

# The Gold Coast Leader.



VOL. II.  
No. 80.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1904.

Price 3d.  
Including postage 4d.

## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

### ADVERTISING SCALE.

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

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

Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

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

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

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

AT SEKUNDI

From his store at Poassi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM.

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

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

## The London Directory,

Containing over 2,000 pages of condensed commercial matter, enables enterprising traders throughout the Empire to keep in close touch with the trade of the Motherland. Besides being a complete commercial guide to London and its Suburbs, the London Directory contains lists of:—

#### EXPORT MERCHANTS

with the Goods they ship, and the Colonial and Foreign markets they supply;

#### STEAMSHIP LINES

arranged under the Ports to which they sail, and indicating the approximate sailings;

#### PROVINCIAL APPENDIX

of Trade Notices of leading Manufacturers, Merchants, etc in the principal provincial towns and industrial centres of the United Kingdom.

A copy of the 1904 edition will be forwarded freight paid on receipt of Post Office Order for £1.

The LONDON DIRECTORY Co., Ltd,  
25 Abchurch Lane, London, E. C.

England.

## NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that a certain plot of land, belonging to one Frank Edward Amisab, and situate at Cape Coast, Kotokrabah Road, to the West of Prospect Hill measuring One Hundred feet square is at present held by African Association Limited as security against certain moneys owed by the said Frank Edward Amisab, the original title deeds being in their hands and anybody purchasing the said plot of land will do so at his or her own risk.

AFRICAN ASSOCIATION LTD.

H. S. PENNY.—Agent.

### JUST PUBLISHED.

CASH PRICE WITH POSTAGE 12/6

GOLD COAST NATIVE INSTITUTIONS  
with

Thoughts upon a Healthy Imperial policy for the Gold Coast and Ashanti

PURE.—NOURISHING.

## ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

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

by

CASELY HAYFORD

of the Inner Temple, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, and of the Gold Coast Bar.

LONDON:

SWEET & MAXWELL, Limited,  
3, CHANCERY LANE W. C.  
1903.

Copies of the work may be obtained at the Store of Mr. Arthur, Chapel Street Cape Coast; G. W. Konuah Esq., James Town, Accra, and I. O. Browne Esq. Anona Chambers, Axim.

**Dr. E. G. MacLean,**  
DENTIST.

(AMERICAN GRADUATE)

Has removed from Sekondi to "Hamilton House," Chapel Square, Cape Coast.

Office hours, 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

CONSULTATION FREE.

## WANTED.

A confidential clerk for Accra. Competent Stenographer and Typist. Salary £100 per annum. Apply to  
F. & A. SWANZY,  
Cape Coast.

### FOR TARKWA AND SEKONDI

TWO STORE-KEEPERS with respectable men as Sureties. Apply to

H. ROTTMAN, Jr., Cape Coast,  
or J. A. NOONOO, Sekondi.

### GENERAL NEWS.

Can the report that there are some patients at the Small Pox Hospital be true?

Mr. Barbour James, the Postmaster has returned from his furlough.

Dr. Pitt has also returned, and so is Mr. Barrister Ross.

Mr. Rotimi Alade of Axim is in Town.

We understand there is a Reading Club being formed in Town by some dozen youngmen.

The Masons worshipped at the Christ Church last Sunday morning it being the day for St. John the Evangelist (27th.) and celebrated the day, the next day.

The Argus says, The report of the directors of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Ltd., for the year ending June 30th last, states that the amount of bullion recovered has shown a considerable increase, the net value being £115,824, as against £26,858 in the previous year.

That the publication of "The Gold Coast and the Fantees" has been delayed by request, and the publishers propose to issue it about three weeks from date (Dec. 12).

That Mr. J. P. Rodgar, C. M. G., the newly appointed Governor of the Gold Coast Colony has arrived in London...until the beginning of February when he leaves for West Africa."

NOW AND ALWAYS: (Dixcove) The omission of the

"Movements of Steamers" in our recent issues is rather due to want of space and not intentional: any way we eos with you and will endeavour to continue same.

ABAKOO: Your letter appears next week.

'Dutch West Africa' is the title of an interesting article on *Elmina* in the *West Africa* of Dec. 5. We hope those of our readers who are subscribers to this journal have been following closely, the articles on the *Gold Coast Railway Scandal*.

The *W. African Mail* of Dec. 11, also publishes an article on *Accra*, by an ex-Naval officer.

*Dix Coes* News shut out this week.

A Watch Night Service was held at the Wesley Chapel on Thursday night densely crowded as usual, Revs. Parker, Graham and Quayson, with Mr. Jones officiating.

YOUNG FORESTER: Your letter received, but we refrain from publishing it, considering it better, to leave Mr. Martin to rejoice in triumph over his "gallant defence," neither you nor the two others also who wrote lose anything by this, though he may gain everything for his effort.

We understand the Honourable J. Mensah Sarbah leads to the hymeneal altar shortly, Miss Ekua Marian Wood daughter of Mr. B. Pine Wood.

### HANDBOOK OF SIERRA LEONE (1904-1905.)

Mr. Merriman-Labor in compiling this book did a work which will prove of service to those who may require information on the sister Colony. It strikes us that the book is replete with all necessary informations concerning Sierra Leone. It is evident that Mr. Labor spent a good deal of labour on his work which reflects great credit on himself. On the whole it makes interesting reading, and no intelligent Sierra Leonean—for the matter of that—no West African—should be without it. We have here Anaman's *Gold Coast Guide* but taking in more subjects each however having a peculiarity of its own. The author has our congratulations and we hope it will have a wide circulation. Copies may be had at Mr. G. B. Johnstone's, Kawanupada at 3/- a copy.

### MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

#### OUTWARDS.

	Due at Cape Coast.
Boulama Opobo Service	Dec. 23
*Eleo Wurmman C. Acc. Service	25
Benin S. W. Service	26
*Burutu Lagos Express Service	26
Louny Brass Service	27
Philippeville Congo Boat	Jan. 1
*Sokoto S. C. Express Service No. 2	2
Bathurst Opobo Service	6
*Akabo Lagos Express Service	9
Axim Brass Service	10
Bakana Opobo Service	20
Cameroon S. W. Service	23
Biafra Brass Service	24

#### HOMEWARDS.

Thekla Bohlan C. and S. C. Service	Dec. 27
Batanga Brass Service	27
Jebba Lagos Express Service	30
Nyanga Opobo Service	31
Anversville Congo Boat	31
Oron S. C. Express Service No. 1	Jan. 9
Borutu Lagos Express Service	13
Olanda S. C. Express Service	20

\* With mails and passengers only.

# The Gold Coast Leader.



VOL. II.  
No. 29.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1904.

Price 3d  
Including postage 4d

## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS

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

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

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

### ADVERTISING SCALE.

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

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

Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

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

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

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

AT SEKUNDI

From his store at Poassi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM.

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

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

## The London Directory,

Containing over 2,000 pages of condensed commercial matter, enables enterprising traders throughout the Empire to keep in close touch with the trade of the Motherland. Besides being a complete commercial guide to London and its suburbs, the London Directory contains lists of—

#### EXPORT MERCHANTS

with the Goods they ship, and the Colonial and Foreign markets they supply.

#### STEAMSHIP LINES

arranged under the Ports to which they sail, and indicating the approximate sailing.

#### PROVINCIAL APPENDIX

of Trade Notices of leading Manufacturers, Merchants, etc. in the principal provincial towns and industrial centres of the United Kingdom.

A copy of the 1904 edition will be forwarded freight paid on receipt of Post Office Order for £1.

The LONDON DIRECTORY Co., Ltd,  
25 Abchurch Lane, London, E. C.

England

## NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that a certain plot of land, belonging to one Frank Edward Anisah, and situate at Cape Coast, Kotakrah Road, to the West of Prospect Hill measuring One Hundred feet square is at present held by African Association Limited as security against certain moneys owed by the said Frank Edward Anisah, the original title deeds being in their hands, and anybody purchasing the said plot of land will do so at his or her own risk.

AFRICAN ASSOCIATION LTD.  
H. S. PENNY—Agent.

### JUST PUBLISHED.

CASH PRICE WITH POSTAGE 12 6

GOLD COAST NATIVE INSTITUTIONS  
with

Thoughts upon a Healthy Imperial policy for the Gold Coast and Ashanti



PURE.—NOURISHING.

## ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

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

by  
**CASELY HAYFORD**  
of the Inner Temple, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, and of the Gold Coast Bar.

LONDON:

**SWEET & MAXWELL, Limited,**  
3, CHANCERY LANE W. C.  
1903.

Copies of the work may be obtained at the Store of Mr. Arthur, Chapel Street Cape Coast, G. W. Konnah Esq., James Town, Accra, and I. O. Browne Esq., Anona Chambers, Axim.

**Dr. E. G. MacLean,**  
DENTIST.

(AMERICAN GRADUATE)

Has removed from Sekondi to "Hamilton House," Chapel Square, Cape Coast.

Office hours, 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

CONSULTATION FREE

## WANTED.

A confidential clerk for Accra. Competent Stenographer and Typist. Salary £100 per annum. Apply to  
**F. & A. SWANZY,**  
Cape Coast.

### FOR TARKWA AND SEKONDI

TWO STORE-KEEPERS with respectable men as Sureties. Apply to

**H. ROFTMAN Jr.,** Cape Coast,  
or **J. A. NOONOO,** Sekondi

### GENERAL NEWS.

Can the report that there are some patients at the Small Pox Hospital be true?

Mr. Harbour James, the Postmaster has returned from his furlough.

Dr. Pitt has also returned, and so is Mr. Barrister Ross.

Mr. Rotimi Alade of Axim is in Town.

We understand there is a Reading Club being formed in Town by some dozen youngmen.

The Masons worshipped at the Christ Church last Sunday morning it being the day for St. John the Evangelist (27th.) and celebrated the day, the next day.

The *Argos* says, The report of the directors of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Ltd., for the year ending June 30th last, states that the amount of bullion recovered has shown a considerable increase, the net value being £115,824, as against £26,858 in the previous year.

That the publication of "The Gold Coast and the Fantees" has been delayed by request, and the publishers propose to issue it about three weeks from date (Dec. 12).

That Mr. J. P. Rodger, C. M. G., the newly appointed Governor of the Gold Coast Colony has arrived in London, until the beginning of February when he leaves for West Africa.

Now AND ALWAYS: (Dixcove) The omission of the

"Movements of Steamers" in our recent issues is rather due to want of space and not intentional: any way we see with you and will endeavour to continue same.

ABAKOO:—Your letter appears next week.

'Dutch West Africa' is the title of an interesting article on *Elmina* in the *West Africa* of Dec. 5. We hope those of our readers who are subscribers to this journal have been following closely, the articles on the *Gold Coast Railway Scandal*.

The *W. African Mail* of Dec. 11, also publishes an article on *Accra*, by an ex-Naval officer.

*Der Coes* News shut out this week

A Watch Night Service was held at the Wesley Chapel on Thursday night densely crowded as usual, Revs. Parker, Graham and Quayson, with Mr. Jones officiating.

YOUNG FORESTER. Your letter received, but we refrain from publishing it, considering it better, to leave Mr. Martin to rejoice in triumph over his "gallant defence," neither you nor the two others also who wrote lose anything by this, though he may gain everything for his effort.

We understand the Honourable J. Mensah Sarbah leads to the hymeneal altar shortly, Miss Ekua Marian Wood daughter of Mr. B. Pinn Wood.

### HANDBOOK OF SIERRA LEONE (1904-1905.)

Mr. Merriman-Labor in compiling this book did a work which will prove of service to those who may require information on the sister Colony. It strikes us that the book is replete with all necessary informations concerning Sierra Leone. It is evident that Mr. Labor spent a good deal of labour on his work which reflects great credit on himself. On the whole it makes interesting reading, and no intelligent Sierra Leonean—for the matter of that—no West African—should be without it. We have here Anaman's *Gold Coast Guide* but taking in more subjects each however having a peculiarity of its own. The author has our congratulations and we hope it will have a wide circulation. Copies may be had at Mr. G. B. Johnstone's, Kwanupada at 3/- a copy.

### MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

#### OUTWARDS

	Due at Cape Coast.
Boudama Opobo Service	Dec 23
*Eko Warmant C. Acc. Service	" 25
Benin S. W. Service	" 26
*Barutu Lagos Express Service	" 26
Louty Brass Service 1	" 27
Philippville Congo Boat	Jan 1
*Sokoto S. C. Express Service No 2	" 2
Pathurst Opobo Service	" 6
*Akabo Lagos Express Service	" 6
Axim Brass Service	" 10
Bakana Opobo Service	" 20
Cameroon S. W. Service	" 21
Biafra Brass Service	" 24

#### HOMEWARDS

Thekla Bohlen C. and S. C. Service	Dec 27
Batanga Brass Service	" 27
Jebba Lagos Express Service	" 30
Nyanga Opobo Service	" 31
Anversville Congo Boat	" 31
Oron S. C. Express Service No 1	Jan 5
Barutu Lagos Express Service	" 13
Oleuda S. C. Express Service	" 20

\* With mails and passengers only.

## THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Somanya was the centre of attraction to Traders and Brokers during the second and third week of December by a large influx of cocoa from Akem, Djeben and suburbs. This is the outcome of a little rise in the price of this commodity. Akua-pia and Crepee have also stocks which may enliven our Market should the price rise higher and the obnoxious tolls at Senkye be withdrawn.

Saturday, the 19th December was singled out by a Grand Public Meeting held at Odumase on the occasion of Mantse Odonkor's declaration of his apology and submission to Konor Mate Kole in obedience to His Excellency's command. The Meeting was held at the instance of Messrs. Murphy and Fioalkes, representatives of the Government. The joyful welcome of peace, the resuscitation of declining hope with the dispersion of gloomy and unpleasant political outlook of Eastern Croboe fully debarr'd any scrutiny or criticism on the action of the Government in this case.

The frank simplicity and pathetic spirit in which the apology was tendered favoured more of dignity and manliness than of meanness and degradation; and the general impression was of sympathy, respect and satisfaction. With the wide experience of Mantse Odonkor (by reason of extensive travelling and varied services to His Majesty's Government) at the right disposal of the Konor, a grand and prosperous future awaits Eastern Croboe.

His Excellency the Governor, has shown a keen sense of justice in the manner he restored union between the Omanhin, Akufol and Ohin of Aduman. The regal insignia of the latter was confiscated by the former on the occasion of his last visit to Accra when the Ohin of Aduman was in attendance. The Omanhin contended that *ntikyire-kye* (the feather-cap) was peculiar to Amanhin; and therefore its use by that Ohin was presumptuousness and violence against his royal dignity and prerogative. On investigation, however, it was elicited while the Omanhin's contention was lawful, that particular Ohin has special Licence for the use of that Feather-cap, it being a dearly won honour conferred on his Predecessor by the late Omanhin Kwaade of Akropong, for gallantry displayed in the Awuna war, which gallantry might have deserved a "V.C." for any English Soldier. His Excellency justly ordered the restoration of the forfeited treasure.

The difficulty connected with the election of a candidate for Larteh stool has not yet been satisfactorily solved. It is said that the D.C. has referred the case to the Governor. The Lartehs desire to elect a man of their own choice independent of the Paramount Chief's influence. They attribute their past unsavoury experiences to their ex-chief having been an effeminate vassal of the Omanhin.

Mantse Odikro of Ogome, Western Croboe, who had for many years past insisted on his independence and claim to the position of Konor Akroboe has at last consented to relinquish his claims and to submit to the acknowledged Konor. There is no doubt that Mantse Odikro had cogent reasons in support of his claims, but it would be an outlet to an infinite flood of revolutions in the country at large were the Government to entertain his claims instead of thus wisely effecting reconciliation. The reason is because many similar cases as this exist in several quarters of the Protectorate. It deserves more than passing notice how Mr. Murphy, D.C. so successfully prevails on the native dignitaries to accede to the Governor's pleasure. He has found the key and access is free and easy to him. Others beat about the bush instead of studying the best way of dealing with the idiosyncracies of the natives. How well they deserve the mortification that is generally meted out to them.

That our Government experience infinite worries and difficulties respecting matters that rise frequently about the native stools is a lamentable fact, but it is also a stubborn fact that generally some lamentable justifications thereto exist of which the Government is but partially or totally ignorant. The result of this ignorance is violence to native institutions and justice, and the sequence is the outcry of the Populace against it. Now, if, as in the cases cited above, the Government would calmly inquire into the ancient histories connected with every tribe (for each tribe has its own) in the Protectorate, give them a patient study and listen assiduously to the winding annotations advanced in support of contending arguments, all obscurities shall vanish away, the path of justice would have a bold relief and the Government will have, no difficulties in administering justice in such complicated matters foreign to it, and universal approbation will easily be secured. And an ordinance, such as the "Gold Coast Native Chiefs' Ordinance 1903" would be found unnecessary.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

BYEGONES SHALL BE BYEGONES, AND A NEW PAGE TURNED FOR YOU TO WRITE YOUR LIVES IN.

Once again, the privilege is given us to greet our readers with a HAPPY NEW YEAR, and to say to the year of grace 1903, in the language of TENNYSON, "Farewell, and welcome to the year to follow," 'Adieu' 'adieu' for evermore." To-day we stand on the threshold of 1904 A.D.; even the unthinking should think.

Whilst tendering to all our friends far and near the compliments of the season, we would seize the opportunity to thank our subscribers whose number has increased, we are pleased to note, and all our sympathetic friends for their encouraging words, and support and hope they will continue in their good words and works. It is necessary to say to a few however—just a few, that the best encouragement they can give us, and the best "Christmas Box" they can give us, is Promptness in paying up their subscriptions.

We shall continue, health permitting, to be their humble and dutiful servants still, and hope to profit from experience gained in the year just flown. We are still open to correction advice and suggestions where a reader or a subscriber finds these necessary, and let these come in freely.

We wish to see the number of subscribers and readers in each Town increased during the year and to hear less of borrowers. There are some who talk and write of the good work the *Leader* is doing and who are in a position to give a practical help towards the maintenance of the Press: if they are as good as their word, let them show it or subscribe for some friends as some have been doing. Let each and all resolve to do his best during the year for the Press!

We regret to note that in some quarters, our Kings (Amanhin) are still called "Head Chiefs." This term is said to mean a "Chief" (Ohin) who is not subordinate in his jurisdiction to any other Chief. This is rather a funny definition for with us one who is not under any other chief is a king, not a chief. "Chief" is said to include headchief, this is nonsense. We find the distinction has been made since 1883 when the Native Jurisdiction Ordinance was passed. We have a language of our own, and have names for the titles as given to our rulers both in the Eastern and Western Provinces, we publish these next week. We believe this was got up with the evident intention to do away with the titles altogether. This is not right.

A prosperous New Year to all our contemporaries at home and abroad.

### NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Our Subscribers will please note that it is necessary that some attention be paid on the receipt of our Notice informing them of the time their subscriptions expire otherwise without hearing from them we take it that they do not wish to continue same, and stop their supplies thereby. THE MANAGER.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

## The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, JANUARY 2, 1904.

### OUR NATIVE RULERS AND THE ABORIGINES SOCIETY.

From week to week, we have in one way or

other been dealing upon the position and rights of our native rulers as they are now treated, and interfered with by our Guardians, and have in a measure tried to show, how any interference with these, directly or indirectly will tend to destroy the very foundations of our institutions and thereby do away with us as a people. It will not be too much for us to say, that no one who can lay any claim to a Fatherland, and have a spark of patriotic feeling heaving in his breast, or have any regard for his Race—a Race having its own native manners, customs institutions and administrations,—can look on without showing any "passive resistance" and in advocating for the rights of the people, we are bold to say we do not think we can count upon the sympathy of any nation in all civilized world more than the British,—our own Guardians. The history of this Nation serves as an inexhaustible mine of wealth for Patriotism, and the names of such men as SIMON de MONTFORD, PYM, HAMPDEN, CROMWELL, BRUCE, O'CONNOR and a host of others, "ancient and modern" lie as boulders in the history of their People, against oppression or interference with the rights of the People in any shape or form. It may be another thing perhaps, where Conquest or Cession or Colonization steps in, even then the niceties of Civilization, not to say Christianity—that Religion which according to the charter of its Founder teaches the equality of men more than any other religion, and declares against Might beating Right, that religion which our Guardians profess,—may, nay, should advance and calm the troubled sea. We therefore have every confidence, however much the odds may seem to be against us, that whenever and wherever our "case" is fairly, clearly and perhaps continuously represented, Justice will be meted out to us.

But at this time, when there is so much being done and said with regard to certain Ordinances which attempt to do away with the personality of the native ruler, when his rights and those of his subjects are being tossed here and there, when the doing away of his identity seems to be aimed at, where his racial prestige and landmarks are being sought to be annihilated, what is the attitude which he himself assumes in the face of this torrent of destructive occurrences? Is he alive to the passing events? Does he fully realize what they mean to himself and his People? Is he aware that the rights and privileges of his ancestors, kept intact by them and bequeathed to him, are being bit by bit taken away from him, rights and privileges in no way conflicting with the position those who have come to stay with us have assumed in the land? If he is, what is he doing? Whilst watching what the Authorities are doing on such vital questions, we must also watch what he too is doing, what he thinks of the present state of affairs, and his own actions in accordance with the times. Here, then, let us leave the subject, in the meantime, we must remind him that he is doing with one of the most intelligent and diplomatic people on the face of the globe, and remind him further, that he has had in his day, what his ancestors never had before him—an ABORIGINES SOCIETY—an intelligent Body of Natives who know and understand him because they are of his own people and race and fairly understand those who have come amongst us—a Society called into existence by the upheavals of the political earthquakes of these latter days: therefore if he has any regard for his ancestors and ancestral rights, if he has any respect for his person and his stool, if he has any interest in the welfare and well-being of his subjects, HE SHOULD BE MORE IN TOUCH WITH THAT SOCIETY.

"THE FANTI PUBLIC SCHOOLS."

For the past few days, the scheme to float these Schools has been the talk of many a person, and to some extent Education has been, and is the talk of the day. We rejoice in this, and we earnestly hope, this train of Education set in motion may not have "Talk" for its terminus to the disappointment of the engine driver and the Guard or compel some passengers to discover that somehow they joined the wrong train! The scheme has raised a large enthusiasm amongst all classes of the community and it is an enthusiasm which we should like to see steadily kept up. We do not think that the people of this Country can show their patriotism for the Fatherland better than giving their hearty support to the scheme, freely and unreservedly; if we have really and truly the interest of our Country at heart, if we must have, a weapon for the hydra-headed grievances on the Gold Coast, if our children must rise and call us, blessed, this scheme must have our unstinted support. It will be too soon for us to thank the promoters of the scheme, or even for us, to write at length on the "Fanti Public Schools;" if we must take the feeling and enthusiasm displayed at the meeting held at Mr. deGRAFT JOHNSON'S the other day, to gauge those of our young people thereby then we can say there is some hope somewhere. All eyes are on us. Is this to be another laurel to adorn the brow of the people of this Country's Determination to do a thing when once roused? We look on. We still think that the less said by us on the Scheme now, the better, only let it be said to each of us, *What thou doest, do quickly*, and remember that *Bis dat qui cito dat*.

As far back as 1893, the Editor of the *Gold Coast People* in his series of articles, *Why we complain* dealt on the subject of Education and now that this scheme is on the tapis, we would ask you to spare a few moments to read that article again it will whet your enthusiasm the more, it will as a native of this Country, make you still more enthusiastic about the Scheme, that is, if you have a scintilla of patriotic feeling in you. If you can not lay your hand on the *People*, the article is reproduced for you in our issue of Sept. 27, 1902. And we have ourselves devoted weeks and weeks to the subject, in leading articles; *Vide* issues of October 18th. and 25th. Nov. 1st., 8th. and 15th (1902). In the first of these articles referred to we said in our opening remarks:—"We venture to give it out as our opinion after closely looking into the existing state of affairs, that the panacea for the thousand and one evils in the country is, EDUCATION. The only cure-all for all our social, moral and political grievances... is EDUCATION." Then the following papers dealt on, the Government Missionaries, the People and Education. The last which was, "The Need of the Hour—More interest in Educational matters" we may reproduce for the benefit of those who may not have copies of that issue (Nov 15). In the meantime let us leave the subject, with the last words of this article, to wit, *Who is there who will not interest himself in such a momentous question?*

SCRUTINEER.

RING OUT THE OLD; RING IN THE NEW.

There is a pathos tempered with an unaccountable felicity that dawns on the souls of mortals on the occasion of the celebration of a year, whether that happens to be a Christian, Jewish, Mohammedan or Pagan year. It all brings one feeling—a feeling of gratefulness to an All-merciful Providence for a spare of life to ungrateful and undeserving creatures.

Time is like a fashionable host,  
That slightly shakes his parting guest by the hand,  
And with his arms outstretch'd, as he would fly,  
Grasps in the new comer.

The year that has just rolled into eternity, which is but a minute in the measurement of mighty TIME, has been an exceptionally trying one to us natives of the Gold Coast individually, politically, religiously and socially.

Individually, I know thousands, including labour employers and those who have been thrown out of employment, will rise to censure the Government any time when called upon, for the enigmatical policy that entails to the depression of national trade. GRASP ALL LOSE ALL has evenly characterized the movements of the Gold Coast Colossus who as a self-righteous Paterfamilias will rather suffer all his children to be swept away by the stream of misery and destitution than admit the simple truth of fallibility, which not only individuals but corporate bodies should admit, and start to ring out the old and ring in the new. The more the Gold Coast territory is expanded by never ending expeditions the more trade is paralysed and the more the natives suffer and sooner expect to have the famine of East India here. We had suggested that Ashanti should simply have a resident with a small garrison for Protection and Prempeh should have been allowed to exercise the rule over his people with the sanguivorous practices of that nation abolished. If this had been done and the native State allowed to develop itself as it must have done trade would have surely prospered by leaps and bounds. But by sending Prempeh into exile and worse still putting servants on the stools with their masters under them and administering a real sort of the English "Justice's Justice" among them, is nothing less than another West African official blunder. Subsequent events have proved that the Hinterland policy at it is at present is a signal failure, and the natives especially those on the seaboard have been hard hit by it, through the state of its trade. Retrace your steps. Return Prempeh to Kumasi. Leave him to remodel his rule with the assistance of the Resident. Don't allow him to practice human sacrifices. Put a Resident there with a small garrison for protection, and to show no feeling of hostility include in the garrison police some Ashantis. Allow Prempeh to govern his people, and place him under the same restrictions and privileges as the Chiefs of the protected states of the Malay Peninsula, for instance and you will see for yourself how things will turn out.

