since that date have been principally as follows—

2. On Monday 21st instant the officer commanding the troops and Captain Hope visited me, and were present at a meeting of the executive council.

3. His honour the chief justice also attended the Council as an extraordinary member, and the Lieutenant-Governor was also present at a part of the sitting.

4. On Tuesday the 22nd instant H.M.S. "Rambler" returned from a visit to the eastern districts.

5. The son of King Ayinsu Akkae of East Appolonia and the accredited messengers of King Blay of Western Appolonia came to Elmina in this vessel.

They stated that they were charged to deliver messages from their respective Kings expressive of their loyalty to Her Majesty, and of their wish to do all in their power to assist me at the present time.

7. They assured me that although the people of Appolonia sympathized with the Ashantis in the war of 1873-74, the whole country was at present loyal to the British throne.

8. Certain chiefs from Eastern and Western Wassaw also came, and I had several long interviews relative to the political position of that district, especially as to the relations of themselves and their King with the tribes on their northern border and the route passing through Wassaw by Sefuit to Gaman, on which route is situated the town of Bontuku,‡ at which place it is reported that the Ashantis have a party of 1,000 men watching the road to prevent the return to Gaman by that way of the refugee prince Awoosoo.

9. On the 23rd instant the chief justice returned to Accra in the steam ship "Ekuro." Puisné Judge, Mr. Smith, proceeded to Accra for the assizes. Certain sick officers were sent in the vessel to Accra for the benefit of the sea voyage.

10. On the 24th arrangements were made for dispatch of Lieutenant Hart, R.E., V.C., with a party of Kroomen to Mansue, with instructions to clear the camping ground, and collect materials for the construction of such huts as it may be necessary to erect for the accommodation of the party which I propose should accompany me to that place, and of those native chiefs and followers who I anticipate will meet me there.

11. Mr. Pagan, the colonial surveyor went to Accra in the "Ekuro," with a view to collecting materials for constructing a wooden hut which I propose to put up at Mansue as quickly as possible.

* Nos. 81, 82, 84, and 85. † See Enclosure 1. ‡ See Enclosure 2.

12. Assistant Inspector Campbell proceeded to Mansue on the 25th to relieve Assistant Inspector O'Brien, whom I have requested to proceed to Axim to take charge of that station left vacant by the departure of Mr. Firminger.

13. On the same day the Elmina women carried 100 loads of provision to Effootoo, the first stage in the journey from this place to Mansue.

14. These ladies and myself were not quite in accord as to the price which should be paid for this work, and though they were willing if I would accede to their terms to repeat their journey to Effootoo next day, I was unable for financial reasons to avail myself of their assistance.

15. A number of loads were sent up by other means on Saturday, and a further supply has again been sent up to day.

16. Lieutenant Pain accompanied the party to Effootoo on the 25th, and returned the next day; Captain Lonsdale went up yesterday, the 26th, and has written to inform me that he has made arrangements for carrying on these provisions to Akroful.

17. Lieutenant Underwood, having with him the two "Berthon" boats, has gone to Akroful. He will remain there for a day or two.

18. Lieutenant Druitt has accompanied the party to Effootoo to-day, and I hope myself to be able to start for Mansue shortly after the departure of the mail which bears these despatches.

19. The native chiefs who are at present here will accompany me to Mansue.

20. I have taken considerable pains to prevent the opinion spreading that my visit to Mansue is a direct preparation for the invasion of the Ashanti kingdom, and I have the honour to enclose a copy of a circular which I have with this view sent to the native chiefs of neighbouring districts.

21. At Mansue I shall be some days nearer to Coomassie than I am at Elmina, and I entertain the hope that communications with the former place may be facilitated by my presence at Mansue.

22. Two sick officers of my special staff, Captain Preston and Mr. Swinburne, who have suffered from slight attacks of climatic fever, are both to-day reported fit for light duty as is also Captain Wilton, a constabulary officer, who has been suffering in a similar manner.

23. The weather is so far bright, and there are no indications of any specially early setting in of the rainy season.

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

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

Enclosure 1 in No. 96.

SEFU [SEFWHI].

Sefui, probably the same country shown as Shouy on Stanford's map of the Gold Coast, November 20th, 1873, is 10 days journey from Elmina N.N.E. to the north of Wassaw and Denkera.

On a map "the British Territories on the Gold and Slave Coasts," compiled by E. G. Ravenstein, F.R.G.S., published on "Ocean Highways," Geographical Review, July 1873, a country Shau (Sawi) seems to be the representative of Sefui, though I think it to be placed too far N. and E.

Enclosure 2 in No. 96.

BONTAKU.

Capital of Gaman shown on Wyld's military map of Ashanti and neighbouring states on Gold Coast, November 20, 1873.

Also on Ravenstein's map.

Enclosure 3 in No. 96.

Political Department, Head Quarters, Elmina Castle,
March 25, 1881.

SIR,

I AM desired by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to request that you will be good enough to cause the accompanying Circular Memorandum to be distributed and explained to the kings and chiefs within your district with as little delay as possible.

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

The District Commissioner.

Enclosure 4 in No. 96.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM.

I AM directed by his Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G., to inform you that he is going into the bush to look at the roads, and to see the country which the Queen of England has sent him to govern. His Excellency expects to find that the roads in your country have been well cleared and are in good order. He hopes that he will hear no complaints from any strangers, whether Ashantis or others, residing in your country, of being in any way troubled or ill-treated.

His Excellency may perhaps himself come to your town, or he may send one of his officers to visit you.

He will be glad to see you if you come to him at his head-quarters. He proposes to stay first at Accroful and next at Mansue.

By order,

KNAPP BARROW,
Political Secretary.

No. 97.

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

(Received April 28, 1881.)

Telegraphic.

8th April. Reached Mansue yesterday. Native chiefs and people *en route* very loyal.

Messenger from Ashanti reports King's step-father, with influential chiefs, has left Coomassie to come down.

News from Prahsue yesterday morning. All quiet. Ashanti chief had not then reached there. Propose myself to pass on towards Prahsue shortly.

Hart, Royal Engineer, has done good work here.

No. 98.

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

SIR,

Downing Street, April 29, 1881.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th ultimo,* enclosing a copy of the Minutes of the Executive Council held at Elmina on the 21st ultimo.

2. The remarks of the Chief Justice that he had heard at Accra that the Ashantis seemed to believe that the white men intended to take Coomassie, and that great care should be taken to prevent them from being driven into war through fear of our aggression, appear to me to deserve careful attention.

It would be lamentable if a collision were to arise from any misunderstanding of this kind, and I have no doubt that you will take every means to remove from the minds of the Ashanti King any apprehension which he may entertain of an aggressive movement on our part.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

No. 99.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received April 30, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, April 2, 1881.

In continuation of the subject of my Despatch of 27th March,† I have the honour to report as follows.

* No. 94.

† No. 96.

2. In the 18th paragraph of that despatch I had the honour to say that I hoped to be able to leave for Mansue after the departure of the mail, I regret that I have not been able to carry out this intention. I have found so many matters in connection with this journey requiring organisation and personal superintendence that I have so far only been able to arrange to start.
3. The loads, however, are already started, and I shall myself actually leave Elmina so soon as this despatch is completed.
4. Although, my Lord, I have not been able to move up-country quite so quickly as I hoped to do when I last had the honour of addressing your Lordship, the past six days have not been without action bearing on the relations of this Government with Ashanti.
5. On the 27th March 100 Crepees came over from Cape Coast and were temporarily engaged as labourers.
6. On the 28th March messengers arrived from Sefwhi who stated that their king had sent them to say that he had heard that the English Government were going to fight with Ashanti, that they were themselves quite tired of the Ashanti monarch, who they said was continually taking from them both the property and lives of the people, and that they hoped that the English Government would help them with arms and ammunition, and they would loyally assist the English to conquer the country to which they (the Sefwhis) were formerly subject.
7. They stated that in the last war, 1873-74, they furnished some thousands of fighting men to Ashanti, and were employed principally in the attack on Appolonia and the Western Provinces.
8. On the same day H.M.S. "Champion" returned from a short cruize at sea.
9. On the 29th March Captain Barrow, Political Secretary, left Elmina to proceed by easy stages to Mansue; he was accompanied by the Ashantis, Adansis, Sefwhis, Assins, Appolonians, and others of the native tribes, who have been staying at Elmina, 92 in number.
10. I have received reports from him, and I learn that his progress along the road, and his reception by the chiefs, amongst others, by King Efontu of Abrah, has been very satisfactory.
11. H.M.S. "Foam," Lieutenant Commander Baker, arrived this day from Saint Paulo' de Loanda.
12. On the 30th March SS. "Mayumba" arrived, and a large quantity of stores were landed.
13. It is supposed that your Lordship's despatches which would leave London on the 4th March are contained in the mail bag addressed to Accra.
14. The same day Lieutenant Druitt, R.E., proceeded to Effootoo with 100 labourers, with instructions to clean up the village, and prepare and arrange camping ground in the outskirts.
15. Lieutenant-Governor Griffith, who had returned benefited by his trip to Axim in the SS. "Ekuro," left in H.M.S. "Pioneer" for Accra.
16. SS. "Ekuro" remains at Elmina; arrangements are made for making a survey of the vessel by competent officers of the navy now stationed here.
17. Captain Lonsdale returned to Effootoo, he has for the moment been occupied in arranging with the natives for forwarding loads from that place and Akroful to Mansue.
18. Yesterday the Acting Colonial Secretary (Captain Hay) and the Queen's Advocate (Mr. Collyer) left for Mansue.
19. This morning Assistant Colonial Surgeon Grant has also left. This officer will probably go as far as Prahsue and return from that place to Mansue.
20. Daily postal communication has continued between Prahsue and headquarters. There have been no occurrences worthy of special note at that station up to the date of the last advices.
21. I hear from Captain Barrow that messengers from Adansi have come down to Kotiko, who is with him.
22. They report that up to the date of their departure Ashanti had made no movement towards the Adansi frontier.
23. Other officers of the headquarters staff will move up from time to time as means of transport and other circumstances permit.
24. I have made arrangements for frequent postal communication between Mansue and Accra without passing by Elmina.
25. A postal messenger will also pass daily between headquarters and the latter place.

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

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

No. 100.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received April 30, 1881.)

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast,
April 2, 1881.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a letter received this day from Captain Barrow, the officer of my staff more particularly in charge of political affairs.

2. Captain Barrow, writing from Akroful on the 1st April, reports that he has met on their way back to Elmina, returning from Adansi, the messengers who were sent up to that place some days ago, at my request, by Chief Kotiko, the Adansi ambassador here.

3. These messengers have reported to Captain Barrow that the news they bring from the King of Adansi as to the movements of the Ashantis is that the husband of the Queen, mother of the King of Ashanti, with a number of followers, are on their way down to this place with instructions to beg pardon of the Government, and to ask for peace.

4. In the hurry of business I did not report to your Lordship that I had sent these messengers to Adansi.

5. On the 18th instant I asked the Chief Kotiko to send messengers to his king to request him (the King) to keep an eye on the roads from Ashanti, I also requested that the King would (if he could do so) send trusty people, even to Coomassie itself, to watch what was going on, and report promptly to me. Two messengers went on that day.

6. I hope that my movement to Mansue may enable the communications between the Government and Ashanti to be carried through in less time than is at present needed. Though the journeys to and fro of messengers, which seem, according to our ideas, so dilatory, are according to native opinion pushed through with unseemly hurry.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure in No. 100.

Captain BARROW to CHIEF SECRETARY.

SIR,

Akroful, April 1, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to report, for information of his Excellency, that last evening after dark the messengers from Adansi, who were sent up there from Elmina about 12 or 14 days ago, returned to this place on their way back to Elmina.

They reported to me that they bore a message from the King of Adansi, named Okansa, to the Governor, and that the message was to say that some traders from Coomassie to Adansi had brought the news down that Prince Buáki, the husband to the Queen mother, and step-father of the King of Ashanti, with numerous followers, was on his way down to the Governor "to beg pardon" and ask for peace.

Chief Kotiko of Adansi, who left Elmina with me, and who is said to be about seventy years of age, tells me that in all his experience he never knew Ashanti do such humiliation before.

The messengers' names are Yaw Broni and Yaw Enweah, they rejoin Kotiko's party, and proceed with me and my party this morning for Mansue.

I have, &c.

The Chief Secretary,
&c. &c. &c. (Signed) KNAPP BARROW,
Political Secretary.

No. 101.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received May 5, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Mansue, Prah Road, Gold Coast, April 8, 1881.

IN continuation of the subject of my despatch dated 2nd April,* viz., the movements of this Government in relation to the reported threatened invasion of the Protectorate by the Ashantis, I have the honour to report as follows :

* No. 99.

1. I left Elmina on Monday the 4th April at 9 a.m., and slept that night at Effootoo. The next day I proceeded to Akroful.

2. On Wednesday to Yancoomassie Fanti, and on Thursday (yesterday) to this place.

3. At Yancoomassie Fanti Chibbo, the King of Assin, who resides there, met me, and he was accompanied by the principal chiefs of his district.

4. The King of Abrah also came to that place with his chiefs to pay a complimentary visit.

5. Both of these kings expressed their willingness to assist the Government in any way in their power either in furnishing fighting men or in other ways.

6. At this place (Mansue) Inkie the second King of Assin received me on arrival and with him the chiefs of neighbouring townships.

7. I said a few words only to them expressive generally of the wish of Her Majesty's Government that Africans should live peaceably.

8. Quobbinah Fuah, the King of Western Akim, has sent in to say that he has 2,500 fighting men who will move at once if the Governor wishes it.

9. Altogether, I doubt not that if it were necessary a fair number of native levies might be got together.

10. Mansue contains only 40 huts. These are constructed in the simple fashion that prevails among the Assins and extends to Ashanti.

11. A shed with raised floor, the sides of wattle and daub, one side and two ends closed, the greater part of the fourth side open to a central yard.

12. They are fairly comfortable and cleanly camping places so long as the weather is dry. The ordinary population would be about 400. Lieutenant Hart, R.E., V.C., has done good work in clearing the outskirts of the village and in constructing huts; he has put up a thatched shed which makes a good assembly hall.

13. I think it probable that I may be able to leave this place temporarily for Prah sue either to-morrow or on the following day.

14. A messenger came in on the 30th from Coomassie (one Yow Mensah); he states that he is sent to announce the coming of Prince Buaki, the husband of the Queen-mother and to say that this Prince is sent down by the King of Ashanti with special instructions; that he is accompanied by a large following, and that with him are three other notables of sufficient rank to use cradles (*i.e.*, baskets on which chiefs of high rank are carried on state occasions).

15. The letter from the Prah of the 7th instant, leaving there at daylight, reached here at 5 p.m. yesterday; all was reported quiet.

16. The road from the sea coast to this place is in very fair condition for an African track, and presents a pathway clear for foot passengers of 15 to 20 feet; but excepting in the villages it is not a road in the English meaning of that word, and it would need much levelling before it could be used for wheeled carriages, and as it has not been metalled, and as there are many steep gradients, it is much cut up by any shower of rain.

17. I anticipate that the Officer Commanding the Troops and the Senior Commissariat Officer will visit this place in the course of a day or two.

18. I have the honour to attach statements showing the numbers of the party at Mansue.*

19. The number of Houssas is small.

20. The whole of the men who can be detached from Elmina, some 60 in number, are coming up. This will leave only about 30 at that place.

21. Lieutenant Underwood has left this place this morning with the two small boats for the Prah river.

22. Lieutenant Swinburne, who has had a slight attack of fever, went to Accra on the 3rd instant in H.M.S. "Wye."

23. I have directed him to join head quarters at this place, proceeding overland from Accra.

24. An overland post has also been established between Accra and this place. For the moment this passes by Dunquah and Anamaboe and thence by the sea coast to Accra.

25. The daily post to and from Elmina is continued.

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

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

No. 102.

WAR OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR, War Office, May 6, 1881.
I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of a letter which has this day been sent to the Officer Commanding the Troops on the West Coast of Africa, in regard to the removal of troops therefrom.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

Enclosure in No. 102.

SIR, War Office, May 6, 1881.
THE arrangements for the return of the 2nd West India Regiment to the West Indies, in the event of its services being no longer required at the Gold Coast, having been under consideration, I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to communicate to you the following instructions on the subject.

It has been arranged that the transport "Teviot," now on the voyage to the Cape and Natal, shall proceed from Natal to Cape Coast Castle and Sierra Leone, and she is expected to arrive at the former place about 15th June.

Should the Governor be of opinion that the regiment may at that time return to the West Indies, you are authorised to embark it accordingly in that vessel, which is fitted for 21 officers and 430 men, and should she not have sufficient accommodation for the whole regiment, a part of those destined for Barbados should be embarked in H.M.S. "Wye."

The necessary instructions to the above effect have been sent by the Admiralty to the Senior Naval Officer at Cape Coast Castle by to-day's mail.

Colonel Justice,
Commanding the Troops,
Gold Coast.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

No. 103.

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

SIR, Downing Street, May 6, 1881.
I HAVE received your Despatch of the 8th ultimo,* reporting on the attitude of the Ashantis and the neighbouring tribes, and I am glad to learn that the aspect of affairs is on the whole fairly satisfactory.

2. While, however, Her Majesty's Government are fully aware that any negotiations with African tribes must of necessity be tedious and protracted, in order that full time may be allowed for the native chiefs to comprehend and discuss what is intended, they are most anxious that the difficulty with Ashanti, arising from the King's threatening demand for the surrender of Owoosoo, should be settled as soon as possible, and they rely on your well known tact and discretion to bring the matter to a satisfactory termination without having recourse to military operations.

Indeed, unless the reports which you have forwarded of the present disposition of the Ashanti king should turn out to be based on false information, they can hardly conceive that the questions at issue will not be capable of a peaceful solution.

I have already impressed upon you, in my telegram of the 15th ultimo,† the importance, having regard to the imminent approach of the rainy season, of removing the additional force of troops from the coast as soon as circumstances permit, and I enclose a copy of a letter‡ that has been addressed on this subject to the Officer Commanding the Troops by the Secretary of State for War.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

* No. 101.

† No. 87.

‡ Enclosure in No. 102.

3. In the villages and towns on the route the inhabitants welcomed our arrival with the usual native compliments. The chief was generally in waiting somewhere outside his village, and while he preceded us along the road, the men fired their guns and kept up a continual drumming while the women danced and sang in chorus.

4. The chief and the women made presents of sheep, eggs, yams, and plantains. There has been a plentiful supply of provisions of this kind of food for sale.

5. The native houses at the halting places have been very clean, becoming more so as we neared the border, and, excepting a heavy shower on Monday afternoon, the journey has not presented more than the usual discomforts of African travel.

6. The roadway is everywhere cleared from grass for eight to ten feet in width, though, as I had the honour to report in my Despatch of the 8th April,* it is liable to be cut up by rain. This does not occur to an extent sufficient to prevent the movement of foot passengers or horses.

7. Lieutenant Hart, R.E., is busy erecting sheds and huts.

8. The so called "officers quarters" here consist of a building, with sides of bamboo and the roof of thatch.

The entire area of 30 x 24 square feet is divided at present into no less than seven different compartments, but as these partitions do not reach to the roof, and are made of the same bamboo sticks tied together, they allow more air to pass than would be the case if they were made of closer material.

9. The size of the stockade is such that it would need 300 or 400 men with good officers to defend it.

10. This post at the Prah has, however, a value quite independent of the actual bar which its presence would form to the passage of an Ashanti invading force.

11. The Adansi chieftain Kotiko, who is here with me, received on the 9th instant a letter written to him by someone for the King of Adansi. The King sends to tell Kotiko that he hears that the royal messenger is on the way coming from Coomassie.

12. The Ashanti ambassador, Entchie, who is still here, lately sent his servant to a village of his north of Coomassie. This man went to the village without passing through Coomassie, and on his return he passed through Akankuassi. He reports that at this place he saw Prince Buaki, and that he, Buaki, directed him to tell Entchie that he had been sent by the King with a special message to "beg the Governor," and that he was waiting at Akankuassi for money.

13. Akankuassi is 46 miles distant from this place south of Insafu and Quarnian, and north of the Adansi frontier.

14. I doubt not that my presence here is already known to the King of Ashanti, though apparently none of the Ashantis in camp have left.

15. In passing Effootoo a deputation of Ashantis came to Captain Barrow, explaining to him that they represented a number of Ashantis who had been working on farms in the neighbourhood of that village.

16. They said they did not wish to leave the country, but thought that their stay in it was unsafe under present circumstances.

They asked leave to accompany Captain Barrow to the Prah.

They are at present staying here.

17. The Assin chiefs along the route profess themselves willing to do all they can to carry out the instructions of the Governor of the colony, and say that they are ready to call out their people for war at once if he wishes it.

18. Since leaving Elmina on the 4th instant we have experienced rain on two occasions only. On both it has been accompanied with thunder, and has presented the usual characteristics of the African tornado.

19. The officers are all in better health than they were on leaving Elmina, and there is so far no case of sickness among the men worthy of note.

20. Mr. Newenham, who was reported to be suffering from intermittent fever and diarrhoea, but who seems to have completely recovered, goes to day to Mansue. His place will be taken by Assistant Inspector Campbell, at present at that station.

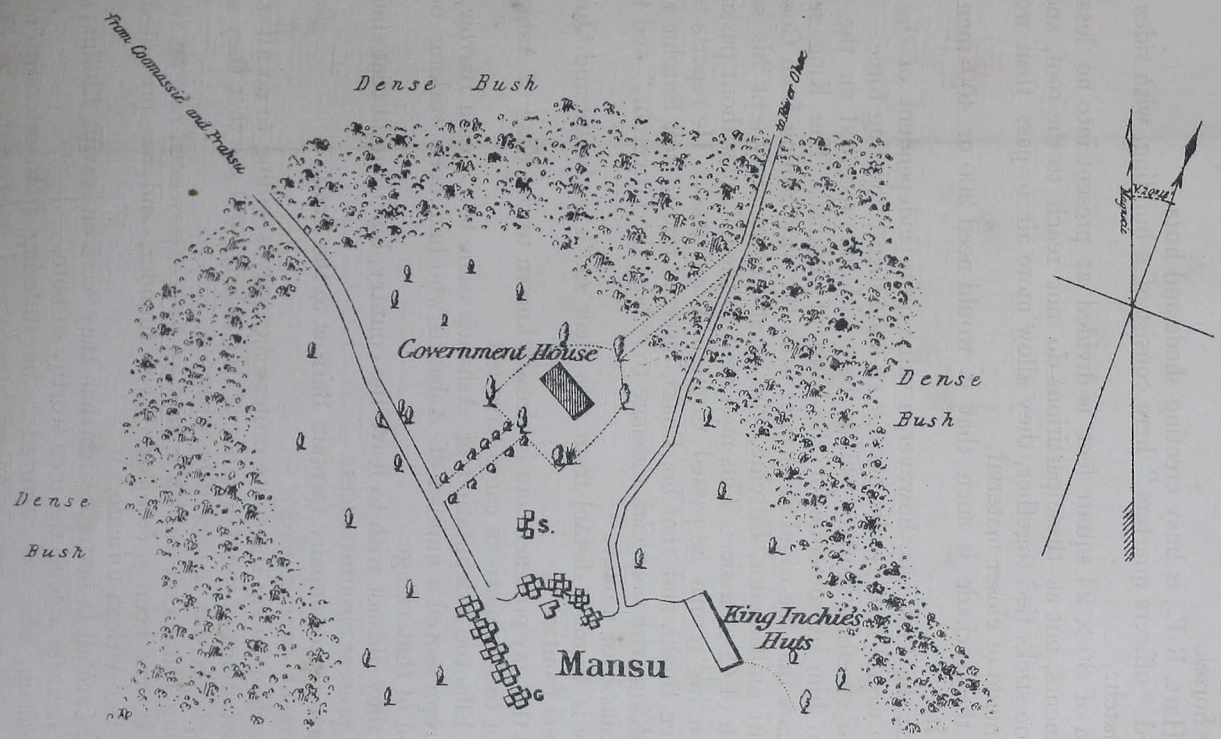
21. Assistant Inspector Bastow, with 75 men, is reported to have reached Mansue, on his way to head-quarters.

Apart from the desirability of increasing temporarily the number of Houssas at head-quarters, the men will be all the better for a short absence from Elmina.

22. The Honourable the Officer Commanding the Troops, the Senior Commissariat Officer, and two other officers, were reported at Akroful on the 11th instant, on their way to head-quarters.

23. I have the honour to enclose two sketches which Lieutenant Hart has made for me, one of the camp at Mansue the other of the post at the Prah.

Proposed site
for
Government House at Mansu
Gold Coast.



G. Old Government House.
S. To be demolished.

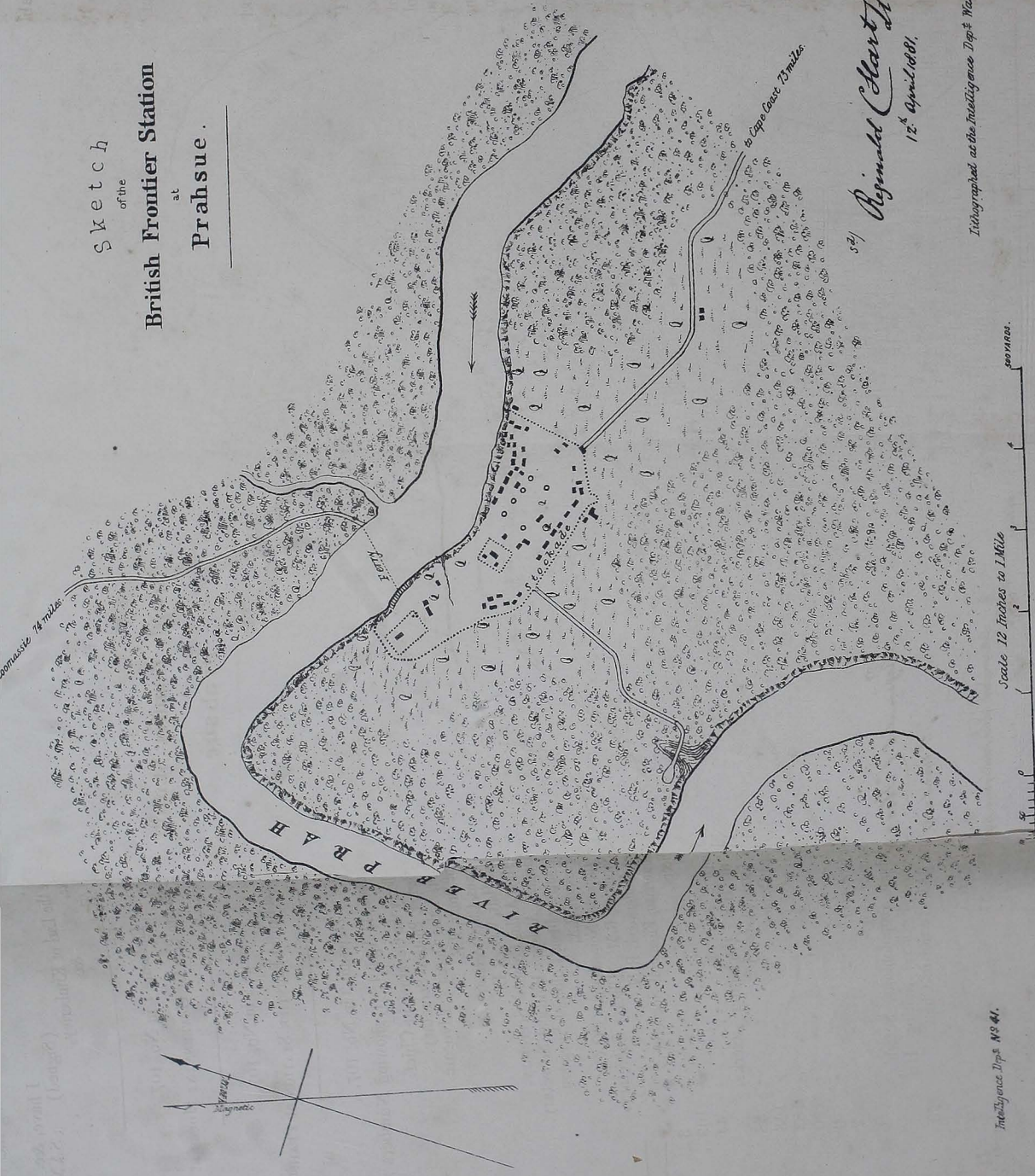
Scale 2 1/2 Inches to 1 Mile
100 50 0 100 YARDS

54)
Reginald Hart Lt. R.E.
9 April 1881.

