

7638. What are your grounds for thinking that you are likely to have another attack from the Ashantees?—I did not say so, I think.

7639. Were you not, before you came home, in fear of another attack from the Ashantees?—About two months before I left I arranged to allow the Governor of Elmina to send up a soldier to his agent, and on his return I became fearful that an invasion would take place from the news which he brought; he said that the King was determined never to give up his claim, and for that reason I consider there is danger.

7640. Was there a responsible person sent up with that soldier to Ashantee?—There was a responsible person sent as far as the Prah, which is the boundary. I sent a special messenger to protect him.

7641. Did the Governor of Elmina agree with you that an invasion might take place?—It was in consequence of an arrangement with him that he sent his aide-de-camp to me.

7642. Do you think now that an Ashantee invasion is likely to occur?—Not a full invasion; there would be marauding parties.

7643. Have there been any marauding parties since the end of the war?—No. For 18 months I am not aware of any man who has hostilely crossed the Prah. There was a woman taken away, but I have reason to think that that was collusion; a fight ensued, and one man was shot.

7644. I suppose that that kind of thing must be expected in such a country?—Yes.

7645. You still think that the King of Ashantee was disposed to make a great attack upon the protected territory?—Yes, I fear it is so.

7646. Is that the impression of the chiefs generally in the Protectorate?—They did not say what they thought. The reply simply was that they were prepared.

7647. Dutch slaves, you say, are taken by the Dutch from Comassie every year to Java as soldiers?—They were before the invasion took place.

7648. Are they so now?—I think not. They cannot pass them very conveniently.

7649. Do our cruisers stop Dutch ships carrying slaves bought in Ashantee to go to Java?—Certainly not. Those men are enlisted as soldiers before they leave.

7650. And are they freed at Elmina?—So it is said.

7651. But has there been any representation from the English Government, such as was made to the French, when they attempted the system of the so-called free emigration?—I am not aware of that. Some two years ago, perhaps, I was desired by the Duke of Newcastle to send any proofs of it that I could; but I am sure that it is notorious that they do get those people when they can.

7652. Would you propose to obtain Houssas for the police?—No; people selected from the Protectorate.

7653. Do you think that this extract from Mr. Cruickshank gives a right picture of the Gold Coast as it is now. Writing in the year 1853, he says, "At the present time the Gold Coast essentially exhibits all the symptoms of progress in every phase of its existence. There is a vital change diffusing its innumerable currents throughout every class of society, and giving expansive force to an entirely new class of ideas, affecting the moral, religious, and social development and condition of the people: a taste for many Euro-

pean necessities and luxuries of life, and a partial assimilation in the construction of their houses, in their manners, and in religion, are becoming daily more observable; and even where little external change is perceptible, there is nevertheless going on an extensive modification of ideas, feelings, and customs, paving the way for a more general conformity to the usages of civilised life?"—I think it is rather too favourable; it is a very highly coloured picture, I think.

7654. But do you think that there is a social and moral revolution going on among the people?—Yes, I do; I see a change, and I see an improvement.

7655. Mr. Cruickshank was acting governor there shortly before he wrote that, was he not?—Yes.

7656. Mr. Forster.] How would you officer those constables that you propose to substitute for the regular soldiers?—I should endeavour to get different officers as commandants, and each civil commandant would have a certain number of men under his own control.

7657. Do you propose that those commandants should be Europeans?—Yes, Europeans; at present the commandants are the junior military officers; they are changed repeatedly with the troops. It is seldom that a commandant serves for more than 12 months in one district. They receive small pay, about 150*l.* a year, and that, added to their own military pay, may answer very well; but a civil commandant, independent of the military, could not be obtained at a less sum than 300*l.* or 400*l.* a year.

7658. Do you suggest that this constabulary should be stationed in different parts of the protected territory?—Yes, a certain number at head quarters, Cape Coast; and the others at the different stations.

7659. In what relation would you put them with the chiefs in the protected territory?—I would let the chiefs know that they were the constituted messengers of the British Government in every way.

7660. It is very difficult for the Committee to understand the exact position in which you, as Governor at the Gold Coast, stand to the protected territory; to what extent do you consider yourself responsible for the preservation of life in the territory?—I consider myself responsible to inquire into any outrages committed within the Protectorate; that is, of course, if I get information; otherwise I do not seek it. The usual course is, if any serious offence is committed, that the chief, or king, of the district immediately informs the British Governor, and very often sends the culprit down.

7661. But supposing the chief himself is the culprit?—In that case we call upon him to appear and answer the charge.

7662. Are the natives aware that you are the court of appeal against the chief?—Perfectly; they have been accustomed for many years to come down and throw their cases into the hands of the Court.

7663. Do you think the practical result is, that no murder would happen in that territory without your being informed of it, and its coming under your jurisdiction?—I do, certainly, think so. I feel sure that such is their dread of the power of England, that they would not dare to do otherwise. I had a frightful case, not very

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long ago, in which some of the chiefs were implicated; they were brought down.

7664. Would that apply to thefts?—For petty thefts we permit the chiefs to punish the thieves themselves.

7665. What are the class of crimes that come before you chiefly?—There is no limit; manslaughter is a very common thing; accidentally shooting a man. They usually come before the court.

7666. Have you many cases brought before you in which Europeans are concerned either as assailants, or as being assailed?—Not many.

7667. Do the Europeans ever make any objection to your jurisdiction as not being colonial, but being merely for the protection of the territory?—No; no European that I recollect has done such a thing. Yes, I remember one person who was born in Jamaica. I think he raised the point, but that was all; it went no further.

7668. Have you many natives of Sierra Leone in your territory?—A very small proportion.

7669. Are they British subjects?—Yes.

7670. Have you had any difficulty with them of that kind?—I never had.

7671. To what extent do you make use of the chiefs to carry out your authority in preserving order in the territory?—Before I was appointed to the Gold Coast, where even, strictly speaking, I perhaps might have sent a warrant within the recently acquired British territory in the neighbourhood of the Gambia, I had been in the habit, instead of sending a warrant, of sending my constable, without a staff, as a messenger to the head man of the town, saying that I required such a person, and my messenger has been obeyed. I adopted the same system at Cape Coast; that was the system laid down by at least one governor, Sir Benjamin Pine. Printed regulations were given out to the commandants, and all the superior chiefs were sent for by a polite message sent by a known messenger with a cane, who was always obeyed. I never knew an instance of refusal; that is in lieu of a warrant or summons.

7672. *Chairman.*] Do you draw a distinction between sending for a common man without a staff and sending for a chief with a staff?—No; where it is an ordinary affair, the judge sends his summons merely.

7673. But is a man ever sent for by a constable without the intervention of the chief?—The constable's directions are always to go to the head man; that is the custom.

7674. *Mr. Chichester Fortescue.*] It may be said that you treat those chiefs rather politically than judicially?—Yes.

7675. If you have ground of complaint against a subordinate protected chief you invite him to appear?—Yes; to appear and answer for his conduct.

7676. *Mr. Forster.*] What power is then left to the chief by this system?—To settle all matters which are not sufficiently important to come down to Cape Coast, and also to settle between their own subjects disputes of almost every description; petty thefts they can deal with; if there are no complaints, we do not attempt to inquire.

7677. Then, so far as the internal government of the Gold Coast is concerned, it comes very much to this in the protected territory: you are in the same position as you would be if it was a colony, only that you act through the native chiefs to a greater extent than you would do in that case?—Yes, it is in fact the British influence which pre-

vails; they do not stop to question whether it is law or not.

7678. They must expect, in return for this obedience, to be protected from any attack from without, and they do so expect, do they not?—They now expect protection to the extent of munitions of war; they do not expect anything more.

7679. Am I to understand by that, that if the Ashantees were to send a body of troops to invade that territory they would not expect that we should assist them with anything more than munitions of war for repelling that attack?—I think I have had no less than three meetings with the chiefs, and explained to them fully the views of Her Majesty's Government as far as I was instructed, that they must not expect more than the support of the powder and guns that I have to give them in case of invasion; that if they require anything else, they cannot expect it as of course, but it might be competent to the commanding officer to send them a few men, and an officer to superintend them within the Protectorate; they may apply for it, but it would depend on circumstances whether they had it or not.

7680. When was the last time that you made that statement to the chiefs?—Perhaps six weeks before I left Cape Coast, and two or three months before I left. The first time was in July, on my return from Ascension.

7681. Were they very much disappointed when you made that statement?—At that time they were disappointed. I can easily explain that. I was aware that my Lieutenant Governor was new in office, and Colonel Conran was comparatively new to the colony. The chiefs were called upon suddenly to remove all the munitions of war; and as the thing was not fully explained to them, and I thought they would have liked to have a further explanation why they were suddenly told to bring back the munitions of war which they had assisted to carry up, I communicated the explanation, and they cheerfully acquiesced.

7682. But the explanation you made was that they would have reason to expect munitions of war, but not the assistance of armed men?—Yes.

7683. The disappointment was, that the munitions of war were being taken from them?—Colonel Conran was instructed to use his own discretion as to what munitions of war should be given, and what should be destroyed, to prevent the enemy taking them. Colonel Conran, thinking that certain ammunition was not useful to the natives, threw it into the River Pra, and spiked the guns, and so on; they were disappointed, and I told them that we could send them plenty more of the same kind of ammunition; they thought it was such a pity to throw them away, and such a disgrace that the Ashantees should see that we were obliged to throw them away; that seemed to be the gist of the whole thing.

7684. When you made that statement to them, I suppose you did it thinking it was the best thing under the circumstances?—I was positively instructed to endeavour to assuage the disappointment.

7685. But were you instructed with regard to the amount of assistance to be rendered?—Yes; I think so; I considered so.

7686. But do you consider that that was what any governor situated as you were would have been, as it were, ordered to do from home, or did you do it in your personal discretion?—No, not in my personal discretion; it was the discretion given

given to me as governor on the spot at the line.

7687. There was, I suppose, no definite agreement or treaty, or anything approaching to a treaty, with the chiefs which defined the manner in which the assistance was to be given or not?—No.

7688. During the time you have been there, has this protected territory increased in area?—No.

7689. Do you think that your authority in it has increased during that time?—I hardly know whether I should not be accused of egotism if I say that since the days of Governor Maclean I do not think they have had greater confidence in anyone.

7690. But, speaking with regard to your actual power and authority over them, not your personal influence, but your actual official position towards them; do you think your authority has been increased during the last few years?—Yes, I do. I think they have increased confidence in the British protection at this moment with the exception of the King of Cape Coast.

7691. Do they pay their obedience more completely than they formerly did to British orders?—I have never had a refusal; I can give one instance of obedience; a newly crowned king did a very arbitrary act; he upset a decision of the judicial assessor between two parties with regard to some land. The moment I heard that he had caused the owner of the land to leave his land I sent an officer with instructions to investigate the case, and, if it were so, to demand restoration of the land and impose a fine; he obeyed immediately, and he paid the gold dust down immediately.

7692. I may gather from your previous answer that you think the position of the governor would be easier there, and that he would be able to make his influence more beneficially felt throughout the territory if we were the only Europeans within it?—Yes.

7693. In what way does the existence of the Dutch interfere with your relations as governor to the people in the protected territory?—I can hardly say, but it is so; there is always a feud between what are called the Dutch natives and ours; there has been a feud from time immemorial.

7694. One great difficulty is that their levying no duties makes it more difficult for us to levy any?—Almost impossible.

7695. Have they, around their forts, protected territories something like ours?—Yes.

7696. To what extent?—That is very difficult to define; the same as our own, I imagine. I do not think they know themselves. They do exercise some sort of control, but they are more arbitrary; they will send and seize a native king or chief.

7697. Do you know whether the natives in the Dutch territory have the same understanding that they are not to be defended in all cases?—I do not think they expect to be defended.

7698. Is there any inconvenience in the border line between their protectorate and ours not being actually defined?—Very great inconveniences. There have been constant discussions which I have not thought worth while to report because they would form volumes; there is an immense book kept on purpose for the Dutch officials' correspondence at Cape Coast; but the main discussions have been very serious. I have not found them very strong in argument.

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7699. Is there any town or big village as to which it might be considered doubtful whether it was under the Dutch protection or under ours?—According to the Dutch showing (they have got a map) we have not got 300 yards at Accra, but their pretensions are exorbitant and ridiculous.

7700. Are there many natives in the actual Dutch colony as distinguished from the Dutch protected territory?—Yes, within the town there are a great many.

7701. Does slavery exist in that town?—Yes.

7702. Are there natives in our colony as distinguished from the territory; are there natives immediately around the forts completely under you as Governor of the place?—Yes, but I hardly know how to define that; some hold that we have no territory outside the settlement, but I form within my own mind an ideal boundary within gunshot or something of that kind; probably 100 yards.

7703. Within gunshot are there many natives?—Yes, a great many.

7704. Are there slaves?—Yes, I have no doubt there are domestic slaves there. I have no doubt that in the street which faces the fort there are persons holding domestic slaves.

7705. *Chairman.*] If that were brought to your notice would it be your duty to set them free?—I think so.

7706. Do any Europeans hold slaves?—Not that I know of.

7707. There you would proceed summarily, of course?—Certainly; there is a gentleman now in England who manumitted all his slaves; he is an English magistrate; Mr. Barnes.

7708. The question of slavery would be a very difficult one, would it not, in any attempt to change the protected territory into a colony?—No, I do not think it would make very much difference, because I believe they think they are all amenable to us that they must not go too far with respect to slavery; that is one request they beg me to make, namely, that they should have more power over their slaves.

7709. Do cases come into your courts within the protected territory as between master and slave?—Yes.

7710. What sort of cases are they?—Cases of slaves who have left their masters; the master is deprived of the services of his slave, and he says, this man dresses well, and is able to keep himself, and he requires that he shall redeem himself; it has been the custom for the master to go to the Court and ask that a slave shall be compelled to redeem himself.

7711. What judgment does the Court give in such a case?—The Court, so far as I know, and as far as the circumstances permit, endeavour not to interfere but to arrange the matter. The judge is strictly forbidden (there are notices after notices) not to adjudicate in cases of that kind.

7712. *Chairman.*] Do you think that by encouraging that process of redemption we might reduce the amount of slavery?—Yes; I have heard them bargaining for the price of redemption; they do not like it otherwise; they do not think it is fair.

7713. *Mr. Seymour.*] What is the present price of redemption?—About 9*l.* in the Gold Coast.

7714. It is higher than it used to be; it used to be 8*l.*, did it not?—It is a question of discussion between them.

7715. *Mr. Forster.*] Their willingness to pay that

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that redemption appears to show that they have a great sense of the value of liberty?—Yes; I think so, but those slaves themselves, and all the slaves acquired by the slave during possession by the master have to be redeemed the same as themselves.

7716. Would you suppose that that is a proof that they have a feeling with regard to the value of liberty?—Yes.

7717. Or does it more arise from the feeling that by becoming free men they rise in society?—I think they value the boon of freedom.

7718. We have had it stated before, not with regard to Cape Coast, but with regard to another colony, that so mild is this condition of slavery, that the slaves themselves have no particular wish to get rid of it, and that the abolition of it by our Government would not be popular. You do not think that that applies to the slaves under your observation at Cape Coast, do you?—I think they would regret the abolition.

7719. Why?—Because they consider it a species of property.

7720. But I speak of the slaves themselves?—I must say that I think many slaves would be pleased, but as a general rule I may say that what are called good people never care to leave their masters. Generally speaking it is those who abscond, and who have committed some crime, and that the masters wish to get rid of.

7721. Do the masters punish them for laziness by corporal punishment?—Yes.

7722. Do cases arising out of such punishment come before your court?—Occasionally.

7723. In what way do they come?—It depends a great deal on what responsibility a magistrate takes.

7724. But is it the slave that appeals against the master having given him extravagant punishment, or is it the master that comes to the court and asks for assistance to inflict punishment?—It is the slave who comes to the court. I have known an owner of slaves to come to the court and ask whether he might inflict punishment. I have known a case where I should tell the master that so long as the relation existed, he might chastise his servant gently, but if it were extravagant he would be treated like any other offender.

7725. Do you ever give an order from the court for corporal punishment in any case?—I do not remember one.

7726. I think you have stated that written instructions were given to the magistrates; did you furnish these instructions?—My attention was called to it by the Secretary of State, and I then renewed the instructions, and reminded the different commandants from time to time of the instructions issued by the Secretary of State to the governors.

7727. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] When was that?—I think it must be about two years ago; I was also instructed to report how far it would be expedient to issue a proclamation throughout the Protectorate, warning the people that they must expect no assistance from the magistrates. I ventured to suggest that this would alarm the natives, and that the proclamation should not issue; the Duke of Newcastle was pleased to sanction that, but I gave strict private instructions to the magistrates that they were to abstain from doing that.

7728. Mr. *Forster*.] I gather from your answers that you think this system of managing the

protected territory anomalous, though it has on the whole worked very well for the natives?—That is my opinion.

7729. In the first place, do you think that it works better, under all the circumstances, than a colony of the same extent would have done?—No, I do not think that; I think that any governor would be in a much better position if he knew his business properly, and had his instructions. It is ABC to deal with a colony, but the difficulties of a governor here are immense.

7730. No doubt his difficulties are great in the actual administration; but there is this advantage, is there not, that the chiefs fall in more with the British authority, and are not so antagonistic to it as they would have been if they had been subjected to a Colonial Government?—I think myself it is preferable for that particular class; they have been so long accustomed to it.

7731. But I suppose you have no doubt whatever that our giving up that territory entirely to the natives would result in a falling back in the progress of civilisation which they have made?—I have no hesitation in saying that the checks we put on them have a good effect.

7732. Have you any suggestions that you can make to the Committee with regard to how your authority could be more clearly defined over the protected territory?—I understand my instructions myself, but I could not convey my ideas to another.

7733. Do you not think there would be great danger that your functions might be differently viewed by another person?—I think it is very likely.

7734. Can you make any suggestions, then, with regard to how they should be defined, so that the same line of policy should be as much as possible secured when one governor is replaced by another?—I think I could draw up something of the kind which would be useful as a guide to the Governor. I do not think that it is every man who would take as great a responsibility as I have; but if I were asked for my authority, I could not say.

7735. You would say, in order to obtain influence with the natives, it is almost necessary to appear to be possessed of a will, and to know what is to be done on an emergency?—Yes, there are times when that is essential.

7736. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Whatever general limits were laid down by your instructions, a great deal must always depend on the personal character and influence of the governor at the head of the Protectorate?—I think that must be so in Africa; everywhere, but especially on the Gold Coast, they have been accustomed ever since the days of Sir Charles McCarthy to swear by Sir Charles McCarthy; the great oath of the country is by Sir Charles. There are some questions which, if they were answered, would be a great guide, for instance, am I permitted to force a slave to do his duty to his master?

7737. Is the Committee to understand that since the receipt of the instructions from the Duke of Newcastle, there has been any change in the conduct of the Judicial Assessors Court with regard to domestic slavery?—I think that the Judicial Assessor has been more on his guard.

7738. Against what?—Against interfering in any way.

7739. Even for the protection of the slave?—

No, I do not think that there is even a slave allowed to be ill-used.

7740. But when you say that, under the present system, the Judicial Assessor does not recognise slavery, what do you mean by that?—I mean that he cannot absolutely give back to the owner his right; he would not think of compelling a man who said he would not return to go back.

7741. Do you mean to say that whatever change has taken place has been in favour of the slave and not in favour of the master?—Yes.

7742. But you do not mean that the Court of the Judicial Assessor declines to interfere for the protection of the slave against harsh treatment?—No, certainly not; that is his duty.

7743. Then you would say that is one of the great advantages of the Protectorate, that, without being involved in the difficulties, which of course arise on British territory, we are enabled to recognise domestic slavery, and to mitigate its evils?—Certainly.

7744. Mr. Forster.] Do you think that the slaves are better and more kindly treated in the protected territory than they are in the neighbouring countries?—I believe so.

7745. Are you of opinion that there are more frequent cases of redemption?—Yes; great wrongs cannot be committed against them while the British remain there.

7746. Are there any slaves sold out of the protected territory to neighbouring countries?—I have been told so, and I was instructed to report to the African Aid Society, but could find no data.

7747. Would you think that it was your duty to stop that?—Yes, I should; the system of exchanging slaves is very common indeed; I have not thought it my duty to ferret out those things. I have had one case where a woman was brought before me (the flag flying over the house); she was charged with endeavouring to sell away a girl who had been the slave of her former husband, and who had married her with her consent; but after his death she wanted to get rid of her. There was a proposition on the part of his brother to take the girl, inasmuch as she had been left by the deceased brother, but she insisted on selling this child away. I told her that she could not do that; that she might go over to the other man if she wished it; her mistress was exceedingly obstinate; they were literally haggling for the price. I said, "I cannot submit to this;" the girl heard the whole conversation, and she said she wished to be free altogether; I said, "You are free." That is an extreme case.

7748. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] Can you assure the Committee that the slave within our protected territory is secure from cruel and outrageous conduct on the part of the master, in a manner to which there is no parallel in neighbouring territories?—I consider that to be so, assuming that the authorities do their duty.

7749. Do you think it likely that such cases as I allude to, which must be common enough in the territory of Ashantee or Dahomey, are likely to occur within the British territory without your knowledge and interference?—I think it is very unlikely.

7750. Chairman.] Do you think that the slave always dares to appeal against his master to the court?—He manages to do it sooner or later as a general rule; he may be restrained. There was
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a case the other day in which a man made an excuse to leave the room, and he escaped.

7751. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] Though we may not always be successful in preventing such cases we do a great deal towards it, do we not?—I am sure of it. I am sure that slavery has decreased even within my time. No one thinks of purchasing a slave now.

7752. Mr. Forster.] In your attempt to keep the law, preserve the peace, and settle disputes in this protected territory, you, of course, do all that on the principles of equity, and not under any actual law?—Yes.

7753. Do you not think that it is some compensation for your anomalous position, that there is some advantage in governing a people just removed from barbarism, in being able to do that without being hampered by legal rules?—I should be much freer without the law to do as I thought best.

7754. You have alluded to the Dutch having obtained troops from Comassie?—Yes; they have employed continuously for years a paid agent in Comassie, who is supposed to procure slaves that the King of Ashantee wishes to get rid of.

7755. What is done with them?—They are paid for; it is paid, I believe, to the King of Ashantee, and there is at this moment and for years past, a contract between the King of Ashantee and the Dutch; there is a debt against the King of Ashantee, and the slaves sent down for soldiers are paid for; the amount of 40 dollars for each man is deducted from the debt; the supply was not so good, and therefore the Dutch have been compelled to settle and pay a rate of money for them. When they get them they are marched down with badges on them in charge of two men to Elmina, and there a form is gone through of asking whether they will be soldiers.

7756. They are only used for the purpose of soldiers; they are not sent out of the country are they?—They are used as soldiers, and sent to Java; it is something like what the French did some years ago; I do not think they have much choice, because I hear that they do not even understand the language.

7757. Do you think this understanding between the Dutch and the Ashantees by which they get hold of those men (independently of any evil there may be in the system), makes your relations with the Ashantees more difficult?—They do not care so much for being at peace with us, because they have the Dutch and the French close to them.

7758. Chairman.] Are these Ashantee subjects, or are they persons kidnapped?—They are from the inhabited districts tributary to the King of Ashantee at the back of his country.

7759. Mr. Forster.] Do you propose that there should be always a steamer at Cape Coast Castle?—To do justice to the Lieutenant Governor of the Gold Coast, there must be a steamer always within hail.

7760. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] One question more about slavery; do you think that the view of our relation to slavery in the Protectorate which is held by the Home Government is also held and carried into effect by the local authorities, that view being that within the Protectorate where there are no British subjects we may safely recognise the existence of slavery without reserve, and do our best to mitigate and control it?—Yes.

7761. Is that view acted on by the local government?—

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government?—Yes; that is the view I entertain myself, and I endeavour to get my officers to do the same.

7762. Lord *Alfred Churchill*.] I believe that the ostensible cause of the threatened invasion by the Ashantees was the rescue of a fugitive?—He was one of the King of Ashantee's captains, not a slave.

7763. Is he there now?—He still resides in Denkara. The capital is about 20 miles from Cape Coast.

7764. Within the British Protectorate?—Yes.

7765. Do you believe that if this individual were removed from the Protectorate, the King of Ashantee would still be desirous of invading it?—Yes, because there are other things; the last one is a seceding chief of the name of Adjuma, called a king. I believe it is maintained that he did some grievous wrong. Also, he says, there is a queen there, who has left Ashantee; she is said to have sent a messenger to the King of Ashantee to the effect that she was willing to come over to him, if he would send an army to protect her, and that is one of the reasons he gives for sending his army; but we have no reason to believe either of those statements.

7766. Supposing this fugitive had taken refuge in one of the Dutch settlements, would the King of Ashantee still have invaded our Protectorate?—Not at that moment, I think. I think he thought the occasion of a new governor arriving was a good opportunity of trying to get his refugees given back; that is my opinion.

7767. You have stated that previous to the war you called a palaver of the chiefs to meet at Cape Coast?—Yes, the chiefs of Cape Coast, and all the principal inhabitants; the hall was as crowded as possible.

7768. What was the general sentiment of the meeting?—The greatest horror at even my hesitating for a moment to protect the man.

7769. But did they anticipate that you were to send troops to fight the King, or that they themselves were to fight?—I cannot say what they expected, because it was then in embryo.

7770. Have you held palavers at any of the other neighbouring villages or towns?—Whenever I have had occasion to visit them the custom is for the head people to wait on the governor; if there has been any reason for visiting a district, I have done so. I did so in the case of a king who had done wrong because it was said he was illegally crowned.

7771. Have you visited the Prah?—Never.

7772. What distance is it from the coast?—It is 90 or 100 miles.

7773. Have you visited the Fantee country?—I have been to several districts through the Protectorate a good deal.

7774. Have you been at the chief town?—Yes; Mankassin is the chief town.

7775. How did you travel?—In a hammock.

7776. Were you carried?—I was carried by the men and walking occasionally; four or two men, as the case may be.

7777. When our troops were at the Prah, how were the provisions and stores conveyed to them?—On heads of men, women, and children.

7778. It must have required a very large number to do that?—Yes. The commissary made a request for 500 men to begin with, and that I got complied with by calling the chiefs together.

7779. Are there not often obstructions in the

native paths by the falling of timber, and do they not constantly get grown up?—By the falling of trees there are frequently temporary obstructions.

7780. Would it not be possible to get the chiefs to keep those paths clearer than they have hitherto done for the more easy transit of the produce?—Quite possible; but it is difficult to get them to keep it up; they will do so at your bidding, as they did on this occasion.

7781. Is it not the case that at Cape Coast there is now a large supply of spades, pickaxes, and various implements for road-making?—It is quite true that those things have been sent out.

7782. A large number were sent from this country?—Yes.

7783. For what purpose were they sent?—For the purpose of clearing the roads, for military purposes, and the general improvement of the country.

7784. Mr. *Seymour*.] Are they proper instruments, and suitable for the natives?—They are what were required, and asked for.

7785. But are they suitable, in your opinion?—Most of them are; there is rather a large supply of saws.

7786. Lord *Alfred Churchill*.] Are they for cutting timber?—Yes; and there are axes.

7787. Mr. *Seymour*.] What do the natives use?—They use spades, and they like axes and pickaxes.

7788. Lord *Alfred Churchill*.] What are the facilities for draining at Cape Coast?—It would be easy enough to drain Cape Coast town if we had money.

7789. Is that drainage not required?—It is required.

7790. But it needs money?—It requires money.

7791. Is there not a great want of fresh water at Cape Coast?—Very great.

7792. Could not it be brought in from the Sweet River?—Yes, it could.

7793. What distance would it have to be brought?—It would have to be brought six or seven miles.

7794. By pipes?—It might be; there would be a good deal of engineering required.

7795. Would it cost any great amount of money?—I do not think it would cost an enormous sum.

7796. Have you any municipal institutions at Cape Coast?—No.

7797. The Governor and Council do everything, I suppose?—The Governor and Council, and the Courts.

7798. Was there not originally a municipality at Cape Coast?—There was one, but it could not be kept up for want of material; for the want, for instance, of a mayor and corporation; several of those men who were thought eligible for such appointments have died and their places were not taken.

7799. But could you not get the native chiefs to unite together for carrying out those various sanitary measures?—They will do so when asked; they have never refused yet when I asked them to work.

7800. Have you asked them often?—Very often.

7801. Have you asked them to drain the towns?—Not absolutely to drain the towns; draining is difficult, because the torrents of rain break down anything but permanent structures. In an hour
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and a-half after the rain the street is torn into little gulleys. It is very little use to do more than to get ready for the coming rain unless you have bricks and mortar.

7802. Have you not got a huge tank somewhere above the town, which is now filled with stagnant water, which you could readily sluice the town with at various times during the season?—Certainly I could.

7803. Have you ever done it?—No.

7804. Why not?—Because I had no authority and no money.

7805. No money to sluice the town?—No money to purchase the tank.

7806. It is the property of a company, is it?—Yes.

7807. Have you heard any opinion expressed within the Protectorate, with respect to the advantage of forming it into a colony?—Yes, I have heard some people say it would be better to have a colony; principally officials. I have heard Mr. Barnes say so.

7808. He is a native merchant, is he not?—Yes, but I have not heard it generally expressed. The officials would prefer it, because then lines would be ruled for our guidance.

7809. Do you think if it were turned into a colony, the chiefs would be more willing to offer obedience to the British Government?—I do not think so at all; I do not think you would recognise any difference.

7810. But in the event of its becoming a colony, I suppose our responsibility in defending them against aggression would be greater than it is now?—That is a question I can hardly answer.

7811. Naturally, so would it not; we should in that case have to defend them against aggression?—That would follow as a matter of course, I think.

7812. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Would you not be inclined to say this: that the good government of the Gold Coast is more dependent on the possession of sufficient funds than anything else?—Yes.

7813. Would you be prepared to say that if from increased taxation, or any other source, you had sufficient funds you would be able without difficulty to effect improvements in the town of Cape Coast, which at present, for want of funds, you are unable to attempt?—That is so.

7814. Provided you had funds, you would not find any serious difficulty in the state of the country?—I think not.

7815. Mr. *Seymour*.] But have you not said at the same time, that you think it would be quite possible to raise those funds?—Not all the funds I should require. I should not expect to raise a very large amount by a poll tax.

7816. *Chairman*.] I understood, from your last despatches to the Duke of Newcastle in March 1864, that you expressed an opinion that a tax in the nature of a poll tax might be raised which would be sufficient for the requirements of the colony in time of peace, but that in time of war you thought that the extra expenditure could hardly be raised in that way?—I do not think it could.

7817. Mr. *Seymour*.] How is it that no efforts have been made to raise money to be expended in useful improvements?—It is not for me to comment upon the acts of my predecessors; but, for myself, I can only say that the Ashantee invasion has been one reason why I have not

even pressed for the payment of the poll tax, because I have had other matters more urgent to attend to, but to this hour they have not refused, and to this hour they are making efforts.

7818. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] But under an anomalous state of things, such as that of the British Protectorate on the Gold Coast, there is necessarily very great difficulty, is there not, in enforcing taxation, the foundation of our Government theoretically being not coercion, but conviction?—Yes, there is that difficulty of enforcing the taxation. I can only reason with them and argue, there are difficulties in the collection.

7819. It is impossible to enforce the collection of the tax upon a party refusing to pay in the way in which it is done in a British colony?—It is very much more difficult.

7820. Of course, the easiest mode beyond comparison of raising a revenue if there were no other difficulty would be by increasing the customs duties?—Of course.

7821. I suppose you would say, if it were possible to get rid of the difficulty caused by the presence of the Dutch on the coast, and so to levy a sufficient amount of customs duties and increase the funds of the Government, a variety of useful things could be effected which are now impossible?—Yes, I am quite certain of it.

7822. *Chairman*.] Did you, in your despatches to the Duke of Newcastle, recommend that there should be a similar power of compelling the service of the natives for wages in the protected territory to that power which exists in the Gambia and Sierra Leone?—Yes; that is called the Grumetta Law. Their wants are so easily supplied that many persons will not work; they do not care to work, and yet you do not know exactly how they live.

7823. *Chairman*.] In one of your despatches you seem to imply that the protectorate might expect indemnification for injury received in the course of the Ashantee invasion?—But they have ceased to ask for that. I always told them that if the King of Ashantee ever paid anything they would know it; and that I thought I could obtain permission to do it to some extent.

7824. Is it the fact that 30 or 40 villages that have been burned down have been rebuilt by the natives?—Not exactly on the same sites.

7825. But they are restored without any assistance from the English?—Yes, they have had very little assistance from me.

7826. What is the present understanding between the Protectorate and the British Government with regard to the claim for indemnification in case of invasion from the King of Ashantee?—I have led them to suppose that they must never expect it unless we recover it from the King of Ashantee.

7827. You have stated that certain merchants assisted you with voluntary forces which they had embodied themselves?—Yes.

7828. Was that force raised on an emergency, or is there such a force now?—It was raised on an emergency. I found a nominal volunteer corps in a very disorganised state; the officers had no command over it, and therefore I encouraged the gentlemen to get up little bodies of troops, whom they called "their own people."

7829. Do you suppose that such a force might be levied again in case of emergency?—I am sure it might.

7830. Was that force tolerably efficient?—It was very good so far as it went; the late Mr.

H. Pines,
Esq.

1 June
1865.

R. Pine,
Esq.
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Hutchison embodied 40 men who never received sixpence.

7831. How were they armed?—Their own masters armed them, but when they were short of arms I supplied them from the Government store, on a requisition upon the colonel commanding.

7832. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] You think that the merchants and men of property on the coast who are deeply interested in the safety of the country would be ready on an emergency to act in the same way?—I think the natives would; I think the European merchants would assist in funds, because they have not the same means of getting up forces composed of "their own people."

7833. *Chairman*.] Did not Mr. Finlayson raise a force of this kind?—Yes; but they were not "his people."

7834. Lord *Alfred Churchill*.] Is the influence of the British jurisdiction greater on the Gold Coast than it is in the interior?—I think not; I am sorry to be obliged to say that the people of Cape Coast have been notoriously less subordinate than those in the interior.

7835. To what do you attribute that?—In some measure to their having been spoiled and humoured too much; I also mainly attribute it to the system of the chiefs having changed entirely; men who call themselves chiefs have no right to do it; they are not men of influence or responsibility. The chiefs, properly speaking, are looked up to by their subjects; they are able to support them, but in the present instance the chiefs are not men of substance, and they have no influence.

7836. Mr. *Seymour*.] Which do you suppose is the best way to stop the slave trade, to have a number of slow ships blockading, or a small quantity of fast ships to catch the slavers?—I happen to have seen more of the cruisers than most men connected with the squadron. I had the advantage to be with Commodore Wilnot when he inspected every cruiser on the coast, and it is wonderful to me that slavers can escape from that part, because the cruisers are studded along the coast at a distance of not more than 18 miles, and within sight of one another; but I know that slavers have escaped, though not recently, and I cannot conceive how they can escape now.

7837. But they do escape, do they not?—They are said to do so, but I am not aware that they have within the last 18 months.

7838. Then which system would you prefer,

speaking from your experience on the Gold Coast, a small number of fast ships moving about or a large number of slow ships blockading?—I think the fast ships would do better.

7839. *Chairman*.] Do you think generally if we could come to an arrangement with the Dutch, that the Gold Coast Government could be made self-supporting without any grant from Parliament?—I think it could; some questions have already been put to me with regard to what could be done if we had money, and I may now add, that the amount required would not be alarming.

7840. Lord *Alfred Churchill*.] Do you think that the effect of the spirit license has diminished drunkenness to any extent?—I do.

7841. Do you attribute the opposition to the license among the natives to the fact that they cannot get the liquor so cheap?—I think not; it is simply a dislike to put their hands in their pockets to pay 40 s. per annum.

7842. Were the chiefs consulted in palaver before this impost was made?—I consider they were.

7843. I suppose it is a disputed point?—They say that they were not, but I do not know what can be done more than for it to be a topic of conversation for many months, and a council summoned, composed of men of influence in the country, and native merchants, who were requested to consult with their constituents, if I may use that expression, for six weeks or two months, for the purpose of sounding the Protectorate; first of all, the council with whom I communicated direct, expressed a fear that the retail license could not be put in force; as to the others they consented to it immediately; they knew it must be done, and referred to me. And after time was given them for consultation and enquiry, they stated that the retail license might be put in force. I told the chiefs to their faces that I considered I had consulted them, and they could not deny that they knew all about it.

7844. When you left the coast did you believe that the opposition was rather dying out?—I am sure of it.

7845. This was the first instance of a license for the purpose of conducting any business or trade, was it not?—I am not sure whether, under the municipal corporation, there was not some small license.

7846. Do you think that you might institute some sort of local taxation within Cape Coast for sanitary purposes?—I do not think we could; I think they feel themselves somewhat oppressed, or at least pulled down.

Lunæ, 12^a die Junii, 1865.

MEMBERS PRESENT :

Mr. Adderley.
Sir Francis Baring.
Mr. Cave.
Lord Alfred Churchill.

Mr. William Edward Forster.
Mr. Chichester Fortescue.
Mr. Gregory.
Sir John Hay.

THE RIGHT HON. C. B. ADDERLEY, IN THE CHAIR.

SAMUEL WENSLEY BLACKALL, Esq., called in; and Examined.

7847. *Chairman.*] You are Governor of Sierra Leone?—Yes.

7848. How long have you been so?—I have been 2½ years present at my government.

7849. Had you any previous acquaintance with the West Coast of Africa?—None.

7850. Your governorship for 2½ years at Sierra Leone is all your acquaintance with that coast?—Yes.

7851. Will you, generally, state to the Committee the composition of your civil establishment, and what the annual expense is; you have a Colonial Secretary, and several clerks. Colonel Ord's report states the annual expense to be about 22,000*l.*?—I have no doubt that is correct.

7852. Is that expenditure increasing?—It has increased since I have been there, by the separation of the offices of the Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, and my increasing the police force.

7853. But not including the police force, has not the civil expenditure increased during the last few years?—Yes.

7854. I see in Colonel Ord's statement of the expenditure a very small sum put down to the judicial establishment; can you account to me for that, because, on referring to the Colonial Office list I see that the salary of the Chief Justice is 1,500*l.*; Registrar, 400*l.*; Queen's Advocate, 600*l.*; besides 100*l.* a year as Chairman of the Land Commission; Sheriff, 400*l.*; Registrar General, 300*l.*; making altogether nearly 4,000*l.*?—That is in consequence of all those fixed salaries being put on the civil establishment; the administration of justice, and those other matters, are what they call exclusive of establishment; that is the manner our estimates are drawn.

7855. Then, what is the sum of 300*l.* a year, which appears in Colonel Ord's report as the expense of the judicial establishment?—The payment of witnesses and other expenses of administration in the courts.

7856. With regard to the ecclesiastical establishments in the same way, I see by the Colonial Office list, that the bishop has 500*l.* a year; allowances, 400*l.* a year; chaplain, 400*l.*; assistant chaplain, 125*l.*; whereas, the sum given in Colonel Ord's report, is 182*l.*; can you account for that difference?—Yes; 100*l.* a year is the amount voted for oil and keeping the cathedral in order; latterly some of the vote which was exclusive of establishment, has been applied to obtain

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clerical assistance to the out-stations for the troops and police.

7857. Every annexed district, such as Quinh and Sherboro has entailed on the Colony an additional staff and additional salaries, has it not?—Yes.

7858. What is your opinion of the present judicial establishment; is it working well and suitably to the place?—So far as the judicial establishment goes, I think it is.

7859. Do you think that the jury system, for instance, works well at Sierra Leone?—The jury system with regard to trials of criminals, I think, works fairly, although I have known instances where prejudice has been brought to bear, but I think that occurs which is common to all small communities where the question to be tried is well known and talked over among a very small number of people, from whom the jury has to be chosen, and here there is only one attorney who generally practises both as attorney and counsel; is it not a good system for fair trial in civil cases; there is no chance of changing the venue, and generally the juries are prejudiced.

7860. In civil cases, you think that the system is a mistake?—Yes; we have remedied that a little lately by giving to the chief justice jurisdiction in all civil cases when the damages claimed do not exceed 100*l.*, and there is a kind of court of assessors, who have a right to sit on an appeal where the damages given exceed 200*l.*, where the jury have not been unanimous, because in Sierra Leone the system is that eight jurymen give a verdict out of the 12.

7861. Would you draw a distinction as to the use of a jury in criminal cases, and all other cases of a more trifling kind?—Taking the decisions in criminal cases generally, I think they are fair lately in all cases; in cases of capital punishment that have passed an ordinance which requires the unanimous decision of the 12, so that it is only in the smaller cases that the eight jurymen still give a verdict.

7862. Is there anything in the nature of our petty session jurisdiction for small cases?—Yes; in the town of Freetown there are two police magistrates, who have jurisdiction up to a certain amount, generally speaking, based on the English police powers; and in the country districts we have magistrates who hold courts in different villages.

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7863. Do you think that the powers of the magistrates acting without a jury might be extended with benefit?—I think so.

7864. The forces which you have at Sierra Leone consist of five companies of black troops?—Yes.

7865. What may we suppose to be the number of officers to a company?—I think there are three regimental officers to each company, besides the staff.

7866. So that there are nearly 20 English officers at Sierra Leone?—About that, I should say.

7867. Will you state generally how they are disposed; how many are there at Freetown?—The head quarters are at Freetown; the colonel, and I think three companies; the other two companies are divided between British Quiah, Sherboro, and Bulama.

7868. Are the barracks good at all those places?—They are all in good order at present.

7869. Are you of opinion that they are healthy?—Very much so, I should say; I have heard no complaints.

7870. You have heard no complaints at any of those places?—None.

7871. There is nothing in the nature of a fort or battery at Quiah, or Sherboro, or Bulama, is there?—No, nothing.

7872. At Freetown there are five batteries, I think?—I suppose there are five, but it is not a matter which has come under my notice.

7873. What is your opinion of those batteries; are they in good condition, and efficient?—Not as against a European force.

7874. They are only efficient against a native attack?—Yes.

7875. What is their use?—They were originally erected for that purpose, I believe.

7876. Is there any possibility of a native attack, do you think?—I think not.

7877. Then, is there any use in those batteries?—The only one I can see the use of is the one to defend the barracks, and the three-gun battery, as it is called, to defend the entrance to the harbour.

7878. For the purpose of defence against a foreign attack, would you propose any further fortifications?—I have seen a proposal of Major Clark, that Lighthouse Point should be fortified, which I should think would be useful in case of any foreign attack; I am not competent to give an opinion on the general question of the fortifications.

7879. Any attack would probably be a naval attack?—Precisely.

7880. And probably the defence of Sierra Leone must also be a naval defence?—For that reason I should say that the fort at the entrance of the roads to the harbour, at the lighthouse opposite to which stretches out the middle ground, and which forces a vessel to come in close to the lighthouse, would be useful; and on King Tom's Point there is another battery, now very much out of order, called the three-gun battery, which again would command the entrance to the harbour.

7881. What other forces have you besides those five companies?—No other.

7882. No police?—Yes, we have a police force.

7883. Consisting of natives on the spot?—Yes; consisting of natives on the spot, with a Euro-

pean superintendent and a European inspector-general.

7884. What is the amount of the police force at Sierra Leone?—We had fixed the amount for Freetown and the whole peninsula at 200, but we have been obliged to increase that number for Sherboro and for Bulama.

7885. The 200 are considered sufficient for Freetown and Quiah?—For the whole of the Sierra Leone peninsula and Quiah.

7886. What has been your force for Sherboro and Bulama?—About 30 men.

7887. Are there only two European officers to the first force of 200 men?—Yes.

7888. The rest are natives?—Yes.

7889. Do they lodge in their own houses?—Yes; I have not been able to establish barracks yet.

7890. That is your intention, is it?—Yes.

7891. What, in your opinion, is the use of our occupation of Bulama?—The principal use of our occupation of Bulama was to prevent slavery being carried on.

7892. Is there any other use in the occupation of Bulama?—I have not found it out yet.

7893. Supposing the slave trade to have ceased, do you think that the occupation of that island would be of any use for a commercial purpose?—I was given to understand that it might be made of great use for commercial purposes when persons get confidence in our laws being properly administered, and in getting possession of the ground there. It would be very fertile in the production of the ground nut.

7894. In what way do you think that possessing 10 policemen would be of use in opening trade?—There is only one port in which there is any trade, and 10 policemen with such a population, knowing that there is a military force at the other end of the island, is quite sufficient to keep the people in order.

7895. You would hardly propose forces being maintained by the British Government wherever trade is likely to open?—No, certainly not.

7896. What is your opinion with regard to the use of Sherboro?—Sherboro has been a very great success in the way of introducing trade into the colony, and it commands a great number of very productive rivers.

7897. In what way do you think that the occupation of Sherboro has facilitated the introduction of trade which could not have otherwise introduced itself without the British occupation?—I think it has given us more power to deal with the various chiefs on those rivers. It has also enabled us very much to put an end to the coast carrying trade there, both which have facilitated trade with the interior.

7898. Is trade commencing between Sherboro and Liberia and the Gallinas?—Not in the least.

7899. We have had one Sherboro merchant before the Committee who says that he is opening a trade on the Gallinas?—That is outside of our territory. I have heard nothing of it.

7900. Do you believe that trade will not open at places favourable for it without the assistance of the British Government?—I think not, with so much facility as with the assistance of the British Government. I think that the British have very great influence over the native tribes on the coast of Africa.

7901. What sort of influence are you alluding to?—They regard us as protectors to a great extent;

extent; they would rather deal with us than with any other nation.

7902. What is the difference of position between an English merchant coming by himself and an English merchant backed by the British Government?—I think the one who is backed by the British Government is in the best position.

7903. But why should that attract the chiefs more?—From a general feeling of respect for the British authority on the coast.

7904. You do not think that the merchants alone would command that respect?—Certainly not.

7905. Do you know what is going on in the Niger?—No.

7906. You do not know of any places where merchants are opening trade in Africa without the assistance of the British Government?—I do not.

7907. Do you think, in the first instance, that the annexation of Sherboro was a wise act?—I can hardly give an opinion, because the annexation must have taken place under circumstances with which I am not acquainted; but I have never myself been anxious to annex any further territory on the coast of Africa.

7908. For what reason should you feel reluctant to the process of annexation?—Because the cost is greater than the result, generally speaking; and it is very difficult. It complicates those matters of Government very much to have extended territory which you can hardly reach in consequence of the nature of the country.

7909. Do you mean that it mixes up the British Government with the Native Government?—Yes, it mixes up our Government with the Native Government, and those who have been transferred lately cannot understand the British Government.

7910. What is the evil of that complication practically?—The great expense and the difficulty of making the parties understand that we are treating them justly. I will give you an example in the case of Bagroo, which is very difficult of access; it is annexed with Sherboro, and in cases where there is any offence committed which used to be punished by the chiefs, I am forced to send up the police at great expense and difficulty. It is very difficult to impress on them that I am doing what is just and fair to them.

7911. You think that it would have been better to leave those native chiefs to manage their own subjects?—Yes, unless England wishes to extend civilization by those means, which must be very expensive.

7912. I presume you would think in such cases, with such a climate, English colonization is absolutely impossible?—Quite, I think.

7913. I do not understand you, however, to recommend the abandonment of Bulama?—No, not in any way now; we have gone too far.

7914. What would be the result of our abandoning Bulama?—I think there would be a fight for it between the French and Portuguese, and I think eventually it would return to what it was—a place in which anarchy completely reigned, and where slavery would be introduced again.

7915. Why should the French or the Portuguese be anxious to obtain possession of Bulama?—They have been trading there for some time.

7916. The French are not very successful in opening trade, are they?—No; they have one or two merchants' establishments.

7917. Will you turn to the map of Sierra Leone in Colonel Ord's report; is the space marked pink a correct representation of the settlement of Sierra Leone?—No; there is a part marked pink which does not belong to Sierra Leone; it runs out to the east on the Bullom shore; the whole of it is not within our jurisdiction; the Bullom's shore, from the pink part round to Leopard's Island, is for a quarter of a mile inland within our jurisdiction.

7918. Is the whole of the space marked pink to the north of the river wrongly marked as ours?—Wrongly marked as ours; the island belongs to us, I believe; those that are marked pink in the river; but that on the mainland on the opposite side is not ours.

7919. But towards the sea and Bullom's shore is ours?—Yes, Bullom's shore to Leopard's Island.

7920. To what extent have we occupied Bullom's shore towards the sea?—For a quarter of a mile inland.

7921. Are there any forts?—No; that was done for the purpose of enabling the Governor to take any slaves that were coming down the river to be carried up coastwise, to bring it within our jurisdiction.

7922. What is your general opinion of the condition of the liberated Africans who have been located on the Freetown peninsula?—I think in general they are very thriving.

7923. Are they well conducted people?—Very well conducted.

7924. We have heard that at first they were rather petted by the Government as having been placed there by them, and in consequence that they had become more or less troublesome; have you found that to be the case?—No, not except a few *gamins* in Freetown, such as you meet in all towns.

7925. Was it, in your opinion, a wise policy locating those Africans there, or might they not have been able to emigrate to the West Indies where they would have met a natural demand for their labour instead of that artificial provision?—I think, so far as the old peninsula of Sierra Leone was concerned, they have done a great deal towards civilizing it by locating them in the peninsula itself.

7926. What should you say of those liberated Africans, as compared with the town people generally?—They are a more primitive people, and a quieter people, generally speaking.

7927. What is your report generally of the missionary operations in Sierra Leone; have they been successful?—In Sierra Leone, exceedingly so.

7928. Generally, are you of opinion that those who have been educated in the missionary schools show a marked difference in their conduct afterwards from others?—We can hardly say that there are any others now who have not been educated in their schools.

7929. You think we may rely on the influence of their schools having improved the population within the last few years?—So far as I have observed, certainly it is so; travelling through the peninsula, you will see decency, you will see comfort, and you will see an amount of civilization which is nowhere else to be seen on the coast.

7930. Have the missionary bodies generally co-operated with the Government?—Very much so.

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12 June
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Blackall,
Esq.
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7631. Do they attempt to act independently? — I have never found that at all.

7932. Should you say that Sierra Leone was more in the nature of an English settlement than the other settlements on the West Coast?—Decidedly, so far as I have seen them; I have only seen the Gambia and Sierra Leone.

7933. More Europeans have settled at Sierra Leone than elsewhere?—There are a greater number of merchants and traders, both native and English, at Sierra Leone than at the Gambia.

7934. It does not appear by the returns that trade is much increasing, even compared with the report in Dr. Madden's time; it can scarcely be called more than stationary, can it, or do you consider it a steadily increasing trade?—I do. The last two or three years' trade has been very much interrupted by the American war, and on turning to the tables which show the number of vessels arriving from the United States, and the value of their produce formerly, it will be seen that any decrease has been principally in that American trade.

7935. Do you think there is much trade still to be opened in that neighbourhood which has not been at all opened yet?—No, I do not know of any great trade that could still be opened.

7936. There seems to be a great many rivers on the map, north of Sierra Leone, up to the Isles de Los; are they likely to become exporting points?—They are so now.

7937. Though there is no British Government to assist them?—I can hardly say that, because we have treaties with the chiefs, and it is owing to that that the trade is carried on.

7938. Do you think that trade can be opened out by such treaties alone?—Yes, I think so.

7939. Is that better, in your opinion, than establishing a Government?—Provided there is an English Government to appeal to near enough, in case of the treaties being broken.

7940. Supposing the Government were pretty strong at Sierra Leone, what would you think sufficiently near?—I think your present establishments at the four places on the coast are quite sufficient.

7941. Do you suppose that the Government at Sierra Leone would be able to enable trade to be carried on without the assistance of the Government at the Gambia?—Yes.

7942. When you speak of treaties being the best way of opening trade on the West Coast of Africa, I presume you mean strict treaties of commerce?—Yes, strict treaties of commerce, and for the abolition of the slave trade; they are generally joined in all treaties.

7943. You would not speak so favourably of treaties which were merely protective?—No, certainly not.

7944. You draw that distinction?—Yes.

7945. Is it not impossible, where the English actually settle themselves, that they should draw practically the distinction between a treaty of commerce and a treaty of protection?—I think not; for instance, in those rivers to the north of Sierra Leone we have treaties for free commerce. A number of the merchants of Sierra Leone have factories in those rivers, but they draw their goods as they require them from the bonded warehouses in Sierra Leone; but I do not think that they would establish their factories there, had we not treaties of commerce, which include protection to British subjects.

7946. What would they fear?—Pillage, principally.

7947. They would, at all events, feel it more incumbent on themselves to keep on good terms with the native chiefs, if they were not backed by the Government?—That they would do, from self-interest, under any circumstances.

7948. They would be less likely to do it if they knew that they had no English force to fall back upon?—No, I think not. I have had very few applications from merchants for assistance.

7949. But, generally speaking, on the West Coast of Africa you would propose to establish posts of trade rather than posts in the nature of Colonies?—Yes.

7950. Have you considered the proposal to restore Sierra Leone as the central seat of the Government of all the English settlements on the West Coast of Africa?—I consider it would be an advantage.

7951. Have you sufficiently considered that question to be able to sketch a plan to the Committee which would, you think, be advisable in case of such a concentration of the Government?—Not further than a similarity with what might fall to the Governors in Chief and Lieutenant Governors in the Windward and Leeward Islands. It would leave certain matters to the small settlements to arrange for themselves; but everything should be submitted to the Governor in Chief for his approval, before being decided upon.

7952. What would be the nature of Lieutenant Governors' functions at minor settlements?—I presume it would be levying particular taxes for carrying on those Governments, and passing the local laws which might be necessary, according to the different natures of the different settlements.

7953. Would it, in your opinion, be necessary for such a commandant to have a legislative council?—I should say that one small council would be quite enough, both as executive and legislative.

7954. In fact, he would be the Legislature himself?—Yes.

7955. What would be the amount of reference from him to the central Governor?—On ordinary occasions, the same as in the West Indies; namely, that laws do not come into operation until they have been seen by the Governor in Chief.

7956. He would have a veto on local laws?—Yes.

7957. There would be no necessity to come to the central Governor for actual discussion of local laws?—No.

7958. At present I think there are about three companies of regular troops at the Gambia; the ordinary strength at the Gold Coast is three companies, and there are two companies at Lagos; what reduction of those three forces could be made if the Government was centralised at Sierra Leone?—It would depend very much on what out-posts you gave up.

7959. Do you think that the Gambia, for instance, and the station up the river, McCarthy's Island, might be abandoned?—That is my opinion.

7960. It has been stated in evidence, that it is wanted as an out-post for trade, and that there is some advantage in a steamer going backwards and forwards between that and the mouth of the river; on the other hand, some of the evidence takes a contrary view; I understand your view to be
that

that you see no necessity for the maintenance of that post?—I fail to find any good reason given for maintaining it.

7961. Do you think that the Gambia Settlement could be likewise reduced?—I am not sufficiently acquainted with the exact extent of the Gambian Settlement to say.

7962. Can you say what reduction the abandonment of McCarthy's Island would render possible at the Gambia?—I think the garrison, as well as I remember, consists of 35 men at McCarthy's Island.

7963. What is the reduction that you would propose?—There are three companies there now; but I do not see why three companies should be required; two would be sufficient at the Gambia, I think.

7964. Take the Gold Coast, there were during the Ashantee war eight companies; but though we understand that they consider the ordinary strength is three companies there, the forts are stated to be very much in ruins; if the proposal you have made was to be put in force, what reduction might be made there?—I have never visited the Gold Coast, but as I have understood that Cape Coast Castle itself requires only two companies for its defence, of course, any further troops must be required for the post you determine to keep up.

7965. At Lagos there are two companies, and at each of those settlements there are police; at Lagos they have the Houssa Police; what reduction of regular troops would you propose there?—That I cannot say, because I do not know the position of Lagos, what territory they have to protect, or what requirements they have for troops.

7966. You cannot give an opinion how far, in case of the concentration of the Government at Sierra Leone, the out governments might be maintained by local forces?—Not so far as Lagos is concerned, or Cape Coast. I think you must keep troops at the Gambia. I do not think you have the materials there to raise a force on which you could depend.

7967. You do not think that all the regular troops could be concentrated at Sierra Leone?—I think not.

7968. Some must still be kept at other stations, you think?—Yes.

7969. Do you know anything of the Houssa police?—Nothing.

7970. Is it your opinion that the native police of our different stations can be employed on other stations, and not merely on their own stations?—I do not think the police whom I have employed would be satisfied to go to any other station.

7971. Can you give us any opinion with regard to the nature of the Protectorate?—The only opinion I have formed is from the name "Protectorate." My idea was that we were bound to assist the country over which we assumed the Protectorate in all cases of their being attacked by other tribes.

7972. Do you think that a satisfactory task for the British Government to assume?—No; certainly not.

7973. With regard to the judicial establishment, in case of the consolidation of the Government, what amount of reduction could be made?—If you make those places mere trading posts, I imagine that you could reduce the judicial establishment very much. But if you still treat them as colonies, I do not see how you can make any reduction.

7974. Treating them as trading posts, what should you propose?—Treating them as trading-posts, I should presume that the jurisdiction would only extend to the town itself. I do not think you would require a chief justice; you would require one magistrate.

7975. Does that answer apply to the Gambia as well as to the Gold Coast?—Yes.

7976. You think that there might be one chief justice at Sierra Leone who might make a circuit?—Yes; one chief justice at Sierra Leone, and a puisne judge. You must have two judges.

7977. All the ordinary judicial establishments at the outposts should be magistrates, you think?—Yes, if you make them trading posts.

7978. Would that entail the abolition of the office of judicial assessor on the Gold Coast?—I do not know what his position is, so I cannot say.

7979. Do you see any advantage besides that of simple economy in such a proposition for reducing the judicial staff and that of saving the complication of English jurisdiction with native customs, such as slavery, and so on, or do you propose that the magisterial courts, with the chief justice, occasionally should mix themselves up with those native customs?—No; I should carefully avoid mixing up any courts with the native customs.

7980. Have you yourself seen the mischief of English courts dealing with questions of slavery?—No, I have not.

7981. When you said that you thought the system of commercial treaties was the best system for the English to adopt, what is the consideration that you would offer to the native chiefs for making such treaties?—It would depend entirely on the extent of their territory, and what power they are likely to bring to bear, and the extent of commerce they are likely to offer; the native chiefs along the coast differ very much in those respects, and you must be guided by the advantages which they could afford you.

7982. You would not enter into such treaties at all except with those chiefs who have power enough to make it worth your while?—No, certainly not.

7983. You would ask them to put an end to the slave trade, and open commerce in consideration of what?—In consideration of a stipend.

7984. Do you consider stipends necessary in such treaties?—Yes, most decidedly.

7985. Those stipends being paid for the abolition of the slave trade, would you propose that they should be continued if the slave trade ceased?—Certainly not. If you could establish the time when the slave trade is to cease, I presume you could make the treaty only for a limited time, if necessary.

7986. You would avoid all such pensions as are made in consideration of the native chief giving up his sovereignty and power?—Yes, I think so.

7987. What is the largest pension that you know of given to any native chief?—£100 a year, I think, is the highest we pay at Sierra Leone.

7988. There are much larger sums paid elsewhere, are there not?—I do not know.

7989. Do you think that our powers for the suppression of the slave trade are sufficient on the West Coast?—I should say not.

7990. In what particular would you say that they are not sufficient?—At present, they are not sufficient with regard to the speed of the

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vessels for dealing with the steamers that are now sent on the coast to carry off the slaves.

7991. We have had the opinion of naval officers, that they have not strength enough for both the blockading system and the capturing at sea, and having to confine themselves to one of the two they preferred the blockading system as the most important?—I believe so.

7992. That system does not require fast ships?—Except in this way, that if one of those fast steamers gets inside of them, and does load with a cargo, they have no chance of catching her.

7993. Do you propose that the strength should be increased to enable the squadron to carry on both systems?—No; I think the blockading system is very cruel, and not effectual.

7994. In what way is it cruel?—It is very cruel to the officers and men of the navy, and exceedingly cruel to the slaves, who are brought down to the coast and put into barracoons, where we cannot interfere with them, and where they suffer more than they would suffer if they were carried away by slavers.

7995. Why are we unable to destroy the barracoons?—Because the naval force has no power to land on the territory of these native chiefs with whom we have no treaties. The Admiralty only gives them power to seize on the high seas, at least so I understand. The barracoons have been destroyed in the Gallinas where we have treaties, but not otherwise.

7996. Have you any suggestion to make with regard to the system of relief or of leave, both civil and military?—The system of relief for military officers has been lately altered and very much improved. At present, all military officers on the coast of Africa, after one year's service, gets six months leave to come to Europe; that is not extended to civil officers. Some system of that kind would be a great improvement, and it would improve the civil service.

7997. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Did I understand you to say, that although you would not be in favour of any further annexation, such as those of Bulama and Sherboro, yet you thought those places would become both useful and self-supporting?—Yes, I think so; Sherboro has already become self-supporting.

7998. Do you think that Bulama from its situation, commanding a series of rivers will become available both as an *entrepit* of trade and as a place for checking the slave trade?—Yes, if we can get a proper understanding with the Portuguese Government. I think so, or if we were to take it as the Sierra Leone portion of the coast opposite to command the rivers; but now there is a great jealousy on the part of the Portuguese; they claim the right of controlling our trade up those rivers. I believe there is some diplomatic correspondence going on now about that.

7999. Should you say that the British station on Bulama visited occasionally by a steamer from Sierra Leone would be an effectual means of preventing the slave trade in that neighbourhood?—I think so, provided the steamer has somebody on board with the Admiralty warrant. I cannot give a warrant to seize in the rivers between Sierra Leone, and Bulama; it is requisite that somebody should have such a warrant.

8000. If there is a Government steamer allotted to Sierra Leone, you would say that the steamer should have the Admiralty warrant?—Yes, certainly.

8001. Does that mean that she should be a commissioned vessel of the Royal Navy?—I do not know whether that necessarily follows, or whether the Admiralty can give the warrant to another vessel.

8002. Did I understand you rightly to say that the British Government of Sierra Leone exercised a useful influence on the coast to a very considerable distance north and south of the colony?—Yes, certainly.

8003. And that while you are far from wishing to see the number of British stations increased, yet that it is in your opinion of great value to our traders, and to the prospects of legitimate trade, that there should be a British station as a support to our merchants at no very great distance?—Yes, I quite think so.

8004. And you think that the system of commercial treaties with the native chiefs, accompanied by moderate stipends, depending on their good behaviour, and the protection which they afford to our traders, is a cheap and efficient way of ensuring the safety of our trade?—And of putting down the slave trade.

8005. The two things being inseparable?—Inseparable.

8006. You say that you have had very few applications for protection from the merchants in those rivers; but I suppose that does not imply that if there were no British Governor within reach, the need for protection would not arise?—No, I did mean to imply that.

8007. You were asked some questions about the union of the West Coast Settlements under a central Government, and the mode of carrying it out; did I understand you to say that you thought no local legislatures were necessary?—A very small one, if you only make a place or trading point; I think if you make you legislature there, where it is a mere trading point, you must take in some of the merchants, and then you create jealousy among those who are outside, and create difficulties which might be avoided by the other system, and having your Governor as chief.

8008. But do you think that the residents at the Gambia, Cape Coast, and Lagos would be satisfied with such a system, under which they would possess no legislative council, and the governor would be despotic?—I am speaking of them merely as trading stations, not if you recognise them as colonies where merchants are to establish themselves and purchase land, and make themselves more of colonists than mere settlers for trade.

8009. Then, what do you mean by a conversion of the settlements into trading posts; you imply the abandonment of all territory beyond the towns?—The abandonment of all territory beyond the towns.

8010. But in that case, would not the merchants remain very much in the same position as they are now in?—At the Gambia they would be very much in the same position as they are now, I should say; I can hardly say about any other place.

8011. Do you think that the abandonment of the small territory attached to the Gambia or Sierra Leone, would make much difference in the expense or difficulty of our Government?—I think in the Gambia it would; the great expense at the Gambia is in that territory, but not at Sierra Leone, because we collect the revenue there.

8012. Do you think that the abandonment of Combo at the Gambia would make much difference?—

ence?—I did not visit Combo myself, but all the settlements are not paying territories.

8013. Are you thinking specially of McCarthy's Island?—No; not specially of McCarthy's Island.

8014. *Chairman.*] Do you propose the abandonment of Combo?—No; I would not take away the council from the Gambia, so long as it remained as it is.

8015. *Mr. Chichester Fortescue.*] You are not distinctly recommending to the Committee the abandonment of the territories attached to our several stations on the coast, but you are explaining what you would do on such a supposition?—Precisely; if we established trading posts by treaties I would not have a council.

8016. But supposing things to remain as they are, you would leave the local legislatures as they are, would you?—I think they are too large; I would reduce them.

8017. You mean in number?—In number.

8018. In the same way with regard to the judicial establishments, do you think that they would give satisfaction in the other settlements if they were to be mainly dependent on Sierra Leone for the conduct of their judicial affairs?—I think in all instances they would be better satisfied if the larger trials were tried by a judge going on circuit, than if they had a judge on the spot.

8019. The ordinary minor cases might be disposed of by magistrates on the spot?—Yes.

8020. The heavier cases could be dealt with by the judge going on circuit, accompanying the Governor in his steamer from settlement to settlement?—Just so; I know at the Gambia the civil trials are very few, and I believe it is the same at the Gold Coast.

8021. Something like the system recently established in the West Indies?—Yes; but I think that the Court of Appeal is the peripatetic court in the West Indies.

8022. Have you formed a distinct idea what the functions of the Governor General under that supposed system would be?—I would have him interfere as little as possible with the local arrangements of the different places, but I would have him act as referee in all cases of importance.

8023. You would probably place in his hands, as far as possible, all the relations of the various settlements with their native neighbours?—Decidedly, that was what I alluded to; those are the only cases of importance which I can imagine as arising.

8024. You think that a gentleman such as would be selected for an important government, and free from local embarrassments which sometimes beset a governor, would probably be able to deal with our native relations in a satisfactory way?—I think so. He has this advantage at Sierra Leone, that he has the advice of more experienced men among his civil officers than you find on any other part of the coast.

8025. Do you think it would be necessary for the correspondence of the other settlements to pass through the hands of the Governor General to the Secretary of State, as in the West Indies?—Not imperatively, where there was no particular question. At the same time that would not delay the mails at all, except from the Gambia.

8026. But you would not have any important

action taken except under the greatest emergency with regard to the native tribes, except on the decision of the Governor General?—No.

8027. Now, with regard to the troops. How far do you think it will be possible to concentrate the troops at the one place of the central government?—It would be possible to concentrate the troops at that one place, provided you leave at each place which you retain sufficient to prevent that place itself being attacked; it is not necessary to leave more than that; but you must always leave at each station sufficient to preserve the safety of that place in case of any absolute attack from the natives.

8028. Either in the shape of troops or of armed police?—Either in the shape of troops or armed police.

8029. I suppose a steamer at the disposal of the Governor General would be an essential part of such a scheme?—I think that a steamer for colonial purposes would be an essential part of such a scheme. The Governor General would not require one specially for his own use; but it is necessary in order to keep up constant communication with Bulama, and with Sherboro, and between the other stations, to have a steamer belonging to the colony.

8030. In any case you think, whether this scheme were carried into effect or not, the Governor of Sierra Leone ought properly to have a small steamer?—We cannot properly enforce the law at distant parts of the colony without a steamer for the purpose of easy communication.

8031. Do you expect the colony to be able to provide such a steamer herself?—We have offered to assist to provide such a steamer, but a great deal of that would be for imperial purposes, and the expenses might be shared.

8032. Do you think that the presence of such a steamer there would relieve the squadron from any anxiety on that part of the coast with regard to the slave trade?—Quite so.

8033. But, with regard to the general government, would not the Governor General be required to make tolerably frequent circuits, and his presence would be liable to be called for on a sudden at any of the other settlements?—Yes. Then they have the mail once a month, which would be available for carrying the Governor General, and I think the steamer might be used for other purposes besides taking the Governor about. I presume that visiting the out stations once a year in ordinary cases would be sufficient, as in the West Indies.

8034. Then there is the question of the transport of troops; supposing the troops to be concentrated, or mainly so, at the situation of the Central Government, a steamer of considerable capacity would be required for that purpose, would it not?—You would require a larger steamer still for that than the ordinary duties in Sierra Leone of conveying the Governor.

8035. Do you think that the system could be worked without a steamer of considerable size being entirely at the disposal of the Central Government?—I think so; the commodore is generally to be found, and I cannot conceive undertaking any expedition without naval assistance; they could convey the troops, and you have the monthly mails which could also convey troops.

8036. In your view, the thing most essential is a small steamer capable of visiting such places as Bulama and Sherboro?—I think so.

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8037. Which a large steamer capable of carrying troops could not reach?—It would be very expensive, and would not be so handy.

8038. It would be too large for ordinary purposes?—Yes.

8039. And you think that for the purposes of a general government, such as is suggested, the Governor General might trust to the mail steamer and the squadron?—I think so.

8040. Sir Francis Baring.] You spoke of the juries: are you able to tell the Committee whether you find they have grown worse or better. I do not mean since the change; but does the prejudice grow stronger or weaker?—I am afraid that it is growing stronger.

8041. There is more combination, is there?—There is more combination.

8042. What is your opinion of the higher classes and the native merchants?—Very favourable; there are some of the native merchants for whom I have great regard and considerable respect.

8043. But what is your opinion with regard to their intelligence?—They are very intelligent with regard to their own business in commerce.

8044. But beyond that, what do you think of them?—I find that my collector of customs reports them as very honest men to deal with in his department.

8045. But do you find any difficulty in point of intellect in dealing with them?—I can hardly say, considering their advantages, that there is any deficiency for business; but many of our merchants are men of no education.

8046. Men who have raised themselves?—Yes.

8047. But education is spreading among the higher classes, is it not?—No, not so much as I could wish; it is spreading more among the lower classes; one or two of the better class of merchants have sent their children to be educated in England; but it is not general.

8048. Do not the British merchants send their sons to the grammar school?—Yes; as day scholars, principally.

8049. That is a good educational establishment, is it not?—It is a good educational establishment, so far as the classics go; they are very well taught, I think; but I think what we want more is to enlarge their minds, by their mixing more with the world in general, as well as the small world of Sierra Leone.

8050. Do you mean that there is a great gap between the white and the black man at Sierra Leone, or do you mean that the people meet chiefly a class of Europeans who are not likely to open their minds much?—No, I do not think they are.

8051. About concentrating the Government at Sierra Leone; how would you manage about the main difficulties, which I apprehend would be the dealing with the native powers. Where will your head governor obtain his information from?—From his subordinates at the different governments.

8052. Supposing the Under Governor of a particular Colony considers it necessary to go to war with one of the native powers, how is the Head Governor to check that?—I should say, in such a case as that, where the Sub-Governor applies for leave to go to war, he can only do it with the assistance of the Chief Governor. It would be the business of the Chief Governor to go and ascertain what the circumstances of the

case were. If I were a Sub-Governor, I should be glad to have such assistance.

8053. You consider that a check of some kind would be a great advantage?—I would hardly call it a check, but the assistance of a disinterested person.

8054. A second opinion?—Yes.

8055. But would not the carrying out of that require a steamer?—Yes, it would require a steamer.

8056. And you must either have that steamer at the disposal of the Sierra Leone Governor, or you must take one of the cruisers of the squadron for the purpose of carrying him there?—Yes, that is the purpose of the small steamer.

8057. That small steamer would be quite sufficient for the Governor himself, you think?—Quite sufficient.

8058. You have expressed an opinion that you would not increase the English settlements; do you see a great difficulty in what we already have?—Yes.

8059. But, looking to the future, may I ask what your view is, presuming that you look to the civilisation of Africa, if you are not going to increase the settlements, is it not best to create governments in Africa which may themselves get rid of the slave trade?—No doubt that would be the most effectual way of doing it, but it is the cost that is in the way.

8060. It will not cost anything if you have got an African government which is half civilised, or to a certain extent civilised; would you consider that the right policy would be to take that and put it under an English governor, or to endeavour, as far as possible, to encourage and to foster a native government, with the assistance of an English consul?—If you want to spread English civilisation, I would rather take it entirely under the English Government than have that kind of half government of the native tribes.

8061. Do you think that that is possible?—Not without great expense.

8062. Not of money merely, but of life?—It would be attended with loss of life, certainly.

8063. To some extent, civilisation having spread, do you think that as much has been effected on the whole from the expenditure of life and money as you could expect?—I was very much pleased to find so much done within the colony of Sierra Leone itself, and I think I can perceive a very great improvement in the chiefs to the north of the colony; and lately, too, I have seen improvements in the chiefs in the neighbourhood of Sherboro.

8064. What objection have you to the English taking possession of points on the coast?—Solely the expense.

8065. I thought you said that it complicated affairs with the native chiefs?—If we take their land forcibly, of course it would; it would make the others very much afraid of dealing with us.

8066. Do you find that there is any feeling of that kind among the natives: any feeling that we are looking out for taking their land?—No; I think with regard to the English Government that is done away with.

8067. Notwithstanding the taking of Sherboro, and so on, which was done by a bargain?—Yes, by a bargain, and with the wishes of the chiefs.

8068. You say that the Chief Governor would have at Sierra Leone much better advisers?—Yes.

8069. But what responsible adviser can you have with regard to the Gambia and Lagos?—You have the Chief Justice and the officer commanding the troops, and the advantage of the commodore of the station.

8070. But they live at Sierra Leone, do they not?—The Chief Justice is always at Sierra Leone.

8071. But he is not at Lagos or the Gambia?—No, except that he would visit those places under the proposed change.

8072. Occupied with his legal business?—What I said was more with regard to the general policy than with regard to mere local action. As to the local administration, of course in that case the Governor would have to be guided very much by what he found out on the spot.

8073. Do you think that the Governor at Sierra Leone would be able to check the Sub-Governor in matters of war and peace?—Decidedly.

8074. Looking at your knowledge of the Blue Books, do you find that the Government at home have had that power?—I think so. I speak not from the Blue Books, but from personal experience.

8075. You do not know whether a considerable number of these annexations have taken place without the previous knowledge and sanction of the Government at home?—No, I am not aware of it.

8076. Sir John Hay. I should like to ask you a few questions with regard to the present services rendered by the Navy on the Coast of Africa in the matter of the suppression of the slave trade. Do you know whether the present class of vessels employed are of a kind which you think are best adapted for the service?—From what I have seen, and from what I have heard from the officers commanding, I should say that the usual class of vessels now used for the suppression of slavery are totally unfit.

8077. The speed is insufficient to overtake the slavers, I presume?—Utterly insufficient.

8078. We were told by some of the witnesses that the Admiralty have recently been sending vessels out there of a faster description, and the "Zebra" was mentioned?—The "Zebra" has been there for three years, but I can answer personally that she is not fast.

8079. Then, if she is the fastest vessel in the squadron, the squadron is not sufficiently speeded for its purposes?—Certainly not.

8080. Lord Alfred Churchill. Have you not recently had an industrial exhibition at Sierra Leone?—Yes.

8081. Was it successful?—Yes.

8082. Did the natives contribute to any extent, by sending their produce and manufactures to that exhibition?—Yes, the natives of Sierra Leone did.

8083. Manufacturers?—Yes.

8084. To what distance from Sierra Leone did the natives send any article for exhibition?—We had only two chiefs who sent in any articles for exhibition outside the Colony itself, and in the Colony they came generally from the old part of the peninsula. I think from almost the whole of it there was some article sent, but the principal part of the manufactures came from Freetown.

8085. Of what nature were those articles?—Furniture, matting, leather work, iron work, and boots and shoes.

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8086. Manufactures adopted for native use?—The natives always use as much as they can what the Europeans use.

8087. Was that exhibition regarded with much interest by the natives?—Very much so.

8088. Do you anticipate that the results of that exhibition will lead to greater activity amongst them for the purpose of producing those articles?—From what I hear since I left, I hope so; those who failed in obtaining prizes have expressed great regret that they did not use greater exertions.

8089. Was it a commercial success?—Yes.

8090. It is to be hoped that it may be repeated in future years?—Yes, I hope so.

8091. You were the promoter of that exhibition, were you not?—No, not the promoter; I gave it all the assistance I could; it was first promoted by the colonial chaplain.

8092. And Commodore Wilnot took it up, did he not?—Commodore Wilnot took it up warmly.

8093. Sir Francis Baring. Is there any difficulty in getting labour in Sierra Leone?—For agricultural purposes there is great difficulty; you can get plenty of labour in the town for portage, and work of that kind; but there is a great dearth of labour in the Colony for agricultural purposes.

8094. Chairman. I understood you to say, in answer to a question which was put to you that you thought the emigration of liberated Africans might be possible?—Yes.

8095. Have you any plan to suggest to the Committee by which such emigration might be carried on by the assistance of the Government, without the danger of a modified slave trade?—No, I have never considered the subject sufficiently to express an opinion on that point.

8096. Do you believe that the liberated Africans would be willing to emigrate?—I meant the African nation generally; the liberated Africans all get the opportunity to emigrate.

8097. Do many of them go?—Almost all of them.

8098. Are they generally willing?—I was told before I went there that they were not, but the only batch sent since I was at Sierra Leone went very willingly.

8099. Do you know enough of any other part of the coast to form any opinion with regard to the possibility of sending away slaves captured in war or under sentence of death?—No.

8100. You have given a general opinion with regard to the settlements becoming self-supporting?—I meant by the reduction of the expenditure.

8101. Do you suppose it possible that they may ever become completely self-supporting in the sense of paying their military as well as their civil expenses?—I hardly see my way to that at present.

8102. Would you see any objection to their being made so far self-supporting as to pay the salary of the Governor?—On principle, I should say keep the salary of the Governor distinct from the local revenue.

8103. You see an objection to the Governor's salary being discharged out of the local revenue?—Yes.

8104. When you stated that a steamer would be always necessary, stationed at Sierra Leone, in case of the concentration of the Government, do I understand you to say that one such steamer

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would be sufficient?—I think it might be quite sufficient for the purpose of Sierra Leone, and for the purpose of conveying the Governor about.

8105. Supposing that McCarthy's Island were abandoned, do you think that the steamer now stationed at the Gambia would any longer be necessary?—No, I should think not.

8106. When you stated that such a Governor General as is proposed should control the relations between the Lieutenant Governors and their native neighbours, how far do you think it would be possible for him to do so; do not quarrels arise from the local governments and the native chiefs between from causes over which the Governor General can have no control?—None whatever; what I meant was with regard to actual hostilities.

8107. But, even on that point, taking the case of the Ashantee War of 1863, would there have been time for the Lieutenant Governor of the Gold Coast to communicate with the Governor General of Sierra Leone?—There must have been ample time, because, in the first instance, he applied to the Governor of Sierra Leone for troops.

8108. Do you know anything about what has recently occurred with King Pepel at Bonny?—Only from what I heard from Commodore Wilmot.