In politics, the year has been one in which a determined attempt had been made "to kill the soul of the people" (as AFRICANUS puts it) by wrecking the traditional institutions which are as ancient as the hills, and as we write there hangs the NATHANIAN AXE in the guise of the "Native Chiefs' Bill" suspended over the national head by a horse-hair: it may drop any moment and destroy the national soul. "Come into my parlour said the spider to the fly"—that is the Gold Coast Government *Solo*.

Enough has been said to convince even a Pharaoh and it is not expecting too much to hope that our estimable Governor Sir Matthew Nathan will, notwithstanding the rumour that he is determined to go against expressed opinion of the whole Colony as voiced by her Press, ring out the old with the dead year and ring in a new policy with the coming year.

Religiously, I wonder whether God is not more angry with us now than at any other time of our christian(?) existence. Hypocrisy and ungodliness, uncharitableness and ignorance stalk unquestioned and at large in our Churches. Quoting the late Mr. Spurgeon, "Our ministers themselves are not converted." In the ways of unrighteousness, of greed, and of seeking after, and of the worship of the Mammon of unrighteousness, actions unchristian, they mingle and vie with the Pagan; and bad leaders as some of them are, they have been leading an equally bad and stiff-necked people. Though the trumpet may sound to-day or to-morrow men walk unconcernedly, trampling each other under foot, murdering each other in thought, words and deeds, robbing poor men of their rights and belongings. We ought to endeavour to ring out these old ways and tricks and ring in a spirit of brotherly love and devotion to God.

The closing part of the year 1903 has been remarkably interesting. The People have rung in a good deal of unity than perhaps at any other time, and our Sociality shows an encouraging aspect: Blessings in disguise have been many and

varied, and all this were brought about by a handful of men who have really done unconsciously a noble work. I pray they may not ring out their old methods but run them on, into the new.

The *Leader* has endeavoured to stand for the "Rights of the People," and the Public will be the better Judges. It does not intend to ring out its old principles and ring in new ones. It wishes All "A Merry Christmas, and A HAPPY NEW YEAR."

Yours faithfully,—Arroa.

DR. BLYDEN ON "THE NATIVE AFRICAN—HIS LINE AND HIS WORK."

Under the above title our contemporary the *Sierra Leone Weekly News* publishes in its issue of November 28th last, the speech delivered by Dr. Blyden at the banquet to Honourable C. E. Wright. From beginning to end the speech was interesting and even instructive, and our regret is that our space would not allow our reproducing the whole of it for the benefit of our readers, especially the rising generation: as it is, we can only reproduce here, snatches from here and there, which we hope will be read with some interest. Referring to Mr. Chamberlain and his Preferential Tariff, and the commotion it has caused in the political world of the British Empire, the Doctor says:—"This is for us a good sign....."

"It means that English men are feeling that the absolute superiority of English ideas is not an axiom of the law of nature. It is not like the law of Medes and Persians, but that those ideas may be superseded by others more suitable to any given time or given circumstances. I say, this Chamberlain revolution, is a good sign for us and for the weak races, helplessly subjected to the Procrustean methods of a stronger power. Sierra Leone, owing to the inapplicability of many ideas English which have shaped its history, is to-day in the most unsatisfactory condition. It is not a normal African community under European rule, such, for example, as the settlements in French Guinea are. In founding her colonies to the north of us, France had a greater advantage. She was not burdened with a philanthropic idea which it was sought to carry out and develop in Africa. She was free to take the Natives as she found them—not interfering with their social or religious customs, only preventing extravagant or inhuman manifestations, and to-day we find in French Guinea a normal, healthy, vigorous, independent native population increasing in numbers, not as black Frenchmen but as black men under French rule, independent on religious, social and industrial organisations; in all the racial and vital respects, enjoying the advantages of a wholesome and effective segregation—able from their inherent strength and widespread influence in their own country and among their own people to become elements of helpfulness and guides to their foreign exploiters, having their roots in the heart of the country which it is sought to exploit.

Sierra Leone, on the other hand, began its career under widely different circumstances. It began as an exotic plant."

After giving the history of Sierra Leone in a nutshell, the Doctor adds, "It has had only two stages—infancy and decrepitude, never vigorous manhood. This has been the fate of all tropical or semi-tropical races touched by Anglo-Saxon civilization." Here he proves his point by quoting from a speech made by the Secretary of the S. P. G. the Right Rev. Henry H. Montgomery formerly Bishop of Tasmania, made at a Church Congress. The Doctor goes on to say—"Omitting any special reference to our religious life, which needs no commentary, I want to point out that social organisation stands upon a basis false for the African, and hence the declarations and disappointments we witness. Our society, or rather the Society we are attempting to found, which we have been striving in vain to conduct for the last sixty years, is conceived on the European basis which is the individualistic that is to say, it is a system in which the individual accumulates wealth, scrambles for gain for himself with no responsibility

to his surroundings. This has, in Europe and America, permitted vast pecuniary resources to be gathered by individuals—a process which has gone on for generations and has now reached such a pitch that a reactionary sentiment is taking place—men are questioning the right of individuals to accumulate so much money with no sense of responsibility even to their own kith and kin.

Well now, the African idea of society and social obligations is communistic. It is what we see in the interior—the idea of Abraham and the patriarchs, who gathered around them their family and retainers and shared their wealth with them. Such wealth—consisting in farms and flocks—was not only shared by all contemporary relatives and connections, but was transmitted. It is what we see among the natives of Senegal and other parts of the Soudan—the same property in the hands of several generations.

We heard an African, wealthy in the European sense, say sometime ago, that he hoped to see many African millionaires. But I am satisfied that there will not only be no African millionaires in the European sense, but that the next generation will witness no examples of even the kind of rich men we now have. The conditions of trade are forcing such wealth into the hands of Europeans. Our magnificent houses will pass into their hands; or our children will hold them subject to the White Man; and this, because we have no foot hold in the soil.

"The French recognise this in the African Policy. They recognise that the Africans are not a manufacturing or commercial people, except in a local or domestic way—they see that our great work is agricultural in its various branches. So they encourage their African subjects to stick to the soil. This policy was very clearly defined by Mr. Roume, the French Viceroy of West Africa, at a Banquet given to him the other day in Paris. He said: "You must rely, before all things, on the native agriculturist, on the black labourer cultivating his own fields in entire independence and absolute liberty."

Sierra Leone, as I have said, has never enjoyed the strength of youth and has not now the advantage of the experience and wisdom of age, and therefore presents to the thinking foreigner the most unsatisfactory aspect. Foreigners who do not think, who know nothing—and perhaps care to know nothing—of causes and effects laugh at what they call the grotesque appearance of things.

The other colonies, especially the Gold Coast and Lagos, had a better start. No philanthropic aims shaped their beginnings. They came into existence as business centres, and the social and religious conditions were less interfered with; therefore, we find in those Colonies a degree of native manliness and manhood, of patriotism and independence, which we look for in vain in Sierra Leone, though it has been, for over a hundred years under British influence. Now, I consider it is the work of African lawyers and legislators to study the industrial and economic principles upon which African Society must be founded, and recommend to the Governing powers the enactment of laws accordingly.

"Perhaps we are nearing the time for change in the legal attitude of the mother country towards the racial and climatic necessities of her tropical possessions. A recent number of the *Spectator* (October 24) says: "We live in an age of common sense, and law tends to become an adjunct of justice and convenience." And I am glad to see that young lawyers are arising among us able and willing to take advantage of this feature of law. We should all be proud to know that two Africans have attempted to instruct Europeans on Native laws and Native institutions—John Mensah Sarbah and Casely Hayford, both of the Gold Coast Colony. That Colony, founded like that of Lagos, upon a native basis, has produced native authors whose productions command the respect of European thinkers. We have in our Doctor Honner, the representative of Sierra Leone—I speak under correction—who on professional lines has commanded the attention of European Scientists, but Sierra Leone should produce more, both in religion in medicine and in law. We are not on a barren island limited in population and racial illustrations. We dwell on a continent where there are innumerable

sources from which materials may be drawn to surround the studies with every possible attraction; and the reward of successful study in any one direction would be rich and lasting. I would sincerely commend this subject to the careful consideration of our youthful barristers, doctors and clergymen.

### ON BOARD THE "BURUTU"

BY A PASSENGER

For four days after the Royal Mail Steamer "Burutu" left Liverpool she encountered very rough seas in the Bay.

Under God's providence and with such a capable old Salt as Commander J. Scott Hely all felt complete confidence as to the result. The voyage afterwards was very enjoyable, the sea being then as calm as a Pond.

The steamer called at Las Palmas where a large number of West Indian cattle were taken aboard with the object, it is said, of being utilised for the improvement of the breed at Old Calabar—a very laudable object on the part of the Colonial office. They were fine specimens of both milk and Bull cows.

Before reaching Sierra Leone there was a concert in aid of the widows orphans of the men who die in the service of the Fleet.

On Christmas day all was quiet, and at night the usual Christmas dinner including the pudding &c &c was served, toasts to the Commodore and the amiable Senior (Sir Alfred L. Jones) health being drunk from bumper glasses, after which music on the Piano was supplied by those who played.

Port Axim was reached at about 2:30 a.m. on the 26th, and Cape Coast at 3:30 p.m.

The "Burutu" showed her excellent capacity for steaming when compared with the Lucie Wermann which is understood to have sailed from Southampton at about the same time the Burutu left Liverpool, thereby rendering her (the Wermann) being about 170 miles nearer the Coast.

On the 24th, she was sighted off Monrovia, 5 miles ahead. The Burutu passed her at 3:30 p.m. the same day and reached Axim as stated at 2:30 a.m. 26th, the Lucie anchoring at 6 a.m. being beaten about 4 hours from Monrovia to Axim.

The "Wermann" showed very sportmanlike feelings by rendering the "National Anthem" and other airs at Sekondi in recognition of the success of the "Burutu."

Commander Hely and his polite Crew are to be highly congratulated.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader*.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Kindly allow me just a small space in your valuable columns to say a word or two that may very likely interest our Chama friends.

It is rather unbecoming and scandalous to some of them who feel it irksome and expensive to subscribe to this important Local paper and who are in the habit of borrowing from others for perusal.

Mr. Editor, permit me to say the sooner these over-wise individuals (who, loudly mourning the want of a local paper, and are never known to support the Press) reform their parsimonious ways the better our Chama will one day lose immensely.

If this interesting paper will be ignored by our people, may we not repeat to them the old adage: "Knowledge is power."

It will be well for us to look around the Colony with her people and take a lesson, imitate their example, catch the spirit of their energy and enterprise and we will deserve, and no doubt, command success. Ye inhabitants of Chama! Awake arise or be for ever fallen.

Thanking you for the space occupied—

Yours very truly,

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

Chama, 7. 12. 1903.

Dear Mr. Editor—There has happened here something hard to understand. That is, on last Saturday morning the 19th inst. a meeting was convened at Odumase whether by the District Commissioner or by Mancher Mattey Kolley I do not know; but a great many people with drums and state-umbrellas from the villages attended. The District Commissioner spoke to the effect that as the result of the Aburi Inquiry the Governor had ordered that Mancher Odonkor Pisah should apologise to Mancher Mattey Kolley. Accordingly Odonkor Pisah stood up and spoke to the Linguist and he also told it to the assembly that the Government having examined the

charges of Mattey Kolley against him Odonkor Pisah had been found guilty for not attending the King's calls to Odumase to receive the Governor when he arrived. He therefore begged Mattey Kolley to forgive him his wrong, and that he acknowledged him to be his king and would henceforth obey all his lawful orders. Mancher Mattey Kolley was not surprised but was asking for sheep to be given him for his pardon, but the D. C. did not enforce that.

What I don't understand is whether both the Governor and Odonkor Pisah himself were sincere in these matters. In the first place I don't remember when the Governor visited Odumase since from May last to this day. I have not heard it. If some time before May 1903 then is out of the question, because the Government was concerned about Odonkor Pisah's conduct only from that period to the date of the Inquiry at Aburi. What made it necessary for Mattey Kolley to call Odonkor Pisah to go and meet the Governor where he never went at all? In the second place Oponkor Pisah explained at the Inquiry Court that on the occasion referred to the Governor was coming straight to Kpong and he Odonkor Pisah had been notified that the Governor would put up in his house; so that he could not leave Kpong as he was preparing lodging for the Governor. Again that he Odonkor Pisah being Inspector of Nuisance was obliged to see that Kpong was cleaned everywhere before the Governor arrived.

Are not these reasons excusing if not justifying? How this insubordination I cannot see. I believe the Commission of Inquiry recorded all these and reported to the Governor. I can't understand why Odonkor Pisah should beg pardon for this then. If he knew that it was wrong why did he not acknowledge the charge of insubordination at Aburi but tried to refute it by these explanations? I think he did it because the Governor ordered him to do so. It is good to obey the Governor, but this order of the Governor's in spite of the above explanations I cannot understand.

Odonkor Pisah was charged with *Abusing the King and Councillors with Heading a conspiracy at Manyikpokuno, with Inviting Mattey Kolley to meet him at night without attendant with a bad intention against the King, with Disobeying the D.C. Mr. Forke and contradicting his orders &c &c.* Now if Odonkor Pisah had to beg for any wrong why not for these grave charges?—Because he was not guilty of any. If he is discharged of all these why should he not be excused for the non-compliance with an unnecessary, impracticable orders of Mancher Mattey Kolley? I may add that the Governor instead of going through Odumase passed away through Akuso.

Is not this like what our own elders do when a man and his wife go to judgment?—He must bear the blame and pay costs because if that is put on the woman she could not pay and will never be reconciled to the man—If this is the policy that regulated the conduct of the Government in this matter I must confess that *social governmental tactics are here!* Thanking you for space allowed.

I remain,

Yours truly,—Obo.

Gold Coast, 23rd. Dec. 1903.

Dear Mr. Editor:— The "Gold Coast Annual" for 1902 is with us and while we must appreciate the donations liberally given for the work of God, one can't help being shocked at some of the very horrible names which have been permitted to appear in and stain its pages. Referring to the Accra Circuit, collected by Mrs. Emma Achiampong, page 60 we see *Nya asimpia aka akwere wo yere Odonko* ("Good news should not be told to a wife Odonko") 5/-; Salt Pond Circuit, by Mercy Felbah, "You beg too much" 7/6. It is plain to anybody in his right senses that these expressions are hardly the sort one should expect to find in the records or report of a self-respecting religious undertaking. What will the traducers of our race say of this? Now, of all the donations in that book, Mrs. Sarah Sarbah's £50 stands the biggest, while for building funds, its match is found in Mr. W. E. Pierson's (also £50) followed closely by Messrs. Conduah, Alfred Mensah, Minnow, of Elmina and by E. K. Afrifo Esq. of Aburi Circuit £20. All these big donors followed the old simple style, and yet for the paltry sums of 5/- and 7/6 the book is either turned into a phrase book or something else. But one's surprise simply vanishes into the shade when he comes to think how and why the young ministers themselves have hitherto not found the courage to discontinue such vagaries. Now as subscriptions are going on, permit me to point out to our veteran father, the Rev. A. W. Parker the necessity of stamping out this filthy practice by means of a circular letter or through the medium of the Press, warning the Agents abroad not to accept any gifts (however large) which may be accompanied by "abuses" or inappropriate epithets. I also think the time quite opportune to reduce the number of Collectors as too much of anything is in most cases, Good for nothing.

PRINCE GHARTY.

Winnebah' Dec. 20th 1903.

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

# The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. II.  
No. 81.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1904.

Price 3d.  
Including postage 4d.

## C. ARTHUR SCHMITZ, HAMBURG.

Represented by  
C. A. BLOCK.

Sample Showroom: DEGRAFT'S HALL,  
CAPE COAST CASTLE.

Samples of all description of goods at moderate prices.

### 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/-

#### ADVERTISING SCALE.

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

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

Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

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

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

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

AT SEKUNDI

From his store at Poassi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM,

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

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

### NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that a certain plot of land, belonging to one Frank Edward Amisah, and situate at Cape Coast, Kotokrabah Road, to the West of Prospect Hill measuring One Hundred feet square is at present held by African Association Limited as security against certain moneys owed by the said Frank Edward Amisah, the original title deeds being in their hands and anybody purchasing the said plot of land will do so at his or her own risk.

AFRICAN ASSOCIATION LTD.

H. S. PENNY.—Agent.

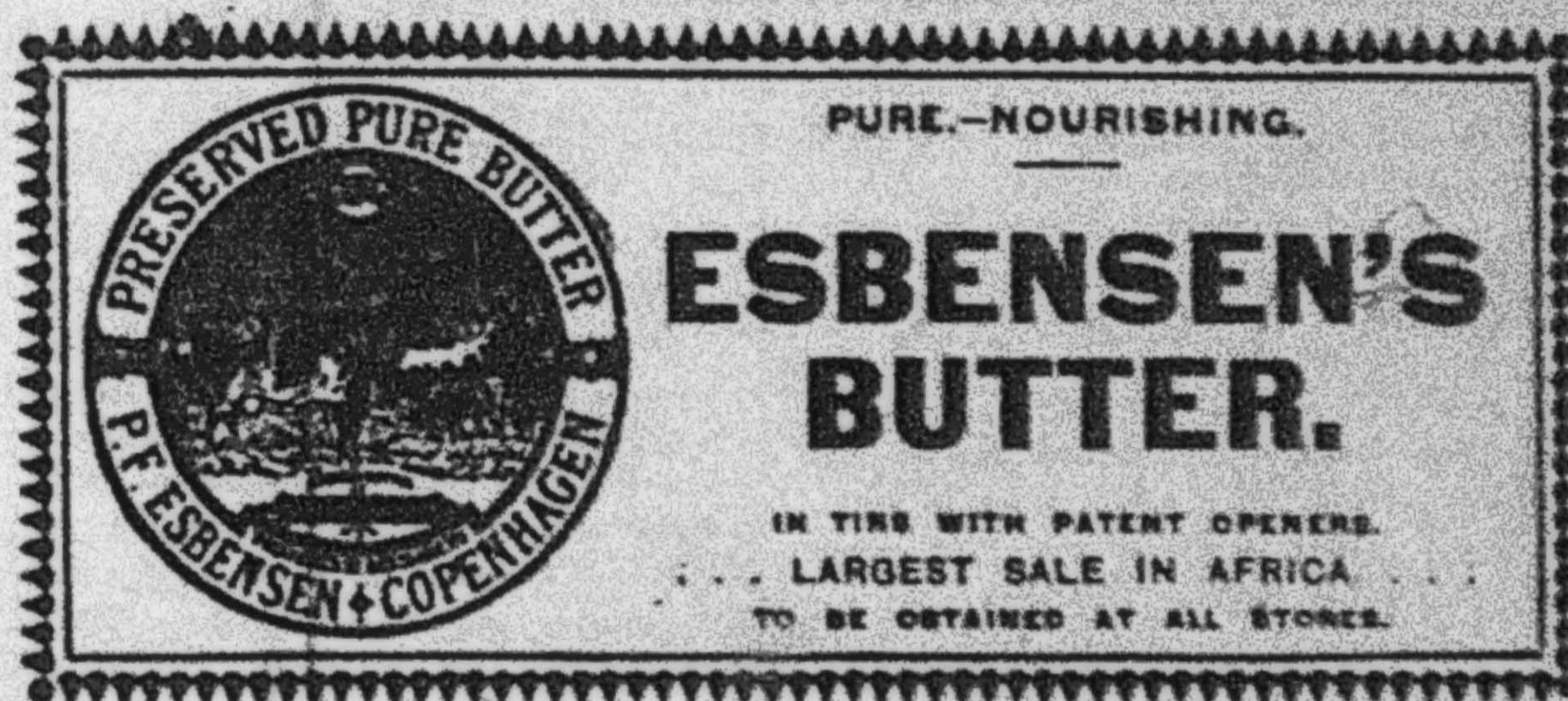
### Dr. E. G. MacLean, DENTIST.

(AMERICAN GRADUATE)

Has removed from Sekondi to "Hamilton House," Chapel Square, Cape Coast.

Office hours, 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

CONSULTATION FREE.



#### JUST PUBLISHED.

CASH PRICE WITH POSTAGE 12/6

#### GOLD COAST NATIVE INSTITUTIONS

with

Thoughts upon a Healthy Imperial policy for the Gold Coast and Ashanti

by

CASELY HAYFORD

of the Inner Temple, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, and of the Gold Coast Bar.

LONDON:

SWEET & MAXWELL, Limited,  
3, CHANCERY LANE W. C.  
1903.

Copies of the work may be obtained at the Store of Mr. Arthur, Chapel Street Cape Coast; G. W. Kouuah Esq., James Town, Accra, and I. O. Browne Esq. Anona Chambers, Axim.

### WANTED.

A confidential clerk for Accra. Competent Stenographer and Typist. Salary £100 per annum. Apply to  
F. & A. SWANZY,  
Cape Coast.

#### FOR TARKWA AND SEKUNDI

TWO STORE-KEEPERS with respectable men as Sureties. Apply to

H. ROTTMAN Jr., Cape Coast,  
or J. A. NOONOO, Sekondi.

### NOTICES.

That many a valuable mining property on the Gold Coast has been degraded, condemned or given up through want of a patient, careful and systematic prospecting and preliminary development work, is without doubt. And it is time that the fault be corrected, and the true position of the Gold Coast, worthy of the name, be verified and maintained.

Acquah Brothers will shortly be prepared to undertake contracts for:—Prospecting by Diamond Core Prospecting Drill, Shaft &c., including assays of samples. Erecting of mining and other machinery—Stamp Mills, Engines of every description Pumping, Hoisting, Dredging &c. operated by steam, oil or Electricity where water power would be available (a valuable essential to the successful working of a mine when practicable). Shaft sinking and Drifting; Construction and erection of High Class and Efficiently Ventilated Buildings suitable to the West African Climate, and other

Engineering works—Construction of Light Railways for Mines and other services &c. &c. Doubtful mining properties will be carefully and systematically tested. Reliable, prompt and satisfactory work guaranteed. A boon to all interested in Mining and other operations in West Africa.

Later on a workshop including a light Machinery shop will be opened for me—Chemical Training—Pattern Foundry Work, Forging, Finishing, Fitting, Carpentry Cabinet work, Masonry, Brickwork &c., including Theoretical studies, for the purpose of preparing Natives (principally, educated) for mining and other works. An important desideratum in the economical and successful working of mines &c., on the Gold Coast.

Apply for particulars to:—

W. E. D. ACQUAH

Late Mill Manager—Wassaw (Gold Coast) Mining Co. Ltd. and Head of Fitting and Erecting (Mechanical Engineering) Dept.—Tamsoc (Wassaw) Gold Mining Co. Ltd., &c. &c. Axim.

#### JOHN HUNTOOK KANE.

(DECEASED)

Pursuant to the Statute of 22nd and 23rd Victoria Chap. 25 intitled an Act to further amend the Law of Property and to relieve Trustees.

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and persons having any claims or demands against the Estate of John Huntook Kane late of Elmina Gold Coast Colony (who died on the 27th day of May 1900 and in respect of whose estate letters of Administration were granted by the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony to Anthony Johannes Welsing the nephew of the deceased on the 19th day of December 1903), are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their debts, claims or demands to the Administrator on or before the 4th day of July 1904, and notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the said time the said Administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to debts, claims or demands of which he shall then have notice, and that he will not be liable for the assets or persons of whose debts, claims or demands he shall not then have had notice and all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payments to the Administrator.

A. JOHS WELSING

Administrator

#### GENERAL NEWS.

On last Saturday afternoon there was flash of lightning accompanied with a powerful thundering, which struck a house at Trome.

Mrs. Kate Thompson (nee Dawson) the eldest sister of Mrs. Marian Thompson and Mrs. Sally Coker died at her residence at Apurkame, at about 11 o'clock a.m. on Monday; she was buried the next morning at the Wesleyan Fidei Cemetery by Mr. Britton and Rev. Graham, several friends attending the funeral. We sympathize with those

she has left behind.

The Chaplain (Rev. Horace Kelk) who has been here since last week, returned to Accra by the "Sokoto" which came in last Monday evening.

By the same steamer arrived here the Rev. Sam Attah-Abuma from Europe, where he has been for the past two years and seven months. We welcome him back home.

H. M. S. *Thrush* came in port on Tuesday morning on inspection and left in the night for the Coast.

Some £5000 has been contributed by various Firms in the West African trade for a scholastic Institute at Bonny.

Captain Arthur our late Colonial Secretary whose early death we greatly mourn was an example to all officials by his courtesy, kindness and helpfulness.

Mr. Daw, the Manager of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, who recently visited Obuassi has been giving a very interesting address on the Mining Outlook to a meeting of the Shareholders since his return.

The weeping tree of the Canary Islands which supplies the natives with a beverage absolutely pure and fresh is one of the wonders of plant life.

There is a man to be met on a Hertfordshire estate who has twenty shots in his head. The man has completely lost his hearing.

**THE GRIP OF JEALOUSY:** A lady in a Paris Street pointed out a man and woman to the Police. "That man" she said "has stolen my reticule. Arrest him." The man was accordingly taken to the Police station, where his accuser stated that she was his wife, and had only had him apprehended through jealousy. She then attack the other woman, whom she held in a grip so strong that the police, to make her release her hold, had to burn her hands with a candle.—*Midland Herald*

The Report of the Director of Education has just been published, and we hope the Managers of the Schools, will make good use of it.

We understand a clerical headmaster is expected out here for the Government Schools: they might just as well leave the present Headmaster alone and pity the Revenue of the Country.

His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan K.C.M.G. B.E. passed up to Ashanti via Sekondi, by the *Ora* last Wednesday morning.

Mr. Waters, the Agent-General of Messrs. Swanzy, also came up from Accra by the same steamer.

Mr. William Clinton of Axim is in town.