Intelligence Dep^t N^o 40.

Enthographed at the Intelligence Dep^t War Office, June 1881.

Sketch
of the
British Frontier Station
at
Prah sue.



524
Reynold Chart of R.E.
12th April 1881.

Itinerary at the Intelligence Dep^t War Office, June 1881.

Scale 12 Inches to 1 Mile

Intelligence Dep^t No 41.

In the former one Mr. Hart has dignified with the title of "Government House," a wooden bungalow, which I propose to put up to serve as the temporary residence of such officers as may from time to time be stationed there or be passing to and fro.

24. I have the honour also to transmit a return shewing the total number of persons at present at this place with me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure 1 in No. 107.

SKETCH of PROPOSED SITE for GOVERNMENT HOUSE at MANSUE.

Enclosure 2 in No. 107.

SKETCH of BRITISH FRONTIER STATION at PRAHSUE.

Enclosure 3 in No. 107.

STATE of CAMP at PRAHSUE, 13 April 1881, showing Numbers and Distribution.

1. His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief.	
2. Captain Barrow, Political Secretary.	
3. Mr. Collyer, Acting Queen's Advocate.	
4. Lieutenant Druitt, R.E.	
5. Mr. F. Evans, Chief Secretary.	
6. Lieutenant Hart, V.C., R.E.	
7. Captain Hay, Acting Colonial Secretary.	
8. Mr. P. Hughes, Assistant Political Secretary.	
9. Dr. C. Grant, Assistant Colonial Surgeon.	
10. Captain Jackson, R.A.	
11. Artillery Inspector Newenham, G.C.C.	
12. Captain Sandwith, R.M., Military Secretary.	
13. Lieutenant Underwood, R.N.	13
Mr. S. Bannerman, Financial Secretary.	1
Native officers	3
Crepees	103
Waterloo men	44
Attached to H.E. (including clerks, servants, hammock-men)	58
Kroomen and Creoles	143
Elminas	183
Houssas	100
Police	9
Lagos men (dressers)	2
Cape Coast men	8
Ashantis, Adansis, Appolonians, Sefwhis, Chief Andoh, and others, visiting His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief	173
Sick—off duty.	
Houssas 4, Carriers 5	9
*Sutah carriers	50
	885
Total	899

J. H. SANDWITH,
Captain R.M., Military Secretary.

* Since left the camp.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL
OF KIMBERLEY. (Received May 20, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Prahsuc, River Prah, April 19, 1881.

IN continuation of the subject of my Despatch dated 13th April,* viz. the reported threatened invasion of the Protectorate by the Ashantis, I have the honour to report as follows:

2. On the 16th instant the messenger from the King of Ashanti (to whose expected arrival reference was made by me in the 11th and 12th paragraphs of my Despatch of 13th April) arrived here on the 16th instant.

The night previous he had sent in messengers to the Ashantis here to say that he would be here in the morning of the following day.

On his arrival on the opposite bank of the river he sent to ask permission to cross.

He has with him several chiefs of high position, and a following said, by himself, to number 400.

259 were counted crossing the river.

3. This is by far the most important embassy which Ashanti has ever sent to the coast, whether we look at the rank of the chiefs composing it, or the numbers of themselves and followers.

I attach a return which Captain Barrow has prepared, giving a full report of the persons of whom the embassy is composed.

4. I received them officially on the afternoon of the same day, and the usual complimentary speeches were made and returned.

5. After these the Prince Buaki asked if I would appoint a time when he could deliver the message with which he was entrusted.

I replied, that when I had arranged for the assembly of those officers of the Government who ought to be present when this message is received, I would let him know; but that as he had come to meet me with a special message from the King of Ashanti, I would say to him (though what I was about to say had no reference to the point in dispute between the King, his master, and the Gold Coast Government) that which I had already said to the ambassadors, viz.—“The message I bring with me from the Queen of England to the African people is a message of peace; while Her Majesty has instructed me to maintain her authority throughout all those parts of her possessions which she has sent me to govern, she has also instructed me in every right and proper way to cultivate friendly intercourse with those African kingdoms which have relations with her Colony of the Gold Coast.”

6. Prince Buaki, rising, said with much emphasis, and in saying this he was supported by all the attending chiefs, “that the King, his master, and step-son, had directed him to say, that he also wished for peace; and, as a proof of that wish, had sent him, Buaki, and the chiefs accompanying him, to the Governor of the Gold Coast to say to the Governor that he was desirous that the peace between himself and Her Majesty’s Government should be undisturbed; and that if any report had been made that he was preparing for war, that report was untrue.”

7. After this the native chiefs with me by my direction called on the Ashanti prince.

8. The day following, Prince Buaki sent to say that he had a particular favour to himself to ask from the Governor, and he requested that the Governor would grant him a private interview to prefer this request.

9. On my seeing the Prince he said that he had been instructed by his step-son and master, the King, to come to the Governor of the Gold Coast to deliver a special message, that as he had met me away from home, “at my farm,” he would, if I wished, deliver his message here, but he had left Coomassie prepared to come to the sea coast, and, as he had himself never seen the sea, he should consider it a favour if I would allow him to deliver his message to me at one of the Queen’s castles on the coast, whichever I might think most proper.

10. I replied to him that any matter which led to such a misunderstanding between the Queen of England and the King of Ashanti as would result in war, was exceedingly grave and serious; that such a matter could only be dealt with after long, patient, and serious thought; that when the Queen of England had heard that the King of Ashanti intended to make war upon her Protectorate of the Gold Coast, she had sent to the Gold Coast to assist me as Governor in defending it from attack, officers of high rank in her army and navy, and that any message of which the Prince was the bearer from the King of Ashanti would be most fitly delivered to me in their presence.

I therefore decided that the Prince should proceed to Elmina, and I added that I would myself, in view of the importance of the message with which he was charged, return to the coast earlier than I should have done had he not arrived.

11. The Prince this morning has left for Elmina.

Captain Barrow has left in charge of the party.

12. The King of Adansi has earnestly begged to be also allowed to go to Elmina, and as the Ashanti ambassador was quite agreeable that he should go, I have consented, in the hope that by further interviews with the Adansis and probably with the principal chiefs of the Embassy, and the Adansi king and chiefs together, I may be able to establish such relations between Ashanti and Adansi towards each other and towards this Government as may conduce to the continuance of friendly relations between the Gold Coast and Ashanti, without in any way incurring responsibilities towards Adansi.

13. Colonel Justice and his officers left for Cape Coast Castle this morning.

14. I propose myself to leave to-morrow.

15. Fifty Houssas under a European officer will remain here.

Some improvement has been made in the officer's residence here; the accommodation is really all that is needed for health or comfort during the dry season.

I have known officers occupy very much worse accommodation in West Africa during the rains. It is identical in construction with the temporary barracks occupied during two years by the military officers at Lagos, and with the residences of colonial officials at Badagry and Leckie.

16. I propose that so soon as the dry season permits a substantial native-built house be put up here by the people of Barricoo.

17. I regret that an attack of fever prevented me from attending to business during the greater part of yesterday.

18. The only officer ill in camp is Lieutenant Druitt, R.E., and the medical officer reports to me that the fever from which he is suffering presents no dangerous symptoms, and that he has every reason to expect that he will be fit to travel down to the coast on Thursday or Friday.

19. There is no sickness among the men.

20. Lieutenant Hart and Lieutenant Underwood have made a journey down the River Prah to below the junction of the Prah and the Ofim.

I shall have the honour to forward their report as soon as completed.

21. Captain Lonsdale has reported that the Kings of Abrah and Assin have provided the number of carriers they had promised, and the materials for the wooden bungalow are already at Mansue.

Mr. Pagan and Mr. Jones, of the survey department, are at Mansue. It is anticipated that they will have completed their work there in from eight to ten days.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure 1 in No. 108.

LIST of CHIEFS in the Suite of Prince BUAKI who marched into Camp with him at Prah-sue on 16th April 1881.

Prince Buaki (Tintin), husband of Queen Mother and step-father of the dethroned King Coffee Kalcalli and likewise of the present King Osai Mensah.

The two princes, sons of old King Quacoo Duah.

Chief Yow Badoo, the King's personal great attendant.

Amoaku Attah, representative of Awuah, successor of General Amanquah Tia.

Quamin Asanti, representative of Prince Buaki of Asafu, a general of high rank, was second in command under General Amanquahtia in the war of 1874 (another Prince Buaki).

Abotinmu, representative of the King of Beckwa. This is the greatest chief in the Ashanti kingdom.

Sarkori, representative of the King of Kokofoo.

Yow, representative of the King of Manpon.

Yeboa, representative of the Dukes of Ashanti, that is of the royal family of Ashanti.

Mumuyini, head of Prince Buaki's staff.

Acai, representative of the King of Insuta.

Chief Buaki (Prince Buaki's brother).

Quacoo Duah (Prince Buaki's son).

The court criers, four in number.

The sword-bearer 1, and about 400 followers.

Ambassadors from the King.	{	Busumbru	{	The ambassadors from the King of Ashanti in 1880 sent to Governor Ussher, dispatched from Cape Coast, 13th March 1881, by Ossoo Ansah, to ask the King to send Prince Buaki down to the Governor.
		Qua Adoo		
		Anani		
		Quacoo Manti.		
		Quabina Badoo.		
		Ackampon, an attendant of the king.		

Note.—The provinces thus represented are Beckwa, Kokofoc, Manpon, and Insuta. Quamin Asanti and Amoaku Attah were the two who rose and addressed his Excellency on the 17th instant. They represented the town of Coomassic, just as the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen and Council would represent the city of London.

A representative of the town of Amoafal, where the battle was fought in 1874, arrived yesterday in this camp, his name is Poku.

Political Department, Prah sue,
19th April 1881.

(Signed) KNAPP BARROW.

Enclosure 2 in No. 108.

NOTES of a CONVERSATION between his Excellency Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G., Governor-in-Chief of the Gold Coast Colony, and Prince BUAKI, Messenger from the King of Ashanti.

Meeting held at Prah sue on 16th April 1881.

His Excellency.—(After shaking hands with Buaki and other chiefs said) I am glad to see you all here; it is always a very great pleasure to Governors of the Gold Coast Colony to receive any envoy from the King of Ashanti, when their message is of good intent. I am very sorry you do not meet me at home, but in the forest. But as you find me here by chance, I will try the best I can to make you comfortable. I hope your journey has been pleasant.

Prince.—Yes.

His Excellency.—I hope you have not had rain.

Prince.—No, sir.

His Excellency.—I am glad to hear that, for really rain makes travelling in the bush very uncomfortable. I am afraid we shall not have very fine weather. What do you think of it?

Prince.—I am of the same opinion.

His Excellency.—However, I hope for a few days more we shall have no rain. I hope you have found your people whom you left here well and comfortable.

Prince.—I have found them comfortable.

His Excellency.—They have come up with me from Cape Coast. You travel well in the bush; you are at home in the green leaves. I suppose we may expect rain about the next new moon, and then I suppose for some three or four moons. During that time anybody who has a house stops in it.

Prince.—Yes.

His Excellency.—I don't like myself to be caught in the rain. I don't mind a little of the bush, when it is fine.

Prince.—Yes. But can I be allowed to speak a little?

His Excellency.—Yes.

Prince.—Your Excellency's friend, the King of Ashanti, sent to see you; and on the way coming down I was a little sick, together with some of my followers, and this is the cause of my delay. We also met a sword-bearer who told us that your Excellency was coming. I am very sorry I did not meet you at home. Will you say when I can see you about the subject I came for?

His Excellency.—I will think over the matter, what I have to do, and then I will arrange when I can assemble the officers of the Government, whom it is fitting should be present, when the matter is discussed. It is always a pleasure, as I said a short time ago, for the English Government of the Gold Coast to receive messengers from the King of Ashanti, when they are sent on peaceful matters. What I am going to say to you now has no bearing on the point at issue between the Government of the Gold

Coast and that of Ashanti. But as you have come to meet me with a special message, and as I have already said to you that I am glad you have met me with a message from the King, I will also say to you what I have already said to the ambassadors, who came before you, that the message I brought with me from the Queen of England is a message of peace; and that while I am to maintain the Queen's authority throughout her possessions, and govern her people properly, I am to be on friendly terms with those African kingdoms which have relations with the Gold Coast Colony.

Prince.—I also came for peace.

His Excellency.—I am glad to hear that.

Prince.—I thank you for the kindness you have shown my people.

His Excellency.—I hope the road from Coomassie was "comfortable."

Prince.—Very comfortable; I am very sorry that I did not meet you at home. Sickness prevented me.

His Excellency.—I hope you will stay here a little longer. You are tired, go and rest.

Prince.—Thank you, sir.

The original notes from which this is transcribed were taken in shorthand by G. E. Ferguson, a boy of 17. He was educated at the Wesleyan Schools at Cape Coast and Sierra Leone, and obtained his knowledge of shorthand at the latter place.

S. R.

No. 109.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY.—(Received May 20, 1880.)

MY LORD,

Prahsue, River Prah, April 19, 1881.

WITH reference to the circumstances reported in my Despatch of this day,* I have the honour to say that I have every reason to believe that Prince Buaki has received such instructions from the King of Ashanti as will enable me to offer for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government such terms as will justify me in agreeing to the departure of the special ships of the Squadron at present stationed on the Gold Coast, and shortly to the removal of such of the troops as cannot be properly accommodated at Cape Coast Castle.

2. At the private interview with me the Prince was most earnest in his statements. His manner and that of the chiefs with him was, so far as my African experience goes, sincere and truthful.

3. He has stated to me himself that he has brought money with him, and that he is instructed by the King to offer money, and I know that the absence of this money was the cause of his delay on the road.

4. Messengers were sent from here with my knowledge, though not from me, to say to him if he intended to come at all he should come immediately, that he should not delay either for money or for anything else.

5. This had the effect of bringing him here at once.

6. He sent to me this morning for permission to send back to Coomassie certain lesser chiefs, whom he said he wished to send to the King, to request the King to send down without delay certain articles of value which he had promised, as he (Buaki) feared the delay in the arrival of these might seriously impede the progress of the negotiation with which he was entrusted.

7. At my private interview with the Ashanti embassy, at which Mr. Evans, Captain Barrow, and Mr. Hughes, were present, besides three interpreters, Prince Buaki said he was instructed by the King, his master and step-son, to say that the death of the late Governor, Mr. Ussher, was much regretted by himself and his people.

8. That when the King heard that I had been appointed to succeed him, he was exceedingly pleased to hear it.

9. That he and his chiefs had said that now they believed that this trouble might be arranged.

10. That he was instructed by the King to say that he looked upon me as a friend, and that he asked that I would help him to place his conduct in its true light towards Her Majesty's Government.

11. That had this circumstance occurred during the lifetime of the late Governor Ussher the matter would have been arranged without any of the present difficulty.

12. In the most dignified manner, but yet with much firmness, the Prince Buaki said that if there had been mistakes committed, the mistakes had not been alone those of the King of Ashanti.

13. That the King of Ashanti, in sending down to ask that Awoosoo might be sent back to him, had sent to ask what he considered a favour from his friend the Governor of the Gold Coast.

14. That the statement of his messenger Entchi, that in the event of this request not being granted the King would invade Assin, was a statement which Entchi was not instructed to make.

15. In making it Entchi had made a mistake, but that as Entchi was the servant of the King, and the King was bound by the acts of his servant, therefore he had sent the highest persons in his kingdom to come to the Governor of the Gold Coast, to ask the Governor to say to the Queen of England, that he is exceedingly sorry and ashamed for the mistake of his servant, but that in the matter of the axe the mistake is the mistake of the Lieut.-Governor.

16. Had the Lieut.-Governor known the manners and customs of Ashanti, before sending to England to say that the King of Ashanti intended to make war, he would have sent to Ashanti to know the meaning of the message he had received.

17. He would then have learnt that the statement of Entchi that the King would invade Assin was a mistake, for the messengers to Ashanti would have heard from the King's own lips, that he never sent such a message, and would have seen that he has made no preparations for war.

18. I should add that the Ashantis showed the greatest respect to the memory of the late Governor. When I mentioned his name the whole of them rose, and this on every occasion on which his name was mentioned.

19. Prince Buaki continued, "I am old enough to know the meaning of every symbol in my country, and I know that on no occasion has the golden axe, which was sent with Entchi to the coast in the matter of Awoosoo, ever been used by the Ashantis as a sign of a declaration of war."

20. "We have in Ashanti two symbols, both of which are used when we declare war."

21. "There is a certain sword in my country in the keeping of the King. When that sword is sent to another tribe by the King of Ashanti, that is a declaration of war by Ashanti."

22. "There is also a certain cap in my country, which is in the keeping of the King, and if a messenger was charged with certain negotiations, and, in the event of their not being successful, was empowered to declare war, he would be entrusted by the King with that cap, and if he did declare war, he would put on that cap, and that would be a proof that the declaration came from the King and nation."

23. "The true meaning of the axe is this, the axe is a fetish. We believe that some mysterious power attaches to it."

24. "Amanquatta, the bearer of the axe, has never failed in any mission on which he has been sent, and we believe that whatever request we make, if that request be supported by the presence of that axe, that request will be granted."

25. "The mistake that was made by the Lieutenant-Governor was that, because he did not himself understand the meaning of the axe, or the ways of our country, he accepted the meaning which the Fanti interpreter gave to the axe, and the Fantees do not know the ways of my country."

26. He ended by saying, "I beg your Excellency, in the name of my master and stepson, to intercede for my master with the great Queen of England, and in token of my master's submission to the great Queen of England, and to you her representative, at this place, I, as representing my master and stepson and the whole Ashanti nation, kneel humbly before you in token of submission."

27. At this point the Prince stepped forward, and with both his hands grasped me round the knees, the official sign in his country of kneeling.

28. In my reply I was careful not to go farther than to say that, while I was myself sincerely desirous that the relations between the Government of the Gold Coast and the King of Ashanti should be of the most friendly possible character, the reports received in England, that it was the intention of the King of Ashanti to make war on the Protectorate, were looked upon by Her Majesty's Government as so serious, that before submitting for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government any explanations which the King of Ashanti might wish to offer as to the circumstances which had been considered a proof of this intent, it was my duty to very seriously consider whether I was justified in saying

to Her Majesty's Government that these statements are in my opinion sufficient proof that the ambassador is indeed the true interpreter of the sentiments of the Ashanti King.

29. Prince Buaki replied that the King, his master, put himself in my hands and begged that I would assist them in their trouble.

30. I said that I would think the matter over very seriously, and that as it was fitting that such a message as he had to deliver should be delivered in public with all proper ceremony, and that as he expressed a wish to come to the sea coast, I would make arrangements for him to go to Elmina, and would also myself return at once, in order that he might deliver his message in the presence of those officers who had been sent to assist me in defending Her Majesty's Colony.

31. The explanation of the meaning of the axe given by Prince Buaki agrees very fairly with the meaning attached to the same emblem by the Fantis.

32. From the meaning given by the Ashantis, viz., that the axe by its mystic power will cut its way through all obstacles, and thus ensure for them the granting of the request with which its bearer is entrusted, to the meaning given by the Fantis, that its significance is that the Ashantis would cut their way through all obstacles, for the attainment of that purpose to achieve which the axe was sent, is but a very small step.

33. I am afraid that with the means of interpretation at the disposal of the executive, and the discrepancies consequent on the character of the Ashanti or Fanti language, and the imperfect knowledge possessed by the interpreters of English, it is perhaps as near to a correct rendering as the ordinary literal interpretation ever goes. In these matters very much depends on previous knowledge of the subject and persons.

34. It is also very likely that it may be true that the sending of the axe is not in itself a declaration of war, and also true that the requests which Ashanti has thought sufficiently serious to be worth support by the axe, have also generally been thought of sufficient gravity to warrant resenting by war a refusal to entertain them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Inclosure in No. 109.

NOTES taken by Mr. HUGHES at an interview held at Prahsue, April 17th, 1881, between his Excellency Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gold Coast Colony, and Prince BUAKI (Tintin), ambassador from the King of Ashanti.

PRINCE Buaki, on rising, said: I am sent by my son and sovereign to visit the Queen's Governor of the Gold Coast. The Ashantis have always been friends with the English, there has been an unfortunate misunderstanding with Mr. Griffith, but God has sent the present Governor to settle this unfortunate matter about sending for this young man. Mr. Griffith is partly to blame in sending so quickly to the Queen to say that the Ashantis were coming to invade his country, without ascertaining first the truth of the statements made respecting preparations for war. The King swears by God and earth* that he did not send such a message, but he admits he is partly to blame as this message was given by his servant. I am the King's stepfather and am the husband of his mother; the King sends me to meet his good friend to arrange this matter.

Prince Buaki comes forward and touches the Governor's knees, saying, when your enemy spoils your good name you have no remedy for it. The sending of the axe was not a declaration of war; it is meant to show that obstacles in the way of friendly settlement are to be cut through. The sign of war is a hat and a peculiar kind of sword. The King begs that, in future, messages to the Governor should pass through Prince Anseh, who is between the Governor and the King of Ashanti. The Queen only means good to his country, and the King therefore asked Prince Anseh "his son" to write for him to the late Governor.

The King's enemies have tried to spoil the King's name, but if he (the King) had had evil intentions towards the English Government he would not have written the letter in question.† The King wrote and told Mr. Ussher that he had not been able to pay the

* That is, spirits above the earth and below the earth. Ashantis believe in one God and many lesser spiritual powers.

† This letter was written at Coomassie at the King's dictation in 1880, and brought, by Anseh to the Coast the King saying that he would send from Coomassie a special embassy to deliver it. This embassy never came, and the letter has remained unopened awaiting their arrival. The purport of the letter, I am told, was to ask to be relieved from payment of the indemnity on account of poverty.—S. R.

remainder of the war indemnity, but now we have brought gold. Some of the King's chiefs have been disobedient, but the King will not do anything until he has informed the Governor to let the Queen know. The King submits himself to the Governor, and orders Prince Buaki to touch the Governor's knees.

His Excellency, in reply, said: my officer, Captain Barrow, told me that you wished to see me privately to-day; anything that would cause trouble between the Queen of England and the King of Ashanti is not a little matter, as a war would cost the lives of thousands of men. I am glad to see you to-day, but the message that you bring must be delivered publicly before the great officers the Queen has sent to accompany me.

Prince Buaki says, I am sent to touch the Governor's knees, and to beg him to assist my King in making peace with the King of Ashanti.

His Excellency: I am now almost an old African, and the very first year I came to Africa I assisted to make peace for an African king with the Queen of England. Prince Buaki repeats his requests that the Governor will mediate with the Queen on behalf of the King of Ashanti.

His Excellency said, when my old friend, the late Governor, came back to this Coast I was very glad; I was then at work in another Colony (at Sierra Leone) and I knew that there was plenty of work for both of us when I was told by the Queen's officers that I had been selected to come here, it was not without difficulty that I had been selected to come here. It was not without difficulty that it was settled that I should come, as it was thought there would be some difficulty with various kings and chiefs if I left Sierra Leone at once; and when one of the Queen's ministers said to me "When you have finished the work at Sierra Leone, what will you do on the Gold Coast?" I said I would make straight the road to Ashanti. On account of all the trade on that road, it is my wish to make that road so good and safe that a little child could walk it at night.

Although so far away, I was at work, working for Africa when the late news reached England, and I was asked "what about my confidence in Ashanti." I was really very sorry, as I said that all this work for years past must be put aside for war. Now the Prince says "that it was all a mistake," but in England this is considered a very serious matter. It made not only myself but dozens of officers leave England at one day's notice, and I was obliged to send to stop more officers, soldiers, vessels, and stores coming, and in consequence of my notice 40 officers were stopped only one hour before the last vessel to Africa sailed from England. My orders were, if I found there really was trouble, to put myself on one side and leave it to the soldiers. In my own heart I wish to settle this matter, but I have soldiers at Cape Coast and sailors at Elmina, and all war chiefs, as you know, are hot men, and I have the honour of my country to think of. The Queen has no evil in her heart against Ashanti, but my country is much moved, and the Queen will not like to send her soldiers and vessels so far and be told "it was a mistake." Prince Buaki says the Ashantis have made no preparation for war.

His Excellency: when anything takes place there are always some people who say they knew all about it before-hand; I have met people who said they were able to tell me what preparations have been made by the King and what arms he has. But now that the King has sent his trusted messenger to meet me face to face matters can more easily be talked over. Much importance has been attached in my country to the fact of the axe having been sent down.

Prince Buaki: the axe is a fetish axe, and does not mean war, the King's enemies have misrepresented its meaning; it has never been sent down to the coast as a token of war.

When the King Quacoe Duah sent a messenger to Governor Maclean respecting runaways, this axe was sent, and the palaver was settled. The axe is supposed to be brought down when there is a difficult palaver, as if it accompanies a mission that mission will surely succeed, and if the road is blocked, with the help of the axe the road will be opened; it is a fetish axe, but is never sent with a war message.

The representatives of Chief Awoah and Asafu Boatchie say:

Our masters send respectful compliments to his Excellency the Governor; these chiefs hold the Government of Ashanti with the King; in any matter of importance the King would not leave them behind. If there is any King to be made in Ashanti, he is made by the white man from the coast, if the King has any guns it is from the white man, if they receive anything it is from the white man, if the King has any case to settle he informs the white man if they do not get powder and guns from the coast they cannot fight. They have put aside all ill-feeling against the coast, and have no ill intention towards the Government, they are now occupied clearing the bushes from their towns. Formerly their occupation was war, but now by favour of the Queen they have ceased from war, they are now engaged in peaceful work. When they heard of preparations for war, they sent to the King to tell him to send them to his friend the Governor to find

out if any one had spoken falsely. When the King sent to the coast his messengers did not meet such a good Governor as the present one. The chiefs send their representatives to tell the Governor that if the King of Ashanti wished to fight in any part of Africa, they would not let him do so without informing his Excellency. The chiefs swear by God and earth that their story is true, and ask that they may die if it is false. They pray the Governor to mediate for them; this is why the chiefs send their representatives.

His Excellency in reply said: I am glad to receive the message that the great chiefs of Coomassie have sent me, I have no evil in my heart towards the King of Ashanti, but I must repeat that this is not a light matter, and Prince Buaki must deliver his message to me publicly in one of my castles on the coast, in the presence of the great captains Her Majesty the Queen has sent to accompany me. Any arrangements by which this matter can be settled peacefully must be made upon a broad basis, and stand so firmly as to bind not only the little children who are now running about, but even their children when they are grown up. To arrange this would require very serious consideration; I wish you to understand this, and to tell me if you are prepared to do this, if so I shall be glad to find you accommodation in my castle on the coast.

After some delay, occasioned by the prince consulting with his followers, Prince Buaki said:—

We came with a message from the King of Ashanti, and if we had not met his Excellency here, we should have been obliged to go to the sea-coast, but since we have met the Governor here, we will, if his Excellency directs, deliver the King's message, but as the Governor allows us to go with him to the coast, we are the Governor's servants, we are in his hands, and will go with him wherever he wishes.

His Excellency: In that case I will leave an officer to finish the little work that I was doing here, and will return to the coast. The Ashanti ambassador and his followers then took leave of his Excellency and retired.

19th April 1881.

PERCIVAL HUGHES,
Assistant Political Secretary.

No. 110.

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

SIR,

Downing Street, May 27, 1881.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your various despatches and telegrams, reporting your proceedings on your journey to and since your arrival at Prahsue, and your interview with Prince Buaki and the other members of the Embassy sent to meet you by the King of Ashanti.

2. I shall await with interest the detailed report of your adjourned interview with the Ashanti chiefs at Elmina; but in the meantime I desire to express my entire approval of your proceedings, and my satisfaction at the prospects of a pacific termination of the affair.

3. I have consulted the Secretary of State for War in reference to the force to be retained at the Gold Coast for the next few months, and he concurs with me in approving the arrangements you have suggested.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

No. 111.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received May 28, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Mansue, April 25, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to report my arrival at this place last night from Prahsue.

2. I found the Ashanti messengers awaiting me under the care of Captain Barrow along with the Adansis and some other natives.

