

The Gold Coast Leader.

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CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1905.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY.

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

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

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

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

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

Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

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

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

For copies of the paper please apply to MR. H. SOLOMON, Jackson Street, and MR. R. F. WOOD, Ashanti Road, (W. E. Sam's.)

AT AXIM,

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

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

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5/- per dozen Pint Bottles.

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Terms strictly cash on delivery.

H. E. SAGOE.

MANAGER.

Aboom, Cape Coast.

NOTICE.

For all physical ailments, please apply to Andrew O. STEPHEN (Native Medical man). He attends patients from:

9 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

Visitors will please see him at his Surgery at the hours of

7 to 9 a.m. and 4-30 to 6 p.m.

He is ready to meet all emergencies on application.

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HERBALIST.

Telegrams.—"Kweku Bankyi."

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Of all Chemists and Stores throughout East, West and Central Africa.

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Liverpool Office:

7 Corf's Buildings, Preeson Row.

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WANTED.

BY THE NIGER COMPANY, Limited, Eight respectable well educated young men for tallying on board steamers.

Applicants, with previous experience only, to apply to the Agent, Burutu, enclosing copies of recent Testimonials.

NOTICE.

The following lands are known to be the property of late Chief Kejo Yeboowah of Akortokyir viz—Aiboo, Brigimakoo, Kookoockyir and Akortokyir and not the property of late Prince Kweku Aigill. All trespassers will be prosecuted.

By order
P.P. AMBAH KYIRIBAH,
J. K. KITRON.

GENERAL NEWS.

His Excellency Sir Pickersgill Rodger and Lady Rodger arrived here by the *Saba* on Wednesday morning. They are staying at the O'Connor's Hill. Wish them a pleasant stay.

All the Schools were vacated in honour of His Excellency's visit, except the Government School.

The tallest man on Earth is Manchow a Central Asian now in London. He stands 9ft. 8in.

Bishop Small of the A. M. E. Zion Church, died at his residence in York, Pa. on Sunday Jan. 15th.

In Abyssinia it is the law that the murderer be turned over to the relatives of the dead person, and if they please, they may put him to death in the same manner in which the murdered person was killed.

UNLUCKY TUESDAY: There is a Spanish proverb that "on Tuesday one should never travel or marry" and this superstition is so ingrained that even in Madrid there are never any weddings on Tuesdays, and trains are almost empty.—*Tu Dia*.

A tortoise has been known to live three months after the brain has been removed. Living without a brain, proved without a shadow of doubt.

The Aborigines Society went to meet the Governor on his landing and in front of the Castle, read an address to him, the Hon'ble J. P. Brown, the President reading it to which he gave a suitable reply.

The Victoria Park was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor in the presence of a large gathering of people and the *slits* of the Town yesterday.

Two women were fined 10/- each, for throwing excrement into the sea! What next?

Mr. W. M. Grant arrived here by the *Zante* on Sunday last on sick list. We hope he will soon be on his legs again.

Under the distinguished Patronage of His Excellency Sir J. Pickersgill Rodger the members of the

I. O. G. T. under the Grand Lodge of England and United Services will give a Grand Conversation at the Government Schools, Saltpond Road this evening at 7-30 precisely. Admission by invitation.

On dit that arrangement is being made to give birth to a Club to be named Cape Coast Banking and Agriculture Institute in honor of Lady Rodgar's first visit to this place. Many influential men in town have been asked to become Patrons. The objects are:—

1. To supply seeds of Cotton, Rubber, Cocoa &c. to the Members as also books, pamphlets and magazines.
2. To carry on the business of farming and fishing.
3. To advance money on any class of security to farmers requiring assistance (pecuniary).
4. To carry on the business of Banking for its members, give loans to the public generally and to do such other things that will tend to further the interest of manual labour, and especially agriculture.

More than two-thirds the required Capital have been subscribed and paid to the pro tem Treasurer. Through the instrumentality of the Provincial Commissioner, Mr. Peregrine arrangements have been effected with Messrs. Swanzy, Ltd., to purchase all crop which they have gathered from their farm. The seeds were supplied by Mr. Peregrine 4 months ago to the pro tem Secretary with pamphlets.

We understand some Busy-bodies have been making themselves conspicuous in going about since the arrival of the Governor. We wonder what must be their aim.

HE WOULD NOT GO.

A Minister of the Gospel once had a man in his church who was so proverbially obstinate that he could not do anything with him. He tried on all occasions to move him! No use! He was a member of the church and they thought if they made him a deacon that would do him good. So they made him a deacon, and then he was worse, worse than ever. At last the minister, at a church meeting, was perfectly worn out with this man's obstinacy, and so he said:

"Brethren, we will resolve this church meeting to a prayer meeting. We have done all we possibly can for Deacon William, and now, as a last resort, we will make him the subject of prayer."

Brother So-and-so, we will unite with you in prayer for the deacon."

So he prayed, and at the conclusion he said:

"Now that we have done everything we can upon earth for this brother, we pray Thee to prepare him and take him to heaven!"

And the deacon got up, and said, very deliberately:

"Brethren, I won't go."

AXIM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The gentlemen in town now seem to take a keen interest in agriculture.

Last week witnessed a fearful scene in the history of the Town. The sea boisterously rushed into the lower part of the town and broke down a swish house belonging to Madam Eccush Attah and forced its way hard at Madam Benyebah's house. What about the stone embankment promised?

On Friday the 24th. ult. before the members of the No. 2 Company were called together and were told that the system of the Government paying them money on account of keeping up the roads clean has been stopped and that the cost of repairs &c. should be taken up by each Company.

ANKOBBA RIVER.

Trade which was lively in gin, beer, rice and many other things at this station is now the reverse: the secret is, Messrs. Swanzy Ltd. have opened some factories at Broomassie and Essaman the principal places where petty traders buy from their own stores at Ancobra to sell there.

DIXCOVE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Kesson of the Customs Department has arrived here in relief of Mr. Hemana who has been transferred to Sekondi. Mr. Heman has, during his long stay here, been as agreeable and friendly as he has been attentive to his duties. We wish him a fresh lease of success in his new sphere of labour.

Under the efforts of a few gentlemen in town "Literary and Debating Club" is in course of formation.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

A general meeting of the Aborigines Rights Protection Society will be held on Monday the 6th instant at 5 o'clock p.m. precisely at the (old) Good Templars meeting room, Inteh, to consider some communications received by the Secretary and to discuss very important matters in connection with, and in the interest of, and for the well-being of this town in particular and the country in general.

It is hoped that all will endeavour to attend.
(Sgd.) S. BANNERMAN MARTIN,
Secretary.
Cape Coast, 2nd March 1905.

ation. We hope it will come to live and not be a nine days' wonder.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Complaints have been many and various about working on Sundays when the Cargo Boats are in, but of course no notice whatever is taken of them—not worth the while. If as we understand, no Captain of these steamers can do any work of any kind on that day without the permission of the Government, then it means that it is the Government encouraging it; if so, we hope some thing will be done to mitigate the "evil," if not to do away with it altogether.

We take it that those who do it or allow it to go on, think little or nothing about it, from their standpoint, at least, that things have so far "advanced" with them, that they see no harm done, and Time meaning money with them, even the observance of the Lord's Day, must give way to that. What do we know of Sunday? Nothing, but what they themselves have taught, and do teach us.

Before the advent of Christianity the People had a day—if you like, days—sacred to them, and on all such day and days see no work done, traits of this sacredness of a day or days may be seen even in these days, for instance you cannot get the fisher folk to go a fishing on Tuesdays, the idea being that the Sea was created on a Tuesday and that day must be counted sacred to it, and no work done on it on that day. The Christian Religion has come and taught us, that the Creator also has a day sacred to Him and all work of all kinds must cease on that day, excepting works of necessity: to see therefore those who came to teach us this, doing the very opposite, is what we cannot comprehend.

While some of these men tell us: "Do no work on Sunday, rest from your labour on that day, keep it sacred, let eternal Things, things in connection with the soul in you engage all your time this day as things temporal and all infamously about the body, have done on the previous six days," others virtually say to us:—"None of that rot, you must live, you can't idle away your time, you have no business to seek any rest for the body, work away, you idlers, work or we will make you sweat for it." Now, which shall it be and which of these is to be followed? Are we to obey the voice of MAN or the voice of GOD, the Dictates of MAN, dressed up in brief authority, or those of Nature, of the Religious Instinct in us, of CONSCIENCE, of GOD.

Last week we published an article on the Water Question of this Colony, from the Manager of the Mineral Water Manufacturers at this place and that article speaks for itself. It has always been a matter of surprise to us, that water has been allowed to be scarce in this country, for that Nature has enriched us with an abundant, unlimited quantity of water, can only be denied by those who are imbued with queer and prejudicial notions, concerning this much abused land. A good many things have been said believed and acted upon to the detriment of the country and its progress without a particle of truth, or any foundation whatever, all because "They say so" no effort being put forth to verify the truthfulness or otherwise of what is said.

Horrible things said of this country are simply appalling, and the wonder is that Foreigners still come to us. Care is taken to misrepresent things and to exaggerate matters, that nearly all who may be coming to the coast for the first time feel almost sure of going to their certain death, and yet in this country like any where else, a good deal depends on how the persons live. This water question has always been a serious matter with us, and yet no effort of any kind has been made to solve the problem, things have been allowed to go on as usual from time to time, now and again, one hearing of some scheme for other talked about and ended in talking, and the consequence is, scarcity of water all over the country, officials and other Europeans, who must suffer alike with the native, bathing or washing in sea water and soda water.

What wells the natives dig for themselves must be closed up in the interest of mosquito, and no provision of any kind made: it is given out that the country is flat, which means that if even wells be dug there will be no water. This is what is said and believed in responsible quarters. But is the country flat? Take this Town as an instance, is it flat as it is said: who that knows the place can ever say so? Whether these things are said, intentionally or through ignorance, it is not for us to say, nor do we know what purpose this would serve.

To disprove what is usually said in official quarters, and the gossip on board steamers, and by misguided persons, as well as to strengthen the hands of the writer of the article in question, we cite the following from the *West Africa* just to hand (Feb. 4).—*This and the application of a little com-*

mon sense (italics ours) is working wonders in West Africa, in almost every field of industrial enterprise as well as in matters of health and right living. The latest discovery comes from Tarkwa, where we are credibly informed, Mr. Stockfeldt has, in sinking on the Abosso Mine struck a virgin spring of pure crystal water, of "excellent quality."

Thanks to Mr. Stockfeldt, and to the Manager of the W. A. M. W. M. Ltd., whose well we have seen and tasted the water for ourselves. "Why do not the Government consider Artesian Wells, they are inexpensive and will supply all the water required," for the people and the officials, and give up the erroneous idea of the flatness of the country, which has not a scintilla of truth in it. The cry for water has been awful, deaths even have been known to take place from this drought.

There is a general uprising in Congoland, and according to an English contemporary, news from there "report a very serious and alarming state of affairs" The writer winds up an article on the revolt as follows:—"It is not only on the banks of the Neva that the days of autocracy are numbered. Even the savage has some sense of injustice, and will one day demand a reckoning of the refined cruelties and oppression perpetrated upon him. If the information is correct, it looks as if that day of reckoning had arrived."

The gross injustice meted out to the Engineer Abban which a correspondent (Justice) reported from Dunkwa was a subject of some comment in the *Liverpool Weekly Courier* of Feb. 4th last, which we published in our last issue for the benefit, of the Doctor-Commissioner who thus wantonly mutilated justice—British justice. It will do other Commissioners also good to read that extract, for indeed "the course of Justice" is "in a terrible way on the Gold Coast." If Kwamina Abban has not already been released, we have every hope that his case will have some consideration at the hands of the Chief Justice, to whom cases tried by the D. C's., we understand are submitted. The correspondence commented upon by our contemporary appeared in our issue of Dec. 24 (No. 131.)

The two detectives told off to do duty at nights, in the name of Sanitation, are doing far more mischief than good, and the work should be left with the officers of the Sanitary Department. These men within a few hours caught as prisoners 15 or 16 persons, amongst whom were the two women mentioned elsewhere, and yet they threw excrement into the sea, as the prisoners do.

These men will catch people coming away from the latrines. This is nothing but the encouraging of people to create more nuisance in Town, for if in emptying pots into the sea also they must be caught, the sequence will be they will empty them anywhere and anywhen, if the occasion offers itself. We know at the Headquarters people take their pots with them to the beach, and after answering to nature's call, clean them in the sea, and no bother. It seems our Ordinances are made to be interpreted according to one's whims and caprices, no doubt, never intended to be thus by their makers.

AN OFFER TO OUR READERS.

Any reader sending to us ten subscribers with their subscriptions for 3 months will be supplied with free copies up to that time or their equivalent in cash, if preferred. This applies also to subscriptions for 6 or 12 months respectively.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned. A *nom-de-plume* or initials should be given if it is desired that the real name shall not appear in the paper. Name and address must accompany all communications as a guarantee of good faith.

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned. Communications to which replies may be expected must be accompanied with Stamps.

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAR. 4, 1905.

THE LATE A. T. NEIL.

In the presence of death all heads are bowed—some bow out of affection, others out of respect, all out of submission to the inevitable fact that it is an end that comes to all soon or late. Such are some of the thoughts that occur to one, as he hears to-day of the death of that promising young official A. T. Neil Esq., District Commissioner of Sekondi. Mr. Neil was a cadet, we believe, in the Secretariat at Accra until his transference to Axim as a District Commissioner, where he was a great success, commanding the respect and the confidence of a strong Bar. When he left Axim, it was with regret that the community parted with him.

Would that Sekondi had been as kind to him in preserving his health as the former place had been. Nor was it only as a Magistrate that the subject of this notice shone. There are some in the official world, who would seem to consider that what is right and honourable in private life is not necessarily so in official life. Things that they would not stoop to do, or would consider contemptible, in private life, would seem to appeal to them differently in His Majesty's service. Hence the official conscience is coming to be recognised in the Gold Coast in these days. Mr. Neil was not the type of official who generally succeeds in shaking public confidence in executive righteousness. Rather was he of the type who, from time immemorial, have helped to strike deep the foundations of British supremacy in these parts,—men, who seeking only the approbation of conscience, nevertheless serve their King best because they serve him in truth, righteousness, and godly fear. It is wonderful what a thing character is. It is an imperceptible something that goes before a man and stamps him in the hearts and imaginations of the men around him, the voice of the people being often rather than not the voice of God. There are some who, like the ostrich, hide their faces in the sand, and, because, for the moment, they do not see the outside world, conclude that the outside world do not see them. Truth to tell, the outside world of the Gold Coast is pretty acute and wide awake, and notices, compares, and judges where self-complacent officialism may think it slumbers. The remedy lies in high and low learning the secret that true success in life, public or private, consists in holding up the light of truth and sincerity in all our dealings in a generation where the dark corners are many and the light ones few. Mr. Neil has, by his short career among us, set an example in this respect that none need be ashamed to follow; and in the presence of the fact of his death, we bow our heads with feelings of mingled respect and esteem. Peace to his ashes!

A SHATTERED ISLAND.

(BY A BANKER)

How puny are the mightiest efforts of man as compared with the stupendous forces of nature. The nearest approach to the tremendous exhibitions of nature's powers ever achieved by man, was unquestionably the destruction of Flood Island (less euphoniously termed also Hell Gate), a most dangerous sunken obstruction near New York. For eight years workmen were boring long tunnels, galleries, and shafts, the total length of the whole having been more than twenty miles, which when completed were charged with dynamite or other explosive, the whole being connected with an electric battery.

All being in readiness, the charge is fired, a little girl, it is stated, pressing the button which is to effect the destruction of an island. In a moment, with a roar as of ten thousand thunders, a seething volume of ocean, fourteen hundred feet in length and eight hundred feet in breadth, together with the fragments of the island, are upheaved two hundred feet upwards towards the clouds; a long lofty wall of waters, which must have reminded the spell-bound spectators of the watery escarpment through the Red Sea, beneath which the Israelites marched when pursued by Pharaoh's hosts. There it stands, though only for a moment, like an enormous, suddenly molten iceberg projected from the depths of the ocean by some great convulsion of nature. And then, with an appalling crash those millions of tons of water and rock fall back into the open chasm cleft in the sea and in a few minutes the foaming waves have subsided and the shattered island is for ever displaced.

But all this is as nothing to the terrible submarine outbreak which took place near Java little more than a year previously, resulting in the immolation of nearly forty thousand souls. With a terrible roar, heard at a distance of three thousand miles, a vast mass of the incandescent interior of the earth is hurled upwards to the estimated height of seventeen miles; its fall starting a mighty sea-wave seventy feet in height on an errand of desolation and death over many neighboring islands; large vessels are stranded several miles inland; and fertile and prosperous islands are buried beneath a pall of volcanic dust three hundred feet deep. And so great was the concussion that a convulsive throbbing registered by the instruments in observatories from Bombay to London and on to Toronto, quivered through the atmosphere of the entire globe.

And though man's greatest efforts are so puny and so insignificant, yet he dares to put himself in opposition to the omnipotent Being Who created

not only this little earth of ours, with its six hundred million billion tons of fiery molten rock, but also all those myriad myriads of other far mightier worlds scattered throughout the dread abyss of the infinite. And yet He, the Son of God, the Creator, selected this tiny planet as the favoured orb whereon to make a great atonement for the misdeeds committed in all those serried universes—"for Christ having died once, dieth no more"; and whosoever will may participate in the benefits of that atonement and may thereby attain to an inheritance in the realms of glory.

THE WESLEYAN MISSION CHURCH ON THE GOLD COAST.

In his sermon on Sunday the 11th ult. Rev. I. D. Russell referred to the great Apostles of the Gentiles as "a man with a purpose." He spoke of his special preparation with the details of which if we do not agree with him *in toto*, we are at one with in the main.

That the peoples of the Gold Coast have had a special preparation analogous to, that of the Apostles for the duties—which in his application the Rev. gentleman reminded his audience—is patent to the well-informed in the History of Wesleyan Methodism on the Gold Coast.

It may not be amiss however for the information of the general public to advert to this.

The Company of African Merchants in the administration of the Government took so much interest in the natives that they opened a School in Cape Coast (which until very lately was under the supervision of the successive Colonial Chaplains, who for many years made it a point to present each outgoing pupil with a copy of the Bible.

How the study of this sacred volume, which giveth light and understanding to the simple, led these young men to form the historical Bible-reading Club which has had such great results—how, the rays of the light thus shed worked upon the immediate surroundings of this noble band, how the institution grew and swallowed up all available supplies of the Good Book—how in their anxiety to supply those whom "the Lord added daily to the Church" in embryo—how they applied to Capt. Porter of the Barque "Congo" for a quantity of Bibles, and New Testaments on his next voyage out—how the good captain on his return home pleaded with the Wesleyan Missionary Committee, London the cause of his African friends in whom he had taken such a deep interest,—how he nobly volunteered a free passage to a Missionary to Cape Coast: if they would appoint one and in case of ill success to take him back home—how the committee eventually falling in with his scheme sent out the Rev. Joseph Dunwell who, aided by his newly-found African friends, organized the "Meeting" into the Wesleyan Society of to-day—how his zeal eating him up he, within six months laid down the warrior's sword for the victor's crown—how the Rev. O. Wrigley took up the Standard of the fallen bearer, did with his might what his hand found to do in the Master's cause for the good of his African flock, welcomed the Rev. Peter and Mrs. Harrop with joy which ere the morn had twice filled her home was turned into chastened sorrow over the distressing duty of laying them to their last rest one after another including his own wife and as he buried the last of his saintly companions of whose valued society he had been deprived by an inscrutable Providence pathetically wrote:—

"My company before is gone
And I am left alone with Thee,
With Thee all night I mean to stay
And wrestle till the break of day"

How he faithfully struggled through this night till a few months later he joined the loved ones that had gone before, on the same day at Cape Coast that his next colleague the Rev. T. B. Freeman embarked at Gravesend, had himself and his wife looking forward to a happy welcome from lone Missionary were greeted with the sad news of his decease and with heavy hearts on their dropping anchor at Cape Coast entered upon the melancholy field—how the little Society now about 150 rallied round him—how amidst crushing bereavements deep anxiety, trials, and difficulties which required a Freeman to surmount he fought his way laid the foundations broad and deep on which the mighty Wesleyan Church on the Gold Coast, Lagos &c. rests to-day. How with the noble self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of his Great Master for the material as well as the Spiritual good of the people among whom his lot was cast, labouring, incessantly with indefatigable assiduity, achieving success in every department of the work whilst revival followed revival, baptising hundreds at Camp Meetings—how inspired by his

NOTICE.

We may remind our Subscribers that where Money Orders are obtainable their subscriptions should be sent in Postal Orders and not in Postage Stamps.

courage, devotion, fidelity and activity, his well trained sons in the Gospel and his European colleagues making strenuous efforts for the uplifting of the people and furtherance of the cause they so much loved, many laying down their life for it—how sincerely and ably these noble pioneers effectively seconded the efforts of Father Freeman as they called him and brought thousands of the heathen into the Fold of Christ—how at the Jubilee of the Wesleyan Mission Church on the Gold Coast he thrilled in the closely packed Wesley Church the audience which so eagerly drank in the weighty utterances of the veteran Missionary of 74 as he preached the inaugural Sermon on "The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills" (Gen. 49:26) as moved almost to tears he recounted with eloquent pathos the current blessings social, moral and spiritual being enjoyed by the people of the Gold Coast.

These are historical facts which space forbids our doing more than merely enumerating.

We have to-day—thanks to Rev. A. W. Parker and his assistants—nearly of whole Bible in the Fanti language with hundreds of readers, to say nothing of the greatly increased number of such as can intelligently read the English Bible.

The ranks of the Ministry have been strongly reinforced, and as prepared to do their duty as were the servers gone before, into the scenes of whose labours they are to-day sent forth to reap.

Waves of revival have swept over the United Kingdom and are in progress notably in Wales to-day, so powerful in its immediate results as to attract the attention of Secular Journalism and obtain a respectable place in their columns.

Great activity prevails among earnest Christians of various denominations in London in their preparations for showers of blessing; to the commercial interests of England the Prince of Wales on his return from his trip in the "Ophir" sent forth the arousing cry "Wake up John Bull," as the Press is calling upon the British Nation to take to heart the important and far-reaching lessons of the fall of Port Arthur as a culminating point to the wonderful development of Japan which has enabled her to achieve this feat in arms, so may we also seek some worthy purpose upon which to concentrate our efforts. Have not the foregoing any message for us as Methodists? What is the sacred fire that burned in the earlier preachers of Wesley's days or to come nearer home the Native Ministers who so roused the careless and indifferent in and out of the Church as to fire the zeal of believers, bring "sinners in Zion" to their knees, arrest many a soul and by their enthusiastic calls and fervent prayers hauled in drought after drought of fishes from the Ocean of superstition and sin.

How opportune the gathering of Ministers from the various Circuits is to take up and ventilate this subject!

But "a word to the wise is sufficient for them" and we need go no further, than wish the Wesleyan Mission Synod of 1905, a hearty God-speed.

A THOUSAND APOLOGIES!

NO INSULT INTENDED!

(BY LIBRA.)

The writer of an article in the issue before last of this paper, bringing before the public the noble and praiseworthy action of Mr. H. B. W. Russell C.M.G., in substantially recognizing the good services of an old employee by granting him a pension of £24 per annum, makes a mistake in comparing that respected gentleman with the representatives of the Mercantile houses in the Colony. The writer must have thought nothing of the comparison, but it is certain many will notice the insult. The idea of comparing any agent or clerk to Mr. Russell! Should the article meet Mr. Russell's eyes, he is respectfully asked to accept a thousand apologies, for there is no insult intended. Mr. Russell is an owner and it is only an owner, looking after his own interest, will allow himself to think of the interest of his servants; for he knows that the more he looks after theirs, the better, more contentedly and heartily will they serve him and look after his interest.

It is by no means suggested that there can be no representatives as good as owners, but at present, in this Colony, you ask the question—Where can you find a sensible, business like, competent, faithful, devoted, honest, sober representative of a man of sterling qualities? And in most of the towns, Ebene answers where? The days of the right representatives are past—men like, the late C. W. Burnett and W. Waters and J. H. Burt—conscientious, devoted servants of their masters, and agreeable and courteous assistants, respected beyond

The various representatives named do better than take to heart the losses Mr. Russell touches by his straightforward, gentlemanly life on the coast, (for even West African appreciate good morals and gentlemanly habits) for it shows to them all what their masters would do, and how they would act were they to be in the east themselves, and

therefore how they expect them to act, as their representatives.

The speech by the late Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan in England testifies to the fact that there is a screw or some thing loose in the Machinery that works the conversion of these men (properly known here as "Bosses") from behind the proverbial counter to the West African official chair, punkah overhead and Scotch-um-soda before.

It is not infrequently happens, this man, abandoned by his old master, is on his beam ends on the coast, when he is picked up by another representative with the charitable object of giving 'the chap a lift.' "The chap is alright, they often say, if he will not elbow so much." "I wouldn't mind doing something for him, poor chap! That fellow was one of the smartest business men I knew. I think I can make room for him. You see, John Jones is nearly due for leave and he will just come in nicely. I can always manage to keep an eye on him."

John Jones leaves in due course for his holidays and through some ill luck Mr. Henry Jones (the agent's assistant) appetite—usually normal—refuses to be acted upon by any number of doses of Angostura; the result is, he is unfortunately invalided. Mr. Thomas Richard our new man through force of circumstances over which he has absolutely no control becomes within a few weeks an important personage on the official staff.

In the meantime, the agent, up to his resolve, keeps such an uncomfortably strict surveillance upon Mr. Richard that he is forced to actually limit himself to only two cocktails, which are by no means of the regulation strength, before each meal, with equal number of Scotch and Sodas in between except after dinner, after the days work, when Mr. Thomas Richard, private gentleman, does his round of calls and is very much ad lib.

While Mr. Thomas means, but calmly submits to his sad and cruel fate, he nevertheless puts out all the energy that is left in him and is in turn so strict with his work of supervision over the native officials and other employees, swears and curses in such fine style, kicks the lazy niggers about—"Look you here! he shouts, If that job is not done by the time I come back, there will be a b—l of a b—dy row," and with that, up goes his fist—"If you stand staring at me there like a dummy, instead of looking after your work, I will chop you a month's pay." This, to the surprised Head labourer at the new mess.

The agent observes, very seriously ponders over the matter, and decides he never had a better man in the establishment.

About three months after Mr. Thomas Richard first entered the office word comes out that Mr. Henry Jones has left the firm, and accordingly Mr. Richard's position as agent's assistant becomes permanent. Just at this time, the agent heedless of the Doctor's repeated advices to get out of the coast, is prostrate for the third time in the year with a nasty dose of Malarial fever. He is so bad that he decides to go; wherefore the usual power of Attorney, being signed in favour of Mr. Thomas Richard, and all business documents handed over to him, the agent proceeds in charge of a nurse if available, and thereby Thos. Richard Esq. remains sole agent and this is the powers by which many vile agents are brought into being. What transpires afterwards, what becomes of the business, what happens to Thomas Richard Esq., sole agent—not a dozen strong horses will draw out of me.

THE CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHER.

ON THE MOON.

NO. IV.

Next to the sun, the moon is the most remarkable of the celestial objects. In its form, it is not like the earth, flattened at the pole; but it is a perfect sphere. It revolves round the earth at the distance of 240,000 miles, in an elliptical or oval orbit; and with it is carried round the sun. As the moon turns round her axis only once while making one revolution round the earth, she always keeps nearly the same side towards the earth; but as her motion in her orbit is not exactly uniform, we see something more than one side. In the swiftest part of her revolution, her face is turned from the earth a little more than her rotation on her axis turns it the contrary way; in the slower parts of her revolution the reverse will happen. As the axis of the moon, like that of the earth, is always parallel to itself, or directed to the same star in all situations, it will sometimes incline from the earth, and sometimes towards it; in consequence of which we see more or less, at different times, of those parts of the moon which lie about each of her poles.

This motion is called her Libration in Latitude, as the former is denominated her Libration in Longitude. The time in which this planet performs her revolution round the earth, is twenty seven days, seven hours, and forty-three minutes.

The time in which this planet performs the complete revolution of her own orbit, is twenty-seven days, seven hours, forty three minutes, eleven seconds and a half; but as, during this period, the

earth has advanced through a considerable portion of her annual course, the moon must make more than a complete revolution, in order to finish a lunation, or arrive at the same position, in relation to the sun and earth. This period is the synodical or chronological month; and consists of twenty-nine days, twelve hours, forty-four minutes, and three seconds.

It is evident that the spots on the moon are mountains, from their casting a shadow in the direction opposite to the sun.

The height of some of these mountains has been found, by observation to be 25,000 feet in perpendicular altitude, which is greater than any of those on the earth. Several of these mountains appear to be volcanoes.

It has been a general opinion, that the moon has no atmosphere; but the latest discoveries seem rather to favour the idea. The continual change of figure to which the moon is subject, depends upon her relative situation to the earth and the sun.

That side of the moon which is towards the sun, will be enlightened. When we see the whole of the enlightened side, it appears in the full. In order to this, the earth must be between the sun and the moon. When the enlightened side is wholly turned from us, she is invisible; being then between the earth and the sun:—in this case, the moon is said to be in conjunction with the sun: in the former, in opposition. As the moon advances in her orbit, after being in conjunction, a small part of the enlightened side is seen, and we have a new moon; and we continue to see more and more of the enlightened side as the moon approaches a state of opposition. The waning of the moon takes place in the same manner, but in a contrary order.

These changes of the moon may be easily illustrated by an ivory ball, which, being held in various positions near a candle, will present a greater or less portion of its illuminated hemisphere to the view of the observer; appearing, like the moon, horned, full, and gibbous. The attraction of the sun and moon produces the tides. When the sun and moon are in conjunction, or in opposition, they act together, and occasion spring tides: when the moon is in her first or third quarter, they counteract each other's attraction, and neap-tides are experienced. If the orbit of the moon were in the same plane with that of the earth, wherever the moon was between the earth and the sun, or in conjunction, the sun's light would be interrupted, and an eclipse of the sun take place; and wherever the Earth was between the sun and the moon, or in opposition the moon would come within the earth's shadow and be eclipsed: but as the plane of the moon's orbit makes an angle with that of the earth, of five degrees, she is sometimes north, and at others south, of the earth orbit; so that if the time of the opposition or conjunction does not happen at or near the time of her crossing the orbit of the earth, she will be either too high or too low to come within the shadow of the earth, and there will be no eclipse of the moon, or at least only a partial eclipse; for the same reason there will be no eclipse of the sun, except the moon cross the earth's orbit at the time of her being in conjunction.