A correspondent writes strongly protesting against the conduct of the Beach officials including the Police stationed there towards "boys" who visit there to perform the porters. The Beach is a public place why people should be disallowed from visiting there at all is a problem. But it appears (especially on the arrival of Passengers Boats) that the officials with their Police divide "cowhides" among them and free lashings become the order of the day. The officials ought to be able to comprehend that some men and boys go there with or to receive a master or parent's baggage, and moreover that the Beach is a public place. This high-handed practice and ridiculous exhibition of petty officialism is so reprehensible that we respectfully call the attention of the Supervisor of Customs to it.

A successful and very enjoyable evening was spent in the new spacious building of Madam Korsimah at Fakuazi last Tuesday night: Games and Dancing were kept up to one o'clock when the company dispersed. The Promoters were Messrs. G. E. Moore and Ashong.

We understand Mr. J. P. Brown has been appointed a member of the Legislative Council. We heartily congratulate him.

#### CROWN COLONY GOVERNMENT

"Here, on the Gold Coast, what does one find? I read in the local papers of a "Native Chiefs Ordinance" which, according to the same authority, amounts to this in substance:—"We (the Government) must have the power to elect, and enstool or destool your Amanbin and Abintu (Kings & Chiefs) we must have our own men—men after our own heart—to sit on your stool." This is what takes place in Ashanti, I understand, and what is sought to be done here. The policy adopted sets at naught the right of the people to be governed by their own customs in the matter of enstooling

or destooling their Kings and Chiefs—a right which is supported by every authority on Gold Coast laws and customs, as I understand the matter.

The underlying principle of the policy in question is a desire to subjugate and rule—a kind of "I say unto this go, and he goeth, and unto this man come, and be cometh"—instead of a desire to help, work with, and befriend the natural developers of the rich resources of the country. It is a suicidal policy, but it is evidently the policy of the Government. There will be in all probability, a commotion over the matter as there was in the matter of the Lands Bill, and all this will retard such important schemes as cotton growing in the centres most affected by the proposed policy.

How long will this Crown Colony system prevail? Only so long as the public opinion of Great Britain choose to tolerate it. Even some such kind of representation as prevails in Jamaica will be better than the irresponsible system under which the loyal people of this country at present groan and waste their energy—energy which might be rightly directed to the prosperity of British commerce and enterprise.

The above are the last three paragraphs we cull from the "West Africa" of Dec. 12, just to hand from a Correspondent of our contemporary under the heading "Government and the trade conditions on the Coast:" the parts preceding these being also interesting, and supporting certain things we have said before we hope to reproduce in our next issue we find it reproduced extensively in the *Midland Herald* of the following week.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES

In our issue of December 19 last, we had occasion to express our regret, at the goings on of the European Chamber of Commerce here, having to express that regret because we have very often had cause to animadvert on their strange doings—strange because in every way diametrical to the objects of such institutions. But the members of this august assembly still go on with their queer practices, thus wilfully and deliberately inviting us to perform the unpleasant task of questioning their pranks. As Agents or sub-agents or clerks for their Principals in England it is no business of ours to say anything of what they do, of which they may be convinced will serve the interests of their Masters "at home": this is right enough. But is this so?

If we are rightly informed of what a Chamber of Commerce is, if what we read of other Chambers of Commerce, are the true functions of such institutions, then the sooner the one here changed its name, the better will it be for the members, their Principals, and the Government. In its Rules and Regulations adopted two years ago, we find the object of the Chamber stated as follows:—"The object of the Chamber is to promote the interests of the European Mercantile Community of Cape Coast and District." This is all right enough, but we ask each and all the members of this assembly, do they conscientiously believe that what the Chamber, meets, discusses and carries out, will promote the interests of trade, or as the Rules put it the interests of the European Mercantile community (not trade, mind you) in this town and its district? Can they conscientiously say that they would go on as they are doing now, if the business were their own?

It is this that makes us talk up: it seems that this Chamber exists for some irresponsible persons to nourish their negro-phobia, to show their spite of the black man, and nothing more, and to do this effectively some pretext must be set up to justify their actions in the eyes of their Principals, and the Public. At every meeting nearly, the native clerk, forms an important item for discussion on the Agenda, and this, of course, is the promoting of the interests of the European Mercantile community in town. Why can't the native clerk be left alone? They are not all dishonest men, if dishonesty is with the native alone even. Some of them are as hard working and honest and devoted to their work, as any of their oppressors you can wish against them. You cannot deny that in your heart of hearts. Why all this then? It is true that in most instances his own colour is at the bottom of it all (poor soul) but more of this anon.

Sometime ago we showed that for the badness of trade prevailing in the Country now the Government, cannot bear the whole blame. The Authorities have done their best to spoil trade as much as they can, but taking things as they are, if the Chamber were to meet and work in the interest of TRADE, not the European Mercantile community, and in the interest of their Principals and as BUSINESS MEN, and leave the native clerks alone, surely good—some good, will come out of the present evil: but not they; "Down with the native clerk, indiscriminately too" they cry. We await to see the

result of all these manoeuvrings.

But from all this the native clerk will not take lessons. Why can't all these clerks form an Association of their own, and work for their own interest? Either this or take to some trade. Their employers know the market is full of clerks, if they want a dozen to-day, they are sure to find them. This is where all the mischief lies; this may be true, but good, competent, trustworthy ones are not many. When the merchants of days gone by recognized the ability, the usefulness, and the indispensability of their native clerks, everything went on all right, but it seems that in these days we are blessed with a different class of men altogether; with one or two exceptions the majority of them go to justify what Sir Matthew Nathan said sometime ago to their Principals in England, that a better class of men should be sent out to represent them on the coast. Where a man—white or black—shows himself unworthy, treat him as he deserves, and not otherwise. Surely there are more things, with the present condition of trade, to engage the Merchant's attention than the poor native clerk.

And the other Chambers along the coast, take the cue from this Chamber of ours, distressing and molesting their clerks, for no earthly reason but that they find themselves the cock of the walk, to use a slang, as correspondence we receive nearly every week show. The whole thing is rather ridiculous: let us leave the subject. But it should set the native clerk a thinking.

We have received correspondence from the Town Clerk of the Accra Town Council, asking us to draw attention to an "Ordinance of the Gold Coast Colony intitled The Town Councils (Amendment) Ordinance 1903," which comes into force this month and which is of great importance to holders of mortgages on house property in the municipality of Accra. We do so with pleasure and those concerned will please take the hint. As the correspondence deals on a section of the Ordinance we hope to publish same in our next issue.

From information received it appears that the present state of things at the Tarkwa Post office is through no fault of the Postmaster there, he being one of the hard workers in the Post Office Department, which fact we are pleased to note. Tarkwa having become an important station owing to the mining work, letters and parcels &c. have increased to such an extent, that the office there needs to be properly manned. We call the Postmaster General's attention to this defect. A correspondent tells us that at such an important station, there is only one man with a messenger or so. This won't do.

From all account the way in which the Telegraph Department is serving the Public is most unsatisfactory. Urgent and important messages, do not reach their destination, till some hours or even a day or two after the time they are expected to arrive. Whether this arises from delay at where the messages are sent or received, we cannot say but some rectification is called for.

#### APOLOGY.

We have since receiving Mr. Renner's summons for libel in relation to our Elmina correspondent's notes which appeared in our issue of the 26th of September last in reference to the trial *Rex vs Acquay*, found that the learned Judge did not use the words "addicted to sharp practice" to Mr. Renner and that whatever fell from the learned Judge in this connection was explained as to its meaning and withdrawn in open Court on the day of the incident and the day following and that the learned Judge took pains to explain the words he used on that occasion and the sense in which he meant them. We find also that the words "addicted to" were never used as reported. We regret the report as published and also any annoyance that we may have occasioned Mr. Renner in consequence of the error made and we tender our sincere apology to the learned Counsel and the learned Judge.

#### 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, JANUARY 9, 1904.

"WHAT is the attitude which the Native Ruler himself assumes in the face of this torrent of destructive occurrences?" This was the pertinent question we asked last week and which we follow up this week. It is evident, that unless he himself makes his position clear and defined in the matter the efforts which those of his patriotic subjects who may interest themselves in the question may make, to keep intact the rights and privileges, manners and customs, which were bequeathed to us by our forefathers and which go to make us a People, may avail but little, especially as in these days the educated native, in the eyes of the European, is a person, to be avoided as much as possible, and all he would say or do must count for nothing, because he has made him what he is, neither like himself nor of his people, neither beast nor bird: a clear definition of his position is further necessary because he (the Amanhin, "king") in the eyes of our Customary Laws and Institutions, "stands prominently at the head of the Native State, and is the chief Magistrate. He is first in the Councils of the country, and the first Executive Officer... He it is who represents the State in all its dealings with the outside world (italics ours) and so long as he keeps within constitutional bounds, he is supreme in his own State." (Hayford's *Native Institutions*)

A person in such a position then must be expected to show some personal interest in any question which directly or indirectly affects the laws and customs which thus place him at the head of his people; to be disinterested or unconcerned in any law or laws which our Guardians pass or may seek to pass, dealing out a destructive blow to our Native Institutions, must be, to say the least, suicidal: it is therefore clear, that he of all others, should exert himself more in all questions affecting the Native Institutions of the country. Every year finds some Ordinance or other aiming at his own rights and privileges and those of his people, since it is the believe of the Authorities, that the best way to govern us, is, to denationalize us, to undo what the Creator Himself did, and which they think He should have done, which is, to have made us Europeans and not Africans — Europeans at least, in the sense of making us tools in their hands, a means to serve their end: unscriptural in every thing else they take due care to be scriptural here; that we the descendants of Ham are cursed to be their servants, a scripture passage most erroneously quoted, interpreted and applied, which none of those quick to cite have ever cared to study, if only to find out what egregious blunder they have been committing; in short, there is an attempt abroad to remodel our native administration on the basis of European Government. AS NATURE never meant or intended this, will not the attempt always be a kicking against pricks and a fruitful source for oppression, punitive expeditions, and everything that goes to cast a slur on the name of Civilization as it is understood by the civilized World?

This sort of struggle has been going on ever since we came in contact with the civilized world, and as a good deal depends on the men who play important parts in the struggle, instead of there being quietness and order and "peace in the land," there is chaos, because fact, diplomacy, justice and fair play, have been elbowed out of the stage: and whilst we may be thankful for small mercies, it is quite plain, that the effusion of more light, has only tended to bedazzle us and produce more thralldom. In this the native ruler must come in for his share of blame: there seems to be a lack of the courage, manliness, diplomacy, intelligence and loyalty to people and country, amongst our present rulers as were evidenced in our former rulers: we are open to correction here, but this is what strikes us. There is this against them as to the doings and movements of the Authorities of the day: they are illiterate, with one or two exceptions, and all laws are made in a foreign language with which they are not acquainted, and they only know what District Commissioners or Government officials tell them, and these of course take fine care to tell them, what they think will suit their purpose. Are they

in any way then to be blamed? It may seem hard for us to say it, but we say "Yes" and say so with an emphasis too. Why we say so we have shown in several previous articles on our native Rulers: all we choose to say here is, seeing we are doing with a People, who speak another tongue, what they have got to do is to have by them such of their subjects who fairly understand the language of these Foreigners, and who have proved themselves worthy to be trusted and confided in, who can explain things to them, who, fired up with true patriotism: are as true to their stool as they are loyal to the Powers that be: each Ruler should endeavour to have by him, a capable, sober, intelligent, educated and *paid* native, or in the absence of this, he should make it a point, *always* to consult on all political questions, any of his educated subjects in whom he himself places any confidence: but above all, there is the Aborigines Society which exists solely for him and on his behalf, a Society as true and loyal to him as it is to our Guardians. With this intelligent, self-sacrificing and patriotic Body of men in our midst, which the requirements of the times have called into existence where is the native Ruler now to be found who has any just cause to complain of the pressure brought to bear on him in his district by any Ordinance of which he may be ignorant? Where indeed is he but he who thinks he is "sufficient" in himself to do with the Foreign Power, that he can do without his brother-kings, that one who thinks, it is beneath him to confide in his own subjects, whose only desire is, that whilst there should be loyalty to the throne of His Britannic Majesty there must be non-interference with the rights and privileges, and the customs of the People.

In considering such questions, there should be no room for any personal feelings: all else must be subjected to our patriotic feelings, this is a wide subject which we leave at present. To answer the question with which this article opens fully we must not do so only in connection with the Ordinances touching Native Jurisdiction, but as it were branch off to see what it is with our Amanhin themselves, as brother-kings, since *Unity is strength*, and never was that virtue called upon to play an important part in our political history as it is today: then further we must consider the necessity there is for them as a class to be more in touch with the "Aborigines Society," and whether all the noise that is being made on their behalf is worth while, barring the necessity this is on behalf of the Nation and also to consider to what extent they interest themselves in their people on the burning questions of the day, especially their agricultural pursuits and EDUCATION, these and other kindred subjects we must consider with all respect and plainness of speech when we wish to know the attitude of the native Ruler on the questions of the day.

### THE NEED OF THE HOUR— MORE INTEREST IN EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

FROM OUR ISSUE OF NOV 15, 1902

For four weeks consecutively our readers may have observed that we have been dealing on the Education of the Country. We proposed taking up the same subject this week also, but we must allow a breathing time so as to have the views of such of our readers who may be disposed to write on the subject. We have seen what has been done in the past by all parties concerned, with such results as we are reaping to-day, although it is not bad, the only thing regrettable about it is, to any one who may give the subject a consideration, the fact clearly stands forth, that if all that should, or could have been done by the three parties in whose hands the Education of the country was placed had been done, better results would have accrued therefrom.

To our mind, it is an irrefutable fact, that the importance of Educational matters grow daily upon all classes of men of all nations who have the interest and the welfare of the future of their Country at heart.

The more we think about the subject, the more we are convinced that nothing will save us, and keep us from the dangers that threatens us as a race but education, the development of our intellectual and emotional powers,—physical, intellectual and moral or religious education.

Do we see nothing in that? To-day the all-absorbing question in England is the Education Bill. We open the latest American paper to hand

and the first thing that greets our eyes is "Let us educate." We have read with much interest from the *Sierra Leone Weekly*, an article headed *Education*. What does all this mean? Education for the masses, education for all; if the safety of the Body politic must be ensured. Ignorance has been, and is our curse: light, increased light only will clear up things for us, make us understand ourselves, and understand our Rulers too. This only will kill the prejudices, jealousies, selfishness, and misunderstandings, now stalking in the land. What is it that leads many to misconstrue the innocent and good intentioned doings of others as badly as one's brains can make them to be to-day? How can you account for all the strange things we see and hear around us? He is a marked man in the community to-day who has any pretence to education, and all—black and white—wag their tongue at him. We seem to be enveloped in impenetrable darkness which shuts out any ray of light of all that is to our own interest as a People. But we do not despair, and how our Government, our Missionaries and the People can best lift us out of this ditch of Ignorance is what we should like to bear our readers upon. Who is there who will not interest himself in such a momentous question?

### ENCROACHING ON THE GOLD COAST.

The news from the Gold Coast of the Bill on Native Chieftains which has been going through the Legislative Council, in the absence, apparently, of any native unofficial member, seems to be a rather dangerous encroachment, subjecting, as it seems, the appointment and dismissal of the native chiefs to the confirmation, and therefore, I suppose, the veto, of the British government. As the natives have been in the habit of appointing and dismissing their own rulers without reference to the European interloper, this bill looks like the thin end of another wedge driven into their political autonomy.

I fear it is only one of many wedges. With bitterness writes one in the *Gold Coast Leader*— "Surely if our progenitors who, in their goodness of heart, allowed the seventeenth century English merchants whom near their hearth, had foreseen the very kind treatment they would mete to their posterity in after years they would have hesitated in befriending them."

And what can we do but blush, or turn away to some frivolous fiscal problem and talk about our own food supply? But the Aborigines Protection Society might perhaps interest themselves in this bill. I expect Mr Fox Bourne has got his eye on it. *Midland Herald*, Dec 12, 1903.

### DR. BLYDEN AGAIN.

At this time, when the "Fanti Public Schools" is the talk of the day, we consider the following words from the learned Doctor spoken at the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Mr Leopold's Educational Institute Sierra Leone "Weekly News" Dec 19 very opportune and worthy of some consideration. If we have understood the aim and object of the promoters of the scheme to found these Schools aright, we think this is the very thing they seek to bring about, viz to train the African, or as Africans, to be the African he is, with less foreign trappings and observations." Hitherto all the training he has been receiving seeks to make him a Europeanized African, foster creature that, to thrust out of him his nationality, to make his love of the Fatherland, his patriotism a semblance of the real thing, in fine, to make him an object of ridicule, and a thing to be despised in the eyes of his very Teachers, and how long this tramping down of the Manhood, with which Nature has endowed him is to be for our leading men and the rising generation to say. For they very reason we do not say to all who have so far shown any interest in the scheme that in the name of everything reasonable and patriotic, and loyal and true, there ought to be no more, and more of such. Hitherto we fear we have depended too much on the Missionary and the Government, its high time, we as a People showed more than a passing interest in educational matters. What is striking, if we may so put it, of Mr Leopold's Institute and which the Doctor pointed out on the occasion is, that "the School is independent of entanglements which would bind it to the shackles of any sect or party, and the community has been enlightened enough to support it on this line for one-fifth of a century." Are we not "enlightened enough to support or maintain a single School in the Country under that School is under the auspices of a Missionary Body, or supported by the Government?" From what we know of the People we can say, it is not so, and the reason why, several individual efforts to maintain a School—a single School in the Country have always been a vain days wonder, we leave our readers themselves to conjecture and what ever that may be, we say, let the scheme for the "Fanti Public Schools" have your serious and thoughtful consideration, in the meantime read what the Doctor says—

"We often hear that this is an age of progress, that we must advance. But what is progress? The word means going forward. But going forward from the point we occupy is not always improvement. It depends upon the goal we are aiming at. We must take the track that will lead to the goal which focus will bring usefulness, peace, and happiness. If you will advance towards some recognized ideal. Now it is impossible for the African, owing to his climatic and racial peculiarities to have the same ideal as to religious ac-

position or social organization as the European. The African sheep cannot have wool; it must have hair—to make it in wool would mean death for it; or to change the fibres, we should not thoughtlessly go with the stream without considering from what source it is fed and whether it is bearing us. "Train up a child in the way he should go," said the wise man, "and when he is old he will not depart from it." But if he is trained up in the way he should not go, but in another man's way, then there is no progress for him.

The question of the way of the African has long been puzzling our European friends and rulers. But they cannot "think black," as Miss Kingsley used to say. European civilization is introducing numerous evils into West Africa. Social conditions, with their concomitant iniquities, are giving us neither time, peace, nor rest. Our material and vital interests are on the decline. We are not banding on either life or property to our descendants. Our most enlightened European friends deprecate all this, but they are almost helpless to prevent them; and commercial and economic pressure is increasing this inability. In this matter they must depend upon the Schools. It is not for nothing that the Governor is so intensely interested in education. He knows that a proper education is the only weapon of defence which the Native can have against the incursion of hostile influences from abroad—that it is the only effective instrument by which he will be able to help his European rulers to safeguard his true interests.

Since his arrival among us His Excellency, if he will pardon the impertinence of the remark, has made some able and interesting speeches. It has not been my privilege to hear them all, but I have heard several, and in all, the theme has been the improvement and up-building of the people. The intellectual and moral, more than the material interests have been insisted upon. He has always placed a higher estimate upon character than upon property—upon what men are than upon what they have.

He is now formulating a scheme for great educational efficiency in the Colony. We all hope that it will meet with the greatest possible success. There is a great work in the future for us to do. Sierra Leone is changing. West and Central Africa is changing. "The steamship and the railway and the thoughts that shake mankind" are coming hither also; and if we are not to be swallowed up in the whirlpool of so-called progress, we must have minds trained and adjusted to meet the novel and, for us, perilous situation.

There is now great unrest in the community in view of the rapid changes going on in the trading and industrial life of the people.

I cannot but think that the most fertile source of our apprehensions, and the main cause of our material and social misfortunes, is in the mistaken attitude we have maintained towards the aborigines—in our isolation from, and mutual ignorance of each other. There come to every one of us—there must come—moments when we feel that our proceedings in this are wrong; when we long for fuller freedom, more complete association with our brethren of the interior,—for real and genuine African life; but we dissemble, owing to the training we have received; we distrust our racial judgments and our racial aspirations; we affect a sentimental or servile indifference to all many African thought or African sympathies, because we think they have not received the foreign imprimatur.

#### AXIM.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The recent concert given in aid of the Wesleyan Mission by the Europeans, was a grand success. Among the most conspicuous of the performances were the songs and recitations rendered by the following viz:—Messrs. Hayford, Robertson, St. John, Muss, Dalgarno, Manders, Embouson, Alade, and Meedames Smith and Ribeiro. Mr. G. T. Norman of Messrs. John Wotherspoon & Co's also gave two sentimental songs.

The s.s. "Boulama" which was in port on the 24th, was unfortunately quarantined for landing a stein Launch at Half-Asinie, where we hear the regular calls at the port have been frustrated owing to contagious disease with which it is said to have been infected; a day after, the "Angola" which came full speed ahead to this port was said to be in a similar predicament—from information, the authorities premise her going to Accra for a Medical Exam.

A fire broke out near Mr. Grant's, a few days ago which stirred the town to a little commotion that night. Many of the members of the Vagabond Club were much interested in putting out the flames; we owe them the valued esteem for the bravery displayed, and trust the residents in "Bamboo-house" will set themselves a thinking as to the use of unchimneyed lamps.

Mr. J. E. Cort (of Millers) we hear has taken up the management of the Ancobra River Transport Co.

The first anniversary of the Star of East Jubilee (American Branch) came off on the 19th December Sunday in town seems to be no day of recognition; while some light-hearted gamins find it worthy for "Cricket and Merry-go-round," Mr. Cort would style it the best working day of the week, and ask his clerks to go to work, that Mr. C. has adopted this system of the "black-brained man" at the attitude of a manager lends colour to the fact of working his position to a *cul-de-sac*.

There has been formed in town a "libation whirl" under the name of the "Vagabond Club."

The incident that occurred? Sunday in the annals of marketing was that a fowl brought from the up-country to this mart was offered at six shillings—a little bigger than those we generally see here.

The treatment given to the mails that come by land on Sundays is rather preposterous. Goodness only knows if Mr.—Gutried's house, where they are generally kept is a branch Post Office.

Anytime the mails came the returning post which was available to carry a reply, would have been closed before a letter reached its addressee.

#### DIXCOVE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On Sunday the 6th ult. the "Nyaaga" arrived in port with 400 tons of Mining Machinery and building materials for Axim Mines Ltd. and the Appankran Consolidated Gold Mines Ltd., when permission was granted to work the Ship that day. The Divine Law intended for mankind at large—is *Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy*. But the Gold Coast Government seem to think that by allowing such labour to be undertaken on the Sabbath day the Divine law remains intact.

Beque one of the local Constables was arrested the other day charged with receiving bribes when stationed at Bushua taking charge of the cargo of the wreck *Heaman Emery*. He has since been tried and convicted for six months and fined £10.

The D.C. Mr. J. J. Ennis seems to take interest in the sanitation of the town; although he has not yet complied with any of our requests, it is his intention to keep any prisoner he may get here to clean the bush and dirt in town.

A supply of eight prisoners arrived from Sekondi in the middle of last month to assist in the upkeep of the town. The Dixcove-Bushua Road needs good repair.

The D. C. has arranged and now the flag "T" is signalled at every quarter to eleven in the morning to indicate the near approach of that hour; but unless something like a bell or gun is added to the flag as it is done in other places to attract public attention, this would be no wonder.

#### ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Christmas was well celebrated here and it appears to be the best that had ever been enjoyed here. On that day the "Young Sons of Anamaboe" held athletic sports at the Parade Ground where a large concourse of people gathered. It passed off very satisfactorily. At 5 p.m. and by the special request of Amonoo V. the "Young Sons" headed by their President visited the Palace where they were personally received by him. A cricket match was played by them on Bank Holiday at three in the afternoon which terminated with requests from the Ahinfa to visit them. They turned out grandly and each of the Ahinfa did his part well in entertaining them with refreshments. A dinner was given on Sunday the 27th. ultimo at the house of their President.

Wednesday the 30th. ultimo witnessed a successful Garden Party at the Parade Ground given by the local Singing Band to which Amonoo V. and the Ahinfa and Asafuhinfa were invited. There was a grand concert on the evening of the New Year's Day at the Chapel presided over by Omanhin Amonoo V. The audience was large and they were proportionately over the available space afforded by the edifice. The Programme was so long that part of it was reserved for the following Saturday. On the whole it was a grand Concert and while congratulating the performers we ask that they often enliven the Community with such useful amusements. The Captain and officers of the *Bonia*, then in port, were present at the Concert.

The Anniversary of the Band followed after, and headed by a Brass Band it turned out magnificently. It is curious to remark, however, that though sacred marches were all along played some members of the Band could not help shaking themselves in the streets.

On the 30th. ultimo Kweku Yamaah son of the late Ohin Obuassaa of Akampadin shot himself. The deed having been reported to the Omanhin he ordered the body to be taken to Salt Pond for *post mortem* examination. We ask, is it for want of competent men to act as Jurymen that necessitates cases of such nature being taken to Salt Pond? Before the body had been taken to Salt Pond and returned it was in a state of decomposition and people could hardly approach it. The D.C. at Salt Pond should, we think, come up to hold inquests here on such matters as the practice is quite monstrous.

#### SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

It is gratifying to note the improvement that is

being made to the Lagoon. Mr. Bly the engineer seems energetic and the work, we understand, will be completed within six months. We have been assured that the street lamps will be fixed at no distant date.

On the 19th ultimo a meeting was convened at the Solomon Memorial School Room under the auspices of the Revs. Barnes and Hayford on the matter of Education. Mr. R. E. Ellis was the Chairman, and the only people present were Messrs. Korsah, the two Crentails, Anah, Keelson, the two Yawsons, and Wilson. To speak plainly, it was a disgrace to the Scholars who were asked to attend especially, the School Committee, and failed to respect the invitation. Such are the prejudices and discouragements existing in this town of Salt Pond.