3. Their number is estimated at about 900 people. They left here this morning en route for Elmina.

4. I found here also awaiting me the King of Swadru Akim and his chiefs, numbering with their followers about 120.

5. I found also the Queen of Essecoomah, an important town about 15 miles distant from this place. I have had satisfactory interviews with these people. They all express their loyalty to the Government, and their desire to carry out the wishes of the Governor to the best of their ability.

6. In the towns and villages through which I passed on my way from Prah sue to this place the inhabitants were most demonstrative in their gratitude for what they considered to be the peaceful solution of our difficulties as shown by the presence of the messengers from Ashanti.

7. They danced and sang, and fired their guns, and beat many drums and sounded many horns and rattles. They made many presents of fowls and yams, and food of various kinds.

8. The women seemed, if possible, to be more grateful than the men. They probably had more to fear in the event of war.

9. I have left at the Prah 40 Houssas under the command of Assistant-Inspector Campbell.

10. Lieutenant Hart and Lieutenant Underwood, who have already followed the course of the River Prah for some 30 miles from Prah sue to its junction with the Offim, have remained behind at Prah sue making arrangements to repeat that journey, and intending to follow the river to its mouth at Chamah.

11. Captain Pain left Prah sue on the same day as myself, intending to cross to the westward into the Denkera country, and follow one of the main routes to the sea coast, probably the one by western Wassaw to the gold mines at Tarquah.

12. Lieutenant Swinburne reached this place a day or two since from Accra, having made his journey by Aguna, Swaidru, Insabam, and Essecoomah, and having made a survey of the whole of his routes as accurately as circumstances permitted.

13. At the villages at which I rested and in my public interviews with the chiefs, I have impressed on them the exceeding importance of keeping their roads in good order, and I have given instructions to the officers of Houssas remaining here and at Prah sue to encourage the natives in this work, and I have assured the local chiefs that the quarterly payments for the repair of the road will not be made unless these repairs are executed to the satisfaction of those officers.

14. I have found so many matters requiring attention here that it was not desirable to pass on leaving them unattended to.

15. It is my intention to leave at daybreak en route for Elmina.

16. The presence with me of the Assistant Colonial Secretary, Captain Hay, in addition to giving me the advantage of his local knowledge, has enabled me to carry on the current Colonial work with fair regularity, postal communication having been kept up continually with Accra as well as Elmina.

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

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

No. 112.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received May 28, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, May 4, 1881.

I HAVE very little to add to the information I have already had the honour to convey by telegraph.

2. I trust that in a few days the Ashantis will be in a position to put down the greater part if not the whole of the money they offer as a proof of their sincerity, and I hope also that I may be able to induce them without difficulty to publicly sign some document which I propose to draw up, and which may serve as a record of the apology which the King offers.

3. It has been utterly impossible for me to complete this and the arrangements fitting in reference to it to allow of its being done to-day; at the same time the directions from

their Lordships of the Admiralty to the Senior Naval Officer are such that I do not feel justified in attempting to detain him here, feeling convinced as I do that the apology given by the King, even without further guarantee, goes beyond the message to which your Lordship is pleased to refer as a sufficient disclaimer of any hostile intentions in your Despatch of the 18th March.*

4. But at the same time, my Lord, I hope that your Lordship will not consider that I am taking too much on myself in asking your Lordship to be pleased to postpone any official reply until I have the honour of communicating further with you.

5. I have used no threats towards the messengers, nor have I any thought of doing so.

6. Should my hopes of what I may be able to accomplish by friendly advice and converse in the next few days be disappointed, I can still send forward to your Lordship their message as it now stands, but I do not think I am entirely wrong in my hope that something more will be offered; hostages from the royal family I am pretty confident would be sent did I suggest that such a course would be acceptable.

7. A good deal of time and patience is needed, my Lord, to carry one's point in these matters, and while I would by no means be thought to under-value the effect of the presence of Her Majesty's ships of war and troops, all of whom I should have been glad to see remain here for some time longer, it is almost as important to success to gain to some extent the confidence and trust of these people as it is to frighten them by the use or display of power.

8. The journey of the Ashantis and Adansis through the Assin and Arbrah country from the Prah to this place was in many ways a cause of constant anxiety, and demanded constant supervision, but I am more than repaid in the result; I shall have the honour to report that matter more in detail to your Lordship in a further despatch.

9. I owe the presence of Buaki here at the present moment entirely to my personal visit to the Prah; he had already left Coomassie, but he was waiting at Akankawassi, and there he would have waited for some time, certainly for weeks and probably for months.

10. Partly he was delaying for more money, partly from his own disinclination to make the journey; most of all he was uncertain as to his reception, he doubted the way the Fantis would treat him on the way, and he doubted whether the position accorded to him by the Governor would be honourable to himself. I consider that I obtained the first real sign of progress when the Ashanti ambassadors so far forgot their reserve as to make the request concerning the policeman, to which I had the honour to refer in the 14th and 15th paragraphs of my Despatch of 13th March 1881.*

11. The departure of some of the ships of war and the lessening in numbers of the garrison, and consequent better accommodation of the remainder, will, I hope, leave me a little more time for general administration than has so far been possible, for the constant calls on my personal action in connection with this difference with the Ashantis, in frequent interviews with native chiefs at all hours of the day and night have been such that I have been compelled to put aside replies to various despatches of your Lordship on other matters which should have been attended to.

I can only express the hope that your Lordship will not think that this neglect has arisen from any other cause.

12. The general administration of the Colony has been but very little disturbed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

* Not printed.

No. 113.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL
OF KIMBERLEY. (Received May 28, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, May 4, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that, after a very careful consideration of the position of the Colony in reference to Ashanti, I have informed the officer commanding the troops that, subject to your approval, I am of opinion that the present force of Her Majesty's troops stationed here may be reduced to 350 men.

2. I have added that for some time (probably about six months) the garrison should not, in my opinion, consist of a less number.

3. The ordinary garrison numbered, previously to present difficulties, from 160 to 170.

4. In view of the numbers which it was thought necessary to collect here, and of the serious interference to the business of the Colony and the cost to the revenue which have been caused by the difference with Ashanti, I think it very important that no part of the moral effect produced by the presence of Her Majesty's forces here should be lost, if it can be avoided, and with a view to this I should have been glad for the whole of the troops at present stationed here to remain for some time if such might be.

The want of permanent accommodation and the consequent probable sickness are, however, very serious objections to this, and it seems to me right that the garrison should be reduced.

5. By keeping the strength of the garrison at 350 men, a part of the garrison can remain at Anamaboe and a part on Connor's Hill, without the numbers at either place being so small as to cause ridicule by their separation, and the fact that there are still troops at these places will be reported to Ashanti, and will have an important effect there, while I am informed by the officer commanding that there is sufficient accommodation for the comfortable housing of the men and officers at these places.

6. The detachment at Anamaboe will add somewhat to the cost of the garrison, as it will be necessary to send fresh provisions from Cape Coast to that place on a certain number of days in each week, but this, I think, is of much less moment than the moral effect of their presence.

7. The Head-quarters Staff of the 1st West India Regiment, and 150 men, proceed to Sierra Leone by H.M.S. "Wye," which calls at that place en route to St. Vincent and Portsmouth.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

No. 114.

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

SIR,

Downing Street, June 3, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch*, of the 25th of April, reporting your reception on the road from Prahsue to Mansue, and on your arrival at the latter place.

I have perused this Despatch with much interest and satisfaction.

I have, &c.

Sir S. Rowe.

(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

No. 115.

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

SIR, Downing Street, June 3, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 4th of May*, and to convey to you my approval of the course which you have pursued, as reported in that Despatch, in connexion with the visit of the ambassadors from the King of Ashanti.

Sir S. Rowe. I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

No. 116.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received June 4, 1881.)

MY LORD, Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, May 8, 1881.

IN continuation of the subject of my Despatch, dated 4th May 1881†, viz., the threatened invasion of the Protectorate by the Ashantis, I have the honour to say that since the date of the Despatch above mentioned no fresh circumstance worthy of report has transpired.

2. As, however, I anticipate that the S.S. "Congo," which bears these letters, though it leaves here only four days after H.M.S. "Wye," will not arrive in England until eight or ten days after that vessel, I have thought it fitting to transmit this Despatch.

The Right Honourable the Earl of Kimberley I have, &c.
&c. &c. &c. (Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

No. 117.

COLONIAL OFFICE to ADMIRALTY.

SIR, Downing Street, June 11, 1881.

I AM directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th of May,† enclosing a Despatch from Captain Hope, of H.M.S. "Champion," respecting the state of affairs on the Gold Coast.

In returning the papers enclosed in your letter, Lord Kimberley desires me to place on record his Lordship's sense of the readiness and ability with which Captain Hope has assisted the Governor of the Gold Coast in the settlement of the difficulty with Ashanti.

The Secretary to the Admiralty. I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

No. 118.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR, Admiralty, June 13, 1881.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the perusal of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, copy of a letter from Captain Hope of H.M.S. "Champion," dated the 6th May last, relative to the late threatened war with Ashanti.

The Under Secretary of State, I am, &c.
Colonial Office. (Signed) ROBERT HALL.

Enclosure in No. 118.

RELATIVE to the late threatened War with ASHANTI.

H.M.S. "Champion,"

At Sea, lat. 1° 47' N., long. 0° 23' W.,

May 6, 1881.

SIR,

IN referring to my letter of May 1, 1881, I observe that I omitted to state that at the Governor's official interview with the Ashanti prince, the latter stated that the "golden axe" which was sent down with the original message to Cape Coast Castle, demanding the restitution of the refugee was "fetish," and one of his followers proceeded to explain that the meaning was that it possessed mysterious power, and that when sent with an embassy it enabled the members to overcome or "cut through" all difficulties, and that it had, as yet, never failed.

2. I need scarcely point out that this explanation is totally different to the one given by the first Ashanti ambassadors, at the end of February (the chief of whom was now in attendance on the prince) when it was stated that it was "stolen" from Coomassie. The expression "cut through all difficulties" made use of now, though professedly only in a supernatural way, leads one much rather to suppose that should they have felt strong enough the Ashantis would not have hesitated to assist its mysterious power by a visible force, and that by representing that a sacred symbol had been insulted by the British they would have been able to raise the flame of a religious war.

3. I take this opportunity of recording my opinion, based on all the information I have been able to gather, that the vigorous and decisive steps taken by Lieutenant-Governor Griffith at the commencement, with the co-operation of Commander Brackenbury, R.N., were necessary, and have been mainly instrumental in bringing about the present satisfactory state of affairs with the kingdom of Ashanti; also that the comparatively small expenditure entailed by those preparations will, by the result attained, be the means eventually of proving an infinite saving to the Colony.

I have, &c.

Commodore F. W. Richards, C.B., A.D.C., (Signed) G. R. HOPE, Captain.
Senior Officer,
Cape of Good Hope and
West Coast of Africa Station.

No. 119.

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

(Received June 13, 1881.)

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast,
May 16, 1881.

MY LORD,

IN continuation of the subject of my despatch of 8th May,* namely, the threatened invasion of the Protectorate by the Ashantis, I have the honour to say that since the date of that despatch nothing worthy of report has transpired.

2. The Ashanti ambassadors are themselves, I think, in earnest, and are getting very anxious for the return of some messengers, who with my consent they despatched on the 24th ultimo from Mansue to their King, to urge on him to send the money he himself offered with as little delay as possible.

3. I thought that these messengers might perhaps reach this place on the 10th instant, but I am not myself surprised at their delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.The Right Honourable the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 120.

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

(Received June 15, 1881.)

(Telegraphic.)

Elmina, May 25.—A further instalment of gold has come from Ashanti. Special service officers will leave by next steamer.

No. 121.

WAR OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR,

War Office, June 20, 1881.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of a letter from the Officer Commanding the Troops, West Coast of Africa, and of its enclosure, reporting his proceedings for the withdrawal of troops from the Gold Coast, on peaceful relations having been established with the Ashantis.

I have, &c.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

(Signed) RALPH THOMPSON.

Enclosure in No. 121.

From the OFFICER COMMANDING the TROOPS, West Coast of Africa, to the SECRETARY of STATE for WAR, War Office, Pall Mall.

SIR,

Cape Coast Castle, May 4, 1881.

WITH reference to your letter, dated 18th February 1881, I have the honour to report to you that the troops that were concentrated on the Gold Coast in anticipation of hostilities with the Ashantis have remained in garrison, and have not been required to engage in any active operations.

I have now been informed by the Governor of the Gold Coast of his having established peaceful relations with the Ashantis, and that, with the exception of a detachment of 350 men, the remainder of the troops may be withdrawn from the Colony.

I have, in consequence, despatched to you by H.M.S. "Wye," a telegram which will be wired from St. Vincent, informing you of the action that I have taken to comply with the Governor's demands, and asking instructions as to the disposal of the remainder of the force.

The head-quarters, 1st West India Regiment, consisting of 6 officers and 120 men, leave this day for Sierra Leone, a further detachment, consisting of 2 officers 33 men, will proceed to that station by the next mail steamer.

The garrison of Sierra Leone will then consist of 14 officers and 308 men, which is, I consider, a sufficient force for the protection of the Colony. In this opinion I am borne out by Sir Samuel Rowe, late Governor at Sierra Leone. I have, however, consulted the officer who is now administrating the Government, and on receipt of his reply will endeavour to meet his views.

The garrison hitherto maintained at Sierra Leone has been about 15 officers and 400 men; but I am led to believe that this number was retained at Sierra Leone in preference to Cape Coast in consequence of sanitary considerations and better barrack accommodation. When affairs on the Gold Coast are more settled, I would suggest that the original distribution of troops on the West Coast of Africa be resumed.

The service for which I was despatched to this Colony, with reinforcements, being now concluded, I trust it may not be considered out of place for me to remark upon the care and consideration which has been shown by the Governor for the health and welfare of the troops.

Prior to the arrival of reinforcements, his Excellency arranged that the church and some of the most commodious buildings in the town should be appropriated for the officers and men, and he has since their arrival, at my request, built several huts for their use.

I regret to say that the casualties from sickness amongst European officers and men have been severe, owing to an unusually sickly season prior to the arrival of the periodical rains, and to the fact that both officers and men have been unavoidably much crowded and located in a densely populated and very unhealthy town. Out of 55 officers who were effective on 20th March, 1881—

1 officer has died,

20 officers have been invalided to England,

9 officers are now on the sick list of the European non-commissioned officers and men,

7 have been invalided.

3 are now in hospital out of a total of 27.

I have from time to time reported to his Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief upon the discipline of the troops, and the preparations that were being made in the event of their taking the field. Had their services been required, they would have

been prepared for any emergency, and could have marched at short notice to our frontier, complete in every respect, and with an ample supply of commissariat and ordnance stores.

I trust Her Majesty's Government will approve of the conduct of the officers and men under somewhat trying circumstances. The greater part of them were sent here at short notice, bringing with them the light equipment required for active service. On arrival, they were naturally disappointed at finding that they were only required to perform garrison duty, and would have to remain in very uncomfortable quarters for an indefinite period, without the comforts which in ordinary times they would obtain to alleviate the effects of a trying climate and the monotony of their service in this Colony.

Under all circumstances the conduct of the troops has been admirable, and will, I trust, merit the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the Governor of the Gold Coast on the subject of a parade of the troops which I held at his request, and at which a large number of native kings and chiefs were present.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. C. JUSTICE, Colonel,
Commanding the Troops,
West Coast of Africa.

SIR,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, May 4, 1881.

As the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, I wish to offer, officially, my thanks to yourself and to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men under your orders, for the parade of the troops under your command at Cape Coast Castle yesterday.

2. The effect of the display on the chiefs from Ashanti, and on the other native kings and chiefs was most satisfactory. I am convinced that the remembrance will not soon leave them, and that the recollection will have a powerful effect in tending to promote peaceful relations between this Government and its warlike neighbours.

I have, &c.

The Honourable
the Officer Commanding the Troops,
West Coast of Africa.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

No. 122.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received June 27, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, May 28, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to report that in view of the present state of our relations with the king of Ashanti, I have directed the under-mentioned officers, viz.,

Lieutenant P. C. Underwood, R.N.,
Captain A. H. Pain, 75th Regiment,
Captain J. Preston, Royal Antrim Rifles Militia,
Lieutenant T. R. Swinburne, R.M.A.,

whom your Lordship was good enough to appoint to be officers of my staff for temporary special service on the Gold Coast, to return to England, as they volunteered to serve, and were specially employed only for such time as they might be needed, in connexion with the reported threatened attack on the Protectorate.

I have, &c.

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

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

No. 123.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received June 27, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, May 28, 1881.

IN continuation of the subject of my Despatch of the 16th May,* viz., the threatened invasion of the Protectorate by the Ashantis, I have the honour to report as follows:—

2. The messengers referred to in the second paragraph of my Despatch as having been despatched from Mansue on the 24th ultimo reached Elmina on the 23rd instant.

3. They brought with them about 650 ounces of gold.

4. They say that they could not possibly get back sooner, or bring more gold, as the King had much difficulty in collecting even that which they have brought.

5. They say also that the King sends to say that he begs that I will be patient, and that he will do his best to send the remainder as soon as possible.

6. During the past week the first parcel of gold brought has been separated and tested. It was found to amount to 500 ounces. At the same valuation the second parcel will amount to about 650 ounces, in all something under 1,200 ounces.

7. Prince Buaki is much disappointed that the whole amount has not been sent, and he says that he considers the King is not behaving well to him. He says, however, that he is sure that the remainder will be sent soon, and he has begged me, I may say implored me, not to compel him to leave until the money has all come, so that he may return with credit to Coomassie.

8. So anxious were the Ambassadors that their word should be redeemed, that they made an effort to borrow locally the money needed to complete the offered 2,000 ounces. And I am told that they had gone so far that some of the merchants here promised to let them have it.

9. On hearing that they had attempted these negotiations I saw them on the subject, and asked them what security they proposed to offer to the merchants. They said they had nothing to give beyond those gold ornaments which are their own personal property. They made these ornaments into a parcel, and they offered to leave this parcel with me until the promised amount of gold was completed.

10. It was not that I had been pressing them to make up the full amount, but I have laid so much stress on the importance of my having trusted to their promises, that they are actually (apparently) determined that, for this time at least, they will do their best to ensure that their own offer to bring 2,000 ounces shall not fail of realization.

11. I told the Prince that I admired exceedingly the behaviour of himself and suite in working so earnestly for their country's good, and that I was sure I should not be carrying out the wishes of my Queen if I deprived him and them of ornaments which they prize so highly as family treasures.

12. I said that I would be satisfied that they should do as they had themselves proposed to do previous to the arrival of this second instalment, when I pressed them to take some action on account of the delay which was occurring in the return of the messengers sent to Coomassie, viz., promise to pay individually, if the remaining gold did not arrive within two months, such sums as their personal fortunes are equal to; and on this both Prince and Ambassadors returned to their quarters very happy.

13. With a view to these promises having a more marked significance, I have caused each one to be recorded in the form of a bond, which has been drawn up by the Queen's Advocate, more or less in accordance with the rules of English law.

14. I have arranged for a public reception on Monday next, when it is proposed that the Ambassadors shall make a formal offer of the gold; and it is my intention to reply, that I am now prepared to transmit their messages to your Lordship with a request that your Lordship will be pleased to ask Her Majesty to accord Her gracious consideration to the apologies offered by the King for the late acts of his servant, to be pleased to receive as proofs of the King's sincerity the gold and valuables which he submissively offers for Her Majesty's acceptance; and to favourably entertain the request which the King makes for more extended friendly intercourse between himself and Her Majesty's Government.

15. Should the steamer now hourly expected be willing to remain here sufficiently long, I hope to be able to forward the gold to England, and to allow the greater part of the officers which your Lordship was good enough to appoint on my special staff to leave by the same opportunity.

I have, &c.,

SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

No. 124.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received June 27, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, May 30, 1881.

In continuation of the subject of my Despatch dated 28th May,* viz., the threatened invasion by the Ashantis, I have the honour to report that at noon

* No. 123.

to-day I received in the large hall in this Castle Prince Buaki and the attendant chiefs of the Ashanti Embassy.

2. A violent storm of rain with much wind prevented the naval officers coming ashore, but there were present, in addition to the officer commanding the troops, officers of the 1st and 2nd West India regiments, the officers on my special staff, the Acting Colonial Secretary, Queen's Advocate, and several of the civil officers of the Colony, the king and chiefs of Adansi, the Fanti kings and chiefs of Appolonia, Abrah, and Assin, chiefs of Elmina, and the representatives of the King of Sefui, as well as several of the principal merchants and inhabitants of Cape Coast and Elmina.

3. The Prince Buaki in his speech recapitulated the circumstances under which he had been sent from Coomassie, and finished by offering a quantity of gold and dust and other articles of value for Her Majesty's acceptance.

4. In reply, I promised to transmit his message to your Lordship, and to ask your Lordship to recommend the request of the king and the articles he offered to Her Majesty's gracious consideration.

5. The message which the prince gave, and my reply thereto, are fully reported, as literally as I believe is possible, in the official record of the proceedings of to-day which I have the honour to forward with this Despatch.

6. One original signed copy of this official record has been handed to Prince Buaki, to be conveyed on his return to Coomassie to his master the king.

7. It is my intention to ask Captain Havelock to allow the Government Arabic writer at Sierra Leone to translate this document into Arabic, and furnish me with two copies of it.

8. One of these copies I propose to hereafter send to Coomassie. It may be, that among the frequent Mahomedan visitors there, some one may be found who may be able to interpret it, and perhaps a more correct knowledge of the contents may thus find its way to the king than would otherwise be the case.

9. The prince has deposited about 1,200 ounces of gold, which is a part of the 2,000 ounces which the king himself begged that Her Majesty would accept as a proof of his sincerity.

10. He also offered in the king's name, as a further proof of the sincerity of his wish for peace, the so called Golden Axe.

11. This important emblem of Ashanti power has been sent down by the king by a special messenger. It has been so sent after a somewhat (I am told) prolonged discussion in Council at Coomassie, on the express understanding that it should not remain on the coast but be sent to England, as a direct proof of the wish of the king and people of Ashanti to be on terms of friendship with Her Majesty's Government.

12. I look on the sending of the axe as more important than the embracing of my knees or the payment of the gold. It cannot have been sent away from Ashanti without the knowledge of the people. Indeed, I believe I cannot exaggerate the value of the presence of this axe as a public proclamation on the part of the Ashanti king of his submission to the authority of Her most gracious Majesty.

13. I am assured by Amuaku Attah (Amooah Quattah), the Chief who was sent by Prince Buaki from Mansue to see the king and chiefs of Coomassie on the subject, and to urge on them to complete the 2,000 ounces at once, that its presentation to Her Majesty was matter of discussion before a numerous assembly, and that it was after consideration unanimously decided that it should be sent if the Governor would consider it a proof that the King of Ashanti really wished for peace.

14. I have the honour to attach a memorandum by Captain Barrow giving some short account of this emblem of Ashanti power.

15. After the delivery of the message by the prince to me, and my reply to him, the official record of the proceedings was interpreted, sentence by sentence, into the Fanti language, and the prince was asked if the interpretation corresponded with that of the words which had been spoken.

16. On his stating that it did, each of the four interpreters present took an oath that the contents of the official record had been correctly interpreted. Official copies of the document were then signed by myself and certain officers, and by the prince and his most important chiefs.

17. The party then adjourned to the smaller Palaver Hall, where the Prince and those Chiefs of Ashanti, as well as Prince Ossoo Ansah, signed the promissory notes for the payment, by themselves individually to the Gold Coast Government, within two months, of the remainder of the promised 2,000 ounces, should the king himself fail to keep his promise to pay that amount within that period.

18. In each case one copy of the bond has been given to the chief who signed it for his own personal information, and one copy will be deposited in the Treasury chest. These bonds will be duly registered in the registry at Cape Coast.

19. I have caused the gold to be shipped on board the S.S. "Volta" which bears this Despatch, and I have consigned it to the care of the Crown agents for the Colonies.

20. I have entrusted the axe to the care of Captain Barrow, who returns to England in this steamer.

21. I have directed him to report himself personally at the Colonial Office on reaching London.

22. I propose that the greater part of the Ashantis now here (they number in all about nine hundred men) shall at once return to their country.

23. Prince Buaki himself, and a few of the more important chiefs of the special embassy, wish to remain in the hope that the king will shortly send the remainder of the promised money. They are really earnest in their request that I will not send them away unless this takes place, and I myself wish Buaki to remain for a time for many reasons. There are many matters I wish to discuss with him.

24. The present embassy are probably men of higher rank than have ever before reached the Gold Coast on any such mission.

25. The Fanti chiefs will at once disperse to their homes.

26. I wish to have some talk with the Assins and the Adansis respecting the way in which they must conduct themselves, especially the latter, towards Ashanti, and then they also will leave in a few days.

27. I would ask leave very respectfully to bring to your Lordship's notice the special help rendered to me during the last three months by Mr. Evans, Captain Barrow, and Lieutenant Hart, officers of my special staff, and Captain Hay, the Acting Colonial Secretary.

28. Without such help as I have received from Mr. Evans I could not have carried on my work; to Captain Barrow's patience, perseverance, and unhesitating obedience to and consideration of my wishes, I owe it that our relations with the Ashantis are what they are. He has given up his nights as well as his days to gaining their confidence and influencing them for good, and he well deserves some mark of your Lordship's approbation; Captain Hay has rendered me most willing, able, and untiring help in dealing with local administration, and his political knowledge (and it is considerable) has always been at my disposal.

Mr. Hart's special service is more connected with his return journey from Prahsue. He followed as far as he could the windings of the river from above Prahsue to the sea. I shall have the honour to send his report and map by an early steamer. Lieutenant Hart is for the moment suffering from slight fever, and as he suffers excessively from sea sickness, his voyage has been postponed until the next steamer.

29. The whole of the officers of my special staff have rendered me willing help, and I owe it to the civil staff of this part of the Settlement, especially to the officers of the Houssa force, to say that they have been equally ready and willing to do all in their power to meet my wishes.

30. My relations with the senior naval officer of the squadron, and with the officer commanding the troops, and with the officers of Her Majesty's Army and Navy, have been throughout of the most pleasant and cordial character.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure 1 in No. 124.

OFFICIAL RECORD of the MESSAGE of PRINCE BUAKI, Special Envoy from the KING of ASHANTI, to the GOVERNOR of the GOLD COAST, and of the reply thereto of His Excellency Sir SAMUEL ROWE, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, given in public in the Palaver Hall of the Castle at Elmina on Monday the 30th of May 1881.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

SOME days since I approached your Excellency in this Hall, and I delivered to your Excellency a message from the king, my master and stepson, in which I stated that

the king, my master, had sent me to say to your Excellency that he much regretted the mistake which had arisen between himself and the Government of the Gold Coast, in consequence of which the Lieutenant-Governor had written to England to say that he, the King of Ashanti, had determined to attack the British Protectorate.

At the same time I said on behalf of the king, my master and step-son, that the king had never had any such intentions, and I said that the king made oath by the God above and the earth, that he never thought of war. I said that the words which are said to have been used by the king's servant, Entchie, on hearing the Lieutenant-Governor's refusal to give up the runaway Awoosoo, were not the king's words, but I said that the king is bound by the words of his servant, and I said also that in token of his regret for what has occurred the king prostrated himself before Her Majesty the Queen of England, and I, as the representative of the king, my master and step-son, in token of that submission, embraced the knees of your Excellency, who represent to us the grandeur and power of the Queen of England.

I also said that the king, my master and step-son, directed me to ask your Excellency to be his friend, to intercede with Her Majesty that she may pardon him and be at peace with him.

As a proof of the sincerity of my king, I also said that I had been directed by the king to beg your Excellency's acceptance of 2,000 ounces of gold.

At the time I delivered this message a part only of this gold had arrived, and your Excellency promised that you would favourably consider my message when it was complete.

The king, my master, has sent some more gold to be added to that which I brought with me. The whole 2,000 ounces has not yet come. But the king begs that your Excellency will be patient, and assures your Excellency that he will not fail to keep the promise which he, a king, has made for himself and country.

In proof of the firm belief which I have that the king will keep his word, I am ready to deposit with your Excellency, until the offered gold is completed, the personal ornaments which I wear, and which I prize most highly as family treasures.