It seems to belong to the Christian Philosopher to remark that the darkness which took place when our blessed Saviour hung on the cross, could not have been produced by an eclipse of the sun; since this event never can happen when the moon is in opposition; which was the case at this important period, as the Passover was always kept at the time of the full moon. The darkness which, in that awful season, overspread the face of Nature, was, doubtless, occasioned by a particular interference of Divine Power; and perhaps intended as a lively emblem of darkness and distress of spirit with which the Lord of all things was then overwhelmed.

"A midnight nature shuddered to behold,
A midnight new: a dread eclipse without
Opposing spheres from her Creator's frown.
Sun, didst thou fly thy makers pain or start?
At that enormous load of guilt
Which bow'd his blessed head.

He who then hung on the accursed tree, made the lesser light to rule by night. By her pale reflected beams, she, in some degree, supplies the place of the sun when he is set; and when she shines, preserves the earth from being wrapt in total darkness.

Whilst the moon enlightens our world, the earth answers the end of a moon, more than fifteen times as large, to enlighten that planet.

Thus has the Creator formed his works, that one part of them is useful to another; so should the followers of Christ endeavour to confer benefit as well as to receive it; thus realizing, in the moral world, what the wisdom and goodness of God has produced in the world of Nature. "I am sure," says Dr. C. Mather, in his Christian Philosopher, "to be under such influence of the moon, as to see the great God managing many of his gracious intentions by such an instrument; and to be awakened to his praise in the night, when we see the moon walking in brightness, would not be a lunacy that the most rational man could be

ashamed of."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

Wesleyan Mission House,
Cape Coast Castle, Feb. 23, 1905.

My dear Sir,—The following information re the Wesleyan Methodist Church in the Gold Coast District, may be interesting to your Readers. The figures are those for the year ended Dec. 31st 1904:—

European Missionaries	6,	Increase	1
" Ladies in Girls' Schools	3	"	2
Native Ministers	20,	Students in College	3.
Gatechists	85,	Increase	10
Day School Teachers	290,	"	18.
Members of the Church	9439	"	376.
(Communicants only)		"	
Persons on Trial for	2199	"	374.
Membership			
Infant Baptisms	1171	Decrease	21.
Adult "	1465	Increase	1543.
Marriages	72.		
Sunday Schools	133,	"	6.
Sunday School Scholars	14,604,	"	673.
" Teachers	597,	"	3.
Day Schools	109,	"	13.
" Scholars	7042,	"	378.
Class Leaders	744,	"	21.
Lay Preachers	569,	"	14.
Junior-Class Leaders	193,	"	6.
Estimated number of adherents			
(including communicants)			27,900.

The cost of the Elementary Schools was £3,667, towards which the Government Grants were £1,648. The expenditure on the High Schools was over £300. The total Local Contributions exceed £8,000. The Home Committee Grants (including Building Grants) were £3,700.

Yours faithfully,
A. T. R. BARTROP,
General Superintendent.

Sir,—We are having a very hot time with the Inspector of Nuisance of this town and his gang of Kroo and Wangara scavengers. People are astonished to see how he handles his Public Health Ordinance and have come to the conclusion, that he might have misperused the sections contained in that Ordinance with reference to stray cattle, or he must have something in view. I think when he was reading the above Ordinance he did not clearly comprehend the meaning of the word stray, therefore I will assist him in that line. To stray, is to wander, as from a direct course:—to wander from company. Any domestic animal that wanders at large or is lost. This being the meaning, a stray animal is a sheep, a goat or any domestic animal that wanders from the company of others some miles away from its home and unable to retrace back its steps. If so, can a sheep or goat or any domestic animal airing a few yards from its home be called a stray animal? For instance a domestic animal airing from Otua opa Kukwadu down to the Botokul drain cannot be called a stray animal; so is also from Grant's to Majuba Hills. These places are far from the main thoroughfare, the principle street leading from Lower to Upper Town; and yet the Inspector will spare no pains to send his regiment of Kroos and Wangarians to every nook in these parts in search of his foes, the sheep and goats. These animals do not commit any nuisance like the pigs but rather help him and his men in clearing up the nuisance; for they pick up only dead leaves fallen from trees which is the duty of the scavengers to sweep.

Will the Inspector be good enough to translate this into English: *Abuyi ato do usor.*

A few weeks ago a certain gentleman's wife was nearly arrested instead of her goats, because she saw his regiment coming towards her house, and during that time she had a few goats outside so she drove them into her yard. One of the colonels by name Monrovis seeing this, at once ordered the woman to be arrested, but for the timely interference of a certain youngman the poor woman would have been driven into the pound in lieu of her goats. What do you call this, Mr. Editor? Is not this disgraceful, for men to act in such unwise manner towards a woman, the wife of a gentleman? Instead of letting his men know that this is contrary to their rules (if any) and against the rules of etiquette on his own part he encouraged them with a laugh. This shows what sort of stuff he is made of. If he is not Inspector of Nonsense (instead of Nuisance) as he styles himself he has a lot to do for the benefit of the town than to wage war with the poor dumb creatures. If he takes the trouble of inspecting the town (as it is his duty to do) he will find that the Botokul drain is full of weeds and pools of stagnant water. The weeds ought to be brushed up and the pools drained for health sake. I advise him to direct his regiment to that quarter; they will have enough to do rather than to commit nuisance on people's wives instead of clearing up nuisance.

Thanking you for the space allowed.
Yours faithfully,—OWOSU NKWANTA.
Axim, February 25, 1905.

SEKONDI

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

By the s.s. "Sekondi" on the 11th ult. arrived one Sir Young K.O.M.G., C.B., who accompanied by Mr. A. E. P. Graves left for Accra on the 19th inst. per "Burutu" we understand to attend a meeting of the Legislative Council. Both gentlemen returned by the "Nigeria".

Mr. Tim Laing, ex-Editor of the Gold Coast Advocate arrived by the "Nigeria" on the 22nd inst. we are confidently assured that Mr. Laing soon starts a paper named Sekondi Herald, a meeting in connection with which is said to have taken place this evening at Mr. Schöck's residence.

One of the bastard buildings—half bungalow, half house—intended for the offices of the Transport, Treasury and Customs Departments, is in course of construction in Customs Road.

There was some indignation shown on the 17th inst. over Mr. Justice Percell's judgment in the matter of the contested stool resulting in a fresh and turn at fist-cuffs between the "Whig and Tory" parties of Dutch Town, Sekondi—the majority of whom were arrested and would have been incarcerated had not Mr. Bray appeared in Court and signed £100 bond for preservation of peace and order.

All who knew old Daddy Nettoy of Horse Road, Accra were shocked with the news of his death on the 13th ult. which was communicated by telegram to Mr. Fred. Sam—the grand nephew of the deceased; the families and relatives have our sincere sympathies.

We regret to report the death on board the s.s. "Egwanga" (Sekondi Roads) this morning of Mr. Neil, D. C. who has been ailing during the past fortnight. His remains were disembarked and deposited at the Public Cemetery at 4 p.m. with Military honours. The half masts exhibited by the mercantile houses &c. were expressive of the deep sorrow felt on account of the loss.

Mr. Keason of the Customs Department has been transferred to Dixcove as Officer in charge. We understand Mr. Fritz leaves for Cape Coast this week on two months holiday.

POLITICAL.

In reference to the judgment delivered by Mr. Justice Percell at Tarkwa on the 7th Feb. in the matter of the contested stool, the following notice served Ohin Anaise II and his Headmen is published for general information:—"I hereby give you notice that it is the intention of His Honour Mr. Justice Percell to review (of his own motion) at the Court House, Government Hill, Tarkwa on Tuesday, February 14th, 1905 at 8-30 a.m. the judgment he delivered at Tarkwa on Tuesday, February 7th in the motion entitled Kwamina Anaise II and others vs. Kwow Jobnfa to the extent of substituting a judgment of nousuif in place of the present judgment in favour of Defendant." Comments unnecessary.

ADJAH BIPPO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Two Sundays (12th and 19th) have passed without any notice being given to Church services by the Methodists here. Pity. Does this mean that the work was not handed to a trustworthy person before leave was granted to Mr. Hayfron the agent to go to Cape Coast for a change. If this is so, why?

In the absence of Mr. Hayfron the Singing Band is having its work regularly as usual, which we thank the Conductors for the improvement it is giving to the young girls here; but to allow them to quarrel when they ought to be engaged learning interesting songs in the meeting, is greatly absurd.

It is really a disgrace for the public to notice that the Members of the singing band had to be cleared out from the Church where they have their meetings by one of the Church Members when they had this quarrel repeated the second time. I wonder what Rev. Standhope will say to this when he returns from the Synod.

I am glad to report that Mr. Maclear the General Manager of the Wassau Coy. has promised to assist in putting up a new church for the Methodist work at the Ahanta village (in place of the one at Adjah Bippo) where the inhabitants of Adjah Bippo will have to put up. We thank him.

The Wassau Medical Officer is busily engaged sharing blocks of land to the inhabitants of Adjah Bippo for building purposes, I trust he will not forget to leave some of these blocks for sanitation, where suitable.

Is there any trouble with the Wassau Fuel Department? I am noticing with regret how Mr. Appiah goes up to work early at 6 and knocks off late at about 7 or 8. The trouble is evidently this:—The fuel cutters were asked by the European fuel Boss to cut timber of 4 feet long and split and stack a cord of about 8 feet long by 4 feet high each day by 2 men; abhorring round timbers which help these a great deal in getting a days work

fulfilled. These men seeing this work impossible for them to do, asked their Boss (the European) to reduce the length of the timber into 18 inches which they usually cut; but this request proved a failure, the majority of the men handed up their axes and bade farewell to Adjah Bippo.

These men are only paid 1/9 a day each. Since two weeks ago we have been noticing a great decrease in fire wood. Here now the abhorred 18 inches splitting and round timbers are acceptable, but where are the boys? These boys were allowed to go with intention that they will not get employment elsewhere and by that they will return and resume their work; but I am sorry the Boss has found himself in ashes instead of otherwise. What will be the General Manager's steps about this?

Mr. Stockfield has arrived at Abosso. We welcome him, and will be glad to hear him work the Mill as soon as possible. Laborers are being paid 1/- a day in all the Mines around here, if this great change was brought about by the Mine Managers, I trust, they will have a thorough discussion of resolutions before passing any similar kind of law on another department in the Mines; for I am afraid they will have to spoil things, than to do good.

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Under the arrangement of Mr. Cola, a grand ball at Mr. Lee's Hall was given on the evening of Saturday the 4th inst. attended by a number of Europeans and natives who arrived here from Sekondi that day, the performance was conducted with success.

The German steamer "Khalif" arrived and discharged her cargo on Sunday the 5th ult. We do not understand why the Authorities have not as yet taken any measures in the shape of awarding penalties against Sabbath breaking. At any rate this Sacred Day should be strictly observed.

With Mr. Chas. M. Acquah in the chair supported by Messrs H. P. Clarke, J. E. Butler, A. W. Kayper, Jonah Arthur, Francis Ghann, Philip, Ashon and J. S. Antony, the Annual Missionary Meeting held on Sunday evening the 5th inst. came off successfully. According to the statistics read by the Parson, the circuit work had made a rapid headway during the year which is the result of efficient career and self-sacrifice. The reading of the report was listened to with marked attention and signs of delight and satisfaction amid the achievements brought about by the exertions and efforts of Rev. Sackey, were vividly exhibited by unabating clapping of hands. Out of the instructive speeches delivered, those of Messrs Antony and Jonah Arthur carried the meeting by storm; it required some pains to suppress the loud uproar of applause, all of which tend to saying that a very enjoyable and interesting evening was spent. Mention should be made of the congratulations due to be accorded Mr. T. M. Ellison for his untiring service in connection with Church interests, while Mr. Anaman owns our indebtedness for conducting the Singing Band which rendered with solemnity the anthem "While the days are going by" at the close of the meeting.

Rev. E. A. Sackey left for Cape Coast to attend the District Synod last Friday.

During the absence of Tarkwa of Mr. Yarquah, the store of Messrs. Millers Ltd. was broken into on the night of 9th ult. by some ruffians and some goods carried off; neither the recovery of the goods nor a trace of the robbers has been made all efforts in this direction notwithstanding.

The sanitary condition of this little town cannot be conveniently kept up by means of present system of sweeping with women's cloths invented or introduced by single scavenger, who, besides other duties, undertakes the emptying of public latrines. How on Earth can one man do the work of sanitation and where in this world can the cleanliness of a market place or street be effected by the service of sweeping cloths where broom is required? The matter is simply absurd to admit an argument or criticism from any governmental source—but at any rate Chama has been had.

We regret to report the death on the 17th ult. of Mr. William Mensah—a member of the Wesleyan Society—whose remains were deposited at the Wesleyan Cemetery attended by a large concourse of people. Mr. G. B. Acquah (the Schoolmaster) officiated.

Owing to the work done on Sunday the 19th ult. on which the s.s. "Bathurst" discharged her cargo here, the number that attended Service was comparatively few. The breach of Sabbath with impunity on which we remarked in our last week's notes, should be strictly prohibited by law; we trust the matter is engaging the attention of the Authorities.

On the 20th inst. Bishop Pollet and Father Ogee arrived here—there were no processions and demonstrations this time.

We are pleased to find Sergeant Gairon having sprung in his coat—discarding former atrocities and working assiduously in the interest of the Public and Government.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Orlanah, D. C. with Mr. Ohene the Registrar visited here on Wednesday the 10th ult.

On the morning of the 16th the D. C. held court and visited the Wesleyan and the Catholic Schools, the former having closed then to work at the Cemetery.

The policeman that was favoured for about a week did not come to stay with us but came on a special duty and that is to detect people loitering at the beach, gunpowder. Since he succeeded in getting Asmah and others he has been no longer with us, and we are alone. Mr. Asmah who was sent down to Salt Pond on arrest was ably defended by Lawyer Savage but was fined £100.

The Rev. A. W. Parker and Chief Harrison are expected here shortly after the Synod.

I am asking the authorities of the English I. O. G. T. Lodge to come down to us once more to re-institute the Order, "oh come and help us lest we perish."

Messrs. J. J. Fischer & Co. will soon be opening a store here.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. A. J. Hammond of J. J. Fischer's, is not to go to Kumasi, I find, as I reported last.

APPAM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On the night of the 6th inst. a bedroom in the family residence of Mr. J. H. Hagan was ransacked by a band of desperadoes who carried away all the personal effects of this young man leaving him not a single pair of trousers to use. Despite all efforts no trace has yet been made of either the goods or whereabouts of the miscreants.

Rev. Marshall left here for Cape Coast last week for the Synod.

On the 12th ult. died Madam Sarah Anna Dush member of the Church, and mother of Mr. S. P. Y. Arkorful—at her residence in Retreat Circus. The obsequies in connection with this event, were responsible for non-performance of service both morning and evening. The woman was buried at 4 p.m. in the Wesleyan Cemetery—Mr. R. Abban officiating.

Immediately after the departure to Tantom of Mr. Abban, expired at the Fort on the 14th ult. Mr. P. A. Sackey—the Officer in Charge of Customs whose remains were deposited at the Wesleyan Cemetery at 4 p.m. Mr. L. A. Inboom officiated. To the families and relatives of the deceased we extend our sincere sympathies.

Mr. Peregrine arrived here on the 14th inst. on inspection and left for Winneba on the evening of the same day.

We understand that at the Synod which closed on the 23rd ultimo, the following report on the results of the Day School Teachers Scripture Examination was read:—

Sophia Otsiri (Aber) First	81%
Myles (Accra) Second	80%
G. W. Marshall (Appam) Third	70%

WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Provisional Commissioner Mr. Peregrine arrived here on the 14th ult. for the purpose of settling the unsatisfactory state of affairs in town between Ohin Acquah II and his people.

On the 15th he convoked a meeting at the Fort and all the Townsmen were present to the announcement by a Bell rang on the evening of the 14th inst. and continued till the 16th inst. (to-day).

We may be able to report the result in our next. The depositions are to be sent to Accra to His Excellency first before the judgment shall be given as said by the Provisional Commissioner.

Mr. A. Clark, Chief Agent of the firm of African Association Ltd., arrived here in the evening of the 20th ult. by the s.s. "Bekana."

The Provincial Commissioner, Mr. Peregrine left here in the morning of the 20th ult. for Cape Coast.

THE LATE

BISHOP JOHN BRYAN SMALL, D.D.

BORN MAR. 14, 1845, DIED JAN. 18, 1905.

The news of the death of this distinguished Bishop of the A. M. E. Zion Church reached here by the s.s. Fanti on last Sunday, and it is needless to say, that it came as a shock to all in the community who knew him. As the Father of the Mission here under the pastorate of Rev. F. Arthur, his death must be a blow to this infant Church but we have every reason to hope that the work started by him on the Coast, will under God's grace, continue to grow. We hope to give a short account of the Bishop's life which we think will be interesting to some of our readers, in a subsequent issue. The late Bishop showed intense interest in the African Work by supporting four young men through School to labour in the foreign field. Says the Editor of the Star just to hand,

Well do we remember how he wept at Mobile a few weeks ago while reading a letter from Rev. Frank Arthur which told of the trials of the work at Cape Coast. His kind heart went out in apostolic love and interest for this "son in the Gospel" far over the sea. How can he build no more worthy monument to his memory than to foster and extend his mission work?

By his courteousness and affability during his visits here, the late Bishop endeared himself to all who came in contact with him.

A Memorial Service which was largely attended, was held at Zion Church House on Tuesday last by the Rev. Frank Arthur, at which addresses were given by Revs. Jas. Reynolds, F. Egyir-Amam and Father Parker. Mr. Arthur made an attempt to speak but was overpowered by his feelings and gave it up. Amongst those present on the occasion were Revs. Dr. Hayford who offered the opening prayer, Brodie Graham, Butler, and J. B. Anaman, Chief B. A. Harrison, Messrs T. Addagay, W. R. Sam, J. E. Ellis, James Smith, W. E. Davis, J. J. Kwesi, A. D. Wilson, Amiah J. E. Hayford, W. B. Amisah, S. P. Longdon, O. D. Bain, Mr. and Mrs. Turison, Miss Brown. The service was very impressive, a benediction from Father Parker closed the meeting.

Rev. Mrs. Mary J. Small, and the other friends across the seas, the Church of which he was such a bright ornament, with the infant Churches on the Coast have our deep sympathies.

IN MY DRAGNET.

(BY AGATHA.)

To live content with small means, to seek elegance rather than luxury, and refinement rather than fashion; to be worthy, not respectable, and wealthy, not rich; to listen to stars and birds, babes and sages with open heart; to study hard; to think quietly, act frankly, talk gently, await occasions, hurry never; in a word, to let the spiritual unbidden and unconscious, grow up through the common—this is my symphony.—WILLIAM H. CHANNING.

Charles Dickens is credited with writing the following in his Will:—

"I exhort my dear children humbly to try to guide themselves by the teaching of the New Testament in its broad spirit, and to put no faith in any man's narrow-construction of its letter here or there."

Life is too short to waste
In critic peep or cynic bark,
Quarrel or reprimand;
Twill soon be dark.—EMERSON

If there be one thing upon earth that mankind love and admire better than another, it is a brave man; it is a man who dares look the devil in the face and tell him he is a devil.—JAS. A. GARFIELD.

IS DANCING AN INNOCENT AMUSEMENT?

(BY A NAIKEL MISSION CATECHIST.)

I have nothing to object against dancing pure and simple. I see no fault with dancing in itself; for what is dancing but a joyous leaping or stepping with motions of the body adjusted to the measure of a tune. I believe it is in this innocent vein of the subject that Dr. Talmage says:—"I would give to all of our youth the right to romp and play. God meant it, or he would not have surcharged our natures with such exuberance. If a mother join hands with her children, and while the eldest strikes the keys, fill all the house with the sound of agile feet, I see no harm. If a few friends gathered in happy circles, conclude to cross and recross the room to the sound of the piano well played, I see no harm." But let us view dancing from another angle, let us consider the tread of a wild intoxicating heated midnight dance and we will soon discover a defiler of the soul and the avenue of loss.

Since all kinds of dances, whether European or native, have been made so pre-eminently adapted to promote a spirit entirely alien to Christ and a heavenly disposition, they can now in no way be deemed innocent, and yet it is very difficult to get the young people in our Churches to keep away from the attractive but sinful and ruinous amusements of the ball-rooms and other native dances. Is it not an outrage upon Christianity to see members of any Christian Church leaping imprudently like camels in the ball-room or in such native dances, as Anso, Gbekor, Ashiku, Adenkun Zobom, Asankor Awale?

Think seriously of the dissipations connected with dancing and then answer for yourself the following questions:—

Would our blessed Lord, our divine pattern go to the ball-rooms or to any native dances? Would any of the apostles go there? Would you like to be found there at the moment of death? Your own conscience will answer these inquiries as quickly as I can put them on paper and each answer I am sure will be in the negative.

This then supplies a rule for us. Surely what would be reproved by our Lord's example, and what would be unseemly in apostles and holy men is unfitting for us. What does not harmonise with

prayer, with close communion with God, and with the solemnity of death and judgment, is no place or exercise for the Christian. Therefore, my dear young friends bear the admonition of the divine word; "Come out from amongst them, and be ye separate," "Keep thine eye from beholding vanity," &c. "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."

Now hear the Fathers on dancing.—St. Chrysostom says: "The feet were not given for dancing, but to walk modestly, not to leap imprudently like camels."

Another ancient says: "A dance is the devil's possession; and he that entereth into a dance, entereth into his possession. The devil is the gate to the middle and to the end of the dance. As many passes as a man makes in dancing, so many doth he make to hell." Elsewhere, these old dogmas declare "The woman that singeth in the dance is the princess of the devil; and those that answer are his clerks; and the beholders are his friends, and the music are his bellows, and fiddlers are the ministers of the devil; for, as when hogs are strayed, if the hogshearer call one, all assemble together, so the devil calleth one woman to sing in the dance, or to play on some instrument, and presently all the dancers gather together."

To be continued.

THE MARRIAGE QUESTION.

Sir,—Every educated youngman, who is unmarried but who is contemplating marriage, and who attended Wesley Chapel last Sunday morning, must have felt very grateful to the General Superintendent and Chairman of the Wesleyan Mission, Revd. Bartrop, for his discourse on the duties of the Church &c &c, especially that which related to Christian marriages.

It is true, most true, that a great number of the youngmen are outside the pale of the Church, which they love, and of which they should like to become members, because of the Marriage Question. They find it very hard to go through the formalities required by modern parents before giving away their daughters. A youngman who takes a frock lady to wife, has to undergo a great deal of unnecessary expense. He is required first, "to do it" according to Native Custom: knocking the door then sending beadrum &c. &c. which two events cost from £12 to £15; after which, whether because we are under English protection or what one does not know; you must do it in "English fashion Africanised!" order the trousseau yourself, &c. &c; and then get "spliced" again; (this time by the Minister;) which course sometimes costs more than £50 or £60. So that by the time you are married properly, half or the best part of your savings, has been swept away. This has deterred many from entering into the Christian Marriage State. If it could be arranged in such a way that youngmen be not saddled with the "Two marriages" they will come to think better of Matrimony and thus overcome the only obstacle in their way, and give their attention to the Church. Fancies say, 'Asutor obien oye eni ha, han.' We know that what is lightly won is lightly priced; but it is patent, that the attention will stray from what is too highly priced. Evidence the action of a prospective buyer, who finding the article he most desires, is very costly, looks round for a cheaper one.

We are sure, if Mammes and Papas will consider this grave question and minimize the cost of Marriages, there will be many good marriages, and an absence of that which brings on so many connubial unpleasantness. For, when the marriage has been very costly and the wife has proved unsatisfactory, the husband, so far as we have observed, is apt to deplore the marriage and then Love flies out of the window, as quarrels and fightings come in through the door. We hope this matter will engage the serious attention of the whole community and that a reasonable, more definite and final arrangement will be made, which will not tend to cripple a would-be-candidate into the grand Marriage State, but, wean the youngmen from the left hand path of Marriage.

Faithfully yours,—PROSPERO.

Cape Coast 22 Feb. 1905.

Sir,—Please allow me to thank Mr. Lux through the medium of your paper for his kind invitation, giving voice to his young friends who may be inclined to express their ideas on the subject or subjects of his open letter addressed to all heads of Christian bodies in the country. Supported by this authority, I consider myself no intruder whatever being fully "licensed to sell" my news on the subjects he has so ably dealt with.

I should like to be understood that in handling my present task I do not pose to be a defender of any one. I am rather called forth, because, my curiosity to know something of our institutions, manners and customs is always intense whatever and whenever the subject is taken up.

Following Mr. Lux I was painfully brought to a standstill in the light of my observations, that I cannot help regretting. Having connected the question of our customs with the Churches I was expecting he would conduct us hand in hand into things spiritual. Instead of the foreign lines on which Christianity in the country was introduced, we require the Missionary bodies to be in touch with our institutions and adopt those means whereby their enterprise might not be labour lost, and serve to be beneficial to both the Church, pastor, and flock. True Christianity we can never have when the present objectives are allowed to remain unchecked; they are unsuitable and objectionable, because they are foreign. With the real Truth we have nothing against but the way and manner they go about it.

To exclaim with "Basaraku" the religious tendency in the country, at present, is far from reassuring. We see all around us signs which will strike a community of right thinking men with terror. In this case we think the cry is universal; and it would be better for Mr. Lux to leave alone that particular Missionary body that brought about the innovation, which I can only term as temporal, and let for reforms in things directly affecting our salvation and our moral condition.

What I deplore in the ministers of some of the local Church, is, to express myself in native adage, "Wodzi tair na wosure anyire" meaning in plain English that they are afraid of the eye when they can eat the very head. Dating to point out to them any irregularity that may occasionally find its way into their administration you thereby render yourself very offensive to them, and you are looked upon as the most depraved sinner the world has ever produced; yet you meant no harm, but for mutual benefit. If they are only responsible to their Master for their actions we venture not to ask much from them, but exemplary lives for the sake of their sacred calling. If you so detest to be dragged through the rough and unpleasant paths of censure and criticism, you must do your Master's bidding without any flaw; you must seek peace and unity among your flock; have good intentions and good will towards them; try to convince them that you have their welfare, both temporal and spiritual, at heart, and they will cling to you as children do their mother.

Mr. Editor, I believe I have exceeded my bounds and must necessarily close; but before I do so I beg to tender you my sincere thanks for the indulgence you have so kindly granted me.

I am, yours truly,
KODWO PAIBI.

Cape Coast, 22nd. Feb. 1905.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AND THEIR MEMBERS.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Kindly insert in your valuable columns the enclosed cutting for the perusal of the leading men in the many Friendly Societies we have in town, for them to adopt some means for delinquent members. It is very annoying and cheating for one to join a society to obtain some thing at his death in aid of his funeral expenses and for which after paying the proposition and entrance fees which sometimes amount to £5 or 7 guineas and further to pay monthly contributions all his life time, but once he fails to pay his contribution and in arrears for few months then he loses all benefits in sick bed or at his death; sometimes the party is denied a burial by his Lodge and he is not even recognised as having been in the Lodge room before. I hope this will move them to make some provision for such people who by right have not got the means to pay their contributions and not those who have the money but only do not care to pay.

Thanking you for space allowed.

I am, yours sincerely,
AMICITA AMOR ET VERITAS.

Cape Coast Castle, Feb. 21, 1905.

MEANING OF "BENEFIT."

Mr. Kane, K.C., gave his decision on Thursday at West London police-court, on the summons taken out by Mrs. Telfer, a widow, against the Richester Sick Benefit Society, Notting-hill, for the payment of £8 due on the death of her husband, a member of the Society.—At the time of his death Mr. Telfer was in arrears with his payments, and Mr. H. Pierron, who contested the claim on behalf of the society, pointed out that under Rule 10, "Any member owing 5s. 8d. should be out of all benefits."—Mr. Nonweiler, for the widow, contended that the word "benefits" referred only to sick pay benefits, because a man could not obtain a benefit from his own death.

The magistrate observed that the case was of importance. He had looked up the word "benefit" in the dictionary, and, as he anticipated, he found that it still bore, in modern days, the same meaning as in the classic Latin language, whence it was derived, namely, "any kindness, favour, assistance, that can be given to the community or the individual—profit, advantage, &c." It was ridiculous to suppose that a man received no benefit from an insurance on his life, simply because he did not personally touch the money.

Therefore, if Rule 10 stood alone he would uphold Mr. Pierron's contention and decide in favour of the society, but the very next rule—11—which dealt solely with sick payments, referred explicitly to the latter as "benefits," and it was clear that the promoters of the rules intended the word to apply to the various advantages which a member would in sickness derive from the fund. He gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with 23s. costs.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS. OUTWARDS.

Table with 3 columns: Ship Name, Service, and Date. Includes entries for Ancobra Opobo Service, Akabo Lagos Express Service, Dahomey Brass Service, Jebba S. Coast Express Service No. 1, Warri Opobo Service, Leopoldville Congo Boat, Bonny Southern Windward Service, and Accra Brass Service.

HOMEWARDS.

Table with 3 columns: Ship Name, Service, and Date. Includes entries for Sepele Brass Service, Burata Lagos Express Service, Axim Opobo Service, Ekeo Wermann Cameroons A. Service, Sakoto H. C. Express Service No. 2, Saveraville Congo Boat, and Sakana Brass Service.

*With mails and passengers only.

The Gold Coast Leader.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

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For copies of the paper please apply to
Mr. H. SOLOMON, Jackson Street, and
Mr. R. P. WOOD, Ashanti Road, (W. E. Sam's.)