8109. Can you tell us what you have heard from Commodore Wilmot?—I understood that he visited Bonny River, and saw King Pepel. Mr. Burton had imposed a fine of 200 barrels of palm oil, and Commodore Wilmot, who thought the fine too heavy, had agreed with King Pepel that trade might be opened again on his paying half the fine. When I left him he was under the impression that King Pepel was in the course of paying the fine; but I have since heard that they have again established the blockade in consequence of his not keeping his engagement.

8110. How far does that illustrate your distinction between the advantages of a British Government and commercial treaties?—I do not understand what right we have to blockade, or even to fine King Pepel, when we have no treaty with him for commerce.

8111. You think that that illustrates the advantage of a treaty of commerce?—I think so.

8112. Because we should have had some definite terms to go upon in claiming the fine, or compensation, if we had had a treaty?—That is my opinion.

8113. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] King Pepel had pillaged our traders, or permitted them to be pillaged, had he not?—I presume that there were complaints.

8114. Chairman.] In that case the British Government would seek redress even from a civilised Government?—I suppose so.

8115. I suppose that you are aware of the recommendation made to reconcentrate the Government at Sierra Leone upon the basis of the report of the last Committee?—I have seen that stated.

8116. Are you sufficiently conversant with the reasons given by the Committee of 1842 to recommend that concentration of the Government to give an opinion with regard to those reasons having ceased or not?—No.

8117. The main reason was the distance between Sierra Leone and the other governments, the communication being so long that it was impossible to conduct either military or judicial

proceedings with sufficient rapidity; do you think steam has removed those objections?—I think so. I cannot imagine any occasion arising to require greater rapidity than is now possible.

8118. You think no sudden incursion of the Ashantees at the Gold Coast, or quarrels with the Egbas on the Lagos Coast, would make military communication too slow for efficiency?—Not if you leave at each of those places a sufficient force for absolute defence.

8119. What means would the Commandant at the Gold Coast or Lagos have of communicating with Sierra Leone to send troops?—He would only have the ordinary mail steamer, or the accidental presence of a cruiser.

8120. Would not there be some risk of too great delay?—I should hardly fancy that there would be any risk with regard to any attack on our ports.

8121. Do you also deliberately say that with a steam communication the circuit of one chief justice might be sufficiently relied upon to prevent the delays of justice, such as were complained of in 1842?—I have not seen those complaints.

8122. Those complaints were to the effect that men were frequently kept in prison for a year or a year and a half waiting for their trial?—That could be completely obviated; I was thinking more of civil cases.

8123. In the supposed case of the concentration of the Government, do you think that your present five companies of regular troops would be sufficient at Sierra Leone?—I think so, quite.

8124. So that when we talk of concentrating the troops, we mean the present strength of the troops?—The last proposed distribution of the troops at Sierra Leone did not leave five companies there. I think that five companies are quite sufficient.

8125. No that the concentration of the Government would not entail the necessity of increasing the regular force at Sierra Leone?—I think not.

8126. Do you think that you could increase the police there so as to supersede the necessity of any part of those five companies?—Not any part of those five companies.

8127. But, by and by, I mean?—I think so, as we extend civilization to Quiah, Sherboro, and Bulama.

8128. The police being officered by native officers?—Yes, because the opportunity of visiting them by European officers would be frequent, and in each of those places we have an European officer who is virtually at the head of the police; he is like a stipendiary magistrate in Ireland.

8129. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] With regard to your suggestion for a system of circuits, carried on by the Chief Justice, resident at the Central Government, do you see no difficulty in the space of time during which persons would be kept waiting for trial?—No. I presume it would be only the very heavy cases that would be tried by the Chief Justice. I presume that greater power would be given to the resident magistrates for each of those places to punish crime.

8130. Are there not great difficulties in those African settlements attending long imprisonment?—I can hardly say, for I have never known it; our gaol delivery is very frequent; but those who are imprisoned, and who pass some years in the gaol, do not seem to me to suffer; it would not do for Europeans, but I speak of the natives.

8131. Chairman.] Is it a healthy gaol?—Very much so.

WILLIAM A. ROSS, Esq., called in; and Examined.

8132. *Chairman.*] WILL you state what your acquaintance with the West Coast of Africa is; what offices have you held there?—I have been Colonial Secretary; I was appointed in 1860.

8133. Where were you appointed to?—To the Gold Coast.

8134. Is that all your acquaintance with the West Coast of Africa?—I held the governorship for some months, in the year 1862.

8135. Who appoints the Colonial Secretary?—The Secretary of State.

8136. What are the functions of the Colonial Secretary?—He is generally to attend to complaints made by the native chiefs, and to report them to the Governor.

8137. Is he chief of the Executive Council, and Vice-Governor in the Governor's absence?—He is.

8138. You were there during the late Ashantee War, were you not?—I returned just towards the close of it.

8139. You are not cognisant of the circumstances of the opening of the quarrel?—No, I was not there.

8140. What is your opinion of the liabilities of the English Government towards the protected tribes?—I conceive that the English Government are bound on all occasions to protect them, and the natives look for their protection. We fine the native chiefs, and we imprison them and treat them as if they were subjects of the Crown.

8141. What is the basis of the protectorate; on what document does it rest?—I can hardly tell you.

8142. Does not the protectorate amount, in fact, to whatever any governor chooses to make it?—It is generally so; one governor comes with his idea of government, and another with another idea. One governor would establish municipal corporations and another governor would put them down.

8143. The protectorate being without any documentary definition, depends on the view any British Governor chooses to take of it, or the expectations which are raised by it in the minds of the native chiefs?—I think so in a great measure; we administer both the English law and the native law, and there is great discretionary power left both to the judicial assessor and to the Governor.

8144. Do you think that the administration of the law by English judges has been successful?—I think so.

8145. Does the judicial assessor, in fact, assist the native chiefs in administering the laws in their territory?—No, I do not think so; the chiefs, on the contrary, complain very much that we interfere too much with them and their people, and that while we are unable to govern them we prevent them from governing them themselves.

8146. In their opinion the protectorate is not an advantage in its judicial aspect?—It is sometimes, I think, and sometimes it is not; for instance, I remember one native prince who complained, in a disturbance which arose between himself and another chief who laid certain claims to his stool or throne, that we prevented him by our interference from ruling over his people properly, while we could not settle the misunderstanding properly; sometimes we interfere with very good effect and sometimes we do a little harm.

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8147. I presume a judicial system which accidentally works well now and then is not, in your opinion, a very good one?—He is obliged to administer the law as well as he can, observing the native law, and at times acting in the spirit of the British law. In cases of murder we should execute the murderer; he would be hanged.

8148. Would you say that the chiefs generally could administer the law better than we do?—In some instances they would; not always. But they come from immense distances to appeal to our courts. I have known men to walk backwards and forwards from Apollonia to Cape Coast, which is 400 miles, in order to bring up a case involving only two sovereigns. They would lament very much our leaving the coast.

8149. On what ground?—In every way; they have the most profound respect for us, and anarchy and confusion would be introduced into those settlements, political and social confusion and bloodshed.

8150. What would be the social confusion that would be introduced?—You would have the introduction of human sacrifices 12 months afterwards, and also a revival of the slave trade by the Ashantees.

8151. You think we have so little put down the custom of human sacrifices, that it would be instantly revived if we removed from the place?—I think so at a distance from the Government, because we have no roads and cannot go to the interior of the protectorate.

8152. Then our civilising influence only tends to suppress those customs while we are there, and they would be revived again if we left?—I think so by some of the chiefs.

8153. Then you think we have made no permanent impression?—Yes, we have; but if we left you would have other great tribes making incursions into the protectorate, and reviving those customs. You would certainly have a slave trade on the Gold Coast, where it is now unknown.

8154. But supposing the squadron were strong enough off the Gold Coast to prevent that, do you think the only consequence of our leaving the Gold Coast would be that human sacrifices would be revived?—I do not think that slips of war would be able to do it so effectually as we do.

8155. But supposing the squadron off the Gold Coast were strong enough for that purpose, the only consequence of our leaving the Gold Coast would be that human sacrifices would be revived?—Yes, throwing back whatever civilisation we have sown in the protectorate; we have done good no doubt.

8156. But the only good that has not taken root would be done away with the moment we left?—I think so.

8157. Is that the only bad result that you anticipate from the English leaving the Gold Coast, that those barbarous customs would be instantly revived, supposing the squadron were strong enough to stop the slave trade?—Trade would be affected a good deal; the seeds of civilisation would be uprooted; Christianity would vanish altogether.

8158. Do I understand your recent answer to mean that the result of our leaving the coast, supposing the squadron were strong enough to put down the slave trade, would be that those barbarous

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barbarous customs would be revived?—Certainly.

8159. You do not think there would be any other result with regard to the relations of the tribes one with another?—I think what trade we have would be entirely stopped, and that the Ashantees would take that country.

8160. Do you mean that the Ashantees would take the protected country?—Certainly.

8161. Do you think that they are strong enough?—I think so; and not only that, but there are some tribes now living under our protection who are subordinate chiefs to the Ashantees, and who, I think, would join the Ashantees if we left. They prefer being under our flag; but if they saw we went away, and the Ashantees took the country, they would join them.

8162. What tribes are they?—The King of Denkara would be one, and some of the tribes in the district of Accra are subordinate to the Ashantees.

8163. Were any of the protected tribes originally subject to the Ashantees before we took them under our protection?—The Fantees were subordinate to the Ashantees originally. The quarrel when Sir Charles McCarthy was killed originated in our taking the sovereignty of the Fantee country from the Ashantees.

8164. Do you think that our leaving the coast would end in the Fantees returning to their old allegiance?—Not willingly; the Ashantees would take the country.

8165. Are you of opinion that they would be strong enough to take the whole of that country?—I do not mean to say that the tribes in our protectorate are not sufficiently strong to compete with the Ashantees; I think they are, but they have lost the power of combining; they are disunited altogether, and it is we who have done that mischief; the Ashantees can combine; they are united under one sovereign, whereas we have separate tribes.

8166. The influence of our protection on those tribes has been, you think, to disunite them, and to prevent their combining for their own protection?—Yes, we have enervated them; they look to us for protection, and it would be a cruel thing to abandon them after teaching them to look up to us.

8167. You cannot consider the policy a wise one, though it is difficult to retrace it; is that what you mean?—I do not think that the protectorate is wise, and I am of opinion that it would be better to have our own laws, and to govern them by a civil code. The natives wish themselves to be considered British subjects, and in fact, many of the native chiefs are very indignant when you tell them that they are not subject to the Crown of England.

8168. The influence of our protection has been to enervate the tribes, and has been, you think, to prevent their acting in union?—Yes.

8169. Supposing the effect has been to enervate them, and that on our withdrawing the Ashantees overran them all, how far would that be inimical to trade or the interests of commerce generally?—I do not think our merchants would be safe, and I think that the Ashantees would stop trade altogether, particularly at this moment, if we were to abandon the protectorate now when there is some little ill-feeling between the Ashantees and ourselves.

8170. But why should the Ashantees be repugnant to trade; what else can they live on?—

I think they might do it out of a feeling of revenge on the protectorate, otherwise they are very fond of trading.

8171. Revenge, against whom, the English being supposed to have got out of their way?—The ill-feeling would be rather against the Fantees, because the tribes we protect are enemies to the Ashantees.

8172. But supposing that the Ashantees have conquered all those tribes and obtained the sovereignty down to the coast, why should they then be repugnant to trade?—They would not be after a while.

8173. Why should they be worse traders than the Fantees?—They are not worse traders, but immediately after our leaving the coast I think that trade would be stopped. Eventually, I have no doubt that trade would be revived, but we must always recollect that the African looks on the slave trade as the legitimate trade of the country.

8174. But so far as trade goes it would be better in the hands of a strong Ashantee power than in the hands of an independent power who are unable to act in union?—I think so.

8175. What is your opinion of the prospects of trade on the Gold Coast?—I think that it can be greatly developed.

8176. It has not been developed hitherto?—No, it has not.

8177. Why not?—Because the Government has no means of rendering assistance to the natives in developing the resources of the country.

8178. What sort of means would you suggest that the Government should have?—The construction of roads.

8179. What is your proposition with regard to the construction of roads; should the British Government undertake to make roads on the Gold Coast?—We have no means of making roads on the Gold Coast out of the revenue of the settlement, and we cannot increase the revenue of the country in consequence of the presence of the Dutch.

8180. You propose that the Government should make the roads on the Gold Coast and charge the expense on the British Treasury?—No, I do not say that; if the Dutch were not there the local Government would be quite able to construct the roads themselves.

8181. But the Dutch are there?—I do not see how you can improve the country; it is utterly impossible if you can get no money.

8182. Do you suppose, for instance, if the interest of commerce was the only thing for consideration, that the Gold Coast would have been selected as a good place for mercantile speculation?—Yes, I think so; but by our presence trade is assisted.

8183. Do you think that our presence and our mode of assisting trade are the best plans that can be adopted at the Gold Coast and Lagos?—I do not know about Lagos, but our presence there is of great service not only to trade but civilisation, and everything else.

8184. You think that our form of Government at the Gold Coast is the best in the interest of trade?—No, I will not say that.

8185. Will you be good enough to suggest any different mode in which the British might develop trade at those two places?—If the movements of the Governors were distinct, and the policy of the Governors were ruled by distinct laws

laws by which they could act, it would be better.

8186. Would you explain a little what you mean by laws; laws of what nature?—English laws.

8187. What kind of laws would assist the Governors?—We have two sets of laws; we have the native law and we have the British law; on some occasions the native law is adopted, and on other occasions the British law.

8188. Do you mean that the British Government on the Gold Coast would act better if it ignored the native law and administered the English law alone?—If it were completely a British settlement, whereas it is now only a protectorate.

8189. Will you explain a little more what you mean by turning it into a British settlement?—Like Sierra Leone, or like any other Colony that we have; it is now neither one thing or the other.

8190. You propose that the British should make it a Colony and ignore the native law?—I do not propose it, but a British settlement would be better than the protectorate, although the people now regard themselves as British subjects; but we are not able on all occasions to apply the British law.

8191. You cannot apply the British law to questions of domestic slavery, for instance?—We cannot apply the British law in a case of pawning, for instance.

8192. Then you must have two laws under any circumstances?—Not if it were a British settlement.

8193. Supposing it were a British settlement, how would you deal with domestic slavery?—I think it might be put down even now in Cape Coast.

8194. How might it be put down?—If the principal inhabitants of Cape Coast were called upon to do away with domestic slavery, I do not think that much opposition would be attempted. Some of them have said they would much rather it were done away.

8195. Do you apply that to the whole of the protectorate?—No, it would take a long time; because the slaves are regarded as beasts of burden are regarded in England.

8196. We should still have to deal with native customs, such as slavery?—Certainly.

8197. Supposing the British Government not to entertain such a plan as the settlement of the protectorate, but to remain merely on ports on the coast; have you any suggestions to make to the Committee with regard to the forts which are now occupied, as to whether they are more than are necessary or not?—I should not abandon one.

8198. Would you propose to increase them?—I think I should re-occupy Adda, the old fort we have there.

8199. You would put all the existing forts in repair, and build a new one?—They are all in pretty fair repair now, except Christianberg.

8200. But at all events, whatever the cost was, you would put those forts in repair, and build a new one?—It would be better to do so.

8201. You would not keep them in their present state of ruin?—No; but as the settlements make no return to the Home Government, I should not so strongly recommend that Christianberg should be rebuilt, but it would be better. I should certainly not abandon any of them; on the contrary, harm has arisen from our abandoning Quittah.

8202. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] That reten-

tion does not necessarily imply an increased expenditure on public works?—No.

8203. Chairman.] Is your recommendation to maintain those forts for the purpose of suppressing the slave trade, or would you make that proposition just the same if you saw a prospect of a speedy termination of the slave trade?—I think they are an assistance to trade; I should not retain them if the slave trade could be put down entirely, but by abandoning them now the slave trade might be revived.

8204. When you say that you would retain them in case of the cessation of the slave trade, should you be prepared to abandon them all?—Do you mean Cape Coast also?

8205. All of them?—That would be the abandonment of the country altogether. I should fancy that the abandonment of the forts would be the abandonment of the country.

8206. What forts should you think necessary to retain if the slave trade had ceased?—I should keep none; I should leave the country to the people themselves; but by our going away, I think a great many evils would arise instantly.

8207. Have you seen much of the missionary operations on the Gold Coast?—I think so; as much as any other officer there.

8208. What has been generally the effect of the missionary operations?—It has been of great use, particularly at Accra.

8209. In what way do you see it?—You see it in every form; at Accra the missionaries have introduced carts; teaching the people to make carts, boots, and shoes; they have a sort of industrial school.

8210. Have they taught them not only to make shoes, but to wear them, or have they in any way altered their habits of dress?—No, they have not. I believe at Accra they are now using cattle for drawing carts, which has been taught by the Basle Missionaries.

8211. Do the natives take more part in trade than they used to do?—I have seen no difference since I have been there; they are very fond of trading.

8212. Have you considered at all the proposition made to concentrate the Government at Sierra Leone?—I think it is a very excellent plan.

8213. What do you think would be the main advantage of the concentration?—I think, in the first place, the Governor General being at Sierra Leone, would be able to look at those little quarrels which are perpetually arising on the Gold Coast more dispassionately at a distance.

8214. What would be the advantage of that; supposing a quarrel began, do you think that his dispassionate view would put an end to that quarrel sooner?—I think he might stop those quarrels; besides I do not suppose that any disturbances would go on without his consent.

8215. Do you think that there would be time for the commandant of an outpost to communicate with the Governor General before the war began?—Unquestionably; the native chiefs will wait any time, so long as they know that there is a likelihood for their grievances being redressed; the old King of Ashantee waited for 10 months; in fact they will wait until you hear from England.

8216. But the King of Ashantee was not very willing to wait for reference in 1863, was he?—I was not there, so I cannot say; he has the character of being a very peaceful, quiet man.

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8217. What other advantages do you see from the concentration of the Government at Sierra Leone; do you think that it would lead to a more uniform policy?—I do not think it could at Cape Coast, because, as I said before, it is not a British settlement; but it certainly would stop a great many of those little quarrels which lead to great consequences.

8218. That is the main reason for your recommending the concentration of the Government at Sierra Leone?—I think so; I had not considered the subject before I came into the room.

8219. Have you any suggestions to make with regard to the length of service of the governors on this coast?—I think it would be a very good plan, as I heard Major Blackall just now observe, if something were done for the civil officers similar to what is done for the medical and military officers, namely, getting leave of absence after one year's service; the average length of service has been 18 months on that coast.

8220. But would you propose that the term of governorship should not be diminished, or do you propose a shorter term?—I do not think that the governors themselves would like it; it might be shortened, but if the governors had leave of absence, as the military officers have after one year's service, I think that would do.

8221. You think that there should be a short leave of absence after one year's service, on account of the unhealthiness of the climate?—Yes, and the total want of all society.

8222. But that change of governorship leads to constant changes of policy, does it not?—It has done so.

8223. That is the evil of the system, is it not?—The great evil; every governor governs according to his own notions; whereas, in our own Colonies there is a distinct policy; Sir Benjamin Pine established municipal corporations, and when Mr. Randall came he destroyed them.

8224. You think that evil has arisen from the repeated changes in the mode of government?—Unquestionably; it shakes the faith of the native chiefs in the competence and judiciousness of the Local Government; they are not certain that what has been done by one governor may not be altered by the next governor.

8225. Do you think that under a governorship general this evil might be to a certain extent lessened?—It must be so; we have no place like the Gold Coast.

8226. Do you think that trade on the Gold Coast has not developed as fast as it might have done, owing to the disturbances in the neighbourhood?—The war had stopped trade altogether, when I was there.

8227. Are there any quarrels among the tribes themselves in the protectorate, which also tend to diminish trade?—No, I do not think there are. The Ashantees are great traders. I do not think that those quarrels stopped trade; the fine which we imposed on the Crobos stopped the oil trade in the eastern district, but that was our own doing.

8228. Have you any further suggestions to make to the Committee?—No, I think not; I may add that I think that every effort should be made to get the Dutch away; if they were removed, that coast could be very much improved; it is a rich coast, it teems with gold.

8229. In what way do they impede us?—We cannot levy the customs dues; they will not levy uniform duties with us; we could easily raise a

large revenue from rum, gunpowder, and other articles.

8230. Do you think that the vagueness of the understanding with regard to the protectorate has in any way been a cause of discontent on the part of the native chiefs?—No, I do not think they are ever discontented with us; they would be horrified at our leaving them.

8231. But do you think that the native chiefs consider we have kept faith with them according to their own interpretation of the protectorate?—Now and then we have complaints, as in other countries, that they have not been fairly treated; but, generally speaking, they are very much attached to the Government and the flag of England.

8232. What do you think was the cause of the failure of the poll tax?—We broke through all the agreements which we made with the chiefs with regard to the poll tax, and I think that the establishment of municipal corporations by Sir Benjamin Pine gave it the death blow, because the municipal corporations collected taxes in the different districts, or would do so.

8233. Do you think that where the English merely hold the forts, and do not attempt to occupy the country, that they will ever be able to levy a tax of that nature?—No, I do not think so.

8234. So that anything in the nature of the poll tax must involve the actual occupation of the country, and treating the inhabitants as British subjects?—I think so. I do not see how you can call on them to assist in the government of the country when they are not subjects, where they are merely protected; but if it were a British settlement they must contribute to the Government; but it is difficult to get at the people, not having any roads; you cannot collect the taxes.

8235. Have you any suggestion to make to the Committee with regard to the Government dealing differently with the native customs, such as pawning, and customs for death?—They could be greatly modified, in my opinion.

8236. How could the British Governor modify those customs?—I think that domestic slavery could be done away with in Cape Coast by speaking to the principal inhabitants of the town, and pawning also might be done away with in Cape Coast by not acknowledging it in any shape whatever before our courts; but as it is not a British settlement we send the judicial assessor to settle those pawn cases.

8237. Then all your proposals for improvement involve treating the protectorate as a Colony?—I think so; we must do a great deal more or a great deal less.

8238. Are you of opinion that at present the Government is too weak to do good?—Yes, I think so.

8239. And diminishes the power of the native chiefs?—Yes, in some instances it contradicts itself.

8240. How?—On one occasion we might say that we did not acknowledge slavery, and in the next moment we might have to adjudicate on a case of pawning.

8241. The action of the courts is inconsistent in those two cases?—Just so.

8242. Do you think that our laws and our form of justice to the natives might be adopted?—I think that our laws are too complicated. I think a simpler form of law would be much better.

8243. Do you mean a special code made for the

the use of the natives?—Yes, made for their use and simplified.

8244. Do you think that our forms of justice are inapplicable?—We have trial by jury down at Cape Coast; in criminal cases they do very well, but in civil cases not so well; it is precisely as I heard Major Blackall say with regard to Sierra Leone.

8245. You would adopt the same opinion with regard to the Gold Coast as Major Blackall?—A great deal which he said of the coast was perfectly true.

8246. How do you think that the office of judicial assessor is now working; is it working satisfactorily?—I think so. I have never heard anything to the contrary.

8247. The officer settles a difference between native and native very much according to his own notions of equity?—Yes, he does.

8248. And your former suggestions rather tend to that system being extended, do they not?—Yes; I think it would be a deal better if he could be guided by a distinct law or a system of law.

8249. And as little as possible by the use of juries?—Yes; in civil cases, as I said before, the jury system does not work well; it is very difficult indeed to get a jury at Cape Coast, because none of them are British subjects. The jurymen must be composed nearly always of the same persons over and over again.

8250. Do you think there is much prospect of the produce of the coast being increased by agriculture?—It might be very much increased.

8251. But would that also involve an undertaking on the part of the Government?—I think so; we must teach them; they are very ready to learn; they are very tractable.

8252. You do not think the operations of the missionaries tend to elicit that industry without the assistance of the Government?—No; I think not.

8253. Are you of opinion that actual schools and workshops should be undertaken by the Government?—No; I will not say that. I think it would be a great deal better if we had the means to establish Government schools.

8254. But all your suggestions are summed up in the English making the West Coast something in the nature of a Colony in place of a protectorate?—Yes, I think it would be better, if you keep it, and to abandon it it will be very bad.

8255. But at the same time you think the protectorate a relation so vague and uncertain that it really amounts to what each successive governor chooses to make it?—That is my opinion.

8256. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] There was one answer of yours which, taken in connection with the question, would seem to imply that in your opinion the protectorate had done nothing but enervate the protected people, and render them helpless as against their enemies. Did you mean to represent to the Committee that our protectorate had had no better effect than that?—It has had great effect in this way, that it has put down all inhuman rites which prevailed among the bordering tribes. By enervating them, I mean this, that on all occasions the Government is too paternal, and that those people look to us for protection. If an incursion of the Ashantees took place, they would come to the Government for assistance. If we had left them alone in the first instance they might have formed themselves

into confederacies, and so have been able to compete with their stronger neighbours. But now our Government is so paternal that they look up to us for protection, so morally we have enervated them.

8257. But even now, should you not say that they are willing and able to make a good defence against their enemy?—Unquestionably they would, but we must assist them; I do not think that they could combine by themselves, I think they would be utterly lost without our assistance.

8258. I suppose you cannot conceive a protectorate without a certain amount of protection?—Certainly not.

8259. The thing would be an absurdity?—Yes, it would be an absurdity.

8260. It is a question of degree?—Yes.

8261. And we may have gone too far in inducing the natives to rely on us, and not on themselves, and have produced certain bad effects?—Certainly.

8262. But supposing we acted less paternally in future, and called on the natives to defend themselves in case of need, with such a moderate amount of support as we may be able to give them, would they be able to defend themselves against the Ashantees?—No, I do not think they would.

8263. Then what do you mean by objecting to our paternal Government?—I mean in this way, that they have not the power of combining; but if they could combine, they would be able to compete with the Ashantees, and by our leading them, calling them together, and showing them how to combine, they could do it; but if we restricted our authority, those people would not know how to combine with the Ashantees, because some of the chiefs in our protectorate are subordinate to the throne of Ashantee; and if we fell off from them in the least degree, they would be inclined to join with the Ashantees.

8264. But supposing the British Government to pursue such a policy as you have just described, and which is very much what I mean myself, do you believe that with a moderate amount of support, and general influence exercised by us, the protected tribes would be able to hold their own against the Ashantees?—Do you mean moderate support by way of troops?

8265. Yes?—I think they would.

8266. Mr. *Gregory*.] Would they be able to hold their own against the Ashantees without troops?—No, I think not; they would look upon it as almost abandonment; we should have to find powder and guns for them. The fact of our being present would have a great moral effect in giving them courage.

8267. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] How far do you think it necessary to exercise there anything that can be called a protectorate; is it that we should fight for the protected tribes by means of a large body of British troops, or how far do you conceive that they would be able to contribute to their own defence?—I do not think that they could contribute to their defence without assistance from us.

8268. It is a question of degree, and I want an opinion from you as to how far it would be necessary for us to carry that assistance; do you think it will be necessary in future to undertake such things as were undertaken during the late war?—No, certainly not, unless the country were cleared; it is certain death to our troops.

8269. Then you mean to say that it would be possible

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possible to secure peace and safety without exposing ourselves to such an expenditure and loss of life, as we incurred the other day?—Certainly, I think so. As the protectorate is all bush and jungle, it is utterly impossible to march into the interior to protect them against the Ashantees.

8270. Then do you give it as your opinion that it would be possible to maintain the protectorate in future without the risk of a large expenditure and sacrifice of life?—I think so.

8271. Therefore the protected tribes will have mainly to provide for their own defence?—We should have to assist them partially in the way of giving them powder and guns, and so on.

8272. But with that moderate amount of assistance from us, and with the influence which we exert in keeping them together, you think they would be able to hold their own against their enemies?—Yes, if you let them distinctly understand that you will not march into the bush to their assistance, but hitherto they have never been told so.

8273. Let them understand that we are neither prepared to march into the interior on the one hand, nor to abandon the coast on the other?—Yes.

8274. You object to either of those things?—Yes, I object to the abandonment of the coast unquestionably, and I object to not giving them the partial assistance of which I spoke.

8275. But do you think that there is a middle course between those two courses, which would be sufficient for that purpose?—Yes.

8276. Mr. Gregory.] Did you not say that those tribes could not hold their own against the Ashantees without troops being sent to their assistance?—I think they could; the complaint made the other day, was that those people could not protect themselves against the Ashantees; but I have always heard that they said "Let them come if they like, but we do not want to go to them."

8277. Do you think that the mere supply of arms and ammunition would enable them to face their enemies?—Yes.

8278. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] Combined with a certain amount of leadership, which is what the African people want, is it not?—Yes; the troops cannot move in the bush; it is a thick jungle.

8279. Chairman.] Do you think that the Ashantees are inclined to attack them?—I think not.

8280. Or that they have designs against the English forts?—Oh, no.

8281. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] Then, in your opinion this unmanning and enervating of the native tribes is not the only effect of our protectorate; but that protectorate, however, imperfect has had a good influence throughout the protected country?—Unquestionably.

8282. And it is an influence which you would be very sorry to see put an end to?—Certainly; I should be very glad to see it extended.

8283. Your only complaint is of its imperfection and the want of an efficient system; as far as you are concerned you would rather see it extended than diminished?—Yes.

8284. Did you mean to say just now that the effect of our entire abandonment of the coast would be first of all anarchy and confusion among the protected tribes, and in the end their conquest by the Ashantees after a bloody warfare?—I think so; it might be possible.

8285. You think, at all events, that a scene of confusion and bloodshed would inevitably follow?—Yes; and in the end the Ashantees would fight their way down to the coast, and possibly they might get the upper hand, and then you would have the slave trade.

8286. The Ashantee power is a great slave-hunting despotism?—Yes.

8287. Of the same nature as that of Dahomey?—Yes, exactly.

8288. Then the supposed case which I have put just now, of our entire abandonment of the coast, would be very like the one I will now put to you. Suppose that, for the last 30 years, we had exercised a protectorate over some portion of the kingdom of Dahomey, and had secured the tribes upon that coast from the King of Dahomey, and were now to abandon them, that would be similar to the abandonment of the Gold Coast?—Only that, except Whydah, the King of Dahomey has no seaboard, whereas the Fantees were subordinate to the Ashantees, and they look upon the Fantee land as their country. The old war, where Sir Charles McCarthy was killed, was in consequence of our taking the sovereignty of that coast away from the King of Ashantee, and he never would admit that; they have an idea now that the coast is theirs.

8289. But the abandonment of the protected tribes to the King of Ashantee would be precisely similar to the abandonment of any people who were under our protection to the King of Dahomey?—Yes.

8290. With the other horrible consequences which are sure to follow?—Sure to follow.

8291. Did I understand you to say that the jurisdiction of the judicial assessor, though useful in itself, had been carried too far in the way of interference with the native chiefs?—No; that was not my impression.

8292. But that interference, so long as we maintained the protectorate and do not assume a compulsory dominion, ought, I suppose, to be based on the consent of the protected people?—Certainly; I do not see what else we can do.

8293. I understood you to imply just now that the anomalous and undefined state of things which is inseparable from such a protectorate as we exercise on the Gold Coast, leaves much more to the discretion of the head of the executive on the spot than is the case in an ordinary British Colony?—Yes.

8294. That is what you meant?—Yes.

8295. Therefore, in the frequent change of Governors, the accidental capacity of any individual Governor is of more importance, and has much more effect on the prosperity of the place, than is the case in an ordinary Colony?—Certainly.

8296. Then the main advantage which you expect from the suggested system of the Governor General would be the presence and influence of a man of superior capacity?—Yes, certainly, and in consequence, perhaps, a distincter policy.

8297. And the post being of more importance and more lucrative, you think he would not be likely to seek for change and promotion so frequently as our governors on the Gold Coast naturally do?—I do not think they would; the climate on the Gold Coast allows the Governor to remain there a longer time. I was there for upwards of two years, and during the time I was there I outlived or outstayed 30 Europeans.

8298. But do you think that by a more liberal system

system of leave the health and life of the Europeans on the coast might be preserved?—I think so. The medical officers do not suffer; they stay for one year, and then come home; they do not suffer, they are rather anxious to return.

8299. Are you of opinion that such a system as that would enable you to maintain a sufficient number of civil officers on the coast to carry on the Government?—I think so. There is another great fault of the Government, that you are generally short-handed.

8300. Have you any opinion to give about the suggestions that have been made to this Committee of establishing a Government station in a healthy place upon the hills in the neighbourhood of Accra?—I think it would be a very good thing; for instance, the Aquapim hills.

8301. Which I presume might be made, to some degree, the head-quarters of the Governor?—I think so; those hills are from 1,400 to 2,000 feet high.

8302. Do you think that the system which is

found necessary in such places as Jamaica and Ceylon, would be still more necessary in Cape Coast?—Certainly.

8303. Mr. Cave.] When you spoke of enervating the natives, you did not mean that individually they were enervated by our introducing civilization?—No; I mean in a moral sense.

8304. Would you say that they are morally enervated by civilization?—I mean to say that we have prevented them from forming themselves into confederacies; they have never troubled themselves to combine against their enemies.

8305. But individually, with greater intelligence, they would become more formidable enemies?—Yes, certainly.

8306. All you mean is, that as they have had a head to resort to in our protectorate, they have not set up among themselves a leader who would combine them as a nation?—No; that is exactly what we have done; in fact, they took to us as their paramount chief.

Colonel EDWARD CONRAN, re-called; and further Examined.

8307. Lord Alfred Churchill.] FROM your knowledge of Cape Coast Town and neighbourhood, I believe you are capable of giving a few suggestions with regard to the better management of the immediate settlement of Cape Coast, and with regard to the management of the town, draining, local improvements, and so on?—With regard to draining there is not much required, the town being on a kind of hill; the chief thing required in the town of Cape Coast is cleanliness.

8308. Is not the burial-ground in the centre of the town?—The burial-ground in the centre of the town has been recently abandoned in consequence of its crowded state, and a new one had been opened shortly before I left, a little to the windward of the town.

8309. Not to the leeward?—No, to windward.

8310. Does that affect the atmosphere?—I think not; there are a very few bodies buried there; they are nearly all military; 30 or 40, perhaps. I think it will not affect the town in any way; the natives there bury their dead in their houses, under the lower floor.

8311. Does not that produce fevers?—Undoubtedly it must be most prejudicial.

8312. Would there be no method of getting the natives to give up that practice?—I think from what I understand from the chiefs they would be willing to bury their dead in a separate graveyard.

8313. Now with regard to the supply of fresh water to the town, what is your opinion on that subject?—The troops are suffering considerably at present from want of water, because they require better water than the natives use; I would suggest that water should be brought from the Sweet River, about five miles from Cape Coast, by means of pipes. I am positive that it can be done for possibly 1,500*l.* or 2,000*l.* at most; this water might be applied for a great many purposes. I think that sewerage is very much wanted to carry off refuse of all descriptions, and that might be done from the large tank which is situated in the centre of the town; I believe it belongs to Messrs. Smith and Forster, and some other merchants who live in London; it might be obtained for 600*l.* or 700*l.*, and it would contain

about 400,000 gallons of rain water; I would use that water for sluicing all the sewers into the sea, which is about 400 yards off, with a considerable slope. During the wet season the rain would do it all, but during the dry season the tank might do it.

8314. Were not a large number of implements for road making sent out at your request?—The Government sent out the following articles which are lying idle in store at Cape Coast: 500 felling axes, 1,000 hand axes, 500 spades, 5,000 cutlasses, 100 pickaxes, 20 cross-cut saws; 50 hand saws, 1,000 bill hooks, 500 shovels, rope, and some other stores; they were all sent out on my suggestion and requisition for the purpose of making roads in the event of the war being continued.

8315. Now, would it not be an advantage to make the roads although the war has ceased?—I think that a better opportunity could not be given than to make them at once, because when Governor Pine applied to the chiefs to make a road to the Prah, they made a road good enough for our troops to carry a 9-pounder gun on its wheels without taking it to pieces.

8316. How was it dragged?—By the natives with ropes; lifted over some of the paths, I suppose.

8317. Could that road be kept open?—Yes, sufficiently good for the present style of traffic, everything being carried on the heads of the natives. You must understand that the natives of the coast walk one after another in place of walking side by side, and the consequence is that they will always form a sort of path; the grass grows very quick, and also the brushwood, and the large trees fall over the roads and become a great hindrance, and with that view I had those large saws sent out.

8318. Do you think if those implements were placed in the hands of the chiefs for distribution among their subjects, that they could very readily keep the country open for legitimate commerce?—I believe that the chiefs are most willing to do so, and if properly distributed they will not charge anything for doing it, I believe.

8319. Mr. Gregory.] The last witness made use of the expression "Owing to the mismanagement of the poll-tax;" in what way was the poll-

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tax mismanaged?—I can only answer that question from hearsay, and from inquiries which I made on the coast when the poll-tax was first instituted. The chiefs all agreed to pay it, on condition that schools, roads, hospitals, and so on, should be instituted; at present, a man with the smallpox is driven into the bush, and no communication is allowed with him, and of course he dies. In the year 1858, finding that very little had been done according to promise, the people in the Crobo district rebelled against paying the poll-tax any longer; troops were sent to enforce payment. I believe the troops captured some of the chiefs, and that they were confined in the

forts as a guarantee for its collection, and a fine of 10,000 *l.* was imposed on them for the non-payment. The chiefs made their escape, and upwards of 5,000 *l.* or 6,000 *l.* of this, I believe, is still unpaid; but the cause of not receiving the poll-tax was malversation, and I am afraid that it has led to worse consequences than that, because faith in the white men on the coast is very much shaken.

8320. But the poll-tax was not collected through the agency of white men, was it?—I am not aware of that; I believe it was collected by both white and black men.

RICHARD PINE, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

R. Pine,
Esq.

8321. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE there is some petition or address about which you wish to make a statement to the Committee?—An address was presented to me just before I left Cape Coast by a large portion of the inhabitants of the protected territory in favour of adhering to the British Government, and remaining under their protection. It was enclosed to me at the Colonial Office by the last mail; but all the signatures were not at that time procured. During the last month those signatures have been procured, and they are now sent in this document (*producing a paper*).

8322. That document representing how many of the tribes?—Nineteen out of 20; the King of Cape Coast alone dissents, so far as my information goes.

8323. Mr. *Forster.*] Do you believe that petition to be a *bonâ fide* representation of the feeling of the majority of the inhabitants of the protectorate?—I have every reason to believe so.

8324. Were any steps taken by the English Government at Cape Coast to procure that representation to be made?—This was done by myself; I mentioned the state of things with regard to the King of Cape Coast, and that I was anxious to know if they were agreed with the King of Cape Coast. They gave in the document the day I left, and pledged themselves in that document to send further signatures, and the gentlemen who have signed their names pledge themselves to adhere to the British Government.

8325. But my question is whether there has been any attempt made by the Government to obtain those signatures beyond your asking the chiefs whether they took the same views as the King of Cape Coast?—No, not in my presence. There is some information by this mail that attempts have been made by the King of Cape Coast to induce the other chiefs not to join with us.

Jovis, 15^o die Junii, 1865.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Adderley.
Sir Francis Baring.
Mr. Buxton.
Mr. Cardwell.
Mr. Cave.
Lord Alfred Churchill.

Mr. Cheetham.
Mr. William Edward Forster.
Mr. Chichester Fortescue.
Mr. Gregory.
Sir John Hay.
Mr. Henry Seymour.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE C. B. ADDERLEY, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. JOSEPH MARTIN, called in; and Examined, through an Interpreter.

8326. *Chairman.*] YOUR name is Joseph Martin?—Yes.

8327. You are a Commissioner on behalf of Aggare, King of Cape Coast?—Yes.

8328. Will you state to the Committee what the King of Cape Coast wishes to state to us through you?—The wishes of the King of Cape Coast are these:—Ever since the King's father's time (the late king), there has been a good understanding between him and the Governors of the forts belonging to her Majesty the Queen of England, and that same understanding he wishes still to exist.

8329. We wish to know shortly the point of complaint?—One of the complaints is this: ever since the place was put under British protection, they have always had assistance in the way of judicial matters. An appeal lies from the native courts to the European courts; the King of Cape Coast is the exponent of all the other chiefs under the protection of the English, and is looked on as the Governor's assistant in carrying out the administration of the country; and whenever there is any case that is settled, and any aggrieved party appeals, an appeal is always open to the European courts there. Latterly the people of the country feel a great grievance in consequence of certain persons having been allowed by the Government to practise in the courts as attorneys or lawyers, and this exposes the country to a very great expense; so that a person sometimes, in going to the court, instead of having his case stated through the medium of an interpreter, when his expenses would be about 5*s.* or 10*s.*, is now-a-days scarcely allowed to speak his case through an interpreter, but he must go to one of those attorneys or lawyers, which, in many cases, involve him in heavy expenses, whereby many of them have had to sell their families to slavery to pay those attorneys, paying them 30*l.*, 40*l.*, and 50*l.* at once. In consequence of this heavy expense, some of them would rather go to the native courts, where the expense is less; and that being the case, it appears to the authorities as if the European power was slighted or disrespected; but such is not the case, and the Governor, seeing people go to the native courts more than to the British courts, it appears to him as if the king was deceiving the people into his court, but that is not the case; and he begs very much that this

should be stated to you—that it is the change of the proceedings in the court that sends people into his court, but still if anybody went to his court, there is an appeal to the court at the forts.

8330. Let me ask if this expense of employing attorneys is only in a final appeal case, or also in the first hearing?—Before the case can even be heard in court, this lawyer has to be paid his money.

8331. Are those what we call civil cases, disputes about property; or does it apply to all cases?—It applies to all cases.

8332. Before the judicial assessor?—Yes.

8333. Are those cases ever heard by their chiefs before they come before the assessor?—Yes, generally so.

8334. But the grievance does not arise until the cases come before the assessor?—When it comes before the judicial assessor.

8335. Are there many cases in which the chiefs decide the question without any appeal to the assessor?—Yes, a great many cases are decided without an appeal being made by any of the litigants.

8336. So that this grievance can only arise in a few cases which are matters of appeal?—It is so.

8337. Can you tell us at all the number of such cases which arise in a year?—There are a great many cases, but I cannot give the exact number.

8338. Are the cases you are stating to us cases which arise in Cape Coast alone, or are you giving us information about the other forts where the assessor holds his court also?—The same grievances are felt throughout the whole of the protected territories.

8339. Are you aware of a memorial which has been sent by the other chiefs, and which is about to be laid before this Committee, expressing the satisfaction of those chiefs with the present system?—No, I am not aware of it.

8340. How can the King of Cape Coast call himself the exponent of all the other chiefs?—In all matters of importance with the chiefs and other sovereigns in the interior, if the Governor wants their presence, it is the King of Cape Coast he would ask to send his message by his cane-bearer, to go and summon them to come down; or if any of them has any matter of importance

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to decide, he comes down and sees the King of Cape Coast, and, if necessary, he is taken into the forts; in the event of any disturbance, the Governor calls upon the king to give his assistance, and the king in many cases is the person who feels himself responsible to the Governor for a great many things that are done, as in the case of the soldiers' mutiny. When the soldiers left the forts with their accoutrements, and other things, being the property of the Government, the king, the mayor of the town, with the chiefs together, went into the woods after those mutinied soldiers, and brought them back, with the whole of the property belonging to the Government. Again, about four months ago, Governor Pine, without the knowledge of the King of Cape Coast, sent a party of soldiers headed by a white officer to a powerful sovereign in Western Wassaw, to fine and bring from him the sum of 614 ounces of gold dust, or 1,854 *l.* sterling, for having, as alleged, connived at his people selling gunpowder and other munitions of war to the Ashantees. This prince refused to pay the fine on the plea that he would not be responsible for the acts of his subjects; the officer insisted upon his paying the fine, or he would bring him down by force as a prisoner to the Governor, or shoot him, pointing his revolver at him. Thereupon the people of the prince became excited, resisted the soldiers, who were but a handful to them in numerical strength, and determined not to allow their master to be taken away. To prevent serious consequences which might have ensued, the prince paid to the officer the sum of 20 ounces gold, or 72 *l.* sterling, in the name of travelling expenses to himself and his men, not as a fine, and ordered them out of his territories. The Governor being obliged now to call upon the King of Cape Coast for assistance, the latter in a short time obtained the aid of other sovereigns and chiefs, and sent messengers to the prince to ask him to come down quietly to answer the Governor's summons. By this interference of the King of Cape Coast, matters will be amicably settled, as news arrived in Cape Coast before I left it that the Sovereign has acquiesced in the message sent to him, and was on his way coming to Cape Coast.

8341. Does the King of Cape Coast Castle consider that his understanding with the British Government with regard to the constitution of the assessor's court has been broken?—No; on the contrary, they are too glad for it; they are thankful for it.

8342. What is the distinct understanding of the King of Cape Coast Castle with the English Government, with regard to the Court of Assessors?—I cannot answer that question.

8343. Does the king ever sit with the assessor in the same court?—The king is not allowed to sit with the assessor.

8344. Can you state whether that has always been so?—So far as political matters go, the king and chiefs are always required by the Governor; but in judicial cases, neither the king nor the chiefs are allowed to sit with the assessor.

8345. The judicial assessor is the only judge to whom the appeal is made from the decision of the chief it has gone before?—Yes.

8346. Do you know whether there is any treaty or paper which describes what the duties of the assessor are?—So far as I know from hearsay, those Government directions to the sitting assess-

or are, that in his court there should be a chief, or two, or, if necessary, that the king should be present; that is what I have heard.

8347. What would satisfy the King of Cape Coast Castle to remove this grievance; what do you want to be done?—As the king is very anxious that the European authorities should be there, he is very desirous that a good understanding should be come to between him and the Governor of Cape Coast Castle, to show the king how far he is to act so as to avoid coming into collision in any way with the Government.

8348. He wishes the Governor of Cape Coast to settle the point?—He wishes the Government here to tell him how far he is to exercise his authority; he knows very well the supreme power to whom an appeal lies; he begs now to have the thing defined to him, so that he may not commit himself in any way.

8349. Do I rightly understand, that the only grievance is the expense of employing attorneys?—The King of Cape Coast does not speak for himself alone, but he speaks on behalf of all the others, who are not treated in the manner that they expected. In several cases they make their subjects think that their masters, kings, and other chiefs, have no control over them because the European authority despises those chiefs very much except in a case of emergency, but in any way they have no respect for them at all.

8350. Does the King of Cape Coast think that he could do without the judicial assessor altogether?—No.

8351. How far does he want to assist the assessor?—In a great many cases some of the kings and chiefs are so degraded, that in a case where they, in the first place, ought to be sent for, and let him or them have a hearing before the King of Cape Coast, first, and if actually the sovereign or any chief in the interior has done anything wrong, the Governor might call the king and the judicial assessor to sit over the case, and hear it: those people are so treated, that a person that has troops, I believe from 2,000 to 3,000, is so disgraced, that when he is brought in he is put in prison at once without hearing the case. What is required is, that the King of Cape Coast, or the chiefs and responsible persons, be allowed to sit in the same court, and that would decide the whole of the questions.

8352. Does he propose that the cases should first be heard by the natives in their own court, and then if there is any appeal that they should be heard by the assessor, together with the chiefs?—That is exactly what the King of Cape Coast wants.

8353. The grievance is twofold: first, that the chiefs are not treated with respect in the Appeal Court; and secondly, by the employment of attorneys, the expense is much increased?—Yes.

8354. Mr. Cardwell.] I understand that you represent the Native King of Cape Coast?—Yes.

8355. If I have rightly understood what you have told us, you wish very much that the power of the white man should continue on the coast?—Yes; they like it.

8356. Are there some things that are done by the white man that you think might be better done?—Yes.

8357. That is to say, that the white man should only interfere when there is great reason for interference in those judicial questions?—Precisely.

8358. But when there is great reason for interference, you are willing that the white man should interfere?—That is what we desire.

8359. And if the white man were to take the King of Cape Coast's advice, and only interfere as little as possible, do you say that the King of Cape Coast would wish to make his own judgments such, that the white man should very seldom be obliged to interfere?—The white man being of a superior understanding, the king would always rather take his advice, and persist in it as much as he can.

8360. He would like to learn from the white man how to do the thing, but to be allowed to have a share, at least, in the doing of it himself?—Yes.

8361. I understand that one of the grievances is, that the natives cannot be heard themselves, but that they must pay a person to say what they have got to say for them?—That is one of the grievances.

8362. Let me ask you whether, if the law of the white man was to prevail, and if they were to administer it themselves in common cases, and the white man was only to interfere when things were going wrong, and the natives were allowed to speak for themselves without paying an attorney, you would be quite satisfied?—That is exactly the wish of the King of Cape Coast, and others.

8363. If he got that, he would not wish the white man to go away, but, on the contrary, he would wish the white man to stay?—If under the existing grievances he cannot entertain the idea that the white man should go away, how much more if he could get a remedy for those grievances, and could look up to him as a friend for protection.

8364. You think it for your own good that the white man should stay?—Yes.

8365. And for the people under the king?—Yes, so that the white man would be always the chief justice before whom an appeal should be made.

8366. Do you think that if that were the case, the black man would by-and-by learn more and more to do justice according to the white man's views?—That is the prayer of the King of Cape Coast.

8367. That they should be allowed to learn from the white man until they are able to do themselves the thing that the white man does?—Yes.

8368. Sir *Francis Baring*.] Are those attorneys that you speak of natives or Europeans?—They are all natives, except one white man.

8369. I understand that one of the complaints is the heavy expense of the courts of law?—It is.

8370. Am I to understand that the natives are satisfied with the administration of justice on the Coast?—Before those attorneys were allowed to practice in the court, they were satisfied with the decisions of the court; but when those attorneys came, then things took a different turn.

8371. Then, practically, the introduction of those attorneys produced a considerable change in the administration of the courts?—It has.

8372. I think I heard that some complaints have arisen from the indistinctness of the line which divides the assessor from the chiefs?—Yes, that is an indefinite sort of line, which the natives do not understand.

8373. One of the remedies might be that some distinct line should be laid down by the Government at home?—That is what the king tells me

particularly to come to request from the Government of England.

8374. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Has the King of Cape Coast formerly been in the habit of holding courts of justice, or is it a new thing?—From time immemorial.

8375. Have more cases been sent into the English court from Cape Coast and its neighbourhood than from the more distant parts of the Protectorate?—More cases from Cape Coast and the neighbouring towns go into the British courts, and such minor cases that they think ought not to be sent into those courts the people settle among themselves, either by the King of Cape Coast himself or the King of Anamaboe and other districts. All the different kings settle cases in their towns. The kings of Wassaw, Denkeria, Assin and others in the interior do the same, except in cases of importance, as murder, which they like to refer to the Government.

8376. Mr. *Forster*.] How long is it since the King of Cape Coast used to sit with the assessor?—He has never been allowed to sit with the assessor except in cases of murder, then sometimes he is called upon to sit, but never in civil matters.

8377. Neither he nor his predecessors?—They are never allowed by the Governor to sit in the court. Whenever the Governor wants to say anything to the king he sends for him to the Government House, but he is not allowed to sit in the court.

8378. Does the King of Cape Coast wish to have more power given to his own court, or does he wish to be allowed to sit with the assessor in the Assessor's Court?—He does not want any more additional powers than what he at present exercises, but what he begs of the Government of England is, that in any case where he has settled a matter, and the individual wishes to appeal to any of the appeal courts, the king might be allowed to be there.

8379. Does he wish to be there as judge or merely to be present?—To sit together with the assessor as judges.

8380. How many subjects has the King of Cape Coast?—I cannot give you the exact number, but the population is pretty considerable.

8381. But is it 3,000 or more; will you give me something like the number?—I should say that it would exceed 10,000 at least.

8382. Are there bankruptcy courts?—The king has no court of that kind.

8383. But has the assessor?—Yes.

8384. About how long has he had these courts?—I cannot tell you exactly.

8385. For several years?—For some years.

8386. Does the King of Cape Coast think that the courts do good or harm?—He has nothing to say for or against bankruptcy courts.

8387. How many slaves has the King of Cape Coast?—I cannot tell you the number of slaves. He is but a young man, and it requires a person to work long in the world before he can have many slaves. I do not think that he has many.

8388. Not 100?—No, not that number.

8389. Does he get any fines paid to him by the persons who come to his court?—In cases where they deserve to be fined he does fine people.

8390. How does he obtain his revenue; where does he get it from?—From the fees of the court and the fines.

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8391. From no other source?—From no other source.

8392. Do all his subjects live in the town of Cape Coast?—No; there are some in the villages around, a few miles from the town.

8393. Does he do anything with this revenue for the roads or streets?—Those things must be done from the means placed at his disposal, but there being no means at present, it is only the money that he gets from the courts that would enable him to do so; an attempt having been made to put a stop to his authority to settle any case or fine, or anything of the kind, that cripples him from making any improvements.

8394. About how much revenue has he altogether?—He may get, perhaps, about 100 *l.* in six months.

8395. Has he any subjects in Elnina?—His authority does not extend to that place; that is a Dutch place.

8396. Has he any soldiers?—Yes.

8397. How many?—At least from 7,000 to 8,000; those are what they call the companies of the town. They separate themselves, and when the king calls them they have to beat the drum and assemble, when he wants their assistance.

8398. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] And sometimes they fight with one another, do they not?—Yes.

8399. Mr. *Seymour*.] Is the monarchy hereditary, or is the king elected when the king dies, or is a successor appointed?—It is hereditary, not elective; but it may be elective in this way, that if the king happened to have a good many sons, one of them must be elected by the people, like the present King of Cape Coast.

8400. How was he elected?—In the first place, when they have made up their mind to elect a king, notice is sent to him, and then they confine him to his house for a week, and during this time they are making preparations, and after the expiration of that time, they bring him out round the town. He is dressed in style. They have all the king's family about him, and everybody turns out dressed in their best, and then they go about the town and sit and drink.

8401. Who elects him; is it all the people?—Yes, the people.

8402. What relation is the present king to the last king?—He is no relation to the last king. The present king, John Agger, is the son of the late Joe Agger, who was the King of Cape Coast many years ago. The person whom John Agger now succeeds was not of the Royal Family in Cape Coast; he was elected like his deceased brother to the throne on account of some disturbance which took place between a former King of Cape Coast and the people, which caused the deposition of that king.

8403. For some time there was no king at all?—There was no king after the death of Joe Agger, when a person who was supposed to have the right to be king was elected king. They found his conduct was such that they were obliged to depose him, and after he was deposed it took some long time before another king was elected.

8404. Has the king any council to help him?—Yes.

8405. Does he call on the people in Cape Castle to pay him money every year?—Such a thing has not been done before, but we propose to do it now.

8406. What would the king do with the money,

would he give any account of the way in which he spent it?—The people would see that he gave an account of the money, and the application of it.

8407. Then, would he propose to spend the money in improving the town?—For improvements, as well as to enable him to receive other sovereigns and chiefs who may have to come down to Cape Coast.

8408. That is all?—The time might come to show what other things might be done.

8409. If a man refused to pay the money, would the king make him pay?—If the king is not interfered with and allowed to have his authority; he does nothing without the knowledge and sanction of his council, and if that passes into a law of course they would enforce the law.

8410. Do you say that the king cannot act without his council?—He cannot act without his council.

8411. Does he think himself bound to obey the English Governor whatever he tells him to do?—He will agree with the Governor in what he thinks is right and obey him; what he finds to be the contrary he will, of course, carefully represent it to the Home Government.

8412. Does the king claim the land in Cape Coast?—He does.

8413. He himself claims all the land in Cape Coast, does he?—As the representative of the people, he claims the land.

8414. Does he make the people pay when they bring merchandise into Cape Coast Town; I mean people from the country bringing things to sell?—He does not.

8415. Is 100 *l.* in six months all the money that he gets from his people?—He has no revenue from any other source.

8416. Has he got any villages of his own, or any other means of living besides?—Yes, he has his own private means.

8417. Where are those villages?—About five or six miles from the town he has two villages which his late father owned, and now those people who were tributary to his father would all support him.

8418. Do you object to tell the Committee what your revenue is altogether from villages and everything?—I cannot answer that question.

8419. Has the king any pawns?—Yes, a few.

8420. Lord *Alfred Churchill*.] What were the circumstances which induced the people to elect a king after having been several years without one?—They found that it was essentially necessary to have a king, because, when the last Ashantee irruption took place, there was a great difficulty in not having a king in the town of Cape Coast; when they went to camp they had to give the command of the people into the hands of the mayor of the town; when various sovereigns came down they all came in a very respectful manner; Cape Coast appeared, and they all looked to Cape Coast to move and act in every way, the Cape Coast people felt themselves very much below them, because they all had their sovereigns, and Cape Coast had none, so they said we must endeavour to have a king, and see that things are properly managed.

8421. Are there many chiefs within Cape Coast Castle?—There are a few.

8422. Would those chiefs lead the natives of Cape Coast in any hostile attack; would they act like

like lieutenants to the king?—They would feel bound in duty to do so.

8423. What they meant by wanting a king was, that they wanted a kind of head chief, to whom the other chiefs would look?—That is the case.

8424. Do the whole of the natives of Cape Coast Castle recognise the authority of the king? There are only a few people, besides some three or four chiefs who are not willing that there should be a king, and they have their reasons for it, because they obtain the revenue of the country, and have it appropriated to their own use, and the country being against it they would rather elect a king who would be a responsible man to them.

8425. The king movement in Cape Coast is not supposed in any way to be antagonistic to the English Government?—He would not indulge in or manifest such a feeling.

8426. They have no wish for it, I suppose?—They have no wish for it.

8427. With regard to the expense of employing licensed advocates in the courts, what are the fees which those native attorneys charge?—From 50*l.* to 60*l.* in many cases; I have seen 100*l.* taken from those people before the case goes to court.

8428. What is the opinion of the natives with regard to the spirit license?—This is a proof at once that neither the king nor the chiefs are respected by the European authorities there; in the matter of the spirit license, I have no doubt that probably it might have taken well with the people, but it was proposed, and the law passed, and nobody knew anything about it, neither the king nor the chiefs; they all felt very much against it, and did not wish to pay it. The people applied to the Governor by memorials, and the answer was that the matter must be referred to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and when they obtained his opinion, the Governor would know what to do in the matter, because the law is passed, and that being the case, the people are now paying it reluctantly as a very serious grievance; they object to it.

8429. Was it not a common topic of conversation for a considerable period before the ordinance was passed imposing the duty?—They knew nothing at all about this matter until, all of a sudden, the law was passed that they should pay this rum license; so when the chiefs went to see the Governor on the subject, the Governor said he had told three of his Council, who were natives, with an European, who was also a member of the Council, to tell the people about this license, and they had informed the Governor that the people agreed to it; the people said, "Although those natives may be of your Council, they are members who hold their commission from the Crown; they are not people elected by us; we have no suffrage in this place to elect a member of the Council to protect the interests of the country; and when you choose to employ anyone you like, we do not recognise that individual as a person whom we have elected;" that is another ground of complaint.

8430. Do the natives express any wish to enjoy the suffrage?—I believe, if it is not asking too much, that they are entitled to the suffrage.

8431. Do you think that, if they had the suffrage, they would fall in with the ordinances of the Governor much more readily than they do now?—They would readily comply with them.

8432. Sir John Hay.] When the natives appointed a successor to the present king,

was he recognised without any trouble?—If I understand this question to be, that when the natives appointed a successor to the former king, whether he was recognized without trouble, I answer, without the least trouble.

8433. He was appointed as successor?—Yes; but it is the consent of the whole of the people.

8434. Is it in the Fantee language that you are now addressing the Committee?—Yes, the Fantee language.

8435. Do the Fantees speak the same language as the Ashantes?—It is the same root, but different in dialect.

8436. Do the other Fantee kings own any subjection to the King of Cape Coast?—No, they do not recognise him as the head over them as vassals, but as the first man for the rest of the sovereigns and chiefs; he is the first, because he is connected with the head quarters.

8437. Does the native chief of Elmina own any subjection to the King of Cape Coast?—The Elminas under the Dutch flag are distinct altogether from the Fantees, although they are in the Fantee country.

8438. Do the natives who are under the Dutch flag desire to continue under the Dutch flag, or would they rather be in the Fantee protected territory?—I do not believe that, because the Dutch people of Elmina always have contrived with the King of Ashantee to disturb the country.

8439. You think that the interests of the natives who are under Dutch rule are antagonistic to the interests of the natives who are under the British Protectorate?—Quite antagonistic.

8440. Mr. Cheetham.] What would be the opinion of the chiefs, supposing the British rule were withdrawn from the Cape Coast?—We pray that such a thing should never occur.

8441. Chairman.] (To the Interpreter.) What is your name?—Joseph Smith.

8442. Where do you come from?—From Cape Coast.

8443. Are you a merchant?—I have been in business, but I am not at present.

8444. Sir Francis Baring.] Have you held any office at Cape Coast?—Some years ago I held public offices.

8445. What office was it?—I held the office of Assistant Colonial Secretary under Governor Maclean; under Sir William Gwinnett I held the same office, and I acted some years ago as magistrate.

8446. How long ago?—My services in the Government department extended over a period of about 30 years.

8447. Mr. Cheetham.] Are you resident in England now?—I am at the present moment.

8448. Sir John Hay.] How long is it since you gave up any Government appointment?—I should say about eight years ago; when I was acting for myself in a private capacity I still had to do with Government matters. I was a merchant; but still, in consequence of my local knowledge of the Government, I held office as Colonial Secretary whilst I was a merchant, at the same time.

8449. When did you leave the Coast?—Last December.

8450. Mr. Cliechester Fortescue.] What do you mean by Colonial Secretary?—In the Civil Department the Secretary is called the Colonial Secretary, who is Secretary to the Colony. I

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filled that office in the absence of the European Colonial Secretary.

8451. Were you Acting Colonial Secretary?—At that time I was.

8452. For how long?—For about three years under Governor Maclean, and about nine months under Sir William Gwinnett; and when Governor Bannerman succeeded him, for about three months.

8453. Mr. Gregory.] I presume the main reason why the protected tribes wish that the British Protectorate should continue is the fear of the Ashantees coming down on them; is it not?—As far as the Ashantees are concerned, they have not the slightest fear of them. If they like to have war, they may come now, and the Fantees are ready for them; but since the British nation have taken them up, nursed them, and are bringing them up, they would rather be with civilized men; and they like Europeans to be among them.

8454. Do they consider, in case of an attack on the part of Ashantee, that the English are bound to assist them with troops?—The English having already had an attack from the King of Ashantee, years ago, when Sir Charles McCarthy was at the head of that expedition,

which terminated in gaining over the Ashantees, they think from that circumstance, that in case of any invasion the English will give assistance.

8455. But do they look for that assistance in the way of moral assistance, or assistance by way of arms, or assistance actually with troops?—Assistance as far as ammunition goes, and anything like advice; but so far as troops are concerned, they think, sometimes, it is unnecessary to bring so many men, perhaps.

8456. Are the protected tribes better armed than the Ashantees?—They are better armed.

8457. Will you give the Committee an idea of what is the opinion of the natives with regard to the exact meaning of the English Protectorate?—They understand the protectorate to be, that as the strong power has some influence over the weak, the former would not neglect the interests of the latter, especially if a good understanding exists between them; in the case of the export slave trade, which was carried on in that part of Guinea some years before, the British power has suppressed it. If a foreign European power was to come to that country to revive it, or to molest the people or invade the country, the English being there, it is to be hoped that they would see the people protected.

Colonel ORD, R. E., recalled; and further Examined.

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8458. Chairman.] HAVE you papers to hand in to the Committee?—I hand in, by desire of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, copies of the despatches relating to pawning on the Gold Coast; it is Paper No. 7, which is printed in the Appendix.

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8459. The Committee wish to examine you on the conclusions which you yourself have drawn from the facts which you have already given in evidence; and perhaps we may as well begin with the subject of the paper you have just put in. Have you any suggestions to make with regard to a better mode of treating the pawn system on the part of the British Government in West Africa?—I think if we are to retain our position on the Gold Coast (our position, I mean, with regard to the natives outside the forts), it would be desirable that some steps should be taken to deal with the question of pawning. It occurs to me that the best way of mitigating the evils of this system would be by requiring every pawn now in the country to be registered before an officer of the British Government, and not to recognise in future any pawns unless the fact of the person pawning himself, in consideration of his being unable to pay a debt which he admitted, were declared before the same officer. I would also propose to obtain the concurrence of the chiefs and people in a reduction of the rate of interest now payable on debts, which is 50 per cent. no matter the period during which the debt has been owing. I think it might be reduced to 10 per cent., without encountering much opposition; and this reduction of the rate of interest, and the registration of the pawns, I conceive would go a long way to get rid of the evil altogether.

8460. By what rule is that rate of interest fixed?—By native custom.

8461. Do you propose that we should make an ordinance to alter that?—I do not propose that we should make a law, for the assent of the natives to any change of this nature, with a

proclamation to them, is sufficient to give it validity.

8462. Would not the treatment of the pawn system which you now suggest involve more recognition of the system than would be desirable on the part of the British Authorities?—I think not, since we should be dealing with this description of slavery in a territory over which we possess no right of sovereignty.

8463. How far do you distinguish between a pawn and a slave?—They are identical; but if we could get rid of the system of persons being made slaves for debt, which is what pawns actually are, we should do a good deal to diminish domestic slavery.

8464. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] In theory, a pawn is a temporary slave, but in practice he is generally a permanent one?—That is an exact definition of his condition.

8465. Chairman.] Would the proposal which you have just made apply to any other stations besides the Gold Coast?—No, it would not.

8466. Only the Gold Coast?—Only to the Gold Coast.

8467. Do you think that we might in any way modify the system of domestic slavery as distinct from that of pawning?—I am not prepared to suggest any other way of dealing with the question of domestic slavery at the Gold Coast than, in the first instance, through the agency of the pawn system.

8468. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] And the ordinary influence of the Judicial Assessor's Court?—Yes, that influence for the mitigation of the condition of the slave which is being daily exercised through the agency of our administration.

8469. Chairman.] Have you any suggestions to make with regard to the improvement of our jurisdiction over the natives generally outside the British territory?—I think that in the present undecided position which we hold with regard to the natives outside the British territory, both at Lagos

Lagos and the Gold Coast, it would be very desirable if some legislation could be adopted to place the matter on a better footing. It has occurred to me, for instance, that an enlargement of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, which should permit our dealing with natives according to native law in territory where we have no territorial rights, provided the natives gave their assent, would at once put our position on the Gold Coast on a satisfactory footing; and in the case of Lagos it might enable us to limit the rights which we actually possess there, establishing in the Island of Lagos a Government somewhat analogous to that which we exercise over the Protectorate.

8470. How far distinctly would that enlarge the present provisions of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act?—The Foreign Jurisdiction Act relates to jurisdiction over British subjects in foreign countries. I have suggested an enactment which might enlarge the provisions of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, by authorising the administration of justice to the natives in native territory; it would not however follow that the Act should be part of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, but something to legalise the action which we now take with regard to the natives on their own territory with their own consent.

8471. Does that apply exclusively to the Gold Coast?—No, it applies to Lagos also. It would enable us to deal very satisfactorily with Lagos: we might renounce territorial rights, restricting them solely to the land on which our Government-house and public buildings stand. At present, there are slaves on the territory which, as we have taken it over from Docemo, I understand to be British territory.

8472. Did you hear the evidence of the last witness?—I heard a portion of it.

8473. Do you consider that the grievance which he represented on the part of the King of Cape Coast Castle is a real grievance, and is such a grievance as we can remedy; that is to say, that the action of the judicial assessor is somewhat placing the chief in a degraded position, and also involving more expense in the employment of attorneys than is necessary for the interests of the natives?—I think the employment of attorneys is not necessary; certainly not in cases where natives come before our courts with small debts. I know that formerly it was not the custom to require counsel or attorneys to be employed in such cases, and the expense attending the present arrangement I understand to be onerous. With regard to the position of the King of Cape Coast it is not stated that he has ever sat with the judicial assessor, or shared his authority at any time. From the earliest time of our administering justice to the natives, we have, as I am informed, administered it without their assistance; the King of Cape Coast has from time to time held courts of his own, and in those courts fines are imposed, and even imprisonment. A case has recently come to the knowledge of the Governor, and he interfered at once, telling the king that he could not recognise this while the ordinary courts were open to every one, and that was considered a grievance by the king.

8474. Which you do not think it is?—I consider that the Governor has been perfectly justified in his course of action; and, indeed, when I was there the other day I myself recommended that he should follow that course.

8475. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] The party complaining was a British subject?—It is per-
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fectly immaterial; we do not recognise the right of the king to imprison any one in Cape Coast.

8476. Mr. *Cheetam*.] But supposing they are his own subjects?—We do not recognise his right, or any one's right to imprison throughout the length and breadth of the Protectorate.

8477. *Chairman*.] That is assuming the sovereignty over the protected country to some extent?—Yes, with the assent of the natives.

8478. It is at least a partnership in the sovereignty of the country with the chiefs?—To that extent.

8479. Sir *Francis Baring*.] Do you mean to say that the King of Cape Coast has assented?—I mean that the assent of all the natives has been obtained.

8480. *Chairman*.] Or, rather, should you not say implied?—Yes, implied; the right has been assumed, and never been contested. The King of Cape Coast is the first person who has ever, to my knowledge, doubted our right to protect the whole of the natives of Cape Coast from imprisonment at the hands of their masters.

8481. Sir *Francis Baring*.] Their chiefs?—I mean their chiefs.

8482. Within the Protectorate certain chiefs have exercised the power of imprisonment, have they not?—The chiefs exercise the power of adjudicating in criminal cases, according to the native law, at a distance from Cape Coast.

8483. Do they exercise the power of imprisonment within the Protectorate?—They do, because we are not able to do it for them.

8484. We go as far as we have the power of doing it; but where we cannot we do not?—Exactly.

8485. I understood you to say that no chiefs have exercised that power?—No, I did not say that; none of the chiefs have claimed it.

8486. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] But in the town of Cape Coast, at the gate of our forts, we have never been in the habit of permitting the native chiefs to imprison?—We have never been in the habit of recognising it.

8487. And the king, until the other day, has not been in the habit of claiming it?—No king has claimed it until the other day, that I am aware of.

8488. *Chairman*.] Should you say that the exercise of the judicial assessor's jurisdiction has tended practically to enable the chiefs to conduct their own jurisdiction better and better, or has it led them to lean more and more on the English?—I think it makes no difference to the chiefs in the interior; we practically administer no justice there, except in serious cases, violence, ill-treatment, or murder; in such cases we always interfere.

8489. Mr. *Forster*.] Is it, or not, your opinion that it would be fair to put the King of Cape Coast on the same footing, with regard to those minor cases, as the chiefs of the interior practically are?—I think not. I should prefer seeing him on the same footing as he is now.

8490. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Our court seldom interferes, except on complaint being made by a party complaining of being ill-treated?—Only where violence has been committed.

8491. Of course such cases are sure to come in greater numbers from the town which is under the gates of our forts than from the interior?—Yes.

8492. Then the difficulty arises, whether our court, being on the spot, and open, we are to
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refuse to entertain the complaints of those aggrieved parties?—That is so.

8493. That state of facts has led, quite naturally, to a greater interference by our courts in Cape Coast than in the interior?—Certainly.

8494. *Chairman.*] Has not the result been to throw the administration of justice more and more into the hands of the English, and to make the native chiefs both less accustomed to administer their own law, and more accustomed to English notions of justice?—The administration of justice has been more thrown into our hands, but I fear it has not accustomed the natives to English notions of justice, and I have so poor an opinion of the administration of justice by the natives, that I am extremely undesirous to see further powers extended to them.

8495. Can you give the Committee an exact idea of what sort of court this court of the King of Cape Coast is?—I can give you no account of it, because we know nothing about it. The king was conscious that if a well-authenticated case of his having imprisoned persons came before the Governor he would be liable to be brought before the court himself for an infringement of the law, and therefore all the operations of the court have been kept very quiet.

8496. *Chairman.*] Do you think that the institution of the judicial assessor has at all trained the native chiefs to exercise jurisdiction of their own?—I think not, in the slightest degree, but the knowledge that persons in open court could obtain redress from us has been a great benefit to the country.

8497. *Mr. Chichester Fortescue.*] Do you believe that tolerable justice can be obtained in the court of the King of Cape Coast?—From all I have heard and read I do not believe it.

8498. *Sir Francis Baring.*] You never had any case of your own in this court?—Never.

8499. *Chairman.*] Do you think that better justice would be now obtained in native courts, owing to the example given by the judicial assessor than in former times?—I should be afraid that our example would not prove to have done very much for them.

8500. It has taught them to look to us but not to imitate us?—I do not think it has even taught them to look to us; they naturally prefer that we should leave them to manage their own slaves and property without our interference; it is on behalf of the slaves that our interference is beneficial.

8501. *Mr. Chichester Fortescue.*] Do you think, under the present system, that there is less injustice and less cruelty in the Protectorate than there would be if our court were shut up?—I am quite certain that there is very much less cruelty. The history of that country, as we have it on record, before the Protectorate, shows the greatest cruelties and barbarism; witchcraft was a common plea to deprive a man of his property.

8502. *Chairman.*] Is any improvement which exists, to be found existing in the conduct of our own courts, or is there more justice in the conduct of their own courts than there used to be?—I do not attribute the improvement either to our courts or theirs; the result is attributable, I believe, to our court exercising an influence over the natives.

8503. *Mr. Forster.*] Do you not consider that the example of our courts will have improved the action of the courts in the interior by the natives?—I have replied to that, that I am afraid

our example has very little effect. I think that the fear of the consequences induces them to treat their people better.

8504. *Mr. Chichester Fortescue.*] The knowledge that they will be liable to be brought to account by us, in case of committing any gross act of injustice, has an effect in preventing it?—Yes.

8505. *Sir Francis Baring.*] Is that part of the interior which is under our protection worse than it used to be?—I have no reason to suppose that it is worse. I should imagine that it must be better, because now the slaves where they are ill-treated come down to the coast and obtain redress.

8506. I understood you to say that the administration of justice was more in the hands of the chiefs in the interior than it is coastwise?—It is so.

8507. And it was much more so in the olden time than it is now?—It was entirely in their hands, until the Protectorate was assumed in the time of Governor Maclean.

8508. But you said that we interfered more in the interior in earlier times than we do now?—Yes. There was a time after we assumed the Protectorate, when we exercised jurisdiction in places where we do not now.

8509. Has the administration of justice deteriorated in those places, in consequence of our not interfering?—I cannot speak with certainty, but I infer that it has.

8510. You do not speak from a knowledge of the fact?—I do not.

8511. *Chairman.*] Have you any improvement to suggest in the mode of raising taxation internally, or with regard to the attempt that was made by the spirit ordinance to do so?—The spirit ordinance I believe to have been a very good measure in itself, but it went beyond the letter of the law in imposing a tax on a territory over which we did not claim to exercise any sovereignty; it was referred to the Secretary of State for confirmation, and I have reason to know it was Mr. Cardwell's intention to have disapproved of it, but he considered at the time that the country was in an unsettled state owing to the Ashantee invasion, and that it would be well to allow a little time to elapse before taking a step which must have the effect of injuring the Governor's authority, and the disallowance of the Act has been therefore postponed.

8512. With regard to the general observations at the termination of your first report, I understand you to think that the settlements on the shore, whether made by the English, the Dutch, or the Liberians, are all very effectual modes of blockading the export of slaves?—I think so.

8513. Would you suggest with that view that the English should increase their settlements on the West African Coast?—Certainly not; there are disadvantages attending the extension of our territory, which in most instances would far outbalance any advantages.

8514. I see you state in your report that the King of Dahomey in 1848 wished a British Governor to be placed at Whydah; do you imply by that statement that you think it would have been wise to acquiesce in that request?—I think it would have been wise to have sent an agent there; I think, if our agent had remained there, we must have obtained influence in Whydah which would have saved us from the trouble of blockading

blockading it as we now are obliged to do for the purpose of preventing slaves from being exported.

8515. *Mr. Gregory.*] You are of opinion that it would be expedient to take possession of Whydah?—I am not prepared to recommend the British Government to take possession of Whydah; it would have its advantages, but there are very great disadvantages.

8516. *Chairman.*] You have no apprehension of other European powers contesting any such assumption of territory with the English?—I have no reason to suppose that if we decided to take possession of Whydah, it would be contested by any power, due notice being given of our intention, and the object being the suppression of the slave trade.

8517. *Sir Francis Baring.*] Do you mean by your previous answer that you would have agreed to the proposal of the King of Dahomey to occupy Whydah?—No, not to send a Governor.

8518. Do you remember what the King of Dahomey's conditions were?—I do not.

8519. *Chairman.*] Would the same reasons which lead you to say that there should be no new settlement made also lead you to recommend the withdrawal of the English from those already made, so far as it is possible, or so far as is consonant with our engagement?—I see no reason to recommend the withdrawal from any post which we now occupy on the coast of Africa, except McCarthy's Island, and by withdrawal I mean withdraw altogether; I do not mean merely the withdrawal of troops.

8520. Would your reasons against making new settlements now have applied in the first instance against making the existing settlements?—I am not prepared to answer with regard to all the settlements.

8521. Your general proposition with regard to the existing settlements is that they should be concentrated at Sierra Leone again, as they were before the year 1842?—That the Government should be concentrated.

8522. In order to do that, you propose that the Governor of Sierra Leone should be the Governor in Chief of all?—I do.

8523. The Governors of the three other settlements would become his lieutenants?—They would.

8524. Do you propose that the ordinances for any of the sub-governments should be passed on the spot, or that those sub-governments should in any way be referred to the Governor General of Sierra Leone?—I propose that the mode in which legislation should be carried on and justice administered should be exactly that which is followed in the Windward and Leeward Islands; the laws of each island are passed by the local Legislature, subject first to the approval of the Governor in Chief, and then, like all colonial laws, to the confirmation of the sovereign. That justice should be administered locally, so far as the means of each Colony enable it to keep up a sufficient staff for the purpose; that when the revenue which this will require cannot be raised without undue pressure of taxation, then that justice should be administered in minor cases on the spot by magistrates, and that assistance should be given by the judges from the large neighbouring Colonies going on circuit.

8525. Postponing the consideration of the judicial establishment, and considering the legis-

lative and executive functions, would the Lieutenant Governors of the three sub-governments require more than one council to assist them?—Yes; the Legislative Council of each Colony would be composed of the men best qualified for such duties, but it might happen that there were men of experience in native affairs, who could give valuable advice in difficulties or emergencies, who would not be so useful in a council where laws were passed. I would, therefore, propose to have two councils, one to advise the Governor and the other to assist him in framing laws. No expense attends such a council, and it would enable very able men among the natives to be brought into useful posts, which would be gratifying to them and advantageous to the country.

8526. Is it not the case that efficient men are so scarce that a great many offices are forced to be accumulated on one man?—That is hardly the reason; the object, I believe, in most instances, has been to obtain sufficient salaries by conferring several minor appointments on one man, but there is avowedly a great difficulty in obtaining a staff of efficient officers, especially Europeans, to administer justice.

8527. From both the smallness of the salaries and the small number of men, would it not be better to have one council, both legislative and executive, to assist the Lieutenant Governor at the minor stations?—I do not think that it is a matter of any great moment, but I myself should prefer the option of having two councils if I had to organise the arrangement.