I and my chiefs are also prepared to sign any paper which your Excellency may wish, binding ourselves to pay to your Excellency out of our own personal property such sums as we are ourselves able, if the king, my master and step-son, does not send to your Excellency the balance of the amount promised within two months from the present time.

When we delivered to your Excellency under the trees of Prahsue the message which the king had given us, your Excellency said that although the king had sent messages, and had sent gold, you wanted some token or pledge which should prove that this message of peace was the message of the king and the nation.

Your Excellency told us to think well and try and decide upon something which would always be a proof to Her Majesty's Government that in this matter the words of the King of Ashanti have been rightly interpreted.

I now lay before your Excellency something which I think will prove to you that the king, my master, is really in earnest in saying that he wishes for peace.

This axe, which I beg your Excellency to send in the name of my master to the Queen of England, is one of the most treasured emblems of sovereignty in my country.

In sending this axe for ever away from our country, we are sending away that which is associated with all the greatest glories of the Ashanti kingdom. But as this axe has been the cause of such serious troubles between the Ashanti kingdom and the Queen of England, the king begs Her most gracious Majesty to accept it, feeling sure that while it is in Her Majesty's possession she will not allow it to be treated with disrespect, and hoping that it will be to her a proof of the earnestness with which the King of Ashanti desires the cultivation of friendly intercourse with Her Majesty's Government.

His Excellency replied :—

Prince Buaki : I have carefully listened to all that you have said, and I will now transmit your message to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, and I will ask his Lordship to be pleased to ask Her Majesty to accord her gracious consideration to the apologies offered by the king, your master, for the late acts of his servant Entchie, to be pleased to receive as proofs of the king's sincerity the gold and valuables which the king submissively offers for Her Majesty's acceptance, and to favourably entertain the request which the king makes for more extended friendly intercourse between himself and Her Majesty's Government.

But I must tell you that although my great and good Queen, the Queen of England and Empress of India, desires to be at peace with the kings and chiefs of Western Africa, she cannot be the friend of any one of those kings or chiefs so long as he encourages in his kingdom such practices as are abhorrent to all right-minded people, the custom of

sacrificing human beings, whether that sacrifice is made for a public show, or whether these sacrifices are made privately under the excuse of providing attendance for dead personages of rank in that spirit world to which you suppose they have departed, is one which your king must be prepared to put a stop to before he can hope that Her Majesty the Queen of England can consent to be his friend.

It will be to me a source of exceeding satisfaction to be able to convey to Her Majesty the assurance that on your return to Coomassie you will impress on your king the desirability, and, indeed, the absolute necessity, of taking steps to at once abolish utterly and for ever in the Ashanti land this custom of human sacrifices.

Without your king is prepared to do this I cannot hold out to him the hope of the friendship and help of my Queen.

I trust that the events of to-day mark the commencement of more friendly and frequent intercourse between the Government of the Gold Coast and the king, your master, than has hitherto existed, and I will do my best to assist your king in his attempts to settle his troubles with his neighbours so long as his efforts are directed to keep peace and develope trade.

The prince replied: On my return to Commassie I will tell the king what are your Excellency's wishes about human sacrifices.

His Excellency then said: I wish you also to distinctly promise me for the king, your master, that he will not kill or in any way injure in person his servant Entchie on his return to Coomassie on account of the mistake which he is said to have made in giving the king's message.

Prince Buaki replied: I promise your Excellency to give this particular message to my son, my master, and I am sure that the king will respect your Excellency's wishes, and that no harm will be done to Entchie.

This is a correct record of what was said in our presence at the Castle, Elmina, the 30th day of May 1881.

SAMUEL ROWE, Governor.	BUAKI, × mark, Prince of Ashanti.	His × ATTAH.
W. C. JUSTICE, Colonel Commanding the Troops.	AMUAKU × mark.	His × ASSANTI.
J. S. HAY, Acting Colonial Secretary.	QUAMIN × mark.	His × mark.
THOMAS WOODCOCK, Queen's Advocate.	ABOTINIMU × mark.	His × mark.
FRED. EVANS, Chief Secretary and Chief of Staff.	SARKORI × mark.	His × mark.
KNAPP BARROW, Political Secretary.	YOW × mark.	His × mark.
JOHN EDWARD HART, Captain 1st W. I. Regt.	AJAE × mark.	His × mark.
W. R. COLLYER, Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.	POKU × mark.	His × mark.
J. H. SANDWITH, Captain, R.M., Special Staff of Governor.	ABINQUA × mark.	His × mark.
JAMES FLETCHER, General Superintendent, Wesleyan Missions.	YEBUAH × mark.	His × mark.

I, Jacob Simons, District Commissioner of Secondee, do swear that I have truly and correctly interpreted the contents of the foregoing document into the Fanti language in the presence of the Governor-in-Chief and the Ashanti chiefs now present.

Witness,

J. ALEXR. WILLIAMS.

WM. COKER.

J. SIMONS.

Sworn before me at Elmina Castle on the 30th May 1881.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Gold Coast Colony.

We, the undersigned, James Davies and Christian Badger, do swear that the contents of the foregoing document were truly and correctly interpreted in our presence into the Fanti language by the above-mentioned Jacob Simons in the presence of the Governor-in-Chief and the Ashanti chiefs now present.

Witness,

J. ALEXR. WILLIAMS.

WM. COKER.

JAMES DAVIES.

C. W. BADGER.

Sworn before me at Elmina Castle on the 30th May 1881.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Gold Coast Colony.

I, Ossoo Ansah, Prince of the Ashantis, do swear that the contents of the foregoing document have been truly and correctly interpreted by me to the Ashanti chiefs, signatories of the same, in the Ashanti language on several occasions, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief they thoroughly understand its meaning.

(Signed) J. OSSOO ANSAH.

Witness,

J. ALEXR. WILLIAMS.

WILLIAM COKER.

Sworn before me at Elmina Castle on the 30th May 1881.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Gold Coast Colony.

Enclosure 2 in No. 124.

History of the "Gold Axe" of Ashanti.

THE axe is said by the Ashantis themselves to be very old, so old that no account exists of its origin, and they say also that it was used as a weapon by a king of Ashanti, who reigned at a very early time, before the introduction of guns and powder into that country.

It is much revered by the Ashantis.

It is considered by them to be so precious that it is kept for safe custody, with the Great Royal Stool of Ashanti, and in processions of State which periodically take place in Comassie it precedes that Royal Stool.

It is so much prized in its country, as emblematical of sovereignty, that the King declined to part with it when it was asked for by his chief, Amanku Attah, who was sent from Mansue for it, but afterwards, at the earnest solicitation of Amanku Attah, the King and chiefs assembled in native council in Coomassie; and when Amanku Attah represented that he had been sent under orders from his Excellency the Governor, and that the Prince Buaki (the King's ambassador to this Government), together with Prince John Ossoo Ansah, both wished it to be sent down as a lasting token of the sincerity of all that the Prince Buaki had said to the Governor on behalf of the King, his step-son, then the King in council assembled, surrounded by his chiefs, and many people agreed of their own free will to do so, for they said (as Amanku Attah reports it), it is sent to the Governor in support of the friendly feeling in the heart of the King, his chiefs, and of his people towards Her Britannic Majesty's Government, in sign of absolute submission on the

And we, the said James Davies and Christian Badger, do swear that the contents of the above-mentioned documents were truly and correctly interpreted to the aforesaid persons in our presence and hearing, and that to the best of our belief each of the aforesaid persons understood the meaning and nature of the document which he signed.

J. SIMONS.
JAMES DAVIES.
C. W. BADGER.

Witnesses,

J. ALEXR. WILLIAMS,
G. E. FERGUSON.

Sworn before me at Elmina Castle this 30th day of May 1881.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Gold Coast Colony.

Enclosure 5 in No. 124.

ASHANTI AMBASSADORS present at Elmina Castle on 30th May 1881.

PRINCE BUAKI (alias TINTIN)	-	Husband of the Queen-mother of Kingdom of Ashanti, and the step-father of the present King.
PRINCE BUAKI WHIAMANI	}	- Sons of the late King Quaco Duah of Ashanti.
PRINCE BUAKI ATTANSAH		
AMUAKU ATTAH	-	- Representative of Awuah of Bantama, equivalent to a Peer in England.
QUAMIN ASSANTI	-	- Representative of Prince Buaki of Asafu, equivalent in Ashanti to a Cabinet Minister in England.
ABOTINIMA	-	- Representative of Beckwai, Chief of a large Ashanti Province.
SARKORI	-	- Representative of Kokofu, King of a Royal Province in Ashanti.
YOW	-	- Representative of Mampon, King of the largest Province in Ashanti.
AJAE	-	- Representative of Insuta, King of a Royal Province in Ashanti.
POKU	-	- Representative of Am ful, Chief, where battle was fought in last war.
AHINQUA	-	- Representative of Asuminga, Chief.
YEBUAH	-	- Representative of Yoku, a leading Ashanti.
MUNININGNA	}	- Prince Buaki's chiefs.
KOANTU INSUO		

No. 125.

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

SIR,

Downing Street, June 28, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 4th ult.,* and to transmit to you, for your information, copies of two letters which have been received from the War Office, regarding the force to be maintained in the colony.

You will observe that the War Office desire that the garrison should be reduced to its normal state "as soon as political considerations will allow," but as I informed you in my Despatch of the 27th ult.,† the Secretary of State for War concurred with me in approving your proposal to retain a force of 350 men for the next few months, if this should be necessary.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

* No. 112.

† No. 110.

No. 126.

WAR OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR, June 29, 1881.
 WITH reference to the letter from this office of the 20th instant,* I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of a further letter from the Officer Commanding the Troops, West Coast of Africa, with its enclosures, on the subject of the strength of the garrisons to be maintained at Cape Coast Castle and Sierra Leone.

The Under Secretary of State,
 Colonial Office.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) RALPH W. THOMPSON.

Enclosure in No. 126.

From the OFFICER COMMANDING TROOPS, West Coast of Africa, to the
 SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR, War Office, Pall Mall.

SIR, Cape Coast Castle, May 20, 1881.
 WITH reference to my letter of the 4th instant, on the subject of the strength of the garrisons to be maintained at Cape Coast Castle and Sierra Leone, I have the honour to submit, for your information, copies of a letter addressed to the Governor at Sierra Leone, and his reply thereto.

Before troops were sent to the Gold Coast in anticipation of hostilities with Ashanti, the usual strength of the garrison at Sierra Leone was regimental headquarters and about 400 men and at Cape Coast Castle a detachment of 200 men.

When negotiations are entirely concluded, I presume there can be no reason for keeping such a large detachment here,† and I would recommend that the original distribution be resumed. For the purposes of discipline, and on account of the superiority of the barrack accommodation at Sierra Leone, it is better that as many men as possible should be kept with the regimental headquarters.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) W. C. JUSTICE, Colonel,
 Commanding Troops, West
 Coast of Africa.

From the OFFICER COMMANDING TROOPS to HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-IN-CHIEF,
 West African Settlements, Sierra Leone.

SIR, Cape Coast Castle, May 1, 1881.
 I HAVE the honour to inform you that I am sending by H.M.S. "Wye," which will probably leave on the 4th instant, and mail steamer to Sierra Leone, headquarters and 10 officers and 153 men 1st West India Regiment, which will make that garrison up to a strength of 17 officers, 308 men.

The Governor of the Gold Coast considers that the strength of the garrison at Cape Coast Castle should for the present be not less than 350 men, and in order to comply with his demands I propose that the garrison at Sierra Leone should be reduced to the extent I have mentioned.

To complete the numbers here, I shall, in addition, transfer 68 men from 2nd to 1st West.

The 2nd West India Regiment will in all probability be withdrawn from this coast early in June.

I should be glad to be furnished with your opinion as to the alterations I propose in the disposal of the troops here and at Sierra Leone, and request you will consider whether the garrison at Sierra Leone cannot with safety be still further reduced.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) W. C. JUSTICE, Colonel,
 Commanding Troops, West
 Coast of Africa.

* No. 121.

† 350 men.

From the ACTING ADMINISTRATOR-IN-CHIEF to the OFFICER COMMANDING THE TROOPS,
Cape Coast Castle.

Government House, Sierra Leone,

May 11, 1881.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 1st May 1881.

2. As I am but temporarily acting as Administrator pending the arrival of Governor A. E. Havelock, I propose leaving the consideration of the contents of your letter to him, and am in the meantime, &c.

Colonel W. C. Justice,
Commanding Troops, West Coast of Africa,
Cape Coast Castle.

(Signed) FRANCIS F. PINKETT,
Administrator-in-Chief.

No. 127.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received June 30, 1881.)

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast,

June 5, 1881.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of surveys and reports of journeys made by some of the officers whom your Lordship was good enough to appoint to be officers of my staff for temporary special service on the Gold Coast during their late service here.

2. The report of Mr. Swinburne and the sketch of his route is of interest, as having reference to the district, through a part of which passes the route by which messengers from Ashanti can come direct from Prah sue to Accra when the Governor is residing there, and which it is important should be at once improved.

3. I had this object in view, and also the hope that the improvement of the route between Mansue and Accra might perhaps induce some traders coming down the main road to turn off to Accra, when I asked Mr. Swinburne to make his journey; though he went to Accra at his own request with a view to more speedy recovery of his strength after an attack of fever.

4. I cannot speak too highly of Mr. Hart's journey down the Prah and his survey of the course of that river; when I think of the character of the country through which he passed, and the climate, I am surprised at the patient perseverance which enabled him to trace the whole distance and make such observations as he has done.

5. I would respectfully submit that it will be of advantage to the Colony if the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for War will allow these routes to be copied in the Intelligence Department, and copies to be sent to this Colony. It may perhaps be thought desirable to cause them to be incorporated in the large map of the Gold Coast Colony which exists in that Department.

6. Mr. Hart has collected a number of geological specimens which I submit are of great interest, and if your Lordship would see fit to cause them to be sent to the Royal School of Mines in Jermyn Street the director would probably cause the specimens to be examined and reported on.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

Enclosure 1 in No. 127.

INSTRUCTIONS for Mr. Pain, proceeding on a Journey south-east from Prah su.

FOLLOWING the course of the Prah River east to Coshea, you will at that place cross the Prah and proceed north-east to Essaman on the Ofim.

From this place you will attempt to proceed in a more or less south-easterly direction towards the Gold Fields of Western Wassaw.

In a journey of this description, over a country which has not been surveyed, much must be left to the discretion of the officer making it.

The essential points to be borne in mind are, however, the following, viz.: this journey is made with a view to collecting more accurate information than is at present possessed of the route towards Ashanti from Appolonia and the Western Provinces of the Protectorate:

In the first instance, you are requested to make your way more or less westerly until you strike upon some frequented track leading to the sea coast.

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On striking this track you are requested to follow it so long as it bears the character of being a frequented track, and so long as it leads with fair directness towards the sea coast, no matter if in doing so you should find it lead you in a much more easterly direction than the one which you propose and which you wished to follow.

You are requested to note that I consider it of much greater importance that you should survey 10 miles of frequented route from one village to another, and note the relative position of these, and the character of the path between them, than that you should survey 30 miles of uninhabited forest, along which there is no frequented track.

There are two frequented tracks leading from the sea coast to the north.

One leads from Elmina by New Denkera Wassaw, Old Denkera to the borders of the Protectorate, thence by the Sefui country to Gaman.

Another route leads from Appolonia to Coomassie.

These routes must cross each other probably somewhere on the northern confines of the Wassaw country, and it is with a view to acquiring accurate information of one or the other of these routes that I request you to undertake the present journey.

On your way you may find it necessary to expend small sums at each of the places at which you halt. You will find it of advantage to frequently fee guides, hunters, and men of this class whose information is of assistance to you.

On arrival at any native village you should invariably send to the native chief, inform him of your arrival. You should tell him the object of your journey, say that I have been to the Prah, and am now on my way to Elmina.

That on my arrival at Elmina I propose to hold a grand meeting with a prince of high rank from Ashanti who has been sent down to see me.

Should you arrive at the Gold Fields, these instructions will be a sufficient introduction for you to the District Commissioner at Tarquah, Mr. Cuscaden, whom I hereby direct to afford you in the prosecution of this journey every assistance in his power.

They will also introduce you to Mr. Crocker of Crockerbille, who is the owner of a large property there, an influential partner in the well-known firm of Messrs. F. and A. Swanzy of London.

Should you arrive at this place you will use your own discretion as to the route you will follow in proceeding to the Coast.

The route of the Ankobra River is well known, but there is a route from Tarquah to the eastward towards Secondee or Chamah, on which a policeman is stationed, and along which I am informed the land post travels to Tarquah, with reference to which further information is much needed.

In all cases in which presents are offered by natives a return should be made for them approximate to their value; the exact amount of this, however, after the first few days will probably be more generally dependent on the funds at your disposal.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

Camp, Prah sue,
22nd April 1881.

Enclosure 2 in No. 127.

REPORT on the ROUTE taken by Capt. PAIN, 75th Regiment, from PRAHSUE to ELMINA in April and May 1881, by order of H. E. Sir SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G., Governor-in-Chief.

23rd April.—I left Prah sue on 23rd April 1881 with a party consisting of two clerks, one headman, and 18 krepees; followed the main road leading towards Mansue.

As far as Asampania, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Prah sue. Hence we followed a bush path, leading in a westerly direction, and passed through Suter, five houses, $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours from Prah sue; proceeding for one hour, we found a bad track on the right leading back to Prah sue, via Assamamba. At 1.45 p.m. we arrived at Quaseah, having journeyed about 14 miles in $5\frac{1}{4}$ hours, including a short halt on the road. The track is an ordinary path, and for a bush path is good, but much encumbered with fallen trees, stumps, &c. It is much used, as all the Assins who live to the westward prefer to follow this track (through their own country) to the coast, rather than take the more direct route through Tufel. The forest on either side is penetrable. Chief Yabennah, subject to King Chiboo of Assin. There are 30 huts. The village is on the left bank of the Prah, which is 60 yards wide, nine feet deep, current three miles an hour, banks 20 feet high. There is one canoe, which holds six men. The Ashantis did not come here in 1873.

24th April.—It took 35 minutes to cross the Prah with my party and baggage. Fidium is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Quaseah, the path between them following the right bank of the Prah

in an easterly direction. The chief Quamin Nifo is subject to King Chiboo of Assin. There are five huts.

Asaman is on the River Ofie, which is 50 yards wide, 10 feet deep, current three miles an hour, banks 12 feet. There are three canoes, which hold five, three, and two men respectively. The chief Tokoo and assistant chief Awadia are subject to King Chiboo of Assin. There is a bad track in a south-westerly direction, across the river leading through Awēsīm, Denchai, Amraseah to Korthachie. The Ashantis passed through this village on their return from the coast in 1873. Isasie is on the River Ofie. There are 10 huts. The chief Coffee Amoah is subject to the King of Assin. Nuadouem is 10 miles from Quaseah, in a N.W. direction; this distance took me $5\frac{3}{4}$ hours to survey; the path is good, and not so hilly as that of the previous day; the bush is penetrable. The village is near the right bank of the River Ofie, this river being 400 yards distant, there are 20 huts. The chief Quamina Quainchie is subject to King Chiboo of Assin. No canoes on the river. The Ashantis came here in 1873 from Foosoo, destroyed the village, and returned by the same route.

25th April.—Besai is the western limit of the Assin province on this road, it is about one mile from Nuadouem, there are five deserted huts. We next passed through Jmpābi (Tufel), six deserted huts, and then Yancoomassie (Dencherai), four deserted huts; proceeding on to Odumasie, which is on the river Ofie; there is one canoe here, which holds three men. 20 huts. The chief Tanfogora is subject to King Acosie Badoo of Tufel, who resides at Mampon. I arrived at Foosoo at 9.45 a.m., this place being distant from Nuadouem $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles; it took me $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours to survey the road; there are 94 huts. The chief Coffee Amoah and the assistant chief Brunsim are subject to King Acosie Kaye of Dencherai. The River Ofie is 30 yards wide, banks 25 feet. There are two canoes, which each hold six men. The Adansi country is on the other side of the river. The Ashantis came here in 1873 from Baoudoi, destroyed the town, and returned.

26th April.—Asiasso is a deserted village of eight huts, about two miles from Foosoo; there were numerous disused shafts (30 feet deep) for gold in this locality. We arrived at Baoudoi at 7.15 a.m., having surveyed $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. I should have accomplished this yesterday, had not my guide greatly deceived me as to the distance. Baoudoi is a straggling village, comprising about 40 huts, and is 100 yards from the River Ofie, on the right bank. The chief Quacoe Badoo is subject to King Acosie Kaye of Dencherai. There are two canoes on the river, each holding six men. There is a bad track over the river, which leads through the Adansi country to Coomassie. The Ashantis did not pass this road in 1873, but crossed the river higher up at Adumasie and Tamfuri. The above road passes through Kayah (3), Abapem ($3\frac{1}{4}$), Djafor (2), Amachem (5), Cuojah ($3\frac{1}{4}$), Echichiborsoe ($3\frac{1}{4}$), Womahen ($3\frac{1}{4}$), Adukurem (1), Ekurofom ($1\frac{1}{2}$), Edubiassie ($1\frac{3}{4}$), Essaquantā (1), Dortierso ($\frac{3}{4}$), Ankawasie (1), Adadawasie (1), Sanfoh (1), Quarman (1), Ejunasie (1), Amoaful ($\frac{1}{4}$), Djamah (1), Suyah ($\frac{3}{4}$), Edjumam ($1\frac{3}{4}$), Sakrakah (1), Adunkoo (1), Eduaben (1), Dodeyesua ($3\frac{1}{2}$), Dasoe (1), Asajoe ($\frac{1}{2}$), Karsie ($3\frac{1}{2}$), Coomassie ($3\frac{1}{2}$). Total $52\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The above numbers signify hours, but appear to me to be excessive.

There is another road following a north-westerly direction, which I surveyed for $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles; it passes through Amoaful ($1\frac{1}{4}$ miles), which is $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from River Ofie; there are 10 huts. The other towns are Dotoum, Tchichiwarie, Akropong (large town), Aduam, Adumasie, Beabenso, Achampim (chief town of Northern Dencherai), Dounquah, Tufoum, and Tamfuri (on the River Ofie). The latter place is said to be 30 miles from here. This is a good and well frequented bush track. The other road, leading in a southerly direction, is the one I followed.

27th April.—Leaving Baoudoi, I passed through Inquantanan, where there are 10 huts, the village being in Tufel. Chirancoom was the next place; there are 14 huts. The chief, Onie Madoo, is subject to King Acosie Badoo of Tufel, at Yamesso; there are only four huts, it is in Tufel. I arrived at Korthachie at 2.5 p.m., having surveyed $15\frac{1}{4}$ miles in $6\frac{3}{4}$ hours. The track generally is not so good as that from Prahśue to Baoudoi, but it is being cleared. Korthachie is on the Prah, which is 80 yards wide, current two miles an hour; there are two canoes, holding six men each. There are 130 huts. The chief, Yah Chunaboi, is subject to Acosie Badoo, King of Tufel.

28th April.—I passed through the following places, viz.:—Chedru, 11 huts, chief Quabina Entie, subject to King Acosie Badoo of Tufel. This village is on the River Prah.

Wemasso, 15 huts; Chief Cobbinaotou is subject to the King of Tufel; this village is on the River Prah.

Breman, Chief Quamin Quahin, in Tufel.

Abuaboo is $13\frac{3}{4}$ hours from Korthachie, and I surveyed the distance in $5\frac{3}{4}$ hours. The track is fair as far as Chedru, and then becomes good; the forest is penetrable. There are 70 huts. The chief, Quacoe Tandoh, is subject to Acosie Badoo, King of Tufel.

There is a road leading in a north-westerly direction to the Sefui and Gaman countries; it passes through the following places, the numbers denoting hours:—Amampomah ($\frac{3}{4}$), Wamasoe ($\frac{3}{4}$), Bopoquah ($2\frac{3}{4}$), Asarman ($1\frac{1}{2}$), Mansisoe ($\frac{3}{4}$), all in Tufel country. Leading out of the above road, between Asarman and Mansisoe, is a *bad* track to the westward, passing through Isasie, Abrodeam, Quobattie, Bortissoe, all in Dencherai-Dadiasso in Wassaw. I am told here that the Ashantis followed this path in 1873.

Adjoah Konfo Kurom ($\frac{3}{4}$), Tamfurie (22 miles from here), Yasim Kurom ($\frac{1}{4}$), Abetiassie ($2\frac{3}{4}$), Jnkasawarah ($\frac{1}{4}$), Foben ($\frac{1}{4}$), Edina ($2\frac{3}{4}$), Yoworso ($2\frac{3}{4}$), Wawiah ($2\frac{3}{4}$), Pamponso ($3\frac{1}{4}$), Yorouso ($\frac{1}{4}$), Anwiasso ($\frac{1}{4}$), Boasey ($\frac{3}{4}$), Anonasie.

The Ashantis did not come here in 1873, they got to Effootoo Mampon, by Dunquah and Juquah.

29th April.—I surveyed the main road towards the north for three miles, and passed through Amampama, 72 huts. The chief, Quabina Oweah, is subject to King Acosie Badoo of Tufel. Returning to Abuaboo, I left again at 9 a.m., taking the road towards the coast, and passed through Mosiasso, 35 huts. The chief, Cudjoe Asabru, is subject to the King of Tufel.

I reached Donduah at 11.45 a.m., it is $6\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Abuaboo, and occupied $2\frac{3}{4}$ hours to survey the road, which is cleared, but is very hilly. The forest is penetrable. There are 40 huts. The chief Cobbinah Sorben is subject to the King of Tufel.

30th April.—I passed through Daman, 53 huts. The chief Cudjoe Ponsah is subject to King Acosie Badoo. I crossed the River Prah close to Abuboye, which is on the left bank, the river is 100 yards wide; there are three canoes, one holds 30 men, the others are little use. The village of Abuboye consists of five huts only.

I reached Mampon at 9 a.m., it is the capital of Tufel, and the King Acosie Badoo resides here. There are 210 houses. The Queen's name is Entuah, she is the King's sister. Quacoom and Cudjoe Bosoom are the names of the King's brothers. Chief, Jaquerie. There is a very bad path leading to Tarquah from here through the following places; the figures denote hours:—Esuoso ($1\frac{1}{2}$), Hemanso ($1\frac{1}{2}$), Ekurofroom ($2\frac{1}{2}$), Akempem (5), Prepiehurom (8), Aboper (1), Bosumchie ($1\frac{1}{2}$), Yaw Mansah ($2\frac{1}{2}$), Chidah (5), Bompiero ($2\frac{1}{2}$), Ferdeyeyaw ($1\frac{1}{2}$), Abuaso (5), Tarquah (5), about 80 miles. The road between Donduah and Mampon is good; the bush is more dense, but penetrable in parts.

1st May.—I passed through Heman, 142 huts. The chief, Cobbinah Otoe, is subject to King Acosie Badoo of Tufel. At Quacoo Kroom there are 20 huts; the chief, Quacoo, is subject to the King of Tufel.

I arrived at Wawassie at 11.45 a.m., having surveyed 12 miles in five hours. The road is good and cleared; the forest is penetrable; there are 102 huts. The chief, Quamina Nimpah, is subject to Acosie Kaye, King of Dencherai.

2nd May.—Sutah, 37 huts. No chief (Dencherai).

Iacoboo, 23 huts. No chief (Dencherai).

Infuam, 52 huts. The chief, Quamina Coomie, is subject to Acosie Kaye, King of Dencherai. About half a mile beyond is another village of 20 huts, also called Infuam.

Marbonian, 13 huts, chief Tandoe-Dencherai.

Impassum, 11 huts, chief Aduchim-Dencherai.

I arrived at Abrafo at 1.45 p.m., having surveyed 13 miles in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The path is clear, and the bush penetrable. There are 45 huts. The chief, Yawbin, is subject to Acosie Kaye.

There is a fair bush path from here, leading westerly into Wassaw, it passes through Quasina ($\frac{1}{4}$), Adehum or Denyamisso ($\frac{1}{4}$), both in Dencherai-Enkacro (2), Atobiassie (capital of Wassaw) ($5\frac{1}{2}$), Domama ($\frac{1}{2}$), Asuaja, on the Prah ($3\frac{1}{2}$), Ahinebrim, on the Prah ($\frac{1}{2}$), all in Wassaw. The numbers denote hours.