AT AXIM,

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

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The Cape Coast Aerated Water Works.

LEMONADE, GINGER ALE & SODA WATER, supplied at 5/- per Dozen Pint Bottles and 4/6 per Dozen Half Pint Bottles.

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Terms strictly cash on delivery.

H. E. SAGOE.

MANAGER.

Aboom, Cape Coast.

NOTICE.

The following lands are known to be the property of late Chief Kojo Yeboowah of Akortokyr viz:—Aiboo, Brigimakoo, Kookoekyr and Akortokyr and not the property of late Prince Kweku Aigill. All trespassers will be prosecuted.

By order
p.p. AMBAH KYIRIBAH,
J. E. KITSON.

WANTED.

BY THE NIGER COMPANY, Limited, Eight respectable well educated young men for tallying on board steamers.

Applicants, with previous experience only, to apply to the Agent, Burutu, enclosing copies of recent Testimonials.



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ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

IN TINS WITH PATENT OPENSER.
LARGEST SALE IN AFRICA.
TO BE OBTAINED AT ALL STORES.

Invaluable to Ladies.

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PENNYROYAL AND STEEL

will quickly correct all irregularities, all obstructions, and relieve all depressing symptoms. The World knows no such preparation for Ladies as this invaluable specific, justly called

THIS IS THE BEST REMEDY FOR WOMAN'S UNFAILING FRIEND.

having benefited the sex to an extent which can only be told by those who have suffered and experienced their PRICELESS VALUE. Regularly USED and implicitly TRUSTED. 75 YEARS' REPUTATION. The oldest and ONLY Reliable Remedy. Of all Chemists and Druggists throughout Africa, West and Central Africa.

Small Size Box 1/6, Medium 2/6, Large 4/6.

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Read these notes also inside each box of pills or tins.

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MEYNE & RITTER, HAMBURG.

General Merchants and Produce Brokers.

Execute Indents promptly, if remittances are accompanied in B/L. for produces, or Cash at least 50% the remainder we draw through the Bank. We serve our customers with the very lowest prices. Produce consigned to us fetch always highest possible prices. Best References on the whole Coast! A trial is requested! Agents are wanted.

NOTICES.

The undersigned has been instructed to sell by Public Auction at the instance of the Executors of the late Jacob Wilson Sey per their Solicitor, C. J. Bannerman, Esq., B.L.

On Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday the 16th, 17th, 18th and 20th instant respectively at 4.30 o'clock p.m., the following—viz.

1. All that piece or parcel of Land with the Buildings thereon situate at Idun, abutting the slope of McCarthy's Hill, Cape Coast and bounded on the North by William Martin's Land measuring 72 feet, on the East by Gaganoo Street 95 feet, on the South by John Myles house 72 feet and on the West by part of the slope of McCarthy's Hill 95 feet the property of EKUWA OWU BAGAWANA Date of Mortgage Deed Nov. 4, 1901.

2. All that piece or parcel of Land with the Buildings thereon, situate at Idun, Cape Coast, and commonly known as late EKUWA ESSIAKUMAH'S House and bounded on the North by the Street opposite Ebenezer Hotel, measuring 85 feet, on the South by the Sea 63 feet on the East by James Ricketts and Cudjoe Attah's premises 63 feet, and on the West by Abbah Edus'mah's house 120 feet, being the property of JAMES DAWSON JACKSON. Date of Mortgage Deed 29th April 1901.

3. All that piece or parcel of Land with the Buildings thereon, situate at Amisakill, Cape Coast, bounded on the East by Arabah Ackon's house, measuring 36 feet, on the West by an open space 23 feet, on the North by a Lane 36 feet, on the South by Eeena Aworebia's house 35 feet and also

4. All that piece or parcel of Land situate and being at Buels Road, Cape Coast, near the new Wesley Cemetery and bounded on the East by the property of J. D. Abraham's measuring 131 feet, on the West by the property of Ekush Elizabeth 306 feet 8 inches, on the North

by the property of Akoonah Manfiah 430 feet and on the South by the said Buels Rd., 173 feet 7 inches both being the property of

JOHN EDWARD SAGOE

as per Mortgage Deed dated 30th Sept 1901.

Terms or Conditions of sale will be read at the place and hour above mentioned and for further particulars Apply at the Mart of the undersigned.

T. MCKENZIE SKUES,

Licensed Auctioneer &c. &c.

Cape Coast, Mar. 7, 1905.

The undersigned has been instructed to sell by Public Auction on Tuesday the 8th instant the following—

All that piece or parcel of land with the dwelling house, outhouse and other buildings, thereon belonging and situate at Tambrissin in Commercial Road, Cape Coast commonly known as the property of Accoonah Ampimah as per Mortgage Deed dated 16th June 1901. The above is offered for sale at the instance of Alfred Francis Otoo.

Terms or Conditions of sale will be read at the place and hour above mentioned and for further particulars its boundaries &c., Apply at the Mart of the undersigned.

T. MCKENZIE SKUES,

Licensed Auctioneer.

Cape Coast, March, 8 1905.

Is hereby given by us the undersigned and other members of the Twidian (Tiger) family at Cape Coast and Akotokyr (a village of Cape Coast) that having heard that Araba Agirba and her daughter Sarah Bannerman have mortgaged our family house at Popration (Cape Coast) to W. E. Sam of Cape Coast, and the house is about to be sold under the mortgage. And as the whole transaction between Araba Agirba and her daughter and W. E. Sam was not known to us until Friday the third instant and we do not agree or consent to same, we hereby make known to the general public that the said house and all the premises thereon belong to the said family of whom late Robert Brown alias Kobina Ewusi was only the Head in his time, and any one purchasing such house and premises shall do so at his or her own risk.

Their

Kobina x Amfiah

Kweku x Eda

Edwe x Eda

Kobina x Ewusi

And

And other elder members of the said family,

Cape Coast, 9th March, 1905.

GENERAL NEWS.

A match was played last Saturday at the new cricket ground in Victoria Park, between Dr. Hayford's team and Europeans, before His Excellency and Lady Rodger.

The Natives occupied the ground almost the whole of that afternoon, scoring 165 runs for 7 wickets. The Europeans were asked to bat some minutes before six and scored runs for wickets when stumps were drawn after 6 p.m.

Lady Rodger visited the Ladies' Mutual Club last Tuesday afternoon at the Collegiate School Hall, where they are at present holding their meetings.

The Good Templars' conversation under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor came off grandly last Monday evening at the Government House, the heavy shower of rain having prevented it from coming on last Saturday as announced last week.

Mr. J. Harbour James, the District Postmaster left by the *Barua* last Monday morning for his furlough. Mr. H. B. Blankson is now acting. We wish Mr. James a pleasant voyage.

Dr. Garland who has been relieved by Dr. Irvine C.M.G., also left by the same steamer and Mr. Archer of the Boasting Company.

We understand Mr. Downer will also be going home on leave by the next steamer on Wednesday.

His Excellency the Governor and Lady Rodger, gave an "At Home" on the old Hospital Grounds last Thursday which was largely attended. The Amalgam and the Cape Coast Brass Band were in attendance.

On dit Mr. Peregrine the Provincial Commissioner will be going away on leave shortly. We hope the usual send off, accorded to officials of his class, will be heartily given him.

The Wesleyan Ministers who came to Town for the Synod have left for their stations.

We understand the American Section of the Templars will also be celebrating their anniversary shortly.

The Governor meets the Town on the Town Councils Ordinance to-day at the O'Cooper's Hill.

A X I M.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The death of D. C. Neil at Sekondi announced at the Supreme Court on the 27th. ult. by Mr. Justice Purcell threw the community into consternation. A speech delivered by Lawyer Aladé on behalf of the members of the Bar sharing their sympathy with the learned Judge was rather touching and to the point.

Mr. Neil was as far as we know straight and just in the execution of his official duties and his removal to Sekondi was felt by the community.

"May he rest in peace."

On Friday the 34th. ult. before Mr. Justice Purcell a case between Edu Boafa and Minah the Oomahin of Attinaba was heard. Mr. Moses Williams appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Aladé for the defendant—the charge was for assault, battery and false imprisonment.

On Wednesday the first inst. Revs. Mark Hayford and Reynolds arrived.

On Friday the 3rd. instant before Judge Purcell in the case of Hamilton v. Davies, the defendant S. T. Davies was committed for perjury and was sentenced to 4 months hard labour.

Rumour has it that the town after 10 o'clock p.m. falls into the hands of leopards: if this report be true we would call the attention of the authorities to it because such things at all times happen when there is no gunpowder.

DIXCOVE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We deeply sympathize with Mr. J. F. Micah agent of Messrs Swamy of this place for the loss of his daughter Ada at Pram Pram.

According to a Customs order of as far back as about 1895, the new officer-in-charge here is insisting upon applications being made to the Comptroller of Customs before treasures could be obtained for duty paid goods to be conveyed to places like Aggodah, Boutry, Boutry River and Asemkoh.

Although we are far from being dictatorial, as no smuggling goes on between this and such outstations, we consider the situation as being a hindrance to the small trade that we have, especially when we call to mind that such a system of business was not practised by our former officers-in-charge.

And the same with our leeward mails by accelera-

ted steamers—if the postal authorities could so arrange that mails arriving at Sekondi on Wednesdays should reach here on Thursdays instead of Saturdays,—we would be thankful.

ADJUAH.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The D. C. (Mr. Minnow) arrived here on the 14th Feb. last and on the next day, some women who were brought before him for keeping dogs without license were fined 10/- each. Others also whose yard were not cleaned were fined 10/-.

Mr. Thompson touched here on his way to Dixcove, to relieve Mr. Minnow, a hearty welcome to the former and safe passage to the latter.

Father Oga and Bishop Pellet of Lyon arrived on a visit to the Catholic Members on the 17th: after the Father had visited the neighbouring places they left for Sekondi in the afternoon.

Mr. James Bordoh of Cape-Coast is here.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"Gold Coast Colony's progress under Colonial Office rule" says the *West Africa* "does not seem to be particularly great. During the last half-a-dozen years, it has promised many improvements which have not been yet even attempted, and throughout there has evidently been lack of understanding on one hand and the absence of confidence on the other"—and so on.

This is unquestionably true, but in the making of Ordinances, there has been no end. It would seem that the principle ruling our administration has ever been, "Squeeze all you can from the People but give as little as you possibly can. Flood them with laws, which make not so much for peace and harmony, contentment and prosperity, as those which would make them realize that they are under a Power, tyrannous and unsympathetic, laws which cut only one way, laws which however beneficial they may seem, can never be so in their application, and are capable of making him in whose hands they may be, appear other than his real Self."

But we must be thankful for small mercies and bless our stars, and ought not to complain. The intentions, let us say may be good, but the means to achieve the end, have always been questionable, for any one, who gives himself a little trouble to think, and observe what he sees around him. How privileged we are to be under the *Union Jack!* And we still hope for better things.

Writing under what he calls, "The Government on the move," the writer in the same journal says, "The commercial community having laboured under severe trade depression for some considerable time, it was doubtless a matter of some satisfaction for them to learn at a meeting specially convened for the purpose what the Commissioner of the Central Province had to tell them in the name of the Government, who had propounded a scheme for the improvement of the country and its trade. This scheme, it appears, includes a line from Cape Coast to Insuam. . . . In the meantime the local paper has reminded its readers that the proposals indicated are nothing new. . . . The same people have zealously pegged away without losing hope and although it has taken more than 20 years to move the Downing Street authorities, it will doubtless occur to those interested that it were better for to wait so long than lose their heart's desire."

It is evident that if most of the cases tried in the courts of our Magistrates were to see light, they will compare favourably with what often sees in *Truth's Legal Pillory*. What murderous stabs are frequently given to British Justice, how very often the very Ordinance themselves are made to groan under the interpretation and application given to them, but we have got to bow and cringe and submit—where is the remedy? There seems to be a streak of hope however in the fact, that reports of them go to the Head of our Judicial Department, but what is important is, the kind of reports that reach his office.

Is the report true, that the very store, which some burglars broke into and stole away some goods, for which poor Mensah was prosecuted and incarcerated, because his word could not be taken he being a black man, has been again "visited," one of the ruffians, caught but has been let off, because his prosecution and imprisonment will corroborate what Mensah said, and thereby establish his innocence, and bring to light the injustice done him? "O judgment, thou art fled to— and men have lost their reason," bear with us, our heart is with MESSAH in Kumasi prison and ABBAS in Tarkwa jail, and we must pause, till the Chief Justice, has from the facts of their cases, done justice to them.

D. C. (Cape Coast). Thanks very much indeed.

The *Tu/uhin* carried out your behests to the very letter. "We thank thee."

Since their arrival in Town Sir John and Lady Rodger have been making themselves very pleasant as befits their position with all they have come in contact. We hope official duties at the Headquarters will allow His Excellency to give us frequent visits this side, and that his longer stay here this time will greatly tend to clear the many difficulties and threatened unpleasantness with which our political atmosphere is surcharged. It is being strongly rumoured that Lady Rodger goes "Home" straight from here, if this be true, she goes with our hearty *bon voyage*.

Last Wednesday afternoon there was a "private" meeting held at the Castle, to which certain gentlemen were specially invited by the Provincial Commissioner, to discuss matters in connection with this Town. We do not give the names which attended at present, but it was quite clear that the P. C. took fine care to have those he would like to have, there.

It was to be a "private meeting," said the P. C. and this at the distinct request of the Governor it was alleged. As far as we understand it, it was to be a "private meeting" as contrasted with the meeting held at the D. C.'s Court when the Attorney-General was here on the Town Councils Ordinance but not to the exclusion of persons who should be there when matters in connection with the Town were to be discussed.

We do not think this was the intention of the Governor; we are in a position to say so, from something that occurred on the arrival of His Excellency at the Castle for the meeting. Our suspicions were aroused, on seeing the P. C., whose connection with the application of the Town Councils Ordinance to this Town is so well known, being so particular in seeing what persons should be there to meet the Governor, actually excluding the representatives of the people from attending. It is an undeniable fact that His Excellency, desirous to carry out the instructions of the Secretary of States who is thousands of miles away and know nothing of the country and the people, is anxious to be in touch with the people, to know their objections to the Ordinance as it is, but some officious officials, and some natives imbued with toydism, must needs be in his way. But the cat will be let out of the bag some day. "The Power" is theirs, and the rumours we hear may be true or false. But whatever may be said or done, and whoever may be heard, THE PEOPLE MUST BE HEARD.

AN OFFER TO OUR READERS.

Any reader sending to us ten subscribers with their subscriptions for 3 months will be supplied with free copies up to that time or their equivalent in cash, if preferred. This applies also to subscriptions for 6 or 12 months respectively.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAR. 11, 1905.

THE VICTORIA PARK.

FROM this time forth, Cape Coast is to reckon among its marks of progress in the path of civilization, upon a Park. That is not bad: if anything, it shows that we are getting on. This was formally opened by His Excellency Sir John Pickersgill Rodger K.C.M.G., as reported in our last issue: the address read to him on the occasion is to be seen in another column. The Park is to commemorate the memory of the good Queen Victoria, and the gathering and the ceremony at the opening befitted the occasion. The Park Committee is to be congratulated, and now that it has been formally opened we hope all that is left to make it a Park indeed will engage its attention, so that we may have the thing and not a show of it.

To have a piece of public ground in or near a large town, laid out and kept for the sole purpose of pleasure and recreation is certainly commendable, and it should be not only for large towns, but any town whose inhabitants value their health, and both the people and the Government in giving any attention to a thing of this kind, may be said to be doing a duty every way incumbent on them, and when once undertaken, it should have all the attention, it deserves. What we do not exactly like of the present Park is, the site chosen for it. There

are two spots in town at least, that could have been far more suitable and satisfactory for a Park, if other than official heads had been consulted, and many a heart burning also could have been prevented, and the People such, at least, who could appreciate such a thing, could have given their pecuniary support more liberally and cheerfully and by moral suasion assist to give us a Park. In the first place as we say, the spot is unsuitable, but it must be it, because one or two persons from their point of view, thought they had made a discovery, and as such a spot intended for a Chaplain's Lodge must be snatched, some houses must be demolished, the market must give way, and the women-sellers sent adrift, with no place to sell, and some thousands of pounds of the Public Revenue wasted on some buildings said to be market sheds, and the women hauled up and fined for not using them. All these things must necessarily prejudice the minds of the People against the Park, good as it is in itself, to say nothing of the colour prejudice which was shown by some irresponsible persons, at the early stage of the laying out of the Park, and not one of the grievances enumerated above could have happened if since it is for the interest of the Town and not for certain individuals those who should have been consulted had been consulted, when a spot was required for a Park.

But all the mischief that could be done from error of judgment, (the usual thing with us) has been done, and now that the Park has been opened, we hope every possible assistance would be given to the Committee, to give us a Park, worthy of the name, trusting, as much of the interest evinced by all in this Park business will be shown in all other matters in connection with the progress of the country.

A SEA OF FIRE.

(BY A BANKER)

Scattered throughout the dark, sunless recesses of the great deep are countless varieties of living organisms, some minute, some large and powerful, which, compensated by nature for the eternal night in which they dwell, have the power of emitting sufficient light to enable them to discern their prey, to see their mates and comrades, and to illuminate their soubrous hunting grounds. It is true our knowledge of the dwellers of the remoter depths of the ocean is necessarily limited, and more especially in reference to the larger denizens of those profound chambers of the abyssal deep; yet notwithstanding the tremendous weight ever pressing down upon them, equal in places to more than two tons to the square inch, some of the ever-glowing creatures which roam about in the perpetual night of those dark and dismal waters are both graceful and beautiful.

What a weird spectacle must be presented in these ocean depths if, as is probable, every living creature is endowed with luminosity. Now a shoal of fish darting past like a flight of fiery arrows, amidst those floating balls of fire, the medusa, the glittering filaments of the beautiful sea-lace, or the sparkling petals of actinia. Or now, perhaps, one of those little known monsters of the great deep flashes past like a blazing meteor—for surely all these denizens of eternal darkness are gifted with illuminating powers—in a moment scattering into the obscurity of night all those many coloured scintillant water-sprites, which have been darting to and fro all aglow like fabled fishes in the sparkling rivers of fairyland.

But not in the profounder chambers of the deep alone are to be found these luminous creatures; for oft times millions disport themselves upon the surface, the most familiar of all being that animated little globe of fire which in such prodigious swarms illuminates the sea for many miles around, lighting it up as though a brilliant moon were shining in the zenith. And as the vessel ploughs her way through the surge, the foam thrown up from her bows is a flood of liquid fire, every drop glittering as with the soft and vivid brightness of the moon; while the torrent flowing from the paddle wheels is a shining cascade of molten silver which continues to dash and glisten in the wake of the vessel until long after she has passed through the great shoal of these fireflies of the sea. Till then every breaking wave is a fiery cataract, every wisp of wind-swept foam a lustrous meteor, and the wide expanse of the heaving ocean a throbbing turmoil of liquid wild-fire.

But a time will come when we too shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and as the stars for ever and ever. But only on condition that we obey the behests of our God, and that the Saviour of the world having atoned for us, the Accuser can, in consequence, bring nothing against us at the

judgment of the Great Day. But for those who refuse to come to Him for salvation, there remaineth, alas, but—The Darkness.

THE MISCHIEF OF BLACK NATIONALISM.

CONFERENCE OF WEST AFRICAN NATIVES.

A LIBERIAN INSPIRATION.

THE TRAIL OF THE AMERICAN NEGRO.

More than once during the past few years it has been proposed to hold a conference of natives representing all quarters of West Africa for the purpose of "discussing vital questions affecting the interests of the race." So far the idea has come to naught. But, judging by the West African newspapers to hand by recent mails it is being revived with a certain amount of energy.

It is significant that the proposal emanated originally from the independent negro Republic of Liberia, and that it has derived its main support throughout from the same quarter. Native newspapers along the British portion of the coast, like the *Gold Coast Leader* and the *Advocate*, and the *Lagos Standard*, have taken the matter up, but for the most part the negroes appear not to have been particularly enthusiastic over the scheme, papers like the *Sierra Leone Weekly News*—the oldest on the coast—taking absolutely no notice of it.

WHIPPING UP ENTHUSIASM.

This explains a lachrymose leader in the *Lagos Standard* just to hand, complaining of native apathy, and impressing upon all true Africans the imperative necessity "for union and co-operation among members of the race, for the advancement of the race," also warning them "that unless the African awake to his responsibilities and, putting aside all feelings of petty jealousies (sic), selfish interests, and other evil influences that have so long retarded his progress, determine to combine and co-operate for the general good of the race, he must be content to continue to bear those ill, which are inseparable from a condition of culpable indifference."

All this looks very impressive in print, and may move the imagination of the people for whom it is intended. But it leaves us unsympathetic. Our experience of American negro missionaries in South Africa does not encourage us to contemplate with satisfaction any movement in British West Africa which draws its inspiration from Liberia, a settlement of American negro foundation. The American negro in Africa is fired by an ambition to consolidate the native races and build up a great black people, who shall give practical expression to the principle contained in the phrase, "Africa for the Africans." White men may laugh at the thing as absurd, but their laughter will not prevent the American negro, whether in South Africa or on the West Coast, from propagandising in the direction we have indicated, and so causing serious unrest amongst the natives under British rule. The spirit of this propaganda is behind the present Liberian scheme, the admitted object of which is to obtain "a thorough ventilation and expression of native views on questions affecting the social, political, and religious conditions of West Africa." We shall be much surprised if the tendency of the whole project does not turn out to be entirely inimical to British authority on the coast.

A SUSPICIOUS VENUE.

It is proposed that the conference shall take place in Liberia in May or July next, and that each of the colonies of Gambia, Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast, Lagos, and Southern Nigeria shall send six delegates. What precisely they are going to do when they meet is not quite clear. But it is safe to assume that the manifold grievances, real and imaginary, of the black man against the "domineering white" will occupy a good deal of attention, and will afford ample material for the enterprising coloured agitator, who may be trusted to improve the occasion by every device at his command. While it is not for the British authorities to interfere with the conference, if for no other reason than that such interference would give an exaggerated importance to the movement, they will do well to watch it closely. We for our part can only hope that the good sense of the natives in the British Colonies will prevent them from being enticed into any enterprise which, however much it appeals to their vanity, does not harmonise strictly with their loyalty to the British Crown. If our suspicions in regard to this Liberian movement are justified, it contains the makings of such an enterprise, and it will depend on the British West African delegates who attend the conference (if it ever takes place) whether or not the movement becomes such as to merit the white man's opposition.

With the legitimate endeavours of the native to raise himself in the scale of civilisation we have no quarrel. But between that and any attempt to diminish the authority of the white man there is an immense difference, which we shall make it our business to explain to our native West Coast contemporaries if they do not already understand it.—*The African World*.

SCHOOL PUNISHMENTS OF YESTERDAY AND TO-DAY.

To give some idea of the extraordinary amount of punishment that went on a century ago, it is worth while to record the exploits of a public school master in the course of fifty one years' superintendence of a large school. According to his diary, published after his death, he had inflicted 911,500 canings, 121,000 floggings, 136,000 tips with the rulers, 10,200 boxes on the ear, made 700 boys stand on peas, 6,000 kneel on a sharp edge, and 5,000 wear the foolscap. Nor does this exhaust the list, for he gave, besides, many impositions.

Nowadays there is far more in the way of bodily punishment inflicted at public schools than there is anywhere else. In most Board Schools teachers are afraid to use the rod because of the absurd fuss made by over-indulgent parents.

At most public schools floggings by masters are of two kinds—caning for ordinary offences and birchings or swishings for more serious breaches of school rules.

The former can usually be inflicted by house-master, the latter only by the head master. A boy may be caned for neglecting his work; swishing is only inflicted for smoking, repeated breaking bounds, or similar offence. The head master usually wields the birch himself so the punishment is a very severe one, and at a school such as Marlborough with 600 boys there are not more than four or five swishings in a year. Among the boys themselves there is in every school a regular series of punishments fitted for every crime. Almost everywhere prefects are authorised by school rules to inflict canings, but their punishments pale into insignificance beside those inflicted by house captains and form captains. Shirking games is one of the worst sins. A fives bat is usually the instrument used in punishing this offence.

At Harrow there used to be, and perhaps still exists, a punishment known as "banding up." This was inflicted with a roasting fork, which is a more painful instrument of torture than even a birch rod. Marlborough has a form of punishment peculiar to itself—that of "kissing." A kiss is a small cushion, which all the upper school-boys carry under their arms. They are equally convenient for holding a bundle of books, or for sitting on the damp grass of the "eleven" banks. They are allowed both in form and hall. They are rather thin and hard, and their hardness is sometimes increased by a stone or two in their corners. In strong hands they can inflict a stunning blow. At King Edward's School, Birmingham, new boys have to undergo a "squabbing."

"Fresh herrings" is the term of reproach applied to new-comers. They are driven into the monkey den, a corner between two walls and "squabbed," or squashed against the wall by a number of other boys. At Harrow, boys on promotion to a higher form are "pinched in."

Stonyhurst, the great Roman Catholic College, has a "penance walk." This consists in a solitary tramp in absolute silence during recreation hours, and is probably more unpopular among the sufferers than any form of flogging.

SCRUTINEER.

The question of the adaptation, hand in hand, of innocent native customs and habits with the propagation of the Gospel ought to claim a serious consideration and it is surely high time that the Methodist Church thought it desirable of making it a point of their calling to Christians; but not to Europeans; in the *Peoples*. Another point is the Education question, and I have always considered it a humiliation that the Wesleyans cannot maintain one substantial High School in the country in connection with their Church. In this they contrast remarkably with their brethren in Sierra Leone or elsewhere. Can it be that the local body is less patriotic and less energetic? Let us not hope so.

What is the "combination scheme" as it is termed? As far as I am aware the three local Firms of Swanzy, Millers, and Association put their heads together about a year ago and conceived on this institution that it is neither a Trust nor a Trade Union. There seems to exist between them an agreement whereby each Firm practically sets independently of each other, except in the disposal of such articles as *benzoin*, *soap*, *lumber*, *salt*, *toilets*, *trade gin*, and a few others under uniform prices as also the purchase of produce and at the end of the year profits shared proportionately. I have heard of trusts and combines before, but this appears to me peculiar, and of course we are living in a world of peculiarities. Of the "Combination" itself nothing could have been said of it if it had ploughed its way without making itself cantankerous and obnoxious, since it will not last long. But the public have a just complaint against this body in that its existence has not proved beneficial to trade nor does it exert itself towards helping others to endeavouring to improve the situation. Its attitude towards natives in its employ is uncharitable, and

as regards the wages that are meted to them it is ridiculous to see the way it strains at the pitiable wages of native clerks whilst they pass calmly over staff.

I very much begin to doubt the usefulness of the Police Force as constituted in this country with a man of such complacent attitude as Major Kitson as the Commissioner. Every day events transpire to prove that there is more peace and tranquillity where they are conspicuous by their absence than where they are marked for their presence. They do not keep to their beats at nights, and comparatively speaking more robbery and burglary occur where they are stationed than where they are not. They do not really maintain order in the streets nor do they protect citizens and children from street accidents; on the other hand they provoke rows in the streets, are not respectful, and a great many of them are freebooters, taking things from the poor women in the markets of every town by the force of their uniform. Can Major Kitson honestly and conscientiously inform me or any body else what the Police Force, over which he is the Head, is really good for? To speak of the rank and file is more waste of time for the majority of these are known to be never-do-wells, rogues and vagabonds who have escaped lawful control and found an Asylum in the Police Force. But what passes one's comprehension is the conduct of such incorrigible wretches like Supt. Quist of Kumasi, and of a man of such despotic whims like Supt. Petril (I believe that's the correct spelling) of Axim—men who however, thoughtless they may be are expected to know better since they can read and write. It is indeed a sad reflection to find that the country pays so much a year for a department that is as rotten, as it is vain and undisciplined, materially useless, and a source of danger and continual annoyance to the Public.

Yours faithfully,—ATTO.

"LEADER" CHAP. III BEGINNING FROM VERSE CXL.

(BY LIBRA.)

In the issue before last of this valuable and interesting Organ, the Editor makes palpably a feeble attempt to set right the injustice he alleges is done the Singing Bands in Libra's Article. The term feeble attempt is used because instead of going in for Libra and proving that his statements are incorrect, Mr. Editor cleverly fancies round, and in many points declares he agrees with him. To quote the last three lines of his first paragraph, he says: "it will go a long way to do good service to the young persons and the Church." Here he stops, and does not say why or how. "If those things can be pointed out to be set right"—Nothing follows this supposition. He does not say what would happen were this commendable action taken. There is no doubt if those things were pointed out some good will come of it, and that is exactly what Libra has begun to do in a series of articles, the first of which Mr. Editor attempts to attack.

The second paragraph begins: "Collecting young people together to teach them religious songs can never be a bad idea in itself &c. &c." who said it was? Libra himself says this should be done, and points out it has always been done a good many years before many of us (Mr. Editor not excepted) were born with very good results. What Libra complains of is that young girls should on any account be allowed to attend these gatherings at improper hours of the night and in many instances remain out while their mothers and fathers (shame to them!) peacefully sleep very often in different homes—(houses would be the proper word). Considering what very foul, filthy and offensive language one hears at nights in the streets and the well known reputation of some of the members, it is nothing short of cruelty to allow a child to become a member of these bands. I know, as perhaps Mr. Editor will in course of these series of articles admit, that no respectable parents home rules will allow any of their children this shameful liberty.

Time was when it was a grave offence against the Wesleyan School unwritten laws for a boy to be seen by a Master in the streets after dark, and unless there was forthcoming very good reasons, the offender was most rigorously dealt with. This was so strictly kept up that it had a very good effect on the home training of parents outside the fold.

The Editor continues.—Why should the whole band suffer because of some undiscovered bad characters? Undiscovered indeed! Surely Mr. Editor, this is to your readers?—Serious? Mr. Editor continues.—A conundrum! There! I have it, and single handed too! Errors, omissions, mutilation notwithstanding. It means in effect, "half a loaf is better than none." Where this philosophic bit is out to fit in I can not make out. Which is the less, and which the greater evil? If the first is taken to represent the subject because it is the less, how is one to find out, or locate the "undiscovered bad character?" What guarantee is there that the bad character is not to be discovered in one in such important position as to be capable of soon turning this chosen less evil into a greater one by his behaviour and conversation?