8528. You recommend in your second report that, besides the Executive Council at Sierra Leone, there should be a Council General at Sierra Leone on which the other governments should be represented; supposing the Governor General to have nothing more than a simple veto on the ordinances of the sub-governments, what necessity would there be for this Council General?—It would not only be a veto on the ordinances; he would be like the Governor of the Leeward and Windward Islands; he would control the action of the Lieutenant Governors in many cases; questions with the natives that were likely to lead to complications would be referred to him, and the Governor in Chief would be guided by their advice and counsel; it is to assist him to arrive at right conclusions that I would enable him to refer to men of the greatest local experience in the country, no matter what their rank. I have known natives who might give very sound advice who would be quite out of place in passing laws for the country.

8529. Would it not be enough for the Governor General to be able to command the best advice in every case; would he require then to call on those Lieutenant Governors to assemble periodically at Sierra Leone, when it might be for no purpose at all?—I do not contemplate that; in the West India Islands in any emergency they either go to the Governor or he comes to them, as it is most convenient.

8530. *Mr. Chichester Fortescue.*] Would there not be this difficulty in the union of a Legislative and Executive Council in the settlement, that it is often desirable to have non-official members in the Legislative Council who would be quite out of place in the Executive Council, the Executive Council being strictly official?—Yes, that would be an additional reason for having two councils.

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8531. *Chairman.*] Now, turning to the judicial establishment, your report puts an alternative proposition; may I ask you whether you think that the second of those two propositions would be the best, namely, that upon such a concentration of the Government at Sierra Leone the chief justice for the whole West Coast of Africa might make circuits from Sierra Leone, and so the chief justices at the minor stations might be dispensed with?—That would be quite possible; and, in the event of its being found impossible to raise a revenue that would allow the payment of the judges at the small stations, no other course would be open; but, if it were intended to retain those small settlements, I see no reason why they should not be provided with all the means and appliances of government, so far as their revenue will permit.

8532. You are aware that the chief reason for the recommendation of the Committee of 1842 for separating those governments from Sierra Leone, was the delay of justice by the distance of those stations from Sierra Leone; have you quite made up your mind that the improved communications by steam completely remove that objection to the centralisation of the Government?—The improved means of communication, I believe, would entirely remove the objection to the concentration of the Government.

8533. You think it could never occur again that a man could be kept in prison for 12 months waiting for trial?—Not if the judge of Sierra Leone were to visit the Gambia, and the judge of Lagos were to visit the Gold Coast.

8534. The judge could discharge the business of all those courts within a year, by making a circuit, you think?—Without any difficulty, provided that steam communication were supplied for the purpose.

8535. You have carefully considered that part of the subject, and come to that conclusion?—I feel satisfied that there would be no difficulty, all minor cases being adjudicated on the spot.

8536. By magistrates of the rank of the present police magistrates?—Yes; there is practically very little difference in the character of the officers who administer justice; it is the salary which determines his office more than anything else; if you paid him a larger salary he would be dubbed judge.

8537. I used the word "magistrate" as representing what in England we should call a judge of summary jurisdiction; does your proposition involve extending the number of cases which might be summarily dealt with, and diminishing the number of cases that must be taken before a jury?—The law would no doubt require alteration, so as to leave only cases of magnitude for the judge on circuit.

8538. It would, in fact, throw more cases under summary jurisdiction?—It would do so.

8539. *Mr. Chichester Fortescue.*] But under the proposed system, how would you provide for the Judicial Assessor's Court; would you not say that if the Judicial Assessor's Court is to be maintained, it would be always necessary to appoint a gentleman to that office of considerable standing and experience?—Yes, most unquestionably. My answers have regard only to the administration of justice by the judge in the British territories at the Gambia and the Gold Coast.

8540. A gentleman who would make a good

police magistrate might be unfit for the office of judicial assessor?—He might be so; unquestionably the judicial assessor, if retained, must be a man of some considerable ability and standing.

8541. At present the same person is chief justice of the Gold Coast, and judicial assessor. Now, if you propose only one chief justice at Sierra Leone, making circuits, how far would that affect the office of judicial assessor?—It would not be possible to carry out the present arrangement, by which the judicial assessor administers native law, if you do away with the appointment of judicial assessor at the Gold Coast.

8542. Has it ever occurred to you that it would be possible to separate the cases that come before the judicial assessor at the Gold Coast into two classes, and to assign the duty of dealing with the more important class of cases involving our relations with the native chiefs, which may be called political in character, to the Governor instead of the judge?—I think it would be an improvement on the present arrangement if the Governor were to re-occupy the position which Governor Maclean held of being at once the Governor and judicial assessor; the judicial assessor being simply his subordinate dealing with all cases except those of the greatest magnitude.

8543. Is there not something objectionable in summoning a native chief before the court; would you not prefer seeing him dealt with directly by the Governor?—That is very important; it is a very sore point with the native chiefs that the judicial assessor, and especially the acting judicial assessor, summons an important chief from the interior, and so lowers him in the eyes of his people; it is that part of the duty of the judicial assessor which requires the greatest tact and judgment.

8544. Besides, the native chiefs should be dealt with not on principles of law, but on principles of policy?—Unquestionably, if we are to do much good in the country.

8545. *Chairman.*] Passing now to the military establishments, I see you suggest that along with an increase of police the military should be reduced all along the coast?—I have been led to take this view from seeing how very well the Houssas at Lagos fulfil all the duties of the garrison, and I believe that a larger force of police might very advantageously be employed, which would enable the strength of the troops to be reduced.

8546. Do you think that the Houssas might be employed on other stations?—They have expressed their willingness to go to other stations.

8547. You recommend that the police should be generally employed in other localities than those from which they come?—That would be the principle to adopt in organising them.

8548. Would not that entail great expense in lodging them?—No, I think not; if the Houssas were willing to go from Lagos to the Gold Coast they would locate themselves there just as comfortably, and with as little expense to the Government as if the natives of the place were employed. I do not lay that down as necessary, but it would be desirable to follow that principle as far as might be found practicable.

8549. We have had evidence against the possibility of employing Houssas at other stations, but you do not concur in that opinion?—I was not aware that any evidence has been given to that

that effect. I derive my information from the present Lieutenant Governor of Lagos, than whom no man is better qualified to speak on the subject; he did not say that they would go everywhere, but that they would not object to go to other stations.

8550. Do you think that if there were any other local forces like the militia, or anything like a revival of the Gold Coast Artillery, it might be desirable?—I should not recommend anything of that sort, and our experience at the Gambia, Sierra Leone, is not favourable to the reorganisation of that militia.

8551. So that where the Act has expired, or where the thing has not been attempted, you recommend it to be left alone?—I make no proposal that the militia should be re-organised in any of the settlements.

8552. You suggest in round numbers that the 1,600 men who were recently on the West Coast may be reduced ultimately to 1,000?—Yes, eventually.

8553. Can you distribute that proposed reduction so that we may understand how many would be left ultimately in each station?—There are at present 500 at Sierra Leone, 300 at the Gambia, 400 at Cape Coast, and the 200 that were at Lagos are presumed to be on their way home, and 200, I believe, have been already removed; that makes 1,600. When they are reduced to 1,000, I would propose that there should be 400 at Sierra Leone, 300 at the Gambia, and 300 at Gold Coast; when reduced to 800, 300 at Sierra Leone, 200 at the Gambia, and still 300 at the Gold Coast. I think it would be wise to make the reduction at the Gold Coast as gradually as possible, in consequence of the unsettled state of that country; lastly, I would reduce them to 600, leaving 300 at Sierra Leone, 100 at the Gambia, and 200 at the Gold Coast.

8554. How long do you suppose this ultimate reduction would take in bringing about?—If the state of our relations with the natives was not altered, I see no reason why it should not all be done within 12 months' time from now; but if the aspect of affairs were threatening, the reduction should be made more gradually.

8555. You do not contemplate the possibility in any length of time of the sub-governments maintaining order by the police only, and having no troops except at Sierra Leone?—If 600 men are to be retained on the coast, I should certainly prefer that they should be divided as I have suggested in preference to their being all concentrated at Sierra Leone.

8556. One objection to that distribution is, that we have strong evidence against the healthiness of the barracks; supposing that there are about four officers to every company, even the lowest number of regular troops that you propose would leave upwards of 20 European officers on this list most of them badly and unhealthily lodged, would it not?—I do not consider that the barracks are more unhealthy than any other part of the settlement which we inhabit; I do not consider that the barracks are especially unhealthy, and there is good accommodation in all the barracks for the reduced number which I have contemplated.

8557. Some witnesses have suggested that all the regular troops might be concentrated at Sierra Leone and put in healthy barracks, and that the Governor General should have a suffi-

cient number of steam-transports to send them where they were wanted, leaving the Lieutenant Governors to maintain peace in ordinary time by means of police; you say that is impossible?—I am not prepared to say that such a state of things might not be attained eventually, but I do not see my way to it at present.

8558. Does your proposition involve any new building for military purposes?—None whatever; there is accommodation at the three stations for the small force which I contemplate.

8559. Supposing a proposition such as you have sketched were carried out, do you think that the Governor in Chief would require one efficient steamer always stationed at his disposal at Sierra Leone?—To enable him to perform his duties efficiently, he should have the entire command of one steamer.

8560. That would be both to enable him to make occasional circuits to his Lieutenant Governors, and also to make use of the steamer for transport of troops if required.

8561. I understood you to propose that the Gambian occupation might be reduced by the abandonment of McCarthy's Island?—Yes; by the abandonment of McCarthy's Island.

8562. But by no other abandonment?—We do not occupy with a military force any other part except the convalescent station of Cape St. Mary as it is called.

8563. What would be the use, then, of retaining a steamer on the Gambia, if McCarthy's Island were abandoned?—Solely for the protection of commerce, and to preserve peace and order; if the natives saw that we entirely abandoned the river to them, we should probably soon have some very troublesome customers to deal with close to our own settlement; the wars in the river would approach closer to us, and we should be liable to become involved in them.

8564. On the other hand, you have no fear that this steamer plying constantly up and down the river might provoke war, and lead to our own merchants being less careful in keeping the peace?—I do not agree with that view; there may be individuals who may be more ready to take liberties because they know there is a man-of-war at their back, but I think that the mass of our traders are not influenced by such feelings, and that they require and are very grateful for the protection to commerce which a steamer or a man-of-war affords them.

8565. This river service must be very unhealthy, I suppose?—Not in the case of the steamer "Dover"; she is principally officered by the natives. I believe that the steamer would only require one or two white men at most.

8566. Should you propose a similar service on all the rivers?—I propose to retain the "Dover," and in consideration of the reduction of the troops it would be fair that the expense of the "Dover" should be borne by the Imperial Government, which now pays one-half. At Sierra Leone I believe that a second steamer would be required for the use of the local Governor, but I see no reason why they should not support it themselves. At Lagos, where there are now two gunboats for the protection of the lagoon, and which, I presume, would be withdrawn, I propose to furnish from the imperial funds the cost of one steamer, which would be available for the protection of the settlement, and which would also go down

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down to Cape Coast and enable the Governor there to visit the out-stations.

8567. You propose that at the Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Lagos, we should maintain a river service?—Yes, the Gold Coast would be assisted from Lagos; anything beyond that to be supplied by the Colonies themselves out of their own resources.

8568. But do you imply, or do you say, that such a river steamer would be useful in checking the internal slave trade?—Major Blackall told me that if the officer in charge of the steamer had a certain authority from the Admiralty which would enable him to arrest boats passing from one part of the Colony to the other with slaves, a good deal of the internal transport of slaves would be put a stop to; in such a case as occurred in the River Nunez in last November, I think, if the Governor of Sierra Leone had had such a steamer he might have interfered successfully in the absence of any vessel of the squadron.

8569. Your proposal is, that there should be one steamer for each of those three rivers?—I believe that a steamer for the Gambia would be absolutely necessary, and you would also require one exclusively for the use of the Governor in Chief, and a third steamer for Lagos. I think also that Sierra Leone would be very much benefited by having a small steamer for the internal navigation, and if the expense of the Governor in Chief's steamer were provided from imperial funds the Colony would supply the expense of the other vessel.

8570. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Do you think that one small steamer would be sufficient for the purpose of Sierra Leone and the Gambia combined?—I do not. I do not conceive that one small steamer could visit Bulama and Sherboro and go up the Gambia as often as would be required when the troops were brought from McCarthy's Island.

8571. With regard to Lagos, there has been, I believe all along, practically, one and generally more than one steamer at the disposal of the Government?—There have always been two gunboats at Lagos, and it is contemplated that two would be necessary now; one of a lighter draft of water than the one which you have now.

8572. Mr. *Seymour*.] You do not propose four steamers for that coast, do you?—I propose five altogether.

8573. Do you propose those five steamers to be at the disposal of the Governors?—Yes, at the disposal of the Governors.

8574. Is that without the blockading squadron?—I propose that there should be a steamer, as there is now, for the Gambia; she would find plenty of occupation solely at the Gambia, and always has found it; also, I propose a steamer for the Governor in Chief at Sierra Leone, and for no other duty. I propose a steamer to go in and out of the bar at Lagos, and to go down to the Gold Coast to enable the Governor to visit his out-stations. I believe in addition it would be materially to the advantage of the settlement if Lagos and Sierra Leone each supported a small river steamer out of their own funds; vessels of light draft for the purpose for which the other steamers would not be available; small vessels of light draft and very inexpensive.

8575. You propose that the Governors should keep up three steamers for the use of the Colonies,

and that the colonists themselves should support two or three small ones?—I recommend that they should do so.

8576. Sir *Francis Baring*.] Would you propose to withdraw the gunboats?—Yes, to withdraw the gunboats.

8577. Mr. *Seymour*.] How many steamers in addition would there be to what there are now? Two; one for the new service of the Governor in Chief, and one which has long been asked for at Sierra Leone for the internal traffic.

8578. The Governor General's steamers would, you think, enable him sufficiently to visit the dependencies of Sierra Leone, of which he would be Governor?—I contemplate it being necessary to employ a vessel of a lighter draft of water than the one he would make use of for visiting the out-stations.

8579. Mr. *Cheetham*.] Up the rivers at Sierra Leone?—Yes, up the channels there, in fact, all the duties now performed by the vessels of the squadron whenever they come there.

8580. Sir *Francis Baring*.] There was a small steamer at Lagos, was there not?—There were two, one has been temporarily withdrawn, they have hired a small steamer in the interim.

8581. But there was a small steamer separate from the gunboats?—Yes, there were three private steamers at Lagos when I was there, one of which was making a very large profit indeed for her owners by towing across the bar.

8582. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Should you say that under the system suggested by you the squadron would be relieved from all anxiety with regard to the North Western Coast?—I believe so entirely; I believe that such a case as that of the slaver from the Nunez would not have occurred had there been a vessel at Sierra Leone at the entire disposal of the Governor in Chief, and a small river steamer belonging to the Colony; one or the other of them would have been constantly in the neighbourhood.

8583. I suppose that the Governor of Sierra Leone has ample means of information with regard to any slave trading in the neighbourhood of the river?—He receives that information no doubt, but whether he always receives it in time I am not quite sure.

8584. *Chairman*.] You propose that the Governor should be perpetually cruising about in this steamer?—He would be very constantly moving in her or sending her about. The different character of the navigation in the river where a vessel of very light draft of water is required, and in the open sea, makes a greater number of steamers necessary than would otherwise be required.

8585. Passing to the question of general expenditure, you propose to make Sierra Leone self-supporting in its civil establishments?—Yes.

8586. There was some evidence given before this Committee against the wisdom of charging the Governor's salary on the local revenue?—I should much prefer seeing the salary of all the Governors paid from the imperial funds, even though arrangements were made by which the Colony should refund the amount afterwards; but as the principle now prevails extensively of requiring the Colonies to pay the salaries of all the Governors, I see no reason why it should not be extended to Sierra Leone, which can afford it.

8587. That appears to be the only station which

which you think may be made self-supporting?—It is so.

8588. In order to relieve Lagos and the Gambia, you propose paying off the existing debts from the Imperial Treasury?—To give them a fair chance, it is absolutely necessary that they should be started on a system which would give them a fair chance of keeping out of debt in future.

8589. With a view to improve the revenue on the Gold Coast, you suggest that further negotiations should be made with the Dutch Government for the Dutch forts. Now you, having been yourself employed in previous negotiations at the Hague, give us the very best advice with regard to what further steps must be taken, and what are the prospects of success?—Every effort has been made, I am sure, to induce the Dutch Government to agree to the imposition of duties, and also to effect an arrangement by means of exchange of territory which would have allowed us to impose duties on our own sea-board, leaving it open to them to do so or not as they thought proper; but all those efforts are unavailing, and they will take no steps in the matter.

8590. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] We made those two proposals as alternatives?—Yes, as alternatives. On the first two occasions the object was to get them to consent to the imposition of duties; on the third occasion I tried to effect an arrangement for exchange of territory, and it fell through from the natives objecting to being transferred. The only thing that has not been tried is the purchase of the settlement. I have reason to know it has been mooted in the Dutch Chamber that their Government should sell this settlement, which is now entailing an expenditure of 12,000*l.* a year, and giving them no return. I believe it possible that such a proposal might be entertained from our Government, and I do not think that the payment of 20,000*l.* out of the imperial funds would be a bad speculation. I believe the duties would enable it to be paid off by a sinking fund in a very few years, and it would place at the disposal of the local Government a revenue which would enable them to assume a very much better and more important position than they have yet done. We could keep up more magistrates; we could supply surgeons for the benefit of the natives in places away from the large towns, and support schools. I have been told by the leading merchants on the Gold Coast, that if we obtain the assent of the Dutch to the imposition of duties, or if we could get possession of the whole of the coast, they would not object to our imposing any amount of duties, provided they were on spirits, arms, tobacco, and gunpowder, and those duties we could compel the natives to pay without the slightest difficulty; they could only get goods from us, and there would be no difficulty in raising a large revenue.

8591. *Chairman*.] Would not the existing charge on the Imperial Treasury, which last year amounted to 4,583*l.*, pay the whole expense without any revenue, if we choose to reduce the number of forts?—I fear not. I think it must be taken that there is a minimum revenue which will allow the ordinary establishment of the Colony to be kept up. If you pay your governor, your judge, officers for the collection of the customs, and police magistrates, together with

various subordinates, that cannot be done much under 10,000*l.*

8592. In using the word Colony, is it not clear that you are contemplating something more than the occupation of three or four forts?—I am contemplating the administration of justice as we now administer it through the Protectorate.

8593. Mr. *Forster*.] Would there not be danger in the imposition of the duties which you say might be raised from our buying out the Dutch, that such imposition would lead to our being more involved in the sovereignty of the Protectorate?—None whatever. The natives admit our right to the sea-board. We should deal solely with that. After the merchandise left the sea-board it would be free.

8594. That would not, you think, make us more responsible than we are now for the government of the Protectorate?—I cannot see that it would in any way increase our responsibility.

8595. *Chairman*.] How many Dutch forts are there to purchase?—I cannot say exactly; they are shown on the map.

8596. Should you propose, in the event of our purchasing them that we should maintain them all?—I should not. It would probably be advisable to put policemen in the large buildings at St. George d'Elmina, if it were not thought advisable to transfer our government there. There are very fine forts and buildings there nine miles off. I am not certain it might not be politically a very good step to move from Cape Coast to that spot, and leave Cape Coast to appreciate its own value better.

8597. Supposing that we had got rid of the Dutch, and were the sole possessors from Assinee to the Volta, how many forts would it be necessary to maintain?—By "maintain," I mean, to occupy those places with a few policemen and a magistrate for the administration of justice and subordinate officers for the collection of duties. I think that probably one at Axim, one at Dix Cove, one at Chamah, one at St. George's, one at the Gold Coast, one at Acora, and one at Quittah would be sufficient; that makes three Dutch and four English forts, as at present.

8598. You would maintain seven forts altogether, as you have said?—Yes; the expense of keeping them in repair would be a mere nothing. The forts themselves only require a coat of white-wash, nor should I care to call them forts; they would be places for the collection of the revenue and the administration of justice.

8599. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] You think that under those circumstances the Gold Coast would be self-supporting?—Entirely.

8600. *Chairman*.] Not reckoning any military or naval expenses, or the chance of an Ashantee war?—Not reckoning that there would be any military expenses whatever beyond two companies of black troops; no naval expenses are ever incurred now. The chances of an Ashantee invasion I do not think would in the slightest degree affect it.

8601. But, in the case of an Ashantee invasion, the self-support of the Gold Coast might mean a charge of half-a-million of money on the Treasury in one year, might it not?—I think not. I do not contemplate that the Ashantees will ever invade the protected territory, with a view of coming down to the sea-coast, so long as we remain there occupying a few points on that coast; if we withdraw, I believe they would at once attack

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attack the whole of the protected territory. When the King of Ashantee may have a cause of quarrel with us we shall be liable, as we were before, to an incursion of some of his savages across the border, who will plunder some of the protected tribes in the neighbourhood, and carry some of the people into captivity. That state of things we must accept. The natives who may be molested would be very readily satisfied with a very small contribution to enable them to buy seed and put their houses in order, and if we continue to give them distinctly to understand that they must fight for themselves, and that moral support, and arms, and ammunition, are all they will get from us, I think they will be perfectly satisfied and that we should have no more to fear from the Ashantees, under those circumstances, than we should have, if we made up our minds, that on the first Ashantees crossing the frontier, we would march 10,000 men against them.

8602. In your proposition for maintaining to that degree seven forts on the Gold Coast, would the existing condition of those forts entail the same amount of repair in each case, and in the case of Quittah, an entire rebuilding?—I would not re-occupy Quittah. I would put up buildings on some spot in the neighbourhood for the collection of the revenue. Where magistrates could be most usefully employed, I would put up the necessary buildings. The forts are, in most instances, nothing but a high stone wall surrounding some stone buildings.

8603. Most of them are now in ruins, and they are liable to be put in ruins by earthquakes; is not that so?—Not until the other day, and that earthquake restricted itself entirely to Accra.

8604. Mr. Forster.] Are the forts in ruins?—The Dutch forts and buildings are in good order; the English forts at Accra are completely in ruins. At Quittah the buildings are very much shattered, and the evidence of the engineer was correct that it would take 1,000 *l.* to put it in an efficient state of defence, which, however, will not be necessary.

8605. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue.*] Cape Coast Castle is not in ruins, is it?—It is in perfect order. It never was in such order as it is now.

8606. *Chairman.*] Is the maintenance of those seven forts necessary only for the present while the slave trade lasts, or do you look to their perpetual maintenance by the English, even after the slave trade has ceased, merely for the protection of commerce?—So long as it is considered desirable to maintain our present position on that coast, it will be necessary that we should occupy points, not necessarily forts, along the coast, for the collection of the revenue and the protection of trade. I imagine that seven would probably be ample.

8607. In fact, you recommend that the English should maintain not less than seven forts on the Gold Coast for the purpose of revenue?—So long as we remain on the Gold Coast that is the way I recommend it should be done.

8608. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue.*] You have not been speaking of fortification, even against a native power, much less against a foreign one, but of the necessary residences for a few Government officials?—That is all I contemplate. I restrict myself to the term "posts."

8609. Which cannot imply more than a trifling expense?—It can only be a little whitewash, keeping the buildings in order, or a little pointing

to the walls. The Dutch do very little to them, and yet they keep their forts in order.

8610. Mr. Forster.] I suppose you have read the evidence that has been given before this Committee?—I have.

8611. You will observe that it came out very clearly in evidence, that there is actual slavery in the British Colony of Lagos?—It is so.

8612. How would you recommend that that should be dealt with?—In the way which I have suggested in an early answer to a question; by legalising our dealing with the natives with their own consent in their own territory. If that were done I conceive that we might withdraw from the territorial rights which we possess at Lagos without any injury; slavery would then exist in territory which would not be a British one, and we should be able to mitigate its evils.

8613. You would turn Lagos into a station surrounded by a Protectorate in the same way as the Gold Coast is surrounded by a Protectorate?—I would make the Island of Lagos a Protectorate; it may also be necessary to include, as shown on the map accompanying my report, a portion of the territory between the sea and the lagoon, but I believe that is the extent to which we need go, and it is so sparsely inhabited that I do not think any complication would ensue; our great difficulty would be from Lagos Proper.

8614. But when you say that you would restore everything outside the station to the natives, would not that be a mere restoration on the map; would it not practically be completely a British Colony?—It would be as completely a British Colony as the Protectorate is a British Colony.

8615. Would it not be a good deal more so, from the fact that we have already exercised the sovereignty over it, and should we not in reality keep the sovereignty in our own hands?—Not to a greater extent than we do in the Gold Coast, in the immediate vicinity of the forts; we exercise no territorial rights at Cape Coast, or should not do it; we do not claim to do so now, and I would propose that we should not do it at Lagos.

8616. Whom would you put up as chief?—I would leave Docemo there, and let him be nominally king, as he is now. I would administer the law according to the native law, modified so as to be as little injurious as possible to the people.

8617. You would take steps to tell the people that they were no longer British subjects?—I would take no such step.

8618. If you did not so inform them, would not they remain British subjects?—If you sent out a proclamation that they were not so, you would be relieved from responsibility.

8619. They are aware that they are British subjects, are they not?—No; they are only aware that they have exchanged a black master for the white man.

8620. They are aware that they are completely under our power?—Yes.

8621. Supposing that we were not to take that step, what disadvantage would follow from a proclamation that slavery no longer existed in the Island of Lagos?—The great difficulty would not, I think, be so much with Lagos as with the neighbourhood of Lagos; it would be at once a refuge for all the runaway slaves; it is possible that you would have to keep troops there for a time, and a couple of gunboats; and if you chose to incur this expense, you might declare the people on the island

island free, and emancipate them from the authority of their masters; but the danger would not be so much from the masters themselves as from one being brought into collision with the Egbas, the Dahomians, and the Ibadans, about their runaway slaves.

8622. At present, we are exposed to that to some extent, are we not?—Yes; but no great evil results from it, for the Lieutenant Governor, Glover, appears to be acting very judiciously.

8623. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Do you think that the difficulty would be much increased by such a proclamation?—It would be running a great risk.

8624. Mr. *Forster*.] But the slaves who come to Lagos are never restored, are they?—I am not prepared to say whether a man might not take his wife back.

8625. But in no other case?—In no other case, certainly.

8626. Then, in what respect would there be more danger of collision after such a proclamation than there is now?—Because at present the people in the interior do not know that the Lagos people are actually free. If it became known throughout the country that we had freed all the slaves, it would create a very bad feeling against us on the part of the proprietors of slaves in the interior, and it would induce the slaves to come down in much greater numbers than they now do.

8627. There are no pawns at Lagos, are there?—I believe not; I never heard of any.

8628. You are not prepared, are you, to recommend any exact area of land which ought to be declared British territory around the forts at the Gold Coast, and around this station at Lagos if this suggestion was carried out?—With regard to the Gold Coast, I would declare nothing British territory but the land on which the forts or buildings which were occupied by our civil officers were situated; and at Lagos I would, in the event of such a relation as I contemplate with the natives being legalised, recommend that our territory should also be restricted to the very small block of land on which the Government buildings are situated.

8629. We have had evidence that there was some disadvantage there from the uncertainty; one or two witnesses seemed to suppose that it was British land within a gun shot, do you not think that there is a disadvantage in the actual British territory not being defined?—It is thought by some a disadvantage in the present state of our relations with those people at the Gold Coast, but I think it is somewhat advantageous that our exact position cannot be too closely defined; they are perfectly satisfied to accept the fiction that we rule, and if it were defined more closely, it would only tend to their being led away by mischievous advisers who would make them aware of what they were told would be their rights; and would involve us in difficulties; the present state of things is better than anything that could be laid down on paper defining our position.

8630. You would recommend that we should certainly confine the British territory at Lagos to the Island of Lagos?—I do not see how it is possible to restrict it, even to the Island of Lagos, whilst it is acknowledged that there are 40,000 or 50,000 slaves there.

8631. Am I to understand you to recommend that, at all events, we should cease to consider as

British territory anything except the Island of Lagos?—That was my original view; but I should prefer that our relations with the natives being legalised in the way I have suggested, we should hold no British territory except the ground on which the Government buildings stood.

8632. Would you give up Badagry, Palma, and Leckie?—Yes, except the custom-houses; a small plot of land inclosed with a fence.

8633. Lord *Alfred Chancell*.] What is that part colored yellow on the map?—That is land to which we possess certain rights, it having been ceded to us by the former proprietors; it is not clearly defined, I believe, according to the native custom; if we choose to take it all to-morrow, it would be ours.

8634. Mr. *Forster*.] We have had certain evidence about the working of the Bankruptcy Court in the Protectorate at the Gold Coast; is it your opinion, from having been there, and also from your judgment of the evidence, that these courts ought to be continued, or ought not?—I believe that they ought to be continued; and at the same time I believe that the mode of procedure might be improved.

8635. Would you improve the mode of procedure in those courts, by making them more like courts of equity, than attempt to carry out the forms of the British law?—I should much prefer the forms of equity in all our own courts on the Gold Coast. I think that the attempt made to introduce more of the practice of the English law in the administration of justice than formerly, is not wise in civil cases.

8636. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Do you suppose that the natives of Lagos are learning more and more every day, by practical experience, that our Government will enable the slave (if we must call him so) to leave his master if he pleases, or to protect himself against illusage or compulsion, on the part of the master, if he pleases?—I am hardly prepared to say they are learning that day by day, because I know that there is an indisposition on the part of the authorities to bring too prominently before the public the position which people occupy there, in the uncertainty which prevails about what would be done about Lagos. That they are acquiring the knowledge among themselves cannot be doubted, but the authorities are doing nothing to spread it.

8637. But do you not think that our authorities may, at all events, in future, secure a slave, on complaint, against any compulsion on the part of the master, and enable that servant, or labourer, if he pleases, to quit one master, and transfer himself to another?—Most unquestionably; that never has been, and never will be, denied to them.

8638. Supposing our authorities to carry that into effect without shrinking, will it be possible to say that those men are slaves not being subject to compulsory labour?—It must take a very long time before the whole of the 40,000 or 50,000 people became gradually aware of their position and become *de facto* as they are *de jure* free men.

8639. But those people are all living together within a small space, and so to speak, next door to one another, are they not?—Yes, but they are in a state of great ignorance about what passes among Europeans.

8640. But supposing that they learn, by practical

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tical experience, that every servant and every labourer on the Island of Lagos, is enabled by our authorities, if he pleases, to transfer himself from one master to another, or if he pleases to serve no master, and to protect himself against any compulsion on the part of the master, do you think it is possible to say that slavery exists or will exist in Lagos?—No. When that time arrives it will not be.

8641. Mr. Gregory.] I suppose you heard Captain Burton's evidence with regard to the condition of the slaves in the Oil Rivers?—I read it.

8642. Are there any instances of slaves being treated with such severity at Lagos?—I never heard of anything like it in any of the settlements.

8643. Would you propose, in case your recommendations were carried out, that any change should take place at all in the condition of the inhabitants in the territory marked yellow?—No immediate change whatever, but possessing the power to deal with the people in that territory we should take every opening that offered itself of mitigating the condition of slaves, and gradually preparing them for emancipation.

8644. You consider that we have a perfect right of interfering in any barbarous practice in this territory?—Unquestionably so, according to the native views, it having been ceded to us.

8645. Would you consider yourself justified in interfering in any of the adjacent towns, such as Ikorodu or Ijaye, in case of any barbarous practice, such as human sacrifice?—According to the native law, if we exercise no authority there we should have no right to interfere with Ikorodu or any other town.

8646. But, practically, would the Governor interfere?—I should think not; he would have quite enough to do.

8647. Mr. Chichester Fortescue.] The Governor would not interfere except by moral influence?—Just so; he would do it by moral influence, but not directly, any more than in Abbeokuta.

8648. Mr. Förster.] I understand your suggestion to be this: that in this part coloured yellow, and in that red territory outside the port of Lagos, you would let the natives know that it was no longer actually British territory, but that you were prepared to carry on for them the administration of justice and the raising of the revenue?—The administration of justice, so far as it could be done in accordance with native customs, and provided always that due sanction was given by Imperial legislation to go on so dealing with them. I look upon this as very important.

8649. Mr. Gregory.] We have heard from all the witnesses that very grand changes are made with regard to the jury system; would you propose any change in that system?—There is a measure now before the Legislature at Sierra Leone which would, it is supposed, work an improvement in the present state of affairs; it contemplates empowering the judge to require security for costs in cases where a trial is brought in a civil action which appears unjustifiable. I speak merely from memory; but such a measure has met with the approval of the people, and I believe it will go a long way to remove the inducements for bringing those actions.

8650. You do not think that the bad working of the jury system is of such a magnitude as to necessitate doing away with that, leaving the

judge to decide the question of fact as well as law?—No. I have had an opportunity of discussing the question on the spot, and I could not find that there was any scheme there for modifying the jury law so as to meet the difficulty; the impression seemed to me to be, that it may be met in the way in which I have mentioned.

8651. Mr. Seymour.] Would you apply to Lagos the same system of judicial administration as that which exists at present on the Gold Coast?—Exactly, provided it were recognised from home.

8652. That is based on the despatches of Lord Russell and Lord Derby from the year 1842 to 1847?—It is earlier than that, I think; but I believe that the nature of the jurisdiction was then first put on record, though it had practically existed in the time of Mr. Maclean.

8653. Then you would give up the island of Lagos to King Docemo, except the ground on which the Government buildings stood?—No, I would not give up the land at all.

8654. Then what would be the position of King Docemo?—He would remain the dummy that he is now.

8655. But what would be the government over those 50,000 people within the settlement?—Just the same government that we endeavour to administer now, only it would be modifying the law according to the native custom where it could be done.

8656. Would you keep the customs duties in your own hands?—Yes, I would retain the seaboard as British territory.

8657. Would you retain the magistracy in your own hands?—Yes; not administering strictly British law, but modified native law.

8658. Would you keep the police under the British Government?—Yes, I would keep the whole establishment for raising the revenue, and for administering justice furnishing medical aid, schools, &c.

8659. Then, practically, you would exercise all the powers of a Government?—Yes, exactly, as we do now in parts of the Gold Coast adjacent to the forts.

8660. Then how would you exercise the municipal power, because there would be a considerable number of Europeans, and it would be necessary to have streets, and so on; where would you vest that authority?—Entirely in the Governor and the Council, as it is vested now.

8661. Then what would be the position of King Docemo?—A nonentity, as he is now.

8662. Then it seems to me that you would not give up any portion of Lagos?—Practically, I would not. My proposal has for its object only to relieve the local Government from the difficulty of dealing with slavery.

8663. And would you carry out that proposition at Badagry, Palma, and Leckie?—I would do so.

8664. Sir Francis Baring.] By what right would you hang a Portuguese?—By virtue of the power which would be given by the Imperial Parliament.

8665. But how could the Imperial Parliament exercise power over foreigners out of their own country?—By authorising our dealing with the inhabitants of the foreign country; we have got their sanction and assent to our so doing according to the British law, or the native law, as the case may be.

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8666. Mr. *Seymour*.] Then you would make the British Government, so far as the administration of justice is concerned, the agent of King Docemo?—No, I would not recognise King Docemo in any way, further than as a man who has ceded every right and title, except the name of king, in return for the stipend which he receives.

8667. But as the settlement now is British territory, your first step is to issue a proclamation to say that it is no longer British territory?—Divesting ourselves of territorial rights.

8668. You must vest those rights in somebody?—I would leave them in the hands of the people who possess them now.

8669. Although you would divest yourself of those territorial rights, you would still propose to exercise the power of Government?—I would.

8670. Supposing a question such as has just been put to you to arise about the hanging of a Portuguese, in what way would you justify hanging him?—Because he had offended against the native laws, and because I had the sanction of the natives for the administration of justice in their country.

8671. But how could you do it unless you were acting as the agent of the authority which possessed the country?—I should be the agent of that authority in one sense, but I should in fact have divested myself only of so much authority as was inconvenient.

8672. But you must have some special agreement in writing with King Docemo, recognising him as the king of the country, who gave you those rights, must you not?—We have no difficulty in hanging a man for murder on the Gold Coast though we have no document at all there.

8673. Have you ever hanged a European on the Gold Coast?—No, but you might hang a European under the Foreign Jurisdiction Act.

8674. The territory is not your own?—You employ the natives to do it; the fiction is that you do it with the consent of the ruling power.

8675. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] It is a fact that that is done, and the fact is proved by the experience of the last 40 years?—Unquestionably.

8676. Lord *Alfred Churchill*.] Would you be in favour of establishing a sanatorium on the Aquapem Mountains?—The expense of making a road there would be too heavy, I think.

8677. But, on principle, you would not object to it?—I think it would be very desirable indeed; the Aquapem Mountains are the only healthy places in the neighbourhood of the Gold Coast.

8678. Do you not think it would tend very much to facilitate the possibility of Europeans residing on the coast if they could make occasional visits to such a sanatorium?—I have never been there myself, but from what I am told, I think it must be very healthy, and I should think that invalids might in many instances be restored to health by going there.

8679. Mr. *Seymour*.] If we retain these settlements on the West Coast of Africa, do you think that a sanatorium would become absolutely necessary to us?—I am afraid that our necessities must be measured by our means; if we had got rid of the Dutch, and could raise a revenue, and had the means, we might have such a sanatorium.

8680. But you would think it is highly desirable in the long run in an economical point of view?—No doubt it is desirable.

8681. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] But you would probably rather see an invalided European go home or go to Teneriffe than to a place like Fernando Po, or the Camaroons?—Yes, certainly; it is only in consequence of my learning that that there is a very healthy spot in the immediate neighbourhood of the coast that I think such a sanatorium at all desirable.

8682. Mr. *Seymour*.] You are aware that the system of having sanatoriums has been carried out in India with the best results?—Yes.

8683. Would you consider it impossible to have roads, particularly at the Gold Coast?—I do not mean to say that I think it would be impossible to have roads; on the contrary, the more roads we have the better it is for the country. I was simply referring to the expense which the making of proper roads would entail; the roads made by the natives are only clearing the brush; they walk in single file, and the road is grown up in six months again; even if you make a broad road it is equally grown up again; but if we could arrange to make really good roads, as the Basle missionaries have done to a small extent in the neighbourhood of Acera, it would be an enormous advantage. Cattle can live at Cape Coast, and mules might possibly be introduced; at present there is only one obstacle to road making, and that is the great expense.

8684. Do you not think it would be desirable to have those paths kept clear of the large trees which often fall across them?—Very desirable; and if the local government possessed the influence which I hope it may possess again, if we stay there, I believe there will be no difficulty in getting the chiefs to do it.

8685. Without expense to us?—Yes, it may be done with a few little presents; for instance the present of a little rum to a chief.

8686. Mr. *Cheatham*.] You propose a reduction of the military force on the coast?—Yes.

8687. And an increase of the police force?—Yes.

8688. But you make no provision for the increase of expenditure, which the increase of the police force would occasion?—I propose to throw that entirely on the colonies. At Sierra Leone and Lagos they are in a position to bear the expense. At Sierra Leone, the reduction of the troops to three companies ought not to entail any considerable increase of the police force, but even if it did, she is in a condition to bear it. If we remain on the coast, I look forward to a close scrutiny of all the establishments, and to their being placed on a proper and economical footing, in which case, by making alterations in the administration of justice, and in other ways, I believe money would be left which would be available for the purpose of an increased police force.

8689. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] But you do not intend to convey to the Committee, that you think it would be possible at present to maintain our settlements on that coast as they exist, without a small Imperial expenditure?—No, I have put down the very smallest sum which I think would keep them up. I should like to see that sum increased in the case of the Gambia and the Gold Coast, unless arrangements could be made for getting rid of the Dutch; those are the only two colonies whose financial affairs present any difficulty.

8690. Sir *Francois Baring*.] Did I understand you

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you to say that you felt any objection to the introduction of the jury system in criminal cases?

—No, I am not aware that I stated that I had any objection to the working of the jury system. I see in fact no such objection.

8691. Do you think it could be introduced at Lagos?—I should be very sorry to see it introduced in the present state of feeling at Lagos.

8692. Not in criminal cases even?—No.

8693. Mr. *Cheetham*.] But from your inquiries at Sierra Leone, you would be of opinion that they are in favour of it?—Yes, provided some safeguard can be introduced.

8694. You would not recommend the abolition of the jury system at Sierra Leone?—Certainly not.

8695. Mr. *Chichester Fortescue*.] Are there not two public opinions at Sierra Leone; a white

and a black?—I think not; the general opinion is strongly in favour of some check to the present mode of administering justice.

8696. Would you be inclined to say, looking at our past Imperial expenditure on the West Coast of Africa, that it would have been better if that expenditure had been devoted less to military, and more to civil purposes?—Yes; far better for the settlements.

8697. You think that they would have been in a far more efficient state?—Yes.

8698. The military expenditure having been in your opinion excessive, and the civil expenditure most scanty?—I think it would have been far better if a reduction had been made in the military expenditure, and a small increase had been made in the civil expenditure; I think it would have afforded very great benefits.

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A P P E N D I X.

Appendix, No. 1.

LETTER of INSTRUCTIONS with the REPORT of Colonel Ord, as to the Condition of the British Settlements on the West Coast of Africa.

App. No. 1.

COPY of the INSTRUCTIONS addressed by the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., to Colonel Ord, R.E., Commissioner of Inquiry on the West Coast of Africa.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 October 1864.

You are aware that you have been selected to visit the four Colonies on the West Coast of Africa, in order to obtain information for Her Majesty's Government how far the objects which the country has in view in maintaining those settlements are now satisfactorily attained, and how far they may be more completely attained by any improved arrangements.

I will briefly indicate to you some of the more important points to which your attention should be directed, with a view to guide you in the general scope and purpose of your inquiry, but not with a view of limiting its extent.

These possessions, it need scarcely be said, have not been contemplated as places of European settlement in the ordinary meaning of that term. The climate absolutely prohibits any such idea. What has been intended has been to encourage, by the occupation of detached posts, the legitimate commerce of British merchants, not only for its own sake, but with the object of providing for the more effectual suppression of the slave trade and other inhuman practices unhappily too common among the native tribes.

In pursuing your inquiry you will examine the present state of the public establishments in the several Colonies, and ascertain how far they efficiently discharge the duties for which they are designed; and you will consider whether any alteration or retrenchment can be judiciously introduced without impairing their efficiency. You will investigate the financial condition of these settlements, and their systems of taxation. You will review the revenue and expenditure of each, and will report how far it seems possible to establish such a proportion between them as may afford a reasonable prospect that the settlement can be made self-supporting.

You will find that these settlements, established for a common object, are yet without any sufficient means of intercourse; and you are aware that the want of steam communication has been repeatedly brought under the notice of this department by the several Governors. You will consider whether the establishment of this mode of communication might not be a measure promoting at once efficiency and economy; efficiency by creating a greater community of purpose and of action than is at present possible, and economy as tending to diminish the necessity for large separate establishments, whether military or civil. You will not hold yourself precluded from entering into the question whether the creation of such an increased facility of intercourse might not render useful some consolidation of the Governments.

Your inquiry is not of a military or of a naval character, but it necessarily implies that you should consider, as the foundation of some of your conclusions, matters military or naval.

In regard to these you will receive from the commanding officers of the troops at the several stations, and from the commodore and other naval officers acting under instructions, which will be given to them for the purpose from the proper departments, all the information and assistance which you may find that you require.

You will turn your attention to the moral influence which our occupation exercises on the neighbouring tribes. Our relations with them will form one of the most important subjects of your report. The taxation of natives, the exercise over them of British protection, the practice of entering into negotiations and engagements with them are topics which will demand your careful consideration.

Your previous missions to the coast of Africa have given you much acquaintance already with the circumstances of these Colonies, and you are familiar with the various Parliamentary Papers connected with this subject from the date of the instructions issued by Lord Russell to Dr. Madden in 1840 down to the present time.

I should wish you to return to England, so as to report the result of your visit before the usual time of the meeting of Parliament. I rely upon your making the best and most

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judicious use of the time which is thus afforded you. It may very well happen that you may find it too short for a detailed examination of some of the many questions which may come under your consideration. In that case you will devote your principal attention to those which are the most important; and, with regard to the others, will be prepared to indicate to Her Majesty's Government the sources from which further information, if judged necessary, can be most advantageously obtained.

I have, &c.
(signed) Edward Cardwell.

REPORT of the COMMISSIONER appointed to Inquire into the Condition of the BRITISH SETTLEMENTS on the WEST COAST of AFRICA.

Sir,

London, 9 March 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in pursuance of your instructions, I have visited the British settlements on the west coast of Africa, and have made the best and most diligent inquiry in my power into the various subjects to which you directed my attention.

I propose in the following pages first, to lay before you the information which I have collected on the origin, extent, trade, finance, and other principal circumstances of each of these Colonies, and afterwards to submit such general conclusions as I have been able to form on their usefulness, and on the question of any improvements which can be effected in their management.

It may be well to premise that the four settlements on the West Coast vary from each other in so many important particulars, that no statement or information, nor even the possession of local knowledge, respecting one of them will enable correct conclusions to be drawn as to the condition of any other.

For example, the character of the natives in the neighbourhood of the Gambia and the northern settlements is altogether different from that of the tribes in, and adjacent to, the Gold Coast and Lagos; and there is consequently a corresponding difference in our relations and mode of dealing with each of them respectively.

In respect to trade, the four settlements vary still more; the commerce of each, and the mode in which it is conducted, being entirely dissimilar to that of the others.

Again, in some quarters slavery prevails more extensively than in others; and where this is the case, the difficulties of the local government are largely increased, and the danger of collision with the natives becomes much greater than in settlements where, from our longer occupation, or from other causes, the institution has not so strong a hold amongst the people.

Many other points of difference might be instanced, but probably enough have been adduced to show that every question that may arise respecting one of the settlements must be considered with reference to the particular circumstances of that Colony alone, and not to that of the settlements generally.

THE GAMBIA.

THE British possessions forming the settlement of the Gambia consist of the island of St. Mary, on the left bank and at the mouth of the river, obtained by purchase, and first occupied by settlers in 1806; on this is situated the town of Bathurst. The island of McCarthys, about 150 miles up the river, was also purchased about the year 1820. In 1826 a strip of land on the right bank of the river, opposite to St. Mary's Island, and one mile in width, was ceded by the King of Barra; and in the year 1840 a small and elevated spot, about seven miles to the south of Bathurst, called Cape St. Mary, was obtained by purchase from the King of Combo. Lastly, in 1855, a considerable tract of country adjoining Cape St. Mary, was ceded by the king and chiefs of Combo, and is known as British Combo.

The settlement was at first placed under the jurisdiction of Sierra Leone, but in 1843 it was created an independent Colony with a Governor and Executive, and Legislative Councils, for the administration of its affairs, an arrangement which is still in force.

There is no protected territory, nor has the Government any particular influence over or intimate relations with any tribe or country.

Ground-nuts, hides, and wax form the principal articles of export from the Colony (Return No. 1, Appendix), but six-sevenths of the whole export consist of ground-nuts. These are cultivated not only by the people of the settlement, but also by the natives from the interior, Serawoolies, Tilliebunkas, and other nomade tribes who occupy or hire from the owners land on the banks of the creeks and rivers, and in some instances to a distance of 40 miles inland, and, with the assistance of their domestic slaves, plant the nut about the end of June and reap it at Christmas. It is calculated that one man can work an acre of land which should produce about 300 bushels, worth about 30*l*.

The trade is comparatively of recent origin, having only commenced in 1845, in which year the value of the export was but 199*l*.; in 1858, it had reached 188,000*l*.; of late years, owing principally to the war amongst the native tribes, it has somewhat fallen off, and in 1864, the value of the crop was only 78,000*l*. The greater part of these nuts, probably three-fourths, are exported to France, where they are converted into an oil which is sold as olive oil, and is largely used for domestic purposes.

The

Preliminary remarks.

Extent of the settlement.

Settlement at first under Sierra Leone, now an independent Government. No protected territory. Exports.

Ground-nut trade.

The recent falling off in the ground-nut crop has led the merchants to direct their attention to cotton, and steps are being taken to induce the natives to adopt its cultivation, fifteen tons and a-half having been exported in 1864. Attention is being directed to cotton.

The policy of this measure appears doubtful: there is no diminution in the demand for ground-nuts, nor any reason to suppose that they will cease to be in request, so long as oil continues so extensively an article of continental consumption; it is difficult to prevail on the natives to change their habits or customs, and even, if successful in the present instance, it must be a long time before the cotton crop can rival in value even the ground-nut crop of the past year. It is also to be feared, that the cultivation of cotton requiring attention during a considerable portion of the year, and being necessarily carried on in the same spot will be unsuited to the habits of the wandering tribes engaged in growing the ground-nut, a cultivation which only requires their absence from home during four months of the year, and which they can carry on wherever they please on paying a per-centage for the use of the land. Cotton cultivation.

Moreover, a cotton plantation is liable to destruction at any time when war may break out in its neighbourhood, whilst ground-nuts are exposed to this very common danger during only one-third of the year.

If, however, prices do not soon fall to their original level, there is no doubt but that cotton will be cultivated successfully at the Gambia, though it is to be hoped not to the exclusion of the ground-nut.

The export of hides has not varied much in the 10 years previous to 1864, and the value of wax exported remains much what it has been of late years. Variation in exports.

The principal articles of import are (Return No. 2, Appendix) cotton goods, rice, and tobacco; a large proportion of the population being Mahomedan, the consumption of spirits is not as great as in the other settlements. In cotton goods, there is but little variation during the last 10 years, and the same may be said of tobacco. Rice, owing to the famine caused by the recent wars amongst the natives, has become a large article of consumption, and as it can be procured at a reasonable rate it will very likely continue to form a considerable portion of the food of the people, who will devote more land to the cultivation of produce and less to that of corn, &c. Imports.

In the Appendix is given a Return (No. 3) of the imports and exports for the last 11 years. The imports of 1863 were the highest ever known, and next in amount to them come those of 1864: it is alleged in the Colony, that this does not arise from the importation of a larger quantity of goods in these two years, but from the circumstance that in 1863 there came into operation a law by which all import duties, except upon wine, spirits, and tobacco, were abolished, and an export duty on ground-nuts substituted in lieu thereof. The result of this law has been to remove all motive on the part of the importer for concealing the value of his goods, and the returns made since then represent the true value of the imports of the Colony. It is impossible to ascertain how far this statement is correct, but no other explanation of the fact was offered by any one. Import duties abolished in 1863, except on wine, &c., and export duty on ground-nuts substituted.

The exports for the last 11 years show considerable variation, and in each of the last six years are below the average of the whole period. This is unquestionably due to the wars and disturbances which have prevailed among the natives during this time, and until peace is re-established, and confidence in its continuance restored, any improvement can hardly be looked for. Exports for last 11 years below the average.

The capabilities of the country to produce oil nuts and seeds, are limited only by the extent of the population, of whom only a fraction at present employ themselves in cultivation; but a growing disposition to avail themselves of the advantages which it offers is being manifested by the natives, even at a considerable distance from the settlement, and it may be hoped that this feeling will not be without its effect in checking those local disturbances which have of late proved so injurious to the prosperity of the Colony.

The revenue of the Colony up to the year 1863 (Return No. 4, Appendix) was derived from an *ad valorem* duty of four per cent. on imports, with certain heavier specific rates on tobacco, spirits, &c., but (as has been already stated) in 1863 there was substituted for this an export duty of three farthings a bushel on ground-nuts and 2*d.* on hides. Revenue

The grounds on which this alteration has been effected are said to be, that the ground-nuts being chiefly exported to France, and a prohibitory duty preventing their being carried in any but French vessels, the trade has, to a great extent, fallen into the hands of French merchants, who introduced a system of purchasing their nuts with specie, and thus evaded contributing anything to the revenue either on their import or export trade: as the trade conducted by British merchants was carried on by bartering for the nuts goods from England on which an import duty had been paid, they were evidently placed under a disadvantage as compared with the French trader. One result is said to have been (as has been already observed) that the return of the value of the imports was much below their actual worth, and this seems to have been an additional motive with the Legislature for substituting an export duty on the two chief articles of export, and thus compelling the whole trade of the country to share the burden. At the same time, it is not clear why, in the face of the fact that the cultivation of the ground-nut has lately diminished to such an extent as to induce the merchants to turn their attention to cotton, they should have concurred (as they did) in a plan which makes their revenue almost entirely dependent upon this nut. Although the results of the change have been so far favourable that the revenue of 1863 and 1864 was in excess of that of the former six years, it has been too short a time in operation to allow an opinion to be formed of the prospect which it affords for the future. Reasons for alteration of duty.

App. No. 1.

The Return No. 4 (Appendix,) shows the principal sources from which the public revenue has been derived in each of the last five years: it will be seen that the Customs contribute the greater part of the whole amount, the Parliamentary grant, which is usually about 4,000 *l.* a year, being divided between the maintenance of the steamer "Dover," and the payment of certain salaries, the balance being made up of small sums derived from fines, &c. There can be no doubt but that at the Gambia, as in all the other West Coast settlements, the revenue can only be safely and conveniently raised from duties levied on its trade, and it will be well to watch carefully the operation of the present system, and be prepared to modify it, should the necessity at any time present itself.

The expenditure of the settlement for each of the last 11 years is given in gross in Return No. 4. (Appendix) and in detail in No. 6. The civil establishments form the principal charge on the funds of the Colony: public works, the colonial hospital, transport, and other expenses consequent on the recent disturbances, both in the neighbourhood of the settlements and on other parts of the coast where the Colony has been called upon to contribute aid, with the usual demands for police, gaols, aborigines, &c., make up the annual expenditure which unfortunately the year's revenue is rarely able to meet; the result is, as shown in the Return No. 7 (Appendix), that on the 1st January in the present year the colony had incurred liabilities beyond its power to defray, to the amount of 5,630 *l.*

There is no chance that this state of things will be remedied until the Colony learns to appreciate the necessity of regulating its expenditure by its power of raising revenue, nor need this be a very difficult task. The revenue derived from customs in 1862 was 8,314*l.* raised by a duty on declared imports to the value of 99,825 *l.*: in the following year an export duty having been substituted for the import duty, the revenue raised was 10,125*l.*; but had the import duty been continued, and those precautions taken to protect the Colony against fraud which it should be in the power of every Government to adopt, the duty at the previous import rates which would have been payable on imports to the value of 175,956 *l.* would have been 14,654*l.*, giving a clear gain of revenue of upwards of 4,500 *l.* in that one year, which would have gone some considerable way towards paying off the liabilities of the Colony. On the other hand, it must be admitted that the present mode of raising the revenue has much to recommend it on the score of fairness, and that it has as yet been attended with some success.

British law is administered in the Colony through the agency of a supreme council, which sits periodically at Bathurst, and is presided over by the chief justice; of a court of requests; and a police magistrate's court. There is a Queen's advocate, who is also police magistrate, a sheriff, and coroner, with the usual officers of the courts, and justices of the peace.

The judicial establishments are quite sufficient for the due administration of justice, and they appear to fulfil their functions satisfactorily.

Although the charge for the civil establishments absorbs so large a proportion of the whole revenue, it does not appear that they are on an excessive scale.

The number of appointments is undoubtedly large, but none of them have extravagant, and some have very small salaries. The unhealthiness of the climate necessitates here, as everywhere else on the coast, such an apportionment of the duties of the officers as will enable a substitute to be found for any appointment whenever the necessity arises.

The military force assigned for the occupation of the Gambia consists of three companies of black troops, two companies of which are intended to be stationed at Bathurst, and the remaining company divided between M'Carthy's Island and the outposts of Fort Bullen and St. Mary's. Neither the number nor disposition of this force seems open to objection so long as the present outposts are retained, but if these can be reduced, no doubt a corresponding diminution can be effected in the military force.

There was formerly a small but very effective militia, which has more than once done good service against the natives, but the local Act under which it was embodied expired last Session, and the financial difficulties of the Colony, with certain local jealousies to which it had given rise, were found serious impediments to its continuance, and it has, consequently, not been re-enacted.

The Ecclesiastical Establishment consists of a colonial chaplain, who also officiates for the troops. There is a Roman Catholic church, and a small conventual establishment in connection with it; the Wesleyans have a chapel at Bathurst and another at M'Carthy's Island. An allowance of 100*l.* per annum is made to the Wesleyan Mission, and the same to the Roman Catholic, in aid of general education, and a further grant of 30*l.* to each for charitable purposes. The Government maintains a small school for the education of the children of the pensioners and liberated Africans in British Combo.

There is a public hospital, in the charge of a colonial surgeon, with the requisite staff of attendants. This establishment, which is maintained at a total cost of about 1,200*l.* per annum, has proved of inestimable benefit, both to the inhabitants and to the large number of sailors and others whom trade brings to the Colony.

The tribes in the immediate neighbourhood of the settlement are chiefly Mandings, who are divided into two classes: Marabouts, or strict observers of the law of Mahomet, and Sonninkees, who are only nominal Moslems, and are, indeed, usually termed Pagans.

Between these two classes there is an unfortunate animosity, which is constantly bringing them into collision with one another, and which is mainly caused by the efforts of the Marabouts to compel the Sonninkees to conform to Mohammedism.

For two years past a fanatic of the name of Maba has been preaching a crusade against the unbelievers of his race, and, after desolating a large tract of country on the right bank of the river, burning the towns, and carrying into captivity their inhabitants, he was finally

Sources from which revenue is derived.

Expenditure.

Public Debt.

Administration of justice.

Judicial establishment.

Civil establishment.

Salaries.

Military.

Militia.

Ecclesiastical establishment.

Education.

Hospitals.

Natives.

finally checked, by the influence of the Governor, when about to invade the British part of the territory of Barra, and induced to retire into the interior.

This, and similar disturbances, arising either from the same cause or from quarrels among the natives of adjoining tribes, have produced an unsettled feeling, which has interrupted agriculture and very much depressed the trade of the settlements.

The Mandingos, who are the chief owners of the soil, are indisposed to labour, but they employ their slaves to some extent in cultivation. They have the character of being crafty, intriguing, and not very brave, but they are strictly sober, and in this respect they possess an advantage over their Soninke brethren, in dealing with the traders of which the latter are not slow to complain, and which has perhaps tended in some measure to give them a more unfavourable character than they deserve.

There can, however, be no doubt that their fanaticism, their consequent readiness to quarrel with all who do not hold their tenets, and the little they contribute to the revenue of the settlement, either by consuming such of its imports as are still taxed, or by producing anything for export, to a certain extent justify the colonists in their general objection to them as neighbours.

The Soninkees and other Pagan tribes are more docile, they labour on the soil, especially the latter, some of whom come from great distances in the interior, it is said as far as the Niger; they leave their wives at home, and after hiring land and raising two crops of ground-nuts they return to their own country with the proceeds.

It has been alleged that the English power in the River Gambia has imperceptibly been enlisted on the side of the Pagans in endeavours to check the progress of Moslem faith and conquest on this part of Africa, but for this there appears no foundation whatever. The local Government has carefully abstained from any interference in the civil and religious wars which the tribes in the neighbourhood periodically wage against each other, and whenever it has come into collision with them it has been for the vindication of its rights against their aggression; indeed, inquiry shows that in the greater number of instances in which interference has been called for of late years, the Pagans, and not the Moslems, have been the subject of it. There is no doubt but that Mohammedism is slowly but steadily making its way south, and that it will probably eventually exercise its sway over the whole of the countries in which we have established ourselves; but, although it is impossible not to hope that the day may be far distant, any attempt on our part to impede its progress would be as useless as it would be unjust.

We have numerous treaties with the natives, beginning from 1826; they relate in some instances to cessions of territory, and always contain engagements for the protection of trade, the abolition of slave export, and the preservation of peace. They are not entered into by the natives without great consideration, and as they are rarely, if ever, broken, they are decidedly beneficial to the Colony. Moreover, they afford us the plea for proffering our intervention when they show a disposition to quarrel amongst themselves, and in some recent instances our interference has been attended with very good results. The practice which has been long and successfully followed at Sierra Leone, of paying the chiefs small stipends to encourage them in observing these engagements, might advantageously be introduced at the Gambia. Treaties.

As the trade, the revenue, and the general prosperity of the Colony depend entirely on the preservation of peace throughout the country, it is natural that the authorities should desire to extend as far and as widely as possible their influence over the people. By the acquisition which was forced upon us in 1853 of the native territory south of the Island of St. Mary, known as British Combo, and which has since been settled by military pensioners and captured Africans, we have interposed a barrier between the Colony and a warlike and troublesome race, and have thus not only diminished the chances of future collisions, but have done much to ensure the peaceful cultivation of a large and valuable tract of country. On the northern side of the river, although we have long been the nominal possessors of a considerable portion of the Barra country, we have never ventured to exercise over it the slightest jurisdiction, and it has now been largely built on by the Marabouts, fanatics with whom it would be impossible to interfere, all thought of obtaining any influence over a country which they inhabit must therefore be abandoned. There is, however, one Soninke town, "Essow," situated within the ceded mile of Barra, and just opposite St. Mary's Island, which at the intercession of Governor d'Arcy was spared by Maba when he burnt all the Pagan towns in the neighbourhood. Conscious of their weakness, the chiefs and people have expressed to the Governor a desire to live under British rule, the simplest mode of effecting which would be by the cession of their country, but this is impracticable, from the fact that they are slaveholders. There are also strong objections to their country being made a protectorate, in the sense in which this word is understood in England. It would, however, be a subject of much regret if this small, harmless, and useful community should thus be abandoned to destruction through the fear of our becoming involved in unnecessary responsibilities, and it is to be hoped that the local Government may without risk to itself find some means of extending to them the protection they seek. Such a step would further our obtaining that influence on the northern side of the river of which, as has been stated, we are reaping the benefits on the south.

The natives not being British subjects, with the exception of the few residing permanently in the Colony, are not of course liable to direct taxation, but the principal part of the revenue being derived from an export duty on ground nuts, the produce of their labour, they do contribute largely, though indirectly, their share of taxation. Taxation of natives.

The export of slaves has been unknown at the Gambia for many years. In the wars which are constantly taking place between the natives the prisoners are made slaves, and Slavery.

- App. No. 1. are either retained to work for their masters, or are sold to other parts of the country for the same purpose.
- Domestic slaves. All labour is performed by the domestic slaves of the family, who, as a rule, are kindly treated and are not often parted with except under circumstances of necessity.
- Climature. There is some reason to suppose that coloured traders and trading agents, when following their avocations at a distance from the settlements, occasionally engage in slave dealing transactions with the natives, but these operations are conducted beyond British jurisdiction, and as yet it has been found impossible to bring any case home to an offender.
- Removal of seat of Government. In point of unhealthiness the climate of the Gambia probably varies little from that of the other settlements. There is considerable sickness during and after the rains, but many of the merchants, finding that their business makes but light demands upon them during that season, are in the habit of passing in England the worst months of the year. Military officers who suffer in health to any considerable extent are at once invalidated, and civil officers are afforded every facility for obtaining the advantages of a change of climate: thus not only are very few Europeans compelled to remain in the Colony for any length of time without a change, but there is also a consequent diminution in the number of deaths from the effects of the climate.
- Drainage of swamp at Bathurst. It has often been urged that the unhealthiness of the Gambia is largely due to the unfavourable situation of Bathurst, the capital and seat of trade, on the low-lying and swampy island of St. Mary, and it has been suggested that a great improvement would be effected in this respect by the removal of the seat of government to the more airy and elevated situation of Cape St. Mary.
- McCarthy's Island. There can be no question of the superior healthiness of the Cape, and on this account alone the transfer would be very desirable; but, although the Government offices might be removed there, it is certain that the merchants would not on this account alone consent to incur the heavy expense of moving their storehouses and long-established places of business from the safe anchorage and convenient landing-places of the river to the exposed situation of St. Mary, which is in no respect so well adapted for the purposes of trade. So long therefore as Bathurst remains the seat of trade it is necessary for its convenience that the custom-house and other public offices connected with it should not be removed from its neighbourhood.
- Colonial steamer. One cause of the unhealthiness of Bathurst is the existence in the immediate neighbourhood of the town of an offensive and pestilential swamp; but from a recent report of Major Clarke, R. E., it appears that for the sum of about 7,000*l.* the whole space, covering nearly 1,000 acres, could be closely and efficiently drained. Unfortunately the circumstances of the Colony forbid the hope that it will for a considerable time to come be in a position to afford this outlay, even for a work of such paramount importance to its interests.

SIERRA LEONE.

- Exempt of the Colony. The island of McCarthy, about 150 miles up the river, is occupied as an advanced post for the protection of trade in its neighbourhood: its establishment usually consists of a commandant, who acts as magistrate, and is generally the military officer in command, of two assistant surgeons, and about 30 men. It is certainly of advantage to the trade of the upper river that there should be such a post, but the climate is so unfavourable to the European constitution, and the expense involved in the maintenance of even this small establishment is so large, that it becomes worthy of consideration whether it could not be placed upon a smaller and more economical footing without seriously imperilling the interest for the protection of which it was established.
- THE Colony of Sierra Leone consists of the peninsula on which is situated Freetown, and which was settled towards the close of the last century. From 1819 to 1824 portions of land on the Bullom shore, on the opposite side of the river, and a tract of country along the Rokel river, were also obtained from the natives, but these cessions have never been turned to any practical account. The Isles de Los, to the north of the peninsula, are also British territory, but have not been occupied of late years. The island of Bulama was ceded to us in 1799, and has been occupied since 1860: the Portuguese have, however, put in a claim to this territory, which is now under the consideration of Her Majesty's and the Portuguese Governments. The cession of Sherbro Island and a portion of the mainland opposite was accepted in 1861, at the desire of the inhabitants, who were anxious for the security which British protection would afford them. In 1861, the people of Quiah, inhabiting the mainland adjoining the peninsula, having become very troublesome to the traders, an expedition was sent against them, and after their defeat a treaty was signed, by which they ceded a small portion of their territory as a security for peace. In the following year further disturbances took place, and a similar expedition sent against them resulted in their complete defeat and submission. It was then considered necessary, in order to secure the Colony against the chance of further annoyance,

annoyance, to annex that portion of their territory adjoining Sierra Leone, and from which the more refractory of the inhabitants being driven, it might interpose a barrier between the Colony and their troublesome neighbours. This policy has hitherto been attended with perfect success, and effectually secured the Colony from any further aggression in this quarter.

There is no protectorate, nor anything analogous thereto, exercised over any part of the country, the government of which is administered by a governor, with executive and legislative councils.

Return No. 8 (Appendix) shows the value of the principal articles of export from the Colony during the last 10 years. In this period there has been a large increase in the quantities of oil nuts and seeds; ginger also is becoming a prominent article of export. Less gold is supplied than formerly, and the introduction of iron ship-building has almost extinguished the timber trade. After deducting the value of the principal articles of export, there still remains a numerous class of miscellaneous articles, the total value of which during each of the last two years is not far short of the total value of the exports of the Colony 10 years since. With the exception of ginger and arrowroot, but a small proportion of the articles exported from the Colony is raised within the peninsula. The Quiah and Sherbro districts now belonging to the Colony contribute a considerable share, but by far the greater quantity of exports comes from the interior, the numerous rivers by which the country is intersected affording the natives a ready means of bringing their produce in canoes to Sierra Leone.

The cultivation of cotton is attracting some attention, but the country possesses such peculiar aptitude for the production of oil seeds, and recent researches have made known so many different sources from which valuable and useful oils can be obtained, that it is hardly likely that cotton-growing will, for the present, be carried on extensively or with much vigour.

The imports of the Colony (Return No. 9, Appendix) are chiefly cotton and silk goods, tobacco, wines and spirits, "miscellaneous" articles serving to swell considerably the total value. There is nothing in the character of the imports for the last ten years to call for particular observation.

Return No. 10 (Appendix) exhibits the total value of the imports and exports of the Colony for the last ten years, and shows how great has been the increase of both within this period, an increase which, from its gradual and steady growth, is evidently due to a corresponding development of the resources of the country. There is no doubt but that much of this improvement in the producing and consuming powers of the Colony is due to the acquisition of the Sherbro and Quiah territories, the former of which possesses a river that affords the only access to a large extent of country, and through which, consequently, all goods intended for consumption in the interior must pass, paying us duties thereon. It is true that traders may take advantage of the Gallinas river, situated some distance to the south, to introduce their goods into the interior without the payment of duty, but there is a dangerous bar at its mouth, which must always be an impediment to its use. Besides the advantage which the possession of this highway into the interior affords, the land of Sherbro is very fertile, and promises to add materially to the agricultural wealth of the Colony. The occupation of these territories and of Bulama have had the effect of preserving peace and order over a considerable extent of country hitherto liable to the disturbing influence of constant native wars, and thus enabling the people to follow their ordinary occupations in security.

Return No. 11 (Appendix) shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the last 10 years, whilst Returns Nos. 12 and 13 show the principal sources from which that revenue was derived and the principal objects upon which it was expended in each of the last five years.

The only aid which the Colony receives from Imperial funds is 2,000*l.* a year, for the payment of the Governor's salary.

The steady advance in general prosperity which the return of its imports and exports exhibits has produced a corresponding increase in the revenue of the Colony. The greater part of this increase has been derived from customs, which have augmented 25 per cent. in the last five years; indeed, every other source of revenue shows an improvement within this period, and that from "Miscellaneous" has more than quadrupled.

The possession of a larger income has necessarily led to a larger expenditure, but by careful management of its finances, although the outlay in particular years has exceeded the revenue, the Colony has avoided incurring any debt.

The addition of new territory has involved the augmentation of the civil establishments, as well as of that for police and gaols. The expenditure on public works has more than doubled, whilst under the head "Miscellaneous" is borne the heavy charge arising from the native differences which resulted in the acquisition of the Quiah territory, charges which, instead of being thrown, as has been too often the case, on Imperial funds, have been readily defrayed by the colonists, although entailing upon them in one year alone an outlay of 4,000*l.*

The Colony has no public debt, and there was a small balance in the Treasury on the 31st December 1864.

The taxation of the Colony consists of an *ad valorem* duty of 4 per cent. on all imports, except wines, spirits, tobacco, and certain other articles, on which specific rates are charged. There is also a license duty on the retail of spirits, on boats, canoes, and hawkers, and generally on certain articles of produce brought from the interior. There is, moreover, a tax on houses and land, and a tax for the repair of the roads.

The import duty is fixed at a reasonable rate, and it has recently been found possible to reduce the specific rates payable on wine and spirits. The bulk of the license duty is collected

App. No. 1.

Protectorate.
Form of Govern-
ment.
Exports.

Cotton cultivation.

Imports.

Value of imports and
exportsRevenue and expendi-
ture.Parliamentary
grant.

Increase in revenue.

Increase in expendi-
ture.

Public debt.

Taxation.

Import duty.

License duty.

- App. No. 1. collected in Freetown, and is to a great extent payable on produce, which, as it does not come into the Colony from abroad, would otherwise be consumed without contributing anything to its revenue.
- House tax. The house tax is 5s. on houses of the value of 5*l.* and under, and 1s. in the pound on houses over the value of 5*l.*
- Land tax. The land tax is 6*d.* per acre on all land under cultivation.
- Road tax. The road tax is 1s. 6*d.* per head per annum.
- Extent of territory taxed. The payment of these three last taxes has not yet been extended to Bulama, and has only been partially introduced into the Sherbro district: it is, however, in full force in the Peninsula and Quiah, and will be imposed upon the remainder of the Colony as it becomes ripe for it.
- Objections of Sierra Leone Chamber of Commerce to certain items of taxation considered. The taxation of the Colony does not appear to be considered by the inhabitants excessive, and although the existence of a Chamber of Commerce having one of its members to represent it in the Legislative Council affords a ready mode of addressing complaints or remonstrances to the Legislature, none appear to have been made on this head. Several objections have, however, been urged by this body to the mode in which the house, land, and road taxes are levied, and to some of the charges for the civil establishments of the Colony during the current year; and although no doubt these objections have been met and disposed of by the Executive before whom they were laid, yet, as they emanated from a body of such great weight and respectability, and were made public through the medium of the local press, some observations respecting them may not be out of place.
- Objections to house, land, and road taxes. The objections to the house, land, and road taxes were that "many defaulters are peculiarly unable to pay, and their punishment and treatment in the common gaol are identical with the punishments inflicted on criminals who have been tried and convicted of heinous crimes." It appeared that the latter part of this complaint was not without foundation, but instructions were at once given, substituting a different and less harsh treatment. There seemed, however, to have been an error in the statement that pecuniary inability to pay necessarily subjected the defaulter to imprisonment. Under the 23d clause of the House and Land-tax Ordinance persons unable to pay may not on that account be imprisoned, but must be called on to give labour in place of money; and it is only after proof that such demand has been made and disobeyed that there is any power to commit the defaulters to gaol. So in the 7th clause of the Road-tax Ordinance a substitute for labour may be provided in lieu of the money payment, and the punishment in default of both may be fine and not imprisonment. There may, no doubt, be destitute and decrepid persons unable either to pay or work; but the managers of districts, commissioners, and clerks have instructions to recommend all such to the Executive for exemption, and in the year 1863, 1,552 houses out of 5,087 were exempted from the tax. Under the Road Ordinance power is given to any justice of the peace to exempt destitute and decrepid persons from either payment or labour.
- Objections to proposed civil establishments. These facts sufficiently disprove the more serious part of the complaints against the working of these laws.
- The objections made to the proposed civil establishments were that the division of the office of Colonial Secretary into a Colonial Secretary's and a Treasurer's Departments entailed an expense of 600*l.* per annum.
- Under the system, as it previously existed, the duties of the Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, and of the Auditor, were all carried on in the same office under the Colonial Secretary, an arrangement manifestly very objectionable, and affording no security in the management of the revenue. By a re-arrangement of the different offices, and some addition to the clerks, the Colonial Secretary's and Treasurer's Departments have been entirely separated; and, considering the flourishing state of the revenue and the important end which will be attained, it can hardly be said that 600*l.* a-year is an extravagant outlay for this purpose.
- Objection to expense of harbour-master's department. It was urged that the expenses of the Harbourmaster's Department were excessive, especially the charge for boats; but it is stated that the duties required of it are very heavy, and the reduction of 85*l.* per annum has been effected in its cost since 1862.
- Objection to expenses of judicial department. With respect to judicial expenses, it was suggested that the offices of Master of the Court and Registrar General might with advantage and economy be amalgamated, a proposal which has met with the Governor's concurrence, and will be carried out whenever the opportunity offers.
- Objection to small amount of educational grant. The charge for police, gaols, district managers, and constabulary, amounting in the whole to about 14,000*l.* per annum, is placed in unfavourable contrast with the small sum of 292*l.*, which is stated to be the entire appropriation for educational purposes.
- Expenditure on police and management accounted for. The heavy charge for police and management is necessitated by the extensive and widely separated territories which now comprise the settlements. The peninsula itself is settled all over with large bodies of liberated Africans, not having amongst them any white person who could be entrusted with authority, or who, from his position as a landed proprietor or manufacturer, would be able to exercise any beneficial influence over them. This condition of affairs compels the Government to provide, at considerable expense, a comparatively large establishment of managers, police, &c., for the administration of justice and the preservation of order. Between 3,000*l.* and 4,000*l.* of this sum is also expended on the recently acquired territories of Bulama and Sherbro; but, short as has been the time for the development of their resources, the latter district alone is already producing a revenue in excess of this charge.
- Large, therefore, as the outlay incurred under the head in question, it does not appear incommensurate with the requirements and circumstances of the Colony.

The objection urged to the small amount voted for education will be considered under that head.

Exception was also taken to only 3,500 *l.* being appropriated to works and buildings; but the expenditure on this account has been of late so heavy that its limitation was not inadvisable.

The Chamber was also of opinion that the sum of 1,394 *l.*, stipends to native chiefs, was so much money thrown away, and should be discontinued. This point will be considered when the question of treaties with the native chiefs comes under review.

A careful examination of the proposed outlay on behalf of the judicial and other civil establishments of the Colony, due consideration being at the same time given to the objections of the Chamber of Commerce, leads to the conclusion that the charges on this account are not in themselves unreasonable or extravagant, and fairly meet the requirements of the settlements.

The military force appropriated for the occupation of the Colony consists of five companies of a West India regiment. At present, detachments are furnished to all the outposts, an arrangement which materially diminishes the efficiency of the force, without contributing in a corresponding degree to the security or benefit of the Colony. The militia of the Colony consists of one regiment of infantry, and of some cavalry and artillery.

The ecclesiastical establishment of the Colony consists of a bishop, who also exercises jurisdiction over all the other settlements on the coast, of a colonial chaplain, and of an assistant chaplain, with the necessary officers for a cathedral.

For many years the Church Missionary Society bore the whole expense of the churches established in the different villages throughout the peninsula in which the liberated Africans were settled. In 1860 it was considered that the time had arrived when a great portion of this burden might be legitimately thrown on the people and country, the society reserving to itself the maintenance of a single church in Freetown, and purposing to devote its efforts more especially to the higher class educational establishments.

In 1861 the native pastorate was accordingly formed by the transfer of nine native clergymen to the parochial duties of the Colony, under the control of the bishop. The stipends assigned to these ministers have been fixed on a very moderate scale, and the whole cost of the arrangement has been hitherto provided for by a temporary grant from the Church Missionary Society, and the contributions of the native congregations. The system has not been in operation for any length of time, but the manner in which the people have accepted the novel and unexpected charge thrown upon them entitles them to much praise. The Church Missionary Society having now withdrawn its grant, the Colony has voted a sum in aid of the establishment, which there is no doubt will be augmented, should it be found necessary still further to supplement the efforts of the people. It is right to add, that, notwithstanding the reduction which the Church Missionary Society has felt bound to make in its expenditure in the maintenance of missionaries and native clergy in Sierra Leone, it still devotes annually 3,000 *l.* to this important object. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel also support their Mission at a cost of about 600 *l.* a year. Churches and ministers representing nearly all the other Christian denominations, are to be found in the settlements, principally in Freetown, but no authentic information has been obtained respecting the cost of their maintenance; none, however, receive any aid from the Government.

The statement of the Chamber of Commerce that 292 *l.* is the whole sum devoted by the Colony to educational purposes is not strictly correct, an examination of the Estimates showing other grants amounting altogether to 374 *l.* for schoolmasters, rent of schools, &c., and making the total contribution of the Colony 666 *l.* It cannot be denied, that compared with the means of the settlement and the appropriation it makes for other objects, it would be neglecting one of its most obvious duties were it to leave the education of its people dependent solely on the expenditure of so small a sum as this; but the plea alleged by the local Government for the limitation of its efforts in this direction, is, that very extensive funds have long been, and still are, appropriated through other agencies to this important work, and that until this aid be withdrawn or diminished, great assistance from the revenue is not required. The educational establishments of the Colony which receive no help from its funds are the schools for the liberated Africans, maintained by the Church Missionary Society with the assistance of the Imperial Government at a cost of about 2,700 *l.* a year. The society further supports entirely the Fourah Bay College at an expense of about 700 *l.* per annum, the Grammar School in Freetown costing 180 *l.* per annum, and the Female Educational Institution at an outlay of nearly 800 *l.* a year. Moreover, the village schools, in connection with the native pastorate, are maintained at an expense of 400 *l.* a year, which is furnished partly by the children's payment, and partly by aid from Home.