3rd May.—I surveyed the path leading into Wassaw, passing through Quasina, 18 huts, chief Quacoe Deb, subject to King Acosie Kaye; Demyanissoe, formerly called Adehum, 21 huts, chief Coffee Barcom, subject to King of Dencherai; proceeding in the same direction for $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours, when I followed the track leading back through Framin to Abrafo. I left Abrafo after breakfast, and passed through Framin, formerly called Kousiquah, 66 huts; the chief, Yaw Cottai, is subject to King Acosie Kaye. Main, 50 huts; chief Quamina Sarbey-Dencherai. Damuaquatan, 10 huts. Impotassie,

49 huts. I arrived at Juquah at 2.45 p.m., the road is good, but the bush becomes more dense; Acosie Kaye, the King of Dencherai, resides here; the town is on the River Sorowie; there are 254 huts, and it is the capital of Dencherai. The King's nephew, Codiah, is heir presumptive, his eldest son is called Quacoe Sabai (or John Cade), the chiefs are Quabina Hinn Ampon, Jaqua, Chroi Hinn, Anie Madon.

4th May.—I left Juquah at 7.45 a.m., passed through Effootoo at 9.20 a.m., and arrived at Elmina at 12.15 p.m. The distance is about 14 miles; the road is good, but the bush is very dense and impenetrable. The following experiences as to rates of travelling may be of use.

On a good road, to walk, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles an hour.

On a good bush path 3 " "

On a fair " $2\frac{1}{2}$ " "

To survey either of the above, 2 miles an hour.

The road from Elmina to Juquah, Mampon, Abuaboo, and on to the Sefui and Gaman countries, is a good main road, taking a general direction of N. by W., it is about 30 miles west of the Prahsue main road, and might (for practical purposes) be said to run parallel to it. The road from Baoudoi to Prahsue is a well frequented track on the frontier line, having the Rivers Ofie and Prah in advance of it; it connects the two main roads from the coast to the interior, and, in the event of military operations becoming necessary against such a kingdom as Ashanti, this line of communication, *on the frontier*, would probably be of the utmost importance for strategical operations. It is for this reason, as well as for trading purposes, that I would be allowed to suggest that this road be cleared.

(Signed) ARTHUR H. PAIN,
Capt. 75th Regiment.

Elmina Castle,
11th May 1881.

There is plenty of water of good quality throughout the whole distance.

(Signed) A. H. P.

ROUTE from PRAHSUE to ELMINA via Baoudoi and Mampon.

Places on or near the Road.	Distances (Miles).		No. of Houses.	Names of Chiefs.	Situate in
	Intermediate.	Total.			
Prahsue	—	—	20	—	Assin.
Asampania	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	25	Edoo Coffee	"
Sutern	$2\frac{1}{2}$	4	5	—	"
Quaseah	10	14	30	Yabannah	"
Fidium	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$15\frac{1}{2}$	5	Quamin Nifo	"
Asaman	$3\frac{1}{2}$	18	—	Tokoo	"
Isasie	1	19	10	Coffee Amoah	"
Nuadouem	5	24	20	Quamina Quainchie	"
Odumasie	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$28\frac{1}{2}$	20	Tanfogora	Tufel.
Foosoo	2	$30\frac{1}{2}$	94	Coffee Amoah	Dencherai.
Baoudoi	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$33\frac{1}{4}$	40	Quacoe Badoo	"
Inquantanan	3	$36\frac{1}{4}$	10	—	Tufel.
Chirancoom	4	$40\frac{1}{4}$	14	Onie Madoo	"
Yamesso	$4\frac{1}{4}$	$44\frac{1}{4}$	4	—	"
Korthachie	4	$48\frac{1}{2}$	130	Yah Chunaboi	"
Chedru	4	$52\frac{1}{2}$	11	Quabina Entie	"
Wemasso	2	$54\frac{1}{2}$	15	Cobbina Otou	"
Breman	$2\frac{1}{3}$	57	—	Quamin Quahin	"
Abuaboo	5	62	70	Quacoe Tandoh	"
Mosiasso	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$63\frac{3}{4}$	35	Cudjoe Asabue	"
Donduah	5	$68\frac{3}{4}$	40	Cobbina Sorben	"
Daman	$1\frac{1}{4}$	70	53	Cudjoe Ponsah	"
Abuboye	2	72	5	—	"
Mampon	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$76\frac{1}{2}$	210	King Acosie Badoo	"
Heman	$3\frac{1}{2}$	80	142	Cobbina Otoo	"
Quacoo Kroom	4	84	20	Quacoo	"
Wawassie	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$88\frac{1}{2}$	102	Quamina Nimpah	Dencherai.
Sutah	$2\frac{1}{2}$	91	37	—	"
Jacoboo	—	$91\frac{3}{4}$	23	—	"
Iufnam	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$96\frac{1}{4}$	52	Quamina Coomic	"
"	—	97	20	"	"

Places on or near the Road.	Distance (Miles).		No. of Houses.	Names of Chiefs.	Situate in
	Intermediate.	Total.			
Marbonian - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	Tandoe - -	Dencherai.
Impassum - -	$3\frac{1}{2}$	101	11	Aduchim - -	"
Abrafo - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	101 $\frac{1}{2}$	45	Yawbin - -	"
Quasina - -	West of road	18	18	Quacoe Deh - -	"
Framin - -	2	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	66	Yaw Cottai - -	"
Main - -	$1\frac{1}{2}$	105	50	Quamina Sarbey - -	"
Juquah - -	4	109	25	King Acosie Kaye - -	"
Effootoo - -	$4\frac{1}{2}$	113 $\frac{1}{2}$	40	Quasie Daye - -	Fantee.
Elmina - -	$9\frac{1}{2}$	123	—	Andor - -	"
Total - -	—	123	—		

Elmina Castle,
11th May 1881.

ARTHUR H. PAIN,
Capt. 75th Reg.

Enclosure 3 in No. 127.

LIEUT. SWINBURNE to SIR SAMUEL ROWE, K.C.M.G.

SIR,

Elmina Castle, May 4, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in accordance with the instructions given to me on the 3rd April, I proceeded to Accra and remained there for a week for the purpose of recruiting my health and procuring men to convey me to Mansue.

2. On Tuesday, April 12th, I left Christiansborg at noon to meet my men at Accra and start at 3 p.m.; but my men not having all mustered till past 4, and a tornado threatening, I delayed my departure till daylight next day.

3. On Wednesday (13th) I left Accra with 35 men (1 headman and interpreter, 8 hammockmen, and 26 workmen and carriers), whom I had collected to bring with me to Mansue, in compliance with paragraph 9 of my instructions. I did not get away before 7.15 a.m., in consequence of a claim made upon one of my men by the postal authorities. I left then at 7.15 a.m., passing between a salt lake and the sea; struck across the plain in a N.W. direction.

The sun was up and very hot already, and the plain we marched over was bare grass, with clumps of brushwood and innumerable ant-hills.

At 9 a.m. we crossed the dry bed of the River Seccoom, and at 9.40 arrived at Beulah, a small garden and two huts belonging to a gentleman in Accra. I engaged and brought on from here two men as labourers.

4. We left Beulah at 4.5 p.m., and immediately crossed the River Oomah, a stream about waist deep and 20 feet wide. I presume this river flows into the Seccoom.

Marching through an open park-like country, with good grass and clumps of trees, and having rounded hills all round, we got to Amangflu in an hour and 45 minutes.

Upon arrival, I sent for the chief (name Aponsa), and, informing him that I was an officer proceeding to join the Governor at Mansue. I requested permission for my people to buy food and fuel, and accommodation for myself.

The village was clean and well kept. It belongs to Mr. Cleland, who lives at Accra, and contains about 35 houses.

5. Friday, April 14th, I left Amangflu at 6.50 a.m., and marched through pretty open country with patches of thick bush. The soil had hitherto been sandy, but at 7.50 I observed granite cropping out. At 7.55 reached "Bush Amangflu," or Chichia-worri (comfort yourself), a small village of eight or nine houses.

Left at 8.10, and reached Aminoh at 8.35, a little village of six houses scantily supplied with water.

Left Aminoh at 8.38, and after passing through a good deal of bush reached Adipong at 8.55. A good village of about a dozen houses. Water supply scanty, derived from wells. Principal chief Atobi, second Tinyer Medi.

Left Adipong at 9.10, and marched through bush with open glades till we reached Opaycomah at 10.35, and halted for breakfast.

6. Opaycomah is a small village of eight houses. Chief, of same name, very hospitable and most anxious to please. Water is not plentiful, being collected during rain in hollowed stones, probably granite. The village belongs to Obutu, which, with Barricoe, speaks a dialect of its own.

A tornado came on about 2 p.m., and it rained till 5; I therefore proceeded no farther that night.

7. Left Opaycoomah at 7.5 a.m. on the 15th, and passed through pretty open country, wooded in patches; about 40 minutes after leaving Opaycoomah we passed a hill which rose pretty steeply to a height of some 500 feet about half a mile to the right.

Reached Obutu at 8.30 a.m., and halted for breakfast.

Obutu, or Bush Barricoe, is a good-sized village of about 30 houses, and is said to be three hours from Barricoe; it is on the main road from Accra to Prahsue and Coomassie. The chief died three days before my arrival, and no successor had been appointed. Water is scanty, and is obtained from hollowed stones in which it is collected.

8. Left Obutu at 12.35, and plunged at once into the forest.

Hitherto, with a few exceptions, the path had been quite good enough for hammock travelling, had I chosen to travel that way rather than walk; but now the path was so narrow and tortuous that only two bearers could be used, and the rate of travelling would be very slow, for I found the forest full of fallen cotton trees and snaky roots, and swamps. The road, too, was all up and down hills or ridges whose direction I could not find out, but I think they generally ran pretty well north and south (my path being nearly east and west).

At 1.35 p.m. I reached Acraman (chief, Quaoh), a Goomoah village of 12 to 15 houses. Water scarce, and collected in stones.

Left Acraman at 2 o'clock and reached Darfa (chief, Cogutu) at 3.20; small Goomoah village of four houses.

Departed at 3.40, and found the road very bad to Sakieroom, which I reached at 4.5. I found this village empty, the people having fled to the bush at my approach. I gathered at the next village that the chief's name was Saki. At 4.25 I reached Cocobeng (chief, Acromah), a village of half a dozen houses. Water obtained from a pond, and so plentiful that the people from other villages come here for it.

Left Cocobeng at 4.35, and at 4.45 came to a group of three or four houses, also called Cocobeng (chief Obeng). Left at 4.50, and at 5.15 reached the village of Quantana; 12 houses, water scarce; chief, King Oche-Goomoah. Left Quantana at 5.30 and reached Anchiaqua at 4.45, chief Antee, about 9 houses. This was the last Goomoah village I passed; after a slow passage over a bad road, for it was pretty dark, we reached the River Aynsu at 6.30, a good stream some 20 yards wide and three feet deep. Crossing the river, we got to Asafu at 6.50 p.m.

9. Asafu is a good-sized town of about a hundred houses, built on a slope above the right bank of the river. The principal chief (Quasicoom) was absent at Winnebah; the second chief (Cudjoe Ayeh) was present; I saw him, and told him the roads must be kept clear; I was informed that Ashanti messengers had passed through the town on their way north about four weeks ago.

Asafu is in Aguna, and is under the King of Insabang.

10. My men, not to mention myself, being tired after yesterday's long march, we did not leave Asafu till 11 a.m., 19th April. At 12.5 crossed the River Acorah, about 12 yards wide and a foot deep, and at 12.15 reached the town of Aguna Swaydru, a fine open town of 80 to 100 houses, built on quartz rock sloping slightly towards the east.

I was lodged here in a large two-storied house with good rooms and a verandah, which belonged to Asirifi, the nephew of the chief.

This Asirifi was the most intelligent Native I have met, for, though he knew no English, yet he comprehended my sketch map, and even drew a plan of roads to Insabang and Odoomtoo himself on a slate.

He informed me that it was six hours to Insabang, with no village on the way, and as a tornado seemed threatening, and it rained a little at 2 o'clock, I decided to remain at Swaydru for the night.

11. We left Aguna Swaydru (which, by the by, Wylde's map places 15 miles from Accra) at 7.35 a.m. on the 17th (Easter Sunday), and, crossing the River Acorah on a fallen tree, proceeded almost North. I had arranged with Asirifi and my headman that I should not go to Insabang, but strike the road to Odoomtoo and endeavour to reach Odoobin the same night. I, however, left my headman, whose movements were slow, as usual, in the rear; and, after marching through the dense forest till 11.10, I came to a large open town, built on a slope of red rock facing S.W., which I found to be

Insabang, the capital of Aguna. I interviewed the King (Kofi Chintor) and chiefs Quashi Coom and Yah Quabil (the King's heir).

My headman did not come up for two hours, and he then informed me coolly that the chief Swaydro thought I would like to see the King at Insabang, and also the road to Odoomtoo was not cut clear, and he was unwilling to send me along it.

12. After breakfast, though some rain fell and the sky was threatening, I gave orders to get ready for a start. The rain delayed us, and I only left at 4.45 p.m. The road was very bad, and it was 6.15 when we crossed the River Acorah and reached the double town of Odoomtoo and Enyacroom.

The whole town, under Chief Quabrah Jang, contains about 100 houses; it is on a hillock on the right bank of the river, and belongs to Aguna.

13. April 18th.—My men came to complain that they could buy nothing, and that the chief would not help them. I went to interview him, and told him my people, though willing to pay for food, could get none; that I myself had been unable to buy a fowl, having been asked so exorbitant a price. I also complained that when I came to see him no chair was provided for me, and that I was very angry. I went back to my house, and was immediately followed by an apology from the chief, a quantity of plantains for my people, a kid for myself, and a large chair to sit on. They said they had made a great mistake; I said, "Yes, they had."

We left Odoomtoo at 7.55, and found the road very swampy, and intersected by small streams; at 9.23 reached Incoom (chief, Quashi Asang), a town of 25 houses. Water plentiful, but not good, being rain-water collected in pits.

Left Incoom at 10 a.m., and reached Odobbin at 11.10.

14. Odobbin, chief Aquessi Acong, under King Dunapea of Adjumacee, is a town of about 50 houses built on rock. Water plentiful, collected in pits.

They say they have already had much rain here.

Left Odobbin at 3.30 p.m., and, crossing River Boyo at 5.10, entered the small village of Kontassi.

15. April 19th.—Kontassi is a small village with about 10 to 12 huts in it, built on the right bank of the Boyo, a stream about 10 yards wide and a foot deep, and which I am told is a tributary of the Nacqua.

We left Kontassi (in Essecumah) at 6.45 a.m., and after passing through some rough country, much cut up by streams and small swamps, came upon six deserted huts at 8.10. The road soon afterwards improved, and I met parties of Natives engaged in clearing bush. At 9.8 crossed the river Nacqua, a fine stream 20 yards wide and one foot deep, with clear water flowing among granite boulders.

At 9.16 reached Essecuma, a large town of 120 houses or more. The Queen and the principal men were away at Mansue.

After breakfast I was taken ill and quite unable to proceed, even had not a heavy tornado burst over the town. I took a quantity of quinine and went to bed.

16. I found myself able to proceed in a hammock next morning (April 20th), and, having sent on my carriers, I left Essecuma at 7.20 a.m.; our rate of march was very slow, as only two bearers could work at a time, and the road was much obstructed by fallen trees.

At 8.20 a.m. we came to a small village, and at 1.15 we came to Dumassi, a small village of four houses. The whole way from Essecuma was well cleared.

At 2.10 we got to Tebbi, after seven hours travelling. Here I found the Queen of Essecuma and King of Denchera waiting to see the Governor when he should return from Prahsue.

The village consists of 15 huts, chief Essaydoo, under King Inchie of Mansue.

At 4.40 p.m. I left on foot for Mansue, and arrived at 5.15 with 54 men, all well. I had brought 19 men from different towns I had passed through on my way.

17. I consider that the whole route from Mansue to Accra is capable of being made easily passable if the undergrowth were cleared and the fallen trees removed. From Odoomtoo it is unnecessary to go to Insabang, there being a more direct route to Agunah Swadru. From Obutu the best route to Accra I believe to lie along the sea coast. The whole country is well watered as far east as Agunah Swaydru, and I found plenty of provisions in the shape of fowls, goats, sheep, yams, and plantains, for myself and men.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. R. SWINBURNE,
Lieut. R.M.A.

Elmina Castle,
May 6, 1881.

To His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
Governor-in-Chief, Gold Coast Colony.

Enclosure 4 in No. 127.

ROUTE from ACCRA to MANSUE. April 1881.

Towns or Villages on Route.	Distance.		Hours from last Village.	No. of Houses.	Chief.	Province.
	From last Village.	Total.				
Accra - - -	0	0	0	?	Quartey and Ankrah	Accra.
Beulah - - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	" "	" "
Amangflu - - -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	35	Aponsa - - -	" "
Chichaworri - - -	3	15 $\frac{3}{4}$	1H	10	—	" "
Aminoh - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	25M	6	—	" "
Adipong - - -	1	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	17M	12	Atobi and Tinya Medi	Goomh.
Opaycomah - - -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ H	8	Opaycomah - - -	" "
Obutu - - -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	27 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ H	30	Chief dead - - -	" "
Acraman - - -	3	30 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	15	Quaoh - - -	" "
Dahfa - - -	4	34 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ H	4	Cogata - - -	" "
Sakieroom - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{3}{4}$	25M	—	Saki - - -	" "
Cocobeng - - -	1M	36 $\frac{3}{4}$	15M	6	Aceromah - - -	" "
Cocobeng No. II. - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ M	37 $\frac{1}{4}$	10M	4	Obeng - - -	" "
Quantana - - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{3}{4}$	25	12	King Oché - - -	" "
Anchiaqua - - -	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	15M	9	Antee - - -	" "
Asafu - - -	3	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	1H	100	Quasi Coom - - -	Aguna.
Aguna Swaydru - - -	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	46	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	100	Asirifi Quao Crodu	" "
Insabang - - -	11	57	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	130	King Kofi Chintor -	" "
Enyacroom & Odoomtoo	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	100	Quabra Jang - - -	" "
'Ncoom - - -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	66	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	25	Quasi Asang - - -	" "
Odobbin - - -	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	69 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ H	50	Aquassi Acong - - -	Adjumaco.
Kontassi - - -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	74 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	12	—	" "
Essecuma - - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	82 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	120	Queen - - -	" "
Dumassi - - -	12	94 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	4	—	" "
Tebbi - - -	2	96 $\frac{1}{4}$	50M	15	Essaydoo - - -	Assin.
Mansue - - -	2	98 $\frac{1}{4}$	50M	—	King Inchie - - -	" "

Enclosure 5 in No. 127.

INSTRUCTIONS to Lieutenant UNDERWOOD, R.N.

Mansue, April 8, 1881.

Lieutenant Underwood will proceed to the Prah River.

2. On arrival there he will launch the small boats which he carries on that stream.

3. He will take every opportunity of collecting information of the course and depth of the stream, the names of villages on the banks and on the neighbourhood of the banks.

4. He will try to find native canoes, and make use of them in travelling. He will tell the owners that I will pay for the use of them on my arrival, and he will try to enlist their help.

5. If he finds that he cannot travel on the river, he will follow the banks of the stream as far as time and circumstances allow.

6. He will make a sketch survey of the course of the river as far as he goes.

7. Should Mr. Newenham be too sick to remain at Prahue, Mr. Underwood will take over charge of the station, and remain until relieved.

8. He will not allow armed parties to cross the river from either side, but he will do all he can to facilitate the movements of peaceful passengers.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

Lieutenant Underwood, R.N.

Enclosure 6 in No. 127.

Captain SANDWITH to Lieutenant UNDERWOOD, R.N.

SIR,

Prah sue, April 22, 1881.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to ask you to furnish the information which you were requested to collect in para. 3 of your instructions, 8th April 1881.

2. With reference to the survey referred to in paragraph 6, I am directed to inform you that Lieutenant Hart, V.C., R.E., has already furnished his Excellency with a sketch and copious notes of the journey which he made in your company down the River Prah, and his Excellency requests that you will furnish him with some notes relative to the depth and width of stream, strength of current, etc., and also any other general information as to rocks, rapids, etc., which your experience as a naval officer leads you to consider valuable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. SANDWITH,
Military Secretary.Lieutenant Underwood, R.N.,
Prah sue.

Enclosure 7 in No. 127.

Lieutenant UNDERWOOD to the MILITARY SECRETARY.

SIR,

Prah sue, April 22, 1881.

IN answer to your letter of this morning's date, I have very few notes to make about my trip down the River Prah, after Lieutenant Hart's report.

1st. With regard to the depth of the stream, its bed is so irregular that it is nearly impossible to get 200 yards of the same soundings, but I should consider that from here to the mouth, Affim River, it averages from 15 to 18 feet, at some places there is only three or four feet right across, and at about a couple of miles from the junction of the Affim River there is a small rapid caused by the shallowness of the river, with a drop of about two feet; it would be impossible for any boat to cross this rapid at this time of the year, the river being now at its lowest depth. From the native accounts there seems to be a great many more rapids further down, of a more dangerous nature.

The width of the stream varies from 50 to 70 yards, with thick bush on either side. There seems to be no traffic whatever on the river, the few canoes we saw, only two or three in number, were mere ferry boats across the river.

The river is full of rocks and snags, and, in my estimation, unfit for any navigation, either by steam launches or large canoes, and, in the event of any further survey being required, I consider the work should be commenced from the mouth, with proper means to avoid the dangers attendant with a strong current, rocks, and snags.

I have, &c.

(Signed) POWELL C. UNDERWOOD,
Lieutenant, R.N.

To the Military Secretary.

Enclosure 8 in No. 127.

Captain SANDWITH to Lieutenant UNDERWOOD, R.N.

SIR,

Prah sue, April 22, 1881.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to thank you for your report, which, in his opinion, contains information of considerable value.

2. Relative to the soundings to which you refer, his Excellency would feel much obliged if you would point out any of the places where the River Prah "is only 3 or 4 feet right across."

3. With reference to your remarks that "if any further survey is required, the work should commence at the mouth," I am directed to point out that it is desirable to place on record with fair accuracy the course of the stream, with reference to its being a

boundary between the native tribes; and, with a view to obtaining this information, I am to enquire if you consider it more desirable to proceed to Elmina, and commence the survey from the mouth, seeing that this would probably entail a delay of 15 days, and bring the work so far nearer to the rainy season, and whether you consider that course preferable to repeating the journey made by you the other day, and proceeding towards the sea, making use of the river where practicable, and travelling from point to point by land.

Lientenant P. Underwood, R.N.,
Prah sue.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. SANDWITH,
Military Secretary.

Enclosure 9 in No. 127.

Lieutenant UNDERWOOD to the MILITARY SECRETARY.

SIR,

Prah sue, April 22, 1881.

IN answer to your letter of this day's date (par. 2) I beg to inform you that the place referred to as having three or four feet of water across the river is about five miles above the junction of the Prah and Ofim rivers.

With regard to par. 4, I consider that the best method of surveying the river would be to start from the mouth, and also at the end of the rainy season, when all rocks and other obstructions would be well under water, but if it is desirable that the survey should be done at once, no doubt a party could proceed by land or water down to Chamah, but this course is a hazardous one, taking into account the sort of canoe they would have to go in and the nature of the river.

To the Military Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) POWELL C. UNDERWOOD,
Lieutenant, R.N.

Enclosure 10 in No. 127.

INSTRUCTIONS for Lieut. Underwood, R.N.

MR. UNDERWOOD, in his journey with Mr. Hart, is requested to attempt to follow more or less directly the River Prah, on returning from this place to Elmina.

2. In making this journey, he will bear in mind that it is desirable to acquire information of the course of the river and the position of the villages on its banks, in view of the stream being the boundary between the native tribes on its borders.

3. It is scarcely necessary for me to impress on him the importance of exercising every care to ensure the safety of himself and the party accompanying him from accidents in attempting to follow the course of the stream.

4. It is known that canoes of fair size come up the river from the mouth, 25 or 30 miles.

5. Mr. Hart and Mr. Underwood settled that the junction of the Prah and Ofim is about due west of this place.

6. Prah sue is not more than about 65 miles due north of Anamaboe.

7. Allowing for the dip of the coast to the southward, in passing westward, the distance from point to point, as the crow flies, is probably not more than 40 miles from the fork of the rivers to the falls near the sea-coast.

8. There does not seem to be any insurmountable difficulty, therefore, in making the journey proposed, allowing, even, that to follow the windings of the river would make the distance two to three times as long.

9. Instructions will be sent to the District Commissioner at Secondee to hire canoes to go up the river to the falls, to meet the party on their downward journey.

10. Instructions will also be given to the chiefs of any villages on the banks of the river to send parties northward along the stream to render every assistance to you on your downward journey.

11. In passing through the various villages in which you halt, you should invariably make a present of a few shillings, and for any presents which may be offered a return present of about the same value should be offered.

12. On application, the Financial Secretary will advance sufficient money to defray the cost of these presents, as well as of the general expenses of the party.

13. The same instructions as have been previously given as to your conduct towards the native chiefs in asking their assistance on arrival at the various villages should be followed on this occasion, the assistance of the chiefs will much facilitate your journey.

14. A Fanti policeman, as a recognised messenger of Government, will be detailed to accompany the party.

Prabsue, 22nd April 1881.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

Enclosure 11 in No. 127.

Lieutenant UNDERWOOD to the MILITARY SECRETARY.

SIR,

Aweesem, May 2.

I BEG to report my arrival at this place, and, owing to the dangers and risk attendant on travelling in the canoe, intend leaving her here, and walking to Chamah along the banks of the River Prah as much as possible, so as to keep in view the object of the journey.

On our passage down the river from Coshea, we narrowly escaped being upset on more than one or two occasions, and, if it had not been for the greatest piece of good luck, in meeting with a native, we should, most assuredly, have been capsized close to this place; but, fortunately, we were walking to the village at the time. The natives declare there are worse places further on, and, as we cannot get any of them to come with us, taking into account the possible loss of life, as four or five of the party cannot swim, and the almost certainty of the loss of our baggage, we have decided to walk the remaining distance to Chamah.

I have, &c.

To the Military Secretary.

(Signed) POWELL C. UNDERWOOD,
Lieutenant, R.N.

Enclosure 12 in No. 127.

Lieutenant UNDERWOOD to the MILITARY SECRETARY.

SIR,

Elmina, May 12, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency, my arrival here.

In my last letter, I informed his Excellency of the necessity of our leaving the canoe, and continuing our work on foot, keeping as near to the river as circumstances would admit, which we did until we embarked again below the waterfalls, and landed at Chamah.

The river is one continuous series of rapids and overfalls, varying at distances of two miles or so apart, and, on this account, is unfit for navigation or traffic.

When the water rises during the rainy season, and from observation, I should suppose, it does so about 20 or 30 feet, the current would then be too strong to work against, unless in steam launches, and even in them the service would be dangerous.

The natives make no use of the river whatever for transit purposes, preferring to walk everywhere. They have a canoe, as a ferry, whenever the roads lead across the river. Below the falls the river is deep and wide, and apparently clear, down to the bar at the mouth. The average width of the river above the falls is about 80 to 100 yards, and below, from 100 to 120.

I have, &c.

(Signed) POWELL C. UNDERWOOD,
Lieutenant, R.N.

Enclosure 13 in No. 127.

REPORT to accompany SURVEY of the BUSSUM-PRAH, GOLD COAST COLONY,
by REGINALD C. HART, Lieutenant, R.E.*Instructions.*

I received instructions from his Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G., Governor-in-Chief of the Gold Coast Colony, to survey a few miles of the Bussum Prah above Prahsu and then return and if possible survey the river from Prahsu to the coast.

His Excellency impressed upon me that he attached very great importance to the survey of the Lower Prah, which had not yet been accomplished and that it was very necessary to have this main artery laid down with some accuracy. I also was given to understand that reports would be of value on the various routes that might exist and in fact, every information should be obtained of a people and country which had not been previously visited by Europeans.

His Excellency did not attach, for the present, so much importance to the survey of the Upper Prah. The rainy season was fast approaching and might endanger the success of the survey, I therefore considered I had almost exceeded my instructions by pushing so far up the Prah as Quirasu and felt reluctantly obliged to abandon my intention of advancing as far as Amantea.