Not very long ago the Superintendent of the Circuit, with the Manager and some Church Officials met the children, to arrange things, to the very hours of meeting, but without any apparent result. In this Libra is at one with Mr. Editor. Further, the Editor asks, "must the number of such be increased by letting these loose also? Why not shelter some of these, at least in these bands?" This question strikes at the root of all the trouble. It was never suggested that

the children should not meet together.

Where the mischief comes in is, that this shelter (Ark of Safety) through some cause or other, has become a standing passport for many children straying about the streets and going about in corners at nights, often long after the unholy hours of the bands. Many ignorant mothers, believing in their possession of potent powers by priests of all denominations to cause the 'Devil to fear and fly' wherever they are, will not think of interfering with a girl who tells her, she is bid by *Sofs* to be punctual at a given place at 9-30 by the Castle clock, or for the matter of that at any time day or night. This sounds very strange but nevertheless true. He who believes this, exonerates the misguided mothers, who is simple enough to break the rules of home training.

In the more intelligent and educated classes, as well as what we may call the lowest classes however, it is only where there is not a home for the children as was remarked in the last article, that any of these youths will be allowed to have any connection with any bands or gatherings that will in any way interfere with their discipline.

Now, just bear Mr. Editor wind up! "Send all the Apostles adrift because there was found a Judas among them." As far as can be remembered, Judas, Iscariot surnamed, [of dreadful memory, did not wait long enough to be cast adrift. He could do that himself without being asked, while there was fighting Simon with his favourite sword handy; nor do we hear he was very young. He never was suffered "to come unto me." No one is asked to be cast adrift. What is suggested is, that any Judas seen loitering about the deck in the Ark must be asked to clear, and if he is slow about it, why, then fit up the necessary gear and sling him over side of the Ark.

Mr. Editor may be interested to learn that these articles are not put in the papers for fun. The question is of the utmost importance to the public and the country. They have been systematically arranged and all the necessary information have been most carefully collected. If the public only knew to what lengths Libra and his host are prepared to go, to stamp out, completely stamp out, this growing evil in the moral training of our young girls and so render them as possible secure from the savages of all and sundry wolves, villains and lions roaring about seeking whom they may devour, they will tremble and shudder! verb sap!

There is not a bigger mistake than to think that our European Missionaries can attend night services just as well as the Natives, and the fact that former Missionaries did so and died or permanently injured their health does not help the argument. It is risky for Europeans to go about at nights in this country; and to contribute towards any rules laid down to protect themselves, they avoid the habit. In the better regulated Mercantile houses, the experienced head always makes it a point to see that his subordinates do so. It is quite enough, if they can attend the day and Sunday night services. Let all whose minds are being exercised kindly read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the foregoing remarks.

ADDRESS PRESENTED TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR J. P. RODGER ON THE OPENING OF THE VICTORIA PARK.

Your Excellency,—As you have kindly consented to open the Victoria Park, in commemoration of the glorious reign of Her late Majesty it behoves the Committee to lay before you a short history of the progress made in connection with the laying out of this long felt want, a recreation ground at Cape Coast.

In the year 1901 at the time when our Provincial Commissioner was District Commissioner of the town, a body of gentlemen Europeans and Natives, formed themselves into a committee and took into consideration the acquisition of some plot of land for the purpose of having and dedicating the same to the people as a free place of amusement. The ladies of this town and a few gentlemen kindly consented to collect subscriptions and by their efforts a sum of about £286 was realized.

Several committee meetings have been held from time to time between December 1901 and February 1905. Among the donors who gave support to acquiring a piece of land for a Park were Sir Matthew Nathan, Sir Alfred Jones, and your esteemed self, besides the members of the committee and the professional gentlemen and strangers residing here. The Bank of West Africa Ltd gave every encouragement, and we have to thank you for the support and management of the Public Works Department which has brought the Park to its present condition. We cannot sufficiently thank the Officers of this Department for the zeal they have exhibited in the work.

The inception of recreation field, or ground, or Park, we may say happily came from your predecessor, and again in the same trend, the final impetus enabling us to carry out the purpose came from you, a true lover of sport.

We regret that at this stage though the land used for the Park was in part acquired and in part given, there were no sufficient funds in hand to enable us to erect those completing details which would have so much added to the appearance of the ground to-day, viz: the Club House, bandstand, and seats; but we trust having so far succeeded in evincing to the public that a genuine public benefit has been conferred by the opening of this Park, it will not be long before we shall be able to announce these additions which are so essential.

The Committee has to tender to you Sir, its thanks on behalf of the people for the suggestions you throw out to the Committee, and the trouble you took in going over the ground during your last visit. The result of adopting your suggestion as to the cricket pitch has evidenced in itself, having regard to the limited area the Committee had its disposal, the justness of

your directions.

Reverting to the Club House we find that some assistance must be obtained from the Government, professional men and Merchants of the community, and more so because its use when erected would, to some degree be confined to gentlemen in the Government service and the educated portion of the community. Though tardy has been our progress the community to assure your Excellency of the determination of the community, however gradually steps may be taken, to bring this ground to that state of advancement and completion which will make the recreation ground worthy of its name.

We feel fortunate in having the honour of your Excellency's presence here to-day together with your Consort Lady Rodger to declare the Park open.

L. N. PARAGRAPH,
Commissioner of the Central Province
and Chairman of the Victoria Park Committee.
Cape Coast, 3rd. March, 1905.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

Dear Mr. Editor,—The way proprietary lands are being disposed of by the authorities in Ashanti for the purpose of demarkation of territories chiefly the Northern Southern and Eastern territories bids fair to give rise to discontent and unpleasantness among the people. Here and there instances are not wanting where many a land owner has been dispossessed of large portions of his land through the indifferent procedure of might-is-right policy and to-day scores of proprietors of land are groaning and grumbling and complaining in Ashanti. Now in the name of justice and common honesty will not the powers that be recognise the rights of owners and to see that fairplay is ever accorded them. This state of things does not foster peace and harmony amongst the people, and unless great caution is exercised dispute and broils will become imminent sooner than expected. "Honesty is the best policy."

A TRAINED BOY, OF KUMASI.
Kumasi, 20th Feb: 1905.

My Dear Jabez,—How wonderful the works of a wheelbarrow! There is a lot in store for us—but wait a minute! You have not so much as drop a line in reply to my last letter.

Never be a bad correspondent! The habit is a bad one, and my advice to you is, avoid it.

Upon my word, Jabez! You are always bombarding your poor uncle with such tough questions, bearing direct upon the political situation, that I am beginning to think you are inclined to politics, and suppose you would not particularly mind if you had a portion in this coming crowd of political appointments one hears so much about.

Ah, my Jabez, beware! beware! Politics did no man any good. Look at Joe! Do you think he wears a glass eye for a change? No! He lost it, and it was in a political scrap; so, beware!

Now, to your question: Tell you the honest truth, Jabez, my mind is made up, and it seems pretty certain there is only one solution of the question. You may depend upon it I have seen a few gloomy days and as many bright ones in my time, but it isn't often I make a mistake in the foreshadowing or reading of the atmosphere. And with reference to the political situation of Cape Coast I am certain it does not require diplomacy when the mind of the people is made up. What you want is, plain speaking. Have it out with them and convince them if you can, and good luck to you!

I was speaking to one of the "scholars like these" a short while ago—I said, "Surely, one has to use a bit of diplomacy in these matters." He said, "That's all bunkum. Every body now knows, the word diplomacy is the same as what the vulgar people call lying, and that is the way I look at it myself. If the Governor comes we would prefer him talking to us like a man and not through any officials who know as little and care less than my boots about the country or anything about it, not through any favour-carrying busy-bodies."

I am inclined to agree with this view of the matter, and I think the Aborigines Society are more than capable of appointing their own representatives to meet and discuss all important matters with the Governor. These men will then have had the opinion of all sections of the community.

It would be a mistake to deviate from this course, because it is not every one in a responsible position in the town that the people have entire confidence, or would have as their representative.

Things are so very badly managed here through the interference and muddle-headedness of some responsible men in authority that to know the people and their views one has to go to the Aborigines Society with its important working committees, and people who were never more in touch with one another.

The foregoing is a bit of advice worth a couple of silver dollars given free, my dear Jabez, that all who run may read.

I am, my dear Jabez,
Your affectionate Uncle, SAM.
Cape Coast, Mar. 3. 1905.

ADJAH BIPPO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Despite the inconveniences that have been given to the Adjah Bippos native employees for the undertaking of such expensive new buildings, it has been suggested by the General Manager Mr. J. A. Mactear that rents of the following class will have to be paid by them every month for the blocks of land (25ft. long by 15ft. wide) shared to them for their buildings viz:—

Boy working 15 days and above,	rate per block	2/6
" " less than 15 days		5/-
Store		10/-
Spirit License		20/-

Why is Mr. Mactear so bitter against the blacks? This is necessary to ask, because, rightly or wrongly, his motions and general management towards the natives tell the whole tale.

We have often seen him taking a walk in the new native village with a look so pleasant thinking to be laying a fashionable village, which in my opinion is more admired than liked. Fancy a house without a secretion. My!!! Such is the management now running on the Wassau Mine.

The trains are now having a supply of water at the Wassau Siding since the lat. Can the General Manager for the Wassau arrange with the Railway people to receive and discharge passengers at Adjah Bippos, if the trains are to halt here always for water.

Since the 25th last I have witnessed the run of the Abosso Gold Mining Co's mill.

DUNKWA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

With reference to my notes of few weeks ago the rumour has held ground as to the fact of the transfer of the Loco-foreman and the store and time-keeper which has since taken place. Mr. England, the Loco-Driver, is to assume the roll of all. This Station is important and the removal of this railway staff leaves nothing better, but increase of inconveniences. The attention of the General Manager of the Railway must be drawn to the fact that, important as this Station is, there are only two porters. Consignees of goods experience great deal of inconvenience in the delivery of their goods; The inconvenience does not only arise from the unnecessary detention of the goods but the too apparent fact of the portion of the goods being appropriated to the use of these Porters, with the Station Master looking on.

Sir William Young (Bart.) the Chairman of the Ashanti Goldfields Auxiliary Ltd., and the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Ltd. with the auditor of both Companies has been here; both paid visits to Obuasi and Kumasi, and have passed on to Accra from whence they will proceed to England. We sincerely trust there will be reforms made in both Companies, especially in the one here, and also hope that the visit of Sir William will tend to the good feeling and amelioration of both whites and blacks working in the interests of the Companies.

About a fortnight ago a young man supposed to have trespassed upon Mr. R's (a whitman) concubinal rights, was severely beaten by Mr. R. in company with his two friends (all whitemen). The young man was at a prayer meeting that night when a word was sent to the officiating gentleman to order out this young man, for "he was desecrating the temple" by his presence. The officiating gentleman sent word back to Mr. R. that the young man was not present; a quidnunc who perhaps had been bribed, was so persistently inquisitive, that he found out this young man in the congregation and halled out to Mr. R. The young man of course evidently being present, took the scent and bolted from the Chapel; he was chased after by Mr. R. and his companions, who took in their fill of craving revenge and were appeased. (?) Have Mr. R. and his confederates the right to take the law in their own hands? Is any Magisterial power vested in them in the absence of a D. C.? Sergeant Coker should be on the alert and do his best to prevent a recurrence of like nature.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

I take the opportunity to tell the managers of the Local Singing Band to inform the members that it is quite awkward for them to disturb people's rest at nights with their singing, up and down the streets, for such practices we do not hear of at Cape Coast or at Salt Pond.

I hope to see that they are stopped for it is rather bad to have singing all along after the close of their band at 9-30 p.m. by a class of young girls who would not sleep but would disturb people from resting, keeping up till 11 o'clock in the night. Does this recommend the up-keeping of the Band?

I am glad to report that the Omaniin Amoo is improving, and would be able to receive visitors,

though he is not able to be at the Court. Our street Lamps require a proper looking after.

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

It is to be regretted that the Rev. E. Bruce had to abandon his journey to Cape Coast on account of domestic affliction.

The Wesleyan Synod, we understand, is over and that Rev. Bruce is expected to be soon removed from this District wherein he has laboured for over seven years with hopeful results. We trust this revered assembly—"the Wesleyan Synod"—gave heed to the most timely and beneficial hints given it by the Editorial remarks of the *Gold Coast Leader*. Evidently there are existing in this Church certain vexed questions which impede the progress of this adjustable Society as the Wesleyan Digest or Constitution shows.

The Marriage Question is the foremost. It appears that the same impediment obtains in the Colony of Lagos under a different guise. The "Lagos Standard" of Feb. 15th says, "The question of admitting into full communion in the Church was, I understand warmly discussed last week, but without any result so far as relaxing the present rule of excluding them from full membership is concerned. This same question of Polygamy, which is a great barrier in the way of acceptance of Christianity by many persons in the interior, comes up now and again for discussion among the Missionary Societies of different religious denominations in Yorubaland but always with the same unsatisfactory result." Of course the difficulty on the Gold Coast is not with the admission of Polygamists—No, not even into probationary connection with the Church of the Wesleyans, for aught I know; much more into full connection—but with old couples re-marrying by Matrimonial rites under the Civil Ordinance. If the Gold Coast Wesleyan Church would but permit Native rites of Marriage, why, the difficulty shall have been at an end with many who are now anxious to embrace Christianity. Let us hope that a satisfactory solution is to be announced in a while.

Mr. A. S. Teye of the Kpong Post and Telegraph Office is under charge, and after preliminary investigation at the D. C's Court, Akuse, was committed for the next assizes which may probably be held at Akuse by His Honour the Chief Justice.

The burglary case in which Mr. Sam Morgan is the plaintiff is also pending on the next assize for judgment.

The Basel Mission Society of Odumase is engaged in erecting a new building up an elevation at Manyakpawano for Educational purposes. It is commonly supposed to have been intended for their Grammar School. If this be true, we admire the foresight and the activity of this Body ecclesiastic to maintain their prestige. A desire for higher Education has been evinced by the patronage of the people from this District over the Accra Grammar School. If the Basel Mission Society can provide the need in loco there shall be no one sent to Accra from Krobo.

Governor Rodger's visit here seems to have made a good impression and immortalise his name. We have here "The Kpong Rodger Library." A new road leading from the Oil Market to the River Side is to be known as "Rodger's Lane" being the passage by which he embarked and disembarked on his last visit to Anum &c.

A youngman who hails from Larteh known as Wm. Sackey but describes himself under the queer name "Jeopady" has again been caught here and sent to Akuse for kidnapping and attempting slave dealing. William Sackey on pretence of hiring two youngmen as carriers succeeded in getting their father's consent to follow him to Somanya for loads. But when they arrived at Kpong William Sackey set to bargaining for their sale. An Awouba man identifying the boys' nationality with his own interfered. Thereupon Jeopady made his escape; but with help from Chief Odonkor he was caught and brought back. This is his second attempt. In the former case while he failed to effect the sale he succeeded to escape. He has been in gaol for four years on conviction of receiving money from Messrs. Chevalier & Co. at Akuse under false pretences.

We are not a little surprised to hear that the Governor in Council proposed tolls on every River canoe. That is to say that every canoe shall pay for a License as the people have to pay for their dogs and wheels at Accra. This calls for much comment and we hope all concerned in this matter will stand up as one man to resist by petitioning against such a disastrous motion becoming law. The poor native with his petty trade is already impoverished and this will be the feather that will break the overloaded camel's back.

With much regret we record the unexpected death of Mr. Matthews of Messrs. Regis Aine, Akuse, the Chief Agent of the French Factory which sad event took place on Sunday the 26th.

February. His remains were interred in the Public Cemetery, Akuse, on the 27th.

THE UNKNOWABLE GOD.

(BY "THE OWL".)

Amongst all races of men there is more or less a belief in a First Cause—the Creator or Origin of all things - or by whatever other name he is designated by them. Some how or other that notion or idea existed in the human race in its most primitive stage, gathering force with the advancement of human intelligence as it progressed towards civilization and the light of christianity was thrown upon it, although in these days there is a tendency to repudiate the teachings of the Divine Oracle as disclosing the Original Source of all things.

How the mind of man first became imbued with that idea—the Creator or Origin of all things—no one can fathom, nor is it granted to mortal man to comprehend in its entirety the existence of a Being who has no beginning and will know no end and, that has existed from eternity and will last throughout eternity. This Being, unknowable and ungraspable, if such a term may correctly be applied, is so different from ourselves that we can not conceive how he could have had no beginning; consequently we arrive at the conclusion that no such Being exists, and with our puny intellects we call upon those who believe in his existence to demonstrate the fact as clearly as one would solve a problem of Euclid. The trained intellect of the twentieth century scholar demands this, and as the fact does not admit of such demonstration he, mortal and fallible as he is, becomes an Atheist or an Agnostic; the uneducated man seeks not to penetrate into the grand mystery and accepts the belief of his forefathers, which has been handed down to him from generation to generation, as unquestionable and sufficient for him this side of the grave and as ample for him in the hereafter, by whatever designation that Being is known or called, and by what form or ceremony soever he may be worshipped.

After having been in England some years on my return home to my native land, the Gold Coast, which I had left at too early an age to understand its language properly or to become acquainted with the beliefs of its peoples, I was anxious to ascertain whether they (the Fanti) possessed any notion of the existence of God, and, if so, by what designation was he known amongst them. I was then informed that He (God) was called "O Yami".

I enquired further whether there was any meaning attached to the word, and learnt to my astonishment that it meant, "He created or made me," in English. My curiosity deepened, and I asked whether that designation had not been applied to the Almighty since the Fanti had come into contact with the European, and was told it was not so, but had been the name by which He had been known to the people long—ere they came to learn that there were other races of a colour differing from theirs, and that if I enquired of any aged fetish priest I would learn that it was so. Thereupon I prosecuted further enquiries amongst the most aged fetish priests I could find, and had the fact confirmed, and they corroborate it by an expression in our language which is equivalent to an assertion that "The Creator" was so designated among them from the commencement of time.

Taking this as a solitary instance, one can not but naturally ask, How it came about that amongst a race of savages as the Fanti like all other races originally were such an appropriate name should have by them been given to God as "The Creator" or "The Being who created or made me"? Whence did they obtain the notion of "The Creator" "O Yami" "He who made or created me"? Was it by intuition? Was it by inspiration? Was it conveyed to them by that subtle but indescribable process by and through which are often received and obtained ideas and notions in a manner incomprehensible to ourselves, and all that we are aware of is that we have them, but whence or how they came to us we know not? Is it not singular that a race of savages should have applied to the Almighty a name which stamps Him as being "The Creator" according to their ideas, which does not ascribe their existence to "Chance, perhaps" or any theory of evolution, however ably built up? And is it not better that a race possessed of such a belief, a belief more in accord with scriptural tenets than your agnostic and atheistic creeds, should be left in that belief than be supplied with and fed upon your nostrums. This is but one of the names under and by which God is known to the Fanti, but it is the one most often applied to Him.

ROYAL STOOLS.

A MEASURE FOR DEPOSED MONARCHS.

The *Gold Coast Leader* received by last mail contains the text of a Bill "to prevent the illegal detention of Stool property." Those who remember the Ashanti expedition and the quest for the Golden Stool, the emblem of monarchical authority, will understand the

significance of this measure. It is intended to counteract what our contemporary describes as "the recent malicious propensity of certain crestfallen Kings and chiefs in detaching their stools of state," the worthy gentlemen, when deposed by Government, having simply belted with their royal emblem, thus preventing the installation of their legitimate successors.

The principal clauses of the Bill provide that:—
It shall be lawful for a District Commissioner on information on oath, that by reason of the detention of any stool property by a deposed chief or any other person the election or installation of any chief according to the native custom is being prevented or delayed, to hold the inquiry into the matter so as to ascertain the property alleged to be detained and the person suspected to have the custody, possession or control thereof.

If as the result of such inquiry the District Commissioner shall be satisfied that the election or installation of a chief is thus being prevented or delayed he shall cause public notice to be given by drum, gong, or other usual native method in the town or village in which such stool property or part thereof is known or suspected to be detained, requiring all persons having the custody, control or possession of any such stool property forthwith to deliver the same to the District Commissioner.

We reproduce the foregoing as an example of the partial legislation which sometimes has to be resorted to on the West Coast (Italics ours, Ed). Various pains and penalties attach to a non-compliance with this measure, which, amongst other things, will prevent deposed chiefs from forcing their successors to take action in the Supreme Court (the only method hitherto available) for the recovery of the royal emblems, a process calculated to be costly for the luckless successors.—*The African World*, Feb. 11.

THE GOVERNOR AT THE MINERAL WATERS FACTORY.

His Excellency the Governor Sir John Pickersgill, K. C. M. G. honoured the West African Mineral Water Manufacturers Limited with a visit of inspection early on Saturday morning last, to examine the factory and particularly the well-arranged principle sunk by the Managers now on the coast.

His Excellency expressed himself highly pleased with the Company's enterprise in the undertaking, and congratulated the Manager and Assistant Manager on the achievement and success of the individual work done by them, and wished the Company every prosperity.

In tasting the water drawn straight from the well, His Excellency remarked the similarity to the waters at Tunbridge Wells, which are celebrated for their medicinal properties and was satisfied as to the purity and safety in drinking.

His Excellency was also pleased to congratulate the Managers on the cleanliness and arrangements of the Machinery and Factory, and remarked that the quality of the Soda Water manufactured was "Excellent," an opinion that is also pronounced by the following officials who were in attendance upon His Excellency—*L. N. Peregrine Esq., Commissioner Central Province, Capt. Hicks A. D. C., Dr. W. W. Claridge, M. D. H. and Mr. Palk, Assistant Engineer.*

FABULOUS ORIGIN OF A CHAMA FAMILY.

A certain family in Chama on the Gold Coast are said to be descended from the fish known as the Boneta, called in the Fanti vernacular *Safur Nannan*, and the origin of the story is as follows:—

One day a poor man in Chama having lost his wife was walking in a state of despondency towards a small village called *Abbo-anoo*. On his way he met a certain woman who asked him why it was he was looking so dejected. The man in reply, nothing doubting but that she was in reality a human being, told her he had recently lost his wife whom he dearly loved. The two of them entered into conversation, and the man found the woman so attractive that he then and there asked her if she would become his wife; she at first demurred, but subsequently consented, and he returned with her to his house, where he introduced her to his friends as his wife.

After the lapse of some time she told her husband she would like to go and visit her relations, and he consented to her doing so, provided he accompanied her. The woman objected to this, but as he begged earnestly to go with her she yielded, and they started for her home.

As they proceeded on their way and were conversing about different matters she said to him, "As I have permitted you to accompany me I am afraid that on our return you will laugh at me," but he assured her he would not or even so much as ever make any allusion to her home and relatives if it would be distasteful to her, and they continued their course which was towards the sea. On approaching the shore to his surprise she informed him that her home lay in the depths of the ocean her relatives were fishes, and she herself a fish also. She next told him to watch the breakers, intimating at the same time that she would dive under the third breaker and he must follow her, as that was the passage which would lead them to the home of her relatives, at the same time reminding him of his promise not to allude to it thereafter. The husband promised to keep the whole circumstance secret, and as the third breaker rolled in she dived into it and he did the same, when they found themselves at her home, where they received a hearty

In due course the woman informed her people that the man was her husband, and they assigned to him a house outside of which he was directed on no account to move.

Some short time after this one night as he was looking about him he perceived a number of young fishes at play, and he had a desire to go and witness more clearly their sport, but he was prevented by his wife's relatives. Three days afterwards as he saw the little fishes again disporting themselves he resolved that come what would he would go and accordingly he went.

Now it may be remarked at this stage that this man had during his stay in this watery home, partaken the nature of a fish, and as it is generally known that fishes emit a kind of phosphorescent light in the night by their movements he upon moving rather near to the surface of the sea, was described by some fishermen, who immediately harpooned what they thought a fish of uncommon size. His relatives perceiving his danger at once hastened to his rescue. They tried all they could to pull him to the bottom of the sea; but finding all their efforts unavailing, they begged a shark that was passing to cut the rope attached to the harpoon. The shark immediately severed the rope and set the man-fish at liberty. The wife's relatives then took him to their dwelling, extracted the harpoon, and applied medicines to his wound, which soon healed, when they sent him and his wife away lest some evil might befall him; but before his departure they gave him the harpoon and strictly charged him to keep it concealed from view. He accordingly left with his wife, and as soon as they arrived home he hid the weapon in the thatch of their house.

Seven years passed by without any further incident, when at the expiration of that period the people of the house—it being a compound—wanting to re-thatch it called on this man who was living with them to aid in the work. It appears from what ensued that the person who harpooned him was also residing in the same compound. No sooner had they commenced taking down the thatch than was discovered by the owner the harpoon which the man had forgotten to remove; he at once claimed the weapon, affirming that it was the identical one which he had years ago discharged at a fish. The man was reluctant to let the fisherman have the weapon, but others came forward and bore out this fisherman's story and as he was closely questioned as to how he became possessed of the harpoon, he had at last to explain the whole circumstance.

By the way it ought to be mentioned that the man on his return home had taken unto himself another wife who was on the story being circulated heard the narrative.

Some time after this one day a quarrel took place between the two wives and they began abusing each other only as women can till the second wife wishing to silence the other completely called her a fish. This so much hurt the feelings of the fish-woman that she resolved to return to her former home and assume her original shape. She therefore repaired to her husband in ill-humour, informed him of what had transpired at the same time laying the blame on him for having insisted upon going with her to her home, and made known to him her determination, therefore to leave him once and for all. "I can no longer live in a place," she went on to say, "where I shall be continually abused and laughed at and my children put to disgrace." The husband tried all he could to dissuade her from going, but all to no purpose. The woman immediately set off for the beach and the husband followed her. As soon as the shore was reached, she bade her husband a last long farewell; and taking the youngest of her children, of whom they had three (she left the other two with her husband) she dived into the watery element and disappeared for ever from his view. The husband with a heart bowed down with grief retraced his steps homeward to mourn the loss of a wife whom he deeply loved.

The descendants of the Boneta are very numerous in Chama, and they still go by the fabulous name of *Safur Nannan* on account of their supposed origin. None of them in consequence ever eat the Boneta or *Safur* to this day.

Sir,—In attempting to reveal the partiality which seems to Janus of the "Lagos Standard" to characterise the appointment of Natives in the Governmental departments of this Protectorate, the list of the holders of the best posts might have been completed had mention been made also of the Nationality of the Native Assist. Collector of Customs, the Accountant P. W. D. &c. &c. Posts which are by no means less lucrative than those he enumerates but whose occupants hail from places other than the Gold Coast.

I do not know whether to censure Janus or his informants, but somebody is certainly labouring under a misunderstanding by assuming that because the posts which Janus is pleased to make mention of are filled by Natives of the Gold Coast, therefore the Administration is partial. A brief review of the history of the holders of the four posts in question may serve to show that some of them were drafted into the service of this Protectorate from the Government of the Gold Coast while others arrived in humble positions and have worked their way up to where they are through

the common Natural law of the survival of the fittest; but that prior to taking up appointments they have had, with the exception of only one of whom I have no previous intimate knowledge, had several years training at home in the respective departments they are at present employed in.

Do Janus and his informants wish to prefer a charge of incompetency to these Gold Coastians who are only permitted to hold their office through favouritism or do they mean to infer that the Administration is blind to its surroundings? To hold to the views expressed by Janus, namely, that "partiality seems to characterise the appointment of natives to the Civil Service in Southern Nigeria" and then to refute these individual appointments in justification of that assertion is, to my mind, to beg the whole case; for partiality which is the outcome of favouritism, would have a very poor chance of success when it is reflected that in this instance, the discrimination is made between two or more peoples of the same Negro-race by the Caucasian with whom neither can claim the remotest affinity.

I join issue with the writer's informants that injustice, very great injustice is frequently done to competent old hands in the service by passing them over when vacancies for promotion occur and sending for green men to take them up; but of course not always from the Gold Coast as Janus would give out to his readers—for in the particular department in which I am, these vacancies are not infrequently filled by relatives of the native Officials who happen to "be the bosses". I am not complaining you know. I only find that in defence of the position I have assumed, this statement is necessary. You will observe then Mr. Editor, that partiality, if it can be said to exist as it undoubtedly, is to a certain extent, has the best chance of success in the Junior rather than in the Senior grades, in as much as appointments to the former are virtually controlled by the native high official while those to the latter are in the hands of the European Heads. Thanking you in anticipation for space allowed.

Yours faithfully,

A MEMBER OF THE JUNIOR GRADE.

S. Nigeria, Feb. 20, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Permit me a space in your columns now to enlist facts, mainly to contend the allegations which have from time to time appeared in the *Gold Coast Leader* by your Elmina Correspondent against Mr. Ankrab of Elmina.

In the myriads of complaints against this gentleman, it is evident that all is nothing but prejudice and jealousy, hence his silence to defend and treating the wretch with contempt. I am not surprised however to observe that the Elmina Correspondent should confine himself in his correspondence only to Ankrab with articles tending to injure an individual person with whom he is at variance.

In your number of the 25th February last it is asserted that Mr. Ankrab "belaboured one of his Cart boys with a cudgel, inflicting a cut on the head" this indeed is a gross mistake and a false representation worthy of the colour of the Elmina native; for, if there was a cut as it is alleged the police certainly would have taken action.

John Try the Cart boy had a good billing from Ankrab for insubordination and thinking this conduct would eventually affect his pay, repaired to the D. C. Dr. Thain to interfere.

As regards the fencing of Open Space No 4 granted to Mr. Ankrab, it was not done without the knowledge of the P. W. D and the Provincial Commissioner in whose hands is the power of granting permit to build or utilize any public land.

Despite the suit in Court Ankrab can exercise any privilege whether by acquisitional or ancestral right over that land.

These and other kindred matters in relation to Ankrab's connection with Dr. Thain have the tendency manifest only to scandalise his name.