The total amount devoted annually for educational purposes in connection with the Church Missionary Society is therefore 4,700 *l.*, and if to this be added 150 *l.* furnished by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and about the same from the Lady Huntingdon Ministry, even omitting the Wesleyans, Baptists, Independents, Roman Catholics, and other Christian churches, the amount of whose contributions it has been impossible to obtain with exactness, it will be seen that the cause of education in Sierra Leone does not need more assistance from the Government than it at present receives.

The Colony supports, at an expense of between 3,000 *l.* and 4,000 *l.*, a hospital, a lunatic asylum, and a hospital for incurables. The benefits conferred by these institutions are thoroughly appreciated by the people, and a considerable amount is received in payment for the support and treatment of patients.

App. No. 1.

Objections to small vote for public works.

Objection to the stipends of the chiefs.

Charge for civil establishments not unreasonable.

Military.

Militia.

Ecclesiastical establishments.

Church Missionary Society.

Native pastorate.

Other missions.

Education.

Objections of Chamber of Commerce considered.

Hospitals.

App. No. 1.

The natives to the north of the settlements are chiefly Mandingos, who differ in no essential particular from those at Gambia, who have been already described; they cultivate the ground nut, and bring also to the Colony, beniseed, palm kernels, horses, cattle, and hides. In the immediate vicinity are found the Timmancea, a quiet pagan race, engaged in agriculture.

Natives.

All these people are under chiefs who govern larger or smaller communities, according to their wealth and influence, and with many of them, occupying the coast from the River Pongas on the north, to the River Gallinas on the south, and to a distance of four days' journey up the Sierra Leone river, the Government has established relations. This has been done by treaties which stipulate that the slave trade shall be abolished, that perfect freedom of trade shall be allowed in their countries, and their canoes permitted to come to our ports, that British subjects shall be protected, and if they commit offences, shall be sent to Sierra Leone for trial. In return they receive stipends varying from 5*l.* to 100*l.*, and involving a total cost to the local Government of nearly 1,400*l.* a year. It was urged by the Chamber of Commerce that this money was ill bestowed, but this is not established on inquiry. No doubt some of the treaties are with chiefs whose influence has greatly diminished since they were entered into, and as no provision was made for such a contingency, there may be a few cases out of the whole 79 in which the stipend is paid without an adequate return.

Treaties.

Objections of Chamber of Commerce to chiefs' stipends considered.

In the majority of instances, however, this is not the case; the treaties are generally faithfully observed, and where they are broken by the people it is found that a threat of withdrawing his subsidy has generally the effect of inducing the chief to compel the offenders to make restitution.

It is unquestionable that by means of these treaties the Sierra Leone Government exercises an influence over a large extent of country from which it would otherwise be excluded—an influence which is most useful in securing the safety of its trade and the protection of its people, as well as enabling it to interfere on occasions between the natives themselves, not only greatly to their advantage, but often for the security and peace of the settlement.

Slavery.

The slave trade, understanding thereby the export of slaves to America, is unknown in Sierra Leone; but as domestic slavery exists in every part of the continent not under British rule, it has constantly happened that the natives, whilst engaged in transporting purchased or kidnapped slaves from one part of the country to another, find they have brought themselves within the reach of British authority, which at once restores their slaves to liberty.

Domestic slavery.

Although domestic slavery certainly existed in the Sherbro and Quiah territories before their acquisition by the Government, there is no reason whatever to believe that persons in this condition are now to be found there; this circumstance is the more curious since the difficulty of eradicating domestic slavery from any locality, over which we could with advantage exercise control, has hitherto been the great obstacle to our adopting such a step on other parts of the coast. One cause of this result is, that there were not in these territories any large proprietors of slaves. Moreover, from the proximity of Sierra Leone, with its large free population, there would be less sympathy here for slavery than in any other part of the coast. It is certain that on the cession of these territories no complaints were made by the chiefs on the liberation of their slaves; probably there were not many in this condition, and if so, from this cause and that last mentioned, they would become free without its attracting much notice, or their owners thinking it worth while to struggle against this result.

Slaving near the Nunez river.

Although the presence of our settlements at Sierra Leone and the Gambia has had the effect of driving away the slave trade entirely from the neighbourhood of both, there remains a small space of coast near the Nunez river, about midway between the two, and with which neither has ever had much communication, containing many rivers and creeks well suited for the purpose of the traffic. For a number of years the presence of a portion of the squadron on the northern part of the coast was found sufficient to keep in check the slave trade at this spot, and it is believed that of late years not a slave was exported from thence. In February 1864 it was however decided to withdraw altogether the cruisers from the northern coast, and the result was that in September last a vessel with slaves on board was dispatched from thence under circumstances which will be found detailed in the Appendix (letter A). There can be no doubt but that the attention of the cruisers will now be again directed to this locality, and that there will be an immediate cessation of the trade; but the circumstance shows the readiness with which, if the opening be afforded, it can be restored in a place from which it may for a long time have been altogether banished.

Climate.

In point of healthiness Sierra Leone does not contrast unfavourably with any of the other settlements. Indeed, the garrison, who are quartered on a hill 400 feet high and overlooking the town, are singularly exempt from epidemics and from the more fatal form of African fever. It is now a subject of regret with many of the inhabitants that they did not originally establish their permanent residences, or at least country-houses, on the high lands surrounding the town, when at an elevation of 3,000 feet they would have been entirely free from the dangers to which they are now exposed in the low-lying ground of Freetown, where all their houses are situated.

GOLD COAST.

THE territory on the Gold Coast which is recognised as British consists of a large number of forts and posts, many of them abandoned or in ruins, which have come into our possession either by settlement, capture, or purchase during the last 200 years, together with the line of the seacoast adjacent to them. Extent of territory.

The Dutch Government also possesses many posts and forts on the same line of coast, and it is understood and allowed by the natives that whatever portion of the seaboard is not Dutch is British territory. Dutch territory.

The territory actually under occupation at the present time consists (in addition to the coast) of the Fort of Dixcove, in the Ahanta country; of Cape Coast Castle, and Annamaboe Fort, in the Fantee; Winnebah, in the Agoonah country, and of Acera, in the district of the same name. Quittah Fort, on the River Volta, has not been occupied since 1856. Territory actually occupied.

Immediately in rear of the 300 miles of coast along which these posts are situated, and extending to a distance of about 80 miles inland, is a country inhabited by a number of native tribes, the principal of whom are the Wassaws, Denkeras, Akims, Assins, and Fantees, the whole of whom, with the exception of a small number residing immediately in rear of some of the Dutch posts, are included in what is termed the "Protectorate." Protected territory.

To the eastward of the settlements is situated the powerful and barbarous kingdom of Dahomey, and to the north of the Protectorate extends the equally powerful and barbarous Kingdom of Ashantee. The protected tribes thus form a complete barrier between the Colony and these two warlike and dangerous bodies of savages. Kingdoms of Dahomey and Ashantee.

The history of the Protectorate is so little understood, that it may be as well to give an outline of the circumstances which led to its establishment. At the beginning of the last century the Ashantees, who are supposed to have come from the interior and to have been compelled to move southward by a pressure from thence, attacked and subdued some of the more powerful of the tribes who now form the northern part of the Protectorate. Moving steadily onwards, about 1760 they had extended their conquests so far south as to excite some apprehension in the minds of the European settlers on the coast; and in 1800 had forcibly subdued the whole country from the sea-board of the Assinee river on the west to the mouth of the Volta on the east, excepting only a small crescent embracing the Fantees, and a few other small tribes situated immediately in rear of the settlements. History of the Protectorate.

Emboldened by the success which had hitherto attended their progress, and encouraged no doubt by the hope of acquiring, or at least sharing the benefits which they soon found resulted from a closer contact with Europeans, the Ashantees, at the commencement of the present century, attacked the Fantees and the remaining unconquered tribes whom the settlers, with a selfish but mistaken regard for their own interest, left to their fate.

In 1807 the Ashantees were masters of the whole country, and had even attacked and taken one of the European settlements. With the British they came once into collision, but were repulsed, and their further aggressions were averted by an engagement on the part of the authorities not to assist the Fantees. During the next few years so bitter was the yoke imposed on the conquered nations, that several of them combined and revolted against it, but without success; the Ashantees not only maintained their hold over the country, but even threatened Cape Coast, whose safety was only purchased by discreditable concessions. This state of things lasted until 1817, the unhappy Fantees continuing to suffer the greatest oppression at the hands of their conquerors, when it was thought by the authorities at Cape Coast advisable to attempt to negotiate with the Ashantees with the view of establishing peace on a secure footing, and promoting the prosecution of lawful trade. The mission which was sent was much struck, in passing through Assin and Fantee, with the traces of desolation which the Ashantees had everywhere left behind: "Not a vestige of cultivation was to be seen, and heaps of ruined villages appeared on every side, round which the miserable natives stalked with the gaunt and sullen aspect of famine and despair."

The result of this mission was the conclusion of a treaty by which the Fantees, who were now reduced to the position of tributaries of Ashantee, were placed under a sort of protectorate of the British, it being stipulated that the King should not engage in hostilities against them, even in case of their aggression, without previous reference to the Governor of Cape Coast. This treaty did not produce the benefits which had been anticipated; the slave trade progressed to the injury of legitimate commerce, and induced a general state of lawlessness and disregard of life and property throughout the country.

A fresh treaty was concluded with the Ashantees in 1819, which was disavowed by the local authorities, and in 1822 the Imperial Government, having once more assumed the control of the forts and settlements, placed them under the jurisdiction of Sierra Leone and sent out Sir Charles McCarthy as Governor in Chief.

Sir C. McCarthy on his arrival found our relations with the Ashantees in so unsatisfactory a state that he appears to have felt that there was no way of establishing peace but by the sword. War was soon declared, and in January 1824, Sir C. McCarthy and the force under his orders were destroyed by an invading army of Ashantees. Cape Coast Castle was then invested, and, but for a panic amongst the invaders, might have been captured; late in the year the whole power of the settlement with aid from home being brought to bear upon them, the Ashantees were completely defeated and driven from the country.

App. No. 1.

An unanimous spirit of resistance to the Ashantees was now aroused in every tribe from the Assinee to the Volta, but several years elapsed before the efforts of the British authorities succeeded in placing matters on a satisfactory footing. In 1831, however, the exertions of the able, energetic, and resolute Mr. Maclean, then Governor of the settlements, were rewarded with success. Convinced of the hopelessness of expecting that peace could be maintained so long as the Fantees and other tribes remained subject to the exactions and oppressions of their former rulers, and yet foreseeing at the same time the dangers which must result if so large a body of natives, composed of different tribes and having different interests and views, were left to carry on their affairs without the control or guidance of any superior power, believing moreover that the influence of such a superior and civilised power would help to work valuable reforms among the most turbulent and lawless of them, he conceived the idea of compelling from the King of Ashantee an acknowledgment of their independence, and by the influence over them which our interference on their behalf had obtained for us, of inducing them to band themselves together under our guidance and control for protection against the common enemy. These important objects were at length secured by the signing of a treaty, on the 27th April 1831, between the Governor, the Ashantees, and the Fantee and other tribes then in alliance with us, and during the next 12 years the results of this arrangement under the administration of Governor Maclean are detailed in the Report of the Committee of 1842, "there was exercised a very wholesome influence over a coast not much less than 150 miles in extent, and to a considerable distance inland, preventing within that range, external slave trade, maintaining peace and security, and exercising a useful though irregular jurisdiction among the neighbouring tribes, and much mitigating and in some cases extinguishing some of the most atrocious practices which had prevailed among them unchecked before."

Gold Coast placed under Sierra Leone in 1844.

Made, in 1860, independent.

Form of Government.

Exports.

In consequence of the recommendation of this Committee, the direct management of the Gold Coast settlements was in 1844 resumed by the Imperial Government, and at first placed under the jurisdiction of Sierra Leone; but in 1850 it was by letters patent created into a separate Government with executive and legislative councils for the administration of its affairs, an arrangement which continues at the present time.

The Gold Coast is not an agricultural country, and the palm oil trade does not flourish to any extent in its neighbourhood; in the most prosperous condition of trade its exports, therefore, are not considerable. Return No. 14 (Appendix) shows what they have been for the last ten years, and that gold and palm oil form the principal part of them. There is a considerable falling off in the quantities of palm oil produced in some years as compared with others, which is stated to be owing to failures in the crops; whilst the diminution in the amounts of gold dust and ivory, both of which come from the interior and chiefly through Ashantee, depend mainly upon the state of our relations with these people.

Imports.

The principal articles of import (Return, No. 15, Appendix) are Manchester goods, arms, gunpowder, and spirits. The disturbed state of the country in 1863 had the effect of materially reducing the amount of imports, and there is no anticipation of a revival of trade until terms are made with the Ashantees, and the roads to the interior re-opened.

Revenue.

Parliamentary grant.

Import duty.

License duty.

The revenue of the Colony, during the last 10 years, has averaged from 8,000*l.* to 9,000*l.* a year (Return, No. 17, Appendix). It is principally derived from a Parliamentary grant of 4,000*l.* a year, and from a small duty of 2 per cent. on imports (Return, No. 18, Appendix). By a recent Ordinance a tax has been levied on the sale of spirits, but it does not appear probable that it will add, except in a slight degree, to the revenue.

Expenditure.

The expenditure which has of late somewhat exceeded the revenue is chiefly caused by the maintenance of the civil establishments of the Colony (Return, No. 19, Appendix). The Ashantee war has also had the effect of involving the Colony in pecuniary difficulties, and its debt (Return, No. 20, Appendix) amounts to nearly 3,000*l.*

Difficulty in the way of raising a revenue, owing to proximity of Dutch forts and settlements.

As the natives of the Gold Coast fully recognise the right to the possession of the seaboard as belonging to the European powers, which own the forts that stud its margin, and as they have never objected to the imposition by these powers of such duties on all imported goods as they see fit to levy, there ought to be no difficulty in raising on this coast a revenue not only sufficient for the maintenance of an efficient system of Government, but also capable of affording aid in measures of improvement for the benefit of the natives themselves, such as the establishment of hospitals and schools, and the rendering more perfect and accessible the administration of justice among them. Unfortunately, however, the Dutch Government which occupies or owns a large number of forts or posts intermixed with, and in many instances in close proximity to our own, has never imposed any duty on the admission of goods through its settlements, and any duties which we may levy must therefore be fixed at so low a rate as not to render it worth the importer's while to land his goods in Dutch waters, and carry on his trade under Dutch protection for the purpose of evading the duty. For several years past no opportunity has been lost of impressing upon the Netherlands Government that were they to join with our own in the imposition of a specific, but not oppressive rate of duty on articles, the introduction of which cannot be beneficial to the natives, as arms, gunpowder, tobacco, and spirits, with a small *ad valorem* duty of 3 or 4 per cent. on all other imports, a revenue would be raised sufficient to maintain effective establishments without making, as is now done, any charge on the Home Governments, and which would also enable the local Governments to do much for the improvement of the social condition of the natives. Our efforts, however,

ever, have been hitherto unsuccessful; the Netherlands Government, though not denying the possibility of attaining these results, is not disposed to incur the risk which so complete a change of its policy might entail, and at present continues to pay between 7,000*l.* and 8,000*l.* a year for the support of its influence amongst the few natives who recognise its authority, and for the protection of a somewhat insignificant trade. The only positive advantage which it is understood to derive from the possession of the settlements is, that it has been able to enter into arrangements with some of the friendly chiefs, and it is said with the Ashantee Government, by which it is permitted to obtain annually a certain number of natives whom it sends out to be trained as soldiers for the protection of Java and its East India dependencies.

On the Gold Coast the cowrie is used as the currency in all small transactions. Gold dust is taken at the rate of 3*l.* 12*s.* sterling per ounce, and British gold and silver coins with those of America are also current.

An examination of the expenditure on the civil establishments of the Colony leads to the conclusion that they are fixed on a larger scale than is consistent either with the requirements of the settlements, or the revenue which can be raised for their maintenance. Admitting fully the necessity for a large and more highly paid staff of officers in an African Colony than is required in one more congenial to the European constitution, an expenditure of 7,472*l.* (which is the sum estimated for salaries during the current year) seems hardly warranted when the total revenue is calculated at 11,568*l.*, of which but 6,473*l.* is proposed to be raised in the Colony. The finances of the Gold Coast can hardly be said to be satisfactorily administered until care is taken to regulate its annual expenditure with reference to its liabilities and expected revenue.

The judicial establishment consists of a chief justice, a Queen's advocate, justices of the peace, four commandants who act as magistrates at the posts of Dixcove, Annamaboe, Accra, and Winnebah, interpreters, and a small force of constables and gaolers; the whole cost of these establishments for the ensuing year is estimated at 3,008*l.*, of which estimate 746*l.* is for police and gaols. The administration of justice within British territory is amply provided for by this staff.

The ecclesiastical establishment consists of a colonial chaplain and sexton, costing 424*l.* per annum. The Wesleyan Society has extensive establishments throughout the country, and supports missions and schools in many of the towns, its expenditure for these praiseworthy objects having in some years reached 5,000*l.* The Basle mission, through working on a different system, devotes itself with great energy to the same objects.

Under the head of education, provision is made at a cost of 183*l.* a year for the payment of teachers in the Government school.

The colonial surgeon receives 300*l.* a year, and 65*l.* is provided for medical services at the out-stations.

The military force at present appropriated for the occupation of the settlement, consists of one complete West India regiment of eight companies and about 800 strong, of which one company is quartered at Accra, and two at Lagos, with small detachments at the other three outposts. The strength of troops found for many years past sufficient for the defence of the settlement was 300 men, and the only reason for the recent augmentation has been the fear of the renewal of those hostilities with the Ashantees which the Colony has recently had so much cause to deplore. Circumstances (hereafter to be adverted to) have appeared to render it unnecessary that any troops should be retained at Lagos, and there seems no reason to suppose that in the present position of affairs with the Ashantees, any danger would accrue from a reduction of the force on the Gold Coast to about its former strength. This arrangement, if approved of, would liberate at least half a regiment from African service, and would cause a large reduction in the estimates for military services on the west coast.

An account has already been given of the origin of the Protectorate, and it remains now to consider what is the meaning which is attached to the term by those whom it affects.

In the recent operations against the Ashantees, it seems to have been assumed by the local Government, that in return for corresponding concessions made by the people of the coast, they had been guaranteed by the British Crown protection against all enemies.

Now, a reference to the position of the respective parties to the treaty of 1831, at the time it was made, and to the object which Governor Maclean had in view when framing it, appears sufficiently to disprove the idea that the natives were guaranteed complete protection in return for any concession to us. It is true that they had fought with us to procure their freedom from Ashantee bondage, but their success was due not to themselves, but to the aid afforded by the large British force employed, and especially to the terrible engine of warfare, Congreve rockets, which were then first made use of against the enemy. On their liberation, the Governor, for reasons already given, involving their security far more than that of the settlements, and also to a great extent their future benefit, when stipulating with the King of Ashantee for their complete independence, contemplated that the influence which our interference on their behalf had already obtained for us, would be thus largely increased, and that we should be enabled to exercise in future a most useful control over them in their foreign and domestic policy. This was termed placing them under British protection, but there is nothing in the treaty to show that the engagement contemplated the right to such a protection as is now assumed to exist, whilst it is evident that the natives neither did nor could offer any concession or advantage which would have compensated Governor Maclean for incurring such a liability. Indeed, it may safely be affirmed that up to 1852, when the poll tax was introduced, nothing that the natives had done furnished any grounds for the claims recently advanced on their behalf.

Meaning attached to the term "Protectorate" by natives.

App. No. 1.

It is absolutely necessary to the future well-being of the settlements that the question now raised as to the extent of protection we may be called upon to afford the native tribes should be clearly and distinctly defined. The whole of Governor Maclean's history forbids the supposition that a man of his ability and judgment, knowing that he was responsible for the safety and peace of the Colony, that for all purposes, offensive and defensive, he had a force of about 100 black militia, and a total revenue of but 4,000*l.* a year, would, without any corresponding advantage in return, have pledged himself to protect the numerous native tribes, just freed from a lengthened bondage, from the future aggressions of their former masters.

The closer the matter is investigated, the more probable does it appear that Mr. Maclean contemplated using the influence which the term "British protection" would necessarily give him both over the natives and the Ashantees, to preserve the former, as far as his means allowed, from the aggressions or oppressions of the latter; how successfully and at what little cost he accomplished this, and how beneficial was his rule to those he thus befriended, have been already detailed.

It may therefore safely be assumed that there was no stipulation prior to 1852, that the protected tribes of the Gold Coast should be maintained (if necessary, with all the resources of the British power) against the Ashantees or other enemies. It was, however, declared in the third clause of the Poll Tax Ordinance, passed in 1852, that the natives, taking into consideration the advantages which they derive from the protection afforded them by Her Majesty's Government, consider it reasonable and necessary that they should contribute to the support of the Government by paying certain taxes; and had they performed their part of the agreement by continuing to pay this tax, it might fairly be questioned whether they had not thus entitled themselves to a greater amount of protection than had been previously contemplated. Fortunately, however, in this respect, the conduct of the natives has relieved us from all embarrassment as to our actual position in regard to their protection.

On the conclusion of the treaty of 1831, Governor Maclean directed his attention to the improvement of the government of the natives thus placed under his protection, and for whose peaceable conduct he had become responsible to the King of Ashantee. He restrained and punished the tyranny of the chiefs, and compelled them to an observance of greater humanity; and he also interfered with, and greatly succeeded in putting down the barbarous custom of human sacrifice. These repressions were regarded by the people on the spot, discontented with the reforms he was introducing and insensible to the benefits they conferred, as acts of tyrannical oppression, and were as such represented to the Imperial Government. After inquiry, it was admitted that although we possessed no legal jurisdiction in the country, it was possible that we might exercise with great advantage to the people a species of irregular authority, partly tolerated from a conviction of its usefulness, and partly compulsory from the nature of our position; but the Governor was advised to be very careful in his interference with native practices, and the whole responsibility of these acts was thrown upon him. This was the origin of our judicial interference with the customs and practices of the natives, an interference which was legalised, when the settlements were taken back by the Crown in 1844, by the passing of an Act of Parliament, appointing Mr. Maclean judicial assessor to the native chiefs, and entailing on him the judicial administration of the country, not in accordance with the strict form of English law, but with a large discretionary power to assimilate native law and practices to English ideas of justice, an arrangement which has been maintained with the full concurrence of and with marked benefit to the natives up to the present day.

The natives are not subject to any taxation. In 1852 the consent of a considerable number of the more powerful and important chiefs was obtained to the imposition of a poll-tax of one shilling per head on every inhabitant of the Protectorate, the revenue arising from which, it was provided, should be devoted "first, to the payment of stipends to the chiefs and the expense of collection, and then to the public good in the education of the people, the improvement and extension of the judicial system, in affording greater facilities of internal communication, increased medical aid, and in such other measures of improvement and utility as the state of social progress may render necessary."

The first year the sum of 7,567*l.* was raised by this tax, but in succeeding years various causes, amongst which may be enumerated the mismanagement which attended both its collection and appropriation, produced a strong feeling of dislike to it, and as is shown by the Return, No. 21 (Appendix), the receipts fell off to 1,552*l.* in 1861, since when, partly from the antipathy which is entertained to it, and partly from the disturbances which have occurred, and the consequent distress to which they have given rise, no attempt has been made to levy the tax.

Notwithstanding the failure of the poll-tax, the natives are not insensible to the justice and propriety of asking them to contribute to a fund to be specially applied towards the objects for which the poll-tax was designed; and, under proper guarantees, which should restore their confidence, they would probably not be found averse to a measure proposed with this end.

The slave trade is and has long been unknown on the coast; indeed, were it desired to export slaves from any part of the settlements, it would be found impossible to collect them for the purpose without the fact becoming at once known to a magistrate or some official. Were the restriction which our presence imposes, however, once removed, the chiefs would, no doubt, gladly seize the opportunity of disposing of a few surplus or troublesome domestic slaves; but when this was effected, it would be necessary to make inroads on the weaker tribes to keep up the supply. This would soon lead them into col-

lision

Taxation of natives.
Poll tax.

Slavery.

lision with the Ashantees, who would not be long in availing themselves of the opportunity of regaining their lost ascendancy, and when this formidable power reached the sea it cannot be doubted but that it would act as the neighbouring kingdom of Dahomey does, and export every negro for whom purchasers could be found. Nor would the result be far different if the protected tribes were able successfully to resist the Ashantees; for the wars with one another, in which in accordance with their universal practice they would soon be found engaged, would lead to the capture of prisoners, the readiest and most satisfactory way of disposing of whom would be by sale to the slave dealers.

Such would be the probable consequences, as regards the slave trade, of our withdrawal from the coast; and though our place might be taken by some other European power, it must be very questionable whether such a change would ensure perfect immunity from the same results.

The natives of the Gold Coast have been termed a race of slaves; and it has been stated by one who knew them well, that every man in the country is born liable to the condition of a slave; notwithstanding this, the condition of the domestic slave in the protected territory is by no means one of great hardship; under ordinary circumstances he is considered a member of his master's family, with which he lives on terms of equality; he is, as a rule, treated with kindness and consideration, and although cases of cruelty and oppression cannot fail to occur, it is well known throughout the country that an appeal to the British power for protection or redress is never made in vain.

The climate of the Gold Coast is not superior, in point of healthiness, to that of the other settlements. Although the yellow fever is not known there, dysentery in a very fatal form is extremely common, the only complete remedy for which is immediate removal from the country; and so well is this now understood, that the casualties of officers serving in the Colony are not from this cause probably larger than those of the other settlements on the coast.

The neighbourhood of Accra has long enjoyed the reputation of being a healthier, as it is certainly a more cheerful and pleasanter residence than Cape Coast, and it has been proposed to move the seat of Government thither. This scheme, which was fortunately not carried out, is now rendered impossible by the almost entire destruction by earthquakes in 1863 of the two castles and other public buildings which would have been occupied by the Government establishments, and whose condition is such as altogether to preclude their restoration, were even the country secure against a return of this dangerous and destructive visitation.

LAGOS.

FROM the settlement of Liberia, in longitude 11° west, to the River Benin, in longitude 5° east, a distance of upwards of 1,000 miles, there is not on the whole extent of its surf-bound and dangerous coast an opening capable of admitting vessels, except at Lagos. On either side of this opening there is, moreover, a safe and secure communication for boats, extending on the eastward as far as the Benin river, and on the westward, throughout the whole border of the notorious slave-dealing kingdom of Dahomey.

Thus situated, it was natural that for many years the Island of Lagos should have been the head quarters of this traffic in the Bight of Benin, although at the same time the seat of a considerable trade in palm oil, and that its transactions, with all but the piratical slave dealers who infested it, should have been characterised by lawlessness and brutality.

In 1851 the country being under the rule of Kosoko, who had driven away the rightful king, Akitoye, an attempt was made to exact satisfaction for the insults and defiance which the usurper had offered to the British cruisers; and shortly afterwards a successful attack on the town resulted in the flight of Kosoko, and the restoration, by the British authorities, of Akitoye to the throne. A treaty was then made with the king and chiefs of Lagos, by which they engaged to prevent the export of slaves from their country, to open the port to legitimate trade, to put a stop to human sacrifices, and to permit and encourage the establishment of missionaries. A consul was also appointed for the protection of British interests; and the presence of a man-of-war assisted in preserving order, and in supporting the king against the efforts of Kosoko to displace him.

In 1855 Akitoye died, and was succeeded by his son, Doemo, a man of low intellect and weak character, who soon proved his incompetency for the office. In the absence of any head possessed of sufficient authority to control the discordant elements which then composed the society of Lagos, the greatest disorder and misrule prevailed; there was no effective protection for property; no mode of enforcing the payment of debts; traders were plundered and ill-used, and no redress of grievances could be obtained without bribing the people about the king. Human sacrifices were permitted, even in sight of the town, whilst slaves are said to have been exported from its immediate neighbourhood. In fact, the treaty became a nullity, and Doemo's control over his people was little more than nominal.

Moved by the necessity of interposing some check to these evils, which were yearly becoming worse instead of better, and satisfied that the permanent occupation of Lagos was indispensable to the complete suppression of the slave trade in the Bight of Benin, Her Majesty's Government decided, in 1861, on changing the anomalous protectorate which existed under the consul into an avowed occupation of the island as a British settlement.

Domestic slaves.

Climate.

Removal of seat of Government to Accra.

Situation of settlement.

Lagos, formerly head quarters of slavery.

History of the cession.

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On the 6th August 1861 a treaty was accordingly signed, by which Docemo ceded to Her Majesty the Island of Lagos, with all rights and territories appertaining to it, retaining the title of king, and being guaranteed a pension equal to the net revenue annually received by him, a pension which was fixed at 1,000*l.* per annum.

Kosoko, the ex-king, having expressed his desire to return and reside permanently at Lagos, was permitted to do so in 1862; and on his renouncing all rights of sovereignty over the eastern districts, where he had hitherto been acknowledged as king, was granted a pension of 400*l.* a year, which he continues to receive. By this arrangement the ports of the towns of Palma and Leekie, which up to that time had been open for the export of slaves, became British territory, to the exclusion of all but legitimate commerce.

The town of Badagry, situated on the Lagos Lagoon, some distance to the westward, had been included in the territory belonging to Docemo, and ceded by him; but some claim to it having been put forward by the king and chiefs of Porto Novo, the question of its title was, in 1863, set at rest by a formal cession of the town by its chiefs and people, in consideration of an annual payment to them.

At the present time the Island of Lagos, with the towns of Badagry, Palma, and Leekie, the whole seaboard extending between them, with the waters of the lagoon, is recognised as British territory, and is placed under the administration of a Governor, with Executive and Legislative Councils. The land interposed between the lagoon and the sea beach, having belonged to Docemo, became ours by cession; but to avoid any complications arising from the presence of domestic slavery, it has not been thought advisable to recognise it as British territory; at the same time, as the existence of a country or district without a recognised protector is unknown in this part of Africa, it will not be advisable that we should altogether renounce the rights which we have acquired, though it will not be necessary for us to exercise them when the doing so may lead to inconvenience.

There are also two independent territories, Okeodan and Addo, adjacent to Lagos, the people of which have, by their own desire, entered into treaties with us, whereby they pledge themselves to be guided by our advice in all their dealings with the surrounding tribes, to prevent the export of slaves on their passage through their country, and to protect and facilitate all lawful commerce. In return for this concession they were promised British protection, a protection which is not, however, understood by either party to involve the responsibilities which have been supposed to apply to it on the Gold Coast. The small and adjoining territory of Igbessa, which was formerly dependent on the King of Lagos, has also been included in the same arrangement, but without any treaty being made with it.

The exports of Lagos consist principally of palm and other oils, with a small quantity of ivory and cotton. The palm oil tree grows freely in the immediate neighbourhood of the island, and on either side of the lagoons; but hitherto the greater part of the export has been derived from the interior, where the natives, in peace time, occupy themselves extensively in its collection. It appears from a return of the vice consul that, in 1861, the value of palm oil that left Lagos was 153,295 *l.*, whilst the export of the article in the last half of 1862, when it first became a British Colony (Return, No. 22, Appendix), was but 60,069*l.*, and in the following year, 1863, had only risen to 138,250*l.* This falling off arose from the prevalence of wars in the neighbourhood of the settlement, between the Egbas, Dahomians, and Ibadans; it being a law of the country, emanating, no doubt, from the chiefs and head men, who are usually the instigators and encouragers of these wars, that during their prevalence no trade or cultivation shall be carried on, and thus the mass of the people, who would otherwise be employed in these occupations, are constrained to remain in camp or with the army. For this reason the Egbas refuse to allow the removal of any of the immense stock of palm oil and other produce belonging to merchants in Lagos, and now locked up in Abeokuta, to the great loss of its owners and to the injury of their own people and trade; and on a recent occasion, when some successes of the Egbas appeared to Lieutenant Governor Glover to present a favourable opportunity for procuring from them a temporary relaxation of this restriction, he succeeded in obtaining permission for the removal of about 200 tons of cotton (Letter B, Appendix), but not a gallon of palm oil would they allow to be taken away. The explanation of this proceeding is to be found in the fact that cotton is cultivated to some extent by women and children, whilst the manufacture of palm oil is the work of men.

Notwithstanding the obstacles at present interposed to trade, there is much reason to hope that the influence which the local Government now exercises over the contending parties will ultimately be successful in reconciling their differences, and it is the opinion of competent persons engaged in the trade, that 80,000 tons of palm oil might be exported from Lagos the year after peace was secured; in the meantime, the export is maintained by the people of Lagos, whose former employment as carriers and canoe-men to the neighbouring tribes having been put to an end by the war, have turned their attention to the collection of palm oil (and the cultivation of provisions) on the lands bordering the lagoons, and are thus usefully occupied in developing the resources of the country.

There is no authentic record of the imports into Lagos prior to its becoming a British possession; but, for the latter half-year of 1862, duty was paid on goods to the value of 77,932*l.*, which was increased in 1863 to 171,139*l.*, of which the principal articles were (Return No. 23, Appendix) wines, spirits, cotton goods, tobacco, and the materials for casks for holding palm oil. Although the disturbances in the interior prevent the egress

of

Cession of Lagos.
Pension to King Docemo.
Return of Kosoko, ex-king, permitted.
Pension to Kosoko.
Acquisition of Palma and Leekie.
Cession of Badagry.

Present extent of territory.

Form of government.

Treaties with towns of Okeodan and Addo.

Arrangement with Igbessa.

Exports.
Palm oil trade.

Prospects of the trade.

Imports.

of any produce, the importation of goods is not prohibited, and some of the merchants, with the view of keeping up their connection with their native dealers, and to ensure the safety of the produce belonging to them in their hands, have continued to send up supplies, but the general imports into the settlements have naturally been much reduced.

Previous to the cession of Lagos the duties levied by the king consisted of a 3 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on imports, and 2 per cent. on exports from the port. For this the British Government substituted, in June 1862, an *ad valorem* export and import duty of 2 per cent., which was altered in 1863 to 3 per cent. on imports, with certain higher specific duties on spirits, tobacco, guns, and gunpowder, the export duty being abolished; further modifications took place in the same year, and the duties were finally fixed at 4 per cent. on imports, with specific duties on the articles before mentioned, rates which still continue in force, and which constitute the whole taxation of the settlement. No complaint appears to have been made by any one that these charges are oppressive or burdensome; and, considering the circumstances of the people, and the ample return which their labour produces, it cannot be said that they are heavily taxed.

The revenue raised during the first half-year's occupation of the settlements amounted to 7,130*l.*; in the following year 16,708*l.* was raised; and the revenue of the past year is found to have reached 22,826*l.* The greater part of this is produced by customs' receipts, and the balance is made up by a Parliamentary grant, which has averaged 2,000*l.* a year, and of certain small amounts from fines, forfeitures, and sales of land. (Returns, Nos. 25, 26, Appendix.)

The expenditure of the Colony, as will be seen by Return, No. 25, has been 6,510*l.* in the half-year of 1862; 15,837*l.* in the year 1863; and in 1864 it amounted to 22,805*l.*; the Return, No. 27 (Appendix), exhibits the principal objects to which it was applied, none of which, on inquiry, seem open to particular objection. The charge for the fixed civil establishments and for miscellaneous services shows a large increase, a considerable proportion of which was for additional offices; and, in some instances, for augmentations of salaries; whilst the outlay on police, and especially for the armed police, which have been raised for the protection of the settlement in consequence of the small military force appropriated for the purpose, has been attended with heavy expense. On the whole, the expenditure does not show an excess over the revenue, though it is necessary to observe that this does not accurately represent the financial condition of the settlement, since it appears by the Return, No. 28 (Appendix), that there has been incurred, in addition to the recorded expenditure, a debt of 4,224*l.*, partly for the hire and expense of a steamer, which was rendered necessary by the withdrawal of one of the men-of-war hitherto appropriated for the purpose, and also by the heavy expenditure for works and buildings which was required on the establishment of the Government. The recent depressed state of trade has also temporarily affected the receipts from revenue, and rendered necessary the borrowing of a small sum for current expenses.

Although it is clear that the first formation of a new Colony, especially in such a situation as Lagos, must have involved very heavy demands upon the public purse, it does not seem unreasonable to expect that the 45,674*l.*, which was the amount raised from revenue in the two years and a half it has been in existence, would have been found sufficient to effect all that was most wanted without involving the settlements in any debt. All that has been said as to the necessity of more careful management of the finances of the Gambia and Gold Coast applies with equal force to Lagos, which has, however, an advantage over these Colonies in the steady growth of its revenue under circumstances of considerable depression in its trade; and if, as there seems reasonable ground for supposing, this increase is maintained, the settlement will have no difficulty in relieving itself of all its liabilities without diminishing in any way the extent or efficiency of its establishments.

The administration of justice is undertaken by a chief magistrate, a police magistrate, and the two civil commandants of Badagry and Palma, an establishment which appears sufficient for the duties which at present devolve upon it; eventually, however, as the inhabitants, of whom the number on the island is variously estimated between 40,000 and 80,000, and is probably nearer the larger than smaller number, learn to avail themselves of the cheap and ready justice which our courts dispense, it may be expected that some addition will require to be made to the judicial staff.

It has been stated that the protection of the settlements has rendered expedient the establishment of a local armed force raised from the natives of Houssa, large numbers of whom are found in Lagos, where they have, in most instances, been brought over as slaves. These people have a strong antipathy to their former masters, with a considerable aptitude for military duties; 100 of them have accordingly been organised as an armed police, who not only share in all the duties of the garrison, but also perform many others which the custom of the service prevents soldiers from being employed upon, and which are absolutely required in a new settlement in the position of Lagos; for example, when summonses from the court have to be executed by the ordinary civil police in localities where resistance may be apprehended, or when prisoners have to be brought through similar places, or when it is necessary to send messengers through disturbed districts, these men are found capable of executing such services with great courage and fidelity; whilst, when not so employed, they perform all the duties of soldiers, mounting guard over stores, magazines, buildings, &c., and are ready to turn out at once on the order of the Governor for the suppression of any disturbance or commotion.

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Duties levied previous to cession.

Present duties.

Revenue.

Parliamentary grant.

Expenditure.

Debt of the Colony.

Administration of justice.

Local force of Houssas, or armed police.

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the country to be developed to an extent hitherto deemed impossible, they earnestly entreat that these facts may be brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Government, with an expression of their desire to see peace preserved in any manner that may seem best to the Government.

This memorial, emanating from some of the most intelligent and experienced gentlemen in the settlement, expressing, as it does, views so completely at variance with those of the other memorialists, is deserving of attentive consideration.

Slavery. The slave trade does not now exist nearer to Lagos than Whydah and the other sea-coast towns of Dahomey where, moreover, at present it is effectually repressed by the vigilant exertions of the cruisers, five of whom are continually at anchor along this line of coast within two miles of the shore.

Domestic slavery. Domestic slavery prevails in much the same form as on the Gold Coast.

Climate. From the situation of Lagos, the settlement cannot fail to be prejudicial to the health of Europeans; it has, however, been occupied by Government establishments for too short a time to enable any decided conclusion to be arrived at on this point.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

HAVING described the condition of the four settlements with respect to their trade, finances, taxation, administration, and relations with the natives, it becomes necessary to consider how far they satisfactorily attain the objects which the country has in view in maintaining them, viz., the suppression of the slave trade and the encouragement of British commerce, and how far they may be more completely attained by any improved arrangements.

Disappearance of slave trade from the neighbourhood of settlements.

As regards the slave trade, it is a well established fact that it has disappeared from the neighbourhood of every spot on the West Coast, which has been made a British settlement; the distance to which it has been removed depending in a great measure on the extent to which the authorities of the settlement have been able to make their influence felt. Nor need this statement be limited to British territory, the Dutch and Danish possessions on the Gold Coast, and the Republic of Liberia having been equally the means of banishing the traffic from their vicinity.

This is mainly due to existence of settlements.

It may be supposed that the presence of the squadron has had some share in producing this result, but that it is mainly due to the existence of the settlements, is supported by the fact that even in those which have been the least visited by men-of-war, it has been as effectually suppressed as in those which have been their most constant resort.

Introduction of commerce not of itself sufficient to suppress the slave trade.

As the introduction of legitimate commerce furnishes a safer and more remunerative occupation to the negro than he derives from trafficking in slaves, it will no doubt suggest itself as one cause for this banishment of slavery from the neighbourhood of the settlements, but experience shows that commerce is in itself powerless to produce this result. Lagos has for many years had a large trade carried on by British and other European merchants, yet this did not prevent it from being at the same time the head quarters of slavery in the bights. At Whydah an extensive trade in palm oil has existed since 1849, and yet slaves have been regularly shipped from that port up to the present day, and, as has been already stated, a cargo was awaiting embarkation there in December last. Nor is this difficult of explanation; palm oil, which forms the principal article of trade is collected by natives, chiefly domestic slaves, residing at or near the coast, its weight and bulk preventing it from being brought from a great distance in a country where there are no rivers; and it is evident that it would answer the chiefs better to turn their labour to account in this way than to sell them for exportation, even were not the customs of the country entirely opposed to such a proceeding. There is nothing, however, to prevent the chiefs from purchasing for export any number of the slaves captured in the hunts which are regularly undertaken for this purpose in certain parts of the interior, and so legitimate commerce and the slave trade may be found combined in any spot on the coast to which British authority or influence does not extend.

Only two spots on the West Coast of Africa where slavery exists now.

Thus the existence of the British settlements, and of the Republic of Liberia, has served to eradicate the slave trade from all but one spot on the 1,500 miles of coast extending from the Gambia to Quittah; and the recent acquisition of Lagos may be said to have freed almost entirely from the curse the remainder of the coast; the two exceptions being the small spot between the Gambia and Sierra Leone, the case of which has already been referred to in the report on the latter Colony, and a portion of the sea coast lying between Quittah and Lagos, immediately in the rear of which are the dominions of the notorious King of Dahomey.

King of Dahomey peculiarly interested in support of slavery.

It is well known that, from the peculiar circumstances of his country, this monarch is indebted for his wealth and the maintenance of his authority over his people almost exclusively to the slave trade. Whydah, the chief seaport of his dominions, is, as it has always been, the principal place of export; and advantage is also taken, when the vigilance of the cruisers renders it necessary, of the independent towns of Great Popo, Aghway, and Little Popo, situated to the westward, the inhabitants of which are only too ready to afford every facility for a trade from which they derive such profit.

In 1848, the King of Dahomey requested that a British Governor might be sent to Whydah, an offer which it is needless to say was not made with any expectation that his slaving operations would be thereby impeded; but it is open to question whether, had the arrangement been adopted, the influence which our presence would have brought with it would not have produced a very different state of matters in regard to the slave trade to that which now exists.

The town of Little Popo applied in 1861, through the Government of Sierra Leone, to be permitted to cede its territory to Great Britain, an offer with which it was not thought advisable to close, and there is little doubt that we might, were it considered expedient, readily obtain such a footing in this neighbourhood as would enable us to impose a very serious check to the slave dealing which now prevails. It is true that the export in this locality is almost, although not entirely, kept under by the vigilance of the squadron, but this is only effected by keeping a number of men-of-war (there were six in December last) anchored within two miles of the coast, at short distances from each other, with armed boats in the intervals; an arrangement entailing the severest and most trying duties on the officers and men employed, and attaining its partial success only at very great cost to the country.

If the present trade of the settlements be compared with that of any other British possession, it is not certainly of any great moment; but, such as it is, it owes its continuance mainly to the encouragement and protection which their presence affords it. Their exports in 1863 (the latest for which complete returns can be obtained) amounted to within a trifle of 650,000 *l.*, whilst their imports for the same period reached 533,000 *l.*

The mode in which the trade is carried on has been already alluded to in the former part of the report, and it will be readily understood that a commerce which is conducted chiefly by native agents, and to a great extent in countries inhabited by savage and lawless tribes, at considerable distances from the settlements, can only be prosecuted in safety when their influence is felt and their authority respected; indeed, notwithstanding the comparative security afforded to trade, local interruptions of it are but too numerous, and the difficulties which have arisen between the natives and ourselves have, in many instances, had their origin in robberies and assaults committed by them on our traders and their servants, so that the merchants are probably not in error in asserting that the complete annihilation of their trade would in most cases follow the withdrawal of the protection they now enjoy.

It has been already stated that the commerce of the settlements is, at the present moment, in a somewhat depressed condition, a result partly attributable to the great rise in the value of cotton goods occasioned by the war in America, and, in a greater degree, to the wars and differences which have prevailed of late amongst the natives in their neighbourhood; peace and order are, however, now being gradually restored, and the recent formation of several new companies, who are already engaged in extensive commercial operations, leads to the belief that the resources of the country are at length about to be developed, and its trade to receive an impetus which will render unquestioned its right to such support and protection as are accorded to all our other possessions.

So far, then, as the suppression of the slave trade and the encouragement of commerce are concerned, it may be said that the settlements satisfactorily attain the principal objects for which they are maintained; but it must be borne in mind that there are other objects, the attainment of which augments greatly the advantages which the maintenance of the settlements confers; these are, the abolition of human sacrifice, and other similar barbarous practices, the removal of that oppression and injustice which too often attend the administration of the native laws, and the introduction of such modifications into the laws and customs regarding domestic slaves as shall at least lead to some improvement in their condition, if it does not altogether free them from bondage.

Now, it may be safely affirmed that, wherever there has been a necessity for them, our efforts have been successfully directed to these important ends. Human sacrifices and torture for witchcraft are unheard of in the neighbourhood of the Northern settlements, and although not altogether unknown on the Gold Coast, are even there of extreme rarity, punishment never failing to be visited on the offender who is convicted of them, no matter what his rank. The establishment of our own legal tribunals in all the territories under our rule has given facilities for relief to those who are oppressed, of which they are very ready to avail themselves, and by this, amongst other measures, a great deal has been done to mitigate the evils of domestic slavery. Moreover, there has been spread widely abroad an appreciation of the superiority of European civilisation, and of the advantages it brings with it, the results of which, if not yet apparent, there can be no doubt will be seen hereafter.

Whilst claiming for the settlements the successful attainment of these important ends, it is not to be denied that many weighty objections have been urged against them; it has been said that they are fatal to life, costly to the country, and ill-managed; that they involve us in wars and collisions with the natives, and bring no benefits in return which could not be obtained as readily and more economically were they altogether abandoned, or at least retained only as small trading posts, perhaps with a consular officer to protect British interests.

That they are prejudicial to the health of Europeans is undoubted, though notwithstanding this fact, there is no part of the coast in which establishments are not to be found kept up by British and other merchants, some of whom reside for years in the country, without suffering materially from its climate; but with respect to its effect on the lives of the

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Request of Dahomey for a British Governor at Whydah.

Application of Little Popo for annexation.

Trade of settlements as compared with other British possessions. Total value of exports and imports of the settlements. Difficulties arising from the mode of carrying on trade.

State of commerce.

Settlements attain objects for which they are maintained.

Other important objects also served by their existence.

Objections that have been urged against the settlements.

Objection that they are fatal to life.

App. No. 1.

Average mortality of navy and army on West Coast of Africa and West Indies.

officers and men of the army and navy, and the civil servants whom our policy compels to remain on the coast, such statistics as are accessible do not seem to establish that the country deserves the fatal character attributed to it. In the Appendix, No. 29, will be found a return exhibiting the mortality of the navy employed on the West African station, and of that on the North American and West Indian station, in the five years from 1857 to 1861, from which it appears, that whilst the North American and West Indian squadron loses on that station an average of 28·26 per 1,000 of its officers and men, the West African squadron loses on an average 31·14 out of the same number. A similar comparison of the mortality amongst the black regiments employed respectively in the West Indies and on the West Coast (Return, No. 30, Appendix), shows an average of deaths in the former of 23·92 per 1,000 against 32·19 per 1,000 in the latter. These returns do not certainly establish the objection that, compared with other stations on which our army and navy are called upon to serve, the West Coast of Africa is particularly fatal to life. No detailed information has been obtained respecting the loss by death of civil servants of the Government on the West Coast; but it may be stated that the loss of life from climate amongst this class is by no means large; the facility with which officers of all the services who suffer to any dangerous extent from disease are permitted to return home on sick leave, must operate to diminish considerably the number of fatal cases.

Objection that they are costly to this country.

The expenditure of the Imperial Government for the settlements consists of a small grant in aid of their civil establishments which averages about 12,000*l.* a year, and of the cost of the military establishments required for their protection, an amount which varies with the strength of the force employed. Recent events on the Gold Coast had caused a considerable increase to be made to this force, but the present appearance of affairs seems to justify its reduction to about its usual strength.

It will be considered presently whether larger reductions cannot be effected in the cost for military establishments without endangering the security of the settlements, and with increased efficiency to their administration.

Objection that they are ill-managed, and involve us in native wars.

Admitting that there may have been errors in the administration of these settlements, that their finances may not have been always carefully managed, and that differences or collisions with the natives have occurred which greater forethought or judgment might perhaps have in some instances prevented, it cannot be denied that, from their circumstances and position, they are exposed to risks and embarrassments, from which most other colonies are free, and that whenever settlements are brought into contact with warlike and lawless savages such complications as have occurred on the West Coast are by no means unfrequent, and are generally productive of financial and other difficulties.

The possibility of introducing improvements into their administration will, however, presently form a subject of consideration.

Objection that settlements would flourish as well under consular agents.

The suggestion that the benefits accruing from the settlements would be as readily obtained were they abolished, or, at least, made trading posts with a consul, is supposed to be supported by the fact, that the oil rivers, as the district is termed, in which the Benin, Nun, Calabar, and Bonny Rivers are situated, have a trade in palm oil exceeding that of the settlements, and yet that it is sustained without any aid or interference from Government.

Case of the oil rivers quoted.

This statement is perfectly correct, except as regards the non-interference of the Government, the Commodore being compelled at times to exercise all the authority which the power of the squadron gives him to maintain order in these rivers, which are said to be occasionally the scene of great irregularities.

It must, however, be borne in mind, that the district in question is most prolific in palm oil trees, and that ready access is obtainable to it through its numerous rivers; thus favourably situated, Europeans had every opportunity of making the natives aware of the value of the produce that lay around them, and of inducing them to turn their attention to its collection, whilst the facilities which were afforded to trade were such as are not to be found in any other part of Africa.

Urged by these considerations, the chiefs were soon led to see that it was more advantageous to employ their slaves in the manufacture of palm oil than to sell them; and it is easy to understand how, under these circumstances, no Government aid should have been required to create the large trade that now exists, and by its agency has abolished the former traffic in slaves.

Unfortunately, however, on the whole length of coast on which our eastern settlements are situated, there is no river capable of admitting a ship of any kind (indeed there is but one stream between Sierra Leone and Benin, a distance of 1,100 miles), and in the northern colonies of Sierra Leone and Gambia, both of which possess rivers, there is not the material for such a trade as is found at the oil rivers; their case must therefore be admitted to be an exceptional one, and, as such, to afford no ground for the objections which have been raised upon it to the retention of the settlements in their present form.

The idea of reducing the settlements to the condition of trading ports, with a consular authority to protect British interests, no doubt recommends itself to notice by the impression it creates that the expense, trouble, and inconvenience the settlements now entail would be thus altogether removed; but we are fortunately not without experience of the consequences to which such an arrangement would lead.

Supposition that under consuls the expense and trouble, &c. of settlements would be reduced.

Case of Lagos under a consulate cited.

For ten years, from 1852 to 1861, the island of Lagos was the residence of European merchants, who carried on an extensive and remunerative trade, for the prosecution of which its position afforded considerable facilities, and which at the same time preserve it to a great extent from the aggression of neighbouring tribes. It was governed by its native king, who was placed on the throne, after the expulsion of the usurper, by the efforts of the British

British squadron, and was maintained in that position by the same power, and, lastly, it had the assistance, as British Consuls, of men of ability and local experience, who exerted themselves in every way to promote its prosperity and advancement. The result has been already detailed; after 10 years of misrule, Her Majesty's Government, notwithstanding its reluctance to extend the British dependencies on the African coast, was compelled in the interest of humanity, to take possession of Lagos, and make it a British settlement.

If such were the consequences of this experiment in a place like Lagos, possessing so many conditions favourable to its success, it can hardly be doubted what would follow an attempt to apply it to places like the Gambia and the Gold Coast, surrounded by powerful and warlike natives, who are now only kept in restraint by the knowledge that we possess the power to enforce submission to our authority.

But if the reduction of the settlements to the condition of trading posts, would be likely to prove so injurious, how much greater would be the evils accruing from their entire abandonment? It may be presumed that the use which Sierra Leone must always be as a coaling station for men of war, and the position and influence she exercises over so considerable a portion of the country, coupled with her prosperous and peaceful state, would prevent any thought of her abandonment. The Gambia and Gold Coast have not, however, these claims to consideration; and whilst of the latter it has been already shown that the withdrawal of the British authorities would probably be the signal for the reopening of the slave trade, it is impossible to predict a better fate for the Gambia; the religious and other wars constantly prevailing there between the natives lead to the capture of large numbers of prisoners of whom they are always anxious to dispose to one another, but whom they would be highly gratified to be able to sell for export beyond the seas, were the opportunity which our absence would afford once granted them, an opportunity which the free navigation of their fine river would place at the disposal of tribes far in the interior.

If, therefore, the slave trade is to be effectually and economically repressed, the settlements must be maintained; and it now remains to consider what improved arrangements should be introduced into their administration, with the view of securing their greater efficiency.

On reviewing the history of the settlements, the conclusion seems inevitable that in respect to the three smaller, Gambia, Gold Coast, and Lagos, whether as regards the state of their finances, their taxation, legislation, and the general management of their affairs, the present condition of each of them may be attributed in great measure to the want of a regular and well-defined system of administration. For this, as well as for another evil, the existence of which is equally apparent, viz., the entire absence among the four colonies of anything like a uniform general policy in their dealings with the natives, the remedy that suggests itself is the placing the whole under the control of one central authority.

The principle on which this arrangement should be carried out is that which prevails in our smaller West Indian colonies, each of which is permitted to raise and appropriate its revenue, to pass its laws, and generally to administer its affairs, subject only to the approval of the Governor in Chief.

Sierra Leone, as the most important and centrally situated of the West African Settlements, naturally presents itself as the proper seat of the Central Government, from which would emanate such directions as were necessary for the general guidance of the other settlements, whilst, in cases of greater emergency, opportunity would be afforded to their administrators of referring for instructions which would in many instances relieve them from the difficulty in which they are now often placed, of having to determine, on their own unaided responsibility, on matters of great moment to the welfare and even safety of their settlements.

The length of time that this system of Government has been in successful operation in the West Indies will probably be considered a sufficient ground for proposing its trial in the settlements, and it seems only necessary to observe, in answer to the objection that may possibly be urged against it, that it has been already tried and condemned; that the arrangement under which the Governments of the Gambia and the Gold Coast were formerly administered under the jurisdiction of Sierra Leone differed from that now contemplated in the important points, that these minor colonies were not then permitted to legislate in the smallest particular for themselves, and had not even the liberty of administering justice in their own courts, thus rendering their dependence upon the Central Government an impediment in place of an advantage to them. It may also be added that the absence of any certain and speedy communication between the settlements in those days had, doubtless, some share in leading the Committee of 1842 to recommend the separation of all the Governments.

The arrangement now contemplated will make it necessary to provide the colonies with greater facilities for intercommunication than they at present possess, and, in making the necessary provision for this purpose, it will be right to consider whether it will not be also possible so to arrange that the settlements having an extensive sea-board or much internal water communication may be assisted in maintaining that regular and certain intercourse with their people, which is one of the surest guarantees for the preservation of peace.

Sierra Leone as the head quarters of the General Government will require the exclusive services of a small steamer suitable for visiting the settlements. Having several outlying

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Consequence of such a change at Gambia and Gold Coast.

Consequence of abandonment of settlements.

Settlements must be maintained if slave trade is to be repressed.

Advantages to the settlements of a central government.

Sierra Leone proposed seat of central government.

Success of this system in the West Indies.

Objection to the proposed system.

Greater facilities of intercommunication to be provided.

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dependencies and much internal water communication, she will also need the aid of a vessel of light draft of water, capable of running up the smaller creeks.

The Gambia has only her river, for the navigation of which sufficient provision is already made by a steamer supplied by the Imperial Government and supported partly by the Colony.

The Gold Coast, though having an extensive sea-board, has no navigable river, and it would not, therefore, be advisable that a vessel should be appropriated for the exclusive use of the Government.

At Lagos the Admiralty has hitherto supplied the services of two gun-boats, which have been employed in the navigation of the lagoons, and in communicating with vessels outside the entrance.

From the shallowness of the water of the lagoons it is necessary that the vessel employed in their navigation should have a very light draught of water, whilst, for going outside, the heavy sea that prevails on the bar necessitates the employment of a larger and deeper steamer.

Although two vessels are thus required for the use of the settlement, it would be quite possible to dispense with the service of the larger, except at particular periods; for example, when the arrival of the mail, men-of-war, or store ships, &c., was expected; but during these intervals she might proceed to the Gold Coast, and afford the Governor of that settlement an opportunity of visiting some of his numerous out-stations. As the distance between the two colonies is but 300 miles, there would be plenty of time to allow of her performing this service at frequent intervals, without prejudice to her ordinary duties at Lagos.

It appears, from the Army Estimates for the present year, that the proposed military expenditure on the four settlements amounts to 127,897 *l.*, and that this provides for an effective force of two regiments of black troops, or about 1,600 men.

It has been already stated that the condition of affairs on the Gold Coast and Lagos is such as to warrant the reduction of the force allotted for their occupation one-half, or by half a regiment; this should effect a corresponding diminution of one-fourth in the amount of the estimate, but so much of this expenditure is caused by the large establishment of staff which the exigencies of the climate appear to render necessary, that it will not effect anything like this saving.

The force formerly employed on the coast averaged about 1,000 men, and there seems no reason to suppose that it might not be at once reduced to this amount without exposing the settlements to any risk; further reductions are, however, needed to bring the charge for their defence within reasonable limits, and the readiest mode of effecting this is to be found in the extension to the other settlements, so far as their circumstances warrant, of the system already successfully tried at Lagos, the employment of an armed police force of the natives, known as Houssas, as auxiliaries to, or even substitutes for, regular soldiers.

In the report on Lagos will be found a more particular account of the history and characteristics of this tribe, who, in addition to their other good qualities, have, unlike most other natives on the coast, no objection to go to other countries, many of them having readily enlisted for service in a black regiment in the West Indies.

Protected as the West Coast Settlements have been hitherto by a body of regular troops, it would not be expedient to make suddenly the experiment of confiding their security entirely to a local force; but, as a sufficient number of Houssas can be organised, a reduction may be effected in the strength of the garrisons, especially of the minor settlements, and the chief part of the troops concentrated at Sierra Leone, where it would be, with the increased facilities of communication to be supplied, at once available for movement on any point where it might appear to the head of the Government that its services could be usefully and judiciously employed.

The concentration of the Government, the employment of additional steamers, and the organisation of a new police force will involve a considerable addition of expense which most of the colonies are certainly not now in a condition to meet. With improved administration will, no doubt, come an improved revenue, and the time may not be far distant when under such circumstances they will be able to bear the whole cost of their Government; for the present, however, aid must continue to be given them, and when it is noticed (Return, No. 31, Appendix) that of the 89,500 *l.* which is the total cost of their establishments, they raise 77,000 *l.*, leaving but 12,500 *l.* to be supplied from Imperial funds, it must be admitted that according to their means they contribute fairly to the expense of their administration.

If, however, the proposed reductions of the military establishments be carried into effect, there will result a very large saving to the Imperial Government on this head, and it may be presumed that, should enquiry establish the propriety of retaining the settlements, such assistance will be afforded as may be necessary to place them in a position to discharge efficiently, though economically, the important objects for which they will be maintained.

I have, &c.
(signed) H. St. George Ord.

Reductions in military expenditure, how to be effected.

Expense of proposed alterations.

APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

GAMBIA.

VALUE of the Principal Articles Exported in each of the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

—	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Ground-Nuts - -	109,846	149,714	130,497	162,649	188,747	68,745	79,612	101,060	134,321	102,948
Hides - - -	18,078	22,632	8,548	12,462	14,531	17,600	8,983	10,730	8,468	15,974
Wax - - -	22,202	25,147	21,416	9,493	15,651	12,178	7,781	12,478	6,187	9,022
Miscellaneous - -	23,756	18,311	16,116	17,004	8,531	11,841	12,761	12,570	5,447	13,729
TOTAL - - £.	173,882	215,804	176,577	201,628	227,460	110,364	109,137	136,838	154,423	141,673

Appendix, No 2.

GAMBIA.

VALUE of the Principal Articles Imported in each of the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

—	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Amber, Beads, and Coral.	7,963	5,217	7,280	2,986	3,988	1,105	311	no return	1,149	3,446
Cotton Goods - -	31,243	27,510	27,285	27,281	33,183	17,306	12,859	25,094	21,532	23,318
Guns - - -	8,017	4,891	5,196	8,820	7,784	5,049	3,644	2,540	3,630	13,661
Gunpowder - - -	5,731	4,722	3,576	6,073	6,711	3,470	2,076	2,947	3,619	4,131
Rice - - -	6,628	6,200	4,231	3,150	4,390	3,739	3,547	5,037	7,357	21,505
Tobacco - - -	8,413	18,567	11,433	25,176	19,621	9,064	13,323	14,747	17,771	22,353
Wines and Spirits -	7,805	12,038	7,678	12,004	10,077	8,110	8,585	12,358	11,329	17,313
Miscellaneous - -	47,647	47,309	42,173	33,180	32,939	26,747	27,893	46,558	33,438	70,238
TOTAL - - £.	124,047	126,454	108,852	118,620	118,693	76,156	73,138	109,581	99,825	175,965

Appendix, No. 3.

GAMBIA.

TOTAL Value of the Imports and Exports in each of the Eleven Years from 1854 to 1864.

—	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.
Imports -	£. 124,047	£. 126,454	£. 108,852	£. 118,620	£. 118,693	£. 76,150	£. 73,138	£. 109,581	£. 99,825	£. 175,965	£. 135,777
Exports -	£. 173,882	£. 215,804	£. 176,577	£. 201,628	£. 227,460	£. 110,364	£. 109,137	£. 136,838	£. 154,423	£. 141,673	£. 148,157

Appendix, No. 4.

GAMBIA.

AMOUNT of the Public Revenue and Expenditure in the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

—	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
Revenue - -	£. 16,103	£. 15,359	£. 17,375	£. 16,434	£. 15,220	£. 15,599	£. 14,154	£. 16,102	£. 15,169	£. 17,254
Expenditure - -	£. 18,686	£. 15,210	£. 14,097	£. 17,737	£. 15,547	£. 16,962	£. 15,274	£. 16,492	£. 15,177	£. 19,325

App. No. 1.

Appendix, No. 5.

GAMBIA.

RETURN showing the Principal Sources from which the Public Revenue was derived in each of the Five Years from 1859 to 1863.

	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Customs - - -	8,345	7,744	8,591	8,314	10,125
Fines and Forfeitures -	140	111	125	160	194
Licenses - - -	757	567	555	679	772
Parliamentary Grant	4,647	3,731	4,831	3,720	4,068
Palm Wine Duty - -	551	460	380	460	507
Rents - - -	604	550	547	547	503
Miscellaneous - - -	555	991	1,133	1,289	1,085
TOTAL - - - £.	15,599	14,154	16,162	15,169	17,254

Appendix, No. 6.

GAMBIA.

RETURN showing the various Branches of the Public Expenditure in each of the Five Years from 1859 to 1863.

	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Civil Establishments (fixed).	10,477	10,225	10,256	9,839	10,594
Education - - -	100	100	100	177	150
Administration of Justice.	71	78	65	112	189
Hospitals - - -	309	220	163	190	680
Revenue Services - -	332	492	512	102	219
Police and Gaols - -	376	548	484	297	737
Public Works, Buildings, and Roads.	2,079	1,537	800	437	1,075
Transport (Government Vessels).	1,686	338	757	674	2,128
Aborigines - - -	540	679	555	800	833
Miscellaneous - - -	992	1,057	2,800	2,549	2,720
TOTAL - - - £.	16,962	15,274	16,492	15,177	19,325

Appendix, No. 7.

GAMBIA.

RETURN of Assets and Liabilities on the 1st January 1865.

Assets :		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Balance in Colonial Chest - - - - -	- - - - -	104 3 -	
Advances to Heads of Departments - - - - -	- - - - -	55 - - -	
Local Improvements - - - - -	- - - - -	77 19 9	
TOTAL ASSETS - - - - £.			237 2 0
Liabilities :			
Salaries and Outstanding Accounts in the Colony - - - - -	- - - - -	1,523 17 1	
Amount due, Crown Agents to 30th September - - - - -	- - - - -	1,465 10 9	
Ditto - Admiralty for Coals - - - - -	- - - - -	1,774 16 4	
Ditto - Paymaster General - - - - -	- - - - -	1,083 - - -	
Ditto - Postmaster General - - - - -	- - - - -	40 9 7	
TOTAL LIABILITIES - - - - £.			5,867 13 9
Liabilities over Assets on 1st January 1865 - - - - -			5,630 11 -

Appendix, No. 8.

App. No. 1.

SIERRA LEONE.

VALUE of the Principal Articles Exported in each of the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Bennised - - -	-	5,758	4,859	4,958	5,199	3,475	7,090	2,637	3,341	3,794
Camwood - - -	8,441	7,331	4,816	6,803	5,047	7,982	8,255	2,285	2,039	675
Ginger - - -	-	5,136	6,118	6,056	7,531	7,246	4,958	7,716	9,024	14,680
Gold - - -	8,515	6,027	7,349	15,403	9,075	7,563	43,542	6,269	5,241	3,610
Ground-Nuts - -	8,144	27,702	25,002	25,612	14,449	24,576	34,514	17,346	28,500	35,170
Hides - - -	23,798	12,102	35,373	34,142	40,394	47,330	32,710	23,088	26,070	37,919
Ivory - - -	1,454	1,437	1,707	3,422	2,858	2,101	3,305	1,033	2,047	925
Palm Oil and Kernels	24,497	46,174	62,434	76,994	46,014	45,410	60,066	61,530	52,310	82,495
Timber - - -	29,646	25,872	9,841	26,859	41,086	10,034	13,302	5,052	15,030	2,042
Miscellaneous -	49,631	32,408	22,796	88,389	53,096	82,538	96,652	86,248	125,212	114,543
TOTAL - - £.	154,126	170,547	180,385	288,728	225,349	247,261	304,394	213,204	268,814	295,853

Appendix, No. 9.

SIERRA LEONE.

VALUE of the Principal Articles Imported in each of the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Beads - - -	2,504	1,510	3,428	2,203	1,871	4,504	4,077	2,350	2,128	2,604
Cotton and Silk Goods.	46,110	54,113	68,836	63,897	48,448	85,252	76,337	60,597	56,048	72,890
Guns - - -	2,230	975	1,821	2,881	3,631	2,631	1,235	no return	830	1,792
Gunpowder - - -	2,405	1,179	5,495	10,901	5,387	3,487	6,650	8,020	5,384	8,585
Hardware - - -	6,639	5,564	7,487	7,053	3,596	6,230	5,606	6,591	5,309	7,180
Tobacco - - -	5,093	7,514	9,101	4,065	15,195	12,817	2,246	4,322	13,126	32,374
Wines and Spirits -	9,486	10,471	14,022	11,311	13,054	13,710	8,349	13,275	14,736	12,479
Miscellaneous -	36,435	33,584	42,717	70,004	48,023	41,030	68,226	72,315	46,609	71,202
TOTAL - - £.	110,812	114,910	162,907	172,315	139,805	169,727	172,726	168,070	144,209	209,106

Appendix, No. 10.

SIERRA LEONE.

TOTAL VALUE of the Imports and Exports in each of the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Imports - - -	110,812	114,910	162,907	172,315	139,805	169,727	172,726	168,070	144,209	209,106
Exports - - -	154,126	170,547	180,384	288,728	225,349	247,261	304,394	213,204	268,814	295,853

Appendix, No. 11.

SIERRA LEONE.

AMOUNT of Public Revenue and Expenditure in the Years from 1854 to 1863.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Revenue - - -	20,225	28,777	35,601	33,068	30,681	31,432	33,734	36,461	37,355	47,136
Expenditure - - -	27,584	32,417	34,457	30,582	28,031	20,142	31,136	36,243	44,265	47,051

App. No. 1.

Appendix, No. 12.

SIERRA LEONE.

RETURN showing the Principal Sources from which the Public Revenue was derived in each of the Five Years from 1859 to 1863.

	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Customs - - -	19,125	20,168	20,033	18,160	24,991
Fines and Forfeitures - -	869	741	1,587	1,741	1,584
Licenses - - -	2,877	3,123	3,341	3,818	3,744
Parliamentary Grant -	1,520	1,250	2,000	1,614	1,834
Receipts from Hospital -	2,105	2,558	3,975	1,790	2,678
Taxes - - -	3,066	3,229	3,145	3,501	3,788
Miscellaneous - - -	1,870	2,665	2,380	6,731	8,517
TOTAL - - - £.	31,432	33,734	36,461	37,355	47,136

Appendix, No. 13.

SIERRA LEONE.

RETURN showing the various Branches of the Public Expenditure in each of the Five Years from 1859 to 1863.

	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Civil Establishments (fixed).	17,080	17,220	19,863	20,557	22,973
Administration of Justice	308	358	165	307	393
Revenue Services - - -	420	390	298	323	630
Ecclesiastical - - -	nil.	nil.	78	128	182
Hospitals - - -	1,286	1,258	1,857	1,359	1,854
Police and Gaols - - -	1,187	1,090	1,177	1,186	2,632
Public Works, Roads, &c.	3,139	3,703	3,290	7,125	7,667
Aborigines - - -	1,364	947	1,598	1,256	978
Miscellaneous - - -	4,363	6,170	7,917	12,024*	9,742
TOTAL - - - £.	29,147	31,136	36,243	44,265	47,051

* Including 4,144*l.*, expenses of the Quiah war.

(Appendix A.)

SUBSTANCE of a Statement made to Governor *Blackall* and Colonel *Ord*, by Mr. *Wilkinson*, a Resident in the neighbourhood of the Pongas.

This schooner arrived off the Isles de Los, from whence she went to the Dubreeka River, where she shipped some slaves; she then proceeded to the Bremiah River; whilst there she saw the smoke of H.M.S. "Ariel" in the distance, and immediately started for the Nunez River; whilst here she was frightened off, having mistaken the boat which was bringing her off slaves for a man-of-war's boat, and leaving half her cargo behind, sailed with about 180 on board.

About three days after sailing there was great discontent evinced amongst the slaves, owing to the scarcity of water, and a *fracas* occurring between the head-men of the slaves and the cook of the vessel, the former mutinied and killed the master and the cook. The crew at first took to the rigging, but were persuaded by the slaves to come down and work the ship back to the coast. The vessel was ultimately wrecked on the rock, about one mile north of the Nunez River, but the crew, who were white men, and all the slaves, landed safely.

[At this time Captain Ruxton, in H.M.S. "Pandora," having obtained information of the movements of this vessel, proceeded to the neighbourhood of the River Nunez, where he found the vessel on the rocks, and learned that the story related of her proceedings by Mr. Wilkinson, was perfectly correct. Having burnt the wreck he returned to Sierra Leone, and proceeded to obtain her condemnation in the regular manner in the Vice-Admiralty Court.]

(About 9th Oct.)

Appendix, No. 14.

GOLD COAST.

VALUE of the Principal Articles Exported in each of the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
Gold Dust - -	£. 82,202	£. 33,104	£. 59,360	£. 68,973	£. 96,141	£. 73,544	£. 71,219	£. 85,368	£. 7,758	£. 27,000
Gum - - -	800	1,731	590	1,250	427	991	1,642	2,342	2,699	850
Ivory - - -	2,000	1,000	1,984	1,538	1,932	2,941	2,795	1,032	1,330	1,547
Monkey Skins -	no return	400	no return	no return	no return	no return	2,860	3,177	2,200	1,060
Palm Oil - -	115,000	80,000	54,471	50,492	55,338	38,346	26,604	52,398	85,910	22,569
Miscellaneous -	nil.	24,472	4,794	2,231	228	2,741	5,337	1,502	2,189	629
TOTAL - - £.	200,002	140,697	120,999	124,394	154,136	118,563	110,457	145,819	102,086	53,764

Appendix, No. 15.

GOLD COAST.

VALUE of the Principal Articles Imported in each of the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
Beads - - -	£. 6,600	£. 4,034	£. 6,179	£. 2,083	£. 2,503	£. 2,910	£. 1,497	£. 1,005	no return	no return
Cotton and Silk Goods.	38,000	68,187	30,887	41,838	49,413	44,769	37,282	76,795	68,000	26,000
Guns - - -	no return	no return	no return	2,125	2,471	1,580	2,129	2,660	3,200	2,139
Gunpowder - -	13,400	7,027	8,580	7,531	8,074	5,505	6,873	9,406	5,400	2,049
Hardware - -	8,500	16,746	4,918	6,361	3,453	2,839	5,491	6,592	11,800	14,840
Tobacco - - -	11,600	5,445	9,781	7,616	3,828	7,473	9,326	6,924	7,500	6,314
Wines and Spirits -	21,200	11,383	36,114	24,902	29,175	29,139	31,854	39,991	40,000	18,773
Miscellaneous -	7,900	36,765	9,175	25,814	23,480	17,381	18,002	19,577	9,200	6,840
TOTAL - - £.	107,200	149,587	105,634	118,270	122,457	114,596	112,454	162,970	145,100	76,955

Appendix, No. 16.

GOLD COAST.

TOTAL Value of the Imports and Exports in each of the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
Imports - -	£. 107,200	£. 149,587	£. 105,634	£. 118,270	£. 122,457	£. 114,596	£. 112,454	£. 162,971	£. 145,100	£. 76,955
Exports - -	200,002	140,697	120,999	124,394	154,136	118,563	110,457	145,819	102,086	53,764

Appendix, No. 17.

GOLD COAST.

AMOUNT of the Public Revenue and Expenditure in the Ten Years from 1854 to 1863.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
Revenue - -	£. 10,211	£. 9,830	£. 12,917*	£. 7,408	£. 7,002	£. 8,286	£. 7,948	£. 9,335	£. 9,154	£. 8,547
Expenditure - -	9,376	8,501	10,772	7,492	7,855	7,568	9,558	9,106	9,204	9,400

* Including Poll Tax.

App. No. 11

Appendix, No. 18.

GOLD COAST.

RETURN showing the Principal Sources from which the Public Revenue was derived in each of the Five Years from 1859 to 1863.

	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Customs - - -	2,801	2,664	3,467	3,581	2,330
Fines and Forfeitures -	702	707	767	1,296	1,000
Parliamentary Grant -	3,478	2,943	4,187	3,121	4,583
Miscellaneous - -	1,305	1,634	914	1,156	625
TOTAL - - - £.	8,286	7,948	9,335	9,154	8,547

Appendix, No. 19.

GOLD COAST.

RETURN showing the Various Branches of the Public Expenditure in each of the Five Years from 1859 to 1863.

	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Civil Establishments (fixed).	5,206	4,339	6,376	5,640	5,768
Administration of Justice.	81	49	311	243	133
Prisons, &c. - - -	253	165	260	234	290
Public Works, Roads, &c.	46	275	143	21	164
Transport - - -	610	693	645	187	1,102
Aborigines - - -	nil.	nil.	nil.	101	110
Miscellaneous - -	1,372	4,037	1,461	2,772	1,842
TOTAL - - - £.	7,568	9,558	9,196	9,204	9,409

Appendix, No. 20.

GOLD COAST.

RETURN of Liabilities on the 1st January 1865.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount due Agents General, up to 30th September 1864 - - - -	1,484	-	-
General Post Office, up to 31st December 1864 - - - -	600	-	-
Local Debts, 30th November 1864 - - - -	891	13	10
TOTAL Liabilities - - - £.	2,975	13	10

Appendix, No. 21.

GOLD COAST.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS on Account of POLL TAX, from the Year 1853 to 1861, showing the Balance remaining in Poll-Tax Chest, and Total Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
1853	7,507	6	1
1854	3,624	15	9
1855	3,990	3	7
1856	3,353	9	2½
1857	3,191	12	1½
1858	2,921	1	11
1859	2,350	13	7½
1860	1,725	4	11½
1861	1,552	3	4½
TOTAL Receipts	30,286	10	8
TOTAL Expenditure	30,130	10	5
Balance	156	-	3

Appendix, No. 22.

LAGOS.

VALUE of Principal Articles Exported in each of the Years from 1862-64.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	£.	£.	£.
Cotton and cotton cloth	1,451	1,475	16,148
Ivory	61	1,208	512
Nut oil	-	14,474	6,444
Palm oil and kernels	60,069	138,250	123,107
Miscellaneous	351	2,934	19,882
TOTAL	61,932	158,341	166,093

Appendix, No. 23.

LAGOS.

VALUE of Principal Articles Imported in each of the Years from 1862-64.

	1862.	1863.	1864.		1862.	1863.	1864.
	£.	£.	£.		£.	£.	£.
Beads	1,151	3,622	2,667	Shooks and iron hoops.	2,400	10,258	5,453
Cotton goods	31,832	17,411	15,543	Tobacco	10,553	14,980	18,096
Cowries	97	6,020	22,340	Wines and spirits	12,744	26,800	22,469
Guns	4,336	7,330	1,629	Miscellaneous	9,083	74,009	27,630
Gunpowder	3,846	5,248	564	TOTAL	77,932	171,139	120,796
Hardware	1,890	5,061	3,504				

App. No. 1.

Appendix, No. 24.

LAGOS.

TOTAL Value of the Imports and Exports in each of the Three Years from 1862-64.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	£.	£.	£.
Imports - - - - -	77,932	171,139	120,796
Exports - - - - -	61,932	168,341	166,903

Appendix, No. 25.

LAGOS.

AMOUNT of the Public Revenue and Expenditure from June 1862 to December 1864.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	£.	£.	£.
Revenue - - - - -	7,130	16,708	22,826
Expenditure - - - - -	6,510	15,837	22,805

Appendix, No. 26.

LAGOS.

RETURN showing the Principal Sources from which the Public Revenue was derived in each of the Three Years from 1862 to 1864.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	£.	£.	£.
Customs - - - - -	2,984	14,345	11,300
Fines and Forfeitures - - - - -	640	528	693
Land, Sales, and Revenue - - - - -	463	407	516
Parliamentary Grant - - - - -	2,822	704	4,455
Miscellaneous - - - - -	221	724	* 5,862
TOTAL - - - - - £.	7,130	16,708	* 22,826

* Both these amounts include a balance of 1,490 l. from 1863.

Appendix, No. 27.

LAGOS.