My surveys were made during the latter part of April and the commencement of May 1881 and show the existing maps to be quite incorrect as far as the Bussum Prah, Ofim and Birrim rivers and the adjacent towns are concerned and moreover, the considerable tributaries shown below Prahsu have no existence.

It is my opinion that Prahsu is much farther to the east than marked on existing maps.

(Signed) REGINALD C. HART,
Lieut. R.E.

Method of Surveying adopted.

The survey of the Bussum Prah was made by the aid of the prismatic compass and the distances were paced.

The long distance of sixty-three (63) miles from Prahsu to Quirasu, and back to Prahsu by Dansam, was found to be only half a mile wrong in direction but the actual distance was only 120 yards out, consequently, confidence may be placed in the accuracy of the survey of the Lower Prah, although there was no possibility of checking the work as in the case of the Upper Prah.

From Prahsu to Cosheah was surveyed by land; the river between those places was also surveyed from a canoe, the distances being judged. The positions of Cosheah, as fixed by the two routes, nearly coincided.

It was not always possible to follow the line of the Prah and where any doubt exists about the course, the river is shown dotted; in the same way, routes are dotted when not actually visited.

Between Dahboassie and Chama the distances were judged; no track exists on the banks.

I regretted having no appliances for determining latitude and longitude or elevations.

(Signed) REGINALD C. HART,
Lieut. R.E.

General description of Bussum Prah River.

My experience of the Prah dates from the beginning of April to the middle of May 1881.

The natives invariably speak of this river as the Bussum or Sacred Prah; they regard the Prah as great fetish.

The Prah is very tortuous in its course and as far as surveyed by me, is one succession of small rapids, at distances varying from one-half to one mile; the intervening reaches are often sluggish but generally, the current runs about two miles an hour, as between Attowassie and Prah sue.

The numerous rapids prevent the navigation of the river above Bussumassie, below that place it is navigable. I have recorded the positions of very many of these rapids in my note book, however, they are so numerous that I avoided crowding the map by inserting them.

Dangerous rapids exist a short distance above the juncture of the Prah with the Ofim River. There is a sheer fall of about five feet close to Ehwissem and triple falls exist just above Bussumassie where the drop is about five feet.

I have surveyed the land tracks from Prah su to Ehwissem but I have also surveyed the river from a canoe, however, as we were nearly wrecked on two or three occasions and should infallibly have been so at Ehwissem but for the timely notice of a native, we were forced to abandon the canoe, the canoe became quite unmanageable as soon as it came into the influence of the current above the rapids.

Where rapids exist the river is generally wider and many rocks appear above the surface.

The width of the Prah varies from 40 to 300 yards and at one place is as much as 400 yards but the width is generally less than 100 yards and no great increase in width is apparent at the lower part of its course.

Islands are common and often very extensive. The depth varies from a few feet at the rapids to upwards of 30 feet and this during the dry season.

The Prah and its tributaries begin to rise at the commencement of May and during the rainy season of May, June and July the river rises from 20 to 30 feet.

The water is good but muddy and must deposit much sediment in the sluggish reaches.

Innumerable small streams run into the Prah. I have marked those that exist on the bank traversed by me; the names will be given later in this report, being very long, I have not given the names on the map.

These streams require some notice; the names generally mean something in Fanti language; they are remarkably tortuous. Before the rains many are dry, or merely pools exist but an equal number contain running water, or it may be obtained by digging a few feet into the bed of the stream. As a rule, where the streams run into the Prah they have cut a deep channel, sometimes narrow and deep but as often wide, with gently sloping banks. During the rains these streams become very deep in their lower courses but always shallow in their upper courses. If the track passes close to the Prah, these streams are bridged by a trunk of a tree or during the floods it would be necessary to swim across. In a few cases, near villages, canoes or rafts exist.

Many of the streams are connected with marshes, which, however, rarely present a formidable obstacle even in the wet season. When the Prah is full, the natives build barriers of bamboo across the streams and thus prevent the return of the fish. The fish is smoked. Some villages make as much as 8*l.* a man during the season.

On the lower Prah the natives make canoes for the coast, the ordinary type being sold for about 3*l.* 10*s.* The canoes are made by hollowing out the trunk of the cotton tree; they are sometimes made at great distances from the river, the larger ones being moved on rollers.

Canoes are passed down the river from Ehhireh to Dahboassie. I was informed that a very narrow passage a few feet wide, in the island near Bussumassie, enables them to turn the formidable falls near that place. I was told this channel was not artificial.

I could not obtain a barometer but the fall of the river is considerable and there is evidently a gradual rise in the land as we leave the coast and this would be expected from the dip of the strata, which is to seaward.

As might be expected, there is no well defined valley of the Prah, even near the coast the river runs in a deep channel, however, there is evidence that in the course of ages the Prah has continually been winding from side to side of a certain area. The banks are rarely precipitous but generally moderately steep with bush growing close down to the water's edge. The banks vary in height from 10 to 50 feet.

The Prah, in many places during the rainy season, overflows its banks.

The country each side of the river is invariably undulating and sometimes hilly.

Crocodiles exist but are not often seen. The natives do not fear them and I could not find a single case where a man had been killed by a crocodile.

The vicinity of the Prah is rich in gold and the actual bed must contain an abundance of the precious metal; *vide* Report on the Geology of the Gold Coast Protectorate.

(Signed) REGINALD C. HART,
Lieut. Royal Engineers.

Ofim River.

The Ofim is very similar to the Prah and has some claim to consider itself the main river and the Prah its tributary.

This river rises 20 feet at Essaman. I could not find a single individual who knew the short distance from their village to the Prah.

The Ofim is 50 yards wide at Essaman but about 100 yards wide at the confluence, the Prah being but 80 yards wide.

At the junction, the Ofim is flowing more rapidly than the Prah; below the junction the Prah is 120 yards wide. It might reasonably have been expected that the Prah thus suddenly doubled in volume, without any great increase in width, would continue for a considerable distance free from shoals and rocks but such is not the case, formidable rapids existing quite close to the junction.

The Ofim is muddy like the Prah but the banks appear to be steeper.

The direction of the Ofim on existing maps is quite incorrect, and the confluence of the rivers is considerably farther from Prah sue than as marked on the maps.

The depth varies, and is often considerable.

Birim River.

The Birim is very similar to the Prah, near Essaman the river is 60 yards broad and could not be distinguished from the Prah but for the guides.

What has been said of the Prah and Ofim may be said of the Birim.

The water is muddy and the depth varies, often being considerable.

Where seen, the banks were steeper than those of the Prah.

There is a yearly fetish custom at the meeting of the Birim and Prah.

REGINALD C. HART,
Lieutenant R.E.

REPORT ON SURVEY OF BUSSUM PRAH ABOVE PRASHU.

Prah sue.—British frontier post, garrison of Houssas under a British officer, no native village, however, it is the intention of his Excellency, Sir Samuel Rowe, to endeavour to induce the natives to form a village. Abundance of plantains in the vicinity. Left bank of Prah precipitous, in April banks about 25 feet high, current two miles an hour, occasionally fordable; water muddy but good, site easily drained; considerable clearing round the post, which offers facilities for defence, however, the existing stockade is far too extensive for any garrison that is likely to be at Prashu and the huts have been built without any regard to arrangement and sanitary conditions have been ignored.

By orders of his Excellency a substantial house is being built for the European officer.

When his Excellency visited Prah sue in April 1881 there were at one time 25 Europeans and about 2,000 natives subsisted for several days; it has been remarked that no native village exists however, temporary huts were prepared in a few days under the direction of an officer of the Royal Engineers, it was found difficult to obtain material in the vicinity as the bush had not recovered from the demands made by the expedition of 1873.

At Prashu a large canoe holding 30 people is kept to ferry travellers across the Prah, about as many cross here as at Attowassie; there is no particular advantage attached to either route. Prashu possesses no strategical advantage because of Attowassie.

Attowassie.—Chief Niephang, under King Chibboo of Assin; he now resides at Sibienissu which is a little to the north of Yancoomassie Fanti and near Bohoomassie,

the people were sent to Attowassie to make a village as an outpost against the Ashanti invasion of Assin. The chief goes yearly to Sibienissu to make fetish custom on the old family land; this custom takes place just before the selling of the new yams.

There is a ferry service kept up here, one large canoe holding 30 people and two small canoes; the track opposite soon joins the Prahsu-Coomassie route.

I would suggest that this ferry be abolished and the village compensated; the passage at Attowassie turns the position of Prahsu and moreover, by forcing the people to take the Prahsu route, there would be a great chance of establishing a village in the vicinity of the British post.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, a few plantains. Accommodation.—24 rooms.

Bopocawcaw.—Head woman Attowa, under King Chibboo of Assin.

Supplies.—Fowls, large plantations of plantains. Accommodation.—Six rooms.

Woomassie.—Belongs to a hunter, called Tobieah, under Chibboo of Assin.

Supplies.—Very few plantains.—Accommodation, three rooms.

Dahwoomassie.—One Assin hunter's shed.

Aquirahbooandah.—No hut. Abandoned.

Eggwinassie.—Under Amoah Quangattah of Akim, a prisoner at Lagos; his brother Quassie Coomah in office.

Supplies.—Plantains.

Accommodation.—Six good rooms and two sheds.

Cocochinchin.—Chief Cojoco, Akim, the track merely continues on the right bank as a hunter's path; no villages; usually no ford. I was fortunate enough to find two cotton trees and several snags in the Prah, so that I crossed the Prah waist deep; it is usual to swim the river, which however, is flowing three miles an hour but only 50 yards broad. No canoe: Supplies, none.

Accommodation.—Three rooms and one shed.

Concromassie.—Akim.

Supplies.—Very few plantains.

Accommodation.—Two rooms and one shed.

Quobodie.—Akim.

Supplies.—None.

Accommodation.—One shed.

Insartah.—Akim; Insartah is near the Prah and a track is said to run along the left bank to Dumassie and thence to Amantea.

Insartah	-	-	-	-	-	Akim.
Assambidie	-	-	-	-	-	”
Pahrooroodoo	-	-	-	-	-	”
Dumassie	-	-	-	-	-	”
Amantea	-	-	-	-	-	?

Accommodation, said to be 10 rooms.

Quirasu.—Chief Quadoo Coco, Akim; very large village, people well dressed and many signs of art and comfort; the streets are broad and clean and many of the rooms have doors and shutters and doors with regular panels; many of the buildings are artistic and arches are not uncommon. I ascertained that there lived in the town two carpenters and a blacksmith, who had been sent to Anamaboe to learn their trades.

The chief and people, here as elsewhere, all speak of the prisoner at Lagos as their king and do not appear to recognise his brother.

The people trade with the coast; they get their money from fishing, hunting and plantain farms.

No white man has before visited this prosperous community.

There are two houses with two stories.

A great number of Ashantis crossed the Prah at Pahrooroodoo in 1873 by the assistance of a rope stretched across the river; they marched by Quirasu and the inhabitants retired before them. No Ashantis came from Ai-Iribie but when returning some of them took that route from Quirasu but most of them returned *viâ* Pahrooroodoo where the rope broke and many were drowned. In 1873 most of the Ashantis came by Quirasu under the King of Dahdie-Assie; it was only the column under the commander-in-chief that crossed at Prahsue. The army from Quirasu cut into the main Prahsu—Cape Coast road at Ahcumfodie.

No Ashantis now pass through Quirasu.

Supplies.—Very many sheep, fowls and plantains.

Accommodation.—88 houses of three or four rooms each, the Ashanti type.
 Reported two days journey to Ahcumfodie on Prahsu—Cape Coast road. Ai-Iribie is reported close to Dumassie.
 Route from Ai-Iribie to Saltpond on the coast; Awooh, chief of Ai-Iribie, just dead; no new chief as yet elected.
 Reported four days journey from Quirasu to Saltpond.

Akim	{	Quirasu. Evehynassie. Ehgeddem.—Ashantis made a big camp here in 1873. Cross the Birim. Sie-Ehdru (Swaidru). Ewiesah. Ahchieassie.—Ashanti camp.
Essecomah	{	Coco-Ossu. Fosu Anseh. Gamrah. Ahchissu. Bening. Essecomah.—Ashanti camp { Essecomah. Bobin reported half way. Bobicoomah. Awoomassu. Cocobin. Babbinsu. Ahjumacoe. Denkerah. Aboowinam. Ohyinassie. Ehyanman.
King of Mankessim.	{	Mankessim. Abonco. Andokie. Saltpond on the coast.

At Essecomah the road to the coast turns off to the left or east to Bobicoomah, which is reported larger than Quirasu and distant about 25 miles. The Ashantis went to Insahbah and then retired.

Ai-Ehboiful.—Five rooms.

Wahwahsie.—One shed.

Essaman.—Fishing village.

Crossed the Birrim on a small raft; it is eight feet deep, 30 yards broad. We found a rope stretching across the river.

Supplies.—A few plantains and fowls.

Accommodation.—Seven rooms.

Prahsu.—Akim.

Supplies.—A few plantains.

Accommodation.—Four rooms.

Accotadai.—Under Chibboo of Assin.

Supplies.—Plantains.

Accommodation.—Six rooms.

Niemandah.—Under King Chibboo of Assin, chief Quamin-Encromah.

No canoes.

Supplies.—A few fowls and plantains.

Accommodation.—Five rooms and two sheds.

Crossed River Foon on a raft; it is 20 yards wide and waist deep.

Foonsu.—Chief Quabinabah, under Chibboo of Assin.

Supplies.—A few plantains.

Accommodation.—Six rooms and 13 sheds.

Achieansuah.—Five rooms.

Quahhu.—Headman Ehboo, under Chibboo of Assin. Fetish priest, Ahpon.

Empancherassie.

Pahtahsie.—Six huts.

Ahcumfodie.—On Prahsu—Cape Coast road.

Supplies.—Fowls and plantains.

Accommodation.—10 rooms and seven sheds.

Quahdin.

Supplies.—Fowls and plantains.

Accommodation.—Four rooms.

Ahbahsie.—Three sheds.

Dansam.—This route cuts the Prahsu—Cape Coast road at this place, a large village.

Assempa Nayah.—Large village on main road.

Prahsu.—British frontier station already described.

N.B.—The water supply on this route is abundant. The track is usually undulating, and sometimes a little hilly. There are no serious obstacles to be met. On the right bank of the Prah the bush is not nearly so thick as on the left bank.

(Signed) REGINALD C. HART,
Lieutenant R.E.

REPORT OF THE SURVEY OF THE BUSSUM PRAH BELOW PRAHSU.

Prahsu.—British frontier post already reported upon.

Abrahcooah.—Belongs to a woman called Sipah, under King Chibboo of Assin; one small canoe.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, and plantains and yams.

Accommodation.—25 rooms.

Insaham.—Belongs to a woman named Adazie.

Supplies.—Many plantains and yams.

Accommodation.—Five rooms.

From this village to Prahsu almost one continuous line of plantain plantations. Found buffalo's head and horns.

Essabimah.—Belongs to a hunter, Quamin Ennahmah, under King Chibboo of Assin; one canoe. Found horns of a buffalo.

Supplies.—A few plantains.

Accommodation.—Six rooms.

Brofuldul.—The name means "white man powerful"; it belongs to Cobbinagen, under King Chibboo of Assin. A track goes from here to Essabimah. One canoe.

Supplies.—Plantains.

Accommodation.—Four rooms.

Phiriam or Opheaduum.—Chief Quamin Eninful, under King Inkie of Mansu, who himself is subordinate to King Chibboo of Assin; one small canoe. Track on right bank to opposite Cosheah where there is a ferry. Found the tooth of an elephant shot many years ago; there are no elephants now in the immediate vicinity. Track up stream to Bos-Assie.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—Eight rooms.

No traffic by Phiriam route. The Adansis and Ashantis would take the route by Bawiduah which meets the Prah at Kotachie, and move on Mampon, crossing the Prah at Aboibey.

Route from Phiriam to the Denkera country (by Report).

	Phiriam or Opheaduum.	
	Essaman, on Ofim river.	Chief, Tokoo. Seven houses of four rooms, and three sheds, two small canoes, sheep, fowls, plantains.
	Essassie, on Ofim river.	Chief, Quah Amooah.
	Indjah Duum, on Ofim river.	Chief, Coffee Bandeh.
	Denkera Fosu, on Ofim river.	Chief, Coffie Amooah.
	Tcheiful* Banwiduah, on Ofim river.	Chief, Incansah.
Under Quasiekaye, King of Denkera.	Dot To, on Ofim river.	No chief.
	Chichuwerie, on Ofim river.	Chief, Ohwieah. Large village.
	Kropong, on Ofim river.	Chief, Ohwieah. Large village.
	Edumen, on Ofim river.	Chief, Fosuhin. Large village.
	Tcheiful Eggwinassie, on Ofim river.	Chief, Quahminahahin. Large village.
Denkera	Bwabinsu, on Ofim river.	Chief, Ehnimehdo.
		Large village.
	Ahchanpim, on Ofim river.	Chief, Ehnimehdo. Large village.

Cosheah.—1st chief, Ewie Essembouah,
2nd „ Acquasie,
3rd „ Yanoh,

under King Takie, who is subject to King Chibboo, of Assin.

Acquasie and Yanoh are brothers.

The village belongs to the family living at Sibienissu, which is near Bohoomassie, which is north of Fanti Yancoomassie, just above Prahsu.

Canoe.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—Sixteen houses of four rooms.

Assufunah.—Assin.

Supplies.—Plantains.

Accommodation.—Three rooms.

Ehherehsu.—Assin.

Canoe.

Supplies.—None.

Accommodation.—Three rooms (sheds).

Bissedulassie.—Assin.

Supplies.—None.

Accommodation.—Two sheds.

Ehwissem.—Under King Yawbee, who is subject to Quassie Bedoo, of Tcheiful.

Canoe.

Trade in gum.

Supplies.—Sheep, chickens, plantains.

Accommodation.—10 houses, of four rooms.

Denkie.—New chief not yet selected. Tcheiful. Trade in gum. A blacksmith, with forge. Image (idol) worship. The second case of true idol worship, the image being of human form; not quite the same as fetish.

Supplies.—Fowls, sheep, plantains.

Accommodation.—Eight houses, of four rooms.

Amerehhieah.—Chief, Behfie; Tcheiful.

One canoe.

Supplies.—Fowls.

Accommodation.—Six houses, of four rooms.

Insaheem.—Tcheiful.

Supplies.—Plantains.

Accommodation.—Four rooms and two sheds.

Kotahchie.—Chief, Chiehboah; Tcheiful. One canoe. Trade in gold. Said to be four days' journey by hunters' tracks to the main Prahsu—Cape Coast road. Left bank of Prah considered Tcheiful; no one lives there, it is said, because the trees are too numerous and therefore, great labour to clear for plantains.

* There is a passage to Ashanti through Banwiduah to Foomanah. It was by this route that Captain Dalrymple attempted to induce King Quassie Bedoo and others to advance in 1874; *vide* Kotahchie for route to that place, page 177.

Supplies.—A great many sheep, in value up to 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, fowls and plantains.
Accommodation.—33 houses, of four rooms; two-storied house.

Route to Ashanti via Banwiduah.

{ Kotahchie Chirencomb Wahminehsir Banwiduah }	Reported long day's journey, 20 miles?
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{ No Ashantis now pass this way, only Adansis, Denkeras, and Sefwihs.

Chehdru.—Chief Entie, brother to the chief of Kotahchie, Tcheiful.

Supplies.—Fowls.

Accommodation.—Four houses, of four rooms.

Quehsinsu.—On left bank. Chief, Boiteen; Tcheiful. No tracks reported from this village.

Two canoes.

Accommodation.—Reported about 40 rooms.

Youmassu or Quehsinsu.—Chief, Quohdootuto; Tcheiful.

Supplies.—Plantains, fowls.

Accommodation.—Eight houses, of four rooms.

Accrofonun.—Chief, Chinehboah; Tcheiful. Trade in gold.

Supplies.—Fowls, plantains, sheep.

Accommodation.—10 houses, of four rooms.

Beriman.—Chief, Quahmin Quahin; Tcheiful. One blacksmith and forge. In 1873 Capt. Dalrymple reported as having passed through this village with Wassaws moving on Banwiduah.

Supplies.—Plantains, fowls, sheep.

Accommodation.—Nine houses, of four rooms.

Sehbinsu.—Chief, Quarantsin; Tcheiful.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—Six houses, of four rooms.

Ahboiboh.—Chief, Tando; son's name, Quamin Bedoo; Tcheiful.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—20 houses, of four rooms.

Route from Ahboiboh to Essieassu, on Prah.

{ Ahboiboh. Kaehrehcoo. Chief, Quahquahmiebie; Tcheiful. Ehdigual. Chief, Banasu; Tcheiful. Essieassu. Chief, Ehhun; Tcheiful. }	
---	--

Route from Ahboiboh to Ashanti and Gaman country.

{ Ahboiboh, Tcheiful Mampommah, Tcheiful Momahsu, Tcheiful Bopo Ko }	One day's journey.
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{ Essaman, Tcheiful Mahshissu, Tcheiful Ahyamfurie, Tcheiful }	One day's journey.
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It is reported that the above is a great route to Ashanti and Gaman. It is said that the Gaman people bring gold.

Musieassu.—Chief, Assahbie; Tcheiful.

Supplies.—Fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—30 rooms.

Quah Man.—Chief, Essie Ehdoo; Tcheiful. Said to be as large as Ahboiboh. People fish and are said to get gold from the Prah.

Ahdunoih.—Chief, Sobbin, Denkera.

Supplies.—Fowls, plantains, yams.

Accommodation.—10 houses, of four rooms.

Dahman.—Chief, Ampansah, Denkera.

Supplies.—Fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—17 houses, of four rooms.

Ahboibey, now called more often *Prahnon.*—Chief, Quabinah Ohtoo; Tcheiful. The Prah is here 80 yards broad; crossed in a canoe; people are charged 3*d.* each. One large canoe, capable of holding 30 people and two small canoes, to hold six each. It is reported that a canoe can descend the Prah from here to Bossumassie.

People do not cross here on Wednesday. From 15 to 30 cross daily, namely Adansis, Gamans, Denkeras and Sefwihs.

I met many traders on this route.

Supplies.—Fowls, plantains, sheep.

Accommodation.—Five rooms.

Essaman.—Chief, Entie; Tcheuful. This village is up the right bank of the Prah and said to contain about 100 rooms.

The right bank of the Prah continues Tcheuful.

Mampon.—The capital of Tcheuful and residence of King Quasie Bedoo; he is now old and feeble; his name is known far and wide and he should have considerable power and influence. He said he would have preferred war to peace with Ashanti, but his disgraceful conduct in 1873 is not to be forgotten. Captain Dalrymple utterly failed to induce this king to assemble his men.

There is an alternative route to Essieassu but it is bad.

{ Mampon.
Ehenassie, Tcheuful.
Tumentu.
Clemansu, Tcheuful.
Essie-Assu or Essuahdoh, half Tcheuful, half Wassaw.
Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.
Accommodation.—70 houses, of four rooms.

Mahpeh.—Chief, Quodu Ahmu; Tcheuful.

Supplies.—Fowls and plantains.

Accommodation.—Six houses, of four rooms.

Impieahsum.—Tcheuful.

Accommodation.—Five rooms.

Cross the Prah.—Four to eight cross daily; Wassaws, Tcheufuls and Assins. Three small canoes. 150 yards broad; very deep in parts.

Essieassu or Assuahdoh.—Half Tcheuful and half Wassaw. Chiefs, Quoququah and Ehjabbin.

Supplies.—Fowls, sheep, plantains.

Accommodation.—Five houses, of four rooms.

Quantanan.—Chief, Quahinsunoih; Wassaw.

Supplies.—Fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—10 rooms.

There is a route leading from Quantanan to Acropong, said to be a good four days' journey. From Acropong the route leads to Denkeras.

Wassaw is divided into two portions. The southern, called Fieahsie-Wassaw, and the northern, or Amenfie-Wassaw, of which Acropong is the capital.

I have heard of E. and W. Wassaw, but it appears to me, from my limited inquiries, to be divided into N. and S.

The King of Amenfie-Wassaw is Quahmie Attahbrah and he lives at Acropong.

{ Quantanan.
Essenkerm, said to be on a high hill and as large as Essieassu.
Attieku.
Sinassu.
Adempiemassu.
Ahdieyah.
Ponsu.
Bie Pawrassie.
Mansessu.
Sihansu.
Amandah.
Ampontenanassoh.
Acropong, capital of Amenfie Wassaw and residence of King Quahmie Attahbrah; Quantanan to Acropong, four good days' journey.

Manposu.—Chief Ohwoosu, Fieahsie-Wassaw. In this village lies a bronze gun, calibre 2·2 inches; on one trunnion is marked N 593 and the other 144.

This gun was abandoned in 1824, when the Ashantis defeated and killed Sir Charles Macarthy.

Two small canoes.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation, 22 rooms.

The Prah is here 100 yards wide, from four to eight people cross daily. There is a route to Elmina which is taken by Denkeras and Amenfie-Wassaws.

It is a three days' journey from Manponso to Elmina.

Manponso	-	-	-	Fieahsie-Wassaw.
Cross the Prah.				
Biebieahmieah	-	-	-	Denkera.
Tobieassie	-	-	-	Wassaw, reported about 70 rooms.
Kubehting	-	-	-	Denkera.
Subierehsu	-	-	-	Wassaw.
Eecutie-Assie	-	-	-	Wassaw, 1 day's journey.
Villages, names unknown.				
Elmina	-	-	-	3 days' journey.

Ahhinehberim.—Chief Quasie-Yehnin, Fieahsie-Wassaw; live from produce of plantains, they merely fish for their own consumption.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—26 rooms.

From here to Tahquah reported a two days' journey, it is said that 10 white men live there on the gold fields, they are French, or Messrs. Swanzy's agents.

Crossing the Prah at Ahhinehberim, there is a road leading to Ahgoonah, where the road bifurcates, one branch going to Cape Coast, and the other to Elmina.

Ahhinehberim.				
Cross the Prah.				
Dumanah	-	-	-	Wassaw.
Ehtiffieassie	-	-	-	"
Ahcubehteen	-	-	-	Denkera.
Subirehsu	-	-	-	Wassaw.
Ahcutie-Assie	-	-	-	"
Ahkirahcroom	-	-	-	"
Ahgoonah	-	-	-	{ To Cape Coast } Two days' journey from To Elmina } Ahgoonah.

Ahbahtumahsu.—Chief Quahbinehbie, Fieahsie-Wassaw.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—10 bad rooms.

Kahkahboh.—Chief Intah, Fieahsie-Wassaw.

Supplies.—Fowls and plantains.

Accommodation.—Six rooms and six sheds.

Ahvorisoh.—Fieahsie-Wassaw, one canoe.

Supplies.—Plantains.

Accommodation.—Five bad rooms.

Ahterinsu.—Chief Cocoprah, Fieahsie-Wassaw.

Supplies.—A few plantains.

Accommodation.—Eight rooms, only three being good.

Ehhireh.—Chief Quahminahessan, Fieahsie-Wassaw. People make canoes here and sell them at Dahboassie.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—38 rooms.

Ohbuassie.—On left bank of Prah. Chief Coranchie, Fieahsie-Wassaw. Two canoes.

Supplies.—Fowls, plantains.

Accommodation. 20 rooms.

Sutah.—Seven rooms, new village not yet occupied.

Krobo.—Chief Essuman, Fieahsie-Wassaw. The chief and people everywhere profess not to know why their king was transported.

Trade in canoes and plantations.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains, cocoa-nuts.

Accommodation.—140 rooms.

A route from here to Tahquah, reported three days' journey.

Fieahsie Wassaw.	Krobo.			
	Essuminem.			
	Attahsie.			
	Chechewehrie	-	-	1st day.
	Beriman.			
	Quahman.			
	Bonsahsu	-	-	2nd day.
	Ahmanfoh.			
	Ehneenassiech.			
	Tahquah	-	-	3rd day.

Himain.—Residence of Sehkim, second King of Fieahsie-Wassaw, the first king is transported. People trade in canoes; 16 canoes, holding six people each, value about 3*l.* 12*s.* each. Prah river rises 18 feet here; it is now about 20 feet deep and 120 yards broad, 1 mile an hour; crossed the Prah here. They float the canoes to the sea, they have a means of turning the falls at Bussumassie by a channel.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—165 rooms.

Route to Commendah.

{ Himain.
 { Abrahourum.
 { Kissiecroom.
 { Commendah, one day's journey.