The year of grace 1903 has taken its flight and now we are on the threshold of another year. There were many things regarding the welfare of this town which we as citizens had left undone—both politically and religiously. Whatever the New Year has in store for us is a problem beyond our solution. Let us pursue our Journey with good feelings, working hand in hand and achieving some good reforms for the year. This Christmas is reckoned the most pleasant the town has ever had. Although there were no sports owing to the unavoidable absence of the D.C. the movements of the "Societies" and the Community in general rendered the enjoyment of the Festival very cordial. The Juvenile Oddfellows on their return from Kuntu on Bank Holiday sat to a sumptuous Tea-fight at the premises of Mr. Korsah. On the same night about fifty people, influential residents—ladies and gentlemen—also sat at a sumptuous Knife and Fork Tea at Matadi House at 7. p.m. dispersing at 11. p.m.

About 30 Infants received the Christian rite of Baptism on Christmas Day at the Wesleyan Chapel.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, *Gold Coast Leader*.

Sir,—I understand that about thirty or more members of the local Wesleyan Church who were said to have taken part in the recent commemoration Custom held in remembrance of the victims that perished in the Small Pox epidemic, which custom began on the 3rd. ult., and ended on the 4th. ult., have been expelled from the Church by the Pastor.

Now, permit me a space in your valuable Organ to enquire from the Pastor whether it is a sin, a heinous sin, to perform such rite on a relative who had died long ago? If so, why did he not suspend them for about three months, and then admit them to assume their memberships? The ministers ought to exercise due discretion in rulings in native customary rights.

I am,—E. K.

Saltpond, 12/12/03.

Sir,—Please permit me a short space in your columns for the insertion of the following and that is one thing I wish to draw the attention of the Local Health Officer and particularly that section of the Aborigines Society which has to deal with the Sanitary condition of the Town to Boulah Road now styled Jukwa Road and on the East where the Government had made a Dumping ground for the deposit of refuse. It is high time now that the Government should cease from making that place a Dumping ground from the fact that the smell and the smoke which emanates from the burning refuse is every day becoming very offensive or rather obnoxious to persons residing in that locality and from my common view of things I would humbly suggest that it should be the duty of the Aborigines (Sanitary Section) to select a spot some where on the Elmina Road to make a general Dumping ground where all refuse from the Eastern part of the town could be deposited as the present position of the Dumping ground is doing more harm than good.

I know for certain that little or no notice will be taken of this appeal I am making by the parties I am appealing to for the simple reason that there is no European Resident in the locality I am alluding to, to complain or corroborate my allegation, because the life of a European is considered to be more precious than that of the black, but I wish to point out to the Society that as they have voluntarily taken up the responsibility to seek for the amelioration of their race I hope they will not be imbued with that spirit of color-distinction but to give the matter their entire consideration and prompt action as both the life of the white and black is equally precious and hope to see some changes very soon.

Thanking you for space allowed.

ABAKOO.

One of the sufferers.

Western Side,  
Boulah Road, Cape Coast, 15. 12. 03.

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

# The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. II  
No. 82

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1904.

Price 2d.  
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.)

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

### ADVERTISING SCALE.

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 ...	1/6
Birth, Death or Marriage ...	2/6

Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

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

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

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

AT SEKUNDI

From his store at Poassi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM,

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

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

### NOTICES.

That many a valuable mining property on the Gold Coast has been degraded, condemned or given up through want of a patient, careful and systematic prospecting and preliminary development work, is without doubt. And it is time that the fault be corrected, and the true position of the Gold Coast, worthy of the name, be verified and maintained.

Acquah Brothers will shortly be prepared to undertake contracts for—Prospecting by Diamond Core Prospecting Drill, Shaft &c., including assays of samples. Erecting of mining and other machinery—Stamp Mills, Engines of every description Pumping, Hauling, Dredging &c., operated by steam, oil or Electricity where water power would be available (a valuable essential to the successful working of a mine when practicable). Shaft sinking and Driving; Construction and erection of High Class and Efficiently Ventilated Buildings suitable to the West African Climate, and other Engineering works—Construction of Light Railways for Mine and other services &c. &c. Doubtful mining properties will be carefully and systematically tested. Reliable, prompt and satisfactory work guaranteed.

A boon to all interested in Mining and other operations in West Africa.

Later on a workshop including a light Machinery shop will be opened for me—Chemical Training—Pattern Foundry Work, Forging, Finishing, Fitting, Carpentry Cabinet work, Masonry, Brickwork &c., including Theoretical studies, for the purpose of preparing Natives (principally, educated) for mining and other works. An important desideratum in the economical and successful working of mines &c., on the Gold Coast.

Apply for particulars to—

W. E. D. ACQUAH

Late Mill Manager—Wassaw (Gold Coast) Mining Co. Ltd. and Head of Fitting and Erecting (Mechanical Engineering) Dept.—Tamsou (Wassaw) Gold Mining Co. Ltd., &c. &c. Axim.

### JOHN HUNTOOK KANE.

(DECEASED)

Pursuant to the Statute of 22nd. and 23rd. Victoria Chap. 25 intitled an Act to further amend the Law of Property and to relieve trustees.

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and persons having any claims or demands against the Estate of John Huntook Kane late of Elmina Gold Coast Colony (who died on the 27th day of May 1900 and in res-



PRESERVED PURE BUTTER  
P.F. ESBENSEN & COPENHAGEN

PURE.—NOURISHING.

## ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

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

pect of whose estate Letters of Administration were granted by the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony to Anthony Johannes Welsing the nephew of the deceased on the 19th. day of December 1903, are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their debts, claims or demands to the Administrator on or before the 4th. day of July 1904, and notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the said time the said Administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to debts, claims or demands of which he shall then have notice, and that he will not be liable for the assets or persons of whose debts, claim or demand he shall not then have had notice and all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payments to the Administrator.

A. JOHS. WELSING.  
Administrator.

THE following are expected this week by s.s. "ALINE WOERMANN."

Fresh supply of the best **FLOUR,**  
**FRESH APPLES,**  
**POTATOES,**  
**LINOLEUM,**  
**BARBED WIRE.**

German Westafrican  
Trading Co.,

Telegraphic address: WESTHANDEL.  
CAPE COAST.

### GENERAL NEWS.

For *Horace Kelk* in our News column last week please read *Hastings Kelk*, and Mrs. Marian *Turkson* for Thompson.

It is being talked in Town, that people now going to the Public Latrines are asked to pay 1d. a head. Is this true?

"Be not Y. Y. in your own I. I." For if so, you will not be wise in the eyes of any one else.

LAWYER: "Well, you have at last decided to take my advice and pay this bill of mine?"

Client: "Ye-e-s"

Lawyer: "Very well, William, just add ten shillings to Mr. Smith's bill for further advice." *Tit Bits.*

His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan came here last Thursday morning from Sekundi, by the *Akra* which went up from Salt Pond for him. His Excellency left the same evening for Accra.

By the same steamer the Honourable Mr. Muir and Mr. Andrew Swanzy also arrived.

"Be true as steel come woe or weal."

The smell emanating from the gutters particularly those at the Jackson Street, and the one close by Mr. Addaquay's at Ashanti Road should have some attention from the Health Officer. It is awful.

Mr. Henry Vroom of Elmina visited here last Tuesday.

We understand the A. M. E. Zion Church Services will be held from to-morrow forth, at the first storey of Hockman's Hotel, as deGraft's Hall is now incapable of holding the crowded congregations and the number of students.

We acknowledge with thanks, the African

Association Almanack for the year, from their Head Office (Liverpool).

Steps are being taken to improve the water supply of Lagos, and a scheme, with this object in view, is now under consideration by the Colonial authorities.

The "Journal of the African Society" for January, with an advance proof of which we have been favoured by the publishers, contains some most readable articles on African subjects, not the least of which are those dealing with "The Gold Coast when Edward IV was King," by Mr. J. M. Sarsbah, "Mohammedanism in the Western Sudan," by Mr. T. J. Tonkin, late Medical Officer, Haussa Association, Central Sudan Expedition, 1893-4-5. —*Anglo-African Argus.*

On account of the recent elaborate Anniversary Festivities made by the Court "Enterprising Sons" No. 6997. of the Ancient Order of Foresters at Cape Coast on the 28th November 1903, our Countryman and gentlemanly friend Mr. Kwaku Ahin of Gyagyaan, Idun Street, viewing that spectacle with much astonishment, unsurpassed by any other Anniversary in this Colony, and the feeling he had for the Society, gave a Grand Evening Party to the above Society on the 30th ultimo in their honor as well as the opening of his New Building at Gyagyaan.

After the installation of officers for the ensuing year, the members attended the evening party at 8.30 p.m. where the Ladies invited had already arrived and were entertained by some of our Brethren deputed by the Court until their arrival. The entertainment was well attended, and came off successfully with the Lion Soldiers Band in attendance and dispersed at 1.30 a.m.

The Foresters sincerely thank Mr. Kwaku Ahin for his kindness, as well as Bro. A. J. Ashun, T. B. Freeman, G. E. Moore, and Mr. William Johnson, for their assistance in looking after the decorations in the Room and Mrs. C. R. Turkson for undertaking to prepare the refreshment for the evening which was well appreciated by the members of the above Society. —*Communicated.*

### AN IMPORTANT DANISH INDUSTRY.

According to the latest Official Returns of the Board of Trade, Denmark's share of the butter imported into the United Kingdom amounts to 45 per cent, nearly as much as the total of imports from all other countries combined, including Australia, France, Russia and Holland.

Although the United Kingdom, as may be easily understood, is thus taking up by far the largest proportion of Denmark's output of butter, there still remains a material amount to find a sale in other countries, especially in the tropics.

The well known firm of P. F. Esbensen, Copenhagen, was amongst the pioneers who, nearly thirty years ago, made the exportation of butter to hot climates a speciality, for a great many years the name of Esbensen has been a household word throughout West Africa, and wherever it is met, the brand of Esbensen's Butter is looked upon with reverence as a synonym for reliability.

The numerous fresh districts now opened up in the new Colonies for mining and other purposes have given to the Danish tanned butter industry a further stimulus, the Danish butter in this being, in fact, the most appreciated and best liked in the world, and nothing that will keep better or prove more economical in use can be found for districts where no fresh butter is obtainable than Mr. Esbensen's justly celebrated produce.

OBUSAHI

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTMAS DAY.

Christmas was celebrated at this place with great pomp. The European residents foreshadowed the

events of the day with a dinner on the eve at the Chief Resident Engineer's bungalow, and on the morning a special train left for Kumasi with the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Cricket Team for a match with the white officials there. The Kumasi won.

Later in the afternoon news reached us from Samsu, a mining camp two hours walk from this, of a riot between the Fantis and the Bassas followed by an outbreak of fire damaging every house in the camp. Mr. Superintendent Williams at once left with his staff of Police and brought down twenty-two prisoners all badly wounded.

The printing machine recently sent out from England for the Corporation has been fitted and very neat work is being done. Mr. E. Pope Hennessy Clement of Ashanti Road Cape Coast is the Printer.

The Electric Lights in use at the Corporation, which were lately suspended have been once more set to work with great improvement; this time connecting the various bungalows and the Mines.

The work in connection with the Corporation Hotel in course of erection is rapidly going on. Its present appearance compares well with Sir Alfred Jones' Mansions at Sekondi. Situated at the outskirts of the town is a magnificent building that attracts the attention of the traveller from Sekondi.

According to notices under the hand of the District Commissioner Captain Armitage the local Court has been closed for the Christmas Holiday to be opened on Monday the 28th ultimo.

The general traffic between here and Sekondi was closed for the 25th, 26th and 27th ult. respectively, for the Christmas Arrangements were made by the General Manager at Sekondi for an Excursion train leaving Sekondi on the 26th ult. and proceeding as far as Aboaso at eight in the morning and returning to Sekondi at eight in the night. The usual fares were reduced from 16/6 to 8/- first class, and 6/6 to 4/- second class with free return passage only for the day (Boxing Day.)

### CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Boxing day the 26th ult. witnessed a grand Athletic sports under the auspices and at the sole expense of some of the elites in town namely Messrs. C. Hutton Kwacoo, T. M. Bilson, J. A. Mensah, and Rev. E. A. Sackey at the front of the Fort. Punctually at 3.30 p.m. Kwacoo's Independent Brass Band in their white uniforms appeared on the stage and discoursed sweet music with a view to congregating spectators to the spot. The front of the Fort was tastefully decorated with bannettes. The sports began at 4 p.m. and a social gathering it really was. Much praise is due to the aforementioned gentlemen who contributed towards the occasion.

The Ohin in town should take some measures to stop the women who go half-way to purchase plantains etc. and retail them in the market.

The present dearth is attributed to this un-called-for act: The Ohin should see to it immediately and use such measures to effect a perfect stop.

The cry of the whole Chama community is Scavengers! Scavengers! Scavengers!

### EDITORIAL NOTES

In considering the attitude of our native rulers towards the present state of affairs we do not forget the fact, that the majority of them, are unacquainted with the language in which the laws for the administration of the country are made; nor is the old system of consulting them before laws are passed, or the beating of the gong-gong by a Policeman to notify the People of such laws that might have been passed, still prevailing. It is clear therefore, that letting alone the Aborigines Society, a good deal rests on the educated natives that is, all who can read with any understanding. It is expected of these to interest themselves in the movements of the Authorities at least, as far as the making of the laws goes, so as to assist our Rulers, and through them and by them the People to follow as intelligently as they can such laws as the Legislature may think desirable to pass in its administration of the affairs of the country.

It is sad to think that small as the reading community of the country is, a still smaller number have any taste for reading or interest themselves in the political affairs of the country indeed the disinterestedness and even ignorance which some of them show in the political affairs of the country is striking, and yet it is more than high time, these renewed their mental equipment and adapt it to forces which they cannot resist. You find this class of men who simply exist, croaking louder than any other person in their murmurings against any law that may be passed which may be harsh, severe, autocratic or imperious in its demands, but

would not budge an inch to give a helping hand in any movement which goes for the reformation of such laws.

There certainly would be quite a new phase of things if all the members of our educated community, in all our principal towns would so far interest themselves in the political affairs of the day, or anything that goes to raise up the country in the scale of civilization or that prepares us to take in the light that is being diffused amongst us with vengeance, as a race and a people, and do not leave everything on the shoulders of the few. In these days there are some educated people amongst the subjects of all of our Rulers: think of these banding themselves together, to interest themselves in the affairs of their particular towns and districts and of the Protectorate in general: think of these rising up like one man where the honour, dignity if not the respect due to their particular Omanhin or Ohin, who or whatever may be that native Ruler, think of them standing up to a man where their hereditary rights and privileges as well as their own are unnecessarily tampered with, and counted for nothing, each band of men for a particular town or district whilst true and faithful to its Omanhin and district and country, remaining loyal to the throne of our PROTECTOR, and we say the educated community in this, cannot but be helpful and useful to their Amanhin, People and Country and the rightful and fitful instrument in the hands of the foreigner in educating the PEOPLE. He has come to stay with us and to live he must count upon the native and the native must reckon upon him.

As we pointed out sometime ago, it is untenable and false for those, for instance in this town of Cape Coast, who keep aloof from political meetings or movements here, because they are not of this town, though they make their living here, forgetting no doubt that wherever they hale from, is in the Protectorate, and such movements do not benefit this town only, but the whole Protectorate: if all such whilst here, would interest themselves in the affairs of their towns or districts that might be a redeeming feature; but you will find that in the majority of cases they are neither "here nor there" and so quietly drift along, thus making themselves barriers in the way of the country's progress, barring those who have deliberately chosen to sell their country and people and children for 'a morsel of bread.'

Nay, let us ALL, young and old, do all that lies in our power individually and collectively for our Amanhin, People, Country and the Government. *Let us read the local papers:* let each do what he can, and when he passes away be judged by our posterity as they may find him: let the different towns and districts be fairly represented at the meetings of the Aborigines Societies, here and at Axim, and having done all that we can or that needs be done leave events to work out themselves.

"NO COUNTRY CAN BENEFIT BY THE ADOPTION OF INSTITUTIONS WHICH HAVE NOT GROWN WITH ITS OWN GROWTH OR BEEN THE NATURAL OUTCOME OF ITS OWN HISTORY."

To J. P. Brown Esq., the President of the Aborigines Society, we tender our hearty congratulations, on the honour conferred on him, on his being appointed a member of the Legislative Council: how well and devotedly he has served his Country and People, which has at last landed him there, is well known to all classes in our community and to the country at large, and this in itself is a guarantee for greater usefulness in the Council Chamber. If all that he has hitherto done can possibly be limited to the gaze of a few, he has gone up higher, and thereby attracted more eyes on himself: that he will give a good account of himself, we entertain no doubt: and he meets SARBAH there.

The Aborigines Society also has our congratulations for it has its mead in the honour conferred on its President, and we sincerely hope this will be an incentive to its Vice-Presidents and the Executive to work still harder.—In our issue of Oct. 17 last, commenting on the resignation of Chief Vanderpuye we remarked at the close of the article on the subject:—"In the meanwhile we would humbly throw in his suggestion for the careful consideration of His Excellency. Why may not the Aborigines Society be represented at the Council..... the presence and the co-operation of the people must be acknowledged and counted upon." Therefore we must congratulate His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan also whose selections hitherto has been a puzzle to us, on this selection of his, this time. Sir Matthew Nathan evidently believes in the Society, and may his mantle in this respect fall on his successor. We sincerely hope however, every obstacle will be removed from the way of these unofficial members to let them be what they are supposed to be at the Council Chamber, the *Representatives of the People.*

"We trust this appointment" we said in the ar-

ticle referred to, "which will be probably Sir Matthew Nathan's last will be one which will meet with a general approbation, and one which will serve always to keep his memory fresh in our mind," and so it has turned out to be: the only thing to be regretted is, these unofficial members, do what they will, and say what they can, they must always be out voted. Probably if Sir Matthew were to be here, he would find some ways and means to bridge us over this.

In a few weeks hence the Wesleyan District Synod sits, this time with its own Chairman and

### APOLOGY.

We have since receiving Mr. Renner's summons for libel in relation to our Elmina correspondent's notes which appeared in our issue of the 26th. of September last in reference to the trial Rex vs. Acquay, found that the learned Judge did not use the words "addicted to sharp practice" to Mr. Renner and whatever fell from the learned Judge in this connection was explained as to its meaning and withdrawn in open Court on the day of the incident and the day following and that the learned Judge took pains to explain the words he used on that occasion and the sense in which he meant them. We find also that the words "addicted to" was never used as reported. We regret the report as published and also any annoyance that he may have occasioned Mr. Renner in consequence of the error made and we tender our sincere apology to the learned Counsel and the learned Judge.

### IN MEMORIAM.

In ever loving memory of Samuel Emanuel Kaye Esq. Barrister-at-Law.

Son of late King Acquasie Kaye of Denkera.

Born 29th March 1862  
Died 16th January 1902.

Had He ask'd us, well we know  
We should cry "O spare this blow"  
Yes, with streaming tears should pray  
Lord we love him let him stay."

But the Lord doth nought amiss  
And since He hath order'd this  
We have nought to do but still  
Rest in silence on His will. J. E. E.

### 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 non-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, JANUARY 16, 1904.

### "FALL IN."

WE desire to see in these days more of unity, amongst our Native Rulers: in saying so, we do not wish to imply that there is disunity existing among them; what we want to make out is, that it must be clear to every one of them, that for some time and particularly in these days there had been and there are steady, systematic and insidious encroachments upon their hereditary rights and privileges as Amanhin, indeed there is an attempt to do away with the positions they hold in the country, so as to let them exist only in name, and this being so, they should be one in repelling all such encroachments, and present a united front to resist all unnecessary, and high-handed onslaughts that are being made on the citadel of their time-honoured rights and dignity. The necessity for such a cause we presume must be obvious to all, and it is plain that this is the only one open to them to safeguard their stool. To find one Omanhin taking in any proposal made to him, or placing himself under this or that Ordinance, the full-meaning or gist of it, he had not probably comprehend, and another doing just the opposite thing, a proposal or an Ordinance intended for all of them, and which in course of time must be laid at the door of every one of them without consulting his Brother-kings, or making known to them such proposals the

may have been made to him, is a clear indication that there is a lack of fraternity among them, and this will ultimately be the cause of their down-fall. To our mind, it is every way necessary that each of them should in some way or other know something of the movements of the others where the Government comes in, so that in their dealings with the Authorities, their actions may be one and show a uniformity.

We consider this very necessary as several instances have come to our notice to prove that the policy all along has been, (in plain words,) to set one against the other, keeping what is said or done to one from the other, and thus by some sort of diplomacy, sow disintegration and disunion amongst our Amanhin. Who can for a moment doubt that, if all along, *Unity is strength*, had been the motto, of our rulers, bad as things are to-day, they would not have been so bad? Do not our Amanhin themselves realize this? There was a time, even when the Foreigner had come amongst us, when our Native Rulers had their own meetings at stated times to discuss matters political which tended to the welfare and well-being of the Native State, and, to settle 'palavers' among themselves, if there happened to be any dispute between any of them; to-day one hears of no such things, and instead, from all account, it does seem, that they work against each other's interest, and our rulers themselves may be seen rushing to this or that District Commissioner lodging some complaint or other against themselves, even subjects dragging their Amanhin to the law courts, where very often, there are no English laws or Ordinances to help to adjudge the grievances brought forth, thereby necessitating the calling of "experts" whose evidences are invariably conflicting, causing no end of bother to the Judge or District Commissioner and uneasiness to the parties themselves: here you often find decisions given, which could not have been, had the cases been dealt with on purely native lines. That we have our own native laws and customs, best suited us, and which the Legislature, will do well "to guide, modify and amend, rather than destroy by ordinances and force," let us again refer you to the speech made by SIR JAMES MARSHALL the first Puisne Judge of this Supreme Court made at the Colonial Exhibition of 1886 (London) quoted by SARBAH in his *Fanti Customary Laws*: "The Gold Coast must remain the country of the natives but with a handful of Europeans among them who have the power by which they rule these people and enforce obedience. And whenever this rule is carried out and enforced according to European ideas, without consideration of the ideas, equally ancient and equally deep rooted, which pervade the native mind, it may break and destroy, but without securing any real improvement. My own experience of the West Coast of Africa is that *that Government has for the time succeeded best with the Natives, which has treated them with consideration for their native laws, habits, and customs, instead of ordering all these to be suppressed as nonsense, and insisting on the wondering negro at once submitting to the British constitution, and adopting our ideas of life and civilization.*" THE NATIVES OF THE GOLD COAST AND WEST AFRICA HAVE A SYSTEM OF LAWS AND CUSTOMS WHICH IT WOULD BE BETTER TO GUIDE, MODIFY, AND AMEND, RATHER THAN TO DESTROY BY ORDINANCES AND FORCE. SO THEY HAVE THEIR CHIEFS AND COURT FORMS AND ETIQUETTE...WHICH WILL NOT BE IMPROVED BY RIDICULE OR FORCED ABOLITION." (Italics and capitals ours). To lose sight of this will only land any administration on the West Coast however capable, in confusion, oppression and punitive expeditions. The French who came after us have tried it and are succeeding admirably. Where is the harm or danger in permitting the native rulers to hold their own meetings, to conduct their affairs which are purely native as the correspondence we published sometime ago over the Otsir Convention seems to imply? Nay, we shall risk repeating *ad nauseam* to those directly concerned, that since "the Gold Coast must remain the country of the natives," the native with his laws, manners and customs must be reckoned with, this "is the only way in dealing with the native races" SIR ANDREW CLARKE once said. "We should be happier in our rule

on the West Coast—and I speak from experience, for I was there for sometime myself—if we had confined ourselves to pure trading," and such a cause will only tend to make us more loyal, seeing there is loyalty flourishing amongst us, ordinances galore, refined oppression, interference with our native constitution, notwithstanding.

THE WILDS OF WEST AFRICA.

"Gold Coast Native Institutions." By Casely Hayford, Barrister-at-Law (London: Sweet and Maxwell, 15s.).

Many works have been written about all the Africas, from many standpoints, historical, antiquarian, geological, social, and political. Mr Casely Hayford, in the interesting book before us, has confined himself to the area of West Africa, and more particularly to the Gold Coast district.

It is a treatise which commends itself by reason of its careful arrangement, accurate detail knowledge of local customs and institutions, and its admirable suggestions for the improvement of local administration likely to be beneficial to British and Fanti.

This comes with added force when it is remembered that the author is himself a native of the Gold Coast, although no one would guess it from the easy flow of his English sentences and the remarkable restraint exhibited when speaking of the grievances of his people. For Mr. Hayford has the same story to tell of British muddle and make-believe in our mal-administration of the Gold Coast.

Ignorant of its institutions, and suspicious of any sign of native progress or intelligence, we have hindered the people of the Gold Coast from every attempt to improve their own conditions; we have neglected the rich opportunities afforded by their local institutions of aiding in the development of an intelligent and industrious native people.

Mr Hayford describes the institutions of his country as forming "a system of self-government as perfect and efficient as that of the forward nations of the earth." This is high language to apply to what is generally regarded as a small and feeble folk. But if one-half of the details given by the author are accurate, he abundantly justifies his assertion. Here we find the fullest account of the various institutions evolved and developed by the natives of the Gold Coast, without the help of literature or any external aid or suggestion. Chapter follows chapter in rapid succession, and we pass grade by grade, from the king to the people, from the higher systems of government to the daily rounds of municipal life.

The most superficial perusal of this book is sufficient to show that the natives of the Gold Coast are "not a savage people without a past.

The majority of Englishmen only know the Gold Coast at all as being a place marked on our map by a red dab indicative of its British character as a Colony. But even this modicum of knowledge and pride Mr. Hayford ruthlessly brushes away, by conclusively demonstrating that the Gold Coast is not a British Colony, but only a "Protectorate." British possessions on the Gold Coast, therefore, are the actual forts dotted here and there on the littoral, many of which are to-day inhabited by colonies or settlements of bats and moles."

Again and again throughout this work the author emphasises the advisability and wisdom of the British authorities taking the natives themselves into their counsel and devising a *modus vivendi* by which the twofold interest of Britisher and native may be furthered harmoniously and peacefully to the general welfare of both. Let two passages suffice:

Surely we can look to England for a certain amount of fair play. The history of your relations with weaker races is not altogether such as to fill us with despair, or to make us think that you will go the way of all flesh. We believe and hope that when the crooked has been made straight to your moral line of vision, you will stand corrected.

I dearly love this ideal of Imperial West Africa, and I sincerely desire that the golden hope may not be wrecked. The country is flooded even with intelligence. With hardly sixty years' educational advantages, we have a remarkable band of able men in all walks of life, a sign of the coming greatness of the people in the new century and in the new civilization. We only ask for opportunity, that opportunity being fundamentally the prayer that the Aborigines may now be allowed to take part in the work of legislation for their native land.