RETURN showing the various Branches of the Public Expenditure in each of the Three Years from 1862 to 1864.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	£.	£.	£.
Civil Establishment (fixed) - - - - -	1,702	6,917	9,836
Pensions - - - - -	480	867	1,654
Police and Gaols (exclusive of fixed establishments) - - - - -	1,743	2,390	*781
Public Works, &c. - - - - -	1,114	2,816	2,023
Transport - - - - -	605	490	562
Aborigines - - - - -	181	566	560
Suppression of Slavery - - - - -	99	708	126
Miscellaneous - - - - -	586	963	7,283
TOTAL - - - £.	6,610	15,837	22,805

* This does not represent the whole cost of Police and Gaols, a considerable portion of the charge being introduced under the head "Miscellaneous," the details of which have not yet been supplied.

Appendix, No. 28.

LAGOS.

RETURN of Debts due by the Lagos Government up to 20 December 1864.

DEBT.	AMOUNT.	REMARKS.
	£. s. d.	
Hire of steamer "Eyo Honesty" to 31st December.	450 - -	In case this steamer be purchased by the Colonial Government, this item, together with any further amount due for her hire, will be cancelled.
West African Company - -	367 - -	For coals and materials supplied to the Colonial Government.
William McCoskry, Esq. - -	46 - -	"
Agents General - - - -	2,142 - -	
Advances from Treasury Chest -	694 - -	The debt is 1,800 <i>l.</i> , but 1,106 <i>l.</i> is to be repaid from the Parliamentary grant for "Works and Buildings," that sum having been advanced from colonial funds for that purpose.
Henry Eales, Esq. - - - -	525 - -	Borrowed for current expenses of Colony. The amount includes interest at 5 per cent., and is repayable in March 1865.
TOTAL - - - £.	4,224 - -	

App. No. 1.

Appendix (B).

LAGOS.

EXTRACT from the "Iwe Irobin,"
5 December 1864.

COTTON.

"THE quantity of cotton that has passed the Aragate, since the opening of the road, is 3,574 bales, each bale is estimated to contain 130 lbs. of cotton, at which rate the entire amount will be 464,620 lbs. The price paid for it may be reckoned at 6*z*. per pound, that is the sum received by the natives for their cotton amounts to 11,615*l*. The amount of duty paid on passing the gate is 486*l*, or about 3½ per cent. on its first cost. The carriage from Abeokuta to Lagos, together with the labour of pressing, amounts to about 328*l*. The total sum, therefore, received by the native population on account of cotton is 12,359*l*. The whole of this sum is the price of labour (except the sum paid for duty), land costs nothing, the cost of raising cotton is the value of the labour bestowed upon it. The stock of cotton in the hands of the natives is by no means exhausted, and we are now on the eve of gathering another crop, there is a prospect that the yield will be good.

The sum 12,359*l*. would be over the value of 1,000 slaves caught in war; 2,000 Dahomians would be scarcely worth that amount."

Appendix (C).

LAGOS.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of Docemo, King of Lagos, in the Right of Benin, West Coast of Africa,

Humbly sheweth,

THAT your Petitioner is the rightful heir to the throne of Lagos, after the death of King Akitoye, his father (*vide* laws for the Government of Lagos by Arthur P. Eardley Wilmot, and Akitoye, your Petitioner's father).

That your Petitioner has been unfortunate and inexperienced at his accession to the throne, that he had the advice of Benjamin Campbell, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul of Lagos, the gentleman whose memory will ever be remembered; all disputes of consequence were referred to him, and the decision of the Consul is the decision of Docemo. After the death of Benjamin Campbell, his successor to the consular office did not know how, and in what manner, Lagos was governed, and all sorts of false reports were lodged against your Petitioner by those whose misconduct brought them under the censure of Benjamin Campbell, whom your Petitioner supported, to punish either by fine or imprisonment, hence the bitterness of many against him. After the death of Benjamin Campbell, many fines were also inflicted upon individuals who broke the laws,

and none were imposed without the sanction of the Consuls.

Your Petitioner was compelled, on the 6th of August 1861, to give up his sovereignty to the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, on certain conditions; might being right, he was obliged to submit, and signed the deed of cession, and then complained to your Lordships, through the Colonial Office. Your petitioner memorialised the Government to no effect; your Petitioner and his chiefs have been in the most miserable condition since the cession; your Petitioner's chiefs have no source of maintenance.

Your Petitioner begs your Lordships to consider and provide for these helpless chiefs. They were entitled to the inland revenue by receiving so much on every piece of cloth bought, and so much on every measure (10 gallons) of palm oil sold by the natives, their own people; and as these chiefs are now starving for want of support, your Petitioner humbly prays that your Lordships would relieve them.

Your Petitioner has been very badly provided for since the cession, and has not been able since then to keep up his dignity nor to accommodate strangers, or to send presents to the chiefs and kings in the interior who are his friends.

Your Petitioner regrets to state for the information of your Lordships that his allowance as pension is not enough to meet the demands of his household. Before the cession the revenue of your Petitioner was as follows:—2,000 bags of cowries, or about 2,000*l*. was the amount of the export duty; all fines and summons, and the import duty on tobacco and cowries at the landing-place, with extensive presents from the merchants, were not then even sufficient to keep up his dignity.

Your Petitioner regrets to state, for the further information of your Lordships, that the present position of your Petitioner is a disgraceful one, for previous to his accession, the treasures were robbed and the palace destroyed by Kosoko, the usurper, and your Petitioner has undertaken the rebuilding of the palaces, and as he has no means to carry on the work, your Petitioner prays your Lordships to make a grant for the prosecution of the work, as the palaces of your Petitioner are in a truly dilapidated state.

Your Petitioner further prays that your Lordships would examine the deed of cession, and see if your Petitioner is justly dealt with.

Your Petitioner regrets to state, for the information of your Lordships, that unless these things are properly and considerately looked into by your Lordships, he is sure that he can have no justice from the executives, who think that Lagos is too good to be governed by a black man.

Your Petitioner is glad to state that he has not, either directly or indirectly, broken any of the treaties concluded with either his father, King Akitoye, or himself.

Your Petitioner deeply regrets that such prejudices should be cherished against him, although he has fulfilled all treaties and engagement with Her Britannic Majesty's representative.

Your Petitioner is fully aware that it was through the false representations made to your Lordships that no notice was taken of his complaint; sometimes it is reported to your Lordships that his petition is drawn up by the slave traders, and at other times it is reported that your Petitioner is a fool, and another time that he is a fisherman, and not capable to govern his people and the three English houses of business, one French, two Hamburg,

Hannburgh, one German, one Italian, two Brazilians, &c.

Your Petitioner has the gratification to state that during his and his father's reign not a single slave has been shipped from Lagos. Your Petitioner begs that your Lordships would continue the hereditary regal power, and support its dignity, till such time as the rightful heir be capable of assuming the reins of the Government of Lagos.

Your Petitioner begs your Lordships to allow the regal power of Lagos to be recognised, and to press upon the authorities, Her Majesty's representatives at Lagos, to be kind and gentle with your Petitioner; he must confess that he approaches Her Majesty's representatives with dread.

Your Petitioner's small allowance can be stopped whenever it suits them, and once he was kept starving for nearly four months for no tangible cause.

Your Petitioner had to trust money for his support, and when the late Duke of Newcastle sent to the Governor to continue the pension, a portion of it has been kept back from him till this day. If Her Majesty's representatives can do what they like without regard to person or property, treating the former with contempt and seizing the latter, to sell at their pleasure, regardless of title, your Petitioner fears that the respect won for the British name by most of Her Majesty's worthy and noble-minded men who have been here, has been lost. Your Petitioner had the privilege to know many of them, and found that they were men whose superior minds would not allow them to look down with prejudice upon Africans, and that they could hold out to them the hands of brotherly friendship. Your Petitioner begs leave to name some of these noble men who understood thoroughly the affairs of Africa and African characters. Admiral Bruce, Consul Beecroft, Benjamin Campbell, Commodore Wilmot, Captain Coote, R.N., Captain Gardner, Consul Brand, and many more whose names escaped his memory.

Your Petitioner begs to urge upon your Lordships that the course hitherto adopted by the Executive, with regard to real property, should be changed, and your Petitioner be allowed to use his seal according to the deed of cession. Your Petitioner urges your Lordships to take into consideration that the prosperity of the country depends upon the rulers in Lagos. Many of the local laws passed in Lagos have driven the people into the woods; the Executives are too severe in carrying into execution the laws passed by governors and council, which oppress and distress the natives.

Your Petitioner deeply regrets that misunderstandings should exist between this Government and Egbas and Ijebus, who are his immediate neighbours; this state of affairs and the tribal wars are bringing ruin upon all concerned. The Executives not having taken the proper course to bring these conflicting affairs to a close, your Petitioner begs your Lordships, for the development, civilisation, Christianisation, and the commerce of this part of Africa, to command Her Majesty's representative not to exhibit the power and might of Great Britain in its full force towards the surrounding tribes. Although your Petitioner is not regarded by the Executive, yet he has the interest of his country and people at heart.

Your Petitioner prays your Lordships that immediate steps should be taken to arrest the fears of the interior tribes by changing the policy of the Government, and giving satisfaction to your Petitioner and his former subjects, by repealing several of the acts of the Governors.

Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly, but earnestly, urges your Lordships to consider these matters, and assure your Petitioner that he will receive such moral support and countenance as your Petitioner was in the habit of obtaining from the former representatives of Her Majesty's Government, and your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will every pray.

King *Docemo*, of Lagos.

Appendix (D).

LAGOS.

Lagos, 27 December 1864.

Sir,

We, the undersigned, British subjects, emigrants from Sierra Leone, with our children, hail with joy your arrival at this colony, as Commissioner from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, to visit all her colonies on the West Coast of Africa, and to investigate the state of their respective affairs.

We, therefore, feel ourselves highly privileged by the opportunity afforded us of furnishing you with information relative to the state of affairs in this part, based on facts, and warranted by our long residence, experience, and relation with the people of the interior; we humbly trust you will submit the same to the serious consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

On the cession of Lagos to the British Crown, anticipation of a glorious future filled our breasts with joy, with this exception, that the cession was not prudently and honourably accomplished, knowing that under British rule the land of our fathers is more opened to improvement, lives secured, property protected, Christianity and civilisation advanced, and legitimate trade encouraged.

Your memorialists regret to state that the experience of the past three years under British rule have proved the fallacy of our hopes. We learn from sad experience that British laws cannot be reconciled with native laws, nor be appreciated by them; the consequence is, that instead of increasing friendly relations with the surrounding tribes, we have distrust; instead of extensive commerce we have stagnation of trade; for peace, we have continuation of war; for contentment, dissatisfaction.

Your memorialists are fully aware of the equity, purity, and impartiality of British laws, when compared with the laws of other civilised nations. Yet we cannot conceal the fact, that it is impracticable to work both the British and native African's laws together. We are convinced that the most prominent cause of the deplorable state of things above enumerated are occasioned by the diametrically opposite views in which the question of slavery is

App. No. 1. taken by the two Governments in question, say British and native Africans, to wit.

1st. Lagos, as a British Colony, is a *bonâ fide* asylum for slaves; all slaves, therefore, that put their feet in Lagos, become free.

The natives look upon, and hold their domestic slaves in the same light and manner as civilised nations, their real and personal property.

Since the cession, hundreds of slaves have made their escape to Lagos; many were sent by their masters to convey supplies from their creditors, but on reaching Lagos took shelter within the Slave Court, and in course of time they were either liberated, apprenticed, or a compensation, in most cases not half the value of a slave, were given them. These liberated slaves became Government servants, either as policemen, armed police, or by being enlisted in the regular West India companies, or employed as farm labourers by Government Agents; such, then, are the various manners in which the native masters see their slaves made use of.

Another cause to which we attribute the distressed state of affairs is the distrust and suspicion engendered in the minds of the interior people by the grand and extensive display of power, coupled with the extraordinary number of appendages attached to this local Government in the gun boats, military and hussars, or armed police, and the uses put to, as the late attack on Epe, the annexation of Badagry, Okeodan, and Addo; these led the people to infer that the occupation of Lagos by the British is fraught with danger for their safety as a nation, and their lands being their's much longer.

Your memorialists beg to state that since the commencement of the late Ijaye war, our trade with Abeokuta was interrupted; but we having been doing a little trade with Ejirin and Ikorodu, two market towns on the Jebu territory. After the attack of Epe, the expedition, in coming down, burnt the market town of Ejirin; since that time our native traders have not been able to buy any oil from that market.

Your memorialists beg to express that this country was more prosperous as a protectorate than as a colony. During the protectorate the British name is venerated, confidence placed to an unlimited extent, so much so, that then the dress of an Englishman is a sufficient passport to any man to travel through these parts inland as far as the banks of the Niger; a consular stick is sufficient (in those days) to secure the countenance and support of any of the surrounding kings and chiefs in the interior of this part; but since the cession of Lagos, the interior is closed against us, either for commerce or exploration, we are looked upon as spies and deceivers, the British name became odious, our lives are not even safe among the natives.

Your memorialists feel convinced that, had a less demonstrative establishment been kept, a more conciliatory policy pursued, a regard for native right and privilege being acknowledged, and a promulgation to the natives given out the sum and substance of the British Government's views in reference to their relations with neighbouring kings and chiefs, and of the Government intentions as regards annexation of territories from native kings and chiefs.

That better feelings will be engendered, sus-

picious removed, confidence restored, and, consequently, peace and prosperity.

Your memorialists deeply regret to state, that the authorities of this settlement has, since the occupation of Lagos as a British Colony, break through that unity which exists between the European residents and educated native Africans in Lagos. Because the latter have expressed their dissatisfaction of the general state of things, of the manner in which Lagos was annexed to the British Crown, and are consequently looked down upon; the intelligent ones among us, and our children, are counted upstarts, interlopers, Government opposers, and such like opprobrious terms; that the most humble suggestion from us are visited with the abuse, scandal and persecution of the authorities.

That your memorialists take this opportunity to defend themselves against the malicious and calumnious charges often preferred against the emigrants from Sierra Leone by the Government agents in this part, by stating that the Government authorities take great delight in disseminating any rumours, however unfounded, since they tend to render us contemptible. As an instance of this we give the following. Early in October 1863, a party of our class were commissioned to proceed to Ibadan to endeavour to effect peace; this deputation was well received, and returned safely to Lagos with the intention of proceeding to Ibadan, *via* Ikorodu, to arrange a final agreement between the contending parties for peace. Our Executive will not co-operate with us, and not satisfied with discouraging us, but we are told for the first time that the deputation have been presented with two slaves, which were not reported, inferring thereby that we are engaged in the slave trade. This we have proved, and are still ready to prove as a gross falsehood.

Your memorialists are denied the rights and privileges of British subjects, inasmuch as we are not allowed the rights of being judged and condemned by our countrymen. We are refused to be tried by juries. We give an instance of glaring injustice resulting from the system of administration hitherto pursued by our Government.

A Mr. C. W. Carew was convicted and sentenced to two years' imprisonment, hard labour, in * last, under the evidences (copy of which annexed). This individual, after labouring six months in the chain gang, was released without any explanation or satisfaction, because his prosecutor, who was a judicial assessor, having represented to the Executive his belief and conviction that the evidence against Carew to have been malicious. On this confession alone he was released, although the evidences were conflicting. The prisoner in this case was not afforded the benefit of the doubt. We, therefore, humbly pray that we should be blessed with that great right of British subjects, a trial by jurors. We learn, for the first time in Lagos, that the laws as administered in Sierra Leone will not be tolerated in Lagos; that your memorialists, in any case that they are concerned in Lagos, are not permitted to defend themselves in the public court, but are invariably silenced by the assurance that we, the authorities, will have none of your Sierra Leone privileges.

Your memorialists therefore humbly pray that your Excellency will be pleased to represent these facts to the serious consideration of Her Majesty's Government, that your life may be spared to accomplish your commission.

Your health unimpaired, a happy and safe return home is the sincere wishes of,

Yours, &c.
(signed) *Jas. H. Gording.*
James Thompson.
Jas. J. L. Davies.
W. J. Richard.
J. J. Leigh.
Thos. G. Hoare.
C. W. Faulkner.
Thos. B. M'Cauley.
Thos. E. Beckley.

To His Excellency, Col. Ord, R. E.,
Her Majesty's Commissioner,
&c. &c. &c.

(Enclosure in Letter D.)

Sessions Court.—Lagos, 6 October 1863.

Before S. Burges Lamb, Esq., Lieut.-Colonel,
Acting Chief Magistrate of Lagos.

CHARLES W. CAREW appears a prisoner before the court, charged with having stolen certain bags of cowries, four or more, a quantity of rice confided to him for subsistence of certain Kru boys, and stealing from the clerk the key of the warehouse, and also one piece of silk.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty. R. B. N. Walker, Esq., agent for the West African Company, being duly sworn, said:—Early in July 1863, I took the prisoner with me to Porto Novo, having engaged him as an assistant in the service of the company. I then engaged a house for the purpose of commencing business, and left the prisoner in charge thereof, until I could send up a European clerk. I left him with 243 heads of cowries, and 2 cwt. of rice; the latter was for subsistence for three Krumen I left with him. I also left a cooper with 20 puncheon packs to make into casks. My instructions to the prisoner were simply to keep the cooper employed at his work, and to be as economical as he could in all his expenses. I more particularly told him that as there was rice for the Krumen, there was no necessity to give them cowries. I did not in any way authorise him to make use of the cowries in the way that he has done; neither did I authorise him to draw anything on account of his salary, or to lend them, as I find, for his own interest, he has done. I accuse him of having taken at least three bags of cowries for his own use, and of having lent one bag of cowries to Mr. Stockdale. From his account, it appears the prisoner gave the Krumen both rice and cowries, contrary to my instructions. With regard to the piece of silk, on my return to Lagos I sent 50 pieces of silk to Porto Novo with two European clerks. During the time the prisoner remained at Porto Novo, there was no trade done there, nor any of the goods sold; some of them, including the silk handkerchiefs, were however opened. No one had access to the goods, except the two European clerks and the prisoner. The senior European clerk was obliged to return to Lagos, leaving the prisoner there. Upon recovery he returned to Porto Novo, and took an account of the stock, and found one piece of silk missing. The piece of silk the cooper, Charles Cole, saw the prisoner

give to a woman, but he rendered no account App. No. 1. of it.

Charles Cole, the cooper, being duly sworn, said: I know the prisoner to have paid the three Kru boys daily some cowries, and also to each man he gave daily two cups of rice. One Sunday, Mr. Simmonds, the European clerk, was sick, and put the key of the warehouse in his coat pocket, and the coat under his pillow. I saw the prisoner take the key out of the coat pocket, and go and open the warehouse door; I saw him bring out in his hand a piece of handkerchiefs, then locked the door, and returned the key into Mr. Simmonds' coat pocket. Mr. Simmonds was asleep, and knew nothing of the key having been taken. The same day, about half-past 6 p.m. he gave the piece of silk handkerchiefs to a man in my presence, and the man took it away. When the clerk returned and took account of the stock, the piece of silk handkerchiefs was missing.

Edward Simmons, sworn. I am a clerk of the West Africa Company. About the middle of July 1863, I went to bed as usual, placing the key of the warehouse in my coat pocket which I put on a chair on the bedside. The following morning I got up and found the store open, and was told by the cooper that the key had been taken from my coat pocket by Carew, the prisoner, and that he had been in the store some considerable time. I found him there. He came out along with me, after I had some conversation with him. I was very ill, and was obliged occasionally to give him the key to get cowries. On Mr. Sachel returning to Porto Novo from Lagos, he took an account of stock and found one piece of silk handkerchiefs missing.

Mr. Sachel being at Porto Novo, Mr. Walker produces to the court a letter, dated 27th of September 1863, from him, stating that at the end of July 1863, when he took an account of the stock the piece of silk handkerchiefs was missing.

DEFENCE.

The prisoner, Charles W. Carew, being put upon his defence, states: The day when I was employed by Mr. Walker was the 1st July 1863. I left here on the 3d July 1863 for Porto Novo. I was left in charge of 24 bags and 3 heads of cowries, out of which Mr. Walker spent that day for provisions some heads. On the following day he told me to take charge of the rest. He told me there are three Kru boys with me, and gave me a bag of rice for them, and told me to do the best I can. I gave the Kru boys 15 strings a day and 6 tumblers of rice daily for the whole of them, and I lived upon the rice myself. Half the rice was consumed and the other half remained when I left; Mr. Sachel and Mr. Simmonds eat part of the rice during the time I was there. With regard to the cowries, I have spent 19 heads and a few strings for provisions for six of us, viz., the 2 European clerks, myself, and 3 Kru boys: 10 heads and 25 strings I paid for trade expenses. I debit myself in the account book with 30 heads, and I only spent 29 heads, 10 strings, making the whole 6 bags, 20 strings, 20 cowries, that I spent at Porto Novo. Previous to the European clerks coming to Porto Novo, I had charge of the store; there were only the cowries and my chest of clothes in the store. I put a nail in the wall for the key, and it was hung there for the use of the European clerks and myself. I did not know when they conspired to keep the key without my notice.

Appendix, No. 30.

MORTALITY of the Black Troops serving on the West Coast of Africa, and in the West Indies, taken from the Reports of the Army Medical Department presented to Parliament.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

PLACE.	Ratio of Deaths per 1,000 Men.	Ratio of Deaths per 1,000 Men.	
	1859 and 1860.	1861.	1862.
Sierra Leone - -	24.48	40.53	28.36
Gambia - - -	30.13	46.40	19.13
Gold Coast - - -	16.89	42.64	28.74
Lagos - - - -	- - -	- - -	28.57

WEST INDIES.

PLACE.	Ratio of Deaths per 1,000 Men.	Ratio of Deaths per 1,000 Men.	
	1859 and 1860.	1861.	1862.
Windward and Leeward command.	21.86	20.85	18.92
Jamaica - - -	31.20	18.65	30.25
Bahamas - - -	30.45	26.33	27.31
Honduras - - -	20.57	16.12	16.20

Average mortality of the West African settlements in four years (excluding Lagos), 32.19 per 1,000 men of black troops.

Average mortality of the West Indian station in the same period, 23.92 per 1,000 men of black troops.

Appendix, No. 31.

ESTIMATE of the Cost, for the Year 1865, of the Colonial and Military Establishments at the Settlements on the West Coast of Africa, showing the proportion in which the same is defrayed from Local and Imperial Sources.

	Estimated Cost of Colonial Establishments.	Amount provided for Colonial Establishments		Estimated Cost of Military Establishments provided from Imperial Funds.	Total Amount provided from Colonial Funds.	Total Amount provided from Imperial Funds.	Total Cost of Colonial and Military Establishments.
		From Colonial Funds.	From Parliamentary Grant.				
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Gambia - - -	18,007	14,377	4,230	24,097	14,377	28,327	42,704
Sierra Leone - - -	43,059	41,059	2,000	34,871	41,059	36,871	77,930
Gold Coast - - -	11,568	7,568	4,000	53,859	7,568	57,859	65,427
Lagos - - - -	16,300	14,019	2,281	15,070	14,019	17,351	31,370
TOTAL - - - £.	89,534	77,023	12,511	127,897	77,023	140,408	217,431

CORRESPONDENCE on the same subject handed in by Mr. C. Fortescue, a Member of the Committee.

The Right Honourable C. Fortescue, M.P., to
Colonel Ord, R.E.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 June 1865.

WITH reference to the Report which you made to the Secretary of State of the results of your mission to inquire into the state of the British Settlements on the West Coast of Africa, and especially with reference to the general recommendations contained in the latter portion of that Report, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to acquaint you that he will be glad to receive from you any additional remarks or suggestions which you may be able to offer.

I have, &c.
(signed) C. Fortescue.

Colonel Ord, R.E., to the Right Honourable
C. Fortescue, M.P.

Sir, London, 12 June 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 1st instant.

Without presuming to anticipate the conclusions which may be arrived at respecting the West African Settlements by the Committee of the House of Commons, or by Her Majesty's Government, I beg leave to offer the following suggestions, in development of the latter portion of my Report, as to the arrangements which I believe would be found most conducive to efficiency and economy in case it should be resolved to retain the existing settlements.

The first step that suggests itself is the appointment of a Governor in Chief for the whole of the settlements, who should also be Governor of Sierra Leone, the administrators of the Gambia, Gold Coast, and Lagos being termed Lieutenant Governors, and holding the same position in respect to the Governor in Chief as do the Lieutenant Governors of the Windward and Leeward Islands, in the West Indies, to the Governors in Chief of Antigua and Barbados.

The Lieutenant Governors would have the assistance within their own settlements of an Executive Council, and the object of these Councils being not so much to support the policy of the Executive as to give advice in questions of emergency, it would be well that they should be composed chiefly of gentlemen of ability and local experience in colonial affairs, and not exclusively of officials.

The Governor in Chief should also have the aid of a similar Council, which should be entirely distinct from the Executive Council of Sierra Leone, and be termed the Council of General Government; of this General Council the Lieutenant Governors and the members of the minor councils would also form a part, and thus in any question affecting the interests of a Colony, its Lieutenant Governor and some of its Council could be summoned to Sierra Leone, to give the Governor in Chief the benefit of their local experience, or the Governor

in Chief could hold his Council in the Colony, with the aid of members of the General Council brought from Sierra Leone.

It is not considered necessary to propose any modification in the legislature of Sierra Leone; there has recently been a slight alteration in its constitution, giving it a more liberal character, and as circumstances justify its further enlargement, it will no doubt be accorded by the Government. The legislature of the minor settlements should be carried on by a Council nominated by the Crown, consisting partly of merchants and planters, acting under an uniform system of regulations laid down by the Governor in Chief, by whom all local ordinances would have to be approved before they became law.

The administration of justice might be left to the officers of every settlement whose circumstances allowed of its maintaining the necessary independent establishment for the purpose. This should consist of a judge, and one or more police magistrates, according to the requirements of the place. If the judge were dispensed with, it would be requisite to make arrangements for securing the visits of a judge from one of the neighbouring Colonies, who would hold periodical gaol deliveries. If necessary, the Gambia might be thus aided from Sierra Leone, and the Gold Coast from Lagos.

It is not possible to give here any detail of the various alterations which, with a view to increased economy, it may be expedient to make in the Government establishments of some of the settlements. As a rule, when a Colony is able, without any undue pressure of taxation, to raise a revenue allowing all the requisite establishments of Government to be maintained on an efficient scale, it will not be advisable to interfere with the administration of its internal affairs. At present Sierra Leone is the only Colony which can be said to be in this condition, though Lagos is apparently in a fair way to attain it. The financial condition of the Gambia and Gold Coast will, however, demand careful consideration, and if it is found impossible to raise their revenue to meet their present scale of expenditure, a reduction in their establishments will be absolutely necessary.

There is no reason to doubt but that by a judicious use of the natives as police, a considerable diminution may be safely effected in the number of troops appropriated for the defence of the settlements. There were recently about 1,600 men on the station, but orders have been sent out for the removal of 400, and 200 more may be withdrawn without risk whenever it may be found convenient. For another year the force should be kept at 1,000, which is about the average strength hitherto employed; after which a reduction may be made to 800, and eventually to 600, of whom the larger proportion would be quartered at Sierra Leone, and small detachments at the Gambia and Gold Coast, leaving Lagos entirely to the care of native police. These reductions might no doubt be effected somewhat earlier, but some time must elapse before the organisation of the native police is completed, and in the present unsettled state of

App. No. 1.

App. No. 1. parts of the coast, it would not be prudent to carry out such changes too suddenly.

In the organisation of police it will probably be found advisable to employ as far as possible the natives in any other locality but that from which they come. This has been the system adopted with such success at Lagos, and, to a partial extent, at the Gambia and Sierra Leone. The management of these men should be entrusted altogether to the police and stipendiary magistrates, and the commandants by whom justice is administered throughout the country. In most instances it will be found that these gentlemen are able efficiently to discharge all the duties which will be devolved upon them, and that they will be quite numerous enough for the purpose.

It is evident that the successful working of the measure now contemplated will be impossible unless the Governor in Chief has the freest power of movement amongst the settlements, and for this purpose he will require the entire command of an efficient steamer. In those Colonies possessing internal water communication, it is also very important that there should be steamers: they protect the trade without it being necessary to maintain military posts for the purpose, and by enabling the local Government to keep up a constant intercourse with the natives they tend greatly to preserve and even strengthen its influence over them; moreover by the help of steamers on their waters, the Colonies will be relieved from much of the difficulty and expense in maintaining peace and order which will be thrown upon them by the proposed reduction in their garrisons. Lastly, there is reason to believe that these vessels will be found very useful in checking the internal slave trade which prevails in most parts of the country, and in some cases in preventing the export trade which is so ready to revive whenever the opportunity is afforded it.

The Gambia is already provided with a steam vessel for the navigation of its river, which is sufficient for the object; but Sierra Leone, with several rivers, and many channels between its islands, requires for the effectual protection of its trade the exclusive services of a small steamer, the cost of which the circumstances of the Colony will fortunately enable it to provide from its own resources. The Gold Coast has no rivers, but its out-stations are situated on the sea coast, and in the absence of any roads the only certain mode of getting access to them is by water. As this service would, however, only afford partial occupation for a steamer, it is unnecessary to supply one especially for the purpose, and the requisite assistance will be furnished from Lagos, where the peculiar features of the navigation render it necessary that there should be two steamers, one of light draught for the protection of the waters of the Lagoon, and for communicating with Palma and Badagry, and the other a heavier vessel for crossing the bar, and which could occasionally visit the Gold Coast and be placed at the service of its Lieutenant Governor. The presence of these two steamers would enable Her Majesty's Government to withdraw the two gunboats which it has hitherto provided for the protection of the settlement, and as a very large saving will accrue to Imperial funds from this step, and the removal of the whole of the troops, it is not unreasonable to expect that the expense of one of the two steam vessels which Lagos needs should be defrayed by a grant from

home, leaving the Colony to maintain the other from its own funds.

The proposals which have been now submitted will entail considerable additions to the cost of the civil establishments of the settlements, though they will, on the other hand, admit of large savings in the charge for their defence, and it becomes necessary to ascertain to what extent in consideration of the benefits which they confer on Imperial interests generally the mother country is called upon to assume such a portion of these burdens as the Colonies may from their circumstances be unable themselves to bear.

Taking the average of the last six years it is found that, deducting the grants received in aid from the Imperial Government, the revenues raised within the four settlements are about—

Sierra Leone	- - -	£. 31,000 per annum.
Lagos	- - -	19,000 "
Gambia	- - -	11,000 "
Gold Coast	- - -	4,000 "

Sierra Leone maintains the whole of her civil establishment except the Governor, whose salary, 2,000*l.*, is paid from home. Of late it has also contributed to the expenditure for military purposes by erecting barracks and accommodation for the troops occupying the newly ceded territory. With finances in so flourishing a state, and with the good prospects it possesses, there is no reason why the salary of the Governor should not be paid by the Colony, and if the revenue continues to increase as it has done, it may fairly be required that it should also eventually defray annually some portion of the expense of its military establishments.

The revenue of Lagos ought to be ample for all the purposes of its Government, provided only it were relieved from debt, and assistance given either by grant or loan to enable the requisite public buildings to be erected, and the Government establishments organised on a proper scale. The troops and gun-boats being withdrawn, there will be no charge whatever against Imperial funds for its defence, and it does not therefore seem unreasonable that (as has been suggested) the cost of one of the two steamers which are required for the protection of the settlement and development of its trade should be furnished from home.

The case of the Gambia is somewhat more difficult to deal with, the revenue being rather below that of other small Colonies of similar character and requirements; at present, it receives in addition a grant from home of 2,300*l.* for the salaries of certain public officers, and one of 2,000*l.* in aid of the "Dover" steamer. The total amount of the grant, 4,300*l.* is not perhaps extravagant in the present depressed state of the Colony, though exception may be taken to its appropriation, and it is suggested that the whole expense of the steamer should, at all events, be defrayed by the Imperial Government, and the local debts be paid off, so as to give the Colony a fair start.

The financial circumstances of the Gold Coast are the least satisfactory of any of the settlements. Owing to the relations which are held with the natives of the protectorate, the Government establishments are on a larger scale than would be needed were our jurisdiction limited to our own territory, and for their support there is no available source

source of revenue but small custom dues which the proximity of the Dutch free ports forbids being raised. From the natives it is impossible to expect at present any assistance, though there is good reason to hope that by a judicious policy they might be prevailed on to afford direct aid for the support of a Government from which they have derived so much benefit. Every effort has been made to induce the Netherlands Government to agree to the imposition of a reasonable scale of duties on all imports into their own and our ports, but hitherto without avail. Negotiations were also entered into having for their object the exchange of territory between the two nations, so that each should occupy a continuous and lengthened portion of the coast within which it might be possible for customs regulations to be enforced without injury to trade, but without any result; the natives now under British protection objecting strongly to be transferred to that of the Dutch. The last and only proposal that suggests itself as likely to be assented to by the Netherlands Government, and which has not been tried, is that the British Government should purchase outright from the Dutch their possessions on the West Coast. Such a scheme has been suggested in Holland, and is understood to have formed the subject of discussion in the Chambers; it is not therefore impossible that if Her Majesty's Government were to make the offer, the Netherlands Government might find it expedient to accept it. The sum of 10,000*l.* was given in 1850 for the Danish Forts, and twice that amount would amply cover the value of those belonging to the Dutch; if the arrangement were sanctioned and the money advanced by Her Majesty's Government, there would be no difficulty in ensuring its repayment in a few years by the imposition of moderate duties on arms, gunpowder, spirits, tobacco, and other similar articles the introduction of which it is not desirable to encourage, and which might therefore with propriety and advantage be thus burdened. Until, however, some means can be found of augmenting the revenue of the settlement, it is clear that assistance must continue to be afforded from home, and for this purpose the amount now paid in aid of the Government, 4,000*l.* a year, is by no means too large.

If the foregoing views be adopted, the demand upon Imperial funds in aid of the civil establishments of the settlements will be as follows:—

For the Gambia:	£.	App. No. 1.
Entire cost of maintaining the steamer "Dover," say	3,000	
For Sierra Leone:		
Nil	—	
For the Gold Coast:		
In aid of the Government establishments	4,000	
For Lagos:		
Expense of maintaining one steamer	3,000	
For the General Government:		
Expense of maintaining the steamer for the Governor in Chief	3,000	
Additional salary to Governor of Sierra Leone as Governor in Chief	1,000	
Office expenses of do.	500	
TOTAL	£.	14,500
Present contribution in aid of Civil Establishments		12,500
Increase under proposed scheme	£.	2,000

The salary of the Governor in Chief is proposed to be 3,000*l.** of which Sierra Leone will pay 2,000*l.* as Governor of the Colony, the remainder, and the expense of the office, which should be contributed by the other settlements, must, in the present state of their finances, be met from Imperial sources.

The proposed diminution of the strength of troops in the settlements will admit of large reduction in the charge to the Imperial Government for military expenditure. It appears that the estimate under this head for the current year was 127,897*l.*; for 800 men the proportionate charge would therefore be about 64,000*l.*, and this will be further reduced by the entire withdrawal of the garrison from Lagos, and the abandonment of several of the minor posts, as McCarthy's on the Gambia and the small forts on the Gold Coast, concentrations of the force admitting of corresponding reductions in the number of the staff; there are also certain charges for pensions included in the above total which do not legitimately belong to the West Coast expenditure, and which will bring the cost, as shown in the following table, to 52,324*l.* If to this be added the 14,500 proposed to be allotted for civil establishments, the total charge will be under 67,000*l.*, or less than one-half what it now is.

	PRESENT EXPENDITURE.			PROPOSED EXPENDITURE.		
	For Civil Purposes.	For Military Purposes.	TOTAL.	For Civil Purposes.	For Military Purposes.	TOTAL.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Sierra Leone	2,000	34,871	36,871	nil	18,730	18,730
Lagos	2,281	16,070	17,351	3,000	nil	3,000
Gambia	4,230	24,097	28,327	3,000	14,864	17,864
Gold Coast	4,000	53,859	57,859	4,000	18,730	22,730
General Government				4,500		4,500
TOTAL	£.	127,897	140,408	14,500	52,324	66,824

Saving by proposed alterations - - - £. 73,584.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. St. George Ord.*

* The salary of the Governor in Chief of the Windward Islands is 4,000*l.* per annum with 550*l.* for office expenses, and of the Governor in Chief of the Leeward Islands 3,000*l.* with 600*l.* for office expenses.

Appendix, No. 2.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. C. Fortescue, a Member of the Committee.

(A.)

App. No. 2. DESPATCHES from General O'Connor relating to certain BARRACKS on the WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

General O'Connor to the Under Secretary of State for War.

Head Quarters, Sierra Leone,
20 January 1865.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report in detail, for the information of the Right Honourable the Earl de Grey and Ripon, that proceeding *en route* to Cape Coast, I landed and made my inspection of the detachment 4th West India Regiment, at Accra, 21st December 1864. There cannot be for British officers a more dreary or desolate station than Accra; frequent earthquakes have reduced the principal houses to ruins; cut off from society or social intercourse, without even the resource of a good sporting country adjacent, a matter of serious consequence to men isolated in Africa, the monthly arrival of the European mail packet, the solitary break in the tedious monotony of weary time. No public quarters for the officers, or men, and the common necessities of life scanty, expensive, and difficult to be obtained; the small force of one captain, one subaltern, five sergeants, and 65 men, deserve every encouragement to support their spirits and maintain discipline. One subaltern and 10 men are detached at Winnebah, why or for what reason I am at a loss to comprehend, for the number is too insignificant to afford protection from the attacks of the natives, or defend itself.

I found Captain Edmunds, the officer commanding at Accra, in bed prostrated by low fever and acute dysentery; the subaltern, Lieutenant Sealy, could with difficulty crawl to the parade; still the detachment looked clean, soldier-like, and in excellent order, and the returns proved the men were well behaved. The officers residing in hired lodgings occupy one room each, messing separately. Staff Assistant Surgeon Gunn, medical officer in charge, lives at the opposite part of the town; the men in a hired barrack at a distance from the officers, and the hospital in a detached house rented by Government. I recommend that the detachment should be relieved yearly, for the benefit and efficiency of both officers and men.

Embarking from Accra, I reached Lagos on the 23d December, and made my inspection of the two Companies' barracks and hospital (if the wretched sheds deserve to be called so), the 24th and 26th December. The quarters for the officers are roughly constructed plank buildings, two storeys high, the basement uninhabitable, although officers have been compelled to occupy them; the roof, of Palmetto country thatch, hardly screens the inmates from the intense heat of a tropical sun, and affords little or no shelter from the rain. All the officers residing in these quarters have been continually attacked with fever, dysentery, and other complaints; removed to another portion

of the town, recovered, but on returning to their quarters immediately suffered a relapse. A Board of officers was held by order of Captain Williams, 4th West India Regiment, commanding the troops, on the 4th November 1864; the officers' quarters condemned as unfit habitations for Europeans, and the proceedings forwarded to the Under Secretary of State for War, 9th November. The barracks for the men are formed of reed with Palmetto thatch, leaving openings in every direction, and affording no protection against the rain, wind, or sun; the interior of the huts is hot and dark during the day, and at night chilly and damp, and the hospital is in an equally defective state. No flooring, but placed on the ground, the water percolates through if the sand is turned up a few inches. The site the whole buildings stand on is at the east end of the town, about 150 yards from the bank of the Lagos Lagoon, extending about 300 yards backwards. Situated on the verge of a swamp, pregnant with black fetid mud and decomposed vegetable matter; the miasma arising from this fertile source of disease is carried by the sea-breeze over and through the quarters of both officers and men, producing deadly effects, which not even the West Indian black soldiers, or natives of Lagos, can endure with impunity. A few examples will afford more convincing proofs than a volume of writing. Of two captains, one (Croley) proceeds to England by this packet, with a very faint hope of surviving the voyage; the other, Captain Roe, who recently exchanged from the 3d regiment, and served through the Crimea, India, and China campaigns without any detriment to his health, assumed the command of the troops at Lagos on the 22d November, and in robust health and vigour at my inspection was suddenly struck down by fever five days after, and has since forwarded his papers to retire from the Service by the sale of his commission. Two of three subalterns were scarcely fit for duty, and would not be permitted to attempt to perform it at any other station. Of the three medical officers one alone was really effective, although the other two struggled to do their duty. Out of four who landed with me the 23d December, in less than seven days three were attacked with local fever, and I suffered from severe acute dysentery for 36 hours. In fine, I never encountered a country or climate so radically destructive to the European constitution, or where the quarters and absolute wants of life were so little attended to as in Lagos; and I am justified in making this broad assertion, after an experience of nearly 40 years' tropical service in the worst stations in the worst of climates. At the urgent recommendation of Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, R. C. Elliot, C.B., I gave orders to have the hospital floored, and the roof repaired, so as to afford what shelter

shelter and comfort could be obtained for the sick soldiers. I have entered thus fully, but I trust not tediously, because, after a patient and minute inspection of the barrack accommodation and sanitary arrangements of Lagos, I am thoroughly convinced that one of three measures must be adopted; new commodious and suitable barracks erected with as little delay as possible, the troops withdrawn, or if left there they must become depressed, inefficient, and decimated. The suggestion for a yearly relief of the Accra detachment is equally applicable to Lagos.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. Smyth O'Connor*,
Brigadier General Commanding Troops,
West Coast of Africa.

The Under Secretary of State for War,
War Office, Pall Mall.

My Report of Cape Coast Castle Forts and Barracks will be transmitted next mail.

(signed) *L. Smyth O'Connor*.

21 January 1865.

General *O'Connor* to the Under Secretary of State
for War.

Head Quarters, Sierra Leone,
21 January 1865.

Sir,
I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for War, I proceed in Her Majesty's ship "Espoir," Captain Peile Commander, on Monday the 23d instant, to Bulama, for the purpose of inspecting the detachment 3d West India Regiment, stationed there, and on my return to Sierra Leone will proceed, in Her Majesty's ship "Pandora," Captain Ruxton Commander, to Sherboro', to inspect the detachment 3d West India Regiment; afterwards visit a detachment of the same corps at "Lukin" Town, to enable me if possible leaving Sierra Leone by mail steamer 20th February, for Gambia.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. Smyth O'Connor*,
Brigadier General Commanding Troops,
West Coast of Africa.

The Under Secretary of State for War,
War Office, Pall Mall.

General *O'Connor* to the Under Secretary of State
for War.

Head Quarters, Sierra Leone,
16 February 1865.

Sir,
WITH reference to my letter of the 21st ultimo, I have now the honour to report, for the information of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for War, that I proceeded in Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Espoir" to the island of Bulama, on the 24th ultimo, returning to Sierra Leone on the 28th ultimo. Bulama, 340 miles from Sierra Leone, is one of the group of numerous islands in the Bijnga Channel, some inhabited by a war-
0.39.

like and fierce race of savages, so hostile to the white man that no European ventures to approach them even for the purpose of trade.

The British took possession of Bulama in 1794, but subsequently had to abandon the settlement, being continually attacked and plundered by the chiefs of Kennebeck, a neighbouring island.

It soon after became a *dépôt* for Portuguese slave dealers, and when I visited Bulama in 1854, 1855, and 1857, there was a regular establishment covertly and craftily conducted for the shipping of slaves. The British again occupied Bulama in 1859, and the Governor of Sierra Leone decided a detachment of troops should be sent and stationed there, June 1863. The Colony erected quarters for the officers, and a soldiers' barracks; and although the former are small, still I consider them compact, convenient, and comfortable.

The officers' quarters consist of a sitting-room, with two sleeping chambers calculated for two persons; and one for the staff assistant surgeon, of similar dimensions, admits of the dispensary and stores being under the same roof with him.

The men's barrack is a lofty, airy building, divided into three compartments, with a piazza all round, affording ample accommodation for 40 or 50 soldiers.

The site, a dry, gravelly soil, adjacent to the beach, and open to the sea breeze, renders Bulama the most salubrious station on the West Coast of Africa; and the ground in rear cultivated for garden and country produce by the soldiers.

The detachment, consisting of one subaltern, one medical officer, one serjeant, and 16 rank and file, have their head quarters at Dalrymple Bay; and a corporal and three privates are posted at Point Beaver, the north-west side of Bulama, and opposite the mainland.

Lieutenant Layard in command of the troops appeared to me an intelligent, zealous, and judicious officer, having his men in good order, contented, and not one on the sick list.

The great drawback to Bulama is the want and uncertainty of any communication with it, being out of the mail steamers, men-of-war, or merchant ships' route; approached by a dangerous and difficult channel, the detachment has to rely on chance opportunities coming from or going to Sierra Leone or the Gambia for intercourse with either of these Colonies or receiving their letters and papers from Europe.

In 18 months only three opportunities occurred, and provisions have to be sent by a man-of-war when one is available for that purpose; but if the recommendation of Governor Blackall for a colonial steamer succeeds, this inconvenience will cease. Even as it is, the subaltern and assistant surgeon expressed their desire to remain at Bulama, no doubt induced by the addition to their pay, the former of 200 *l.* per annum, as magistrate and manager, and the latter 63 *l.* per annum as medical attendant, both paid by the Colony. I recommend that the detachment is relieved every 12 months, and brought to head quarters for exercise in company and battalion movements, and not become, as they otherwise will, a mere local police force. I again embarked in Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Espoir" on the 1st February for Victoria River, Sherboro', and returned to Sierra Leone on the 4th instant. The man-of-war having twice grounded on banks and shoals, and remaining fixed for some 22 hours, I proceeded in the captain's gig, a long, tedious, and
3 D 3

tying

App. No. 2

trying full of nine hours one day, and 11 the succeeding morning. The detachment of the 3rd West India Regiment quartered at Victoria consists of one subaltern, two sergeants, and 46 rank and file. The officers occupy a small iron house formerly imported by the late Consul Hensome; much too confined and inconvenient for two officers, and was it not for the surrounding orange and other trees affording a grateful shade, would prove insupportably hot.

The barracks for the men, erected by the Colony, is a spacious wooden building elevated on brick columns 14 feet above the level of the ground with extensive piazza all round and a free circulation of air passing underneath. I consider this structure admirably adapted for a tropical climate, giving ample accommodation for 50 men at an expenditure of 1,080 *l.* Indeed, a more suitable or economical building could not be for a soldier's barracks. Quarters for eight staff sergeants, giving one moderate size room to each, with reading, recreation, and messing-rooms below, are now in course of construction on Tower-hill, estimated to cost 3,000 *l.*, but more likely 6,000 *l.* to complete them; a sum sufficient for four barracks to contain 200 soldiers similar to the one at Victoria.

I was perfectly satisfied with the detachment under Ensign Bell, 3d West India Regiment, but consider the men ought not to be left longer than 12 months from head quarters. I took with me to Sierra Leone two notoriously bad characters,

to be under more immediate control and discipline; and recommended Colonel Chamberlayne to permit the men to cook the fresh meat issued to them every second day in any way they pleased, as no regular mess is established.

Some non-commissioned officers and soldiers complained to me that in October and November 1863, they conveyed from the beach brick, lime, and material for the construction of the Colonial barrack, but had received no regular pay or remuneration for the wear and tear of their clothes.

I have submitted the case to his Excellency Governor Blackall, who promptly promised to have the matter inquired into, and error, if any, rectified.

The foregoing may appear of trivial importance; but taking them into my consideration satisfied the men, and no doubt will tend to render them more attentive to their duties.

I proceed on Monday, the 23d instant, to Longo Town, to inspect the detachment 3d West India Regiment, under command of Captain Grace, a journey likely to occupy me four or five days, and will fully report the result by the March mail.

I have, &c.

(signed) *L. Smyth O'Connor*,
Brigadier General, Commanding Troops
West Coast of Africa.

The Under Secretary of State for War.

(B.)

LETTERS and MEMORIALS from CHIEFS and PEOPLE of the GOLD COAST.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from Mr. Pine to the Right Hon. *E. Cardwell*, M.P., dated Craven Hotel, London, 22 May 1865.

"By public written and proclaimed invitation, I called all interested in the protectorate in Cape Coast and the outposts within reasonable distance, to meet me with respect to my having been summoned to England to give evidence on a subject so interesting. No king or chief was specially named, but happily all those within hail cheerfully responded to my call. I held the meeting with some ceremony under tents prepared for the purpose, on, I believe, the 10th April, when all matters connected with the protectorate, and the King of Cape Coast's attempt to sever it from British rule, were discussed and explained; and I was requested to adjourn until the morrow, for the purpose of a consultation being held with the King of Cape Coast. On the morrow I specifically summoned the headmen and captains of the companies, so called, supposed to be under the influence of the King, but neither he, or they attended, although there was a goodly assemblage present, and a further adjournment was requested. On the 12th a similar meeting was held, when I pressed for a simple answer to the simple question I had put, prior to my embarkation on the morrow,

'Whether the inhabitants of the protectorate sided with the King of Cape Coast, and whether they, in point of fact, desired a severance from the British Government; and that such answer might be verbal or in writing. On the 13th a numerous deputation waited upon me with the document I have the honour to enclose, as containing a distinct prayer to remain under the protection of Her Most Gracious Majesty; otherwise I should have hesitated to present it to your notice, as referring also to the goodwill borne me by, I may fairly say, a large portion of those whom I have been permitted to govern. The address having been read, I pledged myself to urge its prayer upon your favourable notice, and I then listened for some hours to the grievances which the natives crave may be remedied, the principal of which was one relating to the advocates referred to by me in a despatch of this day's date."

Mr. Pine to the Right Hon. *E. Cardwell*, M.P.

Sir,
Craven Hotel, 11 June 1865.
I HAVE the honour to enclose a letter with enclosures received by the last mail from the subscribers

subscribers to the Address which I had the honour to refer to in my Despatch of the 22nd of May last.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Richard Pine*,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
Colonial Office.

Chief *Mayah* to Governor *Pine*.

Sir, Cape Coast, 12 May 1865.

It is with the feelings of the greatest pleasure I cannot refrain my hands as well as my mind to write to inquire your health, as well as hoping you have arrived safe and sound to that happy "land," having observed with the deep consideration that since your Excellency was resided on the Western Coast of Africa with us, for some years last. I completely gratify and congratulate your Government and the Administration for good and justice during the whole of your residence; but more particularly of your Excellency's exertion is this, in having had a military "Armies" on the Coast for the protection of the Cape Coast, and the whole Fantee, to against the Ashantee for the saving old and the young people; what would be the ultimate we cannot say how it might turn out. I have all to say that your days may be prolong, and in the enjoyment of good health, and that no matters been left unsettled, Providence may spare you to have all a right for us. I am quite well, wishing you the same.

I remain, &c.
(signed) Chief *Mayah*,
Western Africa,
C. C. St. Road.

To his Excellency *Richard Pine*,
Governor of the Gold Coast.

Your Excellency,

I do not presume to interrupt your Excellency's attention with this trifling case, that during the time when poll tax was taxing, Major Cochrane was then general collector of the said poll tax, and I was requested by him to get him two gold takers to blow the gold, and in those times gold it was much collected and send in from difference countries and village, namely from King Ansmil, of Wasaw, and the King of "Denkarah," &c., and these gold takers one called Quawasam, my boy, had 2*l.* per month; he constantly grumbling for an increase of his wages, and I think it is not awile as him to keep five wives, and that been the case, he asks an increase of salary, and a boy as him under Her Majesty's service for keeping five wives, and it is hard for me to say, therefore I beg to condescend to inform your Excellency opinion.

Chief *Mayah*.

To His Excellency *Richard Pine*, Governor and Commander in Chief of Her Majesty's Possessions on the Gold Coast. App. No. 2.

(L.S.)

Cape Coast, 11th May 1865.

May it please your Excellency,

In redemption of the pledge subjoined in our address presented to your Excellency on your departure in April last, we now beg to enclose copies of the address, duly signed by the various kings and chiefs in the Protectorate, who were only represented in the first address.

It having come to our knowledge that a few evil designing persons would attempt to impugn the genuineness of the addresses, we have, as advised, accompanied the same with such certificates as we trust will remove all doubts as to their authenticity.

Trusting your Excellency's change is improving your health, and reiterating our hope for your speedy return, we beg to subscribe ourselves your Excellency's very loyal servants,

(signed) *Samuel Fergusson*,
Advocate and Attorney.
F. C. Grant, J.P., M.L.C.
C. Brabets,
Advocate and Attorney.
J. Eyres Davis,
W. J. Coher.

For ourselves and the memorialists.

To His Excellency, *Richard Pine*, Governor and Commander in Chief of Her Majesty's Possessions on the Gold Coast.

Gold Coast, 14 April 1865.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants and natives of Cape Coast, Anamaboe, &c. &c. under British protection, beg respectfully to approach your Excellency on this the eve of your departure for England, being, as we understand, called home to report upon the present state of this Protectorate, of the conduct of the Ashantee war, and of the benefits accruing to this country from the presence of the English amongst us, and upon whose report may possibly depend the continuance of the English influence and protection on the Gold Coast.

We wish the continuance of the English protection; and it is impossible for us now to express in terms sufficiently strong our desire that the English Government should continue with us, and not leave us. To leave us now would be like the parent forsaking his offspring before being able to care for itself.

We notice with profound sorrow and regret some remarks made in the "Times" and other papers, that "England has done sufficient for Africa, and that 50 years' reparation is equivalent to 200 years' destruction." Such logic we should have imagined could never be uttered by any representative of Christian men.

We know your Excellency's views are diametrically opposite to these statesmen.

Your Excellency took the reins of the Government in very troublous times. Immediately after your Excellency's arrival, the Ashantee man, Gaun, fled to this Protectorate, and placed himself under the protection of the English Government;

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ment; other complications arose after this, which had their rise during the administration of your predecessor; the result was the Ashantees made this a pretext for invading our territory, and destroying, almost unmolested, our towns, the English troops at this time, through the bad management of their commander, being utterly useless; and when the troops from the West Indies arrived, the Ashantees had evacuated our territory, and were glad to remain quiet, so that they had no chance of rendering the special service intended to the Protection.

That during all this time the anxiety of mind and endeavours of your Excellency to benefit us were unceasing, so much so, that your Excellency's health failed, and you have been thought several times on the verge of the grave. At one time it was reported that your Excellency was no more, and that was during the time of your Excellency's absence on a visit to the Island of Ascension for the benefit of your health, which event the enemies of your Excellency made such unjust and illiberal use of.

We sympathise with your Excellency in all these trials; and believing that your Excellency has friends as well as enemies in England, we pray that your Excellency's views and intentions on our behalf may prevail, and that your friends and ours may be in the majority. We notice with deep regret the position the new King of Cape Coast has taken up against the Government, and we assure you that he is not joined by the principal kings and influential men of this Protectorate. We, without flattery, say, that the Protectorate has never had a Governor more capable of benefiting the country and ruling the African than yourself.

We have at times thought you were too patient, too lenient, and too condescending; but it requires more than the patience of Job to deal with the inhabitants of this country, and your Excellency has exercised this extraordinary virtue to an extent which has caused annoyance to some; but the result has proved beneficial to the country, and will, in after days, and during your Excellency's absence from us, be more appreciated than at present.

In conclusion, we again repeat our earnest desire still to remain under the mild rule of Her most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria; and that we do hope that the protection hitherto given may be continued; and earnestly hoping that your Excellency's life may be spared, and your health preserved to return among us,

We beg to subscribe ourselves,
Your Excellency's most loyal servants,
their

Quacoe Gaypee, x Chief of Cape Coast.
Cofee Amnooah, x Ditto - ditto.
marks.

(And 110 other Signatures.)

A similar Memorial to the above, of the same date, to which 111 signatures were attached.

A similar Memorial to the above, of the same date, to which three signatures were attached.

A similar Memorial to the above, of the same date, to which 145 signatures were attached; also the following postscript:—

P.S.—This document has been prepared in great haste, and would not have been presented to your Excellency were it not that the subscribers, fearing that you will leave with impression that the majority of the inhabitants of the Protectorate do not desire the continuance of it, and they have ventured to sign the names of those who are of the same opinion, and participate in the views expressed in this address.

The subscribers, therefore, pledge themselves to have the signatures confirmed that have not been obtained, and forwarded by the next mail.

To his Excellency.

Marpon, 24 April 1865.

I, KING, and Chiefs, and inhabitants, at my territory, we serve English Government at Great Britain and Ireland, and our head is under the Crown of England for ever. We do not serve any white men, except English Government; but the Ashantee man, Gauin, he fled to protect English Government at Cape Coast Castle, on account of his master, King Quacoe Dwah, desire to cut his head off; and he fled to protect the English Government to save his life, and English Government take hold of him. We glad that English Government they still continually with us, and not leave us to our enemy. We are under the protection of Crown of England until the world is not there.

(signed) *Acquasie Badoo*,
King of Marpon.

Cape Apolonia Bayin,
26 April 1865.

Sir,

Your letter regarding the Governor's departure is already received, and in reply to which I have signed my name in register, as well as my chiefs and my influential men, and I have well understood both the contents of my letter and register. I have nowhere to go, but I am in the submission of the English flag till death. And, perhaps, if this letter will not meet Governor Pine, please bid him farewell for me.

Being as the King Boofofo Inilah is in far distance, by its taken too much time for the bearer, of his going there, I have signed his name in the register, as well as Affoo Acaah.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Ammarkee*,
King of Apolonia.

James Davies, Esq., Cape Coast.

Wassaw Amantin,
4 May 1865.

Sir,

I, KING, and Chiefs, and inhabitants, at my country—we are under the protection of English Government at Great Britain and Ireland, and our head is under the Crown of England for ever. We glad that English Government they still continually with us, and not leave us. Again, the Ashantee man,
name

name call Ganin, he fled to protection the English Government at Cape Coast Castle, on account of his master, King Quacoe Dwah, wishes to cut his head off, and he fled to protection the English Government, and the English Government take hold of him to safe his life. If English Government desire to leave us, we cannot go; we are under the Crown of England for ever until the world is not there.

(signed) *Quamino Enimell,*
King of Wassaw.

His Majesty's King Quakeefram and Chiefs.

Jugwah Denkerah, 10 May 1865.

I, King Quakeefram, and my people and chiefs, write you to say, from ancient time we belongs to Ashantee, and King of Ashantee he use to kill us and annihilate some of my people; and I and my people and chiefs we heard that some white man, his name call Sir Charles Maccarity, come to fight with the Ashantee people, and I and my people and chiefs fled away to protect the British Flag; we repeat again to say that this man, name called Guanin, he fled to protect the English Government, and meet with the—our Excellency Sir Richard Pine at Cape Coast Castle, and our Excellency Sir Richard Pine asked us that this man he fled away from his territory to protect the English Government. And I desire you chiefs and kings at Cape Coast Castle, and you, King Quakeefram, and your chiefs at Denkerah by what reason he fled from his territory to protect the English Government; he said that his master, name called Quacoe Dwah, at Ashantee he desire to cut his head; and he fled away to protect the British Flag. And our Excellency Sir Richard Pine replied to me, King, and my chiefs, and inhabitants at my territory, so long as he fled to protect the British Flag, I cannot deliver his head to be cut. But I, King Quakeefram, and my chiefs, the King of Ashantee, he does in like me whatever; from 40 to 41 years now he belongs to English Government at Great Britain and Ireland; and I, King Quakeefram, and my chiefs and inhabitants at my territory, we are under the British Flag; if the English Government desire to put us to our enemies hand we cannot go; we truly under the British Flag, this man Guanin, he fled to protect the English Flag, our Excellency arrived at Cape Coast Castle in the year 1862. On account of this sake the King of Ashantee he desire to come and take me and my chiefs and people at my territory; and I said so long as I was under the British Flag, they cannot allow you to take me without reason; they live in my back; not one of them dead; that King Quacoe Dwah is enemy for us truly, but not a

friend; is enemy for the whole Fantees, and all your troops at Western Africa. And I beg you to return my sword to me; that the people under my hand—they never honor me—they use to make bad to me; merely I want it to take care of them if some of our enemies come. We like our Excellency Sir Richard Pine. The Ashantees they continually trouble us in this same way.

I am, &c.
(signed) *King Quakeefram and Chiefs.*

Jugwar Denkerah.

I, Sidney Reynett Brown, Acting Secretary and Registrar in and for Her Majesty's possessions on the Gold Coast, do hereby certify that Francis Chapman Grant who both signed the annexed instrument is a Justice of the Peace in Her Majesty's said possessions; and that to all instruments and writings by him attested full faith and testimony is and ought to be given in court and without. In faith and testimony whereof I have caused the seal of my office to be hereunto affixed at Cape Coast this 11th day of May 1865.

Sidney R. Brown, D.A.C.G.,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

WE, the undersigned, do solemnly and sincerely declare that we did severally and personally present the various copies of the annexed address to his Excellency Governor Pine to the various kings and chiefs who did not actually sign, but were represented in the address handed to his Excellency on his departure. That we did read over and explain to them the said copies of the address, and that they seemed perfectly to understand the same before signing or making their marks; and that such signatures or marks were voluntarily made. Further, that the annexed letters were dictated in the Fantee language by the writers and copied, and that they contain the true intention of the persons whose signatures are attached to them.

And we make the foregoing declaration, conscientiously believing the same to be true.

John Teemark,
Quobriah Akassee, his + mark,
Cafee Arboosopin, his + mark

Declared before me, at Cape Coast, this 11th day of May 1865.

(signed) *F. C. Grant, J.P., M.L.C.,*
One of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace
for the Gold Coast.

Appendix, No. 3.

PAPERS handed in by Mr. *T. Frederick Elliot*, Monday, 20 March 1865.LIST of TREATIES of the Government of *Sierra Leone* with the Native Chiefs on the West Coast, from 1788 to the present time.

No.	Date.	Country.	Governor.	Native Chiefs.
T. 1	1788: 22 August - O. P.	Frenchman's Bay - -	Captain John Taylor -	Nambaner and others.
T. 2	1792: 3 April - O. P.	Island, Sierra Leone River -	John and Alexander Anderson.	Pa Samma, King of North Bulloms.
T. 2a	29 June - -	Bulama - - - -	Sir William Hutton and others.	King Jaloreni and Belchore.
T. 2b	3 August -	Territories to the southward and westward of Chinala, and the Island of Bulama.	P. Beaver and others -	Nisbana and Matchore.
T. 3	1807: 10 and 13 July O. P.	King Tom's Point - -	T. Ludlam - - -	Firama, and King Tom.
4	1814: 2 April - O. P.	Trazers - - - -	C. Macarthy - - -	Amar Wouldo Moitar, King of the Trazers.
T. 5	1818: 6 July - O. N. P.	Isles De Loss (B. p. 17) -	C. Macarthy - - -	Mangar Demba, King of Barga, and his Chieftains.
T. 6	1819: 25 May - O. P.	Mar Porto and Ro Bomp, Bunce River.	C. Macarthy - - - Convention - - -	Pa London, or Ka Konko and his Chiefs.
T. 7	1820: 7 January - P.	Cape Palmas, Grand Sestos and Bedoo.	G. A. Robertson -	Quay, <i>alias</i> King Ward and his Chiefs.
T. 8	21 July - O. P.	Island of Bananas near Cape Shilling.	C. Macarthy - - -	Pa London, or Ka Konko, and Thomas Caulker.
T. 9	20 October - O. N. P.	Bananas (B. p. 55) - -	Captain A. Grant - - -	Thomas and George Stephen Caulker.
10	1821: 5 June - O. N. P.	Bunce and Tasso Tombo -	John Macormack - -	Ba Samma, or Ba Marro, King of North Bulloms.
T. G. 11	1823: 14 April - O. N. P.	Islands of Lemain Gambia (B. p. 38).	C. Macarthy - - -	Collie.
T. 12	1824: 2 August - O. N. P.	Islands and North Bank, Sierra Leone River (B. p. 42.)	D. M. Hamilton - -	Ba Mauro, King of North Bulloms.
13	5 August - O. N. P.	Bance and other Islands (B. p. 46).	Henry Williams - -	King Barnaro, Chief of North Bulloms.
T. 14	1825: 24 September - O. N. P. and 1 October.	Southern Bank of the Camaranka River to the Gallinas (B. p. 48).	Charles Turner - -	Banks, King of Sherbro'. Soe Manoh, King of Bendo. Soe Bompey, King of Bullom. Soe Locco, King of Bagoob. Suwarrow, King of Char. And other Chiefs.

No.	Date.	Country.	Governor.	Native Chiefs.
T. 16	1825: 12 December O. P.	Territories of Bacca Loco (B. p. 58).	Charles Turner - - -	Caremo and others.
16	30 December O. N. P.	Matacong - - - -	S. Gabbidon and Savage	Alimam Amara, Chief of Mandingo.
T. 17	1826: 18 April - O. P.	Soombia Soosoos and Mandingo country.	K. Macaulay - - - -	Alimam Dalla Mahomado, Chief of Soombia Soosoos and the Tura family.
T.G. 18	15 June - O. N. P.	Barra - - - -	K. Macaulay - - - -	Brimay, King of Barra and others.
T.G. 19	19 June - O. N. P.	Barra, Add. Art. - - -	K. Macaulay - - - -	Brimay, King of Barra.
20	14 December O. N. P.	Bacco Locco - - - - This deed is affixed to the Treaty of the 12th December 1828 (B. p. 58).	N. Campbell - - - -	Fatima Brimah.
21	1827: 8 March - O. N. P.	Kaffu Bulloms - - - - I saw the original of this Treaty in the possession of the late Francis Smyth, but since his decease it cannot be found.	N. Campbell - - - - A. Montagu.	Bey Sherbro, King of Kaffu Bullom.
22	7 May - O. N. P.	Yani Catebar - - - -	N. Campbell - - - -	Namar, King of Catebar.
G. 23	15 May - O. P.	Woolie - - - -	N. Campbell - - - -	Quia, King of the Woolie nation.
24	25 May - O. P.	Soombia Soosoos - - -	N. Campbell - - - -	Sattal Lahai, Chief of all the Soombia countries.
T. 25	29 May - O. N. P.	Brekama - - - -	N. Campbell - - - -	Farrin Tomba Comba.
T.G. 26	4 June - O. N. P.	St. Mary's Gambia (B. p. 95).	N. Campbell - - - -	Tomany, King of Cumbo.
27	1827: 23 June - O. P.	Bulola - - - -	N. Campbell - - - -	Agai, King of Bulola.
T. 28	24 June - P.	Bulama Ghinala - - -	N. Campbell - - - -	Benagre and others, King of the Biafras.
29	1831: 28 September O. N. P.	Timmanee - - - -	Alexander Findlay - -	Bey Cobolo, and other chiefs of the Timmanee country.
30	1836: 8 April - O. N. P.	Mabelly - - - -	H. D. Campbell - - -	Bey Mauro and others.
31	16 April - O. P.	Timmanee - - - -	H. D. Campbell - - -	Bey Cobolo, King of the Marampa, and others.
32	16 and 20 April O. P.	Marampa - - - -	H. D. Campbell - - -	Bey Cobolo, King of Marampa.
11	1837: April - - - -	Simmerah - - - -	H. D. Campbell - - -	Bey Simmerah, King of Simmerah.
		Mendi - - - -	" "	Bey Fonti, King of Mendi.
		Port Locco - - - -	" "	Ali Karlie, Chief of Port Locco.
		Bumbelly - - - -	" "	Lanselly, Chief of Bumbelly.
		Itokelle - - - -	" "	Alimamy Gabba, Chief of Rokelle.
		Rokon - - - -	" "	Tom Bendo, Chief of Rokon.
		Furadugu and Mahara - -	" "	Mahomadu Bundu, Chief of Furadugu.
		Sanda - - - -	" "	Alie Karlie Samurab, Chief of Sanda.
		Tambacca - - - -	" "	Bokoro Surie, Chief of Tambacca.
		Koolifa - - - -	" "	Bey Camma, Chief of Koolifa.
		Mallaly - - - -	" "	Massa Packey, King of Mallaly.
		Limba - - - -	" "	Bey Woosce, King of Limba.
		Myappa - - - -	" "	Cessi Betty, Chief of Myappa.
33	1836: 18 April - O. N. P.	Roads to Foulah Foota, Mahara, Port Locco, and other roads.	H. D. Campbell - - -	Bey Cobolo, Bey Fonti, and others.

No.	Date.	Country.	Governor.	Native Chiefs.
34	1837: 28 March - P., with Treaty No. 31.	Timmanee - - - (B. p. 139).	H. D. Campbell - -	Bey Kroo, King of Mabang. Bey Yosso, King of Mayosso.
34a	11 April - -	Rokon - - - -	Bey Cobolo, and others -	Massa Packey, King of Mallaly. Coro Bah Yotto, Chief of Yelli. Bey Yola, King of Simerah. Bey Yinka, King of Tarmi. En Kerry, Chief of Yundoo.
35	1841: 13 February -	Timmanee - - - (B. p. 142).	H. D. Campbell - - John Jeremie - - -	Fend Mordu, Chief of Yannie. Alimaïne Dalu Mahamadoo, Chief of Medina, and Ali Karlie, Chief of Timmanee, and other Chiefs.
36	1842: 5 November O. P.	Mellicourie - - -	G. Macdonald - - -	Alifa, King of Mellicourie.
37	1845: 20 May - - O. P.	Samo and Moricaryah -	W. Fergusson - - -	Bey Sherbro and Mori Bokery.
38	23 May - - O. P.	Malaghea - - - -	W. Fergusson - - -	Mori Lahai, Chief of Malaghea.
39	28 May - - O. P.	Fouricaria - - - -	W. Fergusson - - -	Alimami Ali, King and Chief of the Fouricaria Country.
40	28 May - - O. P.	Bereira - - - -	W. Fergusson - - -	Alimami Morie Mousa, Chief of Bereira.
41	1847: 21 & 26 January P.	Cagnabac - - - -	Com. A. Murray - - -	Antonio and others.
42	2 November - O. P.	Kaloom - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Mureeah Demba.
43	16 November - O. P.	Fouricaria - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Alimami Alie, King and Chief of the Fouricaria Country.
44	16 November - O. P.	Bareira - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Alimami Sarleah.
45	29 November - O. P.	Locco Marsamma - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Ba Mauro and others.
46	29 November - O. P.	Kaffu Bulloms - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Bey Sherbro, King of Kaffu Bulloms.
47	1848: 31 October - O. P., with treaty of 2d November 1847, No. 42.	Dubreka - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	King Demba.
48	1849: 4 and 7 July O. P.	Territories of Theophilus and T. S. Caulker.	B. C. C. Pine - - -	Careybah Caulker and Thomas Stephen Caulker, and others.
49	1851: 19 March - P.	Kykandy - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Tongo, and other Chiefs.
50	21 March - P.	Naloes - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Lamina Towle, Chief of the Naloes, and other Chiefs.
51	2 August - Dup. O. P.	Fouricaria - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Quia Foday, King or Chief of Fouricaria.
52	23 December O. P.	Small Scarcies River - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Bey Ingar, King of the Small Scarcies River.
53	26 December P.	Macbatee in the Great Scar- cies.	N. W. Macdonald - -	Bey Farima, King of Mac- batee.
54	26 December O. P.	Kambia in the Great Scar- cies.	N. W. Macdonald - -	Sattan Lahai, King of Kambia.
55	27 December O. P., with No. 51.	Fouricaria - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Quia Foday.
56	1852: 1 January - P.	Lagos - - - -	Commander Bruce - -	King Akitoye Atchoboo, and Rosae.
57	17 January O. P.	Rio Pongas - - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Bala Bango, King of the Rio Pongas.
58	29 January O. P.	Wonkafong Soombooyer -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Stephen, King of Wonkafong, Soombooyer.

No.	Date.	Country.	Governor.	Native Chiefs.
59	1852: 26 August O. N. P.	Kaffu Bulloms - - -	N. W. Macdonald - -	Nain Sugo, King of the Kaffu Bulloms.
60	1853: 31 March O. P.	Bompey Plain Islands, and Sherbro Country.	A. E. Kennedy - -	Careyah Caulker, Thomas Stephen Caulker, and other Chiefs of the Sherbro Country.
61	4 May - O. P.	Timmanee Country - - (Additional Article to Treaty of 13th February 1841.)	A. E. Kennedy - -	Alimani Dalu Mohamadoo, Namina Lahai, Brimah Kayelli, and Brimah Luke, Chiefs of Timmanee Countries.
62	9 May - O. P.	Timmanee - - - (Supplemental Clause to Treaty of 13th February 1841.)	A. E. Kennedy - -	Bey Camma. Bey Banta. Bey Farima. Namina Mordu. Kere Kah.
63	12 May - O. P.	Loco Marsamma - - - (Additional Article to Treaty of 29th November 1847.)	A. E. Kennedy - -	Pa Bombo, King of the Loco Marsamma.
64	19 May - O. N. P.	Sherbro Country - - - (Additional Article to Treaty of 4th July 1849)	A. E. Kennedy - -	Ibiboo Salifoo Calipha, and Carbouka, Sherbro Chiefs.
	19 May. 21 May.			
65	1854: 17 April - O. P.	Sherbro - - - - (Additional Article to Treaty of 4th July 1849.)	A. E. Kennedy - -	Kanray Coomba, <i>alias</i> John Fortune.
66	1856: 3 December O. P.	Mambolo - - - -	Stephen J. Hill - -	Bey Sherbro, King of Mambolo.
67	1857: 27 February O. P.	Port a Lokkoh and Timmanee.	Stephen J. Hill - -	Ali Karli, Chief of Port a Lokkoh, and numerous Kings and Chiefs.
68	1858: 18 December - O.A Minute upon Treaty, No. 57.	Rio Pongas - - - - (Ratification of Treaty of 17th January 1852.)	Stephen J. Hill - -	King M. Catty.
69	1859: 31 May - - -	Sherbro - - - -	Com. F. A. Close - -	Thomas Stephen Caulker.
70	1 June - - -	Sherbro - - - - (Ratification of Treaty of 31st May 1859.)	Lieut. T. W. Chapman -	Thomas Stephen Caulker.
71	1 June - - -	Sherbro, Ribby, and Bompey	Com. F. A. Close - -	Thomas Theophilus Caulker, Thomas G. Caulker, and Boccary Sily.
72	24 June - - -	Bompey, Ribby, and Sherbro (Ratification of Treaty of 1st June 1859.)	A. Fitz James - -	Alexander Bey Cantah, King of Quia, and other Chiefs of the Quia Country.
73	1860: 7 April - - -	Lokko Massannah - - Kaffwe Bulloms. Madina. Port a Lokkoh.	A. Fitz James - -	Bey Mamo, Bey Sherbro, Amarah Adam Ansumana Koukoh, Alimamee Sadoo, Camarah, Prince of Kindoo and Feudah Sanasse.
74	1861: 11 June - - -	Fouricaria, Kambia, and other Districts.	Stephen Hill - - -	Bey Farana, King of Ma Bwette and Kambia.
T. 75	2 April - - -	Quiah - - - -	- ditto.	
T. 76	9 Nov. - - -	Bagroo - - - -	- ditto.	
T. 77	9 " - - -	Sherbro - - - -	- ditto.	
T. 78	9 " - - -	Bendoo - - - -	- ditto.	
T. 79	1862: 24 June - - -	Quiah - - - -	- ditto.	

Note.—March 1865. As three of the numbers in this list are repeated, the real total is 82. Those marked T. are Territorial, and those marked G. relate to the Gambia. The territorial treaties are 25, of which four relate to the Gambia.

App. No. 3.

TREATIES made by the Government of the *Gambia* from the Year 1840 to the present time.

No.	Date.		Confirmed.
T. 1	13 July 1840	- Convention with the King of Combo, for the cession of a piece of land at Cape St. Mary.	9 Nov. 1840.
2	23 April 1841	- With the King of Cartabar against the Slave Trade, and for freedom of trade and intercourse.	8 Nov. 1841.
3	1 April 1842	- With the King of the Papels against Wrecking	15 Nov. 1842.
4	31 Dec. 1842	- Agreement with Sandebar, Chief of Nyanibantang, against the Slave Trade, and for freedom of trade and intercourse. [Similar Treaties were made at the same time with Dabaconda, Corro, Wooll, Cantatianda.]	13 Jan. 1843.
T. 5	18 Nov. 1850	- Barra.—Cession of Territory	20 March 1851.
T. 6	26 Dec. 1850	- Combo - ditto	25 Feb. 1851.
T. 7	24 May 1853	- Combo.—Cession of Territory, with promise of the Governor's aid to bring disputes to an end.	10 Dec. 1853.
8	15 April 1856	- Combo, Boorfoot, and Goonjour.—Peace between them .	16 May 1856.
9	24 April 1856	- Barra, and various Soninke Towns.—Peace between them.	21 July 1856.
10	26 Feb. 1861	- Badiboo.—Peace and reference of future disputes to the Governor of the Gambia.	13 April 1861.
11	Aug. 1861	- Badiboo.—Trade	5 Dec. 1861.
12	24 Feb. 1863	- Maba, and King of the Soninkees and the Sumar of Essow.—Peace between them.	
13	7 Feb. 1864	- Gonjour, Combo, and various Towns.—Peace amongst them, subject of arbitration of future disputes by the Governor of the Gambia.	
NOT PRINTED.			
14	2 Aug. 1853	- King of Barra and his subject Julia.—Pacification between them.	19 Sept. 1853.
15	26 Aug. 1854	- Barra.—For the promotion of trade	30 Nov. 1854.
16	19 April 1855	- Kanabak.—Trade and against wrecking	8 Oct. 1855.
17	22 Jan. 1856	- King of Sin - ditto	1 Sept. 1856.
18	24 Jan. 1864	- Wooll.—Peace and Amity	22 March 1864.

TREATIES and AGREEMENTS between the Government of the *Gold Coast* and the King of *Ashantee*, the King of *Dahomey*, and other Native Chiefs.

No.	Date.	Country.	Subject.
1	7 September 1817 - -	Ashantee and Dwabin - -	Peace with England, and reference of any disputes with Fantees to English mediation. This Treaty has been abrogated by the great Ashantee war, which began in 1824 and ended in 1826.
2	10 December 1827 - -	Ashantee - - - -	Terms of peace offered to the King of Ashantee. These terms were for some time entertained by the King of Ashantee, but were not finally accepted and converted into a Treaty.
3	27 April 1831 - -	Ashantee and various Fantee Chiefs.	Peace with the King of Ashantee, and renunciation by him of all right to tribute or homage from the Fantee Chiefs. This is the Treaty now in force.
4	6 March 1844 - -	The Fantee Chiefs - -	Agreement, sometimes called the Bond, by which they submit crimes and offences to joint trial by British Judicial Officers and the Chiefs of the District.
5	8 March 1847 - -	King of Dahomey - -	Treaty of Amity and Commerce.
6	19 April 1852 - -	Fantee Chiefs - - -	Agreement for paying Poll Tax, commonly called the Poll Tax Ordinance.

TREATIES connected with *Lagos*.

No.	Date.	Subject.
1	6 August 1861 - - - -	Cession of the Port and Island of Lagos.
2	18 February 1862 - - -	Additional Article.
3	7 February 1863 - - -	Recognition by Kosoko of British right to Palma and Leekie.
4	27 June 1863 - - - -	Cession of Addo.
5	4 July 1863 - - - -	Cession of Okeodan.
6	7 July 1863 - - - -	Cession of Badagry.