Elmina is full of political matters which absorb interest for Correspondent to communicate rather than continuously going into personality in a journal whose policy is simply to deal on matters touching the welfare of the Country. The wiser device to bring Ankrab into grief should be directed to other Channel than through the G. C. L.

Dr. Thain on whom the Correspondent has been pouring complaints of the darkest hue has since his residence here as Doctor and Commissioner gained the admiration and commendation of all classes both in his professional and legal duties.

To wit Ankrab enjoys a reputation as a man who has been an Agent for Basel Mission Factory, a representative of the Akim and Elmina Proprietary and Agent of Elmina Concessions and cannot be engrossed in fanatical life of the Elminians since he had his training from elsewhere.

It is all (Judge, it is gammon to labour in tissues of falsehood against this man.

Thanking you for the space allowed.

I remain, yours faithfully,

JOHANNIS STEPHANUS.

Elmina, 1st March, 1905.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—

General Observer: (Adjua). We have noted and much regret it, but never you mind: it "won't pay" to follow it up. Vengeance is not yours remember.

Max: (Cape Coast). Certainly not, he is quite right, and it runs thus, *Honi soi qui mal y pense.*

Afole: (Adda). Glad to hear from you on such a subject, all the way from your end; but we think, it will be very much better to take this one: "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches."

A. L. S. (Sekundi). We would not recommend that; try him again, and for the third time even, if necessary, and you may write again.

J. G. (Winneba). No.

The Gold Coast Leader.

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CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1905.

Price 3d.
Including postage 4d.

THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

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H. E. SAGOE.

MANAGER.

Aboom, Cape Coast.

NOTICE.

The following lands are known to be the property of late Chief Kojo Yeboowah of Akortokyr viz.—Aiboo, Briginakoo, Kookooskyir and Akortokyr and not the property of late Prince Kwoku Aigill. All trespassers will be prosecuted.

By order

p.p. **AMBAH KYIRIBAH,**
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BY THE NIGER COMPANY, Limited,
Eight respectable well educated young men for tallying on board steamers.

Applicants, with previous experience only, to apply to the Agent, Burutu, enclosing copies of recent Testimonials.



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Small Size Box 1/4. Medium Size 1/6. Large 4/6.

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Remittances must be made direct to the Agents or by Post Office Order to Messrs. PALMER & CO., 25 & 27, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.

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MEYNE & RITTER, HAMBURG.

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Execute Indents promptly, if remittances are accompanied in B/L. for produces, or Cash at least 50% the remainder we draw through the Bank. We serve our customers with the very lowest prices. Produce consigned to us fetch always highest possible prices. Best References on the whole Coast! A trial is requested! **Agents are wanted.**

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that it is expected that 100,000 Para Rubber seeds will be available for sale at £2 per 1,000 seeds about the month of September.

Application from intending purchasers must be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

Botanic Gardens

Aburi.

As these seeds are being imported from distances, the Government will not accept any responsibility should any of them fail to germinate.

By command

C. RIBY WILLIAMS

Acting Colonial Secretary.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that a draft for £12 4 2 twelve pounds four shillings and two pence issued by the Bank of British West Africa Limited Cape Coast sometime in the month of November 1904 and drawn in favour of the undersigned was lost while in transit from Cape Coast to Axim. And notice is further given that any person finding said draft shall return same to Mr. J. B. A. Kwofie of Cape Coast or to A. B. Quartey Papafio Esquire Barrister at Law Accra or to the undersigned.

Dated at Axim this 2nd. day of March 1905.

B. F. ABMAH.

KROPP RAZORS
R. F. WOOD'S STORE.

NOTICE.

The Directors of the Fanti Public Schools Ltd. are now ready to deliver to members **CERTIFICATES** on which at least Three shillings a share has been paid. Shareholders are requested to apply to the undersigned for their certificates and where monies are due on allotment to pay same to the Bank at Cape Coast Office as soon as possible.

Pending the completion of arrangements with the Government for the Kotokroba School premises, the Company will be able by the aid of the Senior Director W. E. Sam Sag to start the first school named by Mantipim School in a suitable house situated at the foot of Macarthy's Hill off Intan Street on Monday the 2nd day of April 1905. Parents and guardians are hereby informed that entrance examinations will be held on Tuesday the 1st March and following days at 9 a.m. in the School, boys passing what is equivalent to the fifth standard only will be enrolled as students.

The attention of parents and guardians is specially directed to the following which is from the School prospectus: "Before the admission of a boy into the school a printed form must be filled up and handed to the Secretary of the Company by parents or guardians who with each boy will be required to declare that the instructions to be imparted and the training to be received at the school are necessary, and they will also be requested to guarantee the payment of the school bills therefor. It is hoped that by such means deserving but necessitous students will be enabled, at the discretion of the Directors, to complete their full course of studies and pay for the same from their subsequent earnings."

As soon as the number of students is encouraging the Directors hope to obtain the services of a highly trained European graduate to be the Headmaster and are at present giving the matter special and serious consideration.

Scientific and Technical Training will have special attention.

The School year is divided into three terms, namely, Easter, Autumn, and Christmas.

Fees per term for the First and Second forms 14/- Third form 8 guineas.

For further information apply to the Secretary or Senior Master at the School.

D. N. ARADNO,

Secretary.

FANTI PUBLIC SCHOOLS LTD.

Cape Coast Office, 18th Mar. 1905.

GENERAL NEWS.

His Excellency Sir John and Lady Rodger with Captain Hicks the Private Secretary left by the *Jebba* last Wednesday morning for Accra.

We understand the Hon'ble Mr. Muir also left by her for the same Port.

His Honour Mr. Justice Pennington gives an "At Home" at the Castle to-night.

We understand His Honour leaves next week for his furlough.

A boy stole at Kawanspadu from some Asianti School Boys about four trunks and some six pounds.

For the past two weeks, rubber has been coming to town in large quantities: if this continues, it will be something hopeful.

We understand the Sekondi Merchants are again attempting to intercept the men bringing it down here at Nakutsim. This won't do. Why can't our Merchants here, say the Chamber of Commerce, get a man to be authorized by the Government to be at this place, to see that no one disturbs these rubber gentlemen in going wherever they like with their rubber.

This is very opportune. That clever and witty writer in the *Morning Leader* (Feb. 21) S. L. H., devotes the whole column for his *Sub Rosa* on the Town Councils Ordinance, dealing on the interview between the Sekondi people and the D. C. and Quase Mensah's letter.

He writes:—"I have been looking through ha if a dozen copies of the *Gold Coast Leader*," and have been much interested in finding that there is, or was recently, a first-class crisis in that part of the Empire. The trouble seems to have been caused by the Government having resolved to impose a Town Council upon Sekondi, and the people of the town did not welcome the proposal. It is so puzzling as to be almost incredible, and yet it is true, that there are races of men who not take kindly to tall hats, frock-coats, Town Councils and other blessings which accompany the spread of British rule.

"Some people may think I am a traitor when I confess that the Town Council as an institution has never inspired me with enthusiasm. Nay, I will be quite candid, and will confess that in this Sekondi controversy I throw in my lot with the leader of the opposition, one Chief Kumah."

Died at Christiansborg on the evening of the 11th. inst. Madam Augusta Meyer alias Awula Adjah sister to Mr. J. A. M. Wilson of the Customs.

We understand Mr. Peregrine leaves for England on the 29th instant.

The Colonial Office says, the *African World* has appointed Mr. C. A. Birtwistle as Commercial Adviser to the Government of the Lagos and Southern Nigerian Colonies—an entirely new post, created in the interests of commerce. Good!

"We slip the following scrap of philosophy" says the *Rialto* "from an American contemporary:—

The rich man breathes the atmosphere the same as you and I;
He cannot see a deeper blue than we do in the sky;
He hears the piping of the birds—a music sweet and clear—
But may be money clinking dulls the music to his ear.
And yet he has some pleasures that possess a tempting guise,
But he can't die any deadlier than the poor man dies."

A X I M.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

By the s.s. "Panteo" (that arrived) week before last, Mr. James K. Murry whose departure to England was much felt by the community arrived: from all that one could see he is a business man, plain and social with every one.

Diners are now becoming very regular, at which clerks and how to deal with them form the main topic.

Perhaps it is not noticed that public streets in town need good repairs. Such as the one from Mr. Saccum's to the beach, there are lot of stones that way, which makes it hard for one to pass there at nights without kicking against them. If a place like Dix Cove has been so much cared for, and every effort has been put forth to restore sanitation I don't see why Axim should be overlooked.

The Policemen in town now do not keep to their beats at nights especially at the beach.

Under the influence of some of our friends a

Reading Club is in course of formation. Mr. and Mrs. Hayford we understand have taken the lead. We wish them a speedy success.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Our contemporary the *G. C. Aborigines*, last week extracted something from the *National Review* of December last which is very opportune, from what has transpired, and is transpiring in this Town, since the interview with the Governor on last Saturday. No one likes to witness all that has been going on, the hideous noise, the shoutings and the hootings, the demonstrative objection given to, and the outcry against the ruinous Town Councils Ordinance which having been applied to one of our Towns with sad results, is now being sought to be applied to the others; but fortunately for us at this time, we have at the Head of our Executive Council, a man who seems not only to be cautious but reasonable in disposing what power may be invested in him.

The People, or to be more accurate, the women, (for they were more demonstrative, the men taking in the situation in a calmer spirit) were simply infuriated, when Mr. T. F. E. Jones who went up the hill, with the Omanhin as his interpreter, delivered his message which was to the effect, that the Governor has heard all that we have got to say so far, but he thinks, the House Tax, cannot be done away with, still he gives us a week to see if we can put something else before him. A regular Pandemonium followed this message. The people were wild and furious the cause had been given and the effect could not be averted. So annoyed were they that even Mr. Jones must have his torrents of abuses for simply delivering the message: what followed that Saturday and the following Monday (for wild as they were, they remembered the Sabbath Day and kept it holy) recalled to one's mind what took place on that memorable day at the Chapel Square (August 16th last) and during the Attorney-General's visit, for in whatever light you may put it, the People simply detest the Ordinance and would have none of it, for the results of its application elsewhere, do not even let them dream of it, but what is more, this Ordinance as it has been shown from time to time, is diametrically opposed to their natural and racial instincts, the laws manners and customs of the country, nor do they see any necessity or justification for the existence of such an Ordinance.

But we must give to our Readers the extracts from the *National Review* referred to above: "In spite of the fact that the native laws on the Coast are the result of much practical experience, and with some notable exceptions admirably adapted to circumstances, these are almost invariably ignored and replaced with ill-digested and crude legislation. The natives whose minds work slowly are incapable of understanding the various Ordinances, and become worried and discontented. This is particularly the case with regard to taxation, WHICH IS A CONTINUOUS SOURCE OF TROUBLE AND FRICTION. (Italics ours. Ed.)

As a matter of fact these words as they stand need no comment from us. Where can one find a more "ill-digested and crude legislation" as far as we are concerned than the one being now "pounded" upon us, and we use the word deliberately. Taxation! in the face of all the sources of revenue, the Government have devised to replenish the Treasury from which THE PEOPLE derive no benefit of any kind.

We are told that the People of this country must be taxed for improvements, that Cape Coast must now have the Town Councils Ordinance because some thousands of pounds have been expended on it. How readily the authorities find some grounds to justify themselves in whatever they may do! Now, think of the amount of the revenue this country has yielded since, say from Governor Usher's time to this day, and say if the improvements said to have been made are worthy of the British Nation: but the Revenue has managed "to fly." Is Accra better now, that it is being taxed, than what it was before the Ordinance was put in force there? Cape Coast must be taxed now, because some three or four thousand pounds of the revenue collected have been expended for its improvement. This is easily said in dispatches to and from Downing Street, but let those who say so, come and see for themselves, if the improvements said to have been made tantamount to the amount expended. We are told, we must be taxed for improvements, for we want this and we want that, and all require money; we say, this is right enough, but it should be remembered that in England for instance, the People see what they are taxed for, they derive some tangible benefit from the taxation, they have a voice in their Legislative Chamber, they have Representatives in the truest sense of the term, and even England today finds sufficient and justifiable grounds to complain now and again.

As far as the Revenue of the country goes, we say, let the very rudimental principles in Economics be applied to it, and there will be more than enough for any improvement the Authorities may think of for the country. But look at this: our very neighbours who only recently came to the coast as Colonizers have been able to give all necessary improvements to their towns without any taxation. Why can't we? To-day we are far behind them in many things, when their revenue all told, do not come up to ours: does not this show, that splendid colonizers as we are, there is something wrong in the machine that sets our West African administration a going. Something that must make an able and capable administrator a wreck, and if he must shine at all, not until he resolves to be a man every inch of man, and it is nothing surprising to find a West African administrator who was not up to much on the Coast, getting on somewhere else, and things must continue to be like this, whilst the Crown Colony System remains, and matters left entirely in the hands of the Permanent Secretaries at Downing Street and their representatives on the Coast. Is there no voice in the Mother country to speak on behalf of thousands of His Majesty's subjects in this part of the Empire on this!

The public will note that there are a few back numbers of the "Gold Coast Leader" of the 18th Feb., containing letter to His Excellency the Governor from the Omanhin and the People of Cape Coast re the Town Councils Ordinance to be had from the Store of H. Solomon, Jackson Street.

AN OFFER TO OUR READERS.

Any reader sending to us ten subscribers with their subscriptions for 3 months will be supplied with free copies up to that time or their equivalent in cash, if preferred. This applies also to subscriptions for 6 or 12 months respectively.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

A *nom-de-plume* or initials should be given if it is desired that the real name shall not appear in the paper. Name and address must accompany all communications as a guarantee of good faith.

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAR. 18, 1905.

THE TOWN COUNCIL AGAIN.

His Excellency the Governor has met the People through their representatives, on the Town Councils Ordinance at the O'Connor's Hill, and considering all that has passed between him and the People, through the Aborigines Society, the result of this meeting must be said to be disappointing and utterly unexpected, and it was nothing surprising to find the Town in the commotion it was, when the representatives came down to the People who had assembled at Prapatem, to tell them what His Excellency had said.

Governor Rodger, in reply to all the suggestions, that have been made to him, when he condescended to ask for the opinion of the People on the Ordinance as it is, (which is impracticable when the manners and customs of the country are taken into consideration) pinned his refutation of all that has been said by the People and their representatives, (which in the main, to do away with the House Tax, recommended manual labour), by showing that in these days such a thing cannot be done: that is, the people cannot be got to give their services willingly and cheerfully, when called upon by their Chiefs, as it used to be. He thinks there may be some, who would refuse to work, or pay the fine, in accordance to our laws and would even go the length of giving trouble, were any force to be brought to bear on them to obey the laws of their country; the lawyer is abroad, and these refractories would go to him, and the D. C. too would see that the law is applied. Such things will go on, and in his opinion, His Excellency thinks this will be a source of much difficulty in the way of what the People suggest. This was the main point against the suggestions of the People, put forth by His Excellency, which makes it difficult for him to see with them, and therefore the Ordinance as it is must be applied. He still gives us a

week to suggest or prepare something better, thereby showing that as the Head of the Executive, Sir John is still willing to see the Ordinance applied without any friction, and to receive recommendations from those the Ordinance affects. The Ordinance is in existence: one of our Towns is groaning under it, and as the Father of the People, he is unwilling to see the misery and woe, and suffering its application entails, extended to other places, and the Town now suffering, also relieved. We hope so.

Are we to take His Excellency seriously? Does Sir John really and truly see any difficulty in complying with the wishes of the People in this respect, for Sir John as he is made out to us, and as we have known him, is the last man to find any difficulty in what he puts forth as such, and therefore it is believed that there are some strong, undercurrent forces at work. If Sir John has seriously discovered any difficulty or impracticability in what the governed had put before him on this Ordinance, if it is his "darling wish" that the People should back to go their own manners and customs, which some are trying to take away from them and this Sir John has shown clearly in some of his public speeches—if it is his wish that the People should not be ruled by any oppressive measures, if he is desirous to co-operate with the People over whom he is placed, (in the doing of which he would not be carrying out his own personal wishes only, but will be putting into effect the royal wish of Her late Majesty, Queen Victoria, and of our present Sovereign) if, we say, these are his wishes and desires, may we not respectfully submit that although he has discovered some difficulty in what the People suggest, he may, to put his good intentions concerning them and his desire to see them righted, beyond all doubts, give what has been put before him a trial? Sir John may be once more reminded that what instructions soever may come from the Permanent Secretaries (we must leave the Secretary of State alone, for he is after all a figure head) at Downing Street, he is on the spot and this covers a lot.

We have always deplored the extent to which our friends from beyond the seas who have come to stay with us, drawn here by motives and purposes other than what they now lay claim to since they must think, speak and act *imperially*, now, have gone, in meddling with the laws and customs of the land, which might have been left alone, without any hitch or trouble. The doing of this has brought about the difficulty which Sir John finds in the suggestion of the People. The Authorities have little by little arrogated every power to themselves, that our kings and chiefs now simply exist but in name. But our present Governor, (and the late Governor Maxwell before him) thinks this should never be, and all papers, documents &c. in connection with this country and Great Britain do not warrant it. If therefore this has become a difficulty in such an important matter, could not such a thing be stopped by circular letters to D. C's. should ever any of the People be foolish enough to take such a course or any lawyer be found who by sacrificing racial instinct for the filthy lucre encourage any such person to break the laws of his country. Sir John is, from all account the man to see this done. The more we think of this, the more do we see the difficulty in connection with it to be no difficulty, on the contrary, we see here an easy way of restoring to our native rulers, their rights and privileges, which some administrators from the dizzy heights of their powers, lent them by the great Power behind them, undiplomatically, and unstatesmanlike, took away from them, and the continuance of which has been a source of many unjust, un-British and ruinous ruling in the country. We therefore venture to think, that if Sir John will condescend to take this view of the question, at any rate, *this difficulty will give way.*

A TORNADO OF WILD-FIRE.

(BY A BANKER)

The recent great yawning chasm rent in the sun—commonly called a sunspot—so extensive that a considerable number of globes the size of our earth could be rolled into it, recalls to our mind the immensity and the prodigious proportion of our luminary. In order to form some compa-

parison of the relative size of the sun as compared with the earth, if a "pushball" six feet in diameter were to present our globe, a pyramid of such balls, its base occupying a space of four square miles, and piled up to the height of two miles, or nearly three times the height of Vesuvius, would roughly approximate the volume of the sun.

And what a spectacle of bewildering and awe would be presented if the power of our telescopes could be increased so that they could magnify in the same proportion as the microscope, and we could witness the stupendous tornados of fire which cleave these vast gulfs deep down into the blazing photosphere of the sun; such as for instance the terrible solar disturbance of 1839, when a gaping abyss, estimated at no less than twenty-five thousand million square miles in extent, and of a depth positively unfathomable, was gouged out of the flaming orb, by some potent force or agency the nature of which we can only conjecture. Our imperfect instruments, however, reveal to us the fact that these sunspots are the scene of the most terrific hurricanes of fiery gases; cyclonic whirlwinds of blazing metallic and other vapours, which, with a force so altogether overwhelming that no comparison can be made with even the mightiest forces of terrestrial nature, sweep across the wild turmoil ever raging in that glowing furnace, and then, a wild, infuriate tempest, cleave a yawning chasm in the incandescent mass, laying bare for a time the inner recesses of the giant luminary. And there in that weird abyss of fire these whirling tornados, lashed into wild fury, flame around the chasm, with doubtless a convulsive roar beyond description terrible, or hurtle upwards into space a vivid flame a hundred thousand miles or more in height.

At times too these solar disturbances are accompanied (or perhaps caused?) by an outburst of electricity so potent and so extensive, that on one occasion a most extraordinarily vivid flash, far exceeding the sun in brilliancy, and probably many thousand miles in extent, was observed by a watcher at one of the great observatories, the electrical storm seriously impeding for a short time all telegraphy throughout the greater part of the earth.

Though these spots appear to be so black, yet they are so only relatively; for Herschell has shewn that a powerful limelight projected before a spot appears like a dark point.

And this mighty sun is only one amongst many millions of starry orbs scattered throughout the expanse of the illimitable, many of them far greater and far more brilliant than our glowing luminary.

And He who created them all came in humility to this earth of ours, and on that grim and bitter cross made expiation for our sins. And to those who come to Him for pardon and for life the gates of Paradise will be opened wide. But, to those who fatuously neglect or refuse, the angel's flaming sword will bar the entrance.

ONE THING AND ANOTHER.

BY LUX.

The bed rock fact in connection with national development that we, as a people, must recognise is that you can assimilate without losing your identity. To put the matter vulgarly, you may dine off roast beef from one year's end to the other, but you needn't become a cow for that matter. To put it scientifically, the gases and other elements in the earth nourish the grass, which gives food to the cattle, which in turn gives sustenance to man, who becomes the medium for the intelligent expression of the soul. Yet everything in its order. Soul is forever soul, and so with man, beast, plant, and mineral. That is clear.

Apply this law or principle to national development or growth, and what have you? Simply this: that while drawing liberally upon the store house of the whole world, as "the heir of the ages," to adopt Lord Tennyson's phrase, for whatsoever is good, be it in the way of religion, modern improvements, commerce, industries, economics, education &c., your noblest, highest, truest ideal must always be to remain your true self, remembering what Shakespeare says, which is this—

"This above all to thine ownself be true,
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man."

To illustrate: In matters of religion, for example, we must not start by assuming that the Gold Coast man has no religion. Rather must we trace back and find out what he knows of the Living God and lead him out to a knowledge of His Son Jesus Christ, as the *Highest* expression of the Living God. Again take modern improvements, commerce, or any other line of development. In all these you go wrong when you start with the assumption that the African's mind is a *tabula rasa*, clean slate, upon which you may write what you wish; or a wild uncultivated desert into which you may sow thistles and brambles and wild oats *ad lib*, with a beautiful rose here and there.

The world to-day looks upon Japan and wonders. Would you like to know what has made Japan so great? First she had national ideals, which she stuck to with Eastern pertinacity. Next she considered how best she could attain unto, and realise, those ideals. She found the way in a sensible assimilation of what was best in the outside world; then, setting to work with a will, she succeeded in carrying all before her.

To illustrate further: the Japanese having dealings with a European house will appear in the white man's office in European clothing; but you would not know the same man, if you saw him in the bosom of his family, on a divan covered with mats, in his loose flowing garments. Keep this picture before your mind's eye, and you will never miss my meaning. In Japan to-day the finest business houses are in the hands of Japanese; yet it was not always so. They learnt the methods of the European, improved upon them, and eventually came to do the thing better and cheaper than the European. They assimilated, and assimilated well and to the purpose. It was a natural process, yielding a spontaneous natural result, which did not require maxima to bring about.

We must begin, and begin soon. And none, who loves his country, may say the question of dress, or the question of names, is but a small thing. In the line of thought suggested in this paper, the little cloud, like unto a man's fist, may be the self-same courts around which will gather the elements which will presently flood hill and dale, and fertilise the whole land.

AGRICULTURE

[The following is a lecture delivered before the members of the Cape Coast Reading Club, by Mr. J. Barbour James and is published here with the permission of the Club. Ed.]

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

Some months have elapsed since I was asked to read a paper on the all-absorbing topic of Agriculture. I should explain that the delay in complying with our President's request is due to the fact of my having been too fully occupied. I am, however, glad to have this opportunity of complying with his wish, not only because I look upon it as an honour done me, but also because one looks upon it as a duty wherever possible, to offer any help when invited on the launching of any enterprise promoted in the interest of the public weal and for the improvement of a country which at present offers him shelter. Then we tie to the land of Agriculture. Before doing so, however, I venture to follow the practice of an Etymological reference to the subject.

Agriculture is taken from two Latin words *Ager* meaning a field and *cultum* to cultivate, in other words, working a field, or the ground, to make it yield fruits &c. The development of the Agricultural resources, or any of the resources of a country, cannot be divorced from the question of labour. I therefore propose at once to deal with this aspect of it as it relates to my subject. Labour—what is labour? The didactic interpretation thereof is "toilsome exertion of body or mind— toil." The divine order "In the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread" and "Six days shalt thou labour and do all thou hast to do" would seem to be an affair designed by the Almighty.

Man should therefore respect the dignity of labour which is the voluntary exertions of human being put forth to obtain some desired object, and which is the only guarantee of one's honest existence. Ever since creation man had been grappling with the soil and wrestling a livelihood from the bosom of the earth.

It has been an impossible undertaking to trace the origin of Agriculture, the origin of which seems to be lost in the darkness of antiquity, more or less remote.

No doubt the ancient Egyptians attained proficiency in the art, far in advance of any other nation of ancient times—Egypt also applied her genius to labour of all kinds.

No palaces and temples surpassed here; no Agriculture or sculpture could compare with that which adorned her cities. The Babylonians, the Israelites and the ancient Romans were also great agricultural nations. Later, however, the Romans held Agriculture in contempt and fine lands once in cultivation was allowed to relapse into a wilderness of woody ordure—yes, Gentlemen—fine lands were allowed to go waste—abandoned! With what results? As being one of the results, Rome fell, and so did all other nations of antiquity that neglected that vital factor—the success of which depends on manual labour—to a large extent. Manual labour, the cry of the age is attracting world-wide attention, as also the suggestion "Back to the land." As the last scenes of the nineteenth century faded from sight and we stand upon the threshold of the twentieth we find ourselves facing the question with more seriousness than ever be-

fore. All honest work is honourable, nay, elevating be it drudgery or otherwise what matters it? The desideratum is pecuniary independence.

A gentleman while in residence in a district in another Colony felt it his duty as a means of affording practical example to perform some drudgery work—ploughing and weeding &c. in the garden by which his house was surrounded in order to justify the Gospel he had preached that labour need not have degenerating effect. One day while thus engaged he was approached by a man who said "Sir, excuse me: this work does not suit you! You are a gentleman." The person addressed was glad of the opportunity of which he took full advantage replying he said, "Ah yes, this is exactly what I wanted to hear. But no work honestly performed was degrading. Any work that necessitated the use of brain mixed with intellect is uplifting. Go, and so inform your friends." These remarks had most far-reaching results. In course of a short space of time several cottage gardens sprang up, money prices having been offered for the best of them; nor did it end here—the Government having been impressed most favourably by further development, a Department of Agriculture was created. In this connection it is very satisfactory to note that this country can boast of a teeming labouring population, it should not therefore be difficult to secure leaders from the ranks of the scholarly ones. But I hear some one in the audience saying "But come to the point—let's have more of Agriculture." I do so. As it is being sought to create a love for Agriculture in this country and as it may not be improbable to find some sceptic who would question the position of the agriculturist apart from the aspect of pecuniary gain, I may state that to my mind there is no nobler occupation. I think it was in the year 1840, when there was a great awakening in England about the improvement of her Agricultural resources. It then afforded very great pleasure to Her late Majesty VICTORIA THE GOOD to comply with the request from some of the noblest of the aristocracy of the land, including the Earl of Grafton, who had approached her for a Charter incorporating an Agricultural Society, promoted by themselves. Since then Agriculture has been considered as of greatest importance. Although of late the Society's exhibitions have not been financially very successful, yet the power of its influence is largely felt. It had as its illustrious President His Majesty the King when he was Prince of Wales, who took as he now takes, the greatest interest in Agriculture including cattle rearing—I think a good deal of His Majesty's private income is secured from these sources. In several parts of the United Kingdom there are establishments in the form of Colleges for the propagation of Agricultural instructions, and one which is of great historic value is that known as "Albert Memorial College" in Framlingham, Suffolk—established if I remember rightly, in perpetuation of the memory of the Late Prince Consort. It will thus be seen Gentlemen, what value is placed on this noble calling. References to these points have been made in order to clear away any impression that may exist that the suggestion of the motto "lie to the land" has any other than a pure motive.

(To be continued.)

AXIM,

GOLD COAST COLONY, WEST AFRICA.

9th March 1905.

At the Supreme Court yesterday before His Honour Judge Purcell the action of S. A. Carew and H. E. Molyneux versus the African Association Limited was concluded. The Plaintiffs in the case (who were Vendors to the Association of Mining and Timber Concessions in the Axim District of the Gold Coast Colony and also acted as Defendants Agents from August 1900 up to March 1903) claimed £2,000 damages for trespass on their premises at Upper Town, Axim and also £2,000 being balance of purchase money in respect of properties etc. sold to Defendants in 1900.

Mr. Rotini Alade Barrister-at-Law, represented the Plaintiffs, and Mr. Woodhouse (Lawrence Jones & Co.) was Solicitor for the Defendants. This Case has occupied the Court several days and Counsel on both sides are to be congratulated on the spirited manner in which they worked for their respective clients. His Honour in delivering judgment described the conduct of the Defendants as contumacious and over bearing in the extreme giving judgment for the Plaintiffs (as regards the trespassing case) with damages £564, and all costs, the Association to vacate the Plaintiffs' premises within 3 weeks.

The question of balance of purchase money due to Plaintiffs (under certain contingencies) was not gone into. His Honour ruling that the £2,000 in question could not be claimed by the Plaintiffs until August 1907.

The Judgment has been received here with general satisfaction Messrs. Carew and Molyneux being popular and highly respected residents.

Note from E. D.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader*.

THE DIXCOVE CORRESPONDENT AND THE MAN IN THE PULPIT.

Dear Sir,—I want to thank the "Dixcove Correspondent" through your columns; first, for his interest in my letter dealing with the above heading and which appeared in your issue of the 28th. of January last reflecting upon his correspondence of the 14th. of the same month. And secondly for his appreciation of the tact with which it was written. These in my opinion are sufficient to settle the whole question.

As to his remaining paragraphs, I simply consider them as the mere usual childish cry of trying-to-say something resulting from proper correction administered to a naughty child. A more illogical blunder can never be committed.

And the references to Divine Healing that he made! This shows that he knows who D. K. B. is and the fact is that I do not know who this sweet Correspondent is, and therefore free from all personal prejudices about him.

The absurdity of his alluding to Divine Healing which is quite foreign to the question at issue, can be imagined. And what he made out from it against me shows that he has been stuffing the public with nonsense for 15 years.

Permit me Sir, to whip him soundly once again and leave him to wall over the stripes for the next 15 years and I assure you, Dear Editor, I will never appear again to answer him.