Bussumassie.—Chief Quabinahendu, Fieahsie-Wassaw. Three canoes.

Supplies.—Fowls, plantains.

Accommodation.—14 rooms.

A short distance above Bussumassie are the Triple Falls marked on the map. On the island is a sacred fetish rock called the Bussum, which means sacred, hence Bussumassie, or "under the Bussum." The Natives say the canoes turn these falls by a very narrow channel on the far side of the island. The falls drop five or six feet.

Ahungou.—Belongs to a woman named Chewah.

Accommodation.—16 rooms.

Dahboassie.—Queen Ahduah Chuah, Fieahsie-Wassaw. Ahduah Chuah is queen in her own right but she is married; she had more energy and was more anxious to meet our wishes than any of the chiefs or kings I have met. She also appeared to have considerable influence and to uphold her dignity.

Supplies.—Sheep, fowls, plantains, cocoa-nuts.

Accommodation.—80 houses of three or four rooms.

Trade in canoes and palm oil.

A great many canoes.

Dahbo means rocks; Dahboassie, "under the rocks."

Wassaw Route.

{ Dahboassie.
 { Cross Prah.
 { Adansie.
 { Ordah.
 { Cocofu.
 { Amanchin, capital of Fieahsie-Wassaw, king transported.

Commendah Route.

{ Dahboassie.
 { Ahfransie.
 { Ahbransah.
 { Commendah.

All the villages of Chamah trade in palm oil and canoes.

There is no track from Dahboassie to the sea on either bank, the river is used instead.

Bedamassie.—Small village.

Ehguhah.—Small village.

Acropong.—12 rooms.

Ahboahsu.—Small village.

Boposu.—Small village.

Supomme.—Medium village, on an island.

Krobo.—25 rooms.

The sea does not affect the fresh water of the Prah beyond two miles at the outside.

Commodore Commerell and his boats fired on about one mile up the river, in the first bend, half way between Krobo and the sea.

Chama.—On the coast, about three miles to the west of the bar; but a freshwater lagoon from the Prah runs parallel to the coast nearly the whole way, varying in width

from 120 to 600 yards and divided from the sea by a very narrow strip. The water is hardly tainted with salt.

N.B.—The *water supply* on this route is abundant. The *track* is usually undulating and sometimes hilly but there are no serious obstacles to be encountered. The bush is generally dense.

(Signed) REGINALD C. HART,
Lieut. R. E.

TRIBUTARIES of the BUSSUM PRAH, crossed in making the round : PRAHSUE, COCO-CHINCHIN,
QUIRASU, NIEMANDAH, DANSAM, PRAHSU.

Latter part of April 1881.

N.B.—Villages in *Italic*.

Names.	Bank.	Remarks.	Names.	Bank.	Remarks.
<i>Prahsu</i>	Left		Intohumshieah	L	Dry.
Numea	Right	Water.	Water-course	L	Dry.
Water-course	R		<i>Wahwahsie</i>	L	
Water-course	R		Ehinehsu	L	
<i>Attowassie</i>	R		Aboh	L	12 feet wide, 1½ feet deep; Cotton Tree bridge.
Water-course	R		Water-course	L	Dry; 20 yards wide; high, steep, banks.
Prah		Crossed Prah at Attowassie to Right Bank in canoe.	<i>Essaman</i>	L	
Water-course	R	Water.	Birrim	L	The Birrim River.
<i>Bopucaucaw</i>	R		<i>Prahsu</i>	L	Not to be confused with British Frontier Station.
Water-course	R		Water-course	L	Pools; 30 yards across; steep banks.
Water-course	R		Water-course	L	Water.
<i>Woomassie</i>	R		Water-course	L	Dry.
Water-course	R	Water.	<i>Accotahdai</i>	L	
<i>Dahwoomassie</i>	R		Water-course	L	Pools.
Awoonahmehsu	R		<i>Niemandah</i>	L	
Water-course	R	Good water.	Water-course	L	Dry.
Water-course	R	Pools; swamp.	Water-course	L	Dry.
Water-course	R	Dry.	Water-course	L	Dry.
Water-course	R	Dry.	Foon	L	20 yards broad; crossed on small raft.
<i>Egguinnassie</i>	R		<i>Foonsu</i>	L	
Water-course	R	Water.	Water-course	L	Dry.
Water-course	R	Water; deep cutting.	Dengeah	L	Dry.
Apprahwah	R	Water.	Mehdieansie	L	Pools.
Water-course	R	Dry.	Danie-Ahmie	L	Means "Depend upon God."
<i>Cocochinchin</i>	R	Village. Old Cocochinchin was on Left Bank.	Boonyah	L	Pools.
Prah	R	50 yards wide; 2½ miles an hour; not usually fordable.	Ahwiniesu	L	Dry.
Water-course	L	Dry.	Bokoso	L	Dry.
Water-course	L	Dry.	Ehniecoco	L	Dry.
Water-course	L	Dry; swamp.	<i>Achie-Ansah</i>	L	
<i>Quobodie</i>	L		Ahhiesu	L	Very wide; pools.
Water-course	L	Swamp.	Boposu	L	Wide; water.
Water-course	L	Dry.	<i>Quahhu</i>	L	
<i>Insahtan</i>	L		Water-course	L	
Water-course	L	Dry.	<i>Quahdin</i>	L	
Water-course	L	Water; swamp.	Ahboisherrie	L	Dry.
Water-course	L	Swamp.	<i>Ahbie-Ahsie</i>	L	
Aboo	L	Plenty of water.	Foon	L	10 yards wide, 3 inches deep; not the same Foon as already crossed.
Quamahquah	L	Considerable stream; goes to Birrim River.	Dansam	L	Water.
<i>Quirasu</i>	L		<i>Dansam</i>	L	
Ahwoonfanah	L	Dry.	<i>Assempahnayah.</i>		
Ahboo	L		<i>Prahsu.</i>		
Quiniequah	L				
<i>Ai-Ehboiful</i>	L				

LIST OF TRIBUTARIES of the BUSSUM PRAH.

Beginning of the month of May 1881.

N.B.—Villages in *Italic*.

Names.	Bank.	Remarks.	Names.	Bank.	Remarks.
<i>Prahsu</i>	Left		Sahmansu	R	
<i>Ansah</i>	Right		<i>Kotahchie</i>	R	
<i>Essempan Nayah</i>	L		Kotahchie	R	18 feet wide; strong flow; tree bridge.
<i>Coomahpentah</i>	L		<i>Ehdoahquasie</i>	R	Dry.
<i>Insaham</i>	L		<i>Coomehingfoh</i>	R	Water.
Water-course	L		Woowoo	R	Water.
Water-course	L		<i>Augie-Attahsan</i>	R	Dry.
<i>Bieboom</i>	L		<i>Ahpetiesu</i>	R	Swamp.
Water-course	L		<i>Ahpassehsu</i>	R	
Water-course	L		<i>Ahcchtehsu</i>	R	
<i>Boomtenie</i>	L		<i>Chehdru</i>	R	
Water-course	L		<i>Chehdru</i>	R	Dry.
<i>Ehbiriviah</i>	L		<i>Biediewinyah</i>	R	Dry.
Water-course	L		<i>Assahmansu</i>	R	Dry.
Water-course	L		<i>Intahtie-ehsu</i>	R	Water; deep cutting.
<i>Cosheah</i>	L		<i>Cocobie</i>	R	
<i>Danieahmie</i>	L		<i>Quehseen</i>	R	Water.
<i>Awinahmahsu</i>	L		<i>Ohdicassanseh</i>	R	
<i>Phiriam or Opheaduum</i>	R		<i>Youmassu or Quehsinsu</i>	R	
<i>Otieahpim</i>	R		<i>Youmah</i>	R	Water.
<i>Ahoodu</i>	R		<i>Ahpahcahmah</i>	R	25 feet broad; crossed in a canoe.
<i>Kosah</i>	R		<i>Beriman</i>	R	
Water-course	R		<i>Ahwinchsu</i>	R	Dry.
<i>Apotosu</i>	R		<i>Aquiehiemah</i>	R	Pools.
<i>Bochokurm</i>	R		<i>Bohiesim</i>	R	Dry; tributary of above.
<i>Bomkureem</i>	R		<i>Ohrahterah</i>	R	Dry.
<i>Cosheah</i>	L		<i>Sushensu</i>	R	Dry; tributary of Aquiehiemah.
<i>Inkie</i>	L	Water.	Water-course	R	
<i>Sukumah</i>	L	Water.	<i>Aunwie-ehsu</i>	R	Dry.
<i>Assufunah</i>	R		<i>Ehhierehsu</i>	R	Dry.
Water-course	L		Water-course	R	
<i>Ehheerehsu</i>	L		<i>Ahboiboh</i>	R	Tributary of Ahieecoco.
<i>Elheerehsu</i>	L		<i>Ahboiboh</i>	R	
Water-course	L	Water.	<i>Frenghing</i>	R	Dry.
Water-course	L	Water.	<i>Ahbuhmanan</i>	R	Dry.
Water-course	L	Swamp.	<i>Ahnieecoco</i>	R	Dry; tributary of Ossin.
Water-course	L	Water.	<i>Musieassu</i>	R	
<i>Bissedulassie</i>	L		<i>Ahdubannam</i>	R	Water.
Water-course	L	Water.	<i>Sindirissen</i>	R	Dry.
<i>Ofim</i>	R		<i>Incanahwerrie</i>	R	Pools.
<i>Ehwissem</i>	R		<i>Diehun</i>	R	Water.
Water-course	R	Dry.	<i>Maumentie</i>	R	Water.
Water-course	R	Dry.	<i>Essessehsu</i>	R	Dry.
Water-course	R	Dry.	<i>Assahbroh</i>	R	Water.
<i>Soubielle</i>	R		<i>Ahdnoih</i>	R	
<i>Tetrapapah</i>	R	Dry.	<i>Ohrohuroh</i>	R	Water.
<i>Cosinie</i>	R	Dry.	<i>Essahbruh</i>	R	Water.
<i>Kongkongsu</i>	R	Dry.	<i>Ohbuddem</i>	R	Water; tributary of Essahbruh.
<i>Epithsu</i>	R	Dry.	<i>Dahman</i>	R	
<i>Ahie-Ahfutu</i>	R	Water.	<i>Essu-Effuah</i>	R	Water.
<i>Ahheduah</i>	R	Water.	<i>Manconangcomah</i>	R	Water.
<i>Wissah-Manchin</i>	R	Dry, means "pepper and salt."	<i>Amphyoh</i>	R	
<i>Yanmiduah</i>	R	Water.	<i>Moientie</i>	R	
Water-course	R		<i>Prah</i>	—	80 yards wide; crossed in canoe.
<i>Antuahbassah</i>	R	Water.	<i>Ahboibey or Prahnon</i>	L	
<i>Essiecahsu</i>	R	Means "Gold water"; dry.	<i>Ohbuoh</i>	L	Waist deep; 20 yards wide; trunk bridge.
<i>Quahtomoh</i>	R	Dry.	<i>Assohwessu</i>	L	Water.
<i>Incroomeronbahin</i>	R	Water.	Water-course	L	Water.
<i>Incoochiechu-Essu</i>	R	Dry.	<i>Amponsahfumaarah</i>	L	Water.
<i>Denkie</i>	R	Water.	<i>Tetrehcoo</i>	L	
<i>Denkie</i>	R		<i>Insahmensieah</i>	L	Water.
<i>Quasiefummah</i>	R	Dry.	<i>Boidie-eh</i>	L	Pools.
<i>Tiemenahmah</i>	R	Dry.	<i>Mampon</i>	L	
<i>Ahmereh-Heah</i>	R		<i>Ohbuoh</i>	L	Waist deep; 20 yards wide; tree bridge.
<i>Ahdrubensu</i>	R	Dry.			
<i>Chierangcoombe</i>	R	Water up to the waist.			
<i>Insahem</i>	R				
<i>Ahquansnah</i>	R	Dry.			
<i>Natchiequaw</i>	R	Dry.			

Names.	Bank.	Remarks.	Names.	Bank.	Remarks.
Brehsu - - -	L	Water.	Bocru - - -	R	Wide; shallow; flowing; rocks.
Denieamie - - -	L	Water; tributary of Ohbuoh.	Coranchie - - -	R	
Chiehtam - - -	L	Water.	Ehhireh - - -	R	
Insieanson - - -	L	Dry; tributary of above.	Ehpitahsu - - -	R	Water.
Ahhierahsu - - -	L	Water; swamp.	Chirahwieah - - -	R	
Dahfroih - - -	L	Water; swamp; tributary of above.	Sutah - - -	R	
Bohtainsu - - -	L	Water.	Ohbuhbassah - - -	R	Water.
Water-course - - -	L	Water; tributary of above.	Essahkaw - - -	R	Water.
Suohmie - - -	L	27 feet wide; considerable flow; rocks.	Cruncumah - - -	R	Dry.
Water-course - - -	L	Tributary of above.	Ahcahco - - -	R	Water.
Acawbanumensu - - -	L	Water.	Ahdaihusu - - -	R	Water.
Mahpeh - - -	L		Krobo - - -	R	
Kummirwah - - -	L	Plenty of water; tributary of Suohmie.	Quahjeriefie - - -	R	25 feet broad; water.
Soubie - - -	L	Dry.	Encrocrahun - - -	R	Water; tree bridge.
Ohkinsu - - -	L	12 feet; shallow; strong flow.	Ahboiboh - - -	R	
Bahtahchum - - -	L		Smohquoih - - -	R	Water.
Impieahsum - - -	L		Ehpunoh - - -	R	
Water-course - - -	—		Enkapah - - -	R	
Prah - - -	—	Prah 200 yards wide; deep; strong current; crossed in canoes.	Prah - - -	R	110 yards wide, 20 feet deep; 1 mile an hour; crossed in canoe.
<i>Assieassu or Assuahdu</i>	R		<i>Himmin</i> - - -	L	
Sissassesseh - - -	R	Water.	Sieehjun - - -	L	Considerable flow of water.
Comahkurah - - -	R	Water.	Ehdumahdum - - -	L	Dry.
Insantannahsu - - -	R	Water; swamp.	Cobrohfu - - -	L	Water.
Bohbahsu - - -	R		Ehpunoh - - -	L	25 feet wide; water; not bridged.
Mansie - - -	R	Water.	Kohtibieah - - -	L	
Sohbroh - - -	R	20 feet wide; shallow.	Moopoomohsie - - -	L	Water.
<i>Quantanan</i> - - -	R		Quintanquoih - - -	L	Water; swamp.
Craquobinah - - -	R	Water.	Water-course - - -	L	Water.
Bentemminnem - - -	R	Water.	Water-course - - -	L	Water.
Quobinnechung - - -	R	Water.	Water-course - - -	L	Water.
<i>Manponsu</i> - - -	R		Ahbuhshenehsu - - -	L	Track follows bed of this stream for about 600 yards; a little water.
Craquoih - - -	R	Water.	Water-course - - -	L	
Ohyimiesim - - -	R	Dry.	Assuehcofie - - -	L	Water; swamp.
Ahnewansu - - -	R	Water; 10 feet wide.	<i>Bussumassie</i> - - -	L	
Prahmcumah - - -	R	Dry.	Supenie - - -	R	Water.
Tehie - - -	R	30 feet wide; crossed in a canoe.	Water-course - - -	L	Dry.
<i>Ahhineberim</i> - - -	R		Essupenie - - -	L	
Ahbahtamehsu - - -	R	20 feet wide; flowing; very rocky.	Chirahuah - - -	L	Water.
<i>Ahbahtamehsu</i> - - -	R		Epietahsu - - -	L	
Water-course - - -	R	Dry.	Bimpon - - -	L	
Water-course - - -	R	Dry.	Crewrew - - -	L	Water.
Pumpumqueyah - - -	R	Water.	Ahbohtohsu - - -	L	Water.
<i>Deahdoih</i> - - -	R		Ohrahterah - - -	L	
Ahbahkaterahquah - - -	R	Water.	Ahdahhaurah - - -	L	Water.
Aweruquoihfie - - -	R	Water; bad swamp.	Coomcoomieah - - -	L	Water.
<i>Kahkahboh</i> - - -	R		<i>Dahboassie</i> - - -	L	
Ahmahtanoh - - -	R	15 feet wide; water shallow.	<i>Bedamassie</i> - - -	L	
Quahtanoh - - -	R	Water.	Soubirehnum - - -	L	
Queyjireh - - -	R	18 feet wide; flowing.	Soubielle - - -	R	
Ahtieang - - -	R	10 feet wide; flowing.	Accocassie - - -	L	
Boijeh - - -	R	Water.	<i>Ehquah</i> - - -	R	
<i>Ahworishoh</i> - - -	R		Assnahmansu - - -	R	
Quintanquo - - -	R	Water; deep cutting; large cotton tree bridge.	Cocu Mah - - -	—	
Fieassiebecum - - -	R	Water.	<i>Acropong</i> - - -	R	
Ahternion - - -	R		<i>Ahboahsu</i> - - -	R	
<i>Ahterinsu</i> - - -	R		Ahbrahbrah - - -	L	
Offiehkuncumah - - -	R	Water.	Inchehchern - - -	R	
Entamanco - - -	R	Water.	<i>Boposu</i> - - -	L	
			<i>Supomme</i> - - -	—	On island.
			Abrahhieah - - -	L	
			<i>Krobo</i> - - -	L	
			<i>Chama</i> - - -	R	

(Signed) REGINALD HART,
Lieutenant R.E.

*Geological Report on the Districts bordering the Bussum Prah, Gold Coast Colony,
West Africa.*

The country each side of the River Prah, from the coast to 20 or 30 miles above Prahsu, presents no variation in geological features.

I know the coast from Chama to Cape Coast Castle, a distance of 30 miles. The coast line runs nearly east and west and its direction is due to the direction of the strike of the strata.

The strata along the coast consist of varieties of sandstone, generally red sandstone, like the red sandstone of Devonshire and similar in character and colour to the red sandstone I have seen in the Vosges Mountains of Alsace.

Near Chama, on left bank of the Prah, we meet with stratified shale of various colours.

Near Commendah were blocks of conglomerate. I have seen no trace of fossils.

Near the mouth of the Prah the low cliffs of inclined sandstones and shales are coloured in a way similar to the tertiary sands of Alum Bay in the Isle of Wight; all the colours are represented except pure blue.

The general colour near Chama and Commendah is more purple than at Elmina or Cape Coast Castle.

The true bearing of the strike of the strata is 110 degrees. The dip is about 25 degrees in a southerly direction, that is, to seaward.

The sandstone is often exceedingly hard and fine-grained; it makes very durable building stone.

It appears to me that there is an axis of elevation far inland, perhaps situated at the Adansi Hills, or the centre of disturbance may be in the Kong Mountains and the upheaval has given to the Coast strata their present inclination.

The land has risen slowly and gradually and during the movement the sandstones have been denuded, partly by marine and partly by sub-aërial denudation, till the underlying volcanic rocks have appeared, but this theory does not assume that the volcanic rocks are more ancient than the sandstones; however, this subject will be referred to later on.

The volcanic rocks consist of varieties of granite and possibly basalt; however, the specimen I forward of basalt may prove to be a close-grained granite or metamorphic sandstone.

I strongly suspect that metamorphic and highly crystalline rocks exist between the sandstone and the granite; however, I did not succeed in finding the locality where the true sandstones ceased and the metamorphic strata or the granite commenced; with more time at my disposal, it would have been easy to have settled this point; as it is, it is possible the sandstone was deposited upon ancient granite, but I am of opinion that the volcanic rocks are more modern than the sandstones and the heat from these volcanic rocks, combined with other causes, has converted a certain thickness of the sandstones into highly crystalline metamorphic rocks. In this way also, I account for the great masses of quartz and silicious rocks that are so common in the country: I also consider the sandstones to be old from a geological point of view and it is a well-known fact that the precious metals are most often found in ancient rocks where there has been more time for the process, whatever that process may be, by which the atoms of certain metallic elements aggregate into small particles or even into nuggets.

The underlying rocks of the Prah country are covered by clays, sand or gravel, formed from the denudation of the overlying rocks, more especially the metamorphic stratum, but to a certain extent also from the denudation of the granite.

As we advance inland, we see no more of the stratified rocks, but volcanic rocks appear continually at the surface; not so often granite as the rock I have named "basalt" and of which I furnish a specimen. The superficial covering varies in thickness from a few inches to perhaps a hundred feet.

Large masses of quartz are not uncommon, also masses of impure yellowish silica that breaks up easily like sugar candy.

The country is very hilly and irregular and being covered with dense bush, it is not easy to trace the lie of the land.

The superficial covering already referred to consists of yellow but not very tenacious clay or yellow sand, or a mixture of clay and sand.

At the greater depths we find the above-named very generally interspersed with white or yellow pebbles; associated with this gravel we frequently find gold; above the gravel is a layer of yellow clay without pebbles. Gold is also found in the quartz rocks and in some of the streams, especially after floods.

The pebbles are always water-worn and some are of considerable size, giving rise to the belief that they were rolled in the Prah itself and we must therefore come to the conclusion that the modern covering of the rock was in part deposited, in days gone by, in the sluggish reaches of the Prah.

The course of the Prah is one succession of rapids with projecting rocks; between the rapids the current varies and is often sluggish. The water is always muddy, being heavily charged with yellow sediment. The course of the river is very tortuous. The Prah overflows its banks in the rains when a layer of fine sediment is deposited over a certain area.

Innumerable small water-courses find their way to the Prah, they are remarkably tortuous, some contain more or less water all the year round, while others are dry till May. Many of the streams have made deep cuttings and with most are associated small marshes, where no doubt a great deal of the superficial covering of the rocks is deposited. These marshes are a peculiar feature in this undulating region, they are rarely soft beyond a few inches, as in this hot climate vegetable matter is soon decomposed. Yellow sand often forms the bed of the stream but occasionally the water flows over the bare rocks.

The width of the Prah varies from 40 to 300 yards and at one place is as much as 400 yards, but the width is generally less than 100 yards and no great increase in width is apparent at the lower part of its course.

Islands are common and often very extensive. The depth varies from a few feet at the rapids, to upwards of 30 feet during the dry season. During the rains the river rises about 20 feet. The bed of the Prah must be silting up in the sluggish reaches and the varying force of the current at different seasons will account for the deposit of materials of various natures and the intermixture of the pebbles or even gold with the fine sand or clay and we must not ignore the small streams that become swollen by local rains and at irregular periods pour their sediment into the main river.

The Prah, like all other rivers, is constantly cutting into its banks at certain places, while at the same time it is depositing at as many other places and consequently in the course of ages the river must wind about from one part of its valley to the other; although the Prah has no well-defined area that we can call its valley, in the sense in which it is usually understood, there is nevertheless a certain region, hilly it is true, that is being denuded by the Prah and which is, so to speak, the valley of the Prah.

A glance at the map will show how probable it is that the Prah has occasionally cut through the narrow neck of a loop formed by the course of the river. There are many indications of this having taken place and on one occasion I found the old river bed contained much water, the surface of which was covered with a beautiful weed. In course of time this lagoon will be silted up by the denudation of the rainy season.

The present elevation of the sands and clays above the river, which I consider were deposited to a great extent by the Prah itself, may be due to the river having flowed at a higher level in days gone by, before its bed was cut so deep as at present, or it may be that the land is undergoing a gradual upheaval.

It appears to me that the land is now slowly rising, because, judging by the localities on which stand the castles of Cape Coast Castle, Elmina, Commendah, and the small forts, it is evident to me that the sea has not encroached upon the land during the last few centuries. Now, had not the land been rising, I am of opinion that we should see many signs of encroachment.

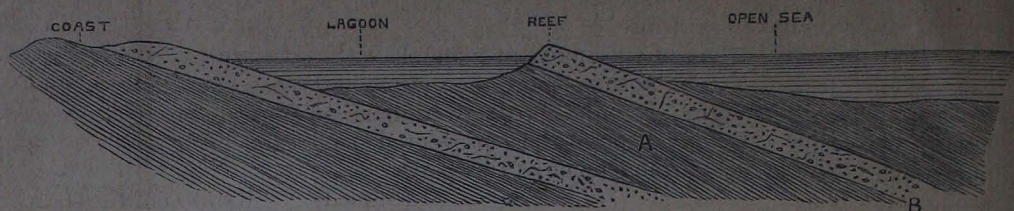
The rocks on which the castles are built are of sandstone and where these sandstones are marked by the surf, they are almost honeycombed in parts by the borings of Molluscs; and moreover, being exposed to the action of a remarkably heavy surf, the rocks in the course of ages would wear away to an appreciable extent, were they not rising gradually but faster than they are being denuded by the sea, aided by the action of the shell-fish.

I think I have seen clear indication of borings and the action of the sea on the sandstone that is above the highest tide.

Then again, along the coast we have the lagoons and reefs which appear to me to be the result of upheaval.

I have never read any theory on the formation of the lagoons but I think they might be formed in the following way; *vide* section.

The heavy surf of the coast would denude the soft stratum A and currents would, as fast as it rose during the upward movement, remove it to a certain depth, but this would not be the case with the hard stratum B, which would gradually form a reef similar to those now existing along the coast and in course of time this reef would wall in the lagoon.



The lagoons are usually separated from the sea by a very narrow strip of land; *vide* the map for the lagoons at the mouths of the Volta and Prah.

To support the upheaval theory, I call attention to the very numerous rapids in the Prah; considering the rapidity and volume of the current, the river would surely have cut its bed through these shoals, were it not for constant oscillations in the level of the land. These movements are probably gradual and not spasmodic, as I can hear of no earthquake shocks, though such shocks are not uncommon farther to the eastward.

Lastly, we have very numerous small marshes associated with the small streams and marshes high above the level of the surface of the Prah, pointing to probable changes in level due to volcanic action.

The natives wash for gold in the Prah at certain places but as a rule the water is too deep or the current too strong. There is probably a great deal of gold in the inaccessible bed of the Prah, gold that has been washed out of former deposits of the same river, matter of less specific gravity being carried forward by the current.

The natives also sink wells for gold, varying in depth from 10 to 25 or 30 feet. The sides stand exceedingly well for years and years without any artificial support. The wells are so narrow, there is barely room for one man to work; the earth is lifted to the surface in a basket. These gold wells are often dry and almost contiguous, so that the ground is honey-combed and one has to walk with caution. I have passed along a bush track lined with gold-holes for nearly a mile.

To search for gold in this way is most laborious, whereas to sink vertical shafts and connect them by horizontal galleries in the gold-bearing stratum would be much less so and far more profitable.

I saw no case of tunnelling and it may be that the natives being too indolent or too unintellectual to think of supporting the roof, are afraid to proceed in this way.

Immediately above Prahsu the natives do not appear to dig for gold but below Prahsu, to the vicinity of the coast, I found gold-holes the whole way, although none were being actually worked.

If gold exists in one place, it does so in many, because for hundreds of square miles there is no change in the geological and mineral character of the soil.

There are probably very many square miles of country rich in gold and the resources of which must some day be greatly developed.

I am convinced that the natives, if left to themselves, will never unearth this hidden or rather buried wealth. They work on a very laborious and expensive system and moreover, apathy paralyzes enterprise and binds men as with fetters of iron.

The great curse of the country lies in the fact that the subsistence greatly exceeds the population. Away from the coast the native attaches no very great value to money or the luxuries of civilization; he has no desire to see himself or his surroundings improved but he is content to clear a patch of ground and with the minimum of exertion, make a plantation of the prolific plantain, which requires hardly any cultivation; he rarely grows even yams, maize or fruits of any kind but he is well content with plantains and dried fish.

The women of the Protectorate are more industrious than their husbands, who lead the life of idleness and in a country where the climate dispenses with much clothing and where the soil is so fertile, it is not surprising to find that these people possess a very low order of intelligence.

A red clay is very common and may be the result of the disintegration of volcanic rocks or of the stratified shales; it is used by the natives to make smooth floors to their huts. Clay is found everywhere and each village makes its own earthen pots; the earthenware is made by hand and not turned. Iron is not used but its presence is evident. I saw no trace of the other metals, except the ore, a specimen of which I forward. I found this ore in one locality only, where there was a good deal of it; it is very hard and scratches steel. I have seen no trace of lime.

Many streams stain the silicious pebbles purple. I forward specimens which if broken, will be found to be white.