DESPATCHES ON NATIVE TREATIES generally, and on those of the Government of the *Gambia*.

No.	Subject.	Date.
1	Lord John Russell to Governor Doherty - - - - -	23 July - - 1840.
2	Lord John Russell to Governor Huntley - - - - -	9 November - 1840.
3	Lord Stanley to the Officer Administering the Government - - - - -	8 November - 1840.
4	Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - -	8 November - 1840.
5	The Officer Administering the Government to Lord Stanley - - - - -	23 December - 1841.
6	Lord Stanley to the Officer Administering the Government - - - - -	18 March - - 1842.
7	Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - -	15 March - - 1842.
8	Ditto - - - - ditto - - - - -	15 November - 1842.
9	Lord Stanley to Governor Norcott - - - - -	13 January - - 1844.
10	His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K. G., to Governor d'Arcy - - - - -	5 December - 1861.
11	Governor d'Arcy to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K. G. - - - - -	22 February - 1864.
12	The Secretary of State to Governor d'Arcy - - - - -	21 March - - 1864.
13	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M. P., to Governor d'Arcy - - - - -	23 July - - 1864.
14	Governor d'Arcy to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M. P. - - - - -	22 August - - 1864.
15	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M. P., to Governor d'Arcy - - - - -	21 September - 1864.
16	Governor d'Arcy to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M. P. - - - - -	21 November - 1864.
17	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M. P., to Governor d'Arcy - - - - -	21 January - 1865.
18	Governor d'Arcy to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M. P. - - - - -	21 January - 1865.
19	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M. P., to Governor d'Arcy - - - - -	23 February - 1865.

CORRESPONDENCE ON THE GOLD COAST,

Prior to the recent Correspondence on Ashantee War, contained in Two Parliamentary Papers of June 1864, and One of February 1865.

No.	Date.	Subject.
1	30 October - 1828 - -	Mr. Hay, Under Secretary of State, to the African Merchants, on the future government of the Gold Coast by a Committee of Merchants.
2	11 November 1828 - -	Reply to the above, accepting the terms.
3	15 January - 1828 - -	Governor Lumley—Terms of peace offered to the King of Ashantee.
4	23 August - 1828 - -	Major Ricketts to Mr. Under Secretary Hay—The negotiation likely to be broken off.
5	25 July - 1831 - -	Report of the African Merchants on the Ashantee Treaty of 27 April 1831.
6	- - - - -	Memorandum explanatory of "Panyarring."
7	22 November 1844 - -	Lord Stanley—On the Jurisdiction of the Assessor at the Gold Coast.
8	23 April - 1852 - -	Governor Hill—Reporting the Adoption by the Natives of the Poll-Tax Ordinance.
9	20 October - 1852 - -	Governor Hill—Reporting Accession of some of the Wassaw Tribe to the Poll-Tax Ordinance.
10	22 December 1852 - -	Sir John Pakington—Acknowledging the Governor's Reports about Poll-Tax.
11	18 March - 1853 - -	Duke of Newcastle—Relative to the Poll-Tax. Cautions the Governor against acquisitions of Territory, and against creating any supposition that the payment of Poll-Tax will place the Natives on the footing of British Subjects inhabiting the Dominions of the Crown.

LAGOS.

1. Governor's Commission, No. 3 of 1863.
2. Ordinance establishing in the Colony Laws of England.
3. No. 6 of 1864, constituting Petty Debt Court.
4. No. 9 of 1864, constituting the Chief Magistrate's Court.

SIERRA LEONE TREATIES.

TREATY of 11 June 1861 (of Amity and Commerce, and against the Slave Trade).

(This, as being the latest of the kind, is printed as a Specimen of the Treaties of Amity and Commerce.)

BETWEEN John McCormack, Esq., of the Civil Service, a Commissioner duly authorised and empowered by His Excellency Colonel Stephen John Hill, C. B., Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Colony of Sierra Leone and its dependencies, Vice Admiral, Chancellor and Ordinary of the same, for and on behalf of Her Majesty Victoria by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c., and Bey Farama, King of Ma Bwetic and Kambia on the Great Searcies River.

WHEREAS war has unhappily been carried on for a considerable time between Alimamy Wise, King of Fouricaria, and Sattan Labia, King of Ro Woollah, and Bey Farama, King of Ma Bwetic and Kambia, and Lamina Bamoi, Governor of Kambia, and the said chiefs being desirous of putting an end to its calamities, have applied to the Governor of Sierra Leone to appoint an officer of this Government to assist in completing peace:

I. There shall be peace between the subjects of the Queen of England and the subjects of the said Bey Farama, and of the several chiefs, parties to this treaty, and there shall also be peace between the subjects of the said several chiefs respectively, and should any difference or dispute accidentally arise between the said Bey Farama and any of the other chiefs or their subjects, parties to this treaty, it shall be referred to the Governor of Sierra Leone, and his decision thereon shall be final and binding upon all parties concerned.

II. The persons and property of all British subjects shall be inviolate, and no samo, country law or custom shall be put in force against them; neither shall they, if aggrieved, have recourse to any samo, country law or custom; they must lay their grievance before the Governor of Sierra Leone.

III. British subjects are strictly prohibited from breaking the country laws, from interfering in any way with the disputes and quarrels of the native chiefs or their subjects, and from aiding, assisting, countenancing, or supporting them directly or indirectly in their wars against each other, either by supplying them with arms, ammunition, or any warlike stores whatever, or with the means of procuring them.

IV. The slave trade is for ever abolished within the territories of the said king, party hereto. And his subjects are hereby prohibited from being engaged in that traffic either directly or indirectly.

V. No persons whatever, European or others, are to be permitted to establish themselves within the territories of the said king, party hereto, for the purpose of carrying on or engaging in the slave trade, and the said king hereby empowers the officers and forces of the Queen of England to expel all persons violating this clause from the territories of the said king by force, if need be, and to burn or otherwise destroy their barracoons and slave factories, and to seize all boats, canoes, or vessels of any description found engaged either directly in the slave trade, or in aiding and abetting that traffic within the waters belonging to the said king.

VI. The subjects of the Queen of England are hereby guaranteed the right of free and unrestricted legitimate traffic within the territories of the said king, and all rights and privileges heretofore enjoyed by them are hereby recognised and confirmed; they may buy or rent lands and

houses, which shall not be entered upon without their free will and consent.

VII. All privileges conferred upon the subjects of any foreign state or power shall be considered as being equally granted to British subjects. And no privileges or rights shall be secured to the subjects of a foreign state without being notified to the Governor of Sierra Leone, in order to such privilege or right being extended to the subjects of Her Majesty.

VIII. Her Majesty may appoint an agent to visit or reside in the territories of the said king for the protection of her subjects, and for securing due adherence to the stipulations of this treaty, and the person and property of such agent shall be inviolate, and he shall receive all honour and protection.

IX. All complaints against British subjects must be made to Her Majesty's agent, if there be one; or to the Governor of Sierra Leone, in either case accompanied by sufficient proof in order that justice may be impartially done between all parties.

X. The ministers of the Christian religion shall be permitted to reside and exercise their calling within the territories of the said king, and to establish schools for the education and proper training up of the youths of both sexes, and they are to receive all honour and protection.

XI. The roads throughout the territories of the said king shall be kept open; they are not to be "semoed" or shut on any pretext whatever, and all parties, British subjects, native strangers, and others, are to be allowed to travel thereon to and from the Colony of Sierra Leone, or elsewhere, free and unmolested.

XII. The canoes and boats of the said king and of his subjects visiting the Colony of Sierra Leone for the purpose of trade are placed upon the same footing as the boats of the Colony, and are exempted from all taxes; and the subjects of the said king and their property, while peaceably trading to or residing within the Colony, shall receive the fullest protection.

XIII. The bodies of British seamen or other non-resident British subjects who may die within the territories of the said king shall have the right of interment on payment of six dollars to the said king, which sum shall be in full of all burial fees; and all resident British subjects dying within the territories of the said king, party to this treaty, shall be interred on payment of the customary tribute or offering, the amount of which shall be arranged and determined between the friends of the deceased and the said king or his representatives. The graves of persons so interred shall be secure from violation.

XIV. The Queen of England shall have the right to demand the surrender of criminals, or other persons being British subjects or liberated Africans, or others resident in Sierra Leone, accused of any crime or offence committed within

App. No. 3. the Colony of Sierra Leone or its dependencies, cognisable by the laws of England, for the purpose of being tried for such offence in Sierra Leone, or in such British Colony as Her Majesty the Queen of England may think fit to appoint; and the kings and chiefs, parties to this treaty, do hereby bind themselves to secure and surrender all British subjects or liberated Africans, or others resident in Sierra Leone, who may be charged with any crime or offence as aforesaid, upon demand being made for them by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, or by any other competent authority.

XV. All merchandise imported in British vessels within the dominion of the king, party to this treaty, shall be exempted from the payment of any duty whatever, and in like manner the production of the territories of the said king, party to this treaty, imported into the Colony of Sierra Leone shall be (subject to the approval of the governor and council of the said Colony) exempted from all import or other duties.

XVI. In consideration of the foregoing stipulations of this treaty being agreed upon and strictly adhered to on the part of the king aforesaid and his successors, his Excellency Colonel Stephen John Hill, C.B., Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Colony of Sierra Leone, agrees for himself and successors, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, to pay or cause to be paid annually to the said king and his successors the Customs hereinafter mentioned and set forth, viz., two hundred bars, and the further sum of one hundred bars to Lamina Bano; as the present governor of the town of Kambia, and to each succeeding governor of the town of Kambia as may be duly chosen with the consent and approval of the Governor of Sierra Leone. The above bars are to be computed at, and after the rate of 1s. each bar.

XVII. The amount stipulated to be paid annually to the said king and to the said governor of Kambia for the time being by this treaty, shall be considered a full compensation for the fulfilment of the terms and conditions thereof by the king and governor aforesaid, and shall be in full satisfaction for all charges on British merchant shipping resorting to the waters of the territories of the said king for the purposes of trade, with the free and unrestricted right to wood and water.

XVIII. This treaty shall revoke and annul all previous treaties made between Her Majesty the Queen of England and the late King Farama as the King of Ma Bwetic, and with the present Sattan Lahi, King of Ro Woollah, as the King of

Kambia, and shall be proclaimed immediately on its being concluded and signed, and be made law throughout the territories of the said Bey Farama, which for the better maintenance of peace, and the avoidance of all causes of differences and disputes hereafter, are hereby fixed with the consent of Bey Farama and his chiefs, and with the consent of the kings and chiefs, parties to this treaty, to be as follows, viz.:—On the south side of the Great Scarries River, commencing on the west at Marinhj Creek, which runs inland a little to the westward of the village of Ro-Ta-Bundle, and running eastward along the south bank of the said river to a brook or creek called "Bongkome," which runs into the river Kankana, a little above the town of Ro Singbwe, the said river Kankana emptying itself a little farther on into the Colantine, or Great Scarries River about two and a-half to three miles to the eastward of "Pint-a-Killie," a little to the eastward of Kambia; this is the eastern boundary; and on the south the said territory between Ro Marinhj Creek on the west and Ro Bong Konney Creek and River Kankana on the east, is bounded by the Small Scarries or Ro Bury River.

Signed and sealed at Kambia, on the Great Scarries River, this Eleventh day of June, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of Her Majesty's reign the Twenty-fourth.

(signed)	<i>John M' Cormack</i> , Commis- sioner.	(L.S.)
	Their marks.	
×	<i>Bey Farama</i> , King of Mag- batee and Kambia.	(L.S.)
×	<i>Sattan Lahia</i> , King of Ro Woollah.	(L.S.)
×	<i>For Alimamy Wise</i> , <i>Alimamy Samba</i> , a Chief of Toweah	(L.S.)
×	<i>Lamina Bano</i> , Governor of Kambia.	(L.S.)

Witnesses:

	<i>Mamado Turay</i> (signed in Arabic).
	Their marks.
×	<i>Baley Malageh</i> , a Chief of Ro Woollah.
×	<i>Yocaryy Bongboh</i> (signed in Arabic).
×	<i>Fa Siggoh</i> , a Chief of Saffrakoh.
	<i>Robt. Davies.</i>
	<i>Saml. W. Thorpe.</i>
	<i>Thomas C. Smart.</i>
	<i>Alimamy Fenda Sannasee</i> (signed in Arabic).
×	<i>Ya Loll.</i>

The following are Copies of all Territorial Treaties with the Sierra Leone Government since 1860.

TREATY of 2d April 1861, for the Session of Quiah.

BETWEEN his Excellency Colonel Stephen John Hill, C.B., Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Colony of Sierra Leone and its Dependencies, and Vice Admiral thereof, for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland of the one part; and Alexander Bey Cantah, King of the Quiah Country, Nain Banuah, Bocary Silly, Pa Mungee Ropee, Tom Needle, Pa Booboo, Soorie Coochee, Pa Savage, Dick London, John Mingo, Boom Warrah, Mungee Calemney, Cessey Queah, Pa Buenda, Rhuniah Booley, and Pa Sinney, Chiefs and Headmen of the Quiah Country, of the other part.

WHEREAS disputes have arisen between the Governor of Sierra Leone and Alexander Bey Cantah and the chiefs and headmen above mentioned in consequence of attacks made by their war-men upon British subjects, and upon the Island of Tombo, a dependency of this Colony, and to punish which outrages the Governor of Sierra Leone had organised an expedition, but Alexander Bey Cantah and the chiefs and headmen

above mentioned having sued for peace, the contracting parties have agreed upon the following articles:—

ARTICLE I.

King Alexander Bey Cantah and the chiefs and headmen above mentioned do hereby cede, surrender, give over and transfer from henceforth for ever unto Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain

Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, the full, entire, free and unlimited right, possession, dominion and sovereignty in and over all that piece or portion of the Quiah country, measuring 10 miles in width, from Waterloo and Calmunt Creeks to the Quiah River or Creek, and 16 miles in length from the river Sierra Leone to the Ribbie River or thereabouts, and bounded on the west by Waterloo Creek and Calmunt Creek; on the east by the Quiah River or Creek (which empties itself into the Rokelle River at Ro Benkeah), by the creek known as Ma Sungoh Creek, and by a direct line running from the head of the southern branch of the said Quiah River or Creek to the head of the said Ma Sungoh Creek; on the north by the Sierra Leone River; and on the south by the river Ribbie or Dibbie round to the entrance of Calmunt Creek, together with all and every right and title to the navigation, anchorage, waterage, bays, waters, rivers, sea-coasts, shores, creeks and inlets, fishing and other revenues, and maritime claims, and all privileges appertaining to the same, which portion of the Quiah land hereby ceded shall henceforth be annexed to and be a dependency of this Colony, and be subject to the laws now in force and hereafter to be in force in this Colony.

ARTICLE II.

Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, in consideration of the cession hereby made of the above portion of the Quiah country, agrees to pay unto Alexander Bey Cantah, King of Quiah, his successor and successors, the sum of 2,000 bars, or 100*l.* yearly and every year.

ARTICLE III.

Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland hereby guarantees to the native inhabitants of the portion of the Quiah country hereby ceded, the full, entire, and free possession of the lands they now hold, in the same manner as the other inhabitants of the Colony.

ARTICLE IV.

The towns of Ro Bagah, and Ro Baney, in

their present dimensions, are excepted from the cession of the portion of the Quiah land hereby made. App. No. 3.

ARTICLE V.

This treaty shall be proclaimed immediately on its being concluded and signed, and be made law throughout the territories of Alexander Bey Cantah, and the chiefs and headmen above mentioned. In witness whereof the contracting parties have signed the same, and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done at Sierra Leone, the Second day of April, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

(signed) *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor
in Chief. (L.S.)

Their marks.

× *Alexander Bey Cantah*, King
of the Quiah Country. (L.S.)
× *Nain Bannah*. (L.S.)
Bocarry Silly (signed in
Arabic). (L.S.)
× *Pa Mangee Ropee*. (L.S.)
× *Tom Needle*. (L.S.)
× *Pa Boohoo*. (L.S.)
× *Soorie Coochee*. (L.S.)
× *Pa Savage*. (L.S.)
× *Dick London*. (L.S.)
× *John Mingo*. (L.S.)
× *Boom Warrach*. (L.S.)
× *Mangee Calemney*. (L.S.)
× *Cessey Queah*. (L.S.)
× *Pa Buenda*. (L.S.)
× *Khuniah Booley*. (L.S.)
× *Pa Sinney*. (L.S.)

Witnesses to the Signatures:

John Carr, Chief Justice.
E. H. Sierra Leone.
A. Fitzjames, Queen's Advocate.
Geo. W. Nicol, Colonial Secretary.
Chas. Heidle
Robt. Bradshaw } Members of Council
John M' Cormack.

TREATY of 9 November 1861 (for the Cession of Bagroo).

BETWEEN his Excellency Colonel Stephen John Hill, C.B., Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Colony of Sierra Leone and its Dependencies, and Vice Admiral thereof, for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland of the one part; and Se Loko, King of the Bagroo, So Manika, So Kaka, So Hoony, Mannah Fellah, Mamadoo Cooramnah, Pier Indao, Queah Baom, Sasic Kembey, Sessie Woor, Fuoy, Ba Mema, So Kam, Kallifa Ben, *alias* Ba Cote, and Bundunkah, Chiefs of Bagroo, Mana Bagroo and Belley, of the other part.

WHEREAS the said Se Loko, King of Bagroo, and the chiefs and headmen aforesaid, are desirous that that portion of the Sherbro country called Bagroo, Mana Bagroo, and Belley, should be ceded, surrendered, given over, and transferred from henceforth for ever unto Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors:

The said Se Loko, King of Bagroo, and the chiefs and headmen aforesaid, do hereby cede, surrender, give over, and transfer from henceforth for ever unto Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, the full, entire, free, and unlimited right, possession, dominion, and sovereignty in and over that piece or portion of Sherbro called Bagroo, and Mana Bagroo and Belley, extending from the Yall Tucker River on the north to the Bagroo and Balley rivers on the south, and extending about 30 miles inland from Sherbro River, which

bounds it on the west; together with all and every right and title to the navigation, anchorage, waterage, bays, waters, rivers, sea-coasts, shores, creeks, and inlets, fishing and other revenues, and maritime claims and all privileges appertaining to the same, which portion of the Sherbro country hereby ceded shall henceforth be annexed to and be a dependency of this Colony, and be subject to the laws now in force and hereafter to be in force in this Colony.

This treaty shall be proclaimed immediately on its being concluded and signed, and be made law throughout the territories of the Sherbro country and the chiefs and headmen above mentioned.

In witness whereof the contracting parties have signed the same and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done at Bendoo, this Ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred

App. No. 3. dred and sixty-one, and in the Twenty-fifth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

(signed) *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor. (L.S.)
 Their marks.
 × *Se Loko*, King of the Bargroo. (L.S.)
 × *So Manika*, Chief of Tasso in Bargroo. (L.S.)
 × *So Kaka*, Chief in Bargroo. (L.S.)
 × *So Hoony*, Chief of Bargroo. (L.S.)
 × *Mannah Felleh* (signed in Arabic), Chief of Belley. (L.S.)
 × *Mamadoo Cooramnah*, Chief of Belley. (L.S.)
 × *Pier Indao*, Chief of Mana Bargroo. (L.S.)
 × *Queah Baom*, Chief of Mana Bargroo. (L.S.)
 × *Sasie Kembey*, Headman of Belugt. (L.S.)
 × *Sessie Woor*, Chief of Little Mungary Big Boom. (L.S.)
 × *Fouy*, Lady of Mana Bargroo. (L.S.)
 × *Ba Mema*, a Gentleman of Mana Bargroo. (L.S.)

× *So Kam*, Chief of Imperay. (L.S.)
 × *Kallifa Ben*, alias *Ba Cote*, Chief of Imperay. (L.S.)
 × *Bundunkah*, War Captain, Bargroo. (L.S.)

Signed, sealed, and agreed to in our presence this Ninth day of November, One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

Robt. Bradshaw, Member of Council.
J. H. Smith, Commander of H.M.S. "Torch."
John McCormack.
C. J. Fennell, Asst. Surgeon, H.M.S. "Torch."
A. Whiffin, Asst. Paymr. in charge of H.M.S. "Torch."
J. W. Jarratt, Master's Asst., H.M.S. "Torch."
Wm. B. Jolly, Merchant.
John S. Brooks.
W. L. Dupigny.
Thos. Geo. Lawson, Govt. Messenger and Interpreter.

TREATY of 9 November 1861 (for the Cession of Sherbro).

BETWEEN his Excellency Colonel Stephen John Hill, C.B., Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Colony of Sierra Leone and its Dependencies, and Vice Admiral thereof, for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland of the one part; and Banah Boom, King of Sherbro, Yah Bye, Bah-tick, Lamfembah, Sessie Vendah, Thomas C. Taylor, Sessie Boom, Banah Yomah, Sobrokeh, Yah Banka, Banah Yamah, Chiefs of the Sherbro and Turtle Islands, of the other part.

WHEREAS the said Banah Boom, King of Shey or Sherbro country, and the chiefs and headmen aforesaid, are desirous that that portion of the Shey or Sherbro Islands should be ceded, surrendered, given over, and transferred from henceforth for ever unto Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors:

The said Banah Boom and the chiefs and headmen aforesaid do hereby cede, surrender, give over, and transfer from henceforth for ever unto Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, the full, entire, free, and unlimited right, possession, dominion, and sovereignty, in and over that piece or portion of Sherbro country commonly known as the Turtle and Sherbro Islands, viz., on the west from the southernmost and westernmost island commonly called and known by the name of the Turtle Islands called Hoom, round to the south-east by Moote, Foto, Kellebagey, Shey, Yellea-Byah, and all the other islands commonly known as the Turtle Islands, together with the whole of the island known among the natives as the Island of Shey, or Sherbro Island, together with all the islands and creeks belonging to the same, together with all and every right and title to the navigation, anchorage, waterage, bays, waters, rivers, sea-coasts, shores, creeks, and inlets, fishing and other revenues, and maritime claims, and all privileges appertaining to the same, which portion of the Shey or Sherbro Islands hereby ceded shall henceforth be annexed to, and be a dependency of this Colony, and be subject to the laws now in force, and hereafter to be in force in this Colony.

This treaty shall be proclaimed immediately on its being concluded and signed, and be made law throughout the territories of Banah Boom, King of Shey or Sherbro Island, and the chiefs and headmen above mentioned.

In witness whereof the contracting parties have signed the same, and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done at Bendoo, this Ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, in the Twenty-fifth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

(signed) *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor. (L.S.)
 Their marks.
 × *Banah Boom*, King of Sherbro. (L.S.)
 × *Yah Bye*, a Lady of Sherbro Island. (L.S.)
 × *Bah-tick*, Chief of Sherbro. (L.S.)
 × *Lamfembah*. (L.S.)
 × *Sessie Vendah*, Chief of Sherbro Island. (L.S.)
 × *Thos. C. Taylor*, Chief of Sherbro Island. (L.S.)
 × *Sessie Boom*. (L.S.)
 × *Banah Yomah*, Chief of Toomann. (L.S.)
 × *Sobrokeh*, Chief of Sherbro Island. (L.S.)
 × *Yah Banka*, a Lady of Sherbro Island. (L.S.)
 × *Banah Yamah*, Chief of the Turtle Islands. (L.S.)

Signed, sealed, and agreed to in our presence this Ninth day of November, One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

Robt. Bradshaw, Member of Council.
J. H. Smith, Commander, H. M. S. "Torch."
John McCormack.
Wm. B. Jolly, Merchant.
John S. Brooks.
W. L. Dupigny.
Wm. Mehez.
Thos. Geo. Lawson, Govt. Messenger and Interpreter.

TREATY of 9 November 1861 (for the Cession of Bendo).

BETWEEN his Excellency Colonel Stephen John Hill, C.B., Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Colony of Sierra Leone and its Dependencies, and Vice Admiral thereof, for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland of the one part; and Thomas Stephen Caulker, Principal Chief of Bendo, Stephen George Caulker, Stephen Renner Caulker, Konkah, Keffue Lango, Lahi Sherrifo, Beeah Will, Seipha, Bilmoh Homacheen, So Kong, Beeah Boom, Beeah Castahegh, Pier Yanga Fannah, Banah Boom Yoni, and Seri Boom, Chiefs of Bendo, and Bey Kellie, King of Mokelli or Enkelli, and Sai Hammah, King of the Jong Country, of the other part,

WHEREAS the said Thomas Stephen Caulker and the chiefs and headmen aforesaid are desirous that that portion of the Sherbro country called Bendo and Chah, situated at the mouth of the Boom, Kittam, and Jong Rivers, should be ceded, surrendered, given over, and transferred, from henceforth for ever, unto Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors:

The said Thomas Stephen Caulker and the chiefs and headmen aforesaid do hereby cede, surrender, give over, and transfer from henceforth for ever unto Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, the full, entire, free and unlimited right, possession, dominion, sovereignty, in and over that piece or portion of the Sherbro country called Bendo and Chah, bounded on the north and west by the Sherbro Estuary, and the Jong River from Harry Tucker's Island to Parrots' Point, being a distance of about 15 miles; on the north and east by the Paypan branch of the Jong River and the Bayamoh River from Parrots' Point to the confluence of the Canuwoh Creek and Bayamoh River, distance about 13 miles; on the south and east by the Canuwoh Creek to its source, thence by a line to the source of the Fanemah Creek, and by said creek the Boom Kittam River, distance about 18 miles; and on the south and west by the Boom Kittam River from Fanemah Creek to Harry Tucker's Island, the place first started from, distance about 13 miles, together with all the islands thereunto belonging, together with all and every right and title to the navigation, anchorage, waterage, bays, waters, rivers, sea-coasts, shores, creeks and inlets, fishing and other revenues, and maritime claims, and all privileges appertaining to the same, which portion of the Sherbro country hereby ceded shall henceforth be annexed to and be a dependency of this Colony, and be subject to the laws now in force, and hereafter to be in force in this Colony.

This treaty shall be proclaimed immediately on its being concluded and signed, and be made law throughout the territories of Thomas Stephen Caulker, and the chiefs and headmen above mentioned.

In witness whereof the said contracting parties have signed the same, and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done at Bendo, this Ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and in the Twenty-fifth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

(signed) *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor. (L.S.)
 Their marks.
Thos. S. Caulker, Principal Chief of Bendo. (L.S.)
Stehn. Geo. Caulker. (L.S.)
Stephen R. Caulker, a Chief of Bendo. (L.S.)
 × *Konkah*, a Chief of Bendo. (L.S.)
 × *Keffue Lango*. (L.S.)
Lahi Sherrifo (signed in Arabic). (L.S.)
Beeah Will. (L.S.)
 × *Seipha*. (L.S.)
 × *Bilmoh Homacheen*. (L.S.)
 × *So Kong*. (L.S.)
 × *Beeah Boom*. (L.S.)
 × *Beeah Castahegh*. (L.S.)
 × *Pier Yanga Fannah*. (L.S.)
 × *Banah Boom Yoni*. (L.S.)
 × *Seri Boom*. (L.S.)
 × *Bey Kelli*, King of Mokelli or Enkelli. (L.S.)
 × *Sai Hammah*, King of the Jong Country, by LaFarry, the King's mouth of the Jong Country. (L.S.)

Signed, sealed, and agreed to in our presence this Ninth day of November, One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

Robt. Bradshaw,
 Member of Council.
J. H. Smith,
 Commander of H.M.S. "Torch."
John McCormack,
C. J. Fennell,
 Asst. Surgeon of H.M.S. "Torch."
A. Whiffin, Asst. Paymr. in Charge of
 H.M.S. "Torch."
Eredk. W. Jarratt,
 Master's Asst., H.M.S. "Torch."
Wm. B. Jolly,
 Merchant.
John S. Brooks,
W. L. Dupigny,
William Thomas,
Thos. Ash. Peters,
Thos. Geo. Lawson, Govt. Messenger and
 Interpreter.
Mamulo Sherrifo (signed in Arabic).
Kellifah Camarah (signed in Arabic),
 Chief of Malageh.

His mark.
 × *Banah Yomah*,
 Chief of Turtle Islands.
Thomas C. Taylor.

TERMS (24 June 1862) on which Peace is made with the Quiah King and Chiefs at War with the Government of Sierra Leone.

1. All stockades or war fences must be pulled down.

2. The Queen's right to British Quiah must be fully acknowledged, agreeably to the treaty.

3. All persons who may not wish to live under and render obedience to British law must leave the Queen's land in Quiah.

4. Those settlers who may remain in British Quiah must not build towns or houses in any place without the consent of this Government.

5. All those who wish to remain under obedience to British rule and law shall be protected.

6. Kabannah Burreh, or Songo, and his people, are under the protection of British laws, and any person or persons offering violence to himself or any of his people will be considered enemies to the Government of the Queen.

7. To avoid any further disputes, the King Alexander Bey Cantah should not reside in British Quiah, but live in some other part of his dominions; his towns Robaga and Robany having been taken by British troops, now belong to the Colony of Sierra Leone.

8. The King and Chiefs of Quiah must, with Pa Caine, give up to Mr. Jolly any property of his in their possession; his large canoe must be restored, and his contractors and their property are to be respected in future; arrangement must be made to repay his losses.

9. All prisoners taken by the King and Chiefs of Quiah, including two Waterloo boys, must be released, and the Queen's forces will give up all their prisoners.

10. British Quiah, forming part of the Colony of Sierra Leone, all the laws of the Colony will be in force there.

11. Bocary Masambah must at once leave British Quiah.

12. Momoh Sancho's people having taken an active part in the war, must leave British Quiah.

13. Bocary Bombaly must give up five Lokoh men and women seized in British territory.

14. All country customs and sacrifices must for ever cease in British Quiah.

15. All persons residing in British Quiah must come to the manager at Waterloo to lodge any complaint they may have to make; none must presume to take the law into their own hands.

16. The King will not receive the stipend allowed him by treaty until the expenses of the war are made good.

(signed) *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor.
Government House, Sierra Leone,
24 January 1862.

We, the undersigned King, Chiefs, and Headmen of Quiah, having begged for peace, agree to

all the terms proposed by the Governor of Sierra Leone; and we promise for ourselves and on behalf of our people, that we will faithfully abstain from any hostile act against the Government of Sierra Leone, and should any of our people be guilty of any act of aggression on British territory we will deliver them up to be dealt with according to the laws of the Colony. We also promise to protect all British subjects that visit, or reside, or trade in our own country, and should any British subject break any country law, we will send him to the Governor of Sierra Leone for trial and punishment.

Given under our hands and seals at Freetown, Sierra Leone, this First day of February, One thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

(signed) *Alexander Bey Cantah*, King
of Quiah. (L.S.)

Their marks.

×	<i>Naing Bannah.</i>	(L.S.)
×	<i>Mangie Bopée.</i>	(L.S.)
×	<i>Botie.</i>	(L.S.)
×	<i>Sattan Sourie.</i>	(L.S.)
×	<i>Pa Dick.</i>	(L.S.)
×	<i>Sourie Cochee.</i>	(L.S.)
	<i>Sourie Caroboe</i> (signed in Arabic).	(L.S.)
×	<i>Mingo.</i>	(L.S.)
×	<i>Sockoh Dunsie.</i>	(L.S.)
×	<i>Pa Ansumannah.</i>	(L.S.)
	<i>Lahie Bundoo</i> (signed in Arabic).	(L.S.)
×	<i>Serie Cambah.</i>	(L.S.)

Witnesses to marks and signatures:—

Their marks.

	<i>Kindo Ban Curah</i> (signed in Arabic).
×	<i>Nonkoh Lahie.</i>
	<i>Sourie Condito</i> (signed in Arabic).
	<i>Alimamee Fenda Sannasee</i> (signed in Arabic).
×	<i>Bey Bantah.</i>
×	<i>Bey Farimah</i> , by <i>Pa Mansie.</i>
(signed)	<i>Richard J. Fisher.</i>
	<i>John H. Evans.</i>
	<i>Wm. Quin.</i>
	<i>T. Rosenbush.</i>
	<i>John Ezzidio.</i>
	<i>Nathl. Nathan.</i>
	<i>S. M. Cantor.</i>
	<i>Wm. O'G. Pratt.</i>
	<i>Thos. Ash. Peters.</i>
	<i>W. H. Ransall.</i>
	<i>James Williams.</i>
	<i>R. W. Hartshorn</i> , Colonial Chaplain.
	<i>Thos. Geo. Lawson</i> , Government Interpreter.

GAMBIA TREATIES.

App. No. 3-

COMBO.

Cession of Territory, 13 July 1840.—Confirmed, 9 November 1840.

CONVENTION between his Excellency Henry Vere Huntley, Lieutenant Governor of the Settlement of Bathurst and its Dependencies in the River Gambia, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, and Soalung Jarta, King of Combo.

WHEREAS the said Lieutenant Governor Huntley has treated with the said King of Combo for the territory hereinafter described, viz., from the north point of the west side of the Oyster Creek to Cape St. Mary, then south-westerly from that cape following the beach five miles, and from the termination of the said five miles in an east by south (true course) direction, until entering the River Gambia, then following the line of the Combo shore, until again reaching the north point of the Oyster Creek aforesaid, including the whole of the country within the above-mentioned limits;

And whereas all sovereignty of the before-specified territory is now vested in the said King of Combo, and has descended to him from his ancestors, and the said King of Combo having full power to dispose of the same, and being well assured of the pacific, just and friendly disposition of the said Lieutenant Governor, acting on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and being moreover fully sensible of the benefits to be derived from the promulgation of British Christian principles, doth in furtherance of that object, and in consideration of the sum of 100 dollars in merchandise, paid to him before the signing and sealing of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby

acknowledged, cede and relinquish to Her Britannic Majesty, her heirs and successors for ever, all claim, title, and right to the sovereignty of the territory hereinbefore described, as well for himself, as for and on behalf of his heirs and successors: Provided always, that the different individuals at present in possession of property of any description within the limits hereinbefore specified, shall in nowise be disturbed in the enjoyment of the same by any of the provisions of this convention.

And the said parties further agree to afford no shelter or protection to criminals of any description who may take refuge in the settlement of Bathurst and its dependencies, or in the kingdom of Combo, and that each party shall deliver all offenders claimed as criminals to the other party on application to that effect being made by the proper authorities.

Given under our hands and seals at Bathurst, River Gambia, this 13th day of July, 1840.

(signed) *H. V. Huntley*, Lieutenant Governor. (L.S.)

His mark.

× *Soalung Jarta*, King of Combo.
Majaloo, Alcald of Baccon.

(Signature in Arabic.)

CARTABAR.

TREATY of 23 April 1841.—Confirmed, 8 November 1841.

BETWEEN Henry Vere Huntley, Lieutenant Governor of the British Settlements on the Gambia, and Commander in the Royal Navy, on the part of Her Majesty Victoria the First, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and the King of Cartabar.

1. No white persons shall be made slaves in the Cartabar country in any case; and if any white persons are now slaves in that country, or shall hereafter be brought into it as slaves, they shall instantly be delivered into the care of the Lieutenant Governor of Her Majesty's settlements on the Gambia.

2. No persons of whatever colour, or where-ever born, shall be taken out of the Cartabar country as slaves; and no persons in the Cartabar country shall be in any way concerned in seizing, keeping, carrying, or sending away any persons for the purpose of their being taken out of the Cartabar country as slaves; and the King of Cartabar will punish severely all who break this law.

3. The officers of England may seize every vessel or boat of Cartabar found anywhere carrying on the trade in slaves in the waters of Cartabar; and the vessels and boats so seized shall be taken to an English possession, to be tried by English law, and if condemned shall, with appurtenances and cargo, be sold, the produce of the sale being equally divided between the Queen of England and the King of Cartabar; the slaves found on board shall be set free.

4. English people may freely come into the country of Cartabar, and may stay in it, or pass through it, and they shall be treated as friends while in it, and shall receive any supplies there
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as may be required. They may freely practise the Christian religion there, and shall not be harmed nor troubled on that account, and they may leave the country when they please.

5. English people may always trade freely with the people of Cartabar, in every article which they may wish either to buy or sell; nor shall anyone be prevented from buying or selling any article, nor shall anyone be forced to buy or sell anything. And the King of Cartabar agrees to allow all English merchandise to enter his territory free of all duty, or demand of any kind, as long as the English Government permits the same course with respect to the produce of the Cartabar country, when carried to any of the British settlements on the Gambia.

6. The paths shall be kept open through the country of Cartabar to other countries, so that English traders may carry goods of all kinds through the Cartabar country to sell them elsewhere; and the traders of other countries may bring their goods through the Cartabar country to trade with the English people. And the King of Cartabar will not make war upon any other country, unless with the consent of the Lieutenant Governor of the British settlements on the Gambia.

7. English people may buy, sell, or hire lands or houses in the Cartabar country, and their houses shall not be entered without their consent;

App. No. 3.

nor shall their goods be seized, or their persons touched; and the King of Cartabar shall punish all who wrongfully treat the English people in his territory.

8. English people must not break the laws of the Cartabar country; and when they do the King shall send a true account of the matter to the nearest place where there is an English force, and the commandant of such force shall send for the accused English person, in order that he may be tried and disposed of according to the laws of his country.

9. If the Cartabar people should take away the property of an English person, or should not pay their just debts to such English person, the King of Cartabar will do all he can to make the Cartabar people return the property and pay the debt; and the English Lieutenant Governor engages, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, to act in a reciprocal manner.

10. The Queen of England may appoint an Agent to visit or to reside in the Cartabar country, and this Agent is to watch over the fulfilment of this treaty; he shall always receive honour and protection in the Cartabar country, and the King will pay attention to what he says. The person and property of this Agent shall be sacred.

11. The King of Cartabar shall, within 48 hours of the date of this treaty, make a law for carrying the whole of it into effect, and shall proclaim that law; and the King of Cartabar shall put that law in force from that time for ever.

12. The Queen of England, out of friendship for the King of Cartabar, and because the King of Cartabar has made this treaty, gives him the following articles: 1 lb. No. 2 amber, 3 pieces of blue baft, 10 gallons of rum, 6 iron bars, 75 lbs. tobacco, 2 pieces of white baft, 2½ barrels of gunpowder, 2 yards scarlet, 3 fowling pieces, 200 flints, 1 oz. coral, 1 jug of rum, and the Chief of Cartabar acknowledges he has received those articles.

And so we, the Lieutenant Governor of the British settlements on the Gambia, on the part of the Queen of England, and the King of Cartabar have made this agreement, and have signed it at Cartabar this 23d day of April 1841. And this agreement shall stand for ever.

(signed) *H. V. Huntley*, Lieutenant Governor.

His mark.

× *Namar Coombra*, King of Cartabar.

Witnesses:—

Their marks.

Alex. Findlay, Captain 3d West India Regiment and Commander of MacCarthy's Island.

× *Tamba Nimina*, Alcaide.

William Duncan, Staff Assistant Surgeon.

Thomas Chown, J. P.

× *Tamba Sabadi*, King's son.

Two Additional Articles.

1st. The King of Cartabar, seeing that he is unable of himself to prevent the incursions of neighbouring ill-disposed Chiefs delighting only in war, and who have heretofore annually ravaged his country, carrying off his people as slaves, the cattle and produce, now and for ever places the country of Cartabar under the sole protection of the Sovereign of England, and he begs that Her Majesty, Victoria I., Queen of England, may become, in her own Royal person, and for her heirs and successors, the protecting sovereign of the Cartabar country; and the King of Cartabar freely cedes for ever to the Queen of England, her heirs and successors, one square mile of land in such part of his country as shall be pointed out by the Lieutenant Governor of the British settlements on the Gambia, or other officer authorised to do so.

2d. The King of Cartabar agrees that he will not enter into any alliance, negotiation, or communication of any political nature whatever, with any power in the world, without the knowledge and consent of the Queen of England, and the King of Cartabar declares the whole of the annexed Treaty, and these two Additional Articles, to be binding equally to himself as to his heirs and successors for ever.

Done at Cartabar, 23 April 1841.

(signed) *H. V. Huntley*, Lieutenant Governor.

His mark.

× *Namar Coombra*, King of Cartabar.

Witnesses:—

Their marks.

Alex. Findlay.

× *Tamba Nimina*, Alcaide.

William Duncan, Staff Assistant Surgeon.

Thomas Chown, J. P.

× *Tamba Sabadi*, King's son.

PAPELS.

1 April 1842.—Confirmed, 15 November 1842.

TREATY entered into by and between Lieutenant Charles Horace Lapidge, of the Royal Navy, Commanding Her Majesty's Brig "Pantaloön," on behalf of Thomas Lewis Ingram, Esq., Acting Governor of the Settlement of Bathurst and its Dependencies in the River Gambia, for Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, and the King of the Papel Country, his chiefs and headmen, for themselves, their heirs and successors.

1. It is agreed on by the King of the Papel country, his chiefs and headmen, for themselves, their heirs and successors, that no British vessel shall be in any manner or way molested by any of the natives of the Papel aforesaid.

2. It is further agreed on the part of the King of the Papel country aforesaid, his chiefs and headmen, for themselves, their heirs and successors, that in the event of any vessel being wrecked on or near the coasts of the Papel country, the

master, seamen, passengers, and other persons happening to be on board the same vessel at the time she may become a wreck, shall be kindly and humanely treated, and be supplied with provisions and other necessaries, and that every assistance shall be rendered by the King of the said country and the natives thereof to the said persons to reach the nearest European settlement.

3. It is further agreed on the part of the King of

of the Papel country aforesaid, his chiefs and headmen, for themselves, their heirs and successors, that every assistance shall be rendered by the King of the said country and the natives thereof, to all vessels that shall or may be stranded on or near the coasts of the Papel country aforesaid; and in the event of any vessel being wrecked on or near the coasts of the Papel country, every assistance shall be rendered by the King of the said country and the natives thereof to save the cargo of the said vessel, and to deliver the cargo so saved, or such part thereof as may be saved, to the nearest European settlement, to be retained by the Governor thereof until claimed by the rightful owner or owners.

4. It is further agreed on the part of the King of the Papel country aforesaid, his chiefs and headmen, for themselves, their heirs and successors, that on no account whatever shall any ransom be claimed for the liberation of any persons who may be shipwrecked from any vessel lost on or near the coasts of the Papel country aforesaid, or suffer any of the natives of the said Papel country to claim or demand any sum or sums of money as ransom for the liberation of the persons above described.

5. It is further agreed on the part of the King of the Papel country aforesaid, his chiefs and headmen, for themselves, their heirs and successors, that every protection in his and their power shall be afforded to all British traders while in any part of the Papel country, and that no customs whatever shall be demanded by the King of the said country or any of the natives thereof from British vessels trading to the Papel country aforesaid.

6. It is further agreed on the part of the King of the Papel country aforesaid, his chiefs and headmen, for themselves, their heirs and successors, that every exertion shall be used by himself, his chiefs, headmen, and the natives of the Papel country aforesaid, to influence the Bejonga and other tribes to bring all persons who may have been shipwrecked from any vessel, together with their property, to the nearest European settlement; and further to use every exertion with the said natives to prevent any vessel stranded on any of the coasts of the said country or countries being plundered, and also to prevent any sum or sums of money being claimed by the natives aforesaid as ransom for the liberation of any person or persons wrecked from any vessels on or near their coasts.

7. It is further agreed on the part of the King of the Papel country aforesaid, his chiefs and headmen, for themselves, their heirs and successors, that there shall be furnished by the King of the Papel country aforesaid and sent to the Acting Governor of the settlement of Bathurst aforesaid as hostages two of the children of the said King, and two of the children of each of the two principal chiefs of the Papel country aforesaid, who shall be considered as pledges on the part of the King, chiefs and headmen of the Papel country aforesaid for the due and faithful performance of his and their part of this present treaty.

8. It is further agreed on the part of Lieutenant Charles Horace Lapidge, of the Royal Navy, commanding Her Majesty's brig "Pantaloön," on behalf of Thomas Lewis Ingram, Esquire, Acting Governor of the Settlement of Bathurst and its Dependencies in the River Gambia, for Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Her heirs and suc-

cessors, that if any expenses be incurred by the King of the Papel country, or any of the natives of the said country, in sending back any person or persons to an European settlement who may have been wrecked from any vessel as aforesaid, all reasonable disbursements shall be repaid; also if any expense be incurred in saving and conveying a cargo, or any part of a cargo, saved from a vessel so wrecked as aforesaid to any European settlement, such reasonable expenses shall be paid to the King or natives of the country aforesaid.

9. It is further agreed on the part of Lieutenant Charles Horace Lapidge, of the Royal Navy, commanding Her Majesty's brig "Pantaloön," on behalf of Thomas Lewis Ingram, Esquire, Acting Governor of the Settlement of Bathurst and its Dependencies in the River Gambia aforesaid, for Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Her heirs and successors, that the King of the Papel country aforesaid, and the natives thereof, or the natives of the Bejonga and other tribes, as the case may be, shall be entitled to receive one-fourth of all goods saved by either of them from all vessels that may be wrecked on or near either or any of their coasts; but it shall be deemed necessary that the whole of the goods so saved shall be conveyed with all possible despatch to Bissao, or the nearest European settlement, to be sold by auction or be divided as may be directed by the owner or owners, or in his or their absence by his or their agent or agents, or by the Governor of the settlement aforesaid, to which the said goods so saved shall be conveyed.

10. It is further agreed on the part of Lieutenant Charles Horace Lapidge, of the Royal Navy, commanding Her Majesty's brig "Pantaloön," on behalf of Thomas Lewis Ingram, Esquire, Acting Governor of the Settlement of Bathurst and its Dependencies in the River Gambia aforesaid, for Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Her heirs and successors, that the hostages sent by the King of the Papel country as pledges for the due performance of his part of this present treaty shall be maintained and educated by and at the expense of the Government of the British settlement in the River Gambia, and shall be exchanged for others if the said Acting Governor or his successors in office shall deem others more likely to cause the strict adherence of the said King, chiefs, and headmen of the Papel country aforesaid to the foregoing conditions of this present treaty.

It is lastly agreed on the part of Lieutenant Charles Horace Lapidge, of the Royal Navy, commanding Her Majesty's brig, "Pantaloön," on behalf of Thomas Lewis Ingram, Esquire, Acting Governor of the Settlement of Bathurst and its Dependencies on the River Gambia aforesaid, for Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Her heirs and successors, that on condition of the King of the Papel country aforesaid performing in every respect the conditions contained aforesaid in this present treaty, and complying with them in every respect, the 23 prisoners captured on the 16th day of February last by Her Majesty's brig "Pantaloön" shall be restored to freedom.

(Inserted after a conference with the King at Bissao.)

Article 11th amends the 7th Article, and it is agreed that in consideration of the treaty being signed that the two Papels on board shall be released.

App. No. 3. released, and that His Excellency the Governor of the Settlement of Bathurst will restore as many of the 21 Papels as he may deem prudent, and if any are retained it will be for two years, and then to be exchanged for others.

Dated at the Fort of Bissao this 1st day of April, 1842.

Signed in the presence of:—

Their marks.

- × *Ry d'Bandim*, King of the Papels.
- × *Jogorafsé*.
- × *Dino d'Mudoro*.
- × *Munsalma*.
- × *Orapal*.
- × *Juir d'Poro Franco Fas*.
- × *Francisco Alves*.
- × *Antonio d'Andrude*.
- Testa Antonio Leandes Sn. Monteny*.
- Comvasistente.
- H. Savaves da Nisja Santa*, Governor de Bissao.

Their marks.

- Charles Horace Lapidge*, Lieutenant and Commander of Her Majesty's brig "Pantaloön."
- Thista. Prere*.
- J. Pozole*.
- John Chapman*, Clerk in charge of Her Majesty's brig "Pantaloön."
- Coma Vesta. J. H. Pinta*.
- × *Mombas*, son of the King of Bandine.
- × *C. H. Lapidge*.
- × *J. Hughes*.
- × *Tunalee* or *Tenenter*, Chief of Bandin or Bandine.
- × *C. H. Lapidge*.
- × *Walter Lawrence*.
- × *A. S. Arkwright*.

These signatures of the king's son and officers of Her Majesty's brig "Pantaloön" were signed on board the 1st day of April, 1842.

(signed) *Manoel De Silva*,
Interpreter.

NYANIBANTANG.

31 December 1842.—Confirmed, 13 January 1844.

AGREEMENT entered into by Acting Governor *Ingram*, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, *Sandebar*, Chief of Nyanibantang.

THERE shall be peace and friendship between the people of England and the people of Nyanibantang, and the slave trade shall be put down for ever in Nyanibantang; and the people of England and the people of Nyanibantang shall trade together innocently, justly, kindly, and usefully; and the said Acting Governor for the Queen of England, and the said *Sandebar*, for himself, and the people of Nyanibantang, do make the following agreement for these purposes:

Terms.

1. No white Christian persons shall be made slave in the Nyanibantang country in any case; and if any white Christians are now slaves in Nyanibantang country, or shall be brought into it as slaves, they shall instantly be set free by the Chief of Nyanibantang, and he shall assist them to return to their own country.

2. No persons of any colour, or wherever born, shall be taken out of Nyanibantang country as slaves; and no person in the Nyanibantang country shall be in any way concerned in seizing, keeping, carrying or sending away persons for the purpose of being taken out of the Nyanibantang country as slaves; and the chief of Nyanibantang shall punish severely those who break this law.

3. The officers of the Queen of England may seize every vessel or boat of Nyanibantang found anywhere carrying on the trade in slaves, and may also seize every vessel or boat of other nations found carrying on the trade in slaves in the waters belonging to the Chief of Nyanibantang; and the vessels and boats so seized shall be taken to an English possession to be tried by English law, and when condemned shall be sold,

and the produce of the sale shall be equally divided between the Queen of England and the Chief of Nyanibantang, and the slaves who were found on board shall be made free.

4. English people may freely come into the Nyanibantang country, and may stay in it, or pass through it; and they shall be treated as friends while in it, and shall receive every supply they need there; they may freely practise the Christian religion there, and shall not be harmed or troubled on that account; and they may leave the country when they please.

5. English people may always trade with the people of Nyanibantang in every article which they may wish to buy or sell, and neither the English people, nor the people of Nyanibantang shall ever be forced to buy or sell any article, nor shall they be prevented from buying or selling any article; and the chief agrees to allow the goods of English merchants to enter his territory free of duty as long as the English shall receive the produce of his country free of duty.

6. The paths shall be kept open through the Nyanibantang country to other countries, so that English traders may carry goods of all kinds through the Nyanibantang country to sell them elsewhere; and the traders of other countries may bring their goods through the Nyanibantang country to trade with the English people.

7. English people may buy and sell or hire lands and houses in the Nyanibantang country; and their houses shall not be entered without their consent, nor shall their goods be seized nor their persons touched; and if English people are wronged or ill-treated by the people of Nyanibantang,

bantang, the chief of Nyanibantang shall punish those who wrong or ill-treat the English people.

8. But the English people must not break the laws of the Nyanibantang country; and when they are accused of breaking the laws, the chief shall send a true account of the matter to the nearest place where there is an English force, and the commander of such English force shall send for the English person, who shall be tried according to English law, and shall be punished if found guilty.

9. If the Nyanibantang people should take away the property of an English person, the chief of Nyanibantang shall do all he can to make the Nyanibantang people restore the property and pay the debt; and if English persons shall take away the property of the Nyanibantang people, or should not pay their just debts to the Nyanibantang people, the chief shall make known the fact to the commander of the English force nearest to the Nyanibantang country, or to the resident agent, if there is one; and the English commander or the resident agent, whichever it may be, shall do all he can to make the English persons restore the property and pay the debt.

10. The Queen of England may appoint an agent to visit Nyanibantang, or to reside there, in order to watch over the interests of the English people, and to see that this agreement is fulfilled; and such agent shall always receive honour and protection in the Nyanibantang country; and the Nyanibantang chief shall pay attention to what the agent says; and the person and property of the agent shall be sacred.

11. The Chief of Nyanibantang shall, within 48 hours of the date of this agreement, make a law for carrying the whole of it into effect, and shall proclaim that law; and the Chief of Nyanibantang shall put that law in force from that time for ever.

12. The Queen of England, out of friendship for the Chief of Nyanibantang, and because the Chief of Nyanibantang has made this agreement,

gives him the following articles, which the said Chief of Nyanibantang hereby acknowledges App. No. 3. to have received, viz.,

- 15 muskets.
- 200 pounds of gunpowder.
- 10 pieces of blue bafts.
- 11 gallons of rum.
- 20 pounds tobacco.
- One yard scarlet cloth.
- One large loaf of sugar.
- Half a pound of amber, No. 2, and
- 250 flints.

15. The Acting Governor and the Chief of Nyanibantang hereby agree that the foregoing agreement shall be subject to the sanction and ratification of Her Majesty the Queen of England.

And so we, the said acting Governor and the Chief of Nyanibantang, have made and signed this agreement, at McCarthy's Island, this 31st day of December 1842; and it shall stand for ever, subject to the sanction of Her Majesty the Queen of England, as aforesaid.

(signed) *T. L. Ingram,*
Acting Governor for Her Majesty
the Queen.

Signature of *Sandebur.*

(signed) Chief of Nyanibantang.

Witnesses—

(signed) *P. J. Macdonald,*
Lieut. 3d W. I. Regt.

(signed) *Simon Pignard,*
Manager Liberated A. D. I. P.

Signatures of—

Abdoo Sallam.
Wally Cotto Sira.
Kemess Soo Tamba.
Wally Cotto Tamah.
Baba Long, Head Maraboo of Sandebur.

BARRA.

CESSION of Territory, 18 November 1850.—Confirmed, 20 March 1851.

CONVENTION made this 18th day of November, in the year of the Christian Era 1850, between His Excellency Richard Graves MacDonnell, Governor and Commander in Chief of the British Settlements in the River Gambia and their dependencies, for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, her heirs and successors, of the one part; and Dembar Sonko, King of Barra, for himself, his heirs and successors, Amodo Talli, Alcade of Jillifree, Era Sonko, Alcade of Berending, and Mahmoudi Sankoor, brother of the said Dembar Sonko, of the other part.

WHEREAS, on the 15th day of June, in the year of the Christian Era 1826, a Convention was made between his Honour, Kenneth Macaulay, Acting Governor of Sierra Leone and its dependencies, of the one part, and Brunay, King of Barra, and his chiefs and headmen, of the other part; and whereas, by the third Article of the said Convention, the sovereignty of the northern or right bank of the said River Gambia was ceded to His Majesty the King of Great Britain and Ireland, his heirs and successors, as

in the Convention is more particularly set forth; and whereas, by the said Convention, and also by the additional article to the said Convention, there was excepted from the territory, whereof the sovereignty had been ceded to His Majesty the King of Great Britain and Ireland as aforesaid, a piece of ground near Albreda, on the banks of the said River Gambia, which said piece of ground then supposed to be occupied by French subjects, and to extend 400 yards in breadth and 300 yards in depth, from the north

App. No. 3.

bank of the said River Gambia. And whereas a Convention was made on the 5th day of January, in the year of the Christian Era 1832, between his Excellency George Rendell, on behalf of His Majesty the King of Great Britain, his heirs and successors, of the one part, and Brunay, King of Barra, his chiefs, and people, of the other part; and whereas, by the second Article of the said last-recited Convention, the sovereignty of the right bank of the River Gambia was confirmed to the King of Great Britain, his heirs and successors, with the exception of that portion which was then occupied by the French as the factory of Albreda; and whereas doubts have arisen as to the extent of ground which French subjects are entitled to occupy at Albreda; and whereas no provision has hitherto been made as to the right of sovereignty over any portion of the said hereinbefore-mentioned space of 400 yards by 300 yards, in the event of any portion of the said space not being occupied by French subjects, or being occupied by French subjects wrongfully. Now, therefore, this Convention witnesseth, that in consideration of his friendship for the Queen of Great Britain, her heirs and successors, and also in consideration of the sum of 5*l.* paid before the signing and delivery of these presents, the said Dembar Sonko, for himself, his heirs and successors, and the said Amodo Talli, the said Era Sonko, and Mahmoudi Sankooro cede and quit claim to all right of sovereignty, and all right of property and claims whatsoever in and to any portion of the hereinbefore-mentioned space of 400 yards by 300 yards, and in all ground heretofore occupied or claimed by any French subjects or citizens, in or near to Albreda as aforesaid; and the said Dembar Sonko doth for

himself, his heirs and successors, absolutely cede and relinquish to the said Queen of England, her heirs and successors, all right and claim of sovereignty of himself the said Dembar Sonko, his heirs and successors, over the said reserved space of 400 yards by 300 yards in the said hereinbefore recited Conventions more particularly mentioned and described. Provided nevertheless that no just rights of French subjects or citizens, or of the French Government, in or to any portion of the said reserved space of 400 yards by 300, shall be in any manner ceded or diminished by this Convention, or any part thereof.

In witness whereof the above-mentioned parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor. (L.S.)
Arabic signature (*King of Barra*) (L.S.)
Arabic signature (*Amodo Talli*). (L.S.)
Alcade of Jillifree.
Arabic signature (*Alcade of Berending*) (L.S.)
Arabic signature (*Mahmoudi Sankooro*) (L.S.)
Brother of King of Barra.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of us, this 18th day of November 1850.

(signed) *T. Prendergast,* Captain,
3d. W. I. Regiment,
Commanding the Troops.
(signed) *Richard Pine,* Merchant of
Bathurst.
(signed) *Robert Mostyn,* Lieutenant,
3d. W. I. Regiment.
(signed) *P. H. Roe,* Staff Assistant
Surgeon.

To all to whom these presents shall come, I, Dembar Sonko, King of Barra, and I, Amodo Talli, Alcade of Jillifree, send Greeting:

WHEREAS, with the advice and consent of the chiefs and headmen of Barra, we have agreed respectively with Richard Graves MacDonnell, Governor and Commander in Chief of the British Settlements in the Gambia, and his successors, acting for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Her heirs and successors, to convey, bargain and sell, give and grant, on the part of ourselves and our successors, and of the chiefs and headmen of the said kingdom of Barra, to the said Richard Graves Macdonnell, and his successors, for and to the sole use of Her said Majesty, Her heirs, successors, and assigns, all right, property, and title in or to the hereditaments and lands herein-after more particularly described; now therefore, in pursuance of the said Agreement, and in consideration of the sum of 100 dollars paid to me the above-mentioned Dembar Sonko, and of the further sum of 200 dollars paid to me the above-mentioned Amodo Talli, Alcade of Jillifree, the receipt of which several sums immediately before the sealing and delivery of these presents is hereby acknowledged, and in consideration of the further sum of 10*l.* sterling to be paid to us at or immediately after the signing and delivery of these presents, I, the said Dembar

Sonko, and the said Amodo Talli, do hereby convey, bargain and sell, give and grant to the said Richard Graves MacDonnell and his successors, all that piece of land immediately adjoining the western boundary of the French factory at Albreda, and bounded on the east (as shown in the Plan marked A hereunto annexed), by a line 400 yards in length,* and drawn north by south, through a point six toises west of the western extremity of the southern wall of the house formerly occupied by the French Resident of Albreda, and bounded on the west by a line † 400 yards in length, and drawn parallel to the aforesaid line, running north and south as hereinbefore more particularly set forth, and distant 1,000 yards from the said line so running as aforesaid north and south, and bounded on the north by a line ‡ connecting the northern extremities of the eastern and western boundaries respectively, that is to say, of the northern extremities of the two parallel lines aforesaid, and bounded on the south by low-water mark, on the beach of the River Gambia, § to have and to hold the said piece or parcel

* B C in Plan annexed. † D E in annexed Plan.
‡ D B in annexed Plan. § E F C in Plan annexed.

parcel of land, and the said hereditaments, with their appurtenances, to the use of Her Majesty the said Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Her heirs, successors, and assigns, for ever; and we the said Dembar Sonko, and the said Amodo Talli, Alcade of Jilifree, for ourselves, our heirs, and successors, and on the part of the headmen and chiefs of Barra respectively, the parcels, lands, and hereditaments, with their appurtenances, hereby bargained and sold, given and granted, will for ever warrant and defend against all persons whomsoever.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this Eighteenth day of No-

vember, in the year of the Christian Era, One thousand eight hundred and fifty, at Government House, in the British settlements of Bathurst. App. No. 3.

Signature in Arabic, *King of Barra.* (L.S.)
Signature in Arabic, *Alcade of Jilifree.* (L.S.)

Signed, sealed, and delivered, in the presence of us, this Eighteenth day of November, One thousand eight hundred and fifty.

(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor and Commander in Chief, and
several other Signatures.

COMBO.

CESSION of Territory, 26 December 1850.—Confirmed, 25 February 1851.

CONVENTION made at Jeswang, in the Kingdom of Combo, this 26th day of December, in the 1850th year of the Christian Era, between Richard Graves MacDonnell, Governor and Commander in Chief of the British Settlements in the Gambia and their Dependencies, for and on behalf of Her Majesty, the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Her Heirs and Successors of the first part, Ansumarna Jarta, King of Combo, of the second part, Mardy Mariarna, Slatée of Yundum, and next Heir to the Crown of Combo, of the third part: Ansumarna Cesey (Alcade of Mandinary), Fody Ansumarna Munang, Majiboo-Cesey, Bass Booroko, Moosa Channang, Fody Barcarry, Janka Fatima, Kasseo Koonkoong, Samba Deber, Ansumarna Jarta (Chief of Bedjulo), Laming Sinney (the King's eldest son), Chiefs of Combo, and Headmen of Baccon in the said Kingdom of Combo, of the fourth part.

WHEREAS the aforesaid contracting parties hereto have agreed for the considerations hereinafter mentioned to make this Convention; and whereas the sovereignty of certain lands and territories in the kingdom of Combo were ceded to the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland by a Convention or deed in writing, dated 18th July 1840, and made between Henry Vere Huntley, then Lieutenant Governor of the British Settlements in the River Gambia, and Soulong Jartar, King of Combo, and whereas the fee simple and property in certain of the lands in the neighbourhood of Baccon aforesaid was conveyed to the use of Her said Majesty by an Indenture, bearing date the 24th day of July, in the year 1840, and made between Mujabo Seesee and Amadee Banjole, both of Baccon, of the first part, and the said Henry Vere Huntley of the second part; and whereas doubts have arisen as to the extent of territory granted to Her said Majesty by the said Convention, and by the said Indenture; and whereas the several parties to this Convention being desirous of terminating all such doubts, and defining more accurately the ground and territory intended to be ceded to Her said Majesty, appointed Commissioners on the part of Her said Majesty, Daniel Robertson, Esq., Colonial Secretary; William Bage, Esq., Colonel, Engineers; and Thomas Kehoc, staff surgeon, 2d class; and on the part of the King of Combo and the people of Combo, John James Staples Finden, Esq., Major Commanding the Royal Gambia Militia; Majabo Cesey, Ansumarna Cesey (Alcade of Mandinary), Fody Ansumarna Munang, and the said Commissioners proceeded on the 26th of the present month to view the ground and territory hereby intended to be ceded as aforesaid, and did mark out and designate accurately the said ground and territory. Now, therefore, it is agreed between the several parties to this Convention:

first, that in lieu of and instead of any ground heretofore ceded by the Convention and by the Indenture hereinbefore recited, the absolute sovereignty and entire property, and the fee simple of the ground and territory marked out by the Commissioners aforesaid, shall be hereby given, granted, and ceded to Her said Majesty, Her heirs and successors for ever, saving and excepting any right of property acquired by any parties in any portion of the said ground or territory previous to the signing of this Convention.

2dly. That the said Richard Graves MacDonnell, or the officer administering the Government of the British Settlements in the Gambia shall appoint one or more competent persons to make a map of the said ground and territory hereby intended to be given, granted, and ceded, as aforesaid, and shall cause proper land-marks to be fixed on the said ground the better to define its limits, and shall give to the said Ansumarna Jartar copies of any maps so made as aforesaid, and the said land-marks so erected as aforesaid shall be on all occasions referred to for the purpose of determining all disputes which may arise in reference to the said ground or territory hereby intended to be ceded as aforesaid.

3dly. That the said Richard Graves MacDonnell, or the officer administering the Government for the time being of the said British Settlements in the Gambia, may at any time after the signing of this Convention make, or cause to be made, a road, not exceeding 20 yards in breadth, from the ferry at Sarah, opposite the island of St. Mary's, to any part of the said ground or territory hereby intended to be ceded as aforesaid; provided that the said road shall not encroach on any dwelling-house erected in any part of the Combo territory previous to the signing of this Convention.

4thly. That in consideration of the cession of the ground and territory hereby intended to be

App. No. 3. ceded, the said Richard Graves MacDonnell shall, on behalf of Her said Majesty, cause to be paid to the said Ansumarna Jarta and the other owners of the ground hereby ceded, a sum of Thirty pounds sterling British money, and merchandise to the value of Ten pounds more.

5thly. That as a further compensation to the said Ansumarna Jarta, his heirs and successors, an annual custom of Ten pounds sterling shall be paid on the 5th day of January in every year to the said Ansumarna Jarta, or the King of Combo for the time being. And a further sum of Ten pounds sterling shall, on the fifth day of January in every year, be paid to the headmen of Baccon, the said last mentioned sum of Ten pounds to be paid to such person or persons as may be duly authorised by the said headmen of Baccon to receive the same.

6thly. That all customs or rents due to the said Ansumarna Jarta, his heirs or successors, for any land or other property in the ground hereby intended to be ceded, are hereby given, granted,

and confirmed to Her said Majesty, Her heirs and successors, and hereby made payable to the officer administering the Government of the said British Settlements in the Gambia, and that the said officer administering the said Government for the time being, shall pay, or cause to be paid to the said Ansumarna Jarta, his heirs and successors, in lieu of all such rents and customs payable as aforesaid, at the date of the signing of this Convention, an annual sum of Five pounds sterling.

Given under our hands and seals, at the place and date above written.

(signed) *Richard Graves MacDonnell,*
Governor and Commander in Chief.

(signed) *Anumarta Jarta,* his × mark,
King of Combo.

(signed) *Mardy Mariarna,* his × mark,
Slattee of Yundum.

And several other chiefs and witnesses.

COMBO.

Cession of Territory, 24 May 1853.—Confirmed 10 December 1853.

CONVENTION between His Excellency Luke Smyth O'Connor, Esq., Lieutenant Colonel in Her Majesty's Army, Governor, Commander in Chief, and Vice Admiral of Her Majesty's Settlement upon the River Gambia and its Dependencies, Commanding the British Forces on the Western Coast of Africa, and the King Salatti, and the Chiefs of Combo.

WHEREAS disturbances have occurred in the said kingdom of Combo, and continued therein for several years by reason of which the said kingdom, as well as Her Majesty's said settlement have sustained much injury, and a portion of the said kingdom has been withdrawn from the allegiance of the said king.

And whereas the said king has offered to cede to Her Majesty the Queen of England that portion of his said kingdom of Combo from the mouth of Sabjee Creek in a straight line to a point situated one mile south of Sabjee, and extending to a point situated on the seashore two miles north of the town of Bijulo, and bounded on the other sides by the sea, in consideration of his receiving the aid of the Governor of the said settlement to effect on his behalf a termination of those disturbances at Sabjee.

It is agreed upon as follows:—

1st. The King of Combo shall upon a day to be fixed and appointed for that purpose by the said Governor, cede and deliver up to the said Governor, or his accredited agent, for and on behalf of the Queen of England, the aforesaid portion of his territory to hold to Her said Majesty, Her heirs and successors, for ever.

2d. The peace and amity heretofore existing

between the King of Combo and Her said Majesty, and the free intercourse between the inhabitants of the said kingdom of Combo and of Her said Majesty's settlements shall be continued.

3d. The king of Combo agrees to afford at all times to the Governor of Her Majesty's Settlements, his aid and assistance to secure to Her said Majesty the peaceable occupation of the territory to be ceded as aforesaid.

4th. In consideration of the above, the said Governor undertakes to afford his aid to the said King of Combo in bringing the aforesaid disputes and disturbances to a speedy termination.

In witness whereof the aforesaid several parties have hereunto affixed their seals this 24th day of May in the year 1853, and the 16th year of the reign of Her said Majesty Queen Victoria.

(signed) *L. Smyth O'Connor,*
Lieut. Colonel, Governor,
Commander in Chief. (L.S.)

(signed) *Sulong Jarta,* his + mark,
King of Combo. (L.S.)

And several other chiefs and witnesses.

COMBO, BOORFOOT, AND GOUNJOUR.

ESTABLISHMENT of Peace between them, 15 April 1856.—Confirmed 16 May 1856.

CONVENTION made the 15th day of April 1856, between Lieutenant Colonel Luke Smyth O'Connor, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor, and Commander in Chief of Her Majesty's Settlements on the River Gambia, &c. &c. &c., and the undermentioned Chiefs of the Kingdom of Upper and Lower Combo.

At a Convention held at Bathurst on the 15th day of April in the year of our Lord 1856, between the said Governor and the Kings and Chiefs of Upper and Lower Combo, of Boorfoot, and Gounjour, it was agreed that inasmuch as war and disturbance had for some time past harassed the several towns hereinbefore mentioned, with their dependencies, and caused much damage to the trade and social welfare of the people, the parties hereinbefore mentioned, on behalf of themselves and the several towns which they represent, hereby agree, and mutually promise, in presence and by the sanction of the said Governor, and also in the presence and at the request of Damba Souko, King of Barra, and of Amaroo Talli, Alcade of Jillifree, and Era Camba, Alcade of Beriending, both in the Kingdom of Barra, to maintain henceforth peace and amity towards each other, and that they will jointly and severally combine together to main-

tain peace, and to compel any one or more of the said towns to observe strictly this Convention to the utmost of their ability.

(signed) *Luke Smyth O'Connor,*
Colonel, Governor.

Here follow the signatures of 14 Chiefs in Arabic.

Witnesses.

D. Robertson, Colonial Secretary.
A. B. Tenton, Queen's Advocate.
M. Souission Levey, Collector of Customs.
Thomas Chown, High Sheriff.
Richard Pine, Clerk of Council.
Wm. B. Robinson, Captain 3d W. I.
Regt.
I. I. S. Finder, Lieut. Colonel R. G. M.
P. H. Monsarrat, Colonial and Garrison
Chaplain.

BARRA, AND VARIOUS SONNINKEE TOWNS.

ESTABLISHMENT of Peace between them, 24 April 1856.—Confirmed 21 July 1856.

CONVENTION made this 24th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1856 (in the presence of and with the full approbation, sanction, and approval of his Excellency Daniel Robertson, Acting Governor and Commander in Chief in and over Her Majesty's Settlements in the River Gambia), between Mansa Colli, King of Mandawar, Mahmadoon Balton, Suma thereof, Amarra N'Yarra, Suma of Birkama, Laming Bojang, Baccary Bojang, Booraima Sanang, Mahmadi Bojang, Amaro Chang Bojang, Farley Jata Bojang, Laming Banna Bojang, Madit Banna Bojang, Janco Jammi Bojang, Mahmadi Touré, all Headmen of Birkama and Baccary Bojang, Suma of Perang, and Laming Bojang, Headmen of the same place.

WHEREAS, on the 15th day of April instant, a treaty of peace and amity was entered into in the presence of the governor of the said settlements between the representatives of the several towns of Jambour, Gounjour, Boorfoot, Sabbagee Bijello, Sanang, Baccoon, Maudinari Katoug, all towns in the kingdom of Combo, in the presence also of the King of Barra, whereby the said towns bound and engaged themselves to the utmost of their power to preserve and maintain peace in the kingdoms of Upper and Lower Combo, between which discord had for a long time existed; and whereas the said towns of Mandawar, Birkama, and Perang are anxious and desirous on their parts to enter into a Convention to the like effect; Now, therefore, the said Mansa Colli, King of Mandawar, Mahmadoon Balton, Suma thereof, Amarra N'Yarra, Suma of Birkama, Laming Bojang, Baccary Bojang, Booraima Sanang, Mahmadi Bojang, Amaro Cham Bojang, Farley Jata Bojang, Laming Banna Bojang, Madit

Banna Bojang, Janco Jammi Bojang, Mahmadi Touré, all headmen of Birkama, and Baccary Bojang, Suma of Perang, and Laming Bojang, headmen of the same place, representatives of the towns aforesaid, do hereby promise and agree in the presence, with the sanction and approval, as well of the said acting governor, as of the said King of Barra, testified by their signing respectively this Convention, not only to abstain from all hostilities, but jointly and severally to the utmost of their power and ability to promote, maintain, and preserve peace in the kingdoms aforesaid.

(signed) *Mansa Colli,* King of Mandawar.
Mahmadoon Balton, Head-
man of same.
Amarra N'Yarra, Suma of Bir-
kama.
And several other chiefs and
witnesses.

BADDIBOO.

Peace, and Reference of future Disputes to Governor of the Gambia.

TREATY (26 February 1861).—Confirmed 13 April 1861.

BETWEEN His Excellency George A. K. D'Arcy, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of Bathurst, in the River Gambia and its Dependencies of the same, for and on behalf of Her Majesty Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c., and his Majesty the King of Baddiboo.

1. THERE shall be peace between the subjects of the Queen of England and the subjects of the said King of Baddiboo, and should any difference or dispute accidentally arise between the said King or chief and any other chief in his dominions, it shall be referred to the Governor of Bathurst, and his decision hereon shall be final and binding upon all parties concerned.

2. All complaints against British subjects must be made to Her Majesty's agent, if there be one, or to the Governor of Bathurst; in either case accompanied by sufficient proof, in order that justice may be impartially done between all parties.

3. That the King of Baddiboo pays at once to the Governor of Bathurst 100 *l* sterling, or the value thereof in ground nuts, to Mr. Chown, merchant, at Bathurst.

4. That the King pays at once to the Governor of Bathurst 400 head of cattle, and 15,000 trade measures of nuts.

5. That the King of Baddiboo leaves in the Governor's charge, as a material guarantee for the faithful execution of this treaty, two or more of his most influential men; viz., the King's uncle, Sumar.

The Chief of Indear.

Signed and sealed on board Her Majesty's ship "Torch," at Suwarra, Cunda Creek, this 26th day of February, in the year of our Lord 1861, and of Her Majesty's reign the 25th.

On the part of British,

(signed) *W. Edmonstone*, Commodore.
Stephen J. Hill,
Governor of Sierra Leone.
And several other signatures.

On the part of Baddiboo,

Jocardos, his + mark.

TRADE TREATY (August 1861).—Confirmed 5 December 1861.

PREAMBLE.—Referring to a Treaty of Peace under date the 26th of February 1861, between the Queen of Great Britain and the King of Baddiboo, it is severally agreed by Colonel d'Arcy, Governor of the Gambia, on the part of Her Majesty, and his Majesty the King of Baddiboo, that on the Hostages being restored to the King of Baddiboo, his Majesty agrees to the following Terms:

WHEREAS the traders and agents of the merchants residing in Her Majesty's Settlements on the River Gambia carry on trade and mercantile intercourse with the inhabitants of the kingdom of Baddiboo, thereby increasing the benefit and advantage of trade both to the said settlements and kingdom; and whereas for the future increase of those benefits it is expedient that all due protection should be afforded to those traders and agents, it is hereby agreed by the contracting parties aforesaid:

1. That the King of Baddiboo shall receive every New Year's Day, 600 dollars from the Governor of the Gambia in lieu of all customs and charges on British and French traders, excepting on the 1st of January 1862, when he shall receive 300 dollars, the current year being half expired.

2. That all vessels hoisting the British or French flag appearing in Baddiboo waters, on producing a receipt from the Colonial Secretary, be considered free and safe to trade in the kingdom of Baddiboo.

3. That all such traders and agents shall, when trading in the said kingdom, conduct themselves in a peaceable and orderly manner, and shall not engage themselves with any acts or movements

within the said kingdom by which the King may sustain loss or injury.

4. That in case any trader or agent who shall have produced the receipt aforesaid shall be robbed or plundered by the King, or any of his subjects or other persons on the King's ground, it shall be lawful for the Governor of the Gambia to indemnify such trader or agent to such extent as his Excellency the Governor shall think just and equitable from the Customs yearly to be paid under this Treaty.

5. In consideration whereof his Majesty the King of Baddiboo agrees, and faithfully promises:—First, to protect the lives and property of all such traders and agents, and to secure them against loss or damage of any kind whatsoever while trading as aforesaid in his dominions: Secondly, that in the event of the misconduct or death of any such trader or agent, the goods in his possession shall not thereupon be seized and sold for the benefit of the King, but shall be protected until the proper owner thereof be found, and shall prove his title thereto.

6. And it is agreed that no persons of whatever colour, or wherever born, shall be taken out of the Baddiboo country as slaves, and no persons in

in the Baddiboo country shall be in any way concerned in seizing, keeping, carrying, or sending away any persons, for the purpose of being taken out of the Baddiboo country as slaves, and the King of Baddiboo will punish severely all who break this law.

7. English and French people may freely come into the country of Baddiboo, and may stay in it or pass through it, and they shall be treated as friends while in it, and shall receive any supplies there as they may require and pay for, and shall not be harmed nor troubled on that account, and they may leave the country when they please.

8. The peace and amity heretofore existing between the King of Baddiboo and Her Majesty the Queen of England, and the free intercourse between the inhabitants of the said kingdom of Baddiboo and of Her said Majesty's settlements, shall be continued.

9. That all subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, and all vessels under the British or French flag, which shall come to the kingdom of Baddiboo and its dependencies, for the purposes of lawful commerce, shall receive good faith and protection from the King and chiefs of Baddiboo, who shall render every assistance for lawful purpose, and shall not in any manner molest or hinder the said subjects in the pursuit of their lawful trade.

10. In case of any vessel bearing the British or French flag, or any subject of the Queen of Great Britain being shipwrecked, or his ship burnt in the waters adjacent to the kingdom of Baddiboo, or its dependencies, that the King and

chiefs of Baddiboo shall yield them every protection in their power, and shall use every endeavour to communicate intelligence of such shipwreck or loss to the British resident or agent at the nearest English port, or to the Governor of Her Britannic Majesty's settlements on the River Gambia

11. Should any dispute or difference arise between the European traders and the subjects of the King of Baddiboo, it must be referred to the Governor of the Gambia, and in all cases the evidences must accompany the complainants, in order that the Governor may administer justice impartially between the contending parties.

12. That in the full moon of December, the King of Baddiboo, accompanied by the Chief of Jocardo, pays the Governor of the Gambia a visit at Bathurst, the better to cement the friendship between the Kings of Barra and Baddiboo, the Governor of the Gambia and the Chief of Jocardo; on this occasion the Queen of England will order the Governor of the Gambia to bestow fitting and proper presents on these Kings and Chief.

13. That the King of Baddiboo and his head men do severally sign these articles on the holy book the Koran, before the hostages Sumar and the Chief of Indear are set free.

(signed) *King of Baddiboo.*
Jong Banna.
Sargo Seera.
Barra Samba.
Booran Banna.
Colly Soonto.

THE MARABOUT CHIEF MABA, and the KING OF THE SONNINKAS and the SUMAR OF ESSOW.

ESTABLISHMENT of Peace between them.

By a Convention made at Berinding this 24th day of February 1863, between the Marabout Chief Maba, on the one part, and Bunto-Gamey, the elected King of the Soninkees, and Sumar of Essow, on the other part, through the mediation of his Excellency Colonel d'Arcy, Governor of the Gambia.