That the man who makes such an excellent show of English will be so grossly ignorant of the thing about which he writes is very much astonishing.

Last time I appeared to advise him but this time I come forth to teach him something worth learning with my "three months' study of the *Leader*."

Does he not know that even the Christ could not force "His own" to receive Him although "He came to His own?" John 1. 11. Could not persuade His brothers to believe in Him as the Son of God and the Saviour of the World until after His death, Resurrection and Ascension? John 7. 5., Gal. 1. 19. And does he not know that Mrs. John Wesley could not be made to see the great Spiritual and Revival movement and the laying of the foundation of the future great Methodist Church which her godly and Apostolic Husband under God had in hand to accomplish, and therefore called him by many ugly names?

Must, I, Dear Editor under like circumstances force my wife and children to receive and practise Divine Doctrine when to them it is absurdity?

The false and unlearned accusation that "I" do not see incongruity of allowing my wife and children to use medicines" is therefore babyish as his other prejudicial correspondences.

Yours very sincerely,—D. K. B.

Axim, 25th. Feb., 1905.

[No more of this, please. Ed.]

Dear Mr. Editor,—I read from your interesting journal the other day, some one reminding the Foreman of works of the gutter at the Omanhin's quarters. This gutter is absolutely dangerous to health: it was made on application sent to Accra in 1888 during Gov. Griffith's administration, and since then nothing whatever has been done to it again, all the cement has been washed off, all the stones are now bare, which keep the water from running off, and form pools giving such a stench which endangers the health of those in the neighbourhood, and no wonder those there keep such a bad health.

Being out the other evening I saw the one at the Commercial Road being repaired, but there is "a halt" after two yards with a gutter of about two or three hundred yards! Nothing uncommon to see with the Public Works Department though, and this is how Public Works are to be done!!

Thanking you for the space.

Yours truly,—A. NRIENBOOR.

Cape Coast, 3. 3. 05.

Sir,—Looking through the columns of your issue of the 4th instant, I came across a question which has engaged a good time of my Bachelor life and perhaps which has kept me one till now headed, "The Marriage Question". I am glad after all that Mr. Prosper has fallen in with my views in every detail as regards this question, although whatever has been my thought on this matter has never appeared before the public, partly not knowing the right party to blame. It is only too true that every young man of any of the denominations desire is, to marry lawfully and likewise the opposite sex. But taking into consideration the lowest cost of marriage which is estimated at £100 and which is made up as follows—

Headrum	£15
Trousseau	£65
Cake and Wine	£20

at once becomes a stumbling block to him, and taking for granted one who is under an annual salary of £60 saves £20 a year with the strictest economy could only be able to meet the above formalities in 5 years, leaving him nothing to live on after marriage owing to this unnecessary expense without which one can never get married. And those who without first giving this matter its due consideration before entering into this solemn obligation could tell you that their experience of

marriage life is 'an unhappy one. And this puts me in mind of the words used at wedding parties to which I have always smiled "Let us drink to the health of the happy couple" which more or less mean unhappy, miserable, and ruined couple.

Yours faithfully,—BACHELOR.

Axim,—8th March 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,—May I ask through the medium of your paper why the General Manager of the Railway has passed out circulars to the Heads of Departments that the native officials are not going to get any increment this year until next, when he finds that the Railway is in a proper financial basis before he can do anything for them, yet he is daily approving the increments of the European Staff. Are we to understand that our increments are stopped, just to swell that of the white officials who simply come to the office with cigarettes between their fingers, some strolling about the yard like Lords-of-the-Isle. Why can't we strike like those of the Lagos Railway, if we cannot, then I would suggest that we form a Native Railway Clerks Association. In fact the treatment given us (clerks) by way of salaries, is rather beyond description. Why can't we be placed on the same footing as other Government officials. Cannot the General Manager use his own discretion other than to abide on the instructions of that gentleman. The gentleman in question I find exercises too much prerogative over him. The clerks in the accounts department are daily resigning owing to the rough treatment given them by the gentleman in charge. He does not only treat blacks as brutes and knaves but tries to undermine his colour as well.

Cannot the Government find out capable respectable and conscientious man to take charge of that Department. In fact on the Gold Coast men are sent out irrespective of character, but as soon as one gets his part of the salary he is satisfied. Thanking you for the space allowed.

Yours truly,—ONE WHO KNOWS.

Sekundi,—9th. March 1905.

Dear Sir,—I am requested by the President and members of the "Dixcove Literary and Debating Club" to send for publication the enclosed letter which has been addressed to the District Commissioner and the two chiefs of this town and oblige.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
J. SOLO-ANSAH,
Secretary.

Dixcove, 11th. March, 1905.

THE DIXCOVE LITERARY AND DEBATING CLUB.

Club-Room,
Dixcove, 4th. Mar. 05.

Sir,—We have the honour very respectfully to acquaint your Worship of the formation of the above club.

The aim and object thereof being the mutual improvement of its members and help towards any movement which will have for its object the welfare of the town.

Our purpose therefore, in apprising you of its existence is to assure you of our readiness at any time to co-operate and assist your Worship in matters touching the weal of Dixcove and its suburbs.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servants,
MOSES KINNAH—President,
J. R. ANSOH—V. President,
J. S. ANSAH—Secretary

The District Commissioner, etc., etc.,
Dixcove.

Dear Mr. Editor.

In your issue of the 11th instant I noticed a letter written by one Johannes Stephanis complaining of the articles which have been appearing in your valuable paper from your able correspondent here.

Permit me to make a few remarks as one who has been watching the events here. I regret to find that the writer who is so well-known to me should have assumed Mr. Ankrab's servant's name instead of his own.

Your correspondent has always given you the facts re Mr. Ankrab's doings and as a native of the soil I must say we are proud of him but strongly resent to the way he carries on with the Doctor-Commissioner detrimental to the interests of the town.

The writer evidently is not aware of the feelings of the people in the town and I was surprised to read from his letter that the Doctor-Commissioner has given satisfaction to all classes in town "both in his professional and legal duties." Perhaps it may be a surprise to him when I tell him confidentially that there is a movement in town and a petition is being prepared to be sent to His Excellency the Governor at Accra for Dr. Thain's removal since his à la Gambaga way of administering justice here is distasteful to the general community.

To comment on Stephanis' letter would be ridiculous, but I await your correspondent's reply—I wonder what Dr. Thain think of Stephanis' letter.

I enclose my card and thanking you for space allowed.

I am, Dear Mr. Editor,
Yours faithfully,—CORRENA.

Elmina, 13th March, 1905.

SEKONDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

RAILWAY.

An outcry of the untold iniquitous impositions as predominating in the departmental staff of the Gold Coast Railway under which the native clerks are brought to suffer verifies the fact that life in the service of the Railway Government as far as the native is concerned, is not worth living. Immediately the cloak of malice and atrocities was discarded by the members of the Goods Shed, an official in the Accountant Department seems to have grasped it with amazing eagerness. Relative to the unnecessary and extraordinary infliction of fines and award of penalties for petty official offences—offences which are really not worth the name and the description in majority of cases—we have masses of evidence on hand inadmissible of particularization in these columns. For using an envelope for an article addressed to General Manager, a clerk in the Traffic Department was fined by the Chief Accountant last week assigning as his reason that he wasted the Railway stationery. Indiscriminately similar fines have been inflicted, the sufferers on every occasion having simply to "note it and to give no explanation or excuse for the offence." With a view to dissipating the existence of the prejudicial impositions, Mr. Whaller and his colleagues will do well to look after the pounds and leave the pence to look after themselves.

CUSTOMS SHED.

The present system of stocking goods in the Customs Warehouse calls for serious comments. A contract for the efficient stowing of packages landed from the steamers which never existed in Mr. Humphrey's period of Agency, now does exist between the Lighterage Company and the various firms who are charged at the rate of from £3 to £6 per month.

No regard is paid to the efficient stowage of packages which are thrown heaps upon heaps in the shed making a ton of packages look like a thousand. If an importer takes three days (the shortest time) to "find out" in which part of the shed his package laid, justice advocates rightly the immediate determination of the contract.

THE TOWN.

A month or two back we recommended the necessity of providing the Inspector of Nuisance with an official dress, we trust an attention is being given to this matter.

Mr. Rust owns the site of the present market and the idea that he pays the Government for the scavenging work done from time to time, he is justified in fencing it round thereby debarring the female marketeers of its use. We know of a certain Open Space No. 1, that is allotted for purposes of marketing, but it is a pity to find that the Provincial Commissioner could not give ear to the appeals of the women as to the using of it immediately when matters have come to such a crisis.

In the s.s. "Baruta" for England on the 8th inst. travelled Mr. William Howard Ross, who we understand is to return to the Coast within two months to assume the post of a Supervisor of H. M. Customs.

On Monday afternoon the 27th. ult. died Mr. Isaac Crankson—a leader in the Wesleyan Church, whose remains were witnessed by many Christian friends. Born in 1835, Mr. Crankson was 70 years old; he was a brother to the late Mr. J. P. Crankson who was the Founder of Wesleyan Methodism in Sekondi and who died in the year 1859. Sympathies to the bereaved families and relatives.

The "Egwanga" carried from this port over 150 logs last week, the s/s Sapelli still lading has already had 120 pieces. A chartered boat is contemplated to arrive next week for the 500 or more logs the Ahanta Company have got ready for shipment.

On conviction before D. C. Philbrick last week, Mr. Hermel a sailor on board the "Sharbro" for stealing 2 cans gin was sentenced to two months imprisonment.

It is high time for our white brothers to stop all the twaddle against the condemning article entitled "Sin and

Johanna's distoolment was celebrated on the 1st instant, there was no marketing on that date as by a gong-gong beaten on the previous evening, it was decreed that a heavy penalty will be awarded any one not sharing in the celebration.

Sooner or later this Emperium will command the seat of the Government, favour has it and on this account or towards the contemplation, the European staff of the Public Works Department has been increased by six engineers, including the famous Jardine, for undertaking the execution of a dozen bungalows, a High Court House, Public Offices and central Prisons.

On its way to dismantle the environment of the native with or by any means or in any way practicable, the Sekondi Chamber of Commerce has at last leagued to effect the payment of salaries of native clerks no sooner than ten days after the expiration of the current month. Such spurious manipulations must be snuffed any how at the doors of the spurious combination as far as the native is concerned.

From the stroke of a hammer handled by one J. B. Thompson (a blacksmith) last night, Mr. James Hanson (a carpenter) sustained a serious wound on the head between the occipital and the temple on the

night, Thompson has been arrested and is still in custody at Police Station.

TOWN COUNCILS ORDINANCE.

A meeting in connection with the above was held on the 18th. instant when the first election of eight members was made. Eventually the Ordinance may be considered to have gained a firm footing, the Chiefs on the other hand are rather earnest in celebrating an anniversary festival.

WATER SUPPLY.

The fact that Mr. Craven has been able to fix up certain mechanical arrangements at Ashime by which the "Anankon Stream" could be drawn at the Sekondi Station when necessary, is demonstrative of the success as attending the minor undertaking of this engineer.

Mr. Craven is at present engaged on certain operations at Whimdu, 8 miles off.

BURNING OF AKROKERE VILLAGE.
THIRTY SOULS PERISHED IN FLAMES!

The news of this disastrous catastrophe occurred on the 6th. inst. and was communicated by telegram to Sekondi on the 8th. inst. Facts from the scene of accident given out are that the fire broke out from a burning grass close to the Railway Station and borne on the high wind to the village set on huts and burned everything to its last shreds. Seventeen souls seven of whom came from Anamaboe, were caught by the fire in their panic flight, remaining thirteen were reduced to ashes and therefore could not be identified. Mr. Orleans (a photographer) who also fell a victim in a painful manner was buried at a spot close to the Railway Station. Fortunately in its rage the fire did not reach the Mines where serious damage would have been done by communication with the explosives on the property.

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On the 4th. inst. Mr. Chas. M. Acquah travelled in the s.s. Carl Wermann for Winneba.

The dedication of the Essaman Church House to the worship of God took place on the 5th. inst. attended by a large gathering of people from Chama, Asoku and the Chama Local Singing Band. Rev. Sackey performed the ceremonies. Owing to this occasion, the morning service was poorly attended.

Rev. Austin Bruce arrived here and examined the Wesleyan School on the 27th. ultimo.

The Catholic Scholars were recipients last week of a new set of Cricket presented by Chief N. J. A. Bernasko.

The thieves are humbugging us also and we know how they are encouraged. Want of street lamps and police vigilance are but simple "answersables."

A search warrant issued at the instance of Mr. B. J. Yankeah against Messrs. C. M. Wilson, Freeman, Bordoh and others at Sapone who according to the tenour of the same were alleged to have been the robbers of the goods that were carried away from Millers' Store last month, created some excitement in the town.

No trace of the stolen goods was found on the premises of either of the above gentlemen who were accordingly discharged.

Mr. S. A. Cole is packing down his Merry-go-round plant to Cape Coast.

ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIR PERTINAX M'CYPHANT JOHANNIS
STEPHANAS & CO.

I am highly flattered by the correspondence I have just read in the last issue of this paper embodying some suspicious statements from a Mr. Johannes Stephanas, purporting to defend or screen Mr. George Weytingh Ankra as regards certain allegations which have from time to time appeared in these columns against the aforesaid gentleman.

Johannes Stephanas, I presume, is the Wall Street slang for John Stephens, who, I believe, is Mr. Ankra's *valet de chambre*. I therefore take it that I am dealing with Mr. Ankra's faithful servant, Mr. John Stephens; and as this illustrious personage has thought fit to depict me as a "prejudiced wretch," and also gone the length of reflecting upon my "colour as an Elmina native," I mean to be a little particular.

I have nothing personally for or against Mr. Ankra or any one of his confederates, and have hitherto, in my various correspondence never attempted to sacrifice sense and spirit to bombastic refinement. The nature of the subject I have always had the misfortune to tackle has compelled me to be a little serious which may be mistaken by the novice for personality. If however, I have not said the whole truth, at any rate I have always said nothing but the plain truth.

Be John Try a krooboy, or a Mendi or an Hausa he is a blackman, and therefore entitled to some protection due to the race which is one of the objects of the journal.

Although Mr. Johannes Stephanas contends or would have us believe that Mr. Ankra did not inflict any cut on the boy, John Try, he, however, readily admits that Ankra did give him a "good hiding" which might mean anything. Now, what is the relationship between Ankra and Dr. Thain

as District Commissioner that the boy should deem it expedient to repair to the latter to crave his intercession about his pay? For aught I know the boy quarrelled with Ankra over his pay which was long in arrears and that brought about the "good hiding."

Referring to the open space No. 4, this is the first time I have heard that a concession has been made to Ankra by the Powers that be, assuming that I am bound to take my illustrious correspondent's bare word for it. All I wish Mr. Ankra is success and long life. He has contrived to build an excellent house here which affords some improvement to this old dismantled town. I appreciate it. He tried to induce some mining Companies to establish business here and I praise him. But I do not in the slightest envy his position, nor have I ever intended by any remarks I may have made about his "goings on," to injure his reputation out of sheer malice. The fact is, Mr. Ankra has always played first fiddle in every comedy worth commenting upon.

My worthy correspondent goes on further by treating us to the joke that Mr. Thain as District Commissioner, "has gained the admiration and commendation of all classes both in his professional and legal duties." Surely the good doctor ought to stand something for this flagrant manifesto. I do not pretend to know anything about the "professional," for unlike the late Dr. Elliot of blessed memory, Dr. Rome Hall and several others of the faculty, he has not as yet performed any remarkable feat, medically or surgically since his stay here, although I am informed he is a very good hand at post mortem examinations. But as far as the "legal" side is concerned perhaps it might be interesting for my dear correspondent to learn that there is some movement on foot by the people to petition the Governor to have this man removed from the Bench—and here. On the other hand the alleged complaints about this high official have simply been linked with his foolhardiness and general deportment as sub-agent for His Majesty the King, which appear to be always in a persistent dispute with the peace of mind of the community.

From what I know about the early history of Mr. Ankra, he commenced his schooling at the Roman Catholic Elementary School where he is said to have reached the second standard. From thence he left and went down to Cape Coast Castle where he remained for the best part of his life with his mother who at that time "dry-nursed" the detachment of West India Regiment then quartered at that place. Ankra became a great pet and in short acted as "Mascot" of the garrison.

Whether it is this barrack room life that my man refers to as Ankra "having had his training from elsewhere" is still open to question. From this barrack room life or rather when the troops were removed from these shores Ankra retired into peaceful life and became a rubber touter for some German Firm. He subsequently on the outbreak of the concession fever, came over to this place having got himself connected with some mining firms and acquired for them certain "flow pipe" properties which although still existing, have proved abortive.

As I am expecting my correspondent to write again I will stop here for the present and await further developments.

Bishops Pellet and Klaus arrived here from Cape Coast last Friday the 3rd. The latter said High Mass on the following Sunday. A large wooden bellry has been erected at the south-east corner of the Chapel, holding three bells which are rung simultaneously.

Mrs. Thain who had been ailing for some time, left here for England by the steamer "Baruta" on last Wednesday morning 6th.

Lady Rodger paid us a flying visit last Friday 10th from Cape Coast. The lady was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Ffoulkes and some other gentlemen.

The much-talked-of concert to be given by the Wesleyan Church choir, which has been in preparation for several months past, has after all the fuss ended in smoke.

The German West African Trading Co. have opened a branch of their business here. It is hoped that this firm will adopt a good system for the management of their business and none of the "nine days wonder" affair. If Millers Ltd. have lived here comfortably for years, why cannot other firms do the same and even tap the produce now rotting in the District.

According to advices just to hand from the Mines a serious conflagration took place at the village of Akrokere on or about the 8th inst. demolishing a large quantity of merchandise and other personal belongings. Eighteen persons perished in the flames amongst whom was Mr. Orleans, photographer of Cape Coast. The cause of this painful disaster has not however, as yet come to light.

The fish nuisance gets on apace without any check. The accumulation of filth and all sorts of refuse along the beach is worth only the pen of a Dickens to describe. Dr. Thain has gained the admiration and commendation of all classes, as Doctor and

Commissioner. Yes! The class of fishermen who take advantage of his indulgence as Health Officer and keep on committing as much nuisance in the very thoroughfares of the town with all impunity and to the indignation of the public.

Now that his wife is gone away it is hoped that Dr. Thain has been released from the apron string attachment as to have spare time to make occasional personal inspection of the nooks and corners of the town.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

The Rev. Russell Wesleyan School Inspector met with the local School Committee at the Chapel room on last Tuesday (seventh) and discussed with them matters of vital importance touching the School.

Mr. Grimshaw (D. C.) being away on inspection, the Doctor is acting, and by the way, the court here has not been accustomed, to see a Magistrate, sitting without a coat on his back, at the same time smoking cigarettes. We do not think such things are befitting to a Magisterial Bench.

Told by e.s. Burutu last Wednesday via Cape Coast Mr. T. B. Banoy of Swanzy Ltd. who has done a commendable service in the interest of his firm and improvement of trade by following to the hilt the policy of the our modern Agents.

Ohia Pober and Councilors have been fortunately awakened from their lethargy and matters political attended with arbitration fees are from time to time being decided with substantial praise. The hearts of many are thus made glad.

We understand Mr. O. G. Bain now at Cape Coast has been elected successor to the late Ohin Graham (Nankerril) but he refuses the position.

On dit Mr. Grimshaw will soon be leaving for his furlough.

The Divisional Court sat last week with Mr. Francis Smith, Puisne Judge as President. Lawyers Bucknor, and Ross are in town to defend cases and Lawyer Renner is also expected. The Kuntoo and Sapruda case appears to be the principle case on the calendar.

PATRIOTISM.

Whether the King of Big Awoona, the chiefs and our able native scholars have not their ears for hearing purposes and no feelings towards their Fatherland, I am at loss to know. Almost 8 years now, when the poor hinterlanders crying daily that they were strongly forbidden with penalty of death by the German Government to trade no more with English Colonies and that all their trade-roads leading to these colonies were consequently blockaded. Is it not necessary that the King who is the head of all the Awoona, should appear manfully with influential achievements to extirpate the barbarities planted by the Germans in the hinterland so as to save the poor people and promote once more the trade of Kitta to its former state? His excuse, be what it may, he is a king to save his subjects. How possible is it, that ye our able native scholars also should close your ears and connive to hear the weeping of our people in hinterland when you should do something to save them? Or your scholastic acquisitions in this case, are no more efficient? Consider how dear corn is at present. Consider how the trade of Kitta at present is worse than nothing. Consider the sufferings of the European Firms. How many young men are not strolling in the public streets simply to satisfy their lossomeness who having finished their education without getting any employment. Consider hundreds of boys who are still going to School. Do you think that they will go so far to the pinnacle of Education when seeing their elders in such a miserable state?

All depends upon the retrogressive and destructive state which you have placed your own country. You must be thankful to Marphies who are the only traders buying now from the Town else you might have already been convinced when the European trading Firms should have been closed (a account of the trade.

Ye our chiefs! It shows that you do not care at all whatever, to seek the interest of the country wherein you are made chiefs. What you are seeking for, is the ruin of your brother chief, to say that he is not a chief. That no body made him a chief. That he calls himself a chief on account of the money he possessed whereas you who thus pretend to have your ordination direct from His Majesty King Edward VII himself is not doing anything for the welfare of the country. The reason why you should undergo your brother chief to degrade him from his position too, is known to yourselves. This is nothing thing the malicious spirit which rules your passions. You must know in the first place that "unity is strength." If you do not unite, you shall run the country and let your children suffer the consequence.

It is the duty of our able native scholars to be holding council occasionally. The minutes of what proposed must be taken by the Secretary who will

present it to one of the chiefs in Town. He (the chief) will take it upon himself to assemble all the other chiefs from the neighbouring countries and specify in proper forms to them all what was proposed. The chiefs also must hold their council and what conclusion they come to, the same must be approved by the King of Awoona before put into operation by the Secretary with the signature of the King and if needs be, those of the chiefs also. Thus doing you will bring back the country and its adjacent districts to their proper state.

Our Government too, seems not to listen to our cries.

Many and many a petition have been presented to stop the harsh treatments inflicting upon our hinterlanders and to promote the trade; but yet nothing is made to restrain our cries.

We are your subjects and cannot possibly do anything without you. The whole Awoona was not so before. Try to do something in her favour to place her in the same flourishing state as she had been in the centuries gone by.

O Awoona! Lovely Awoona!

Thou art no more as thou hadst been.

In the midst of the other colonies,

Thou wast the only flashing one.

But at present thy glitterings,

Are faded and gone.

O Awoona! Soul of my birth!

Why art thou so neglected?

A YOUNG MAN.

Kwitta, 26. 2. 05.

AT LAST! AT LAST!! AT LAST!!! HEALTH AND STRENGTH

Read what is said by those who know.

Mr. B.—Say boys have a drink!

Boys.—Why certainly, give us a real good thirst Killer.

Mr. B.—Then here you are! Whiskey and Soda, or Ginger Beer with a dash of Gin, or Whiskey and Ginger Ale, or Lemonade, all made by St. John and the Laboratory.

Boys.—What? Does St. John make Whiskey?

Mr. B.—No but he makes the best Mineral Waters that we have ever had on this coast, all from good spring water too.

1st Boy.—(Drinks), Right Mr. B. this Whiskey and Soda is just rippin—plenty of sparkle!—Takes away thirst—And would cool the throat of Old Nick himself.

2nd Boy.—(Drinks Gin and Ginger Beer) ah!!! The best Sir. The best. Had some few drinks in any time, but this is the best.

3rd Boy.—Well I dont drink spirits, but these sweet drinks beat all.—Never had better in the old country, and that's a fact.

Mr. B.—I quite agree with you boys, take my advice and buy St. John, awfully cheap, only two shillings a dozen.

Chorus of boys.—What? (They all call Steward) here boy, run up to the West African Mineral Water Factory and buy a case each of Soda Water Ginger Beer, Ginger Ale, Lemonade, Hallelujah! We'll all drink and be merry on St. John.

Mr. B.—(Calls Steward) Toby—Toby, run up to the Factory and get me another two cases of St. John Soda Water at once! At once!! At once!!!

Enter Doc cigarette in mouth.

Doc.—I say B.—I'm gasping! Give me a St. John—I see you boys are drinking the great waters.

Chorus of Boys.—Of course we are, we drink none other. It is invigorating, cooling, and a right down thirst quencher.

Doc.—Right you are boys. But have you seen the Machinery at work? Have you seen the Well? Have you been in the Laboratory? Go and see for yourselves how these thirst killers are made. If you always drink St. John, you will never be ill—

Keep strong and healthy by drinking St. John.

Chorus of Boys.—We will!—We will!—We will! Exit en masse all talking and shouting. At last!—We now have good waters to drink.—Only 2/- a dozen,—and send the bottles back.

Agents wanted—Large profits.

My Dear Jabez,—The political atmosphere is gloomy! There is a traitor in the camp!—Traitor alike to the powers and the people. He neither is for the people, for fear of losing his official ration of leaves and fishes, nor does he at any time allow the masses to become settled in their strong suspicion that he is for the Powers. Remember my dear Jabez, my words! "No man can serve two masters."

To believe he is equally ired against the powers, he is acquiescent in the misbehaviour of the masses, (and in fact, the cause of it being presented) on the departure of His Excellency, and thereby ears of the approbation, and the public censure the Omanhin, his Chiefs, Captains, the Aborigines Society, and the thinking community.

Now, this is what I warned you against in my letter of the third. Beware of politics!

I told you, my Jabez, there was a lot in store for us. If you have read the local papers you must have noticed His Excellency Governor Rodger held "private" meeting at the District Commissioner's Office on the 8th inst., at which the Town Councils Ordinance was introduced for discussion. At this meeting, besides the only two representatives of the Aborigines Society the un-official members of the Legislative Council, and representatives of European Merchants in the Town, there were none representing the people, and some of the others who were present, were certainly not the men in whom the people had any confidence.

The Omanhin and Chief, Kofi Sekyi who had been appointed by the people at a meeting specially convened for that purpose, and who were to speak through Egir Essau, a thoroughly educated native, who accompanied them, were told by the Provincial Commissioner, he had been instructed they were not to be allowed to attend and that only the Tufuhin elect, whose name had been suggested by the Provincial

Commissioner in the letter inviting the Omanhin to send a representative, which letter the Tufuhin elect had read before it got to the Omanhin, might attend.

The Secretary of the Aborigines Society and a representative of the Society's Press, who had instructions to accompany the Omanhin and Chief Kofi Sekyi, were not allowed admittance at this meeting.

On the 11th inst. at his invitation the Omanhin, Chief Kofi Sekyi, representatives of the town Companies and the Aborigines Society interviewed His Excellency the Governor. As soon as I have particulars of this meeting I will communicate with you.

As to your last question, my dear Jabez, I am none the wiser. This reminds me of your foreign friend with her everlasting *Quen es Sabio?* Which annoyed you so much.

What the country understands is that Her late Majesty the Queen, of Blessed Memory and Victorious Reign, had it down hard and fast as her wish, that no measure should be forced upon her loyal subjects by any of her servants, that they did not consent to, or which was not compatible with their laws, customs and institutions. In the case of the Town Councils Ordinance, it was suggested that a trial be made at Accra, and when this once, "Land of the Brave and True," began to flow with milk and honey, the Cautious Crustacea, thinking on their ways, may go and do likewise; and yet, although Accra groans under the weight and oppression of the Ordinance, and all responsible Heads of the Town—The Omanhin, Tufuhin, the Aborigines Society, the Sanitary Board, the Chief and Captains of the Town Companies—assure the people, no one has as much as hinted to any one, official or otherwise, that Cape Coast is desirous of having anything to do with a Town Council of the Accra type at present, the Government attempt to force it upon the people.

The argument against the taxing of houses, raised by the people, would be feasible enough to any reasonable person, who knew exactly the condition of affairs in the Country.

The principle of taxing houses is one against the native ideas that none can tolerate. But an official hating from Downing St.—a person, who, often to be able to carry out his instructions, or display his consuming importance—can manage to relieve himself of his conscience, or any other portion of the human anatomy if needs be, and to whom if you had a retentive memory, and referred to past orders of Her late Majesty the Queen, in regard to the PROTECTING OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE, winks an eye and whistles: "for my monde is a-perfic blank!"—

An revoir, my dear Jabez,

Your affectionate Uncle,—SAM.

14th March, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Your correspondent Libra is rendering himself obnoxious to the public by the way in which he writes to your valuable paper; his last article attacking you for having made notes on the Singing Band in justice to it, being the most conspicuous. He directs your readers to "Leader Chap. III beginning from verse CXL," and I ask what is there to warrant the attack, he has so childishly made on you? The notes to which he refers by criticism were fairly and impartially written, and did justice to all concerned, and to the Band in particular. Summing up the strain of argument in Libra's articles Mr. Editor, you at once come to the conclusion that he is prompted by nothing but prejudice, and wicked designs. No right thinking mind can make such criticism, as Libra has done, after carefully reading your last notes—But prejudices can work the evil all the same.

Without saying anything at present on the good work of the Singing Band, which Libra so wickedly maligns and grossly misrepresents, I would only add that the members of the Singing Band (not Cape Coast only) should ignore Libra and his satellites, and treat their malicious designs with contempt.

Thanking you Mr. Editor for space allowed

Justice.

Cape Coast, 13th. March, 1905.

A NATURAL MAN—"Eight years ago," says the *Daily Express* "Gustave Nagel, a wealthy young German in a delicate state of health, decided to return to the habits of his primeval forefathers, and become strong or die in the attempt. He discarded all clothing except what the law required, eats only raw food and sleeps on the bare ground. The young man is about to be married." Every step back to nature is a real step forward. We have fared gone from primeval simplicity; virtue and health suffer accordingly. It is so in religion; man is fared gone from original righteousness. The fact is once upon a time man was more content to follow the law, now he wants the law to follow him; to be a law unto himself, acknowledging no law, no will no bond, but his own fallible will. In short, submission to another is slavery, he says, and he wants to be free. So he can be if he will break the fetters forged by his own will.—*The Rock*

NOTICES OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE.