Will Great Britain do her duty to the Gold Coast and to Ashanti, or will she turn away from the prayer in scorn.

Mr. Hayford sees a great future before the Gold Coast if the true spirit of justice and intelligence be imported into all matters of British administration in that quarter, and if the natives themselves, whom we with exemplary zeal desire to protect, may be permitted to know some things appertaining their own good.

This is the broad current that flows through the book; but it is by no means the only current. It is full of valuable information, and conclusions arrived at on the spot, together with a collection of invaluable documents and other data from which a person of ordinary intelligence may enrich his store of knowledge, or acquire an interest in one of the most promising spheres of British influence. Native institutions, native jurisdiction, the commercial system, the Gold Coast Settlements Concessions Ordinance and its present procedure, statutes, treaties, Orders in Council—all are well set forth, admirably annotated, and discreetly commented upon and criticised.

No one can read this work without great advantage, or without much admiration at the skill and industry which it displays.—*Daily News* 9th December 1903.

SCRUTINEER.

A WORD WITH THE RISING GENERATION.

Now that we stand on the threshold of a new year it may not be out of place to pour a few words into the ears of the rising generation—the MEN to be. Without penetrating widely into the question whether or not the average young of the land receives due encouragement from those capable to give—an encouragement that will avail to the discipline and innervating of the young in the warfare for the protection of the Country against the Counter-movements of Counter-Agents—it appears *prima facie* that they receive no encouragement whatever from those in a position to give. The situation can be more properly compared to a parent who left his heir uneducated and undisciplined in a way as to enable him to protect the ancestral property, enjoy it, and bequeath it intact to the next successor. The parent who neglected to undertake such obligations to his heir would be considered by men to be short-sighted and short-witted; and so would the elders of a nation be considered who failing to arm the young for the future defence of the Country thus left them to be confounded in delocracy.

Speaking as a young man and one who freely mixes with the youngmen of sober and determined opinions, I make no exaggeration in fully vouching that the spirit of patriotism has manifestly and timeously dawned on their souls. There may be a few whose patriotism may be theoretical, but I am inclined to believe that only an incentive is needed to render these whetted—and that stimulant I leave the surmising public to solve. The majority make such study of politics and of men and things, taking in them a personal interest that is greatly encouraging and presentative of an aspect hopeful for the future of the Country. But Heaven forbid that I should extol to make vain. Rather we should never be afraid of doing little because we cannot do much. I have known a youngman raise the honour of the Country a degree by uttering, at the right moment, a single sentence completely discomfiting the vacuities of an arrogant and blatant interloper. And I have, on the hand, known a youngman lower the honour of the Country a degree, by an outpouring of a sentence of inanities. If we youngmen (leaving the unscrupulous old, especially the paid Commissioners) would only be careful how we mix ourselves with our brambling traducers, and how we conduct ourselves before men! Think on these things, dear youngmen!

There are some who through favourable circumstances have achieved great intellectual endowment, and have proved themselves useful to the community and laudible to their personal relations. There are others too who, through dissimilar circumstances have not been blessed with such endowment. But it is an unredounding error, if not a delusion, on the part of those in the latter category who labour under the idea that there is no available remedy. There are *SELF MADE MEN* and the precinct of the School room is not the only confinement for the acquisition of an intellectual "excellence." There are wider fields of glory and fame outside that, and any one can make himself a self-made man intellectually as far as the eruditeness of his desire to acquire knowledge is concerned, especially he who has had a solid foundation at school.

I have always enjoined my young countrymen to read, read, read, and read—for reading makes a full man. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some to be chewed and digested; I commend to my young friends the latter. Reading methods vary, it is not reading in parts that I commend neither reading but curiously and reading with diligence and attention. But what is reading with diligence and attention? It is briefly this: by selecting a renowned and instructive author, then noting markedly as you read his manner of construction, emphasis, and even at times committing to memory a tasteful phrase or two that may serve as a model of your own construction.

I make no doubt, that he who reads in this manner will both find pleasantness in so doing, and will be continually adding stock of knowledge and may be a good writer and speaker.

Think on these things, then, at this time of the year. Foster your patriotism. Nourish your mind—for the MIND IS THE STANDARD OF THE MAN. Make yourself able, so that you may not lack the necessary warmth, whenever the GOLD COAST in an ardent parental affection lays hand on your shoulder and orders—"Son, go work to-day in my vineyard."

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

AXIM.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The Kroo-labourers for the Aucobra Transport Company have struck from active work being unable to carry out Mr. Cort's instructions.

These men were wanted to work after hours till 9 o'clock in the night when usually at the time of good old Dalgarno, they broke off at 5 o'clock after a considerable labour for each day.

The first meeting of the "Native Social Gathering" was convened at Mr. Solomon's Majuba Hill on the 31st December 1903, and it was a splendid scene. The members were attired in full Native Dress.

A few words from the peroration of Father Brown's opening speech may be quoted:—"Se iwogye Nyamisum tu Omanoou a ina onka na Manbu ngait." Religion when it is received amongst a nation does not obliterate the customary traces of its ancestry. The most entertaining part of the meeting was when the Hip! Hip! Hurra! substituted for the "Ose ya-ba-ou-ou woufre ye" which ought to have been said after the old man's speech. After him came Mr. Barrister Hayford who said something for the well-being of the society. Fruits were served and a very pleasant evening having been spent the meeting closed at about 9 o'clock p. m.

The comfort which poor human beings want in such a world as this is not the comfort of ease but the comfort of strength.

The Temple of Peace Lodge had a tea-fight last Saturday at the School-Room.

Chorister—Ma-ma! Boo-hoo! Here's a horrid motor car coming, and I dunno what to do-oo!

The 'Barque Brewster' is rumoured to be in a leaky condition.

Mr. Ashman is the relief of Mr. Strafford Solomon, the acting Supervisor.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

All was quiet and calm here, during Christmas tide, the only apparent recognition of the season, was an Excursion train allowed to run on Boxing day taking passengers to and from Abosso at half rates—this first privilege of the Railway to the public was given after a severe struggle with coincidence. The traffic receipts for Sekondi (coaching) only, we understand, amounted to £14.

At the chapel very thrilling sermons were given by Rev. Riggall—ably interpreted by Mr. Albert Ghanash—the house was unusually crowded at the Watchnight service.

Mr. ——— of Messrs. ——— had remarked that they (Agents) are fools who gave Christmas gifts to their native clerks, a fellow Agent had responded that he (Messrs. ——— Agent) was twice as much a fool as he was ignorant of the high advantage he gained from the labours of his native clerks. No comments.

His Excellency Major Nathan, Captain Stevens (Private Secretary) General Kembah (Officer commanding W. A. F. F. S.) and Captain Mand (Private Secretary) accompanied by Mr. Reilly and Bandmen arrived here per "Oron" on the 6th inst. By the same steamer Messrs. Muir and Swanzy (of F. & A. Swanzy) arrived.

Governor Nathan and General Kembah were entertained at dinner given at Major Wharleston's quarters on Thursday night.

On Friday afternoon the Governor and suite visited the various circuits of the town. With the Chamber of Commerce, the Governor discussed the question of the sanitary state of the town, after which the merchants brought the matter of cransage and other heavy charges imposed on the public by the Railway—resulting in the former being dismissed.

On the question of the political administration of Sekondi, the Governor had a meeting also with the Amemhin and Ahinfa last Saturday—the proceedings will be reported in our next.

The Governor and party left by special train this morning for up-country.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Anamaboe boasts of one constable, whatever this can do in an emergency passes our comprehension.

We understand there has been a sum voted towards the repair of the Fort. We have thought that the improvement of the town would have claimed more attention than that of the Fort, but evidently the town must be left to take care of itself.

The market shed is so wretched that we think the D.C. avoids passing there that he may not witness it.

Mr. S.P. Longdon of Cape Coast has volunteered to roof, at his own cost, the new Infant School building. Cannot another friend take up the plastering work?

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

As the sequence of the Spirits Amendment Ordinance, the majority of Sellers have withheld the renewal of spirits this year.

The Special Divisional Court began its sittings on the 5th, the presiding Judge being Mr. Francis Smith. The Calendar shows about 10 cases.

Omanbin Acquah II of Winnebah is also in town residing in Maladi House. His Majesty leaves for his province after two week's stay. We learn that between 1875 and 1876 he was a Schoolmaster of Salt Pond and did excellent work here. Some of his old pupils in town are hard preparing to welcome him with a Banquet.

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We understand Supt. Crabbe will soon wend his way homeward on furlough; and is to be succeeded by Mr. Griffith, grandson of our late Governor Griffith after whom Kpong Zango is named. Mr. Griffith left here in company with Messrs. Crabbe and Campbell on the 10th December for the "up Rivers."

The sudden death of a snake-charmer in pursuit of his craft is reported to have taken place at Somanya on the 19th December.

The Mohammedans of Griffith's Hill, Kpong, had an imposing procession through the Town on the 21st Dec. in connection with their *Shawall* celebrations. Some magic, firing of guns and dances added to frantic gesticulations and grimaces, made it really entertaining.

CHRISTMAS DAY Exchanges of good wishes and presents between friends marked the early hours of the day. Then followed the chiming of Church Bells. (Kpong boasts of two churches and is not irreligious). The two churches were both crowded, and the Parsons were at their best. The Birth of CHRIST, of course, was the common theme; but some parsons have their own way of driving the truth into the heart with freshness of persuasion.

The Basel Mission Scholars aroused the Town with singing and marching to a new Building to be consecrated at Adinkra. This drew a large concourse after them. Nearly all the gentlemen were present by special invitations. Mr. N. Kuma, the Catechist, having tersely exhorted the audience to look to earthly possessions as an earnest of better things, above, prayed for the *Land Lord*; and the Scholars resumed singing and encircled the house whilst the guests sat to sumptuous refreshments provided to which unqualified justice was done. After a few toasts the ceremony closed at 6.15 p.m.

There were the Athletic Sports at Akuse this afternoon. Kpong grew more noisy in the evening than ever. There were all sorts of music and dances which continued to the small hours of the next morning. The Mohammedans vied with the rest in the wild joyousness.

On Boxing Day the Kpong Annual Athletic Sports were held at 3 p.m. The Volunteer Band was in attendance and the whole passed off very successfully. The results of the various competitions are as follows:—First Tug-of-war, first Prize, Tetteh Cobbah and others. Fiat Race, 1st. Prize Adotey; 2nd Prize, Jacob Nelson.

Wrestling, Prize only—Hotowor. Sack-Race, Geo. Balis, E. S. Mills. Three legged Race;—Emmanuel, Clegg and Alfred Tamakio; E. S. Mills and A. J. Alfred Egg-Race Odeday; Roste E. Bruce. Water-Race,—Ahyo; Ramotu. Bicycle Race,—Sam-Konoo. 2nd. Tug-of-war, Tetteh Cobbah and others.

Lawyer Boye Quartey Papafo paid a flying visit to Kpong on the 26th December. After a few hour's interview with a few gentlemen of the Town he proceeded on to Akuse.

We are glad to welcome back from a long holiday Mr. E. Bailey, the Chief Agent of Messrs. F.

& A. Swanzy for this District.

Dr. Papafo, Col. Surgeon, paid a Sanitary Inspection to Kpong on the 29th Dec. The result was the selection of better sites for Food Market and Cemetery. The people of Kpong should have no more excuse for burying their dead in a Cassava Garden just three feet from the Akuse Road on the bank of Abrokutu creek

A CALABAR ABSURDITY.

MUZZLING THE PRESS.

With deference we suggest to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that it is high time he intervened to put a stop to the ridiculous Mrs. Partington's mop-like policy of the authorities in some of our West African Colonies in their relations with the local Press. We had occasion to severely condemn the injustice and pettiness, the utter irreconcilability with British traditions of the new Lagos Newspaper Ordinance. Now we are presented with a fresh puzzle, or absurdity, in British Colonial administration, in the case of *The Calabar Observer*. British officials are supposed to avoid any and all action in restraint of legitimate trade.

But evidently that hypothesis fails so hold on the West Coast. A newspaper is essential to commercial progress, civilization, and political enlightenment in any and every sphere of our Colonial dominions; but is that necessity to be ignored or sacrificed to suit the thin-skin of some or any sensitive West African Government? Is this British?

Is it common sense? Is it justice? and is it fair-play?

*The Calabar Observer* is not, it appears, to cease to be because of any past offences against the official sensitiveness, but because of possibilities!

Because, in a word, it may one day take to outspokenness and criticism! Wherefore little tin gods careful for their own tenderness are about to introduce "a Newspaper Proclamation" which will insist on a surety of £200 from the *Observer* lest haply it might seem one day hence to libel the Great Greats of the Coast! Of course, these Mrs. Partingtons will trundle their mops eventually in vain against the rising tide of free speech and free thought. No such Press Law can long survive in the free atmosphere of British Colonies and against the derision of all fair-minded men. But it is not for the general good that British officials anywhere abroad should expose themselves to ridicule, and it is also time that such childish susceptibilities were subordinated to colder reasons sway. We say so solely in the public interest. —*Anglo-African Argus*

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.

Municipal Offices,

Accra, 29th Dec. 1903.

I am directed by the Accra Town Council to draw your attention to an Ordinance of the Gold Coast Colony intitled The Town Councils (Amendment) Ordinance 1903, which comes into force on the 1st January 1904 and which is of great importance to holders of mortgages on the house property in the municipality of Accra. One effect of the Ordinance is to give an indefeasible title free from all adverse or competing rights, titles, interests, trusts, claims and demands whatsoever to purchasers of houses sold for non payment of rate.

Section 4 provides in effect that in the case of mortgaged houses—where the mortgage has been duly registered under the Registry Ordinance 1895, the mortgagee may give to the Town Clerk a notice in writing of his mortgage which must contain the following particulars—

- (a) A description of the property, by which it can be identified;
- (b) The date of registration of the deed;
- (c) The place of registration of the deed;
- (d) The volume and page of the register book in which the deed is registered;
- (e) The postal address of the mortgagee.

Where such a notice is given to the Town Clerk, the mortgaged house is not to be sold for non-payment of rate until the Town Clerk has sent a registered letter requiring payment to the mortgagee and default has been made for one month after the time when a reply would be received in the ordinary course of post.

The Accra Town Council have fixed the 1st. March 1904 as the date for the next payment of house rate, and notice under the new Ordinance should accordingly be sent to me before that date.

I should feel obliged by your assisting to make this communication known to those whom it is likely to concern.

I have &c.,  
ELLIS QUARSHIE,  
Town Clerk.

# The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. II.  
No. 83.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1904.

Price 3d.  
Including postage 4d.

## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

### ADVERTISING SCALE.

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

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

Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

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

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

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

AT SEKUNDI

From his store at Poassi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM,

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

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

**Dr. E. G. MacLean,**  
**DENTIST.**

Chapel Square, Cape Coast.

Office hours, 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

Note.—Persons whose **TEETH** are giving trouble or who require new ones will please call now as I will remove to Accra in the near future.

Painless Methods. Free Consultation.  
**E. G. MACLEAN, D.D.S.**

### NOTICE.

That many a valuable mining property on the Gold Coast has been degraded, condemned or given up through want of a patient, careful and systematic prospecting and preliminary development work, is without doubt. And it is time that the fault be corrected, and the true position of the Gold Coast, worthy of the name, be verified and maintained.

Acquah Brothers will shortly be prepared to undertake contracts for:—Prospecting by Diamond Core Prospecting Drill, Shaft &c., including assays of samples; Erecting of mining and other machinery—Stamp Mills, Engines of every description Pumping, Hauling, Dredging &c., operated by steam, oil or Electricity where water power would be available (a valuable essential to the successful working of a mine when practicable); Shaft sinking and Driving; Construction and erection of High Class and Efficiently Ventilated Buildings suitable to the West African Climate, and other Engineering works—Construction of Light Railways for Mine and other services &c. &c. Doubtful mining properties will be carefully and systematically tested. Reliable, prompt and satisfactory work guaranteed.

A boon to all interested in Mining and other operations in West Africa.

Later on a workshop including a light Machinery shop will be opened for me—Mechanical Training—Pattern Foundry Work, Forging, Finishing, Fitting, Carpentry Cabinet work, Masonry, Brickwork &c., including Theoretical studies, for the purpose of preparing Natives (principally, educated) for mining and other works. An important desideratum in the economical and successful working of mines &c., on the Gold Coast.

Apply for particulars to:—

**W. E. D. AOQUAH**

Late Mill Manager—Wassaw (Gold Coast) Mining Co. Ltd. and Head of Fitting and Erecting (Mechanical Engineering) Dept.—Tamsaw (Wassaw) Gold Mining Co. Ltd., &c. &c. Axim.



PURE.—NOURISHING.

## ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

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

### GENERAL NEWS.

The report about the latrines is not true. It appears, that some Wangarras, who could not get the assistance in digging up a latrine ask all who would now use it to pay 1d. a head.

Mr. J. Acquah-Badu, we regret to report, died last Saturday morning at 6. 30 a.m. He was accorded a decent burial the following morning by the Odd Fellows and Foresters, being a member of these Societies. His remains followed by many sympathising friends were interred at the Tantry Cemetery, Mr. Britton officiating.

Thus within eight months, two Brothers and a sister have passed away. Mr. Acquah of the Signal Station, their Uncle and the other friends have our sympathies.

We understand Mr. Frank Vardon the Registrar at Winneba has been appointed to take Mr. Acquah's place at the Supreme Court here.

A large and influential meeting was held at Mr. Sarbah's office on the Fanti Public Schools, last Saturday afternoon, the Honourable J.P. Brown presiding. The following gentlemen addressed the meeting:— The Honourable Mensah Sarbah, Rev. A. W. Parker, Chief R. A. Harrison, Rev. Attoh-Ahuma, C. J. Bannerman Esq. J. E. Ellis Esq. J. E. Biney Esq. J. W. de Graft Johnson Esq.

By the *Borna* which sailed south last Monday, the Honourable J. Mensah Sarbah, and the Honourable J. P. Brown left for Accra, to attend the sittings of the Council.

The Rev S. R. B. Attoh-Ahuma also left by the same steamer for Accra, to take charge of the Accra Board Schools.

"Are you a University man, Mr. Irving?" asked an Oxford Don of the great actor. "No" was the just retort, "I keep a secretary who was." On another occasion a like question was put by one of these superior persons to Mr. Bernard Shaw. "Oh, dear no," said Mr. Shaw, "I never was educated." It is no advantage to a man of genius to go to Oxford or to Cambridge.... We doubt whether Shakespeare would have been improved by a University training...—*Reynolds*.

M. Inandi, the lightning calculator performed before King Edward the other day, His Majesty himself setting various problems to solve, some of them very intricate. One in particular, to find the cube root of 389,017 was worked out by Inandi, who gave the answer 73, almost instantly, notwithstanding the fact that he was bombarded on all sides, by other members of the party, who tried to confuse him by setting other questions. His Majesty then asked if Inandi would tell him the number of farthings in 618 guineas. Inandi answered correctly, again almost immediately.—*Times*.

"Who feels no pain makes no noise," said Herr Branchini, the notorious Croat agitator, to the Austrian Emperor, who said to him that he made noise wherever he went. And so says the *Leader* to all who say it makes too much noise and should be hushed.

Herbert Spencer the great thinker is dead at the ripe age of 83, and in his death there passes away "the last and one of the greatest members of the brilliant group which must make the Victorian age memorable in the history of literature and thought."

The other four names who with him revolutiona-

lized the world with the principles and doctrines of the law of Evolution are Darwin, Wallace, Huxley and Tyndall. Mr. Spencer was cremated.

Sir Donald Stewart, K. C.M.G., being on leave of absence Lieutenant F. B. Henderson, C. M.G., D. S. O., has taken over the duties of Chief Commissioner of Ashanti.

There is an Ordinance passed, to make provision for a class of District Commissioners to be known as Provincial Commissioners, which came into force on the first of this month.

In the *In Memoriam* published last week for March 29 read 1903, and for January 1902, read 1903.

The Catholic and Government Schools and the Zion Institute started work this week after their Christmas Holidays.

TRUTH AND JOHN: Letters appear next week.

### AXIM

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

While visiting the Latrine at Alafara (Lower Town Beach) a man received a heavy shock a few nights ago from some genii with which it is recently believed to have been infested. The genii are rumoured to make their appearance there with the palpable aim of kidnapping or harassing people who may be disposed to go there at night.

The Glastonbury-Thorn has begun to blossom. A crowd of people pouring themselves helter-skelter into the streets caused not a little sensation brought about by the death of one Kwodwo Kakaba belonging to the stool, on the evening of the 16th inst. The man it is said went into the bush to gather some Simples and was brought home dead, the cause could not be ascertained. It is even reported that such kinds of deaths have from time to time had their cause from some cryptic misfeasance.

"Leader" perloining is prevalent at the Post Office whose fault it is we are at a discount to know.

There is a great deficiency in the street Lamps in the town—people who go out at night are compelled to deprive their servants of their sweet pleasing sleep by carrying lanterns before them. The Authorities should see to that.

The French Governor who arrived here from the Ivory Coast by the *Borna* with his Secretary sailed on the *Burutu* for Europe.

### TARKWA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Francis H. Cobbins, the Native Assistant Accountant and Chief Clerk of the Abosso Mines has left for Elmina, through ill health.

### ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE GOVERNOR AND THE OLD DUTCH CEMETERY. There is some talk of dissatisfaction current, that notwithstanding the fact that the Old Dutch Cemetery has been officially declared closed to any further interment of the dead, there are at present four cosmopolitan individuals who are holders of special free licenses or royal Letters patent under the hand and seal of His Excellency Governor Sir Matthew Nathan, for burials in this Cemetery—to wit two elderly ladies—and two other persons of no particular consequence.

These fortunate individuals, it appears approached His Excellency during his last visit here and

managed by sundry representations in procuring his approval.

The Cemetery was built in 1806 and has been in constant use since, until only recently when the New Cemetery on Newman's Hill was laid out and even then there have been occasional burials taking place there by certain lucky folk at the pleasure of the District Commissioners.

Considering that the cemetery only covers an area of 100 feet square of ground and it has been in use for the past 98 years, it will easily be deduced, taking into account the average rate of mortality in Elmina per annum, that there have been at least half a dozen burials at one and the same spot, which in some cases out of ten have caused the unearthing of the bones of previous tenants, in places where there have been no tombstones.

Unless we are to understand that His Excellency's policy in the matter implies that the cemetery is not crowded up but, only that, one must necessarily manage to be in possession of a ticket of admission or passport which would give him or her the privilege of a "Westminster Abbey Burial."

The Elminas as a community at large have no aristocracy in the proper application of the term excepting when the line of Amanhin comes in, and such being the case it does not become His Excellency to make any special distinctions in our burials, or issue any instructions to the effect.

Only the other day Mrs. Anna School Bartels, widow of the late Hon'ble Carl Bartels (member of the Legislative Council Cape Coast during the seventies) died and because she was unfortunately, not licensed or "booked," notwithstanding her connections, she was not allowed burial in the Dutch Cemetery, nor was she the only person of her station who has lately been denied this indulgence.

Certain class of people look upon burials in the Newman's Hill Cemetery as *infra dig.* and imagine that, to be buried in the old Dutch cemetery is something princely or fashionable, forgetting that this very "Paradise" has been a museum for the remains of all sorts and conditions of mortals, from Governors down to paupers, Hausas, Policemen and convicts.

The very fact that the cemetery is full and closed up was practically illustrated when the late D. C. George Frederick Vernon and the late Dr James Stalker were among the first Europeans who were buried in the Newman's Hill cemetery—and if a District Commissioner who is some sort of a miniature Governor is denied interment in "Westminster Abbey" why should the hospitality be extended to the rank and file.

It would not cost our Roman Catholic neighbours anything to have their own private burial place made at some spot near the old Schomerus Redoubt after the Churchyard fashion. But above all His Excellency should discontinue any further admissions into the Dutch cemetery from henceforth for two reasons namely—that the place is quite full and that it is now within the very heart of the town which in itself is in contrast with the Public Health Ordinance. It must be closed to ALL for ever.

#### THREE CONVICTS BREAK PRISON.

On the early morning of the 6th instant at St. Jago Prison, three Lagoman convicts respectively doing terms of 12, 7, and 4 years imprisonment, while being escorted to a back yard, knocked down the Gate Keeper and contrived to escape but they were subsequently captured by some men just at the foot of the Hill. When brought before the District Commissioner, and charged with assault and attempting to escape from lawful custody, the prisoners, among whom was Sami of the Clama special Robbery fame, made a complaint respecting their diet. They were each sentenced to an additional term of 6 months.

#### JAVA HILL AGAIN.

Re Boga v. Assiba and Mensah—it is stated that Counsel for defendants has notified plaintiff to refund the sum of £9, which he had received from Defendants for the bogus sale of a piece of land on Java Hill.

#### THE PROPOSED FANTI PUBLIC SCHOOLS CO.

There was a meeting convened here on the 14th inst. Thursday, by the principal educated natives respecting the above scheme but as yet no shares have been taken up. There will, however, be another meeting held this week for further discussion.

#### TRADE.

There is a movement on foot for the institution of a native Chamber of Commerce, the object of which will be to facilitate and arrange matters affecting the trade of the District.

#### THE LITERARY CLUB.

The members of the Literary and Improvement Club had their Christmas dinner on the 26th Dec. last at Hope Villa, followed by a grand ball on the 1st instant at Bridge House. I hear, arrangements are being made to improve upon the present scheme of the Club by the inauguration of Dancing, Golfing, Cricketing, Tennis, shooting, boxing &c.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

Sir Matthew Nathan's visit to this town last week, is to be his final visit to this place, and we understand, the visit was made for the express purpose of saying "good bye" to the Omanhin and his Ahinfa, as well as the People. Visits had been made by Sir Matthew's predecessors which proved to be their final, but we do not remember of any made with such an object in view, and this speaks well for His Excellency. We are delighted all the more to see this, because sometime ago there was a talk in town to the effect, that for some reason or other it has been "blue-booked," and there were "circumstantial evidences" to give colour to that sort of talk, happily all this is changed now; if we may judge by last week's visit, and the departure of the Governor; unfortunately he is going away!