1. THAT in consideration of the great friendship and alliance which has existed for so many years between the British Government and the belligerents, the Chief Maba engages to abstain from all acts of invasion and aggression in the kingdom of Barra; and that he will use his influence without delay to destroy and burn all Marabout stockades erected in the said kingdom other than what is required for the protection of the town.

2. On the part of Bunto-Gamey, the elected King, and the Sumar of Essow, it is agreed that the Marabout captives taken lately at Jillifree be forthwith returned to their friends and relations, that the Soninkees will abstain in future from taxing cattle passing through the country for sale at Bathurst, and from all cattle lifting; and that all stockades other than the stockade round Essow and Boniado be forthwith burnt and destroyed, in the presence of the Governor and Mr. Primet, who is appointed by the Governor to see the treaty carried out in all its integrity by Maba, at Badiboo.

3. That the clauses in the Treaty of March 1861, made with the late King of Badiboo, are

to be in force with reference to all disputes between the traders and the people of the country, and that Maba and his head men will protect the trade so advantageous to both peoples, in the same manner as the Governor of the Gambia protects the subjects of Maba on their arrival in the town of Bathurst, for purposes of legitimate trade.

4. And the elected King and the Sumar of Essow hold themselves also engaged to protect the property of all traders, European and native, who find it convenient in their honourable vocation to pass through Buniado and Essow, on their road to the port of Bathurst.

(signed) *Maba.*
Sumar, his x Mark.

Witnesses to signature:—

(signed) *C. Beresford Primet, Major,*
Royal Gambia Militia
Artillery.
John Day, Interpreter.
William the Warrior, Inter-
preter.
J. B. Campbell, Gaoler.

GOONJOUR, COMBO, AND VARIOUS TOWNS.

ESTABLISHMENT of Peace amongst them, subject to Arbitration of future Disputes by Governor of the Gambia.

TREATY (7th February 1864.)

BETWEEN Commodore Arthur Parry Eardley Wilmot, C.B., &c., Commanding Her Majesty's Squadron on the West Coast of Africa, in the name of the Queen of England, on the one part, and of Fodey Cabba, the High Priest of Goonjour, on the other, in conjunction with the Soninke King of Combo, and the Head Men of the Soninke Towns of Yundum, Beercannah and Mandwar, dated at Goonjour this Seventh day of February 1864.

WHEREAS the late war has had a most prejudicial effect upon the trade and prosperity of the country; and as peace has been secured by the mediation of the representative of the Queen of England, residing at Bathurst, it is agreed, and we do hereby agree, that for the future all differences shall be referred to the Governor of the Gambia, who will in council with his head men award judgment under Sabbajee-by-Tree; and if any parties in the neighbourhood of British territory, fire guns, and commit acts of hostility and depredation without first referring their disputes for his Excellency's arbitration, they will be accounted as enemies to the Queen of England as well as to their country, and be dealt with accordingly.

Chiefs and others who become the means by their improper conduct of reducing a beautiful district, at present full of corn, cattle, ground-nuts, and other valuable produce, to fire, sword, pestilence and famine, will be held accountable for their actions to the Government of England, and those allies of the Queen who desire her friendship, as well as the peace and prosperity of their own country.

We, therefore, whose names are attached hereto, do engage ourselves most solemnly in the name of our respective Governments, from henceforth to keep this Treaty sacred and inviolate, and to live on friendly terms with each other and all the people around.

Should this Treaty be broken by any of the chiefs that have this day signed it in the name of

their respective countries, or by their war people, it shall be lawful, and permission is given accordingly, for the soldiers and others of the British Government to enter the territory of the refractory party, and compel them to observe the engagement contained in it.

(signed) *A. P. Eardley Wilmot*, Commodore.
 (") *E. Rogers*, Lieut. 3rd West India
 Regt., for the Governor of the
 Gambia.
 (") _____ &c.
 (") _____ &c.
 (") _____ &c.
 (") _____ &c.

Signature of Alcade of Beercannah, &c.
 (signed) _____ &c.
 King of Yundum's brother, &c.
 King of Yundum, his + mark.

Witness, *E. Rogers*, Lieut. 3rd West
 India Regiment.

Witnesses:—

Samuel W. Blackall, Governor of Sierra
 Leone.
H. D. Waly, Commander H.M.S. "Rattlesnake."
John Lyon, Paymaster, "Rattlesnake."
H. B. Robinson, Secretary to the Commo-
 dore.
C. F. Stubbs, Manager British Combo.

Note.—March 1865. This Treaty has not yet been confirmed.

GOLD COAST TREATIES.

ASHANTEE.

7 September 1817.

TREATY made and entered into by Thomas Edward Bowdich, Esq., in the name of the Governor and Council at Cape Coast Castle on the Gold Coast of Africa, and on behalf of the British Government, with Sai Tootoo Quamina, King of Ashantee, and its Dependencies, and Boitinnce Quama, King of Dwabin and its Dependencies. [Abrogated by subsequent War.]

1. THERE shall be perpetual peace and harmony between the British subjects in this country and the subjects of the Kings of Ashantee and Dwabin.

2. The same shall exist between the subjects of the Kings of Ashantee and Dwabin, and all nations of Africa residing under the protection of the Company's forts and settlements on the Gold Coast; and it is hereby agreed, that there are no palavers now existing, and that neither party has any claim upon the other.

3. The King of Ashantee guarantees the security of the people of Cape Coast from the hostilities threatened by the people of Elmina.

4. In order to avert the horrors of war, it is agreed, that in any case of aggression on the part of the natives under British protection, the kings shall complain thereof to the Governor in Chief to obtain redress, and that they will in no instance resort to hostilities, even against the other towns of the Fantee territory, without endeavouring as much as possible to effect an amicable arrangement, affording the Governor the opportunity of propitiating it, as far as he may with discretion.

5. The King of Ashantee agrees to permit a British officer to reside constantly at his capital, for the purpose of instituting and preserving a regular communication with the Governor in Chief at Cape Coast Castle.

6. The Kings of Ashantee and Dwabin pledge themselves to countenance, promote, and encourage the trade of their subjects with Cape Coast Castle and its dependencies to the extent of their power.

7. The Governors of the respective forts shall at all times afford every protection in their power to the persons and property of the people of Ashantee and Dwabin who may resort to the water side.

8. The Governor in Chief reserves to himself the right of punishing any subject of Ashantee or Dwabin guilty of secondary offences; but in case of any crime of magnitude, he will send the offender to the kings to be dealt with according to the laws of his country.

9. The kings agree to commit their children to the care of the Governor in Chief for education at Cape Coast Castle, in the full confidence of the good intentions of the British Government, and of the benefits to be derived therefrom.

10. The kings promise to direct diligent inquiries to be made respecting the officers attached to the mission of Major John Peddie and Captain Thomas Campbell; and to influence and oblige the neighbouring kingdoms and their tributaries to befriend them as the subjects of the British Government.

Signed and sealed at Coomassie, this Seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and seventeen.

The mark of *Sai Tootoo Quamina* × (L.S.)

The mark of *Boitinnce Quama* × (L.S.)

Thomas Edward Bowdich (L.S.)

In the presence of

William Hutchinson, Resident.

Henry Tedlie, Assistant Surgeon.

Their marks.

× <i>Apokoo</i> ,	} Deputed from the General Assembly of Caboceers and Captains to swear with the King.
× <i>Odumata</i> ,	
× <i>Nabbra</i> ,	
× <i>Ashantee</i> ,	
× <i>Kabra Saphoo</i> ,	} Linguists to the King of Dwabin.
× <i>Quamina Saphoo</i> ,	
× <i>Quashee Apantree</i> ,	Acera Linguist.
× <i>Quashee Tom</i> ,	} Cape Coast Lin- guists.
× <i>Quamina Quatehee</i> ,	

ASHANTEE.

TERMS upon which Peace will be granted to the King of Ashantee. [Not adopted.]

10 December 1827.

1. THAT there shall be a perpetual peace and alliance with Great Britain; and that he do acknowledge each and all of these States to be free and independent.

2. That in like manner peace shall exist in all time coming between the subjects of the King of Ashantee and those of Aggrey, King of Cape Coast, Adookoo, King of Fantee, and Fantee Chiefs; Amoono, King of Annamaboe; Chibloo, King of Dinkara; Owosso Oko, King of Tutule; Annimini, King of Wassaw; the Chiefs of Adjumacoon, and Essacooma; the Danish Settlement of Christianborg Castle, British Acera, and all nations in alliance with His Britannic Majesty's subjects in this country.

3. That the King of Ashantee do renounce for himself, his heirs and successors for ever, all and every right to collect tribute (as a token of dependency) from any of the aforesaid nations in

alliance with Great Britain; and that he do acknowledge each and all of these States to be free and independent.

4. That the King of Ashantee do engage to place in the Castle of Cape Coast a sum of money equal to 4,000 ounces of gold, there to be kept as a security for his preserving inviolate the provisions of a Treaty of Peace to be founded on these articles, by a breach of which Treaty on his part the aforesaid sum of money will be forfeited.

5. To prevent as much as possible any future war, it is agreed that in case of any of the parties subscribing to these articles committing an act of aggression, and complaint being made thereof to the Governor in Chief of His Britannic Majesty's possessions on this coast (or in the absence of the said Governor from Cape Coast, to the Commandant of Cape Coast Castle for the time being, as

App. No. 3. his representative), any satisfaction which the circumstances of the case may require, will be adjudged to the aggrieved party by the said Governor in Chief or his representative; who will also call to his assistance two or more of the adjacent kings or chiefs as a council.

6. If any of the allied kings or chiefs shall be the aggressor or aggressors as aforesaid, and if such aggressor or aggressors shall refuse to abide by the decision of the Governor, or his representative, with the chiefs assembled with him in council; in that case he or they will no longer be considered as of the confederacy, and must arrange his or their disputes as they best can.

7. In the event of the Ashantees becoming the aggressors, and refusing to abide by the decision of the Governor (or his representative) and council aforesaid, then the sum of money lodged in Cape Coast Castle, for the purpose named in the 4th Article of these terms shall be forfeited for ever, and the said sum of money may, if it be deemed expedient, be expended in the purchase of arms, ammunition, and other warlike stores, for the purpose of carrying on war against the King of Ashantee and his people.

8. The King of Ashantee must signify his assent to the terms now proposed on or before January next, and he must lodge the security Cape Coast Castle, 10 December 1827.

required by the 4th Article on or before the same day.

9. The King of Ashantee must, as a further security, send to Cape Coast Castle two of the royal family of Ashantee, named Osey Cudjee and Apookoo, who are to remain in the said Castle of Cape Coast for the space of four years as hostages. They must be sent to Cape Coast on or before the 12th day of January next.

10. The Allies from the Leeward coast, namely, the Dutch and Danish Accras, the Queen of Akim, the King of Akimboo, the King of Aquapim, &c. &c., having neither arrived themselves, nor sent persons to represent them, when these Articles were agreed to in full assembly, although intelligence has been received that they are on the way to Cape Coast; Be it provided, and it is hereby provided, that although the names of the above Allies are not included with those of the other Allies in the 2d Article of these terms; yet if they or any of them shall signify their concurrence with and assent to these terms and proposals before the return of the messengers from Coomassie, then the party or parties so signifying their concurrence and assent shall be included in and entitled to all the benefits of the Treaty in the same manner as if he or they had been present when the same was agreed upon.

ASHANTEE AND FANTEE CHIEFS.

TREATY OF PEACE, 27 April 1831. [Now in force.]

WE, the undersigned, namely:

The Governor of Cape Coast Castle and British Settlements, on the part of his Majesty the King of England; the Princess "Akiannah," and the Chief "Quagua," on the part of the King of Ashantee, "Aggeri," King of Cape Coast "Abookoo," King of Fantee, "Amonoo," King of Annamaboe, "Chibboe," King of Dinkara, "Ossoo Okoo," King of Tufel, "Animinee," King of Wassaw, "Chibboo," King of Assin, the Chiefs of "Adjumacoon" and "Essacoomah," and the other chiefs in alliance with the King of Great Britain, whose names are hereunto appended, do consent to, and hereby ratify the following Treaty of Peace and of free commerce between ourselves and such other chiefs as may hereafter adhere to it.

1. The King of Ashantee having deposited in Cape Coast Castle, in the presence of the above-mentioned parties, the sum of 600 ounces of gold, and having delivered into the hands of the Governor two young men of the royal family of Ashantee, named "Ossoo Ansah," and "Ossoo In Quantamissah," as security that he will keep peace with the said parties in all time coming, peace is hereby declared betwixt the said King of Ashantee and all and each of the parties aforesaid, to continue in all time coming. The above securities shall remain in Cape Coast Castle for the space of six years from this date.

2. In order to prevent all quarrels in future which might lead to the infraction of this Treaty of Peace, we, the parties aforesaid, have agreed to the following rules and regulations for the better protection of lawful commerce.

The paths shall be perfectly open, and free to all persons engaged in lawful traffic; and persons molesting them in any way whatever, or forcing them to purchase at any particular market, or influencing them by any unfair means whatever, shall be declared guilty of infringing this Treaty, and be liable to the severest punishment.

Panyarring, denouncing, and swearing on or by any person or thing whatever, are hereby strictly forbidden, and all persons infringing this rule shall be rigorously punished; and no master or chief shall be answerable for the crimes of his servants, unless done by his orders or consent, or when under his control.

As the King of Ashantee has renounced all right or title to any tribute or homage from the Kings of Dinkara, Assin, and others formerly his subjects, so, on the other hands, these parties are strictly prohibited from insulting, by improper speaking or in any other way, their former master, such conduct being calculated to produce quarrels and wars.

All "palavers" are to be decided in the manner mentioned in the terms and conditions of peace already agreed to by the parties to this treaty.

Signed in the Great Hall of Cape Coast Castle this 27th day of April 1831, by the parties to this Treaty, and sealed with the great seal of the Colony in their presence.

(signed) *Geo. Maclean*, Governor.

Their marks.

- × *Akiannah*, Princess of Ashantee.
- × *Quagua*, Chief of Ashantee.
- × *Aggeri*, King of Cape Coast.
- × *Abookoo*, King of Fantee.
- × *Amonoo*, King of Annamaboe.
- × *Abookoo*, Chief of Accomfee.
- × *Otto*, Chief of Abrah.
- × *Chibboo*, King of Assin.
- × *Cudjee Chibboo*, King of Dinkara.
- × *Gebel*, Assin Chief.
- × *Ossa Okoo*, King of Tufel.
- × *Apollonia*, Chiefs.
- × *Akimie*, Chief of Agah.

FANTEE CHIEFS.

Bond, 6 March 1844.

WHEREAS power and jurisdiction have been exercised for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, within divers countries and places adjacent to Her Majesty's forts and settlements on the Gold Coast; we, chiefs of countries and places so referred to, adjacent to the said forts and settlements, do hereby acknowledge that power and jurisdiction, and declare that the first objects of law are the protection of individuals and of property.

2. Human sacrifices, and other barbarous customs, such as panyaring, are abominations, and contrary to law.

3. Murders, robberies, and other crimes and offences, will be tried and inquired of before the Queen's judicial officers and the chiefs of the district, moulding the customs of the country to the general principles of British law.

Done at Cape Coast Castle before his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on this 6th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1844.

Their marks.

× *Cudjoe Chibboe*, King of Denkira.
 × *Quashie Ottow*, Chief of Abrah.
 × *Chibboe Coomah*, Chief of Assin.
 × *Gebre*, Second Chief of Assin.
 × *Quashie Anah*, Chief of Donadie.
 × *Acossie*, Chief of Domonassie.

(signed) *Quashie Anah*.× *Anonoo*, Chief of Annamaboe.× *Joe Aggery*, Chief of Cape Coast.

Witness my seal on the 6th day of March 1844, and the 7th year of Her Majesty's reign.

(signed) *H. W. Hill*, Lieutenant Governor. (L.S.)

Witnesses, and done in the presence of—

(signed) *George Maclean*, J. P. and Assessor. (S.)*F. Pogsom*, Lieut., 1st W. I.

Regiment, Commanding (S.)

H. M. Troops. (S.)*S. Bannerman*, Adjutant of Militia and Police. (S.)

KING OF DAHOMEY.

8 March 1847.

WILLIAM WINNIETT, Esq., Commander in Her Majesty's Royal Navy, and Lieutenant Governor of the Forts and Settlements on the Gold Coast, on the part of Her Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty "Guzzu," King of the Kingdom of Dahomey, in Africa, on the part of himself, his heirs and successors, have agreed upon the following Articles and Conditions:—

1. It is agreed, and the two contracting parties hereby covenant and agree that there shall be a true friendship, reciprocity, and good understanding between Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty "Guzzu" King of the Kingdom of Dahomey, in Africa, and their heirs and successors, and that the same be so sincerely preserved and cultivated, that neither party do, under any colour whatever, endeavour to attempt anything to the destruction or detriment of the other; or yield any aid or assistance to those who attempt the same: on the contrary, their said Majesties shall be obliged each to promote the advantage, honour, and interest of the other, whenever and wherever it may be done.

2. There shall be to the subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, a free liberty of commerce, and they shall have liberty to come with their ships and cargoes to all places, ports, and rivers in the dominions of His Majesty Guzzu, King of Dahomey, and shall enter into the same, and reside and remain in any part of the said dominions; also to hire and occupy any houses or warehouses for the purposes of their commerce, and shall always enjoy the most complete protection and security from His Majesty Guzzu, King of Dahomey.

8. Whereas hitherto British merchants residing in the different ports of the coast in the dominions of His Majesty Guzzu, King of Dahomey, for the purpose of carrying on legitimate commerce, have experienced much inconvenience from the threats of other foreigners residing therein, to burn their factories and injure persons: it is therefore agreed between the two contracting parties, that His Majesty

Guzzu, King of Dahomey, his heirs and successors, shall give these British subjects his special protection, to be clearly indicated to all the world, both by granting permission to the said British subjects to hoist a flag of the kingdom of Dahomey in concert with the flag of England, on their respective factories, and by issuing a proclamation to His Majesty's subjects, and all foreigners residing within his dominions, not to molest or interfere with or threaten the lives of British subjects, on pain of severe punishment, and incurring His Majesty's severe displeasure.

4. The several stipulations and conditions of the present Treaty shall begin to have effect from the date of Her Britannic Majesty's ratification thereof, after it shall have received the signature of His Majesty, King of Dahomey.

In witness whereof, we, the undersigned, have signed the present Treaty with our hands on the dates herein set forth, and have caused our seals to be set thereto.

Done at Cape Coast Castle, this eighth day of March, in the year of our Lord, One thousand eight hundred and forty-seven.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of—

William Winniett, Commander Royal Navy, Lieutenant Governor, Gold Coast. (L.S.)

(signed) *Thomas Hutton*, J. P., Cape Coast.*Francis Swanzy*, J. P., Cape Coast.

Signed, sealed, and delivered, in the presence of—

Guzzu, his x mark, King of Dahomey. (L.S.)(signed) *Archd. R. Ridgway*, M. B.*Thomas Birch Freeman*.

At Ithomey, this 5th day of April 1847.

FANTEE CHIEFS.

THE Agreement called the Poll-Tax Ordinance.

19 April 1852.

At a general meeting of the chiefs and head men of the towns and districts upon the Gold Coast, under British protection, held at Cape Coast Castle, on the 19th day of April, 1852, in the presence of his Excellency, Major Hill, Governor and Commander in Chief, and the Civil and Military Officers of his Government, it was unanimously resolved and agreed upon:—

1. THAT this meeting, composed of his Excellency the Governor, his council, and the chiefs and head men of the countries upon the Gold Coast, under British protection, constitutes itself into a legislative assembly with full powers to enact such laws as it shall seem fit, for the better government of those countries.

2. That this assembly be recognised by Her Majesty's Government as legally constituted, that it be called the Legislative Assembly of native chiefs upon the Gold Coast, that it be presided over by his Excellency the Governor, who shall have the power to assemble, prorogue, and adjourn it at pleasure; and that its enactment, sanctioned and approved of by the Governor, shall immediately become the law of the country, subject to the approval of Her Majesty the Queen, and be held binding upon the whole of the population being under the protection of the British Government.

3. That this Legislative Assembly being thus duly constituted, having taken into consideration the advantages which the chiefs and natives derive from the protection afforded them by Her Majesty's Government, consider it reasonable and necessary that the natives generally should contribute to the support of the Government by submitting from time to time to pay such taxes as may be determined upon by the majority of the chiefs assembled in council, with his Excellency the Governor.

4. That it appears to the chiefs at present assembled in council, that the most productive, the least burthensome, and the most equitable tax which in the present state of the country can be levied, would be a poll-tax upon the gross amount of the population enjoying the protection of the British Government.

5. That entertaining the views here expressed, the chiefs and head men do, for themselves and their people, voluntarily agree to pay annually to the Government the sum of 1s. sterling per head, for every man, woman, and child residing in the districts under British protection.

6. That the collection of this tax be confided to officers appointed by his Excellency the Governor, assisted by the chiefs, who, in consideration of annual stipends to be paid to them by the Government, agree to give, in their several districts, their cordial assistance and the full weight of their authority in support of this measure, and to aid the tax-gatherers in taking a census of the population, and in collecting the tax.

7. That pay-notes specifying the services to be rendered and the amount of pay to be given to each chief or head man be immediately granted under the hand and seal of the Governor, payable annually after the collection of the tax, upon certificates given by the tax-gatherer of the district that the services specified have been duly performed.

8. That it shall be competent for the tax-

gatherer to sue any person refusing to pay the tax, before the native chief of the district, or an English magistrate, as for common debt, and that the master of a house or head of a family be considered responsible for the whole of the inmates of the house.

9. That any obstruction offered to the gatherer, or assault made upon him in the execution of his duty, shall be punished by a fine or imprisonment, one-half of all such fines to be paid to the chief of the district or town.

10. That it shall be competent for the tax-gatherer and chief of a district, subject to the approval of the Governor, to make such local arrangements for facilitating the collection of the tax as may be found expedient.

11. That the revenue derived from this tax, after payment of the stipends of the chiefs and other expenses attending its collection, be devoted to the public good in the education of the people, in the general improvement and extension of the judicial system, in affording greater facilities of internal communication, increased medical aid, and in such other measures of improvement and utility as the state of the social progress may render necessary, and that the chiefs be informed of the mode of its application, and entitled to offer such suggestions on this point as they may consider necessary.

12. That a proclamation based upon these resolutions be issued by his Excellency the Governor, to carry them into full effect during this current year, and that such proclamation, issued with the full concurrence of the Legislative Assembly of the native chiefs upon the Gold Coast, shall have in every respect the force of a law, and be held binding upon the whole of the native population being under the protection of the British Government.

(signed) *George Fynn Aggrey*, his \times mark,
Chief of Cape Coast.

And other native signatures.

On the part of Her Majesty's Government, I fully recognise the legality of this self-constituted Legislative Assembly of Chiefs, and I approve, sanction, and confirm the whole of the foregoing resolutions.

(signed) *Stephen J. Hill*, Governor.

Witnesses to the foregoing signature.

(signed) *H. W. Firth*, Colonial Secretary.
Captain Bird, Gold Coast Corps.
Lieut. Alec. Bravo, 1st W. I. R.
Lieutenant Child, Gold Coast Corps.
Lieutenant J. Cochrane, Gold Coast Corps.
Lieutenant Robert Horley, Gold Coast Corps.
James Davys, Assistant Surgeon, Gold Coast Corps.
Joha De Croft, Writer.

LAGOS TREATIES.

LAGOS.

TREATY between Norman B. Bedingfeld, Commander of Her Majesty's Ship "Prometheus," and Senior Officer of the Bights Division, and William McCoskry, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain; and Docemo, King of Lagos, on the part of himself and Chiefs.

6 August 1861.

ARTICLE 1. IN order that the Queen of England may be the better enabled to assist, defend, and protect the inhabitants of Lagos, and to put an end to the slave trade in this and the neighbouring countries, and to prevent the destructive wars so frequently undertaken by Dahomey and others for the capture of slaves, I, Docemo, do, with the consent and advice of my Council, give, transfer, and by these presents grant and confirm unto the Queen of Great Britain, her heirs and successors for ever, the port and Island of Lagos, with all the rights, profits, territories, and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging, and as well the profits and revenue as the direct, full, and absolute dominion and sovereignty of the said port, island, and premises, with all the royalties thereof, freely, fully, entirely, and absolutely. I do also covenant and grant that the quiet and peaceable possession thereof shall, with all possible speed, be freely and effectually delivered to the Queen of Great Britain, or such person as Her Majesty shall thereunto appoint, for her use in the performance of this grant; the inhabitants of the said island and territories, as the Queen's subjects, and under her sovereignty, Crown, jurisdiction, and Government, being still suffered to live there.

of the title of King in its usual African signification, and will be permitted to decide disputes between natives of Lagos with their consent, subject to appeal to British laws.

Article 3. In the transfer of lands, the stamp of Docemo affixed to the document will be proofs that there are no other native claims upon it, and for this purpose he will be permitted to use it as hitherto.

In consideration of the cession as before-mentioned of the port and island and territories of Lagos, the representatives of the Queen of Great Britain do promise, subject to the approval of Her Majesty, that Docemo shall receive an annual pension from the Queen of Great Britain, equal to the net revenue hitherto annually received by him; such pension to be paid at such periods and in such mode as may hereafter be determined.

(signed) *Docemo.*

Their marks.

× *Telake.*× *Rocamena.*× *Obalekow.*× *Achelong.*(signed) *Norman B. Bedingfeld, Her Majesty's Ship "Prometheus," Senior Officer, Bights Division.**W. McCoskry, Acting Consul.*

Lagos, 6 August 1861.

Article 2. Docemo will be allowed the use

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE to the Treaty of Cession of the Island of Lagos to the British Crown.

KING DOCEMO having understood the foregoing Treaty, perfectly agrees to all the conditions thereof; and with regard to the 3d Article consents to receive as a pension, to be continued during his lifetime, the sum of 1,200 (twelve hundred) bags of cowries per annum, as equal to his net revenue; and I, the undersigned representative of Her Majesty, agree on the part of Her Majesty to guarantee to the said King Docemo an annual pension of (1,200) twelve hundred bags of cowries for his lifetime, unless he, Docemo, should break any of the Articles of the above Treaty, in which case his pension will be forfeited. The pension shall commence from the 1st of July of the present year, 1862, from which day he, the King, resigns all claim upon all former farmers of the revenue.

(signed) *Docemo, his* × mark.*Henry Stanhope Freeman, Governor.*

We, the undersigned, witness that the above Treaty and ratification was explained to King Docemo, in our presence, and in our presence was signed by him, and by Henry Stanhope Freeman, Esq., as representative of Her Majesty the Queen of England, on this the 18th day of February, in the year of our Lord 1862.

(signed) *John H. Glover, Lieutenant, R.N.**Samuel Crouther.**J. C. Thomas, Secretary to the King Docemo.**S. B. Williams, British Interpreter.*

PALMA AND LECKIE.

Lagos, 7 February 1863.

By the present document, I, Kosoko, ex-chief of Epe, and formerly King of Lagos, do declare that when King of Lagos, my territory extended to the eastward as far as Palma and Leckie, and that when I was expelled from Lagos and settled at Epe, by permission of the King of Jehu, I

claimed those parts as my ports of trade, by right of my former ownership, and they were recognised as such by the British Government.

Having now left Epe, and returned to Lagos by the kind permission of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I lay no further claim to the

App. No. 3. Ports of Palma and Leckie, which consequently must revert to the Lagos Government.

(signed) *Kosoko*, his \times mark.
Signed in my presence, John M. Glover, Commodore, R. N.

(signed) *Topo*,
H. N. Leveson, Colonial Secretary.
I certify that I faithfully translated this document to *Kosoko*.
(signed) *S. R. Williams*.

ADDO.

THE King and Chiefs of Addo having, on or about the 1st May 1863, sent down a message to his Excellency John Hawley Glover, the Lieutenant Governor of Her Britannic Majesty's settlement of Lagos, requesting him to take upon himself, on the part of Her Britannic Majesty, the protection of their town and country, Mr. Thomas Tichel, resident agent at Badagry, visited Addo on the 16th instant, and having conferred with the King and Chiefs touching the request they had made to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and having reported that it was their free and spontaneous wish that Her Britannic Majesty's Government should exercise all the rights of a protecting Power over them, his Excellency visited Addo on the 26th of June, and having assured himself of the correctness of the foregoing statement, and the request being again repeated, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of Lagos, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, has taken upon himself the protection of the King, Chiefs, and people of Addo, and has permitted them to hoist the (white) English flag with a red border, subject always to the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

Therefore, his Excellency John Hawley Glover, the Lieutenant Governor of Lagos, and acting consul for the Bight of Benin, &c., on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, and the King and Chiefs of Addo on the part of themselves and their people, have agreed, as is hereinbefore set forth. And the King and Chiefs further bind themselves to be guided in their proceedings with all surrounding tribes, as Her

27 June 1863.
Majesty's Government shall from time to time direct: that they shall prevent all export of slaves to Porto Novo or Pocran, or passage of such slaves down their river; and shall place neither let nor hindrance on lawful trade, but shall, on the contrary, afford every facility to traders of all nations and tribes who may have occasion to visit their country for the purpose of lawful commerce.

Done at Addo, this twenty-seventh day of June, in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

(signed) *John H. Glover*,
Lieutenant Governor.

Their marks.

- \times King *Olovce*.
- \times Chief *Ojumoh*.
- \times Chief *Osurufunjah*.
- \times Chief *Odoorohfunjah*.
- \times Chief *Arro*.

Chief Town Council.

Sabbah, his \times mark.

Captains.

Their marks.

- \times *Igbonou*.
- \times *Akilibah*.
- \times *Kuchesi*.
- \times *Ittu*.
- \times *Akilojoh*.
- \times *Gandee*.
- \times *Akilyi*.

Witnesses.

(signed) *Thomas Tichel*,
Charles Foresythe.

POCRAH.

THE King and Chiefs of Pocran having sent down repeated messages to the Governor of Lagos, through Mr. Thomas Tichel, Resident Agent at Badagry, requesting him to take upon himself, on the part of Her Britannic Majesty, the protection of their town and country, his Excellency John Hawley Glover, Lieutenant Governor of Lagos, and Acting Consul for the Bight of Benin, visited that place on the 29th June 1863, and having assured himself of the wishes of the King and Chiefs, and the request being again repeated, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, has taken upon himself the protection of the King, Chiefs, and people of Pocran, and has permitted them to hoist the (white) English flag with a red border, subject always to the approval of Her Majesty.

Therefore, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, and the King and Chiefs of Pocran, on the part of themselves and their people, have agreed, as is hereinbefore set forth, and the King and Chiefs further bind themselves to be guided in their proceedings with all surrounding tribes,

29 June 1863.
as Her Majesty's Government shall from time to time direct: that they shall prevent all export of slaves to Porto Novo, or elsewhere, or passage of such slaves through their country or river, and shall place neither let nor hindrance on lawful trade, but shall, on the contrary, afford every facility to traders of all nations and tribes who may have occasion to visit their country for the purpose of lawful commerce.

Done at Pocran, this twenty-ninth day of June, in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

(signed) *John Hawley Glover*,
Lieutenant Governor.

Their marks.

- \times King *Agulayie*.
- \times Chief *Aroede*.
- \times Chief *Udrafrou*.
- \times King's Brother *Avash*.
- \times King's Brother *Adunose*.
- \times War Chief *Ajubreva*.

Witnesses.

(signed) *Thomas Tichel*,
William Metzgar.

OKEODAN.

THE Chiefs of Okeodan having sent down repeated messages to the Governor of Lagos, through Mr. Thomas Tichel, Resident Agent at Badagry, requesting him to take upon himself, on the part of Her Britannic Majesty, the protection of their town and country, his Excellency John Hawley Glover, Lieutenant Governor of Lagos and Acting Consul for the Bight of Benin, visited Shagbo, where he was received by the Chiefs of Okeodan, on the 4th day of July 1863; and having assured himself of the wishes of the chiefs, and the request being again repeated, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, has taken upon himself the protection of the chiefs and people of Okeodan, and has permitted them to hoist the (white) English flag with a red border, on the understanding that they receive a representative of Her Majesty's Government to reside in their town, subject always to the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

Therefore, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, and the Chiefs of Okeodan, on the part of themselves and their people, have agreed as is hereinbefore set forth.

And the chiefs further bind themselves to be guided in their proceedings with all surrounding tribes as Her Majesty's Government shall from time to time direct; that they shall prevent all export of slaves to Porto Novo or elsewhere, or passage of such slaves through their country or river, and shall place neither let or have on lawful trade, but shall, on the contrary, afford every facility to traders of all nations and tribes who may have occasion to visit their country for the purpose of lawful commerce.

Done at Okeodan, this fourth day of July, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

(signed)

Their marks.

× Chief *Agro*.
 × „ *Kembei*.
 × „ *Elucie*.
 × „ *Oluwade*.
 × „ *Afula*.
 × „ *Eloh*.
 × „ *Maroyah*.
 × „ *Ojoe*.
 × War Chief *Fallalah*.

Thomas Tichel, Resident Agent.

BADAGRY.

7 July 1863.

HIS Excellency John Hawley Glover, Lieutenant Governor, Commander in Chief and Vice Admiral of Her Britannic Majesty's settlement of Lagos, and Acting Consul for the Bight of Benin, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, and the Chiefs of Badagry on the part of themselves and their people, have agreed as follows:—

Article 1. In order for the better keeping of the peace and quiet of the well-disposed persons living in Badagry, and for the better security of their lives and properties, as also for the purpose of setting aside all pretensions on the part of the King of Porto Novo and others to the right and royalty of this district of Badagry,—

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, being Chiefs of Badagry, have freely and willingly ceded to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, Her heirs and successors, for ever, the town of Badagry, and all the rights and territories and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging, as well as all profits and revenues, absolute dominion and sovereignty of the said town and territory of Badagry, freely, fully, entirely, and absolutely.

Article 2. In consideration of which cession, as before herein set forth, I, John Hawley Glover, Commander in Her Majesty's Royal Navy, Lieutenant Governor, Commander in Chief and Vice Admiral of the settlement of Lagos aforesaid, and Acting Consul for the Bight of Benin, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, promise that the chiefs who have hereunto set their hands shall receive from the First day of the present month of July, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, the further yearly sum of Two hundred and forty pounds sixteen shillings (240 l. 16 s.),

in addition to the yearly pension of Two hundred and fifty-nine pounds four shillings (259 l. 4 s.), which they have hitherto received, that is to say, the sum of Five hundred pounds (500 l.) per annum, so long as they shall live or reside peaceably and quietly in Badagry, or within the territories of Her Majesty, as good and loyal subjects of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain; that is to say, each chief shall receive, so long as he lives, the sum of sixty-two pounds ten shillings (62 l. 10 s.) per annum.

And we further declare that our right and property in the district of Badagry has always and does extend westward to the village of Witheeree, on the seashore, the half of the town of Quameh, and the eastern side or shore of the Quameh Creek, on the Lagoon.

Done at Badagry, under the Great Seal of the Settlement of Lagos, this seventh day of July, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

(signed) *John H. Glover*, Lieut.-Governor.

Their marks.

× Head Chief *Ahrah*. (L.S.)
 × Chief *Agrolo*. (L.S.)
 × Chief *Posso*. (L.S.)
 × *Prince*, for Chief *Pheortah*. (L.S.)
 × Head Chief *Wawa*. (L.S.)
 × Chief *Bala*. (L.S.)
 × Chief *Ginge*. (L.S.)
 × Chief *Mobi*. (L.S.)

Witnesses.

(signed) *W. McCoskry*, Acting Chief Magistrate.

B. L. LeRoy, Commander, R.N.
Thomas Tichel.

App. No. 3.

DESPATCHES on Native Treaties generally, and on those of the Government of the
Gambia.

— No. 1. —

(No. 64.)

Lord John Russell to Governor Doherty.

Sir, Downing-street, 23 July 1840.

I HAVE had under my consideration your Despatch, No. 60, of the 10th. of October last, with the papers therein enclosed, in explanation of the obstacles which had been represented to you from various quarters as continuing to be opposed to the prosecution of lawful commerce in the different rivers which discharge themselves into the Atlantic on that part of the coast of Africa which lies between Sierra Leone and the Gambia.

It is a subject which has engaged the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government.

You are aware of the objections which the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty entertain against the habitual employment of Her Majesty's naval forces in these unhealthy rivers; and it is impossible, therefore, for me to hold out the expectation that the trade of Her Majesty's subjects there can be secured against the occasional outrages of petty refractory chiefs in every isolated quarter to which the enterprise of individual traders may carry them.

It appears highly probable, indeed, that excesses of that nature can only effectually be restrained by the influence and agency of the more powerful chiefs, whose interest it should be to watch over the preservation of good order and tranquillity in those rivers.

The accompanying reports, which I have received from the Board of Admiralty, of Lieutenant H. W. Hill's proceedings in the River Nunez in September last, show how much may be accomplished by judicious intervention with influential chiefs; and I very earnestly recommend to your attention that officer's proceedings, as well as his suggestions as to the advantage of entering into communication with the Alimany of Tecombo.

It is in furtherance of these views that I transmit to you herewith the draft of an agreement which Her Majesty's Government are desirous should be proposed to all native chiefs in the more immediate vicinity of Sierra Leone, and especially to those who, like the Alimany of Tecombo, command the paths or communications with the interior of Africa.

I should see no objection to your appending to those agreements such stipulations as may be necessary for fixing the duties, whether of anchorage or of customs, to be paid by our merchants, upon the principle of the arrangement which Lieutenant Hill concluded with King Saarah of Kykandy in the River Nunez, provided that such stipulations shall have received the assent of the merchants. But you will understand that no other stipulations are to be introduced into any of these arrangements which should contain provisions contrary to the principle of the Navigation Act, and that every agreement is to be held subject to the ratification of Her Majesty's Government.

I am averse from sanctioning any stipulations for the payments of presents or fees in money or goods. If any stipulation of that nature should be considered absolutely necessary, or be insisted on as a *sine quâ non*, in consideration of some important advantage to be ceded by a chief, the payment to be promised must be of very limited extent, and expressly reserved for Her Majesty's ratification.

You will report to me your earliest convenience the arrangements which you may propose to make for carrying into effect these views and wishes of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. Russell.

Governor Doherty,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 1.

DRAFT of Agreement proposed to be entered into with African Chiefs.

OBJECT.

THERE shall be peace and friendship between the people of England and the people of _____, and the slave trade shall be put down for ever in _____, and the people of England and the people of _____ shall trade together innocently, justly, kindly, and usefully. And A. and B. do make the following agreement for these purposes:—

TERMS.

1. No white Christian persons shall be made slaves in the _____ country in any case; and if any white Christians are now slaves in the _____ country, or shall be brought into it as slaves, they shall instantly be set free by the Chief of _____, and he shall assist them to return to their own country.

2. No persons of any colour, or wherever born, shall be taken out of the _____ country as slaves; and no person in the _____ country shall be in any way concerned in seizing, keeping, carrying, or sending away any persons for the purpose of their being taken out of the _____ country as slaves. And the Chief of _____ shall punish severely all those who break this law.

3. The officers of the Queen of England may seize every vessel or boat of _____ found anywhere carrying on the trade in slaves, and may also seize every vessel or boat of other nations found carrying on the trade in slaves in the waters belonging to the Chief of _____, and the vessels and boats so seized shall be taken into an English possession to be tried by English law; and, when condemned, shall be sold, and the produce of the sale shall be divided equally between the Queen of England and the Chief of _____.

, and the slaves who were found on board shall be made free.

4. English people may freely come into the country, and may stay in it or pass through it; and they shall be treated as friends while in it, and shall receive every supply they need there; they may freely practise the Christian religion there, and shall not be harmed nor troubled on that account; and they may leave the country when they please.

5. English people may always trade freely with the people of _____ in every article which they may wish to buy or sell; and neither the English people nor the people of _____ shall ever be forced to buy or to sell any article, nor shall they be prevented from buying or selling any article; and the customs and dues taken by the Chief of _____ on English goods shall in no case be more altogether than 1-th part of the price of the goods sold.

6. The paths shall be kept open through the country to other countries, so that English traders may carry goods of all kinds through the _____ country to sell them elsewhere; and the traders of other countries may bring their goods through the _____ country to trade with the English people.

7. English people may buy and sell or hire lands and houses in the _____ country, and their houses shall not be entered without their consent, nor shall their goods be seized, nor their persons touched; and if English people are wronged or illtreated by the people of _____, the Chief of _____ shall punish those who wrong or illtreat the English people.

8. But English people must not break the laws of the _____ country; and when they are accused of breaking the laws, the chiefs shall send a true account of the matter to the nearest place where there is an English force; and the commander of such English force shall send for the English person, who shall be tried according to English law, and shall be punished if found guilty.

9. If the _____ people should take away the property of an English person, or should not pay their just debts to an English person, the Chief of _____ shall do all he can to make the people restore the property and pay the debt; and if English persons should take away the property of the _____ people, or should not pay their just debts to the _____ people, the Chief of _____ shall make known the fact to the Commander of the English force nearest to the _____ country, or to the resident agent, if there is one; and the English Commander, or the agent, whichever it may be, shall do all he can to make the English persons restore the property and pay the debt.

10. The Queen of England may appoint an agent to visit _____ or to reside there, in order to watch over the interests of the English people, and to see that this agreement is fulfilled; and such agent shall always receive honour and protection in the _____ country, and the Chief shall pay attention to what the agent says; and the person and property of the agent shall be sacred.

11. The Chief of _____ shall, within 48

hours of the date of this agreement, make a law for carrying the whole of it into effect; and shall proclaim that law, and the Chief of _____ shall put that law in force from that time for ever.

12. The Queen of England, out of friendship for the Chief of _____ and because the Chief of _____ has made this agreement, gives him the following articles:— and the Chief of _____ hereby acknowledges he has received those articles.

And so we _____ and _____ have made this agreement and have signed it at _____ this _____ day of _____; and this agreement shall stand for ever.

(signatures)

(Witnesses)

ADDITIONAL TERMS.

For Special Cases.

ARTICLE 1. Moreover, the Queen of England, for _____ years to come, will have ready every year, at _____, the following articles, viz:—

and an English officer shall inquire in each year whether the Chief of _____ and his people have faithfully kept the foregoing agreement, and if, after enquiry, he shall be satisfied that they have kept the agreement, he shall then deliver the articles to the chief, or to the chief's agent for him; but when the English officer is not so satisfied, he shall not deliver the articles.

Article 2. The practice of making human sacrifices, on account of religious or political ceremonies or customs, shall cease for ever in _____.

Article 3. The Chief of _____ sells and makes over to the English people for the Queen of England, the land from _____ to _____ and everything in it, entirely and for ever, for the sum of _____, of which _____ is now paid to him. And the English people shall have possession of the said land, and of whatever may be upon it, when they shall have paid to the Chief of _____ the remainder of the price above stated; and when the land shall be delivered over to the English people, they may do with it what they please.

Article 4. The Queen of England will assist in protecting the Chief and people of _____ against any attack which other chiefs and people may make on them on account of anything they may do for the purpose of giving up the slave-trade according to the present agreement.

[NOTE.—March 1863. The foregoing communication was shortly followed by a Despatch from Lord John Russell to the Governor of Sierra Leone, 30th September 1840, entering very fully into the object of the different stipulations, and suggesting the arguments by which they might be recommended to the acceptance of the African chiefs; the whole being nearly identical with the instructions on the same subject to the Commissioners for the Expedition to the Niger, dated 30th January 1841, contained in the Parliamentary Paper on that Expedition, presented by Command, 1843. Both Despatches were also sent to the Lieutenant Governor of the Gambia for his guidance.]

App. No. 3.

— No. 2. —

(Gambia, No. 47.)

[COMBO: Cession of Land near *Cape St. Mary.*]Lord *John Russell* to Lieutenant Governor
*Huntley.*Downing-street,
9 November 1840.

Sir,
I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 23, of the 28th of July last, with its Enclosures, in explanation of the reasons which have induced you to conclude a convention with the King of Combo, with a view to the cession by him of the sovereignty and unappropriated lands of a tract of the Combo country immediately adjoining *Cape St. Mary.*

Approving, as I do generally, the view which you have taken of the state of the liberated African locations in the Gambia, and considering that our possession of the territory in question will enable you to remedy much of the inconvenience which has arisen from the unfitnes of those locations, I do not hesitate to sanction the expenditure which you have incurred to the amount of 100 dollars for obtaining the cession of that territory.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Russell.*

Lieutenant Governor *Huntley.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 14.)

Lord *Stanley* to Mr. *Carr*, or the Officer
Administering the Government of *Sierra Leone.*Downing-street,
8 November 1841.

Sir,
I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches, Nos. 32 and 33, of the 16th and 18th of August, in which you announce your intention to send a mission to *Teimbo*, and to conclude treaties for the suppression of the slave trade with *Thomas Caulker*, and all the chiefs who command the line of coast from *Sierra Leone* to *Cape Minnsado.*

As Her Majesty's Government are unable to concur in the propriety of the suggestions which you have thrown out as to the expediency of obtaining the sovereignty of the *River Nunez*, and of the waters of the chiefs in question, I lose no time in acquainting you that you are to consider yourself prohibited from concluding any treaty or agreement which should have the effect of binding Her Majesty to give military aid to African chiefs, or to assume any right of sovereignty or of protection over any portion of the soil or waters of *Africa.* Cases may occur (I hardly think it possible they should) in which it may be deemed advisable ultimately that Her Majesty should enter into such an engagement, but I repeat that in no case are you to take any step which may fetter the discretion of the Queen's Government. If at any time application should be made to you to place an African chief or his territory under the sovereignty or protection of the Queen, the utmost to be done and that most sparingly, and in instances of extreme urgency, should be to forward such application to Her Majesty's Govern-

ment, but independently and irrespectively of the other terms of the treaty.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

J. Carr, Esq.,
or the Officer Administering
the Government.

— No. 4. —

(Gambia, No. 2.)

Lord *Stanley* to the Acting Governor.[*CARTABAR.*]Downing-street,
8 November 1841.

Sir,
HER MAJESTY'S Government have now under their consideration the treaty which was concluded on the 23d of April 1841, between Sir *Hugh Huntley* on behalf of the Queen and the King or Chief of *Cartabar.*

It is not my intention at present to enter into a discussion of the merits of that treaty. But as I am not aware whether it may possibly have entered into your contemplation to negotiate any similar agreements with other African chiefs, I deem it proper to instruct you that you are to consider yourself absolutely prohibited from concluding any treaty or agreement which should have the effect of binding Her Majesty to give military aid to African chiefs, or to assume any right of sovereignty or of protection over any portion of the soil or waters of *Africa.*

Cases may occur (I hardly think it possible they should) in which it may be deemed advisable ultimately that Her Majesty should enter into such an engagement, but I repeat that in no case are you to take any step which may fetter the discretion of the Queen's Government. If at any time application should be made to you to place an African chief or his territory under the sovereignty or protection of the Queen, the utmost to be done, and that most sparingly, and in instances of extreme urgency should be to forward such application to Her Majesty's Government, but independently and irrespectively of the other terms of treaty.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

The Officer Administering
the Government of the *Gambia.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 33.)

Acting Governor *Ingram* to Lord *Stanley.*

CARTABAR: and Treaties generally on the *River Gambia.*

Bathurst, *Gambia,*
23 December 1841.

My Lord,
I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch, dated the 8th November last, and numbered 2, on the subject of the treaty concluded at *Cartabar* on 23d April 1841 between Sir *H. Huntley*, on behalf of Her Majesty, and the Chief of *Cartabar*, in which your Lordship prohibits me from making any treaty or agreement which shall have the effect of binding Her Majesty's Government to afford military aid to African chiefs, or to assume any right of sovereignty

reignty or protection over any portion of the soil or waters of this continent.

Previously to the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, I had made some arrangements for entering on agreements of a somewhat similar nature with several of the influential kings and chiefs of various countries bordering on the Gambia. I have not yet concluded any, as they can only be entered into in the countries under the direction of the chiefs who are disposed to agree to them. I consider my present position of Acting Governor does not leave me at liberty to absent myself from Bathurst or its immediate vicinity without your Lordship's permission; but to enable me to conclude such agreements, it would be necessary that I should visit the different chiefs, and my absence from Bathurst would necessarily be a protracted one; but while I only fill temporarily the office of Lieutenant Governor at the Gambia, I do not believe your Lordship would approve of my leaving the colony at all. I have, therefore, reluctantly deferred my negotiations with several native kings and chiefs, although the preliminary arrangements are made, informing them I should wait your Lordship's further directions before the signing of the agreements. I have strong reasons to feel assured that such agreements will be advantageous to British interests at the same time that they will confer considerable benefit on the natives.

A brief outline of the "Agreement" forwarded to this colony by Her Majesty's Government has been given to several native chiefs, but I refrained from acquainting them of that part which specifies that protection, under certain circumstances, would be afforded them. I also omitted that portion of the "Agreement" which allows a custom to be levied on all merchandise entering their territories. Leaving out these clauses, I consider the "Agreement" still affords many advantages to the chiefs or kings, all of whom are happy to enter into it.

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I have not at any time contemplated affording military protection or assistance to the Native Powers who have been desirous of entering into the proposed "Agreement;" neither have I sought to obtain from them the sovereignty of any fresh portion of the soil or waters of this part of Africa, because experience has convinced me that this colony is not likely to be benefited by any accession to its extent, unless it also receives a proportionate increase of military force, defences, &c., which I am aware would entail a very heavy expenditure—one, in my opinion, exceeding the value of any territory which might be acquired on the banks of the Gambia.

I feel very happy to have anticipated your Lordship's instructions to refrain from promising to afford military aid to any African chief, and also from assuming or accepting the sovereignty of any country within the limits of my negotiations in respect of the form of "Agreement" received from Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) T. L. Ingram,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Lord Stanley,
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary
of State, &c. &c. &c.

— No. 6. —

(Gambia, No. 23.)

Lord Stanley to Acting Governor Ingram.

[TREATIES on the River Gambia.]

Sir,
Downing-street,
18 March 1842.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 33 of the 23d of December last, on the subject of the agreements which you propose to conclude with several of the chiefs and kings bordering on the River Gambia.

I approve generally of the course which you intend to pursue in that respect; and you may, therefore, proceed to negotiate such agreements with those of the chiefs in question with whom you may consider it expedient to cultivate especially an amicable intercourse, founded on our and their desire to suppress the slave trade, and to promote commerce and civilization; care being taken that all such agreements are divested of the additional articles appended to the draft of the model agreement furnished by my predecessor, and to stipulate in every case what was omitted in the Cartabar Treaty, that such agreements are to be held subject to the Queen's sanction and ratification.

I must also caution you against incurring any but a very inconsiderable expenditure in furtherance of these arrangements. You had better, indeed, transmit a distinct statement of the actual expense which may be incurred in each case.

I have, &c.
(signed) Stanley.

Acting Governor Ingram,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 7. —

(Gambia, No. 21.)

Lord Stanley to Acting Governor Ingram.

[CARTABAR; Treaty confirmed.]

Sir,
Downing-street,
15 March 1842.

I HAVE laid before the Queen Sir Henry Huntley's Despatch, marked separate, of the 24th of April 1841, with the copy therein enclosed of the treaty which he had concluded, on behalf of Her Majesty, with the King of Cartabar, upon the 23d of the same month; and I have it in command to acquaint you that Her Majesty is pleased to confirm and ratify the said treaty, with the exception of the two additional articles which are thereunto appended.

You will accordingly take the earliest opportunity to make a communication to that effect to the King of Cartabar; apprising him at the same time that although the stipulations contained in the aforesaid additional articles are not to be taken as binding on the Crown of Great Britain, yet, that so long as he shall faithfully adhere to the terms of the treaty, and take no hostile measures against his neighbours, he may appeal to Her Majesty for protection from any unprovoked aggression on their part.

The troops now stationed at Cartabar must be withdrawn before the commencement of the ensuing rainy season.

3 I 3

You

App. No. 3. You will take care to publish the treaty for the information of Her Majesty's subjects trading in the Gambia and adjacent countries.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

Acting Governor Ingram.

— No. 8. —

(Gambia, No. 47.)

Lord Stanley to Acting Governor Ingram.

[PAPERS.]

Downing-street,
15 November 1842.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 65, of the 7th of May last, transmitting a copy of the treaty, dated the 1st of April preceding, which has been entered into on behalf of the Queen by Lieutenant Lapidge, Commanding Her Majesty's Brig "Pantolon," and the King of the Papels, an African tribe, in the vicinity of Bissao; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty is pleased to confirm and ratify that treaty.

I take it for granted that the hostages, who are to be maintained at the expense of the Government of the Gambia, will not be retained longer than is necessary to secure the due execution of the objects of the treaty.

I presume that it is intended that the expenses of the salvage and conveyance of the cargoes of wrecked vessels, adverted to in the 8th article of the treaty, shall be paid by the owners of the property saved, or be deducted from the proceeds of its sale, in addition to the one-fourth part of the value of the goods stipulated by the 9th article to be given to the salvors.

As the treaty contains no stipulation for suppressing slave trade, I have to observe that it is very desirable that endeavours should be made to introduce into arguments of that nature clauses for preventing all slave trade on the part of the native chiefs of Africa and of their subjects, and in all places under their influence, and also to introduce into such treaties an article permitting the destruction of slave factories which may be established in the territories of such chiefs, and the liberation of any negroes who may be found collected therein for exportation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Stanley.*

Acting Governor Ingram.

— No. 9. —

(Gambia.—(No. 2).)

Lord Stanley to Governor Norcott.

[NYANIBANTANG: *Woolli* and Others.]

Downing-street,
13 January 1844.

Sir,

I HAVE received Mr. Ingram's Despatch, marked separate, of the 30th of March 1843,

enclosing copies of six agreements or treaties, which he had entered into with the king and chiefs named in the margin*, and I have now to inform you, and to desire that you will convey the information to the chiefs, that having laid those agreements before the Queen, Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to confirm and ratify the same.

With respect, however, to any future agreements of this nature which you may be instructed to conclude, you will bear in mind that the following words at the latter part of article 3 should be omitted.

"And may also seize every vessel or boat of other nations found carrying on the trade in slaves, in the waters belonging to the chief of _____."

In lieu thereof, the following words should be added at the end of the article: "And if at any time hereafter it shall appear that slave trade is carried on upon the territory of _____, Great Britain may put down that trade by force."

As, moreover, the principal object of treaties entered into with African chiefs is the suppression of that traffic, it is desirable that no precise engagement upon matters of detail in commerce, such as the fixing certain rates of duties and customs, should be included in them.

Considering the manner in which commercial transactions are conducted on the coast of Africa, and the absence in most places of all the usual checks and restraints upon the traders, it may be apprehended that such engagements would be liable to be frequently disregarded by one party or the other, and that any chief who should wish to escape from the obligations into which he had entered with respect to the slave trade, might thereby be furnished with an excuse for annulling the treaty altogether.

If, in negotiating a treaty with any one chief, you should have occasion to report that it would be desirable to enter into a specific engagement as to the rate of duties and customs to be levied on British and native goods; and if, upon reference to the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, it should appear that such an arrangement is of importance to the interests of British commerce, it would then be time enough to entertain the question with regard to that particular case; but, as regards all ordinary treaties of general application, you will take care that none of them contain any engagement more specific than that which forms the 5th article of the proposed treaty with the chiefs of Bimbia, which is as follows:—

"The subjects of the Queen of England may always trade freely with the people of Bimbia in every article they may wish to buy and sell, in all the places and ports within the territories of the Chiefs of Bimbia, and throughout the whole of their dominions; and the Chiefs of Bimbia pledge themselves to show no favour and give no privilege to the ships and traders of other countries, which they do not show to those of England."

For the future, therefore, no such article must be inserted as the latter part of the 5th article in the treaties now under consideration, beginning with the words "and the chief" to the words "free of duty," and the article above quoted from the treaty with Bimbia, should be substituted for the concluding part of the 5th article in the draft model agreement transmitted to Captain

Huntley

* Sandebar, Chief of Nyanybantang; Jaynon Sano, Chief of Dohacoonda; Sonna Minejan, Chief of Corro; Sano Coy, King of Woolli; Cantaliba, Chief of Cantaianda.

Huntley by my predecessor in his Despatch, No. 32, of 31st July 1840, namely, from the words "and the customs and dues taken," to the words "price of the goods sold."

I have, &c.
(signed) Stanley.

Governor Norcott.

Subject to these remarks, I have to signify to you Her Majesty's confirmation of that treaty. App. No. 3.

I have, &c.
(signed) Newcastle.

Governor d'Arcy,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 11. —

(No. 4.)

Governor d'Arcy to his Grace the Duke of
Newcastle, K. G.

Government House, Bathurst, Gambia,
22 February 1864.

My Lord Duke,

I WILL endeavour briefly to detail to your Grace a journal of a most interesting fortnight, during which time Upper and Lower Combo might have been reduced to a desert, from an untoward circumstance that, in a European community, would have gone no further than the police court.

Hitherto the Upper and Lower Combos have escaped the civil war which for the last two years has spread along the banks of the river, owing, probably, to the contiguity of the British possessions, together with the fact that the Marabouts of Goongour and Bomfoot, on the seaboard, are not so numerous as the followers of the Soninke Kings of Combo and Farababanta; yet the two sects were ready for hostile eventualities, as the following facts will prove:—

The Sumar of the Soninke town of Beercama (Mammady-Jancarry) was intrusted by the village community with the care of several kegs of powder to meet the expected Marabout invasion of last May, when Maba was defeated, and returned to his own country, on the right bank of the river; then the Sumar appropriated the powder to his own use. On this dishonesty being discovered he fled to the large Marabout town of Goongour, and publicly became a Mahomedan. With the money he received from the sale of the powder he hired from the Cabbas of Goongour about 100 warriors, who attacked and took, with some slaughter, the small town of Mandewar from his own subjects. Here he stockaded himself, and proclaimed a religious war against the Soninkees, even before I became aware of the cause of this sudden outbreak.

On the 25th ultimo the Soninke Chiefs and Kings sent messengers to me begging for my prompt interference, as the Marabouts were advancing in great force, and that in a week Combo would be a desert. Anxious to avoid this calamity, so depressing to the trade and sad to humanity, I rode at once to the Cape, first stationing a guard of soldiers at the Oyster Creek, to turn back to the town mercenary warriors who on these occasions always join for plunder, and then I proceeded on to Yundum, the King of Combo's town, where I heard all the particulars of the outbreak; but the greatest consternation was apparent amongst the Soninkees, who were preparing to retire on British Combo, for, to use the King's words, he did not know "who was his friend or who his foe."

The insidious policy of the Marabouts invariably interlace the Soninke courts with spies and traitors. It appeared to me that diplomacy might possibly avert the war; I therefore dispatched Lieutenant Rogers, the Fort Adjutant then commanding the troops (Captain Hawley being absent

— No. 10. —

(Gambia.—No. 131.)

The Duke of Newcastle to Governor d'Arcy.

Downing-street,
5 December 1861.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No 54, of the 21st August last, forwarding a treaty which you had concluded with the King and Chiefs of Baddiboo, in the River Gambia, in which it is stipulated that the King shall receive an annual payment of 600 dollars from the local Government in lieu of all customs and charges on British and French traders.

As a preliminary step to the negotiation of this treaty, you consented to deliver up the hostages who were in your hands, and to be satisfied with the payment of one-fourth of the fine originally imposed on the King and his chiefs, amounting in value to 600 *l*, remitting the remainder of the fine, amounting to 1,800 *l*.

It appears, however, that at the date of your Despatch, and after the signing of the treaty, all the property received from the King and chiefs in payment of the fine, amounted to the value of 360 *l*, leaving a balance of 240 *l*, and that you intended "to withhold the customs" until that balance was paid; meaning, I suppose, that till then the King will not receive any portion of the 600 dollars stipulated by the treaty to be granted to him in lieu of customs.

I think it not improbable that the treaty which you have concluded may secure the good behaviour of the King and chiefs in the conduct of the trade with that country; but this advantage will be gained at an expense which must fall on the mercantile body.

The colonial expenses of the war against Baddiboo amounted to 2,379 *l* 7 *s*. 5 *d*., and the original fine imposed on the King and chief, equivalent to 2,400 *l*, would have paid for those expenses.

The sum to be ultimately realised is 600 *l*, leaving a balance of 1,800 *l* to be provided for; and you must therefore make every effort, by additional temporary taxation if necessary, to provide for that amount.

It is to be regretted that, after reducing the fine to one-fourth only, you did not take care that the whole of that portion of it was realised before the signing of the treaty, as by the terms of the treaty you are bound to pay the King the stipulated commutation, and the withholding it even for a time may be misconstrued by the King and his chiefs.

You will likewise have to make provision for the annual payment of the 600 dollars to the King, which may perhaps be effected by a duty upon the certificates with which, under the treaty, the merchants must provide themselves in order to benefit by it.

App. No. 3. at MacCarthy's) to Goongour, with a copy of the treaty marked (A) in the correspondence, directing him to point out to the Cabba what a responsibility he was incurring by breaking the treaty. The report of his mission I have the honour to enclose. To my mind everything was so satisfactory that I made a requisition on this officer to fire seven guns at the Cape to announce the peace, but unfortunately the Marabout warriors turned back during the night, I really believe only to take possession of their commissariat, consisting of heaps of "cuss cuss," or corn, which they had brought with them for their campaign, when the Soninkees, fearing treachery, fired upon them, and a battle at night ensued, in which eight were killed and 23 badly wounded. Immediately I requested the lieutenant to billet his men in the pension villages of British Combo,* a necessary demonstration of anger at the peace being so treacherously broken, and at the same time to be in a position to protect fugitives, who were then flocking into Bathurst with a large quantity of valuable produce for the Bathurst market. Much depressed with this failure, on the 1st instant I rode again to the front, and found the King of Combo exasperated at what he called the treachery of the Marabouts, alleging that peace would be a stranger to the land as long as that "hornets' nest, Goongour, existed," and begging that, as Colonel O'Connor had taken Sabajee, receiving as his reward British Combo, I would take Goongour and the country round it as indemnification for its destruction by the British. On my reminding him that this proposal was very contrary to his avowed desire for peace, and to my wishes and your Grace's orders, he replied, "Then I will send and offer Goongour to the French, who, no doubt, will take it." This threat did not allow me to cease in my endeavours to secure a peace.

On my return, a holy mission of Marabouts from Barcootee met me in the Yundum wood; they are the same men who were driven out of Sabajee seven years ago by Colonel O'Connor; and probably feeling sure that in the event of war, their town would suffer, and well knowing from experience the horrors of war, they made me understand somewhat feelingly that the Goongour people had given them hospitality and kindness after the burning of Sabajee in 1855; that they had great influence with the Cabba, whose daughter was the wife of their old chief, and that if I gave them my ring as a credential, they would that instant go to Goongour and beg for peace: and that if I only abstained from firing guns for seven days, all would yet be well. I improved the occasion, and made them and the King of Combo sign an armistice then in the bush, to which both parties, to their honour, strictly adhered.

During the armistice, as I was riding round the country, I observed the Mahomedan "boys" of the town of Barcootee, conveying young trees from the bamboo wood, evidently for the purpose of making a stockade; and a tenant chief of the Serrere tribe informed me, that in the event of the holy mission failing, the inhabitants were able to stockade their town (British) in a single night; at once, I made a requisition for 50 soldiers from Bathurst, to billet in this town.

Next morning, the 2d instant, Her Majesty's ship "Rattlesnake" arrived, bearing the broad

pennant of Commodore Eardley Wilmot, C.B.; this distinguished naval officer visited me in the bush, in company with his Excellency Major Blackall, Governor of Sierra Leone; comprehending the whole position of affairs at a glance, the Commodore steamed down to Goongour on the 6th instant, taking with him the "Dover" as a tender. I felt certain from my knowledge of the natives, that this demonstration would have the desired effect.

Hitherto the military occupation of Combo had been attended with no expense, but on the same day, Captain Harley, 3d West India Regiment, commanding the troops in the Gambia, arrived from MacCarthy's Island; he represented to me that in case the Commodore failed in his mediation, that the troops were too much extended, and it was his wish to concentrate on the Sabajee plain, under canvas; I endeavoured to point out to this young officer that an armed neutrality was all I was desirous of establishing, in order to prevent a panic amongst the settlers, and a consequent depression and interruption of the ground-nut trade; but I found him very firm in his determination to alter the position of the troops, so unnecessary in my opinion, and involving the expense of carriage, hitherto not entertained; but not wishing to have the least appearance even of a difference, I yielded. I could not, however, help expressing my regret that he did not take the advice of an old officer, to whom he had acted as adjutant for so many years in the West Indies, the more especially when a state of peace was daily expected to be officially received by the Commodore's arrival. As I expected, on the 8th inst., the Commodore returned with the treaty, signed by Cabba's head men, on board the "Rattlesnake;" this document I have the honour to enclose for your Grace's approval. To test the sincerity of the Marabouts, on the 9th inst. I sent my interpreter to Mandéwar, with orders to burn all the stockades, which was accordingly done. Some little delay was now occasioned by a supposition on the part of the Soninke King of Combo, that the British favoured the Marabouts more than the Soninkees; but on the 11th inst., the King signed the treaty, in my presence, in the camp at Sabajee, and the troops returned to their quarters in Bathurst that evening.

I trust your Grace will perceive that by prompt mediation of the Suzerain River power, the calamity of war has been averted, which would have been almost ruination to this year's trade and revenue, the whole of Combo being highly cultivated in consequence of the insecure state of life and property in the other countries bordering on the river. If my conduct meets with your Grace's approval, all the anxieties and fatigues I have undergone for the last month will be sufficiently rewarded.

I have, &c.

(signed) G. d'Arcy, Governor.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.

&c. &c. &c.

I have the honour to enclose a sketch of the country, drawn by the acting Royal Engineer, Lieutenant Conran, 3d West India Regiment. It was not found necessary to call out the militia or the pensioners on this occasion.

G. d'A.

* Newcastle, Hamilton Town, Barrow Town, Juswaut.

— No. 12. —

(Gambia.—No. 302.)

The Secretary of State to Governor *D'Arcy*.Downing-street,
21 March 1864.

Sir,

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 4, of the 22d ultimo, reporting in detail certain occurrences which had taken place in Upper and Lower Conbo, at the Gambia, which might have led to serious results, and probably to a civil war.

I am glad to learn, by your Despatch, that so great an evil was averted, and peace established, by your own exertions and the opportune arrival of Commodore Wilmot.

I have, &c.
(signed) *C. Fortescue*
(in the absence and by authority of
the Duke of Newcastle).

— No. 13. —

(Gambia.—No. 334.)

The Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.,
to Governor *D'Arcy*.Downing-street,
23 July 1864.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT to you a copy of a letter which has been received through the War Office from the officer commanding the troops at the Gambia, stating that at your request he was about to proceed with a military force to Albreda, with a view to the settlement of some disputes which had arisen about land between settlers and some native chiefs.

I have to request that you will lose no time in informing me why you omitted to report this proceeding.

You must be well aware that Her Majesty's Government are extremely averse to the employment of military force on the West Coast of Africa, except for the purpose of effecting objects which are absolutely indispensable, and cannot be effected by any other means; and you ought not merely to report as early and fully as possible, but ought to wait for instructions from home before engaging in any operations, whenever in the nature of the case it is possible to do so.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Cardwell*.

Governor *D'Arcy*,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 14. —

(No. 60.)

Governor *D'Arcy* to the Right Honourable
Edward Cardwell, M.P.Government House, Bathurst,
River Gambia,
22 August 1864.

Right Honourable Sir,

MOST respectfully replying to your Despatch, No. 334, of the 23d July 1864, I have to explain that I did not consider it necessary to trouble a

Secretary of State with a detail of the proposed expedition to Albreda. I will now, at your order, proceed *seriatim* to detail events as they took place; and you will not fail to observe that the success which followed the expedition to M'Carthy's rendered that of Albreda unnecessary.

The noble Duke, your predecessor, was pleased, in a Despatch, No. 306, March 23d, to sanction the settlement of Fitzgerald Town; this decision gave great offence to the merchants of the town, who at the time were deeply offended with my appointed ordinance, and also with my policy towards the starving refugees from the Salem country; to such a degree did they carry their resentment, that a European merchant of some influence moved the natives of Albreda to contest my right of bestowing the soil in grant over the one inland ceded mile on the right bank of the river. The Minutes of Council will fully explain my position with regard to the disputants; and the Board, *nemine contradicente*, agreed with me, that Masamba Kokey ought to be supported; during the time the troops were absent on the expedition to M'Carthy's, the chiefs were drawn up in hostile array with loaded arms on the debatable ground; the Marabouts feeling protected by some mercantile influence at Bathurst, and the Sonninkees in this case by the Government, for although Masamba Kokey is a Joliffee by birth, yet politically he is a Sonninkee. It became necessary to act promptly to save bloodshed, and the renewal of the civil war in the kingdom of Barra. Directly after the meeting of Council, I dispatched a small boat up the river to stop the "Dover" on her return voyage from M'Carthy's Island. Major Harley picked up my messenger off Albreda, but being short of coals was obliged to steam on to Bathurst. However he requested to be allowed to return with the troops to Albreda, after the departure of the mail on the 25th of July; this course I desired the Major should take, at the time deeming the occasion serious, feeling the necessity of supporting Masamba Kokey; previously, however, to the embarkation of the troops, I received a message from Masamba himself to the effect that the "palaver was shut."

It appears that the Marabouts were alarmed at the steps taken at M'Carthy's Island, and hearing of my determination to send the troops back to Albreda, they had yielded, and promised not to trouble the Governor any more, and they were guileless enough to confess that they would not listen again to bad advice! Consequent on this message, I countermanded the embarkation of the troops, and dispatched Dr. Sherwood as my agent, whom the natives much respect, to arrange the palaver; and his report I have the honour to enclose for your information.

I can assure you, Right Honourable Sir, that I am quite aware that the present is a time when the governors of the colonies on the West Coast of Africa are in disgrace with the public, owing to the unpopularity of the Ashantee war, yet I am sure you, Right Honourable Sir, will be as just as the Spartan mother was to her son, by allowing us to speak.

We are honoured by being appointed as Her Majesty's representatives over settlements occupying but a decimal part of this great continent, surrounded by a people who, since the days of the geographist Shobo, have been considered the most savage and ignorant of mankind, but open to regeneration by those who comparatively may

App. No. 3. be styled the "lords of human kind." Alas, it is far otherwise; the merchant comes to the coast only to enrich himself, without a feeling of philanthropy in his disposition towards the aborigines, or even a thought for the honour of the flag. On the other hand, the Governor considers such aspirations as compatible with his office, and steers without flinching a different course, opposed widely to avaricious gain; he is thwarted and misrepresented in England by the merchants, the peculiarity of their business making it a necessity to take the homeward trip for three months in every year. The Imperial Government, again, is not in a position to know what the people really feel, the officer administering the government of the colony being averse to sing his own praises by recording his earnest efforts in the cause of justice, truth, and humanity; they are, however, fully appreciated by the poor people. In the present instance, I feel that owing to the inhabitants of Albrede having been tampered with, it was the more necessary to demonstrate the strength of the Government; but the very moment the natives saw their error, and promised amendment, I took at once pacific steps to arrange so serious a misunderstanding, and their conduct on this occasion resembled that of rebellious children to an injured but forgiving parent.

The success attendant on the establishment of the settlement of Fitzgerald Town gives me confidence in the humane policy I have followed. Eight months have scarcely passed since I first landed there with 50 starved refugees, and now nearly 1,000 human beings are cultivating the rich fallow ground; and the newly erected buildings are more numerous than those of Berwick Town, established in 1835; and many are of opinion that it will form a granary to Bathurst in years to come.

With much submission, I hope to bend your attention to my peaceful administration, suggestive of a policy far from being warlike, my 20 years' military service in the East Indies having fearfully recorded in the tablets of memory the truth of Lord Lisle's celebrated motto, "*Bella, horrida bella.*"

In 1861, with a fine force, military and naval, of 2,000 combatants, burning to display their prowess, I signed a peace on the field, after the successful battle of Sabba,—directly the chiefs expressed contrition and gave hostages for future good behaviour.

In 1862 I did not fire a shot, but by a firm, though inexpensive demonstration, I prevented the calamity of the slaughter of 600 women and children, and the probable invasion of British territory.

In November 1862, I received from the Governor of the Senegal a most tempting offer to join in a military expedition against Moba; from my intimate knowledge of the country, I felt the stern expediency of this wise policy, and the more especially was this co-operation personally agreeable to me, as on the 1st of January of the following year the export tax on the produce was to commence, the measure I had framed and organised after much opposition in and out of doors, and on which the revenue almost in its totality depended; nevertheless, in obedience to His Grace's orders, I declined the proposal, and it is only now, after seeing all the distress and misery that this fanatic has caused that I minuted

so strongly in Council last month on receiving His Excellency's second proposal of co-operation; inasmuch, I did my conscientious duty, but obediently forwarded all the correspondence to you, Right Honourable Sir, taking no further action.

In 1863 I burned the stockades at Barra, and made a treaty of peace between the rival sects, literally amidst the smoke of battle.*

In February 1864, with great fatigue and exposure, I prevented the civil war from spreading into British Combe, and by Commodore Wilmot's aid I made a treaty of peace between the belligerents; and in July of this same year, I originated and proposed to the Council a policy at once bold and conciliatory with regard to the perilous position our strictly neutral policy had naturally caused the settlement at McCarthy's Island to be surrounded by earthworks and stockades, to the detriment of trade, and to the risk even of British life. This undertaking was crowned with success, and a treaty of peace signed, which has thrown 40 miles of country into beautiful cultivation; and when I reflect that none of these treaties have been broken, and that prosperity has returned to the settlement, owing to my pacific policy, the only reward I have ever received for all my exertions in the holy cause of peace, I am necessarily compelled, at the risk of being self-laudatory, to compose this hasty recapitulation of my services, and my apology for doing so may be accepted as not unreasonable; that you, Right Honourable Sir, cannot possibly be aware of all that has taken place of late years in the Senegambia, and of my devotion to His Grace's orders.

I have, &c.
(signed) G. D'Arcy,
Governor.

To the Right Honourable
Edward Cardwell,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 15. —

(Gambia.—No. 342.)

The Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.,
to Governor *D'Arcy*.

Downing-street,
21 September 1864.

Sir,
I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 60, of the 22d ultimo, and am glad to infer from some of the passages contained in it that you are sensible of the necessity of avoiding hostile conflicts as far as possible. You were mistaken, however, in supposing that it was unnecessary to acquaint me with the intended expedition to Albrede; and I must now repeat what I had previously enjoined upon you, namely, that in every case in which hostilities may be apprehended, it is your duty, not merely to report as fully and early as possible, but to wait for instructions from home, before engaging in any operations.

* *Vide* Despatch, No. 175, of 23d March 1863, to His Grace the Duke of Newcastle.

operations, whenever in the nature of the case it is practicable to do so.

I have, &c.
(signed) Edward Cardwell.

Governor D'Arcy,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 16. —

(No. 74.)

Governor D'Arcy to the Right Honourable
Edward Cardwell, M.P.

Government House, Bathurst, Gambia,
21 November 1864.

Right Honourable Sir,

ON the 23d of October, I was very grieved to hear that the Marabouts, from Goongour, had burned down a greater part of the Soninke town of Bussumballa; the Soninkees, relying on Commodore Wilmot's Treaty, were so little thinking of war that the gate of their stockade was left open; the Sumar of the town, the oldest man in Combo, was shot down by the invading Marabouts, who, shouting the name of "Fodey Cappa," commanded some success by this stratagem, but eventually, when the Soninkees had armed themselves, they defeated the Marabouts, who were nearly all killed by the Soninkees; the slain were recognised as belonging to Goongour, but one was recognised as a Joliffe Marabout, a resident of Albert Town (British), an important circumstance to bear in mind in all this trouble.

After the departure of the mail, on the evening of the 26th ult., I rode to Bussumballa, 15 miles from Bathurst, but only two miles distant from British territory, to ascertain personally the facts of the case, taking with me a small fatigue party of liberated Africans, to bury what the jackals had left of the dead warriors, according to my usual custom, endeavouring gradually to establish humanising influences in this dark continent; this pious work completed, I held a palaver over the graves of the slain.

The following day I was alarmed to hear that the warriors of the Soninke town of Yundum, the "King's Boys," as they are called, had surrounded Albert Town (British), just within our frontier, determining to burn it, alleging that the Alcade, one Demba Chow, a Marabout, by his intrigues, had caused the raid; hastily throwing 15 men of the Combo Militia into the town, with a small British flag, I galloped off to the Soninke King of Combo, resident at Yundum, accompanied by the colonial interpreter, who, by my dictation, in a few stern words told the King that if he did not remove his warriors away directly from Albert Town, he would bring upon himself my severe anger; in excuse, he declared that the warriors had gone without his knowledge, and immediately recalled them, on which I withdrew my men, but took with me into Bathurst the Alcade, Demba Chow, or I think he would have been assassinated; whether he was the mover of this disturbance or not it is impossible to say; on my return from Goongour I hope to be able to allow him to return.

I have to report, that at the palavers held at Bussumballa and Yundum, the Soninkees re-

spectfully but firmly referred me to Commodore Wilmot's Treaty, made last February, urging upon me to march on Goongour in their company, as a punishment for breaking the treaty of peace.

I have the honour to enclose the Minutes of the Executive Council I assembled a few hours previous to leaving Bathurst, and I earnestly request that you, Right Honourable, Sir, will be pleased in your supremacy to favour me with a solution of the point raised relative to the accidental or advised omission of the Sovereign's approval of the Treaty; in the absence of any nullification I considered the treaty intact; certainly the Soninkees do, or they would not have reminded me so clamorously of its infraction.

I am only now waiting the arrival of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Pandora," Captain Ruxton, in order to prosecute my visit to this refractory town of Goongour.

The weather during these events was unusually hot, the atmosphere being very clear after the late rain; indeed, the sun's rays were so powerful that the thermometer stood at 140° in the sun; a ride of 80 miles in two days in such a climate was too much, and a *coup de soleil* incapacitated myself and interpreter from all business for some days, so much so that I was obliged to go on board the "Dover," at present laying down the chequered buoy, with the double object of recruiting my health and boarding the "Pandora" at sea, but the arrival of the Commissioner in Her Majesty's steam-ship "Gladiator," compelled me to return to Bathurst.

I have every reason to believe that I will be able satisfactorily to arrange this unfortunate business without the outlay of expenditure.

I have, &c.
(signed) G. D'Arcy,
Governor.

Right Honourable E. Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 17. —

(Gambia.—No. 378.)

The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
to Governor D'Arcy.

Downing-street,
21 January 1865.

Sir,
I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 74, of the 21st November last, reporting the steps which you had taken in consequence of your having received information that the Marabouts from Goongour, a town in Lower Combo, had burnt down a portion of the town of Bussumballa, inhabited by Soninkees. I appreciate your desire to prevent rival tribes in the vicinity of the Gambia from engaging in open hostilities against each other; but I am compelled to remark that on the present occasion the circumstances do not appear to have called for any active interference on your part.