I forward herewith a box of specimens of minerals with a description of each.

This paper pretends to be nothing more than a few hasty notes on the geology of the districts travelled through. I could not delay to make geological observations and the very limited time at my disposal has prevented any care being devoted to the composition or methodical arrangement of this paper.

(Signed) REGINALD C. HART,
Lieut. R.E.

Note.—For further remarks on the Geology, vide No. 134, page 195.

VOCABULARY of FANTI words, useful in surveying.

- Assie* means "under." *Coomassie* means "under the coom tree."
Dahboassie means "under the rocks."
Ahbo, meaning rocks.
Su means "on"; as *Prahsu*, on the Prah river; *Ordahsu*, on the Ordah river.
Croom means "village"; as *Sipah-Croom*, the village of Sipah.
Bussum means "sacred"; as *Bussumprah*, the sacred prah; *Bussumassie*, under the sacred bussum (rock).
Ahbo means "rock."
Da means "staying"; as *Dahboassie*, "under the rock."
Annama means "bird"; as *Annamabo*, bird's rock.
Chinchin, "great"; as *Cocochinchin*, the great cocoa (yam).
Essu, "water"; as *Essie-Essu*, properly *Essu-Su*, on the water.
Bopo, "hill"; as *Boposu*, on the hill.
Ful, "made by"; as *Amoaful*, made by *Amoah*.
Ahquah, "hilly."
Apim, "thousands"; as *Aquahpim*, thousands of hills.
Man, "town"; *Mansu*, "the head of all towns" or "towns above all."
Kassim, "with large." As *Mankassim*, with large town.
Yantam, "be quick."
Bräh-Ah, "bring here."
Arracong, "go away."
Comähgen, "hungry."
Papah, "good."
Coffienie (*playfully*), "bad boy."
igneugh (*very difficult to pronounce*), "Yes."
Debi, "No."
Debi-Dah, "No" (emphatic).
Oyez-Papa, "very good."
Mah, "come."
Madahsie, "thank you."
Ah-woo-lah, "master." Terms of respect.
Fidjah, "fire."
Affrodnie, "what is your name."
Blahoo, "go slowly," "take care."
Nyankuponfie, "god most high."
Bussoms, "spirits of the departed."
Yahfung, "silence."
Fahbrah, "bring."
Ohfrem, "you are called." *Amoah ofrem*, you are called, *Amoah*.
Ariadnie, "what are you doing."
Sicca, "gold."
Audaihinoh, "whereabouts?"
Ehnimphoh or *Nimphoh*, "right."
Ahbengcoom or *Bengcoom*, "left."
Ombum, "shout out."
Fuum, "plantation." *Eccrofum*, plantation of *Eccro*.
Aurah, "stream."
Nom, "drink."
Yeribah, "we are coming."
Odzie, "it is called."

Minduassie, "I do not leave you," a polite way of saying good-bye.

Yancoom, "rain." *Yancoomassie*, "under the rain."

Bieboom, "virgin," name of stream.

Essieccahsu, "good water," name of stream.

Essaman, name given to a flourishing town. *Essa* means to oppose resistance and man means town.

REGINALD C. HART,
Lieut. R.E.

Miscellaneous.

Bush Tracks.—The tracks are generally not wide enough for more than one man; the bush is generally very dense and impassable. There is complete shade in the narrow tracks where it is much cooler than in the villages. I have walked for days and days without having to wear any covering to my head. The tracks are more or less hilly. The swamps are never formidable. It is easy to walk three miles an hour and the natives with loads can keep up.

I surveyed at the rate of from two to $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles an hour.

Tradition.—In the bush I heard a tradition that the Ashantis were formerly under Fanti rule; as they came from the interior the Ashantis were subject to the Denkeras, who were Fantis. They fought about some levy of taxes and the Ashantis gained the supremacy. It is said that all the race of Ashantis and Fantis came originally from Gaman; they left that country in consequence of scarcity of water.

Suggestions.—The Ashantis and Fantis have all learned and adopted our days of the week. Therefore, why not teach them some idea of time and distance? At present they have no idea of distance and they cannot express time by means of altitude of the sun, as in the bush the sun is rarely seen.

There should be no great difficulty in giving them an idea of the division of the day and night into hours, considering how little the days on the equator vary in length.

As for distance, mile posts should be placed conspicuously along the principal routes; by this means the natives of India have learned to a great extent the meaning of a mile.

REGINALD C. HART,
Lieutenant Royal Engineers.

List of Animals seen in the Protectorate.

Elephant.—I found an elephant's tooth near Phiriam, on the Prah and was told the animal was shot many years ago. No elephants now in the vicinity but they are reported in the country south-west of Prahsu.

Buffalo.—I was given two sets of buffalo horns by hunters; in one case the skull remained. These animals were shot on the left bank of the Prah below Prahsu. Hunters report that they still exist in the vicinity. I may remark that no cows are kept by the natives, except on the coast.

Deer.—I have seen two species of antelope, one a rich brown and the other a silverish blue; the horns are short.

Rats.—I have seen two species, a small brown rat in habitations; I believe a very large species also exists. The field rat is very pretty, being spotted.

Mice.—Common brown species.

Leopards.—Skins to be bought for about 15s.

Civet cat.—Spotted.

Cat.—I have seen occasionally cats in villages and have been told they are not European, they appeared more to resemble the Jungli Billi or half-wild cat of India.

Bats.—Of various sizes, from the Flying Fox down; the Flying Fox is silver-coloured, unlike the Indian variety.

Ant eater.—I saw but one specimen and it was scaled like an artichoke and rolled itself up into a ball on being touched; it may have been an Armadillo.

Squirrels.—I saw several, same-sized as English squirrel but a darker bay colour.

Tortoise.

Iguana or Monitor.—Saw one 52 inches long.

Lizards.—Of various species, some very handsome.

Crocodile or Alligator.—I passed several weeks on the Prah and saw but one living crocodile or alligator but I bought their eggs on several occasions. I could not discover

a single case of natives being killed by crocodile or alligator and they frequently swim across the Prah.

Frogs.—Bull frogs.

Snakes.—I saw brown and green snakes and I have two skins, one being 12 inches across and the other 21 inches wide.

Monkey.—Three species. A small green monkey. A larger black monkey considerable trade in the skins of the black monkey. A small grey monkey with long hair and long tail.

Grey Parrot.

Hornbill.—Black and white beak.

Curlew.—Not so wild as the British species.

Duck.—Small, rich yellow colour; one day in April I saw 10 different pairs of these ducks; they perch on trees and rocks but I never saw them in the water; they were very tame, allowing the canoe to approach within 30 or 40 yards.

Green Pigeon.—Very beautiful, like the Indian species but plum-coloured wings, feathers and red nostrils.

Doves.

Vultures.—Two or three varieties. The Turkey vulture and the black and white or fishing eagle.

Miscellaneous.—Hawks, sparrows and numerous birds of beautiful plumage on the coast, not seen in the interior.

Butterflies and Moths.—Many, and very beautiful, varieties.

Flowers and Orchids.—Flowers very scarce; orchids abound. The cotton tree is far the most common tree.

REGINALD C. HART,
Lieutenant Royal Engineers.

No. 128.

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

SIR,

Downing Street, July 1, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of 30th May,* reporting an interview which you had held with the Ashanti ambassadors, at which they had delivered a message of peace and submission from the king, and had handed over for transmission to England about 1,200 oz. of gold and gold dust, together with the Gold Axe of Ashanti.

Her Majesty's Government have received with much satisfaction the report of these occurrences, which they trust may be regarded as bringing to a close the differences which had arisen between the Gold Coast Government and Ashanti, and it affords me much pleasure to convey to you the expression of the high sense which Her Majesty's Government entertain of the ability and discretion which you have displayed in the difficult circumstances in which the Colony has been placed, and their entire approval of all your proceedings.

I have not failed to notice your commendation of the officers of your staff, and I take this opportunity of recording the thanks of Her Majesty's Government to them, and also to the military and naval authorities on the coast, for the manner in which they have co-operated with and supported you.

I have had great pleasure in making arrangements for Captain Barrow, whom you despatched in charge of the Gold Axe, to proceed to Windsor Castle in order to present it to the Queen, and I shall address you further on the subject by the next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) _____ KIMBERLEY.

Sir S. Rowe.

No. 129.

COLONIAL OFFICE to WAR OFFICE.

SIR,

Downing Street, July 4, 1881.

I AM directed by the Earl of Kimberley to request that you will move Mr. Secretary Childers to cause his Lordship to be informed what is the total extra charge which has been defrayed from or will fall upon military funds in connexion with the recent movement of troops to the Gold Coast on account of the apprehended outbreak of war with Ashanti.

Lord Kimberley presumes that in making the calculation allowance will be made for the fact that, as his Lordship understands, the troopship "Orontes" would under any circumstances have been obliged to make the voyage from the Cape of Good Hope to England.

If the extra expense which has devolved upon army funds owing to the movement of troops amounts to a sum which it is within the means of the Gold Coast Colony to defray, Lord Kimberley is of opinion that repayment may properly be made from colonial funds, and he will be prepared to consider the propriety of giving instructions to that effect.

The Under Secretary of State,
War Office.

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

No. 130.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received July 8, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, June 12, 1881.

IN continuation of the subject of my despatch, dated 30th May,* viz., the threatened invasion of the Protectorate by the Ashantis, I have the honour to report that, on the 8th instant, other messengers arrived from the King of Ashanti, a sword-bearer, four court criers, and 34 followers.

2. They brought with them a further instalment of gold dust, 600 ounces.

3. They were the bearers, they said, of a message from their king, to the effect that he thanked me exceedingly for the good counsel that I have given to his representative, Prince Buaki, and the chiefs who are with him, and for the courtesy and consideration I have shown to them; and they said, farther, that they were directed by the king to ask that, when I had finally finished with Buaki, and given him permission to return to Coomassie, I will allow an officer of this Government to return with him. The king, they said, wished that this officer might repeat to him direct my wishes as to the conduct of his kingdom, and assist in opening the trade routes, and confirming peace between Ashanti and the tribes neighbouring, and, especially, remove certain difficulties which, at present, prevent trade between Coomassie and Salcha.

4. Trade appears to be prevented passing along that route by the action of a tribe called Bruns, who have taken the part of the Juabins, and, having control of the Salcha road, prevent Ashanti traders from passing to Salcha.

5. I have the honour to attach some notes of what passed at my interview with these messengers.

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

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

Inclosure in No. 130.

NOTES of an INTERVIEW with MESSENGERS from ASHANTI.

Elmina, June 9, 1881.

BUAKI and chiefs interview his Excellency the Governor, and, with them, the messengers last arrived, who bring the third payment of gold dust.

The messengers who came down yesterday (8/6/81) say, "This is the king's message to Governor:—

"Your good friend, the King of Ashanti, sends compliments, and thanks for assistance. King and white men are one, and good friends; and, as your Excellency knows the coast, the king wishes for your friendship.

"When Quaco Duah was alive he was a good friend to England, and there was much trade; roads all open to the interior from Elmina.

"Any past trouble must be overlooked, and all roads thrown open for trade.

"As you have interceded with the Queen and been kind, the king begs you will send some one to see roads open with Buaki when he returns home.

"Salaga is the principal place with which we trade, but the Juabins stop that road, and the king begs your Excellency to send messengers to cause all the roads to be kept open, especially that to Salaga, as the Juabins kill or rob the traders.

A little girl, daughter of sister of Queen of Juabin, was asked for by Buaki to be taken back to Ashanti with Buaki.

The girl is the Queen of Juabin's sister's daughter; she was living with her aunt, the late queen at Accra; the aunt is dead, and the mother who is now at Coomassie wants her back. She, the mother, is married, and has two other children by another husband.

Buaki begs that the girl may be sent back with the stool of Juabin to Coomassie.

H. E. "To talk this matter, we would have to go back to the events of 1873."

Buaki. "Yes."

H. E. "The Juabin palaver would require good deal of talking about."

Buaki. "Repeats about Governor's kindness, and sending a messenger with him to open roads."

H. E. "It is rainy season now, but I will see if any one would like to go in rainy season."

Buaki. "Leaves everything to you."

H. E. "Captain Campbell has been forced to go to Mansue on account of the rain everyday at Prahsue. Still we must see what can be done."

Buaki. "Repeats and mentions the king's grand uncle, *i.e.*, the King Quaco Duah being friendly, and says, can't do anything without assistance of white men; hopes for good continuance of trade after this. Says, farther, when Ansah was at Coomassie, king sent message with reference to having the roads open for trade. In future, if any message be sent to and fro they should go through Ansah."

H. E. "There are several matters to be talked about, but they must be spoken about seriously and not quickly."

Buaki. "Asked about the salt at Cape Coast."

H. E. "Must make a proclamation about opening roads, and will give six boxes salt to-morrow to go to the king."

Buaki. "Queen of England presented a silver topped cane to Quaco Duah, this cane the king has, and he proposes to have this copied in gold, and to send this cane with his messengers in future, so that there shall be no mistake about the meaning, as there was about the axe."

"Have heard at Coomassie of Buaki's reception being very grand, and they want an officer to return with him."

H. E. "We will see, as this is the rainy season it is difficult."

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
12/6/81.

No. 131.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received July 8, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast,
June 12, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to attach hereto copies of the reports of the boards of officers directed by me to supervise the receipt, testing, packing, and transmission of the gold which has been brought by the messengers of the King of Ashanti.

2. The whole amount still falls short of the 2,000 ounces which the king's messenger said he was instructed to offer, but I have good reason to believe that the amount necessary to complete the weight will be forwarded in a few days.

3. If this should arrive, there would still remain due a certain amount, as probably about one-third of the gold is not equal to standard. Perhaps some of this may be made up by the sale of the ornaments, which may possibly realise somewhat more than their intrinsic value.

4. I would very respectfully submit to your Lordship that perhaps your Lordship would see fit to instruct the Crown agents to place the whole contribution at some museum, when it would be open to the inspection of the public, and that subsequently, perhaps, some respectable firm of goldsmiths would take charge of the articles, and, as they are all interesting as being specimens of native workmanship, completed without any European teaching; and as some of them, especially the bracelets, are not to be despised as ornaments, they might possibly be sold at a higher cost than their intrinsic value.

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

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

Enclosure 1 in No. 131.

In pursuance of the commands of his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief a board composed of the following officers:—

President.

Captain SANDWICH, R.M.
Captain WILTON, G.C.C.
The SUPERVISOR of CUSTOMS } Members.

Assembled in the Court Room, Elmina Castle, at 5 P.M., 26th May 1881, for the purpose "of superintending the packing of the parcels of gold dust and ornaments into the boxes, and verifying the contents of each box by quoting on each lid the number of parcels and their value."

The board, having received over from the district commissioner the various parcels purporting to contain the gold dust and ornaments, proceeded to pack them into two boxes, which were carefully screwed down and sealed.

The contents of each box were quoted on each lid, and the two boxes then carefully placed in the treasury vault of the castle under the personal superintendence of a member of the board. Attached hereto is a list showing the weight and value of the parcels corresponding with the remarks written on the packets by the district commissioner at the time of receiving the gold dust and ornaments from the Ashantis.

27th May 1881.—On the afternoon of the 27th instant, the Board composed of the same officers, reassembled pursuant to directions from His Excellency, proceeded to open No. 1 Box, and from No. 8 packet two pieces of gold were taken out and handed to the Ashanti ambassador, their equivalent weight being placed in the packet. No. 1 Box was then screwed and sealed up, and with No. 2 replaced in the treasury vault.

30th May 1881.—In pursuance of further directions, the Board re-assembled on the 30th May 1881 at noon in the Court Room, Elmina Castle, received the two boxes of gold and ornaments from the District Commissioner, and in the presence of Prince Buaki and suite, opened the boxes, and after placing the contents of two packets of ornaments on trays, had the whole quantity placed on the table in the palaver hall (the Ashanti ambassador accompanying the board), where it remained for inspection until the close of the proceedings, when the Board carefully packed up the gold and ornaments in two new boxes, which were screwed down, taped, sealed, iron bound, and addressed to the "Crown Agents for the Colonies, Downing Street, London, S.W.," then handed over to the District Commissioner, Elmina, in the presence of the board, and a receipt taken from the District Commissioner, not only for the two boxes, but for an additional box containing the Ashanti Gold Axe, which was also fastened up and addressed to the Right Honourable the Earl of Kimberley.

Appended hereto are the original orders (2) for the assembling of the board, and the receipt of the District Commissioner. Also contents of the two boxes as received over 26th May 1881.

Elmina Castle,
May 30, 1881.

(Signed) J. H. SANDWITH, Captain R.M.,
and President of Board for packing Ashanti
Gold Dust and Ornaments.

Enclosure 2 in No. 131.

CONTENTS of Two Boxes Gold Dust and Trinkets received from the Ashantis.

	Parcel No. 1. Good Gold Dust.			Parcels 2/15. Untested Dust.			Parcels 16/17. Trinkets untested.			Parcel 18. Bad Gold Dust.			Total.		
	Weight.	Value.		Weight.	Value.		Weight.	Value.		Weight.	Value.		Weight.	Value.	
No. 2 Box	ozs.ack.tok. 16 11 0	£	s. d. 60 1 6	ozs.ack.tok. 687 14 3	£	s. d. 2,476 9 3	ozs.ack.tok. 65 10 0	£	s. d. 236 5 0	ozs.ack.tok. 8 2 4	£	s. d. 29 8 0	ozs.ack.tok. 778 6 1	£	s. d. 2,802 3 9
No. 1 Box	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—	
Good dust and trinkets parcels 1/11.	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		472 5 2	1,700 8 0	
Bad dust and trinkets parcels 1/11.	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		103 13 1½	373 15 7½	
1 piece quartz	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—		1,354 8 4½	4,876 7 4½	

This calculation is made at 3l. 10s. per ounce for entire weight.

Elmina Castle,
May 26, 1881.

(Signed) J. H. SANDWITH, Captain, R.M.,
and President of Board for Packing Ashanti
Gold Dust and Ornaments.

Enclosure 3 in No. 131.

In pursuance of the commands of His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, a Board composed of the following officers:

President:

Captain Sandwith, R.M.,

Members:

Dr. Waldron, Assistant Col. Surgeon,
Mr. Stevens, Supervisor of Customs,

assembled in the Court Room, Elmina Castle, at 1.30 p.m., on the 11th June 1881, for the purpose "of superintending the packing of the parcels of gold dust and ornaments" into a box for transmission to England.

The board having received from the District Commissioner, Elmina, the various parcels purporting to contain the "gold dust and ornaments" handed over by the Ashanti ambassador, carefully packed up the parcels (14 in number) in one box, which was at one screwed down, taped, sealed, iron bound, and addressed to the "Crown Agents for the Colonies, Downing Street, London, S.W.," and then handed to the District Commissioner, Elmina, in the presence of the board, and a receipt taken from that officer for the box.

Appended hereto is the receipt of the District Commissioner, and a list containing the contents of the box.

Elmina Castle,
June 11, 1881.

(Signed) J. H. SANDWITH, Captain R.M.,
President of Board for packing
Ashanti Gold Dust and Ornaments.

Enclosure 4 in No. 131.

CONTENTS of One Box Gold Dust received from the Ashantis.

	GOOD.			BAD.			TOTAL.		
	Weight.	Value.		Weight.	Value.		Weight.	Value.	
	ozs. ack. tok.	£	s. d.	ozs. ack. tok.	£	s. d.	ozs. ack. tok.	£	s. d.
11 parcels gold dust -	357 1 2	1,285	10 0	182 14 4	658	10 0	540 0 0	1,944	0 0
3 „ trinkets -	52 8 0	189	0 0	7 8 0	27	0 0	60 0 0	216	0 0
	409 9 2	1,474	10 0	190 6 4	685	10 0	600 0 0	2,160	0 0

This calculation is made at 3*l.* 12*s.* per ounce for entire weight.

{ 6 jakoos 1 ackey, }
{ 16 ackies 1 ounce. }

Elmina Castle,
June 11, 1881.

(Signed) J. H. SANDWITH, Captain, R.M.,
President of Board, &c.

No. 132.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
KIMBERLEY. (Received July 8th, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast, June 12, 1881.

IN reference to the subject of my public Despatch of this day,* viz., the despatch to England of the gold dust and gold ornaments of which the King of Ashanti humbly begs Her most Gracious Majesty's acceptance as a proof of his sincerity in stating that he wishes for peace, I have the honour to say that even if in a few days I should receive, as I hope, the few ounces of gold necessary to bring up the full amount to that which the Prince Buaki said he was instructed to offer, viz., 2,000 ounces, I fear that there will still be something short in value of 7,200*l.* sterling, which would be the full equivalent of 2,000 ounces at 3*l.* 12*s.* per oz., seeing that the whole of this gold is not up to standard value.

2. I am told, however, by the gold tester that the impurities are mechanical, an admixture of sand, quartz, iron pyrites, and so on; and that there has been no admixture of brass or copper filing which is not uncommon; and in view of this, and of the sending of the axe, and of my belief that the Ashantis have found it very difficult to raise this money, I would very respectfully submit to your Lordship that if Her Majesty were to be pleased to see fit to authorise me to return to the Prince and chiefs the bonds which they have signed, and to say to the King that though the whole of the gold is not of full value, yet in view of the willingness which the King has shown to redeem his promise Her Majesty will not exact from him the payment of the amount required to complete the sum first promised, that the concession would be appreciated.

3. And, indeed, my Lord, if I succeed in getting the balance to make up the full 2,000 ounces of weight I shall have been more successful than I at first thought I should be, and though our relations have been very satisfactory so far, and though I have obtained the payment of this money with more willingness than was to be expected, and though it has been paid as I have insisted as their own offer without any asking or pressing from me, and the remaining small portion I am assured shall be so sent to redeem the honour of the King's word, I fear I might perhaps have some difficulty in getting more.

4. I feel sure that if, on your Lordship's recommendation Her most Gracious Majesty would see fit to approve the course of action which I most respectfully submit, the effect will be satisfactory.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor-in-Chief.

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

No. 133.

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

SIR,

Downing Street, July 12, 1881.

I HAVE received your Despatch of the 12th ultimo*, in which you propose that the deficiency in value of the 2,000 ounces of gold dust forwarded by the King of Ashanti for the acceptance of Her Majesty the Queen should be remitted, and that the bonds signed by the Ashanti chiefs for the payment of the balance should be returned to them.

2. I concur in your opinion as to the propriety of this concession, and you have my authority for acting in the manner you propose.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

No. 134.

LIEUTENANT R. C. HART, R.E., V.C., to COLONIAL OFFICE.

East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.,

July 13, 1881.

SIR,

WITH reference to my geological report† on the Gold Coast Colony, I have the honour to request to be allowed to add some information which is not unimportant.

In my report I deduce from my observations that the Gold Coast is slowly rising. After reading my report Sir Samuel Rowe informed me of three facts which would appear to corroborate my theory. (a.) His Excellency showed me an Admiralty work in which it is stated that Dutch vessels of 50 to 60 tons used to anchor off the quay at Elmina where now there is merely sufficient water for canoes. (b.) Some distance down the coast there are houses a few hundred yards from the sea which were formerly almost washed by the surf. (c.) Earthquakes have been felt at Cape Coast Castle.

Sir Samuel Rowe had attributed facts (a.) and (b.) to the action of the sea, which he supposed had thrown up a quantity of sand. In my report I have given a different explanation and one I think His Excellency was inclined to accept.

At the time my report was forwarded I was not aware of the above important facts.

Sir Samuel Rowe told me he should give this question his attention, because if the Coast is really being subjected to upheaval, it would be most important to bear this fact in mind when it may be proposed to spend money on harbour works.

I have, &c.

(Signed) REGINALD C. HART,
Lieutenant R.E.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

No. 135.

WAR OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

War Office, July 13, 1881.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant‡, and to acquaint you in reply that letters have been addressed to the General Officer Commanding, West Indies, to the Officers commanding at Sierra Leone, and the Gold Coast, and to the Admiralty, relative to the extra expenditure incurred in consequence of the recent despatch of troops to Cape Coast Castle.

On the receipt of replies to these letters, a further communication will be addressed to you on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. L. HALIBURTON.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

No. 136.

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

SIR,

Downing Street, July 21, 1881.

I TRANSMIT, herewith, for your information, copy of a correspondence* with the War Office on the subject of the payment of the extra expenses which have been caused by the recent apprehended outbreak of war with Ashanti, from which you will perceive that I am of opinion that these expenses should, as far as possible, be defrayed from the funds of the Gold Coast Colony.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

No. 137.

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

SIR,

Downing Street, July 29, 1881.

IN my Despatch of 1st instant† I informed you that I should address you further by the next mail on the subject of the presentation of the gold axe to the Queen by Captain Barrow. I regret that owing to inadvertence the despatch in question has been delayed.

I have now the honour to inform you that Captain Barrow proceeded to Windsor Castle, and delivered the gold axe to the Queen.

Her Majesty was pleased to receive it very graciously, and desired that the King of Ashanti should be informed that she accepted it as a proof of the sincerity of himself and his people in their desire to remain on terms of peace and friendship with Her Majesty and Her Government.

You will add that the axe will be preserved with care.

Sir S. Rowe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

No. 138.

GOVERNOR SIR S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.
(Received August 5, 1881.)

MY LORD,

Elmina Castle, Gold Coast,
July 9, 1881.

WITH reference to the subject of my Despatch, dated 12th June 1881,‡ forwarding copies of the reports of the boards of officers who supervised the receipt and transmission of the gold which had been brought by the messengers of the King of Ashanti, I have the honour to report that Yow Mensah, Ossai Broni, and Oti, with about 24 followers, arrived from Coomassie on Thursday last the 7th instant.

2. They have brought with them enough gold dust to make up the total amount paid to two thousand ounces.

3. If your Lordship has not already caused instructions to be sent to me as to the reply which Her most Gracious Majesty directs me to give to the King, I have the honour respectfully to submit that the receipt of the present instalment (making up the amount promised (*i.e.*, taking the gross weight), *viz.*, two thousand ounces,) is a favourable time to do so.

4. I propose at once to issue a proclamation withdrawing the prohibition on the sale of guns, gunpowder, salt, and such like imposed by the Lieutenant-Governor's proclamation of 31st January last.

5. I also propose to bring in the small detachment of the 1st West India Regiment (now stationed at Anamaboe) to Cape Coast Castle.

6. The extra cost of the detachment at Anamaboe is about 400/. per month, principally paid for transport of fresh beef, bread, and water.

* No. 129 and 135.

† No. 128.

‡ No. 131.

APPENDIX.

The RIGHT HON. SIR M. E. HICKS BEACH, BART., to LIEUT. GOVERNOR LEES,
C.M.G.

SIR,

Downing Street, April 25, 1879,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 25th of February,* reporting that the King of Ashanti had been interfering in the affairs of Adansi, and that you had sent Captain Hay on a mission to Adansi in consequence.

2. You likewise enclose a copy of a letter which you had addressed to the King of Ashanti, in which you protest against the acts of his servants in Adansi as contrary to the Treaty of Fommanah, and call upon him at once to fulfil his treaty obligations by withdrawing his messengers and discontinuing to interfere in the internal affairs of Adansi.

3. You add in the letter to the King that Captain Hay, should he find Ashantis remaining in Adansi against the wish of the King, is to request them to return to their country.

4. I trust that if any such request is made it may be peaceably complied with, and that the King himself will recognise the propriety of observing the treaty of Fommanah entered into by his predecessor with Sir Garnet Wolseley.

5. But the action which you took upon this occasion was of a character which might possibly have placed the local Government, and ultimately the Imperial Government, in some embarrassment, should the Ashantis decline to comply with the demands made upon them. In dealing with savages the refusal of a demand can seldom be safely left unnoticed; and demands should not, therefore, be made, unless there is a settled purpose beforehand to enforce them, directly or indirectly, in the event of their being refused.

6. Adansi is not within the protectorate, and the question of requiring the observance of the Third Article of the Treaty of Fommanah is one of external policy, on which the Government of the Gold Coast should refrain, unless in case of urgent necessity, from definite action until Her Majesty's Government had decided whether the action proposed was proper and opportune, having regard to the general interests of the Empire. I have to request that in future you will bear this caution in mind, and that you will take no further steps in the matter now under consideration without the previous sanction of Her Majesty's Government.

Lieut. Governor Lees.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. E. HICKS BEACH.

* Not printed.



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