As we said sometime ago, we wish His Excellency "good luck" wherever he may be, and we hope whenever the opportunity offers itself he will not fail to put in a word for this unfortunate Protectorate, which has proved such a stepping-stone to him for a higher promotion.

His Excellency has no doubt to the best of his ability done what he could for the Protectorate, for which we are thankful; we regret however to note that with his trained knowledge in engineering, nothing was attempted for the building of wharves in any of the principal ports—such desiderata: Elmina district is still under the management of a Doctor-District Commissioner. Ohin Faibir's wrongs still not righted, unfair and unjust as the treatment meted out to him would appear to any one who may have even a superficial knowledge of his case: no doubt Sir Matthew who has latterly shown such a keen interest in our customs and manners, will make a note of this unfortunate Ohin's affair for his successor: and we do not think as far as salaries went the native officials had been fairly dealt by in this administration: there have been increments by leaps and bounds and emoluments too, but all for their white colleagues and the poor fellows have been slaving away under all these discouragements.

The distinction between white and black officials, marked as it was, in the preceding administration we fear, has been more so in this, and it was the very thing the late Sir William Maxwell wanted to set his foot on. When will ability and not colour form the more important item in the consideration of the estimates of the Gold Coast Colony? Let us content ourselves however with the hope, that had our out-going Governor stayed a little longer, there might have been a glimpse of hope even here.

Perhaps, now that the Governor is preparing to leave, it will not do to talk of the fencing of the beach which causes so much inconvenience to the Public, but we find the whole blame in this, as it was in the blow given to the Concession industry, cannot be laid at the door of His Excellency. And we would like to know the number of Ordinances that have been passed within the last three years, though some of them may be repealed as it is in the case of the Ordinance for..... More of this Ordinance anon.

The ensuing District Synod sitting next month will have some interest of its own. It will have, after the lapse of some years a chairman of its own kind of course there will be no occasion to rush through matters which are not only of vital importance to that Church but to the country at large. Among which will be the question of Education. Already we are told, proposals have been made to get out a special man for that department not necessarily a clergyman, who will have under his immediate supervision the Collegiate School, and who will manage their elementary schools as well; and their Female Institution will come in for its full share. This is indeed pleasing to hear. Then there is the Temperance question over which we stopped our series of articles on the Synod, which we hope to resume after this Synod all being well. Let us pass over the ever knotty Marriage question: these and the middle into which the District seems to have plunged (if reports may be relied on) will have to engage the attention of the coming Synod. May divine guidance be given them at their deliberations, and the chairman endowed with "wisdom from on high."

We hear it said, that their European Missionaries are all now to be huddled up at Aburi, Cape Coast having been found to be unhealthy! At present, we are quite willing to put this piece of news down for mere rumour and wait till the Synod is over. No doubt we may be able to know then who made this grand discovery.

Since writing of the tardiness with which the public are usually served with their telegrams communications have come in to the effect, that the contents of people's telegrams are let out before

they reach their respective owners. Outsiders get to know what is wired to Mr. So and So, before he himself receives his telegram hours afterwards. Will the Officer in charge please see to put stop to this? There certainly should be some privacy at the Telegraph offices and we were under the impression that this was one of the Rules for this Department.

READ THIS: "Men who their Duties know  
But know their Rights and knowing  
dare maintain,  
Prevent the long-aimed blow,  
And crush the Tyrant, while they  
read the chain:  
THESE CONSTITUTE A STATE."

#### REUTERS TELEGRAMS:

Reuters No. 24. 16/1/04.—Two large vessels of Russian Volunteer fleet passed Bosphorus with troops for Far East.

Turkey has refused Russia's urgent application for the passage of her Black Sea Squadron through Bosphorus, Dardanelles.

The Japanese Minister at Washington informed the Secretary here that the Japanese reply amounts to the denial of all important Russian proposals while Japan's counter proposals are of such a nature as almost certainly make them unacceptable.

Mr. Chamberlain opened his first meeting of the Tariff Reform Commission this afternoon.

The Japanese Government countermanded all sailings of Nippon Yusen.

Kaisha the largest Japanese line whose eighty Mail Steamers subsidised always disposal Government several have been recalled home by telegraph to be mounted with guns and used as despatch Vessels.

Vessels of other Companies also have been chartered. Departure of merchantmen from Japan has been forbidden.

The Tsar at the reception on the Russian New Year's day cordially addressed the Japanese Minister expressing the hope that the Settlement will be satisfactory to both nations.

The following is the result of Norwich election in the place of Bullard (Conservative) deceased.—Tillet (Liberal) 8576, Wild (Conservative) 6576, Roberts (Labour) 2444.

The Liberal Leaders are bringing the question of Chinese labour in the Transvaal as early as possible after the re-assembling of Parliament.

It is stated that King Edward as the last resort, is exercising to his utmost his great influence over the Tsar to avert war.

#### APOLOGY.

We have since receiving Mr. Renner's summons for libel in relation to our Elmina correspondent's notes which appeared in our issue of the 26th of September last in reference to the trial Rex vs. Acquay, found that the learned Judge did not use the words "addicted to sharp practice" to Mr. Renner and whatever fell from the learned Judge in this connection was explained as to its meaning and withdrawn in open Court on the day of the incident and the day following and that the learned Judge took pains to explain the words he used on that occasion and the sense in which he meant them. We find also that the words "addicted to" was never used as reported. We regret the report as published and also any annoyance that he may have occasioned Mr. Renner in consequence of the error made and we tender our sincere apology to the learned Counsel and the learned Judge.

#### 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, JANUARY 23, 1904.

### THE AMANHIN (KINGS) AND THEIR PEOPLE.

WHAT we have now to consider this week is, the necessity there is, for our Amanhin and Ahinfa, not only in the Western Province, but those in the Eastern Province as well to be more in touch, and work more heartily with the Aborigines Society their only educated Representatives. Here also we are likely to be misunderstood, especially by those on mischief bent. We do not wish to imply that the Society as an organization exists by itself, and works by itself in the name of our Native Ru

lers, working and then afterwards making known to them what it has done. No: it is not so, and those who think so, are only seeking to make out to the outside world, that it is the work of the educated class, and thus to render all their patriotic work of non-effect, because the native Rulers are not in it, and accordingly the Foreign Power with us can ignore the Society and deal directly with these Rulers themselves. We refer all such to the *Report of the Proceedings of the Deputation*, published in 1898. As it is well known, the Society having been called into existence by the agitation over Maxwell's *Lands Bill*, it has existed since then and been working with the full knowledge and concurrence and participation in all its deliberations by these Rulers. What we wish to point out here is the unsatisfactory action or movements of some of these very Amanhin. Influenced by some mischievous persons, there are some who are persuaded to believe, that it will serve more to their interests, and they will be more in favour with the Government by keeping aloof from the Society, or by showing less interest in it consequently we find here and there some of these rulers who are disinclined to give the moral and pecuniary support to the Society, which they ought to give, maintaining their connection with it only by shoals of ready made promises. Need we say that this is folly in the highest degree, and a more suicidal course cannot be adopted. The Society does not seek to work against the Government, if anything it seeks to bring an intelligent, mutual understanding between the Powers that be and the native Rulers, to give effect to the hearty co-operation, which the British Sovereign wishes to see existing between his Representatives on the Coast, and the People over whom he has assumed the Suzerainty. Any native ruler therefore, who in these days, thinks he is intelligent and capable enough to do directly with the Authorities is sure to wake up one day to find his mistake. Let us allow that he is the man he considers himself to be, what of his people then who have their laws manners and customs to go by, and whose representative to the outside world he is? What is to be regretted is, that in some instances you find, those thus attempting to shun the Society and carry their own head, usually keeping a clerk, who generally take the more dignified title of Secretary who to make their living and nothing more advise them all sort of nonsense to their ultimate ruin and discomfiture, often leaving them in the lurch. We say then, that if our Amanhin have any respect for themselves, if they have any regard for their ancestral rights, if they have any interest in their subjects over whom the accident of birth has placed them, and care for their welfare and well-being, considering the times in which they have been called upon to rule over them, let them be, *really and truly* in touch with the *Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society*.

Of the important questions that are stirring the nation to-day, we call their special attention to two only: in these it is desirable that they show a keen interest: there should not be the least apathy or disinterestedness shown: if they think the times have so far changed—changed by the ruthless interference of the Foreigner with our customs and laws, and manners, by the civilization-with-vengeance that is being "drilled" into us, making us unmanly and fast denationalizing us—they should ask for more Power, (handcuffs, police and prison, which in itself is a degradation, that is, if they lay any claim to any Past) they err: let these subjects have ocular demonstrations that they have interest in them, and their welfare, prosperity and happiness at heart, and do not simply exist for 'palaverings' and displays, and they will be submissive to them as they were to their ancestors before them, whilst loyal to His Britannic Majesty, our beneficent, but often ill-represented Protector. The questions in which we think our Amanhin should take an active interest, and take up eagerly with all the influence the position they hold in the country can lend them are those of Agriculture and Education. At this moment these are pressing, that is, if our nationality and racial instinct must be perpetuated, if we too must suffer no extinction from the face of the globe: Agriculturing is no new thing with us and what we mean by it chiefly here is, that the People should be encouraged to grow cocoa and cotton: a good deal has been said of the cotton growing of late, and what other countries are doing in it we may be aware of. The Government are supposed to be doing what they can in the matter but we should take a lively interest in it as a peo-

ple ourselves, and in this we look more to our Amanhin: we do not think there is any necessity for us to dilate on this, for the essentiality the importance of this, for the encouragement of industry among his subjects must be obvious to any Omanhin, who desires the prosperity of his people, who are themselves farmers by profession.

And there is the Education question also to be considered. What this would mean to themselves and their people, we shall not undertake to show, it will probably be presumptuous on our part to do so. England's greatest Poet once sang "there is a divinity that shapes our end, rough hew it how we will" and what is true in the case of the individual, may also be true of the Body politic. There must be something in our having to-day amongst our native Rulers, some educated men—how much we expect of these to bring their trained intellect to bear on the existing state of things as it is with the ruling class, and what it should be towards the people! Brushing aside for the present, all matters touching Education in the Country we ask, what are they going to do for the Scheme just floated for the establishment of the "Fanti Public Schools"? What do they intend doing? From moral suasion, letting alone what pecuniary assistance they can give, we expect a good deal from them. Are the people to be disappointed? The first in the state, are they not going to be first and foremost in movements that would tend to the progress of the People?

"The present is a time when the country's destiny has reached a point of unprecedented importance," it is therefore not only for our Amanhin but for every responsible native to be up and doing.

### SCRUTINEER.

The demand for educated men on our stools reveals its urgency day by day, yet it does not seem that the present rulers themselves are in any way endeavouring to remedy the defect by subjecting their successors to the necessary training. Though most of our Potentates exhibit marked intelligence in their administration, it is evident that in their dealings with the protecting powers they are often duped politically through their ignorance in the English language. And here I do not mean a smattering but a thorough knowledge of that language with all its accompaniments, that enables one to understand all its intricacies,—especially those superfluously-worded ornaments of the world of legislation. I would suggest that the Aborigines Society should recommend to all the Native Rulers the desirability of giving their successors sound education, and see that the demand is complied with (though I do not say that the Society should undertake it). But I almost make this suggestion amidst despair, knowing well how tardy the Society generally is in handling public questions. Having an infinite belief in the potency of the Society, I strongly condemn its snail-like movements. Delay is always perilous in every sphere of life and what the Society considers worth doing and worth doing well, should also be considered worth doing in time. This is an important question calling for their consideration.

We have been suggesting for some time that the Presidents and the Vice-Presidents of the Society should be changed either annually or biennially—leaving it to adopt either of the periods, and the importance of the subject has developed since the privilege is now accorded us of sending a representative from that institution to the Legislature. But it seems that the suggestion either fell among thorns, or if it did upon good grounds it has not as yet taken roots much more to spring up. But who says that the suggestion is unadvisable and impracticable? We must have the Presidents and Vice-Presidents changed or re-elected annually or biennially. The Executive should bury all personal regards and call in strict business principles to their aid in effecting this reform.

Mr. JOSEPH PETER BROWN, one of the "Scholars like these" in the ominous Maxwellian lexicon of renowned political appellations, who has been recently elevated to a seat in the Legislature is one of the few band of patriotic natives who make the public affairs of the Gold Coast their private affairs. What amount of good would accrue to the Fatherland were all natives to show a personal interest in political affairs—to take political actions as effecting them individually! One Englishman had remarked that the public affairs of England are the private affairs of Englishmen, and we cannot follow our Guardians in a better respect than this. Born in 1843 in a Missionary field away from home, Mr. Brown may soon score the three-score-and-ten. In the Church, in Politics, and in Society Jon Brown is not wanting anywhere. He is the man who lives to benefit his country. I only hope that in his new high position he will show more outspokenness and more courage of his convictions. The Gold Coast always desires men who are bold and capable of carrying out their convictions with-

out regard to men and things. May long life, robust constitution, and prosperity attend all the efforts of this worthy son of the Gold Coast.

Yours faithfully,—Artee.

### THE WESLEYAN ANNUAL MISSIONARY MEETING AT KPONG.

DR. B. W. QUARTEY-PAPAFIO'S GREAT SPEECH.

The Annual Meeting of the Wesleyans was held here on Sunday the 10th instant. Dr. B. W. Quarthey-Papafio occupied the chair. The Chapel which accommodates over 300 persons, was crowded even to the temporary Shed outside the Building. The Rev. W. A. Quartey and Catechist Neh: Kumah represented the Basel Mission. Messrs. Rosenthal and Schauer of Messrs. Swanzy's Firm were the only Europeans among the audience. People from Crepee, Akwapim and Akuse attended.

A gratifying Report was read by Rev. Bruce, showing some good results over the previous year's work. The Annual Subscriptions with the collections at the meeting amounted to £50 the highest ever collected since the 13 years of the Mission's existence here. The Wesleyans established on the Volta in response to an earnest appeal of a few men from Kpong with the late Mr. Emmanuel Osubutey at their head of whom Old Portuphy is the only survivor. The Mission besides losing nearly all its promoters suffered the loss of the Chapel and Mission House from the inundation of the Volta in 1893. The Pastor Mr. Bruce was also nearly lost to them but for God's mercy through the instrumentality of Dr. Papafio. The Chapel washed down was replaced with a larger and more substantial one for which the late Mr. Sey of Cape Coast gave the handsome donation of £110.

The speakers were brief and interesting each ending with an appeal to the unconverted founded on anecdotes or Bible texts.

After a vote of thanks accorded the Chairman Dr. Papafio, among many interesting things respecting our indebtedness to the Missions &c. grew eloquent upon the subject of EDUCATION and referred with great persuasiveness to the "Accra School Board" as follows:—"In connection with the Educational development of the Country there has been very recently formed in Accra an Organization designated "The Accra School Board" on non-denominational lines but upon the *Holy Word of God*." (Applause) The object of this Board, I understand, is, to place within the reach of all who may desire it, a good sound Secondary Education at moderate charges. (Applause). And is endeavouring to establish *High Schools for Boys and Girls*. The function of the proposed High Schools will be the *moral and patriotic* training of the youth by education and teaching and their instruction in the general knowledge and acquirements requisite for civil life, whilst not neglecting the Religious. (Applause). This gives us an idea of the scope of the Educational scheme of the "Accra School Board." So that the *formation of character and good conduct* will be the primary objects; next comes *love of country*, (Here) and then such general knowledge as will enable the young to become useful members of the Community. I trust the Board will include in its programme a *system of scholarships* to enable all such as have the ability to rise the means of obtaining a high education for bettering themselves in life.

"The non-denominational character of the Schools is a matter which is, however, agitating some minds not a little. I am assured on this point that the principal cause which determined this course is that *there are not enough of one confession in the native community to undertake the matter independently*; the Schools will therefore be MIXED, but arrangements will be made for the Pupils to receive religious instructions from Teachers of their own persuasion. With this object in view the curriculum has been arranged to comprise the following:—Bible Instruction (which includes the study of the Holy Scriptures and Biblical History), Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Mathematics, English Grammar, Composition and Literature, History, Geography, Greek, Latin, French, Book-keeping, Shorthand, Drawing, Class Singing and Harmony, Drill, Domestic Economy and Needle-work for Girls or such of them or other subjects as the Board with due regard to particular circumstances may determine.

"I have referred to these matters in detail partly on account of the fact that they are not generally known in the country and partly on account of some wiseacres who go about the country sowing seeds of misrepresentations about the Schools and using the non-denominational character of the scheme as a means of persuading their countrymen from giving the scheme a trial by alleging that the Schools will teach no religion. If these men were competent to judge of these matters, I trow, no body would mind much. But from my limited field of observation I have ascertained that these would-be Educationalists are just the men who are at the very opposite pole of the tangent to that

moral and religious qualification necessary for judging in these matters at least in so far as the present state and circumstances of the country would insist. You will not fail therefore to see in this that unless these men have made up their minds resolutely to oppose the scheme of the Board before they have had an opportunity of knowing details of it I do not see how their conduct can be reasonably reconciled with the facts of the case. (Shame!)

"You may take it, Ladies and Gentlemen, that just as the "Accra School Board" has known how to recognise the religious significance in its educational scheme so has it known how to make it its primary object to build a system of education upon the old fundaments of character and conduct! (Here!)

"Another object of some importance to the Board is, as far as possible, to enhance the position of the Teacher as a social entirety which carries with it a definite social standing—dignity and respect, though it may be humble,—and take a pride in his special work. I do not deny that there are in the country some natives who consider the scheme climerical and would have the present system of Elementary Schools sufficient for the needs of the Gold Coast. But in the present state of the country I should look hopefully upon all secondary Educational experiment introduced. I should rather look to them to remove the truth there is in the reproach cast upon the Gold Coast as being comparatively the worst educated and least cultivated amongst her sister Colonies of West Africa. (Prolong Applause).

#### A BIOGRAPHY.

Deputy Registrar Mr. Frank Vardon is transferred to Cape Coast he having been relieved by Mr. Samuel Josiah of Accra. Mr. Vardon has been about 9 years in the Judicial branch of the public service (One year at Accra and the rest in the Winnebah district as Registrar and Interpreter) and is the proud possessor of the Ashanti medal for services already reported in these columns—G. C. Leader No. 24 Jan: 1903.

Mr. Vardon comes from very good family, being on the father's side the son of the late George F. Vardon one of old H. L. Rottmann's pet agents who first planted the Basel Mission factory at Winnebah in the seventies after resigning from the agency of Messrs F & A. Swansy, and who was the nephew of the Hon'ble George Cleland of Accra commonly known by the appellation *Okposissa* (Ghost encounter) old Cleland being up to the time of his death a member of the Legislative Council and a Chief of James Town by right. At the outbreak of the Awoona wars old Cleland's personal services in the Field and vast expenditure earned him besides other marks of recognition for stubborn bravery a presentation sword from Sir John Glover. On the mother's side Registrar Vardon's pedigree may be traced to the stool of Winnebah; his mother Mary (*Awaraba Adjuah*) being the 4th. of our late King Ghartey's children.

Of King Ghartey and his services to the country a detailed account is unnecessary here. As the President of the Fanti Confederation, as the Founder of the Temperance movement, as a firm supporter of Wesleyanism, and as one of the Pioneers in the Gold Mining and several other industries, King Ghartey is known throughout the breadth and length of this Colony.

Mr. Vardon was educated in the Wesleyan High School, Sierra Leone by the late Rev. J. C. May.

On the death of his father he became the possessor of "Harvest House" while his half sister Paulina now Mrs. A. G. Holdbrook of Cape Coast of another house, both situate in Winnebah, besides other substantial provisions by "Will" but his social status has not made him proud. On the contrary the desire to honour his family connections and name makes his disposition rather shy meek and popular as our Cape Coast friends will find him to be. It is hoped that Mr. Vardon's transfer to Cape Coast will offer boundless opportunities for improving himself in the Fanti language also.

Communicated.

Winnebah, 12th. Jan: 1904.

#### ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A painful incident occurred here the other day when Madam Ekuah Tawiah and daughter Efnah Baaba were both laid to rest. The mother had been laid up by an attack of influenza and the daughter was the one attending her, not long after she contracted a disease and died on the 7th six days after—in the morning. While they were preparing for the funeral, it was reported that the mother had also died and both were buried by the Catholic Catechist Mr. Quaison in their Cemetery.

Our new Inspector of Nuisance Mr. Longdon is hard at work chasing after cattle in person with the whole of his scavengers. We beg leave to tell our Inspector to leave the cattle alone and mind

other important things that will benefit the town than that. We call his attention to the bridge whereon he passes daily which is broken and needs repairing. There are many hollow places which ought to be filled up with swish by the scavengers. The streets are dirty and need sweeping, the weeds require weeding, and there are so many other things requiring attention than the chasing after cattle.

The D. C., we are surprised to note, has stopped his fortnightly visits to this town, we should like to know the cause of this.

In bygone days summonses were received by the Officer in charge here who forwarded them to Salt Pond for signature after which they were returned for service thus saving the public the trouble of running down to the latter town for them. We hope the D. C. has only to be told to restore the practice.

Now that the Ebenezer Church presents a beautiful appearance, we will suggest to the Churchmen to have it fenced in to prevent animals from committing nuisance by it.

#### SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The D. C. Mr. Harper has left with Mr. Registrar Ohene for Insuaim and other outlying villages on inspection. Mr. Justice Smith also left for Esikuma with Mr. Registrar Anaman.

It is rumoured that the new Sergeant of Police is determining to rule the town with an iron rod. If the rumour is correct and seems to be justified by the recent briak apprehensions then, it is to be regretted.

The Infantry Brass Band were brought up before the D. C. and fined Two pounds for playing instruments without licence.

Whoever are responsible for the lightening of the streets ought to be able to give the lights a good "shine." From all appearance it does not seem that they are even cleaned before lighting.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.*

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

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

Dear Sir,—I congratulate Mr. Joseph Peter Brown through your paper on his having become a member of the Legislative Council. It is pleasing that, after all the past discouragements, a worthy man in the person of Mr. Joseph Peter Brown has been thought fit to be reckoned upon.

Hitherto this has been the case that if a Native is influential the Government under some pretence, would have him in rank, and thus weaken his influence prevailing amongst his country men, so that he becomes somewhat indifferent to the affairs pertaining to the Country.

But we trust this will not be in the case of Mr. Joseph Peter Brown, President of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society, rather, that he will freely speak out his mind on matters pertaining to the interest and welfare of the Protectorate, when he sits in the Council.

Thanking you for the space allowed.

Yours faithfully,—OKAEYIR.

Anamabu, January 19th 1904.

Sir—Please allow me a space in your columns to ask the following question whether any one at home or abroad could be able to enlighten me, Why a gun was fired at church at the closing of a watch night service at 12 p. m. precisely?

I have attended several of such meetings before, but I had not seen such a strange scene at church than the one referred to that occurred here.

Is this a usual thing done elsewhere or here alone?

Yours faithfully,

A. NATIVE.

Asafa, 13. 1. 04.

#### THE POST OFFICE AT WINNEBAH.

Sir—Permit me a short space in your columns to bring before the General Postmaster the irregularities that still exist in the General Post Office at Accra in the despatch of English mails from that Office to this place.

For sometime the mails arriving there are kept back until the following day or thereafter before they are despatched for this place and one cannot understand the reasons, if any, why they should not be at once despatched the same day as they arrive.

A case in point is this, the s/s Akabo arrived at Accra on the 10th inst. which was on Sunday, but her mails did not reach here until 3 days after, while the Winnebah public had been assured in answer to a similar complaint made sometime ago that the English mails would be despatched to arrive here within 24 hours after landing at Accra. And as the distance between this place and Accra is cal-

culated to be only 12 hours journey no other proof than this is required to substantiate the present complaint at issue if the "Akabo" mails have taken quite 3 days or 72 hours travelling distance to Winnebah.

The Agents and traders of this town have time and again made several complaints in this respect but there being no satisfaction given notwithstanding their repeated appeals they have been obliged much against their own interest to leave things to the tender mercy of the District Postmaster at Accra to whom these irregularities are more or less attributed.

I called at the Post Office yesterday for an information about the "Akabo" mails, but the Dist. Postmaster here said he is powerless in the matter to remedy these defects; as a little while ago, being pestered by the public as to the whereabouts of certain mails which ought to have arrived here earlier, was compelled to wire to the District Postmaster Accra for information about same, but was written to not to make any Enquiries in future by wire respecting mails and that the recurrence of such "offence" would lead to his being saddled with the cost of the message.

In my opinion I think it is about time something definite was done in the Post Office to ensure a satisfaction being given to the people in this district.

Dear Mr. Editor how would either the Postmaster General or the District Postmaster like any letter belonging to him personally being kept in the office for a day or two before it is delivered?

I understand the mails arriving at Accra even on Sundays are delivered on the same day, if so, why some arrangements cannot be made for the despatch of mails the same day for outstations also.

The General Postmaster should detail one of the Clerks specially to attend to the despatch of the outstation mails, and to ensure promptitude, such clerk to get the special runners or mail carriers ready as soon as the steamer is signalled, and to furnish him returns of arrivals and despatch of English outstation mails, and wire to each station when same are despatched for general information. If this my humble suggestion would be followed things would go smoothly and the General Postmaster can easily detect whom to blame in future.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours gratefully,—SIMPA ODABIKESI.

Winnebah, January 14th 1904.

#### THE MERCHANT AND HIS CLERKS.

Sir,—There is no doubt that it is an easy thing for a merchant to sit down with folded arms and be crying out that Trade is dull. If so whose fault it is? either the merchant himself or the Government must be responsible.

In days gone by when the European Houses were represented by men with sufficient amount of common sense and judgment things were not as they appear now ten chances to one His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan's remarks in England a short time ago that better men should be sent out to represent their employers were very wise and suggestive; men of the stamp of the late Lyall, Selby and others whose aims were all for commerce and nothing more the doings of the Government which in their opinion would be detrimental to trade were readily taken up until such measures were removed but now as every one is on the look out for Government favours we must close our eyes to all we see and hear and the only best cause to adopt which will improve Trade which recommends itself to us is reduction of expenses which of course weighs only on the native employees.

Take for instance the Ordinance prohibiting the sale of arms and ammunitions: several guns and gunpowder have been damaged by this unnecessary restriction where there is no occasion for this to remain in force up till now Trading on the Gold Coast is that one must study the market and its requirements carefully and the principal staple articles that draw traders to the sea coast should not be hindered. Since the restriction the amount of gunpowder that has been smuggled from the Ivory Coast to this Colony worths some hundreds of pounds.