The sale by Public Auction of the property of Ekua Owo Bagawana, situate at

(1) Idan, Cape Coast, as advertised to take place on the 16th is postponed till Thursday the 30th inst. at 4-30 o'clock p.m.

(2) Also that of James Dudson Jackson is postponed till further orders

T. MCKENZIE SKUES,

Licensed Auctioneer, &c,

Cape Coast, Mar. 15, 1905.

The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. III.
No. 144.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1905.

Price 5d.
Including postage 4d.

THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

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

For copies of the paper please apply to

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

AT AXIM,

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

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

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The Cape Coast Aerated Water Works.

LEMONADE, GINGER ALE & SODA WATER,
supplied at 5/- per Dozen Pint Bottles and
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Stone Ginger Beer,

5/- per dozen Pint Bottles.

3/- per Dozen allowed for all bottles returned
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Customers can have their own bottles filled with any of the above Aerated Drinks at 2/- per Dozen Pint Bottles.

Goods can be delivered at any address in Cape Coast at an extra charge of sixpence per Dozen Pint Bottles and threepence per Dozen Half Pint Bottles.

Terms strictly cash on delivery.

H. E. SAGOE.

MANAGER.

Aboom, Cape Coast.

KROPP RAZORS R. F. WOOD'S STORE.

NOTICE.

THE TOWN COUNCIL, Sekondi is prepared to receive applications for the posts of
TOWN CLERK, Salary £150

SURVEYOR & ENGINEER, Salary £150.

Applications with testimonials to be addressed to the President of the Town Council, before April 10th 1905.

A. J. PHILBRICK,
President.

Sekondi, Mar 16th, 1905



PURE.—NOURISHING.

ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

IN TINS WITH PATENT OPENERS.
LARGEST SALE IN AFRICA.
TO BE OBTAINED AT ALL STORES.

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NOTICE.

The Directors of the Fanti Public Schools Ltd. are now ready to deliver to members **CERTIFICATES** on which at least Three shillings a share has been paid. Shareholders are requested to apply to the undersigned for their certificates and where monies are due on allotment to pay same to the Bank at Cape Coast Castle as soon as possible.

Pending the completion of arrangements with the Government for the Kotokrahah School premises, the Company will be able by kindness of the Senior Director W. E. Sam Esq. to start the first school namely Mfantipim School in a suitable house situate at the foot of Macarthy's Hill off Intsin Street on Monday the 3rd day of April 1905. Parents and guardians are hereby informed that entrance examinations will be held on Tuesday the 21st March and following days at 9 a.m. in the School, boys passing what is equivalent to the fifth standard only will be enrolled as students.

The attention of parents and guardians is specially directed to the following which is from the School prospectus: "Before the admission of a boy into the school a printed form must be filled up and handed to the Secretary of the Company by parents or guardians who with each boy will be required to declare that the instructions to be imparted and the training to be received at the school are necessary, and they will also be requested to guarantee the payment of the school bills therefor. It is hoped that by such means deserving but necessitous students will be enabled, at the discretion of the Directors, to complete their full course of studies and pay for the same from their subsequent earnings."

As soon as the number of students is encouraging the Directors hope to obtain the services of a highly trained European graduate to be the Headmaster and are at present giving the matter special and serious consideration.

Scientific and Technical Training will have special attention.

The School year is divided into three terms, namely, Easter, Abnba, and Christmas.

Fees per term for the First and Second forms 14/- Third form a guinea.

For further information apply to the Secretary or Senior Master at the School.

D. M. ABADOO,

Secretary,
FANTI PUBLIC SCHOOLS LTD

Cape Coast Castle, 18th Mar 1905

NOTICES.

The Undersigned has been instructed to sell by Public Auction on Friday next the 31st instant at 4-30 o'clock p.m. the following:—

Two distinct pieces or tracts of Land adjoining each other, situate at Axim, Cape Coast, the property of Arabah Assamoon, both measuring 183 feet on the East, 225 feet on the West, 220 feet on the North and 207 feet on the South.

On Monday the 2nd April at 4-30 o'clock p.m. All that piece or parcel of Land with the buildings thereon, situate at Kotokrahah, Cape Coast, the property of Alpha Braimah Norin, measuring on the North 80 feet by Johnson's house, on the East 85 feet by Kefe Findall's property, on the South 85 feet 6 inches by Abratic Eshah and Kalatomis Ogrwumis' properties and on the West 85 feet by the said Alpha Braimah's property.

On Thursday the 6th April at 4-30 o'clock p.m. All that piece or parcel of Land situate at Tantry, Cape Coast, the property of Alpha Braimah Norin, measuring on the North 225 feet by Tantry Road on the South 225 feet by John Anmah's Land, on the East 21 feet Assamoon's Land and on the West 71 feet by Mrs. Campbell's Land. The three properties above described are offered for sale at the instance of C. J. Hannerman, Esq. B.L. the Mortgagee as per Mortgage Deed dated 13th October 1904.

Terms or Conditions of sale will be read at the place and hours above mentioned and for further particulars apply at the Mart of the undersigned.

T. MCKENZIE SKUES,

Licensed Auctioneer etc. etc.

Cape Coast, 23rd. March 1905.

GENERAL NEWS.

The "At Home" which His Honour Mr. Justice Pennington, gave at the Castle last Saturday was well attended, and came off successfully.

His Honour left the Colony for his furlough by the Akaba last Wednesday.

The town is still agog over the Town Council Ordinance.

The *Accra Advocate* just to hand publishes a Notice by the Town Clerk (Accra) "that payment of House Rates for the year 1905 must be made on or before the 18th April 1905. Ratepayers who owe no arrears will be allowed to pay by two instalments, the first on or before the first April 1905, the second on or before the first October 1905, but it must be distinctly understood if any failure is made in payment of the first instalment, legal proceedings will forthwith be taken for the recovery of the whole amount." Now, just think of this, gentle Reader.

Within not quite three months no less than 240 persons have passed away at Accra—the Headquarters—the death rate seems to be very high there, and so it is with all the other places whose sanitary affairs, have been in the hands of experts only recently, and which have also more or less brought about the iniquitous Town Councils Ordinance.

And if the Government expending thousands of pounds from the Revenue on Sanitation can show such results, what can it expect the Town Councils to do with the poor man's mite which they seek to exact with so much force, regardless of the People's protest against, and dislike of, the Ordinance.

Strange that we must at this time, and with the present conditions of the country, be reminded of a principle, universally recognised through out the world on the duties of a Town, when years ago, when things were more favourable and the people, eager to recognise this principle, this very Government, would not have it, and put its power into play and smothered it.

But we have to thank Mr. Ashmore who was a Colonial Secretary here a short while ago, for only six months, for a good deal of this.

A man with only six months experience in the country discovers the necessity of a Town Councils Ordinance for the PROTECTORATE, and Governors, and Secretaries of State and certain individuals clamour for it directly, against the wish of the People!

One man does this, and others at once see in it an avenue for promotions, "recognitions," a means to attain their selfish, ambitious, and sordid ends &c., no matter how much others less privileged or fortunate may suffer. That's a consolation: but the PEOPLE must have their rights for that's English we know.

Last Saturday the American Templars had a grand turn out—members from Salt Pond and Elmina coming in full force. Rev. Brodie Graham preached for them at the Wesley Chapel.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

As we have said, times without number since this wretched Ordinance was sought to be applied here, the plea given for its passing is commendable enough, which is to teach us to have some interest in the administration of our own affairs. It was since 1865 when a Parliamentary Committee suggested this, and ever since, strange to say, all that has been done, has been to deprive us of all aboriginal rights and enshrine us with Ordinances altogether contrary to the conditions which gave a 'Home' here to our present Masters. The principle underlying this Ordinance too—a municipality—is no new thing to us, again and again we have pointed out this. As far as this country is concerned this municipal government, is as old as the hills: a municipal government has always been part and parcel of the government of the Aborigines of this country. What this Ordinance holds out to us is altogether foreign to us, and considering the present enlightenment of the country a scheme after scheme, has been drafted embodying all that is best and worthy of the age, in our system, and assimilating, all that the people from what they already know, can follow, is the Town Councils Ordinance.

Now we ask, where is the harm in considering the schemes that have been suggested and giving it a trial at least, if really all that is being aimed at by this Ordinance, are, to lead us to interest ourselves in our administration, to carry out improvements, and sanitary purposes? The very idea of taxation is repugnant to us, and it makes it worse to us, when we see how the Revenue of the country is collected and expended and we have no voice whatever in legislating for the country. Why do the Authorities persist in making laws for us from their standpoint? How is that they insist upon building our Rome in a day? Do they forget the number of years—nay centuries they took to attain to their present condition, and do they seriously think, we have attained to that period in our existence since we came in contact with them? Is their present policy of ruling the country statesmanlike, and likely to yield harmony, contentment and prosperity? Is it likely to entwine our hearts to the British Throne and not to rattle our loyalty to him who sits on it—Long may he live—

Nay, our contemporary the *National Review* says and says rightly our "minds work slowly," and the resistance of any Ordinance we cannot understand makes us "become worried and discontented" and the enforcement of this taxation on us will be "a continuous source of trouble and fiction." What is the aim of His Majesty's Government here? To oppress us more than we can bear, or to make us, as it is held out to the world of all British subjects—free.

It is thought, that in carrying out the suggestion of the People to substitute manual labour for the House tax, there will be a necessity for the enactment of a Compulsory Labour Ordinance. No, not necessarily. Let the Town Council be empowered to do what is thought will necessitate an enactment

of a compulsory Labour ordinance. The fact is we natives do know, that if sanitation is all that the Ordinance aims at, then what the People suggest is feasible, at all events let it be tried. If on the other hand improvements by way of railway and wharves, are what are required then it only requires an economical management of our Revenue, and besides private companies in England may take up the works. But really how is it, that a handful of men persistently undertake to distress thousands of His Majesty's peaceful and loyal subjects in the name of civilization. Have not sanitary works and other improvements been done in other countries without Taxation and done satisfactorily too? "No, taxation, no improvement" it may be said, but it should be remembered that the People have been taxed and being taxed in various ways, therefore we must be saved from this oppression and distress.

To-day many a house at Accra is about to be under the auctioneer's hammer, whole families have been known to leave their homes. Accra never wanted the Ordinance and if at all there were any who for some selfish motives worked clandestinely for it, they are now amongst the foremost to cry it down. If Sir John knew Accra that was, before, and compared it to what the place is now, we are perfectly sure, he would not allow the iniquitous Ordinance to live for a day. Accra was one of the most populous, and thriving towns we had, and what is it to-day. If the Ordinance had proved good for the place, as the officials allege what would make the people to cry against it and groan under it now. Is it the aim of our Government to ruin our Towns?

How is it possible, for a Government which according to the Colonial Secretary's Report for 1903, asks for "a few quiet years, free from internal disturbances or financial vicissitudes, in which . . . to develop its resources, foster its agriculture . . ." think of harassing the people with such an Ordinance? Sir John in a recent speech to the Honourable Members of the Legislative Council thus delivered himself—"The civilization of West Africa should, in my opinion, proceed on lines suited to the environment which are not necessarily identical with those considered most suitable in Europe."

When His Excellency uttered these words, he said nothing but the truth, and we submit that they may be considered in the light of this miserable Ordinance. We must be civilized to know the usefulness of a Town Council or a Municipality but that sort of civilization must proceed on lines suited to our environment, here a little and there a little, until we be prepared for the full blaze of the light. Therefore we respectfully ask our Governor who has been in West Africa himself and by necessity through his appointment to the coast, studied the country and the People, and seen them for himself, endeavour to convince the Downing Street authorities, whose knowledge of these at best, can only be gathered from despatches and one-sided views, and prejudiced and selfish informants who may visit the Downing Street, whilst on their furlough. The Secretary of State, may instruct, but the Administrator being on the spot can better tell which is which, and he is administering this Government.

But we must close our Notes on this Ordinance for this week and we would do so by appealing to every TRUE AND FAITHFUL SON of the soil, in the name of the Fatherland for his sincere AMEN to this "Litany":—

FROM THIS OPPRESSIVE MEASURE WITH ITS DISASTROUS RESULTS,

Good Lord deliver us.

We have often thought seriously over the question, whether this Town, will ever get on seeing it is so much infested with Traitors: these hideous quadrupeds of course exist every where, but it seems the way our Government encourages them in their pernicious doings make them thrive more here. No sooner one says so, than he is told, you will find them in our sister colonies too: no doubt there are, but they will never dream to go the lengths they do here. They dare not, and the strangest part of it is, they seem to pop up from quarters, one least expected. Of course they will have their reward, as such people, can never go free, no matter what they may manage to be, it is only for a time. There are some who make their living by it—poor creatures. Who would not rather starve than to be in their shoes. This town will never rise, while the other places will rise by leaps and bounds, since these despicable creatures abound. There are some who seem to have made it a point, to pull down all that may be good and promising in the Town, whose chief delight is to malign and ruin others, and who are paid to tell falsehood.

The worst part is, these always misrepresent things and persons one-tenth of what they say being untrue—selling their people and country for a morsel. What we at times see and hear, make us despair of the country. Harmless meetings, inno-

cent remarks, loyal persons, as loyal as themselves to the Government, AND TO THEIR COUNTRY are turned and twisted to their hearts' content and written of to Accra or exploded at a Commissioner's office. This is encouraged, and that's civilization you know! A few years ago we had a class of District Commissioners who were every way gentlemen and knew nothing of "official conscience" yet the Government never had more faithful and devoted servants, true to the Government, and honest and gentlemanly in their dealings with the People: no wonder, that every one of them rose to be a Judge in this Colony one of whom to-day a chief justice in one of our colonies.

Now when one of these gentlemen was the D. C. here, one of our chiefs was constantly going to him to give informations about people and meetings that were held, for him to transmit to Accra: after doing this three or four times for which he was paid, going the fifth time, he stopped him and ordered his Orderly to turn him out. He went further, he publicly disgraced him, by giving out his name in an open court, telling the people what informations he has been giving him, and to look on him from that day as a traitor: no wonder for about a month, that chief—chief, mind you—could not leave his room, and of course he stopped. Where are we in these days to find a D. C. of such sterling qualities? Instead of this, men of disreputable characters go in freely to officials, and tell them all sorts of lies, and they are taken for gospel truth, and people are blue-booked and distressed, for nothing. This is what is ruining the country.

If one must credit all he hears there are men passing for crack patriots who are pushing on the Town Councils Ordinance which the people are so much against, not that in their heart of hearts they do not see with the people, that what they say is right as far as their manners and customs go, but they must do the mischief for the doing's sake and to curry favour as if those who say what is in them and defend the rights of the people are necessarily against the Government. Nonsense, for these yield to none of these rogues their loyalty to the Government and devotedness to their country. Fair play and justice, are all they ask, and if there are any class of men, those in authority must dread it must be these "amphibious" animals, double-faced and two-tongued creatures, for if a man can deliberately give away his own people and country, what else can he not do?

We have found it 'unavoidably' necessary to make these remarks this week: no offence is meant or intended, nor any gratuitous personalities intended either, as it is usually construed. Whomsoever the cap fits, let him wear it quietly and make no fuss as it is welcome to him; the truth must be spoken at all costs. There!

AN OFFER TO OUR READERS.

Any reader sending to us ten subscribers with their subscriptions for 3 months will be supplied with free copies up to that time or their equivalent in cash, if preferred. This applies also to subscriptions for 6 or 12 months respectively.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Anonymous letters will not be attended to, or returned.

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

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

Communications must reach the Office not later than Wednesday.

Rejected communications cannot be returned.

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

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, MAR. 25, 1905.

GOVERNOR RODGER—AFTER A YEAR.

Governor Rodger has since his return to the Headquarters, replied to the letter of the People of Cape Coast which, was published in our issue of Feb. 18th last, through the Colonial Secretary. We publish it elsewhere and our readers will find it to be more or less what he told our Representatives at the O'Conner's Hill interview. It will be seen that His Excellency in this letter to the Omanlin, shows certain points which create some difficulty for him in complying with the wishes of the People, as suggested in their letter to him referred to above—points which might not have struck us if they had come from any of his predecessors, barring his immediate predecessor, perhaps. When we call to mind, what we have been often told of how he approached the question, and

how desirous he was to hear the People on the Ordinance, so that the wishes of the Secretary of State (l) might be carried out without the People experiencing the misery and distress, the Ordinance as it is, threatens to the country (for no impartial person, seeing this Ordinance, harmless as it may be in more civilized or enlightened places, will fail to see the impracticability—nay the injustice, if not the oppressiveness of it, when the People with their manners and customs, and the fact that the country is a Protectorate, are all taken into consideration) when we call to mind the words of Mr. Pickersgill Rodger, his public utterances &c. which those from Sir John Pickersgill Rodger seem to give an unfavourable contrast, human nature being what it is, we rightly or wrongly allow ourselves to be moved by some fears, that there are some extraneous forces at work, insidiously gaining grounds on our MAN, as we heard of him, and knew him a few months ago: either this or the real "thing" is coming out. 'Words'—'acts,' between these, there exists a vast space. But Sir John is not the man, (from his Propaganda) to be turned and twisted by a Crown Colony System as it prevails on West Africa, for he is a firm believer and supporter of the declaration, that West African civilization should proceed on proper lines.

No doubt we were made to expect too much from the man, hence this disappointment on reading his reply to the People: nor can he help himself, let us say, when there is this "wonderful" Crown Colony System stirring him in the face, when all must catch his eye with some advice, fabricated informations and exaggerated facts, or even with some rank falsehood with all plausibility, when every body must carve his way by all means, or live at all costs at the expense of his administration regardless of what may become of the People and the country, what else can it be? But a man may be a man for a' that, and Governor Rodger may refresh his memory with the open letter addressed to him in April last. But we have not lost hopes of our man yet.

We must read the Governor's letter together with our readers this week, and so we make no comments. His Excellency raises some very interesting points, but one sees with difficulty the Governor in it.

IN HONOUR OF THOR.

(BY A BANKER)

In the early days of Britain the principal ruling power appeared to be mainly vested in the Druids, or priestly caste. We are accustomed to regard these bearded white-robed and oak-leaf wreathed bards as having been a brotherhood of poets and musicians, whose time was principally occupied in playing weird tunes upon a primitive harp, or in singing uncouth choruses in praise of the sacred mistletoe. Contemporary authority, however, and especially the evidence of Julius Cæsar, reveal them to have been positive monsters of cruel malignity, revelling in the blood of their fellows, and with pitiless and remorseless brutality immolating vast hecatombs of their fellow creatures under circumstances of the most inhuman and revolting savagery.

At times they would construct an enormous wicker representation of the figure of a man, into which they cast a score or more of writhing, struggling victims. A huge mass of faggots was now built up around the figure, and soon the whole was enveloped in flames, and the shrieking mass of men, women and children were slowly consumed, until at length the entire structure collapsed, its dead and dying human contents falling into the blazing furnace beneath.

But perhaps more intensely pathetic and mournful was the scene on, it is believed, each Midsummer day, when these barbaric arch-priests celebrated the annual sacrifice of a maiden in honour of Thor or Odin. We can dimly gather from the meagre descriptions of the ceremony extant some indistinct idea of the cruel ritual which accompanied this barbaric rite. Robed in white, with her long golden tresses hanging down her back, the fair young girl, who had but recently been torn from her parents, is led in procession by the relentless Druids beneath the lofty trilithon into the great circle of huge monoliths towards the sacrificial holed stone placed in the centre of the temple. Rude choral music accompanied by many harps drowns the agonised shrieks of the young victim, who now stands trembling by the side of the fatal stone awaiting the moment when the rays of the rising sun glint through the further trilithon and impinge upon the strange gnomon.

And now the sacrificing priest, who has been

standing at some distance watching for the first red ray, whirls his brazen sword around his head, and with an unearthly cry rushes towards the frightened girl and plunges his weapon into her breast. It is impossible to describe the further savage rites which took place; suffice it to say that whether it were in the worship of Moloch, or of Kronos, or of Thor, the cruelties perpetrated in the name of so-called religion were beyond measure atrocious, outrageous, and repulsive.

But how entirely different is the pure and holy Christian religion. For now those who would attain to the glories of the hereafter have but to live a godly life, and to make sure that any record against them on high has been blotted out in virtue of the sacrifice of the Son of God. And whosoever will may go to Him, and with all confidence may claim that gracious pardon.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Gold Coast, Accra,
14th. March, 1905.

Omanhin,—With reference to your letter and memorandum of the 11th. ultimo, on the subject of a Town Council at Cape Coast, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that His Excellency has carefully examined your proposals, but regrets to be unable to consider them either equitable or expedient.

2. The Secretary of State has laid down, and the principle is one universally recognized throughout the world that the expenses with purely local works (such as lighting, drainage, the maintenance of streets and general sanitation) should be borne by the Town concerned, and not charged against the general revenue of the Colony.

The only question to decide, therefore, is as to the best method of carrying this principle into effect; and it must be borne in mind that Cape Coast is not a bush village, solely inhabited by members of the same tribe, all belonging to some local company; but is the largest and populous town in this Colony, and that many of the inhabitants are European merchants and other strangers, in no way connected with any of the Companies.

4. The instances of public works at Cape Coast carried out by the town companies, alluded to in the first six paragraphs of your memorandum, are all of comparatively ancient date, and it is probable that much of the labour employed was either that of slaves or "pawns."

4. For the last ten or fifteen years, at all events, very large sums of money have been expended by the Government; improving the drainage, streets, lighting and general sanitation of Cape Coast, and no forced labour of any kind or description has ever been employed. To reintroduce such labour at the present time, as is proposed in paragraphs 9, 12, 13, and 14 of your memorandum, would, in His Excellency's opinion, be both unjust and expedient; unjust because, the owner of a native family house containing many inmates would have to provide more labour than the wealthiest European merchants; inexpedient, because it would be necessary to pass a Compulsory Labour Ordinance, and those who were compelled to give their labour gratuitously would probably abandon the town, if not the Colony.

5. The persons who derive the greatest benefits from improved streets, drainage &c. in any town are the owners of house property, especially those who own shophouses situated on the main thoroughfares; and it is obviously right that such persons, the value of whose property is enhanced by all town improvements, should be required to contribute more liberally, whether in money or labour, towards the cost of such improvements than the poorer inhabitants of the town.

The proper basis of all local taxation is therefore the value of the house concerned, as is recognized by the Town Councils Ordinance, not the number of persons residing in it, as is suggested by your memorandum, and, in assessing the rateable value of a house, the manner in which it is used (whether for trading or residential purposes), and all other circumstances affecting its annual value will of course be duly taken into account.

6. For the above reasons, His Excellency considers that a house rate, such as is contemplated by the Town Councils Ordinance, now in force at Accra and Sekondi, is in every way preferable to the compulsory labour, or alternative poll-tax, proposed in your memorandum; and I am to draw your attention to paragraph 4 (f) of Major Bryan's letter on the 28th. November last, as showing the desire of the Government to relieve the poorer members of the community from all direct taxation. The sub-paragraph in question runs as follows:—

"No rate is payable in respect of the poorest class of houses assessed under £2, and in other special cases of poverty, His Excellency sees no reason why a Town Council should not remit or reduce a rate by resolution to that effect."

I am also to inform you that, on the application of a householder belonging to one of the local com-

panies, and with the approval of the Council, there should be no difficulty in arranging for the substitution of personal service, at the current rate of wages, for the particular kind of labour in question, as an equivalent in kind for the rateable money assessment.

7. As you have already been informed, in paragraph 4 (a) (b) and (c) of Major Bryan's letter of the 28th. November last, annual estimates of revenue and expenditure must be prepared by every Town Council, and there is no objection to their being published.

8. As stated in my letter of the 10th. Dec. last, addressed to the President of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society, His Excellency considers it desirable that the local Omanhin and his chiefs should be represented on every Town Council; and, failing an elected member, His Excellency will be prepared to nominate a representative member, provided a suitable candidate is selected.

9. It is provided by Section 4 of the Town Councils Ordinance, that the District Commissioner, or such other Officer as the Governor may appoint, shall be the President of a Town Council; and, for the present, it is not proposed to vary this provision.

10. Adverting to the last paragraph of your memorandum all existing streets, roads and drains will be handed over by the Public Works Department to the Council in a fair state of repair, but, if better lamps, wells &c. are required, they must be provided by the Council itself.

I am, Omanhin, your good Friend,

C. RIBT WILLIAMS.

Actg. Colonial Secretary.

Omanhin Kujo Mbra,
Cape Coast.

SCRUTINEER.

I am not particularly inclined to take part in preaching moral discourses to the Government as that forms no part of my regular business, and especially as the body governmental is not very benighted nor easily convinced. Be that as it may it is necessary that the Government is convinced of the evil of its attitude towards the sanctity of the Sabbath. The Government itself may not be very much christian but that fact does not excuse its putting a premium on the violation of the religious prejudices of the governed. Time and again attention has been directed to the matter of allowing steamboats to be worked on Sundays, (not for the disembarkation of passengers which is quite legitimate, but for the general unloading of cargo which is reprehensible) without taking any effect, yet the moral and physical aspect of this matter could not be evaded in any way. In this country where holidays are rare and far between one day in seven throughout the year is the only time in which working men nurse their physical and spiritual strength. The Government, however, which as the paternal institution, ought to see that this day of rest is assured for the benefit of its subjects put a premium on its desecration by granting permits to work cargo boats to certain individuals whose cupidity and selfishness render them insensible of feeling for other men; and the Government probably believes that by granting these Sabbath-desecrating permits the grantees and themselves are exempted from the punishment of the God who desires the Sabbath-day to be remembered to be kept holy. I wonder whether vessels are allowed to be worked alongside London or Liverpool docks on Sundays. Example is better than precept; if the civilization of the country must progress in reality, it is desirable that the English Government and their Merchants, traders and clerks taught civilization by example than by precept, and it is equally desirable that they do not contradict, by their actions, the teachings of the English Missionary. In fact, speaking of the majority, the class of the Englishmen we have in the country are anything but exemplary of their vaunted civilization.

In our little world there has been no cutting short of the supply of slanderous, unfounded, and fabricated tales of the country and its inhabitants—officials, soldiers, merchants and missionaries vying with each other which could gain the most popular applause from the stage of sensational romances. We have become all this in a philosophical mood knowing that these bluff writers and apostates of the truth will have to be contradicted by time, and time alone. Among the numerous subjects that had come under the verbiage of these portentous scribblers was the Water question. Now it has been proved beyond doubt that the soil is not incapable of yielding continual flows of healthy drinking water through human agency. Truth will out. What next?

I am surprised that the Government shows no disposition any way to abate its cruel treatment of dogs. It is really a puzzle that these canine friends should be subjected to strangling and shot because owners have failed to take out an annual license of 2/6 for them. I believe that if the wanton cruel-

ties that are perpetrated by this enlightened Government were done in England public spirit would have stopped the savagery long ago. The Ordinance that allows Policemen and even District Commissioners of Mr. Ffoalkes disposition to murder these animals appears to me to be of the foolish sort that disgraces local legislation. Any one can see that the sensible thing to do would be to sell off these helpless animals by public auction to those who would pay the license, in the same way as the Government disposes off empty barrels, tins and cases that happen to be of no use to the Public Works Department. My humble sympathy goes with His Excellency Sir John, for not only has he a host of incapable, inexperienced, and irresponsible subordinates to work with, but he has also some number of silly ordinances enacted by some august predecessors of his to be entanglements in his way. This notwithstanding, we ardently expect that as a practical man he will succeed in setting many things and men right in this topsy-turvy administration.

If the "West African Consultative Committee" assumes a being it might do some good, provided (and especially as it is so far away) veritable and outspoken reports of affairs as they exist in the country are brought before their counsels. My previous experience, however, makes me shudder to believe that this will be the case, for of reports imagined and manipulated and very much wide of the truth as regards men and things in this country certain individuals are morbidly addicted to editing. Nevertheless let us hope for the best.

Yours faithfully,—ATTO.

AGRICULTURE.

(Continued from our last issue.)