You were quite right in sending Seymour Gay, the Superintendent of Police, and a person in whom you placed confidence, to endeavour to find out the causes which led to the occurrence which had been brought to your notice, but it

App. No. 8. is from the statements made in his report that I have come to the conclusion that it was not a case for interference.

The person mainly concerned in the attack on Bussumballa appears to have been one Allse Owd, whose body was discovered, and although he seems to have been a sojourner in Goongour, he is also described as a "stranger" there, and formerly a resident at Bathurst. His widow, whom Seymour Gay visited, and who admitted herself to be a British subject, stated that he went to war without saying anything to her about it, or giving any notice, and that he deserved his fate. It would further appear that the four men who fell with him were Joliffees and Toncolors, and therefore, it may be presumed, not belonging to Goongour.

I am further of opinion that the treaty made by Commodore Wilnot in February 1864, does not impose such extensive obligations as you represented to the Council.

But I shall withhold any formal sanction of the treaty, because however expedient and judicious it may have been under the circumstances of the case, and bearing my interpretation of it, it would be highly injurious if it were taken to compel us to intervene in such cases as the present, and to take up the quarrels of the two sects of Mahomedans and Pagans.

I have likewise to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 82, of the 24th December, reporting your visit to Goonjour, and shall confine myself at present to expressing my approval of your intention to assemble the rival chiefs at Bathurst at the time when you expect Colonel Ord to return there, in the hope of bringing them to amicable terms.

I have, &c.
(signed) Edward Cardwell.

Governor D'Arcy,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 18. —

Governor D'Arcy to the Right Honourable
Edward Cardwell, M.P.

Government House, Bathurst, Gambia,
21 January 1865.

Right Honourable Sir,

IN consequence of a severe attack of ague, which incapacitated me from meeting the native chiefs, including the King of Combo and the deputation from the Cabba, or high priest of Goonjour, who had assembled in Bathurst by appointment, I deputed Chief Justice Mantell to preside in my absence.

2. His Honor reports to me that after a discussion and investigation which occupied four hours, no proof was adduced by the King of Combo implicating the Chief of Goonjour in the late barbarous incendiary attack in the night time upon the king's town of Bussumballa, which cruel and dastardly act was emphatically repudiated by the Chief of Goonjour.

3. It was pointed out to the chiefs present that the existing treaty bound all the contracting parties to submit each supposed *casus belli* to the Governor of the Gambia, whose decision thereon must be guided by satisfactory proofs, and that the parties had bound themselves not to com-

mence hostilities in the absence of the Governor's decision.

4. That upon request the Governor would probably resume the hearing of the present charge on a future day, and, in the meantime, any hostile act upon either side would violate the treaty and constitute the aggressor an enemy of the British Government.

5. Both parties expressed warmly a desire for peace, but upon a proposition that terms should be reduced to writing, and signed by them, the Goonjour people only consented, the king declaring he would not allow the outrage upon Bussumballa to pass unavenged. The chief justice, however, formed an impression that the king will hesitate ere he commits any overt act of hostility.

6. An impression has gone abroad that it is the policy of this Colonial Government to favour the fetish negro Pagan; this is an error arising, in a great measure, I fancy, from the reports taken home by passengers who cannot possibly, from their short stay, sufficiently master the subject. The Soninkees and Marabouts are equally Mahomedans: all are circumcised, and all believe in the Mahomedan religion, and all abhor fetish, or devil worship; the breast of a Soninkee is covered with gree-grees, or charms, pieces of leather in which verses from the Koran are inscribed, in like manner to the Marabout; it is difficult to know how they have been divided into different sects. I fancy accident has more to say to it than design, and in the public profession of the faith on arriving at the years of puberty a judicial ceremony is recognised. I hold in my hand a letter just received from a Mandingo resident of this town, who says:—

"Allow me, Governor, to hold a tom-tem tonight (native music), in order to perform a rite on my son, which has come down in tradition from our common father, Abraham."

Two hundred years ago, the whole country was inhabited by Mandingoes and Jolloffs, of no established religion, as the Fodeys or red caps; Mahomedan priests wandered down the coast, they preached the unity of the Deity and the inspiration of the Prophet, making proselytes in great numbers; they were feared by the simple minded Pagan oligarchy, who passed a law never to allow a writing man (a Marabout) the throne, fearful lest he would forget the common good, and work out his power to his own advantage; yet this government of headmen allowed all the rising generation to be taught to read and write the Arabic characters; a generation is passed, and all are Mahomedans; but there is a public ceremony to be performed.

"Do you renounce all drink, the conduct and policy of your ancestors?"

Will you become a clergyman, in fact?

7. It is not religion which has caused the civil war, but policy; the Marabouts want the government of the country, knowing full well that the universality of religion will surely follow the temporal power. It is to the cause of order that the Colonial Government leans; under the Marabout rule all is left to chance, every man for himself; consequently it is now found difficult to deal in reason with the natives.

8. A trader is robbed! to whom has the Governor to apply for redress? formerly there was a king, with a constitutional power of life and

and death, and rather than lose his customs, it was to his interests to see the traders indemnified.

I have, &c.

(signed) G. D'Arcy,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 19. —

The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
to Governor D'Arcy.

Downing-street,
23 February 1865.

Sir,
I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 86, of the 21st ultimo, reporting

the assembly at Bathurst of the Native Chiefs of Combo, and of a deputation from the Cabba or high priest of Goonjour, with a view to establish peace in Lower Combo.

Whatever may be the result of this conference, I must again impress upon you the necessity of avoiding hostile conflicts, as far as possible, and of being guided by the instructions conveyed to you in my Despatch, No. 342, of the 21st September last.

I have, &c.

(signed) Edward Cardwell.

Governor D'Arcy,
&c. &c. &c.

CORRESPONDENCE ON GOLD COAST TREATIES.

— No. 1. —

Mr. Hay, Under Secretary of State of the Colonial Department, to Messrs. Barnes, Brown, and Forster, African Merchants.

On the Mode of Governing the Forts of the Gold Coast by a Committee of Merchants.

Downing-street,
30 October 1828.

Gentlemen,

I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Murray to acquaint you that he has had under his most attentive consideration the several papers and communications which have been successively received from you, as well as from the Gold Coast, upon the subject of the measures which it may be proper to adopt for the security of British trade, and for the protection of British residents in that quarter, in consequence of the determination to which His Majesty's Government have come of withdrawing the public establishments and garrisons from the forts of Cape Coast Castle and Accra; and I am further to acquaint you that Sir George Murray is disposed to recommend that these forts be delivered over to the merchants residing there, and held by them under the following conditions, viz. :—

1. That the forts of Cape Coast Castle and Accra shall continue to be dependencies of the Government of Sierra Leone.

2. That British law shall consequently continue to be in force in the said dependencies.

3. That the affairs of the forts shall be chiefly regulated by you as a committee, or by a committee of those merchants of London who shall be chosen by His Majesty's Government as often as occasion may require.

4. That five of the resident merchants, whose names may be approved by the Secretary of State, upon the recommendation of the committee of London merchants, be empowered to form themselves into a Council of Government according to such rules and regulations as you or the committee of merchants for the time being shall prescribe to the Council, for the purpose of

regulating the external and local affairs of the forts; and moreover that they shall be appointed justices of the peace, and empowered to form among themselves a court for the trial of all offences, not amounting to felonies and misdemeanors; and that the said justices be also authorised to exercise all such powers as may be legally conferred upon them, with a view to the preservation of the peace of the dependencies and to the protection thereof against assault or rebellion, and for the repression of the slave trade within the limits or influence of the forts; it being understood that all crimes and misdemeanors committed within the limits of these forts shall be cognizable and punished by the Courts of Sierra Leone.

5. That in order to enable the merchants residing at Cape Coast Castle and Accra to provide the means of regulating the affairs of the forts, and to maintain the buildings in repair, and to provide a sufficient garrison for their defence, an annual sum, not exceeding 4,000 £, shall be placed at the disposal of you, or of the committee of London merchants for the time being, on behalf of the merchants of Cape Coast Castle and Accra, from the 1st of July of the present year, it being understood that the merchants residing in the forts, or under the protection of the forts, shall be bound to keep them in repair, and carefully to preserve the guns and stores which have latterly been made over to them.

6. That the ports or harbours of Cape Coast Castle and Accra shall be open to all vessels without payment of any duty whatever.

7. That the money which may be voted by Parliament in conformity with the recommendation of His Majesty's Government for the maintenance of the forts shall be appropriated under your direction, or that of the committee of London merchants for the time being, and duly accounted for at the expiration of every year to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, subject to the revision of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, and that such account be accompanied by a detailed return of the origin, quantity, and value of all

App. No. 3. goods, distinguishing British from foreign, which may be imported into the forts of Cape Coast Castle and Accra, in the course of the year, and of the quantity and value of African produce which may be exported therefrom in British or foreign vessels separately.

8. That the amount of the grant on account of the forts, for which application may from time to time be made to Parliament, shall in future be fixed by His Majesty's Government, after examining the reports from the coast respecting the state and value of the trade.

9. That although the transfer of the forts is to be considered as completely exempting His Majesty's Government from any further charge on account of them, it is to be expressly understood that it will be incumbent on yourselves and any future committee that may be chosen to lay before His Majesty's Government copies of such rules as it may be intended to lay down for the regulation of the establishments at Cape Coast Castle and Accra, and for ensuring the appointment of fit and proper persons at those places; and that no rules, regulations, or appointments made by you or any future committee for such purposes, shall be considered valid until they have received the formal sanction of His Majesty's Government.

Upon your signifying in writing your acceptance of these conditions, laid down in the articles before mentioned, Sir George Murray will be prepared to take the necessary measures for giving full effect to this agreement.

I am, &c.
(signed) R. W. Hay.

Geo. Barnes, Robt. Brown, and
M. Forster, Esqrs.

— No. 2. —

EXTRACT of REPLY to the above date,
11 November 1828.

"HAVING laid your said letter before a meeting of the merchants of London interested in the trade with the Gold Coast, we are authorised by them to say, that they not only willingly acquiesce in the terms on which it is proposed that the forts at Cape Coast and Accra are to be retained, but feel grateful to His Majesty's Government for an arrangement which, they hope, will place the persons of the British residents at Cape Coast Castle and Accra in safety, and afford security and encouragement to the trade with these forts. And we are confident we are only anticipating the wishes of the merchants resident on the Gold Coast, in stating that their sentiments are in unison with those of the merchants of London; and in accepting on their behalf, the conditions proposed."

[Note, March 1865. — *Some regulations of detail for the government of the forts on the Gold Coast were afterwards framed, on the above basis, by the African Merchants, with the approval of the Secretary of State.*]

— No. 3. —

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor Lumley to Mr. Huskisson; dated Cape Coast Castle, 15 January 1828.

"In my Despatch, No. 26, under date of the 3d of November 1827, which I had the honour of addressing to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Goderich, I informed his Lordship that I was then endeavouring to assemble the allied chiefs for the purpose of concluding a peace with the Ashantee Nation, agreeably to the instructions communicated from time to time by the Right Honourable Earl Bathurst to the late Major General Sir Neil Campbell.

I have the honour of now informing you that I succeeded in collecting upon the 10th ultimo all the chiefs claiming an alliance with us, and that they acceded, in a public conference held upon that day, to the terms upon which I proposed granting peace to the Ashantees. From the enclosed copy* of these terms, which I have the honour to forward for your information, you will perceive that a sum of money to be lodged in this Castle by the King of Ashantee, as a pledge of his good faith and security for his future conduct, is the basis upon which it is proposed to rest the future peace and tranquillity of our settlements on the Gold Coast. Being well assured that by no other means could the turbulent ambition of the Ashantees be permanently and effectually restrained, I trust that the principle and tenor of the proposed treaty will meet with your approval."

The Governor in Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Possessions on the Western Coast of Africa, on the part of His Majesty the King of England, &c. &c. &c.

To the King of Ashantee, sends greeting:

THIS letter will be delivered to you by a special messenger of mine, who will also deliver the terms upon which peace will be granted to you.

You must see the necessity of complying, with as little delay as possible, with the terms offered to you, which are both safe and honourable.

When my sovereign, the King of England, makes peace with a nation, former offences are forgotten, and you will find that the King of England is as kind and just to his friends as he is (under the protection of God) terrible to his enemies. As a proof of his present goodwill towards you, I have ordered all prisoners of your people to be set at liberty, with leave to return to their country and friends. Of this your messengers will inform you.

I hear that there is a white as well as a coloured man, from Cape Coast, now at Coomassie. I hope you will allow them to come to Cape Coast with my messengers when they return, which they must positively do before the 20th of January next.

I have also to make another request. When your people make custom they kill persons who have done no crime; now, if you would abolish this

* Enclosure, No. 1.

this cruel practice, your name would become greater than if you gained 20 battles, and you would get much favour in the eyes of the king, my master. If you cannot do this at once, because it would offend your people, then let it be done by degrees, and after some time your people will be pleased and rejoice.

I again request that you will speedily send back the messengers; and I bid you farewell.

(signed) *H. Lumley,*

Lieut. Colonel and Lieut. Governor
H. B. M. Possessions, W. C. of Africa.

Cape Coast Castle,
10 December 1827.

— No. 4. —

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Major *Ricketts* to
Mr. *Hay*, dated 23 August 1828.

"I REGRET exceedingly to mention, that the negotiation which had happily commenced with the Ashantees for peace is likely to be broken off."

[Note, March 1865.—Mr. *Nicholls*, Secretary to the African Committee, gave evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1842, which shows that the terms offered in 1827 were not adopted, and that no treaty of peace was accomplished until the one executed on the 27th of April 1831.]

— No. 5. —

EXTRACT of LETTER from Messrs. *Barnes, Brown & Forster*, to Mr. *Hay*, Under Secretary in the Colonial Department; dated 25 July 1831, on the Ashantee Treaty of 27 April 1831.

"YOU have already been informed by Mr. *Forster*, one of our Members, that the President and Council at Cape Coast Castle, had at length succeeded in re-establishing the peace of the Gold Coast; and we have now the pleasure of transmitting to you, for the information of Viscount *Goderich*, a copy of the treaty and agreement entered into with the King of Ashantee by the British local authorities, and the neighbouring chiefs, which we hope will meet his Lordship's approbation.

"You will perceive that, by this treaty, the trade with the Ashantees is placed upon a more favourable footing than it has been at any former period, as they have a free communication secured to them with the sea, without interruption by the intermediate tribes, who have hitherto required that the trade from the interior should pass through their hands. The establishment of this free intercourse was for above half a century the great object both of the Kings of Ashantee and of the late African Committee; but they were always foiled in it by the neighbouring chiefs.

039.

"You will also observe that a clause has been introduced to put an end to the barbarous system of *panyarring*, by which the whole country has, from time immemorial, been kept in a state of constant petty warfare. We need not dwell upon the great importance of this article to the interests both of trade and humanity. We hope that the local Government will be enabled to preserve the influence necessary to give effect to it."

— No. 6. —

MEMORANDUM explanatory of "PANYARRING."

"PANYARRING," or "kidnapping individuals" in order to obtain restitution of goods or money that has been unjustly withheld, is common amongst the Fantees on the Gold Coast.

If a resident of Anamaboo is indebted to a native of Cape Coast Town, and will not discharge the demand, or withholds property improperly, the first native of that place who may fall into the hands of the creditor is detained by him until the claim is settled, or the property restored, which is often promptly acceded to, for the family of the man detained immediately compels the debtor to release their relation by discharging the debt. This is attended with considerable expense, and it frequently happened, during the existence of the Slave Trade conducted by the British, that a man so "panyarred" was sold and carried off the coast before it could be discovered what captain had made the purchase. In a case of this kind it brought on a protracted and expensive palaver, and very frequently terminated in the sale of an entire family.

— No. 7. —

Lord *Stanley* to Lieutenant Governor *Hill*.

"Assessors' Jurisdiction."

Downing-street,
22 November 1844.

Sir,

I HAVE had under my consideration the correspondence noted in the accompanying Schedule, and of which papers copies are herewith enclosed, and I have to acquaint you that upon the Report of the Law Officers of the Crown, Her Majesty has been pleased to pass an Order in Council, herewith enclosed,* under the Acts 6 & 7 Vict. caps. 13 and 94, appointing Her Majesty's Settlement of Cape Coast Castle a place to which persons coming within the operation of the last-mentioned of those Acts may be sent for trial or punishment.

The Order, you will perceive, provides for two distinct classes of cases. The one, that of persons whom it may be deemed expedient to send from the neighbouring countries to be tried within Her Majesty's Settlement; the other, that of persons who may have been tried in the neighbouring countries, but whom it is considered advisable to send into Her Majesty's Settlement for the purpose of undergoing their sentences.

As

* 3d September 1844, in original.

App. No. 3.

As regards the first class of cases, you will of course bear in mind, that in any trial which takes place, the provisions of the 6 & 7 Viet. c. 94, applicable to that event must be strictly observed; and also, that as the jurisdiction for the trial of offenders sent under the provisions of the Act is given to the Supreme Court of the colony only to which they are sent, that in the present state of the judicial institutions on the Gold Coast, such offenders would require to be forwarded thence to Sierra Leone for trial.

For practical purposes, therefore, as yet at all events, this power is not likely to be of any general utility. The powers, however, given under the second head will, I apprehend, greatly facilitate the working of the system which has grown up in our relations with the tribes surrounding the forts under your Government.

It being necessary to provide for the appointment of persons to be specially empowered to exercise the powers conferred by the different sections of the 6 & 7 Viet. c. 94, I send you additional instructions,* under the sign manual, giving you the requisite authority, both to act yourself, and to nominate others for the same purpose, and I have, as you will perceive, taken the opportunity of providing for Mr. McClean's absence or inability, to discharge the duties of assessor to the sovereigns and chiefs of the neighbouring tribes, by making a fresh appointment to the office, including yourself and others with him, as such assessors, having power to act either jointly or severally.

Should Mr. Clouston, the gentleman whom you have appointed as reported in your Despatch, No. 27, of June 16th last, to officiate for Mr. McClean, not be already in the commission of the peace, or his name not stand first or second upon it, it will of course be necessary that a new commission should be issued.

I presume that the magistrates and gaoler of the gaol at Cape Coast Castle, are already the persons to whom it appertains to carry into effect there, any sentences which may have been passed by the Supreme Court at Sierra Leone.

Should that, however, not be the case, appointments to that effect ought forthwith to be made, and I have instructed the Governor of Sierra Leone accordingly, it being necessary, under the 5th section of the 6 & 7 Viet. c. 94, that the persons to give effect within any colony to sentences passed out of it, should be "magistrates, gaolers, or other officers to whom it may appertain, to give effect to any sentence passed by the Supreme Court, exercising criminal jurisdiction within such colony."

The Royal Instructions, you will perceive, also provide for the appointment of persons having authority to exercise the powers given by the 6th section of the 6 & 7 Viet. c. 94, relative to the transportation of convicts, but you will clearly understand that although it has been considered expedient to provide by the instrument, the machinery necessary for bringing into operation all the powers conferred by the Act, yet that you

are not to consider yourself at liberty, in any case, to exercise or permit the exercise of that relative to transportation, without special instructions from the Secretary of State.

Although, likewise, the instructions, as before observed, provide for the exercise of the office of assessor by several persons jointly, as well as by one person, you will not on that account make any alteration in the practice which has hitherto prevailed of leaving the duties to be executed by one person.

You will bear in mind that the power of the assessor, in his judicial capacity, is not derived from either the Acts of Parliament above referred to, or from the Order in Council; and further, that it cannot be exercised by him as such within Her Majesty's dominions. It must be founded on the assent and concurrence of the Sovereign power of the State within which it is exercised, either express, as in the case of the treaty transmitted by you in your private and confidential Despatch of the 6th of March last, or implied from long usage, as in the case of the long and general acquiescence, which can be shown in many districts, in the authority hitherto exercised by Mr. McClean.

You will understand that the system upon which Mr. McClean has proceeded in the exercise of judicial powers over the natives, is to be taken as the guide for the exercise of the powers of assessor for the future.

It consists, in fact, in combining with an impartial investigation of the cases brought before him, a mitigation of the severity of the sentences which in such cases would be awarded by native judges in the event of conviction. I need not therefore instruct you to caution the assessor of the necessity for a lenient exercise of the discretion entrusted to him; but in the event of his deeming capital punishment in any case inevitable, you will instruct him that the execution must be carried into effect by the native authorities, and take place in the country in which the offender is tried.

Having thus, as far as possible, brought the very peculiar case of the jurisdiction exercised among the tribes in the neighbourhood of the forts on the Gold Coast within the operation of the Acts of Parliament referred to in the commencement of this Despatch, it only remains for me further to observe, that I am not to be understood as affirming that the exercise of that jurisdiction is not capable of being justified and maintained independently of any such express sanction of the Legislature.

It is a jurisdiction which had its origin in a desire to mitigate, by the influence of Christianity and civilisation, the effect of cruel and barbarous customs: it has been brought into operation upon a state of society, and under relations to savage tribes, necessitating a neglect of all technical rules and observances. In its effects it has undeniably been the means of insuring justice, preventing cruelty, and promoting civilisation: and I must guard myself against being supposed, because I endeavour to give it the aid of the forms I have adverted to, to assume that the general principles

* Additional instructions, 20th November.

principles of the law of England are not comprehensive enough to allow for the necessities which such a state of circumstances as exists on the Gold Coast unavoidably creates, and to justify those measures by which such necessities, when created, can alone be adequately provided for.

I have, &c.
(signed) Stanley.

Lieut. Governor Hill,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 8. —

Governor Hill to Earl Grey.

Poll-Tax Ordinance.

Cape Coast Castle,
23 April 1852.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the chiefs and head men of the towns and districts in these settlements enjoying British protection have voluntarily agreed to pay a poll tax of one shilling per head for each man, woman, and child, which, computing the population at 400,000 persons, will give a revenue of 20,000 *l.* per annum, to enable the local Government to carry out your Lordship's views respecting the wants of the people of the Gold Coast.

2. The natives having agreed to the payment of this small tax, I was puzzled as to the manner in which I would frame any law, making it binding on the chiefs and people to fulfil their promise, as possessing no territorial jurisdiction, and the natives not being British subjects, it was out of my power to frame any ordinance affecting them. Under these circumstances, and with a view to future legislation, I considered it advisable to form the native chiefs into a Legislative Assembly, placing myself at their head, and I now beg leave to submit herewith the resolutions agreed to, signed by the chiefs, and guaranteed by myself, subject to the approval of Her Majesty the Queen, hoping that the same may meet with your Lordship's approbation.

3. I must crave your Lordship's indulgence respecting the imperfections that may appear in the resolutions submitted, as since Mr. Cruikshank's departure for England, and in the absence of the Judicial Assessor, or other person competent to afford me advice on such a subject, I was obliged to act according to my own imperfect judgment, in this to me novel case.

I have, &c.
(signed) Stephen J. Hill, Governor.
The Right Hon. the Earl Grey,
Downing-street, London.

— No. 9. —

Governor Hill to Sir John Pakington.

Cape Coast Castle,
20 October 1852.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that a people called "Wassaw Ahmanfie," have placed themselves under the protection of the British Government, signed the law agreeing to the poll tax, and are prepared to pay this levy for the current year.

G.39.

As this nation, which I have great reason to believe, numbers some 20,000 inhabitants, possesses a large tract of country, lying on the western flank of the Ashantee monarchy, I was most anxious to secure their allegiance, being satisfied that the stronger we are on the frontier the greater probability of a lasting peace with our warlike and restless neighbour.

2. You will perceive by the chief's letter,* copy of which I enclose herewith, that messages had been sent to himself and people on former occasions without success, but from the good management and respectable character of the Fantee chief employed on my mission, the king and his subjects cheerfully placed themselves under British protection, swearing to obey our laws, engaging to send all major offences for trial before the Judicial Court of these settlements, and rendering themselves liable to punishment for any act of cruelty or oppression.

3. From the length of the journey and the bad state of the roads between this and "Wassaw Ahmanfie," the progress of the messenger's journey was necessarily of a longer period than I calculated upon, and therefore the expenses consequent thereon were increased to a considerable sum, 64 *l.* 16 *s.*, which with the usual presents, 24 *l.* 8 *s.* 6 *d.*, made a total of 89 *l.* 4 *s.* 6 *d.*, which expenditure I hope will meet with your approval, being an inconsiderable amount as compared with the advantages gained.

4. I am happy to add that, throughout the whole of the settlements, the collection of the poll tax proceeds in a most satisfactory manner, and the collectors in all parts of the Government report most favourably of the cheerful disposition evinced by the masses of the people in the payment of this voluntary revenue.

I have, &c.
(signed) Stephen J. Hill,
The Right Honourable Governor.
Sir John Pakington, Bart.,
&c. &c. &c.

Quacoe Mensah to Governor Hill.

Sir, Ahdansie, 10 August 1852.

I AM very happy to have the honour of stating to your Excellency these few lines respecting the kindness shown by you to the Wassaw Ahmanfie people, who were formerly unknown to the water side.

Since the death of Sir Charles McCarthy many messengers have been sent up here, but now you send such a respectable, humble, honest, intelligent man as this Quamin Mainyah, a Cabboeger belonging to Cape Coast, we can do nothing else than to respect him, and comply with your mission by him.

I therefore beg to return you my sincere thanks for the favours bestowed on these poor people. Myself and captains are quite satisfied, and will do not only that, but will close with any proposal your Excellency will be pleased to show us in future.

We

* Dated 10 August 1852.

App. No. 3.

We have the honour to add, that all your kind presents safely came to hand, and now we are ready (at any time) to pay the tax.

I am in want of one soldier for the protection of the place, and one good scholar, and shall thank your Excellency to try and send them to me by the first opportunity, as my people are the most unruly and ungovernable in the world

I have, &c.

(signed) Quaoe + Mensah,
his
mark.

His Excellency Major Hill,
Governor in Chief,
Cape Coast Castle.

— No. 10. —

Sir John Pakington to Governor Hill.

Downing-street,
22 December 1852.

Sir,

I HAVE received your Despatches, Nos. 41, 42, and 53, of the 2d and 20th August, reporting the progress which you have made in carrying into effect the measures submitted in your previous Despatches for constituting a Legislative Assembly of Native Chiefs, and for the imposition of a tax upon the natives.

I have referred your proposals, so far as they involve public expenditure, to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, for sanction, and cannot as yet report the result of their examination of them. But I wish not to incur the delay of waiting for their answer before expressing to you my approval of the zeal and ability with which you have brought about these important changes in our relations with the natives.

I have, &c.

(signed) J. S. Pakington.
Governor Hill.

— No. 11. —

The Duke of Newcastle to Governor Hill.

Downing-street,
18 March 1853.

Sir,

WITH reference to my predecessor's Despatch, No. 29, of the 22d December last, relative to the progress made in the measures which you had adopted for constituting a Legislative Assembly of Native Chiefs on the Gold Coast, and for the

imposition of a tax upon the natives, I have now to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have had under their consideration your Despatches noted in the margin,* and that they are prepared to sanction the several items of expenditure which you have submitted as necessary for carrying those measures into effect, including the additional salaries which you propose to assign to certain officers of your Government.

You must, however, most clearly understand that all those payments are to be made contingent on the actual collection of such an amount of tax as, after providing for them, will leave a large proportion to be applied for the general amelioration and advancement of the native population.

I am glad also to sanction an increase of 150 l. a year to your own salary, in order that you may be in the receipt of the same amount of salary and table allowance as the Governor at the Gambia.

The success of the scheme which has been set on foot for the civilisation of the native tribes adjoining the British forts must for some time remain matter of doubt; and I shall watch the result of the experiment very anxiously. And in furtherance of the same necessary vigilance, I must impress upon you the duty of checking the expenditure arising from it, should you see any reason to anticipate any failure in the collection of the tax, or to think that the great objects contemplated from it are not likely to be realised.

In your Despatch of the 20th October you report that a people called "Wassaw Ahmanfie," numbering about 20,000, had placed themselves under British protection, and agreed to pay the poll tax; I see no objection to your having acceded to their wishes, but I must repeat the caution which I have lately given to you upon two occasions, not only against the acquisition of any additional territory on behalf of the Crown, but also against any other acts which might involve this country in disputes with the native races. You must, therefore, abstain from creating any supposition that these people, by paying poll tax, place themselves on the footing of British subjects inhabiting the dominions of the Crown.

I have, &c.

(signed) Newcastle.

Governor Hill,
&c. &c.

* No. 18, 23 April 1852; Confidential, 23 April 1852; No. 19, 24 April 1852; No. 21, 26 April 1852; No. 32, 29 May 1852; No. 42, 2 August 1852; No. 53, 20 October 1852.

LAGOS.

13 March 1862.

COMMISSION passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, appointing *Henry Stanhope Freeman*, Esquire, to be Governor and Commander in Chief of the Settlement of Lagos and its Dependencies, on the Western Coast of Africa.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, to Our trusty and well-beloved *Henry Stanhope Freeman*, Esquire, greeting.

Whereas by certain letters patent under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster, on the 24th day of January 1850, in the 13th year of Our reign, provision was made for the government of Our subjects within Our forts and settlements on the Gold Coast, lying between the 10th degree of west longitude and the 10th degree of east longitude:

And whereas by Our Commission under the said Great Seal bearing date the 5th day of March 1860, in the 23d year of Our reign, We did constitute and appoint Our trusty and well-beloved *Edward Bullock Andrews*, Esq., to be Our Governor and Commander in Chief during Our will and pleasure in and over Our said forts and settlements:

And whereas by a treaty bearing date the 6th day of August 1861, the port and island of Lagos, with all the territories and appurtenances thereof, and the full dominion and sovereignty of the same (being upon the coast and within the degrees of longitude aforesaid), were by *Docemo*, King of Lagos, on the part of himself and his chiefs, absolutely given and transferred to Us, Our heirs and successors:

And whereas it is expedient that provision should be made for the government of the said port and island, apart and separate from the government of Our other forts and settlements aforesaid:

Now know you and We do by this Our Commission declare Our pleasure to be that Our said port and island of Lagos, together with all territories which do now or may hereafter belong to Us on the Coast of Africa between the 1st and 10th parallel of east longitude and to the south of the 10th parallel of north latitude, shall constitute a separate government under the title of the Settlement of Lagos. And We do further declare Our pleasure to be that the said letters patent of the 24th day of January 1850, and the said Commission of the 5th day of March 1860, shall be and they are hereby revoked, so far as they regard the said last-mentioned settlement or any part thereof.

And further know you, that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the prudence, courage, and loyalty of you, the said *Henry Stanhope Freeman*, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, have thought fit to constitute and appoint, and by these presents do constitute and appoint you, for and during Our will and pleasure, to be Our Governor and Commander in Chief in and over Our said Settlement of Lagos, and of all forts and garrisons established or which shall be established within the same. And We do hereby require and command you to do and execute all things that shall belong to your said command, and the trust We have reposed in you, according to the several powers and directions granted to or appointed you by this Commission, and by the instructions under our sign-manual and signet accompanying the same, or according to such further powers, instructions, and authorities as shall from time to time be granted or appointed for you by Us under Our sign-manual and signet, or by Our Order in Our Privy Council, or through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, and according to such laws and ordinances as may from time to time be in force in Our said Settlement. And in the event of your death, incapacity, or absence from Our said Settlement, We do declare Our pleasure to be that all such powers or authorities as are vested in you by or in virtue of these presents shall be vested in such Lieutenant Governor or other person as may be appointed to administer the government of Our said Settlement by any instrument under Our sign-manual and signet, or if there be not in the said Colony any person so appointed, then in the holder of such office as shall be designated for that purpose by any such instrument as aforesaid, and if there be not in the Colony any person so appointed, or holder of office so designated, then in such person as you may from time to time, by warrant under your hand and seal, appoint to administer the said government in such event as aforesaid.

And We do direct and appoint that for the purpose of advising you Our said Governor, there shall be within Our said Settlement an Executive Council, which shall be constituted of such persons and shall observe such rules in the conduct of business as may be directed or appointed by or in virtue of any instruction addressed to you under Our sign-manual and signet.

And whereas, by an Act made and passed in the sixth year of Our reign, intitled, "An Act to enable Her Majesty to provide for the Government of Her Settlements upon the Coast of Africa and in the Falkland Islands," it was enacted that it should be lawful for Us, by any Commission under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom, or by any instruction under Our sign-manual and signet accompanying and referred to in any such Commission, to delegate to any three or more persons within any of the Settlements aforesaid, either in whole or in part, and subject to all such conditions, provisions, and limitations as

might be prescribed by any such Commission or instruction, the power and authority to make and establish all such laws, institutions, and ordinances, and to constitute such courts and officers, and to make such provisions and regulations for the proceedings in such courts, and for the administration of justice, as might be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of Our subjects and others within Our then present or future Settlements on the said coast. Now, further, know you that We do by this Our Commission under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom aforesaid, delegate to the persons within the said Settlement who shall, from time to time, compose the Legislative Council thereof, full power and authority to establish such ordinances, and to constitute such courts and officers, and to make such provisions and regulations as last aforesaid, subject always to all such conditions, provisos and limitations as by this Our Commission, or by Our instructions under Our sign-manual and signet accompanying the same, or hereafter addressed to you, may from time to time be prescribed. And We do declare Our pleasure to be that the said Legislative Council shall consist of you, the Governor of our said Settlement, and of the following persons, not being less than two in number, that is to say, of such public officers within Our said Settlement as shall be designated, and such other persons within the same as shall from time to time be named for that purpose by or in virtue of any instruction or instructions, or by any warrant or warrants, to be by Us for that purpose issued under Our sign-manual and signet, and with the advice of Our Privy Council, all of which councillors shall hold their places in the said council at Our pleasure.

And We do hereby authorise, empower, and enjoin such Legislative Council to make and establish all such ordinances, not being repugnant to the law of England, as may from time to time be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of Our subjects and others within our said Settlement and its dependencies. And Our pleasure is, that in the making and establishing all such ordinances, the said Legislative Council shall conform to and observe all such rules and regulations as shall be given and prescribed in and by such instructions as We, with the advice of Our Privy Council, shall from time to time prescribe in that behalf: Provided nevertheless, and We do hereby reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors, Our and their right and authority to disallow any such ordinances as aforesaid, in the whole or in part, and to make and establish from time to time, with the advice and consent of Parliament, or with the advice of Our or their Privy Council, all such laws or ordinances as may to Us or them appear necessary for the order, peace, and good government of Our said Settlement and its dependencies, as fully as if these presents had not been made.

And We do hereby authorise and empower you to keep and use the public seal appointed for the sealing of all things whatsoever that shall pass the seal of Our said Settlement.

And We do hereby authorise and empower you to make and execute in Our name and on Our behalf, under the said public seal, grants and dispositions of any lands which may be lawfully granted or disposed of by Us, within Our said Settlement.

And We do hereby authorise and empower you to constitute and appoint judges, and, in cases requisite, commissioners of oyer and terminer, justices of the peace, and other necessary officers and ministers in Our said Settlement, and to administer or cause to be administered unto them such oath or oaths as are usually given for the due execution and performance of offices and places, and for the clearing of truth in judicial matters.

And We do hereby give and grant unto you full power and authority, as you shall see occasion, in Our name and on Our behalf, to remit any fines, penalties, or forfeitures which may accrue or become payable to Us, provided the same do not exceed the sum of 50*L*. sterling in any one case, and to respite and suspend the payment of any such fine, penalty, or forfeiture exceeding the said sum of 50*L*., until Our pleasure thereon shall be made known and signified to you.

And We do hereby give and grant unto you full power and authority as you shall see occasion, in Our name and on Our behalf, to grant to any offender convicted of any crime in any court, or before any judge, justice, or magistrate within Our said Settlement, a free and unconditional pardon, or a pardon subject to such conditions as by any law or ordinance hereafter to be in force in Our said Settlement may be thereunto annexed, or any respite of the execution of the sentence of any such offenders, for such period as to you may seem fit.

And We do hereby give and grant unto you full power and authority upon sufficient cause to you appearing, to suspend from the exercise of his office within Our said Settlement any person exercising any office or place under or by virtue of any commission or warrant granted or which may be granted by Us, or in Our name, or under Our authority, which suspension shall continue and have effect only until Our pleasure therein shall be made known and signified to you. And We do hereby strictly require and enjoin you, in proceeding to any such suspension, to observe the directions in that behalf given to you by Our instructions under Our sign-manual and signet accompanying this Our commission.

And We do hereby require and command all Our officers and ministers, civil and military, and all other the inhabitants of Our said Settlement, to be obedient, aiding and assisting unto you in the execution of this Our Commission, and of the powers and authorities herein contained.

And We do hereby reserve to Us, Our heirs and successors, full power and authority from time to time to revoke, alter, or amend this Our Commission as to Us or them shall seem meet.

LAGOS—WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

(No. 3.)

In the 26th year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

Henry Stanhope Freeman, Governor, 4 March 1863.

At a Council held on the 4th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1863.

Date.

AN ORDINANCE enacting that the Laws of England shall be in force in this Settlement.

Subject.

WHEREAS it is expedient that from and after the commencement of this Ordinance the laws of England shall have the same force, and be administered in the same manner in this Settlement as in England, so far as such laws and such administration thereof can be rendered applicable to the circumstances of this Settlement:

Preamble.

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor and Council, as follows:

1. All laws and statutes which were in force within the realm of England on the 1st day of January 1863, not being inconsistent with any Ordinance in force in this Colony, or with any rule made in pursuance of any such Ordinance, shall be deemed and taken to be in force in this Colony, and shall be applied in the administration of justice so far as local circumstances will permit.

Laws in force in England on the 1st day of January 1863 to be in force in this Colony.

2. No Act of Parliament that was not in force in England on the 1st day of January 1863 shall be in force or applied in the administration of justice in this Colony (unless the Act shall contain words which, by legal construction, would extend the Act to this Colony), or unless the Act shall be extended to this Colony by an Ordinance of the Legislature of this Colony.

Acts of Parliament not in force in England on the 1st day of January 1863.

3. This Ordinance shall commence and take effect on the 4th day of March in the present year 1863.

This Ordinance to commence on the 4th day of March 1863.

Hy. Stanhope Freeman.

Passed in the Legislative Council this 4th day of March in the year of our Lord 1863.

Walter Lewis, (L.S.)
Clerk of Council.

LAGOS.—WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

(No. 6.)

In the 27th year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

Henry Stanhope Freeman, Governor of the Settlement of Lagos, Commander in Chief, and Vice Admiral of the same, 6 April 1864.

At a Council held on the 6th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1864.

Date.

AN ORDINANCE to repeal the Ordinance of the 8th day of September 1863, and to establish a Petty Debt Court.

Subject.

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Ordinance dated 8th September 1863, describing the constitution of the Petty Debt Court, should be repealed, and that a court should be established for the recovery of small debts and demands: Be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency Henry Stanhope Freeman, Governor, Commander in Chief, and Vice Admiral of Her Majesty's Settlement of Lagos, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Preamble.

1. That the Ordinance dated 8th September 1863 shall be and hereby is repealed.

Repeal of Ordinance, dated 8 September 1863. Establishment of Petty Debt Court.

2. That a court, to be called the Petty Debt Court, shall be and hereby is established for the recovery of small debts and demands in the Settlement of Lagos.

Power to governor to appoint judge.

3. That it shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint some fit person to be judge of the said court, at such salary and under such conditions as he may think fit; and in case of the death, illness, resignation, misconduct, or unavoidable absence of the said judge, to appoint from time to time some other person to be judge, who, whilst acting under such appointment, shall have such and the same power and authority as the judge in whose place he shall have been appointed.

4. That it shall be lawful for the judge of the said court to appoint, with the consent and approbation of the Governor, fit and proper persons to be officers of the said court, with such salaries and under such conditions as he may think fit, and to remove the said persons and appoint others in their place, and to make such regulations as to their respective duties and the practice and mode of procedure in the court as may from time to time be desirable.

Judge to appoint officers of court.

- Court when to be holden.
- Jurisdiction of court defined.
- Party to suit may obtain summons.
- Cases of partnership and intestacy.
- One of several persons may be sued.
- Judge or judge and assessors to determine all questions.
- Proceedings on hearing.
- Judge may grant re-hearing.
- Grant time to either party to suit.
- Summons for witnesses.
- Penalty on witnesses not appearing, &c.
- Judgment how far final.
- Appeal to Supreme Court.
- Judge may order debts, &c. to be paid by instalments.
- Writ of fieri facias.
5. That the said court shall be holden at least once in every week, in such place, and on such day, and at such time as the Governor shall from time to time appoint.
6. That all pleas of personal actions where the debt or damage claimed is not more than twenty pounds (20*l.*), whether on balance of account or otherwise, may be holden in the said court; and all such actions brought in the said court shall be heard and determined in a summary way, provided that the court shall not have cognisance of any action of ejectment, or in which the title to any corporeal or incorporeal hereditaments shall be in question, or in which the validity of any devise, bequest, or limitation under any will or settlement may be disputed, or for any malicious prosecution, or for any libel or slander, or for seduction or breach of promise of marriage.
7. That on application of any person desirous to bring a suit the clerk of the court shall issue a summons, stating the substance of the action, to be served on the defendant in such manner as any rules made for regulating the practice of the court may require; and such service shall be good service, and no misnomer or inaccurate description shall vitiate the said summons, so that the person or place be therein described so as to be commonly known.
8. That the jurisdiction of the court shall extend to the recovery of any demand not exceeding twenty pounds which is the whole or part of the unliquidated balance of a partnership account, or the amount or part of a distributive share under an intestacy, or of any legacy under a will.
9. That where any plaintiff shall have any demand recoverable against two or more persons jointly answerable, it shall be sufficient if any of such persons be served with process, and judgment may be obtained and execution issued against the person or persons so served, notwithstanding that others jointly liable may not have been served or sued, or may not be within the jurisdiction of the court; and every such person against whom judgment shall have been obtained, and who shall have satisfied such judgment, shall be entitled to recover in the said court contribution from any other person jointly liable with him.
10. That the judge of the said court shall be sole judge in all actions brought in the said court, and shall determine all questions as well of fact as of law, unless he shall have summoned, as he is hereby authorised to do, any two persons to be assessors with him in any cause, in which case the said judge and the two assessors, or the majority of them, shall determine all questions as aforesaid.
11. That on the day mentioned in the summons, or at any continuation or adjournment of the court or of the cause, the judge shall proceed to try the cause and give judgment, and to award such costs as he may think fit to either party in the cause: Provided always that the judge may at any time appoint a re-hearing of any action, and set aside any judgment given upon such terms as to costs, and such other terms, as he may think fit on sufficient cause shown to him.
12. And that the judge in any case grant time to the plaintiff or defendant to proceed in the prosecution or defence of the suit, and may adjourn any court, or the hearing or further hearing of any cause.
13. That either of the parties to the suit may obtain summons to witnesses, to be served by the bailiff of the court, or his deputy, with or without a clause requiring the production of books, deeds, papers in their possession or control; and every person on whom such summons shall have been served as directed by the practice of the court, and who shall refuse or neglect to appear or produce anything required by such summons to be produced, or who shall refuse to be sworn and give evidence, shall pay such fine, not exceeding ten pounds (10*l.*), as the judge shall set on him; and the payment thereof may be enforced upon the order of the judge in like manner as payment of any debt adjudged in the said court.
14. That every order and judgment shall be final and conclusive between the parties in all cases where the debt or damage sought to be recovered does not exceed the sum of five pounds (5*l.*); but the judge shall have power to nonsuit the plaintiff where proof shall not be given entitling either plaintiff or defendant to the judgment of the court; and also, in every case, to order a new trial upon such terms as he shall think reasonable, and to stay the proceedings: Provided always, that in any suit where the debt or damage claimed exceed 5*l.*, it shall be lawful for any party thereto, who is dissatisfied with the decision of the petty court, to appeal to the Supreme Court, upon giving such notice, and under such conditions as to the payment of costs or otherwise, as the judge of the petty debt court may, by any general order regulating the practice of the said court, order, and any decision given by the Supreme Court in such case shall be final.
15. And that the judge may make orders concerning the time or times, and by what instalments, any debt, damage, or costs, for which judgment shall be obtained in the said court, shall be paid.
16. That whenever the judge shall have made an order for the payment of money, in case of failure of payment thereof forthwith, the clerk of the court shall issue a writ of *feri facias*, as a warrant of execution to the bailiff of the court, who, by such warrant, shall

shall be empowered to levy by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the party against whom such order is made such sum of money as shall be so ordered, and also the costs of the execution: Provided also, that if the goods and chattels (if any) shall be insufficient, the bailiff may take possession of and sell by public auction any land or other real property to which such party may be entitled.

App. No. 3.

Land may be taken and sold.

17. That it shall be lawful for any person who has obtained an unsatisfied judgment or order in the said court, to obtain a summons, to be served, as the court shall direct, on the person to whom it is directed, requiring him to appear as therein directed; and if he shall appear in pursuance thereof, he may be examined on oath touching his estate and effects, and the manner and circumstances under which he contracted the debt, or incurred the damages or liability which is the subject of the action in which judgment has been obtained against him, and as to the means and expectation he then had, and as to the means he still hath, of discharging the said debt or damages or liability, and as to the disposal he may have made of any property; and the person obtaining the summons, and all other witnesses (whether the person summoned be present or not) whom the judge may think requisite, may be examined upon oath touching the inquiries authorised to be made as aforesaid; and the costs of such summons, and all proceedings thereon, shall be deemed costs in the cause.

Judgment creditor may obtain summons for fraud, &c.

18. And that if the party so summoned shall not attend, having no sufficient excuse for not attending, or shall refuse to be sworn or disclose any of the things aforesaid, or shall not make answer to the satisfaction of the judge, or if it shall appear by any evidence that such party, if a defendant, in incurring the debt or liability has obtained credit from the plaintiff under false pretences, or by means of fraud or breach of trust, or has contracted such debt or liability without a reasonable expectation of being able to discharge the same, or shall have made any gift, delivery, or transfer of any property, or shall have changed, removed, or concealed the same with intent to defraud his creditors or any of them; or if it shall appear that the party so summoned has then or has had since judgment obtained sufficient means to pay the debt, damages, or costs as ordered, and if he shall refuse and neglect to pay the same, it shall be lawful for the judge to order, if he shall think fit, such party to be committed to the common gaol or house of correction, for any period not exceeding 40 days.

Commitment for fraud.

19. And that the judge may rescind or alter any order for committal, or for the payment of any money, as such judge may think reasonable and just.

Order may be rescinded or varied.

20. And that at the hearing of any cause the judge shall have the same power to examine the defendant, if judgment is given against him, or any other witness he may think fit, touching the several things hereinbefore mentioned, and committing the defendant to prison as he might have exercised, if the plaintiff had obtained a summons for that purpose.

Judge on hearing of cause may examine defendant as to fraud, &c.

21. That no imprisonment under a committal by the judge shall operate as a satisfaction of the debt or other cause of action on which a judgment has been obtained, or protect the defendant from being anew summoned and imprisoned for any new fraud or other default of payment, or deprive the plaintiff of any right to take out execution against the goods and chattels and land of the defendant in the same manner as if imprisonment had not taken place.

Imprisonment no satisfaction of debt.

22. And that in any case where the debt or damages and costs shall amount to or exceed the sum of 20*l.*, the court may issue a writ of *capias ad satisfaciendum*, and cause the party against whom the same is issued to be imprisoned until the debt or damages and costs, including the costs of the execution, shall be paid and satisfied.

In cases above 20*l.* *ca. sa.* may issue.

23. And that any person imprisoned as aforesaid may, on payment of the debt or damages and costs, and all subsequent costs, be discharged out of custody, upon the certificate of such payment or satisfaction signed by the clerk of the court by the leave of the judge.

On payment person imprisoned to be discharged.

24. That any person who shall wilfully insult the judge or any other officer of the court whilst in the execution of his duty, or shall otherwise be guilty of contempt of court, may be committed by the judge to prison, for any time not exceeding seven days, or be fined any fine not exceeding five pounds (5*l.*); and in default of payment thereof, be committed to prison for seven days, unless the fine be sooner paid.

Power to commit for contempt of court.

25. That if any claim shall be made in respect of any goods, chattels, or land taken under the process of the court, the court may issue a summons calling on the several parties interested or claiming to be interested therein, and may adjudicate on the said claim, and may make such order as to costs or otherwise as shall seem fit.

Claim on goods taken in execution to be decided by court.

26. And that in construing this ordinance the word "Governor" shall be understood to mean the Governor of Lagos, the Lieutenant Governor, or any person for the time being administering the affairs of the Settlement; and the word "Judge" shall be understood to mean the judge of the said court, and also the assessors thereof; and the word "bailiff" shall be understood to mean the bailiff of the said court or any deputy or assistant to him, unless in any of these cases there be something in the context inconsistent with such meaning.

Interpretation clause.

Date of coming into force. 27. That this ordinance shall not come into force until it shall have received Her Most Gracious Majesty's approval and confirmation.

(signed) *H. S. Freeman*, Governor.

Passed in the Legislative Council this 6th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1864.

(signed) *H. M. Gover*, Clerk of Council

[*Note.*—*March 1865. This Ordinance is now in force.*]

LAGOS.—WEST COAST of AFRICA.

In the Twenty-eighth Year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

(No. 9.)

Henry Stanhope Freeman, Governor, Commander in Chief, and Vice Admiral.—
6 July 1864.

At a Council held on the 6th day of July 1864.

- Date. At a Council held on the 6th day of July 1864.
- Subject. AN ORDINANCE to provide for the better administration of Justice within Her Majesty's Settlement of Lagos.
- Preamble. WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the better administration of justice within the Settlement of Lagos—
1. Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency Henry Stanhope Freeman, Governor, Commander in Chief, and Vice Admiral of Her Majesty's Settlement of Lagos, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, and by authority of the same, that a court of jurisdiction to be styled, "The Chief Magistrate's Court of Her Majesty's Settlement of Lagos," be and the same is hereby constituted and established.
- To be holden by chief magistrate and two assessors. 2. And that the said chief magistrate's court shall be composed of the chief magistrate or any person legally performing the function of the said office, and two assessors to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, over which said court the chief magistrate shall preside.
- Jurisdiction of the court. 3. And that the said court shall be a court of record, and shall, within the said Settlement, have cognisance of all pleas, civil and criminal, and jurisdiction in all cases whatsoever, as fully and amply to all intents and purposes as Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer in England, or any of them, lawfully have and exercise, and as may be necessary for carrying into effect the several jurisdictions, powers, and authorities committed to the said court.
- Mode of procedure. 4. And that in all cases, civil and criminal, the said chief magistrate shall be sole judge of, and determine all cases, civil and criminal (except as hereinafter mentioned), the chief magistrate and two assessors shall, until the Governor for the time being shall, with the advice of his Executive Council otherwise direct, be sole judges of, and determine all questions of fact according to the opinion of the majority: Provided nevertheless, that in all capital offences the chief magistrate shall be the sole judge, and determine all questions of law, and a jury composed of seven men to be duly impanelled and sworn for such purpose, shall be the judges of all questions of fact; and that a majority of at least two-thirds of such jury shall concur in any verdict to be given: Provided also, that in case any jury shall be unable to obtain such majority to concur in any verdict after reasonable time for considering the same, or in case any jurymen shall die, or be taken ill, it shall be lawful for the said chief magistrate to discharge such jury, and re-try the case with another jury.
- Offences to be prosecuted by information. 5. And that all crimes and misdemeanors cognisable in the said court shall be prosecuted by information in the name of Her Majesty's advocate, or other officer duly appointed for such purpose by the Governor of the Settlement for the time being.
- Court to be a court of probate. 6. And further, that the said court shall be a court for granting probate of wills, and administration of the effects of deceased persons within the Settlement of Lagos, with full authority to hear and determine all questions relating to matters and causes testamentary, and for that purpose shall have such and the like powers as are by any Act of Parliament given to the Court of Probate in England, so far as the same powers are applicable to the circumstances of this Settlement.
- To be a court of bankruptcy. 7. And further, that the said court shall be a court of bankruptcy for all persons unable to meet their engagements in the said Settlement, with full power and authority to adjudicate all matters relating thereto, and to get in and distribute the assets belonging to any bankrupt, and for that purpose to make such rules and orders, and do all such acts, as may be necessary for that purpose.

8. And that the said court shall be a court of equity within the Settlement of Lagos, and shall have power and authority to administer justice, and to do, exercise, and perform all such acts, matters, and things necessary for the due execution of such equitable jurisdiction as the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain can or lawfully may do, exercise, or perform within the realm of England, so far as the same shall be applicable to the circumstances of this Settlement. To be a court of equity.
9. And that the said court shall be holden at such place and places and at such times and so often as the Governor for the time being shall, by any writing, appoint; provided nevertheless, that the said chief magistrate and assessors may at their discretion adjourn any court, or cause or matter whatsoever, to any other or future day or time. Court when and where to be holden.
10. That the Governor or other person administering the affairs of Lagos, and the Executive Council of Lagos, shall constitute and be a court having power to hear and determine all appeals against any judgment given in the chief magistrate's court in all civil cases, and also shall in all criminal cases have power and authority to review and determine all questions of alleged error of law in the chief magistrate's court, and of directing a new trial in any case on any grounds which would be sufficient to justify a new trial in England. Governor and Executive Council a court of appeal.
11. That it shall be lawful for the Governor or other person administering the affairs of Lagos, in case of the illness or absence on leave of the chief magistrate, or his being interested in any action to be tried, to appoint from time to time any other person temporarily to act as chief magistrate; and also to appoint either temporarily or permanently from time to time any number of persons as assessors, and for any reasonable cause to revoke or annul the appointment of any assessor, and that two only of the assessors so appointed shall be required to sit at the same time with the chief magistrate, or acting chief magistrate, and that no assessor interested in any cause to be tried shall sit as assessor in such cause. Power to appoint acting chief magistrate, assessors, &c.
No person interested in action to sit as judge or assessor.
12. And that an ordinance of the 9th day of April 1863, entitled "An Ordinance for the better Administration of Justice within the Settlement of Lagos," and also an ordinance of the 8th day of September 1863, entitled "An Ordinance to amend No. 11 of the 9th day of April 1863," shall be, and hereby are repealed. Former ordinances repealed.
13. And be it enacted that this ordinance shall come into force from the day of its publication.
- (signed) *H. S. Freeman* (L. S.).
- Passed in the Legislative Council this 6th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1864.
- (signed) *H. M. Gower*,
Clerk of Council.

[*Note.*—*March 1865. This Ordinance is now in force.*]

Appendix, No. 4.

COPIES of DESPATCHES relative to the Occupation of *Palma* and *Badagry* by the British Government, handed in by Colonel *Ord*.

App. No. 4.

— No. 1. —

(No. 31.)

Governor *Freeman* to the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, Lagos,
9 July 1862.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copy of an Ordinance passed by the Provisional Legislative Council of this settlement for the collection of export and import duties of 2 per cent. at all ports within the territory of Lagos, including from *Leckie* and *Palma* on the east to *Badagry* on the west.

It being the unanimous opinion of the council that the duties should be imposed simultaneously at *Lagos*, *Palma*, and *Badagry*, I proceeded to that place in Her Majesty's gunboat "Handy" on the 27th ultimo, to make the necessary arrangements to that effect.

The chiefs, eight in number, who already considered themselves under the British law and protection, gladly consented to receive a pension in lieu of the duties they had hitherto claimed on the trade, for they never could collect them without much trouble and delay; and they have, therefore, agreed to receive each the sum of 36 bags of cowries per annum, amounting altogether to 288 bags a year, which, at the present value of cowries, will equal about 260*l*. Besides this, they are each to be presented with one white hat a year.

Some expense will be incurred to keep up the civil establishments at *Badagry*, and the other ports; but the balance of revenue to the treasury of this settlement will be such as I trust will enable me next year to convert the 2 per cent. import and export duties into an import duty of 3 per cent., doing away with the export duty altogether.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Stanhope Freeman*.

— No. 2. —

(Lagos, No 37.)

The Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Freeman*.

Downing-street,
22 August 1862.

Sir,

I HAVE received your Despatch No. 31, of the 9th of July, enclosing the copy of a Customs Ordinance,* which you had passed with the advice of a Provisional Legislative Council.

I shall address you by next mail respecting the doubts which I entertain as to the validity of

this ordinance, even within the undoubted territory of *Lagos*; which doubts, however, may, I hope, be removed by future legislation.

But I am apprehensive that you may have involved yourself in still more serious difficulties by extending the legislation of your so-called council to *Palma* and *Badagry*. If these ports are parts of the "port and island of *Lagos*," which was ceded to Her Majesty by King *Docemo*, they are included within the scope of your commission, and consequently of the legislative authority of the council. But if, as I rather apprehend from your own language, and from that used by Mr. *MacCrosky* in his Despatch to the Foreign Office of the 5th August 1861, these ports are not within the *Lagos* territory so ceded, they are not within the limits of your commission, and no act of yours can bring them within it. If, therefore, you enforce obedience to your ordinance, you may (on the supposition) expose yourself and those acting under your orders to serious responsibilities from which you cannot expect Her Majesty's Government to extricate you, as you will have acted not only without authority but in a spirit quite alien from that in which Her Majesty's Government desire the Government of *Lagos* to be carried on.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Newcastle*.

— No. 3. —

(No. 44.)

Governor *Freeman* to the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, Lagos,

My Lord Duke, 6 October 1862.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Grace that *Kosoko* returned to *Lagos* on the 16th ultimo, accompanied by his principal chiefs and several hundred people.

Not the slightest ill-feeling appears to exist between the chiefs and people of *Docemo* and *Kosoko*, and the town is as tranquil now as it was before the arrival of the latter.

Docemo has not yet overcome his objection to see *Kosoko*, which arises from some superstitious idea that he may be injured by *Kosoko*'s fetish. I trust, however, to be able by next mail to report their having met.

I have already had messages of thanks from the inhabitants of several of the surrounding towns and villages, thanking me for bringing back their father *Kosoko*.

I would here venture to point out to your Grace that *Kosoko* in coming back to *Lagos* can scarcely

* This ordinance has not been allowed.

scarcely have calculated the great pecuniary loss such a step would entail on him. Besides the small duties levied on the trade at Palma, the merchants at that place supplied Kosoko with everything he required without any payment, as it was to their interest to support him that they might obtain settlement of their claims against the people of Epé.

The customs dues at Palma, Kosoko would find it impossible to collect without living at Epé, and he will thus have to depend upon his own people who, as they become more independent under the British rule, will not willingly support a chief who has now no power over them for good or evil. By the treaty of 28th September 1854 Her Majesty's Government agreed to pay Kosoko 1,000*l.* per annum during his lifetime, on condition of the faithful performance of the engagement. With regard to the export of slaves Kosoko kept to his agreement far more faithfully than either Akitoye or Docemo, but he forfeited his subsidy by organising an attack upon Lagos.

Kosoko is an old man, and cannot live many years, and I would therefore suggest to your Grace that rather than allow him to pass those few years in poverty, I should be permitted, in case he should apply for assistance when his means begin to fail, to grant him a small pension, which might also be considered as a commutation of the duties at Palma, which he cannot now collect, and which must consequently revert to this Government.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Stanhope Freeman.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 56.)

Governor *Freeman* to the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, Lagos,

My Lord Duke, 9 October 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Grace's Despatch No. 37, of the 22d August, in the latter part of which your Grace expresses a fear that I may have involved myself in serious difficulties by extending my legislation to Palma and Badagry, under the supposition that these ports are not within the Lagos territory ceded to Her Majesty by King Docemo.

The Treaty of Cession grants to Her Majesty the sovereignty of the port and island of Lagos with all the territories and appurtenances thereunto belonging. This must mean all territories under the sway of the King of Lagos. With regard, therefore, to Badagry, there can be no doubt of its belonging to the ceded territory. When first the settlement was made there as a slave station, it placed itself under Lagos, and the kings of this place defended it against Porto Novo, and when, in the reign of Ologun, predecessor of Adele, the elder brother of Akitoye, Docemo's father, the King of Dahomey, threatened to destroy Badagry, King Ologun paid to him 100 bags of cowries, 100 pieces of cloth, 100 muskets, 100 kegs of powder, 100 rolls of
0.39.

tobacco, 100 demijohns of rum, and 100 slaves, App. No. 4. that he might spare it.

Since then the Kings Adele, Akitoye, and Kosoko always considered Badagry as their territory, and, in times of civil war, usually took refuge there; and, but two or three years ago, on the death of one of the chiefs, Docemo appointed his successor.

In my Despatch No. 31, of the 9th of July, I stated that the chiefs already considered themselves under the British law and protection, which is a sufficient proof that they acknowledged themselves to be subject to Lagos.

With regard to Palma the question is slightly different. The territories of Lagos extended formerly to Leekie, a small place a few miles to the eastward of Palma. When, in the year 1852, Kosoko was driven out of Lagos and retired to Epé, he claimed Palma as his port of trade, and it was recognised as such by Her Majesty's Government by the treaty of 28th September 1854. Kosoko, by returning to Lagos, voluntarily gives up all claim to Palma, for his presence at Epé was his only means of keeping up his authority there, and I therefore considered that with Kosoko's re-establishment in Lagos, Palma must revert again to this territory.

I trust that these explanations will be sufficient to satisfy your Grace that I have not exceeded my instructions, or acted in a spirit alien from that in which Her Majesty's Government desire the Government of Lagos to be carried on.

I may further add, that in the correspondence of the late Mr. Campbell, when consul at this place, will be found some account of the history of Badagry; but as many of the Blue Books are missing from the consular archives of this place, I cannot inform your Grace in what year that account was written.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Stanhope Freeman.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 55.)

The Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Freeman*.

Downing-street,

1 December 1862.

Sir,
I HAVE received your Despatch No. 56, of the 9th ultimo, stating the grounds on which you consider that the ports of Palma and Badagry are within the territory of Lagos ceded by King Docemo.

The only practical mode of putting an end to questions of this sort is by assigning a definite boundary to our possessions at Lagos.

In my Despatch No. 42, of the 18th October, I left it to your discretion to choose the most fitting time for accomplishing this object; but while reporting your opinion as to the extent of territory which has been acquired, and which ought to be claimed under the treaty with King Docemo, in order to enable me to form a judgment in the matter, you will abstain from issuing any proclamation on the subject.

I must at the same time remind you that it is the policy of Her Majesty's Government to confine our acquisitions in the vicinity of Lagos to

App. No. 4. the smallest limits compatible with the design of rendering the settlement available for the suppression of the slave trade and the promotion of legitimate commerce.

In furnishing me with your report on the boundaries, I should wish you to accompany it with a statement, so far as you can ascertain it, of the number of the population, and especially of the slave population,

- 1st, In the town and port of Lagos;
- 2d, In the remainder of the island; and,
- 3d, In the territory on the mainland, which you may conceive to be included in the treaty.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 6. —
(No. 5.)

Governor *Freeman* to the Duke of *Newcastle.*

Government House, Lagos,
My Lord Duke, 6 January 1863.

With reference to my Despatch, No. 56, of the 9th October last, respecting Palma and Badagry, I have the honour to state, that as I find a good deal of trade going on at the former place to the detriment of Lagos, I cannot any longer delay fixing a custom-house establishment there.

Being aware that the French factory there intends offering some opposition, and will probably refer the matter to their Government, I am the more anxious to lose no time, and I shall therefore, with the least possible delay, despatch a collector of customs and some police constables.

At Badagry everything is going well; still I consider a small military detachment must be placed at that town, as well as one at Palma, and eventually one at Icorodu, forming the eastern, western, and northern frontiers of the Lagos territory.

I trust your Grace will allow an increase of the force stationed in Lagos in order to permit these detachments being sent, as, unless our authority is properly asserted both at Badagry and Palma, I cannot prevent the greater part of the trade passing by those places to the detriment of Lagos.

If your Grace will allow two companies of troops to be stationed here, instead of one, I shall then be enabled to carry out my proposals; I may add, that Palma, being on the sea-coast, when the fresh breeze blows in from the Atlantic without passing over Mangrove swamps, is much healthier than Lagos, and when a detachment is stationed there, sick men from this garrison may be sent up there for change of air.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Stanhope Freeman.*

— No. 7. —
(No. 9.)
Governor *Freeman* to the Duke of *Newcastle.*

Government House, Lagos,
My Lord Duke, 7 February 1863.
With reference to your Grace's Despatch re-

specting Palma and Badagry, I have now the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information a rough map of the Lagos territory, as I conceive it to have been ceded by the Ex-King *Docomo.*

With regard to Badagry being Lagos territory, no objection has at any time been made except by some of the merchants, who, of course, wish to have their trade free of duty. I informed them that they had nothing to say to the matter as strangers to the soil, and since then everything has gone on quietly and satisfactorily. All the small villages on the shores of the lagoons likewise acknowledge our sovereignty.

Going further east, we come to *Igbessa*, and then to *Otta*, which formerly belonged to Lagos, but which was taken by *Abeokuta* when *Kosoko* was banished from Lagos, his imbecile successor *Akitoye* not having the power to protect it.

Gaun on the river has always been the boundary between *Abeokuta*, and *Lagos*, and *Icorodu* at the north of the lagoon, though on the *Jebu* shore was *Kosoko's* father's village, and has always belonged to him. There are two or three other little villages on the *Jebu* shore which belong to *Lagos* chiefs.

The boundary of Lagos, then, runs down by *Lambessa* at *Palaver* Island and down *Ita Omu* Creek to the village beyond *Palma*, called *Leekie*.

This, my Lord, is the extent of territory which I have ascertained to be Lagos territory, the only point upon which any discussion might be raised is *Palma*.

This place, however, *Kosoko* claimed as his port of export when he was ejected from Lagos, and the British Government guaranteed it to him by treaty in 1854. Had *Palma* belonged to *Jebu*, as the French pretend, England could not have recognised it as *Kosoko's* port without having first obtained permission so to do from the King of *Jebu* which had never been done.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Stanhope Freeman.*

— No. 8. —
(No. 14.)
Governor *Freeman* to the Duke of *Newcastle.*

Government House, Lagos,
My Lord Duke, 26 February 1863.

With reference to my various Despatches respecting the right of this Government to claim *Palma* as British territory, I have the honour to state, that, owing to the attitude assumed by the French factories, and the pretended title of *Possoo* (*Kosoko's* ex-war chief) to *Epe* and *Palma*, of which places he had constituted himself chief, and at which he had commenced to collect duties, and, hearing that the French Commodore was at *Whydah* and expected daily at *Palma*, the question threatened to become so complicated, that I took upon myself the responsibility of terminating it at once by occupation.

I, accordingly, requested the officer commanding the troops to send to *Palma* a small detachment, with which I despatched also a collector of customs.

Major

Major Leveson, the Colonial Secretary, having to proceed to Palma to make the necessary arrangements, I sent under his command a party of armed police for his greater protection, as I wished him, after the establishment at Palma was fixed, to proceed to Epé, and there terminate all questions that had arisen with Possoo.

The troops were conveyed in Her Majesty's ship "Ranger," Commander Wratislaw, sent by the Commodore at my request, to remain a week off Palma, lest Possoo should show any opposition. Everything has gone on well at Palma since the establishment was made there.

The natives ran away at first; but, finding our intentions pacific, they came back by degrees, and the only opposition offered was by the agent of the French firm of Regis Ainé, who tried to make a show of resistance on political grounds.

The detachment has been further increased since it was first established, owing to what occurred at Epé, which I shall report in another despatch, but the news from Palma continues to be satisfactory, and I do not foresee the slightest difficulty there.

I have, &c.
(not signed).

— No. 9. —

Mr. Freeman to the Duke of Newcastle.

4, Royal Crescent, Notting Hill, W.

[Not dated, but received at Colonial Office,
16 May 1863.]

My Lord Duke,

ENCLOSED herewith I have the honour to transmit to your Grace copy of a document I have obtained from Ex-King Kosoko, resigning all claim to the sovereignty of Palma, which place he considers to have reverted to Lagos in consequence of his return to that place.

I trust that this document will prove to your Grace the legality of my proceedings in the eastern district of the settlement of Lagos.

With regard to Badagry, I beg to refer your Grace to my Despatch, No. 56 of the 9th of October last, which explains the position of that town with regard to Lagos. All the investigations I have since made confirm what I then stated, that, since the time of Ologun, King of Lagos, Badagry has been under the Government of that island.

It is true, that Commander Wilmot, now Commodore on the West Coast Station, made a treaty with Mawn and Alassa, chiefs of Badagry, in the year 1852, which would seem to prove that the place was independent; but an account of the history of these two men will show that no political value can be assigned to the said treaty.

Mawn and Alassa were formerly caboceers of the King of Porto Novo, but were obliged to leave that place and take refuge at Badagry, in consequence of some intrigues in which they were implicated. Commander Wilmot, finding the affairs of Badagry in a very disturbed state, appointed these men chiefs, and then made a treaty with them. The other chiefs of Badagry, and the people of that town and the surrounding country, never recognised them, and the war breaking out soon after, they left Badagry and came to Lagos, where the King gave them hos-

pitality. Mawn died two or three years ago; but his son and Alassa are still in Lagos, and brought me their papers, among which was the original treaty, to interest me in their favour, and to persuade me to give them permission to return to Badagry, or obtain leave for them to go back to their native country, Porto Novo.

The King of Porto Novo, however, refused to allow them to come back as caboceers, though he said he would not molest them if they returned privately; which they would not do. At Badagry there is a strong opposition to them, and I have not, therefore, permitted them to go there as yet.

I may further add, that the chiefs and people of Badagry have never denied the supremacy of Lagos; and, on the occasion of a chief dying a few years ago, Docemo appointed a successor. The chiefs were only too glad to accept my offer to pay them a fixed sum, instead of the duties they formerly, with great difficulty, collected; and it has been the merchants only who, not relishing the idea of being forced to pay the taxes punctually and fairly, have raised the story of Badagry not belonging to Lagos.

I have, &c.
(signed) Hy. Stanhope Freeman.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Lagos, 7 February 1863.

By the present document, I, Kosoko, ex-chief of Epé, and formerly King of Lagos, do declare that when King of Lagos my territory extended to the eastward as far as Palma and Lekie, and that when I was expelled from Lagos and settled at Epé, by permission of the King of Jebu, I claimed those ports as my ports of export by right of my former ownership, and they were recognised as such by the British Government.

Having now left Epé and returned to Lagos, by the kind permission of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I lay no further claim to the ports of Palma and Lekie, which, consequently, must revert to the Lagos Government.

Kosoko x his mark.

(signed) Topa.

Signed in our presence.

(signed) John H. Glover,
Commander, R. N.

H. A. Leveson,
Colonial Secretary.

I certify that I faithfully interpreted this document to Kosoko.

(signed) J. B. Williams.

— No. 10. —

(No. 98).

Lieutenant Governor Glover to Mr. Secretary Cardwell.

Government House,
Lagos, 29 December 1864.

Sir,
WITH reference to my Despatch, No. 97, of 27th December, on the subject of the slave court
3 M 3 instituted

App. No. 4. instituted in this settlement, and the system of slavery which exists in the countries adjacent, I consider the question of boundary and territorial possession to be one so clearly connected therewith, that, in dealing with the one, it is impossible to ignore the other; and as this question has long occupied the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and as much correspondence has passed respecting it without leading to any decision, I have taken advantage of the presence of His Excellency Colonel Ord to discuss with him fully the whole question, the result of which is contained in the following suggestions, viz. :—

1. That the islands of Lagos and Iddo, together with the towns of Badagry, Palma, and Leckie, the whole seaboard, and the waters of the lagoon contained between the following limits, viz., the River Addo and the opening of the lagoon to the sea eastward of Leckie, shall be considered British territory, over which we shall continue to exercise sovereign rights, and maintain British law. In the accompanying sketch* you will observe these limits coloured blue.

2. On the mainland, coloured green, are included portions of territory belonging to the sovereignty of Lagos, and which came to us at the cession. Within these limits we shall maintain only the right of protectorate. This, while it will enable us to exercise a just and beneficial influence, does not necessitate such active interference as might be prejudicial to the welfare and peace of the settlement.

3. Those portions coloured yellow show the three territories of Okéodan, Igbessa, and Addo, with which we have entered into friendly relations, affording them our encouragement and support in difficulties, and exercising over them a civilising influence.

4. In short, to conclude, the existing state of things will not be altered; and we shall be enabled, as at present, to maintain a check over the abuses of domestic slavery, and thus mitigate the evils of the system.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John N. Glover,*
Lieutenant Governor.

Appendix No. 5.

App. No. 5. COPIES OF DESPATCHES relative to the Enlistment of Slaves and Pawns in the *Gold Coast* Artillery Corps without the consent of their Masters, handed in by Colonel Ord.

— No. 1. —

The Duke of Newcastle to Governor Pine.

Downing-street,
26 September.

Sir,

I HAVE had under my consideration Governor Andrews' Despatch, No. 38, of the 10th of April, respecting the enlistment of slaves and pawns in the Gold Coast Artillery Corps without the consent of their masters.

I have been in communication with the Secretary of State for War on several important points connected with that question, in consequence of its having been brought under the notice of the military authorities in this country by Major Cochrane, commanding the troops on the Gold Coast, who has offered some suggestions in regard to what he considers the best mode of carrying the enlistment into effect.

I concur with Sir G. Lewis in considering that Her Majesty's Government could not, without risk of misapprehension, adopt a proposal which has been made, that the military authorities should pay a species of bounty or compensation to the master of any pawn or slave who might enlist in Her Majesty's Army.

But it has also been suggested that slavery of this kind might be discouraged in those territories which are under the influence of the British Government, if that government were in all its proceedings to ignore its existence; by which I presume is meant, that without any forcible inter-

ference with existing relations, every British officer or magistrate should steadily refuse, in the exercise of his duties, to take notice of the relation between master and slave.

I am not aware to what extent the administration of justice by a British officer is valued by the inhabitants of the territories adjoining Her Majesty's possessions in the Gold Coast, nor how far the relation of pawn and master is in fact recognised by such judicial officer in the administration of justice.

But I wish you to consider whether it may not be advisable in all districts under British influence to instruct the assessors and other judicial officers to refuse to recognise the relation of master and pawn in any of their proceedings, and more especially in any cause which was brought before them for decision.

Should this, however, not be wholly practicable, they might refuse to view any person as a pawn except in cases where the relation could be shown to have subsisted prior to a certain fixed date, say the 1st October 1862, and where the alleged pawn was at that date at least eight or ten years of age.

If a proclamation to this effect, or at least framed on this principle, could be issued and acted upon, the practice of pawning would be necessarily extinguished, as the jurisdiction of the British courts enlarged itself.

I need hardly say, that within any territory which is strictly British no form of slavery can be tolerated, or admitted to exist, and that the

foregoing

* The sketch is similar to that of Lagos in Colonel Ord's Report.

foregoing observations only apply to places which, though under British influence, do not form part of the Queen's dominions.

I should wish to be furnished with a report upon the whole of the foregoing, subject to your earliest convenience.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Newcastle.*

Governor Pine,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 2. —

EXTRACT of DESPATCH from Governor Pine to the Duke of Newcastle, dated Cape Coast Castle, Gold Coast, 10 December 1862. No. 112.

"I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Grace's Despatch of the 26th September last (No. 5), in reply to one from Governor Andrews (No. 38) of the 10th April last, respecting the enlistment of slaves and pawns in the Gold Coast Artillery Corps without the consent of their masters.

"2. I am not surprised, but I regret to perceive that your Grace considers that Her Majesty's Government could not, without risk of misapprehension, adopt a proposal which has been made, that the military authorities should pay a species of bounty or compensation to the master of any pawn or slave who might enlist in Her Majesty's Army, because I have always conceived it a hardship that we should permit, if not encourage, a course which virtually deprives a third person of his rights and property, and I see no alternative than strictly to forbid the enlistment of pawns or slaves."

[These omitted paragraphs printed in Return to Address of the House of Commons on the Ashantee War, dated 13th May 1864.]

"7. With respect to your Grace's suggestion, that slavery may be discouraged in the territories under the influence of British Government, and that every British officer or magistrate should steadily refuse, in the exercise of his duties, to take notice of the relation between master and slave, I have the honour to enclose extracts* from a report, for which I have called upon the Acting Chief Justice, and I assure your Grace that the administration of justice by British officers is valued beyond all price by the inhabitants of the territory adjoining Her Majesty's possessions on the Gold Coast. I have always remarked with pride the respect, amounting almost to reverence, with which the British seat of justice is regarded by the natives of Africa; and here the resort to British Courts by thousands within a circuit of hundreds of miles is truly wonderful.

"8. Having considered, in accordance with your Grace's desire, the advisability in all districts under British influence to instruct the assessors and other judicial officers to refuse to recognise the relation of master and pawn in any of their proceedings, and more especially in any cause which was brought before them for decision, I am of opinion that such a course would be inexpedient, and tend to lessen the importance and influence of our Courts,

contract the sphere of our usefulness, and create distrust, and I may add be a departure from the terms of our contract as arbitrators and protectors of the natives.

"9. I think your Grace's views with regard to a refusal to recognise the relation of master and slave, or pawn, prior to a certain fixed period, say 1st October 1862, may be carried out in practice by the judicial authorities; and I shall hasten to instruct them accordingly. But I cannot advise that a proclamation should be issued to this effect, which, as I stated before, would alarm the natives, and would, I am convinced, have the effect of extinguishing the system of pawning—a result to be attained only by the watchful, kindly persuasive, yet persevering influence of those in authority, and the progress of civilisation."

— No. 3. —

EXTRACT from a LETTER to Governor Pine from Acting Chief Justice Hackett.

Cape Coast Castle,

9 December 1862.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from you, enclosing an extract of a Despatch from the Duke of Newcastle, with reference to the official recognition by the judicial authorities of this Government of master and slave or pawn within the protectorate.

It is not the first time that this question has been discussed. But unhappily a statement of the difficulties of a situation is not sufficient to remove them, and now, after the lapse of five years, the old question arises once more, what is the policy which is to be adopted by the British authorities in the protected territories, with reference to slavery?

The difficulties which surround this question have never been removed, in my opinion, because a satisfactory solution of them is impossible. So long as we continue to be the protectors of this people, professing to abstain from any interference with their laws and customs, the question of slavery is one of those which never can be met boldly and openly, but must constantly give rise to doubts and complications in the exercise of our jurisdiction over the protected territories. The question of the enlistment of fugitive slaves is only one amongst the many which have arisen in the administration of this Government.

It may be easily seen that a vast number of the cases which are referred to the decision of the judicial assessor and other magistrates must either directly or indirectly involve the question of slavery. This consequence has been so clearly pointed out by Sir Benjamin Pine in the Despatches I have mentioned that it is unnecessary for me to labour to demonstrate it. I will content myself with dealing with the question suggested by the Duke of Newcastle in the Despatch before referred to.

It has, then, been suggested by his Grace that slavery might be discouraged if the Government were, in all its proceedings, to ignore its existence; that without any forcible interference with existing relations, every British magistrate should steadily refuse, in the exercise of his duties, to take notice of the relation between master and slave. I have to remark on this suggestion, that if it were

* Enclosure No. 1.