Again what benefit in Trade have we derived since the British occupation in Ashanti and the removal of Prempeh? Another block to trade is the conduct of the Hausas in the bush towards the few traders who are returning to their villages from the Coast.

These are important matters for a merchant to think about or a Chamber of Commerce to solve and see how best these could be removed but instead of this meetings after meetings against the Native clerks are all they think of and nothing more. If reduction of expenses will improve Trade what suggestions are these merchants submitting to their employers in England to do with their own salaries? Surely this step to improve Trade must not hang over the Native alone—this will be unjust and unfair.

Before closing I give a word of advice to the Native clerks to beware of the combination scheme and be united taking warning from the lesson it teaches, possibly you are booked for February next.

Yours truly,—TRADE.

Cape Coast, Jan. 1904.

#### THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. James Mercer returns his sincere thanks on behalf of himself and family to all kind friends here and abroad, who by letters, telegrams and personal calls have sympathized with them on their recent bereavement on the death of his dear Mother which took place at Kotokuraba on the 24th November last.

ASIAN TI.

UNREST THERE—USURPATION GALORE.

WE publish below, what has been, and shall continue to be, the cause of all the trouble and disturbance in Asianti since the transportation of PREMPEH from that Country, and until this is remedied, there shall be always unrest in that country despite all that is being said and done, the Asiantis being what they are. The removal of the "Kings" (Amanhin) and "Chiefs" (Ahinfu) from their stools, transporting them and placing on them people in no way connected with the stools must always cause unrest. We say this from a most reliable source, and we say it too with the full knowledge that it will be officially contradicted: but the Englishman in Asianti should remember, that with all his cleverness, civilization and diplomatic skill, he can be easily "pocketed" by that Asianti barbarian, and that he is the dupe of those who, by telling him tales, and by promises to show where the "Golden Stool" is have worked themselves into his favour, for which he has rewarded them with stools to sit upon, and who, finding themselves the proud possessors of stools, they never one day dreamed to obtain, will do all in their power to keep, by telling as many tales as they can, and thus shielding themselves under his aegis oppress their so called "subjects" as much as they can which is always the case with all usurpers.

The result of this error in judgment and usurpation is, the badness of trade, the hopeless ruin of a country which would have otherwise been a good source for Trade, and the depopulation of once a powerful kingdom whose subjects would have been now the dutiful subjects of Great Britain, and a kingdom which would have been a profitable mart for the British Manufacturer. Asianti once noted for her unity, which gave her all her power, has now become the most disunited, and disintegrated, more than any country we know of and all because having first put the wrong persons on the stools, the policy of setting each ruler against the other, has been tried there, and of course these rulers knowing themselves to be the wrongful possessors of the stools, it has succeeded remarkably well. One could hardly credit the news that reach his ears, and of course all this can be officially denied with all readiness, and since they are officially denied, then all is calm and peace and order and what not, and any disquietness that may exist there, "may exist only in the imaginative brains of the mischievous educated negro on the litoral." This reads well, but it is not the thing.

We have said over and over and do say it again, that if our Government do not lay any claim to infallibility, or do not consider themselves above what is called "error in judgment," if there is no possibility of their ever being at fault in what they may do, then having gained a footing in the country of Asianti, let Prempeh and his People who are in exile now be sent back to their country, for the sake of humanity, for the securing of perfect tranquility in that country and in the interest of Trade. But if what has gone forth from the British Government must be taken for the modernized law of the Medes and Persians, then we respectfully submit, that the rightful persons must be placed on the stools of those exiled from their home, and one of equal birth and rank with PREMPEH be placed over them. This alone will restore peace to Asianti, and draw all the people back from the villages to Kumasi. Either of these done particularly the former, will be British-like, and give satisfaction to the Asantis and serve more to the interest of, if not a saving to, the Gold Coast or British tax payer or trader.—

1. Yaw Berku of Mampon is now on the stool of Kodwo of Ofosu. This Kodwo Kwawu has been deported with Prempeh. Yaw Berku has no right to occupy this stool at all nor any stool at Kumasi. If he has any claim at all it will be to a Mampon stool.
2. Kofi Naekeyire a brother to Yaw Berku, is now on the stool of Buatsin of Domiasi. This Buatsin has been exiled with Prempeh. In the absence of Buatsin, Kofi Sekyire should be the rightful successor and not Kofi Naekeyire who has been more than twice imprisoned at Kumasi.
3. Osai of Mampon, uncle to Yaw Berku and Kofi Naekeyire (the above two) is now on the stool of Amankwataia of Bantuma. His rightful stool is

that of Osukye of Mampon, who has been transported with Prempeh.

4. Kwamin Tunya now on the stool of Obuahassa is the son of Kwamin Panyin once a royal "bugler" and is of the low classes in Kumasi. Kwodwo Pokoo was placed in the position of his father. After the Asiantis war Tunya laid claim to the stool of Obuahassa on the strength of his loyalty to the British Government. Tunya is an ex-convict.
5. Kofi Intsin has no right whatever to the stool of Osai of Dadzieswaba. He is a son to the late King Kakari and has no claim to any stool in Kumasi. He is a regular extortioner and has seen the precincts of Elmina, Cape Coast and Kumasi jails. The rightful successor who has been deprived from it is, Yaw Sekyire of Krappa.
6. Adaboo who now occupies the stool of Subrai for Subre Akyempim "Hii" is nowhere by it. His father was a mere Superintendent of roads during the reign of Prempeh.
7. Kobina Totoe who now occupies the stool of Asamuah Kwamin of Edun exiled with Yaah Esiantiswaa, was formerly on the stool of his father Egyai Panyin. After the Yaah Esiantiswaa war he refused his own stool and claimed Asamuah Kwamin's. Through his flattery, and service of lies to the British Government, especially to Dr. ——— an official, he was backed to get the stool. He was connected with an official (who shall be presently nameless) in the exhumation of dead bodies, and accompanied a Capt. Greene to arrest Mansah the sister of Prempeh, who was supposed to know the whereabouts of the famous "Golden Stool."
8. Kwodwo Adom who now occupies the stool of Ghanfie has no right whatever to it. The lawful successor is Kwamin Pokoo the nephew of Ghanfie. He obtained the stool through the assistance of Kwamin Buakyi of Aguna.
9. Inuama is a brother to Kwamin Tenya being a free servant to the stool of Akyinyamihin, which he is now occupying.
10. Busumprah who is now occupying a stool is a slave (a native of Krepi) bought by Kofi Anyisah (Ansah) uncle of Prempeh and was intended as a sacrifice to a god.
11. Kweku Edua is a nephew to Osai Mampon. He is now on the stool of Kwamin Buakyi Chief of Atsipim. As he is a valiant usurper he has succeeded in driving out all the subjects of the stool through extortionable means.
12. Kwakyi Kofi now on the stool of Asafu-Buakyi (the Buakyi that had been exiled with Prempeh) was formerly a mere sword bearer to Prempeh.
13. Kwamin Aduah of Kokofu is on the stool of Abodom and is nowhere by it. The rightful party is Ohiatwirebon or Ahiatwirebon.
14. Yaw Awua or Awua Brofu-Sam of the present Odwusa stool is not the rightful party. His father was Kofi Entwi once a royal "bugler." Awua has been once sentenced to 7 years' penal servitude at Elmina. He was convicted for supplying one thousand rifles to the Kokofus during the Eseebe, Bekwa, Kokofu and Adansi wars. He was reported to the British Government by Prempeh. The rightful party to the stool is Tsin (exiled).
15. Kobina Totoe now on a stool has been once convicted for 7 years.
16. Adom now on a usurped stool held an important post during the Esiantiswaa war. He it was who ordered to be put to death a Hausa soldier despatched with a letter to the Coast by the British Government.
17. Kobina Otsi, now on the stool of Kweku Feku a linguist of Prempeh, now in exile, is the son of Buakin of Domiasi. The lawful successor to the stool is Kweku Edua of Essama. Kobina Otsi has been convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to a year's imprisonment during the time of Captain Armitage, having tied a woman to death.

OFFICIAL IMPOTENCE ON THE GOLD COAST.

Here is an extract from the letter of a correspondent to West Africa, part of which, it will be seen, sadly confirms the fears expressed by me last week as to encroachment on native autonomy:—Notwithstanding that the trade prospects of the country are overcast with gloomy forebodings, I perceive no clear apprehension on the part of the powers that be as to the dangers of the situation, with the interior trade with the Gold Coast sinking lower and lower, with the gold industry on its beam ends, with an ordinance-ridden country, and a policy which seems bent upon driving the aboriginal community into despair, what may the harvest be?

As far as I can see, the only salvation of the country is in agriculture and cotton growing, and herein one cannot help admiring the clearness of view shown by the Lagos Government in the policy strenuously pursued in that little enterprising colony. There is actually taking place, as I am writing, an Agricultural and Machinery Exhibition under the auspices of the Colonial Government, and

it is the policy of Sir Wm. MacGregor to support the native chiefs in every way and to encourage them in the fruitful arts of peace.—*Medford Herald, Dec. 19, 03.*

NATIVE TITLES

We publish the following titles which we think will be specially invaluable to the Government and the People. This comprises the Eastern Provinces and the Fanti Provinces including Wassa and a few other places. We hope to publish those for Abants, Appollonia and Asovia Provinces.—

Fanti	Adomwa	Ga
Omanhin (+ King)	Konor	Lumɔ
Ohin	Mantse or Mankralo	Mantse or Mankralo
† Chief, Head chief of a tribe or section of a town Member of Privy Council.		
Tufuhin	Akwamɔ-tee	Akwamɔ-tee
† Promoter, Head of the seven Companies and of the chiefs forming the Privy Council In Adomwa and Ga often styled "Nu"		
Safuhin	Asafɔntse	Asafɔntse
† Captain—military		
Okyiamɔ	Otsami	Otsami
† Spokesman. This is sometimes designated the "linguist" which is an unpardonable error for he may not be more skilled in tongues or languages as the "Speaker" of the "House of Commons"		

- N.B. 1. Each Ohin, or Mantse keeps a Court of Justice and act as a general or Lieutenant in time of war. Being a subordinate on the whole to the Omanhin, Konor or Lumɔ.
2. Safuhin, or Asafɔntse commands a regiment under Mantse or Ohin and serves as courtier to him at home.
3. Okyiamɔ or Otsami acts as spokesman at Ohin or Mantse's Court and is Head of an Embassy to foreign Courts. The head-spokesman serves only at the Omanhin, Konor or Lumɔ's Court.
- The dagger (†) denotes the English equivalent.

LATEST NEWS.

- Just as we were going to Press information reached us that Mr. Archer the Supervisor here has been appointed the Registrar instead of Mr. Vardon.
- One of the sailors on board a sailing vessel in the roads was arrested and brought ashore last Thursday morning.
- Mr. O'Brien is gone up to Abakrampa.
- A correspondent from Accra writes to correct what appeared in our News column about three weeks ago, that it was only Mr. Clavel the Governor of the Ivory Coast who was on a friendly visit to Accra, and Count Zech the Acting Governor of Togoland is expected there shortly.
- From the Lagos Standard we learn that Mr. C. Kaye Bennett who went down by the Sabote has since been appointed Auditor and Collector of Tolls of Abbeokuta.
- Rev. A. T. R. Bartrop General Superintendent of this District is gone down to Lagos.
- Sir William MacGregor (Governor) has left Lagos some say finally, others, that he is gone for the usual six months furlough.
- A tea treat was given to the Singing Band children at the Jubilee Memorial last Thursday evening, it was largely attended and the Entertainment afterwards was a great success.
- Mr. H. S. Penny of the African Association left for England on leave by the Glenada last Wednesday.
- A woman going to the Bush Market (Egassii) yesterday morning was caught by some men, who brutally beat her, taking away what money she had on her.
- One of Swanzy's Kroo Boys having died yesterday, his friends gave him a decent funeral, the Band leading first of its kind witnessed in Town.
- Mr. O'Brien has been promoted as a Provincial District Commissioner, and Mr. Whyte is now the D.C. of the Town, the post of Assistant Commissionership having been abolished. Both gentlemen have our congratulations.

For Back Numbers please apply to the MANAGER.

# The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. II.  
No. 84.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1904.

Price 3d.  
Including postage 4d.

## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

### ADVERTISING SCALE.

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

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

Special arrangements can be made for advertisements for longer periods.

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

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

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

AT SEKUNDI

From his store at Possi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM,

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

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

**Dr. E. G. MacLean,**  
*DENTIST.*  
Chapel Square, Cape Coast.

Office hours, 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

Note.—Persons whose **TEETH** are giving trouble or who require new ones will please call now as I will remove to Accra in the near future.

Painless Methods. Free Consultation.  
**E. G. MACLEAN, D.D.S.**

### NOTICES.

That many valuable mining property on the Gold Coast has been degraded, condemned or given up through want of a patient, careful and systematic prospecting and preliminary development work, is without doubt. And it is time that the fault be corrected, and the true position of the Gold Coast, worthy of the name, be verified and maintained.

Acquah Brothers will shortly be prepared to undertake contracts for—Prospecting by Diamond Core Prospecting Drill, Shaft &c., including assays of samples. Erecting of mining and other machinery—Stamp Mills, Engines of every description Pumping, Hauling, Dressing &c., operated by steam, oil or Electricity where water power would be available (a valuable essential to the successful working of a mine when practicable). Shaft sinking and Driving. Construction and erection of High Class and Efficiently Ventilated Buildings suitable to the West African Climate, and other Engineering works—Construction of Light Railways for Mine and other services &c. &c. Doubtful mining properties will be carefully and systematically tested. Reliable, prompt and satisfactory work guaranteed.

A boon to all interested in Mining and other operations in West Africa.

Later on a workshop including a light Machinery shop will be opened for me—Mechanical Training—Pattern Foundry Work, Forging, Finishing, Fitting, Carpentry Cabinet work, Masonry, Brickwork &c., including Theoretical studies, for the purpose of preparing Natives (principally, educated) for mining and other works. An important desideratum in the economical and successful working of mines &c., on the Gold Coast.

Apply for particulars to:—

**W. E. D. ACQUAH**

Late Mill Manager—Wassaw (Gold Coast) Mining Co. Ltd. and Head of Fitting and Erecting (Mechanical Engineering) Dept.—Tansoo (Wassaw) Gold Mining Co. Ltd., &c. &c. Axim.



PURE.—NOURISHING.

## ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

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

### WELLINGTON AUGUSTUS JOSEPH ANTONY.—(Deceased.)

Pursuant to an Act passed in the 22nd and 23rd years of the reign of the late Majesty Queen Victoria Chap 25 entitled, "An act to further amend the law of Property and to relieve Trustees."

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and persons having any claims or demands against the Estate of Wellington Augustus Joseph Antony late of Cape Coast, Gold Coast Colony (who died on the 12th day of July 1903 and on respect of whose estate letters of administration were granted by the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony to Caroline Antony widow of the deceased on the 18th day of December 1903) are hereby required to send particulars writing of the debts, claims or demand to the administratrix on or before the 30th day of June 1904; notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the said time the administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to debts, claims or demands of which she shall then have notice, and that she will not be liable for the assets or persons of whose debts, claims or demands she shall not then have had notice all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment to administratrix.

Dated at Cape Coast 9th January 1904.

**CAROLINE ANTONY.**

**THE UNDERSIGNED** has been instructed by Messrs. **J. J. FISCHER & CO. LTD.** to sell by Public Auction, on Monday the 8th February at 4.30 o'clock p.m. all those two pieces or parcels of Land with the Buildings thereon.

(1) Measured and Bounded on the North by a Pathway 20 feet, on the South by Ekra Quamin's House 20 feet, on the West by Mary Bosu's House 43 feet, and on the East by Mortgagor's House 43 feet.

(2) Measured and Bounded on the North by Sippah's 43 feet, on the South by Ekrah's House 43 feet, on the West by Bosuah's House 43 feet, and on the East by Bye Road and F. C. Grant's Land 43 feet.

Situate at Warakubrim, Beala Road, and known as the Property of **KUDJOE KUMAH.**

Conditions of Sale will be read at the place and hour above-mentioned; and for further particulars re Boundaries, &c., apply at the Mart of the undersigned between the hours of 8 to 11 a.m., and 1 to 5 p.m. or

**T. MCKENZIE SKUES.**

*Licensed Auctioneer &c.*

Cape Coast, January 25, 1904.

### GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. J. Emil Emissang, accompanied by Mr. K. Tandoh, we learn, left for Kwitta last week, to be married to Miss Renner, the sister of Mr. P. Awonor Renner.

The very sad and unexpected news of the death of Mrs. Sophia Williams thrilled our community last Monday morning. The Honourable C. Sappara Williams of Lagos, and the bereaved friends have our deep sympathies.

The Wesleyan and Grammar Schools, started work after their Christmas Holidays this week. We understand the Accra Boarding School was opened on last Monday.

B. E. A. (Tarkwa): No; this is very unfair and we do not think it is from Accra; write to the G. P. M. about it, better.

The *Singing Band* visited *Siodu* last Friday evening with Mr. J. D. Abraham.

Mr. C. L. P. Coussey of Messrs. Swanzy returned from his leave of absence last Saturday by the *Tarkwa*.

We regret to learn that Mr. H. R. Blankson of the Post Office has been ill for some time.

The D. C's Court was removed to the Castle last Monday, the Divisional Court having been removed to the new Court House at the Salt Pond Road where the next Assizes will be held.

Maiwatchin on the borders of Russia, is the only town in the world exclusively inhabited by men. (Happy Town.)

**STRANGE BALL:** A banquet and ball of an exceedingly rare kind have just been witnessed in Paris. It was the annual assemblage of the Association of the Deaf and Dumb, and the strangely uncanny spectacle was witnessed of several hundred persons all engaged in animated "conversation," without a sound being heard except the clatter of the crockery. The subsequent dancing which was carried on with great spirit displayed the further peculiarity of "going" splendidly without a note of audible music.

With the assistance of the latest machines, a piece of leather can be transformed into a pair of boots in thirty-four minutes, in which time it passes through the hands of sixty-three people and through fifteen machines.

An Authority on the subject declares that many cases of defective eyesight are caused by wearing tight collars, which interfere with the circulation of blood to the head.—*Tut Bits.*

The most regrettable news reaches us of the deposition of Omanhin Otoo V. of Abura, by his people, the cause or causes for which have not got to us yet.

This sort of thing is getting too frequent nowadays: what can it portend?

Messrs. C. H. Hutchison and W. A. Johnson both of this place have passed successively the Surveyors' Exams, and are licensed as such.

From Sekundi, the news comes of the arrival of Capt. Armitage there to provide quarters for some Asianti Ahinfa (Chiefs) and their people, about 400 in all, on a visit to the Coast on the 9th. prox. Probably they will travel by the train. That's an epoch.

By the s.s. "Eleanor Woermann" that came in last Wednesday morning arrived Mr. Ostner of the firm of Ostner & Bartsch

We thank our donor for his kind donation of 25/- sent to us from the Rivers in aid of the Press.

We are pleased to hear that the irregularities existing in the Telegraph Department as reported in our last issue are engaging the attention of the District Postmaster here.

### MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

#### OUTWARDS.

	Due at Cape Coast.
Cameroon S. W. Service ...	Jan. 23
Biafra Brass Service ...	" 24
*Eleo: Woermann Cam. Acc. Service ...	" 25
*Tarkwah Lagos Express Service ...	" 25
*Sekondi S. C. E. Service No. 2. Feb. 1	
Volta Opobo Service ...	" 3
Dahomey Brass Service ...	" 8
*Nigeria Lagos Express Service ...	" 8

*Sobo S. C. Express Service No. 1.	15
Egwanga Opobo Service	17
Ropuelle Southern Windward Service	20
Accra Brass Service	23
HOMEWARDS.	
Bonny Brass Service	Jan. 24
Paul Wurmman C. and S. C. Service	27
Akabo Lagos Express Service	27
Bathurst Opobo Service	28
Fantee S. C. Express Service No. 1.	Feb. 3
Axim Brass Service	7
Bakana Opobo Service	11

\* With mails and passengers only.

### THE LATE MRS. SOPHIA WILLIAMS.

The news of the death of this estimable lady came like a thunder-clap on our community from Elmina on last Monday morning there being very few, if any who were prepared for this shocking news. In her death there passes away one of the three cultured and prominent ladies of the "old order" now left to the country. The deceased lady was the eldest daughter of the late Robert Hutchison, who held a very prominent and important position in the country in his day: until her marriage to the Honourable C. Sapara Williams, Barrister-at-Law of Lagos she was a most prominent figure in our Society, and at Lagos her adopted country she was the leading person in social gatherings there also: intelligent, kind, social and lady-like, to know her was to like and respect her. Owing to the feeble age of her mother (Mrs. Anna Hutchison) the deceased lady, had been at Elmina for the past two or three years, and, strong and hale, complaining of fever only last Friday (22nd) the following Monday at 11.45 p.m. found her a corpse, much to the sorrow and regret of all. The body was taken from their residence at Mount Pleasant the next morning at 8 o'clock to the Wesleyan Chapel, the Rev. R. M. Acquah the Superintendent of the Circuit officiating: and gave a short and impressive address and from thence her remains were removed to Newman Hill Cemetery for interment followed by one of the largest sympathizing friends, Elmina has ever witnessed: the large number of friends who went up from this place for the funeral, from all classes showed how greatly the deceased was esteemed she having spent the greater part of early days in this Town. We hope shortly to publish an account of her life in our columns. Her husband the Hon'ble Sapara Williams, her bereaved mother, and her only sister (Mrs. Emma Anshah) with all those dear to her, she has left behind have our sincere sympathies.

The only Brother Mr. W. F. Hutchison is still in England.

### T A R K W A.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

His Excellency the Governor Sir Matthew Nathan and suite with Mr. Andrew Swanzy and Mr. James Muir of the Firm of F. & A. Swanzy, passed up to Kumasi on Sunday the 10th. inst.

Mr. J. E. Forley the Assistant Commissioner who was lately transferred to Dunkwa has returned to relieve Mr. John Maxwell the Goop, who has also been transferred to Sekondi. We regret very much the untimely transfer of Mr. Maxwell. We wish him long life and success everywhere.

The Wesleyan Day School was re-opened on Tuesday the 12th. Mr. Sackey has been asked to take the place of Mr. Annan the Headmaster who has not yet returned from his visit to Commendah.

The Tarkwa Assizes began its sittings on the 4th inst. with Mr. Justice Parcell presiding and Mr. Emsie, D. C. prosecuting.

Mr. Henry Vroom of Elmina is in town. He goes back this week.

### EDITORIAL NOTES

The correspondence we published last week from one who signed himself "Trade," does not only go to confirm what we wrote as to the movements of our Merchants which to our unsophisticated mind are detrimental to the interest of Trade but reveals a state of affairs, which we think calls for the close attention, and immediate action from all concerned.

It speaks of "a combination scheme," the existence of which probably most of our readers are acquainted with. Is this by all the European Houses so as to buy up the native Mercantile Houses, and the petty traders: or by some of them only, which must of course affect the others, as well as the native merchant? Will the scheme in any way improve the trade of the Country, or is it meant to be the selfish act of a few Houses to monopolize the trade of the Country, or to crush the native clerks by having a fixed salary all round for them? The whole question is so momentous, that we must let patience have her perfect work so as to learn all about it.

It is quite evident, that, as DICKENS would put it, "there are great changes in the world," (or as we should put it here, there are to be some great changes in our world), "great changes;" and we can't do better than prepare ourselves to be surprised at hardly anything," yet the native clerk thinks its all serene, and takes everything said to him to be alive to his own interest, as the duck would take water on its back, while the merchant is all there and goes on apace with his schemes and plans: the head and front of it all is, that as things are at present, the prospect for those of us who have sworn to be clerks, is doomed, and we call upon all and sundry to begin to bestir themselves. We recently heard of all sorts of "combines" in Europe, and it has been deemed early enough to introduce them here, and as it is the wish of our "Masters" to teach us everything as they exist in their country, and seeing we are such mimics, why may we not begin to think of "Associations" and "Clubs" and "Trade Unions" &c. which the British employee indulges in for his interest?

There is no doubt, that things will be going on from bad to worse, as the doctrine now propounded is, that "the black man was created by G—, for the annoyance of the white man, and whoever he is and whatever he may be he is a fool" as one of the very few, we have always thought, to be intelligent, considerate and gentlemanly, was heard to say the other day. After all, it will be far better, for the black man, whatever may be his station in life to know himself as such (how do some people forget themselves) and as such to spend and be spent for his people and race. Indeed they are much to be pitied, who through some fortuitous circumstances are tempted to entertain the idea that they are superior to their brother-colour, and so begin to work against the less fortunate, if only to satisfy and please his would-be white brother. objects of pity these are to the thinking negro, and of ridicule and contempt to the thoughtful white.

But all these annoyances are meant to have their salutary effect on us as a RACE; they are intended perhaps unconsciously, to remind the educated, responsible negro, of the duties he owes to his people and Race, and to unify the blacks, all over the world to work for the interest of the Race. Must what is going on in our midst to-day, in nearly every walk of life and the lessons intended to teach be lost on us, who are in West Africa? But we have digressed. The letter referred to above, spoke of some "bookings" for next month. We are looking on: in fact the question touched upon in the preceding paragraphs must engage our attention again, viz., the "combination scheme," and the attitude of the native clerks in the face of passing events.

By the way, from a correspondence received from a European friend last Wednesday evening, there seems to be lurking in some quarters, the idea that in thus speaking up for our people and Race, the *Leader* takes up the position of the white man hater: really it will be idle for us to waste a minute to try to defend our position on such a bald dash, and as a matter of fact we excuse our friend in thinking so, and attach no blame to him at all, nay, we even thank him for being so frank, for all such notions were put into his head by the mischievous, gossiping, tale-telling native: and if we must attach any blame to him at all, it will be because with his superior and better knowledge of things he can for a moment entertain that idea.