But Agriculture to be established upon a proper footing requires those aids derived from a better acquaintance with science as a chief factor whereby the agriculturist may be enabled to cope with the more fluctuating circumstances of farming which now prevail in all parts of the world, commercially. The whole mystery of the creation so far as science has revealed it, must be explained and fixing of the earth, in space, to the composition of the elements of which it is built. The farmer must be shown in plain terms what substances form the soil in which he grows his crops, and how its reproductive functions may be stimulated. The Forester, whence came his trees, and how he may perpetuate groves, forests and plantations to meet the increasing demands of manufacturers. The story of the weather must also be explained and the secrets of its science elucidated. The stock-raiser for this also is comprehended in the general term—Agriculture—given practical teaching for his edification. In order to attain to this end, Botany, Geology, Meteorology, Chemistry, Engineering,—(Civil and Mechanical)—Architects, Physiology, would require to be known by the elucidators. In consequence of a depression in one of the staple Industries (Sugar) of the West Indian Islands and British Guiana the Imperial Government appointed and sent out there to a Royal Commission of which the late General Sir Henry Wyllie Norman was President, associated with Sir David Barbour and Sir Edward Grey, and to which Sir Daniel Morris, late of the Royal Gardens at Kew, was scientific Expert Adviser. As a result of the recommendations of the Commissioners a Department of Agriculture described as the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies was created in the Island of Barbadoe and Sir Daniel Morris appointed Director thereof. The results have hitherto been most satisfactory. The schoolmasters are prepared by courses of Lecture on Scientific Agriculture, being thereby rendered equipped to impart Agricultural instructions to their scholars. I noticed not long ago that "Interlinker of Empire," Sir Alfred Jones, on the occasion of the launching of a new Steamer—I think it was the "Zangeru" took the opportunity of suggesting the establishment of a similar Department for the West African Colonies. Having succeeded in helping in the development of the Jamaica Fruit Trade, there need be no fear about his helping the West African Colonies with which he has been so long and honourably connected. But before anything can be undertaken by "outsiders" there must be shown an undoubted disposition of "his to the land." At his juncture, I do not think I can do better than refer to matters as they appear to exist in this Colony, and as reflected through the medium of one of the public organs. In referring to the important address given recently at Accra by His Excellency Sir John Rodger, relative to the proposed Exhibition—and with particular reference to some remarks which fell from the lips of His Honour the learned Acting Chief Justice (Mr. Francis Smith)—one of the local papers stated "there was something said by His Honour the Acting Chief Justice, which we had to be true, with some, who, notwithstanding the hardness of the times, we think, can make

the attempt to do something in farming, and that is, 'to the Native, the idea of expending money and time and then have to wait a considerable time or period to see result is not appreciated.' This is what infuriates us. We are apt to look out for results in our undertakings too soon, and at times we feel too reluctant to lunch out funds to do anything. Nothing ventured, nothing done, though. We hope by employing others, and by clubbing together, a good deal of talk will be put into practical shape. We do not know of anything that would save the Country from the ruin which threatens it other than the Agricultural pursuits." Is this a correct pronouncement of the state of things here? If so is it a satisfactory state of existence? I say, gentlemen, you are the best judges on this subject, but in the absence of any refutation, I take it for granted it is the present unfortunate, unsatisfactory state of things. Had I the time and you the patience, I could perhaps keep you here till the early hours of the morning with points as to what the men of substance of other races, chiefly in our "dear mother country," have done in order to help, not only their country, but their less fortunate brothers; and it is only on these lines—that those who can do it, coming forward and promoting works of enterprise that may have the effect of not merely rousing the younger generation into action, but of leaving their names on the sands of time as those whose works have made England the greatest Nation of Modern Times. In a subsequent issue the Editor called for suggestions, and in this connection the name of Sir Alfred Jones was mentioned. For the first time it may be mentioned that the speaker as representing "VICTORIA-BELFIELD" Agricultural Society of British Guiana over whose destinies he had the honour of presiding for several years, wrote inviting Sir Alfred to turn attention to British Guiana when he had developed the trade with Jamaica, to which he gladly consented, promising to do so. On his arrival in London enroute hither, an appointment was fixed with Sir Alfred with the object of assuring him that if ever an opportunity offered there should be no effort wanting on his part to help towards the progress of the land of his great ancestors. Owing, however, to the postponement of the King's Coronation, Sir Alfred failed to have arrived in London; so there was no meeting. On his arrival at Liverpool, the speaker found he had only sufficient time for the exchange of a few sentences with Sir Alfred. The subject might have been kept alive by correspondence, but it was thought advisable to remain quiet, at least for a while, as apart from the heavy weight of official work, the character of the country needed study! Then too,—pardon me for so stating, it does not infrequently happen that an endeavour to carry out the Biblical injunction "Thou art thy brother's keeper," one is sometimes misunderstood and dubbed a "fame-hunter," or have other similar, if not sordid motives imputed to his actions. I do believe Sir Alfred Jones will be disposed to offer a helping hand to any undertaking, the wheels of which, however, being found to be already resting on the shoulders of the sons of West Africa. In this Colony, speaking as one who, in his official travels, have examined the nature of the soil, and judged by the healthy luxuriance of plant-life, in the more or less hinter portions,—there being also a Botanic Garden with allied branches, a skilled Director of Agriculture who is only too willing to supply gratis, when in season, all classes of plant-trees, and seed-plants to intending cultivators; and whose advice and directions are always available with large tracts of land, only begging for development and a teeming labouring class—what may I, ask is, there to prevent progress in Agriculture?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

Sir.—In the columns of the "Aborigines" of the 18th, great stress and reproach seemed to have emanated from the pen of the Editor of that organ, expressing sincere regret on the conduct of the women folk by hooting the Governor on the eve of his departure for Accra by the "Jebba" on the morning of the 13th.

The act of hooting by women is not to be taken as an insult, as the Editor or any other person may seem to take it, but as a custom hereditary and an indication of a "protest" against any movement on foot which may be detrimental and repugnant to our wishes and customs under the circumstance, I conclude that the action on the part of the women was not intended to insult the Governor directly but to show their disapprobation of the Ordinance which is sought to be applied here. I should be very much sorry if His Excellency would take it as an insult but I doubt it—I am only sorry for the accident which seemed to have occurred along side the steamer when Lady Rodger

was being hauled up. I hope she will not be laid up in consequence of the shock and would maintain her usual health.

Another point which seemed to have exasperated the women more intensely and prompted the hooting, was the conduct of His Excellency for having invited certain special persons and with whom he held a private meeting at the Castle on Wednesday before the public meeting at the Hill. These are the very persons the town are suspecting to be the traitors, and the genuine scoundrels who would have the Town Council Ordinance applied here; so that situations may be accorded them—What was said at that private meeting has not been reported for the information of the Public though it is said it was a public matter. The Governor would have no other matter to lay before the specially invited gentlemen other than matters affecting the country, unless it was intended to get those gentlemen in his sleeves for some evil object to acquiesce in certain proposals; hence there was no chance given to Chief Sackey at the Hill to have his full say as chief representing the town or to express what views he had to express at the time—The conduct of the Governor in this respect was the outcome of all the uproar and commotion in town.

I gather from certain quarters that the Governor said at the O'Connors Hill whilst interviewing the chiefs re the Town Council, that Accra Town Council is working very fairly and there is no cause of complaint from the people; I can only refute these remarks of His Excellency's that since 126 houses are on the verge of being sold by public auction, the occupants having failed to pay their rates, and having vacated and emigrated to foreign places other than their own homes, I fail to see where the fair working of the Ordinance comes in even the Accras have refused to elect members for this year unless the Government has some object in view to drive us from our soil by means of this "wretched" Ordinance and plant paupers from other parts of the world for the amelioration of the Europeans.

It behoves me therefore, to endorse all the sentiments expressed by *Libra* in the issue referred to of the Aborigines that "the whole trouble about the Town Council Ordinance has come about by His Excellency not going cautiously to work, in the same manner, as several other administrators before him have done."

Hoping that His Excellency will not make himself so conspicuous by being misled into a wrong box, by persons of blemish characters as his advisers and informants—I consider His Excellency's position in respect of the matter at issue as an Ambassador of the King, vested with certain limited powers and as such, we cannot decide the matter with him, since he seemed not to side with our views. The matter should therefore be submitted to the Colonial Office for better council by men of sound judgment—and a copy of the memorial should be submitted also to the Aborigines Solicitors in England to argue the point at the Colonial Office.

Whatever may be the result we must be heard in the right quarters notwithstanding the bayonets which are being threatened at us.

One word I should like to remind the Aborigines Society, of is the enrolling of Tom, Dick and Harry into the Society—some of these ivery men, are known to be Traitors, sycophants and Government informants in disguise, and are specially remunerated for *secret service*. Their presence in the meeting room on meeting days is only a pretext to gather information for the Head quarters and therefore under the present state of affairs care should be taken as to how all sorts and conditions of men are enrolled in the Society.

Thanking you Sir, for the unusual space so occupied.

Yours truly,

ONE WHO IS UNDER OPPRESSIVE ADMINISTRATION,
Cape Coast, 20th Mar. 1905.

UNCOVERING IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS OTHER THAN SACRED EDIFICES AND COURTS OF LAW.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I have never known it to be part of English conventionalities for callers at Public Buildings other than Sacred Edifices and Courts of Law to remain uncovered whilst in those buildings, and I have yet to learn from an official who the other day most impolitely requested me to "take off my hat" in his office (a Public Building) which of course I most certainly declined to do.

For the edification of every body (myself especially) perhaps you will be good enough to discuss the matter in your columns.

Thanking you for space.

Truly yours,—AN ANXIOUS ENQUIRER.

Accra, 13th March, 1905.

NEWS.

We learn with much regret the accident which befell old Biscoe on Wednesday night which has resulted in his death. A cyclist ran over him with his bike, an inquest was held on the body yesterday: his friends have our sympathies.

A meeting in connection with the Town Councils Ordinance was held at Prapatem on Tuesday evening.

People who write letters to District Commissioner's about cases that are to go before them must know that they are doing incalculable mischief, that is, if their consciences are not deadened.

A man has just been sent to prison (six months) from a case that arose over the death of his wife, whom he lost recently through a most painful circumstance; his wife dies, and he gets imprisoned for it and all through a letter to the District Commissioner: Cape Coast is fast getting ruined and all through her own children.

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A XI M.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The March Assizes lasted only a few hours, there being no cases on the Calendar save that of Alade vs. Bennett for attempting to commit murder in which Bennett was discharged under the section and the case was referred to the D. C.'s Court for a re-trial under a new Section. One Blakeson who was arrested and brought down charged with stealing the sum of £200 from the Preventive Services has been released, the real culprits who had been discovered and had confessed having been sent to Tarkwa for the Assizes.

It is gratifying to report the improvements which Fort Anthony is undergoing.

An inquest was held on the body of one who had committed suicide somewhere in the neighbouring villages last Tuesday the 14th.

News has reached here that owing to bad and inhuman treatment, the labourers working on the new Dredging Pontoon have all resigned and that there is now great difficulty in employing Native Labourers to cut firewood for the work.

Mr. Michael Anderson of Ansuaboo arrived by the "Sokoto" on the 15th. inst. to take charge of the School as the Headmaster.

In connection with the newly formed Gold Coast Bar Association, the Local Committee of the Association gave a sumptuous dinner on the night of the 16th. inst. to which His Honour Mr. Justice Purcell, Mr. J. T. Furley, Commissioner of the District and Mr. T. G. Smith, the Registrar of the Divisional Court were invited. The Barristers present were R. Alade Esq., Casely Hayford Esq., M. F. Ribeiro Esq., J. G. Addo Esq. and M. A. Williams Esq.

We are pleased to report the establishment of a Literary Society in town whose object will be the Cultivation of General Knowledge with particular reference to (a) The Establishment of Reading Rooms (b) The Holding of Debates and (c) The Study and development of Native manners and Institutions.

At the inaugural meeting which was held on the 11th. inst. several gentlemen were present including Mr. Casely Hayford B.L. who highly edified the meeting with a brilliant and instructive address. Mr. Sam. Wood was appointed President and Mr. J. O. Williams the Secretary for the first quarter. We are informed several of the professional gentlemen and the *elite* of the town have consented to be Patrons.

SEKONDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TIMBER TRAFFIC.

Apropos of our notes in respect to timber shipping, the following were the arrangements effected with the General Manager at a meeting held on the 17th. ulto:—

(1) That on and from the 1st. March the rate for logs to be increased from 10/- to 15/- per ton with a minimum charge of 8 tons, and no charge made for special trains.

(2.) A special train for log loading to be run on notification from despatchers that 10 truck loads are ready for loading within a section—sections being from Sekondi to Oponso, and Oponso to Obuassi.

(3) In consideration of shipping being allowed from the Sea Wall, a wharfage charge of 1/- per ton to be made on the logs. This to be collected with this freight.

(4) No wharfage charge to be made for dumping logs on the Sea Wall so long as the following conditions are complied with—Shippers agree among themselves not to block one another's loading and unloading on the Railway lines to prevent shunting, and conform to any rules as to dumping and do not interfere with any other Railway work, also that they adhere to any other rules that may be issued by the Railway from time to time.

(5.) The dumping space on Sea Wall for logs to commence on West Side at the end of the Dead-end Siding and extend Eastward to end of the Sea Wall and on each side of the Siding loading from No. 3 Jetty to the Railway Station.

(6.) There is no objection to the dumping ground to the East of No. 1 Jetty being used for mahogany logs, so long as the ordinary harbour work is not interfered with in connection with getting out the Railway boat. No preference however can be given to any owner of logs in storing them on this ground. The Railway must keep complete charge, and the logs must be stacked as they direct to avoid any undue preference to any one. Notices embodying the foregoing clauses were issued and filed on the 1st instant.

Last week the Olan of Mansu was admitted a patient into the Colonial Hospital, he received a wound from a gun shot when attempting to commit suicide in one of the villages.

Allegations are made that he was moved to make the attempt on being informed that certain fatiguing negotiations are being operated to de-

stool him and to reinstate his predecessor who was deposed only a year ago and who has now found great favour with a majority of the people. Consequent upon the abortive affair, the stool of Mansu is missing—by whom taken, it is difficult to say—but a belief is held out firmly that the chief in order to avenge himself of the overhanging offence, secretly ordered the Stool to be removed from the Royal Cabinet and concealed.

TOWN COUNCILS ORDINANCE.

We are informed that notices are coming forward as to the appointment of a Town Clerk with a salary of £150 per annum.

The idea of the community and the establishment of the Council in Sekondi is yet in *still waters*. A scrap picked up last night contains the following:—"Our people are practically dead to the present fate of Sekondi in the matter of the Town Council Ordinance; the defences which are available for occupation to reject the Ordinance or the formation of the Council are strong and impregnable, but in the absence of proper light thrown on the matter, the Europeans in the Mercantile Houses who have keen interest towards the contributing to the establishment of the Council by their efforts and zeal, are undoubtedly free from any offensive remarks expressed since the application of the Ordinance stirred up Sekondi. Sekondi is divided into three important sections or Townships—the first, which was old Sekondi is now occupied by Europeans, and is provided with street lamps, drained streets and other Europeanising conveniences; the second is Accra Town or the New Town formerly occupied by the Accra Railway Employees but now by the people of Dutch Sekondi &c.; the third is Essikadu—a wattery place, formerly occupied by Lagosian employees of the Railway, but now by the people of British Sekondi.

"When the mass of natives were being driven from Old Sekondi, promises were made by the Government that a handsome compensation or an award will be granted to the Ahinfa provided they induced the inhabitants to vacate the lands acquired for *Open Spaces*. Such compensation or award never came to be granted, and whether it is in the Earth beneath or in the Wattery Banks under the Earth, we cannot state, for the Chiefs would have opposed to the unlawful acquisition of their lands by the Government, if they had a shadow of doubt against the fulfilment of the promise before or after the *petty sums* had been paid to house owners.

"The *Open Spaces* referred to are now the sites of parasitic mansions and bastard buildings to which the Government increased and are increasing the Revenue of the Protectorate by amounts of yearly rental at from £25 to £150 due from house building applicants.

"The lamps and drained streets extend to the terminus of the European Township (First Section) latrines are placed any how in the native quarters and scarcely could a policeman be seen on beat in any circuit at the two Sections of Native Township night or day. The term Colony is to me a grievous and malicious appendix. We know places in Equatorial Africa which were really Colonized and the system of Government—comparatively speaking our administrative policy beats all denials that it is anywhere near the nose of that of Sierra Leone or Lagos. Woe to Gold Coast with its infernal Crown Colony system; Heaven forefend such un-English imperialism giving account of our hardships at the last day."

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Great Yankah of Millers has been able to pacify the three friends against whom he took out a search warrant as reported in our last.

The removal to Dunkwa of Mr. Williams of Millers is painfully felt; we trust however success will crown his sphere of labour.

A fanatical lunatic aroused in a delirium crossed the Prah by night last week to Kafadzi almost naked; to bring him down demanded the bulk of the power owned by the two Companies who created some terrific stir in the town by the beating of drums in place of a common alarm. Heroin will be borne the necessity of the services of a dispenser for Chama.

WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Amongst the passengers who arrived here on the 8th. inst. by a.s. "Carl Wernau" from Cape Coast was Rev. John O. Hammond the Supt. of this Circuit.

The D. C. Mr. Bernasko who has been down with illness about a fortnight ago, is still on the sick list. We understand the cause of this illness was from a fall into a drain at Nsaba on his recent inspection. As there is no Medical Officer nor a qualified Dispenser here he was obliged to em-

ploy one Akkom, Native Doctor to attend him. We beg to call the attention of the Authorities at Accra to this. We hope we shall be spared one of the first class Dispensers.

We wish him a speedy recovery from his illness.

THE CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHER
ON THE PLANETS.

NO. V.

There are in our system nine primary planets, which revolve round the Sun, to which astronomers have given the following names—Mercury, Venus, the Earth, Mars, Ceres, Pallas, Jupiter, Saturn, and the Georgian Sidus. Some of them are attended by moons, or secondary planets. The Earth has one moon, Jupiter four, Saturn seven, and the Georgian Sidus six. The planets are all of them globular in their shape, and move round the Sun at different distances, from east to west. The planes of their orbits do not coincide with that of the Earth, but cross it with different angles though none of them vary more than six degrees north or south. The Zodiac, or girdle, which encompasses the heavens, and includes the track of all the planets, is not more than twelve degrees in width.

In the middle of which, like a path in a broad road, we find the orbit of the Earth. Those planets which are nearest the Sun, move with the greatest velocity. As the planets move in elliptical orbits, having the Sun in one of the foci of the ellipsis, it is evident each planet must be nearer the Sun at one time than at another, and they are known to increase in velocity as they approach the Sun, and decrease when moving from it; yet they all observe this remarkable law, viz.—They describe equal areas in equal times; that is, if a line were drawn from the Sun to any one planet, the space described by that line would each day be exactly the same, although the planet moves one day faster than another, because, in proportion as the velocity of the planet is increased, the line would be shortened in consequence of the nearer approach of the planet to the Sun. Another law by which the distance of the planets may be ascertained is equally surprising, that the squares of the periodical times of any planet are exactly proportioned to the cubes of their distances. Thus, for example, as the square of 365 days (the time of the Earth's revolution round the Sun) is to 225 (the number of days in which Venus performs her revolution) so is the cube of 95,000,000 miles (the Earth's distance from the Sun) to a fourth number, which will be the cube of the distance of Venus.

When one of the heavenly bodies is so situated, as by its motion in its orbit to approach nearer the Earth, as it advances it appears stationary, at other times, in consequence of the Earth's moving with greater velocity, the planet may be, as it were, left behind it; and will then appear to have a retrograde motion. Venus and Mercury are called Inferior Planets, because they are within the Earth's orbit: all the rest which are without, are called Superior. Mercury being nearer the Sun, and very small, is but seldom seen, because usually hidden by the splendor of the solar rays. The orbit of Venus includes that of Mercury, and is distinguished from the other planets by a peculiar brightness.

Being between the Earth and the Sun, she appears with various phases; horned, gibbous, &c. like the Moon. Both the inferior planets, at certain times, pass over the Sun's disk, which is called their transit. Of the superior planets, Mars is nearest the Earth. Spots have been seen upon its surface, from whence the length of its days and inclination of its axis have been ascertained. A small planet, whose orbit is next to that of Mars was discovered by Mr. Piazzi, the first day of the present century; to which he has given the name of Ceres Ferdinandea. Another planet, still smaller, was discovered by Dr. Olbers, March 28, 1802, which he has called Pallas.

Dr. Herschell, on account of their comparative smallness, distinguished the two last planets by the name of Asteroids; and it is conjectured there may be others which are not yet discovered. At a considerable distance from the orbit of Pallas, is Jupiter. When viewed through a telescope, several belts are seen across the disk of this large planet, they vary in their appearance, and are supposed to be ranges of clouds. Four moons, of different sizes, revolve round Jupiter, and are frequently eclipsed by this shadow. Saturn is nearly twice as far as Jupiter from the Sun; a planet distinguished from all the rest by a thin, flat, broad, luminous ring, which encompasses the body of the planet, but does not touch it; and appears to be divided into two, by a distinct line in the middle of its breadth.

Saturn has seven moons. The Georgian Sidus is at such a distance, that it can only be seen by a telescope. It has six moons. For a more particular account of the magnitudes, distances, &c. of the heavenly bodies, we must refer the reader to the Table annexed to our next Essay. There is another description of bodies which revolve round the Sun, called comets; they move in orbits very elliptical, and their times of revolution are so long,

and their distances so great, that little is known of them. Their appearances are different: some appear only as a faint vapour, others have a solid part in the middle. When they approach the Sun, they put forth a kind of tail of luminous matter, which is always directed towards the Sun. The number of comets cannot easily be ascertained, but it is supposed to be very great. It is certain, that before the year 1771, more than 450 had been seen.

The brief view we have taken of the Solar System, is enough to show the being and providence of God. When we see a piece of machinery, we say the hand of an artist has been here: so when we observe the admirable order and regularity of the motions of the heavenly bodies, which altogether compose one vast machine, of which the Earth itself is but a small part, can we help exclaiming, The finger of God is here!—Such order and beauty could never have arisen from chance and accident.

"He who thinks," says Cicero, "that it had not its origin in mind and understanding, must himself be destitute thereof." But though the movements of those bodies be so harmonious and uniform, yet, to an inconsiderate observer, they would appear confused and irregular, and, instead of advancing in their orbit, would appear at times to be fixed; and, at other times, to move backward. So it is in the ways of God: to an eye of sense, his work seems at a stand; his purposes defeated, and the promises of his word unfulfilled. But this is the conclusion of Ignorance and Unbelief. Could we see as Jehovah sees, we would perceive that all things work together, however opposite they may seem, to accomplish the purposes of his sovereign will. Were it possible for us to fix our station in the Sun, we should then thence behold the hosts of Heaven moving in their several orbits, without the least, even apparent, confusion.

It is entirely owing to the situation in which we are placed, that we ever imagine there is any thing like irregularity in their motions; and should it be our privilege to "appear with Christ in glory," we shall discern that all the ways of the Lord are right, and we in the wrong, in presuming to judge when we ought to have obeyed; and to reason when we ought to have believed his promise and relied on his word; remembering, that what "we know not now, we shall know hereafter."

"His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The seed may have a bitter taste,
But soon will be the flour!"—COWPER.

WEST AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE.

NATIVE PRESS STRIKE OUT.

It is not the first time that the West African native press in the British West African Colonies has raised against the Government, and its local representation. The two or three millions who are under this Government have no voice in the control of the country, and are bound to submit to anything, good, bad, or indifferent, proposed for them. Even in cases where some form of representation is allowed, the Government does not allow anything, while an essential qualification for the office, implied or understood, is an agreement on vital points with the Government.

GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY.

On the other hand, the authority of the Governor is practically absolute, and this confidence implies local knowledge of the conditions and needs of the people. But this is not always the case. Accordingly the existing arrangements lack the essential and indispensable ingredients which go to make goodwill between the Government and the people. It cannot be believed, that such a system appears to the native as desirable, and West Africa is in reality to become part and parcel of the British Empire, so the native press believes the administration of these Colonies must be placed on more natural and commonsense lines in order to inspire the people with the fact that apart from trade and their development, their personal interests count for something, and that the Government desires to study him in every way.

REFORM NEEDED.

A reform needed, and that quickly is the opinion expressed whereby more direct representation by the people most interested in the welfare of the country is effected. The statesmanship which fails to realize this important factor appears to be lamentably in the dark concerning the principles of proper control in West Africa. John Bull needs to wake up in regard to other things besides commercial development, and to this fact the people here awakened.—*West Africa*, Feb. 25.

IS DANCING AN INNOCENT AMUSEMENT?

BY A BABEL MISSION CATECHIST.

I write again to support what I wrote last on this subject. The following is from "The Babelian Analyst":—

1.—The tendency of this amusement is to drive away all serious thoughts, to dissipate all religious impressions. We have known young men and women who have good promises of future usefulness in the Christian Church, but were drawn into these amusements and forgot God and religion and every thing of a serious nature. Many a pastor can recall with a pained heart a large number of such

cases. We doubt if any can recall an exception. We have never yet known a single instance where a person was engaged in the pursuit of these amusements and was at the same time leading an active Christian life. Religious convictions, holy thoughts, and an active Christian influence wither and die in the atmosphere of a dancing school or ball-room, just as surely as in the bar-room or the gambling-den.

2. These amusements and their associations result in an exceedingly low form of moral development. Those who indulge in them soon become irreverent. They absent themselves from the house of God. They soon apologize for, and then indulge in things of which they would once have been ashamed. A person's moral perception is blunted, and his desire for good lessened in just that degree that he follows such amusements.

3.—A great number of young people begin in the dancing-school and ball-room, a course of life which ends in utter and dreadful ruin. Archbishop Spalding declared that the confessional revealed the fact that nineteen twentieths of the fallen women began their descent in the ball-room could accurate statistics be prepared in regard to any of our cities the result would be of a similar nature. The sensuous nature of much of the music, the unnatural fascination, the whirl of excitement, the mutual and familiar relations of the dancers—all these influences brought to bear upon a young woman at an age when she is peculiarly susceptible to them are exceedingly dangerous. The young man or woman who exposes himself or herself to these dangers should be exceedingly fearful lest the worst should overtake them. Multitudes of human souls are lost for time and for eternity through the influence of this amusement. A lost soul! Who can compass the dreadful thought! It is frequently said that people must have some amusements. We grant it: We advocate no gloomy philosophy of life. Amusements we need, nay, must have. But in all this great world, [which our Heavenly Father has made so beautiful,—so full of sources of pleasure, are there no forms of amusement save those whose association and results are so full of danger? Are there no happy men, no cheerful women who never enter places where this amusement is engaged in? One must have food; shall he therefore take poison? One must have drink; shall he therefore take brandy? The safest way is to let dancing severally alone.

A BANKRUPT'S OPINION OF "NIGGERS."

In the Hull Bankruptcy Court, yesterday, Francis Henry Wood, residing in Blackburn Avenue, Bridlington, lately carrying on business in Exchange Buildings, Bowalley Lane, Hull, as "F. H. Wood and Company, West African merchants, auctioneers, and valuers," was publicly examined before Mr. Registrar Farrell. The liabilities were stated at £774, and the assets at £16.

Interrogated by the Official Receiver (Mr. Maples) as to the receipt of certain sums from native houses in West Africa, for goods which were never sent, the debtor replied that he was practically in the hands of his agents.

Mr. Maples: But you got the money.
Wood: Yes, but, from the general dealings I had with these niggers I found them nothing but thieves and rogues.

Mr. Maples: Yes, that may be; but you stuck to their money. These people sent you money, and they never got goods from you.

Wood: Well, personally I should think their claims are satisfied.

But you've no evidence of that? No, I have not. But all these men are niggers.

Mr. Maples: Yes, but the colour of these men's faces should not deprive them of their just rights.

The debtor, in further evidence, said he executed a deed of assignment for the benefit of his creditors in Blackpool in 1898. His liabilities then were £405, and he paid a dividend of 4s. in the pound. His income had averaged £3. 10s. a week, and it had cost him £3 a week to live.

The examination was closed.—*Manchester Evening News*, February 21.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Kindly allow me a space in your valuable column to ask the authorities in the Gold Coast Colony and Protectorate, the following:—Is the habit of flogging people in the market, for no other offence than stealing, done in all the Mining Companies in the Gold Coast or elsewhere?

I am only a poor stranger having arrived here not more than a couple of months. I have been witnessing this practice almost from since I arrived at this Mine, and I have been confidently informed that this custom has been going on for more than a year, and at the time of which I am writing there is one young boy in the custody of a Lagos chief who I am informed has stolen a tin box, containing some £40 and personal effects, belonging to one of the white men. As flogging is the order of the day, this poor boy has been taken to the market three times, each time receiving 50 lashes on his bare back which is 150 lashes up to now.

I am given to understand, that the "flogging Manager" says the lad must receive 100 lashes every-day morning

and evening, until the stolen effects are presented or shown. If I am not going too far, Mr. Editor, I should ask then what the District Commissioner of Asafo a day's journey from this place, is doing; and as I am only a "sojourner," am I to understand that this "flogging" is a new Ordinance and is in force?

It is very annoying to see a man being flogged in a market place when he ought to be tried in a Court of Justice and sentenced to do his time.

It is also a disgrace to the Directors of this big company to send out packs of idiots to take charge of their mines. So far as my knowledge serves me, if they will only send gentlemanly English-men to superintend their mines, things will go on smoothly.

I think in future they will see that they get the real type of men to send out, but not spurious articles, and the sooner a stop is put to this the better. Hoping some abler pen than mine will make it explicit more to you.

Thanking you for the space occupied.

Yours faithfully,—QUAME WOOTEHYOH.

Bibiabiha, 14-3-1905.

APPAM.

Rev. Thomas Marshall arrived here from Cape Coast last week and is to go to Odumtu (his new station) during the first week in April. No doubt the community will admire his fruitful career and sympathize with him for the many difficulties he had confronted during the discharge of his Circuit work.—(Communicated).

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

Due at Cape Coast.	
*Lucie Wermann	Cam. Ac. Service Mar. 26
*Biafra	S. C. Ex. Ser. No. 2 27
Nyanga	Cpobo Service 29
Oron	Brass Service April 3
*Zungeru	Lagos Express Service ... 3
*Aro	S. C. Ex. Service No. 1 10
Boulama	Opobo Service 12
Batanga	Southern Wind. Service 16
Mursji	Brass Service 17
Zaria	Opobo Service 26

HOMEWARDS.

Ancobra	Opobo Service Mar. 24
*Sekondi	S. C. Ex. Service No. 1 29
*Belgrano	S. C. Ex. Service (German) ... 29
Dahomey	Brass Service Apl. 3
*Tarquah	Lagos Ex. Service 5

*With mails and passengers only.

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Cheapest and best drinks on the coast.
ALL WATERS 2/- PER DOZEN.

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THE WEST AFRICAN MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS, LIMITED, Cape Coast Castle.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

In the matter of the Estate of JOHN BROWN ORLEANS (Deceased)

Pursuant to an act passed in the 22nd and 23rd years of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria intituled "an Act to further amend the Law of real property and to relieve Trustees"

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having or pretending to have any claim or demand upon or against the Estate of John Brown Orleans late of Cape Coast in the Gold Coast Colony who died at Cape Coast aforesaid on or about the 31st day of Oct. one thousand nine hundred and two, and whose last will and Testament was on the 9th day of March 1905, proved in the Supreme Court of the Colony aforesaid by Joseph Leonard Brown Orleans, one of the executors named in the said will are hereby required to send in particulars of their claims and demands in writing to the undersigned and his co-executors James Thompson Brown Orleans and Ellen Orleans at Strato's Buildings Royal Lane, Cape Coast in the aforesaid Colony on or before the 30th day of June 1905; at the expiration of which time the executors of the said Estate will proceed to pay and distribute the assets of the said Testator or any part thereof having regard only to the claims of which they shall have had notice.

And all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned at Strato's Buildings Royal Lane aforesaid.

Dated at Cape Coast this 16th day of March 1905.

J. LEON B. ORLEANS
One of the Executors and eldest son.