Will he consider the journal in his country protesting against some oppressive measures enacted by the Parliament or the Reichstag, the hater of the members, or will he put down as such the journalist or his correspondent who may denounce or repudiate the harsh treatment of the employer to his employees? He will not, let him therefore do unto us as he would be done by: No, the *Leader* does not hate the white man, for it knows, that he in the hands of Providence, has brought to us many good things not unmixed, however with bad things as well (if only to show up the universal depravity of the human nature): but if the existence of hatred must be insisted on, then it can only be to that degree of hatred (if that is the word) which the Jew bore against the Roman in the days preceding and following the days of Pontius Pilate, or of the Irish against the English landlord, or the Irish politician asking in vain for Home Rule, or even of the Scotch or Welsh against the English where he finds his nationality touched or his racial instincts despised or ignored.

These comparisons may not be carried to the letter or to details: let them be taken broadly, and we are almost sure we shall have the sympathy instead of the censure of our white brother who has come to stay with us, and he will know what to think of or how to look upon the native who from purely selfish motives, has assumed the unenviable role of the traducer of his people and race. We have performed written at length, for

we find this sort of talk is thick in the air, and all sorts of motives are attributed to our existence, but "wisdom is justified by her children."

Judging from the Winneba correspondence also published last week there seems to be general dissatisfaction prevailing in our Post Office Department for which the source of the stream and not the tributaries can be held responsible: as we said sometime ago the complaints about this Department are more than they were before, and who to blame we cannot say: we are rather inclined to say that it is all due to the prevalence of red-tapeism, and considering the importance of this department, it should be well paid to secure more competent and intelligent hands, and for the encouragement of all such already in the service. The red-tapeism existing tends to curb the energy and zeal of the capable District Postmaster.

We would remind the P. W. D. that the new names given to the streets to which we called it attention sometime ago and which His Excellency suggested that with the Aborigines Society, they should be set right, has not been done yet, and so some streets still go by two names the Public Works Department's and their old ones.

We can hardly credit the news from Abura about the destoolment of her Omanhin. We know there are certain customary laws the infringement of any of which brings the Omanhin into that predicament. Are we to understand that Otsoo V. has infringed any of these rules or laws? Was his destoolment the action of the whole Abura people or of certain section only? Was the deed done with the knowledge and consent of all the principal Abinifu and persons of the district? Abura is such an old and important kingdom and boasts of certain amount of intelligence, and has some of our prominent educated natives, that news of this sort coming from there, must concern us greatly in the face of what has been transpiring of late: besides the possessor of that stool is one of the few educated Amanhin we have. This district is fairly and strongly represented on the Aborigines Society. For many reasons it becomes such a district as Abura is, to take such steps calmly. We wait for particulars.

### APOLOGY.

We have since receiving Mr. Renner's summons for libel in relation to our Elmina correspondent's notes which appeared in our issue of the 26th. of September last in reference to the trial Rex vs. Acquay, found that the learned Judge did not use the words "addicted to sharp practice" to Mr. Renner and whatever fell from the learned Judge in this connection was explained as to its meaning and withdrawn in open Court on the day of the incident and the day following and that the learned Judge took pains to explain the words he used on that occasion and the sense in which he meant them. We find also that the words "addicted to" was never used as reported. We regret the report as published and also any annoyance that he may have occasioned Mr. Renner in consequence of the error made and we tender our sincere apology to the learned Counsel and the learned Judge.

### 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 non-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, JANUARY 30, 1904.

AN OPEN LETTER TO HIS EXCELLENCY,  
SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, R.E., K.C.M.G.,  
Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the  
Gold Coast Colony, &c. &c.

The "Gold Coast Leader" Office,  
Cape Coast, Jan 29, 1904.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

On the eve of your departure from the Protectorate to Asia to assume your new responsibilities as the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hong Kong, we venture to approach you on the occasion, first to congratulate you on the high promotion accorded you by His Majesty's Government, and then

to say a few parting words.

Your Excellency have our most hearty congratulations in being considered capable and competent by the Colonial Office to administer the government of such an important Military and Naval station for the protection of British Commerce, the centre of a vast trade in many kinds of produce, a station rendered all the more important at this time, from the disquietness now prevailing in the Far East. We trust the ability and close attention to details in the performance of your duties which have characterized your administration here, will follow you there. Naturally, we shall now be interested in the Colony to which we have given an Administrator, and we hope Your Excellency also will continue to interest yourself in the Gold Coast. That you may enjoy good health and long life to serve our great Empire in still more important stations is the ardent wish of the "Leader."

2. The "Leader," Sir, may be said, to claim your Patronage (without enjoying it,) for it is during your administration, that it first saw light: and following up the customary thing in Journalism we laid our services at Your Excellency's feet to co-operate with Your Excellency in the administration of this Government, and how sincere and faithful we have been in this our self-imposed task Your Excellency can tell. In a previous letter to Your Excellency when Your Excellency was knighted, we wrote thus on this point:—"In humbly co-operating with Your Excellency in the administration of this Government, we shall be called upon as the mouth-piece of the People...to criticize where criticism offers itself; indeed Sir, we know of no policies less capable of standing the strain of criticism, and amenable to a more thorough condemnation than those invariably adopted by Your Excellency's predecessors. Usually they appear to be formed solely on principles which are extremely feeble and singularly peculiar, particularly in dealing with the blacks—official or otherwise: here we find much that is very suggestive of unsuitability and defectiveness..... If this much can be said of Your Excellency's predecessors, we earnestly hope that when some higher promotion calls you to take more responsible post, the future writer to a local organ will have no cause to write this of Your Excellency's administration also. If in the cause of events we be called upon to perform this unpleasant task of criticism, we trust, Sir, we shall not have to do it in any carping spirit." Now, Sir, the call has come for this "higher promotion," and in a few weeks hence your Excellency leave us "for good." It will be too soon for us to take a comparative view of your administration with those of your predecessors, we leave that to "the future writer to a local organ," but there can be no doubt, to use your own words Sir, when acknowledging the receipt of the transmission of the resolution from the African Section of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce in congratulating you on your new appointment, that "during the three years" you "have been connected with the Gold Coast," your "sole aim has been to work for what have appeared to you to be the best interests of the Colony," misunderstanding and dissatisfaction however there may have been, for which the rotten Crown Colony system may be accountable, while others have risen because human nature is what it is, and which perhaps might never have occurred had Your Excellency known or understood us, as no doubt you understand us now. As we write, things, for and against your administration occur to us but we pass over them all, at all events we have no wish to recount them here.

3. And Your Excellency will no doubt hear us out, that in undertaking to humbly co-operate with you in the administration of your Government, the "Leader" has done its work, conscientiously and faithfully: whatever others may think or say, you Sir, will bear us out that we have been true to you, possibly to a fault; we have not minced matters: we have endeavoured to say what we think and feel without any equivocation or reservation and whilst the prejudiced, toadyish, favour-and-office hunting and calumnious "nigger" has found nothing but opprobrium, censoriousness, and even disrespectfulness, your superior knowledge, Sir, and trained and disciplined mind have discovered another thing, and at the close of your administration now, you Sir, can better

judge, which of us two have been a truer friend and assisted you more (as we live to learn) to gain more experience for your now more responsible post. Your duties with us were arduous and varied, you strove to do your best: ours were marked out for us, unpleasant no doubt, but we trust we both conscientiously listened to the call of DUTY and the Protectorate so far has been the gainer for it.

We have no doubt that from your vantage-ground, you will be able to see better, how unsatisfactory things still are in this "Colony," and although you may not be officially connected with it, you will be able to make such suggestions gained during your three years' administration, that will lead to the amelioration of things, whilst in England, before going to your appointment. It now remains for us Sir to bid you adieu and wish you *bon voyage*.

We remain,

Your most obdt. Servant,  
THE EDITOR, G. C. L.

THE DUTY OF THE EDUCATED NATIVE.

On the 6th inst. a man named Kojo Kakabu took a net at about 11 o'clock a.m. to go a fishing on the rocks bordering the sea; having kept longer than the usual time, his children began searching for him.

About five o'clock in the evening it came to town that he had fallen a victim to certain murderers at the outskirts; and with this sudden story the Omanhin of this place sent messengers to convey his remains home, when at 6 o'clock p.m. the sad story was reversed to accidental death caused by certain family Ghosts whom he succeeded.

The funeral custom was duly conducted by the Omanhin with the help of the No. 4 Company of this town over whom the deceased ruled as head Captain (Safuhin Panyin).

In accordance with native customs the above company was supported by their brethren the Nos. 1, 2, and 3 with full attire and a display of flags took place.

In regard to bravery the deceased was said to have defeated one of the above companies some years back and a flag which bore the Emblem of the said company was displayed to which the No. 3 company objected; a quarrel ensued which resulted in a great riot that might have done damages to a great many souls but for the help and skill of Messrs Samuel Sacoom and P. J. Minneaux who put an end to these bloodshed by taking the flag in dispute from them.

A court of arbitration in settling this misunderstanding sat three days after over whom the two gentlemen above named were foremen: a just decision was arrived at, by dividing the flag among the companies and burning them.

We congratulate the two gentlemen here named and hope the educated men of other towns will follow their example and perform such noble deeds in order to relieve our Abinfa from fines and responsibilities and leave the prisons empty with such-like criminals.—(Axim)—Communicated.

SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

On the arrival of His Excellency here the Abinfa and their People interviewed him on the following subjects:—

(1) The confiscation of all the land in Accra town granted by ex-Ohin Johnphia to the strangers: to this His Excellency replied that he did not see any justification in complying to that as neither the people nor the Abinfa were entitled to such property or estate sold by ex-Ohin Johnphia to the strangers who did so by virtue of his Office and authority, and that it would look cruel and unfair to disorganize the contract made with the holders thereof.

(2) The provision of a Public tank after the Fashion of Salt Pond &c., the Governor said there was no sufficient funds for this at present, but the Government would give the matter its attention at a future date.

(3) The definition of right of ownership to that plot or parcel of land lying at and embracing Yensua suburb; Sir Matthew said he was unable to define the boundaries of the land in question, if there is any dispute between English and Dutch Sekondi as to the right title to the land, the District Commissioner has his instructions to put the matter right provided they confer with him on the point.

(4) The stool for Ohin Anisee II. The Governor expressed his regret at the unsuccessfulness attending their various attempts at getting the stool from ex-Ohin Johnphia, the matter forms a distinctive correlative to the ordinance recently passed in the Council—to wit—"Gold Coast Native Chiefs Ordinance 1903," which Bill Cape Coast Castle had wholly rejected. By this, His Excellency un-

doubtedly meant if the Ordinance affecting our Native Kings and Chiefs have been congruously accepted by the inhabitants of Cape Coast, there would have been every possibility of the matter of Sekondi stool being candidly handled "governmentally, officially or otherwise"—the expression seems a novel in a nutshell, and I refrain from passing any comments.

The Governor in turn pointed out the unsanitary state of the town, especially the dwellings of the native people—he expressed further, he would like sanitation satisfactorily recognized by the community, with regard to the Low Town, he was pleased with its hygienic state.

There has been a sensational thirst after the body of Mr. J. N. Arkharet, against whom at Takwa is a pile of warrants for various offences, and whose arrest at Sekondi last week averted all temperament.

The Roman Catholic Society in town are holding services every Sunday—Mr. Andoh officiates.

ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

RUM TRAFFIC.

A meeting was held by the local rum sellers, the other day to regulate and determine upon a graduated scale for the sale of Rum bottle under the present spirit licence tariff. A reputed Rum bottle which contains about 24 fluid ounces is now sold at 2/- or one penny per ounce. There is at present a dearth of Rum—the only stock of fourteen hogsheads in Millers' Warehouse having been removed in a day. Swazys have however still a few puncheons in their Bond which is due to the fact that Millers are holding a monopoly of the Rum clients. The steamer Cameroon is bringing about Thirty puncheons this week which have practically been already taken up. There appears, however, to be no foundation to the rumour afloat, that the Cameroon has gone ashore somewhere about the French Coast—and that she has become a total wreck. The news is said to have hailed from Chama.

MURDER AND KILLING NO MURDER.

The body of a woman who is said to have been murdered by a late husband at the village of Senkerim was brought to Town on the morning of 16th inst. A coroner's inquest was held and a verdict returned accordingly. The body was very badly mutilated by several cuts from a machete. The murderer has since not been found.

The body of a man who was alleged to have been accidentally shot by another man—a relative—while hunting was also brought to Town the other day. At the coroner's inquest a verdict was returned accordingly. It is high time the authorities managed to put a stop to these sort of so called unintentional murders. One with sound judgment is bound to view them with suspicion. Sometimes an heir presumptive to some family property who is disliked by the majority of the family is waylaid and shot by an adventurer on purpose and by the instigation and mutual agreement of some conspiring and designing members of the family—out of sheer jealousy and hatred—who would eventually appear at the inquest and swear that the affair was quite accidental as the deceased and the murderer were "Castor and Pollux." The court would of course, believe the story and dismiss the case without any one being a bit the wiser.

I would respectfully recommend to Dr. Waldron to discontinue the new-fangled practice of having dead bodies carried through the Town to the Castle to be viewed by Jurors instead of being taken to the Colonial Hospital for the usual post mortem examinations as it is generally done. The inquest can, of course be held anywhere—whether in the Hausa Mosque or in the Government Garden.

THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The state of affairs "Up River" as appears from the following Reports that reach us of the proceedings of J. C. Crabbe Esq., the Travelling Commissioner, under the approbation of His Excellency, the Governor, is anything but satisfactory, at least, incomprehensible.

Four months ago, a hunter by name Jussoum, a native of Agrawa, alighted by luck on two Elephant tusks (ivory) in his native forests, which he took home, and according to custom, presented one to ONYANINA, his Ohin. The latter invited the Ohin of Akoma, his friend to share with him. Afram Kwamin, not being contented with what his friend gave him by kind indulgence, persuaded the Hunter to give him also to sell for him. Having sold the hunter's ivory for £18. 10/-, Afram took the proceeds to himself and gave the shilling to the hunter, which he refused. A dispute ensued whereupon a Meeting of Arbitrators was convened for the settlement of the case between the Ohin of Nkama and Ohin of Agrawa whose subject was

deposed. The Meeting was held at Nkama consisting of Kwama, Ohin of Owusuta

Osei Kwame, Ohin of Tsome  
Apetor, " " Abatei  
Kofi Bofo, " " Agrama-dadeasi.

This Board of Arbitrators pointed out that Afram Kwamin, Ohin of Nkama had no rightful claim to anything found by a native in his country.—And that he went beyond his prerogative in interfering with the fortune of Anowani who is a subject of another Ohin, the meeting therefore decided that the full amount of £18. 10/- be restored to the hunter.

Osei Kwame, Ohin of Tsome, being more impetuous in condemning the wrong excited the indignation of Afram Kwamin who seized and kept him under detention. The Prisoner's people hearing the news, marched in arms to release their Ohin. But while on the way their Ohin's message reached them dissuading them from their intentions. They in compliance returned to their villages quietly leaving the Ohin at the mercy of Afram Kwamin.

On the arrival of Mr. Crabbe, the Travelling Commissioner, all the Abinifu were summarily fined from £50 to £10 each making an exorbitant amount of £141. In addition to these fines 2 Union Jacks were confiscated from Abatei and Tsome people. To crown all the Agrama people, after being ejected from their Land were consigned to the stool of Okwahu under Afram Kwamin's jurisdiction. Thus were they made subjects to a foreign Potentate in the sense of relegating the Anamabus to the rule of Eimina. This was done, probably from the supposition that the Agramas were tenants of the Okwahu. We shall show, later on, the tribal differences existing among these two distinct people. We understand that the Abinifu of Pekiyr, Boso and Anum are petitioning the Governor to mitigate the punishment by restoring the Union Jacks and allowing the Agramas to remain in their land under the British Government. We cannot shut our eyes against the wrong there is in raising up arms but the punishment is plainly beyond the requirements of justice.

The case of one Edward Nartey, Licensed Rum Seller of Nsomia or Kratche is another which baffles the Public comprehension. This man was ordered away with his narcotic beverage from the precincts of the Preventive Service Station. He hired another store in the house of one Dogo where he continued the sale of his commodity.

Latterly his License was forfeited by the Travelling Commissioner on the ground that no more than two Licenses can be allowed to that Town. And for all he could do neither his money for the License or the License itself could be restored to him.

Meanwhile there are at present three persons, it is said, holding Licenses in the same Town selling Rum viz.—KWASI DAL, KOFI and SOLOMON ASHONO. The latter is by far nearer the Preventive Station but at liberty to sell.

Now when was the restriction of 2 Licenses for Kratche made a Law? Why did the Government allow Edward Nartey the License when it was unlawful for him as the fourth party to sell at Kratche? Why is a third party allowed to hold his License if only two should sell and no more? Whose license should be forfeited but the last two of the four men selling? Well, the moral in this is hard to discern. But such is the fate of the British subject in this part of the Protectorate that *might* and not *right* should prevail.

A man was shot dead in the field at Akropong last week whose body was brought to Akuse for examination on the 11th inst. The assassin is not yet found out.

The Political atmosphere of Akropong, Aduman and Larteh is replete with dangerous possibilities. More anon.

Mantse Odonkor is expected from Accra this week. We understand the case of Sasraku and Amiteye was entered *Nam: Fros*: but that Amiteye was arrested under another charge and bailed out.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

Dear Sir,—I beg to be allowed a space in the columns of your valuable paper to express myself on the news that the Rev. Father Meder Superior of Salt Pond Mission, who accompanied home the late Bishop Albert, of holy Memory and who recently returned, has been appointed or rather has volunteered to be Superior of this Mission in lieu of the Superior here who is now acting as Superior general of the Gold Coast Missions, until such time as it will please His Holiness the Pope to honour us with a new Bishop.

I hail the announcement with great joy and highly congratulate Father Meder in his new sphere of labour. Father Meder was with us here for some years before

his transfer to Salt Pond, and I am proud to say his administration during that time was as it could be desired.

As long as he was with us he had the spirit of a pastor who was never satisfied until he knew enough about his flock to speak with intimate conviction. He was in close spiritual touch with his people, courteous in his intercourse with them and full of zeal for the furtherance of good works. He possesses a ready and graceful tact which enables him to conciliate opposition and to work harmoniously with all.

Whilst congratulating Father Meder on his appointment, I beg to grasp the opportunity to ask the flock placed under him every due obedience in order to encourage him in his undertaking, to show to us the love he once had for us and by all in his power to put things aright as they need it in this present administration.

That Almighty God may prosper and make fruitful the arduous labours he is called upon to undertake is the daily prayer of one of his devoted children.

CATHOLICUS.

Cape Coast, 26/1/04.

OUR STREETS.

Sir,—We are pleased to learn that His Excellency the Governor has been so kind enough to look after our interests with regards to Sanitation. We are also much obliged to our Senior D. C. Mr. O'Brien and the Engineer of the P. W. D. who have taken great interest in some parts of our town as well as particular places, placed before them.

Thanks be to them for their interest in all these affairs. Hoping the investigation and other things will not be in vain as usual because our Engineers have been promising to do certain things for us which they have not done. They make people to think that they were and are about to make some improvements in the town but the public fail to see anything done. We expect this time His Excellency and His Worship of Cape Coast will not fail to have our wants remedied.

Verbal promises are genuine from our rulers and we hope our fishermen will have part of the Boating Company's place on the beach for their vocation.

The Merchants are traders and we are the citizens and beforetime we were the people that keep the town moving. If our bushmen and fishermen are deprived of their vocations where can we sell the stuff. I am a Trader myself.

Yours truly,—JOHN.

Cape Coast, 20/1/04.

Sir,—Kindly allow me a space in your journal to answer E. K.'s correspondence that appeared in your issue of 21st inst. having reference to the commemoration re victims that fall from the Small Pox epidemic, and his principal idiom of alluding to the dismissal of certain members from the local Wesleyan Church in consequence.

In the person of E. K. who is still in the superstitious darkness are the class of men who misrepresent matters to the public and being desirous to know from the Pastor why about thirty members were expelled, I come forward boldly without hesitation to answer negatively that it is a heinous sin, for any honest Christian to perform such rite of native customs that was held couple months ago in remembrance of relatives who were dead three years since. Mr. E. K. should have fully refreshed his gumption and explain briefly whether the custom was done in accordance with the ordinary fashion of native dispensation or he considers it right in that fetish way it was done; not to mention the enormous expense and the small coffin boxes with its precious contents that were buried.

It is absolutely absurd that Mr. E. K. wrote such article to your valuable paper and particularly the last clause when he misrepresented facts. Viz.—The ministers ought to exercise due discretion in rulings in native customary rights. Mr. E. K. no doubt does not know much of native customs.

Yours faithfully,—TRUTH.

Saltpond, 17/1/04.

My dear Mr. Editor,—Will you kindly permit me to pass through the medium of your interesting paper a word or two in confirmation of the last paragraph of your Notes appearing in the issue of the 9th instant? Many important telegrams are frequently detained for a day or two before delivering to the owners and in fact we do not know whom to blame, whether the Telegraph Messenger or the clerk. I understand a telegram was sent to one Kwamin Abban from Sekondi on the 17th bearing a very urgent message and reached Obuasi the same day but it was not delivered until the 19th. In consequence of this unlawful detention, about 20 cases of Sardines (about which the wire was sent) were put in baggage room on rent. Is this good? Whose attention is to be called to look after this negligence? The Director of Telegraphs or who?

Yours in truth—ASAMAYINA.

Obuasi, 19th Jan. 1904.

THE FAILURE OF SLAVERY ON THE GOLD COAST.

Sir,—If Africa and the Gold Coast are to be free from slavery to-day as the Government puts it why not also from the oppression operating to-day by the same Government on its inhabitants. All one could see is a mere improvement of the worse kind of slavery, in different form to suit its purpose.

A slave in a civilized part of the world or Ashantee has no will of his or her own; but that of his or her owner, on the Gold Coast it is widely different, he or she is at liberty with his or her will, which is always reciprocated by owner of a slave: we never demand from a slave what he is unable to give. Will His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan, be satisfied with an abrupt dismissal from his

office as a Governor of the Gold Coast Colony by the Colonial office, from where he received his appointment, without taking a step to get redress for wrong done to him. I say no: although, his dismissal from the office of Governor, levels him with an ordinary man, who holds no official appointment in England, yet his right to seek for justice in that free Country will never by any means be damped by even the wisdom of an angel, or the first class European who will not likely, for want of livelihood, leave all prospect of life behind him, and travel westward to Africa to meet his untimely death.

Now, take for instance, the deposition of Chief Fabill of Tarkwa for a reward for his loyalty, by His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan.

Chief Fabill was very much loved by the people of his chiefdom and to prove his loyalty to the Government he did not refuse to clear roads or to act as transport agent in conveying from outside station to Tarkwa, materials for the building of the Government quarters there.

There was even due to him, for his men some £80 by the Government for both cleaning of Roads and transport service up to the time Mr. Vroom the then District Commissioner of, Tarkwa, was relieved by Mr. D. C. Bush, when he Fabill continued with his men the work allotted to him by the District Commissioner, though nothing was paid towards the maintenance of his men, than what he himself actually spent for their maintenance as an encouragement to push on the work.

One morning about 8 o'clock the old chief was waited upon with a Warrant from the D.C.'s Court to arrest him for not pushing his men on as fast as he wanted, with the removal of the Building materials from one of the stations as he has hitherto done, and of course upon the Chief's short explanation, that the men were engaged with cleaning of the Roads he was discharged, for that day: on the next day he was again sent for without warrant to the District Commissioner's quarters when the question of removing the building material to Tarkwa was strongly repeated by the District Commissioner, when, his men who had just returned from the road were in attendance, and heard the Commissioner with somewhat reluctance, on account of the constant rain, pouring in, at that time which has made passage on the road with loads almost impassable, but willing to continue the removal of the building material after having cleared the Roads to facilitate travelling with loads therein.

No, Mr. D. Commissioner destitute of respect and feeling for human creature like himself would not agree to any thing but what he has told the old chief: the poor old chief in response, to Mr. D. C.'s wishes spoke a little louder than usual to his men, who number in all about 100 to help him to complete the removal of the Building material first, with the promise of the usual allowance from himself to this request and the men also replied, "we will," in a louder tone in the court house; when Mr. D. C. arrested him for contempt of court and sent him to Sekondi for 6 months imprisonment and forfeiture of his ancestral stool.

This is the reward; a handsome reward indeed from His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan of the Gold Coast the his Slave, who has no will of his own although a chief of his own Town: the poor old chief has spent over a thousand pounds among lawyers to get redress of the wrong done to him, but as the Governor's hand is in the pie the Lawyers even the Lawyers dread to approach it.

About 3 years ago the Gold Coast Aborigines Society was approached by this Old Chief Fabill.

The society took up the matter with His Excellency on behalf of the poor Chief, and even went so far as to furnish His Excellency at his request copies of Fantee Customary Law: by which a chief is enstooled or distooled by people of his own chiefdom, but never by a Governor and requested His Excellency to seriously reconsider the matter, and send the old chief back to his stool but the Society has not as yet received a favourable reply from His Excellency the Governor, who, finding his mistake, in deposing old chief Fabill, retreated from the humble request of the Aborigines Society; and trying to hide it under a retrospective ordinance soliciting a voice, in Fantee institution, to confirm enstoolment or distoolment of a chief.

Outside of oppression or slavery, one should like to know, what right has a representative of a christian Government to depose a loyal chief like Old Fabill with 6 months imprisonment at Emina Castle without the least chance of defence given him to say what he knew.

Gold Coast, will as long as the world lasts cherish the memory of its late Good Governor Griffith.

It was during his administration that Yaw Awua was sent to prison for political offence; Yaw Awua who stood a victim before this christian, and fatherly Governor who had in his breast pocket the Royal warrant for his arrest amidst a crowded gathering at the Gothic House craved His Excellency's, permission to say a word; was he refused? No! He was allowed; he was removed from where he was standing by the officers of court thence to prison to serve his term, this is very much like what we often hear of Great Britain and her true sons who not only carry the word of freedom in their lips, but practise it and show to the world by their life that they are free indeed, not only when in England, but in Africa also.

The Sting of Slavery is oppression.

R. A. HARRISON.

Eku Eson Ohin of Anamabus, Cape Coast, 27th January 1904.

THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. James Clarke on behalf of himself and his family begs to return thanks to all kind friends at home and abroad who by letters, telegrams and personal calls expressed their sympathy with them on their recent sad bereavement on the death of his beloved wife Mary which took place at Mr. William Mensah's house Intin Street on the 2nd day of December 1903.

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